

# Murder On the 17th Green

STARTING OVER AT 92

BY AYLA ROSE GILBERT

Oro Valley's Donald Kilbourn boasts an impressive resumé — he holds three degrees, including a doctorate of education, he spent five years in WWII, and he is celebrating 66 years of marriage with his wife. Now he can add author to that impressive list with the publishing of his first novel, "Murder on the 17th Green." "What brought about the idea [to write a book]," Kilbourn chuckles, "was to keep what brain cells I still have alive and well." The 92-year-old's other goal was to open readers' eyes to "the prevalence of hate groups that exist in society." He hopes to inspire people to have better relationships and respect one another, despite differences.

"Murder on the 17th Green" is a psychological murder mystery centered around a hate crime. After the body of a renowned Holocaust scholar is found buried in a sand trap on an Oro Valley golf

course, scandal and drama quickly ensue as Detective Archibald Clare struggles to solve the crime. The subject matter is especially important to Kilbourn, as during the war he witnessed the horrors of actual concentration camps first hand.

With the support of his wife, Kilbourn wrote the book, on and off, over the course of nearly four years. "I really wanted to write something that was a good read. I was never under any pressure which helped to relieve anxiety," says Kilbourn, "I had no timeline." When he wasn't writing Kilbourn spent much of his time reading historical works — both fiction and nonfiction — and golfing.

As for writing another book, Kilbourn says he "doubts" he'll write another novel, but he still has "maybe a short story or two" in him. With a background as diverse as his, there is no telling what important subject he will take on next. ■

## Sense of Community

Dr. Deb Oro



I am always amazed by the fact that Bob's Italian grandfather survived being tossed out of an Albanian orphanage at the age of 16. Frank Zuccharelli wanted to come to the US but couldn't until he was 18 so he worked his way to Argentina. His final trip to Ellis Island started his new life in a country where the streets were "paved with gold", and so he adopted the name "Oro".

As crazy as that seems to me, it seems more impossible now. At the age of 18, vulnerable teenagers who've been removed from their parents' custody are "graduated" from group homes into their adult life. These are not "bad" kids but ones whose parents are not able to take care of them for financial or social reasons. Often preteen and teenage children have not been placed in foster homes for intermediate care since they are not "cute, cuddly babies." These burgeoning adults are doomed to failure without the basic skills of balancing a check book, knowing that renting comes with utility bills, etc. Casa de los Niños struggles with this on a daily basis.

Time, effort, or dollars are what is needed for these children—our future. Buy a Casa Car Raffle ticket, or maybe even mentor one child about life to start them on the road to adulthood.

Creating even one drop in the sea of life of these children makes a ripple in yours forever.

You can find out more about Casa de los Niños and its largest fund raiser on October 19 at [www.casadelosninos.org](http://www.casadelosninos.org).

[www.oro dental.com](http://www.oro dental.com)

"MURDER ON THE 17TH GREEN" (WHEATMARK, \$19.95) IS AVAILABLE AT MAJOR BOOKSTORES AND ONLINE RETAILERS.

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