25 YEARS

ARCADIA NEWS

VOL. 25 NO. 9 arcadianews.com DECEMBER 2017



The Lara family was featured on the cover of the Arcadia News in 2002, when the twins were just a few weeks old.

LIGHTS OUT IN ARCADIA

One of the most popular holiday attractions in Arcadia is going dark this year.

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TWIN EAGLE SCOUTS

A local family makes a return to our cover, thanks to a big accomplishment.

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THE WILD WEST

Believe it or not, dinosaurs are back in a big way around the desert.

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COVER IMAGE:

The Lara Family: (left-right) Ruben, Jordan, Jacob, Jared and Jacque. The Arcadia family appeared on our cover in December 2002, after the twins were born.

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ARCADIA NEWS TEACHERS we love

THIS MONTH'S WINNER: Kelly Bergman, Christ Lutheran School
NOMINATED BY: Melissa Eustice


Kelly Bergman teaches second grade at Christ Lutheran School.

Tell us about your background.

I'm a Minnesota native, I grew up there and went to a local college. When I graduated, that area wasn't hiring full-time teachers right out of college. You would work part-time and shadow another teacher, or you would leave and get experience somewhere else before coming back. I was young and I didn't want to share a classroom, so I went looking for jobs in other states. I ended up in Arizona because of a job fair, where I was hired by Mesa Public Schools.

Why did you want to become a teacher?

I was the kind of kid who loved school. When I was in the 6th grade, I had a not-so -great teacher who didn't really know what to do with me, just because school was so easy for me. There were a couple of boys in the class that really were struggling, and I think the teacher had sort of written them off. So she basically partnered the three of us up, and had me essentially teach them.

I was helping to teach these kids who were my peers, figuring out what they could do, what they needed help in. They ended up getting a B on the next math text and they were so excited. I remember thinking that these kids had way more going on than most teachers realized. I felt like this was a real way that I could make a difference.

Are there methods of teaching that you use that are different than when you started?

I was home for ten years before this job, and teaching practices and ideas change. There are two young girls I work with who are right out of school. One idea they helped me put into practice was helping kids find out what works for them in a classroom. We have kids who work sometimes at a desk, sometimes on the floor with the clipboard. I don't know that I would've thought of that.

Obviously, they have to be on task, and there a lot of times where we need everyone at their desks. But there are other times when they can do what they need to in order to focus. I also think it is important for them to figure out what is helpful for them. I ask them: stop and think. Is this a good place for me to work? Is it hard for me to focus when I'm in this position? They're learning how to effectively work and also how to advocate for themselves.

What do you enjoy about teaching second graders?

It is a fun age group because they still love their teachers and love school. They're usually happy and cheerful. Also, they're still really physical and I think sometimes we can forget that. They are still little children. Of course, we want to challenge and push our kids, but I think there's also times to stop and appreciate that these are still very young children.

— By Nick Smith

Winning teachers receive Arcadia News gift items, a gift certificate for Elements Massage-Phoenix Arcadia and a gift certificate to 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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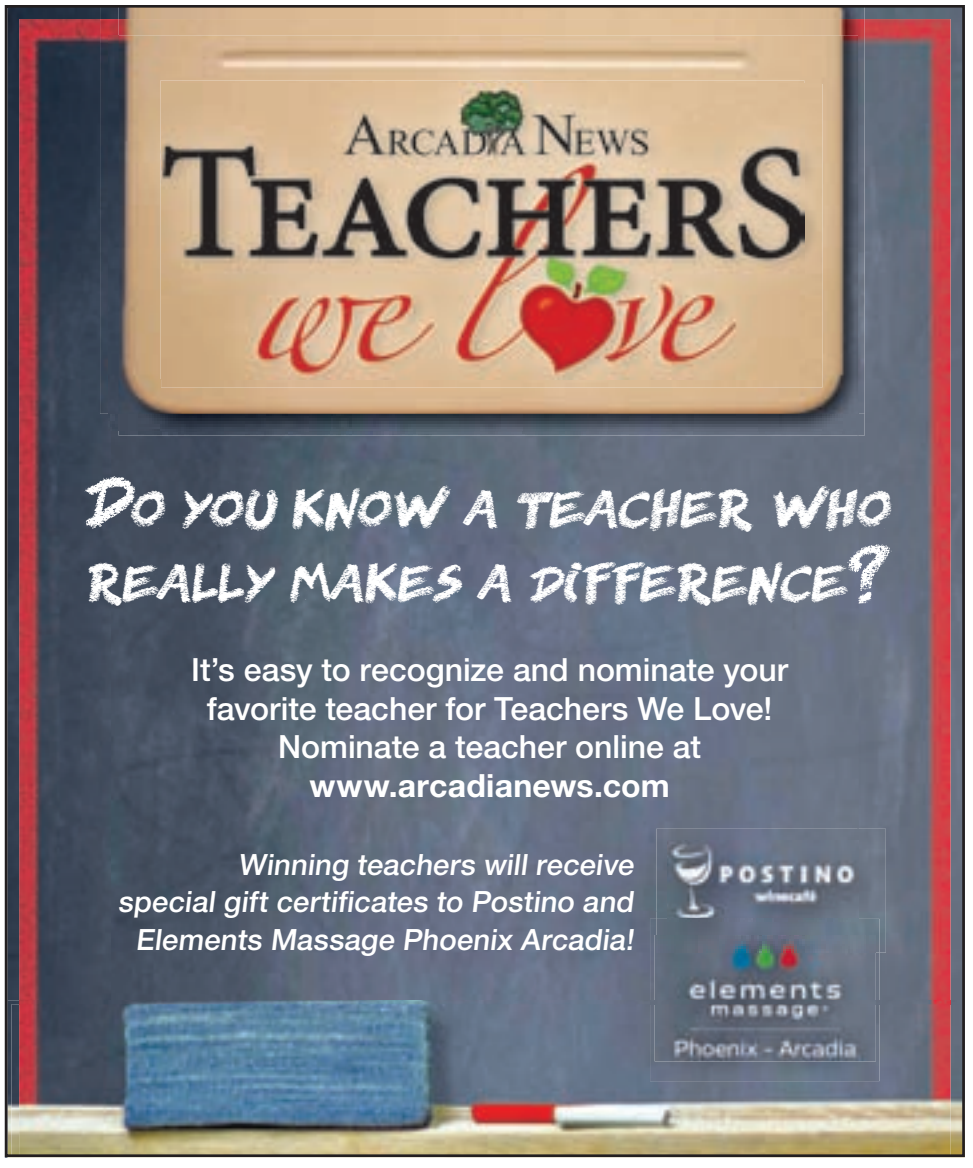

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Arcadia Real **Estate** Stats

2017 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/01/2017-10/31/2017)

Active Homes -	166 homes
Homes Sold -	231 homes
Average Sale Price -	$1,154,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$331
Average Days On Market -	114 days

There is currently 7 months of home inventory. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 home sales have increased 0% this year. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 home prices have decreased 5%. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 $ Per Square Foot prices have increased 0%. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 homes are taking 11% less time to sell. (based on 2016 sales results)

2016 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

Homes Sold -	278 homes
Average Sale Price -	$1,210,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$328
Average Days On Market -	128 days

2015 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT YEAR END SALES RESULTS

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

2017 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/01/2017-10/31/2017)

Active Homes -	72 Homes
Homes Sold -	207 Homes
Average Sale Price -	$605,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$256
Average Days On Market -	76 days

There is currently 4 months of home inventory. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 home sales have increased 14% this year. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 home prices have increased 13%. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 $ Per Square Foot prices have increased 8%. (based on 2016 sales results)
2017 Homes are taking 18% less time to sell. (based on 2016 sales results)

2016 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

Homes Sold -	219 Homes
Average Sale Price -	$527,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$235
Average Days On Market -	93 days

2015 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT YEAR END SALES RESULTS

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

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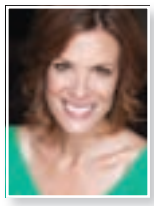
yelp 5-Star Reviews



Safe & natural holiday candles

CHEM-FREE *LIFE*

By Sara Lemons Vaules



'Tis the season and although it is not quite the snowy days of winter here in Phoenix, everyone loves to bring out their favorite candles. They provide great ambiance and the scented varieties can have your house smelling delicious in moments. Your home can be transformed to smelling like warm apple pie, a Christmas tree, or a pumpkin spice latte in seconds!

And while I adore all those smells, there are many of us who are simply too sensitive to scents to enjoy these candles. So please don't feel alone if you can't walk down the candle aisle at Target without burning eyes and nausea!

Candles have been used for thousands of years and until the early 1900s, they were the single source for artificial light. They also have a rich tradition in religious services in many faiths throughout history. The first candles were made from tallow extracted from cattle and sheep by the early Egyptians and Romans. These early candles burned poorly and probably smelled even worse. During the Middle Ages, beeswax was more commonly used but also more expensive then tallow, limiting it to clergy and the upper class. It wasn't until the 19th century that the first patented candle making machines were introduced allowing candles into homes of all classes. Today candles are made of paraffin, vegetable waxes, oils, beeswax and gels.

Although I know candles are loved, there are chemicals to consider. Regular scented candles are a source of indoor air pollution and have been related to second-hand smoke. Paraffin candles do release a fair share of chemicals such as benzene and toluene when burned (known carcinogens) and paraffin itself needs to be chemically bleached before being made into wax. In the United States, candle wicks are supposed to be made out of cotton or paper, which is good. However, some are still made from lead, which can be very toxic when released into the air.

Out of all the natural varieties of candles, beeswax candles still offer the best option as they also help to clean indoor air. Some people now use essential oils for scent while using the beeswax candles for the glow. Or there are also organic scented candles that use essential oils for fragrance. Soy-based candles are a wonderful option as well … just check that they are 100 percent soy. Maybe this holiday season you can give one of these options a try!

Happy Candling!

— Sara Lemons Vaules is the founder of Lemon and Light, which offers consulting, products and strategies for moving with ease into an organic, chemical-free lifestyle.

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WHY YOU SHOULD INVEST IN SECURITY LOCKING MAILBOXES

Every day, more and more people fall victims to identity theft.

With so much personal information readily available both online and offline, it's easier than ever.

Have you ever considered that your mailbox may be frequently visited by people other than your mailman?

Identity thieves looking for valuable personal information regularly check unlocked mailboxes to steal your bank and utility bills.

They'll grab hold of anything that'll give them access to your personal data. So if you've been missing some of your mail lately, it's time to investigate into the matter.

The best way to prevent this is to get a security locking mailbox. They're a little more expensive than regular mailboxes, but you get a peace of mind and mail safety. So read on to discover why you should invest in locking mailboxes and how to find the right one for you.

Preventing Identity Theft

Identity theft is considered one of the fastest-growing crimes in the USA. In fact, over 9.9 million Americans have been victims of ID thefts, and have suffered huge financial losses.

A lot of these crimes take place online, when people enter sensitive personal information on various websites. Offline, thieves go around neighborhoods and vandalize residential mailboxes to steal the mail.

At first, you may not notice some of your mail is missing. But if your utility bills stop coming in or you stop receiving packages, you should start to worry.

Getting a locking mailbox is a perfect solution to this problem. Not only will you have complete control over your mail, but you'll also deter the thieves. Picking the locks on these mailboxes is very hard. Most potential thieves will give up before they even try.

But not all locking mailboxes are made equal. Below, you'll discover how to choose the best one for your type of mail.

How to Pick the Right Locking Mailbox for You

Before you buy a new mailbox, consider the type and size of the mail you receive. For example, if you mainly receive envelopes or magazines, you'll need a standard-sized mailbox.

If you receive packages or lots of mail, you may need a more spacious mailbox. Look for one that can hold several days' or weeks' worth of mail.

Although you're the only person who'll have the keys to your mailbox, the mailman will still be able to deliver your mail through the incoming mail slot. This is why locking mailboxes are safer than regular ones.

Whatever model you choose, make sure it complies with the USPS mailbox regulations.

Bottom Line

More and more people are choosing to install locking mailboxes in lieu of unlocked ones.

If you want to protect your personal information from curious eyes and thieves, invest in a high-quality locking mailbox.

Stagecoach Locksmiths offer a large variety of quality pedestal, wall mount and column type mailboxes to fit your needs and budget. If you have additional questions or would like to purchase a secure mailbox, please stop by our showroom at 3942 E. Campbell Ave, Phoenix AZ 85018.

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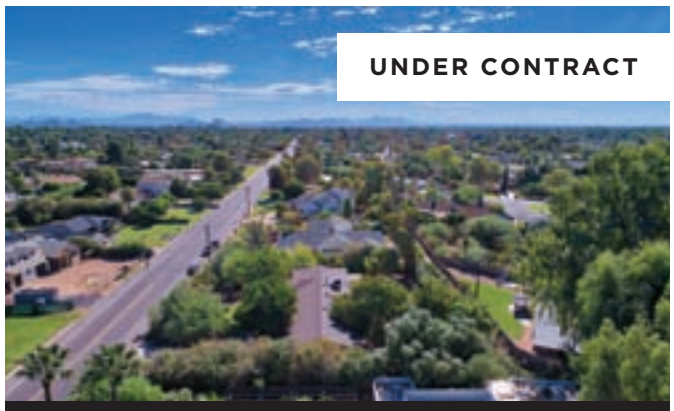
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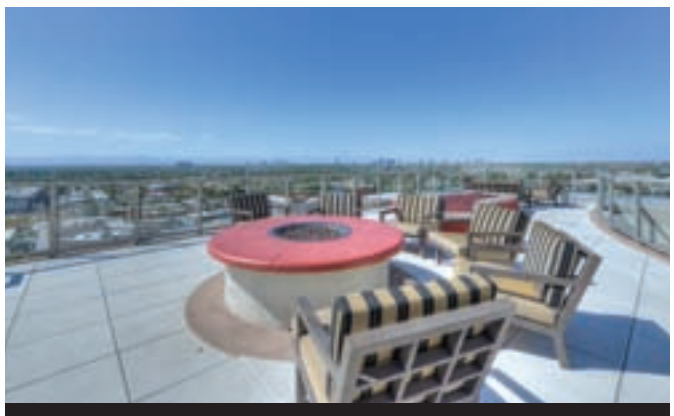
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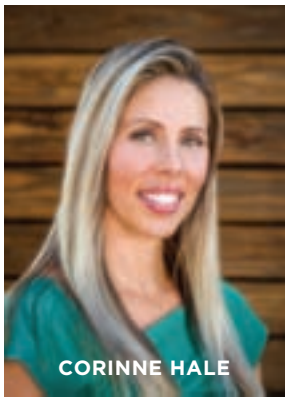
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Thanks for a great 2017!

I'm thankful that you have all gotten to share 2017 with me! I can say with certainty that this year has been the most rewarding and challenging of my life. From opening Arcadia's first real estate office to bringing our baby girl home, 2017 was a good one. As I reflect back, I have never been as content as I am today. A lot of my personal milestones have been met and there is a lot of positive momentum in my life. My family is full and healthy, business is thriving, and I have a ton of motivation for the future.

In 2017, I was fortunate to serve over 70 clients and play a part in over $65,000,000 in sales along with my partner, Oleg Bortman. With the growth of our business, we took a huge step this year and opened up Arcadia's first real estate office after 2 years of planning. The Brokery opened in April and has been a huge addition to our new company's offerings. Thank you to Vista General, Studio MA, OnSite Landscape, Automated Environments, and everyone else who played a part in building our new digs on 40th Street. We are stoked about our future in the space to say the least.

Our team has been the #1 producing team in the Biltmore area for 4 years in a row and we are looking to bring that same level of service to Arcadia with our expansion in 2018. It is exciting to lead such a driven group of real estate professionals and I look forward to getting to work every day. I couldn't be more proud of all of my agents' success and growth this year, and know that we have a few things to prove going forward in the neighborhood.

This editorial has been a great outlet for me and I appreciate you taking the time to read every month. Without your support and loyalty, I would not be where I am today. Have a safe holiday season and I look forward to serving you in 2018!

From my family to yours...
Happy Holidays!



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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

FRIDAY 12/1

Avalanche Ski/Snowboard & Travel Expo

6 – 10 p.m. at the Phoenix Convention Center, 33 S. 3rd St., Phoenix. Calling all winter sports lovers! The Avalanche Ski and Snowboard is here to help with all your powder-shredding needs. Boots, boards and gear from various vendors will be available for purchase. Plus, visit all the snowboarding booths to find great deals on snowboarding and skiing packages for the winter. For more: avalanchesale.com.

Holly Jolly Puppet Slam

8 p.m. at the Great Arizona Puppet Theater, 302 W. Latham St., Phoenix. This holiday show isn't like your classic fairy tales. Rasputin's Marionettes have arrived with myriad performances from adult monologues to burlesque dancers; this adult's only puppet show is sure to have you in stitches. Tickets are $10-$12. For more: azpuppets.org.

SATURDAY 12/2

Arizona Asian Festival

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Scottsdale Civic Center Mall, 3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd., Scottsdale. Dive into a different culture at the Arizona Asian Festival. There will be over 20 authentic Asian food vendors, cultural performances, dance and poetry readings and contests, a vendor market, and arts and crafts. This is a free event. For more: aaaa-az.org.



The Brunch Club Debut *at the Mountain Shadows Resort in Paradise Valley.*

The Brunch Club Debut

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Mountain Shadows Resort, 5445 E. Lincoln Dr., Paradise Valley. If brunch happens to be your favorite meal of the day, this is the event for you. Attendees will get an all-inclusive pass to unlimited brunch favorites from some of the best brunch restaurants in the Valley, plus a drink card that grants you four full size cocktails from signature bars. This event is 21 and up and tickets are $40-$75. For more: thebrunchclubaz.org.

World Bazaar & Community Market

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the 19th Avenue and Camelback Road Park and Ride. Come out and support local vendors and entrepreneurs at the Community Market. The Market will include things like African beadwork, clothing, baskets, and jewelry, as well as Middle Eastern women's fashion, craft goods, and more. There will be a kids zone as well as foods from different cultures available for purchase. This event is free. For more, visit the World Bazaar Facebook page.

Street Food Cinema

4:30 p.m. at Margaret T. Hance Park, 1202 N. 3rd Street, Phoenix. Street Food Cinema presents a classic Christmas movie to keep you in the holiday spirit. Elf will be playing on the big screen starting at 7 p.m. but before that, attendees can listen to live music from local bands and grab a bite to eat at various food trucks that will be on site. Tickets are $15 for general admission. For more: streetfoodcinema.com.

SUNDAY 12/3

Phoenix Royal Princess Ball

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Phoenix Airport Marriott, 1101 N. 44th St., Phoenix. It's the Princess Ball you've (and your little one) have been dreaming of! Dream Parties presents the Royal Princess Ball, where you'll have a chance to meet all your favorite princesses, dance, play games and read stories. There are two different sessions, and tickets are $32-$47. For more visit the Dream Parties Facebook page.





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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

WEDNESDAY 12/6

Seed Spot Demo Day

6:30 p.m. at the Orpheum Theatre, 203 W. Adams St., Phoenix. Seed Spot is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people who want to become entrepreneurs with programs in Phoenix and Washington, D.C. This evening, attendees are invited to listen in on the last five years of success and inspiration for adult and high school entrepreneurs. If you've ever wanted to start your own business, this event is something you don't want to miss. For more: seedspot.org.

THURSDAY 12/7

Las Noches de las Luminarias

5:30 – 9:30 p.m. at Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 N. Galvin Pkwy., Phoenix. The 39th annual Las Noches tradition is back again at DBG. The gardens will be lit up by over 8,000 hand-lit luminaria bags and thousands of twinkle lights. Walk along the trails and be serenaded by nine entertainment ensembles. Grab a cup of cocoa or cider and enjoy the beautiful weather and trails at Desert Botanical Garden. Tickets are $25. For more: dbg.org.

FRIDAY 12/8

Phoenix Festival of the Arts

12 p.m. at Margaret T. Hance Park, 1202 N. 3rd St., Phoenix. Get artsy this Christmas with the Phoenix Festival of the Arts. Live music on three stages, comedy, art demos, Phoenix Youth Circus Arts, face painting, a teen art show, plus a chance to paint along professional local artists with the Phoenix Mural Project. This event is free for all ages. For more: phoenixfestivalofthearts.com.



Phoenix Festival of the Arts *at Margaret T. Hance Park in Phoenix.*

SATURDAY 12/9

Vow to Drive Sober Run

6:00 – 11:30 a.m. at Chase Field, S. 3rd and E. Jackson St., Phoenix. December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month so to honor that, there will be a 5K run/walk starting at Chase Field in downtown Phoenix. There will also be refreshments before and after the 5K as well as a vendor market. Participants will receive commemorative t-shirts. Registration is $40. For more: vtdsrun.phxfr.org.

Tavan Twinkles

4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Tavan Elementary School, 4610 E. Osborn Road, Phoenix. Join the Arcadia community and come out for the 3rd annual Tavan Twinkles Holiday Fair. Along with various vendors, there will be food trucks and a movie on the lawn. Fun activities include an obstacle course, human hamster ball races, bounce houses, and arts and crafts to name a few. There will also be performances by groups from Arcadia area studios and schools. Come out and support your local community. This event is free.

Christmas Pudding Fundraiser

7 p.m. at the Celebrity Theatre, 440 N. 32nd St., Phoenix. Get ready for a rock 'n roll Christmas! Alice Cooper's 16th annual Christmas Pudding fundraising event is back again. This year, guests will jam out with Slash, Rob Halford, Edgar Winter, Filter and more special guests. This event benefits Cooper's Solid Rock Teen Center. Tickets are $120-$200. For more: celebritytheatre.com.

Snow Much Fun Day

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Children's Museum of Phoenix, 215 N. 7th St., Phoenix. First, have breakfast with the man in red. You'll get to meet Santa and have your picture taken with him. Then, head over to the snow bank (REAL snow!) and participate in snow day fun. Plus, there will be a gingerbread house workshop. Build your very own gingerbread home. Activities are priced separately. For more: childrensmuseumofphoenix.org.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

SUNDAY 12/10

"It's Feline a lot like Christmas" Show

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Mesa Convention Center, 263 N. Center, Mesa. The Phoenix Feline Fanciers is hosting its annual all breed cat show at the Mesa Convention Center. Over 300 breeds of feline will compete in various events. There will be professional exhibitors and vendors, pet adoption opportunities and kitty cat merchandise for you and your furry friends. Tickets are $10. For more: phxfeline.com.

Indian Market

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Pueblo Grande Museum, 4619 E. Washington St., Phoenix. Celebrate the Indian culture at the 41st annual Indian Market! Attendees will meet with artists and participate in hands-on activities such as archery, spear throwing, painting and beading. There will be hoop dancing performances, over 100 booths of fine art and collectibles, music and authentic cuisine. Tickets are $10. For more: pueblogrande.org.

THURSDAY 12/4

Masters of Scotch Tasting Series

6:30 p.m. at the Westin Kierland, 6902 E. Greenway Pkwy., Phoenix. The Masters of Scotch are back again. The Scotch Library at the Westin Kierland presents an informative evening of whisky education and tasting. This month features Balvenie, with John Christie providing samples of Balvenie straight from the Scottish Highlands. Tickets are $65. For more: kierlandresort.com.



Christmas Rocks Tour *at the Celebrity Theatre in Phoenix.*

FRIDAY 12/5

Christmas Rocks Tour

8 p.m. at the Celebrity Theatre, 440 N. 32nd St., Phoenix. Rock out to all your favorite Christmas tunes with the Brian Setzer Orchestra's 14th annual Christmas Rocks Tour. Presented by Sirius XM, Setzer's 19 piece orchestra will be busting out classic Christmas tunes, with the first three rows of seats removed – make sure you're ready to dance! Tickets start at $59. For more: celebritytheatre.com.

SATURDAY 12/6

Riparian After Dark

5:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Riparian Preserve, 2757 E. Guadalupe, Gilbert. Keep the holiday festivities glowing with a walk along the trails at Water Ranch Lake. The trail will be lit up with hundreds of luminaries as well as various festive light displays. While you walk, there will be school choirs, carolers and other live entertainment singing your favorite Christmas carols. There will also be refreshments for purchase. For more: gilbertaz.gov.

SUNDAY 12/17

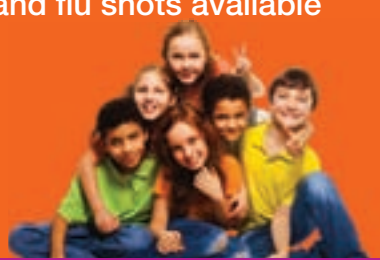
PANDA Prowl 5K

2 p.m. starting at the Arizona Canal, 56th street to 68th in Arcadia. The Phoenix Women's Board of the Steele Children's Research Center has organized a 5K to raise awareness and funds for PANDA (People Acting Now Discover Answers). This year, funds will go toward the PANDA Children's Epilepsy Project. Come out and enjoy the 5K as well as face painting, music and snacks, plus a commemorative t-shirt for all participants. Registration is $25. For more: azpanda.org.

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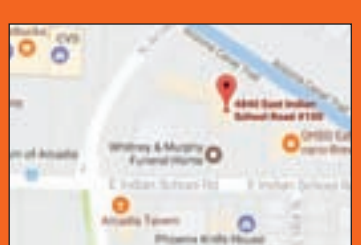


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Tino Ferrulli

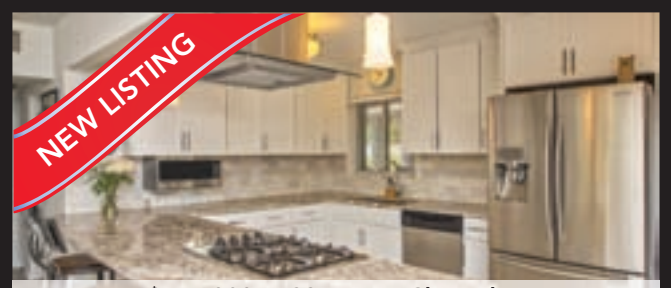
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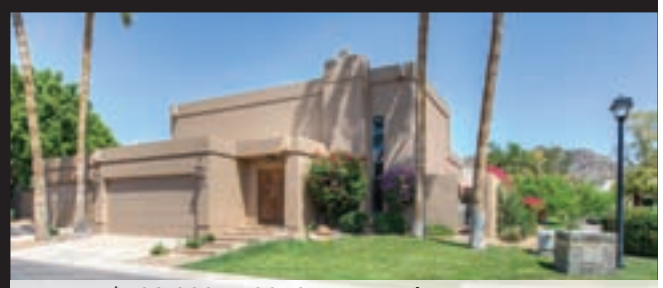
OUR FEATURED LISTINGS UNDER $1,000,000



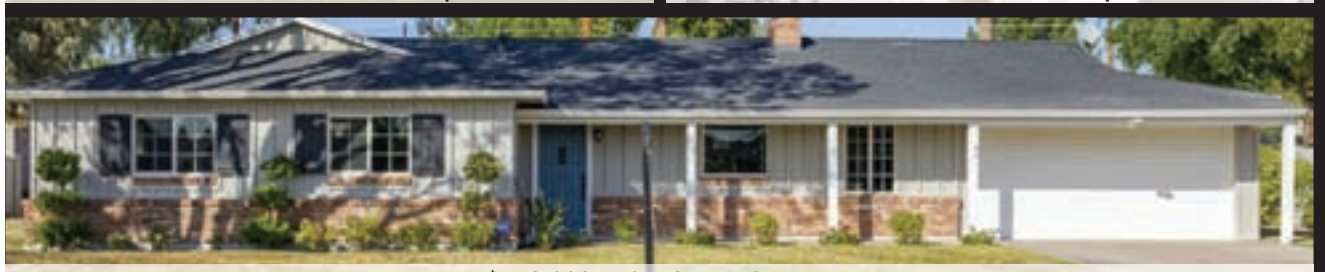
$980,000 5555 East Calle Ventura
5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3,960 square feet



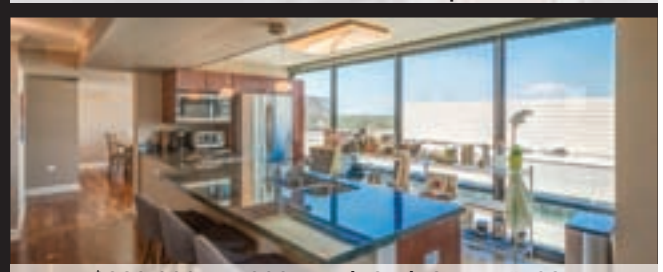
$464,000 3346 East Clarendon
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 1,941 square feet



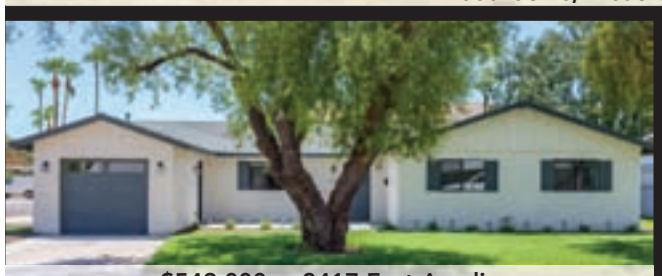
$799,000 3050 East Marlette Avenue
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,270 square feet



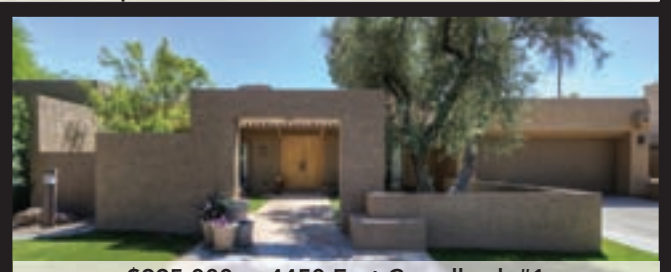
$759,000 3412 East Oregon
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2,919 square feet



$929,000 4808 North 24th Street #1321
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,393 square feet



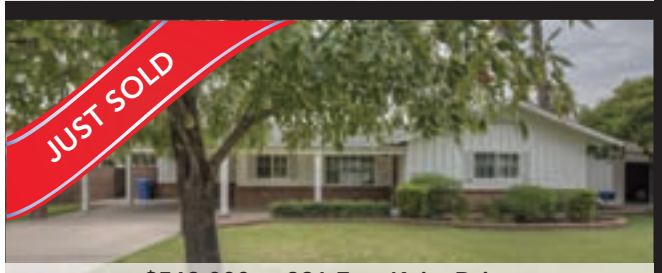
$549,000 3417 East Amelia
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2,175 square feet



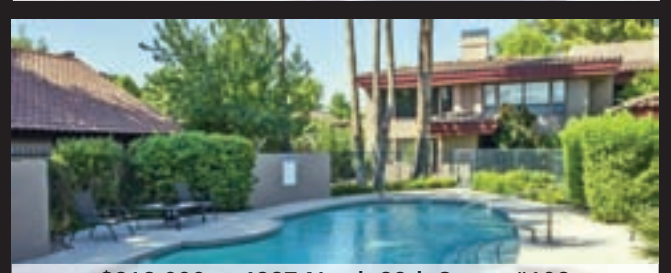
$995,000 4450 East Camelback #1
3 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,000 square feet



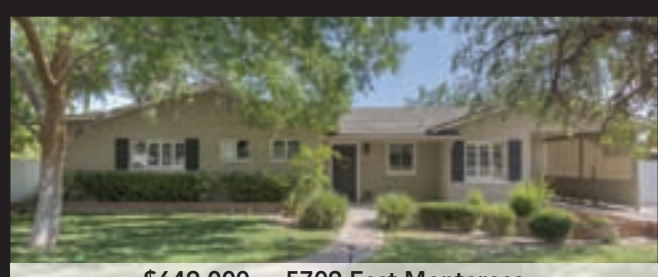
$379,000 4930 North 42nd Way
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,628 square feet



$569,000 321 East Keim Drive
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,344 square feet



$212,000 4327 North 28th Street,#102
2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,088 square feet



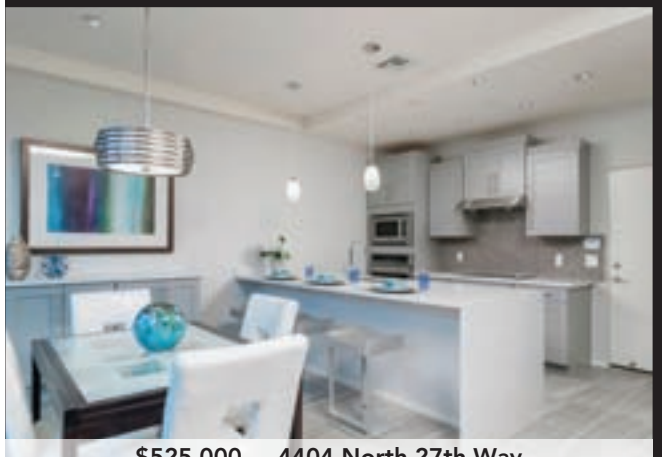
$649,000 5709 East Monterosa
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,830 square feet



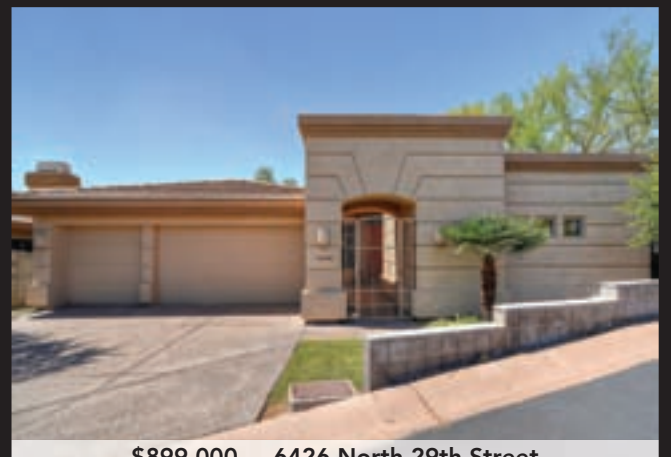
$614,000 4240 East Sells Drive
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,111 square feet



$315,000 6417 North 77th Way
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,263 square feet



$525,000 4404 North 27th Way
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2,175 square feet



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

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See more Joffe Group listings on the back cover.

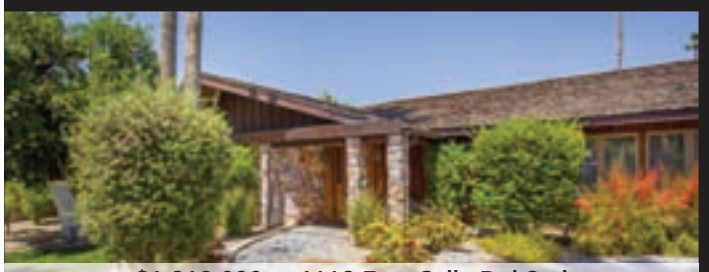


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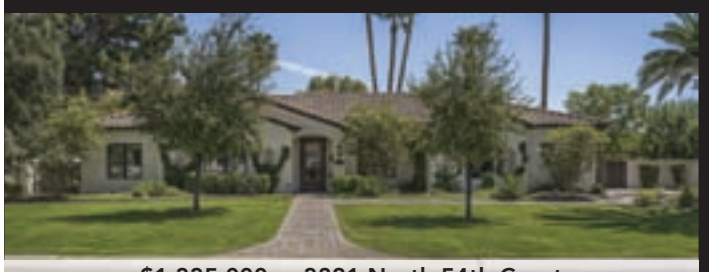
OUR FEATURED LISTINGS $1,000,000 – $3,000,000



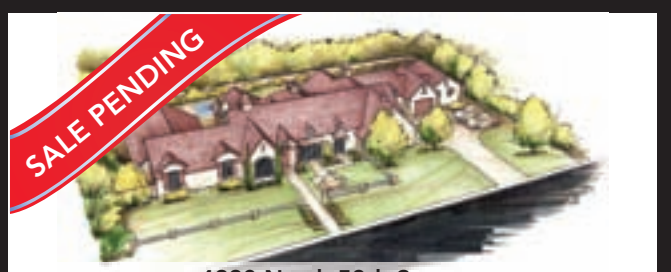
$1,319,000 6112 East Calle Del Sud
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,256 square feet



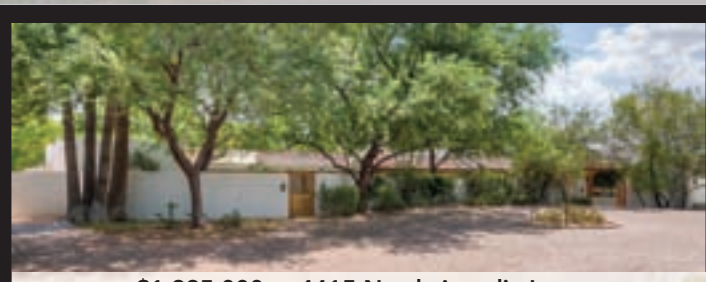
3836 North 60th Place
CALL FOR PRICING & INFORMATION.



$1,335,000 3821 North 54th Court
5 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,766 square feet



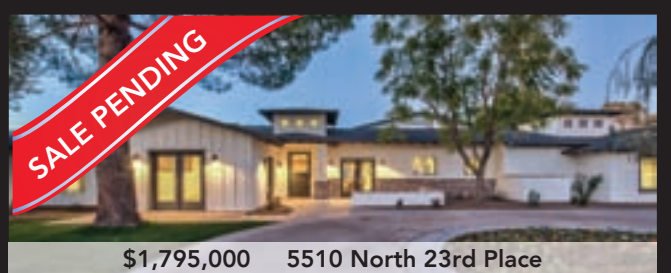
4220 North 58th Street
CALL FOR PRICING & INFORMATION.



$1,995,000 4415 North Arcadia Lane
LOT ONLY – CALL FOR INFORMATION.



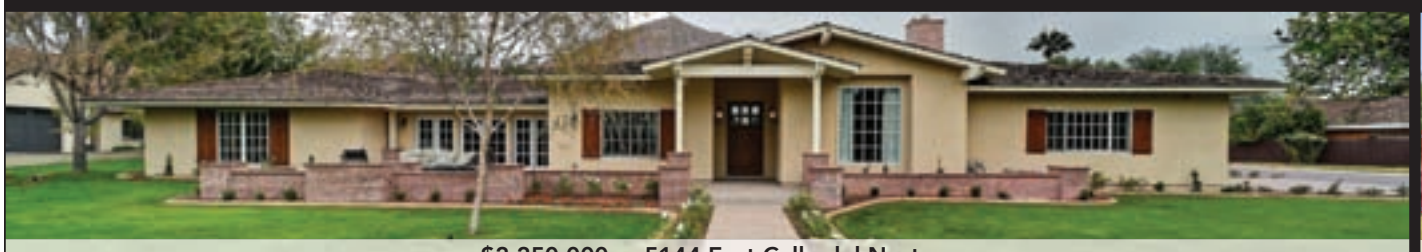
$1,899,000 6064 East Jenan Drive
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 6,008 square feet



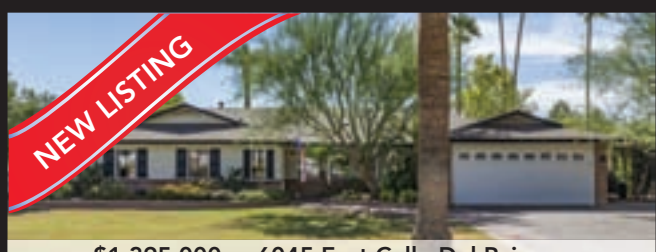
$1,795,000 5510 North 23rd Place
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 5,726 square feet



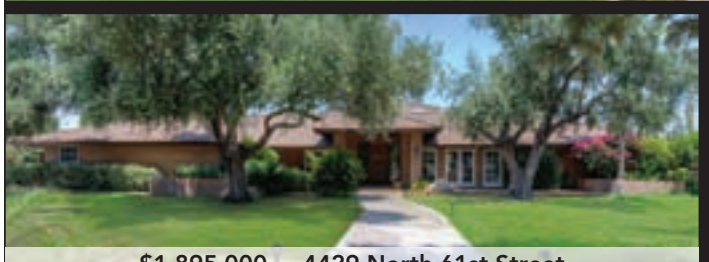
$1,695,000 4229 East Vermont
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,600 square feet



$2,250,000 5144 East Calle del Norte
5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 5,156 square feet



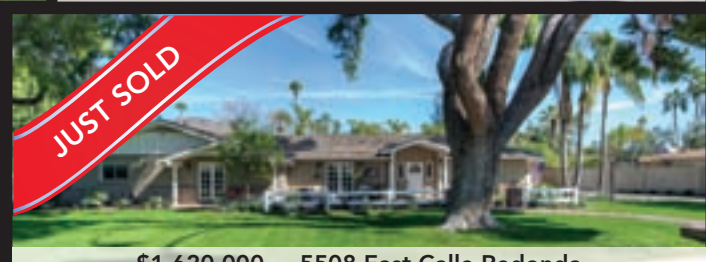
$1,395,000 6045 East Calle Del Paisano
5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4,089 square feet



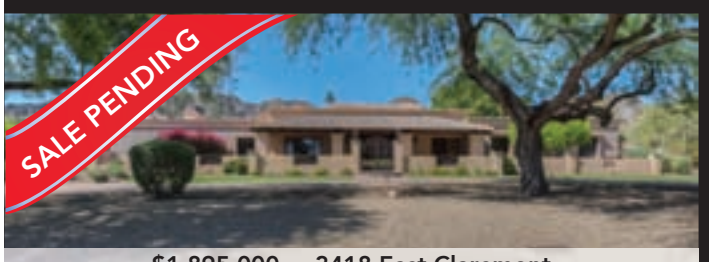
$1,895,000 4429 North 61st Street
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4,562 square feet



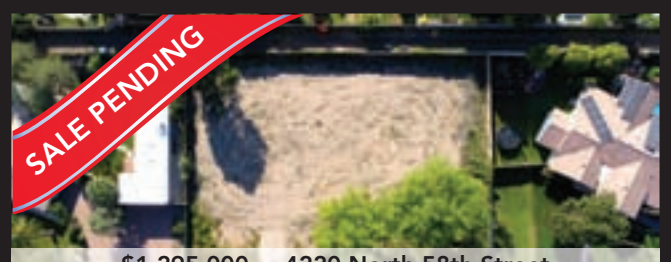
4211 North 57th Place
CALL FOR PRICING & INFORMATION.



$1,620,000 5508 East Calle Redonda
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 3,897 square feet



$1,895,000 3418 East Claremont
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 5,686 square feet



$1,295,000 4220 North 58th Street
CALL FOR INFORMATION.

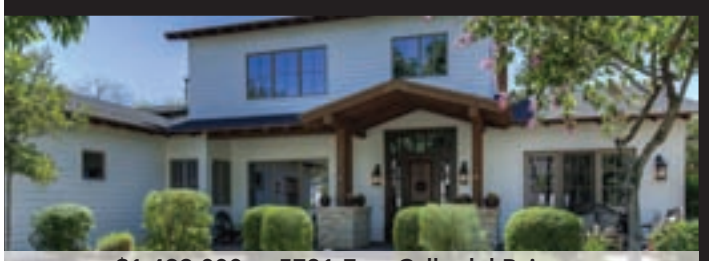
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$1,499,000 5731 East Calle del Paisano
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,013 square feet



$1,100,000 4822 East Palomino
.93 Acres

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4455 East Calle Del Norte
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$2,549,000 4320 East Rose Lane
7 bedrooms, 8 baths, 7,685 square feet



$2,095,000 4635 East Exeter
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 3,862 square feet



$1,995,000 5015 North Camelhead
5 bedrooms, 7 baths, 6,884 square feet



$1,890,000 7838 North 54th Place
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,697 square feet



6424 East Exeter
CALL FOR PRICING & INFORMATION.



CALL FOR PRICING 5414 East Lafayette
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 5,150 square feet



$2,995,000 4401 North 61st Street
5 bedrooms, 8 baths, 7,587 square feet



$2,849,000 5301 North Royal View
CALL FOR INFORMATION.



$2,990,000 4338 East Sparkling Lane
4 bedrooms, 7 baths, 7,959 square feet



$1,225,000 3816 North 53rd Way
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,726 square feet



4002 North 54th Place
CALL FOR PRICING & INFORMATION.



$2,195,000 4891 East Butler
4 bedrooms, 6 baths, 6,424 square feet



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



$1,949,000 5502 East Calle Del Paisano
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 5,102 square feet



$1,795,000 6326 East Lafayette
5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 5,204 square feet

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Karen Lafferty



Meredith Lane



Andrew Mehlman



Dallas Peagler



Jen Sheedy

WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

SUNDAY 12/17

Breakfast with Santa

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. at Jewel's Bakery and Café, 4041 E. Thomas Road, Phoenix. Jewel's Bakery and Café will be hosting their 4th annual Breakfast with Santa charity event, benefiting The New Foundation, which provides residential and out-patient behavioral healthcare and education programs for youth in crisis. Families and individulas are invited to give back by donating personal hygiene items, clothes for kids from ages 11 to 17, and other needed items. The event will include a buffet breakfast with Santa, featuring scrambled eggs, sausage, waffles and friend chicken. Tickets for kids are $12, which includes the full buffet and pictures with Santa. Adult tickets are $20 and kids under three are free. For more: https://goo.gl/c9tEtN.

Heroes in Recovery 6K

7:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Riparian Preserve, 2757 E. Guadalupe Road, Gilbert. The Heroes in Recovery 6K is presented by Calvary Healing Center, a program dedicated to the awareness and treatment of mental health and substance abuse disorders. Participants can run/walk the 6K and will receive a finisher's medal, commemorative t-shirt and bag, and post-race snacks. Registration is $35. For more: heroesinrecovery.com.



Heroes in Recovery 6K *at the Riparian Preserve in Gilbert.*

SATURDAY 12/22

Wild Swingin' Holiday Party

8 p.m. at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E. 2nd St., Scottsdale. Strap on your dancing shoes and swing your way into Christmas! Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's Wild Swingin' Holiday Party blends jazz, swing and Dixieland music with Christmas songs we all know and love. You'll hear the classics as well as some original holiday jams. Tickets start at $39. For more: scottsdaleperformingarts.org.

TUESDAY 12/26

Sing-a-long-a-Grease

7:30 p.m. at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E. 2nd St., Scottsdale. It's time to hand-jive away that Christmas dinner. The Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts will be playing Grease – and you better believe you'll be singing along. Dress in your poodle skirts and leather jackets, learn how to hand jive, and take part in the costume contest! Tickets are $18. For more: scottsdaleperformingarts.org.

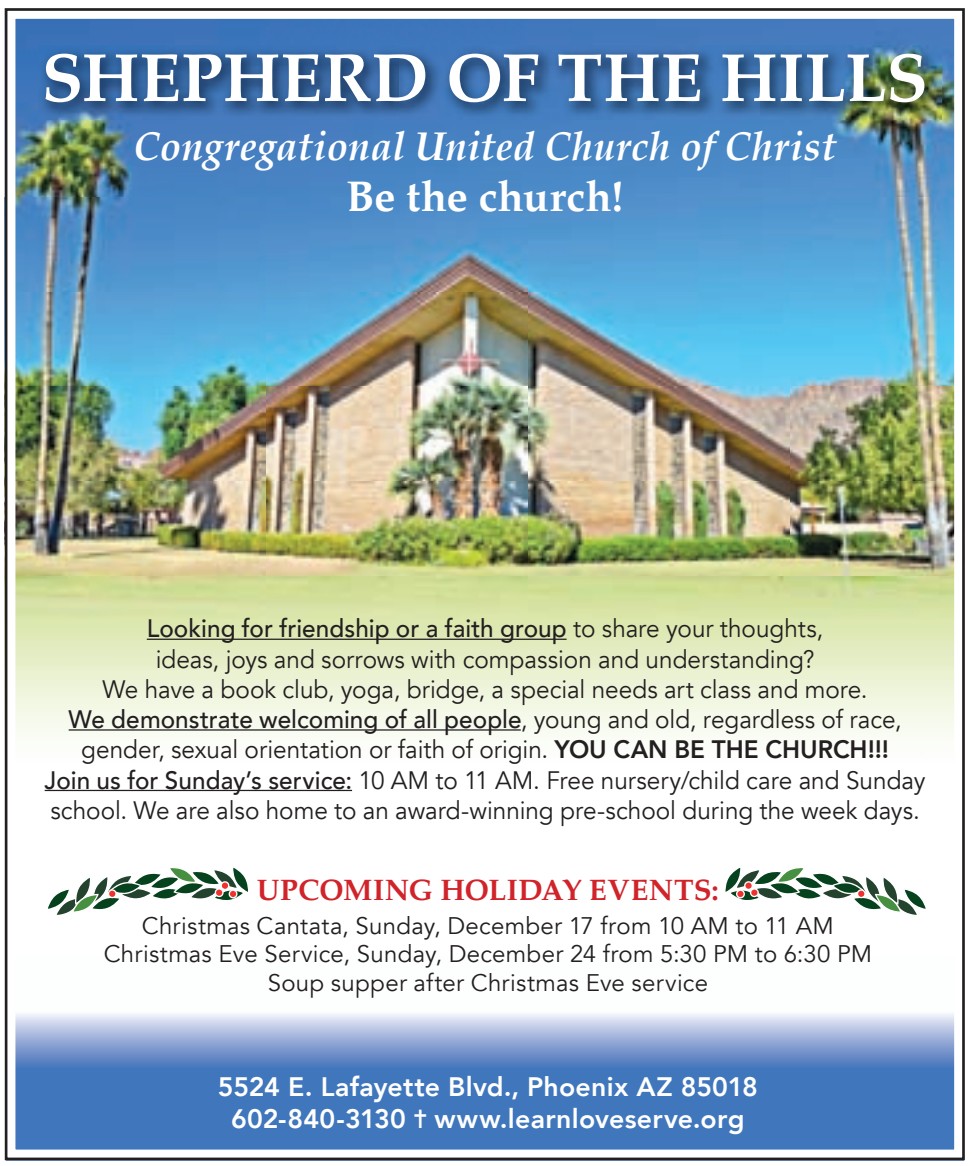
FRIDAY 12/29

Victorian Secrets: The Unmentionable Tour

5 p.m. at Heritage Square, 113 N. 6th St., Phoenix. Kick off the New Year with a history lesson at the Rosson House. Victorian Secrets delves into the mysteries of Victorian life, including what they wore, why they wore it, and how they kept clean, plus more interesting tidbits. Plus, you'll gain entry to the attic, which regular visitors don't get to see! Tickets are $25. For more: heritagesquarephoenix.org.

Have an event to announce?
Send it to editor@arcadianews.com





OUT OF THE AREA, *BUT WORTH THE DRIVE*

SATURDAY 12/2

Hometown Holiday Boutique

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sundance Crossing, 21699 W. Yuma Road, Buckeye. Finish up your holiday shopping outside of the Valley! Vendors will be selling their handmade crafts and there will be holiday entertainment for the whole family, with a petting zoo, pony rides, pictures with Santa, live music and entertainment. This event is free. For more: recreation@buckeyeaz.gov.

SUNDAY 12/3

Joy to the Herd

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Shamrock Farms Farm, 40034 W. Clayton, Stanfield. You've heard of Santa's reindeer, now get ready to meet his other spokesperson; or, spokescow, that is! Head to Shamrock Farms for a day in the snow (shipped from the North Pole, of course), holiday crafts, face painting, visits with Santa, and a tour of the farm. Tickets are $15 and reservations are required. For more: shamrockfarms.net.

SATURDAY 12/2 - SUNDAY 12/3

Family Campout

Times vary, at the Lost Dutchman State Park, 6109 N. Apache Trail, Apache Junction. Get away from the holiday hustle and bustle with a weekend family campout. Families are invited to set up camp and learn a variety of activities, such as fishing, hiking, archery, and camping necessities like how to set up a tent and cook outside. The program is $90 for a family of four. For more: azstateparks.com.



***Hometown Holiday Boutique** at Sundance Crossing in Buckeye.*



***Christmas with the Rat Pack** at the Prescott Elks Theatre.*

FRIDAY 12/8

Gingerbread Lane

12 – 6 p.m. starting at 620 E. McNeil in Show Low. Bring your family and friends and stroll along gingerbread lane! Enjoy the beautiful holiday lights and decorations, visit with Santa, enjoy a Christmas cookie or two and a cup of hot chocolate and browse through over 40 vendors to find the perfect gift for that special someone. For more: showlowmainstreet.org.

SATURDAY 12/9

Candlelight Tour

5 – 9 p.m. at Fort Verde State Historic Park, Fort Verde State Historic Park, 125 E. Hollamon St., Camp Verde. Go back in time and experience life as the Victorians did! Tour guides in Victorian-era clothing will take you on a candlelit tour of the officer's quarters at Fort Verde State Historic Park. Enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and an immersive history lesson! For more: azstateparks.com.

FRIDAY 12/15

Christmas with the Rat Pack

7 p.m. at the Prescott Elks Theatre, 117 E. Gurley St., Prescott. Take a stroll back to the good old days and enjoy holiday music by the "Rat Pack." Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr., are "back again," to sing the holiday classics, so grab a drink, put on your dancing shoes and get transported back in time with Christmas classics. Tickets are $25. For more: prescottelkstheatre.com.



OUT OF THE AREA, *BUT WORTH THE DRIVE*



Somerton Tamale Festival *on Somerton Main Street/US Hwy 95.*



Polar Express *at the Grand Canyon Railway in Williams.*

SATURDAY 12/16

Somerton Tamale Festival

11 a.m. – 10 p.m. on Somerton Main Street/US Hwy 95, on Main Street between Union Ave. and Somerton Ave. Put aside the Yuletide and head to Somerton for the Tamale Festival. Presented by the El Diabilito ASU Alumni Club, there will be 85,000 different varieties of tamales to suit your every need! These tamales will help fund scholarships for local students. There will also be live music and entertainment. Put up your feet and grab a tamale! This event is free. For more: somertontamalefestival.com

Holiday Sweet Stroll

3 – 7 p.m. at Tlaquepaque, 336 State Route 179, Sedona. The village will be decked out in Christmas lights and decorations, the carolers will be singing all the classic holiday songs, and of course, Santa will make a special appearance. Beware, for the Grinch could be hiding around the corner as well! Shops will be open for your last minute purchases and there will be treats and giveaways throughout the day. For more: tlaq.com.

SUNDAY 12/17

Christmas-Birthday-Dinner-Show

4 – 9 p.m. at the La Quinta Inn, 4499 E. State Route 69, Prescott. The Historic Prescott Jazz Society will be holding its President's 80th birthday bash with dinner, dancing, live musical entertainment, a buffet, door prizes, and an all-around good time. If you love Jazz, you won't want to miss this! Tickets are $45. For more: pjazz.org.

THURSDAY 12/21

North Pole Experience

Times vary, at Little America, 2515 E. Butler Ave., Flagstaff. Visit with Santa before he heads out to drop off Christmas gifts. Go behind the scenes of Santa's workshop and help the elves build toys for Christmas, take a tour of the workshop, read stories with Mrs. Claus, and build arts and crafts. Take a peek into the lives of St. Nick and his elves at Santa's workshop. Tickets are around $40 per person. For more: northpoleexperience.com.

THURSDAY 12/28

Polar Express

5:30 p.m. at the Grand Canyon Railway, 233 N. Grand Canyon Blvd., Williams. The holidays aren't over until we say they're over! With that in mind, hop on the Polar Express for a one hour journey where you'll enjoy sweets and a reading of the Christmas story, and then meet Santa as you pick him up from the North Pole (hey, you're never too old to meet Santa)! Tickets are $18-$35. For more: thetrain.com

SUNDAY 12/31

Deuce of Clubs Drop

11 p.m. at Festival Marketplace, 1034 E. Deuce of Clubs, Show Low. Instead of watching a ball or balloon drop at midnight, the Festival Marketplace will drop a giant electric Deuce of Clubs! There will a photo booth to commemorate the New Year, snacks and drinks, noisemakers and party items, and a fireworks show to top it all off. Grab the family and get ready to ring in the New Year! For more: showlowchamber.com.

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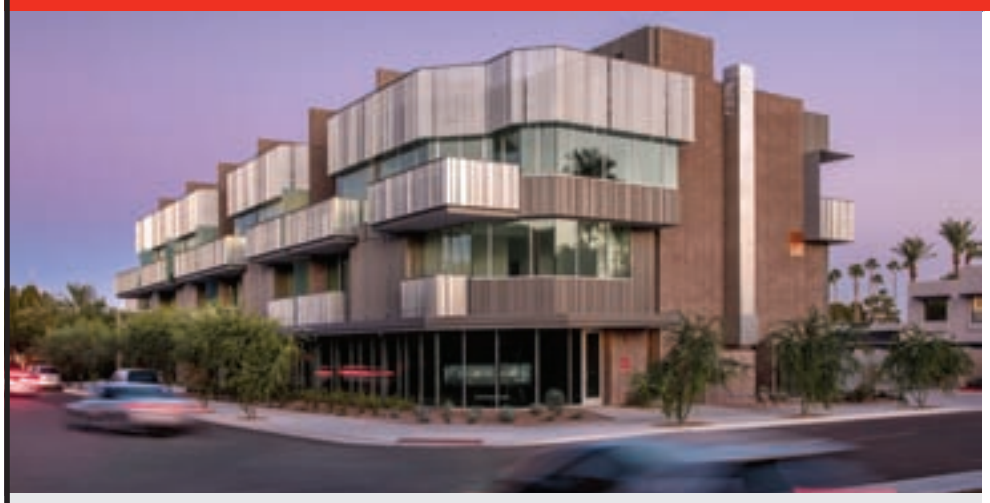
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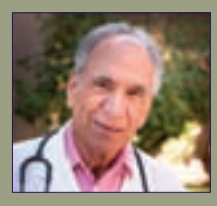
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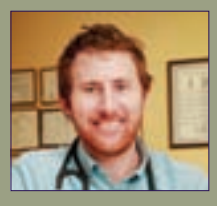

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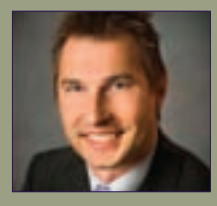

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AAA starts nation's first public self-driving shuttle in Vegas

By Michelle Donati-Grayman

AAA, in partnership with Keolis, just brought the future of transportation to America.

The organization is sponsoring the nation's first self-driving shuttle pilot project geared specifically for the public. Over the course of a year, the self-driving shuttle aims at providing a quarter-million residents and visitors of Las Vegas with first-hand experience using autonomous vehicle (AV) technology, exposing most riders to the technology for the first time. This pilot builds on Keolis' limited shuttle launch in downtown Las Vegas earlier this year.

In addition to studying how the shuttle interacts in a live traffic environment in downtown Las Vegas' busy Innovation District, AAA will survey riders on their experience in order to understand why a large percentage of consumers remain wary of driverless technology, and whether a personal experience changes their perception. In addition to surveying the shuttle's riders, AAA will examine how others sharing the streets react to it – including pedestrians and cyclists.

AAA partnered with the City of Las Vegas, the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) and Keolis North America (Keolis), which will operate and maintain the fully electric shuttle. The shuttle is manufactured by NAVYA, comes equipped with LiDAR technology, GPS, cameras, and will seat 8 passengers with seatbelts. Safety features include the ability to automatically and immediately brake in the event of a pedestrian crossing in the path of the vehicle.

Covering a 0.6 mile loop in the Fremont East "Innovation District" of downtown Las Vegas, the shuttle can be boarded at any of the AV shuttle's three stops located on Fremont Street and Carson Street between Las Vegas Blvd. and 8th Street.

The shuttle is the country's first autonomous shuttle to be fully integrated with "smart city" infrastructure, which means it talks to traffic signals to improve safety and traffic flow.

AAA believes autonomous technology has the potential to save lives and improve traffic safety. The organization will use this pilot to study how autonomous transportation can be safely deployed for public use.

As a commitment to the Las Vegas community, AAA will donate $1 per passenger during the pilot program for a minimum donation of $100,000 to the Las Vegas Victims' Fund. The fund was established to support the needs of people impacted by the Las Vegas mass shooting on October 1, 2017.

For morez: AAA.com/hopon.

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It's beginning to look a lot like... collectibles!

ASK THE *APPRAISERS*

By Jonell Sloekers

Ho, ho, ho! If you are ready for the holidays, then you have probably already made the annual journey to the garage or attic to retrieve and unpack your boxes of décor. Other than sentimental, do you have anything of value in those boxes? With today's focus on Midcentury Modern décor, numerous Christmas items from yesteryear are experiencing resurgence in secondary market value.

Aluminum Christmas trees from the 1960s are highly collectible. Introduced to the market in 1959 by the Aluminum Specialty Company of Manitowoc, Wisc., their modern look appealed to consumers during the Space Age. Other companies joined in, and aluminum trees soon became a staple of Christmas décor. Silver tone aluminum trees were the most popular and plentiful, though the trees were also found in red, blue, gold and green, which are now rare. Pink is the rarest variety, and thus the most expensive, with recent eBay sales in excess of $1,000. The silver trees are worth significantly less, with six-foot trees found under "sold listings" on eBay for $100 - $150.



Glass Christmas tree ornaments were first produced in Lauscha, Germany by artisans who would blow glass into clay molds, usually in the shape of fruits and nuts. Later artisans would then swirl a silver nitrate solution into the interior, a technique called "silvering", which was developed in the 1840s. Silvered ornaments were then hand painted and topped with a hooked cap.

Popularity of the ornaments grew and artisans expanded their craft to include a wide range of designs. A picture of Queen Victoria's Christmas tree decorated with lights and ornaments led to the demand for Lauscha's beautiful ornaments throughout Europe. Beginning in 1880, F.W. Woolworth made a fortune exporting them to the United States and selling them in his stores.



Originally, mercury was used instead of silver nitrate. Thus, silvered ornaments are still often called "mercury glass" ornaments, although they are NOT the same thing. In order to truly be mercury glass, the ornament must have two walls of glass with the silvering appearing between the layers. Mercury glass ornaments are much heavier than everyday ornaments, and are not that easy to come by. Most exhibit moderate to heavy oxidation (spots) because of age. Many that purport to be mercury glass on eBay are in fact just silvered glass.

So, how do you tell if you have real silvered glass?

Check the bottom. Silvered glass pieces have an opening in the bottom that was used for pouring the silver nitrate solution into and out of the vessel. The holes are often closed by a glass plug cemented in place, or by a wooden cork covered with paper and wax. The glass plug was often embossed with the name of the company that produced the object.

Are they valuable? In glass ornaments, the greatest values are found in figurals, which are shaped like a person or a thing. These were popular around 1900-1920, so it is rare to find them without some wear. Watch out for reproductions! The most popular figurals are in the shape of animals, personalities from long ago, and objects such as airplanes and automobiles. A recent eBay sale of an antique silvered German figure of Christ sold for more than $1,000; however, most "sold listings" of silvered glass ornaments are less than $30.

Ceramic tabletop Christmas trees have been around since the 1940s. They usually range from 17" to 24" tall, sometimes with a musical base. They consist of a molded ceramic tree that fits over a single lightbulb inserted into the base. The "lights" on the tree are hollow plastic pegs that fit into holes in the tree, and light up when turned on. It wasn't until 1958 that Atlantic Molds copyrighted one of the first ceramic Christmas tree designs. Thousands of copies were made of the A-64.

Other companies followed with their own designs. Most of the trees currently on the market were produced in the 1970s and 1980s, making them not vintage, but close. The embossed date on the bottom of the tree may indicate the year the mold was copyrighted, rather than the date that particular tree was produced from the mold.



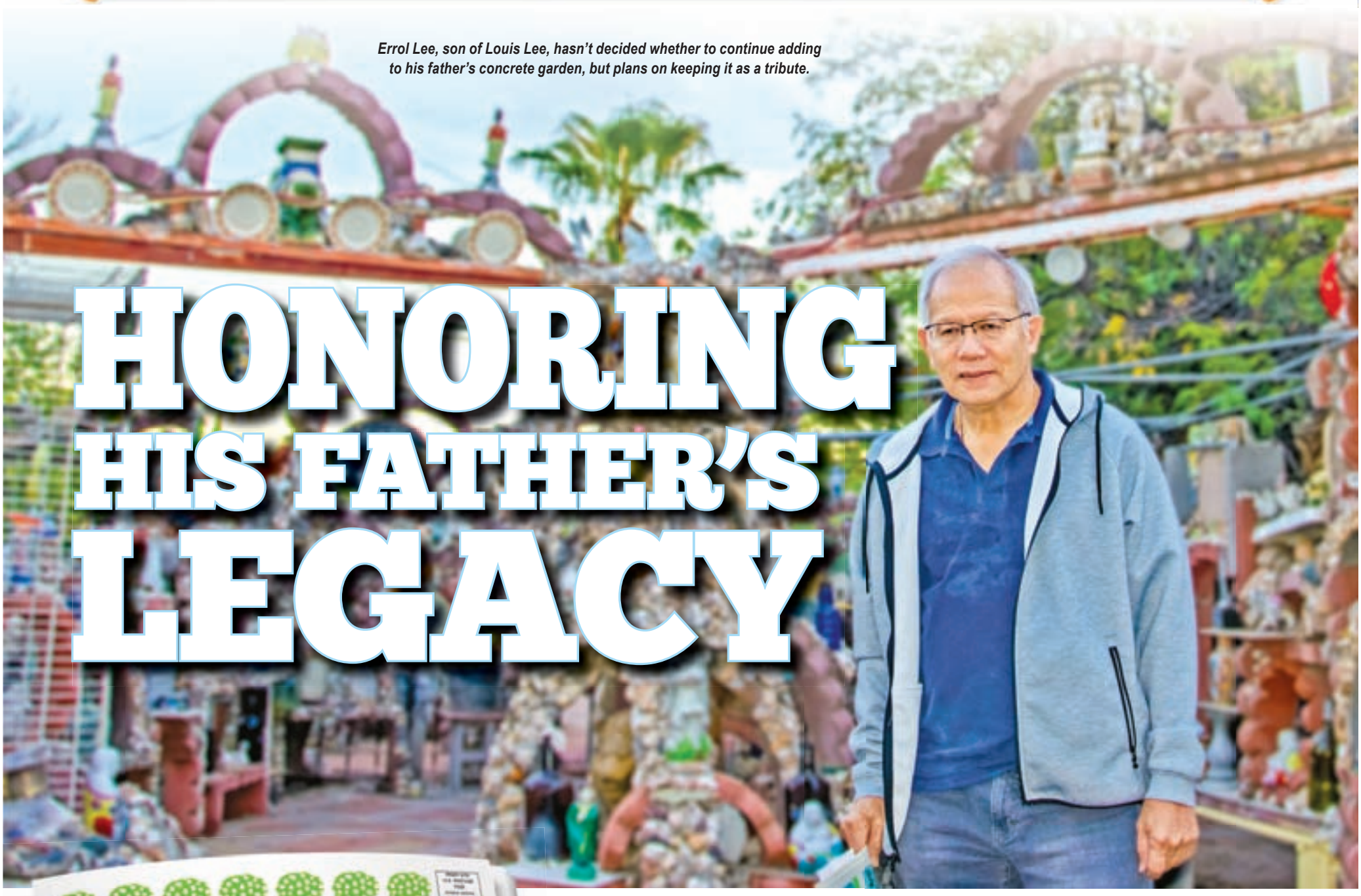
So, how do you tell if you have a truly vintage tree? Look for another number on the tree. A truly vintage tree should be individually numbered. Recent eBay sales for vintage ceramic Christmas trees have ranged from $50-$150, with extra-large, flocked and/or musical versions fetching up to $250.

Thank you for sending your questions and comments to our column! We at A-Z Appraisal and Estate Consultants wish our readers the most joyous of holiday seasons.

Do you have an appraisal question? Send it to editor@arcadianews.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



Arcadia News 25th Anniversary Feature



Errol Lee, son of Louis Lee, hasn't decided whether to continue adding to his father's concrete garden, but plans on keeping it as a tribute.

HONORING HIS FATHER'S LEGACY



Arcadia Rock Garden creator Louis Lee was featured on the May 2001 cover of Arcadia News.

By Mallory Gleich

On the border of Phoenix and Paradise Valley, nestled between Barry Goldwater and Walker McCune's properties, you'll find a front yard that is unlike any other in the area. This yard does not boast a manicured lawn or beautiful rose bushes; no, this lawn was built from the ground up using concrete and rocks, and has become Louis Lee's legacy.

Louis truly lived the American dream. He was sent to America from China at the age of 13. He learned to speak English, went to school, was drafted in WWII, lived in Seattle and New York, got married and finally settled in Arizona, where he built the house his family still lives in today.

The house was completed in 1958, and Louis decided that he wanted a front yard requiring minimal maintenance.

The rock garden started with a pond and grew from there. Eventually, Louis decided to build over the pond and expand the garden to the rest of the yard.

"The garden was built day-to-day. He didn't have plans or a sketch; the plan was all in his head," said Errol Lee, Louis' son, who still lives on the property.

The garden is built from rocks and concrete, but that's not all. There are hundreds and hundreds of different knick-knacks, photos and trinkets placed throughout the garden's walls.

"The garden has an Asian theme, of course, being from China. But he placed anything he found of interest in the garden as well," Errol said.

Whenever the family would go out to visit San Francisco and the Bay Area, Louis would head to Chinatown stores and find chipped pots and vases to bring home and add to the garden. He also loved scavenging 99-cent stores to find other treasures.

The garden is filled with photos, glass vases, elephant and owl sculptures, China dolls, empty glass bottles, colorful rocks, seashells, twinkle lights; there's even a picnic table area for dining.

Louis started work on the garden in 1958 and kept working and adding onto it until he passed away in 2006.

"My dad would be out here working and tour buses would go by to tour the Goldwater property, and he would invite them up and show them around," Errol said.

Louis didn't have any architectural or engineering training, either. Before he retired, he worked as a









Visitors will find photos, glass vases, elephant and owl sculptures, China dolls, empty glass bottles, colorful rocks, seashells, twinkle lights and more throughout Louis' garden.

grocer and then owned a restaurant and a to-go spot on 7th Street.

He started the garden by using concrete and concrete tree rings as the foundation. From there, he used rocks that he found from excavation sites in the area to add to the walls. He then added knick-knacks and trinkets from his travels.

"Sometimes my mom would have a knick-knack in our house somewhere, and if my dad thought it would look better in the garden, then that's where it went and that's where it stayed," Errol said.

Errol, who has lived in the home since he was born, hasn't decided whether he would like to add on to the garden.

"At this point, I wouldn't know where to start," he says.

The garden has been weathered by some wind and monsoon damage, but that didn't stop Louis from fixing the garden and keeping it together. He even expanded it to the other side of the driveway, where the wall separating the neighbors is decorated with rocks, glass elephants and flower vases. There is even a massive Chinese symbol painted on the driveway, which Errol believes to mean "good fortune."

Errol is retired and plans on keeping the home and garden in the family with himself and his two brothers.

"It took a long time to put it up, and we'd like to keep it as our father's legacy," Errol said.

From deciding to build a front yard that didn't require any fuss, to building a massive garden made from concrete, oddities and mementos, Louis Lee's rock garden is a timeless treasure to not only his family, but the Paradise Valley neighborhood where it was built.

> ***"The garden was built day-to-day. He didn't have plans or a sketch; the plan was all in his head."***



Find holiday magic at your local movie theater



By Eric Luse



During the past 20 years, December has become a second summer for big-ticket blockbusters. Aside from the new crop of movies, sometimes it's best to revisit movies your children may have been too young to see in theaters. It's a great way for the whole family to bond while the kids are out of school for two weeks and you just need to get out of the house or escape the jam-packed department stores.

Here's our guide to family-friendly and alternative holiday movie theater events you can check out around Phoenix this holiday season.

HARKINS always has a creative selection of classic films it screens every Tuesday night at 7 p.m., This month, Harkins will be screening holiday movies for kids and adults. On Dec. 5, it's the ensemble rom-com *Love Actually*. This is certainly one for just mom and dad to see on a date night. *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* will be shown on Dec. 12 followed by *Home Alone* on Dec. 19. On Dec. 26, Harkins screens *Die Hard*, the greatest non-Christmas/Christmas movie. This one is definitely not for younger children, but it may be a good escape for parents looking to spend time with their older kids.

Harkins is also doing special 10 a.m. Saturday family-friendly screenings starting with *The Polar Express* on Dec. 2, *White Christmas* on Dec. 9, *Elf* on Dec. 16 and a personal favorite, *It's A Wonderful Life* on Dec. 23. Harkins' classic movie screenings are always $5 for all ages no matter the theater and are featured at nearly all Valley Harkins locations including the relatively new Camelview at Fashion Square.

REEL TALK

AMC in conjunction with Fathom Events always features one-of-a-kind event screenings. Fathom Events specializes in screening live theatrical shows that you otherwise could not see in Phoenix. The Meshuga *Nutcracker!: The Chanukah Musical* will be screening Dec. 19. It's the classic Tchaikovsky ballet redone as an outrageous musical. Fathom will also be screening a live production of the classic Nutcracker ballet.

THE ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE in Chandler will have a number of holiday screenings. The location will have screenings of *Elf*, *Home Alone* and *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* that are aimed at older kids, but mostly adults. They offer a Kids Camp screening of the Jim Carrey version of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and a PBS Holiday Mix that includes appearances by Bob the Builder, Nature Cat and Thomas the Tank Engine.

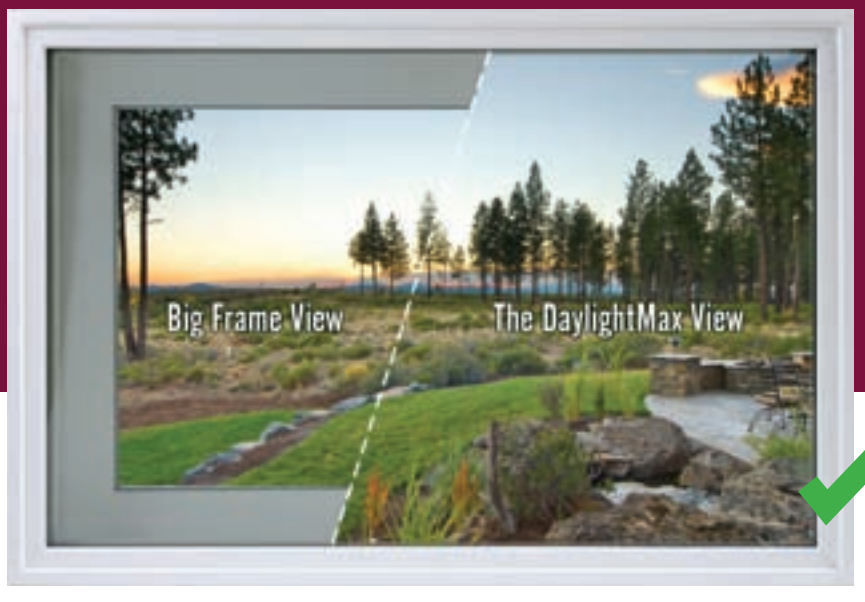
THE FILM BAR in Phoenix isn't necessarily a family venue, but will be screening the rare and embarrassing *Star Wars Christmas Special* on Dec. 8.

Whether you need to escape the holiday chaos or find an event to bond over with family, there are more than enough special movie theater experiences to explore after you've seen *The Last Jedi* for the third or fourth time.

— Eric Luce was born in Boston and raised in Arizona. He has worked as a screenwriter, casting director, producer and actor in the independent film industry. He is the proud instructor of the Arcadia High School Film and TV program.

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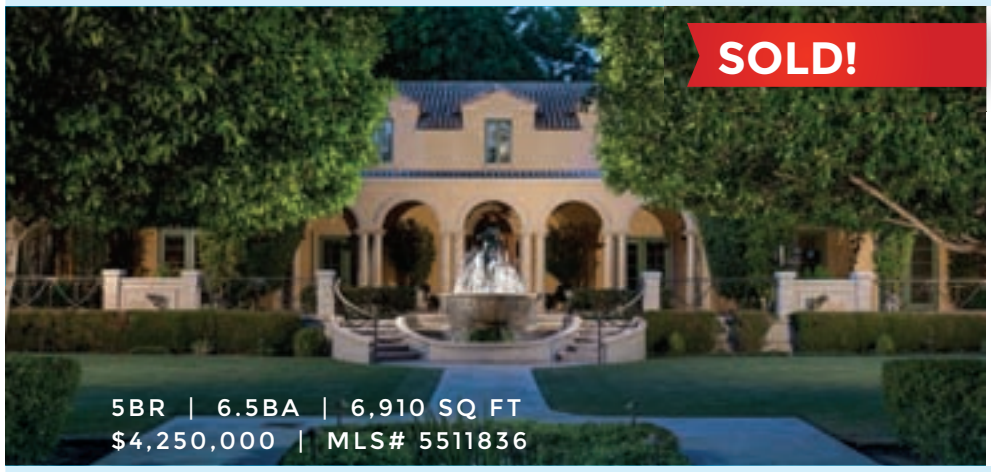
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Arcadia's favorite Christmas house going dark this year

By Elaina Verhoff

When news got out that Arcadia's well-known "Christmas House" was going to skip this year due to upset neighbors and City permit violations, many Arcadians were understandably upset. For thirty years, a visit to this holiday home has become a tradition for many area families.

When the month of October rolls around, Lee Sepanek begins putting up his holiday decorations. But this isn't an ordinary holiday display. Sepanek puts up over 250,000 lights, spending ten hours a day for months to prepare the yard. Hundreds visit every December.

"We're just extremely disappointed," said Sepanek. "I had planned on bigger and better this year. It is going to be so upsetting to so many, young and old."

So, what really happened to make Sepanek's light display go dark?

In October, Sepanek got a visit from representatives from the City of Phoenix, who came to talk to him about neighbor complaints regarding traffic congestion, garbage, blocked driveways and safety.

Sepanek says they also spoke to him about the neighborhood traffic issues arising from the many buses, trolleys and limos that bring the crowds to see the light display, suggesting he go to nearby Chase Bank to arrange parking. He also claims that City officials suggested he hire some 5 or 6 parking attendants in fluorescent vests to make sure cars didn't block his neighbors' driveways. Sepanek doesn't see this as his responsibility, and wonders why anyone would listen to parking attendants who aren't the police.

The other, and possibly even more important issue, was the fact that Sepanek sells food and drinks at his holiday display, which is illegal without a license under city law. Sepanek claims he sells drinks to help offset the cost of the display.

"I spend a minimum of ten thousand a year," said Sepanek, noting that his main costs are his power bill, storage fees, and decorations. "The cookies and cocoa helped offset the costs and gave people a connection," he says. "They bought it to show support."



Lee Sepanek's holiday lights will not be lit this year, but he has shared some of his decorations with several of the neighbors. PHOTO ELAINA VERHOFF

The City disputes some of these claims, saying they issued no notices of violations during the meeting and that Sepanek was never told to take the lights down. They say they merely provided Sepanek with good neighbor suggestions and ideas for controlling traffic, along with informing him that he couldn't sell food and drinks without a permit.

"The City is being a little disingenuous here," said Sam Stone, Chief of Staff for Phoenix City Councilman Sal DiCiccio. "They didn't say he had to stop, but they went out and basically said that if they receive another complaint, they'll have to shut him down. We're happy to help the neighbors around the corner keep their driveway clear, but the neighbors around him love this and thousands of people enjoy the house every year."

In the end, the decision to not decorate this year was Sepanek's himself, as he claimed to be so discouraged by the entire proceedings and fearful that he would be shut down eventually after putting up all the decorations.

"I can't afford to do what they are suggesting," said Sepanek. "I feel so bad for all the families that look forward every year to come by my home for their holiday fix."

Although the City didn't actually shut down the display, public sentiment seems to lie heavily with Sepanek, with angry residents voicing their disapproval on social media. Even Councilman Sal DiCiccio even weighed in with a response, which read in part: "City official need to relax and get a life, we have better things to do than to regulate Christmas tree displays."

But the 250,000 lights will not be going to waste, as Sepanek plans to donate his lights to decorate houses for some of his neighbors. Those driving down his street this year may not see the familiar and unique display they are used to, but will be still be treated to some Christmas cheer.

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Zoolights, Phoenix



McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, Scottsdale.



Lights of the World, Chandler.

Holiday light displays make the Valley glow

By Mallory Gleich

The Sepanek House may not be lighting up this year, but there are still several other places where you can go to enjoy the Christmas season with your family!

ZOOLIGHTS

455 N. Galvin Pkwy, Phoenix

A local staple, Zoolights features millions of lights set up all over the Phoenix Zoo. There are massive light displays, a three-story lighted tree and a lakeside Music-in-Motion show. Zoolights runs from November 22nd through January 14th and takes place each day from 5:30pm to 10:30pm. Ticket prices and packages vary. See website for details: https://goo.gl/qADfCg.

MCCORMICK-STILLMAN RAILROAD PARK

7301 E. Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale

The McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park display started off on a smaller scale in the 1980s and has grown in popularity so much that it is now recognized as one of the best holiday light displays in the Valley.

The Paradise & Pacific Railroad track is a mile long and circles around the entire park. The south end is specifically dedicated to holiday lights. There are lights all around the 30 acres of the park, but the back part is the focal point.

"There are hundreds of thousands of lights. We light whatever we can throughout the park," said Nick Molinari, who is the Operations Supervisor at McCormick-Stillman.

The best part is that in order to see the entire display, folks have to take a train ride.

"What I love so much about holiday lights is how much the kids love the ride through the actual light display. It's a special experience for families," Nick said.

Train rides are $4 per person and there are also snacks and cocoa available for purchase. For more: therailroadpark.com.

LIGHTS OF THE WORLD

Rawhide Western Town and Event Center
5700 W. North Loop Road, Chandler

With over 11 exhibits and 75 displays, Lights of the World is one of the largest light shows in the country. Displays range from 18 to 60 feet high and showcase all different cultures around the world.

There are displays dedicated to the African Kingdom, America, Oriental Mysteries, Christmas Dream, and so much more.

"All of the displays are handmade on-site. There are over four million lights and over 25 acres of displays. It is sure to deliver a most unique experience," said Gilbert Ochoa, who is in charge of promotions.

Lights of the World will also have free acrobatic shows, food and drinks, and carnival rides and games. Tickets are $25 for adults and $15 for kids. For more: visit lightsoftheworldus.com.

LAS NOCHES DE LAS LUMINARIAS

1201 N. Galvin Pkwy, Phoenix

What began as a simple event to show off the beauty of the Southwest and the uniqueness of Desert Botanical Gardens in 1978 has become one of the Valley's holiday traditions.

That first year, over 700 luminarias lit the area from the former gift shop to the Archer House. Now, after almost 40 years, there are over 8,000 luminaria bags lighting the trails around DBG.

In 2003, six tons of sand were used to fill the luminaria bags. And in 2004, over 132,000 candles were lit and put out by hand! Today, the folks at DBG have a system to make the lighting and snuffing of the candles much easier, but just as beautiful.

Folks are welcome to come out and stroll the trails while sipping cocoa or hot cider. There will also be live entertainment provided.

Tickets are $30 for the general public and $12.50 for children. For more: dbg.org.

Call about 4 new Arcadia, Paradise Valley, Scottsdale and Biltmore listings coming on the market soon!

Debbie Frazelle
HOMES OF DISTINCTION

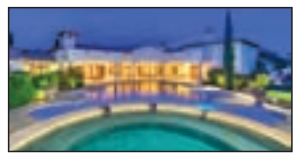
Happy Holidays!



5507 E Arcadia Lane
Charming quintessential Arcadia ranch home at just under 5000 sq feet on a commercial acre this floor plan is perfect for families and entertaining. Beautiful hardwood and honed slate floors in main living areas; 5 bedrooms, which includes a split guest suite with separate entrance; 4-1/2 baths, office, library, media/rec room, and exercise room. Gourmet kitchen on the only double Cul De Sac street in Arcadia! Offered at $1,995,000.



8 Car AC Garage with Motor Court
This 6B split /7BA house has an open floor plan and amazing curb appeal. A warm family home with an appealing open floor plan that's great for entertaining. Gourmet kitchen, oversized master suite with fplc, huge custom closets, elegant office & large laundry. Separate GH w/fully equipped kitchen/living room. Billiards room, bonus room. Resort-style backyard pool, spa, built-in BBQ. Circular drive w/fountain leads to gated motor court w/8 car AC garage. 180° views of Camelback & entire Mummy Mtn. Range. Offered at $3,200,000.



Amazing Views of Camelback
Magnificent views from this spacious hilltop 2745 sq ft 3 bedroom, 3.5 baths home in guard-gated Biltmore Greens. Once you step outside...be prepared to have your breath taken away. Large terraced patios overlook the prefect 280 degree views of Camelback Mountain, Praying Monk, the Mountain preserve and the twinkling lights of the city offered at $835,000.



Quintessential Arcadia Santa Barbara
3358 sq ft home sits upon a park-like lush green half-acre lot. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, Large Master Suite w/sitting area. Charming interior, beamed ceilings, French doors, & numerous fireplaces. Spacious detached office or guest house. Resort style backyard has oversized diving pool, patio, outdoor kitchen, 3 Car garage $1,350,000.



Nestled into Camelback Mountain
This exquisite home has 270 degree views of downtown Phoenix is just under 4000 sq ft 3 BR, 2.5 BA. Gourmet kitchen opens to the great room. The terraced front yard which overlooks the whole city has a resort like pool, ramada & numerous patios. One of the very best view properties at this price $1,350,000.





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Answer 'your biggest weakness' question with strength

CAREER TIPS

By Angela Copeland



One of the favorite interview questions of hiring managers continues to be, "What is your biggest weakness?" This is a tough question all the way around. If you are too honest, you may eliminate yourself from consideration and not get the job at all. But, if you're not honest enough, you may come across as evasive.

So, what can you do when you're asked this question during a job interview?

The very first thing to do is prepare. There's a good chance you will be asked this question, so think about it in advance. Write down how you might answer the question, and practice your answer. Share your thoughts with a friend (or two), and get feedback. Find out what you could do better, and put time into perfecting your response.

Don't give an answer that is truly critical to the job. For example, if you are interviewing to be a project manager, don't confess that you struggle with organization and are often late on deadlines. These qualities are key to succeeding as a project manager and would immediately eliminate you from consideration.

On the other extreme, don't give an answer that is not genuine. Many job seekers tend to give answers along the lines of, "I just work so hard. I can't stop myself." Or, "I'm such an overachiever and I have high expectations of those around me." These answers come across as not being authentic, and no hiring manager will want to hear them.



Instead, I like to think of this question as an opportunity to address the elephant in the room (assuming there is one). For example, I was once asked to consider a part time coaching role with a large organization. During the job interview, the hiring manager asked me, "What is your biggest weakness?"

This was my response. "As you know, I don't come from a human resources background, like many coaches do. That may be considered a weakness in comparison. However, I have extensive corporate experience in many industries and many job functions – from engineering to marketing. I have interviewed for many different roles myself, and I'm able to bring my own authentic experience to the table to help job seekers do their best."

In this case, my hiring manager already knew that I had not worked in human resources. It was clear from my resume. She was probably trying to decide whether or not this difference in my background was a problem. Because I brought the issue up directly, I was able to put it to rest quickly. It also gave me a chance to explain why my own unique experience would be an asset to the organization, and might even give me a leg up on my competition. My answer worked well and created space to talk openly about my background.

There's no one right way to answer this question. In order to give your best answer, prepare in advance. It will allow you to turn your potential weakness into a perceived strength.

— Angela Copeland is a Career Coach and Founder of Copeland Coaching and can be reached at CopelandCoaching.com or on Twitter at @CopelandCoach.



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It's always the season for giving

By Robin Sewell

The other night, I attended the 58th annual Greater Phoenix Heart Ball, an elegant affair supporting an outstanding cause, the American Heart Association.



For many of the over 800 fabulously dressed guests, this event kicks off the holiday season and is an opportunity to catch up or reconnect with folks that our busy life prevents us from seeing on a regular basis. Certainly, it's not the venue to have a long, in depth, quiet, *tête-à-tête*, but in between courses of scrumptious chocolate layered cake and when your feet needed a break after dancing to "Can't Stop the Feeling," there was plenty of time for interaction, fun exchanges and lively banter.

The atmosphere was electric and it was all about kicking up your heels, or for that matter taking them off, so you could really have some fun. However, underneath the bright, shiny, glamorous décor, was the understanding that your contribution, big or small, could lead to a healthier life.

On the drive home, I couldn't help thinking about those who look at this time of year through a very different lens. The holidays can be extremely lonely and especially difficult for many people for many reasons. I lost both my parents between Thanksgiving and Christmas a few years apart, and I know there are countless others who have experienced the same. Quite frankly, even if you lost someone you love at another time of the year, the holidays can still be bittersweet, as they are both good and bad reminders of that loss.



The annual Greater Phoenix Heart Ball was held on Saturday, November 18.

There are other circumstances that can cast a dark cloud over the season. Everything from health, job and financial struggles to just having an overwhelming case of the blues can affect. We may cavalierly dismiss someone's dislike of the holidays as just having a bah humbug attitude when in fact, like Mr. Scrooge, that person may just be in need of a little unconditional kindness.

I realize that I am preaching to the choir when I discuss giving back, given my experience with how generous this community truly is. But I feel the need to continuously remind myself, for as fortunate as so many of us are, there are others whose circumstances don't inspire confidence to feel the same way. My mom always taught me that no matter how difficult you think you have it, there is always someone out there struggling more than you. As a single mom working sometimes three jobs to support us, my mom still always bought a toy for a tot, put money in the Salvation Army's red pot or gave food or dollars to a homeless person sitting on the corner. She was not in a position to write a big check or go to a gala, but she did what she could and gave a little of what she had and I'm certain that act of kindness went a long way.

As a way of continuing that tradition, each year at this time, we work with UMOM and their "adopt a family" program. I cannot describe how incredibly lucky and grateful we feel as we painstakingly go down every aisle in the store looking for those special presents for each person, as well as an experiential gift that the entire family can enjoy. Although shopping for a family that's fallen on hard times feels like a totally different experience than a night out for a worthy cause in a ball gown, the gesture, sentiment, and conviction is the same.

The Heart Ball is all about taking care of your heart and for that matter, any act of kindness you do, no matter how big or how small, during the holiday season or any time of year, means you are also taking care of someone else's heart.

— Robin Sewell is the host and executive producer of the Emmy Award winning Arizona Highways Television.



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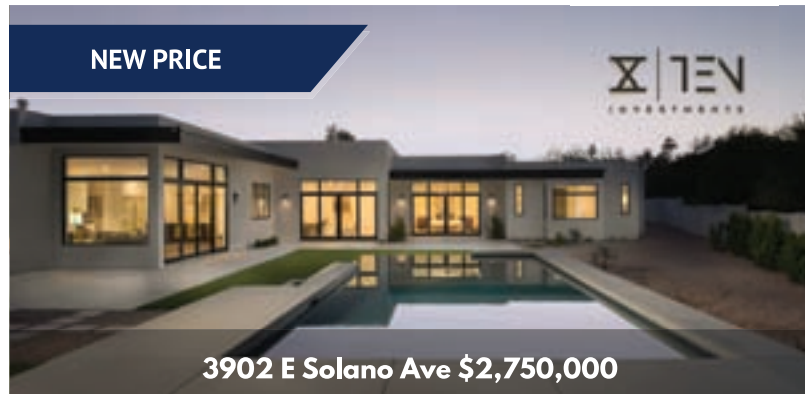
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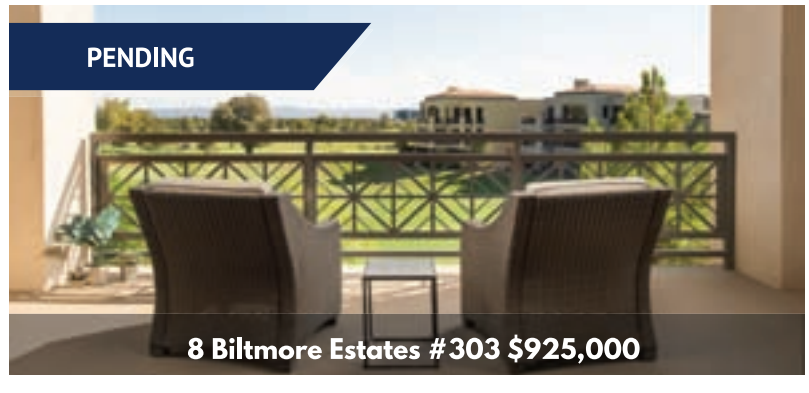


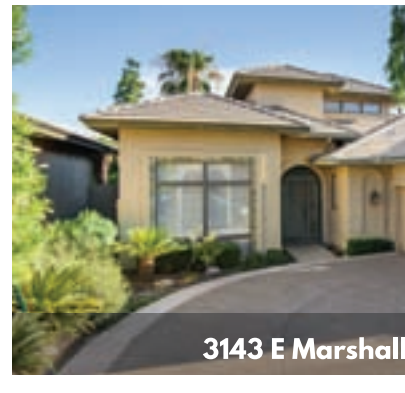
























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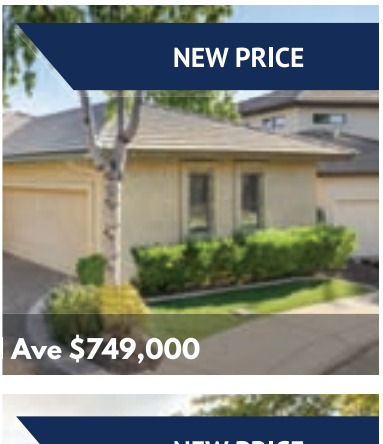




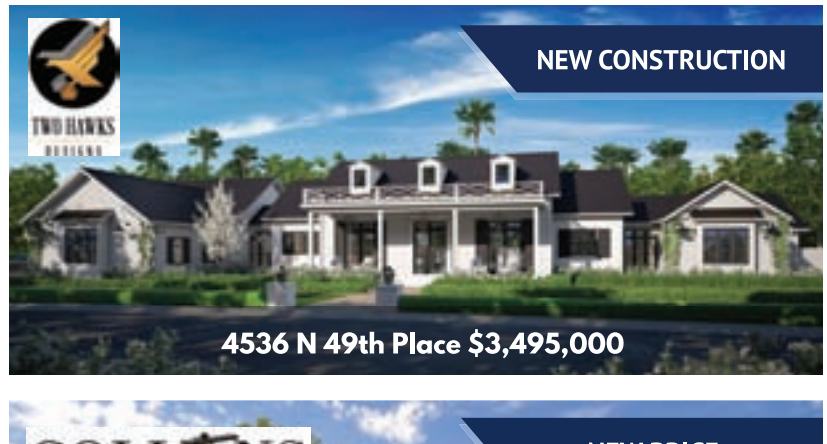
























to THE TEAM

en You Can Hire A TEAM



LARA BECCA SHAWNA ROBIN

Local stores that bring the groceries to you

By Laura Stoddard



Skip the congested parking lot, crowded aisles, and long check-out lines at your local supermarket and instead, power up your computer, click a few buttons, and wait for a knock at your door.

This is grocery shopping in the 21st century.

The food delivery trend has been around for a decade or so, with companies including Blue Apron and Hello Fresh providing recipes and accompanying ingredients for a limited selection of weekly meals. The convenience is a major plus, but the cost for that convenience might be a little too steep for some.

Fortunately, grocery stores have taken that food delivery idea, modified it, and made it possible for shoppers to order exactly what they want, when they want it.

The next time you're in need of the essentials (or the extravagant), consider giving this new trend a try. Here are a few worth considering:

WHOLE FOODS MARKET

4701 N. 20th St., Wholefoodsmarket.com

Details: Create an account and start using Whole Foods new delivery option which can be delivered in as little as one hour. Your first order over $10 is free to ship, one-hour delivery is $5.99 and two-hour delivery is $3.99. Delivery prices here are a little cheaper, but it balances out, as Whole Foods' gourmet fare can be on the pricey side.

SAFEWAY

4750 E. Indian School Road, Safeway.com

Details: The service is called Safeway Online Program and requires a new account set up. Delivery windows are available every day of the week and you can choose a delivery window of one, two, or four-hour increments. The website automatically keeps your shopping history to make future orders easier, and highlights club card daily specials. Shipping on your first order is free, and after that, the delivery prices vary, based on how quickly you want your order. And if you aren't satisfied with a product you receive, you'll receive a full credit or refund.

COSTCO

4502 E. Oak, Costco.com

Details: CostoGrocery is available to current Costco members and delivers same day, next day, or on a date of your choosing. This service is only offered in select areas, but fortunately, Arcadia is one of them. After signing into your Costco account, a list of approximately 2,000 eligible/available items will appear. There is a delivery fee for any orders less than $35.

FRY'S FOOD STORES

4505 E. Thomas Road, Frysfood.com

Details: Fry's program is a bit different than the others on the list. With its program, ClickList, you can order the groceries you'd like and then go to the store, park in a designated parking space and have them bring out your items and load your vehicle. You need to set up an account, but unlike some home delivery services, you don't pay until you receive your food. There is no fee for this service and they don't allow tipping of the employees who bring out your groceries. Great option if you're headed home from work.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

THE PORCH

Opening its doors this fall, The Porch is located near the southeast corner of Indian School Road and 40th St., where the old Little Shanghai Chinese restaurant used to be. The gastropub will be offering food, drinks and games, all of which can be enjoyed on the large porch overlooking the road.

GADZOOKS

Aaron Pool's enchilada and soup eatery has found success at its initial location in Phoenix near 7th Street and Osborn. The new location just east of 40th Street and Camelback Road is now open.

Camelback Road is one of the busiest here in Arcadia and one of the reasons is because of its many shopping centers. From grocery stores to small boutiques, the strip from Scottsdale Road to 24th Street is bustling with places for you to fulfill all of your shopping needs, and it continues to grow and flourish.

In the past year, many new shops have popped up, so we've made a list so you won't miss any of your shopping needs this holiday season!

BILTMORE FASHION PARK

24th St. and Camelback Road

- Framed Ewe
- Short Leash Hot Dogs
- The Royal Coffee Bar and Roasting Company
- The Crepe Club
- Sephora
- Sleep System Store
- Saks Optical Boutique
- Evereve
- Simon Med Imaging

For more: shopbiltmore.com

BILTMORE PLAZA

32nd St. and Camelback Road

- Bobby-Q's
- Twisted Grove

For more: azbiltmore.com

SCOTTSDALE FASHION SQUARE

Scottsdale Road

- Desert Stages Theatre
- Starbucks
- Jamba Juice
- Xtreme Virtual Center
- Macaron Café
- Escada
- Pom Pom

Did we miss anything?

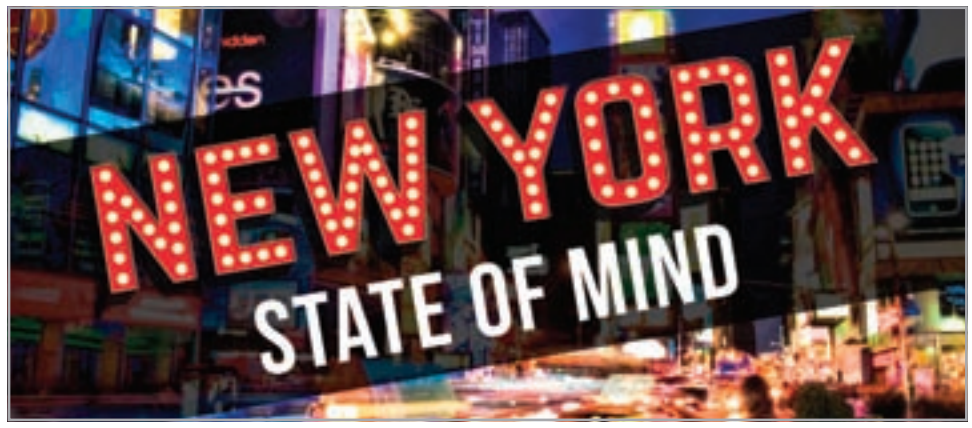
Let us know: editor@arcadianews.com.

— By Arcadia News Staff and Mallory Gleich

Hanukkah events around the area

By Rachael Bouley

This year's Hanukkah begins on Tuesday, December 12, check out special events and family-friendly activities throughout the Arcadia area.



12/2

New York State of Mind

*6:30 p.m., **Valley of the Sun JCC**, 12701 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale*

Get in your New York state of mind without stepping foot on a plane at this lively fundraiser. Go for a stroll, take in the bright lights of NYC, and grab a bite to eat at the hot dog stand or local deli. Street performers will set the scene for an evening of entertainment, capped off with a Broadway-style show. This event honors Jennifer & Steven Schwarz and Kristina Brown, and tickets are $150 per person. Proceeds will benefit the scholarships and programs of The J. For more: vosjcc.org/newyork.

12/9

Kid's Night Out: Chanukah Holiday Hurrah!

*6-10 p.m. **Valley of the Sun JCC**, 12701 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale*

Drop your kids off at The J for a great evening with friends and festivities. They will enjoy a delicious dinner, themed activities and a screening of *Happy Feet*. Kids are encouraged to wear their comfiest PJs to snuggle up with hot cocoa by the fire pits, play festive games, and create snow globes to bring home. This is a great chance for parents to enjoy a kid-free evening just in time for the holidays. Open to children grades pre-K-5. $10 for members and $20 for guests- dinner and snacks provided. For more: https://goo.gl/YxWCyn.

12/10

Holiday Boutique & Fair

*11 a.m. - 3 p.m. **Valley of the Sun JCC**, 12701 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale*

Shopping is fun for the entire family at this boutique fair, where Judaica, hand-crafted gifts, jewelry, clothing, bath and spa products and much more will be available for purchase. There will also be kids' cookie decorating and edible dreidels for Hanukkah! For more info: vosjcc.org/event/holiday-boutique-fair-j.

12/25

Character Breakfast

*9-11 a.m. **Valley of the Sun JCC**, 12701 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale*

The whole family can enjoy this exciting morning at The J, where plenty of favorite children's' characters will be on hand to join in the fun. Guests will enjoy latkes, a DJ, dancing, games and take-home arts and crafts! Members: $25 per family; Guests: $40 per family up to 4 people; additional $5 per person. Children under 12 months are free. For more, contact 480-634-4949 or youth@vosjcc.org.

12/10

Jewish Federation Donor Appreciation Brunch

*10 a.m. **Pardes Jewish Day School**, 12753 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale*

Jewish Federation donors are invited to enjoy a light awards brunch as a thank-you for their community support. William Daroff, director of the Jewish Federations of North America, will serve as the keynote speaker. Federation donors must register by Dec. 8 at jewishphoenix.org/thankyoubrunch.

12/13

Business & Professionals Groups Chanukah Party – Dreidels & Drinks

*5:30 p.m. **Goodmans Interior Structures**, 1400 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix*

All professionals are invited to celebrate Hanukkah with the Jewish Federation's Business & Professionals Groups. $18 professionals, $10 students. This includes a fun evening of appetizers, cocktails and participation in a dreidel tournament. Register by Dec. 12 at jewishphoenix.org/dnd.

12/24

Mazelpalooza

*9 p.m. - 2 a.m. **Maya Day + Nightclub**, 7333 E. Indian Plaza, Scottsdale*

Mazelpalooza brings together hundreds of Jewish young adults in one place for an unforgettable evening. Price: $36 + drink ticket until Dec. 22; $45 Dec. 23-24. Hosted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix NowGen program as an effort to foster a deeper connection to Jewish life in the Valley. For more, contact Kelly Harris at 480-481-7010 or kharris@jewishphoenix.org.



Arcadia News 25th Anniversary Feature

Twin eagle scouts make second appearance in *Arcadia News*

By Nick Smith

Jordan and Jacob Lara made their first appearance in the *Arcadia News* in December of 2002. The twins were just weeks old when they graced the cover with their parents Ruben and Jacque, and their two-year-old brother Jared.

Fifteen years later, Jordan and Jacob are back in the news after accomplishing an impressive feat.

In a September ceremony, they were awarded the rank of Eagle, the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouting Program of the Boy Scouts of America.

"It was an incredible feeling," Ruben said. "It really was the ultimate feeling of parenting, saying how incredibly proud we were of them. Not just because of what you did, but because you did it yourself."





PHOTO BY ROSE LAUSTEN-MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

The Lara twins received their Eagles in September, alongside Jack Landon (right) and Jacob Denious (not pictured).

The boys started in Cub Scouts when they were young, and continued through elementary school. But making the choice to go for the rank of Eagle isn't a decision to be taken lightly, as the requirements take years of time and energy to fulfill. Requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges, and the twins were starting to fill up their after-school time with extracurricular activities. Jacob was playing multiple sports, while Jordan was following older brother Jared into theater productions. Finding the time to continue pursuing the rank of Eagle was going to be a time crunch.

"It was a hard thing to decide whether or not to do it," Jacob said. "I knew it would take time out of some after school activities, and I was already busy with school and sports. But it has always been a goal for Jordan and I to have a chance to accomplish this."

Although achieving the rank of Eagle requires a time commitment and hard work, both boys feel that they are better off having done it. Scouts learn a variety of skills that are applicable to many different scenarios in the real world.

"I mean, you name it," Ruben said when asked about the benefits of being a part of Scouts. "It teaches socialization skills, helps kids develop a sense of time management, learning about responsibility and being in charge. They learn about business management, checkbook balancing, home economics, public speaking. All skills that are so helpful for kids to learn at such a young age."

The boys also had to undertake and design a final project that would be both meaningful and beneficial to the recipients. Jacob designed a xeriscape from a 1,500-square foot grass area in front of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, in order to give the church community a place to gather. Jordan created a French drainage system, and designing it so that the water would flow away from the wall near the congregation area of the church.

"Most of the stuff for the projects were really hard to get," Jordan said. "We were really happy that people donated their time to help us."

The years of hard work finally paid off at the Fall Court of Honor, where the boys received their Eagles alongside Jack Landon of Arcadia High School and Jacob Denious of New Way Academy.

"It really struck me how different the roads were for my two boys to them getting here," said Jacque, who spent years volunteering with Scouts in a variety of positions. "These two completely different kids, with different interests, who took different paths to get here. Seeing them pursue their individual interests and still get to achieve their goals together was really wonderful."



The ***Arcadia News*** has been audited by the Circulation Verification Council and **the numbers are in...**

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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

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For a copy of this report call the *Arcadia News* at 602-840-6379 or e-mail: greg@arcadianews.com. For information about the market we reach: arcadianews.com/advertise or roni@arcadianews.com.

*Source: September 2017 CVC Publication Report Audit.

ARCADIA NEWS
AWARD WINNING NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS SINCE 1993

Hopi third grader embraces the spirit of giving

By Nick Smith

Gianna Zizzo had a very long Christmas list last December. Her requests for Santa Claus included a wide variety of toys and she was counting down the days until the presents would arrive. Her mother Lillian thought this might be a good moment to help teach Gianna about the giving part of the holiday season.

"We spent some time talking about how she has so much," Lillian said. "I asked her, 'Wouldn't it be a nice thing if we could get some presents for kids who don't have as much?'"

PHOENIX CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL TOY DRIVE

12/9 - 12/24

Lillian had interacted with Phoenix Children's Hospital in the past and remembered that it organizes a toy drive each December. She helped explain to Gianna how much toys would mean to children who are spending the holidays in a hospital and the two of them decided to make it their special Christmas project.

"We went out and got some toys, and she was very excited when we bought them," Lillian said. "When we went in to drop them off, Gianna even wanted to fill out her own paper. It was very nice and I thought that was the end of it."



A few months later, a letter from the Phoenix Children's Hospital arrived at the Zizzo home. It was addressed personally to Gianna, and thanked her for her contribution during the Toy Drive.

"She was just amazed that they had written *her* a letter saying thank you," Lillian said.

That letter immediately sparked something in Gianna. Her first reaction was to buy more presents, which Lillian explained might be a bit premature, with the holidays still 10 months away. So the 8-year-old Hopi third grader decided to find other ways to give back while she waited for Christmastime.

Lemons are, of course, plentiful in the neighborhood during the spring, so Gianna and her mom built a lemonade stand and began to sell fresh lemonade periodically throughout the spring, along with her friend Morgan, a second grader at Hopi. Gianna was able to raise $179 and used the money to purchase toys based on the list from the Phoenix Children's Hospital website. She also donated her hair to Wigs for Kids and helped to prepare Thanksgiving meals for the Salvation Army and local homeless respite shelters.

"We've really tried to instill caring in her, but this is the first thing she's really made her own," said Lillian. "I'm just happy she's excited about giving back to others."

The 2017 Phoenix Children's Hospital Toy Drive is taking place from December 9 through December 24. Unwrapped new toys and gift cards are welcomed and every child admitted to the hospital over the holiday will receive a toy. For more: phoenixchildrens.org.

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OREGANO'S PIZZA BISTRO

Dazzling Desserts: Six places to pre-order your holiday sweets

By Michelle Donati-Grayman

If you've ever accepted an invitation to a holiday meal and ask what you can bring, "some kind of dessert" is probably the response you've received.

Rather than making a last-minute run to the grocery store this year, consider planning ahead and pre-ordering one of these locally made desserts promising to be the talk of the dessert table.





(left) Chef Beckett's award-winning fig and pecan pie is best served alongside the chef's house-made citrus zest cream cheese ice cream. (right) Located at The Shops at The Phoenician, The Marketplace features more than 20 single-serve confections.

Earl Grey and Caramel Apple Ice Cream Pie

Creamistry (4325 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix) recently added two ice cream pies to its seasonal menu. The Earl Grey pie is made with Earl Grey tea ice cream, garnished with whipped cream and chocolate curls, then dusted with dark cocoa powder. The caramel apple pie is made with apple ice cream and cinnamon apple compote under a flaky pie crust. It is topped with caramel and crunchy streusel. The single-serving creations are $7.45 each.

Green Chili Apple Pie

Pie Snob (3630 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix) offers more than a dozen made-from-scratch pies. Its menu ranges from traditional pumpkin to a green chili apple pie, which combines granny smith apples with hatch green chilies topped with cinnamon crumble made with jalapeño honey butter. Apple crumb and chocolate cream are the bakery's best-selling pies. Prices range from $24-$40 per pie.

Lime Prickly Pear Cactus Brulee

The Marketplace, located at The Shops at The Phoenician (6000 E. Camelback Road, Scottsdale) features more than 20 single-serve confections. This includes eight varieties of éclairs, six different macarons, and several other delectable options, including a white chocolate mint blackberry bar and a lime prickly pear cactus brulee. Desserts are $3-$4 each.

Fig and Pecan Pie

Chef Justin Beckett's award-winning fig and pecan pie is available at Beckett's Table (3717 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix) and Southern Rail (300 W. Camelback Road, Phoenix) for $28. For an added flavor bonus, serve the pie alongside a pint of Beckett's house-made citrus zest cream cheese ice cream for $8.

Macarons

Essence Bakery (3830 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix) Eugenia Theodosopoulos and her famous macarons are popular all year, but the holidays are great for grabbing a variety of her creations. Small treats are available in a package of 8 for $8.95 and a box of 24 is $26.95. Since nearly everything at Essence is made fresh daily, a 24-hour advance notice might be a good idea.

Gluten-Free Desserts Galore

Jewel's Bakery and Café (4041 E. Thomas Road, Phoenix) offers a number of gluten-free holiday baked goods that promise to taste better than their gluten-laden counterparts. This includes pumpkin pie, chocolate pumpkin bundt cake and ginger spice cheesecake. Many items can be made vegan. Gluten-free corn bread mix, frozen pie shells, flax dinner rolls and stuffing cubes are also available. Pies are $25, bundt cakes are $35 and cheesecakes are $50.



PLACES *WE LIKE*

ORIGINAL CHOPSHOP

7158 E 5th Ave, Scottsdale
originalchopshop.com



Beach Burn



Moroccan Turkey


Teriyaki Chicken Protein Bowl

By Nick Smith

Living on the go is something we come to learn quickly as adults. Flying to and from events in our daily lives can sometimes leave us with little time to focus on our well-being, as eating healthy can seem too time consuming to fit into the schedule. A place nearby that provides healthy food for fast moving locals would be a welcomed answer for many, and the Original ChopShop fits this bill.

The Original ChopShop has multiple locations, but the most well-known is in Scottsdale, in the heart of Old Town. There are places to sit down and eat, including two small indoor areas and a porch that looks out over the different area shops.

But ChopShop also puts a strong focus on those who are looking to eat elsewhere. Walk in during the lunchtime rush and you are certain to be greeted with a line of customers who are ducking in during a lunchbreak or who are just on their way to their daily workout.

Drinks are actually some of the most popular selections, which are convenient refreshers for those trying to rush from one daily event to another. You can stand near the counter and watch your juice being freshly squeezed, with options like Cold Buster, which is a jolt to the system of carrot, orange, ginger, turmeric and lemon.

Those looking for a more filling option should look to the protein shakes, like the Beach Burn, which combines strawberry, pineapple, vanilla whey protein powder, sugar-free strawberry syrup and coconut water. One that *could* pass for an actual meal is the Jacked Up PB+J, which places a scoop of peanut butter with strawberry, bananas, protein powder, agave nectar and milk.

Two of the best entries from the menu come from the sandwich list. One is the Tuna Salad. Heaped between two slides of 12 Grain Ciabatta, the flavorful fish sits with some familiar characters, like onion, celery and cucumber. But the inclusion of olive tapenade and roasted red pepper are what make this truly unique.

The second is the Grilled Steak Sandwich, which is as filling and rich a sandwich as you'll likely be able to find. The grilled sirloin is tender, the caramelized onion and mushrooms give a kind of sweet flavor, and the bed of arugula is a welcomed crunchy texture. The horseradish crème might be the tastiest ingredient of all, with a sharp taste that makes you sit up straight.

Hungry visitors who aren't looking for bread can still get a filling meal with the Kale + Quinoa salad. It's a large dish that may take more than one sitting to finish, with snap peas, tomatoes, raisins and corn adding flavor. Almonds give the salad a kind of smoky taste, with lemon-dijon dressing providing a tangy aftertaste.

Other options include Protein Bowls, Parfaits and coffee selections, including a delicious cold brew. It might be the perfect pick-me-up to get you energized before rushing off to the next appointment in an always busy day.







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Arcadia News 25th Anniversary Feature

Flying with the Cave Baby

***Publisher's note**: As part of our anniversary celebration throughout 2017, we will re-print some of our favorites from the past 25 years. These specials are identified with our "25th Anniversary Feature" banner at the top of the page. This "SUWAT" was originally published in December 2005.*

By Greg A. Bruns

If you'll be flying the friendly skies this holiday season, I'll give you a little travel tip: do not be on Southwest flight 338 from Phoenix to St. Louis on Christmas Eve. My wife and I will be on that flight, and we're bringing our colicky baby, Hambone†, with us. If you *are* on flight 338, you might as well just come up and punch me right in the mouth in the pre-boarding area, as a pre-emptive strike to make yourself feel better later. See, if Hambone goes on one of his hellacious screaming jags where he sounds and acts like the Tasmanian Devil cartoon character, you will find yourself wishing I was dead and you were pedaling a squeaky ten-speed all the way to St. Louis.

Sometimes when Hambone gets *really* engrossed into one of his fits, I'm reminded that we really are just animals. Without his parents, his toys, his books, his loving family and his eventual state-sponsored education, Hambone is just a cave baby, waiting to grow up into a cave man.

Which is exactly what Hambone was acting like when we did our "holiday travel test run" to St. Louis back in October: *a cave baby*. In the little guy's defense, I was as tense as suspension bridge cabling, holding him right against my boiling belly, which was brewing into a future gastrointestinal condition. All of this was no doubt telegraphing to Hambone.

But we weren't even on the plane yet – we were just standing in the "holding pen" at the gate, waiting for the boarding call, when Hambone started his very short, and very speedy trip to berzerkerville.

> ***"He seems as loud as a top fuel dragster, and it's downright baffling to hear that amount of noise coming out of something – someone – so small."***

If you've never seen or heard a two-month-old (who weighs less than a sack of yams) in the grips of a colic fit, let me tell you that it is one of the worst things I've ever heard in my life. He seems as loud as a top fuel dragster (although according to medical reports I've read, he's just a little louder than a jackhammer), and it's downright baffling to hear that amount of noise coming out of something – some*one* – so small. His face shapeshifts into a horror

STRAIGHT UP with a TWIST

show of primal rage while his lips turn dead-body blue and the blood vessels blotch his skin into muted shades of maroon, red and purple. The worst part of it all is knowing that something is hurting him, and there's nothing you can do about it.

I jammed the pacifier into his mouth to muffle the screaming, and rocked him as briskly as I could. This was our absolute worst fear coming to life. Hambone was screaming, crying, tensing his muscles, arching his back and locking all of his joints, and generally notifying everyone within scream-shot of gate A16, that he was *extremely pissed off*.

It felt like all 140 passengers ready to board this full flight were staring right at me. One older guy gave me, my wife, and our howling child a narrowed look as he broadcast: "Sure hope I'm not sitting near *you*."

My wife was fumbling with the diaper bag and our airport-bought dinner of two sandwiches and a flimsy paper tray overflowing with cold french fries. She patted the diaper bag and — yelling over Hambone's screams — exclaimed to everyone, "We brought drugs! We have something for this!"

The gate agent graciously took us first, whisking us down the ramp while Hambone carried on hysterically, like he was on fire. We reached the end of the jetway, where we had to fold down and check the stroller and then do the *two people traveling with infant tango*: strapping straps, zipping zippers, shuffling sandwiches and other time-consuming behavior that clogs the jetway and elicits open-mouthed sighs from fellow travelers.

Then the crowd started to catch up to our chaotic, screaming jetway traffic jam. I thought we were almost ready to go, but then I saw my wife trying to balance the french fries on top of a magazine she had snatched out of the carry-on bag. I was sweating profusely and my chest was getting tight. It felt like my clothes were trying to suffocate me. It was all too much.

I pointed to a nearby garbage can and shouted over our child's screams, "Throw the f@&%$#' fries in the trash!"

And there went my last vestige of personal control. Seven words I couldn't take back. I had just cussed at my wife in front of a bunch of strangers, while our child was melting down in my arms. My stomach flip-flopped and I wished I was somewhere—*anywhere*—else in the world.

The missus (it is perfectly appropriate here to call her my *better* half) gave me half of an eye-roll and said, "Oh, they'll be fine." And then she scampered on the plane, french fries and all.

Once we got to our row (the last one in the plane – we had asked for it), the missus started feeding our shrieking child and in one minute, he completely calmed down, as if nothing had happened at all. So that was it? Hunger pangs? I couldn't believe it.

The missus settled in, and happily nibbled on a few fries while I put everything away in the overhead bins, and then slumped in my seat, mentally and physically wasted and needing a shower. I sheepishly ate a couple of those cold and greasy fries myself, to settle the volcano in my belly.

We traveled all the way to St. Louis with our very quiet, and very calm little baby. It was like he went into hibernation. While this was certainly great news once we landed, the acute anxiety of not knowing when "Taz" might show up during that three-hour flight, coupled with our "Gate A16 Adventure," made me good friends with Immodium A-D for a couple days.

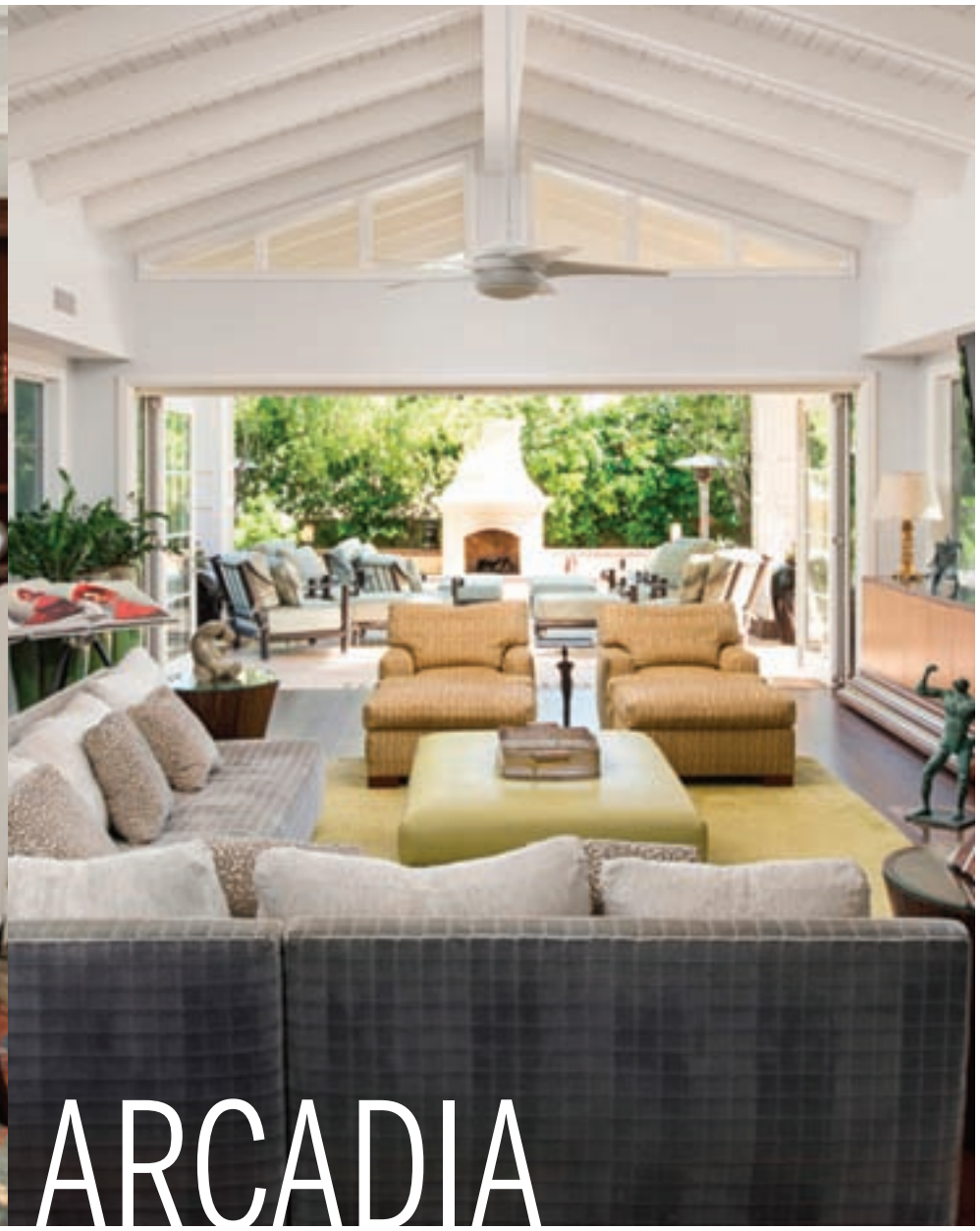
It is because of this that I feel compelled to warn you about Southwest flight 338 on December 24: there may be a cave baby on board. He will be with his cave man father, who may have a fat lip.

† To prevent preschool ostracizing, this is the name our firstborn son has been given for this column.

— Greg can be reached here: greg@arcadianews.com.







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DID YOU KNOW?

HOW MANY?

601,736 lights

PROPERTY



The Gay family of LaGrangeville, NY, light display spans two acres and takes roughly two months to build, is set to more than 200 songs, including top-40 hits and holiday favorites.

518,838 lights

TREE

Guinness World Records confirmed that Australian David Richards broke the record for the most lights on an artificial tree with his latest holiday lights project. The tree has 518,838 individual lights and is topped with an almost 5-foot-tall star.



HOW MUCH?

6.63 Billion kWh

Bright lights strung on American trees, rooftops and lawns account for 6.63 billion kilowatt hours of electricity consumption every year.

That's more than the national electricity consumption of El Salvador, Ethiopia and Tanzania and enough power to run 14 million refrigerators.



HOW OLD?

135 years

Edward H. Johnson put the very first string of electric Christmas tree lights together in 1882. Johnson, Edison's friend and partner in the Edison's Illumination Company, hand-wired 80 red, white and blue light bulbs and wound them around his Christmas tree.





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DID YOU KNOW?

FUN FACTS: HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Thomas Edison was responsible for the first Christmas light display.

Grover Cleveland was the first president to have a Christmas tree decked out in electric bulbs.



By 1900, it could cost as much as $300 (around $2000 today) to pay for the lights, a generator, and a wireman's services to illuminate a Christmas tree with electric lights.

Lights weren't safe for outdoor use until the 1920s.

Christmas lights are recycled in China.

Blinking lights rely on a simple thermostat.

Christmas lights are also known as fairy, twinkle, holiday, mini or Italy lights.

The tradition of Christmas lights started in North America.

SAY WHAT?

A 15-YEAR-OLD STARTED THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT CRAZE – Inspired by a tragic fire that was started by candles decorating a Christmas tree, then-teenager Albert Sadacca suggested adapting the novelty lighting his parents sold for Christmas trees. While only a hundred strings sold in the first year, once Sadacca thought to paint the bulbs red, green, and other colors, the business took off. Sadacca started the National Outfit Manufacturers Association, a trade group of several small companies that consolidated into the NOMA Electric Company in 1926. NOMA became the largest Christmas light company in the world until the mid-1960s.

HOLIDAY SEARCH



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Five places to ring in 2018

By Mallory Gleich

The end of the year signifies many things. We are ready for a new beginning, planning our resolutions and excited about what's to come. But, before all of that happens, there's one thing on people's minds: where's the party at?

Below are six spots that will help you ring in the New Year like a champ!

2018 FLANNEL BALL

9 p.m. – 2 a.m.

Roosevelt Growhouse

1025 N. 2nd St., Phoenix

This year, you can dress down for New Year's Eve. Grab your flannel and head to the Roosevelt Row Arts District for beers, live music, an art show, food trucks, lawn games, a champagne toast and midnight countdown- all the things you need for an amazing New Year's Eve! Tickets are $15.

For more: flannelball.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE – MIDWEST STYLE

7 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Hilton Garden Inn

3422 E. Elwood St., Phoenix

Make sure you bring your dancing shoes to this NYE celebration. This Midwest-style party is for classic R&B and soul music lovers; listen to Motown jams and dance the night away. This event also includes a dinner, live entertainment, comedy, and all of your favorite classic jams. Tickets start at $60.

For more: 480-388-6946

RAVEN'S NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

8 p.m. – 2 a.m.

Talking Stick Resort

9800 E. Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale

You'll feel like a celeb at this New Year's Eve party. The gala starts at 8 p.m. with DJ Kilo and then local band Smashed will play until the ball drops. Guests will receive party favors and there will be a champagne toast and balloon drop at midnight. There are also packages available for groups. Tickets start at $50.

For more: talkingstickresort.com

SLEEP OVER AT AZ AIR TIME

8 p.m. – 8 a.m.

AZ Air Time

3802 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale

Give the kids something to do for New Year's Eve. AZ Air Time Trampoline Park is hosting a sleepover where kids can participate in races, dodgeball, slam dunk contests, movies and dinner for the evening.



2018 Flannel Ball

Kids can be dropped off at 8 p.m. and picked up at 8 a.m. Tickets are $89 per child.

For more: azairtime.com

NOON YEAR'S EVE

9 a.m. – noon

Phoenix Zoo

455 N. Galvin Pkwy., Phoenix

The Phoenix Zoo will have 30 tons of snow, a Jurassic bounce house, snowball games, live music, dancing and dinosaur activities for the family to enjoy. There will also be a cider toast and balloon drop at noon so kids won't miss out on the festivities. Tickets are $25 for adults and $15 for kids.

For more: phoenixzoo.org

HAPPY NOON YEAR CELEBRATION

9 a.m. – noon

Children's Museum of Phoenix

215 N. 7th St., Phoenix

Bring the whole family to this noon year celebration. Kids can enjoy the museum, play games and activities and when the clock strikes noon, there will be a toast and a balloon drop in the atrium to ring in the New Year. Admission is $15 per person.

For more: childrensmuseumofphoenix.org

New Year's night in: Fun ways to celebrate at home

By Elaina Verhoff

Let's face it. Once you hit a certain age or stage in life, New Year's Eve takes on a whole new meaning. Why bother getting dressed up and braving the late night roads when you can kick off your shoes and enjoy a New Year's night in?

Here are a few fun ways to ring in 2018 from the comfort of your own home.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Who says you have to head to the local bar for trivia night? With a little planning, you can host your own! This should be particularly enjoyable if you are full of useless information and random facts like "Who was the 39th president of the United States?" (Jimmy Carter) or "Mork & Mindy was a spinoff of what popular 1970s TV show?" (Happy Days). Apps like Trivia Crack make it easy.

START A DINNER TRADITION

Traditions are memory-makers, and New Year's Eve dinner is a great opportunity for a new tradition. Whether it's clam chowder and Caesar salad, fondue, an enormous fruit, cheese and meat tray, or Tee Pee takeout, find a dinner theme that can stand the test of time and go with it.

LIVING ROOM CAMPING

Pile your coziest pillows and blankets in the living room and perhaps pitch a tent. Put a fire in the fireplace and roast marshmallows for s'mores. String up twinkle lights and *voila* – instant glamping. If you have kids, make it a family campout.

FAMILY COUNTDOWN

Invite your favorite families to join you for an early New Year's celebration. Depending on the ages of your kids, you could shift the countdown to 10 p.m. instead of midnight, or even make it a noontime New Year's party. Don't forget to hit the dollar store for silly glasses, party hats and horns. Let the kids toast the New Year with "kiddie Champagne" (apple cider) or milk and cookies.

DANCE PARTY

Put on your favorite Pandora station or playlist and dance the night away. Just make sure the kids don't have their live Instagram videos going, unless you're truly ready to show off your moves to every teen in town.

MOVIE MARATHON

If there was ever a time to binge watch your favorite movies or Netflix series, this is it. Get Chinese takeout, put on your bunny slippers and settle in for the night. And don't forget to stock up on big boxes of movie candy and popcorn!

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56 BILTMORE ESTATE | BILTMORE | PHOENIX
4 BEDS | 4.5 BATHS | 6,054 SF | $3,495,000
JACK LUCIANO & RAUL SIQUEIROS
602.690.2188



2 BILTMORE ESTATES #210 | PHOENIX
3 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS | 4,880 SF | $2,748,000
ROXANNE JOHNSON & JACK LUCIANO
602.826.1600



2211 E. CAMELBACK ROAD | PHOENIX
2 BEDS | 3 BATHS | 2,875 SF | $1,095,000
RAUL SIQUEIROS & JACK LUCIANO
480.560.1744



4640 N. 40TH STREET | PHOENIX
3 BED | 2 BATHS | 1,752 SF | $475,000
JACK LUCIANO & RAUL SIQUEIROS
602.690.2188



3131 N. CENTRAL AVENUE #7002 | PHOENIX
2 BED | 2 BATH | 1,112 SF | $459,900
BARBARA CONNELLY
480.707.7720



945 E. PLAYA DEL NORTE #5019 | TEMPE
2 BEDS | 2 BATHS | 1,287 SF | $312,900
JIM & MARILYN CAVANAUGH
602.859.5999



2 BILTMORE ESTATES, #209 | LUXURY LEASE
3 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS | 3,950 SF | $10,750/MONTH
JACK LUCIANO & RAUL SIQUEIROS
602.690.2188

Ultimate guide to resort holiday events

By Laura Cafiso

For many Phoenix natives and visitors, celebrating the holiday season means staying in town instead of traveling, and camping out at one of the many local resorts for a staycation. Visitors can enjoy the December events by experiencing the spectacular décor and participating in the cornucopia of events offered. Here are a few ideas to spark your spirit!

ARIZONA BILTMORE HOTEL

December 1-24: GINGERBREAD TEA
Wednesday-Sunday, Seating Times:
11 a.m. & 2 p.m. • Adults $75
Children 5-12 $35

December 1-25: LETTERS TO SANTA
Hotel Lobby • Free

Saturdays in December, December 9, 16 & 23: COOKIE DECORATING
1 - 2 p.m. • $20 per child

December 17: Breakfast with Santa
9 - 11 a.m. • Adults & Children $40
Children 5 & Under Free

———

arizonabiltmore.com

FAIRMONT SCOTTSDALE PRINCESS

December 1-31, nightly: Eighth Annual Christmas at the Princess, Lagoon Lights & Princess Express Trains
All Ages • Wristband purchase

December 1-14: Desert Ice Skating Rink
5-9 p.m. • All ages • $25 per person • $20 if you bring your own skates

December 15-31: Desert Ice Skating Rink
4-11 p.m. • Same as above

December 1-31: Nativity Garden
5-10 p.m. • All ages • Free

December 1-7: Pictures with Santa
4-9:30 p.m. • All ages • Pricing varies

December 10-14: Pictures with Santa
5-9:30 p.m.

December 8, 9 & 15, 16, & 22, 23, 24: Pictures with Santa
3:30-10 p.m.

December 1-7: S'mores Land
5-10 p.m. • All ages • Wristband needed

December 8-31: S'mores Land
4-11 p.m. • Same as above

December 1-7: Enchanted Plaza Show
Plays at 5,6,7,8,9 & 10 p.m. • All ages • Free

December 2: Paw-sitively Christmas, Dog Photos with Santa
3:30-5 p.m. • Cost TBA

December 3: Santa Cares Photos – Children with Special Needs
3:30-4:30 p.m. • Cost TBA
Reservations required



***Omni Montelucia** holiday lights and 20-foot Christmas tree.*

December 15-31: New Copper Canyon Christmas Village Light Show
5-10 p.m. • All ages • Free

December 23: Breakfast with Santa and Friends Pajama Party
9 a.m.-noon • $75 Adults • $50 Children ages 3-12 • Children two and under eat free with paid adult. Reservations required 480-585-2694.

———

fairmont.com/scottsdale

THE HERMOSA INN

Saturday, December 2: Holiday Cooking Class
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. • $69/person plus tax and service charge • Adults only
Reservation required 844-423-3981.

———

hermosainn.com

OMNI MONTELUCIA

Holiday lights and 20–foot Christmas tree in main plaza

Saturdays in December 2, 9, 16 & 23: Santa's Breakfast
8 - 11 a.m. • Prado Restaurant • $45 per adult $30 per child 6-12 • Children 5 & under are free. Reservations call (480) 627-3200

Friday, December 8: Vino and Canvas @ Crave Café
5 p.m. • Adults only • $35, wine to be purchased separately.

Saturday, December 9: Merry Montelucia Ho Ho Ho Hike
8 a.m. • $25 per guest
Come one, come all to the merriest hike of them all! Wear your best holiday-inspired costume for the hike. "Most spirited" hiker will win a 50–minute massage to Joya Spa. Reservations (480) 627-3015.

Wednesday, December 13: Yappy Hour Photos with Santa
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. • Crave Café • $10 per guest

———

omnihotels.com/hotels/scottsdale-montelucia

THE PHOENICIAN RESORT

December 1-24: Letters to Santa
All ages • Free

December 7, 14, 21: Sugar Cookie Decorating
10 a.m. • Children • Prices TBD
Paint Christmas Ornaments • 2:30 pm

December 8, 15, 22: Christmas Tree Wrap
10:30 am • Children • Price TBD
Do You Want to Build a Snowman? • 2:30 pm

December 9, 16, 23: Holiday Games
10:30 a.m. • Children • Price TBD
2:30 p.m. • Make Your Own Hot Cocoa Santa

December 9: Breakfast with Santa
9 a.m-12 p.m. • All ages • Price TBD
Reservation required 480-941-8200.

December 12-20: Menorah Lighting
Sunset • Lobby • All ages • Free

December 15 & 22: Mrs. Claus Storytime
5-6 p.m. • Lobby • All ages • Free

December 16: Elf's Magic Tricks
5:30-6:30 p.m. • All ages • Free

December 20 & 27: S'Mores & Stargazing
6:30-7:30 p.m. • All ages • Price TBA

December 23: Meet Santa Claus
5-6 p.m. • All Ages • Free
December 26, 27, 28: Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides • 5-7 p.m. • $20 Adults $15 Children

———

thephoenician.com



Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season!

LASTING IMPRESSIONS

ARIZONA'S WINDOW AND DOOR SPECIALISTS



Speaking of moves,

we've moved to a new location:

4454 East Thomas Rd.

Thank you for helping us grow over the years.
Stop by and experience our new design showroom!

NEW LOCATION

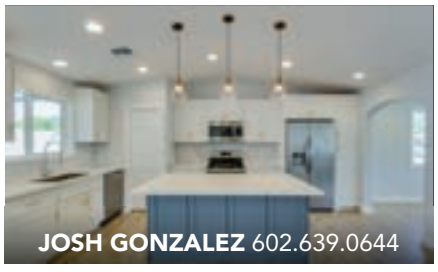
4454 East Thomas Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85018

602.508.0800

liwindow.com

NORTH&CO.

602.714.7000 | NORTHANDCO.com

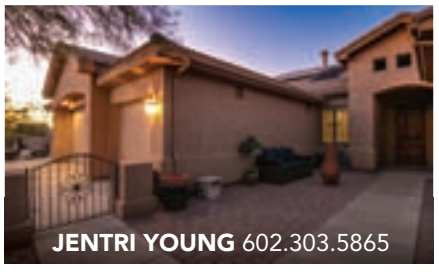


342 W. TURNEY AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85013

3 Beds / 2 Baths / 1,927 SF

New Build in HOT Melrose District!

$499,900

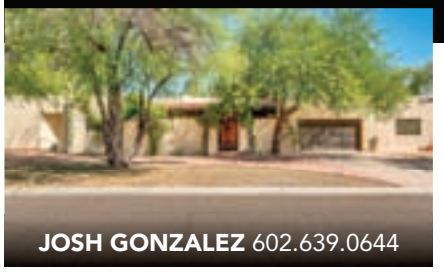


922 E. SADDLE MOUNTAIN ROAD
PHOENIX, AZ 85086

3 Beds / 2.5 Baths / 2409 SF

GORGEOUS custom home on nearly an acre! FOUR car garage, pool/spa, fire pit, RV gate & more. Recent price improvement.

$510,000

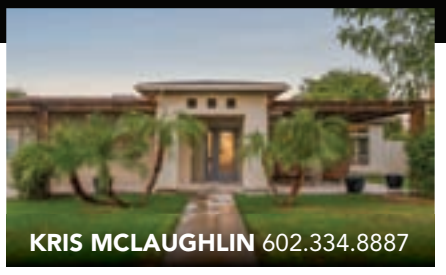


8821 N. 9TH AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85021

5 Bed / 3.5 Bath / 4,546 SF

Built to Last, Priced to Sell.

$749,000

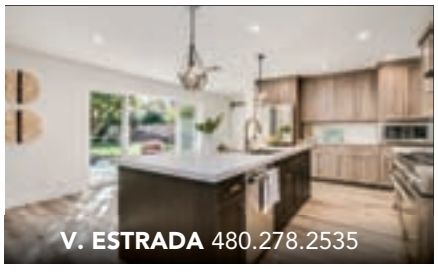


3744 E. TURNEY AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

3 Beds + Office / 2 Baths / 2,926 SF

In the heart of one of the most "HAPPENING" neighborhoods in 85018.

$749,000

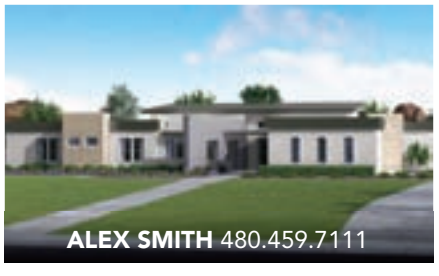


18 SPUR CIRCLE
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251

3 Beds / 2 Baths / 2,048 SF

FULLY RENOVATED perfectly outfitted home. Lush backyard - open living space, incredible kitchen, cozy front patio.

$775,000



4412 E. MARION WAY
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

3 Beds / 2 Baths / 2,459 SF

You Have OPTIONS! Live / Renovate / Build New – All in the shadow of Camelback Mountain!

$795,000

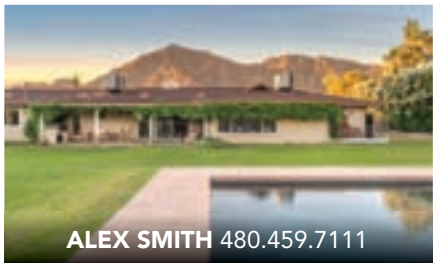


3644 N. 39TH STREET
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

4 Beds / 3.5 Baths / 2,865 SF

New build in Arcadia Lite with soaring ceilings, Carrara Quartz countertops, expansive master suite, and split floor plan.

LOW $800's



4413 N. 56TH STREET
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

4 Beds / 3 Baths / 2,703 SF

MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS from this 22,784 SF lot, bring your ideas!

$899,000

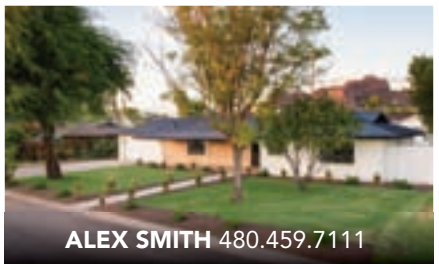


3319 N. 60TH STREET
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

4 Beds / 4 Baths / 3,050 SF

Mid-Century Modern renovated for today's lifestyle, AZCC neighborhood.

$925,000

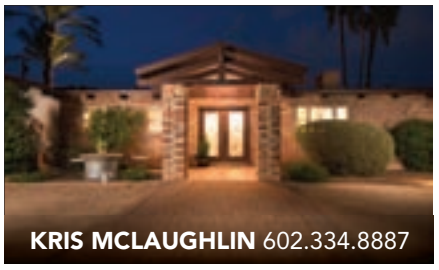


4556 E. CALLE REDONDA
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

3 Beds / 2 Baths / 1,926 SF

Fully Renovated & Totally Perfect Arcadia Gem.

$949,000



4316 E. STANFORD DRIVE
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

6 Beds / 5.5 Baths / 3,828 SF

Enjoy Permanent Vacation in this Resort Style Backyard / BEST Guesthouse in 85018.

$1,090,000



4438 N. 47TH STREET
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

4 Beds / 4 Baths / 3,250 SF

Build Custom Price from Green Street Communities – Live or Renovate – We give you OPTIONS! In the Mountgrove neighborhood.

$1,383,000

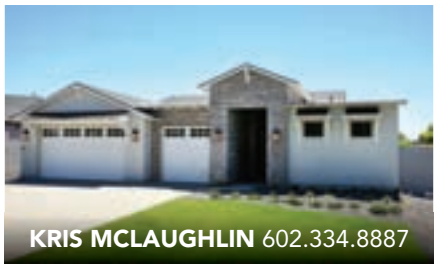


3617 E. MEADOWBROOK AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

5 Beds + Office / 4.5 Baths / 4,168 SF

COMING SOON – NEW CONSTRUCTION

$1,499,999

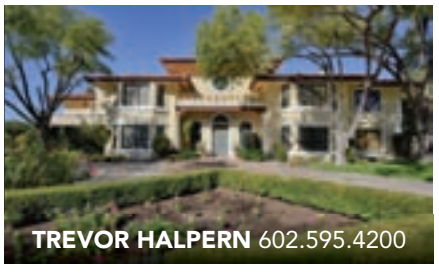


6705 E. LAFAYETTE BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251

4 Beds / 3.5 Baths / 3,765 SF

BRAND NEW Spec Home from Green Street Communities – Simply Stunning!

$1,650,000

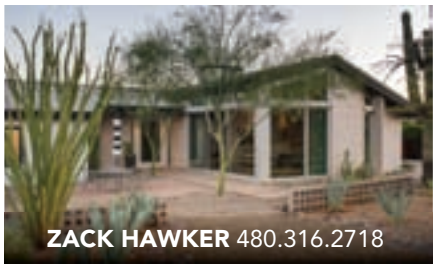


116 W. ORANGEWOOD AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85021

7 Beds / 5.5 Baths / 7,458 SF

On half an acre in the Central Corridor, this estate is a fantastic alternative to Arcadia or PV with 30 ft. ceilings and a full basement.

$1,695,000



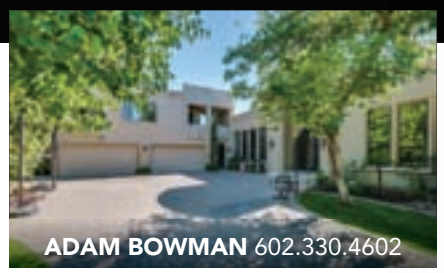
4425 E. VERMONT AVENUE SOUTH
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

5 Beds / 4 Baths / 4,272 SF

Magazine Worthy – Mid Century Modern Perfection – Camelback Panorama.

$1,795,000

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4725 N. LAUNFAL AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

5 Beds / 6 Baths / 6,606 SF

Statement Making Gated Estate – Lush & Lovely w/ All The Extras Included.

$1,799,000



4223 E. MARLETTE AVENUE
PARADISE VALLEY, AZ 85253

5 Beds / 6 Baths / 6,288 SF

Outstanding Family Home in Gated ClearView Edition, built by Cullum Homes.

$2,195,000



4500 E. CRYSTAL LANE
PARADISE VALLEY, AZ 85253

5 Beds / 4.5 Baths / 5,800 SF

Superb Candelaria Rebuild in CLEARWATER HILLS – Only the BEST from Top to Bottom!

$2,250,000

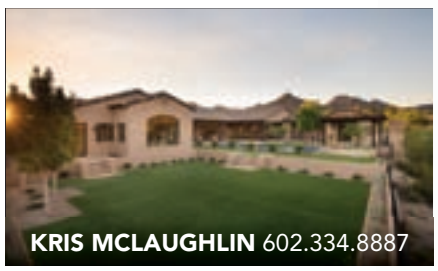


4931 E. WHITE GATES DRIVE
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

6 Beds / 8 Baths / 7,082 SF

LUXURIOUS Spanish Colonial Revival Home – 360 Degree Views – One of A Kind!

$3,000,000



6115 N. 38TH PLACE
PARADISE VALLEY, AZ 85253

5 Beds / 6.5 Baths / 7,448 SF

BRAND NEW from Tinker Development – Executive Luxury Home – Every High-End Amenity One Would Expect.

$3,997,000



6125 N. 38TH PLACE
PARADISE VALLEY, AZ 85253

5 Beds / 6 Baths / 7,188 SF

COMING SOON | New Construction from Tinker Development.
ULTRA-LUXE CONTEMPORARY.

$3,999,999



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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY





On Dec. 17, the 2nd annual PANDA PROWL 5K will begin on the Arizona Canal at 56th Street.

PHOTOS BY LINDSAY HANSEN

PANDA PROWL returns for another year of family fun, awareness

By Rachael Bouley

An upcoming fundraiser aims to bring the community together in support of treatments and cures for devastating childhood diseases.

The 2nd annual PANDA PROWL is set for Saturday, Dec. 17. This 5K Fun Run/Walk is presented by the Phoenix Women's Board of the Steele Children's Research Center at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. Better known as PANDA (People Acting Now Discover Answers), this fundraising board encourages the local community to get involved and make a difference by supporting crucial pediatric medical research.

Known for its Children Helping Children Fashion Show & Luncheon and other fundraising initiatives, PANDA encourages participants of all ages to come join in the festivities along the Arizona Canal in Arcadia. PANDA PROWL offers fun for the entire family, including face painting, music and treats. Local vendors and businesses will also be on hand, and Starbucks and Smoothie King will donate coffee and smoothies for runners.

"It is a chance for people to come out with kids of all ages, dogs, neighbors, co-workers, friends and family to enjoy a wonderful afternoon walking or running the canal to support an organization that is fiercely dedicated to helping sustain the Steele Children's Research Center," said Jacque Linaman, PANDA board president. "It is a way to truly give back during the holidays and to feel good that your support is going to an organization that cares about our children and will continue fighting to provide them with the best care in the world."

> *"It is a way to truly give back during the holidays and to feel good that your support is going to an organization that cares about our children and will continue fighting to provide them with the best care in the world."*

This year, PANDA is raising awareness and funds for its Children's Epilepsy Project, which will support research and new treatment for children with epilepsy. In the past 19 years, PANDA has raised more than $9 million in the fight against devastating childhood diseases, helping to fund treatment for more than 100,000 children.

Linaman says there was an amazing turn out for the inaugural event, and PANDA is hoping for even better attendance this time around as the group shares the story of how treatment and research can change a sick child's life.

"We are hoping that people will walk away understanding a little more about our 'Jewel in the Desert' (the Steele Center) and how it can be an amazing resource to someone they know dealing with a sick child," Linaman said "It allows us to help our own in this community and build lasting support for a facility that is engaged in research that ultimately touches the lives of children everywhere."

Registration will begin at 2 p.m. at Arcadia Park. The walk/run will start at 3 p.m. on the Arizona Canal at 56th Street. For more: azpanda.org/panda-prowl/ registration is $25 per person.

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Your Neighborhood Car Wash

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Not valid with any other offers. Must present coupon. Expires 12/31/17.
ARCADIA NEWS

15% OFF Any Detail Package
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ARCADIA NEWS

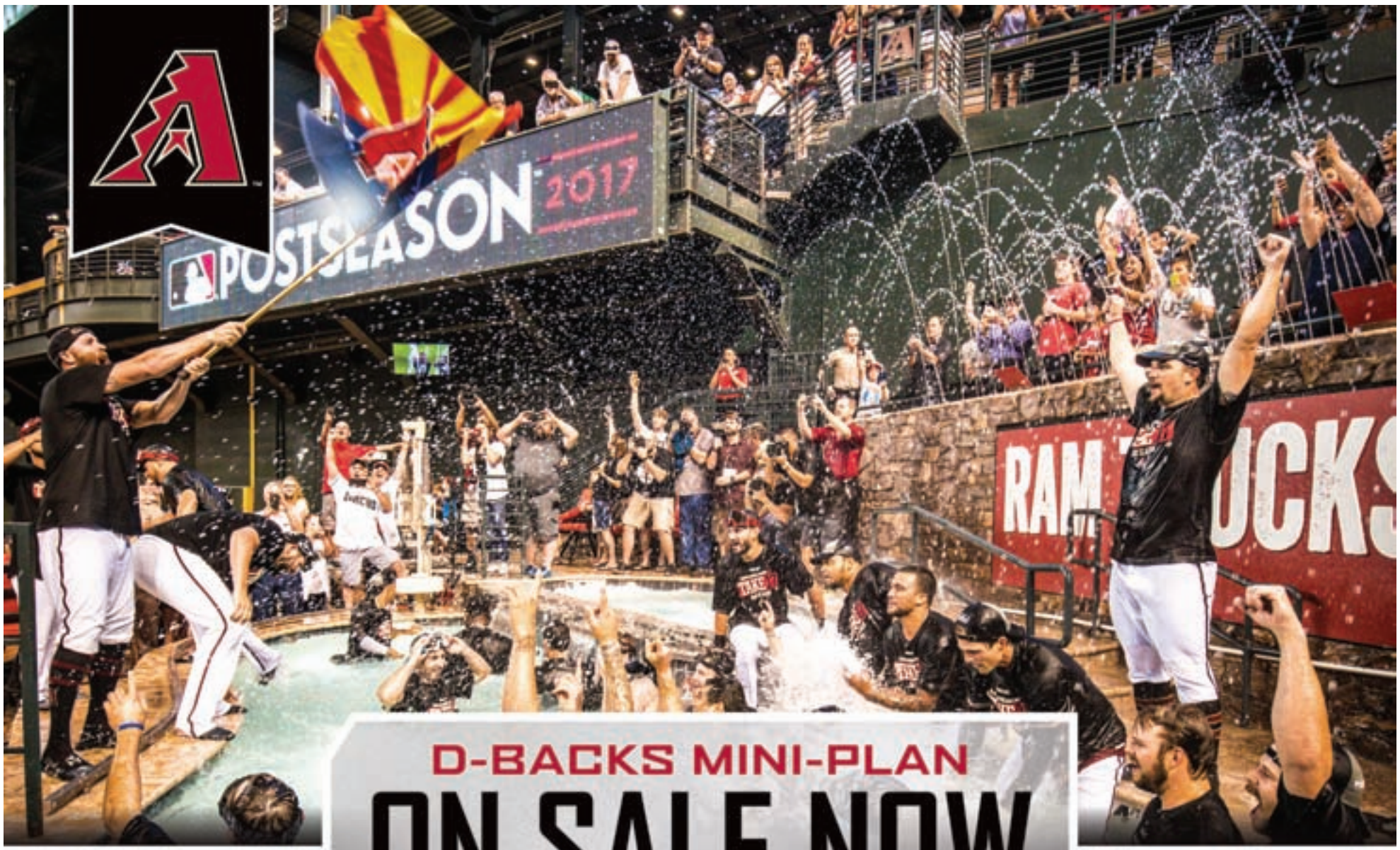
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Lindstrom Family Auto Wash
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ARCADIA NEWS



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ON SALE NOW

FOR A LIMITED TIME

CHOOSE ANY 12 GAMES TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR OWN PLAN, AND GUARANTEE THE BENEFIT OF EARLY ENTRY.

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
HOME / AWAY				29 COL 7:10	30 COL 6:40	31 COL 5:10
1	2 LAD 6:40	3 LAD 6:40	4 LAD 12:40	5 STL 4:15	6	7 STL 11:15
8 STL 11:15	9 SF 7:15	10 SF 7:15	11 SF 12:45	12	13 LAD 7:10	14 LAD TBD
15 LAD TBD	16	17 SF 6:40	18 SF 6:40	19 SF 6:40	20 SD 6:40	21 SD 5:10
22 SD 1:10 / 29 WAS 10:35	23 / 30 LAD 6:40	24 PHI 4:05	25 PHI 4:05	26 PHI TBD	27 WAS 4:05	28 WAS 10:05

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 LAD 6:40	2 LAD 6:40	3 LAD 12:40	4 HOU 6:40	5 HOU 5:10
6 HOU 1:10	7	8 LAD 7:10	9 LAD 7:10	10 WAS 6:40	11 WAS 6:40	12 WAS 5:10
13 WAS 1:10	14 MIL 6:40	15 MIL 6:40	16 MIL 12:40	17	18 NYM 4:10	19 NYM 4:10
20 NYM 10:10	21 MIL 4:40	22 MIL 4:40	23 MIL 10:10	24	25 OAK 6:35	26 OAK 1:05
27 OAK 1:05	28 CIN 1:10	29 CIN 6:40	30 CIN 6:40	31		

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 MIA 6:40	2 MIA 7:10
3 MIA 1:10	4 SF 7:15	5 SF 7:15	6 SF 12:45	7	8 COL 5:40	9 COL TBD
10 COL 12:10	11 PIT 6:40	12 PIT 6:40	13 PIT 12:40	14 NYM 6:40	15 NYM 6:40	16 NYM 7:10
17 NYM 1:10	18 LAA 7:07	19 LAA 7:07	20	21 PIT 4:05	22 PIT 4:05	23 PIT 1:05
24 PIT 10:35	25 MIA 4:10	26 MIA 4:10	27 MIA 4:10	28 MIA 9:10	29 SF 6:40	30 SF 7:10

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 SF 1:10	2 STL 6:40	3 STL 6:40	4 STL 6:10	5 SD 6:40	6 SD 6:40	7 SD 7:10
8 SD 1:10	9	10 COL 5:40	11 COL 5:40	12 COL 12:10	13 ATL 4:35	14 ATL 1:10
15 ATL 10:35	16	17 ALL-STAR GAME	18	19	20 COL 6:40	21 COL 5:10
22 COL 1:10	23 CHC 5:05	24 CHC 5:05	25 CHC 11:20	26 CHC 11:20	27 SD 7:10	28 SD 5:40
29 SD 1:10	30 TEX 6:40	31 TEX 12:40				

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 SF 6:40	3 SF 6:40	4 SF 5:10
5 SF 1:10	6 PHI 6:40	7 PHI 6:40	8 PHI 12:40	9	10 CIN 4:10	11 CIN 4:10
12 CIN 10:10	13	14 TEX 5:05	15 TEX 5:05	16 SD 7:10	17 SD 7:10	18 SD 5:40
19 SD 1:10	20	21 LAA 6:40	22 LAA 6:40	23	24 SEA 6:40	25 SEA 5:10
26 SEA 1:10	27 SF 7:15	28 SF 7:15	29 SF 7:15	30 LAD 7:10	31 LAD 7:10	

SEPT

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 LAD TBD
2 LAD TBD	3 SD 5:10	4 SD 6:40	5	6 ATL 6:40	7 ATL 6:40	8 ATL 5:10
9 ATL 1:10	10 COL 5:40	11 COL 5:40	12 COL 5:40	13 COL 12:10	14 HOU 5:10	15 HOU 4:10
16 HOU 11:10	17 CHC 6:40	18 CHC 6:40	19 CHC 6:40	20	21 COL 6:40	22 COL 5:10
23 COL 1:10 / 30 SD 12:10	24 LAD 6:40	25 LAD 6:40	26 LAD 6:40	27	28 SD 7:10	29 SD 5:40

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(left) Pangaea is staged entirely indoors, which enabled designers to spend a great deal of time and effort creating a truly authentic, vibrant, prehistoric environment. (right) The Phoenix Zoo's Desert Lives Trail offers a self-guided tour featuring dino sightings galore, as more than 20 Mesozoic Era creatures crouch, pounce and roar throughout the landscape now through April 2018.

Two Valley exhibitions offer a chance to travel back in time

By Laura Stoddard

Walk amongst the dinosaurs in two stunning, detailed and educational exhibitions recently opened in Phoenix; each promising a feast for the senses, minus any Jurassic Park hijinks.

DINOSAURS IN THE DESERT

Phoenix Zoo,
455 N. Galvin Pkwy, Phoenix 85008

The zoo unveiled this temporary exhibit the first week of October, and is proud to be hosting it through the end of April 2018. Follow the zoo's Desert Lives Trail on this self-guided tour, and have your camera ready for dino sightings galore, as more than 20 Mesozoic Era creatures crouch, pounce and roar throughout the landscape. According to Linda Hardwick, director of communications, it isn't only the size or fierceness of the animals the zoo aims to capture, but also the beauty of the creatures and of our desert home.

"When choosing the perfect setting for the dinosaurs, we wanted to honor and showcase the rich, diverse and unique colors of the desert," Hardwick says. "This color scheme became a large part of the theme for the exhibit. You will find that many of the dinosaurs are not only painted like the beautiful landscape they are found on, but they are also painted like specific endangered animals, as well as some animals that can be found here in the Arizona desert."

Informational signs accompany each dinosaur, and toward the end of the walk you can try your hand as a junior paleontologist at the interactive fossil dig.

For more: phoenixzoo.org

PANGAEA LAND OF THE DINOSAURS

OdySea in the Desert,
9500 E. Via de Ventura,
Scottsdale, 85256

Billed as an attraction, not just an exhibit, Pangaea Land of the Dinosaurs offers an amazing, hands-on, up and close experience with the greatest creatures to ever walk the earth. With more than 50 full-sized animatronic dinosaurs, numerous educational exhibits, interactive activities, rides, art stations, and artistic lighting and décor, both children and adults will marvel at all this new attraction has to offer.

Pangaea is entirely indoors, which allowed designers to spend a great deal of time and effort creating a truly authentic, vibrant, prehistoric environment; one which manages to transport visitors back in time with its realistic habitats and lifelike dinosaurs. Education and imagination meld together at this exciting and innovative new attraction.

General admission tickets include activities like fossil digging, an 84-foot obstacle course and galleries. Additional add-on activities include sluicing, balloon art, a walking dinosaur ride and an etching art station. Guests can also cap off their visit with a stop at the Pangaea Dinosaur Grill, located just above the venue.

For more: pangaealandofthedinosaurs.com.





Happy Holidays!

from 25 Arcadia News

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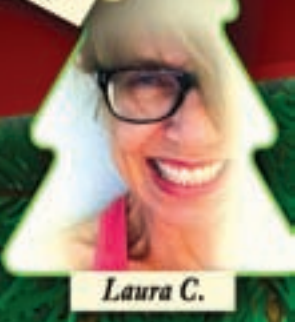

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Arcadia golf finishes with record-breaking season

By Mallory Gleich

The Arcadia High School boys' golf team won the State Championship in Tucson this October, crowning a record-setting season.

The highly successful Arcadia golf season, which runs August through October, saw the team play 10 matches, four invitationals and culminated with the state championship.

The team is comprised of 11 players total. Co-Captain Bobby Peirce, Co-Captain Jaxx Davies, Tucker Clark, Chaz Aurilia, and Gavin Aurilia are the five players who participated regularly in this year's matches and invitationals.

"The best part of competing is being around these guys," Clark said. "We're all pushing each other and after last year, losing by one, we set our eyes on winning the state championship."

And win they did, beating out 16 Arizona teams by 18 strokes.

The boys spent two days playing 36 holes at Tucson Omni National, with Tucker placing third and Peirce placing sixth, individually.

At the Antigua National High School Golf Invitational at the Whirlwind Golf Club in Chandler, the team competed against top high school golfers from all around the county, with Clark, Peirce and Chaz Aurilia placing in the top 10.

"The boys realize that the easiest part of playing is that they've got four other teammates who are around them that can support them," said Coach Daniel Thompsett.

This is Thompsett's first year coaching at Arcadia. He previously coached soccer in Montana before making the move to Arcadia to coach golf.

The team prepares for matches by playing practice rounds on the courses to become familiar with them.

"We practice and play more and more and just get better every day," Gavin Aurilia said.

The boys also played at the Brophy Invitational, placing third, as well as finishing as runners up at the Chaparral Invitational, but perhaps their most significant accomplishments this season were breaking three state records at the Dobson Classic, an event they won by 31 strokes.

The boys shared the importance of maintaining a positive mindset while on the course:

"It's important to stay optimistic when you're playing; think about the good things you've done," Gavin Aurilia said.

"Think positive and think about your next shot. You can't change the past, so you just have to move forward," Gavin Aurilia said.



(from left) Coach Daniel Thompsett, Chaz Aurilia, Jaxx Davies, Bobby Peirce, Tucker Clark, Gavin Aurilia. PHOTO BY WENDY PEIRCE

> *"The best part of competing is being around these guys. We're all pushing each other and after last year, losing by one, we set our eyes on winning the state championship."*

The majority of the boys plan on playing golf in college, although most are undecided where. Chaz Aurilia has already committed to playing for UCLA. Peirce plans on switching it up and playing baseball in college.

The team looks forward to celebrating their achievements at "Relish Bistro" at the Phoenician Resort, fittingly, over the golf pro shop.

The boys' advice for playing competitive golf is simple: "Just work as hard as you can, and take every opportunity you get," Peirce said.

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AHS girls volleyball makes second straight playoffs appearance

By Kaylee Sumpter

Arcadia High School's varsity girls' volleyball team made the playoffs for the second year in a row, continuing to build momentum which began last year.

The Titans went into the postseason ranked No. 12, and defeated a challenging Marana team 3-0 at home in a play-in match. The team then faced No. 5 Queen Creek, which, despite a great effort by Arcadia, beat the Titans 0-3.

Despite the tough loss, the team was proud of how far it got this year.

"I was excited to go into playoffs! It is such a great accomplishment and we were all very proud of ourselves for making it that far," said Grace Forshey, a senior at Arcadia. "I was excited that I still had a chance to play volleyball and continue to get better."

Head coach Jackie Bunker lauds her players for their hard work throughout the season, and their willingness to change focus. "About halfway through the season, we decided that we needed to get away from focusing on outcomes and start focusing on effort. We started to look at putting maximum effort into everything that we did on the court. When we started to do that, we did start to see improvement every day in the gym," Bunker said.

Junior outside hitter Haley Westhoff says working as a team made a difference this season.

"When it comes to my team, I am most proud of the dedication we put in every single week. The days get long, school gets stressful, and the competition is intense; yet, everyone finds a way to show up at practice and games, and forget about everything else going on to play a sport we all love so much," she said.

"I would just like to thank all of the coaches and everyone else who made this amazing journey this year possible for us. We couldn't have done it without you," Haley added. "And for my 10 seniors who are off to college next year, I am inexplicably thankful for time I was able to spend with each and every one of you."



The Titans defeated Marana in the play-in game, before bowing out against Queen Creek.

Consistency, positive attitude help Veritas athlete succeed

By Rachael Bouley

Volleyball is more than just a sport for Jacalyn Sharko – it's a support system that has taught her valuable lessons. Now in her senior year at Veritas Prep Academy, the senior outside hitter makes a difference on and off the court as a leader and treasured teammate.

Sharko first hit the volleyball court in fifth grade, joining the school team at St. Thomas Aquinas. In 7th grade, after her friend encouraged her to try out, she took her skills to the next level at Matrix Club Volleyball.

"I didn't really want to at first, but when I made the team and started to play, I realized that this was meant to be," Sharko said.

Since then, she's grown into a talented, determined player.

"When I started club, I could barely serve over the net but my coach told me I was very coachable," she said. "He saw that my mechanics needed some work but said I had a great vertical."

Sharko recognizes that her favorite sport has opened her eyes and helped her learn the importance of consistency.

"In volleyball, it's important to keep a consistent attitude – neither too low nor too high – so your teammates can always count on you in pressures situations," she said. "It's important to keep a consistent character because in order to be a friend, sister, daughter, or student, you have to be dependable."

For Sharko, the key to her success is to remember that everything is temporary.

"At any moment, whether you are up or down, the game can change either in your favor or against it. Being able to adapt to the situation allows you to bounce back," she said. "Knowing that everything in life is temporary allows you to reach a consistent character."

She credits this positive attitude and close team environment with helping her through tough times when her parents divorced two years ago.

"That was a true test of consistent character because all I wanted to do was cry, but I leaned on my teammates every day at practice and they helped me through it," she said. "That was a prime example of when life was low but still temporary. Without my teammates, I couldn't have gotten through it."

"Winning games or championships isn't what's the most important thing in volleyball, it's the relationships formed."



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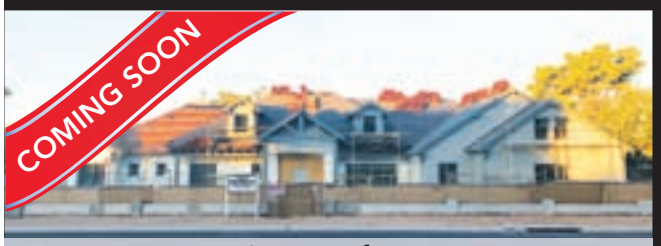
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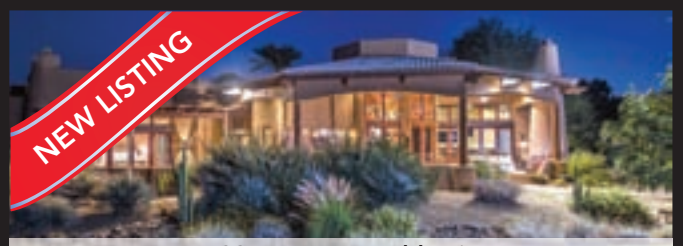
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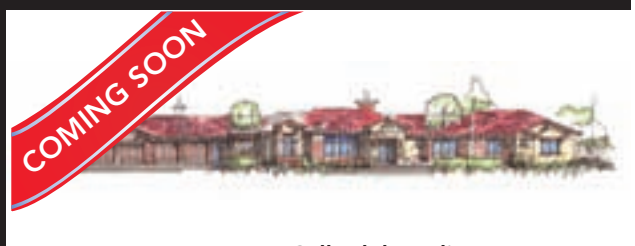
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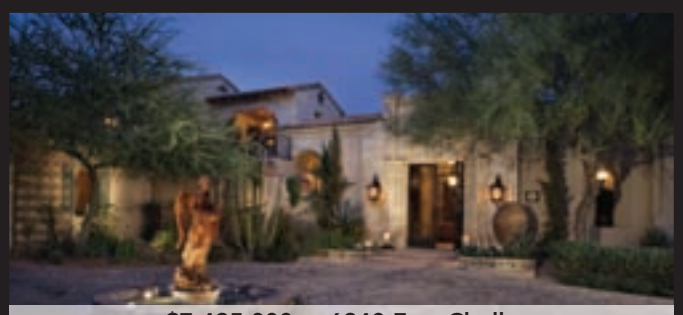
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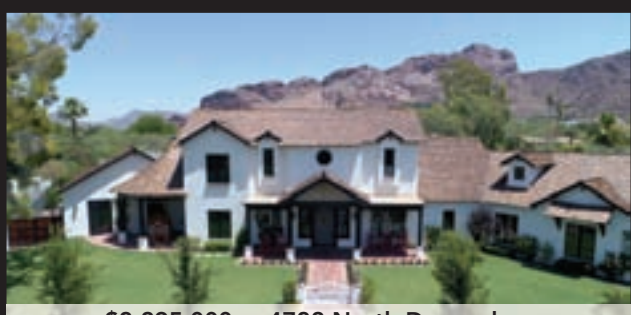
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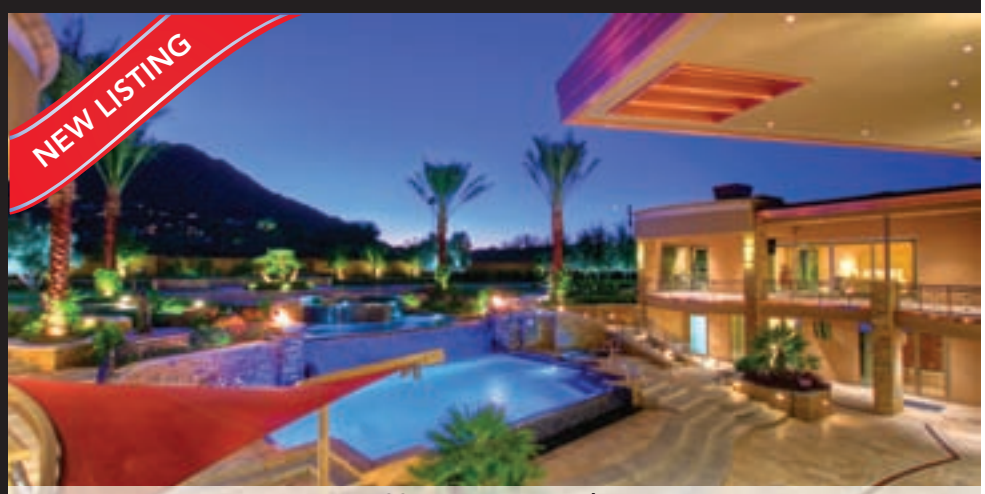
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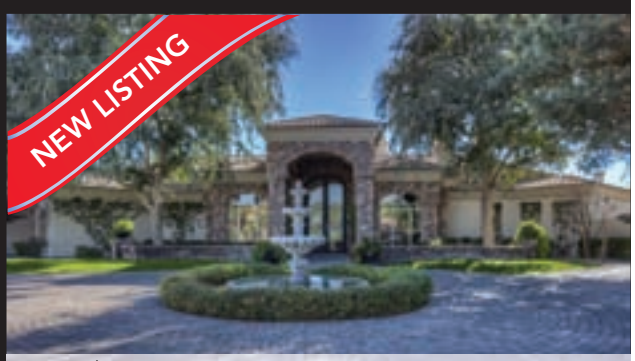
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