ARCADIA NEWS

VOL. 28 NO. 3 — ARCADIA • BILTMORE • CAMELBACK CORRIDOR — JUNE 2020



AHS TO NAU

Arcadia High senior Lainey Durchslag is this year's *Arcadia News* Scholarship winner.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Arcadia neighborhood is ready for summer and has plenty of good news to share!

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WHAT IS...

Xavier alumna Lauren D'Souza achieved her dream of making it to the Jeopardy stage.

PAGE 30



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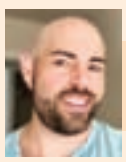
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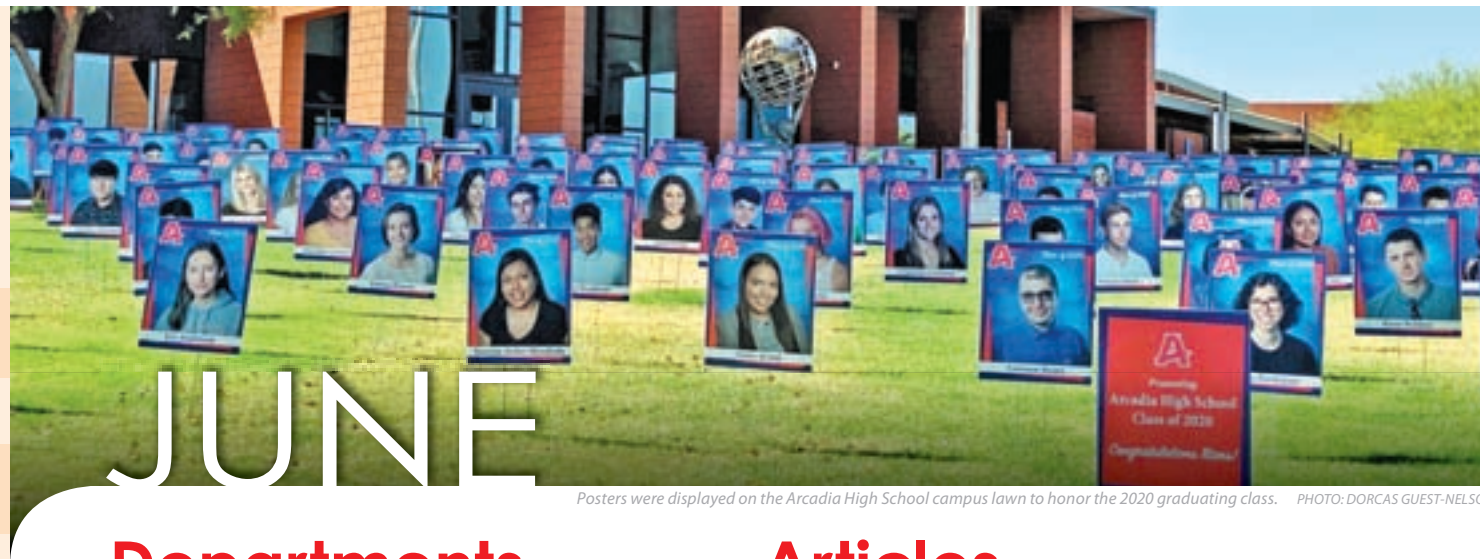
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JUNE

Posters were displayed on the Arcadia High School campus lawn to honor the 2020 graduating class. PHOTO: DORCAS GUEST-NELSON

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Melanie Isaacs founded Pal Experiences, an organization that helps people with "unseen" disabilities engage in their communities.

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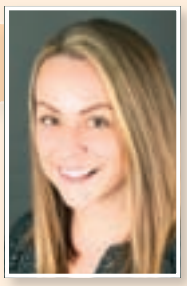
A group of Arcadia High alumni recently started a mentorship program to help guide students on their journey to the future.



ON THE COVER:
Heather and Hank Gries swing into summer with their kids Penelope, Charlotte and Henry.
PHOTO: SANDRA TENUTO PHOTOGRAPHY, SANDRATENUTO.COM



EDITOR'S NOTE



It's been one whole year since I wrote my very first editor's note, and what a whirlwind it's been! I've met so many great people and have been able to explore all that the Arcadia area has to offer.

One thing that really stood out was the support of the surrounding schools' teachers. They kept up with school spirit by throwing drive-by parades, sending postcards and posting videos for their students. All around the community, folks saw the public and private area schools' graduation signs put up in front yards. And even though graduation is going to look different this year, students, teachers, staff and parents have already started celebrating the class of 2020.

The summer months came out of nowhere (especially since we've been inside all this time) and even though extra precautions are in place, it's time to explore – whether it be in your own backyard, up north or around the country.

Arcadia News wants to see what you're doing for summer vacation this year. Send photos to editor@arcadianews.com for a chance to be featured in a special section of the September edition. One lucky family will be featured on the cover. The deadline to send in photos is August 7. We can't wait to see all the fun you've had!

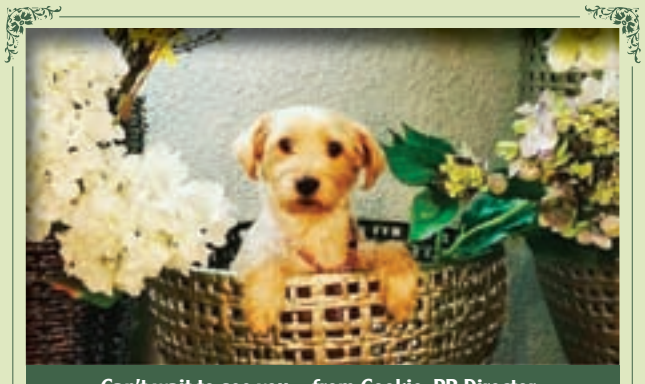
Congratulations to the class of 2020, happy summer and as always, thank you for reading *Arcadia News*!

Mallory

Clarification:
In last month's paper, we wrote a story about ***the Expansion and Legacy Campaign*** *happening at* ***Shemer Art Center****. We would like to confirm that the campaign is still ongoing and apologize for any confusion we may have caused.*

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PHOTO COURTESY OF LAINEY DURCHSLAG

Arcadia High Senior Lainey Durchslag.

Arcadia News' 2020 scholarship winner

By Mallory Gleich

Arcadia News is proud to announce this year's scholarship winner, Arcadia High student Lainey Durchslag.

Lainey has been an active member of the Arcadia High community. She was the drum major of the Spirit of Arcadia Marching Band her sophomore through senior years, a member of the wind ensemble for four years, president of Lunch Club, part of the Raising Awareness Club her junior year and a participant in the film program for four years – which helped nurture her interest in filmmaking.

Lainey will be attending Northern Arizona University in the fall.

"It's really exciting to be graduating and going to college. I'm ready to start the next phase of my life," Lainey said. "I'm most excited for the change of scenery at NAU – I chose NAU because I wanted to stay close to home while also living somewhere colder."

Lainey will be majoring in creative filmmaking.

"My favorite part of the media/filmmaking world is the pre-production stage of creating a film. I love this part because it's how a movie begins and includes tasks such as script writing and casting," Lainey said.

During her four years of participating in marching band, the Spirit of Arcadia won six state championship titles and first place and caption awards at competitions. Caption awards are extra awards given to the marching band that receives the highest score in one of the following categories: auxiliary (color guard), percussion, music, visual and general effect.

While in the film program at AHS, Lainey learned script writing, casting, scheduling, lighting and editing for student-produced projects. Near the end of each school year, the film class creates a 15-minute film to show at the Arcadia Film Festival held at Harkins Shea 14.

> *"I have a lot of fun creating projects and watching scripts I write come to life. My goal for my career in media is to be a casting director or a producer."*

"For these projects, we get the opportunity to cast actors outside of Arcadia's student body. I took over as casting director for my sophomore year group and I fell in love with it. My favorite part of casting is seeing what new people can bring to a character," Lainey said. "I loved watching all of our hard work on a real Harkins movie theater screen."

Lainey knew back in middle school that she wanted to be a part of the media business.

"I have a lot of fun creating projects and watching scripts I write come to life," Lainey said. "My goal for my career in media is to be a casting director or a producer."

The *Arcadia News* Scholarship was created in 2005 by publisher Greg Bruns. The $500 check is awarded to one or more graduating Arcadia High students who will be pursuing an education in the realm of journalism, broadcasting, communications or other media-related fields.

To apply, students had to write a letter about their experiences working in media classes and what they aspire to in the future, as well as obtain a letter of recommendation from a faculty or community member. The scholarship is traditionally awarded at the Senior Honors and Awards Ceremony, which was held virtually this year on May 13. Congratulations, Lainey and we wish you all the best for your future at NAU!

Happy FATHER'S DAY

All of us at *Arcadia News* would like to give a shout out to the amazing fathers in our neighborhood and let our own dads know just how much we love them.



Bob Bruns

Dad – I appreciate all you've done for me. From the turbulent teenage years to the overly busy family-of-four years, you've always been there. Your guidance, love and support encourage me as a father, a professional, a husband and a volunteer. I'm proud to be your son.

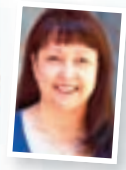




Victor Rodriguez

Father's Day is a special time to reflect on the time I spent with my late father. He was passionate and loved his family. When I was a little girl, he patiently taught me how play chess and fish. In later years, we didn't see each other often and I wish I could give him a hug today.

Veronica A. Mier



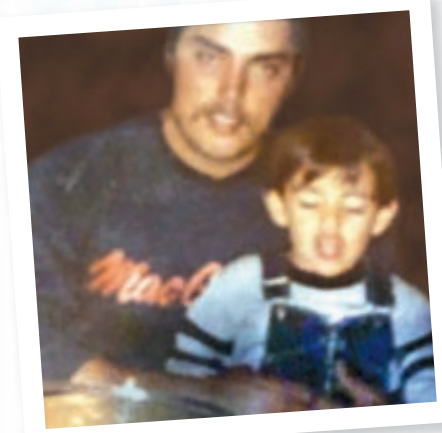


"Pumbaa!"

Like Frenchie said in one of our favorite movies, "The only man a girl can depend on is her daddy." Without you, I wouldn't be where I am today and I am so thankful for all the things you taught me growing up and even now. I am so grateful for your support and I hope you have an amazing Father's Day.

Mallory Gerich





Glenn Turner

You are a man of few words, but also one of significant thought and the type of person who puts others before himself. Thank you for teaching me to play baseball and for trying with golf and basketball :) Thank you for being an example of hard work and empathy. On this day, do something for yourself. You deserve it.



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Arcadia Real Estate Stats

2020 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/01/2020-4/30/2020)

Active Homes -	140 homes
Homes Sold -	93 homes
Average Sale Price -	$1,601,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$405
Average Days On Market -	124 days

There is currently 5 months of home inventory. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 home sales have decreased 12% this year. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 home prices have increased 15%. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 $ Per Square Foot prices have increased 8%. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 homes are taking 6% 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

(1/01/2020-4/30/2020)

Active Homes -	70 Homes
Homes Sold -	52 Homes
Average Sale Price -	$743,000
Average Sold $ Per SF -	$305
Average Days On Market -	83 days

There is currently 4 months of home inventory. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 home sales have decreased 28% this year. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 home prices have increased 12%. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 $ Per Square Foot prices have increased 10%. (based on 2019 sales results)
2020 Homes are taking 9% less 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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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

This month, we are carrying on with our "good news" theme and sharing all the positive things that continue to happen in our neighborhood. If you have "good news" stories that you'd like to share, please feel free to send them to editor@arcadianews.com.

Hospice of the Valley will open its fifth White Dove Thrift Shoppe located at 2711 E. Indian School Road. The shop offers quality resale furniture, housewares, art, fashion, designer shoes, purses and jewelry. Proceeds from the store go to patient and family care. Donations are accepted and HOV is also looking for volunteers to help run the new store. For more: whitedovethrift.org. Contact JoEllen at jfeltham@hov.org or 602-530-6968 for volunteer information.



Marshall Shore, Arizona's Hip Historian, provides weekly "History Happy Hour" posts on Facebook, YouTube and Twitch. Grab a beverage and get ready to delve into some history. Marshall shares interesting tidbits and curiosities from Arizona's past. There is trivia, music history, a view from the Hist-O-Cam and a viewer question, plus a cocktail recipe that's tailored to each episode. For more: visit the Arizona History Happy Hour Facebook page.

Phoenix Center for the Arts is providing online dance n' sculpt classes every Tuesday at 6 p.m. Head over to Instagram Live for a dance class that will get the whole body moving. Dance Instructor Michaela Konzal will be teaching moves for every ability and age. Phoenix Center for the Arts is providing these classes free of charge, but donations are welcome. For more: visit the Phoenix Center for the Arts Instagram page.



Pinspiration, located at 5410 E. High St. #105 in Phoenix, is open and holding small group classes. Folks can bust out their crafty side and try their hand at string art, canvas painting, marbling ties and acrylic paint projects, all with templates and step-by-step instructions. Plus, there's a wine and beer bar for the grownups. Registration is required and classes start at $20. For more: pinspiration.com.

Phoenix Public Library will kick off its Summer Reading Program on June 1. Kids (and adults) can avoid the "summer slide" by reading for 20 minutes a day. Sign up for the Summer Reading Game, where kids can earn badges, points and prizes for every minute they read. This year's theme is "Imagine Your Story." Kids up to age 11 can earn a free personal pan pizza from Peter Piper Pizza and participants 12 and older will earn free chips and guacamole from Rubio's when they reach 500 points. At 1,000 points, participants earn a free book. Register at maricopacountyreads.org.



Connor Young participates in the AHS inaugural Senior Parade.

Rise Foundation Arizona is an organization dedicated to teaching public speaking and leadership skills to students from grade school through college. They have unveiled a new online class format for kids currently at home. Each program runs for eight weeks and includes weekly one-hour classes, homework assignments, one-on-one coaching and entry into the RISE Foundation Summer 2020 Speech Contest. For more: risefoundationaz.com.



Arcadia High School held an inaugural Senior Parade on May 20, where students and their families drove through the Hopi Elementary parking lot to celebrate their grads. They were greeted by Principal Stevens. Grand Marshal and Student Body President Charlie Siegel spoke a few words, and senior Olivia McGinley sang the National Anthem. The students were celebrated with pomp and circumstance while neighbors cheered safely from the sidelines.

Arcadia High also had posters of each graduate made and set up on the front lawn at the high school. Staff, parents and the community were able to celebrate along with the students before their graduation parade.

Xavier and Brophy juniors Jamie Stelnik, Jackson Moran and Charlie Fallon created a virtual fun-run to benefit St. Vincent de Paul. The Arizona Run for COVID-19 challenges folks to run one mile or a 5K and send in their time. Prizes will be awarded to the fastest times and there is also a raffle. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to The Society of St. Vincent de Paul's COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund for meals, food boxes for families in need, rent and utility assistance, telemedicine, hygiene kits and shelter. For more: azrunforcovid.com.

Civana Wellness Resort & Spa is holding virtual "wellness" treatments each week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Mondays at 8 a.m. folks can tune in on Instagram Live for Intention Setting, where they can take 10 minutes to meditate and talk about their goals for the week. Wellness Wednesday invites folks to virtual table side talks and lessons with teachers, tastemakers and fellow travelers who inspire wellness. Friday is the Evening Gratitude Circle where folks can close the week out with a moment of gratitude and reflect on things that brought them joy during the week. For more: civanacarefree.com.

While completing his junior year of college through distance learning at home in Arizona, Brown University student Evan Pittman has performed weekly at St. Thomas the Apostle, even with the absence of church services.

"I performed for weekly Saturday mass as a high school student," Pittman said, "and I still perform during services when I am home from

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*



Evan Pittman



Payne Palmer celebrates his 80th birthday with guests' pictures posted on signs.

college, so it made sense for me to play there once a week, even while masses were suspended and just run through my playlist of spiritual music."

Quarantine birthdays had Arcadia families coming up with new ways to celebrate. Payne Palmer celebrated his 80th birthday by waking up to pictures spread out on his lawn of the guests that would have been at a celebration dinner. "It reminded me of seat holders from the Academy Awards," said sister-in-law Terry Palmer. "He was surprised!"

Nita Shaw also celebrated her 95th birthday quarantine-style with a socially-distanced concert performed by the DirtyKeyzDuo. Folks set up chairs in their driveways and helped Nee celebrate with drinks, tunes and decorations.

"It was a great day," Nita's daughter, Robbie, said. "Mom felt the love. It really boosted her spirits in this challenging time!"

Board positions are available at Hopi Elementary. There is a need for help with the Hopi Hawktion fundraiser, the Spring Arts Fair is looking for a co-chair, and they are also looking for a designer and creators/photographers for Hopi Gear. For more: email Katie Evarkiou at volunteers@hopipta.com.

Arcadia High School's PTO is looking for volunteers to join their executive board for next year. Job descriptions are available at arcadiapto.org. This opportunity is an excellent way for parents to get involved and support the school and the community for things such as Project Graduation and hospitality/health. For more: contact Linda Schlenker at advisor@arcadiapto.org or 602-576-3828.

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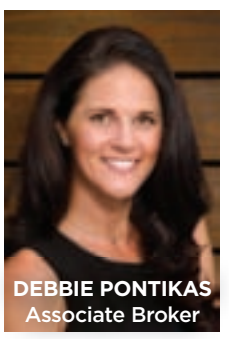
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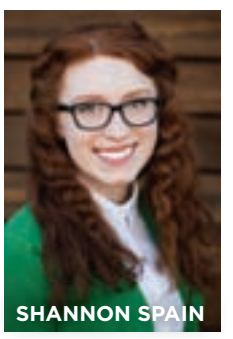

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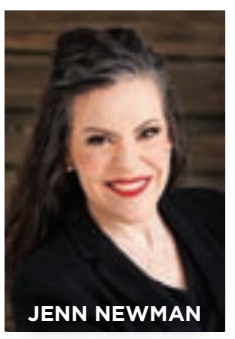

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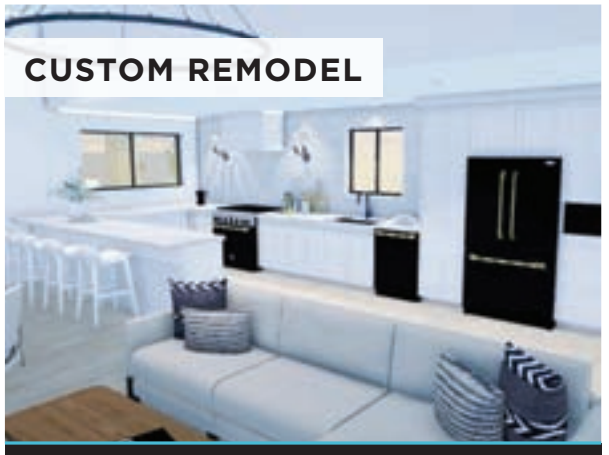

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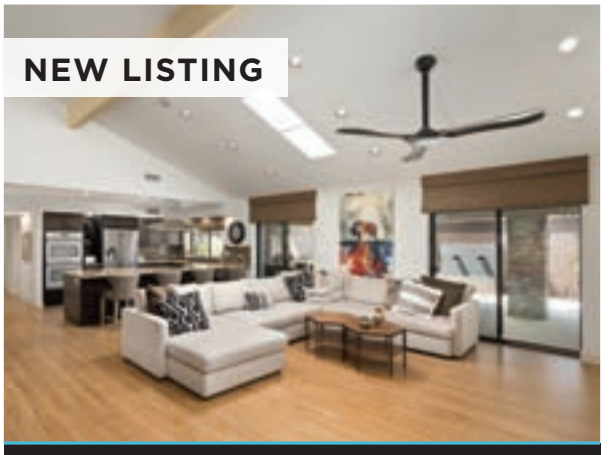

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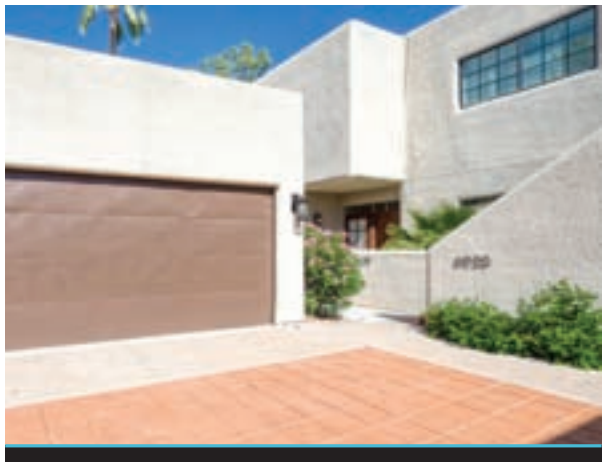
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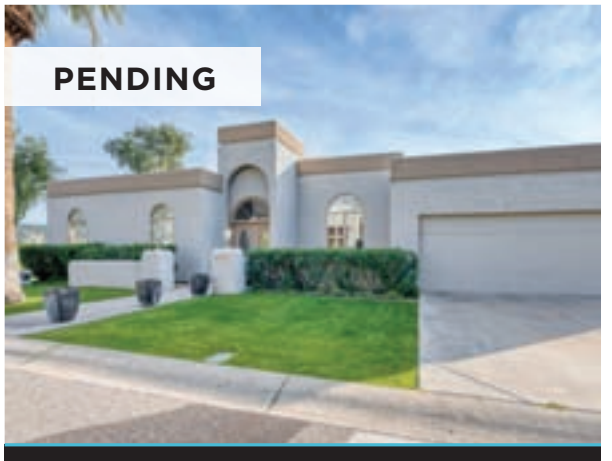
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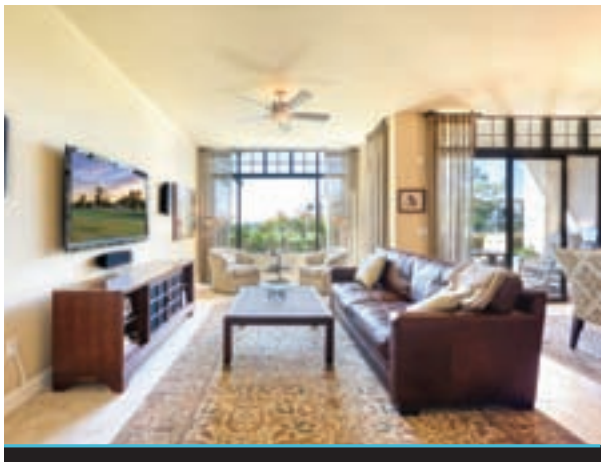
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2 BED | 2.5 BATH



6221 N. 30TH WAY
2 BED | 2 BATH



3197 E. STELLA LN.
3 BED | 2.5 BATH



8 BILTMORE EST. #119
2 BED | 2.5 BATH



823 W. SOLANO DR.
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8621 N. STARLING LN.
4 BED | 2.5 BATH



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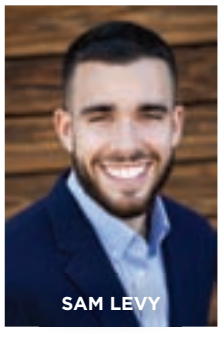
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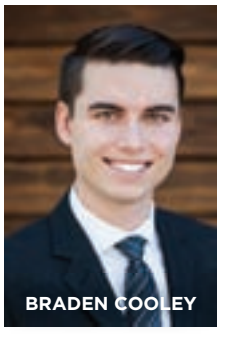
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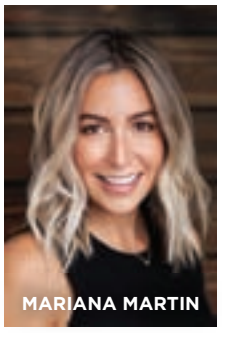
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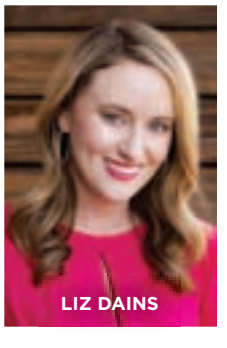

DALLAS PEAGLER

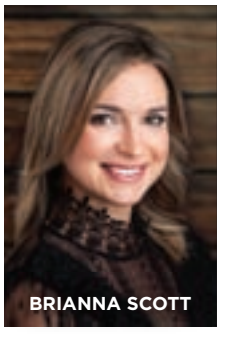

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, *ARCADIA?*

My Slice of the Pie Pizzeria continued to offer their promotion for people to purchase meals for health care workers throughout the month of May. Folks could buy a pizza meal and feed a group of four at Banner Health. At the time of production, they've delivered 120 meals to Banner University Medical Center, 60 pizzas to St. Vincent de Paul, 80+ meals to the Sojourner Center and 110 pizzas to the United Food Bank to feed the volunteers and the Arizona National Guard.



Ladies in the Headlights helped provide socially distant entertainment last month. Performed by The Ladies from the 90s – two Phoenix moms – the improv-type comedy shows became a short series of pop-up parking lot shows people could enjoy from the safety of their vehicles. Locations included Chestnut at Vintage Arcadia and Changing Hands/Southern Rail. For more: wearetheladies.net.



Metier Pharmacy was the only independent pharmacy in the state of AZ offering COVID-19 testing through the month of May. Metier confirmed that testing will continue in June: Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more: metierpharmacy.com.



The Old Town Scottsdale Farmers Market will be open through June. The Saturday market will be adjusting hours to 7-10:30 a.m. to accommodate the heat. Drive-through pickup lanes for pre-orders will still be available and drive-through is also available for patrons who want to remain in their vehicles. For more: arizonacommunityfarmersmarkets.com.

Health care providers can find free tutoring assistance for their children through Front Lines Tutoring. This service provides virtual tutoring via Zoom, and tutors include over 100 undergraduate students from Carnegie Mellon, Texas Christian University, UCLA, University of Colorado Boulder, University of North Carolina, Yale and more. The service started out with UCLA students and branched out to include students attending other universities across the nation. For more: frontlinestutoring.com.

"From the LDV Winery Vineyard Kitchen" is a Facebook Live concept happening on June 4 and 11. Guests can log on to the LDV Winery Facebook page and join owners Peggy Fiandaca and Curt Dunham in the kitchen as they make dinner with items they currently have in their pantry. Guests can cook along with Peggy and Curt, who will also offer wine tips and pairing suggestions for each meal. For more: visit the LDV Winery Facebook page.



Vintage Arcadia recently launched an online marketplace so that people can shop for vintage, artisan-made and handcrafted goods without leaving the house. The marketplace will feature over 75 of Junk in the Trunk Vintage Market's vendors and will be selling the one-of-a-kind items. Since this year's Junk in the Trunk Market was canceled, owners and creators Lindsey Holt and Coley Arnold wanted to be able to share all the goods until the event is up-and-running again. For more: bit.ly/36a9v7z.

The Children's Museum of Phoenix is hosting a virtual summer camp this year. Camp in a Box is available to children ages 4-10 and will be offered in June and July. Each box includes an instruction guide, schedule, project supplies, art materials and access to virtual content that fits in with weekly camp themes like World of Magic and Fantasy and Dinosaur Discovery. Camp in a Box costs $129 per box per week for non-members and $99 for members. Boxes will be available for curbside pick up at the museum, or home delivery for an extra $25. For more: childrensmuseumofphoenix.org.

EVENT UPDATES:

Furry Friends Fine Art Festival *– September 26, 2020*
Arcadia Family Fun Run *– September 27, 2020*
GAIN Picnic *– November 7, 2020*
Auto-Rama *– postponed until next year*

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ARCADIA NEWS

New Arcadia High principal hired after month-long process

By Mallory Gleich

Arcadia High students and faculty got a surprise in April when they received a letter from Principal Todd Stevens about his resignation at the end of the 2019-20 school year.

From the letter: "It has been an honor to serve the Arcadia community for the last three school years, and I am proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff during that time. With that said, I will not be returning to Arcadia High School for the 2020-21 school year. I will take with me when I leave many fond memories, and Arcadia will always hold a special place in my heart."

The Scottsdale Unified School District put a plan into action to help Arcadia hire a new principal. In mid-April, the job listing was posted, and the search began. From there, a series of meetings were held with staff members, parents and students to decide what qualities were essential for the new position. There was also a community meeting and survey. At the start of May, around 30 candidates were in the running. Interviews were held on May 13, with the final decision being made later in the month.

School staff and the community met to brainstorm desired qualities for the next principal, Assistant Superintendent of SUSD Dr. Jed Bowman said. Then, during the interviews, the board assessed those qualities and asked questions tailored around them.

Dr. Bowman said that the first round of virtual meetings went well and that they were impressed with the candidates.

"As a relationship-centered leader, I always prefer face-to-face, in-person meetings. However, the online interface was successful. We were able to gather great feedback and input to the desires of staff and parents for the qualities they were seeking in the next principal," Bowman said.

Bowman said that he believes paper screening is the most challenging part of the process.



Dr. Cain Jagodzinski

"The time it takes to thoroughly review application packets and match applicant competencies to the desired competencies for the specific position can sometimes be daunting," Bowman said.

He explained that parents are involved in different phases of the hiring process. Two or three parents are included on the interview team. They help provide input to the superintendent and assistant superintendent for finalists' recommendations.

"Principals today need to be well-rounded with a depth and breadth of experiences. They must embrace collaboration and shared leadership. They need to be student-focused, responsive, growth-minded and humble (SUSD core values)," Bowman said.

According to Bowman, other qualities that are important to being the principal include being an excellent communicator, fostering a positive climate and culture, and being available and visible. They need to be excellent problem solvers, be motivating and inspiring. They need to believe that all students can learn. They need to encourage, support and find ways for students to be involved in the school.

"In my opinion, and aside from having highly effective teachers in every classroom, principals are our most critical hire," Bowman said.

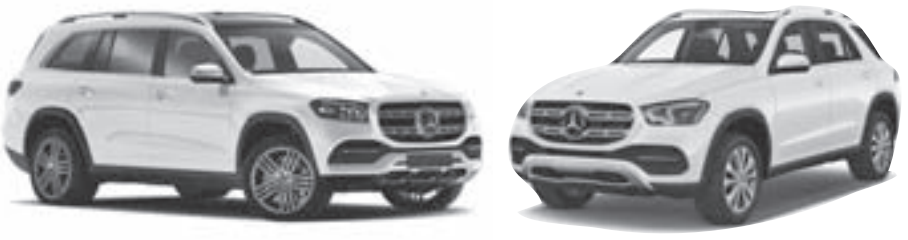
In late May, SUSD reached a decision and Dr. Cain Jagodzinski of Fountain Hills was chosen as Arcadia High's new principal. He will officially take over on July 1. Welcome to the neighborhood, Dr. Jagodzinski!

TIMELINE OF THE INTERVIEW PROCESS

04/16/2020	*Resignation announcement by Mr. Todd Stevens to the community, students and staff.*
05/04/2020	*E-mail survey to the Arcadia community to prioritize the qualities of the next principal.* *Position posting closed at midnight.*
05/13/2020	*Candidate interviews.*
05/15/2020	*Candidate final virtual interviews with current and incoming superintendents, Drs. Kriekard and Menzel.*
05/18/2020	*Recommendation for successful candidate shared with governing board and community.*
05/19/2020	*The earliest opportunity for governing board consideration/decision on the recommended candidate. Dr. Cain Jagodzinski was approved by the SUSD Governing Board at this meeting.*



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Teacher Appreciation Week supports our educators

By Mallory Gleich

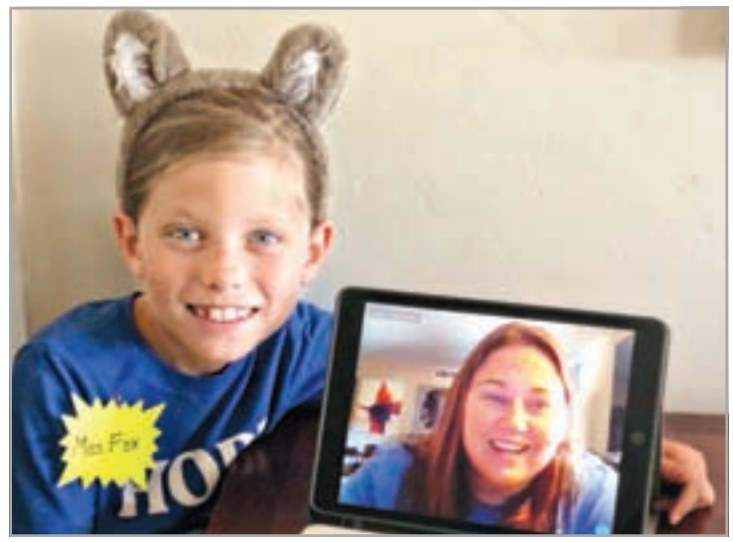
In the beginning of May, teachers all around America are celebrated for their hard work during Teacher Appreciation Week. Since schools were shuttered, teachers had to move all of their lessons to online learning platforms. They've missed out on events, and face to face contact has happened through Zoom rather than in the classroom. However, our teachers persevered and Arcadia schools celebrated them in every way they could think of.

At Arcadia High, each day of Teacher Appreciation Week held a new surprise for educators. They were showered with gift certificates for movies and dinners, and students sent out thank you letters and a short video showing teachers their love.

"We can't thank our Arcadia teachers enough for their immense work and the positive impact they continue to make in these challenging times," said parent and PTO co-president Tricia Longnecker. "Their passion to help students learn and grow has spilled over into virtual classrooms. We truly recognize and appreciate how our teachers play such a pivotal role in our children's lives, making a difference in their well-being and long-term success."



PHOTO COURTESY OF KIM WALTON





PHOTOS COURTESY OF HEIDI RICHARDSON

(left) Christ Lutheran School dropped off signs to more than 70 locations to honor their staff, including Mrs. And Ms. Chapman, kindergarten and second grade teachers. (top right) Hopi Elementary students were asked to dress like their favorite teacher. (bottom right) Hopi teacher Mrs. Whitworth receives a special sign.

At Hopi Elementary, students had virtual themes for each day of the week to show teachers some love. They drew pictures, dressed up like their teachers for "Twin with your Teacher Tuesday," emailed thank you notes and shared what they love about their teachers. At the end of the week was "Free Friday," where students showed appreciation with videos, flowers and notes of thanks.

Hopi also teamed up with My Slice of the Pie to offer a pizza dinner for each educator.

"The shift to virtual appreciation was a challenge for us, but we are hoping that our daily virtual touches remind our teachers that now, more than ever, they are loved," said PTA President Heidi Richardson. "We are hopeful that our virtual show of love will translate to our staff as TRUE appreciation."

The parents at Christ Lutheran School banded together to show support for their teachers and staff. Two CLS moms helped raise funds to have over 70 signs made for the teachers and staff that said "A CLS Staff Superhero Lives Here!" They were delivered around the Valley, and made it as far as Surprise, Chandler, Cave Creek and Mesa.

"While our families have always been generous, Teacher Appreciation Week was more important this year. Because we're so relational here and such a tight community, the separation has been hard for all of us," said Business Manager Kim Walton. "It was important to the parents that they could say thank you to the entire staff, including teachers, pastors, office admin and maintenance. The outpouring of parents who were willing to drive all over the Valley was amazing. It was a wonderful gesture and really appreciated by the staff."

Biltmore Prep also took time to recognize their teachers by having a different activity for students each day. Monday was "Make them Laugh" day, where students sent teachers a funny joke or video. On "Chalk the Walk" Wednesday, students took a picture of their sidewalk chalk designs and sent them in. On "Throw Back Thursday" students sent their teachers a note of their favorite memories in class.

"While recognition and praise are important and valued throughout the year, the dedicated week set aside in May known as Teacher Appreciation Week provides an organized time where school community stakeholders; students, parents and administrators can come together to shower our hardworking teachers with all the love and appreciation," Principal Stephanie DeMar said.

Tavan Elementary PTO was able to send each teacher a gift card to Target so they could stock up on essentials or splurge on a gift for themselves.

"Teacher Appreciation Week is so important, especially at this time, because the teachers never skipped a beat and kept the kids moving forward," Tavan Math Coach Jenny Martin said. "The kids still had a comfortable place to be with their teachers, even online. Teachers have been a comforting presence and given them that security among all of the chaos."

Tavan's principal, Julie Ballard, had a special message for the teachers that seems fitting for educators all around the world.

"I celebrate you each and every day. You make an impact. Children will be better, stronger, and kinder because of you. So, THANK YOU for what you bring with you every day: kindness, love, compassion, strength, creativity, truth, trust, wisdom, and, above all, the belief that what you do makes a difference. What you do changes lives!"



The Graduating Class of 2020

Christ Lutheran School and Church

From the bottom of our hearts,
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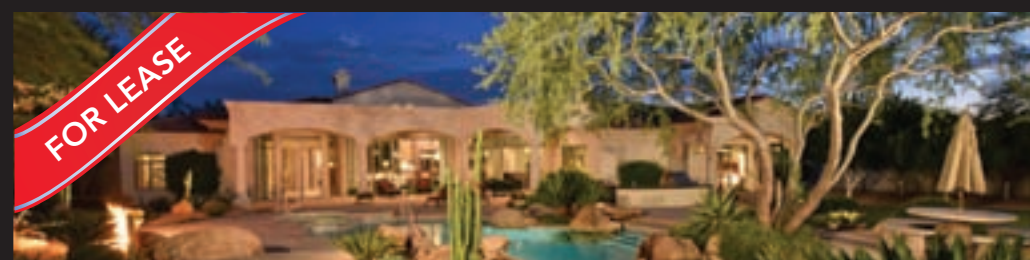
Love,
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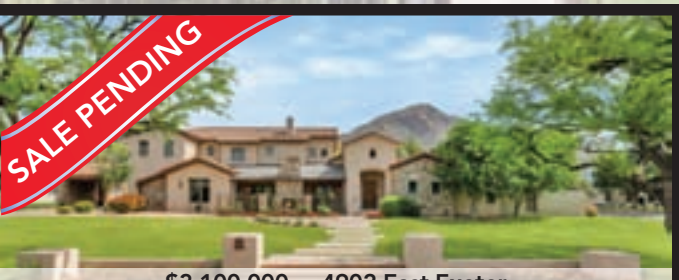
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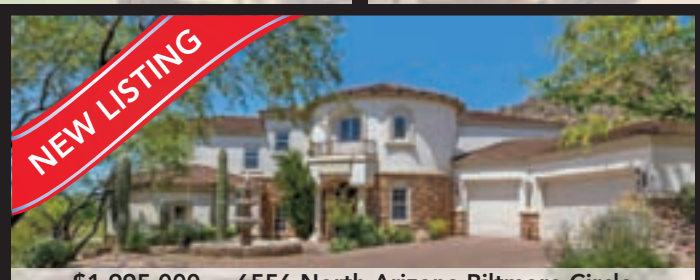
$3,795,000 5601 East Exeter
5 bedrooms, 7 baths, 7,570 square feet
5601exeter.com



$8,000-$12,000 seasonally 8350 East Via del Sol
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,783 square feet



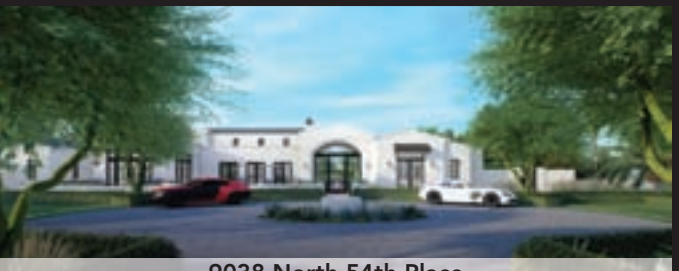
$3,100,000 4902 East Exeter
6 bedrooms, 7 baths, 7,699 square feet
4902exeter.com



$1,995,000 6556 North Arizona Biltmore Circle
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 5,455 square feet
6556arizonabiltmore.com



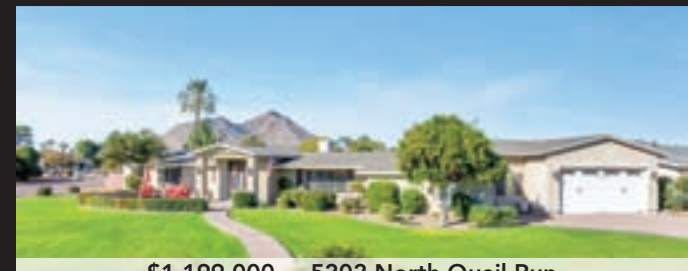
$1,525,000 5902 East Calle Del Sud
CALL FOR INFORMATION



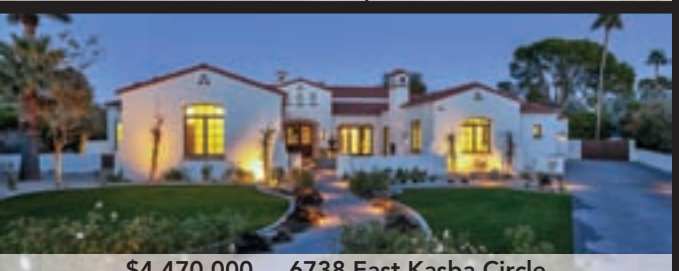
9038 North 54th Place
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9038north54thplace.com



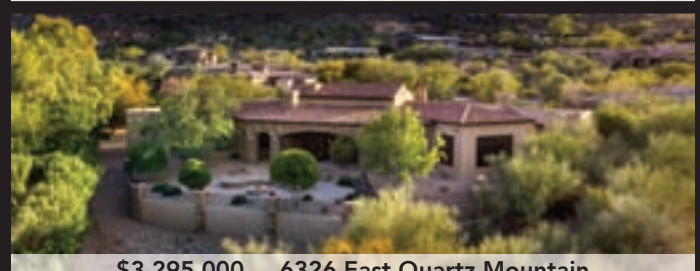
$2,995,000 6319 East Calle Del Norte
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 5,395 square feet
6319calledelnorte.com



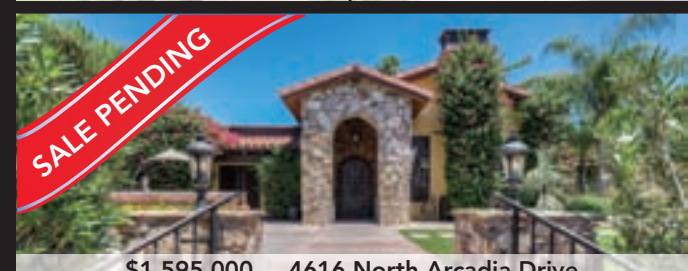
$1,199,000 5202 North Quail Run
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3,274 square feet
5202northquailrun.com



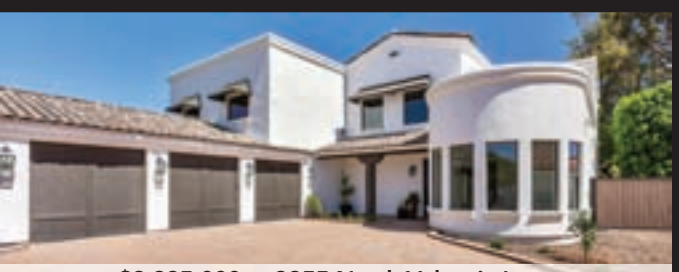
$4,470,000 6738 East Kasba Circle
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 6,614 square feet
6738kasba.com



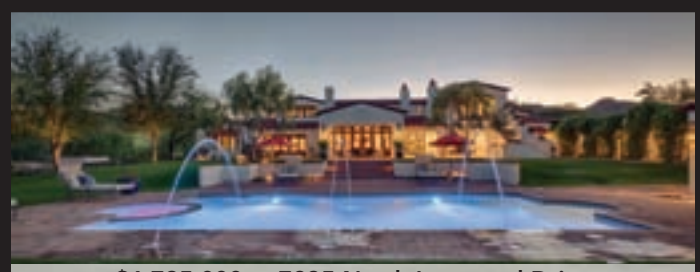
$3,295,000 6326 East Quartz Mountain
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 6,453 square feet
6326eastquartzmountain.com



$1,595,000 4616 North Arcadia Drive
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4,093 square feet
4616arcadiadrive.com



$2,295,000 3355 North Valencia Lane
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 5,712 square feet
3355valencialane.com



$6,795,000 7835 North Ironwood Drive
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7835nironwood.com



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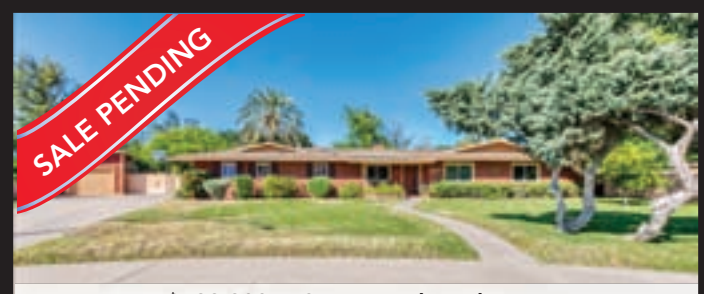
$2,795,000 5134 East Palomino
6 bedrooms, 8 baths, 7,619 square feet



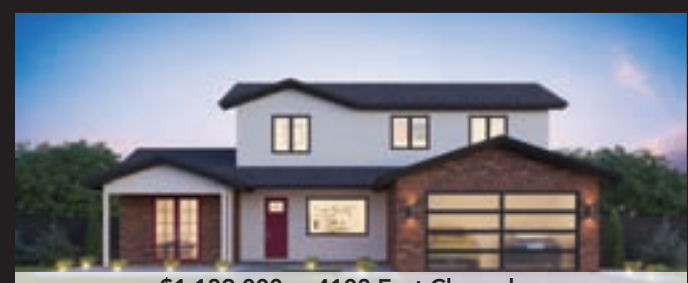
$1,695,000 6241 East Calle Del Norte
4 bedrooms, 6 baths, 4,812 square feet
6241calledelnorte.com



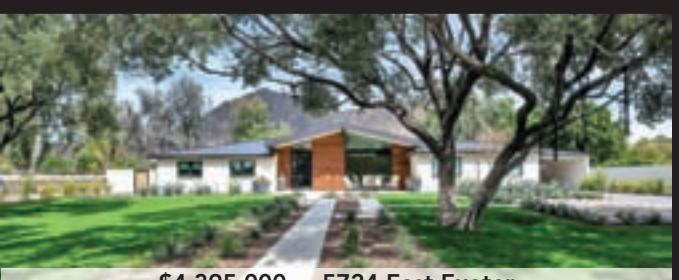
5265 East Arcadia Lane
CALL FOR PRICING & INFORMATION



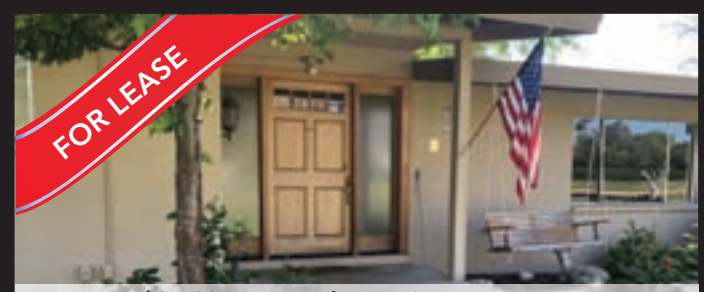
$799,900 3455 North 47th Way
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2,839 square feet



$1,139,000 4108 East Clarendon
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,480 square feet
4108clarendon.com



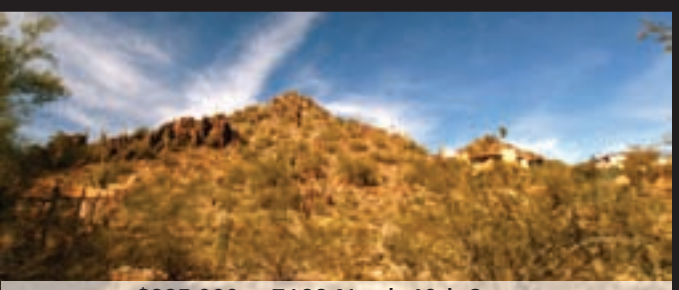
$4,395,000 5724 East Exeter
6 bedrooms, 6 baths, 7,619 square feet
5724exeter.com



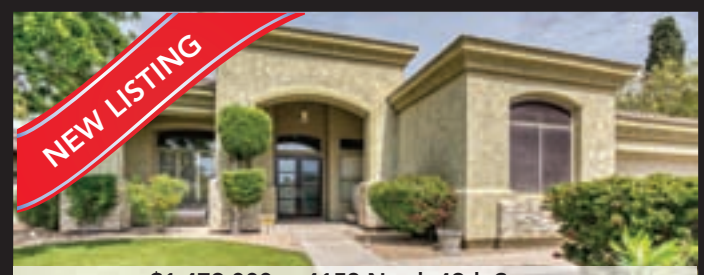
$3,500 per month 4601 East Exeter
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,762 square feet



CALL FOR PRICING 4415 North Arcadia Lane
6 bedrooms, 14 baths, 12,748 square feet
4415arcadialane.com



$995,000 7133 North 40th Street
1.33 Acres



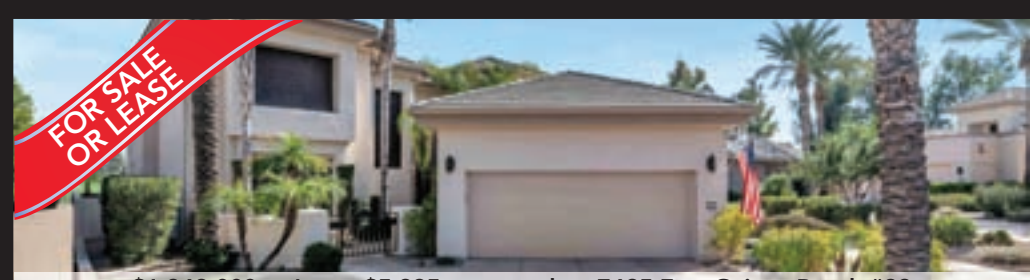
$1,479,000 4153 North 49th Street
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,695 square feet
4153north49thstreet.com



$1,635,000 5434 East Lincoln Drive #18
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,534 square feet
5434lincolndrive.com



$2,550,000 6101 East Calle Del Paisano
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,143 square feet
6101calledelpaisano.com



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5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 4,222 square feet
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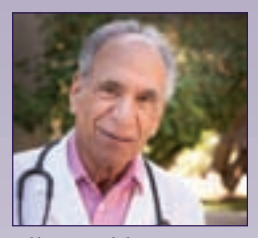
Jen Sheedy

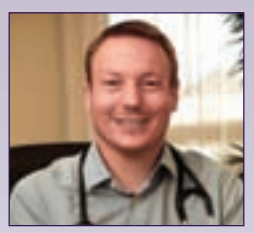
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PCDS freshmen start campaign to help kids around the world

By Evan Gower


Devan Amin


Misha Ghafouri

Devan Amin and Misha Ghafouri are Phoenix Country Day School freshmen whose mission to fight for underprivileged kids has taken them to extraordinary places and helped them develop new mindsets.

For an end-of-the-year project in 7th grade, both Devan and Misha created websites centered on helping children. Devan created Impaktkidz, a website aimed "to provide a platform for kids to have a unified voice on issues and topics that are important to our society and world using social media and technology."

Misha developed Kidz Educate Kidz, a website which she describes as "an online resource for students to publish their presentations, papers, research and any other educational work they have created."

Devan and Misha were involved in speech and debate, where they discussed important issues and where they first raised concerns about kids in need.

With their travels to impoverished countries such as India, Iran, Mexico and Kenya, they decided that it was their mission to fight for those less fortunate. During summer 2019, they created Kids Inspire Difference (KID).

KID is a nonprofit organization designed to empower kids to help those less fortunate than themselves. The organization plans to use social media campaigns to "impact the lives of children within the U.S. and abroad who face abuse, neglect, illness, poverty, illiteracy, war and other social and emotional disadvantages," according to their website.

Currently, KID is working on its first campaign: A Million Reasons – an effort to educate youth about the impact of child abuse and neglect.

KID collaborates with Childhelp, one of the largest nonprofit organizations in the world, and they are currently helping rollout the Million Reasons campaign.

"I want to become more educated about the causes that affect our society and community. Building KID has made me more aware of the need for young leaders like ourselves to understand the issues that young children face across the world," Devan said.

"I hope to continue learning about the many issues in my community and how I can use my platform to become an ally to those in need and advocate for the voiceless," Misha said.

For more: kidsinspiredifference.org

AHS PTO 'Un-Gala' raises $61K

First virtual fundraiser a huge success

By Mallory Gleich

Every spring, Arcadia High School's PTO holds a fundraising gala. This year, however, PTO co-president Tricia Longnecker decided to try something different – an Un-Gala.

"In the spring, there's always so much going on with families and graduates and everything else," Longnecker said. "In the beginning of this year's school year, I decided 'why don't we try something online?'"

Longnecker explained that because families tend to be busy during the springtime, it was hard for people to make it to the event. She said that the online fundraiser worked to their advantage, seeing as everyone has been stuck inside on their laptops for the past couple of months.

"I was more nervous because of the economy and the unknowns. We didn't know if people would actually bet on items or not," Longnecker said.

The issue came down to having to reschedule an event at the country club – and the committee was worried about asking for funds during the pandemic.

"We were scared, but I think people felt joy in doing something. People loved it and we had a great turnout," Longnecker said.

The fundraiser happened over two days at the end of April. Local businesses and sponsors offered date packages, gift certificates, lessons, jewelry, photography sessions and more.

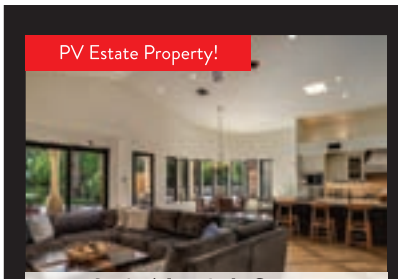
Once the donated items were available, people could go online, bid and re-bid for each item. Gift baskets were put together by the PTO and folks could pick up the baskets through safe social distancing protocols.

One hundred percent of the funds made goes to the teachers, staff, security and school for general projects, such as new benches, trashcans and cots and supplies for the nurses' office. One of the biggest ticket items was the reserved parking spots. Altogether, the fundraiser brought in over $61,000, with more than 170 people bidding.

"We were shocked. We are so grateful, and it just showed what a tight Arcadia community we have and the support we have for our school and our teachers is just absolutely amazing," Longnecker said. "Our teachers are overwhelmed. It's just wonderful."

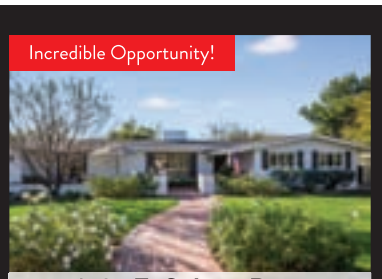
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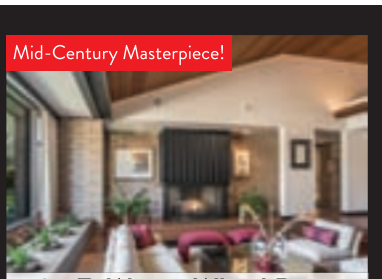
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$2,499,000

Stunning 7300' property on a 1.25 acre park like lot. Totally renovated with huge great room, dreamy master. A must see!


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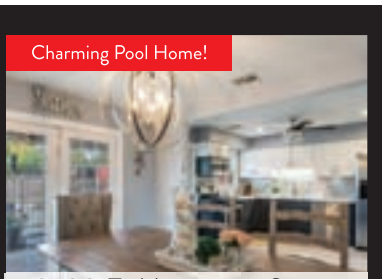
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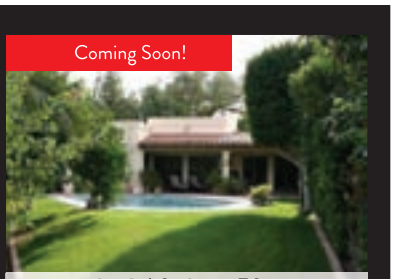
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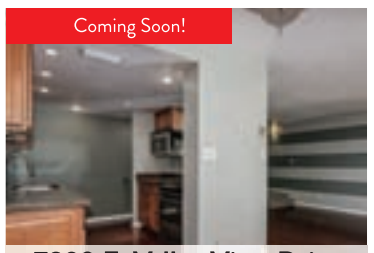
2530 E. Monterosa Street
$450,000

What a find! 1600', 4 beds, 2 baths, renovated with amazing kitchen, quartz counters and to die for backyard on very large lot.


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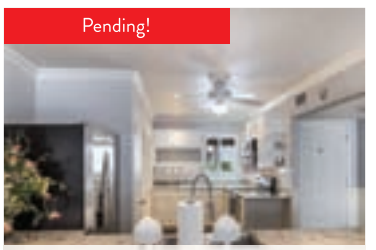
Hard to find lakefront property at the Biltmore! Approx. 3000' with a pool, gourmet kitchen, 2 beds/ 2.5 baths and gated community.


Coming Soon!

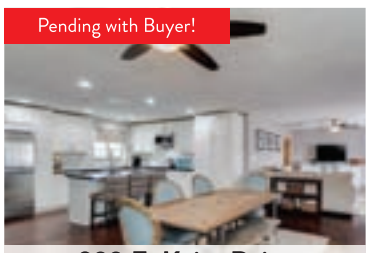
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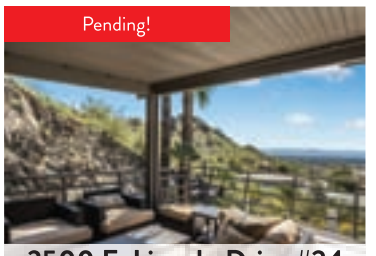
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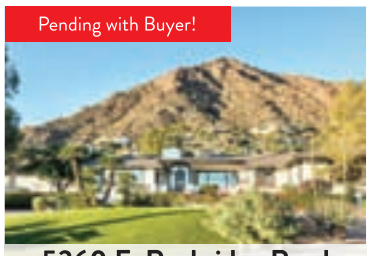
1210 W. Golden Lane
$599,000


Pending!

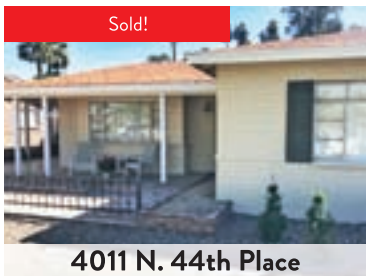
8989 E. Gainey Center Drive #130
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Pending!

3500 E. Lincoln Drive #24
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REALTY EXECUTIVES



Q&A with Chef Wade Simpson

By Mallory Gleich

After working in the food industry since the age of 13, Chef Wade Simpson decided to take his culinary skills on the road and opened a food truck and catering business, which many may know as Chef Wade's Mac-n-Cheese. From food truck nights at the Shemer to packing to-go meals for the community, Chef Wade has become a staple in the Valley and beyond.

Where did you grow up?

I was born in Denver and moved here with my mother and brother when I was six. I primarily grew up in Sunnyslope and the west Greenway area. I feel as native as a native.

How did you get into the food truck business?

It seemed a viable alternative to the restaurant industry norm and the ability to take my kitchen anywhere, especially for catering. It's more cost-effective in some ways.

What is the Bistro on Wheels?

Bistro on Wheels was a concept for me, with French-American bistro-style street food. It did not translate well to the food truck scene, so now it is more of the catering side of my business.

Did you go to culinary school?

I went to California Culinary Academy in San Francisco in April of 1984 and graduated in September of 1985. It was a small school then – but vibrant and a trade school, which was perfect for me as I was never scholastically inclined.

What sort of food can people find in your food trucks/catering business?

People can find anything when it comes to catering. I work best when I can meet with a client and find out a little about their food likes and dislikes, and when I can customize a menu around what they enjoy is the best for me.

The food truck right now is mac-n-cheese-based, so we have come up with over 40 variations of macs. We only run seven to nine at a time, but there are many to choose from. We can make anything off the food truck as well.

Were you originally part of the restaurant industry?

I started as a dishwasher when I was 13 in downtown Phoenix at a restaurant called L'Continental. They had a speakeasy at night! I worked my entire life in the restaurant and hotel industry, and I love the work. I only know of four food truck owners (in the city) that have been chefs.

Who first taught you how to cook?

In the beginning, my mother and grandmother. My grandmother spent ten years in the Orient, and she was an incredible cook. Later in life, I learned and still learn from everyone around me. Many of my most excellent teachers were ones at school – and a gentleman named Fred Halpert, in the Bay Area, who influenced my career beginnings.

Where else have you worked?

I worked at various restaurants in the Valley early in my developing career. Before I started my own business, I was the executive chef at the Paradise Valley Country Club for 12 years. Locally I worked at the Wrigley Mansion, Terravita Country Club, and at all three Pointe Resorts. I also worked at the Ritz Carlton in Naples, FL, Caneel Bay Resort in the Virgin Islands, Doubletree Hotels in the late 1980s, Westin Hotels and the Sheraton Grand in downtown L.A.

What is your signature dish?

On the mac truck, I would have to say the Nawlins Mac, with shrimp and andouille sausage, onions, tomatoes and Cajun spices mixed with mac.

Have you worked with any other chefs? Who is your favorite?

I've worked with many wonderful chefs: Leo Knoeller and Didier Desmond while attending school, who both taught me how to command a kitchen and its surroundings as well as common sense with foods; Fred Halpert for seeing his visions and sensibility in food; Christian Schmidt for his no-nonsense German attitude. I don't have a favorite; I loved them all.

IN THE KITCHEN

What is the inspiration behind the dishes at Chef Wade's Mac-n-Cheese?

When I opened with Bistro on Wheels, I was finding the concept was not great for mainstream – I either needed to change the truck or change the business model. Our most popular item as the bistro concept was our truffle mushroom mac-n-cheese. It dawned on me that we could create many versions and variations of mac, so that's what we did.

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

The first time I made Gravlax (a salmon dish), I thought I would never get it right. It's not cooked at all, but the process needs attention to detail. Also, my first several Beef Wellingtons – not individual but the whole loin. My first roast, first turkey – pasta – still haven't quite figured it out. All cooking is a challenge if you've never made something.

What is the most challenging part of working on a food truck?

Space!

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

Easy – salt and pepper.

What is your go-to comfort food?

I enjoy fried chicken with corn and mashed potatoes with country white gravy.

What do you do when you are not working?

I love to dine out. I need to work out more, and of course, hiking. It's funny when you own a small business like mine. You work more than expected.

What advice has stayed with you throughout the years?

Love what you do!

What or who inspires you?

For who: Vincent Guerithault from Vincent's on Camelback, or Chef Alex Stratta. For what: love and passion for what one does.

What is your favorite ingredient to cook with?

Fois Gras, artichokes, truffles or oil, onions, herbs; it depends on the dish.

How did you cope with all of the restaurant shutdowns?

The food industry as a whole was hit in a way no one expected. I always thought my profession would never feel an impact since less and less cook, but I knew I could always feed. The only part of the food industry that escaped this onslaught is fast food. They were set up from the go. Besides, they do not, in a chef's eye, serve real food.

The unfortunate reality is we will have great small restaurants never open again. I am coping the best I can by doing everything I can to create options. I put together a weekly delivery menu of family-pack, ready-bake dishes; they change somewhat weekly.

We are marketing to neighborhoods and people can come by and buy grab-n-go meals. I am not sure if I will survive as a business; I can only continue to look and step forward. My mother taught me never to give up.

Do you think the shutdown will affect how people treat others in the industry in the future?

I think this will affect us as a community, a state and a nation more than we will ever know. Our industry will change as so many industries will change. I doubt we have any idea what is to come. We as the food industry will need to adapt some practices and will always be first and foremost ready for change.

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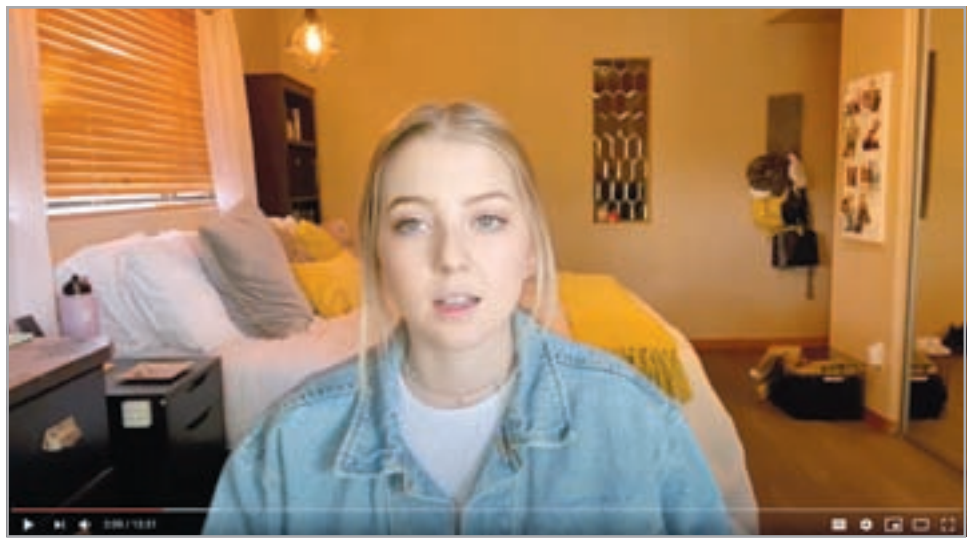
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Teen shines a light on celiac disease with YouTube channel

By Rachael Bouley

Jordan Nuñez isn't letting celiac disease bring her down. The 17-year-old junior at Xavier College Prep is on a mission to spread the word about celiac disease and let others affected by the adverse immune reaction know they are not alone.

Celiac disease is an autoimmune disorder triggered by eating gluten, which is a protein in wheat, barley and rye. While it is estimated to affect millions of Americans, the majority of people are undiagnosed or told they have other medical conditions instead, according to the Celiac Disease Foundation.

As Jordan has learned firsthand, a celiac disease diagnosis requires a complete diet change, often getting rid of bread and pasta that aren't gluten-free. Her experience with celiac disease inspired her to share her story with others, which led to her creating her YouTube channel over this past spring break.

"When I was diagnosed in 2017, there were no resources for me to use to learn about living with celiac as a teenager," Jordan said.

After struggling to resonate with celiac disease support resources geared toward middle-age people, Jordan wanted to find something she and other teens could relate to. Ultimately, she opted to take on the task herself through YouTube videos. "I decided to create a place for people like me, or parents of people like me, to come and learn about my experience and struggles, so they know that there are others out there like them," Jordan said.

Jordan's channel is slowly growing as she spreads positivity. "I didn't create it to become famous or become an influencer," Jordan said. "I did it to create a platform for people like me to learn and feel accepted."

Seeing a comment from someone asking about gluten-free things or Jordan's hobbies put a smile on her face. "Just that one comment made me feel like I succeeded with my channel, and it makes me feel really good," Jordan said.

Jordan aims to help fellow teens by talking openly about symptoms and celiac-friendly meals. She knows how hard it is to navigate a new diet and lifestyle, something she says was challenging as a teen who was growing and eating all the time. "I was told that I had to change my diet and eating habits completely," Jordan said. "It was difficult without a solid, dependable resource to guide me."



Jordan Nuñez

Although her condition has gotten easier to manage over time, she still struggles occasionally, especially when she can't find something to eat at a restaurant. "Those are the times that I get really sad and anxious about having celiac," Jordan said.

In addition to helping others with the condition, she also wants to raise awareness and encourage people to be understanding of those with different dietary requirements. "I want people to know that celiac disease is a real condition, not a ploy to lose weight or be skinny," Jordan said. She says sometimes she feels judged at restaurants for being gluten-free, as people often assume she's just trying to lose weight by foregoing carbs. "It makes a difficult condition even more hurtful."

Luckily for Jordan, she's found some celiac-friendly food in Arcadia, and she's covered some of her favorite restaurants on her channel. "The gluten-free sections at Safeway and Sprouts are a lifesaver, and Doughbird's gluten-free pizza is my absolute favorite in the state," Jordan said. "North Italia has many delicious gluten-free foods, and Chipotle is the best fast food restaurant for me."

Jordan hopes to keep sharing her story and serving a purpose. "I want to continue to cultivate a platform for people and teenagers with celiac disease," Jordan said. "I am planning on doing a 'day in my life' video and maybe some 'cook with me' videos and a 'what's in my pantry' video showing my gluten-free staples."

When she's not working on her YouTube channel, Jordan keeps busy with schoolwork and planning for her senior year. "My goals for my last year at Xavier are to have fun, to continue my honor roll streak and to hopefully get into a really good college with an academic scholarship," Jordan said.



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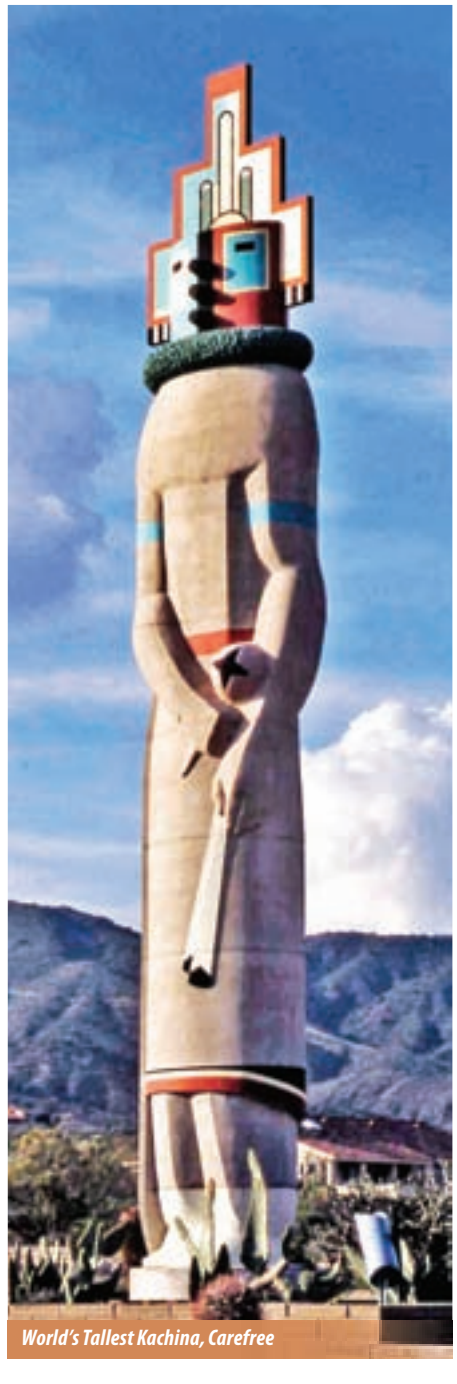
THE LARGEST 'STUFF' IN ARIZONA



27-foot Indian Head, Winslow



World's Tallest Fountain, Fountain Hills



World's Tallest Kachina, Carefree

By Sam Lowe

This month's story examines big things. More precisely, the biggest landmarks found in Arizona.



Some are well-known, like the Grand Canyon and the world's largest stand of Ponderosa Pine, located near the Mogollon Rim. However, others don't get nearly as much publicity.

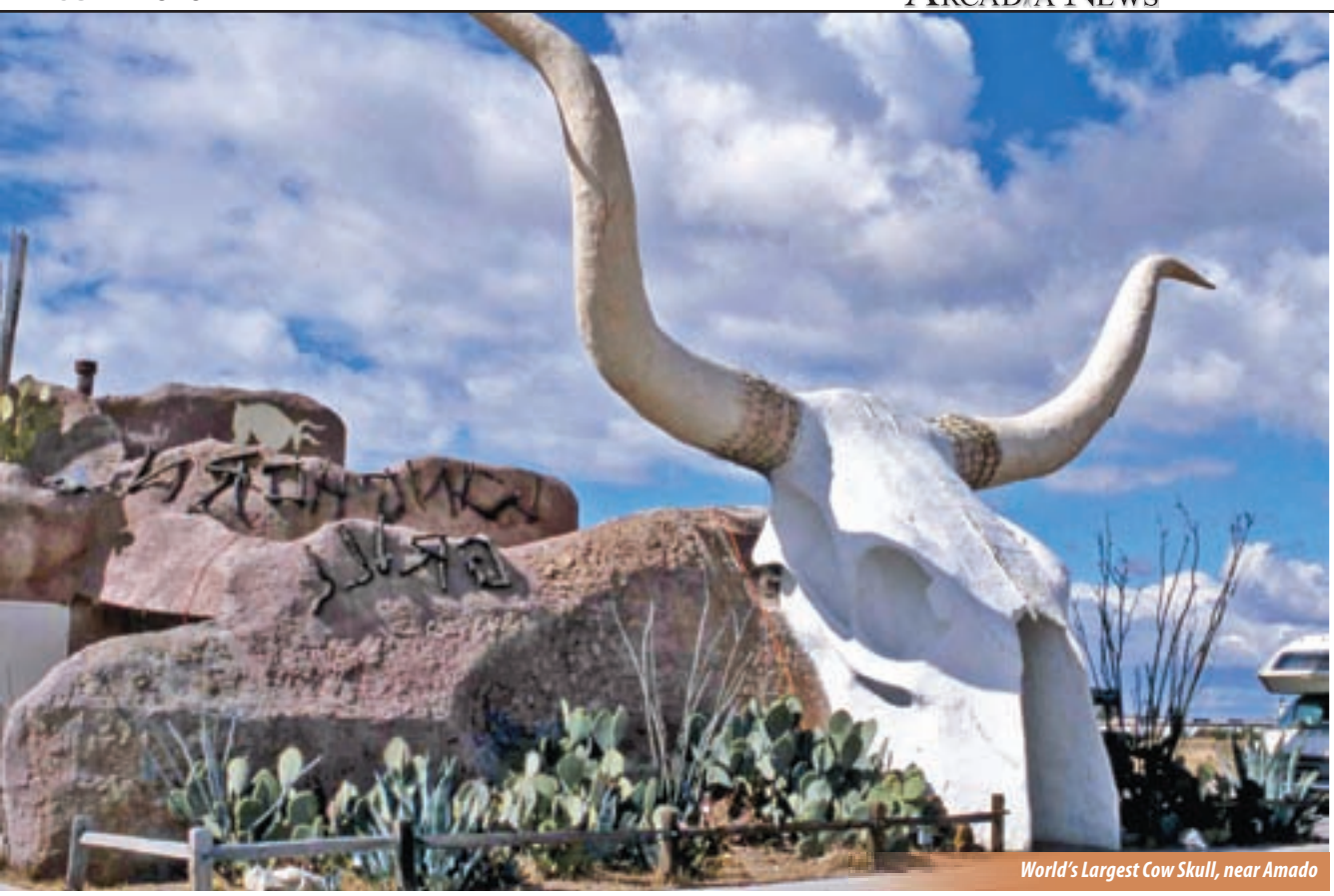
In Yavapai County, two huge boulders underwent a sort of metamorphosis and emerged as a giant frog and an enormous human skull. The world's largest frog sits on a small hill just north of Congress. It spent most of its life as a 14-ton boulder, but in the 1920s, a local housewife and her sons applied green, white and black paint to convert it into a gigantic croaker. Residents now apply fresh paint whenever the colors fade.

THE LOWE ROAD

Near Hillside, a 20-ton rock acquired a degree of notoriety in the early 1900s when railroad crews assigned to install crossing signs used leftover black and white paint to turn it into the world's largest skull. Before passenger service stopped on the nearby tracks, railroad conductors regaled riders with wild tales about ghosts and skeletons just as the train rounded the bend, and the extra-large skull popped into view.

The Longhorn Grill in Amado is aptly named because it's located inside the world's largest cow skull. Initially created as a prop for the movie *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*, the concrete and mesh cow head has a longhorn spread of 30 feet.

In Tucson, the world's largest rattlesnake is a pedestrian bridge over Broadway Road. It's 300 feet long, 16 feet high and 16 feet wide and made of steel floor grating and rubber sheeting. Iron beams represent fangs at the entrance, and a rattle-shaped sensor emits an ominous buzz at the other end when pedestrians wander by.


World's Largest Cow Skull, near Amado


World's Largest Frog, Yavapai County


World's Largest Kokopelli, Camp Verde


World's Largest Collection of Miniature Airplanes, Prescott

One of Arizona's major tourist attractions is the London Bridge in Lake Havasu City. The bridge was purchased in 1968 for $2.4 million and was named the World's Largest Antique Ever Sold by the *Guinness Book of Records*. The McCulloch Corporation bought it, broke it into manageable pieces, shipped it from London to Arizona and rebuilt it for a total cost of $5 million, all to spur interest in the development project along the Colorado River.

Nature created the Tonto Natural Bridge, also known as the world's largest natural travertine bridge. Located northwest of Payson, the span rises 183 feet high over a 140-foot tunnel. Now, it's a state park, and visitors who want to walk through the tunnel should bring proper footwear because the surface underneath is wet, slippery and rocky.

There's also the world's largest collection of miniature airplanes, which is housed in the Hazy Library at Embry-Riddle University in Prescott. The display features tiny but exact models of 5,825 planes and other flying machines, all built to 1/18th of an inch to one-foot scale by the late John Kalusa, who spent a half-century carving each plane by hand.

Sometimes, big things get relegated to lesser stature by even larger objects. Such is the case with the fountain that gives Fountain Hills its name. Originally the world's tallest fountain, it had to undergo a name change when taller fountains were created in St. Louis and Dubai. So now, the Fountain Hills fountain, which operates year-round, is known as the world's tallest continuously running freshwater fountain.

Two of Arizona's entries in the world's largest competition might also be considered works of art. One is the world's largest Kachina, a 39-foot concrete statue that stands guard over the Tonto Hills subdivision northeast of Carefree. It was erected by a developer in the hope that prospective property owners would consider moving to what was then "way out in the country."

The other is the world's largest kokopelli, which beckons tourists to a souvenir shop in Camp Verde. The fertility symbol, also known as the flute player, stands 32 feet tall, is painted bright yellow and is perched on a six-foot base. Made of welded steel, it weighs 5.5 tons, which keeps it safe from shoplifters.

Winslow boasts a couple of big things that may or may not be the world's largest, but they're pretty oversized and worth mention.

A mammoth-sized fiberglass bulldog stands guard near the entrance to Winslow High School. It glowers about six feet above a concrete pedestal and threatens visiting teams that have to pass it en route to play the home squads, appropriately named the Bulldogs.

A short distance away, a 27-foot Indian head stares vacantly at the scenery surrounding the city's Railroad Park. It is one of more than 50 crafted by artist Peter Toth in recognition of injustices he felt were committed against Native Americans. Toth created one in every state and several Canadian provinces.


Giant Bulldog, Winslow


London Bridge, Lake Havasu City

Hopi Elementary hosts virtual Spring Arts Fair

By Rachael Bouley

Students and staff at Hopi Elementary always look forward to their annual Spring Arts Fair, but this year there was a new twist to a treasured tradition.

Hopi PTA transitioned the one-day, in-person fair to a virtual event spread out over a week in April. Anna Zollman, VP of marketing for Hopi PTA, says making changes to the yearly gathering, known for art, live orchestra music and free ice cream, was important for students and their families.

"This year, we wanted to translate some of the spirit of the event into a digital format, so our PTA president came up with the wonderful idea of having a digital Art Masterpiece lesson each day presented on social media," Zollman said.

Art Masterpiece is a nationwide program that inspires students to explore famous art pieces with the help of volunteers. "Throughout the year, students study different famous artists and pieces of artwork, and then create their piece inspired by the artist's masterpiece," Zollman said.

Usually, these projects are saved, and one piece from every student is displayed at the Spring Arts Fair, with details on the artist and their artwork. After preparing for the Spring Arts Fair all year long, the Hopi community knew they couldn't let these efforts go unnoticed, leading to a new virtual concept for the event.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HOPI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Despite the quarantine, Hopi Elementary found a way to hold their annual Spring Arts Fair by having students create masterpieces at home.

"We had a different parent volunteer prepare each lesson by selecting a famous artwork, highlighting a little bit of its significance and history and then creating an art project based on it that students could complete in their own home," Zollman said.

Every project was posted on Facebook and Instagram with recommended supplies and instructions provided so students could follow along and embrace the virtual experience. Each grade level had their own famous piece of art to focus on.

Last year's Spring Arts Fair included interactive art stations for students to embrace the creative process. These art activities were a big hit with students, and the Hopi PTA wanted to ensure students could continue to create their artwork and showcase their creativity from the comfort of their own homes.

SPRING ART FAIR THEMES

Kindergarten:
Henri Matisse's "The Goldfish"

1st Grade:
Georgia O'Keefe's "My Front Yard"

2nd Grade:
Raoul Dufy's "Mediterranean Scene"

3rd Grade:
Vincent Van Gogh's "Sunflowers"

4th Grade:
Wayne Thiebaud's "Four Ice Cream Cones"

5th Grade:
Winslow Homer's "Snap the Whip"

"I think it was a wonderful way to connect with our students and parents, share a little bit of art history, and encourage them to be creative," Zollman said. "I look forward to next year when we will be able to do an in-person event."

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"Meet Mr." | Ray Artigue

Bull Earnhardt

By Ray Artigue

The question doesn't faze Bull Earnhardt because he has answered it so many times.

"Is that really your name?" And the answer is yes. Bull is his real name.

His mom tells the story of when he was born and how his grandfather, the late Arizona icon Tex Earnhardt, came to the maternity ward to see his newest grandchild. He took commercial license and slapped an *Earnhardt – No Bull* bumper sticker on the bassinet. From then on, the nurses started referring to the newborn as the 'No Bull Baby.'

> *"You have to love what you do."*

"I guess it just stuck, and with a little urging from my grandpa, my mom chose that as my birth name," Bull said.

The 38-year-old businessman is the third generation of Earnhardts working in the family automobile business founded in 1951. It consists of 23 dealerships and 17 different brands, and today it is one of the largest auto groups in the country.

"When I was 16, Grandpa gave me a new Ford pickup truck and said, 'Now get to work!'"

"I started in the car wash and, over time, have held every position there is. His motive was evident as it taught me the importance of having a solid work ethic," Bull said.

Today he is general manager of Earnhardt Lexus.

"That's no small thing given that the dealership moved clear across town just a few years ago, which was almost like starting from scratch," he said.

Earnhardt said that he and his family members and all of the employees work exceptionally hard to carry on the philosophy of Tex, which is to treat people just as you would like to be treated. "We sell a product, but we are really in the people business."

Bull grew up in Chandler along with his extended family, which is where Tex settled and opened the first dealership. He attended ASU, earning a degree in finance, and got married to his wife Alexis a year after graduating in 2005. "We were high school sweethearts and were introduced by her cousin. Both of our families have known each other since the 50s. I guess you could say it was meant to be," he said.

However, Bull does admit that he took nothing for granted. "Alexis got a job with NBC right out of college, and all of a sudden she was 3,000 miles away. I took 15 redeye flights to New York in just one year because I wasn't going to let a good thing slip out of my hands."

Bull and Alexis have two daughters, Estee, 9, and Evalee, 6, and say that they always wanted to raise their family in Arcadia, though admitting it was tough pulling up roots in Chandler.

"There's no other neighborhood in Arizona that looks and feels like Arcadia," Bull said. "You just can't beat the large lots and ranch-style architecture, the bike paths, and all the citrus trees. My family loves it here."

When he isn't working six days a week, Bull loves to play golf and spend time with his wife and daughters. Asked about the best advice he has ever received, he quickly said, "You can't like what you do, you have to *love* what you do."

Sage yet honest advice from the same guy who also liked to say, *"That ain't no bull!"*



Bull with Grandpa Tex Earnhardt in November 2018.

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AHS seniors awarded the State Seal of Arts Proficiency

By Mallory Gleich

Arcadia seniors Lainey Durchslag, Toni Stark, Oriana Valcamp and Jamie Villarreal, along with 33 other SUSD students, were awarded this year's Arizona State Seal of Arts Proficiency award.

This recognition comes in the form of a seal that is adhered to the students' diploma. It states that they have completed the Fine Arts Career Pathway and completed their capstone project, which is a combination of a digital portfolio and a student-led project and reflection.

"It was an absolute honor to receive the State Seal for the Arts," Jamie said. "The fine arts are a great passion of mine, so it feels great to be honored this way!"

The criteria for a student to receive this seal is a final GPA of 3.0 or 4.0 in each qualifying arts education course and minimum credit requirements in dance, music, theatre, visual or media arts. The student must also complete 80 hours of arts-related extracurricular activities along with the capstone project.

The award is part of the Arizona Department of Education arts program and was signed into law by Governor Doug Ducey in May 2019.

The main goals of the Arizona State Seal of Arts Proficiency are to celebrate students who demonstrate high levels of proficiency through personal expression and creative experiences, as well as artistic literacy. It also promotes access to arts education across the state and helps prepare students for college and career readiness.

Students submit a digital portfolio that includes an artistic statement, academic resume, documentation of their extracurricular work, awards and honors and eight examples of their work.

At least one of the submissions must include an explanation of a leadership role the student has held and a reflection on why they chose the project as well as the obstacles and successes they had during the process. Lastly, the student must explain their future goals and how the arts have supported them and will continue to support them on their next steps.

"All of the work I submitted was from my film class and consisted of projects such as my special effects makeup, a music video for class and one of the festival film intros," Lainey said. "I was very excited and proud that my hard work had paid off."

Unfortunately, with the closures of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was no awards banquet, but the students were honored at a virtual awards ceremony.

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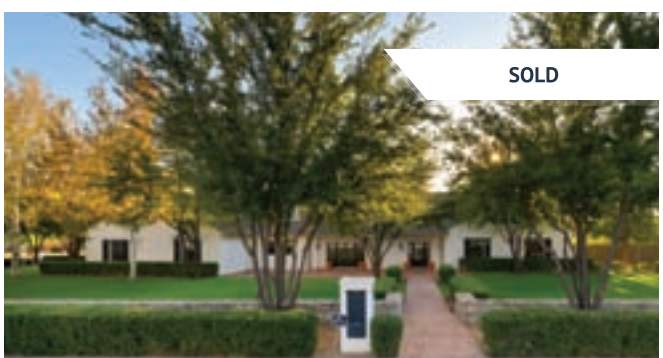
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PHOTO COURTESY OF JEOPARDY

Lauren D'Souza with Jeopardy *host Alex Trebek.*

Xavier graduate fulfills dream to appear on *Jeopardy*

By Jennifer Marshall

Xavier alumna Lauren D'Souza appeared on *Jeopardy* on April 27, where she placed second and won $2,000.

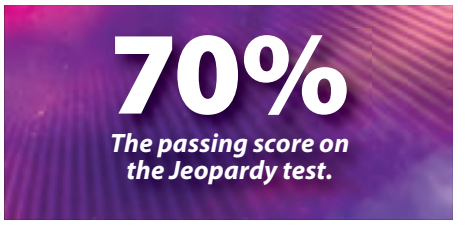
Lauren grew up watching the show, and her family continues to be loyal fans. When *Jeopardy* aired at an earlier hour, D'Souza would rush home from school so she wouldn't miss an episode. A regular viewer and self-described "trivia nerd," she never thought she would be a contestant.

A few years ago, her boyfriend took the *Jeopardy*-themed online test and encouraged her to do so as well. Her initiative paid off when she was chosen as an alternate contestant for the 2017 *Jeopardy* College Tournament.

"They selected 15 college students and a 16th alternate, which was me," D'Souza said. "They flew me out to the studio where I met the other contestants, and I participated in rehearsals. While it was a bummer that I didn't get to play, the whole process was so much fun."

After her collegiate *Jeopardy* experience, D'Souza began taking the online test for adults. Her persistence paid off once again when she was called to audition last spring. There, prospective contestants took an in-person test to ensure the accuracy of their online test. After acing her audition, she was chosen as a contestant in January 2020 and taped the show in February.

"Being on *Jeopardy* was a dream come true," D'Souza said. "The producers remembered me from the college tournament, and while I was nervous, they're great at easing their contestants' nerves. Rehearsals were held in the morning before the show was taped. My parents, brother, boyfriend and boss were all there to support me."



According to D'Souza, the show does not provide any preparation materials. She says one of the best ways to prepare and be successful is to watch as many episodes as possible.

"They embed little tricks and clues into the questions," D'Souza said, "which you will only recognize by understanding all the nuances of the show. Also, future contestants should check out the website j-archive.com, which contains every *Jeopardy* episode."

D'Souza encourages everyone who likes trivia to take the online test. She says budding contestants have eight seconds to type an answer to a question, and the test includes 50 questions in various categories. Contrary to what some may think, these hopeful contestants don't have to earn a perfect score; a threshold exists, and they only have to answer correctly about 35 of the questions.

Based on her personal experience, D'Souza says, "about 80,000 people take the online test a year, but they can only invite about 2,000 to audition, which is held once a year in several cities around the U.S., and only 400 contestants make it on the show for the season."

A graduate of Claremont McKenna College, D'Souza resides in Los Angeles, where she works in environmental sustainability. She maintains her passion for *Jeopardy* through her membership in a couple of Facebook groups that are devoted to former contestants.

For the record!

By Jeff Pearson

It isn't uncommon to see the everyday items of our past make it back into the mainstream again. Generation Xers and Millennials are picking up a once forgotten music format: vinyl records. Almost at the point of extinction about 15 years ago, full-length LPs that helped define the golden era of rock in the 1960s and 70s have been gaining popularity.

ASK THE APPRAISERS

If you ask record collectors "why vinyl?", the response is always "because of the sound quality." Then, of course, there is the element of collectability. Collectors buy vinyl as an investment, with the hope that the records will appreciate over time.

Some fans are baby boomers nostalgic for their youth. To the surprise and delight of those music lovers, increasing numbers of "the iPod generation" (Gen Xers/Millennials) are purchasing old and new turntables, buying long-playing vinyl records and giving them a spin.



They're also drawn to physically owning a product and enjoying the ritual that is involved in removing the record from its sleeve, dusting it off and listening to it. Album cover artwork and the sound quality of records have all lured the younger generations in the hobby of collecting vinyl records. However, both the cover and the album must be in prime condition.

Collecting and selling vinyl albums is a big business. It isn't just the garage sales, estate sales, antique stores and record and music conventions that carry collectible vinyl. There are many underground record collectors, auction sites and vinyl record-related websites that sell vinyl at premium prices.



The online community has responded as well. In fact, at any given moment, there may be more than 6,000 collectible Beatles' albums for sale on eBay. Some have sold for thousands of dollars, and it is reported that the album bought and sold the most in vinyl format is "The Beatles," also known as the "White Album."

I can assure you it is not only the Beatles' albums that sell. A few years ago, I went through a client's collection of 6,000 records, and I would never have guessed Miles Davis could have a value of $425. The price was determined by the condition of the album cover, the age of the pressing and the title. Cole Porter, Ella Fitzgerald, Elvis Presley, Bob Dylan, The Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, and even more modern artists such as Nirvana, Radiohead and Daft Punk are highly sought after.

For a vinyl newbie, consider what your collecting goals are before you start buying. Start with a specific genre. Show your eclectic taste and variety. Or, purchase just for aesthetic purposes and use the covers as art or shelf décor. Make it about fun and enjoyment. You may never know where that could lead.

— Contact Jeff Pearson damshill@yahoo.com or A-Z Appraisal & Estate Consultants, 5525 N. 12th St., Phoenix, AZ 85014.

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JT's Entire Team

We need more good news, Arizona

By Robin Sewell



Lately, I've been feeling a bit overwhelmed by all the negativity – whether it's the news, social media, or conversations with friends and family. Sometimes, I find myself falling in that dark rabbit hole or a funk because the light at the end of our country's divisive tunnel seems so far away.

However, before I start sinking too low, I hear or read a story about either an intentional or random act of kindness that completely lifts my spirit. My conclusion? We need more good news.

We can all agree that no matter how hard things get, there is right in the world and quoting my favorite quarantine news guy, actor and SGN host John Krasinski, "The good can be found just about everywhere."

Years ago, I asked Silvana Salcido Esparza, James Beard award nominee and owner of Phoenix's Barrio Café, to be my guest co-host on *Arizona Highways Television*. She took me on a tour of her neighborhood, Calle Diez y Seis, which is at 16th St. between Roosevelt and Thomas. It wasn't the ideal place to open a gourmet Mexican restaurant, but Silvana had the vision to clean it up and turn it into a community where artists and businesses would thrive.

She told me that her neighborhood is where her heart is, and she has never wavered through good times and bad. When the latest health scare forced restaurants to close their doors, Silvana opened her kitchen to a community that had nowhere else to go. She served up free food to anyone needing a meal, did free meal delivery service to people who couldn't leave their homes and fed the health care workers at both Arizona's Heart Hospital and Banner.

During this time, she had to make the difficult decision to close her other restaurant, Barrio Café Gran Reserva, permanently. Yet, her mission to do good remained as strong as ever. Other area restaurants also gave back during these tenuous times. The Wrigley Mansion delivered food to the doctors, nurses and staff at Maricopa County Hospital, and Miracle Mile Deli made meals for the Phoenix Fire Department.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARIZONA HIGHWAYS TELEVISION

Phoenix's Barrio Café (left) and The Wrigley Mansion (right) are just two of many local restaurants lending their support to area healthcare workers.

ROBIN'S ADVENTURES

In addition to generosity, innovation has been a hallmark of this time. When hand sanitizer disappeared off the shelves and was unavailable even to the medical community, one local company saw the need and got creative. O.H.S.O. Brewery and Distillery went from brewing beer to producing hand sanitizer. Banner and the World Health Organization worked with O.H.S.O. to create the formulas, and soon after, they were delivering hundreds of gallons of hand sanitizer to hospitals in Phoenix.

For kids, transitioning to online school has been a challenge, especially for those without access to technology. The Arizona Cardinals, Cox Communications, and State Farm donated computers and a year of free internet service to 150 students in the Roosevelt and Phoenix Elementary School Districts.

I've also witnessed countless individuals giving back in a variety of ways. Some are shopping for their elderly neighbors. Others are handing out free paper towels, toilet paper and much-needed supplies; people are organizing car parades outside of assisted living homes for those sheltered inside who can't see their loved ones. My 5-year-old neighbor made a thank you card for my husband and other doctors to let them know how much they are appreciated.

There's no denying that this is a very trying time. I'm confident if we look around, we can find joy in the good that's happening all around us.

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





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Organization brings inclusion to hidden disabilities

By Amanda Savage

Most everyone has witnessed a child have a "meltdown" in public, with family members scrambling to dissolve cries and screeches by trying to divert the child's attention. But for families with children or adults with hidden disabilities, like autism, a typical meltdown is anything but ordinary.

"Venues have in place lots of wonderful accommodations to help guests who move differently, but fewer support guests who think differently, and that's what we're trying to change," said Melanie Isaacs, the founder of Pal Experiences.

When someone is on the autism spectrum or has a mental illness like obsessive compulsive disorder, they can become overwhelmed by typical sounds, sights and other stimuli that people without these types of conditions are more comfortable experiencing.

Isaacs' interest in this issue began when she worked at Chicago's Shedd Aquarium while contemplating her master's thesis in marine biology. One day while riding the L train after her shift at the aquarium, a man approached her to ask about sharks. As they talked, she noticed that the man's young son was getting excited.

"At first, [the boy] was rocking a little bit, then jumping and slapping his arms," said Isaacs. But when she asked him if he liked the aquarium, his excitement fled, and he didn't respond. That's when the father interjected with, "We can't go to the aquarium, he has autism."

> *"We can't go to the aquarium; he has autism."*

This situation puzzled Isaacs. The topic became the focus of her master's thesis and the predecessor to founding Pal in 2012. "We're not out to eliminate [businesses'] sensory scene or change it. What we do is tell families what to expect," said Isaacs. Pal does this by creating video tours and digital guides.

"Every program starts with a site visit from board-certified behavior analysts, which are Ph.D. level behavioral therapists," said Isaacs.

The video tour uses the behavioral therapy technique called video modeling. Every video stars an actual family with a disability and follows them through their experience. Tours highlight the sensory elements the family encounters and aims to empower the viewer.

"It's different from a marketing video because it laces in all of these behavioral therapy techniques," said Isaacs.

The digital guide uses behavior change to break down an extensive experience into small, manageable chunks. So with an aquarium, for example, the guide breaks down each step, such as parking the car and getting tickets. It also includes optical communication modules where children can communicate their feelings by pressing on an image, rate an exhibit and alert staff if they need help.



PHOTO: GRANT THORNTON

Pal Experiences founder, Melanie Isaacs.

"The point of having these tools is true inclusion," said Isaacs, which means not having to self-identify or only have an experience when there is a specialized event.

"A lot of families are worried about the stigma because if their child does have a hard time, people are quick to say they aren't doing a good job or that kid is bad, and that's just really crushing to a family," Isaacs said. "I truly believe that the more we can break that down, the better. When we're all included, we're all at our best."

For more: palexperiences.org



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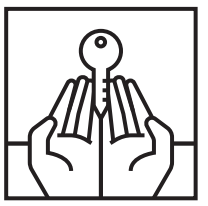
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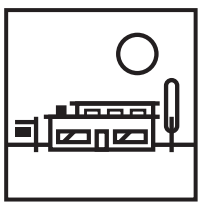
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Helping foster kids one stitch at a time

By Melissa Hirschl

Each year, the Arizona Department of Child Safety receives 50,000 reports of child abuse and neglect. As a result, 8,000 children in Maricopa County alone are sent to foster homes. As these children move through the foster care system, they often arrive with just black plastic garbage bags containing their belongings.

To soften this experience and instill a sense of self-esteem in these children, former Scottsdale foster mom Adriane Grimaldi came up with a practical grassroots project called the "Sewing Project to Help Foster Kids." The succinct statement on her business cards says it best: "Children shouldn't be given black trash bags to put their belongings into."

Grimaldi, who works full-time as the education director at Butterfly Wonderland in Scottsdale, had been a foster parent for ten years, mainly taking in brothers so they can stay together. She says she was disheartened by seeing children come to her home with their belongings in garbage bags.

"I understood that agencies use the most practical thing they can instead of suitcases, but it still bothered me," she explained. "So in 2007, I started creating 100% cotton pillowcases with cord drawstrings for the kids to use. We primarily use kid-friendly fabric designs; superheroes, animals and television characters."



COURTESY OF ADRIANE GRIMALDI

Kids can now use these pillowcases to carry their belongings when they move.

Grimaldi began her philanthropic mission by sending out an email to friends and family. Word spread, and soon her cadre of volunteers was in the hundreds; some who just drop off their finished pillows on her doorstep.

Grimaldi expanded her vision further by organizing a monthly sewing group at the Granite Reef Senior Center in Scottsdale. Volunteers create "designer" king-size pillowcases using stacks of fabric and nine sewing machines that Grimaldi provides.

"I am always looking for people to sew," Grimaldi said, "whether they use our machines or bring their own. We demonstrate the directions, and also, the template for the pillows is on the website as well. Volunteers sometimes take an extra step and add embellishments like lace or a patch."

Grimaldi purchases a lot of her fabric from local discount fabric and craft stores, but she finds fabric in non-conventional ways as well. "Sometimes someone has fabric from a person who passed away," she explained. "One woman had stacks and stacks of fabric from her mother's sewing room and didn't know what to do with it. I picked up the donation and took them to our monthly sewing project."

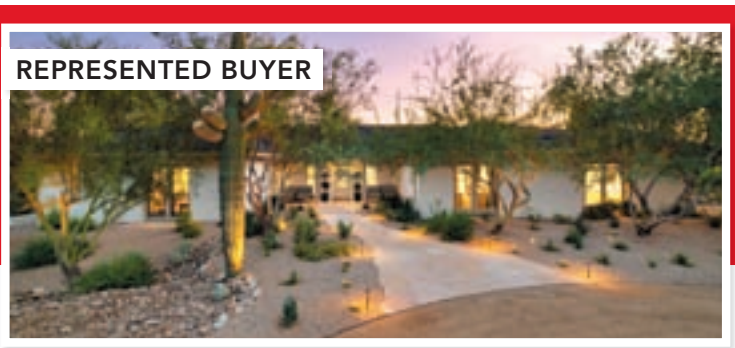
Grimaldi's charity donates pillows to a variety of organizations, including Catholic Charities, Helen's Hope Chest (part of Mesa United Way), Arizona Department of Child Safety, Child Haven children's shelter in Las Vegas and Family Promise, a local faith-based shelter for families.

"It's refreshing to see how people want to help foster kids," Grimaldi said. "People care and want to help, and this project gives them a sense of community and humanity."

For more: sewforfosterkids.com

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Arcadia graduate establishes mentorship program

By Jennifer Marshall

Kathryn Chamberlin, a 2015 Arcadia High School graduate, has created a program that provides guidance and support to students who plan to attend college. The Arcadia High Alumni Mentorship Program was established with the help of Chamberlin's friends Emma Schlenker, Rae Aaron and Nicole Mitchell.

When COVID-19 closed colleges and universities and students returned home, Chamberlin realized that she and her friends were all in the same place and sharing similar experiences.

"My friend's sister is a senior at Arcadia," Chamberlin said, "and she's going through the whole turmoil of what COVID-19 has done to her final year of high school. If I were a senior, I'd be devastated and frightened for the future. You've already had your senior year taken away, and you worry that your freshman year of college won't be what you've anticipated. So I started a program to help them to get excited about their futures."

Chamberlin also wants students to understand that what comes after high school is so much more exciting and valuable in the grand scheme of their lives. A senior at ASU, she is studying electrical engineering and will earn her master's in 2021.

"While at ASU," Chamberlin said, "I have noticed a lot of freshman coming to college with unrealistic expectations about what college and college life is all about and what their specific degree entails."

In March, she began talking with Arcadia High administration about implementing her ideas for the mentorship program. The objective is to connect current students with Arcadia graduates



Kathryn Chamberlin

to talk about what it is like to be a college student and earn a particular degree.

"Alumni and current students are paired up based on similar interests, extracurricular activities, colleges or careers," Chamberlin said. The alumni can then give advice and offer real-world examples of what it is like to attend a particular college or work in a given field. "These alumni provide mentorship and inspiration for students to move forward," Chamberlin said.

From business to the arts to STEM, alumni hail from careers across the professional spectrum, and they can be college students, recent grads working in their field, or they may still be pursuing their education at the graduate level. Right now, the program has over 75 participants.

Chamberlin said the program works and has a sustainable future because it is entirely virtual. Students and their mentors connect whenever they want and for as long as they wish using communication tools such as text, email, Zoom and Instagram.

"The Mentorship Program is open to all age groups at Arcadia," Chamberlin said. "We plan to target younger students to help them start thinking about their future, so they aren't frantically trying to make decisions their senior year."

Currently, Chamberlin is working with one of the assistant principals to see how the program can become a long-term stable resource at Arcadia.

AHS junior achieves top score on the ACT

By Jennifer Marshall

Congratulations to Arcadia High junior Luke Maledon for earning a perfect score of 36 on the ACT.

Like the SAT, the ACT (American College Testing) is a standardized test that is used as a factor in college admissions. The ACT was established in 1959 and tests four academic areas: English, math, reading and science. There is also an optional writing section for those students who elect to complete it.

The highest score for the ACT is 36, and according to *The Washington Post*, the average ACT composite score for 2019 was 20.7.

"Most colleges require students to take either the SAT or ACT," Luke said. "Earning the highest score is pretty cool, actually, and it will help me get into whatever college I choose to apply to."



Luke Maledon

"He is a pretty amazing kid. I am very proud of him," said Michael Maledon, Luke's father. "Believe it or not, he's probably even more talented with his musical and film hobbies."

"Earning a perfect score is indicative of many skills, like the ability to think logically, problem solve and be creative," said Arcadia High Principal Todd Stevens. "Luke has a skill set that is few and far between. We have many bright and talented students, and his achievement was exceptional even by the high measures we have here at Arcadia."

As for test preparation and anxiety, Luke said, "I didn't prepare for the ACT or study for it. I'm a good test taker," he said. "I just showed up at Arcadia High and took it."

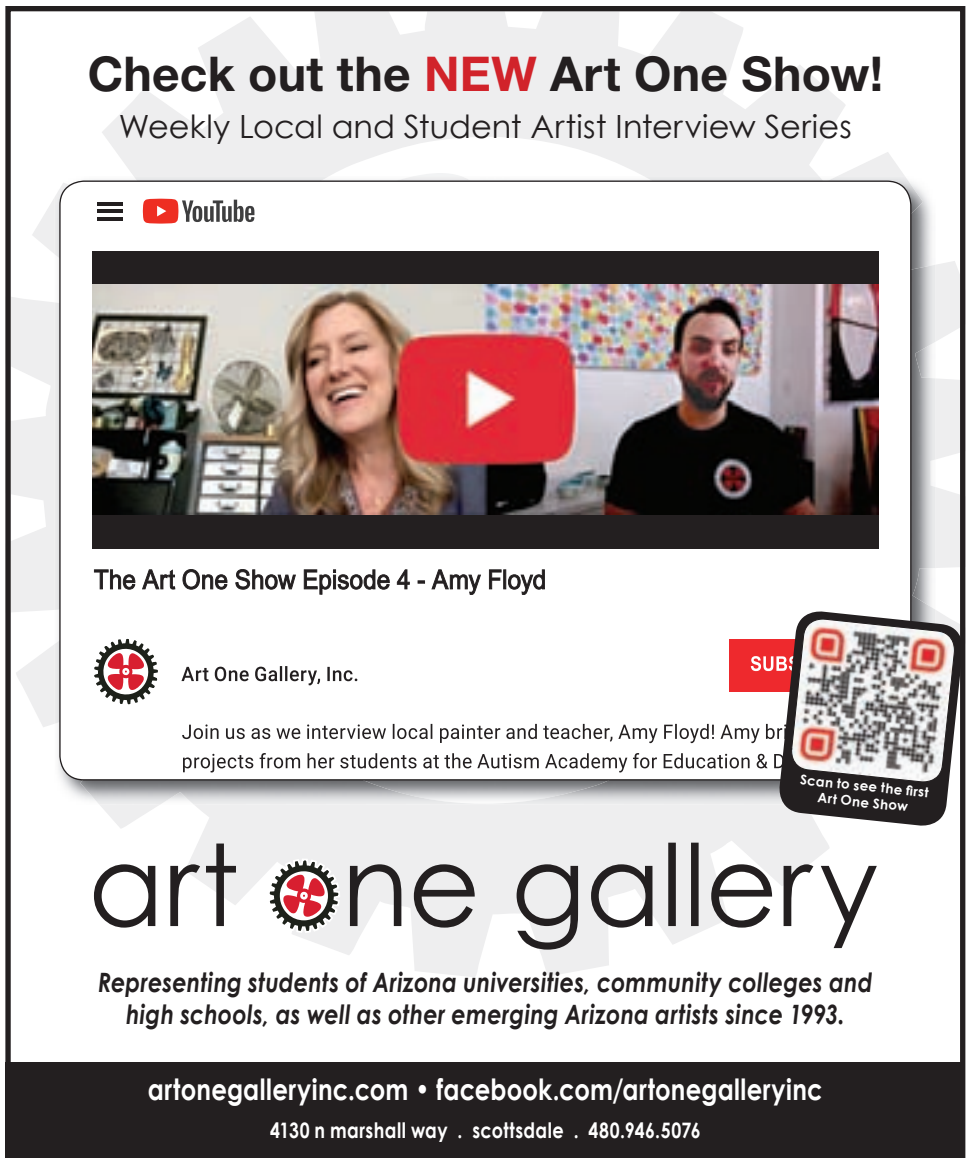
Luke's mom Lesley agrees that her son has excellent test-taking skills. "Luke looks for context clues and what makes sense. He's also really good at guessing and taking standardized tests. On test day, he wasn't stressed; he just walked in calm and cool and did his best."

The Princeton Review, a popular scholastic testing prep company, states that "a score of 23 on the ACT is above the current national average and will make you a strong applicant at many universities. The higher your ACT score, the more options are open to you."

"I'm going to attend college," Luke said, "I just don't know where right now."

"Luke has always been a creative and artistic soul," Lesley said. "He likes to draw, and he's self-taught on the guitar, the piano and the drums. He has a great imagination and a creative mind, and I see him pursuing some creative profession."

And while he has not yet settled on a specific career path, Luke does enjoy watching movies, listening to music, and he regularly plays guitar with his friends.





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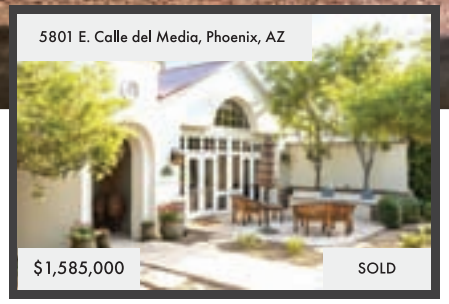
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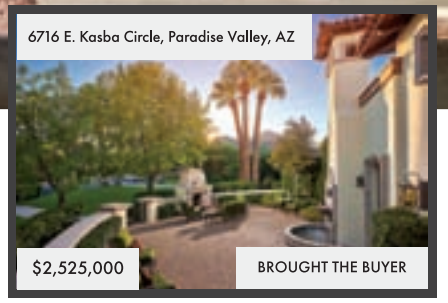
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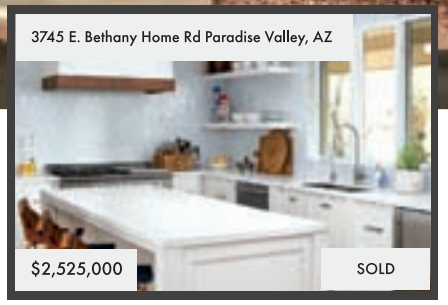


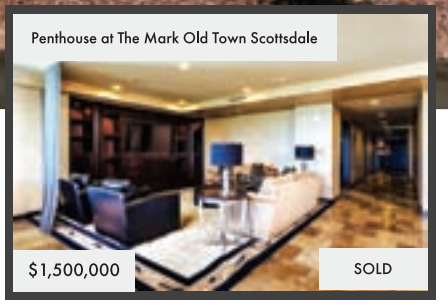
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Veritas Prep participates in mock trial competition

By Jennifer Marshall

In March, Veritas Prep's two mock trial teams placed 3rd and 7th at the Maricopa County Regional Tournament, held at the Maricopa County Superior Court Building.

This extracurricular activity was established in the 1980s and is open to high school students around the state. Mock trial programs are co-sponsored by the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education and the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar, with 120-150 Arizona schools participating each year.

"Every mock trial team gets the same case," said Veritas Coach Bill Gates, "which is a lawsuit created and written by lawyers. Just like a real legal case, this one includes a fact pattern, witness statements and exhibits."

This year's case was a murder trial involving two men who owned a restaurant. One owner was a gambler accused of embezzling money from the business to repay his loan shark. Following an audit, his partner was charged with pushing him into the restaurant's industrial freezer, where he died. The defense argued that the loan shark committed the murder.



PHOTO: BILL GATES

Back row: Britney Sweiss, Sam Espinosa, Vivian Tork, Corynn Gates, Claire Harris, Jacob Ladner, Hudson Grove, Jake Hirsch and Sabra Ahmed. Front row: Kiera Lentz, Lauren Mukavitz and Anna Schillinger.

"The case can be either criminal or civil, and many times, they've taken on hot-button issues like hate crimes," said Gates, who is also an in-house lawyer for PING Golf.

Each mock trial team is composed of six to eight students who serve as both lawyers and witnesses. Since the teams don't know until the day of competition which side they will be arguing, they prepare to play both prosecution and defense by practicing three days a week for two hours at a time.

"The entire process is a great opportunity for the participants to hone vital skills like critical thinking, research and public speaking," Gates said. "Quite often, the real judges who preside over the trials comment that the student presentations are as good, if not better than some of the lawyers who appear in front of them."

"I felt privileged to be part of the Veritas Mock Trial team, due to the exceptional, dedicated and experienced coaches who have expanded my interests in law and public speaking," said freshman Sabra Ahmed, who was named to the All Region Team. "This experience improved my critical thinking skills and pushed me to think more creatively. With every practice, we grew stronger as a team, and the goal we set out to achieve aligned us even further."

Veritas's third-place team qualified for the state tournament, which was unfortunately canceled.

"This was the third year in a row that Veritas qualified for the state tournament," Gates said, "and since only 16 teams make it to that level, that's a great accomplishment for our students."

"The cancelation of the state tournament ended my last season on the team," said senior Vivian Tork, who was named outstanding performer at regionals. "It's strange to think my closing in the final round at regionals was the last thing I'd ever do in high school mock trial, but I'm satisfied that my team left everything in the courtroom during what would turn out to be my last round ever."

Veritas Prep experiments with virtual science fair

By Rachael Bouley

After months of careful scientific research and preparation, Veritas students were able to display their results at the annual science fair at the end of April. Instead of having students present their projects at school in front of their peers and parents, they recorded their presentations and had their videos posted online for the Veritas community to explore.

Veritas Middle School Assistant Headmaster Thomas Thoits didn't want the sixth-grade class to miss out on the science fair, which is why he and his fellow educators put together the virtual experience. "We miss our students so much, and there is no way to re-create the in-person science fair, but we wanted to honor the good work of our students working with their teachers and parents over the past year," Thoits said.

The group realized that a virtual science fair was the perfect way for the Veritas community to come together. "There were a lot of technical hurdles for families in producing and submitting videos and for us in assembling and setting up the site," Thoits said. "We all got a crash course in video production, but we made it through, and we're grateful we had this opportunity."

Fifty-seven students participated in the fair, with submissions covering a variety of scientific categories. "It was impressive under these circumstances as families rallied to support students in producing and submitting these presentations," Thoits said.



PHOTO: ANUJ BHATNAGAR

Kalyani Bhatnagar with her presentation.

The science team decided to forego traditional rankings and instead celebrate the students' hard work. "It is an accomplishment that these students were able to pull together and produce these presentations," Thoits said. "Teachers reviewed each video presentation and conveyed to families the excellent work they saw."

Thoits was delighted to see an overwhelmingly positive response from parents, students and fellow faculty. "These students have been working throughout the school year to prepare their projects, so this opportunity was welcome," Thoits said. "Even at a distance, those students who were able to join us virtually got the opportunity to speak up and formally present their ideas to others in the community."

Thoits recognized that students might feel anxious talking in front of a camera, even without an in-person audience. "These students rose to this new kind of challenge and spoke up with poise and confidence, speaking about ways they succeeded as well as things they learned from these experiments," Thoits said.

Kalyani Bhatnagar was one of the students who participated in the science fair. She showcased a project on aromatherapy and smell preferences for people of different ages. She says she chose her project topic because nearly half of Americans say they feel stressed during the day, and while aromatherapy may help, it's frequently pretty expensive. "I was looking for affordable ways that people can de-stress," Kalyani said.

After working on her project since the fall and gathering data from 30 participants, Kalyani was excited to present her findings, including that mint was the most popular out of five distinct scents.

She said that getting to see the work of other students and study their projects was great too. "It was an amazing experience to see all the other projects," Kalyani said.



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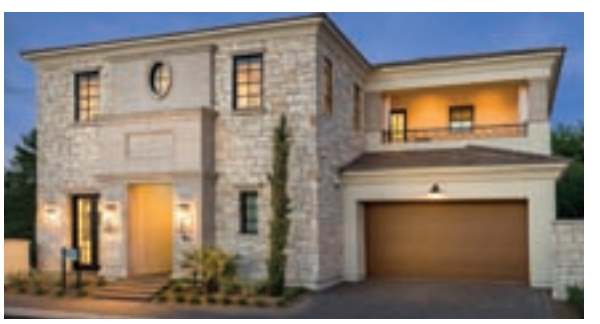












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The first Atari Hotel is planned to break ground this year in downtown Phoenix.

Arizona companies bringing video game hotels to life

By Amanda Savage

The new trend of video game-themed hotels has made its way to Arizona with a renowned video game company.

Atari announced this year that Phoenix would be the first location for its new brand of Atari Hotels. Arizona-based companies are leading the development of the project, which is slated to break ground mid-2020, with an opening date to be determined.

THE HOTEL CONCEPT

Atari – responsible for nostalgic games like Pong and RollerCoaster Tycoon – describes its hotel as a "one-of-a-kind video game-themed destination." The new hotel will be a fully immersive experience "for every age and gaming ability, including the latest in virtual and augmented reality. Select hotels will also feature state-of-the-art venues and studios to accommodate esports events."

Video game-themed hotels could be the next big destination-style development to hit the hospitality industry. While the specific details and amenities are still being kept a secret, the general plan for the hotel is for it to have multigenerational appeal and harmonize modern technology with a retro edge.

While amenity-rich hotels and experiential retail concepts have been a growing trend in the commercial real estate industry, the hotel's integration with technology as well as its video game angle will be the first of its kind in America.

The concept is the brainchild of Arizona-based Shelly Murphy's GSD Group, an innovation and strategy agency, and Napoleon Smith III, the producer of the modernized reboot of the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* movies. The duo acquired the rights to build Atari Hotels from Atari.

"Atari Hotels will be the first of their kind in the U.S., offering gamers of all ages the ultimate in immersive entertainment and in every aspect of gaming. We're excited to be working on this project with such great partners and to bring a big win to Arizona," said Murphy.

True North Studio, a real estate development company in Phoenix, will spearhead the construction and design of the hotel.

"We are thrilled to partner with GSD Group and True North Studio to build the first-ever Atari branded hotels across the United States. Together we'll build a space that will be much more than just a place to stay," said Fred Chesnais, CEO of Atari.

With the Valley's tech industry growing exponentially over the years, the video game industry isn't far behind. The last data pulled about Arizona's video game industry was in 2015 by the Entertainment Software Association (ESA). According to their report, Arizona is home to 75 video game companies and 16 college programs. The ESA also reports that in 2015, the video game industry contributed over $261 million to the Arizona economy.

Development companies like Desert Owl Games, Redg Studios, Himalaya Studios, Grumpy Face, Seven Sentinels and dozens more call Arizona home. Organizations like the International Game Developers Association, the Game On Expo and Game CoLab are just a few of the leaders of the Arizona gaming community, who are helping spur the development of more esports events, cyber lounges and more.

While it's hard to say if Phoenix will become a future destination for the global video game community, hosting the world's first Atari Hotel is bringing international attention to the Phoenix tech and gaming communities.



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Wendy Farrell, Stacey Allen, Tracy Farrell, Kat Peasley and Arisia Huff in their costumes depicting the HBO show Gentlemen Jack.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Talent gets rewarded at costume showcase

By Melissa Hirschl

With imaginative flair, some fabric and the aid of her sewing machine, Phoenix resident Wendy Farrell designs award-winning historical, whimsical and humorous costumes. Her talent was rewarded this past January at the Arisia Masquerade held in Boston.

Farrell won the coveted "Best in Show" award as well as the "Best Historical Recreation" award. Similar to the Academy Awards, Arisia grants awards for costume designers for "anything interesting and fun." This eclectic mix includes mythical and playful costumes like fairies, superheroes, dragons, and movie and television characters.

Farrell's entry was based on *Gentlemen Jack*, an HBO show set in Yorkshire, England, in 1832, which depicts the life of Anne Lister, a wealthy landowner who is anything but conventional. Through dramatization, Lister is portrayed as a strong-willed and assertive woman who is an enigma for her time; she desired a wife. Farrell, her two daughters, Tracy Farrell and Arisia Huff, and a friend displayed the period costumes. "I knew my fan base in the audience," said Farrell. "I knew they supported gender equality and feminist rights."

Whether it's creating historical recreations or twists on current television shows or movies, Farrell's designs are a labor of love. She takes pains to develop exacting details in not only clothing but wigs, shoes and accessories.

Farrell also has the distinction of being a master craftsman, a title bestowed on her by the International Costumer Guild, an organization created for hobbyists and professional costumers. Dedicated to the promotion of costuming as an art form, this group establishes guidelines for many competitions.

Other costume competitions include ArisiaCon, a gathering of fans of science fiction and fantasy genres, and CostumeCon, a four-day convention of panels, workshops and contests. Farrell has won numerous awards for her costuming and is a respected speaker and panelist, sharing her knowledge of the craft with others.

Farrell's creativity gets to sizzle when she creates "mash-ups" or costumes with a twist. One example was a *Beauty and the Beast* presentation, where the Beast was portrayed as a transformed prince who still was a bit of a dog that would go chasing after balls.

"Beauty was depicted as a warrior," she explained. "In another instance, we created costumes from the musical *Chicago* and had dancers donning fashion from the 1930s. They were mixed in with women from the *Game of Thrones* show, and the punchline was they were dancing to "He Had It Coming," she said. Another witty costume she designed was a mash-up of *Mary Poppins* and *Dr. Who*, a popular British science fiction television program. Mary's coat had a telephone booth on the back (the TARDIS to *Dr. Who* fans) as well as an altered umbrella with a parrot handle.

"I love it when the audience reacts to my creations by clapping and cheering," said Farrell. "Sometimes, I can't even hear sounds around me; the noise is so loud!"

For more: arisia.org and costume.org

Sticking together through the pandemic

By Angela Copeland

Living through a disaster is challenging. I grew up in a place where natural disasters are the norm: An Oklahoma City suburb called Moore. It has been in the news a couple times when F5 tornadoes destroyed the city in 1999 and 2013. It was devastating. Homes and businesses were damaged. And, sadly, lives were lost.



The unique thing about Moore is how resilient it is. Every time a tornado wipes the ground clean, people rebuild. The community comes together in a way that doesn't exist everywhere. They support one another. They know that to get through disasters, they have to do it together.

After COVID-19 hit the U.S., one of the first people I saw was a friend from Moore. Although I hadn't seen him in over 20 years, he drove to my house to drop off a face mask. He knew that to get through this, we have to do it together.

CAREER ADVICE

When you go to work every day, I hope you'll keep this in mind. We are all facing unique challenges: Some people are caring for small children, while others are trying to help their aging parents. Some are self-isolating completely alone. None of these different scenarios are easy.

The only way businesses are going to make it through this is if employees work together.

We've got to pick up the slack for our colleagues when they can't. Now isn't the time to judge harshly or to compete with one another. People have different levels of support or flexibility at home. No one was planning for how to weather such a storm.

Not everyone has a nanny who can take care of their children during the day. Not every older person has adult children or loved ones nearby who can help. Every scenario can create stress and strain.

> ***"The only way businesses are going to make it through this is if employees work together."***

The only answer is to work together. It's not the time to make a fuss over little things or feel guilty when you aren't perfect. It's the time to step forward with empathy and compassion, both for our colleagues and ourselves. We are all struggling. And that's okay – as long as we stick together.

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



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Arcadia Proper at its best. This elegant, privately gated, red brick estate with full slate roof is located on Exeter Boulevard and offers commanding views of Camelback Mountain. The quality of construction and detail cannot be duplicated by today's new construction. Glossy white custom woodwork and rich wood floors create the perfect design backdrop. An inviting Master Suite with balcony, fireplace, wet bar, private office, dressing room and an exquisite purse closet. Two bedrooms have lofts and there's also a sunny secret room hidden away. Light and bright kitchen is designed with top appliances and white cabinetry. The temperature controlled wine cellar is wonderful. Private guest quarters. There's even a real caboose which could be a fun kids clubhouse. A large pool and four car garage complete this timeless beauty.



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DIY backyard activities for the whole family

WATER BALLOON BASEBALL

The batter has three chances to hit and burst the water balloon. If they miss it all three times, they're out. If they hit the balloon and it explodes, they run to first base. The pitcher and or any other participant besides the batter are allowed one water balloon per base to throw at the batter – if they hit them, the batter's out. If the batter makes it around the bases without being caught, they score a run. Take turns at each position.

Items needed:

- Lots of prefilled water balloons
- Whiffle bat or bat of your choice
- Four hula hoops or other items for bases

BALLOON PING PONG

Blow up a balloon to use as the ball. Make the paddles out of paper plates taped or glued to Popsicle sticks. The rules of the game are simple: Don't let the balloon hit the ground.



Items needed:

- Paper plates
- Popsicle sticks or craft sticks (the big ones)
- Glue or tape
- A bag of balloons



BACKYARD BOWLING

Collect 10 two-liter bottles and use them for your pins. Use any ball of choice (basketballs work great) as your bowling ball. Put a few inches of water at the bottom of each bottle for weight. You can make a family project out of painting the bottles to resemble actual bowling pins.

Items needed:

- Ball
- 10 two-liter bottles filled with a few inches of water



BEAN BAG LADDER TOSS

Set up a ladder in the backyard and write 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 on sheets of paper. Tape one sheet of paper to each step of the ladder. Have kids toss bean bags between the rungs of the ladder. Keep track of the points.

Items needed:

- Step ladder
- Sheets of paper or note cards
- Colored magic marker set

Tip:

Give bonus points for getting a bean bag to land on one of the steps. This principle works excellent for one kid, who can try to beat their score each time, or let multiple kids play to see who gets the highest score.



SUPER-SIZED TIC-TAC-TOE

Place hula hoops in a grid pattern. Two participants pick X or O and they take turns placing paper plates in the hula hoops. Regular tic-tac-toe rules apply.

Items needed:

- Ten paper plates. Paint an X on five plates and an O on another five.
- Nine hula hoops

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DID YOU KNOW? GOLF

WHEN? 1764



Though the premise of using a stick to hit a ball onto a target has been around since possibly the Roman Empire, the modern game of golf originated in 15th century Scotland. The 18-hole round started at the Old Course at St. Andrews in 1764. In 1860 the first major tournament in the world was the Open Championship (later named the British Open) played in Ayshire, Scotland. *– wikipedia.com*

HOW FAR?

515

While playing in the U.S. National Seniors Tournament in 1974, Michael Hoke Austin drove the ball an estimated distance of 515 yards.

– guinnessworldrecords.com





Desert Mountain – Chiricahua golf course.

HOW MANY?

300+ courses

Arizona has more than 300 golf courses, from traditional links-style layouts to target and challenge courses. Desert Mountain – Chiricahua in Scottsdale is considered Arizona's most challenging.

– golfarizona.com and bizjournals.com/phoenix

HOW MUCH?

$15M

The most prize money won in a major tournament was Rory McIlroy in 2019 during the FedExCup.

– forbes.com





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DID YOU KNOW? GOLF

FUN GOLF FACTS – jrpga.comd

The word 'golf' comes from an old Scottish word meaning 'club.'



America's first 18-hole golf course was constructed on a sheep farm in Downer's Grove, Illinois in 1892.

The term 'fore' comes from the word 'before' and it means to look out ahead.

Golf balls were originally made of wood.



A typical 190-pound golfer will burn 431 calories per hour — assuming he or she is walking across the fairway instead of riding a golf cart.

Another early day ball was made out of feathers and would cost a modern-day equivalent of $10-$20.



On February 6, 1967, Alan Bartlett "Al" Shepard, Jr. performed a one-handed swing with a six-iron, sending the ball flying through the moon's low-gravity atmosphere.

China has banned the development of new golf courses.

SAY WHAT?

18 HOLES EQUALS 18 SHOTS?



There's an urban legend that a golf course is made up of 18 holes because it takes exactly 18 shots to polish off a fifth of scotch. Drinking only one shot per hole meant a round of golf was finished when the scotch ran out. Although this story is amusing, it's actually false. – *blog.3balls.com*

GOLF WORD SEARCH

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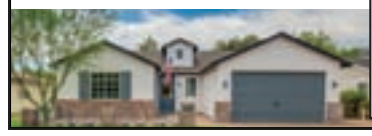
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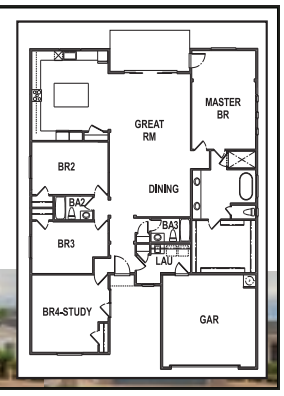
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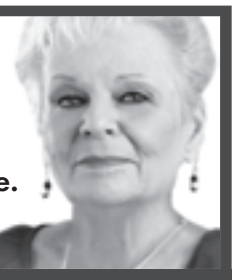


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