

ARCADIA News

VOL. 28 NO. 1

ARCADIA • BILTMORE • CAMELBACK

APRIL 2020



SEE INSIDE!



ARCADIA'S BEAR HUNT

What makes Arcadia so unique? It's not just the neighborhood; it's the community. Arcadians set up stuffed bears in windows and on porches, giving kids something to do while out for a drive or a walk during the quarantine. Search "Arcadia Bear Hunt" on Facebook for more.



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APRIL

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Ninety-nine-year-old Frank and 95-year-old Nee Ross have been married for more than six decades and their zest for life is inspiring.

46 AHS cheer takes state

The Arcadia High Spiritline teams participated in the state competition and went all the way, securing the number one and number two spots.



COVER IMAGE:

Thank you to the Eisenberg family for sharing their family photo of 'big bear' in their front yard. Thank you also to Jessica Lewis, who originally shared the idea online – and the neighbors who took it from there!

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE



This month, the *Arcadia News* is celebrating 28 years of publishing. The duo that started this community newspaper in the early 1990s had a feeling that they would be successful, but they couldn't be sure. When I started writing for this paper in '97, I had hoped this would be a stepping-stone to a career as a novelist. When I purchased the paper a few years later, I took on the fear, uncertainty and doubt (FUD) that comes with owning a small business.

All of that FUD would show up on September 11, 2001, and after, when we went to war in two different countries. The FUD popped back up during the financial crisis in 2008 and stuck around through the recession that followed. It has lingered around since, as the newspaper industry

is continuously tested. The FUD we face in 2020 in the form of an unprecedented global pandemic and financial crisis, has me concerned in many ways. Still, I'm confident in our ability to persevere as a nation and a community.

We frequently hear from *Arcadia News* readers about how they love and look forward to their reading their "good news newspaper" from "cover to cover" every month. All of us at the *Arcadia News* will keep doing what we do best: focusing on what makes our neighborhood so unique: the people, families, schools and businesses. Our goal is to give you a break from the daily news, the chaos, and the FUD. It's gotten us this far, and I'm pretty confident it will carry us forward.

From our families to yours, thank you readers, and thank you advertisers, for supporting the *Arcadia News*.

Greg A. Bruns, Publisher



THIS MONTH'S WINNER:

Christie Roe, Christ Lutheran School • Nominated by Carter

How long have you been teaching at CLS?

I have had the joy of teaching English and literature for 16 years to inquisitive eighth graders. I find a way to weave into every day and lesson the fact that Jesus cares for them.

What is your favorite part about being a teacher?

I love teaching and I love teaching teenagers. When I tell people what I do, I often hear, "Oh, I'm so sorry!" The statement always makes me laugh, and I am quick to say how much I relish my job, which is filled with variety, opportunities and challenges. Often, the first thing I tell my husband when I walk in the door at the end of the day is, "You won't believe what happened today!"

Why did you want to become a teacher?

While I began my career as a financial advisor with E.F. Hutton many years ago, I found my vocation in teaching. I taught English 101 and 102 in the community college system for several years until I was asked to teach at Christ Lutheran School.

What are some unique techniques you use for teaching?

My eighth graders are curious and excited about life and learning, especially if learning is introduced as a series of questions. I find my students thoughtful, considerate and delightful young adults and feel immensely grateful to spend time with them in the exchange of learning and growing.



Where did you grow up?

I grew up going to a Lutheran grade school in Lansing, Michigan, where I developed my appreciation for Lutheran education and a passion for the Gospel.

What is your favorite part of the Arcadia area?

At heart, I am still a Midwesterner, although my husband and I have lived in Arizona for 37 years and have raised our three sons here. We love Arizona, the weather and the casual lifestyle.

Do you have any parting words for the 8th grade class of 2020?

As the end of the school year approaches, I grow reflective of the time my students and I have had together; I am thankful for this moment in their lives that I have been given to get to know them and help shape them into godly young men and women who can make a difference in the world.

Winning teachers receive Arcadia News gift items and gift certificates for the Phoenician Spa and Postino Winecafé.

All winners are invited to an end-of-school-year celebratory luncheon. **Nominate a teacher you love at arcadianews.com.**

FENG SHUI BY EMILY

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Arcadia Real Estate Stats

2020 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/01/2020-2/29/2020)

Active Homes -	157 homes
Homes Sold -	41 homes
Average Sale Price -	\$1,639,000
Average Sold \$ Per SF -	\$392
Average Days On Market -	141 days

There is currently 6 months of home inventory. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 home sales have decreased 19% this year. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 home prices have increased 17%. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 \$ Per Square Foot prices have increased 5%. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 homes are taking 17% more time to sell. (based on 2019 sales results)

2019 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

Homes Sold -	312 homes
Average Sale Price -	\$1,362,000
Average Sold \$ Per SF -	\$371
Average Days On Market -	117 days

2020 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/01/2020-2/29/2020)

Active Homes -	61 Homes
Homes Sold -	24 Homes
Average Sale Price -	\$706,000
Average Sold \$ Per SF -	\$288
Average Days On Market -	109 days

There is currently 3 months of home inventory. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 home sales have decreased 33% this year. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 home prices have increased 8%. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 \$ Per Square Foot prices have increased 4%. (based on 2019 sales results)

2020 Homes are taking 17% more time to sell. (based on 2019 sales results)

2019 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

Homes Sold -	221 Homes
Average Sale Price -	\$651,000
Average Sold \$ Per SF -	\$276
Average Days On Market -	91 days

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Xavier awarded the AP Computer Science Diversity Award

By Jennifer Marshall

Xavier College Preparatory recently won the College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award. The school was honored “for achieving high female representation in AP Computer Science and AP Computer Science Principles.”

According to Lisa Zuba, Xavier’s director of marketing and staff development, the school was one of only 36 to be recognized in 2019 for closing the gender gap in AP computer science courses.

The gender gap in STEM education refers to the inequity of educational opportunities between male and female students. “Only about 20% of professionals in the computer science field are women,” Zuba said.

Male professionals have long dominated high tech fields, but this inequity has been shrinking over time. Three female Xavier seniors are proving the point that girls can do anything boys can do.

“I came to Xavier knowing taking computer science was a requirement,” said Tessa Gaynor. “I’d heard it was a difficult class, so it wasn’t something I looked forward to doing. But once I got into the class, I found that I loved it. Being able to have this opportunity is important.”

“Computer science was not something I would have focused on,” Katelen Tellez said. “Had it been optional, I probably wouldn’t



Katelen Tellez, Tessa Gaynor and Erica Stutz are helping to break the gender gap among STEM-related classes.

have taken it as it seemed so intimidating. This year, I’m taking AP Computer Science Principles, and I plan to major in computer science in college.”

“I, too, probably wouldn’t have taken computer science if it weren’t mandatory,” Erica Stutz said. “In a world that’s so ingrained with technology, computer science is such an important subject. If you know

how to code, you’re hired over those who don’t. I’m looking to study bioengineering in college; computer science is part of that.”

Xavier’s female-only enrollment is not the only aspect that sets this high school apart in terms of STEM education.

“Computer science is a requirement here at Xavier,” Zuba said. “English is required at Xavier, and computer science is right up

there with it.” According to Zuba, every Xavier student has to learn code.

“Computer science is like another language,” Stutz said, “and when you’re introduced to it at a younger age, you’re more likely to pick up on it.”

Zuba credits high school computer science coursework with not only thoroughly preparing students for advanced university studies but also that students will enter college with more academic confidence in the sciences.

“In college, our students will be in classes with 80% guys,” Zuba said, “and then they’ll graduate and work at companies with maybe only 30% women. The confidence they develop here at Xavier will take them a long way.”

Frequently, the AP coursework taken at Xavier can be applied toward university degree requirements, which saves students both time and money.

“Just because a subject like computer science looks male-dominated doesn’t mean it’s intimidating,” Gaynor said. “You can get into it; it’s just as easy for us girls as it is for boys.”

“And everything includes computer science now,” Stutz said. “No matter what field you’re going into, you’ll probably use it in some way.”

In with the new for Scottsdale Unified School District

By Mallory Gleich

Scottsdale Unified School District is getting a new superintendent. Michigan-native Dr. Scott Menzel is taking over the reins from Dr. John Kriekard, who is retiring at the end of the school year after more than 30 years with the district.

Menzel is currently the superintendent of the Washtenaw Intermediate School District in Ann Arbor, MI. His tentative start date with SUSD is July 1.

Menzel’s interest in applying for the superintendent position was based, in part, on the district’s excellent reputation.

“The district has a history of providing exceptional education and has ranked at or near the top of Arizona schools on standardized assessment measures for a long time,” Menzel said. “The level of community support for the district is phenomenal, as evidenced by the overwhelming support for the maintenance and operative override vote last November. As a superintendent, having a community that values education with parents who are deeply committed makes a significant difference.”

Menzel was also interested in the position because he wanted to be closer to his family. His brother lives in Phoenix, and one of his daughters lives in California. His other daughter plans to move to Arizona when she finishes college at Michigan State. He and his wife also wanted to move somewhere where the winters are a little more tolerable.

Menzel attended Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, CA and received a degree in religion. He also attended The American University in Washington, D.C., where he earned a master’s in philosophy and social policy. He also has a Specialist of Arts and Ph.D. from Eastern Michigan University in Educational Leadership.

Menzel has been working in education for almost 30 years. He started working at a nonprofit in Washington,

D.C., on school-to-work issues. He then moved back to Michigan to provide support to three counties implementing school-to-work transition efforts before being named the executive director for the South Central Michigan Workforce Development Board.

For the past 18 years, he has served as superintendent: five years at Whitmore Lake (a small district north of Ann Arbor), four years at the Livingston Educational Service Agency, and nine years at Washtenaw Intermediate School District. He also served as the superintendent of the Ypsilanti Community Schools while also serving as WISD superintendent.

“I first realized I wanted to be a superintendent when I was overseeing workforce development programs,” Menzel said. “We worked a lot with K-12 school districts, and I was impressed with superintendents who did their job well and disappointed by the number of people that were in the job which seemed to struggle.”

Menzel also has teaching experience in adult education and has taught at community colleges and at the university level.

“For anyone who has concerns about a superintendent who hasn’t been a classroom teacher, I believe that the role of the superintendent is to ensure teachers have the support and resources necessary to do their jobs well,” Menzel said. “...In 18 years, I’ve had great relationships with my teachers because we understood the role we each had in service to children.”

Menzel wants leadership structured on the foundation Dr. Kriekard, the governing board and the team at SUSD have built.

“I recognize that there have been a fair number of challenges over the past decade, and I hope that I can provide



Dr. Scott Menzel

leadership stability for the next decade,” Menzel said. “I believe Scottsdale Unified can and will lead Arizona in educational excellence and achievement and that we will compete with the best schools in this nation and around the world.”

There were 29 applicants for the superintendent position, but the Scottsdale Unified Governing Board interviewed only three candidates.

“They also chose to include five different groups representing internal and external stakeholders to participate in the process,” Menzel said. “The governing board and community interview teams completed all the interviews on one day – a very long day.”

Menzel’s goals for the upcoming year include working with the governing board during his transition to Arizona to understand expectations for the forthcoming year.

“I am committed to an intensive listening tour where I can understand the hopes and aspirations of the Scottsdale community for the future of the district. By the end of that time, the board and I will formalize goals for the remainder of the year,” Menzel said.

In his off-time, Menzel enjoys being in nature – hiking and taking walks, watching college basketball and football and attending theater performances. He also loves to read.

“I am excited to get to know the students, families and staff that are part of the SUSD family,” Menzel said. “I was so impressed with the people I met during the interview process and I’ve been overwhelmed with positive words of encouragement after I was selected. It already feels like home and I can’t wait to get started.”

Menzel also added, “I am looking forward to NOT getting up at 4 a.m. to decide whether or not to close the school as a result of SNOW!”

A letter from the AHS student body president

Dear Arcadia High,

Our generation is currently living through history: a global pandemic that none of us could have ever predicted, and the ensuing chaos. Our lives have already begun to change drastically, but more change is yet to come. The last few months of this school year will not be what any of us would have hoped for, especially not for the class of 2020. The situation and things that we are going to overcome are tragic, and as a part of the student government, we have been working to create every end-of-the-year event that will likely not occur. However, we will all come out as stronger individuals because of what we will endure and sacrifice during this time.

To help combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we need to listen to authorities and do our part. I am guilty of starting with the mindset that this will not affect me, but that is not true at all. By continuing our lives like nothing is wrong, we are not only helping the spread but also putting ourselves at risk. The virus is starting to affect younger and younger people, and even though you may survive, you may live with scarred lung tissue that will affect you for the rest of your life.

I encourage everyone to practice social distancing, say no to your friends, and say no to that party. We are the most virtually-connected generation, so let's utilize our many platforms to stay in touch in different ways. We have to remember that this is not an extended break. The school year is continuing, just alternatively. Make the best of this time, and while we all will be making the difficult adjustment to online school, we have to remember that it is not just us. Our teachers are struggling too. Teachers and students all over the world are going through this together. But also, take the extra time to do things you have always wanted to do. Start a sketchbook or a journal, paint a picture, or maybe learn a language or learn to code online. There are so many things that we can do with our time and who knows what we might create.

Most importantly, we need to



Charlie Siegel

bear with all of our teachers as these changes are being made. Stay strong, because we are all in this together. Lastly, to my seniors, this is probably one of the saddest things that could have happened to our class. So many things have been ripped away from us, and we will not have the opportunity for a do-over. Unfortunately, all we can do is roll with the punches and accept what may come. Maybe by May, we will have our graduation and maybe we won't. However, we cannot let that define our attitudes. We all have worked so hard to get to where we are today, and regardless of what happens, we are the Class of 2020, and we will be stronger, wiser, and better than any other graduating class. We will still graduate and go off to do amazing things, so in the midst of the chaos, stay strong, and we will weather the storm together. We may not be getting the senior year we dreamed of and saw in movies, but our experience will be unique to us and make us better for it. I want all of us to remember that this is still our year and that no matter what, we have made amazing memories within the walls of Arcadia, and at the end of the day, we are all Titans. I hope we can all be back with our Arcadia family soon.

Sincerely,

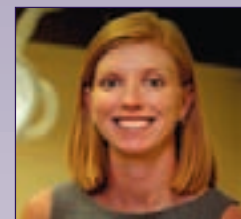
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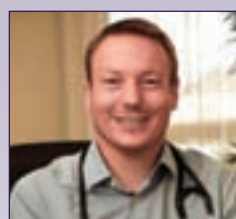
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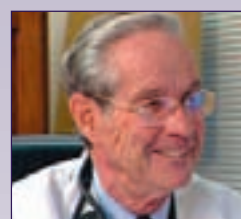
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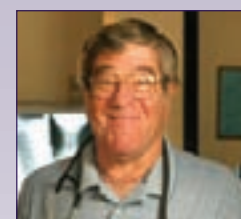
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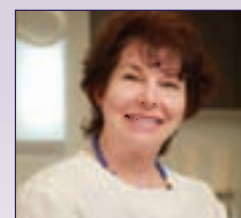
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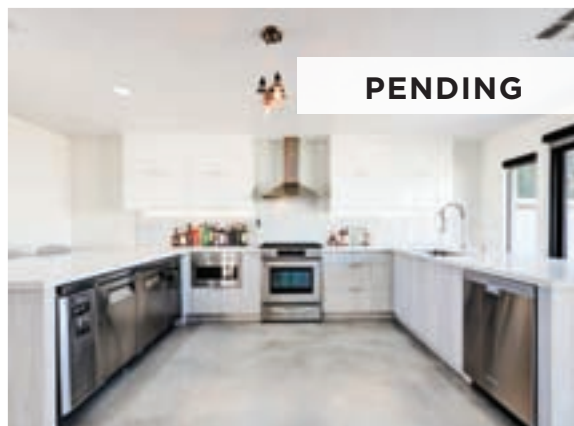
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5 BED | 6 BATH



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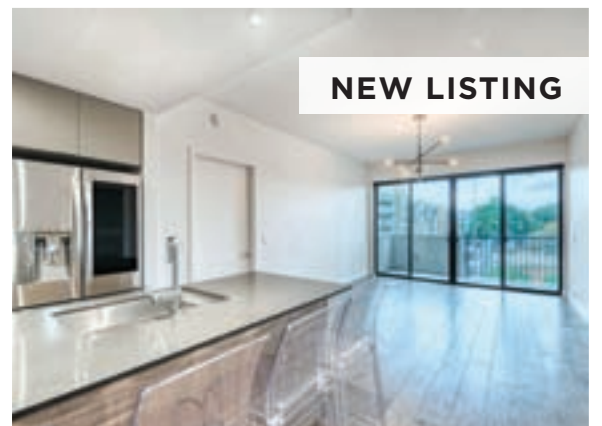


6259 N. 31ST PL.
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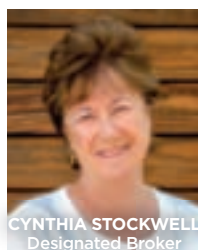
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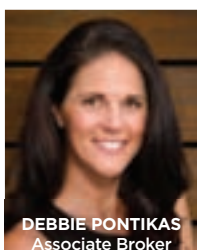
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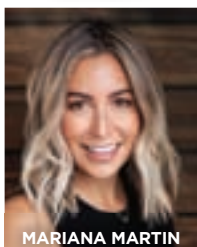
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Grady Gammage Auditorium



ASU Music Building

Cake-inspired architecture from around the Valley

By Sam Lowe

Every time I daydream while driving west along Apache Boulevard in Tempe, then turn north on Mill Avenue, I get a weird sensation that my sweet tooth needs attention. It's nothing serious, just a fleeting thought that a big slice of cake would fulfill this imagined need.



THE LOWE ROAD

But before taking any action, reality sets in and I realize that my momentary hunger pangs happened by two buildings that occupy space on that particular corner. One is Arizona State University's Grady Gammage Auditorium; the other is the ASU Music Building. Both resemble

huge, albeit inedible, birthday cakes.

Most of the other structures on the campus look like regular buildings. These are two classic deviations.

Grady Gammage Auditorium is the most well-known building on the ASU campus and is considered architecturally outstanding. It was designed by famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright and was initially scheduled to be constructed in Baghdad, Iraq. The plans were shelved until 1957 when Grady Gammage, then-president of ASU, expressed an interest in building a concert hall and contacted Wright about designing the structure.

Wright produced his old plans and the deal was made. Construction began in 1962. However, neither Gammage nor Wright lived to see the completion because both died in 1959, Wright at age 91 and Gammage at age 67. Wright's son-in-law, Wesley Peters, then took the helm and oversaw the construction.

The first event staged in the \$2.46 million venue was a performance by the Philadelphia Orchestra, conducted by Eugene Ormandy, on Sept. 18, 1964. The interior of the auditorium contains 3,000 seats, all of them within 115 feet of the stage. The circular exterior is adorned with columns and scallops, giving it the unique appearance of an extravagant birthday or wedding cake.

Over the years, Gammage has hosted a presidential debate, performers like Johnny Cash, Mary J. Blige and Mikhail Baryshnikov, plus world figures like Margaret Thatcher and Stephen Hawking. But it's perhaps better known for presenting such Broadway shows as *The*



Tovrea Castle

Phantom of the Opera, *Miss Saigon*, *Les Miserables* and *Lion King*, to name a few.

Not more than 100 yards away, the ASU Music Building sort of mirrors the Gammage Auditorium with its round shape, massive size and swooping architectural loops. Wesley Peters designed it and it was constructed in 1970. Music students who attend classes inside refer to it as "the birthday cake building."

The building has eight levels, three of which are underground. It houses a music theater, music library museum, music research facility, concert hall, recital halls, more than 200 studios and practice rooms, a costume shop, a piano repair shop and a hand-carved 1,800-pipe organ.

Another building that fits into the category of cake-inspired architecture is about a mile from ASU: the Tovrea Castle, which sits atop a cactus-studded hill. When he erected the building in 1928, Alessio Carraro intended it to be a resort hotel. Working without blueprints, Carraro created a structure in the form of four elongated octagons sitting on top of each other, then topped it with a windowed tower.

The result was a building that looks like a multi-tiered cake. The City of Phoenix bought the castle in the 1990s and has converted it into a tourist attraction and reception venue. It's on Van Buren Street between 48th and 52nd Streets.

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Matthew Linhart, Xander Black, Michael Bendok and Samuel Steiner started Kidz 4 Causes in 7th grade.

Local student earns national recognition for volunteerism

By Rachael Bouley

Michael Bendok is on a mission to give back to the community. Last month, the junior at Phoenix Country Day School was named a State Honoree for the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, which is the country's most extensive youth recognition program based solely on volunteer community service.

Michael stands out for his commitment to community work, having co-founded Kidz 4 Causes in January 2016, an organization that focuses on raising money for rare disease research. It's a cause near and dear to Michael's heart, having suffered from a rare blood disorder called severe chronic neutropenia throughout his childhood.

Michael has helped upwards of 20 families find treatments for their children. His volunteer work captured the attention of the judging panel for the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, and he's incredibly grateful. "The recognition of the hard work my friends and I have put in over the past four and a half years is rewarding," Michael said.

As a State Honoree, Michael will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, an engraved silver medallion and an all-expenses-paid trip with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C. for national recognition events, where he looks forward to sharing his message with hundreds of fellow volunteers. For Michael, the more people who know about rare diseases and are willing to work toward improved treatments and preventive measures, the better.

Although Michael made a full recovery, he often wonders what could have happened if it had not disappeared, or if he was born with a less benign disease. Watching his best friend's younger brother suffer from bronchitis obliterans spurred him into action.

"There is nothing that makes me happier than making a positive impact in the lives of others."

Michael was surprised to learn that despite approximately 25 million Americans suffering from one of 7,000 documented rare diseases in the U.S., there's still a lack of treatment available for many patients. "In light of this, I saw an opportunity to raise money and awareness for a cause I am passionate about – rare disease treatments," Michael said.

Michael and his friends have organized many coin drives, community runs, restaurant fundraisers and school presentations. These Kidz 4 Causes fundraising efforts have raised more than \$141,000 for treatments benefitting the Translational Genomics Research Institute's Center for Rare Childhood Disorders.

Seeing his dedication and determination pay off positively means a lot to Michael, who truly embodies a community spirit, not only with his work with Kidz 4 Causes but in many other initiatives as well.

For Michael, the recognition for his hours spent volunteering is appreciated, and while he was overjoyed about the Prudential's Spirit of Community Awards, that's not why he does it. His motivation comes from knowing he made a difference. "There is nothing that makes me happier than making a positive impact in the lives of others," Michael said. "I try to encourage others to volunteer with me and adopt this mindset because selfless acts are humbling, fulfilling, and above all, improve the communities we all call home."

For more: kidz-4-causes.org.

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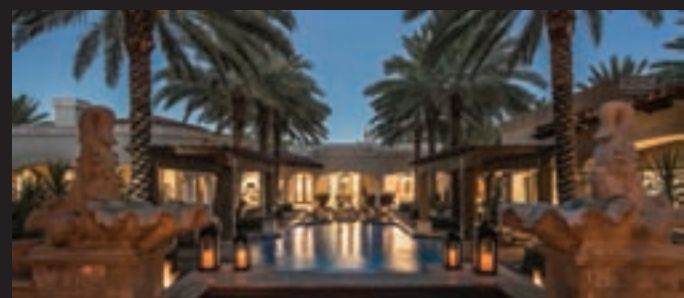
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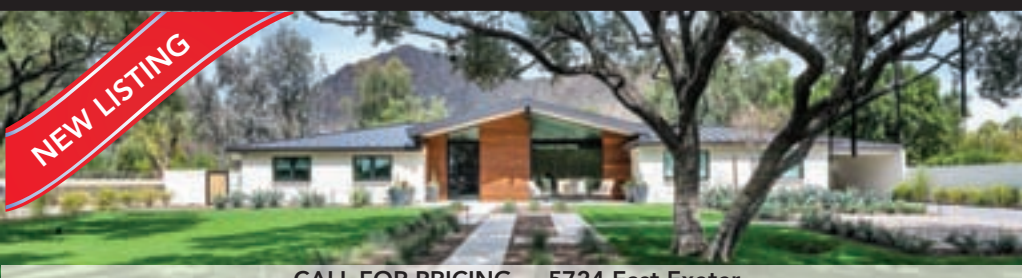


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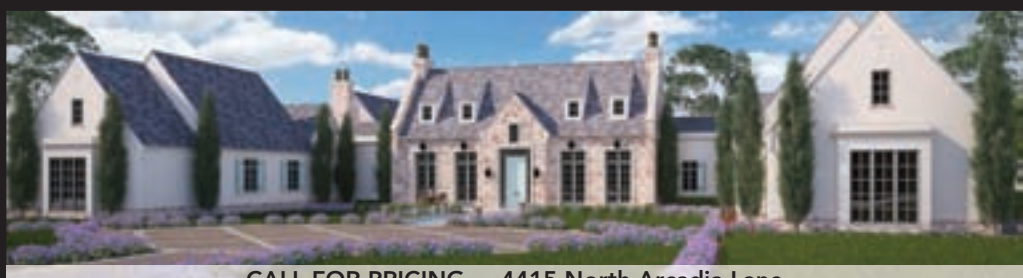


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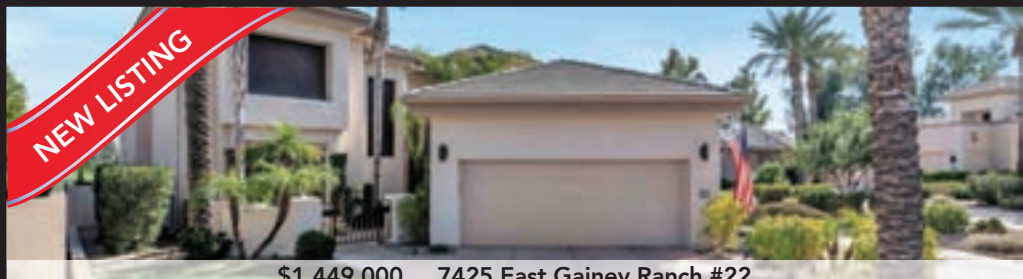


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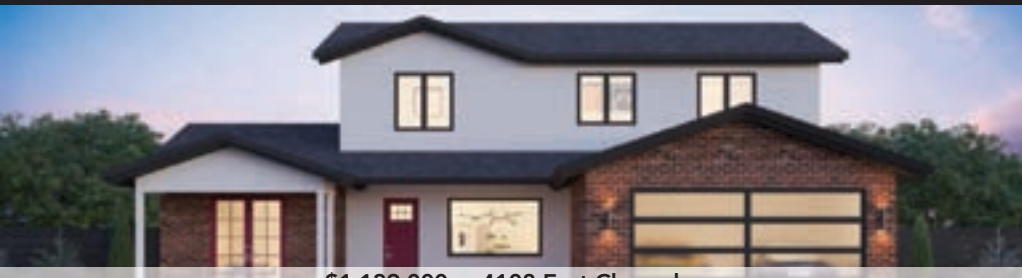
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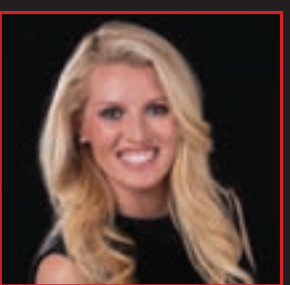
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Q&A

with Chef Sacha Levine

By Mallory Gleich

Sacha Levine has been part of the culinary world for more than a decade, working under various well-known chefs in the Valley before settling in at the newest Barter and Shake concept, Century Grand. *Arcadia News* checked in to see how this chef is growing in her latest position.

Where are you from?

I'm originally from Chicago, and I lived in Michigan for a while, but I mostly grew up in a part of Arizona called Bullhead City. I went to grade school and high school there and moved to Phoenix right after I graduated.

How did you get into the restaurant business?

When I was in high school, I was into all kinds of extracurricular activities. I was into drama. But we also had an excellent culinary arts program that I started when I was a sophomore. I started competing in different competitions offered through Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and the Careers Through Culinary Arts Program (C-CAP), and I just did well. So as a teenager, I was at a crossroads – do I go to college for fine arts and do whatever with my life – but I ended up getting into culinary school and I said, “I guess this is what I’m doing now!”

Where did you go to culinary school?

I went to the Arizona Culinary Institute in 2002. I was in the second graduating class. The apprenticeship part is pretty short, like six or nine months, and then I did my internship at Atlas Bistro. I ended up staying there for almost three years, and by the time I left, I was the chef de cuisine. It was a cool experience, but I needed to grow because you can't be a chef when you don't know anything.

Who first taught you how to cook?

Well, you learn how to cook at home. My dad was a great cook and my mom cooked. We didn't eat out a lot. In high school, I learned from the culinary arts program through C-CAP.

Where else have you worked?

I've worked at Atlas and Café del Sol. I also worked for a long time with Aaron May and Walter Sterling, who owned Sol y Sombra in DC Ranch. I helped open Over Easy; I worked for Claudio

Urciuoli at Montelucia; I was with Charleen Badman at FnB off and on; I worked at Rancho Pinot and I worked at Singh Farms. All of these experiences have shaped the way I cook. It makes you so much more well-rounded and versatile when you have an opportunity to see so many different styles and techniques.

Who was your favorite chef to work with?

Charleen Badman. When FnB first opened, it was very challenging. I would cry in my car after work; it was hard. But we built a friendship, and I've worked with her off and on, so I'd say Char.

What is the inspiration behind the dishes at Century Grand?

When we first opened, I did a lot of research on 1920s cuisine and that's when America's melting pot expanded to include more immigrants from Mexico and China. I was going in that direction with tea sandwiches and aspic (gelatin-based dishes) and a lot of funky aiolis and mayo. I've always been very locally and seasonally driven, so that's a huge inspiration. Now we have our tiny window of spring, so we have artichokes, radishes and peas. I garden, too, and I mostly plant stuff that we can use as garnishes and herbs.

What is one thing that sets Century Grand apart from the competition?

There's nothing else like it here. The cocktail program is insane. We do only natural wines; our wine program – there's absolutely nothing like it in the world.

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What is your signature dish?

That's hard because I'm always trying to be better and things are ever-evolving. I would say some of the fan favorites here are the avocado toast – tomato water as a gel, pretty garnishes, avocado, and we make a tomato air (like a foam) – that's a showstopper. We also do a braised beef cheek Wellington. For me, just using local, seasonal produce – that's my jam.

What is your go-to comfort food?

Tacos. There's this place by the 51, by a liquor store. They have awesome salsa. Four out of seven nights at home, I'm eating tacos.

What is the most challenging part of being a chef?

It's not the cooking; it's not the ordering or making the food. It's managing personalities and managing people. Especially in the kitchen, it's a motley crew.

What is the most challenging dish you've had to cook?

At Montelucia, Claudio is an old-school chef. He's like, “These people are here from Italy, and they want you to make a perfect al dente pasta,” while he's staring at me from across the line. Also, making risotto to order. Or making paella and

running around, not knowing that was the special of the evening, and there were only two of us on the line. There were a lot of hard nights at Montelucia.

What inspires you?

It's hard not to be inspired because of social media. There's this constant influx of amazing dishes, amazing ingredients and amazing chefs. I'm constantly inspired by the things I read and hear. I'm also inspired by other local chefs and what they're doing. I'm inspired when I get awesome seasonal produce. There's inspiration everywhere.

What is one item you can't live without in your kitchen?

I use a lot of fennel pollen and fennel seed. I'm all about any anise-flavor or shaved fennel. I'm like, “What does this need? Fennel?”

What do you do when you're not working?

I'm at work, mostly. I'm here from 10 to 10, six days a week. I run errands; I hang out. I garden, I read cookbooks.

What advice has stayed with you throughout the years?

I don't remember who said it, but he said something to me like, “You're carrying around a backpack of knowledge, and you keep adding to it with your experiences in kitchens,” and I think the most beneficial part of my career was working with so many different people and always continuing to learn, to grow and to have humility in that process.



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PHOTO COURTESY OF PEOPLE FOR GREENS
Jessie Dahling, Anne Trauter and Lisa LaFon of People for Greens.

Arcadia moms launch salad company

By Amanda Savage

Jessie Dahling, Lisa LaFon and Anne Trauter are three best friends and moms to toddlers who founded People for Greens, a food company launched in October 2019 that sells to-go salads. These meals boast zero preservatives and are sourced from Arizona-based purveyors.

"Everyone seems to be missing a salad that is nutritious, plant-based and has actual real greens in it, not just iceberg lettuce and rubber chicken. We decided since we couldn't find anyone doing that, we would do it for ourselves," Dahling said.

Between the three women, they have five kids, all under the age of four.

"Our lives are crazy; we need convenience, but we are also health-conscious and foodies, and we want to eat good food," LaFon said.

The women each have a niche they fill: Trauter oversees finance and operations, Dahling is the "creative arm" focused on branding and packaging, and LaFon is dedicated to the "people part," like communications.

"We have a great working dynamic because we have different strengths, so it works well for us," Dahling said.

All three women have been friends since they met at Chapman University in Southern California. They've lived together and have now started businesses together.

"We've been very intertwined in our lives for a very long time," LaFon said.

Trauter is from Phoenix. She graduated from Chaparral High School and returned to Arcadia in 2006. Trauter and Dahling started a food brokerage company together 10 years ago, which helps get brands onto grocery shelves. Dahling later married a chef and owned two restaurants with him here in the Valley.

Trauter introduced LaFon to her future husband while she was living in another



state. The ladies joke that it was all part of Trauter's master plan to get them to all move to Arcadia. The women live within a mile and a half from each other, which helps with managing the business.

The group recently landed a deal with McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park to carry their salads at Hartley's General Store at the park and are also working on adding new prospects.

"It is not lost on us how lucky and blessed we are to have our friendship," LaFon said.

The women say that balance and respect is the key to making it all work; making time for themselves with and without the kids. They say their deep bond is what differentiates their partnership and makes them successful, along with taking things "one day at a time" and "a lot of wine," Dahling added.

"We've come to discover that what we have, not everybody has. So we work hard not to take that for granted and look at it more as how fortunate are we to not only be best friends but be able to see each other every day, and work together every day, face challenges together, enjoy rewards together. It takes a lot of work, but I think we're so fortunate," Dahling said.

People for Greens salads are currently available at Basha's and AJ's.

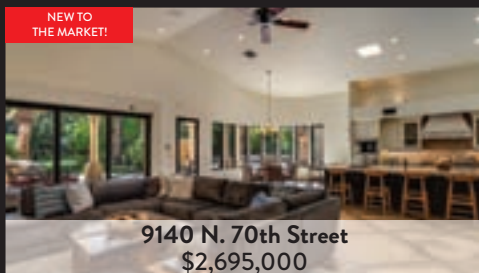
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NEW TO THE MARKET!
3500 E. Lincoln Drive #24
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Breathtaking 180 degree views from walls of glass in every room of this Mid-Century Masterpiece. Built in 1974, this home underwent a massive renovation in 2018 so it's modern while maintaining its original flair. Soaring ceilings, 3 fireplaces and a backyard that rivals your favorite resorts!



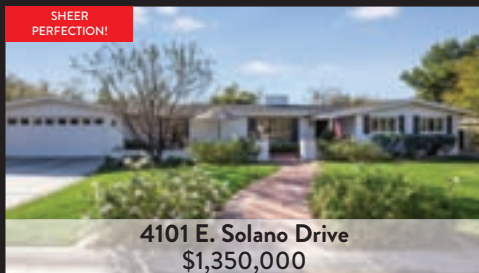
NEW TO THE MARKET!
8989 Gainey Center Drive #130
\$1,095,000

Contemporary masterpiece on the lake at Gainey Center with views galore. No detail overlooked with solid wood flooring throughout, large great room with sleek designer cabinets, quartz counter tops, industrial beams and walls of glass. Gorgeous master with balcony over water.



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4011 N. 44th Place
\$465,000

Quintessential Arcadia charm in this vintage 1950's ranch home. Just under 1400', this dollhouse is ripe for renewal. 3 beds, 2 baths, bright white kitchen and large living area all soaked in natural sunlight. Large lot with room to expand and walkable to all of the hippest bars and restaurants.



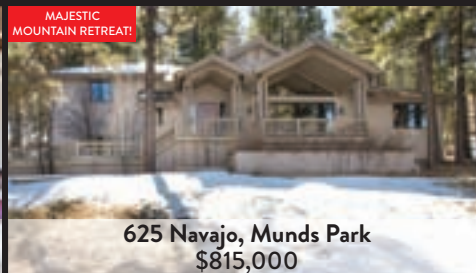
SHEER PERFECTION!
4101 E. Solano Drive
\$1,350,000

Sheer perfection in this totally renovated show home. No expense spared including incredible kitchen with top of the line cabinets and appliances including everyone's favorite, a Wolf Range. Large master suite with spa-like bath and his/hers closets on an 18k lot with room for a pool.



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35 E. Wagon Wheel Drive
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Architecturally significant Mid-Century gem located right in the heart of North Central Phoenix. 4200' with large rooms, soaring wood beamed ceilings, stunning metal fireplace, built in planter boxes and solid slump block walls throughout. Absolutely impossible to find another one like this!



MAJESTIC MOUNTAIN RETREAT!
625 Navajo, Munds Park
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This one-of-a-kind cabin is located on one of Munds Park's most coveted streets. Situated on 1.5 acres, backing to the National Forest, with sweeping views of the Pinewood Golf Course, there is nothing else like it. 3200' with huge great room, gourmet kitchen and 3 fireplaces. Heaven!

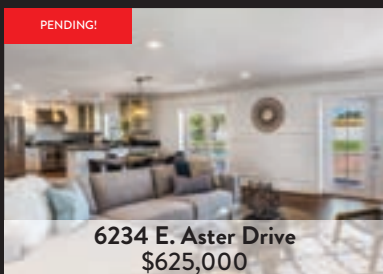


CUTE AS A BUTTON!
903 W. Marshall Avenue
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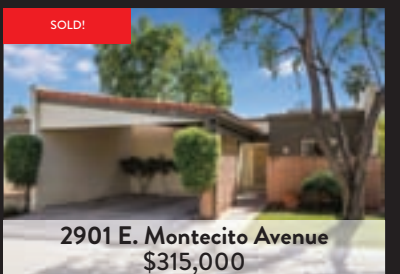
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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?

Dear Readers,

As of press time, these events are still active. For the most up-to-date information, please check the websites listed at the end of each submission.

Thank you,
Arcadia News

SUNDAY 4/5

Fourtillfour Car Show
8-12:30 p.m. at 7105 E. 1st Ave., Scottsdale. Different than the weekly car and coffee meetups, this Fourtillfour event will benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Attendees can come out and view vintage European, vintage JDM, off-road 4x4s and exotic cars while also enjoying live music, games, activities and lunch. This event is free, but donations are accepted. For more: fourtillfour.com.

SATURDAY 4/11

Brunch Bash
10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Civic Space Park, 424 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. For those who love sleeping in, brunch is a common occurrence – which is what Brunch Bash is here to celebrate. Attendees



Sandcastles on 7th at the Children's Museum of Phoenix.

will enjoy all the breakfast favorites, from benedicts, pancakes, cereal and various other breakfast dishes. Mimosas and other cocktails will be available, and guests can enjoy live music, entertainment and lawn games. Tickets are \$8 online, \$12 at the door. For more: brunchbashaz.com.

SUNDAY 4/12

Easter Brunch
9:30 a.m. at Mountain Shadows Resort, 5445 E. Lincoln Dr., Paradise Valley. Gather the family and head to Mountain Shadows for an Easter brunch. There will be a buffet-style meal including brunch items, an

omelet station, prime rib and lots of desserts. Then, head outside, where kids can participate in an Easter egg hunt with prizes for everyone. Tickets are \$84 for adults. For more: mountainshadows.com.

FRIDAY 4/17

Glow + Flow
5:30-7:45 p.m. at Hotel Valley Ho, 6850 E. Main St., Scottsdale. Relax and rejuvenate at this month's Glow + Flow session. Guests are welcome to join a sunset yoga session on the Sky Line Rooftop, followed by a disco meditation with Ashley Gross of TruFusion Scottsdale. Jam out to some chill tunes with yoga and cocktails. Tickets are \$30. For more: hotelvalleyho.com.

SATURDAY 4/18

Sandcastles on 7th
9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Children's Museum of Phoenix, 215 N. 7th St. The Children's Museum presents Sandcastles on 7th, a day of sand and beach activities for everyone. There will be a sandcastle building competition with the guys from Sand Masters on the Travel Channel. Guests can vote for their favorites while

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?

SEND EVENTS TO
editor@arcadianews.com

enjoying live music, entertainment and snacks. Tickets are \$12. For more: childrensmuseumofphoenix.org.

SUNDAY 4/19

Arizona Fried Chicken and Wings Festival

12:30-5 p.m. at The Pressroom, 441 W. Madison St., Phoenix. Make sure to grab plenty of napkins, it's going to get messy at the inaugural Fried Chicken and Wings Festival. Guests can enjoy classic, modern and fusion chicken recipes from over 10 local vendors. There will also be an art market, lawn, board and video games, drinks and dessert. Tickets are \$13 for adults, \$4 for kids. For more: visit the Arizona Fried Chicken and Wings Festival Facebook page.

Wild Ones Crepes & Cocktails Baby Shower

11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Liberty Wildlife, 2600 E. Elwood St., Phoenix. Benefitting Liberty Wildlife and the upcoming baby and orphan animal care season, this event will feature various crepes, cocktails and other brunch dishes. Guests can enjoy live music, a "best hat" competition, vendors and games. This is a 21



Arizona Fried Chicken and Wings Festival at The Pressroom in Phoenix.

and over event. Tickets are \$50 per person. For more: libertywildlife.org.

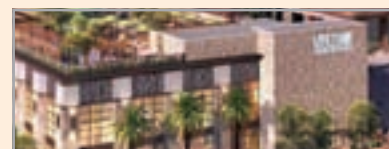
SATURDAY 4/25

The Original Taste

7-10 p.m. at Scottsdale Waterfront, 7135 E. Camelback Road. Guests are invited to sample bites from over

40 restaurants, drinks from over 50 different wineries, and enjoy live music and entertainment. Proceeds from this event go toward Executive Council Charities such as the Boys and Girls Club. General admission is \$75 with VIP packages available. For more: ec70phx.com.

NEWS BRIEFS



LIFETIME FITNESS

Lifetime Fitness Biltmore celebrated their grand opening in March. Coming soon: fitness training and classes, a café, spa, kid's classes and a rooftop beach club with a pool. This "fitness destination" is located at the Biltmore Fashion Park on Camelback Road. For more: lifetime.life.

FUTURE RESTAURANT

There is a new business taking over the former Tacos, Tequila and Whiskey restaurant at 40th Street and Indian School. Brunch and Sip's motto is "every day feels like the weekend," so it looks like Arcadians will hopefully have a new breakfast spot opening up in the coming months.

ARIZONA MEMORIAL GARDENS

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community has opened the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River. Located east of Pima Road, near Great Wolf Lodge and the Salt River Fields, the Memorial Gardens includes the original boathouse relic from the USS Arizona which honors the soldiers that were aboard during the attack on Pearl Harbor. This memorial is free and open to public. For more: discoversalriver.com.



CELEBRATE EASTER AT PRINCE OF PEACE! SUNDAY, APRIL 12

7 a.m. – Sunrise Worship at the top of Camelback Mountain!

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9:30 a.m. – Easter Worship at Prince of Peace Church. Family egg hunt and brunch after worship.

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Hopi Library welcomes a new addition

By Miriam Cruson

Hopi Elementary School's new librarian, Tracy Fish, has a passion for reading and a desire to bring her love of books to children. These characteristics have led Fish to dedicate her life to the service of others.

Fish was born in Sauk City, WI, a village northwest of Madison. She graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1997 with a degree in social work and moved to Arizona in 1999. Fish continued her career as a social worker until 2015. She previously volunteered in the Hopi Elementary library and was also a 5th-grade classroom aide before starting as the school's librarian in late February.

"Once I became a mother and took my kids, I just fell in love with the public library," Fish said.

Now, Fish is in the perfect position to expose countless young minds to the wonders that books hold. "Books give us a more global perspective, not only learning about our community but other places around the world. They show us that people all around the world are the same as us," she said.

"I am most excited about igniting the passion for reading and getting interested in new books," Fish said. "I don't want students just to read what everyone else is reading. I want to open them up to diverse subjects and books."

Fish brings not only her passion but also the experience from her previous profession of social work and her ability to reach out to kids from all backgrounds. "When there is chaos in their personal life at home, reading is not at the forefront of their minds," she said. "I want to make this a retreat for them to be able to escape reality for just a little while in a book."

When she's not at work, Fish enjoys hiking, traveling and reading books with her family.

"My favorite kids' books are probably the series *Poached*, *Belly Up* and *Big Game* by Stuart Gibbs. We read those as a family and I enjoyed them," Fish said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRACY FISH

Mrs. Fish is ready to help students find their love for reading through fun with props like a Dr. Seuss hat.

Along with her love of all things children, family, and the printed word, Fish also loves to fly on the trapeze and is trying to get her children excited about circus training.

NEWS BRIEFS



PARMA ITALIAN

Nook's old location at the Light Square plaza now has a new tenant: Parma Italian. This is the second location for Parma, which boasts "coastal California style melding with fine Italian cuisine." The menu includes snacks and small plates, house-baked bread, handmade pasta, wood-fired pizza and "eclectic cocktails inspired by Italian aperitifs." For more: parmaitalianaz.com.

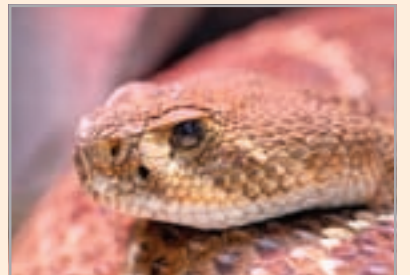


CLOVR LIFE SPA

This beauty and wellness spa opened in late February, the third location in the U.S. and the second in Arizona. Situated in the Uptown Plaza on Camelback Road, this spa offers massage treatments, facials, nail services and waxing. The "chill zone" offers guests a place to relax and enjoy a beverage and snack. Prices range from \$25-\$150 and memberships are available. For more: clovrlifespaspa.com.

FEMALES IN ACTION FITNESS

FiA Phoenix is a peer-led group of women who meet for free workouts at Arcadia Park, on 56th St. near Ingleside Middle School. The workouts are open to women of all ages and fitness levels. Workouts are usually boot camp style and are different every week. No equipment is needed. Check online for restart details. For more: fianation.com.



RATTLESNAKE AVOIDANCE

The Rattlesnake Avoidance Program is put on by Partners Dog Training. With the summer months coming, folks should continue to be aware of the dangers on trails and in backyards – but four-legged friends should also be in the know. This program has been around for more than 10 years and teaches dogs how to avoid the scent and sound of rattlesnakes in 20-minute classes. For more: partnersdogs.com.



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Wedding in 1953.



Honeymoon cruise.



Switzerland in July (Yes, that is snow!).



Cruise in 1995.

Cheers to 99 (and 95) years for Arcadia couple

By Mallory Gleich

Arcadia resident Fred Ross has seen his fair share of things, especially given that he will celebrate his 99th birthday in August.

Fred and his wife, Nita (affectionately known as Nee to her family and friends), have lived in Arcadia for the past eight years. Before that, they spent 30 years in Boca Raton, Fla. And before that, they were just a couple of kids who fell in love.

Fred and Nee were both born in New York; Fred in 1921 and Nee a few years later, in 1925. Growing up, Fred played hockey while Nee spent time as an equestrian. She broke a bone in her back after being thrown from her horse. After that, it was time to hang up the reins.

Years later, during a 1953 Independence Day get together, the pair met while attending the same party at Sunnycroft Dude Ranch in New York.

"My parents said 'are you going to hang around the house' and I said no, as a matter of fact, there are several gentlemen that asked me if I wanted to go [to the party] ...and I decided they were right, and it changed my life," Nee said. Fred and Nee have been together ever since.

Fred attended Michigan Tech, majoring in organic chemistry. Nee claims she went to "the school of hard knocks," and became a model and a merchandise buyer for Abraham & Straus. She even had her photo on the cover of *Vogue* when she was 20.

Fred worked for a major oil company in Chicago. He explained that the U.S. supply of rubber was cut off by the Japanese during WWII and the government commissioned five oil companies to try and produce rubber synthetically.

He was sent to Beaumont, Texas, to set up a company called Nature's Butane Products, where they took the raw materials from the refineries and produced synthetic rubber. The company started in 1944 and is still around today.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ROSS FAMILY

Fred, Nee and their close family.

In 1944, Fred joined the Navy and headed to the South Pacific. When he arrived back in New York, he took a job as a courier in NYC. Fred set up his own business called Diamond Dust Company Inc., which dealt with industrial diamonds. He ran that business for 28 years until he sold it to a company in Belgium in the 80s.

Fred and Nee have three kids: Robin, Bonnie and Richard. Robin and Richard live in Phoenix and Bonnie lives in Tiburon, Calif. Robin served two terms as a state legislator in Arizona. She ran in 1993, was elected and served as Commerce chairman in the House of Representatives, then ran for the Senate in 1998.

Her district covered Arcadia, Biltmore, Paradise Valley, Old Town Scottsdale and Tempe. She also worked for Edward Jones, where Richard works, and Bonnie was an attorney who now does nonprofit work. There are also four grandchildren in the mix: Ryan, Jeff, Daniel and Taylor.

When asked how it feels to be almost 100 years old, Fred answered, "you know something, truthfully, I don't know what someone that age should feel or look like."

Mornings around the Ross house start with Fred's special drink, made with honey, turmeric, ginger, lemon and green tea. Afterward, the pair practice transcendental meditation, where they sit quietly for 20 minutes twice a day.

"I think that contributes to longevity," Fred said.

While they lived in Florida, the pair were involved in their local country club, where Fred became the founding president. He played a lot of golf and set up another business called Robbonard (the names of their kids), which primarily dealt in stock transactions.

They have also traveled extensively, wandering all over the world but enjoying cruises the most. When Fred was 91, the family took a trip to Snowbowl to go skiing.

"Dad asked about the senior discount and the guy asked to see his driver's license, and when he handed it over you could just see the guy calculating 1921," Robin said. "He says 'can you wait one second' and he comes out of the booth, shakes dad's hand and says 'you are the oldest person I have ever given a pass to, it's free and have a great day.'"

"Wherever we are is my favorite place," Nee said. "The world is wonderful. It's a gift; life is a gift."

The pair has been together for 66 years. Nee said that part of the success of their marriage has to do with her mellow personality and that they never argue.

"We're harmonious," Nee said, with Fred agreeing. "He's very sharp, very stubborn and a little spoiled," Nee said with a smile.

"You have to take into consideration the other person, especially someone that you're in love with, that you've raised a family with. Don't allow yourself to become dogmatic. Consider the other person," Fred said.

"They have respect for each other. That has gone a long way to making their marriage work," Robin said.

Fred and Nee spend time these days playing bridge, canasta and chess. They've been in a hot air balloon, skied and most recently went on a kayaking trip near their home in Idaho. Fred also wrote a book called *The Seventh Dimension*, which explores life after death.

Fred and Nee say they are most proud of their family and their children, and the successes that their children have had in life. Fred says he is most grateful for his wife and her levelheadedness.

"To be able to reach 60 and have both my parents; I have so much gratitude for the wisdom they've passed on. My mom is one of the smartest people that I know. She always has wise words for the family, and my dad has passed on a love of nature and spirituality and I think that's guided all of his family for decades and generations," Robin said.

As far as life, career and longevity, Fred said, "if you have a desire, you should fulfill it. Try to live your life so that you achieve that goal. Don't allow your body to deteriorate. Live a healthful life and that will help you to achieve your goal."

And retirement? "I don't know. When I get to that age, I'll think about it," he said.



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Queen Creek: Where olive oil flows freely

By Robin Sewell

Dear readers,

For 16 years now, I've been blessed to be one of Arizona's biggest fans and ambassadors, enthusiastically sharing the state's greatest treasures with viewers in hopes of encouraging them to get out and explore.



I've loved discovering new places or revisiting ones I had been to in seasons past. The best part is when someone says,

"I watched Arizona Highways Television and wow, I never knew about that town, activity or restaurant and thanks to the show, I'm having so much fun going on these different excursions and exploring Arizona."

I hope that everyone will continue traversing our beautifully diverse state. Still, I also understand that in these challenging and uncertain times, it has everyone wondering whether to keep traveling even if it's just a car ride away.

My family and my Arizona Highways Television crew are having those same

ROBIN'S ADVENTURES

thoughts and struggles. Lucky for us, we have so many great stories already in our vault, we can keep sharing Arizona's treasures with all of you until you are ready to go out and explore them for yourself.

About 45 miles from Phoenix in an area that seems far away from the big city is a place where attractive trees dot a 45-acre landscape, and where an exceptional "farm" sits.

If you've never been to Queen Creek, it's worth a day trip to check out the Queen Creek Olive Mill. When you think of what grows in Arizona, olive trees may not be at the top of your list, and in truth, most of them are planted as landscaping.

Yet when Perry Rea, the owner of the Queen Creek Olive Mill, visited Arizona on a family vacation in 1997, he noticed the trees and had a very different idea of what to do with all of the olives.

Excited by his find, Perry and his wife decided to metaphorically put all their olives in one basket and move from Michigan to Arizona, where they struck liquid gold. What started with one bottle of extra virgin has morphed into 33,000 gallons a year of pure Arizona olive oil. That's also with the help of their farming partners in Yuma and Sacaton.

One of the fun things about visiting the olive mill is that guests can take a tour and learn about the process of making olive oil. This tour is part of a growing type of tourism called Agri-tourism, where people combine destination, education, food and fun.

On this tour, we learned that olive oil has three different profiles: delicate, balanced and robust. Each has to do with when you harvest the fruit and each kind has a different taste.

Perry also likes to experiment with different flavors such as bacon, chili or roasted garlic, or you can stick with their award-winning extra-virgin olive oil. There's a restaurant, and guests can buy everything from cupcakes made with olive oil to lotions and potions made with the same pure ingredient. Every month, the mill hosts a series of events, such as a date night pizza-making experience, a sangria social or an afternoon tea.

They also have live music, holiday markets and themed festivals. If you are looking for a quick getaway that gives you the feeling of being way off the beaten path, head to the East Valley for a bite, a tour and a bottle of olive oil.

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

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NEWS BRIEFS

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

At the Arcadia Camelback Mountain Neighborhood Association meeting in late February, RED Development updated folks on the 44 | Camelback construction. The 17.5-acre site is approved, but permitting will take most of 2020. Demolition of the existing structures should begin at the end of this year. The Suns facility is slated to be complete by this summer.

Construction for the rest of the buildings will likely take all of 2021 and 2022, and a temporary stop light

is planned to go in the area on 44th Street where Steak 44 is, to help with the construction traffic.

OCEAN POKE CLOSING

The Ocean Poke restaurant at the Gaslight Square complex on 36th Street and Indian School announced that they will be closing after three years. Per a press release: "after 12 months under the new ownership, the owners were unsuccessful in renegotiating the original lease."

Who are generalist appraisers?

ASK THE APPRAISERS

By Tom Helms and Jeff Pearson

At A-Z Appraisal, we receive countless inquiries along with myriad questions about items ranging from spittoons to Navajo rugs that we privately answer or have written about in the “Ask the Appraiser’s” column.

We are what you would call “generalist” appraisers or “jack of all and a master of none.” However, with diligent research or searching for an expert, we can find the answer to most inquiries. We work at becoming competent every day, especially when something new or unusual confronts us.

Because we are “generalist” appraisers, we assist with all appraisal inquiries to the best of our ability and knowledge. We are members of the International Society of Appraisers (ISA) and are the only appraisers in Arizona to hold a CAPP (Certified Appraisers of Personal Property). We handle it all; however, there are times when our “generalist” moniker becomes a problem. This situation is when our instincts as professionals come into play, and we follow the “Competency Rule.”

Many items in a home or business can stump an expert, and this is when honesty and business ethics as an appraiser comes full swing. If we do not know the answer, or we are not sure of the item’s specific genre to appraise, we can lead you down the proper roads to help resolve the appraisal.

Jewelry and firearms, for example, are two categories we are not comfortable or competent in valuing. We have basic knowledge of many items, such as sterling silver, different pottery makers, some costume jewelry, and commonplace firearms.

We may know a thing or two about these items, but we do not know enough to establish if a 50-year-old Rolex watch is worth \$500 or \$50,000, or if a handgun is unique or rare.

When we have to make a decision, our competency is the driving force. If we don’t know the answer to a question, we will bring in a professional who has more knowledge about that item.

We refer all jewelry, coins and mineral inquiries to Robert Connelly and firearm collections to Steven Raether. Both are the only two ISA appraisers in Arizona who have the expertise in their selected areas.

Competency should be the driving force not only in the life of an appraiser but with every professional.

— Contact Tom Helms at the123@cox.net or A-Z Appraisal & Estate Consultants, 5525 N. 12th St., Phoenix, Arizona 85014.



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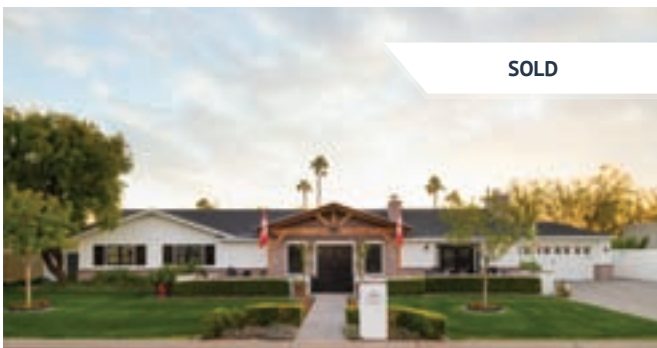


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5104 E Calle del Norte \$3,100,000
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5939 E Orange Blossom Lane
NEW CONSTRUCTION

SOLD



8544 N 58th Place \$1,520,000
4 bed / 3 bath / 3,694 sqft

PENDING



5515 E Estrid Ave
4 bed / 3.5 bath / 5,168 sqft / 26k lot

PENDING



4735 E Calle Del Medio \$2,350,000
5 bed / 4 bath / 4,473 sqft

PENDING



4601 N Arcadia Drive \$1,150,000
30,000 sqft lot

NEW PRICE



4825 E Exeter Blvd \$1,595,000
27,748 sqft lot

“Meet Mr.” | Ray Artigue

A.J. Maestas

By Ray Artigue

One of the newer residents of Arcadia, and one of the most enthusiastic, has traveled a long road to find himself among the citrus trees and bike paths that help define this iconic neighborhood.

“I was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, and never imagined that I’d end up in such paradise,” said 43-year-old transplant A.J. Maestas. “It’s just incredible, and so are all my neighbors.”

Maestas and his wife, Lacey, first discovered Arcadia while visiting a friend and soon after that began exploring it on bikes. He says they instantly knew it was where they wanted to live. No doubt, Maestas’ appreciation for the neighborhood has to do with everywhere else he has resided. He left Alaska to attend the University of Washington and battled the constant rain. From there, it was onto chilly New York City and, ultimately, the snowstorms of Chicago.

Maestas earned his MBA from ASU but left the Valley upon graduation to start Navigate, a sports business consulting firm headquartered in Chicago. Today, the company is an industry leader serving every major sports league, network and numerous teams and brands. Though Navigate remains headquartered in the Windy City, Maestas oversees operations from a regional office in Phoenix. The tradeoff is frequent domestic and international travel.

“Growing up, my dad wasn’t around much, and I witnessed

how hard my mom worked to raise us all. I guess I adopted my work ethic from her,” Maestas said.

He put himself through college, where he met Lacey, and worked landscaping jobs in the summers and delivered pizzas during the school year to pay for the tuition that was not covered by a scholarship. “Work comes naturally for me, and I quickly learned I couldn’t work for others.”

Maestas has many business accolades, including being in *Sports Business Journal*’s prestigious “Forty Under 40” in 2015. Navigate has been named one of the “101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work for in the U.S.” for the last five years and is lauded as a “Top 10 Place to Work in Sports” by *Forbes Magazine*.

“Incredibly, we have been a part of some of the most transformative chapters in sports over the past decade,” Maestas said. Citing examples like NFL team relocations, NHL expansion, the launch of the XFL, and NCAA realignment, he is quick to point out that it’s the people – his clients and his employees – that he enjoys most. “I just love the people I work with and don’t plan ever to retire.”

Asked who has most influenced him along the way, Maestas names a dozen people, including his 3rd-grade teacher who used visualization and meditation in the classroom, and his wife of 20 years. “Lacey has had an amplifying effect on me,” he said.

Other factors that have molded Maestas are the many self-improvement books that he devours and an inner circle of friends he describes as being committed to growth and contributions. “I’m pretty sure my life’s mission is to give to others, I just haven’t figured out exactly who and how.”

Maestas most certainly is pointed in the right direction as he already serves on several youth-related boards, including Boys and Girls Clubs of Phoenix, Big Brothers & Big Sisters and After School Matters.

“My life has already exceeded my wildest dreams, and living in Arcadia is just the icing on the cake.”



My life's mission is to give to others.

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Cheryl has been our go to agent as long as we have been in the valley. Any questions I have she is always there to help. She listens to what you want. Best real estate agent around! Great work Cheryl. — V. H.

Cheryl was always one step ahead in the process of selling our home. She respected our home and represented it as if it was her own. The attention to detail she provided for us was priceless. — J. A.



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Should I be Facebook friends with my boss?

By Angela Copeland

A reader recently asked about an issue on the minds of many professionals: Should you become “friends” with your colleagues on social media?



In my job as a digital marketer, I’ve used social media as a tool to connect with colleagues. And while today’s workforce is more casual and open than in the past, I believe that interactions on social media should be limited to family and loved ones. If a colleague is close enough, then perhaps they should be considered. But beyond that, work should be separate.

There are many things in life that are best kept separate from work, whether it’s politics, finances or love. Your social media life is also something you should keep separate. You may be sharing photos and political opinions with your friends and family that you may not want to share with work colleagues. The last thing you want is for your weekend activities to potentially affect your relationship with coworkers. You never know if someone may treat you differently based on what they see on your social media. And they’re not going to tell you.

CAREER ADVICE

Keeping your social media presence separate from your work life can also help to increase your perceived level of professionalism. I’m often asked to speak about “executive presence,” which is related to how people perceive you at work. This presence can influence whether you’re promoted or considered for more advanced work.

As tempting as it is to want to be friends with your colleagues on social media, think twice before doing it. There are many pitfalls to this that you may not see now.

You may even want to take it a step further. You may want to make a universal policy that you don’t become friends with anyone on social media who you currently work with. That way, no one will get their feelings hurt when they realize that you’ve friended someone else, but not them. The one exception to all of this is LinkedIn. LinkedIn is an excellent way to maintain and grow your professional network.

— Angela Copeland is a career expert and founder of Copeland Coaching. She can be reached at copelandcoaching.com.



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URBAN PHOENIX

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By Cody Kennedy

When walking into Urban Phoenix Café, the first thing people will likely notice is the walls covered in murals and artwork from local Phoenix artists. They might also hear the hip hop music coming through the speakers (which is also why there is a PARENTAL ADVISORY sticker on the window).

Chefs and owners Steven Contreras and Keri Frazier opened the café in November 2019 in the Gaslight Square complex on 36th Street and Indian School. They describe it as a “relaxed, funky concept that is reinventing the way Arizonans eat breakfast and lunch.”

Contreras created several of the art



The Roots Burrito



The Throwback Burrito

PLACES WE LIKE

pieces, along with several former “street vandals” who have turned into legitimate artists. There are pieces by Zander Arizona, Paul Martinez, Nick Rodgers, Laz Rocha, Porky Martinez and the Graff Aholeks Crew.

“We are inspired by the street art culture of Phoenix. There is a lot of talent here and the artists’ stories are as dope as their art,” Frazier said.

The dining area has an industrial feel to it, with tables and a few booths in the back corner; patio seating is also available.

One of the more curious murals is that of a fake Latin saying (from a famous novel) that spans the length of the building, near the ceiling. If you can translate the saying, you get a free taco. We accepted the challenge. After a little deliberation, we figured it out and were presented with the THC taco: grilled Spam, cabbage slaw, fancy sauce, cotija and hot Cheeto dust.

If you’re picturing a rubbery slab of Spam, don’t. Presented on a flour tortilla, the meat was grilled crispy – but not too crispy – and covered with a generous helping of slaw and fancy sauce. It was sweet with a mild kick.

Frazier and Contreras have been business partners for around two years. Their names are associated with Federal Pizza, Spiga Italiano, Hatter and Hare and the Left Coast Burrito food truck. Contreras has been in the restaurant industry for a decade, while Frazier spent time moving

back and forth from cooking to front of the house management. Urban Phoenix is their first brick-and-mortar together.

“I was a tattoo artist and I wasn’t making enough money, so I decided to get a kitchen job to hold me over and moved up from there,” Contreras said.

“I always knew I would own a restaurant,” Frazier said. “This concept came so authentically and organically but really out of the blue and I couldn’t be happier with it.”

The pair were brought in as managing partners of 3on Smith Café and ran it for two months before realizing that their creativity and passion was being underutilized with the restaurant’s menu and brand.

“We love being inventive in the kitchen, and both of us get bored pretty easily. We wanted to bring our passion and love for food and people into our space. We love pushing boundaries, and not just for the sake of it, but to truly improve the taste of the food and the vibe of the experience,” Frazier said. “I have lived in Arcadia for the past 10 years and knew what we needed to do to stand out.”

Frazier said they are trying to set the bar in the Valley when it comes to breakfast tacos and burritos, without being put in a specific genre.

“We want to blend cultures and ingredients into something that tastes good without having to abide by any specific type of cuisine. I think that is what Phoenix is all about really,” Frazier said. “Neither of us came up from any formal culinary training and everything



Green Chile Bowl



THC Taco

we’ve learned has been from the kitchens we worked in, so I feel that enables us to kind of think outside of the box and not be afraid to push boundaries and get creative.”

Boasting a menu of breakfast and lunch tacos, burritos and “rad plates,” my friends and I decided we should try one of each. The Roots comes as a burrito or a bowl and includes eggs, sweet potato, poblano, pico, avocado, jack cheese and chipotle crema. It was massive and filling.

We also tried The Throwback – carne asada, crispy fries and chipotle crema – and the Green Chile Bowl with slow-cooked green chile pork, cotija, pepitas and cilantro. We all left full and with to-go boxes in hand.

For more: urbanphoenixcafe.com.

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Celebrating the 50th anniversary of Earth Day

Local Earth Day activities and events may change; readers are encouraged to do their own research.

By Evan Gower

This year's Earth Day will celebrate its 50th anniversary on April 22. The theme for 2020 is climate action, and local schools in Arcadia planned on spending the day – and even the month – teaching children new and inventive ways to help keep the planet clean.

U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson started Earth Day in 1970 as a response to growing concern over industrial waste and other toxins that were affecting the environment. Over 20 million people rallied around the United States on April 22, 1970 to demonstrate for a healthier environment.

The success of the first Earth Day led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts. Over the years, the overall message of Earth Day has shifted from conservation efforts to advocating for a clean environment.

Students at various Arcadia schools will take part in Earth Day activities that focus on how to keep the Earth clean. At Christ Lutheran School, students will participate in the City of Phoenix's "Keep Phoenix Clean" program and have an assembly with the Recyclesaurus (a dinosaur that teaches kids ways to treat the environment better).

Christ Lutheran will also have a "green" architect talk to students about designing environmentally friendly buildings. There is also a third-grade "green team," said Megan Gotshall, the service-learning/outreach coordinator at CLS. "They spend one day a week with their green vests and trash clippers, cleaning up our campus."

At Biltmore Preparatory Academy, third graders will learn and perform a special song for an Earth Day assembly.



Biltmore Prep Principal Stephanie DeMar said, "We are fortunate to have one of our student's parents, Donna Larson, helping to coordinate some of our Earth Day activities. [She] is working with some local agencies to promote at our assemblies and helping our teachers become familiar with the lessons from recyclingsimplified.com."

Hopi Elementary's Environmental Club plans to celebrate Earth Day with its Penny Wars, where they collect money to send to the Rainforest Trust. The school will also observe what they call Hopi Earth Hour, where for the first hour of the school day, all

classes will turn off lights and technology to bring attention to the significant issue of climate change.

Hopi plans to celebrate Earth Day for the remaining month of April. Each day the school will challenge its student to one task that makes a positive difference for the planet, such as turning off the lights when not in a room, investing in a metal straw, or volunteering for environmental-related events.

Besides events hosted by local schools, the City of Scottsdale organized an art contest for local K-12 students to submit

artwork with the theme of "The Art of the Tree." The winners of the competition will receive a gift basket and are recognized at a City Council meeting. Their artwork will be on display at the Earth Day Mayor and Council Breakfast at Horizon Park.

There are plenty of other activities for families and kids to do in celebration of Earth Day. Some ideas include creating art with items found in the recycling bin, planting a tree, making s'mores in a solar oven, or making a terrarium mini-garden. Find more ideas at climatekids.nasa.gov.

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AHS students encouraged to apply for AN scholarship

By Cody Kennedy

Arcadia News would like to remind students at Arcadia High School of the scholarship opportunity we offer. The award has been in place since 2005.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must meet the following requirements:

- A desire to continue education in the realm of journalism, broadcasting, communications, or other media-related fields.
- Obtain at least one written recommendation from a current or former teacher, counselor or community leader who is familiar with the student and his or her drive and determination in the pursuit of knowledge.

• Write a one or two-page essay telling us about your educational and career aspirations and what you've done so far to get ready for your educational pursuits and any related awards you've earned, media classes, etc.

The winner of the scholarship will have their own story published in the next edition of the paper.

Interested Arcadia High students are encouraged to contact College and Career Coordinator Jacque Stauff at jstauff@susd.org or (480) 484-6300 ext. 46364. All submissions should be given to the College and Career Center.

For more: editor@arcadianews.com.

Local couple helps cancer patients through their foundation

By Jennifer Marshall

An Arcadia couple is making it their mission to support and educate cancer patients so they can navigate their way back to a healthy life. Husband and wife cancer survivors Chuck and Hannah Keels recently established the Living Hope Cancer Foundation.

"In 2015, I was diagnosed with stage 4 prostate cancer," Chuck said, "and I was given three months to live. Because the cancer had spread to my bones, I ended up in the hospital with a broken back. After two surgeries, I had a spiritual event where I saw a vision of Jesus, and I started healing so fast that the doctors told me that my journey was not medical, it was miraculous."

This journey inspired him to start helping other cancer patients. Last summer, his cousin, Heather, contacted him because her friend, Hannah, had not only battled stage 4 breast cancer, but she was also in the process of writing a book. Since Chuck had also written and published a book entitled *Hi...I'm Chuck!*, Heather thought he'd be the perfect mentor for Hannah.

"I was diagnosed with breast cancer in August of 2016," Hannah said. "Earlier that year, my husband of 21 years decided to leave me. That year, I endured a divorce, underwent a double mastectomy, and because I had four sons, I returned to work full-time."

Her book, *Faith Like Skin*, was initially supposed to detail her trial with breast cancer, but it ended up being a



Hannah and Chuck Keels bonded through tragedy and healing.

story about how she overcame five significant stresses. In the space of two and a half years, Hannah moved across the country, weathered a divorce, mourned the death of her

best friend and dealt with the loss of her nursing career due to her compromised immune system.

"I experienced loss upon loss," Hannah said, "and my book describes how I grew in my faith as I handled these challenges."

Shortly after Hannah and Chuck met, they fell in love. After marrying on January 1 of this year, the couple created the Living Hope Cancer Foundation.

"Working with cancer patients is deep in our hearts," Chuck said, "and our stories are giving people hope and guidance. After everything we had gone through, we knew we needed to do this full-time, and the only way we could do it was to start a 501(c) nonprofit."

With a driving passion, the Keels dug in with the same determination they had when writing their books and built a website full of valuable information like health and wellness tips, a support group and live chats that people can join.

"When you're diagnosed with cancer," Hannah said, "it's one of the scariest times of your life. Often, there's no one there to tell you everything is going to be okay and 'you can fight this.' We speak from our own experiences, and we spread hope and inspire people to live."

"We do coaching and give inspirational talks around the country," Chuck said. "From hospitals to cancer clinics to churches. We travel to wherever we're needed."

For more: livinghopecancerfoundation.com.

Danielle Williams: A study in resilience

By Melissa Hirsch

With unbridled enthusiasm, comedian Danielle Williams aims to delight audiences throughout the Phoenix area and across the U.S. A California transplant, she has performed at the Tempe Improv, Improv Mania, Funny Bones and more.

Her persona is that of a best friend, relating observations and humorous stories about her longtime love of wigs, dating, life transitions, working out, body issues and basic universal experiences.

Williams' attempt at an open mic night in 2013 became the catalyst for her foray into the world of comedy.

She is a multi-faceted entertainer, who has a prolific professional television and radio career. She won a California radio contest in 2000. The prize provided her a fantasy many dreams about – the opportunity to attend the 2000 Grammy awards. This contest also helped launch her career in the entertainment industry – the radio station thought she did such an excellent job in telling the audience about her experience, they hired her for other spots.

Her innate knack for relating her experiences to radio audiences became the genesis for sending her career into overdrive. She soon became a lucrative "lifestyle and entertainment" reporter. Williams has been a co-host on local Power 92.3 radio, traffic anchor for iHeartMedia, entertainment field report for *Arizona Entertainment Weekly* and a TV host on *Shop A to Z TV*.

In the fall of 2018, Williams was at the top of her game, physically and mentally. She had just turned 50 and had graduated



Williams has taken her act from small stages across the Valley, all the way to Washington, D.C.

with an associate's degree in journalism from Scottsdale Community College. To celebrate, Danielle went to Miami for a week-long vacation with friends. But when she returned, life threw a curveball.

Williams' health started going downhill, despite her rigorous exercise and healthy eating regime. Her back hurt and she had lost considerable weight. The diagnosis was unimaginable: stage four lung cancer.

For a non-smoker, the news was confounding and traumatic.

"The cancer was microscopic in my lungs," she explained. "To make it worse, it had spread to my spine, pelvis, and top of the right shoulder." Williams endured 30 days of radiation, followed by weekly chemotherapy treatments every three weeks. Despite her diagnosis and treatments, Williams has an indomitable

will to survive. "I told my doctor he's going to have to find a cure," she recalled. "I'm not going anywhere."

If there is a silver lining in Williams' story, it's that she is a co-chair of the American Lung Association and was nominated to be this year's advocate for Advocacy Day in D.C. "The purpose is to raise awareness for research, continued funding, and the creation of new avenues of opportunity for other non-smokers who developed lung cancer," she explained. "It's the number one killer of cancers," said Williams, "and the least funded."

Part of what keeps Williams emotionally secure and motivated is her positive attitude and emotional courage. "I run five miles every Saturday, go to the gym one or two nights a week, and hike Camelback Mountain," she said. "I push myself and live life like I don't have this disease. Your body is a muscle; it's mind over matter."

Williams continues to perform at venues throughout the Valley. "Comedy has been a great way to see my cancer through a different lens," she said. "Laughter is the best medicine, and comedy has helped me laugh through some of the dark days."

Williams is also very active on social media, with her story featured on Channels 12 and 15, as well as the nationally syndicated TV show, *Right this Minute*. To support and educate other cancer patients, she shares her treatments on Facebook Live, including her transfusions. "This is how transformation and change happens," she said. "It keeps people aware and keeps the conversation going. It inspires people."

For more: daniellewilliamscomedy.com.



Griffin Finke's submission.



This year's New Horizons scholarship winners.

Shemer hosts New Horizons High School Student Art Exhibit

By Jennifer Marshall

The Shemer Art Center recently hosted its annual New Horizons High School Student Art Exhibit, showcasing the best pieces of artwork from Valley high school students.

In its 34th year, the exhibit displayed over 70 pieces of work and gave out 66 scholarships. And this year, two Arcadia High School students earned awards for their art.

Shemer invites every high school in the Valley to participate in the exhibition. Once a school decides to take part, that school's art teachers are asked to select the two best pieces of artwork that have been created by

their students. Once the selections are made, images of the works are sent to Shemer.

This year, 36 high schools submitted artwork to the exhibit. In addition to the excitement of having their art on display, these students had the opportunity to earn a \$50, \$75 or \$100 scholarship.

Twenty-nine community donors provided funds for the student scholarships this year, and the donors chose what pieces they thought were worthy of an award. The Shemer Art Center also bestowed two student scholarship awards.

Arcadia High senior Griffin Finke, an AP

art student, won The Linton-Barnhill Award for his oil painting, and junior Lois Landry received The Sally Orkild Memorial Award for her 3D sculpture.

In mid-January, the winning students attended an awards ceremony where they received their scholarships.

Shemer President and Executive Director Shonna James said that 25 more scholarships were given out this year than in 2019. "We're very fortunate to be able to host this annual exhibition where we can showcase, support and inspire these emerging young Arizona artists."

Every year, this exhibit features different types of artwork. The subject matter ranges from projects the students are working on in class to works that represent a natural form of self-expression.

"We see a lot of different mediums," James said, "especially mixed media. We also receive paintings, sculptures, drawings, ceramics, jewelry, and 3D and 2D art forms."

"This is very inspiring for the students to have their work on display," James said. "It gives them the inspiration to continue on their artistic journey."

Family-owned sausage shop an Arcadia staple

By Kaylee McClaine

For almost 40 years, the German Sausage Company has been serving the Arcadia community. The owners of the establishment – the Scherz family – started their sausage business six generations ago in a small village in Germany.

Owner Joërg Scherz was born in Heidelberg, where his family owned one of two butcher shops in the village.

In the early 1980s, Scherz's father wanted to expand the family business, and the family had an acquaintance in Phoenix who owned an established German bakery.

"My dad was looking to relocate since my brother and I wanted to get into the family business. We liked the weather and the area in Phoenix, so we moved and started fresh here in America," Scherz said.

When they arrived in Phoenix, the family decided to combine their sausage business with the German bakery. Both establishments were in the same building for several years, located on Indian School Road and 49th St.

Scherz's dad has since bought out the building, and the bakery moved down the street.

While the sausage-making business may run in Scherz's family, he had to work extremely hard to run his shop. He had to complete three years of an apprenticeship, where he worked four days a week in a butcher shop and attended school one day a week.

After completing the apprenticeship, Scherz became a journeyman and worked in the meat business for four years to gain the necessary experience.

He then went back to Germany for his master's degree. Scherz said that he studied for up to 14 hours a day, six days a week, to earn his master's. The degree taught him the rules, regulations, laws and bookkeeping that is central to running his shop. Scherz returned to Arizona after completing



From Germany to America, this company has been serving meats to Arcadia and Valley residents for over 40 years.

his degree and began using what he learned in the family business.

Scherz's hard work paid off, and now he continues the family business, while also teaching his son-in-law about sausage making. Scherz hopes that his family will keep the business and be the seventh generation to make authentic German sausage.

"I make meat how they do in Germany. All of our spices and casings are shipped from Germany and remain authentic. I don't use fillers or artificial fillings, and the meat is as fresh as possible," Scherz said.

With more than 60 different meats, customers can find sausages like smoked schinkenwurst, traditional meats, leberknoedel and knackwurst. In addition to sausage, there

is a variety of cooked ham, smoked ham and other lunch meats. Each meat in the butcher shop can also be found in a traditional butcher shop in Germany.

"I want to make the best and highest quality meats and then sell them at a reasonable price. I enjoy what I do, and I've been doing it for over 40 years," said Scherz.

Scherz serves the Arcadia community with a simple business motto: treat the people right and give the best authentic meat for the best prices.

Scherz hopes to continue serving the people of the Valley and possibly beyond, as he has begun to consider shipping products from his shop. He wants to keep his storefront going and hopefully take it easy once his son-in-law takes over.

For more: germansausageaz.com.



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OUT OF THE AREA, BUT WORTH THE DRIVE



Easter Bunny Express at Verde Canyon Railroad in Clarkdale.

Dear Readers,

As of press time, these events are still active. For the most up-to-date information, please check the websites listed at the end of each submission.

*Thank you,
Arcadia News*

SUNDAY 4/12

Easter Dinner Cruise

6 p.m. at Lake Pleasant, 8708 W. Harbor Blvd., Peoria. Enjoy dinner and views of Lake Pleasant for this year's Easter celebration. Guests will enjoy a buffet-style dinner featuring prime rib with all the fixings, live music by local artist Ronny Lee and a fully-stocked cash bar. Tickets are \$68 for adults and \$48 for kids. For more: lakepleasantcruises.com.

SATURDAY 4/4

JDRF One Walk

7 a.m. at Sloan Park, 2330 W. Rio Salado Pkwy., Mesa. The annual JDRF One Walk helps to raise funds and awareness for Type 1 Diabetes. From the JDRF: "In the best interest of mitigating risk to the T1D community, we are shifting our Walk to an online experience." For more: jdrf.org.

Nacho Throwdown

5 p.m. at Dove of the Desert United Methodist Church, 7201 W. Beardsley Road, Glendale. Make sure to wear your stretchy pants for this one. Ten food trucks will battle it out for the best nachos at the first-ever Nacho Throwdown. Guests can sample and vote for their favorites while also enjoying live music, activities and if there's room, dessert. This event is free. For more: visit the Nacho Throwdown 4/4 Facebook page.

SATURDAY 4/11

Easter Bunny Express

11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Verde Canyon Railroad, 300 N. Broadway, Clarkdale. Make Easter an adventure with the Easter Bunny Express. Guests will enjoy face-painting and photo ops with Peter Cottontail before boarding the train and experiencing the views. There will also be plenty of candy to be had, along with a jelly bean counting contest. Registration is \$100 per person. For more: verdecanyonrr.com.

SAT. 4/18 – SUN. 4/19

Women's Spring Paddle Campout

2 p.m.-11 a.m. Sunday, at the Frazier Group Site, Roosevelt Lake. Ladies, if you're the outdoorsy type, this is one event you won't want to miss. This weekend's campout includes kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding and yoga on paddleboards, plus catered dinner and a campout under the stars. Tickets are \$109 for the weekend. For more: rei.com.

SATURDAY 4/25

Arizona Craft Spirits & Cocktail Festival

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DID YOU KNOW? APRIL FOOLS' DAY

WHEN? 1582

Some historians believe that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved to January 1 and continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes. — kidskonnnect.com



WHAT YEAR?

1985

The April 1985 issue of *Sports Illustrated* revealed that the New York Mets had signed a rookie pitcher named Sidd Finch who could throw a baseball at 168 mph – 65 mph faster than the previous record. — hoaxes.org



WHAT YEAR?

1976

During an early-morning interview on BBC Radio 2, British astronomer Patrick Moore announced that at 9:47 a.m. that day a once-in-a-lifetime astronomical event was going to occur. Pluto would pass behind Jupiter, and this planetary alignment would temporarily counteract and lessen the Earth's gravity. The station began receiving hundreds of phone calls from listeners claiming to have felt the sensation. — ohfact.com



2008

The BBC announced that camera crews filming near the Antarctic for its natural history series *Miracles of Evolution* had captured footage of Adélie penguins taking to the air.

It even offered a video clip of these flying penguins, which quickly became one of the most viewed videos on the internet. A follow-up video explained how the BBC created the special effects of the flying penguins. — hoaxes.org



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ARCADIA NEWS

APRIL FOOLS' DAY

FUN APRIL FOOLS' DAY FACTS

- The earliest recorded association between April 1, pranks and foolishness can be found in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, which was written between 1387-1400.
- 1940: Philadelphia's Franklin Institute issued a press release declaring that the world would end the following day.
- 1983: BMW's UK division ran an ad in British papers revealing that they had designed a sunroof that could be kept open even in the rain.
- 1995: *Discover* magazine reported that the biologist Dr. Aprile Pazzo had found a new species in Antarctica: the hotheaded naked ice borer.
- 1997: Forty-six comic-strip artists conspired to pen each other's comic strips for the day.
- 1996: Taco Bell announced that they had purchased the Liberty Bell and were renaming it the Taco Liberty Bell. People were really angry until they found out it was a joke.
- 1998: Burger King published a full-page advertisement in *USA Today* announcing the introduction of a new item to their menu: a "Left-Handed Whopper" specially designed for the 32 million left-handed Americans.



APRIL FOOLS' WORD SEARCH

V K A I Q D L N G Z V L M C Y R J K W V A P C H E
K C C P Z Y N A R A W K F U L B E I Y H K O F E H
V H R U R Z P I R T S C I M O C B B B A A I T L P
F A A O U I P J U E S G B U S Z W Y P X N A K A Y
F U K W W I L P B G T F U F L L E B O C A T Q N D
A C A G Z D F F E L N I V D W E J D H W I O W G I
C E E I K A A D O H E E P M R U W I E N E R H L K
I R I Y A G Z E T O P O P U M E C D F D A M N E C
T U T A L P S W G C L W K Q J N V J V W T I I J Y
C W G W V N T Z B L H S T V F J Z O A I V N L A V
R X F Q I W P Q F O C M D J Z P A K C L Q X J U T
A M X X R X D E P G A V N A E P P E E S X S H Q J
T H R U S P C P F W L N I W Y R J T M U I W J K A
N A L N O V E G H O U V L U H X I X C T R D I V V
A G I G E R R P B E G L K D E Q F N G J Y V H S G
O L B R O V L J B O N V N T S C R Z U N K A B A A
L N E E C M Q R M A I I A P V P E X V R Q D B I L
W Q R G U N S H Z S K K R L Z Z Z O T V J P Q P M
N X T O A Z T C I V R F F U O U C N U R G I T U W
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G P E A U X F O H Q R S O R H B C O D C Y J S P L
N B L N H U K M U E U K T V O X Z Q U L C R S O P
J W L F X R I X D A B N H D D G B U B K L B E Y Z
I M D V R L Z X C I V Y C S L A L A J Z M F Y J P

SAY WHAT?

A TRAGIC APRIL FOOLS' DAY JOKE

In 1945, the weather broadcast department announced a tsunami in the Aleutian Islands on April 1. Since many people thought that it was a prank, they didn't mind the announcement and tragedy hit. It resulted in 165+ casualties and over \$26 million in damage. — ohfact.com

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From left: Dylan Vant Hull, Randy Perry and Jeremy Domon.

Disc Golf Pro Tour event held in Scottsdale

Story and photos by Max Bechtoldt

The 2020 Disc Golf Pro Tour kickoff event, called the Memorial Championship, was held in Scottsdale and Fountain Hills during the last week of February.

This is the fourth year the Memorial Championship was held in Scottsdale.

The tournament had four rounds, with the first two rounds held in Fountain Hills, and the last held at Vista Del Camino Park. It also featured a fan festival called ZUCA fest, which featured food, outdoor games, live music and prizes for fans. It also allowed attendees to learn more about the sport.

Disc Golf Pro Tour Director and CEO Jeff Spring said disc golf is a more affordable and more sustainable sporting option to traditional golf, or as he calls it, “ball golf.”

“This event is the big one that kicks off the season, it’s got a big prize purse of over \$15,000,” said Spring. “It’s a great location for the pro tour. There’s great weather; it’s ideal for disc golf.”

Spring started as a recreational player before moving on to the competitive side. He took his involvement to the next level when he became a course designer, which opened the door to becoming the director of the Disc Golf Pro Tour. He said he is delighted with the progress the tour has made.

“As the years have progressed, there have been more and more professional disc golf players who can support themselves through touring,” said Spring.

Disc golf has the same general rules as traditional golf, but discs/Frisbees® replace the balls and clubs. Players all begin on a

tee and have to get to a basket that is their final target. After each throw comes to rest, the player then throws the disc from that location. The object is to get the disc inside the basket in as few throws as possible. Like in golf, every hole has a par value, either three, four, or five.

Disc golf’s origins go as far back as the early 1900s, but disc golf’s game today materialized in the 1960s, though its exact origin is unknown. Currently, the United States has 75% of all the disc golf courses in the world, with about 6,600 across the country. The next closest is Finland, with only 615.

The men’s winner of the 2020 Memorial Championship was Calvin Heimburg, who shot a very strong -46 over the four-day tournament. He was followed closely by Eagle McMahon, who shot a -44, and Paul McBeth, who shot a -41. On the women’s side, Paige Pierce dominated the field, shooting -32 and winning by a staggering 14 shots over runner-up Jennifer Allen.

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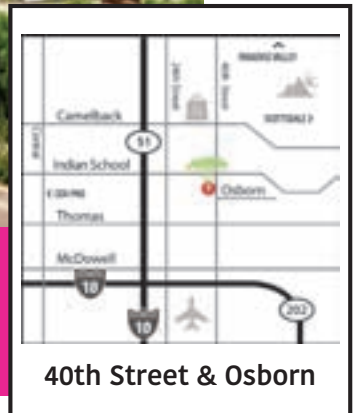
Men in Kilts isn't what you think it is – this company is all about the home and keeping it fresh and clean, but the employees DO wear kilts. Men in Kilts recently opened their

latest Arizona location at 16th Street near Camelback. The company focuses mainly on window and gutter cleaning and pressure washing. For more: meninkilts.com.



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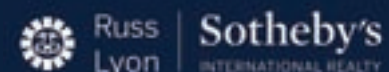
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AHS spiritline flies high, finishes on top at state

By Rachael Bouley

After strong seasons from the AHS spiritline program, the talented Titans took things to the next level as the cheer squad won the state championship and pom took second as state runners-up.

The road to the championships included plenty of early practices, countless run-throughs of routines and a few significant milestones along the way.

Before these teams could showcase their strengths on the state stage, they needed to make it through the Arizona Interscholastic Association's (AIA) State Qualifiers in November. They didn't just qualify, but they dominated the competition, with the cheer team coming in first and the pom team placing second out of 22 teams.

Their energetic performances set the tone for the rest of the season as both the cheer and pom squads continued to improve, tweaking their performances to get better each time. With tireless enthusiasm and energy for performing, the Titans were set for success at the state level.

Cheer Head Coach Moriah Johnson said watching the girls win state is something she will never forget. "It was amazing. I couldn't believe it," Johnson said. "This team came and put all their hard work together to perform their best routine yet. It was stunning, and as a coach, it was the best feeling to watch them hit."

The 15 athletes had numerous practices



PHOTO COURTESY OF MORIAH JOHNSON

Back row, from left: Head Coach Moriah Johnson, Morgan Holloway, Charlotte Crowson, Madison McGrath, Molly Myers-Haeussler, Serenity Brunning, Anna Gibb, Anya Kleinlein. Front row: Gianna Rosenboom, Brinley Strand, May Gilbert, Paige Pender, Camey Barnoli, Amber Serna, Angelina Aponte, Sophia Henry, Assistant Coach Lindsey Stone.

and trained for days to prepare for the state championship, with a long list of stunts they had to hit in a row. Their routine included high tumbling passes with layouts, fulls and K-twist baskets, all complicated moves that require careful coordination and timing.

"The captains made a poster for the girls

to add a sticker to for every time they hit a perfect routine," Johnson said. "It was intense, but they did amazing."

The Titans kept working to make their routines more difficult with every competition so that they could continue building their skills and come up with

something special to wow the judges.

Johnson believes their commitment and passion was the key to success for both the cheer and pom squads.

"It has to do with the love these girls have for each other and the sport. They love what they do, and it shows when they perform," Johnson said. "They bring so much energy when they hit the mat. They go out there and perform for the crowd and each other."

All year long, the cheer team kept saying "families finish first," and that strong sense of comradery and friendship propelled the Titans toward a season to remember.

Johnson and Coach Ashley Parcell instilled in them early the importance of coming together as a team and having positive attitudes, which paid off with their first and second place finishes at state.

Throughout the season, Parcell enjoyed getting to watch these girls grow as athletes, students and teammates.

"I have never met another group of girls who know how to work so hard and come together as a team for the common goal," Parcell said. "They have great communication with each other and love each other like a family. They are my dream team. As a coach, all I ever want is for my athletes to take the floor and put their heart and passion out there and give it their all. The outcome doesn't matter as long as they do and feel their best and they never fail to do just that."

New coach leads Veritas boys soccer to state championship

By Amanda Savage

Veritas Prep Academy's varsity boys soccer team is the first boys team in the school's history to win a state championship in 3A in 2020, and it was accomplished under the leadership of the soccer team's new coach, Richard Cardenas.

Cardenas was previously the coach of Veritas' middle school boys soccer, which has won consecutive championships under his instruction.

When the boys varsity soccer coach left unexpectedly in 2018, Cardenas stepped in. The team's record the year before Cardenas was 6-9, and the first year under his guidance, the team went 15-2 and made it to the semifinals (where they lost to Coronado).

"It is very easy for these young athletes to get mentally fatigued and not have enough emotional energy that tough games require to win. The proper mix of encouragement and fun must be applied with the hard work to keep them confident and focused," said Cardenas.

According to the boys team, achieving a high level of focus and confidence individually and as a team was one of their greatest challenges for the season.

"We had a goal to win state and were disciplined in achieving this goal," said Marshall Briggs, a senior and center attacking middle fielder.

"I enjoy the competition, but I also enjoy the dynamics of having to organize a new batch of players into a winning team every year," said Cardenas.

Even though the varsity soccer team had never won a state championship, Cardenas saw their potential based on their stats from last year and the dynamic personalities on the team.

"The team camaraderie was exceptional. From top to bottom, everybody got along extremely well," said Cardenas.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICH CARDENAS

Veritas' varsity soccer team celebrates a phenomenal season, where they won their first state championship.

Sam Zook, a junior left middle fielder, echoed this and explained, "this year, everything just clicked."

According to Cardenas, the team faced many injuries that became "difficult to manage" throughout the season.

"We had a lot of them and had to sit out key players in difficult games," said Cardenas. "The team had good depth, so we did not lose any talent on the field when we substituted players."

Despite their struggles, the team qualified for the semifinals.

Briggs said that playing in the state tournament was the "best atmosphere" he had ever played in. He was one of the three seniors who led the team, along with goalie Ben Power and forward Jason Nunez. Nunez holds the record for most goals scored in Veritas' history. Junior Landon Briggs

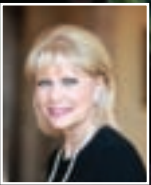
and sophomore Brody Richter are credited by onlookers as anchoring the team's defense.

In the end, they beat their rivals at Coronado, who ousted them in the semifinals the previous year. Coronado or Yuma Catholic had won the state championship the previous six years. Veritas ended the regular season with a 10-1 record.

Junior and center middle fielder Filo Lapiana was awarded the team's most valuable player. He said that the experience helped him build self-confidence and "grow up as a player and as a person."

The historical win led to Cardenas being named state Coach of the Year in the 3A division for 2019 and 2020. "I just try to read the team's energy and tailor my coaching to it," said Cardenas.

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AHS football program introduces new coach

By Mallory Gleich

After the tumultuous season Arcadia High football had last year, it seemed like a dark cloud was following the team around. However, brighter skies are up ahead as the Titans welcome their newest member, Coach Vance Miller, for the upcoming football season.

Miller started coaching football in 1994 at Saguaro High School as the freshmen defensive coordinator. Before coming to Arcadia High, he was the head coach at Apache Junction High from 2014-19, and the school's defensive coordinator before that. Miller has been the JV head coach at Desert Mountain and the varsity defensive line and strength coach at Paradise Valley High School. He has also coached Pop Warner as well as middle and high school track.

Miller was born in Phoenix and moved around quite a bit, as his father was in the Air Force. He lived in Oklahoma, Germany, Texas and California before moving back to Phoenix in fifth grade.

Growing up, Miller had a very active childhood. He started playing soccer at six years old in Germany, continuing in Texas and Phoenix, and playing at Saguaro through his sophomore year.

He ran track until his junior year of high school, participating in relays and throwing shot put. He was also a wrestler and a baseball player, and he played football in middle school and high school, and then for the former Arizona Football League's Scottsdale Thunder semi-pro team for three years.

"I didn't know I wanted to be a coach until I received a call from Saguaro Athletic Director Bob Keller the summer of 1994 asking me to join the freshmen staff. I was hooked," Miller said. "The relationships I make with the players and their families are unparalleled. It's amazing to watch the kids grow up into responsible adults and know



Vance Miller

I had a little something to do with it."

Miller said that when it comes to coaching, he lives by a motto that he also teaches to athletes: "Don't get by, get better."

"I want them to constantly think about

how they can improve their lives in the classroom, on the field, and at home," he said. "I want them to respect their families, friends, and most importantly, themselves. I don't want them to settle for average or complacency. I want them always to view challenges and obstacles in life as opportunities."

Miller said that he has to remind himself at times that he's working with kids.

"Most things in football that we as coaches look at as second nature is all new for them. We always get back to basics, no matter how old they are," he said. "We strive to perfect the fundamentals because fundamentals never change. Then we can

build from there."

The season doesn't start until the end of July, but Miller said that because football in Arizona has become very competitive, athletes should stay in-tune and in-shape year-round.

"At first glance, there looks to be a good number of athletes at the varsity level, so I'm excited to see how much football they know," Miller said. He also wants to invest time into the lower levels to build the foundation of the program and increase participation.

When he's not on the field, Miller likes to spend time with friends and family and attend festivals and sporting events.

One of his favorite childhood memories is when his dad would take him to the Raiders' games in Los Angeles. "I loved watching Bo Jackson and Marcus Allen run the ball!" Miller said.

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Both teams had a knockout season with just one loss between them.

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Titans lead the field: Arcadia High's soccer season

By Rhys Lee

Both the boys and girls soccer teams at Arcadia High have high hopes for the future after dominating this season. The girls team lost only to Chaparral (0-1) while the boys team had a 13-game winning streak.

Booster Club President Steve Harrison said that the boys team persevered when they were down and worked together as a team. "They had grit," he said. "They work hard together; they had a goal and played together as a team."

The group played offense aggressively and passed to each other well. Their success was thanks to players like sophomore forward Lucas Bourgeois, who scored the most points during the season, and Ben Dorset, a sophomore goalie, who didn't let shots get past him. Dorset also had the help of defensive players like Antonio Clark, a junior defensive midfielder, Tony Reyes, a senior, and Parley Cardon, a senior defense captain.

Looking to the future, Harrison says although they are losing seniors to graduation, they have a lot of sophomores and juniors to take their place. With the right mix of students, they don't have to replace as many players next year.

On the girls side, Arcadia Girls Soccer Booster Club President Kelley Pierce said they did exceptionally well. Considering Arcadia is only a 4A team, the Titans losing by only one point to Chaparral (a 6A team) is a testament to how hard and how well the players worked.

"Our key motivator was that we wanted to win a state title for

our school," senior defender Grace Pierce said. "Plus, getting the support of our administration, staff, and students helped us get amped for our home games."

Pierce said that most of the girls play club soccer and come well prepared to play high school ball. She also noted that the booster club funds outside coaching and training to help assist the girls throughout the season with staying motivated and keeping their skills honed.

Pierce said that the most significant difference this past season for the team is that 11 seniors played varsity. "Of those 11 players, ten have played all four years for Arcadia soccer, and of that, eight of those players were starters. So the team was cohesive and dominated the 4A Desert Sky region."

The girls team was composed of players like senior forward Brooke Leber, who made 35 goals and nine assists. Senior defenders Abby Ford, Lauren Louer, Grace Pierce and Kayla Walshire all made a strong backline that was difficult to penetrate, and sophomore midfielder Maggie Cagle, who is also on the U-14 national team, helped to keep the team at the top.

Although both teams suffered some losses, they aren't letting that stop them from celebrating their successes. Both are looking to the future. Arcadia is moving from division 4A to 5A next season, which will be more competitive. The teams' lineups will also be different, but they have the grit and knowhow to come back stronger next season and dominate once more.

Arcadia baseball tournament held in California

By Max Bechtoldt

In early March, the Boras Baseball Classic was supposed to be held at Arcadia High School and Corona del Sol High School in California. Unfortunately, because of severe weather, the Arcadia field was deemed unusable for the weekend, so the tournament was moved to Corona del Sol and many of the games were canceled.

The tournament featured the best teams from across the state battling it out in front of prominent baseball scouts and on national television.

For this year's tournament, most of Arcadia's lineup returned, including eight of its starting hitters and two starting pitchers.

Players from Chaparral, Mountain Pointe, Hamilton and Chandler also participated.

Arcadia's new baseball coach, Matt Sugarman, has a history with the Boras Baseball Classic from his time coaching high school baseball in California.

"It's a cool feeling to be in the tournament," Sugarman said. "It's held statewide. We are fortunate to be selected for this event; it's an honor, and we are grateful."

Sugarman said he was excited about playing the best teams in the area and getting better by competing against them.

"It was great for our guys to experience competition, pressure, fans in the stands, scouts. It was an overall great tool for our guys," Sugarman said.

Sugarman said he was also excited about the ability to inspire the next generation of student-athletes in the Arcadia district. He hoped that by having a nationally televised game with some of the best players in Arizona right at Arcadia, it will influence future students to work harder at the game.

The players themselves were also eager to get out in front of their home fans and experience big-time high school baseball.

Seniors Reilly MacDonald, Sean McClelland and Ryan Jaramillo said they wanted to put on a good show for the home fans.

The Arcadia Titans had very stiff competition throughout the tournament. Three of the other competing schools finished in the top ten in 2019 for Arizona high school baseball.

Sugarman did not say too much about his expectations for the upcoming season, but he does feel that they have a team full of experience and talent. According to Sugarman, the team runs a tight ship when it comes to baseball, and players pride themselves on continuing the school's successes.

Arcadia was able to play two games against Cottonwood High School (a team from Utah) and Chandler. Hamilton was able to win one of the games 5-2. Corona del Sol played two games on their home field, splitting them with a 6-0 blowout of Cottonwood and a 2-1 loss to Nogales.

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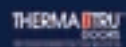
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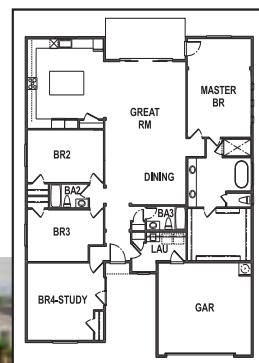
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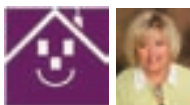
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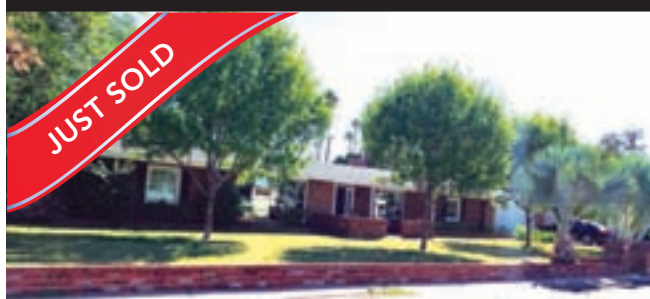
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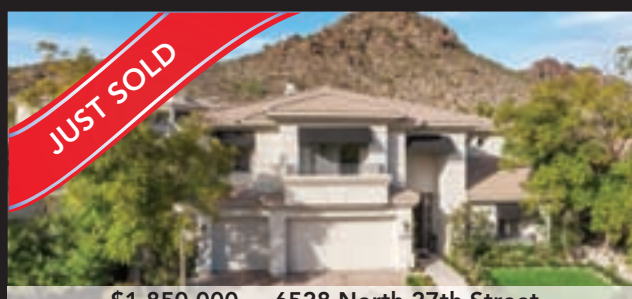
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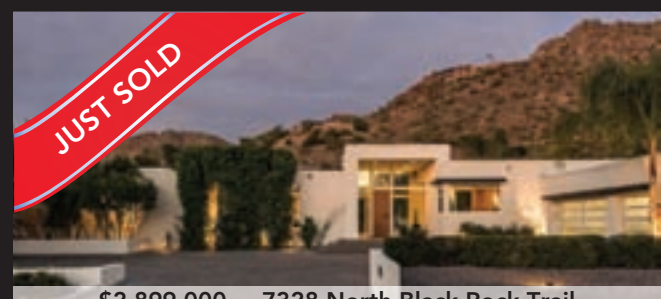
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