

## LATEST NEWS

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One of the greatest draws to Arizona for many people is the opportunity to get outdoors and enjoy nature throughout so much of the year. The Move Across 2 Ranges event coming up in Marana & Oro Valley on Saturday, March 26th gives residents just that chance. This is the 5th Annual year of the hiking challenge which offers four different distances that participants can sign up for ranging from 5.5 total



miles to 21.5 miles. Each challenge consists of a hike in the Tortolita Mountains at the Wild Burro Trailhead in Dove Mountain and a hike beginning at Catalina State Park in the Catalina Mountains. Pre-Register before February 1st and the entry price is only \$25 per participant and includes: event day support, snacks, trail passport, raffle entry, access to trailheads, and a ticket to the packet pick-up party at Summit Hut the night before (free beer included) and the "Managed the Move" party at the completion. Visit [www.maranaaz.gov/move](http://www.maranaaz.gov/move) for more info!

## ORO VALLEY'S PUSCH X9

With Oro Valley's purchase of the El Conquistador facilities last year came a 9-hole "executive" golf course which is located near the Hilton hotel. The Troon management company has unveiled its plan to make this course an outdoor entertainment area for new golfers, non-golfers, those playing soccer golf, or with glow balls. Set for a February grand opening event, the course will have large cups & no stuff dress code!



## The Housing Report

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## HOUSEHOLD TIPS - GROUT TOUCH UPS

Another one of those neglected household maintenance items that many of us have put off time and time again is grout touch up. This can be grout between tile in your shower, on your bathroom counters, kitchen counters, or of course your floor tile as well. Not only is old, cracked grout an eyesore, but it also collects dirt and can be a breeding ground for bacteria. Some simple periodic maintenance will rapidly transform ugly grout to a like new appearance.



Using either a small power tool like a Dremel or a hand tool, remove the old, cracked grout carefully. Check with your local home improvement store for the best applicable tool for your needs and surface, but be prepared for a little bit of a labor intensive process. Once the grout is removed however, it's much easier to re-grout. Simply mix your grout powder with the specified quantity of water based on the manufacturer's directions in a bucket. Apply the grout with a plastic trowel or similar tool. Then use a grout float to press the mortar deeply into the joints which will help avoid future pitting. Typically it's best to maintain approximately a 45 degree angle with the grout float during this process. Next, take the grout float at a nearly perpendicular angle of about 80 degrees to remove excess grout. Last, use a wet sponge to mop up any remaining grout or haze. After letting the grout harden for 36 hours you'll love the result.

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