Arcadia News

Vol. 24 No. 8 | AWARD WINNING NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS SINCE 1993 | November 2016

ARCADIANEWS.COM / ARCADIAHO.ME



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A Veritas middle schooler is standing out as a star wide receiver on *her* football team.

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Former police dogs are still serving after their K9 days are over, by helping Veterans in need.

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An upcoming bond and budget vote will have a big impact on the Scottsdale School District.

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AWARD WINNING NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS SINCE 1993

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COVER IMAGE:

Former Scottsdale Police dog Badge with his former owner and partner, Officer Dan Antrim (right), and his new owner, former Green Beret, J.P.



ARCADIA NEWS TEACHERS we love

THIS MONTH'S WINNER: Richard Fairchild **NOMINATED BY:** Savion Ishadee

PHOTO BY GREG BRUNS



Arcadia High School theater Director Richard Fairchild inspires sophomore Savion Ishadee.

By Allison Summerday

Richard Fairchild teaches freshmen English and is the Director of the Arcadia High Theater Program. He began teaching at Arcadia High 14 years ago, accepting a part-time position with a struggling theater program when he was fresh out of college.

"One of the best teachers I have had in my life," heralded sophomore student Savion Ishadee, who nominated Mr. Fairchild. "He treats every student with respect, no matter how they treat him, and he supports all of us in both our curricular and extracurricular activities."

Fairchild enrolled in education courses on a whim while studying theater and English at Arizona State University. His passion for teaching evolved during a pivotal moment interning as assistant teacher in a classroom of students with special needs.

"It was like a puzzle, having to figure out what works when working with a kid who is struggling with math, or kids struggling with vocabulary who can barely read. I liked the puzzle," said Fairchild.

Fairchild's joy of solving puzzles is evident in the daily administration of the theater program, piecing together the components of production: script writing, acting, technical construction, lighting, audio, costumes and more. He maintains a student-driven program where production meetings resemble business meetings.

"We are all colleagues collaborating on the same project. It's their baby and I am still director, producer, teacher, but trust they will come through," Fairchild said. "When you see the show, it's the students' work you see and that's what I enjoy and value."

Attuned to the comprehensive well-being of his students, he is surprised how intensely home life impacts the classroom. Students across the board contend with issues from self-confidence to parents getting a divorce. After school, the theater department transforms into a trusting environment for students to share and explore personal issues.

"I stayed here for so long for the freedom. It's hard to find at other schools. The [former] principal let us take a risk and backed us and Mr. Slater is no different. They say, 'Go for it. Have fun!'"

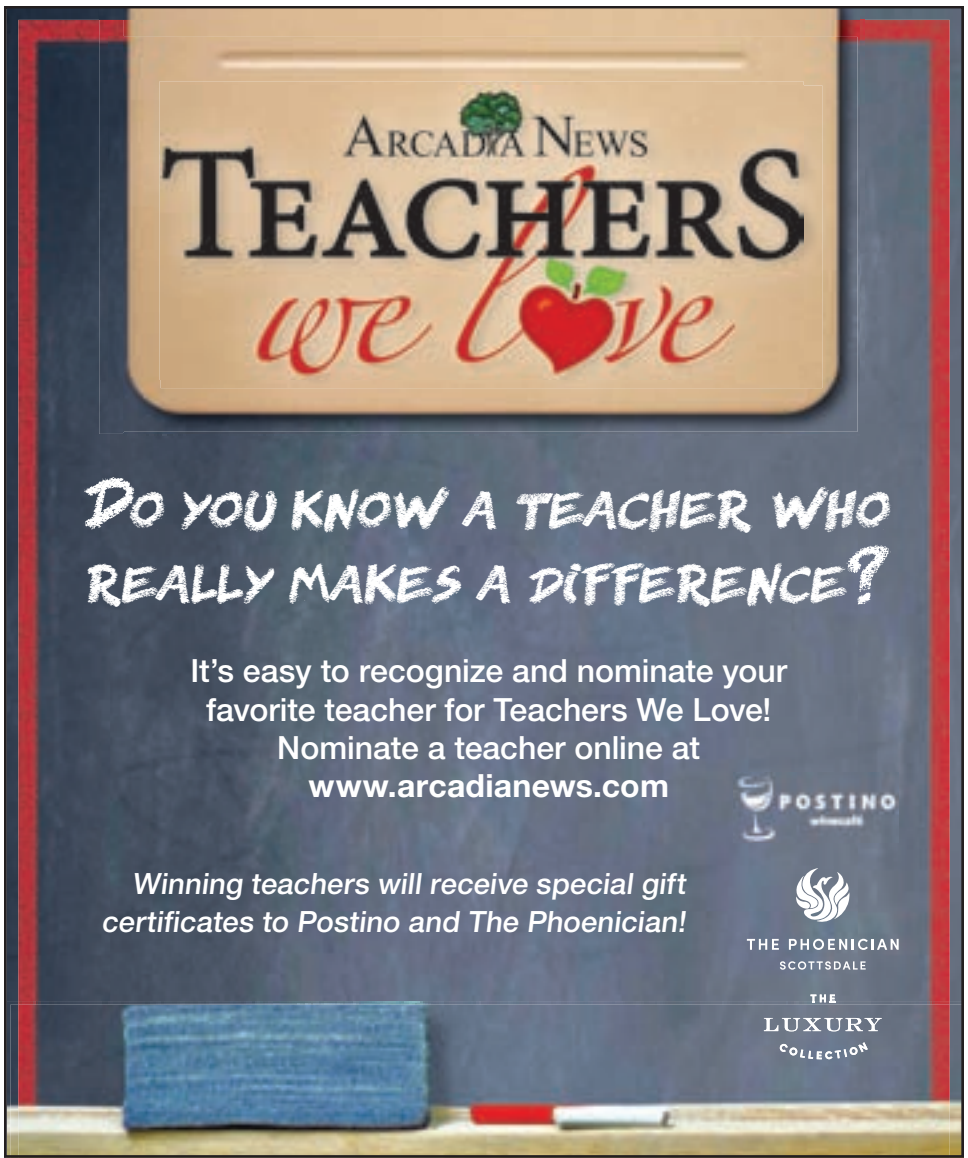
Enthusiasm translates into a spring trip to New York where students will attend a Broadway show. Fairchild and the students will be familiar with a variety of stage performances by that point, with a 2016-17 school production line-up that includes *Maul of the Dead*, Improv, *A Christmas Carol*, and a stage reading exploring school shootings.

"It will be an adventure. It will be a lot of fun. I will have to teach airport etiquette," joked Fairchild. The students fundraise by reaching out to corporations and coordinating events such as car washes. "I don't want to leave anyone behind because of money. That's our challenge with a tight time frame," noted Fairchild.

Commitment and devotion is clear for Fairchild, as he fondly reflected upon his internship many years ago. "I remember those kids and wonder, where did they end up?" Fairchild's emotional investment in his students is for a lifetime.

Winning teachers receive Arcadia News gift items, a gift certificate for The Spa at The Phoenician and a gift certificate for Postino. All winners are invited to an end of school year celebratory luncheon. Nominate a teacher you love at arcadianews.com.





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Arcadia Real **Estate** Stats

2016 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/1/2016-9/30/2016)

Active Homes -	169 homes
Homes Sold -	207 homes
Average Sale Price -	$1,196,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$326
Average Days On Market -	130 days

There is currently 7 months of home inventory. (based on 2015 sales results)
2016 home sales have decreased 4% this year. (based on 2015 sales results)
Home prices have increased 17% this year. (based on 2015 sales results)
$ Per Square Foot prices have increased 8% this year. (based on 2015 sales results)
Homes are taking 17% more time to sell this year. (based on 2015 sales results)

2015 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

Active Homes -	144 homes
Homes Sold -	291 homes
Average Sale Price -	$990,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$300
Average Days On Market -	108 days

2014 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT YEAR END SALES RESULTS

Homes Sold -	225 Homes
Average Sale Price -	$1,006,381
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$286
Average Days On Market -	119 Days

2016 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/1/2016-9/30/2016)

Active Homes -	76 Homes
Homes Sold -	173 Homes
Average Sale Price -	$516,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$235
Average Days On Market -	89 days

There is currently 4 months of home inventory. (based on 2015 sales results)
2016 home sales have increased 5% this year. (based on 2015 sales results)
Home prices have increased 7% this year. (based on 2015 sales results)
$ Per Square Foot prices have increased 4% this year. (based on 2015 sales results)
Homes are taking 18% less time to sell this year. (based on 2015 sales results)

2015 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

Active Homes -	66 Homes
Homes Sold -	216 Homes
Average Sale Price -	$477,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$225
Average Days On Market -	108 days

2014 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT YEAR END SALES RESULTS

Homes Sold -	199 Homes
Average Sale Price -	$451,117
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$208
Average Days On Market -	78 Days

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The home is beautifully situated back from the street offering privacy and grandeur. Outside highlights include arched windows, iron balconies, Moreno tiled entryway that leads to a front door with delicately patterned stained glass. Remodeled numerous times, this light airy 6400 + sq ft open floor plan is a perfect haven for families and amazing for entertaining with multiple French doors leading to the back patio. This 6 Bedroom and 4 Bath home also has a large sunny pool room for convenient access to the pool and spa. The Showpiece Gourmet Kitchen has light-colored slab granite, commercial 6-burner gas range, double ovens, double dishwashers, three sinks, SubZero Refrigerator, and a large walk-in pantry. The Master Suite is located on the first floor with Luxurious Spa-like Master Bath and beautiful oversized shower.

The first floor includes a casually elegant living room with 11 ft coved ceiling, majestic mountain views, and a fireplace modeled after the nearby Phoenician's. The kitchen and oversized family room boast brick walls from the original 1920s home. Also on the main floor is a private two-stationed custom office, formal dining room with a domed ceiling, grand crystal chandelier, clear leaded glass transoms, domed ceiling foyer, and cozy library off the living room. In the former basement is a new walk-in 1500 bottle wine room, wine-tasting room, and a large work out room with herringbone patterned brick floors. Resort style grounds include an attached guest house, numerous patios, oversized 42' long pool, large 12 person Jacuzzi/spa, outdoor kitchen, and Hopi/Arcadia schools. Too many extras to list! Featured on the cover of Phoenix Home and Garden and selected for the prestigious Palette of Homes Tour. This piece of Arcadia magic can be your dream home!

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Go take a hike – safely

HEALTHY TIDBITS

By Ira Ungar



It's easy to think you're safe from the elements once the thermometer shakes off that third digit, but when you're heading out to explore Arizona's 40,000 acres of desert mountain parks and preserves, be prepared. Follow these simple tips so you can hit the trails and enjoy the state's beauty all yearlong:

• Never hike alone. Hike with a friend, family member or a group of experienced hikers.

• Tell a friend or family member where you're going, which trail(s) you plan to explore, and when you plan on returning home.

• Wear sunscreen, sunglasses and a hat, even on cloudy days. Sunscreen with a minimum of 30 SPF will help protect your skin, especially if you're hiking in higher elevations where there's less shade.

• Bring plenty of water and salty snacks for both two- and four-legged hikers.

• Take several breaks along the way to maintain your energy levels, rehydrate and enjoy the view.

• Be aware of sudden weather changes, and bring a rain jacket. Thunderstorms are common in the mountains, and heavy rains can result in creek run-offs and flash floods on trails.

• Consider taking a GPS with you if you embark on unknown trails. The desert frequently looks the same and it is easy to get lost.

• Stay on marked trails. If you don't, you may damage the ecosystem and discover areas of ground erosion. You might even come up on a cliff or unexpected drop-off. You also have a much better chance of getting lost or injured when you decide to take the path not traveled.

• Listen to your body and know its physical limits. If you have a medical condition such as heart issues; asthma; joint, knee or back problems; or diabetes limit your exertion and exposure to the heat.

• Always check with your physician before starting a new exercise plan or embarking on a long or strenuous hike.

— Ira Ungar, M.D., specializes in family medicine with HonorHealth Medical Group. Reach him at 480-882-7350.

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Body specialists focus on restoring natural movement

By Kelly Potts

Movement Restoration is a massage therapy concept run by female entrepreneurial duo Trisha Haws and Brynn Martin. The company focuses on restoring natural movement back to the body through individualized massage treatments. Located near Arcadia, Movement Restoration caters to people with restricted movement, compression of joints, tight muscles, or discomfort as a result of repetitive motions and positions from daily activities or jobs.

"Everybody is an athlete, and we help them recover from their daily routines or exercise plans," said Martin. "If you sit at a desk 9 to 5, we customize the treatment plan for that. If you are an Olympic athlete, we customize a treatment plan for that."

Although Movement Restoration works with professional and Olympic athletes, they also treat the general public. And Martin stresses that massage therapy isn't only for athletes. "One of the biggest misconceptions is that you have to be a serious athlete to benefit from massage therapy services, and the honest answer is that everyone can, and should, seek this type of treatment."

Haws' background includes more than 15 years of massage therapy experience within chiropractic and wellness practices, award-winning resorts and spas, and elite training facilities catering to professional athletes. Martin is instrumental in the development and growth of Movement Restoration, by



Brynn Martin and Trisha Haws

BEHIND *THE BUSINESS*

directing the day-to-day operations, managing sales and marketing activities, and promoting programs and customer service.

Together, the two have assembled a talented team of licensed and certified massage therapists who are dedicated to educating clients about the benefits of integrating massage, exercise and activities into their everyday lives.

"While massage is a big part of what we do, it isn't just about massage," said Haws. "This is about restoring body movement and making sure people remain healthy and happy. Like Brynn said, everyone is an athlete, so we treat each body the way that benefits them the most."

For more information, visit us at www.movementrestoration.com.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Sipping on summer all year long

While the Valley is cooling down as fall approaches, a local company wants everyone to keep a little bit of summer alive with a twist on pre-mixed beverages.

Coco 21, founded locally by Brian Kaplan, offers a unique line of premium ready-to-serve cocktails made with coconut water and vodka.



"I had this idea a few years ago. A lot of people are drinking coconut water and mixing it with spirits, and it surprised me to find that no one had created a ready-to-drink product like this before," said Kaplan, who grew up in Phoenix and attended the University of Arizona. "A buddy of mine came back from a vacation in Brazil and also mentioned that this is what everyone was drinking, so I thought, why not bring this product to the public?"

For more information visit drinkcoco21.com.

Jazz coming to the Southern Rail

End the weekend on a high note by listening to live jazz on the Southern Rail porch, Sundays through the end of November. Jambalaya is the evening special and you can pair it with a Sazerac cocktail or enjoy a half price bottle of local Arizona wine. The music begins at 5 p.m. and we recommend getting a reservation. (11/6, 11/13, 11/20 & 11/27)



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New passport rules take effect

By Michelle Donati-Grayman



Besides giving you the ability to travel the world, a passport is the ultimate ID to possess.

Yet the passport photo is often what people can't seem to get right. Last year, more than 200,000 passport customers submitted poor quality photos that the State Department couldn't accept. The main reason: issues with eyeglasses.

Beginning November 1, 2016, travelers must remove their eyeglasses for U.S. passport photos. The State Department recently changed its policy to enhance the security of the application process and to verify travelers' identities faster.

A bad photo can delay processing of a passport by weeks. Being that the State Department issued 14 million passports in 2014, even a minor delay can get compounded.

Travelers should renew their passports as far in advance as possible to avoid delays of an international trip. Keep in mind that many countries require the validity of the passport extends at least 6 months beyond ones final day of travel in order to use it.

As a travel resource, AAA offers eight tips to ensure your passport photo won't be returned:

Vision quest – Eyeglasses may cause glare on the lens, create shadows on faces or block a portion of the eyes. A passport photo without eyeglasses will help travelers move faster through U.S. ports of entry, especially when passports are verified electronically.

Glasses ceiling – Travelers only may wear glasses if they have a medical issue, such as a recent surgery requiring eyeglasses to protect their eyes. If travelers must wear eyeglasses for a medical reason, they'll need to obtain and submit a signed statement with their application from a medical professional.

No selfies – Each passport photo must measure 2 inches by 2 inches, with the head measuring between 1 and 1.375 inches. The State Department also states that, "hand-held self-portraits are not acceptable."

Neutral territory – You must face the camera and maintain a neutral expression. No big smiles are permitted.

Hats off – You may wear a head covering if you wear it daily for religious purposes. Your full face must be visible and your covering cannot obscure your hairline or cast shadows on your face.

Uniform dismissal – Uniforms, clothing that looks like a uniform, and camouflage cannot be worn except in the case of religious attire that is worn daily.

Current event – The photo must have been taken within six months of your application date and must reflect your current appearance.

Biggest loser – If you've greatly fluctuated in weight, undergone "significant facial surgery or trauma" or added or removed large facial tattoos or piercings, you'll need to apply for a new passport.

To further expedite travel, AAA recommends that frequent travelers enroll in trusted traveler programs such as TSA PreCheck.

For more info, go to travel.state.gov.

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Negotiation points of a commercial loan

LEGAL *EASE*

By Tyler J. Carrell

When I tell people that a good portion of my practice is devoted to drafting and negotiating loan documents for commercial real estate financing, I sometimes receive a puzzled look. For many of us, when we apply for a mortgage, home equity line of credit, or other personal loan, the terms of that loan are nonnegotiable. For those loans, the only major decision a borrower makes is what bank to choose – which usually is based on the best interest rate and repayment terms that are offered. In a commercial context, it's more complicated. Here are some of the financial and nonfinancial considerations often negotiated in a commercial finance transaction.

LOWERING COSTS

While commercial financing has a lot of moving parts, a borrower is still concerned with lowering costs. The interest rate is certainly important, but it is not the only place where a borrower can incur costs. Many commercial loans include a "commitment fee," whereby the borrower compensates the lender for providing access to a potential loan, or more particularly, setting aside the funds for the borrower when the lender cannot yet charge interest. The commitment fee is generally either a flat fee, for example $10,000, or a percentage of the undisbursed loan amount. Since this fee is typically due at closing, the borrower often tries to negotiate this amount down. Along this same line, a borrower frequently tries to reduce closing costs. Finally, when it comes to repayment, a borrower will negotiate down any fees or penalties for prepaying the loan. Prepayment penalties are fairly infrequent in a personal loan context, but can be costly for a commercial borrower.

LIMITING RECOURSE

As with personal loans, lenders providing a commercial loan often require a personal guaranty. While a borrower usually cannot avoid a personal guaranty entirely, they may be able to negotiate a limited guaranty or what is often referred to as a "bad boy guaranty." By signing a limited guaranty, the guarantor typically promises to guarantee the borrower's loan up to a certain dollar amount, for a limited period of time, or for only certain types of losses. A "bad boy guaranty" tends to be triggered not by mere nonpayment, but more serious acts by the borrower including fraud, misapplication of funds, an unauthorized transfer of the collateral for the loan, or a bankruptcy filing.

TRANSFERABILITY

Obviously, when a lender considers whether or not to offer a loan to a borrower, it has vetting procedures to determine if the borrower is likely to repay the loan. Since the lender has specifically offered the loan because of the borrower's solvency and management, the lender frequently includes strict limits on transferability in the loan agreement. For example, the lender may require that the borrower promise not to transfer, sell or otherwise change the ownership of the borrowing entity. As with any business, it may be beneficial for a borrower to bring in an additional owner or investor, or some corporate disagreement may lead to a principal wanting to sell his or her interest. Consequently, borrowers often try to limit the change in control restriction; usually by asking that a change in ownership in the borrower be permissible up to a certain percentage (i.e. the borrower cannot sell more than 40 percent of its ownership interest without the lender's consent).

LIMITING DEFAULTS

If the borrower violates the restrictions on transferability, such violation may be an "event of default" under the loan agreement. An event of default can have harsh consequences including, the loan balance becoming immediately due and the borrower being held responsible for the lender's fees and costs. Due to the many conditions a borrower must abide by under the loan agreement, a borrower often tries to negotiate less severe penalties for a default or otherwise limit what constitutes a default. A common request from a borrower is that it receives one, a notice and two, an opportunity to cure a default before the lender may enforce default remedies. A borrower will also try to soften the lender's remedies, including asking for reduced late fees, or a lower default interest rate. The lender may not be willing to budge on many of these requests. However, I often see lenders be more forgiving for nonmonetary defaults, such a failing to provide financial statements when required, than for a pure monetary default, such as missing a loan payment.

In summary, simply because the lender and borrower agree to enter a commercial loan agreement does not mean the parties are finished negotiating. The borrower, the lender and their respective attorneys draft and negotiate many aspects of the loan agreement, from incidental costs, to the form of the guaranty, to the borrower's ability to change its management structure or transfer the loan, to what constitutes a default under the agreement. These negotiations require attention to detail, thoughtful language and open communication between the parties. However, if performed properly, the resulting loan documents will make both the lender and borrower comfortable with the terms and pleased they entered the transaction.

— Tyler J. Carrell is an associate at Gallagher & Kennedy. For more info about Mr. Carrell, visit gknet.com.

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Arcadia and Biltmore – 3rd Quarter Review

Friends, summer has passed and we are getting into the best part of the year.... football and fall weather. I have been a die-hard Cardinals fan as far back as I can remember. Some of my fondest childhood memories were made watching the Cards play at Sun Devil Stadium during this time of year. I was always drinking the cool-aid (still am) and defending a team that was rarely (never) better than 6 and 10 each year. The past few years have been easier on us, but I still cringe at the sight of yellow and am way too understanding when we underperform...but in Arians we trust! Lets move along to real estate before I get too riled up.

The 3rd quarter looked a lot like the previous quarter as the housing markets in the Arcadia and Biltmore areas continue to normalize from the incredible rise that we saw from 2012-2015. While prices are staying steady, it is taking a little longer to sell homes. Buyers seem to be growing more cautious by the day and have been slower in writing offers than in the past. This is a healthy market in the fact that it is digesting its gains and getting back to a normal cycle. Healthy growth is good growth.

ARCADIA PROPER	Q3 2016	Q3 2015
NUMBER OF SALES	30	23
AVG. DAYS ON MARKET	119	93
AVG. PRICE/SQ.FT.	$353	$365
AVG. SALES PRICE	$1,407,815	$1,423,054

Arcadia's 3rd quarter was steady as she goes. Prices were consistent year-over-year, but houses took about a month longer to sell. Much like last quarter, I attribute this to overpriced sellers and buyers who are less eager than in past years. Last quarter, we saw 9 homes trade over $2,000,000 while this quarter we were back to just 4 which is average for the area. I would expect these steady data points to continue over the next few months.

BILTMORE PROPER	Q3 2016	Q3 2015
NUMBER OF SALES	21	20
AVG. DAYS ON MARKET	126	158
AVG. PRICE/SQ.FT.	$282	$267
AVG. SALES PRICE	$676,179	$737,607

As you can see above, the Biltmore market continues to plod along as well. Similar to Arcadia, prices are steady, but homes are taking an average of 126 days to sell. Sellers in this market need to be priced right and then have the patience to wait for the right buyer. Buyers in the Biltmore tend to be very picky because it is usually going to be their forever home after downsizing. On the positive side, look for the snowbirds to drive some demand to this area in the next few months.

Enjoy this amazing Arizona weather and stay safe over the coming holidays. As always, I'm available to answer any questions that you may have about the market. Feel free to call or text me anytime at 602-561-0445.

TUCKER BLALOCK

602-ARCADIA

BESPOKE PROPERTIES the Suits

**All facts and figures are deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. Per MLS on 10/11/2016.*



WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Fall Out to Lunch Concert Series

12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Mesa Arts Center, 1 E. Main St., Mesa. Are your lunch breaks starting to get a little dull? Spice them up this fall with a free concert series at the Mesa Arts Center. Take a load off and enjoy some great music this Thursday with Back to the Fifties, a 1950s and '60s tribute band. Musical numbers from Elvis, Buddy Holly, The Beatles, Fats Domino and more will have you dancing your toes off. Life of the Party Catering Company will be on-site offering a selection of hot and cold sandwiches for purchase or you can pack your own picnic lunch. Bring a chair, bring a lunch and get ready to boogie. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com or call 480-644-6560.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Farm Days

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Phoenix Zoo, 455 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix. Strap on your overalls and grab your cowboy boots, it's time for Farm Days at the Phoenix Zoo! Join your friends at Harmony Farm for a day of good, old-fashioned country fun. There will be live music, games, arts and crafts, farmer meet and greets, goat training, and of course, barnyard animals! All activities are included with regular zoo admission, which is $25 for adults and $15 for kids. For more information, visit phoenixzoo.org or call 602-286-3800.



The Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships



Arizona Harvest Festival

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

The Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at WestWorld, 16601 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. Golf, horses and hip hop are three things that typically don't mix, but at this year's Polo Championships, that's exactly what you'll experience. Created by Jason Rose, who graduated from Arcadia High School in 1988, this is the most attended polo event in the country. The Polo Party is not to be missed! There are four polo matches to watch, as well as a hole-in-one contest and a cultural concert featuring the Scottsdale Philharmonic, Arizona Opera and rapper RoQy TyRaiD. General admission starts at $20. For more information, visit thepoloparty.com or call 480-423-1414.

Afternoon Tea at the Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships

12:30 p.m. at WestWorld, 16601 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. The Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships is just around the corner, and what better way to enjoy the matches than with high tea? Showcased by The Phoenician, afternoon tea will be served on fine china along with finger sandwiches and scones. Guests will be able to watch the four polo matches from their spot in the shade. Refreshments will also be available. Individual tickets are $125. Advanced purchase is required. For more information, visit thepoloparty.com or call 480-941-8200.

Arizona Harvest Festival

4-11 p.m. at Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 178 E. Commonwealth Ave., Chandler. It's finally November, and Arizonans are ready for autumn. A time to celebrate the changing season and, drumroll, cooler weather! The Arizona Harvest Festival boasts activities like a pumpkin toss, pumpkin pageant, corn hole, a pie eating contest and a kids zone. There will be food vendors and a seasonal beer garden. Tribal Seeds, a reggae band from San Diego will provide the tunes. Come out and celebrate the dropping temperatures with good music and fun games. Tickets are $8 online and $10 at the door. For more information, visit arizonaharvestfest.com or call 602-276-2499.

Camelback Village Health Club and Spa Open House

1-4 p.m. at Camelback Health Village,



WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

4444 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix. Join the folks at each of the Village Health Clubs for an open house. Attendees will learn about the facilities, enjoy a mini massage and test out product samples. Parents can learn about the Kids Club and other kid-friendly programs. There will also be light snacks and refreshments available from the café. The Village will also demonstrate how to track and improve fitness with Myzone belts that monitor your fitness in real-time. Anyone who signs up for a membership during the open house will receive a free Myzone belt. For more information, visit villageclubs.com or call 602-840-6412.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Sunday at Shemer Family Art Festival

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Shemer Art Center, 5005 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix. Come out and show your support for Arizona artists at the 32nd annual Sunday at Shemer Festival. More than 40 artists will be on-site showcasing their works of art. Attendees can participate in demonstrations and sculpture garden tours and there will be an expanded children's art area with interactive projects. There will be live entertainment and food trucks, as well as a silent auction. Tickets are $7 per person. For more information, visit shemerartcenter.org or call 602-262-4727.

Carefree Fine Art and Wine Festival

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at corner of Hohum & Easy Roads. The streets of Carefree close down to make room for the 22nd annual Carefree Fine Art and Wine Festival. Over 165 artists and 5,000 works of art will be on display. Attendees are invited to come out and browse through all sizes of art while sipping on an expansive collection of fine wine. For $10 guests will receive an engraved wine glass and six drink tickets. There will also be live music. Enjoy an evening of fine wine and fine art surrounded by the beautiful scenery of Carefree. Admission is $3. For more information, visit thunderbirdartists.com or call 480-837-5637.



Sunset Tribute at the Heard Museum

The Animal Kingdom Family Concert

2 p.m. at the Orpheum Theater, 203 W. Adams St., Phoenix. The Phoenix Symphony and guest conductor Robert Franz invite you and the family to "take a walk on the wild side" with their animal-themed musical concert. The concert will feature songs from The Lion King and Peter and the Wolf as well as many others. Join in the fun an hour early when the doors open for an instrument petting zoo and family games and activities. Tickets range from $11 to $20. For more information, visit phoenixsymphony.org or call 602-262-6225.

CREATE Junior, 3D Printing

1-3 p.m. at the Arizona Science Center, 600 E. Washington St., Phoenix. Do you have a little engineer in the making at home? If so, this is the class for them. Geared towards kids ages 8-12, the Create Junior program introduces children to the world of technology and engineering. This month, kids will learn what 3-D printing is and how to use the equipment. Each participant will create his or her own Tinkercad account and learn how to create and combine shapes to make a 3-D masterpiece. Tickets are $35 and registration is required. For more information, visit azscience.org or call 602-716-2000.

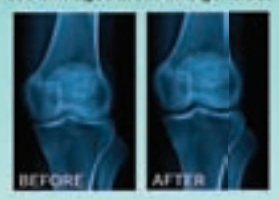
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Sunset Tribute

5-8 p.m. at the Heard Museum, 2301 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. In honor of Veterans Day, Heard Museum will host a special sunset tribute to the veterans of the U.S. armed forces. Join veteran groups, color guards, performers and speakers at the American Indian Veterans National Memorial commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The featured speaker is Richard Carmona, who was the 17th Surgeon General of the United States and a professor at U of A. There will be a reception held after the ceremony. For more information, visit heard.org or call 602-252-8840.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Wreaths for Life

5-8 p.m. at the Shops on Camelback, 1030 E. Camelback Road, Arizona. Wreaths for Life features custom themed wreaths decorated by some of Arizona's top interior designers, florists and artists. Prior to the November 11 cocktail reception, these wreaths will hang in the Shops on Camelback, starting November 1. The wreaths will be available for purchase at the reception and will benefit the Ronald McDonald House. Guests will also enjoy a silent auction, raffle, wine and small bites. Tickets are $20 which include one raffle ticket. For more information, visit 602-277-1030 or visit theshopsoncamelback.com.

Cooks and Corks

6:30-9:30 p.m. at Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale, 10600 E. Crescent Moon Drive, Scottsdale. Spotlighting Arizona's top local chefs, Cooks and Corks is an evening of delectable treats and delicious libations. Feature restaurants include Lon's at the Hermosa, Deseo, Press Coffee Roasters, Sushi Roku and Super Chunk Sweets and Treats. Thirteen chefs will be showcased and there will also be live music. Tickets are $125 to $175. For more information, visit cooksandcorks.org or call 480-945-7193.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Christmas tree lighting

5 p.m., Nov. 11 and 12 at the Outlets at Anthem, 4250 W. Anthem Way, Phoenix. It's never too early to start celebrating Christmas. On Friday night, come out and enjoy some family fun with singing, games and face painting. On Saturday, help the folks at the Outlets at Anthem light the tallest Christmas tree in the state. Come out and start the holly jolly holidays early. For more information, visit outletsanthem.com or call 623-465-9500.



Cooks and Corks



Lights of the World Festival

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Mimosas and Monet

9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Hermosa Inn, 5532 N. Palo Cristi Road, Paradise Valley. What better way to spend a Saturday morning than sipping mimosas and learning new art techniques? Artist Carrie Curran will be on site teaching guests the ins-and-outs of painting. Guests will use acrylic on canvas to create their own version of Monet's Blue Door while indulging in mimosas and pastries. It's art and champagne for breakfast! Admission is $75 per person and includes instruction, supplies, food and drinks. Reservations are required. For more information, visit hermosainn.com or call 602-955-7878.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Lights of the World Festival

5-11 p.m. at Rawhide at Wild Horse Pass, 5700 W. North Loop Road, Chandler. Lights of the World is a festival that's as bright as the name gives away. This festival combines the Chinese tradition of lantern festivals with modern technology and lights, bringing the night to life. Over 75 displays ranging from 18 to 60 feet in length explore different cultures around the world. Some of the displays include: Christmas Dream, Dinosaur Park, America, African Kingdom and the Time Tunnel. Guests can also indulge in foods from around the world, listen to live music, and enjoy carnival rides and games. Tickets range from $15 to $25. For more information, visit lightsoftheworld.net or call 480-502-5600.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

UnCommon Market

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Salt River Fields, 7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. Instead of doing your Christmas shopping at the same old shopping mall, why not try out a new and different place instead? Enter UnCommon Market, a collection of things from A to Z from regional artists, designers, chefs and creators. Shoppers can browse through items like clothing, jewelry, art, paintings, pictures, knick knacks and so much more. There is also food, spirits and live music. Get your shopping done early and find something for everyone in the family at the UnCommon Market. Admission is $10. For more information, visit uncommonmarkets.com or call 480-448-9959.

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and request to speak about renting Office Space.



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$1,575,000 6332 East Calle Del Paisano
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$585,000 3421 North 43rd Place
4 bedrooms, 3 baths 2,018 square feet



4449 North 53rd Street
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$1,695,000 3821 North 54th Court
5 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,766 square feet



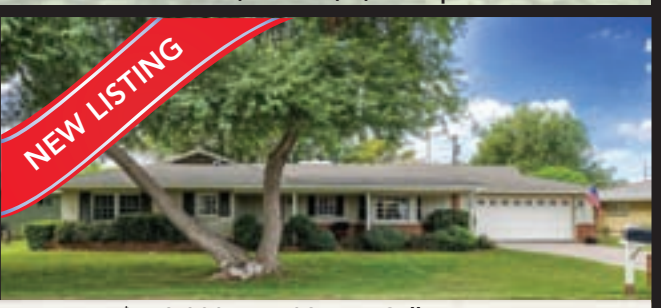
$599,000 3528 North Kachina Lane
4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2,007 square feet



$675,000 4043 East Weldon
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,616 square feet



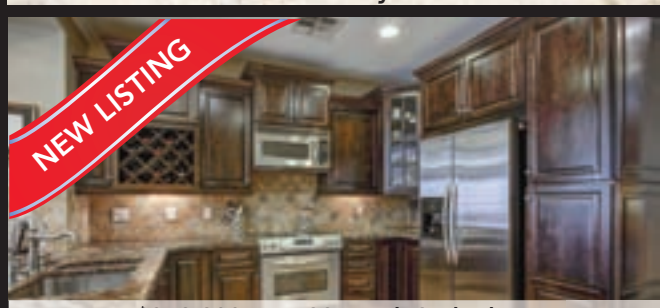
$750,000 5301 North 46th Street
Camelback Canyon Lot



$749,000 4509 East Calle Ventura
Call for information.



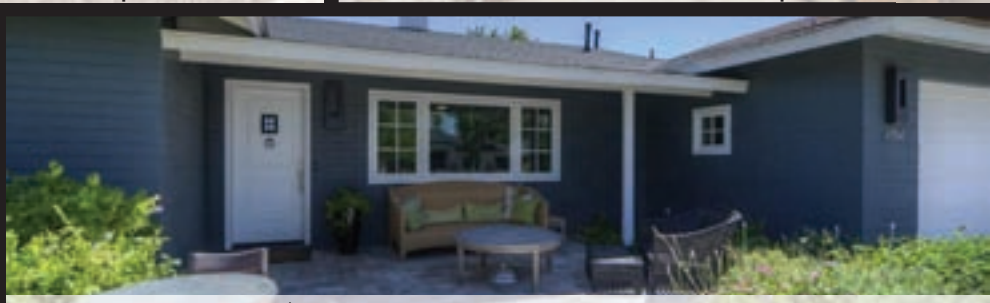
$975,000 5526 East Camelhill
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,684 square feet



$369,900 4429 North 24th Place
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 1,755 square feet



$1,469,000 5240 East Calle Ventura
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,760 square feet



$1,149,000 4584 East Calle Tuberia
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2,750 square feet



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$1,369,000 6101 East Calle Del Sud
5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2,710 square feet



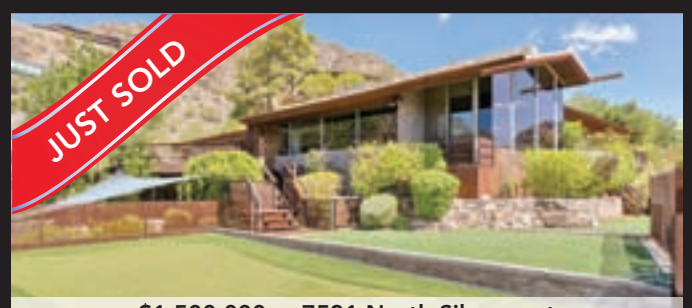
$1,449,000 5622 East Calle Camelia
5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,998 square feet



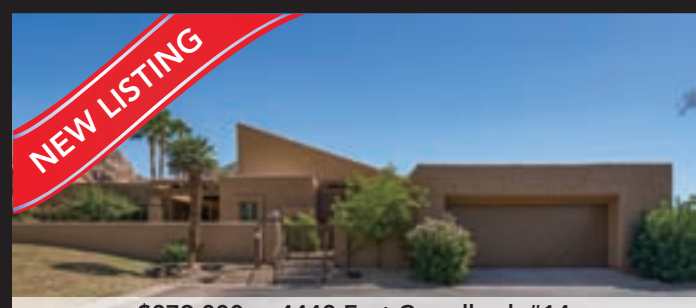
$899,000 6426 North 29th Street
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3,008 square feet



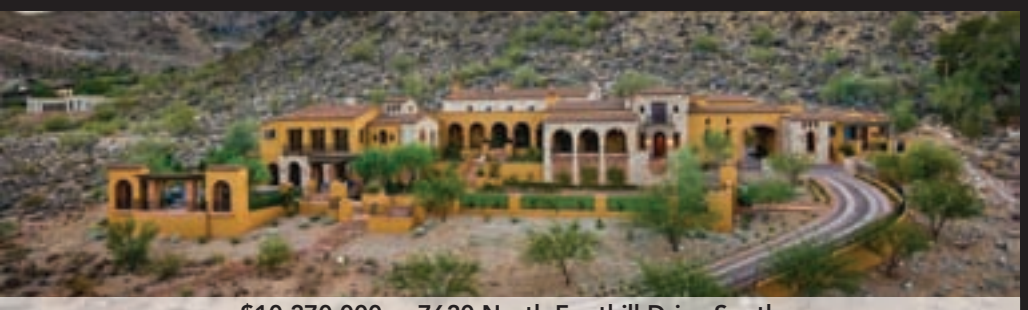
$6,250 per month 4150 North 49th Street
5 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,205 square feet



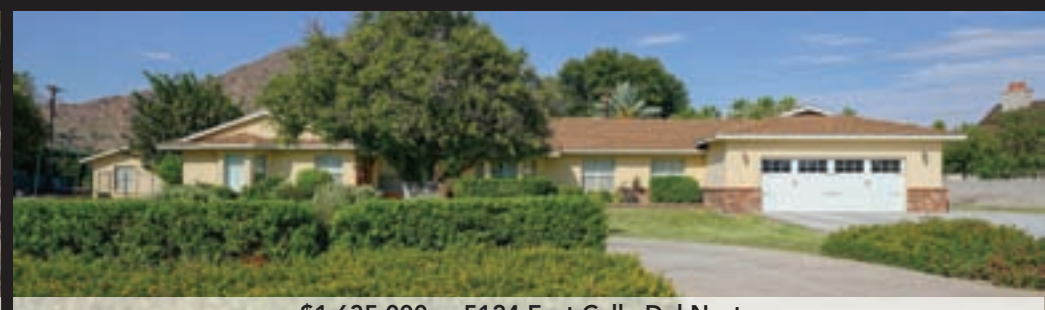
$1,500,000 7531 North Silvercrest
5 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,450 square feet



$879,000 4448 East Camelback #14
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2,831 square feet



$10,270,000 7620 North Foothill Drive South
6 bedrooms, 8 baths, 10,283 square feet



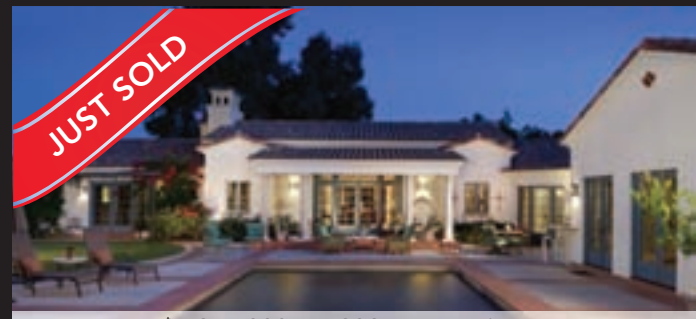
$1,635,000 5124 East Calle Del Norte
5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4,565 square feet



$1,195,000 4219 North 62nd Street
5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 4,000 square feet



$999,000 4584 East Calle Ventura
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3,152 square feet



$1,975,000 5932 East Mariposa
4 bedrooms, 6 baths, 7,480 square feet



6656 Lost Dutchman
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$1,269,000 6101 East Calle Tuberia
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,675 square feet

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$739,000 4201 North 42nd Place
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,934 square feet

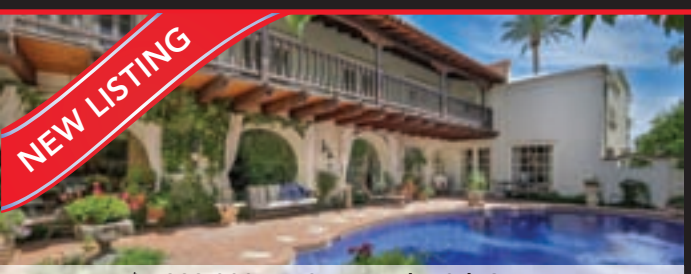
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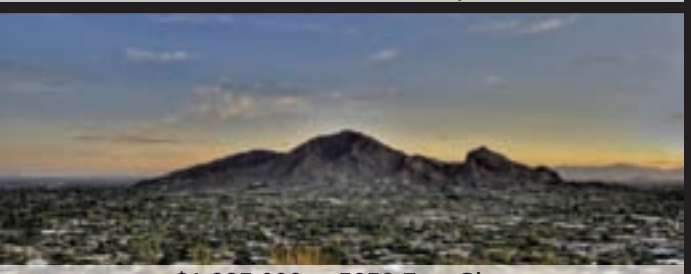
$1,899,000 4316 North 40th Street
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 6,881 square feet



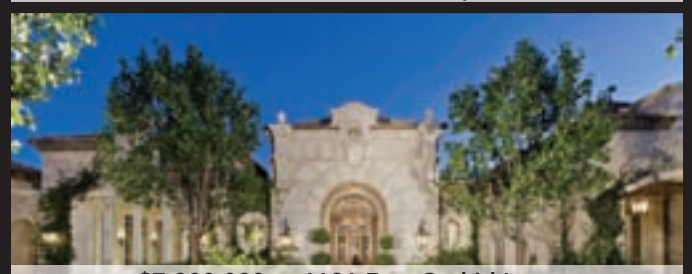
$1,795,000 8634 North 52nd Street
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 5,127 square feet



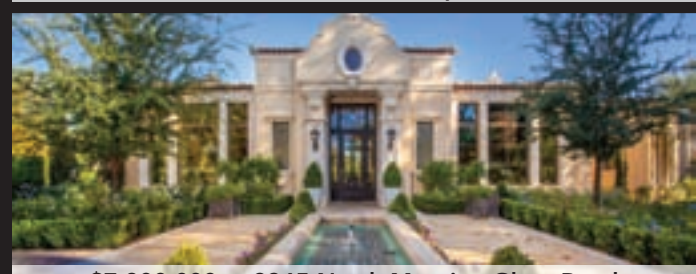
$2,195,000 6241 East Keim
Call for Information on This Exquisite Acre Lot



$1,995,000 5850 East Glen
CALL FOR INFORMATION



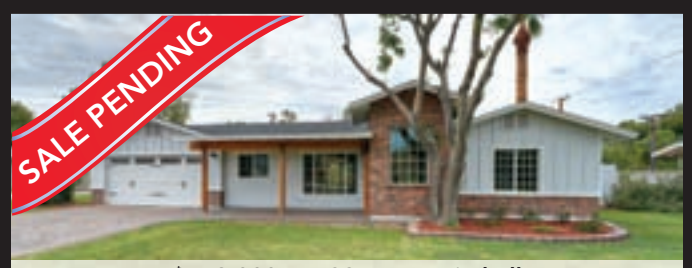
$7,800,000 6121 East Orchid Lane
5 bedrooms, 7 baths, 9,831 square feet



$7,800,000 8345 North Morning Glory Road
5 bedrooms, 7 baths, 9,858 square feet



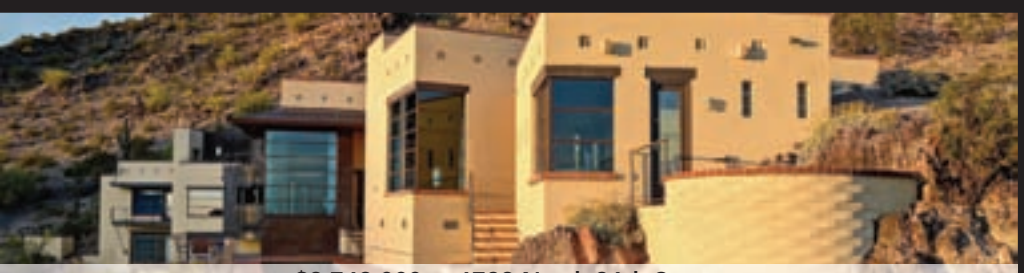
4514 North Royal Palm Circle
www.royalpalmestate.com



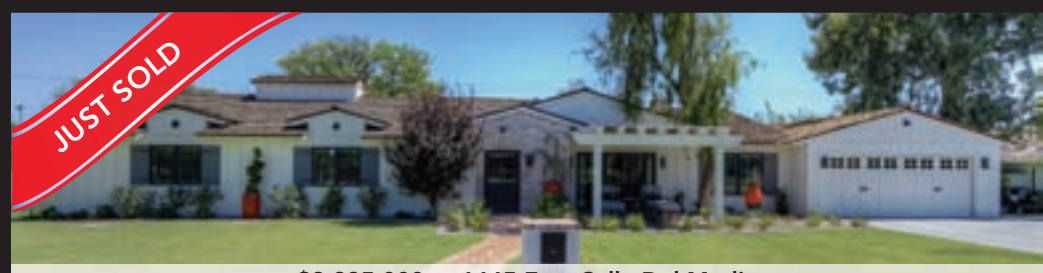
$649,000 4335 East Mitchell
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2,213 square feet



4002 North 54th Place
CALL FOR INFORMATION



$2,749,000 6739 North 36th Street
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 6,200 square feet



$2,295,000 6445 East Calle Del Media
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 4,400 square feet



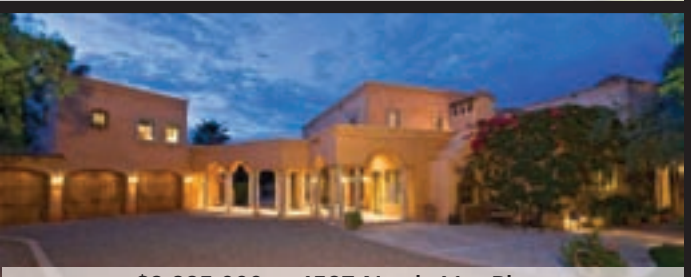
$2,995,000 5936 East Paisano Circle
6 bedrooms, 5 baths, 5,900 square feet



$2,495,000 4415 North Arcadia Lane
6 bedrooms, 6 baths, 7,873 square feet



$2,095,000 4122 North 65th Place
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,113 square feet



$2,295,000 4527 North 61st Place
6 bedrooms, 9 baths, 8,592 square feet



$2,695,000 6524 East Gainsborough
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 6,000 square feet



$310,000 4136 North 42nd Street
2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1,104 square feet

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Phoenix Pizza Festival

11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Margaret T. Hance Park, 67 West Culver St., Phoenix. It's a pizza festival. Need we say more? Pizza lovers unite! The Pizza Festival returns for its second year. Over 15 vendors, dessert trucks, and refreshments will be on-site to fulfill your every pizza need. You can buy $2-$4 slices or a full pie if you like. There will also be craft beer and wine stations, lawn games and live music. Tickets are $10. For more information, visit phoenix.pizza or call 480-442-9176.



Phoenix Pizza Festival at Margaret T. Hance Park



Jackalope Market at Westworld

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Good Guys Southwest Nationals

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at WestWorld, 16601 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. The weekend of November 20, Scottsdale will turn into the Holy Grail of Hot Rods. Good Guys 19th annual Southwest Nationals are in town, and if you're a car person, you don't want to miss this. The show will feature over 3,000 hot rods, classic and custom cars and trucks through 1972. There will also be an autocross show, a dragster exhibition, a swap meet, model and pedal car show, live music and a kids zone with arts and crafts and games for the little ones. Tickets start at $17 for adults and $6 for kids. For more information, visit good-guys.com or call 925-838-9876.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Thanksgiving Dinner

1-4 p.m. at Ingleside Middle School, 5402 E. Osborn Road, Phoenix. Feed Our Babies USA, an organization created by Joni Sucato of Arcadia, will host a Thanksgiving dinner for residents of the Scottsdale Unified School District area. In addition, FOB will partner with Hickman Eggs, Duncan Family Farms, Blue Sky Farms and Sam Fox Restaurants to fill food boxes with Thanksgiving items on November 19 at Ingleside. The goal is to feed 1,200 families. To donate or to join in on the Thanksgiving festivities, or for more information, visit feedourbabiesusa.org or call 480-352-2370.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Thanksgiving Buffet

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort and Spa, 7500 E. Doubletree Ranch Road, Scottsdale. Thanksgiving is a time to get together with family and friends and give thanks, but sometimes cooking all that food can be a real pain. Have no fear, Hyatt Regency is here to take care of that. Forget the turkey; pack up the family and head to SWB restaurant at the Hyatt where the buffet is overflowing. Omelets, eggs benedict, salads, crab legs, turkey, ham and all the trimmings will be available, with pumpkin pie to top it off! Tickets are $87 for adults and $43 for kids. For more information, call 480-444-1234.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Jackalope Market

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at WestWorld, 16601 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. Shop small for the holidays! Jackalope is an "indie artisan" market, where you can find goodies for everyone on your Christmas list. All of the vendors at Jackalope market are straight out of Arizona (and a few from California!), including My Inner Hippie clothing, Bare Naked Botanicals, and Spoonful of Freckles children's boutique. There will be live music and entertainment, DIY workshops, and admission is free. For more information, visit jackalopeartfair.com or call 323-989-2278.

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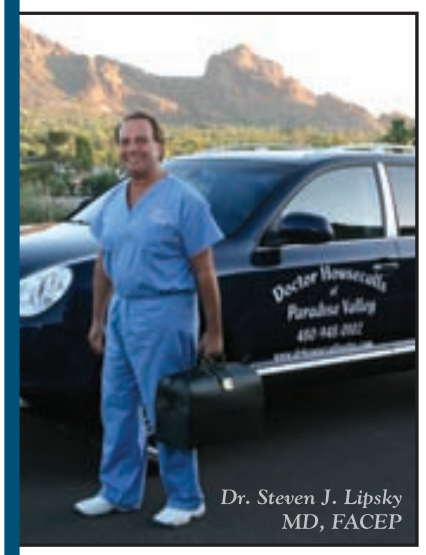
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OUT OF THE AREA, *BUT WORTH THE DRIVE*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Arizona Wild West Days

Hours and location vary, Nov. 3-6, throughout the town of Cave Creek. Travel back in time and head to Cave Creek for the 14th annual Wild West Days. Rustle up the family and throw on your cowboy hat. Activities include mutton busting, pig races, a pie eating contest, a chili cook off, a bathtub race, gun fighters, a Wild West costume competition and so much more. There is also a parade on Saturday morning. There's something here for the whole family to enjoy. Admission is free. For more information, visit wildwestdayscavecreek.com or call 480-437-1196.



Arizona Wild West Days

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Chillin n' Swillin Beer Festival

2-6 p.m. at the Rotary Community Park Ball Fields, 1400 S. Smoketree Ave., Lake Havasu City. Put your drinking cap on and head out to Lake Havasu for a day of bites, brews and music. Over 40 handcrafted and premium beers will be available. Admission includes a mini mug for you to taste your favorite brew. Live musical entertainment and a homebrew competition keep the fun going all afternoon. This is an event for guests 21 and older. Tickets are $25 in advance and $30 at the door, with a special $10 price for designated drivers. For more information, visit chillin-n-swillin.org or call 928-486-7286.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Chuck Wagon Cook-Off

9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Nov. 11 and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Nov. 12, at Tumbleweed Park, 2250 S. McQueen Road, Chandler. This is a competition like you've never seen before. Head back to the 1800s and watch as competitors cook up some home grown grub in authentic chuck wagons. Using slow cook, wood fire methods, teams can win prizes in various food categories, and attendees can purchase these meals once they're finished. There will also be live music, vendors, cooking demonstrations, and old-fashioned storytelling. Round up the family and head back in time. Admission is free. For more information visit chandleraz.gov or call 480-782-2717.

Veterans Day Tribute

11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sedona Heritage Museum, 735 Jordan Road, Sedona. Escape the bustling city scene and head up to Sedona this Friday to pay tribute to the veterans of our country. There will be a flag ceremony, taps tribute, entertainment, lunch and refreshments, and special guest speakers. Enjoy the drive and the beauty of Sedona, have lunch and stay to say thank you. This event is free. For more information, visit sedonamuseum.org or call 928-282-7038.

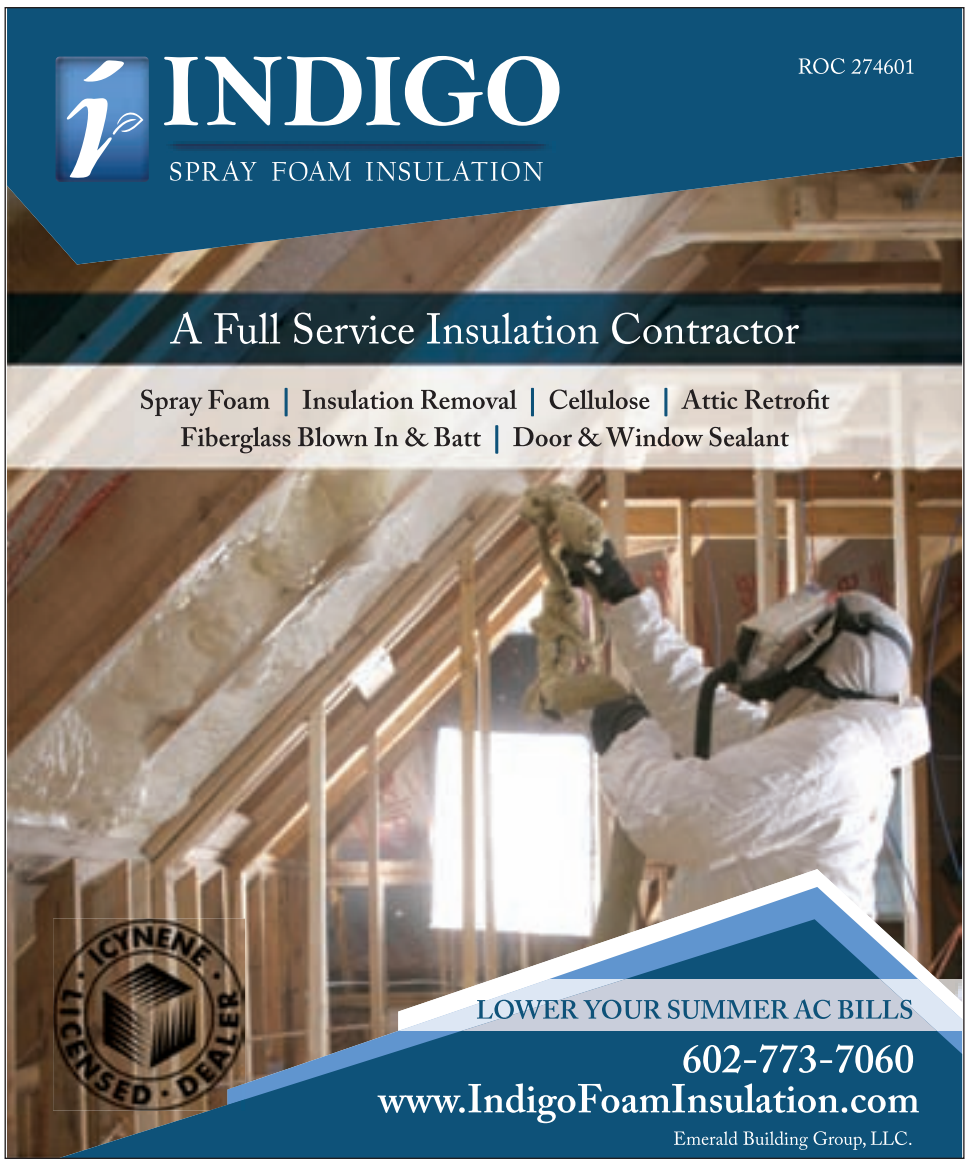
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

YumaCon

11 a.m. at the Yuma Civic Center, 1440 W. Desert Hills Drive, Yuma. Love anime? Love cosplay? Love comics? Then YumaCon is the event for you. Dress up as your favorite character, attend panels, play video games and tabletop games. Meet special guests and cosplay judges. There will also be a cosplay café inspired by the anime Love Live! where the servers are dressed up like JPop Idols and you can enjoy a bento box lunch. Come see the place where comics, anime and pop culture become one. Tickets are $10 presale and $12 at the door, and cosplay café tickets are $10. For more information, visit yumaaz.gov or call 928-373-5202.

St. Martin's New Release Festival

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sonoita Vineyards, 290 Elgin-Canelo Road, Elgin. Can you hear the vino calling your name? The Sonoita American Viticultural Area presents the St. Martin's New Release Festival, a haven for wine lovers. There will be seven wineries on site, and guests can sample each brand. General admission includes a souvenir wine glass, tasting tickets, a tour of the vineyard, and you'll also get to witness the "blessing of the vintage." Lunch will be available for purchase, or you can bring your own. Tickets are $35 presale and $40 at the door. For more information, visit sonoitavineyards.com or call 520-455-5893.





OUT OF THE AREA, *BUT WORTH THE DRIVE*



Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run



Festival of Lights Kickoff Party

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run

8 a.m. at Green Valley Park, 1000 W. Country Club Drive, Payson. Okay, okay, yes, it's early, but who doesn't love a change of scenery? The Turkey Trot 5K starts at 9 a.m. and winds around Green Valley Park. Registered participants will receive a commemorative sweatshirt. Plus, you can work off a bunch of calories before you stuff your face with turkey on Thanksgiving! Registration is $40. For more information, visit paysonrimcountry.com or call 928-472-5110.

Christmas Parade

1 p.m. in downtown Winslow, 523 W. Second St., Winslow. Christmas is right around the corner, and it's never too early to start celebrating. Winslow boasts the longest running Christmas parade in the state – this is its 70th year! Guests are invited to come out and watch the parade, and stay after to purchase arts and crafts, toys, clothing and jewelry, and lots of food. And the best part… you can meet Santa! It's time to get into the holiday spirit, bring the family and have a holly jolly good time. For more information, visit winslowarizona.org or call 928-289-2434.

Rio De Cerveza Brew Fest

5-9 p.m. at the Desert Sun Stadium, 1280 Desert Sun Drive, Yuma. Who doesn't love a good beer festival? The fourth annual Rio De Cerveza Brew Fest is sure to have libations to tickle everyone's fancy. There will be more than 60 different beers to sample, including Yuma's own Prison Hill Brewing Company. Attendees can also enjoy live music from Checker'd Past, an '80s tribute band, and lawn games like mega beer pong, giant Jenga and corn hole! Tickets are $35 in advance with VIP options available. For more information, visit riodecerveza.com or call 928-376-0100.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Festival of Lights Kickoff Party

11 a.m. to 9 p.m., 1010 E. Marketplace SW, Ahwatukee. One of the best ways to celebrate the holidays, especially in the Valley where we don't get snow, is to visit the Festival of Lights. More than 1 million white lights are placed around the desert landscape – so, it's like snow without the cold. The kickoff festival boasts a marketplace street fair, 30 rides and inflatables, a beer and wine garden, food and live music, and even a Harley Davidson parade. Admission is free. For more info, visit folaz.org or call 480-753-7676.

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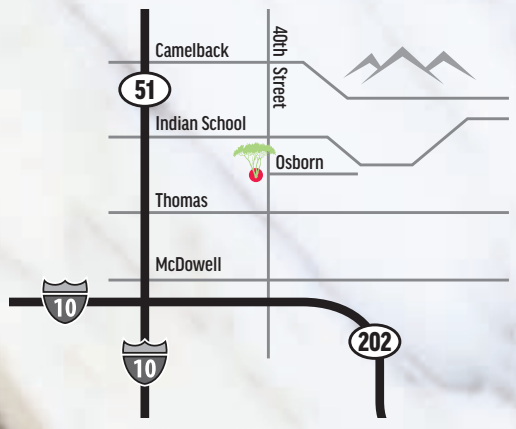
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Former local K-9 moves on to serving and protecting veterans

By Nick Smith

Nicholas Antrim knew exactly where to turn for help on his report. The ninth-grader was working on a school project that focused on K-9 police units and hoped to speak to real officers for research. Fortunately for Nicholas, he had a connection with the police department: his father, Scottsdale Police Officer Dan Antrim.

"I had friends in that unit, so we went to talk to them," said Officer Antrim. "As we both learned about it, I thought this seemed really cool. So this was all my son's fault."

A job with the Scottsdale K-9 Unit is a prestigious one, as there are only six dogs in the department. Once Antrim made the unit, he headed down to Tucson for nine weeks of training with his new partner, a Belgian Malinois named Badge.

"The funny thing was that during the training, Badge was teaching me more than I was teaching him," Antrim said, laughing. "He had already been in the unit for around three years, and his old owner had just gone to another job. So Badge had done all this before and I was the new guy."

Although the training was a chance for Antrim to hone the skills he needed in his new position, it also provided him the opportunity to develop his relationship with Badge. K-9 dogs are pack driven and need to quickly understand that the officer is the alpha. The officer and his dog need to have an intimate knowledge of one another, as they will work in life-and-death situations together. They also will spend an intense amount of time with one another, as the dogs not only work with their officers but will usually live with them as well.

Antrim soon realized he was dealing with a unique personality in Badge. An intense and focused dog during their training, he became laid back and fun-loving the minute work was over for the day. The first evening at his new home was spent wrestling with Nicholas on the floor.

"He was the most relaxed and chill dog ever," reflected Antrim. "I would take him to elementary schools and he'd let the kids pet him, wagging his tail the whole time. But what was so funny was, as soon as you put his collar and harness on him, his whole demeanor and facial expression would change. It was work time. His attitude shift was really unique."

Badge loved going to work, and leapt around the house in circles when Antrim came out in the morning, dressed in his uniform. Soon the two of them were completely in sync, with Antrim able to tell what Badge thought about a passerby from his body language alone, and Badge responding to Antrim's mood based on simply his facial expressions.

After several years of working together, Antrim moved on to a training position within the Scottsdale Police Department. Badge had turned 9, right around the time when



Scottsdale Police Officer Dan Antrim and his Belgian Malinois partner, Badge.

K-9 dogs reach the end of their careers. Since Antrim was moving on anyway, the decision was made to retire Badge. Officers are given the first right of refusal when it comes to keeping their retired dog, and Antrim decided to keep Badge.

He soon realized though, that sitting around the house all day wasn't going to work for his old partner. Antrim still came out in the mornings dressed in uniform and Badge leapt up and down, convinced that this was the day he would go back to work, before watching his owner leave him behind.



"I just felt guilty," said Antrim. "My son was going to college, I was still working, and Badge was sitting around the house all day, alone and bored. I just felt like it was a waste of a good dog. He's so personable and I knew he had service life still in him."

But Antrim was far too protective to give Badge away to anyone. He began to scour the internet, looking for the right fit for his dog. Before becoming a police officer, Antrim had been in the military for nine years, and he liked the idea of Badge helping returning veterans. For weeks, nothing seemed to fit. Then he came upon an organization called K-9 Warriors, and was immediately intrigued by the founder's story.

"He was an Army Ranger and had suffered a traumatic brain injury," noted Antrim. "Massive migraines, to the point where he blacks out. They trained a service dog to be able to chemically and biologically realize that a migraine is coming. So the dog smells that odor and alerts him, meaning he has 15 to 20 minutes to call a doctor, get to a good place [and] take his medication. He used to not be able to drive his daughter to dance practice or school. Now he can do that and it's been a huge help to him. I didn't even know they could do that. I was so impressed."

What truly sold Antrim was the lengths K-9 Warriors went to for both the dog and the veterans. The organization didn't want Badge, or any dog, to be dropped off at a house and simply left there. Any vet getting a dog would be background checked to make sure there was no history of abuse. Both the dog and veteran would have to work out together, do community service, have training checkups and document it all.

The organization matched Badge with a former Green Beret named J.P., who suffered from PTSD so severe that he wasn't able to sleep for even an hour a night. K-9 Warriors wanted to fly both Antrim and Badge out to Virginia for a weekend, so everyone could get a chance to know one another. But what sealed the deal was K-9 Warriors giving Antrim a chance to evaluate the situation himself.

"They said I would get 50 percent of the yes or no vote, when it came to whether Badge would stay there," said Antrim. "I was blown away. I can read my dog and they trusted my belief in whether or not something would be a good fit for him."

In August, Badge and Antrim headed out to Virginia. They met J.P., his wife and two young daughters. Antrim, J.P. and members of the K-9 Warriors spent Friday and Saturday training in parks, touring Civil War battlefields, going out to dinner and getting to know one another. They also helped Badge slowly make the transition.

"When I first gave J.P. the leash, Badge could tell something wasn't right," said Antrim. "He kept looking back at me, like 'I should be with you.' But as the weekend went along, everything started to come together. We got to know each other, I got to be part of the family dynamic. It just went really well."

Sunday morning arrived and Antrim packed up in his hotel room, preparing to take Badge to his new home and then catch a flight back to Arizona. As Antrim was sitting on the floor doing some stretches, Badge quietly walked over, laid his head in Antrim's lap and stayed there.

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Antrim and Badge competing in the Desert Dog Police K-9 Trials.

"He had never done that before," said Antrim. "There was a sadness to him in that moment. He knew. It was almost unbearable to leave but I was also so happy. He was going to be working and living with a family who would treat him well."

Antrim keeps tabs on his old friend through messages that J.P. sends to both him and K-9 Warriors. Badge became a help to the family almost immediately, finding their lost keys one afternoon in a park that they were leaving. He also makes them laugh, like when he ran down an aisle at Lowe's and stuck his nose into every piece of PVC pipe, like he used to do when hunting for drugs. But the story that touched Antrim the most was one that J.P. sent several weeks after Badge had arrived.

"J.P. couldn't sleep, so he would just get up in the middle of the night and clear his house for danger," said Antrim. "Then one night he saw Badge sleeping on the staircase and decided he didn't need to clear the house that night. And he got some sleep for the first time. Then another night he slept one hour. Then two hours. In his words, he knew he had a brother on watch."

Although it was hard for Antrim to say goodbye to his partner, the difference Badge is making today makes the decision to let him go completely worth it.

"It's a phenomenal thing," said Antrim. "Now that J.P. is able to begin to sleep, it brings his stress and intensity levels down. He's able to relax. He's able to focus on his job, his wife and his little girls. It's truly amazing. Badge gets to be a living tool and make a difference in someone's life."

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Images by Tim Trumble

Support for First Saturdays for Families at the ASU Art Museum has been generously provided by The Steele Foundation.

The ASU Art Museum is part of the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts at Arizona State University.

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Restaurateur Mark Tarbell selected as new host of 'Check, Please!'

By Kelly Potts

Mark Tarbell, an award-winning Arizona chef and restaurateur featured on the Food Network's "Iron Chef America" is the new host of Arizona PBS's four-time Emmy winning series, "Check, Please! Arizona."

Tarbell, who owns Tarbell's restaurant, The Tavern and The Wine Store in Arcadia will kick off Season 7 of "Check, Please! Arizona" in January 2017. As host, Tarbell will moderate lively roundtable discussions with Arizona residents on their dining experiences across the state.

"I'm extremely excited for this opportunity," said Tarbell. "I've had a fair amount of experience cooking on television, but this is different. I get to be on the other side and help tell the story. Tell the story of the mom and pop shop, tell the story of the kid who has worked his way up to be head chef, tell the story of someone trying something new. It's a great feeling."

As for his start in the culinary world, Tarbell stumbled into a cooking job in high school and became obsessed. Originally from New Hampshire, Tarbell studied cooking at L'Ecole de Cuisine La Varenne in Paris, and bounced back to the East Coast before coming out to Arizona.

Tarbell was the director of Food and Beverage at The Boulders Resort in Carefree, Arizona. There he developed a world-class wine program (over 800 selections) and supervised four restaurants and a bakery. Under his guidance, the readers of Conde Nast Traveler selected The Boulders as one of the "Top 25 Resorts".

"It was my dream to open a restaurant," said Tarbell. "So, I opened Tarbell's. It's truly a vision of everything I love in food, and wine, in one place."

"Check, Please! Arizona" has always been a show that Tarbell loved. Getting the chance to host it was an unreal dream. "My goal is to never become a television personality. I love that this show has the educational value associated with it, and it's something that I am so proud to be part of," said Tarbell.

"I'm a very passion driven person. Obviously cooking is a passion of mine, storytelling is a passion of mine. And this combines both of those. This is the perfect extension of my passions."

Tarbell, whose namesake is in the Arcadia neighborhood, can't wait to dive into more of what the Valley has to offer. "I'm excited about tapping into this market. We have so many great stories to tell."

For more information on Mark Tarbell, visit www.tarbells.com.



"Check, Please! Arizona" airs on PBS in January 2017.

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After 3 years, Clever Koi continues to cook up success

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By Riley Kissee

It has been reported that approximately 60 percent of restaurants don't survive the first year of operation. This November, Clever Koi in central Phoenix celebrates three years of serving Asian-inspired comfort food and the restaurant doesn't show any signs of stopping. However, the secret to Clever Koi's longevity starts with the passionate team who brought the concept to life and the people who help shape the experience for each guest.

"We all came together because we shared the same vision and wanted to bring something different to the city," said General Manager Nick Campisano. "It's all about our staff. If our staff is well versed and knowledgeable, they're going to be very confident with customers. You have to know your guests, know what they like, what they want, and overall, give them a great experience."

Pair the emphasis on service with exceptional one-of-a-kind flavors delivered in a lively metropolitan atmosphere, and there's a lot working in the restaurant's favor.

Chef Jared Porter has developed an ever-evolving menu packed with finesse and flavor. To start the meal, the selection of three different steam buns is a popular choice. The three buns consist of a pork belly with hoisin, peanut and cilantro; a chicken and waffle made with a kimchi waffle, chili maple syrup and scallion, and a soft shell crab with fish sauce aioli, cucumber slaw and black sesame.

Another great starter includes their assortment of dumplings, which features several adventurous, yet rewarding options like the Pig Face dumpling with kimchi, Sriracha sauce and pickled peppers; and the Rabbit Gyoza with coriander butter, heirloom carrot and wasabi gastrique. For those looking to stick to something more familiar, Clever Koi offers dumplings stuffed with summer corn, yuzu cherry tomato, Thai basil and harissa crema, or short rib with pickled onions, celery leaf, shiitake dashi and porcini oil.

Notable small plates include the Tuna Chips dish with fresh ahi crudo, wasabi guacamole, rice paper and aioli as well as the Calamari Fries with yuzu aioli, mint and furikake.

For main dishes, if you're looking to fill up on protein, the Crispy Pineapple Duck and Thai Chili Beef are rich, savory and cooked to perfection. The winter season is a great time to savor one of Clever Koi's noodle bowls, filled with steamy broth and complex umami flavors. The ramen is available in three options: pork belly, kimchi, bamboo shoots and a soft egg; chicken, daikon, Szechuan peppercorn, pickled leaks, and lemon jam; or wild mushroom, fava beans, kimchi and shiitake dashi.

The beverage menu is also exceptional, with some of the craftiest cocktails in town and an assortment of libations to choose from. Whether you want it on the rocks, shaken, stirred, poured over a single giant ice cube or served with over-the-top presentation in a tiki glass, Mixologist Joshua James has the ideal drink.

PLACES *WE LOVE*

As Clever Koi kicks off their third year, their success has allowed them to expand the concept. The team is currently hard at work on a second location to bring their admired Asian fare to Gilbert.

"There's a great story about the koi fish and how it overcomes obstacles and actually becomes a big dragon. Much like the koi fish, now we have come into our own and we're expanding and growing," Campisano said. "We have awesome people working on the Gilbert location that have been with us since the beginning."



KIDS CORNER

6 fast and fun after-school snack ideas



APPLE AND BRIE MINI BAGEL APPETIZERS

Sweet and simple, this cheesy appetizer is the perfect snack after a long day of school. Creamy Brie is the perfect pairing with juicy apples. Even mom and dad will want to snag a few of these.

- 2 Thomas' Plain Mini Bagels, toasted
- 1 tablespoon of butter
- 1 wedge Brie cheese
- 1 Granny Smith apple
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Split and toast two Thomas' Mini Bagels until golden brown. Spread butter on each bagel half, and then slice in half again to create quarters. Slice the wedge of Brie cheese into eight equal portions and place one on each bagel quarter. Cut the apple into eight slices and place one slice on top of cheese. Sprinkle with cinnamon to taste.

(BPT) — Reading, writing, arithmetic and so much more – school days are busy for kids. Lunch period provides a welcome break, but some schools schedule lunch as early as 10:30 a.m. By the end of the day, kids are famished.

When your star students arrive home asking for a snack, you don't have to reach for junk food. Here are some quick, simple and fun ideas for tasty after-school snacks that your kids will love.

- **Savory popcorn bar** – Popped corn is 100 percent whole grain with plenty of fiber to help keep kids satisfied until dinner. Skip the processed microwave varieties and opt to pop on the stove or in an air popper. Then create a popcorn buffet by setting out small bowls and a variety of savory toppings such as finely shredded Parmesan cheese and Italian seasoning. Kids can serve themselves and customize their snack to their taste.

- **Nice cream** – When the kids want ice cream, but you want a healthier snack, nice cream comes to the rescue. This simple ice cream alternative can be made by freezing sliced ripe bananas. When kids get home from school, blend these banana pieces until smooth for a cool, creamy treat. You can experiment with different flavors by adding a dab of peanut butter or a few strawberries to the blender.



This modern twist on "ants on a log" is one way to excite kids after a long school day.

- **Quick and easy pizza bagels** – With pepperoni and tomato, pizza bagels are a quick, cheesy fix to after-school hunger pangs. Start by turning the oven to the broiler setting. Then on a baking tray, place a split Thomas' Plain Mini Bagel with the cut sides facing up. Spread tomato sauce on each bagel half and sprinkle with cheese. Add pepperoni halves and cherry tomato quarters. Place under the broiler until cheese is melted.

- **Awesome apple slices** – Reinvent boring sliced apples with nut butter and granola. Simply slice apples, smear with your nut butter of choice, and then roll in granola. For an extra treat, add a drizzle of raw honey, a few mini dark chocolate chips or a quick dash of rainbow sprinkles.

- **Ants on a pond** – Parents grew up munching ants on a log, the snack that takes a celery spear smeared with peanut butter and lines raisins on top to look like ants. Give this classic a modern twist by slicing a Thomas' Plain Mini Bagel in half, adding peanut butter and topping it with chopped celery and raisins. This sweet-salty delight is guaranteed to get devoured.

For more simple after-school snack ideas featuring mini bagels and more, visit thomasbreads.com/recipes.



KIDS CORNER

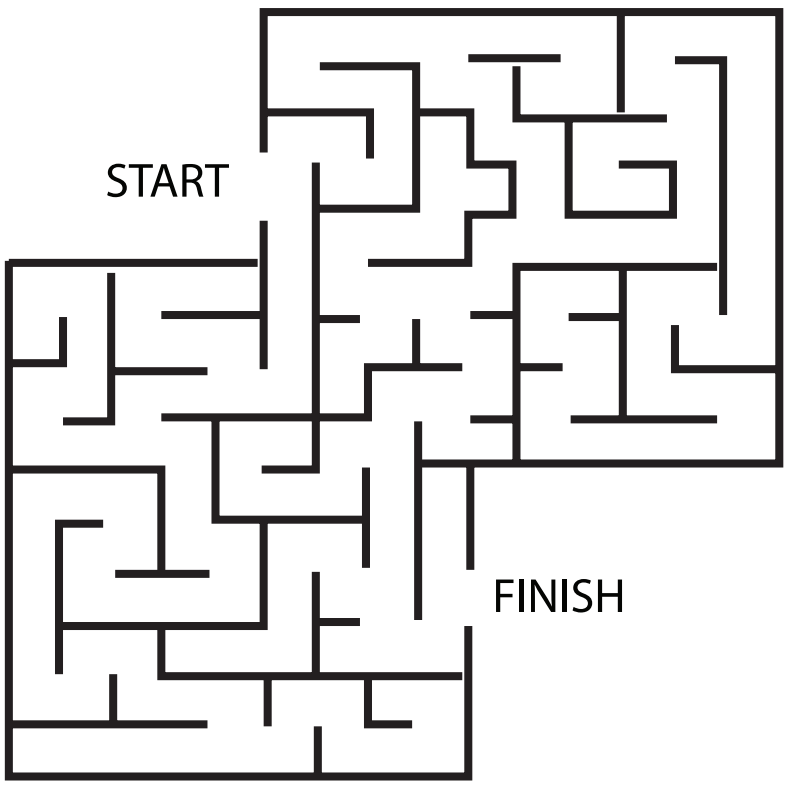
FUN FACTS • TURKEYS



- It's believed that turkeys were domesticated in the United States between 200 B.C. and A.D. 500.
- There are six different species of wild turkeys.
- Turkeys are among the largest birds in North America.
- The domestic turkey, weighing in at 86 pounds, is the eighth largest living bird species in terms of mass.
- The male turkey is larger and much more colorful than the female.
- Male turkeys have a distinctive fleshy wattle or protuberance that hangs from the top of the beak called a snood.
- Wild turkeys are agile fliers and can fly up to a quarter mile.
- A turkey's gobble can be heard by other turkeys up to a mile away.
- Wild turkeys are omnivorous.
- It is believed by some that Benjamin Franklin preferred the turkey as the national bird.
- In the early 19th century, turkey meat was considered a luxury in the United Kingdom.
- The white meat of turkey is generally considered healthier than dark meat because of its lower fat content, but the nutritional differences are small.

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Food truck throwdown to benefit Foster Children Foundation

By Riley Kissee



In recent years, there has been a large influx in the number of food events taking place in the Valley. While these events are a great reason to appreciate some of Arizona's culinary standouts, what's often overlooked is that these events are rooted in philanthropy and support those in need. One such event is the 2016 Slider Throwdown, which benefits the Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation and will take place on Sunday, November 13 from 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. at Kierland Commons in Scottsdale.

At $25 per person, those attending the event can taste a selection of ten different sliders, bid on a variety of silent auction items and contribute to the community, as 100% of proceeds will go directly to a 501(c)(3) organization that helps 18,000 children who are currently in foster care in Arizona.

"The event started four years ago and was originally called Foodie Faire for Foster Care," said Susie Timm, the organizer of the event. "We changed the name to Slider Throwdown last year and made it a competition between food trucks, in order to up the excitement and engagement of our attendees."

The ten food trucks participating in the fundraiser will compete for two "Best Slider" awards. The first is a people's choice award with votes cast by every guest in attendance, while the other is an award from a panel of local slider experts. The contenders for the title include Phil the Grill, One True Love, Aioli Burger, Buzz N Bee, Butta Burger and Spice It Up. A cash bar will be available to guests as well.

"This is a fun way to taste sliders of all kinds from some of the very best food trucks in Phoenix and do it for a truly awesome cause," said Timm. "The money earned will help give foster kids the chance at a normal childhood; piano lessons, summer camp, Disney World and more. It's an amazing non-profit and I am honored to work with these people."

The mission of the Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation is to provide those in foster care with quality childhood experiences. The non-profit organization has raised more than $5.7 million, which has enriched the lives of over 26,000 children living in foster care.

"We help these children through difficult circumstances by providing them with resources and allowing them to take part in enjoyable activities that promote self-esteem," said Kris Jacober, Director of the Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation.

For more information about the Slider Throwdown and to purchase tickets for the event, visit affcf.org.



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'Doughnut' forget: National Donut Day is November 5

By Kelly Potts

Having a bad day? Eat a donut. Craving something sweet? Eat a donut. Looking for a cake alternative? Eat a donut. There are few problems that donuts will not solve. Lucky for you, November 5 is National Donut Day!

National Donut Day started in 1938 as a fundraiser for Chicago's The Salvation Army. Their goal was to help those in need during the Great Depression, and to honor The Salvation Army "Lassies" of World War I, who served donuts to soldiers.

With the increase of social media, donuts have once again become the snack (or dinner) of millennials' dreams.

Craving donuts now? Aren't we all! Here are five great places to grab some fresh, and unique donuts:



Jewel's Bakery & Café

4041 E. Thomas Rd, Phoenix

Looking for a gluten-free sweet treat? Head to Jewel's! Known for their gluten free bakery and restaurant, they offer an array of donut flavors including maple bacon, glazed, chocolate and cinnamon.

BoSA

3722 E. Indian School Rd, Phoenix

With a claim of 'best donut in town', how could we not include them? Always with a long line in the morning, BoSA offers some of the best donuts around. With over 30 delicious options to choose from, there is something for everyone.

Fractured Prune

521 S. College Ave #112, Tempe

A create your own donut shop? Count us in! If making your own creation seems intimidating, they also have a menu to choose from. With the sky as the limit for creations, this will be a party pleaser for all involved.

The Local Donut

3213 N. Hayden Rd, Scottsdale

Donuts that are made in your dreams are here. With unique flavors like cherry iced, fruity pebbles, s'mores and vanilla bean cronut, this is the ultimate tier of fancy donuts.

Welcome Chicken + Donuts

1535 E. Buckeye Rd, Phoenix

Want dinner and dessert? I think you found your place! Chicken and exotic donuts in the same restaurant, that's a win for everyone involved.

Where will you go to celebrate this magical day?





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Get the whole family involved in Veterans Day activities, such as the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade.

Honor the sacrifices of local veterans during November

By Rachael Bouley

On Friday, November 11, there will be events throughout the country celebrating the American military and the immeasurable sacrifices of our veterans. The Arcadia and Phoenix area will hold parades, ceremonies, breakfasts and resources for veterans during the entire month of November. We have highlighted many of these opportunities below, so check them out and pay tribute to America's heroes this month!

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 720

4853 E. Thomas Road, Phoenix

One of the best community resources for local veterans is Local VFW Post 720, which offers weekly events that veterans and their families can enjoy. These include fun Friday nights, featuring a Fish Fry at 5 p.m., followed by karaoke at 7 p.m. Veterans, friends and family can join other community members for this casual get-together. On Sunday evenings at 5 p.m., Post 720 offers swing dancing lessons for veterans with a spring in their step. For more information on the VFW's events and opportunities for Veterans, call 602-952-9646.

20th annual Phoenix Veterans Day Parade

Friday, November 11, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Parade begins at the corner of
Central Avenue and Montebello Avenue.

This annual event, presented by Honoring Arizona's Veterans, will feature more than 100 entries representing the theme Welcome Home Vietnam Heroes. This parade is recognized as one of the nation's best Veterans Day events, with 45,000 spectators in attendance along the parade route to honor veterans and their sacrifices. This year, expect to see a special float with 20 Vietnam Veterans, along with nearly 2,500 parade participants, including a variety of patriotic floats, high school marching bands, color guards, JROTC marching units, Veterans service organizations and much more!



There will be eight Veteran Grand Marshals, each representing an era of military service, ranging from World War II to modern day. Pete Hegseth, national news correspondent and veterans advocate, will serve as the celebrity Grand Marshal of the parade.

For more information, visit the official website at phoenixveteransdayparade.org.



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East Valley Veterans Parade

Friday, November 11, 11 a.m.

Parade starts at N. Center Street and W. University Drive in Mesa, continues along N. Center Street and W. First Street in Mesa

The annual East Valley Veterans Parade features parade sponsors and entries from Scottsdale, Mesa, Tempe and more. There will be 55 participating entries, including the Aftermath Hero Foundation and the community of volunteers that make up the East Valley Veterans Parade Association. This community tradition is made possible by the members of the Parade Association, who came together to continue the parade after 2006 city budget cuts eliminated funding for the event. Local VFW Post 1760 and the Marine Corps League were instrumental in helping the parade develop into the large patriotic tribute it is today. For more info, visit evvp.org or call 480-684-2324.

MANA House

755 E. Willetta Street, Phoenix

In 2008, 14 veterans facing homelessness in Phoenix joined forces. Their project has since transformed into the MANA House (Marines, Army, Navy, Airforce), formerly known as the Madison Street Veterans Association. MANA is a peer-support organization for homeless and formerly homeless veterans. The organization provides support and resources for veterans trying to rebuild their lives and achieve their full potential. There are plenty of ways to help out with this organization in November and all year long, including signing up to volunteer or making a donation. The MANA House is always in need of blankets, clothes, food and water to provide to veterans in need, so clean out your closets and pantries. Monetary donations are welcome as well. For more information, or to schedule a donation drop-off, call 602-254-5752 or visit manahouseaz.org.

VFW Post 3513's Chill and Grill with AZ ST Club

Friday, November 18, 2 p.m.

Stanley A. Crews VFW Post 3513

7220 E. Wilshire Drive, Scottsdale

It is important for veterans and their loved ones to feel involved and connected with their community, and local VFW Posts do just that. Scottsdale's VFW Post 3513 is hosting a special afternoon event for veterans and their families. The Arizona ST car club will be on hand for the Chill and Grill afternoon, offering veterans the chance to check out some cool cars while enjoying catered Southern barbecue cuisine. Rcs for Vets will also be there, offering remote-control cars and a test track for veterans to test their skills. For more information, call 480-941-9849.

Second annual Honor House wine and cheese event

Saturday, November 5, 4-7 p.m.

Mount Claret Center

4633 N. 54th St.,Phoenix

Community members are invited to attend this fundraising event in Arcadia, presented by The Honor House organization. Known for its Operation Healing Journey Program, Honor House helps veterans as they transition out of the military and into the civilian sector using community resources and healthy medical practices throughout the healing journey. Community and corporation donations are crucial, as they help fund scholarships for veterans to cover the cost of the 90-day program which is around $5,000. On this evening event, guests will hear testimonies from veterans who have participated in the program while enjoying wine, cheese and a chocolate fountain. Funds raised from the silent auction and the $40 tickets will be used to help local veterans in the Operation Healing Journey Program. For more information, visit thehonorhouse.org or call 602-604-6622.

Phoenix Business Journal Veteran Business Summit

Thursday, November 10, 7-10 a.m.

Skysong Innovation Center,

1475 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale

Transitioning into civilian life can be challenging for veterans, especially when it comes to looking for jobs or future careers. The *Phoenix Business Journal* aims to aid veterans with this daunting task at the Veteran Business Summit, an event that will bring together veteran business owners and transitioning service members. It will be a morning of networking, information and education for local veterans. For more information, visit bizjournals.com/phoenix.

★★★ VETERANS DAY FACTS & FIGURES ★★★

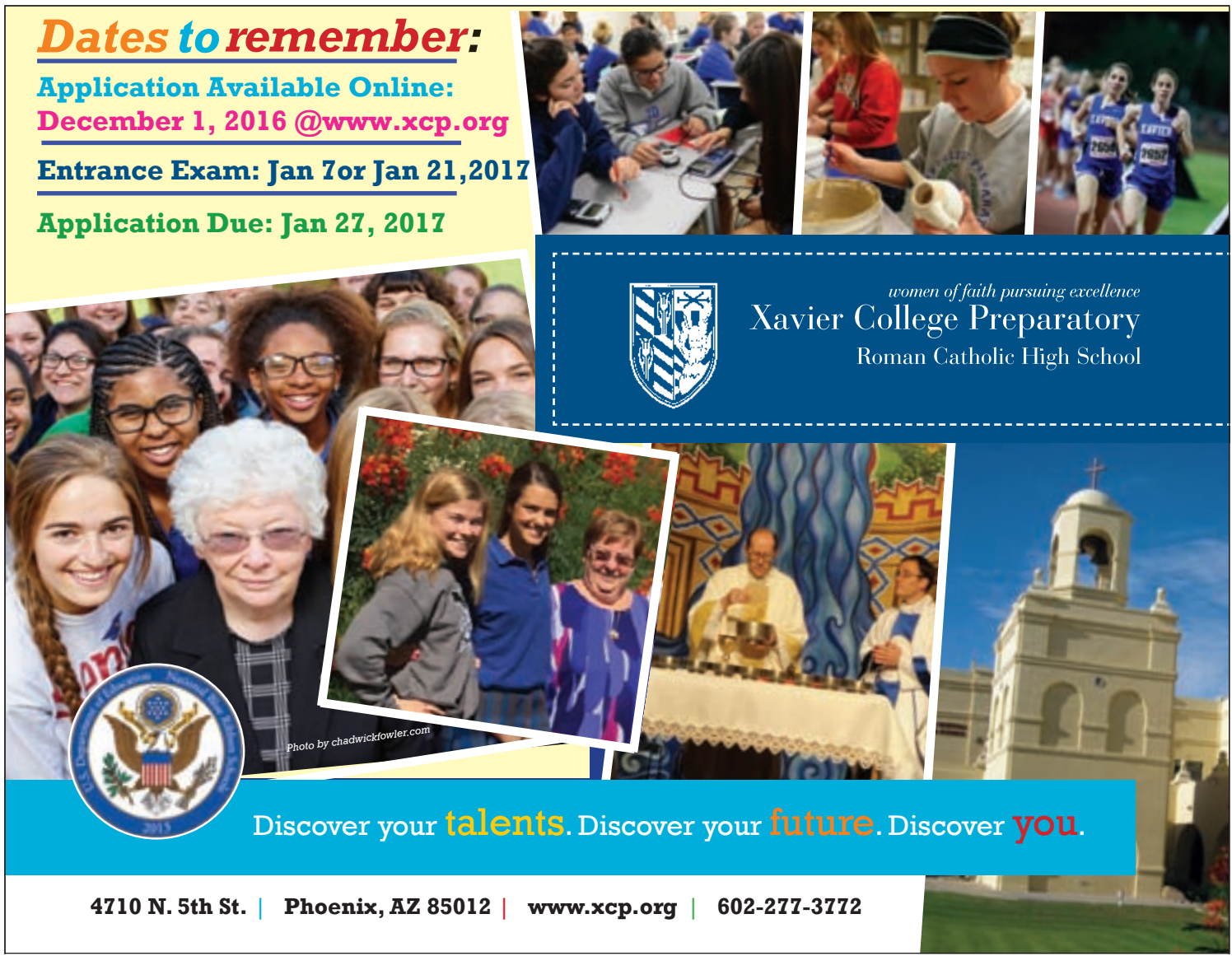
Veterans Day, once known as Armistice Day, was first celebrated on November 11, 1919, the one year anniversary date of the end of World War I. In 1928, the United States Congress passed a resolution for Armistice Day to be an annual observation and by 1938, the day became a national holiday.

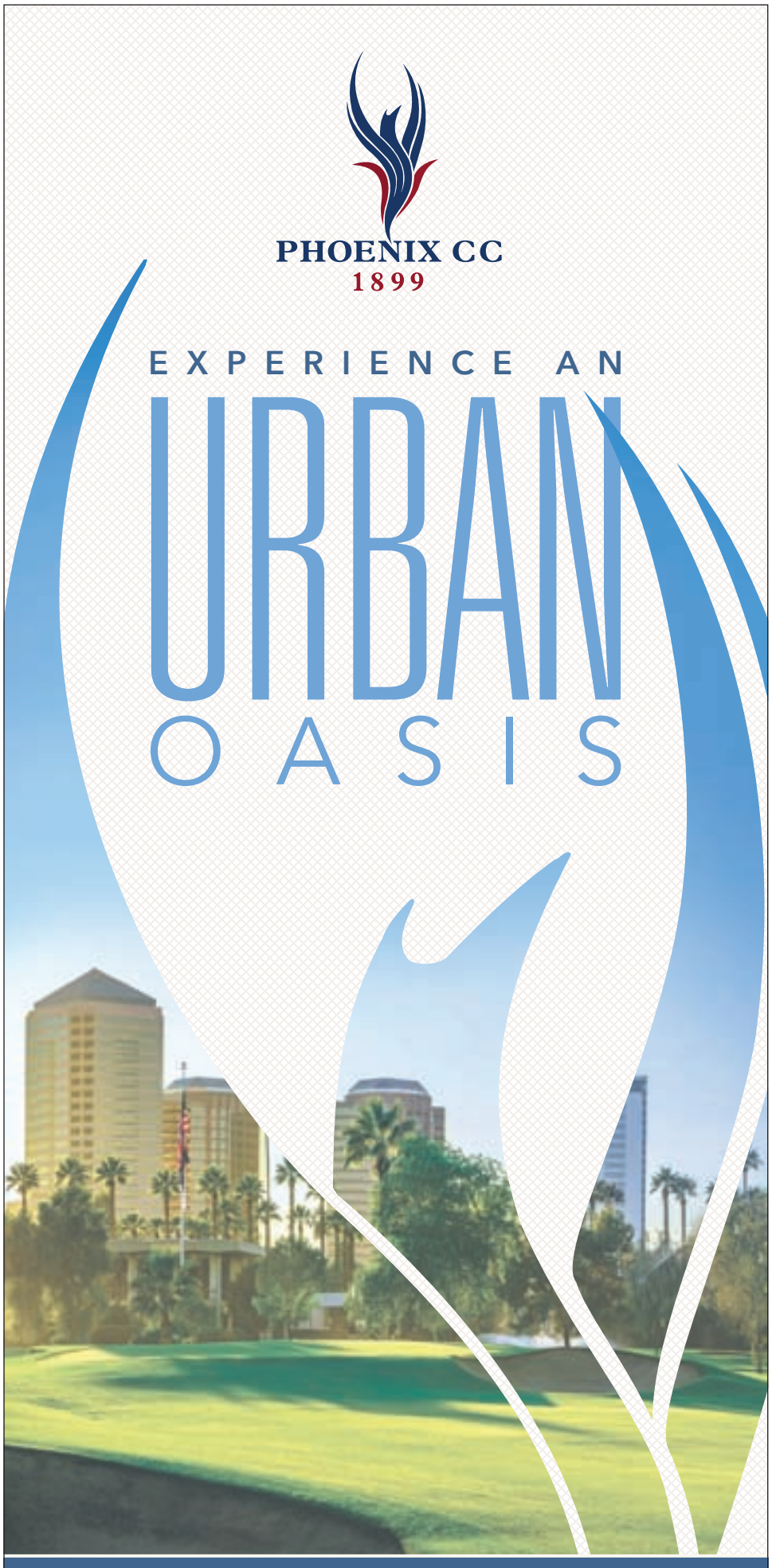
Differing from Memorial Day in May, Armistice Day, which was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 under President Dwight Eisenhower, pays tribute to veterans who survived various wars. Memorial Day commemorates those veterans who lost their lives.

Residents of Great Britain, Canada and Australia celebrate a similar holiday, known as Remembrance Day.

Here are a few interesting facts about veterans and Veterans Day:

- According to the American Community Survey, there were 19.3 million military veterans in the United States in 2014. Of those, 1.6 million were female.
- The largest number of veterans are from the states of California, Texas, and Florida.
- Veterans consist of people who served in the military, in times of war and peace. This includes the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserves.
- The word "veteran" comes from the Old English language and means "old, experienced soldier." The first use of the word was documented in 1789.
- Although many veterans are working, and the average annual income of male veterans is $37,000, some veterans continue to be unemployed. According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the overall unemployment rate for veterans rose to 7.6 percent in January 2013. The unemployment rate of post-9/11 veterans, or those who participated in the Gulf War reached 6.2 percent.
- Upon retiring or being discharged, veterans may need help acclimating to life outside the military. The Department of Veterans Affairs says about 30 percent of Vietnam War veterans have been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD.
- Between 1971 and 1977, Veterans Day was celebrated on the fourth Monday in October. It was changed back to its original date, November 11, in 1975 when President Gerald Ford signed bill S.331 into law. The change went into effect beginning in 1978.
- An American soldier was buried at the national cemetery in Arlington on November 11, 1921. His identity was unknown, and the gravesite is known as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The President or another high-ranking government official places a wreath on the grave each year on Veterans Day.





Fitness, nutrition lessons learned while traveling Europe

FOOD WISE

By Andrea Barkley

I recently returned from a nearly month-long adventure in Croatia, Slovenia and Italy with my fiancé.



As a fitness and nutrition expert, I'm normally quite staunch about what I eat. I truly enjoy it and never feel deprived.

I prefer the taste of real food, gigantic salads, colorful soups, pastured proteins and small doses of healthy fat. I'm 95 percent gluten- and corn-free, because I find those foods make me feel bloated and lethargic.

I also believe in *eating*. Far too many of us try to under-calorie ourselves without realizing how few calories real food contains. I fight low energy by being nourished and unafraid of food.

While I brought a few snacks for the trip, I decided to leave the rest up to chance and adventure to discover new finds in local grocery stores and farmer's markets.

Here are 10 food and fitness discoveries from my travels:

1. Hardly anyone in Europe is worried about over-the-top bulking up or looking lean. Nearly everyone is healthy looking from riding bikes, walking a lot, getting plenty of vitamin D, and eating real food. They also aren't afraid to indulge a little.

2. Europeans don't look at their phones while out to dinner. They linger, converse, smile, laugh, relax and enjoy. Each meal takes ages to finish.

3. Fresh bread, pasta and pizza didn't give me the same adverse reaction in Europe that it does in America. It could be because Europe has tighter bans on the chemicals in pesticides.

4. I probably ate less calories overall because we consumed fewer meals in a day. We shared most meals (usually two or three dishes) and despite enjoying more bread and pasta then I have in years, I actually lost a few pounds!

5. Europeans aren't trying to shovel in bowls of kale with goji berries in the name of health. They enjoy their vegetables in moderation like anything else and look great.

6. European circadian rhythms are completely different than ours. They eat dinner at 10 p.m. and rise much later than we do. While this seems impossible to me at home (I go to bed and recommend my clients go to bed before 10 p.m.), they're thriving.

7. When we stayed at hotels, I ate the biggest breakfasts every day. Other travelers might have a small flavored yogurt and a croissant and that's all. I had unsweetened yogurt with fresh fruit, hard-boiled eggs, charcuterie, cheese, olives, pickles and maybe a bite of something decadent if it looked like it was worth it. I'm not sure how the others were able to fuel hours of walking, hiking and exploring without getting hangry.

8. I only had three proper workouts while traveling and my body didn't change. I still looked lean and fit when I got home.

9. Fish is major. Fish is such a major part of other culture's diet that it reminded me we need to increase our Omega 3 game. We tend to stick to salmon, tuna and white fish, while abroad the variety is larger and includes lake fish, octopus, sardines and more.

10. You can eat a fine meal at a European gas station or rest stop. In Italy there were organic salad bars with sustainable proteins to choose from. In Croatia steaming pots of freshly made goulash, beautifully roasted chicken legs and breasts, and deeply colored salads.

In short, I learned to let some of my food hang-ups go a little. It was nice to relax instead of focusing so much on meeting my macronutrient goals.

I realized that years of consistent exercise and eating clean allowed me to go nearly one month without my normal routine and everything turned out just fine.

It was a delicious, inspiring and active travel experience! I'm also happy to be home, eating kale salad and hitting the gym.

— Fitness expert and founder of Moan Out Loud Protein Shakes.



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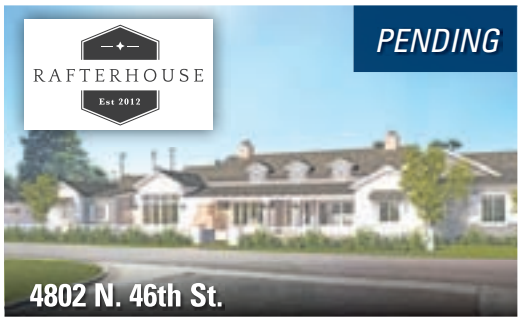


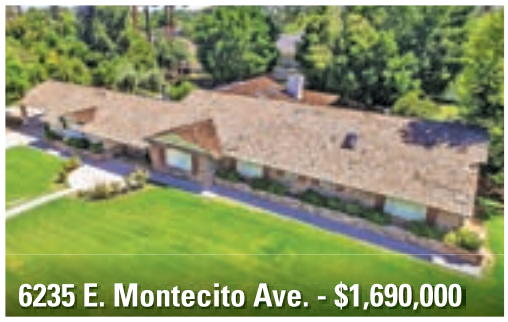


















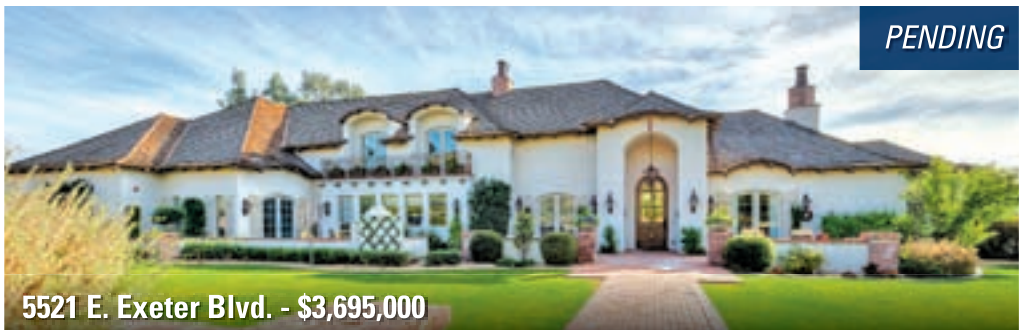


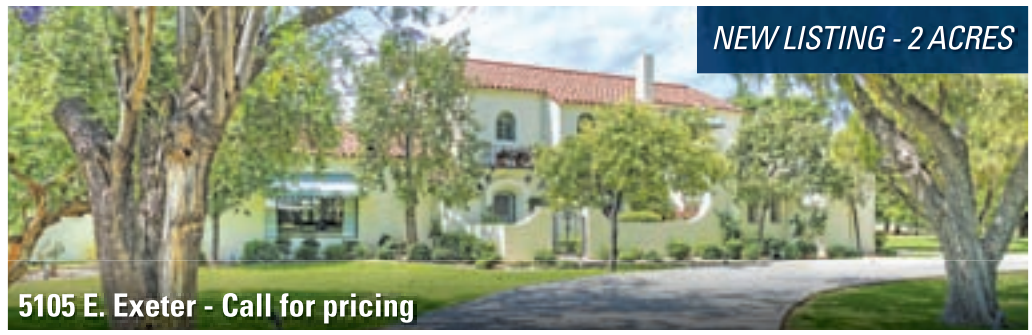
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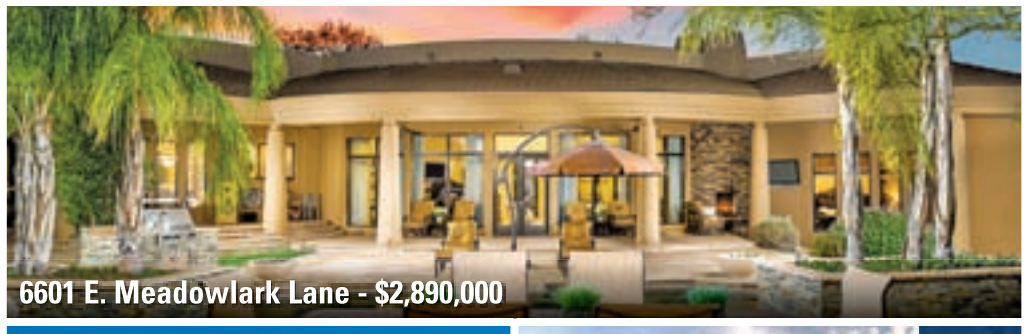






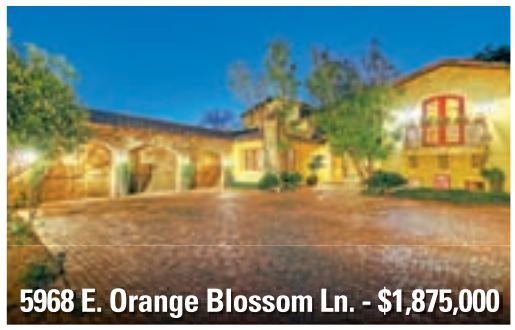


























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Benefiting Phoenix Children's Hospital

Preserving the past: Retired publisher captures stories for families

By Katie Mayer

The tattoos on area resident Bruce Levitta's arms say "NO KA OI" and "YOLO."

The first is a reference to how much Levitta loves surfing and the second is an acronym for "You only live once." A phrase he knows all too well.

After his 88-year-old father-in-law miraculously survived a near drowning in 2014, Levitta started journaling to document the incident. He ultimately compiled his keen observations and memories into a manuscript, which he blended with photos into a glossy hard stock portfolio entitled *A Miracle in Room 3129*.

"I was intrigued by this man, who was more or less dead and then found alive," Levitta said. "He passed three months later and I read it at his funeral."



Levitta's creation and tribute to his father-in-law not only touched his family, but also ultimately led him toward a new passion – the one, at the age of 71, he still embraces today.

Levitta, a former Honolulu Police Department investigator and founding publisher of local one-man operation *Camelback Corridor Magazine*, started the personal biographical profile writing service, A Slice of Your Life, two years ago after he closed the magazine following a 25-year run. Since launching his service, Levitta has interviewed and captured stories such as an unlikely Vietnam War hero who saved his base from destruction, a World War II Army Air Corp veteran and decorated war hero, a girl who survived Leukemia, and the love story of two immigrants.

"Once I sit down with an individual and hear their story, that is the most cathartic and beautiful two hours of my life," Levitta said.

People laugh. Some cry. And they open their hearts to Levitta as he asks thoughtful questions and records the sessions with a traditional tape recorder.

"Usually it's uncomfortable in the beginning because they have not done this before and they are opening up to a stranger and letting me in to their personal life," Levitta said.





Bruce Levitta (left) helps people tell their stories. One story he wishes he knew is that of his father, Murray (right), who was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.



But eventually, Levitta – a skilled interviewer from his days as a police investigator – gains the trust of his clients and they confide in him. Levitta is bespectacled, and with his goatee and tattoos, the cop part of him shines through right away, while his thoughtful questions and analysis reveal to the writer that he is at heart – even though he claims his skill is completely "street taught."

One of those who opened up to Levitta is longtime Arcadia business owner, Bruce Tager of Tager Optical, near Camelback Road and 32nd Street. Tager, a veteran, was Levitta's first paying client and allowed Levitta to capture a snapshot of his life.

"I guess I did it for the family and for the generations to come," Tager said of telling his story. "It's hard for even me to believe I went through what I went through."

Tager was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and did not want to go. He trained in communications center school to be a communication specialist, but was sent to Vietnam due to a paperwork snafu and then served as company clerk.

Just three weeks before his scheduled departure from Vietnam and after Tager had turned in his Army-issued rifle, his base was attacked. He needed a weapon, but the munitions officer wouldn't give him one because his separation papers were filled out. So, Tager grabbed three hand grenades from a box on the floor of the munitions room, ran up to the base's front gate and tossed the grenades in various directions toward the Viet Cong, prompting them to retreat.

"I've been fortunate to do stories on veterans," Levitta said.

Levitta's own father, a 2nd Lieutenant in WWII and a Bronze Star recipient for combat heroism, inspired his passion for veterans, but Levitta did not get to know enough about him.

"I wish I knew more about my Dad… I have his writings, but not enough to know his entire story."

Although Levitta's clients work with him for many reasons, Levitta is clear that the purpose of A Slice of Your Life is to document stories for individuals and their families. It is also intentionally a hard copy publication, instead of a digital file that can be corrupted or inaccessible decades from now.

"It is not for public consumption," Levitta said. "It's important to preserve the memories of a lifetime, in a fashion that can be saved for dozens of years, and that is through print." He added, "The biography is something that a family member can stumble upon and read, or cry or smile with, when they feel they need to connect psychically with their loved one."

For more information or to reach Bruce Levitta, call 480-286-3008 or visit ASliceofYourLife.com.

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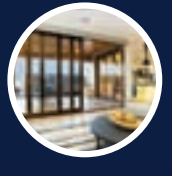
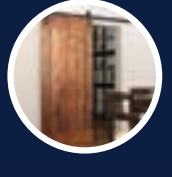
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SUSD seeks voter support in Special Election November 8

By Mallory Gleich and Melody Pierce

The Scottsdale School District is asking voters to help overcome state capital funding reductions of more than 85% in recent years. Two propositions will be on the November 8 Special Election ballot for the Scottsdale Unified School District: a tax bond issuance of $229 million, and an operating budget override of $8.5 million per year for a period of seven years.

The bonds will not have an impact on the property tax rate, since they will be issued at the same time currently issued bonds mature. The operating budget override will be funded with secondary property taxes at a rate of $0.1793 per $100 of valuation. A homeowner with a $400,000 valuation can expect to see an increase of less than $6 per month.

BOND ELECTION

At a public meeting on September 29, district officials provided information and fielded neighbor questions at the SUSD business office at 44th Street & Indian School. School district staff said SUSD needs the extra money due to the impact of more than $51 million in state budget cuts to annual operating revenue.

This leaves new bond funding as one of the only ways that schools can pay for projects such as new schools and building improvements, which can include getting existing buildings up to code and meeting safety standards. According to the district, no funding for building maintenance and repair has been provided in over six years, since the last bond vote was passed in 2010.

SUSD Interim Superintendent Dr. A. Denise Birdwell said if the extra funds are allotted, the community would have a say in how the money would be used, and the government board will be deeply involved in those decisions. In addition, school bond funding requires a committee of citizens to provide oversight and guidance.

Over 50% of the proceeds will go to the rebuilding of 8 elementary schools, some of which are nearly 60 years old. Hopi Elementary, built in 1960, is one of the district's oldest schools, and is slated for a rebuild. Overall, the district has 29 schools to consider and has identified some of the critical maintenance and safety upgrades that will be addressed:

- Replacing old and non-serviceable HVAC equipment
- Upgrading fire alarms and security systems, including gate access and cameras
- Replacing worn and aging roofs, tile, carpet and improving school grounds
- New buses, science labs, gymnasiums, tracks and sports fields
- Replacing outdated or unusable furniture and equipment

BUDGET OVERRIDE

In the context of school funding, the term "override" can be a bit confusing, the *Arcadia News* has learned from some letters to the editor. One author noted frustrations with "spending more money because someone can't stay within a budget…"

BOND FACTS

The 2016 request is for $229,000,000, broken down as:

- 56.6 percent to school rebuilds
- 21.5 percent to school building life cycle
- 9.2 percent to school learning environments
- 6.8 percent to physical education and athletics
- 3.3 percent to safety and security upgrades
- 2.6 percent for transportation needs

FACTS ABOUT SUSD

- Founded in 1896
- 90% graduation rate
- 92% of graduates go to college
- The class of 2016 earned $55.6 million in scholarships
- Nationally ranked schools, with award-winning academics, arts and athletics
- 29 schools * 1 online * 24,000+ students * 3000+ employees

Five "learning communities": Coronado, Chaparral, Arcadia, Saguaro, and Desert Mountain

Arcadia's Learning Community: Arcadia High School (9-12) * Arcadia Neighborhood Learning Center (PK-8) * Hopi Elementary School (K-5) * Ingleside Middle School (6-8) * Tavan Elementary School (PK-5)

However, the method of asking voters to approve a budget increase is how the State of Arizona requires public school districts to seek additional funding beyond the state contributions.

As Chief Financial Officer Dan O'Brien at SUSD explains, "The term override is what the state legislature has put in statute. I can't tell you how it came about, but it's been that way my entire career for the past 20 years. That's what state statute says we have to call it."

Overrides, when passed by voters, are active for seven years. The vote on November 8 will ask voters to approve an increase of $8.5 million for the next seven years. The override will provide curriculum materials, school technology, furniture, fixtures, and playground equipment. It would also support fine arts, athletic and library programs.

"An override is a positive thing. It's an unfortunate name, but it is a very positive thing," said Karen Treon, who is part of the Yes to Children Political Action Committee, a volunteer organization dedicated to garnering support for SUSD. Treon has children that attend Hopi Elementary, Ingleside Middle School and Arcadia High School.

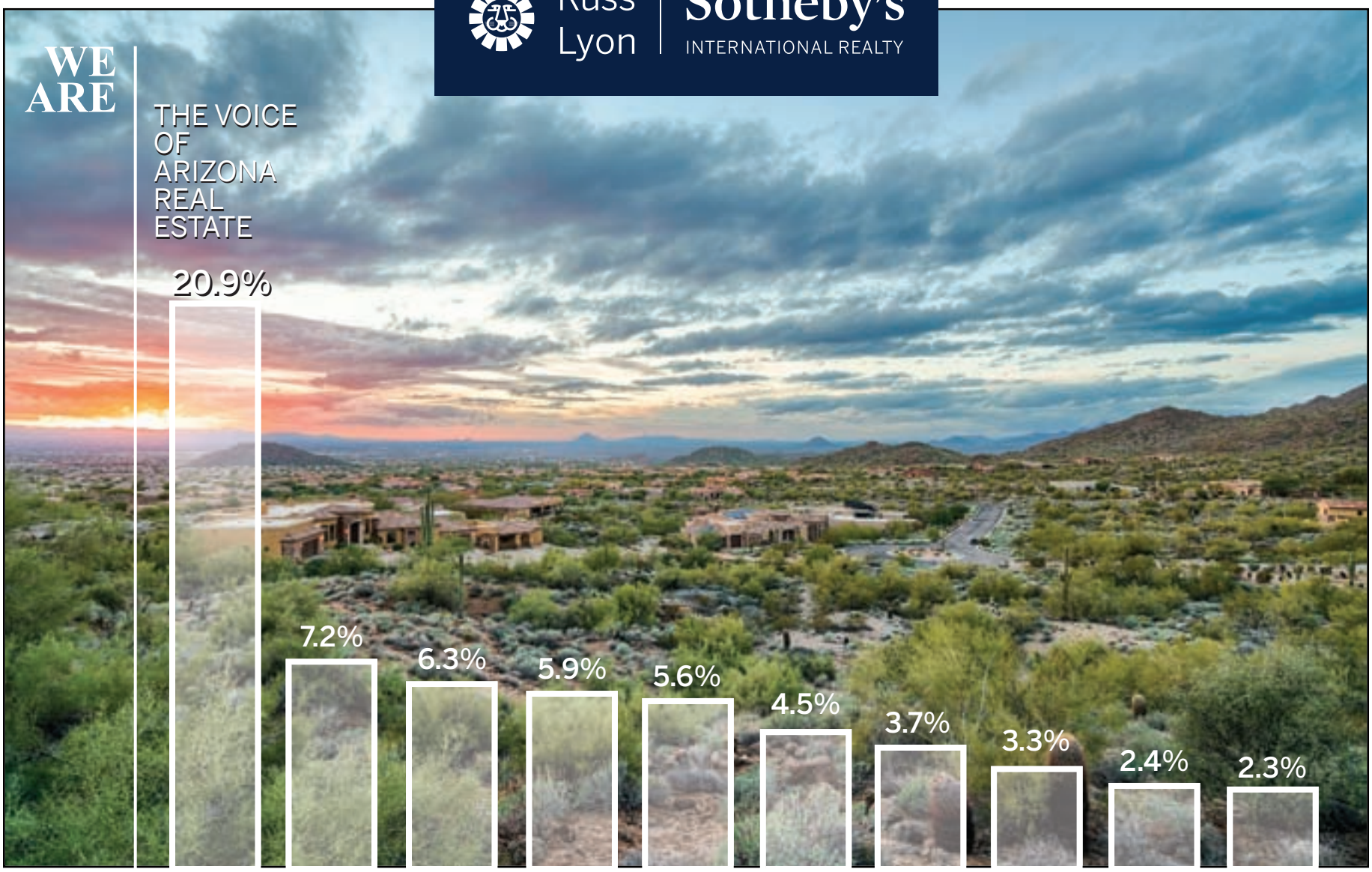
November of 2014 saw the passing of the Maintenance and Operations Override, which allowed the district to increase its budget by 15 percent. These M&O Overrides led to the hiring of assistant principals and additional teachers, which allowed the district to offer smaller class sizes. Schools were also able to return to a full-time schedule and keep programs like art, music and PE in the school budget.

Janey Ledyard, a former teacher at Hopi Elementary School and Cochise Elementary School, supports the bond and the override.

"I care what happens," Ledyard said, "I live here, my kids go to school here and I just want what's best for all of our kids."

The SUSD Special Election will be held November 8, 2016. For more information, visit https://concrete.susd.org/elections/.

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Holidays are here – where to volunteer?

By Mallory Gleich

With Thanksgiving and Christmas around the corner, many people are getting in the holiday spirit by volunteering at organizations and nonprofits around the Valley that are geared toward helping the less fortunate.

That being said, it can be a tad overwhelming deciding where to volunteer. You may also wonder, what should you wear? What do you bring with you? Can you bring the kids?

Have no fear! The Phoenix Rescue Mission, St. Vincent De Paul, Prince of Peace and St. Mary's Food Bank are here to help.

One of the main and most important ways that people can volunteer during the holidays is to help with meals. There are canned food drives, and people can always offer to help serve meals.

At Phoenix Rescue Mission, there is a program called Fill a Box, Feed a Family. On November 19, volunteers offer to fill a box with Thanksgiving food items such as turkey, rolls and pumpkin pie. The boxes are then driven to the families in need so they can have a Thanksgiving meal.

Volunteers are welcome to visit St. Mary's Food Bank from November 21-23 to help distribute Thanksgiving meal items that have been collected. St. Mary's volunteers will be at 26 Albertsons and Safeway locations on November 19 to collect turkeys and different food items for donation. The next three days are spent distributing the items – last year, St. Mary's provided meals for more than 12,000 people.

During Christmastime Phoenix Rescue Mission hosts a Winter Wonderland, where toy donations under $20 are accepted.

St. Vincent De Paul hosts an Adopt-A-Family event in December where volunteers sponsor a family chosen by St. Vincent. Volunteers provide the family with a Christmas dinner, as well as a gift for the family.



At Prince of Peace, there are turkey donations during the month of November and the Angel Tree program in December to collect gifts for people in the community. Another program held during Christmastime is a fundraiser for Feed My Starving Children. You can purchase a handmade Christmas ornament made in Swaziland and the proceeds go to meals for local children.

The Salvation Army hosts one of the biggest holiday volunteer opportunities with their Christmas Angel Program, Toys for Tots, and delivering meals to homebound seniors on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

As for what you can expect when you volunteer, it really depends on which organization you go through. Many places will have you apply to volunteer beforehand, so they can get a feel for which opportunity would be best for you.

"We encourage people to be flexible when they volunteer. Organizations should do their best to communicate what their needs are and what volunteers will be doing when they come to volunteer, but sometimes needs can change at the last minute, so flexibility is key," said Chris Helmuth, vice president of HandsOn Greater Phoenix, which is a volunteer management company.

For families looking to volunteer, most places have a minimum age requirement depending on the type of service provided.

One of the most important things to remember is that volunteering is a yearlong need; it's not only during the holidays that these organizations need your help.

"Without the support that we receive from volunteers throughout the year, we would have to hire nearly 130 full-time staff members to pack emergency food boxes, sort food donations and distribute food to clients. Our incredible volunteers are truly making a difference in the lives of thousands of food insecure children, families and seniors," said Kerri Cole of St. Mary's Food Bank.

Audrey Cox from Prince of Peace said, "Building relationships with other organizations in our community who are lending a hand and making a difference strengthens the character and faith of everyone involved. When people of all ages have a chance to get to know a neighbor who may be different than them, experiencing a hard time or just down on their luck, it's truly life changing."

PLACES TO VOLUNTEER

- **Andre House** 602-252-9023
- **CASA of Arizona – Court Appointed Special Advocates** 602-452-3683
- **HandsOn Greater Phoenix** 602-973-2212
- **Phoenix Rescue Mission** 602-233-3000
- **Prince of Peace Lutheran** 480-945-9537
- **Ronald McDonald House** 602-264-2654
- **Salvation Army** 602-553-0988
- **St. Mary's Food Bank** 602-242-3663
- **St. Vincent De Paul** 602-861-2634
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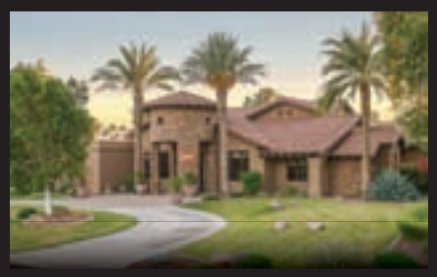


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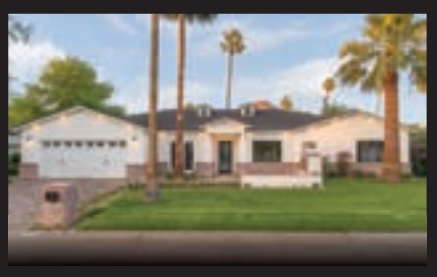


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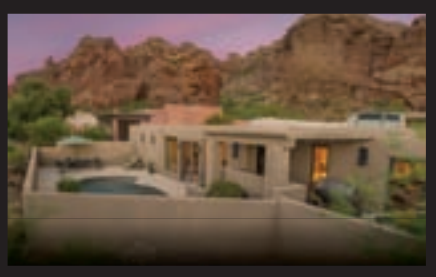


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BOOK CLUB

By Amanda Goossen

For many, November means gathering with family and connecting with the ones we love. In honor of this seasonal tradition, the Arcadia News Book Club will come together on November 17 to celebrate our love of books as well as discuss the latest novel by Maddie Dawson, *The Survivor's Guide to Family Happiness*.

In Dawson's third novel, she continues to do what she does best, developing highly relatable characters and a plot infused with family drama that hits straight to the heart. Join the Arcadia News Book Club at 6:30pm at the Saguaro Library as we discuss the novel and Skype with the author. Email amanda.goossen@me.com with questions or to rsvp for the evening.

In a recent interview, I had the chance to get to know Dawson and ask her a few preliminary questions before our book club event.

When did you know you wanted to be a writer?

I may actually have been born wanting to be a writer if such a thing is possible. I was always making up stories from the time I could talk, and I sold my first story when I was six years old and my mother wouldn't give me money for the ice cream man. Yup, I went door to door with a story I'd written about a king who slept for three hours and forty-five seconds and missed getting his crown. I earned 25 cents for that—enough in those days for a particularly fine banana Popsicle. My mortified mother bought the story back and said I wasn't to hit up the neighbors for money anymore, but I remember feeling secretly that this was the beginning of a lucrative career for myself. I'd be able to have all the frozen desserts I wanted throughout life. Later in childhood, I was that kid who made everybody else act out the plays I had written, when all they wanted to do was ride bikes. To this day, my old friends from elementary school run when they see me coming.

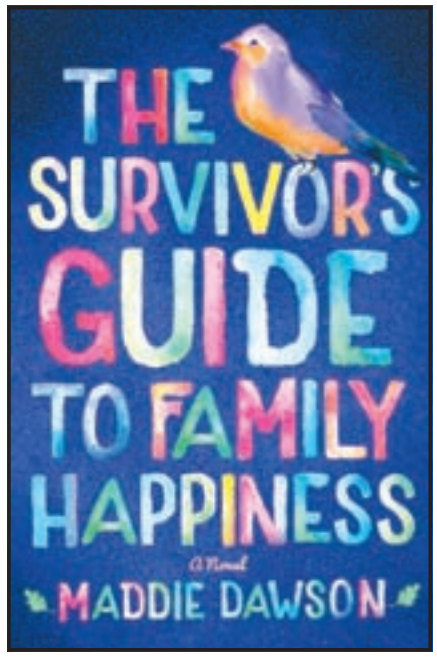
BOOK OF THE MONTH

The Survivor's Guide to Family Happiness

BY MADDIE DAWSON

Saguaro Library
Nov. 17, 2016, 6:30 p.m.





If you were not a writer, what career interests you and why?

If I weren't a writer, I think I'd probably like to be an advice columnist. Wait, that is writing, isn't it? OK, so maybe I'd like to be a therapist—helping people get free of the stories that hold them to the past. I'm fascinated by all the ways we humans get by in the world, and the myriad ways we have of making life complicated and crazy and even beautiful. I guess I'd like any job that allowed me to really get to spend time with people in depth, to peek inside their lives and psyches, to figure out what makes them tick.

When you sit down to write your third novel, do you approach it differently? Is there pressure to make it a success?

It's a funny thing about writing novels. You would think, wouldn't you, that a person would get better at it, that after doing a few of them, an author could just zip through the next. Instead, each new novel presents its own set of challenges and holes for you to fall into. It turns out that the only novel you're now good at is the one you just finished. So I guess my approach with each one is simply to get to the heart of the characters, to really hear what story these new people are trying to tell me. With each one, I'm straining to hear and tell the story the best way it needs to be told—and that's what success means for me. I don't really think about its success in the marketplace, because that way lies madness. No one can predict what books will be huge hits and which will not. The only thing to do is to write the book that comes to you, and to devote yourself to telling it as faithfully and honestly as you can.

***The Survivor's Guide to Family Happiness* is about a woman looking for her mother yet her search leads to a family nothing like the one she had imagined. What type of research did you do to approach this topic?**

I was a newspaper reporter for years, and this story came about in my head after I did a series of interviews with people advocating for adoptees. In my state, adoption records are legally closed, meaning that children who were put up for adoption have no way to contact their birth parents and vice versa. In the course of interviewing adoptees, adoption officials, women who had put children up for adoption, I was struck by the dramatic stories I was hearing, the ways in which people's lives are upended by decisions that were made in times of crisis, and the ways that the desire for family and belonging never goes away. As a writer, of course, I'm drawn to drama—and the characters of Nina and Lindy, two sisters given up for adoption, took shape. Nina, of course, is like many adoptees I talked to, obsessed with finding her birth family; while Lindy is like so many others, who think they don't want to get involved in a possibly messy situation with somebody who gave them up before.

What does family mean to you and how did your definition of family affect writing this novel?

Well, like most people, family is very important to me—and yet I've struggled all my life to figure out this entity that pulls on me so very deeply. I come from a large, sprawling, halfway-crazy Southern family, people who love nothing more than regaling everyone with their outrageous stories and deeds. My mother and father were both raised with scads of cousins and aunts and uncles all around them—while my experience was quite different. My parents divorced when I was young, and I moved across the country to California with my mother, which is where I grew up.

My Southern roots are now muted and vague—and while I do still perk up at the sound of a Southern accent, I now identify more as a New Englander and don't have any family members close by, except for my own children. I think that's possibly the reason I'm always writing about family—I'm still working on my belief that we really can create our own families, through close friendships and love, and that DNA ultimately doesn't define who we feel connected to. In this book, Nina holds such a fantasy of the idealized family, and almost doesn't recognize the makeshift family that's forming around her and holding her up.

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Take 5: Tips for freshening up your outdoor space after summer

Once cooler weather arrives in Arcadia, there is nothing better than spending time on the patio or in the backyard. Our climate allows for lots of outdoor activity after the heat dissipates, but the layer of dust and monsoon detritus can be a bit of a chore even for those with regular maintenance. You also may want to get some gardening done, to take advantage of our abundant gardening season.

These tips from gardener, outdoors expert and author of the Garden Betty blog, Linda Ly, can help you clean up your outdoor space and refresh your home's exterior just in time to host your first fall get-together.

Make it edible

If you're conflicted about what to plant, turn to functional plants that look good and taste great, too. Ly's favorite meals come from her backyard, with raised beds where she rotates vegetables such as kale, beets and radishes, and scatters herbs throughout the garden in small beds and pots. She also grows fruit trees, flowers and a cactus garden and has a composting area and tiki coop for chickens.

Remove mold and mildew

Mold and mildew can form on the exterior siding and trim of your home, as well as on patio furniture, flowerpots and walkways. It's important to regularly clean the outside of your house as well as your outdoor furniture and accessories that may be susceptible to standing water to remove any mold or mildew. Remove mold or mildew with a garden hose, a long-handled brush and a mixture of a 1/2 cup of Clorox Regular-Bleach per each gallon of water.

Ready the patio or deck

No one likes fungus, mildew stains, dirt or weather-beaten patches on the patio. Pressure wash your space. Next, reseal the tile or restain the wood with a matching color and finish. Finish it off by applying a preservative to help prevent water damage and discoloration.

Give it a fresh coat

Weather can take a toll on a paint job. If your shutters look dull or more washed out than before, it might be time to touch them up. The same goes for the garage door and the front door. Nothing is more welcoming to guests than a well-cared-for façade, and this is an easy and inexpensive way to accomplish that.

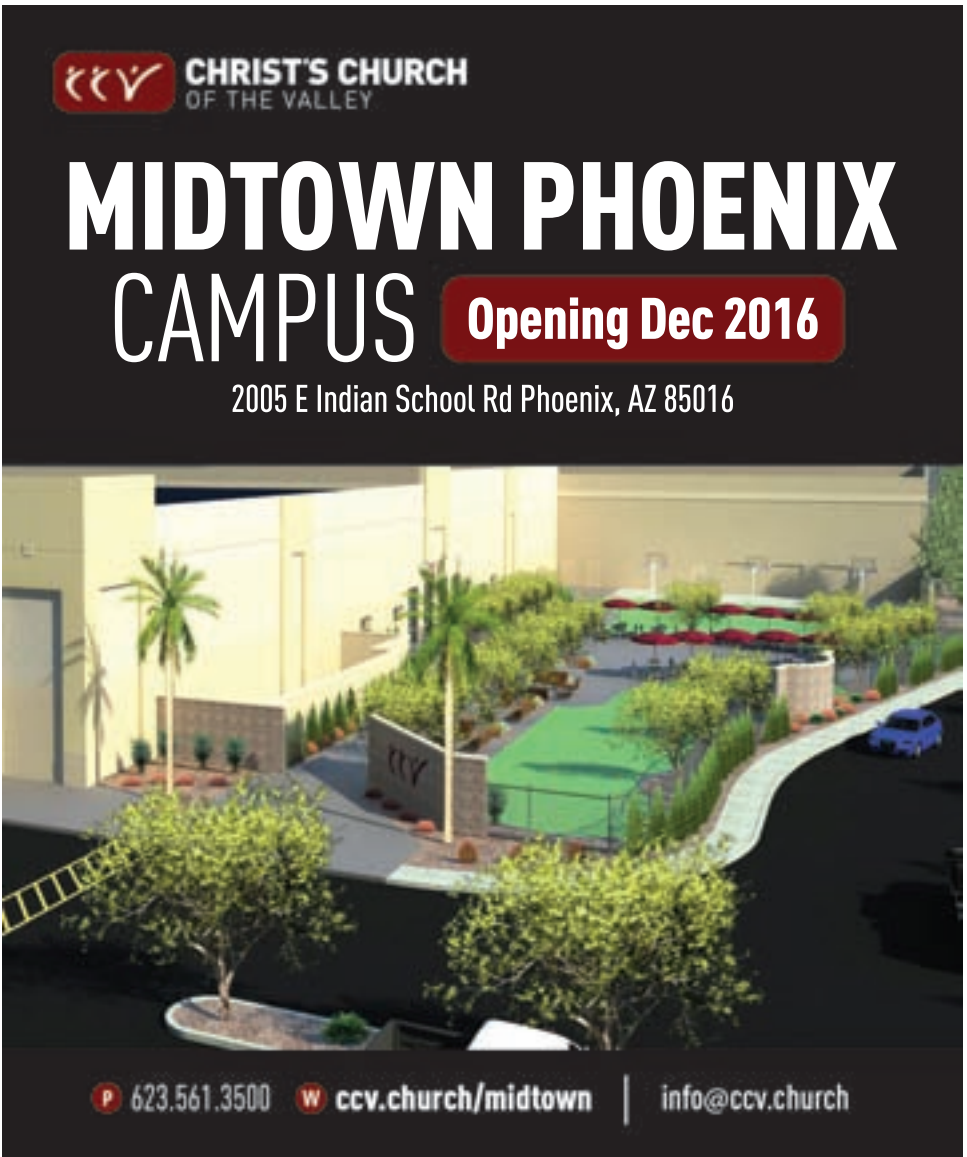
Stop the spread of fungal disease in gardens

One thing to be mindful of in the garden is fungal disease, which can be deadly to plants and wildlife. Although it may not be the first thing that comes to mind, Clorox Regular-Bleach, when used as directed, is a simple but powerful tool that is often used to help stop the spread of fungal diseases. It can even keep flowers alive longer when you add a small amount to a vase.

Find more tips and info, visit gardenbetty.com.



Tips courtesy of Linda Ly from the popular blog Garden Betty.





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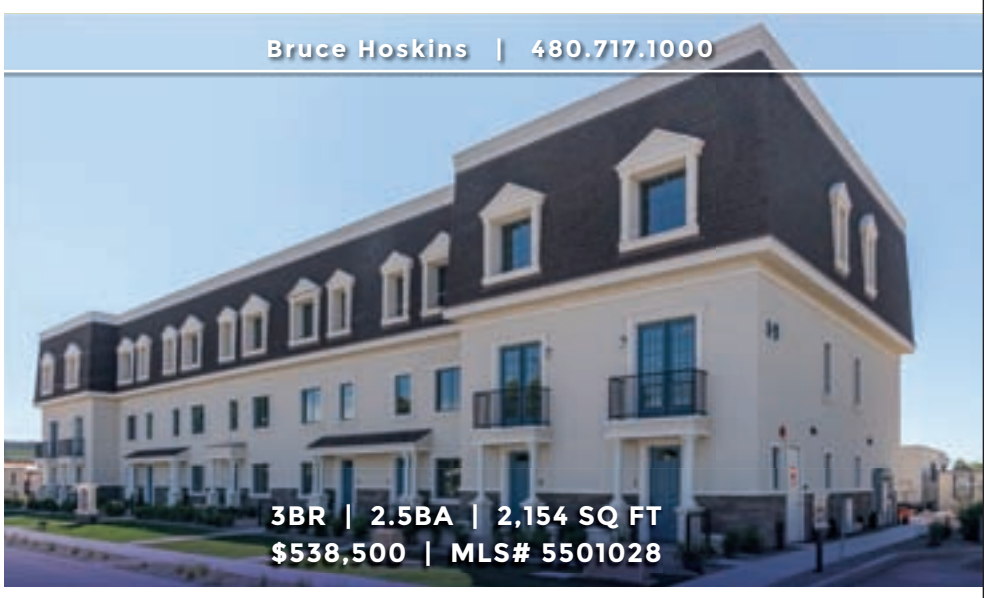
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OdySea Aquarium opens gates to public

By Ian Kraft

The beach may not be in our backyard, but the sea life is! The OdySea Aquarium, located on Via de Ventura off the 101, opened its doors to the public on September 3.

Spread across more than 200,000 square feet, the mammoth-sized Odysea offers its patrons attractions like a 3-D movie experience, an adjacent mirror maze, a 20-minute carousel ride and several interactive exhibits that include penguins, sharks and even an octopus.

Filled with two million gallons of water, the complex is overflowing with unparalleled opportunities to learn about sea life. Considering it's a stone's throw away from the Butterfly Wonderland, it is safe to say the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is quickly becoming a must-visit for tourists and locals alike.

The highlight of the OdySea experience lies in the SeaTrek underwater adventure. This hands-on diving activity immerses guests in water and sea life, and involves active participation in an underwater walk along the seafloor. Those who dare to partake will receive an OdySea wetsuit and helmet and be accompanied by a professional guide along the journey.

Amram Knishinsky, OdySea's founder, said his love for aquariums is deep and he is excited to share his vision with Phoenicians

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as well as outsiders.

"I have traveled a lot in my life," Knishinsky said. "Wherever I went in the world, I would love to visit the local aquariums. I noticed a while back that the Phoenix metropolitan area did not have a large aquarium, albeit there are some smaller ones around like Sea Life Arizona in Tempe and others."

Knishinsky, a former Navy soldier in his youth, explained that his passion for marine life came from his countless hours at sea and that bringing aquatic life to the desert has been a dream of his since he and his family docked in Paradise Valley, roughly 45 years ago.

"[OdySea Aquarium] has been in my veins for a long time. It took a long time, but after 25 long, great years I have brought an aquarium to Phoenix that I can be proud of. That was my ultimate goal and I am thrilled to have this dream come to reality," Knishinsky said.

Knishinsky went on to explain that although the grand opening of OdySea is definitely something to celebrate, there is still work to be done, and a lot for visitors to look forward to in the future.

"My team and I have been working on two concepts of late. One is called Paradise Earth. It is a 100,000 square foot rainforest atrium with around 5,000 birds flying freely," Knishinsky said. He also mentioned his dream of creating a *Jurassic Park*-like dinosaur attraction. "There are big plans for the area and we hope to center it around a new hotel so people can come and experience all of the attractions over a weekend," Knishinsky said.

There is also an extra attraction next door to OdySea called Dolphinaris Arizona, which allows visitors to interact with dolphins and garner much needed knowledge about conservation efforts. Developed by Mexican-based Ventura Entertainment, the nation's second-leading entertainment company, Knishinsky said, "It is a magnificent opportunity for people to come closer to dolphins than ever before, especially here in the desert."

The OdySea Aquarium is located at 9500 E. Via de Ventura in Scottsdale, slightly east of the Loop 101, and is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. For information on pricing, directions and more, call 480-291-8000 or visit odyseaaquarium.com.



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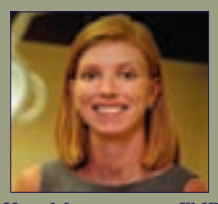


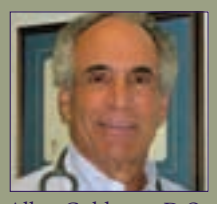
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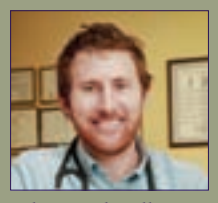

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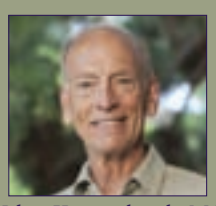

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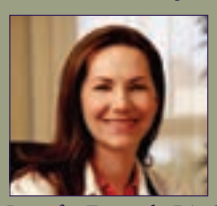

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Here comes the truth

GIRL *NEXT DOOR*

By Kindra Hall



I don't think there is anything more ruthless than the opinion of a 3-year-old girl. My daughter's honesty has bruised me on many occasions. I regularly have to beg her to tell me she loves me, but if I forget to shave my legs one morning, she will shoo me back to the shower… leaving me to wonder, "How does she even know that's where you shave?"

Or the time I was about to leave for a trip and, instead of saying she'd miss me, she said, "I'll try not to forget you."

And then there was the time I got my hair cut a little shorter than I should have. It was my fault; I persuaded my hair girl to do it against her will and immediately regretted my decision. "Whatever," I thought, "it can't be that bad." The next day, I wore my hair straight and, after watching an episode of *She-Ra Princess of Power* on Netflix, my daughter crawled up on my lap and said, "Mama. Your hair looks like He-Man." She was so right it hurt.

Then, right before a big event in Las Vegas last month, a blood vessel in my eye burst. It looked terrifying. Or at least *I* thought it did. To be sure, I called my best friend on FaceTime, who said she couldn't really tell. I didn't believe her – she's always been too nice. I called my husband who couldn't figure out what the big deal was. Whatever, he'd wear socks with sandals if I'd let him. Even the salesman in the overpriced Vegas-glasses shop said he didn't notice until I said something, but I swore I saw him gag a little.

With no one I could trust, I went online to search for remedies. Ice and two weeks was the best advice they had. I sulked down the eternally smoky hallway of my Vegas hotel, filled my ice bucket, and sulked back to my room. The housekeeping staff saw me as I passed and came to ask if I was OK. Not a good sign.

The next day, I went to my event and hoped no one would notice, accepting that I may never know the truth of how awful it really was. And in no time, I was back home. I kissed my husband and son, but as I reached for my daughter she stopped me and stared straight into my eye(s). "Brace yourself," I thought. "Here comes the truth."

"Mama," she said. "I love you. I missed you when you were gone."

The truth never sounded so good! I grabbed her sweet little shoulders and pulled her in for a hug; a hug that only lasted a second before she pushed me away and said, "Mama, your hair smells like smoke and candles. Go shower."

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Duke Ellington concerts to be performed at Trinity Cathedral

PERFORMANCE DATES

November 12, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Trinity Cathedral.

November 13, 3 p.m. at Mesa Community College Performing Arts Center.

By Nick Smith

Ryan Downey admits that music from Duke Ellington may seem like a unusual choice for the Phoenix Chorale's first concert of the 2016-2017 season.

"This is a different style than what we usually do. This is about as far away from Rachmaninoff as you can get," said Downey, a bass singer and Development Coordinator for the Phoenix Chorale. "But it's our job to learn new styles and it's something we don't get to do very often. And I think having this historical aspect will help people be even more engaged."

That historical aspect is the reason Ellington's music was selected by the Grammy-winning ensemble. In 1966, the jazz icon came to Phoenix and performed one of his Sacred Concerts at Trinity Cathedral on Roosevelt Street. On November 12 and 13, the Phoenix Chorale will put on three performances for the 50th anniversary of the famous concert.

"There's so many different angles to this," said President and CEO of the Phoenix Chorale Jen Rogers. "It's a cool way to celebrate the local history of both Trinity Cathedral and the city of Phoenix."



Duke Ellington

By November of 1966, the 67-year-old Ellington was a living legend in the twilight of his career. He had played the first of his Sacred Concerts at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco the year before and arrived in Phoenix to replicate the performance at Trinity Cathedral.

The Cathedral was already a huge part of the city's history by that point, having opened on Christmas Day in 1920. By midcentury, the church was part of a rapidly expanding Phoenix community and its congregation members included some of the biggest names in the Valley, including Barry Goldwater and the parents of Ann Symington.

"It's an interesting look at what life was like back then," said Rogers. "One of the big controversies at the time was the concept of having jazz played in a sacred space. That was a big deal and there was a group of people who were not happy. Some people who normally supported the Cathedral stayed away and some people even got up during the concert and asked for their money back when they realized what the music was."

Any controversy at the time has long been forgotten, with the concert now viewed as an important moment in the Cathedral's history.

"It's interesting to see how a musical event can bring people together," said Downey. "This was an important event for Phoenix and it's still a major point of pride for the Cathedral."

For the 50-year anniversary concerts, the Phoenix Chorale has partnered with the Mesa Community College Jazz Ensemble for three performances the weekend of November 12 and 13. The first two will take place Saturday afternoon and evening at Trinity Cathedral, in the same spot where Ellington performed the original concert. The final show will be Sunday at the Mesa Community College Performing Arts Center.

"The Phoenix Chorale is the artist ensemble in residence at Trinity Cathedral, so this was a perfect fit," said Rogers. "We've been here since the mid-1990s and do our rehearsals and concerts here. With Mesa Community College's resident jazz ensemble, we get not only a big band but also a great community partner that could help with handling logistics and expenses."

For Valley residents, the concerts will be an opportunity to reflect on and experience a memorable moment in the city's history, when one of the most iconic American musicians came to Phoenix.

"It's just so cool to celebrate this event," said Rogers. "It's an opportunity to remind people that we do have history here, and Trinity Cathedral is a big part of that. There are amazing things that have happened right here in our own city."

For more info, go to phoenixchorale.org.

SACRED CONCERT 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

To coincide with the 50th anniversary concert, there are several other Duke Ellington events coming to the Phoenix area!

NOVEMBER 3

Film and lecture at The Nash

The 50th anniversary kicks off at 7 p.m. at The Nash with a special evening of history and music, including a lecture by ASU's Dr. Christopher Wells and a film screening featuring Duke Ellington.

NOVEMBER 4

Olney Gallery Opening at Trinity Cathedral and First Friday at The Nash with Will Goble

It's First Friday! Stop by the Olney Gallery at 6 p.m. to see new art inspired by Duke Ellington created by artists Bob Martin and Louis Giordano. Then, at 7:30 p.m., check out jazz bassist Will Goble and his combo playing Duke Ellington's music all night at The Nash.

NOVEMBER 9

TJI Ellington Big Band at The Nash

The Tucson Jazz Institute's Ellington Big Band has been recognized by DownBeat magazine as the top community jazz ensemble in the nation, and won top awards at the 2016 Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition at Lincoln Center. Buy tickets at TheNash.org.

First Education Fair to be held at Phoenix Convention Center

By Chloe McAllaster

On November 5, the Phoenix Convention Center will host a number of Phoenix area schools for a first-of-its-kind event dedicated to giving families the tools necessary to make an informed decision about education.

Deciding which education system is right for a child can be difficult, so monthly magazine *Raising Arizona Kids* organized its first Education Fair, which they hope to hold annually, to aid in streamlining the process.

Nearly 100 public, private and charter schools will be present at the event, and parents will have the opportunity to gather information and speak with representatives. There will also be panels throughout the day to speak on a variety of educational topics.

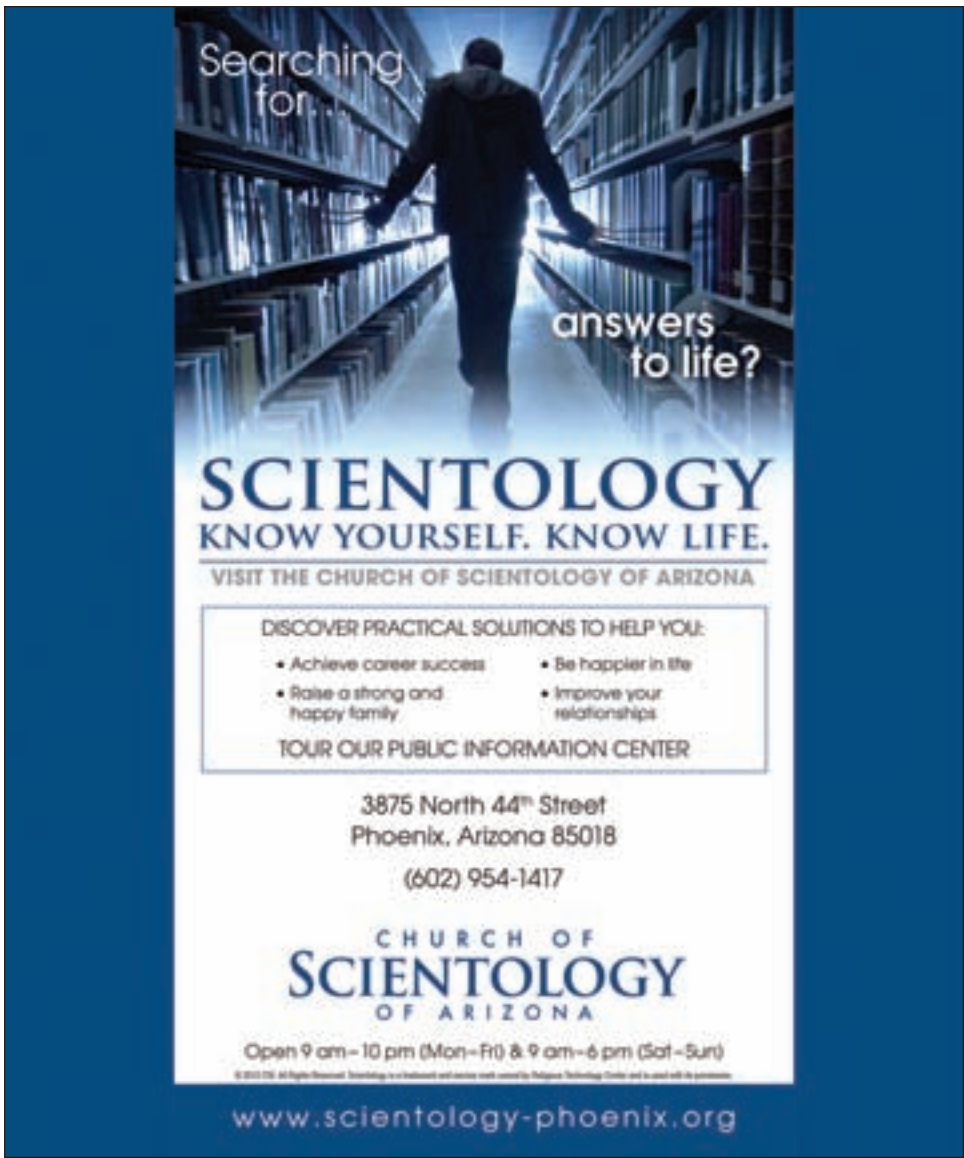
Additionally, parents will be able to learn about alternative education options, such as online schools, as well as different educational services around the Valley.

Brandy Collet from *Raising Arizona Kids* hopes the convenience of the event will appeal to a wide range of families interested in exploring educational options for their children.

"Choosing a school is one of the most important things you can do for your child, so we thought it would be great to host an event that gives families a chance to meet with many Valley schools at one time. This way they can ask questions and get information about school choices," said Collet.

While this is the first time *Raising Arizona Kids* will host the Education Fair, the magazine has hosted a Camp Fair every spring for 15 years. Their idea to create a similar event focused on education stemmed from the *Schools, Etc*. guide it publishes each year. The guide is a compilation of listings for Maricopa County schools of all kinds, including special needs schools, tutoring programs and online schools. The Education Fair will provide families with similar information as the guide, while also enabling them to ask questions and engage in conversation with representatives.

The fair is free to all, and will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on November 5. Interested parties can register at www.raisingarizonakids.com, where they can also find a list of the event's sponsors and participating vendors.



Mission Cookies help fund critical programs at The Mission

By Michelle Donati-Grayman





Turning the impossible into possible isn't anything new for the Phoenix Rescue Mission. For more than six decades, the Valley nonprofit has provided hope, healing and new beginnings to those in the community with no place to turn.

Two years ago, the Mission launched Mission Cookies, its first social enterprise at its Changing Lives Center.

Kathy Cocca, executive project manager of Phoenix Rescue Mission, said the project started by asking clients and staff to bring in favorite cookie recipes for the enterprise.

The recipes were perfected by several women enrolled in the Mission's vocational skills and development program. The program helps women overcome addiction and homelessness while equipping them with marketable skills to help them gain employment after completing the yearlong program.

"There are a lot of things that keep the homeless homeless," Cocca said. "Through the Changing Lives Center, we can turn them back to society healed spirituality, mentally and physically."

Once recipes were perfected, cookies were tested and narrowed to the four most popular, which were then named: Changing Lives Chocolate Chip, Cin-No-More, Life By Chocolate and Transformation Trio. Cookies are baked fresh daily in the nonprofit's state-of-the-art industrial kitchen and are sold online at missioncookies.org.

Proceeds go back to the mission, which helps offset program costs for the Changing Lives Center. For $24, you can choose between a dozen large, gourmet cookies or two dozen regular-size cookies. Cookies are also stocked in suites at Talking Stick Arena and at the markets at Grand Canyon University.

"Our cookies can compete with anyone in the industry," Cocca said.

The Mission's cookie sales support Cocca's claim. In fact, in the past year, about 36,000 cookies were sold.

Cookie sales support the Mission's clients, like Rita, who went from running a successful company to having a nervous breakdown, battling addiction and ultimately losing her family, home and business.

"I went from having what I thought was everything to living in a box on the street," Rita said. "This place gave me all the love and support I needed when I needed it most. It saved me."

Rita was among the Mission's first Food Service Management course graduates. Since graduating, she has dedicated her life to helping others find the same hope that she found at the Changing Lives Center. She also found a job at a local restaurant chain, and was recently promoted to general manager.

Stories like Rita's are why Cocca asks for people to turn to Mission Cookies instead of their cookbooks this holiday season.

"Use us because every dollar gives back, so it's like giving two gifts," Cocca said. "One goes to the recipient – be it a friend, neighbor, client – and the other goes to the community."





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Area veteran shares his Civil War knowledge with others

By Jean Hodgson

Many of us can probably recall a time when a particular place, event or person grabbed our attention. Maybe it was a book we read, a topic that came up in a class in school, or a movie that struck a note with us. Whatever the spark might have been, before we knew it, we found ways to get more information because we were genuinely interested.

A perfect example is local resident, Wes Schmidt, with his amazing knowledge of all aspects of the American Civil War. When asked what started this interest, Schmidt explained, "I always loved history, but as the centennial of the Civil War approached in 1961, the pictures and books about this period avalanched down upon the country. Civil War stamps had stirring pictures of the cannon at Fort Sumter and a sniper in a tree." This was one of the triggers for his focus on this period of American history.



Another was a 1959 trip where he and his wife, Sylvia, walked the historic battlefield sites from state to state. As they visited one of the oldest and biggest national battlefield parks in Chickamauga, Georgia, they didn't realize that "an incredible story was getting closer." Upon reading the information on a granite monument, they saw that the commander had been Lt. Col. Harrison C. Hobart. Sylvia had a grandmother with the name Hobart, so a personal connection was made that led to research, which led to more research. The result was a gathering of previously unknown material specific to Lt. Col. Hobart and his role in the war.

From the 1960s forward, every year was marked by Civil War reenactments, which began as a way to remember and teach what the war was all about. Schmidt said that as a result of these events, old battlefields were recorded and new museums told the story. These became the regular vacation destinations for the Schmidts. A highlight



Wes Schmidt at the site of Fort Sumter, South Carolina, where the Civil War began in 1861.

RETIREMENT *NOW WHAT?*

was the 135th anniversary of Pickett's Charge in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1998 – one of the most attended of all Civil War reenactments, both in the number of participants and observers.

A shared interest is even more rewarding, so in 1979 Schmidt started the Scottsdale Civil War Round Table and was the president for 16 years. It began with 12 participants and now has about 400 members. This group meets at the Civic Center Library Auditorium at 3839 N. Drinkwater Blvd. on the third Tuesday of the month from September through May. There is a guest speaker at each evening meeting, and with everyone welcome to attend, there's no admission charge.

The mission of the Round Table is "to inform the public about the American Civil War and to contribute to Civil War battlefield preservation." For more information, visit scottsdalecwrt.org or call 480-699-5844.

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Time to unwind — Get in The Zone

By Mallory Gleich

The world is a crazy place.

With our iPhones constantly ringing, emails piling up in our inbox, kids yelling for a snack as soon as they get home from school, and the boss wanting the report done by 6 p.m., life can get a little stressful.

So, what is your go-to when it's time to relax? A glass of wine? Maybe a massage?

Barbara St. John and Chris Arians have a different idea. St. John is an award winning therapist and author, who has spent years helping people through various techniques and seminars. Arians is the wife of Arizona Cardinals Head Coach Bruce Arians. Together, they created The Zone.





The pod is where personalized Zone sessions take place.

At first glance, The Zone looks like a massive box. Crafted from high-resolution wood, the same used for pianos, and fitted with soft lighting, guests are transported to a world of quiet relaxation.

"What you're doing is retraining and reprogramming your brain to relax, which is something we don't know how to do," St. John said.

Guests lay on a massage-type mattress and are enclosed in the box. They choose a script, prerecorded by St. John, to listen to while they relax.

There are over 33 scripts to choose from, each tailored to a different subject, such as stress, motivation, relaxation or focus. There are even scripts specifically for golfers to help them relax before or after hitting the links.

When The Zone first started, guests lay in the box and listened to soft music. But St. John noticed that guests had a hard time getting comfortable without having something to focus on. This is where the scripts came in.

"We found that the scripts occupy the conscious brain, because the brain needs something to entertain itself. The voice is a kind of guide to help the brain relax," St. John said.

St. John explained that science tells us the number one cause of disease is stress. The unconscious brain carries trauma from the past and uncertainty of the future, which can cause anxiety and tension. The Zone is a way to live in the now.

Patti Milligan, who is a registered dietitian and has used The Zone multiple times, said it works with the body on subtle healing and allows the body to choose how to heal, as opposed to drug or other therapies that dictate a mode of action.

"I am trained to work in the science realm, so I was a bit skeptical at first, but it truly was the most profound experience. I was shocked at how deeply calm and balanced I felt after that first session," Milligan said.

In addition to being used as a way to unwind and relax, The Zone also helps individuals who suffer from illnesses or health problems.

Melissa Grenley suffers from arthritis and fibromyalgia, and has integrated The Zone into her health routine as part of her treatment.

"The Zone helps with my muscle aches and the overall pain is remarkably less. I sleep in a deeper, uninterrupted sleep when I have a Zone treatment," Grenley said.

If relaxation and quiet hasn't piqued your interest quite yet, here is another fact about The Zone: All of the money and net proceeds from the business go straight to Court Appointed Special Advocates.

CASA is like a Big Brother, Big Sister program in the Valley. It helps kids in foster care receive the appropriate care they need.

With the holidays approaching, increased stress could be right around the corner.

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2016-2017 high school basketball preview

By Ian Kraft

ARCADIA TITANS

Coming off of an extraordinary season a year ago, the Titans, led by fifth-year coach Steven Danford head into the 2016-17 season with high expectations. The team is looking to bounce back after a season ending loss to Paradise Valley in the Sweet 16 stage of last year's playoffs.

"Veteran leadership is the key moving forward," Danford said. "We have the majority of our starting five coming back this season and I think we are ready to see them lead us deep into the postseason."

Senior forward Elijah Sikora graduated after the 2015-16 season, leaving three captains to return: center Max Moses, guard Matt Burton and point guard Jackson Westhoff, all in their final years of eligibility.

"Having three seniors come back as captains should give the rest of the team a core to follow," Danford said. "For us to be successful, those three will have to continue to set the tone as they have for the last three years."

The Titans open their season on November 21 at Central High School as part of the Lancer Tip Off Classic.

"We are a team of potential and there is a lot of excitement about what we can be this season," said Danford.

ARCADIA LADY TITANS

With last season ending bitterly in the quarterfinals of the state playoffs, the AHS girls are ready to get back to action and avenge their loss to Cactus Shadows High.

Coach Ives Machiz has been at the helm for a decade, but he says he is more excited about this team than he has been in some time.

"When you lose in the playoffs, you are obviously disappointed. There is no getting around that pain. But, we ended on a very high note, in my mind," Machiz said. "We are bringing back the entire team, minus two seniors, so we are loaded with experience and loaded with excitement."

Machiz also said he would not hesitate to put his starting five up against the best in the state.

"We started four sophomores last season, meaning we will have four returning starters this year. Those girls are ready to go," Machiz said, referencing 5'10" Cassidy Campbell, 6'0" Lauren Dib, 5'10" Bryce Nixon and 5'9" Taylor Houser.

Nixon was one of the leading scorers in the state last season, as referenced by her averaged 20 points per game in 2015-16. "I expect her to lead the charge for us," said Machiz.

"On any given night, any of those girls could be having the night that leads us to a win. On any given night, they could single-handedly lead us to victory. I have a ton of confidence in each of them," said Machiz.

VERITAS PREP FALCONS

After a disappointing campaign in 2015-16, the Veritas Prep Falcons are ready to improve on a 1-17 season, led by Coach David Flick, who enters his second season leading the Falcons.

"From a win-loss perspective, it was not a successful season, but from a growth perspective and teaching life lessons of dealing with adversity, it was very successful," said Flick.

Even after a season that saw a 17-game losing streak, the Falcons coach is confident his players can turn it around and contend for a postseason berth.

"The goal is to put ourselves in position to make the playoffs this season, and coming off of last season, that is a very ambitious goal. However, after having a year to work with the players in the program and understanding what the potential of the team is, I know it is a goal that can be achieved this season," Flick said.

Leading the pack of returning players are seniors Eddie Kraxner and Luke Gressel, along with junior Antonio Villalon.

"The expectation I have for these three is to compete at the highest level they are capable of individually every time they are on the court," said Flick.

The Falcons open their regular season with a matchup against Glendale Prep on November 22 at Veritas.

VERTIAS PREP LADY FALCONS

After a trio of losing seasons, the Veritas Prep Lady Falcons are ready for a giant leap forward this year, according to fourth-year head coach Ray Burd.

"Last year, [in which the Lady Falcons went 5-18], was a slight disappointment," Burd said. "At the season's start we had set a team goal of 12 wins." Burd explained the team was unable to gain any traction and had trouble congealing into a single unit. He went on to say this year could be the best year to date for the program.

"We have had a steady improvement in participation, excitement, and involvement in the program each and every year, and we have four starters coming back to start again this season," Burd said.

"One of those starters, junior Daci Vuletic, will have a breakout year both as an individual and as part of this team. Daci is a returning captain for this team and Daci is comfortable with leadership and vocalizing what needs to be done to move the team forward towards its goals," said Burd.

He went on to say he's ready for the season to begin, as the prospects of the future are truly exciting.

"This is a very special group of girls that form the Veritas Prep girls varsity team," Burd said.

The Lady Falcons' first game will be on November 29 at Bourgade Catholic High School.

BROPHY COLLEGE PREP BRONCOS

Following a first-round loss to Mountain Pointe in 2015-16, the Brophy Prep boys basketball team is prepared to fight for a chance to get back to the postseason, according to second-year head coach Matt Hooten.

Hooten explained that last year the team only had two returning starters, whereas this year they have seven and are excited to see how the season plays out. One of the team's returnees is senior and captain Matthew Kempton. "He will play a major role," said Hooten. "He leads a class with six other returnees all loaded with experience."

"Our goal is to win the region and go deep into the playoffs and I truly think we have a shot to do that this year," Hooten said.

The Broncos have a chance at redemption on November 29 as they open their season against Mountain Pointe High School, the team that bumped them from the playoffs.

(All records and stats courtesy of maxpreps.com)

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 SF	3	4 SF	5 SF	6 SF	7 CLE	8 CLE
9 CLE	10 SF	11 SF	12 SF	13	14 LA	15 LA
16 LA	17 LA	18 SD	19 SD	20 SD	21 LA	22 LA
23 LA	24 SD	25 SD	26 SD	27 SD	28 COL	29 COL
30 COL						

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 WAS	3 WAS	4 WAS	5 COL	6 COL
7 COL	8	9 DET	10 DET	11 PIT	12 PIT	13 PIT
14 PIT	15 NYM	16 NYM	17 NYM	18	19 SD	20 SD
21 SD	22 CWS	23 CWS	24 CWS	25 MIL	26 MIL	27 MIL
28 MIL	29 PIT	30 PIT	31 PIT			

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 MIA	2 MIA	3 MIA
4 MIA	5	6 SD	7 SD	8 SD	9 MIL	10 MIL
11 MIL	12	13 DET	14 DET	15	16 PHI	17 PHI
18 PHI	19	20 COL	21 COL	22 COL	23 PHI	24 PHI
25 PHI	26 PHI	27 STL	28 STL	29 STL	30 COL	

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 COL
2 COL	3	4 LA	5 LA	6 LA	7 CIN	8 CIN
9 CIN	10	11	12	13	14 ATL	15 ATL
16 ATL	17	18 CIN	19 CIN	20 CIN	21 WAS	22 WAS
23 WAS	24 ATL	25 ATL	26 ATL	27 STL	28 STL	29 STL
30 STL	31					

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 CHC	2 CHC	3 CHC	4 SF	5 SF
6 SF	7	8 LA	9 LA	10 LA	11 CHC	12 CHC
13 CHC	14 HOU	15 HOU	16 HOU	17 HOU	18 MIN	19 MIN
20 MIN	21 NYM	22 NYM	23 NYM	24 NYM	25 SF	26 SF
27 SF	28	29 LA	30 LA	31 LA		

SEPT/OCT

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 COL	2 COL
3 COL	4 LA	5 LA	6 LA	7	8 SD	9 SD
10 SD	11 COL	12 COL	13 COL	14 COL	15 SF	16 SF
17 SF	18 SD	19 SD	20 SD	21	22 MIA	23 MIA
24 MIA	25 SF	26 SF	27 SF	28	29 KC	30 KC
1 KC						

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PHOTOS BY GOOD VIBE MEDIA

Veritas welcomes first female player to middle school team

By Ian Kraft

Kierstyn Wright said her love of football came from a game she played with her father called "Patterns".

"My dad and I started this game with all of my friends where we huddled up and he would give us patterns to run," said Kierstyn. "He would throw us the ball and I realized I was pretty good at it, and I loved it."

With her first year of flag football completed, 11-year-old Kierstyn headed into sixth grade with an agreement to her father that although her passion was catching footballs, she would play volleyball instead. Within a couple of days however, Kierstyn already missed the gridiron.

"I just didn't like it at all," Kierstyn said of her first two days of volleyball. "I went home that night and said, 'Dad, I need to try out for football, I need to try out right now.'"

First-year Head Football Coach Carlos Ravelo was approached the next day by one of Kierstyn's close friends, who told him that Kierstyn was interested in playing for his team.

"I just said, 'Well, if she wants to play, have her come on out. Tryouts are right now.' The next day, there she was," Ravelo said. "Since minute one, she shocked me. We threw her some balls and *bam-bam* she was catching everything. She had some speed and had good size for a receiver, so we played her in the first game."

Kierstyn scored two touchdowns that night.



Kierstyn Wright

"She is one of the best receivers I have had," said Cole Orkild, the Veritas Falcons' quarterback. "If I throw the ball up there, I know there's a really good chance she'll catch it."

Orkild, an eighth-grader, also mentioned that having a girl on the team hasn't changed the dynamic.

"It was a little weird at first, but she just hangs out with us like normal. We still have the element of being one big team, and she's an important part of it," Orkild said. "If she can grow as a player and work really hard, she'll be a captain for the next two years."

Coach Ravelo said Kierstyn, like all his players, has to earn her spot. "We treat her like any other member of the team, nothing different. Not a single one of my players is given anything; they have to come out and earn it in practice. Kierstyn has done just that. She has earned this. She shows up every day and gives me 110 percent."

Dean Wright, Kierstyn's father, said although watching his daughter play football can be nerve-racking, she has always had a bizarre threshold of pain.

"She would fall and scrape her knees as a kid, and I would just tell her to shake it off," said Dean. "She was never one to cry, she just has a passion for the game."

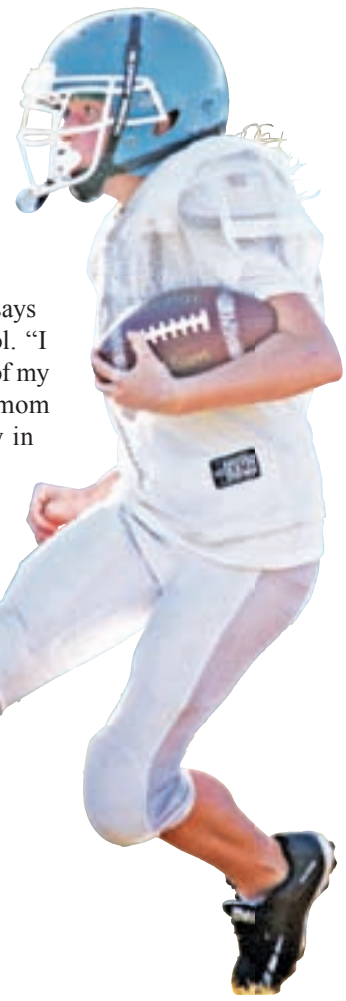
Despite how tough his daughter is, Dean admits balancing his fears with his daughter's love for the game is challenging. But in the end, he supports her decision to play.

"That night, when she scored those two touchdowns, I told her when we got home, 'You just scored two more touchdowns than I ever did.' And as time has gone on, she keeps scoring touchdowns and I simply could not be prouder," Dean said.

Although she is having fun, Kierstyn says she doesn't plan to play in high school. "I definitely want to play through the rest of my middle school years, but I know my mom doesn't like it, so I don't think I'll play in high school," Kierstyn said.

Kierstyn may be younger and smaller than most of the boys she plays with, but her strength, passion and talent make her a force to be reckoned with on the football field.

"I just love football. I get to go out and catch the ball after school. What's better than that? I am just thankful that I get to be a part of this team and play for the Falcons," Kierstyn said.





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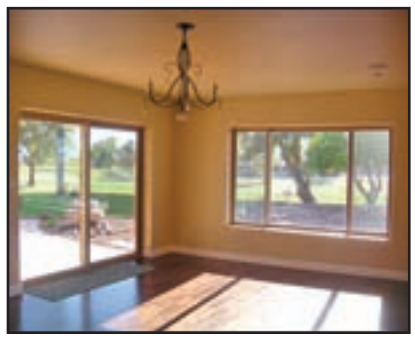
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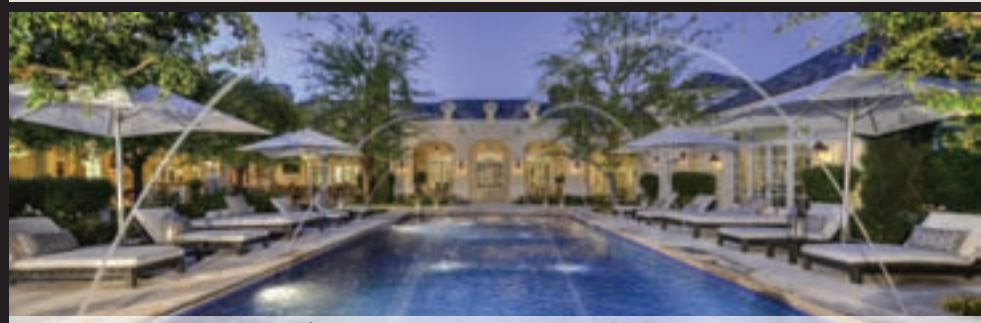
$4,595,000 6719 East Bluebird Lane
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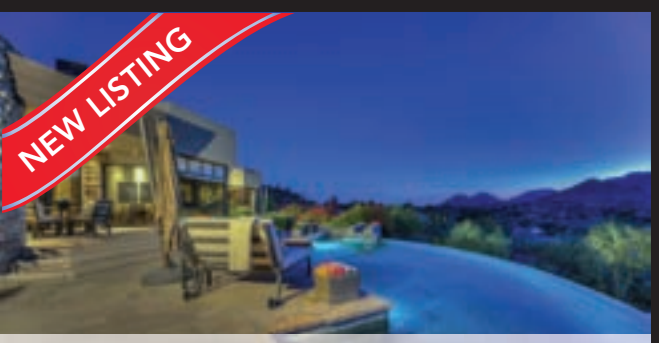
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$8,995,000 6240 East Cholla
12 bedrooms, 10 baths, 19,745 square feet



$14,500,000 5901 East Edward
7 bedrooms, 12 baths, 14,150 square feet



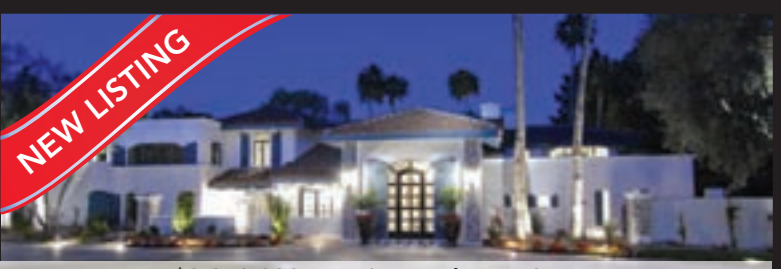
$2,395,000 7927 North 54th Place
3 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4,024 square feet



$2,995,000 5820 East Exeter
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$3,249,000 6201 East Montecito Avenue
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