

ARCADIA NEWS

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ARCADIA • BILTMORE • CAMELBACK CORRIDOR

JUNE 2023



MEET THE D6 COUNCILMAN

Arcadia neighbor Kevin Robinson is the new Phoenix City Councilman for District 6.

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LET'S GO TO THE RACES!

Two local teens have taken their love of racing to the pro level by competing in go-kart and sports car racing series.

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PHEASANT TAIL FLY FISHING

Amber and Clint Woods are opening a boutique outdoor fly fishing shop.

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JUNE

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

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Junior Achievement of Arizona awarded four Valley juniors the 18 Under 18 award thanks to their entrepreneurship and love for the community.

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Music filled the streets as the high school student-based 32nd Street Jazz Band attended their second French Quarter Music Festival in New Orleans.

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Foster mom and Arcadia local Darcy Olsen started The Center for the Rights of Abused Children, a charity dedicated to advocacy and giving foster children a voice.

45 Keeping their eyes on the ball

Our area high school varsity tennis squads left it all on the court, gaining more than experience and success during the 2022-23 season.



Gio Santora (driver) and his dad, George, at the PKRA Club Championship in Glendale in April. Gio has been racing since he was four years old.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE SANTORA

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AGES 4.5 - 14



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EDITOR'S NOTE



We're kicking off the June edition with a huge shout-out to all the father figures out there: Happy Father's Day to you all. Take a load off from building that tree house – you've got the latest edition of Arcadia News in your hands!

Flyfishers will be happy to know that a new fly fishing business is opening on 40th Street and Thomas in June. Pheasant Tail Fly Fishing is the creation of locals Clint and Amber Woods and will be stocked with rods, reels, flies, packs, boots, wading gear, sunglasses, outdoor apparel and more.

I sat down with Kevin Robinson, the new City of Phoenix District 6 Councilman, to learn a little about him and the issues he's currently working on in our city and beyond. Folks can get a behind-the-scenes look at the former Phoenix Police Chief and his plans for the future.

A group of students at Arcadia High took "helping hand" to a new level, raising money for their

government teacher Mr. Clayton Guy, whose wife recently underwent heart surgery. In one month, they raised over \$5,000 – and that number is still climbing!

We'd like to congratulate all the graduates of our local schools and wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Our Summer Vacation Photo Spread is happening again this year, so send photos to editor@arcadianews.com for a chance to be in the September issue. Your photo might be on the cover! The deadline to send in photos is August 8.

Happy summer days ahead, and thank you, as always, for reading the Arcadia News,

Mallory

– Mallory

UPCOMING THEMES:

JULY

Summer

AUGUST

Back to School

SEPTEMBER

Fall Sports

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"Good dads forgive your mistakes. Great dads help you hide them from mom." – Bill Gray

ARCADIA'S PETS

Celebrating the furry, fuzzy, feathery or scaly pets that take over our hearts – and sometimes our couches. Meet a few of Arcadia's Pets!



1. Winston, our 6-year-old Pomeranian, has been with us his entire life. Since publishing his children's books, *Winston the Traveling Dog*, he prefers to eat any food with flavor and spice for his meals (Thai, Indian, Italian, Mexican, you name it). We aren't quite sure what to do with his sophisticated palate!

–Cynthia F.

2. Riley is a Shih Tzu-poodle mix. He is turning 15 this year. Riley loves to play fetch and cuddle. He also functions as a vacuum cleaner whenever any food falls on the floor!

–Kristen Z.

3. My name is Baxter and I am the fur child of the family and may I say one lucky dog. I say lucky because I destroyed many doors and baseboards, and they still loved me anyway! I was won at the Hopi School Auction and have been ruling the house ever since. P.S. I am now perfect and don't destroy anything. It's too much effort and I would rather take a nap.

–Shelly B.

4. Our names are Reese and Scout. We live with Craig, Michelle, Ava and Eliana. I (Scout) am 5 and my sister (Reese) is 6. Our immediate family thinks we are super awesome. But our grandparents think we jump on them too much!

–Craig G.

Would you like to share your pet? Send a photo and a description (50 words max.) of your pet to editor@arcadianews.com. Include your pet's name and age, along with any fun facts about them you'd like to share. All animals are welcome!

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Thursday, June 22: 8am-2pm

Friday, June 23: 8am-Noon

Saturday, June 24: 8am-Noon



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Arcadia Real Estate Stats

2023 HOPI SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/01/2023-4/30/2023)

Active Homes -	96 homes
Homes Sold -	70 homes
Average Sale Price -	\$2,481,000
Average Sold \$ Per SF -	\$646
Average Days On Market -	92 days

There is currently 5 months of home inventory. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 home sales have decreased 10% this year. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 home prices have decreased 1%. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 \$ Per Square Foot prices have decreased 4%. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 homes are taking 53% more time to sell. (based on 2022 sales results)

2023 TAVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SALES RESULTS

(1/01/2023-4/30/2023)

Active Homes -	65 Homes
Homes Sold -	45 Homes
Average Sale Price -	\$1,194,000
Average Sold \$ Per SF -	\$476
Average Days On Market -	91 days

There is currently 5 months of home inventory. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 home sales have decreased 21% this year. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 home prices have decreased 2%. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 \$ Per Square Foot prices have decreased 5%. (based on 2022 sales results)
2023 Homes are taking 56% more time to sell. (based on 2022 sales results)



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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?

BRIEFS

Arcadians Amber and Clint Woods plan to open their first fly fishing shop/outdoor boutique, **Pheasant Tail Fly Fishing**, at 40th St. and Thomas in June. The shop will be a complete outfitter for fly fishing: rods, reels, flies, packs, boots and wading gear. Pheasant Tail will also offer casting classes, education workshops, fly-tying events, and guided trips.

pheasanttailflyfishing.com



Grass Clippings, a golf retail shop located at 40th St. and Campbell, recently signed a lease with the City of Tempe to take over operations at Rolling Hills Golf Course (1415 N. Mill Ave., Tempe) in Papago Park. They plan to add lights to the entire course so golfers can play until midnight, reimagine the clubhouse and food and beverage operation, and build a concert venue. Grass Clippings will start operations on July 1.

grassclippings.com

College Depot at the Phoenix Public Library is offering free workshops to help students find and apply for scholarships. Kids can learn the steps necessary to earn a GED, diploma, college degree or apprenticeship and attend workshops on admissions, financial aid, scholarships, and more. One-on-one appointments are available by calling 602-261-8847.

phoenixpubliclibrary.org

Mountain Shadows is bringing back its popular **Sunday Supper Club** series. The restaurant will feature a winery,

distillery, or local purveyor one Sunday a month. Guests can enjoy four courses paired with beverages and a conversation with Chef Charles Wiley. On June 11, the Supper Club will welcome Executive Chef John Amann of Castle Hot Springs. Prices vary, and registration is required.

mountainshadows.com



In honor of National Hot Air Balloon Day on June 5, **Rainbow Ryders** is offering a summer discount on its sunrise flights. Locals will receive \$40 off for every pair of tickets booked on Hot Air Balloon Day, only valid for sunrise flights from June 6-August 31. The discount code is **localryders**.

rainbowryders.com



Four Peaks is kicking off its 13th annual Four Peaks for Teachers Program. One area teacher will be named Four Peaks Teacher of the Year and will win a \$3,000 grant plus a teachers' lounge makeover at their school. Ten runners up will each receive a \$1,000 cash grant for their classroom. Nominations will be accepted through June 30.

fourpeaksforteachers.org



Barro's Pizza and Pepsi are teaming up for the eighth year to raise funds for the **Arizona Cancer Foundation for Children**, a nonprofit started by Chrisie Funari (read about her in the May 2023 edition of Arcadia News!) with a mission of helping Arizona families with the challenges of caring for their children during treatment. Throughout June, all Barro's locations will donate proceeds from lunch specials, up to \$40,000, to ACFC.

azcancerfoundation.org

Phoenix Christian Prep announced that Ben Stryczek will be the new athletic director starting in June. Stryczek is a graduate of California State University and spent time as the men's head varsity basketball coach at Phoenix Christian, where he led the varsity team to back-to-back final-four playoffs. His goal is "to build upon the school's strong foundation of athletic success while focusing on character development and academic achievement."

phoenixchristian.org



AZ Ice Arcadia (3853 E. Thomas Road) offers Learn to Skate classes for kids 3 and up; these include Snowplow, Basic, Pre Freeski, Advanced, Elite and Teen/Adult classes, based on skaters level of experience. Classes are held Wednesday and Saturday. The **Mountain America Community Iceplex** (411 S. Packard Dr., Tempe) will also offer programs for youth to adult hockey, figure skating, public skating, and Learn to Skate classes – with summer sessions starting on June 7. Learn to Skate consists of

weekly one-hour instructed classes that provide fundamental ice-skating skills for hockey, figure skating, speed skating, synchro, pairs, ice dancing and recreational skating.

azicearcadia.com or mullettarena.com

EVENTS

THURSDAY 6/1

Lunch Time Theater

12 p.m. at the Herberger Theater, Kax Stage, 222 E. Monroe St., Phoenix. Enjoy some afternoon entertainment with Bandstand, a musical anthology of memorable songs and singers from America's glory days. This 45-minute concert/show will feature songs by Fats Domino, Elvis Presley, The Four Seasons, The Temptations, Neil Diamond, Stevie Wonder, and more. Tickets are \$10 per person, with lunch available for purchase.

herbergertheater.org

FRIDAY 6/2

Glass Art Workshop

6 p.m. at Sunshine Sunflower Studio, 700 W. Campbell Ave., Phoenix. If you're feeling artsy, we've got an event for you! Sunshine Sunflower is hosting a Fused Glass workshop where attendees will make a set of four coasters to take home. Students will cut glass and use multiple elements to create their pieces. All glass and materials are included. This class is open to all skill levels. Registration is required, \$60 per person to attend.

sunshinesunflower.com

FRIDAY 6/2 – SUNDAY 6/4

Phoenix Fan Fusion

Hours vary; at the Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N. 3rd St. Prepare to fully geek out at the 21st annual Phoenix Fan Fusion event. Don your costume and get ready for contests, movie screenings, merchandise booths, prizes, exhibits, panel discussions and the best part – photo ops with some of your favorite actors, authors, comic book creators and more. Tickets range from \$50 to \$395.

phoenixfanfusion.com

SATURDAY 6/3

World Atlatl Day Competition

9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the S'edav Va'aki Museum, 4619 E. Washington St., Phoenix. Come out and test your prehistoric hunting skills at the S'edav Va'aki Museum (formerly the Pueblo Grande Museum). The Study of Ancient Lifeways and Technology group will host an atlatl competition in honor of World Atlatl Day. There will be a demonstration, a distance and accuracy contest, and free museum entry.

pueblogrande.com

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?



Fire & Fairways Charity Golf Tournament at the Scottsdale Silverado Golf Club.



Sip and Shop Market Series at Hotel Valley Ho.

Heritage Mineral Show

9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the El Zaribah Shriners Auditorium, 552 N. 40th St., Phoenix. Get ready to rock with the third annual Phoenix Heritage Mineral Show. Guests will find vendors with various minerals available for purchase, raffles, exhibits, kid's activities, a spinning wheel, a geode cracker and live music. Admission is \$5 per person.

msaaz.org

MONDAY 6/5

Fire & Fairways Charity Golf Tournament

7 a.m. at the Scottsdale Silverado Golf Club, 7605 E. Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale. At this event, golfers will compete for prizes while supporting Arizonans for Children, a nonprofit that supports disadvantaged kids. There will be hole-in-one contests, a putting contest, a helicopter ball drop, plus lunch, cocktails, raffles, and prizes. Tickets are \$225 per golfer.

fireandfairways.com

WEDNESDAY 6/7

Songwriter's Showcase

7 p.m. at the Crescent Ballroom, 308 N. 2nd Ave., Phoenix. Break up the work week with a little live music. This event is a curated artist showcase called Wednesday Wednesday, featuring new, upcoming, homegrown artists from the Phoenix area. Plus, while you're there, you can grab a bite to eat and something cold to drink and enjoy the city's talent. This event is free.

crescentphx.com

FRIDAY 6/9

Sonoran Sippin'

6-9 p.m. at Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 N. Galvin Pkwy. Kickstart the weekend with a drink and an evening

in nature. This Friday's event features music and entertainment from various musical acts. Adult beverages are available for purchase, and guests will get an after-hours look at DBG's latest exhibit. Tickets are \$17 for non-members, and reservations are required.

dbg.org

FRIDAY 6/9 – SUNDAY 6/11

Detour Theatre Productions

Show times are at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E. Second St., Scottsdale. Detour Theatre provides theater training and performance experiences for adults with disabilities – and now, theater-goers can see two of their performances. Detour presents Little Shop of Horrors and James and the Giant Peach, two stories of success, family and community. Admission is free; registration is required.

scottsdaleperformingarts.org

SATURDAY 6/10

Letterpress Workshop

10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hazel & Violet, 1301 NW Grand Ave., Phoenix. Curious about letterpress printing? Hazel & Violet can help! Guests will learn the basics of letterpress printing with wood and metal settings to print their very own poster, card or coasters. All materials are provided. This class is \$60 per person, and registration is required.

hazelandviolet.com

SUNDAY 6/11

Arizona Wedding Show

9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Phoenix Convention Center, 33 S. 3rd St. This event features over 200 of the Valley's top wedding experts. Guests can find resources for venues, photographers, honeymoons,

dressess, flowers, and music – everything a couple needs to make their wedding memorable. There will also be bridal gown fashion shows, giveaways and workshops. Tickets are \$13 per person.

arizonaweddingshowjune.com

SATURDAY 6/17

Sip and Shop Market Series

9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hotel Valley Ho,

6850 E. Main St., Scottsdale. Hotel Valley Ho celebrates all things local with this free indoor market series, where guests will find shopping and tastings with vendors, chefs, live music and more. Today's guest is Chef Lindsey Autry, who will collaborate with Chef Russell LaCase on a four-course dinner, including a meet-and-greet reception. Market is free; dinner is \$199 and starts at 6 p.m.

hotelvalleyho.com

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?



Pancakes and Booze at the Duce in Phoenix.



Traveler at the MIM in Phoenix.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

Juneteenth Community Celebration

2-7 p.m. at the Scottsdale Center for Performing Arts, 7380 E. 2nd St., Scottsdale. This event is part of Scottsdale's June Days

month-long calendar and will feature cultural exhibits, public art exhibitions, health and wellness information, live entertainment, family friendly activities, vendor and information booths, food trucks and more. Admission is free.

oldtownscottsdaleaz.com

SUNDAY 6/18

Juneteenth

12-5 p.m. at the Arizona Heritage Center, 1300 N. College Ave., Tempe. At this event, the community is welcome to connect with various organizations representing historical societies, action groups and state resources. There will also be live performances, activities, and food/drinks available. Admission is free.

arizonahistoricalsociety.org

and DJs, meet over 75 artists, check out over 300 pieces of art and watch live shows – not to mention the free pancakes! Tickets are \$10, and this is a 21-and-over event.

pancakesandbooze.com

Traveler at the MIM

7:30 p.m. at the Musical Instrument Museum 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix. In the June 2022 edition, Arcadia News wrote a story about local band called Traveler. Now, you can hear them for yourselves at the MIM. The song are a "fusion of rock and roll with music from around the world, using classic and traditional ethnic instruments." Tickets are \$26.

mim.org

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PROUDLY WELCOMES

Phoenix Magazine Top Doc
Dr. Anne Maiden-Hope
Starting July 10th, 2023



Anne Maiden-Hope, DO, FAAP has worked both as a Board-Certified Pediatrician and a Chief Medical Officer. She grew up in Central Phoenix. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Miami and obtained her medical degree from Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine (AZCOM). She went on to complete her pediatric residency through Mercer University in Savannah, Georgia.

Dr. Maiden-Hope has been recognized locally as a "Top Doc" by Phoenix Magazine and nationally as one of Castle Connolly's "Top Doctors." She has sat on the Board for Prevent Child Abuse of Arizona and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central and Northern Arizona. She enjoys spending her free time with her husband, twin boys, and their dog Elle "Ellie" Woods.

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pedassocaz.com

FRIDAY 6/23

Leonardo: The Universal Man

Times vary, at the Lighthouse Art Space, 4301 N. Scottsdale Road. Impact Museums presents a new program featuring the life works of Leonardo da Vinci. The exhibit will have five displays that explore his famed art, like the Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, and the Vitruvian Man, through ceiling to floor projections and more. Tickets start at \$25.

immersivoleonardo.com

SATURDAY 6/24

Children's Learn and Play

9 a.m.-3 p.m. at WestWorld of Scottsdale, 16601 N. Pima Road. Hosted by the McDowell Mountain Conservatory, this event invites families for a day of play. The event features children's authors and illustrators, music, live performances, rides, STEM activities, business vendors and interactive activities for toddlers, children and young adults. This event is free.

mcdowellsonoran.org

Pancakes and Booze

8 p.m. at The Duce, 525 S. Central Ave., Phoenix. This L.A.-based event started in 2009 and has since traveled to over 35 cities nationwide. This showcase allows guests to revel in music performances from local artists

SUNDAY 6/25

Summer Concert Series

7 p.m. at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, 7301 E. Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale. Who doesn't love a little live music on Sunday nights? This summer music series features a genres – and tonight's band is DJ TranzL8F who will play lots of "Glow-Up Party" jam. Bring your chairs and blankets, and don't worry about snacks, as food trucks will be on site. Admission is free.

therailroadpark.com

THURSDAY 6/29

UFO Speaker Series

6:30 p.m. at the Arizona Boardwalk, 950 E. Via de Ventura, Scottsdale. The UFO Experience at Arizona Boardwalk welcome author and UFO researcher Steve Barney, who will explore the similarities between ancient and modern perspectives on aliens, among other topics that highlight their existence within our world and various religions. Tickets are \$30 and include a Q&A session and access to the UFO Experience at the Boardwalk.

azboardwalk.com



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Meet the new District 6 City Councilman

By Mallory Gleich

For four decades, Kevin Robinson has served in various industries in Phoenix – as a decorated police officer, a nonprofit leader and a professor at Arizona State. Arcadia News sat down with Councilman Robinson to learn more about his beginnings and what's in store for the future. The next order of business? Representing District 6 on the Phoenix City Council.

Where are you from originally?

My dad was an Air Force guy, so we moved around a lot. We landed here toward the end of his military career in 1974. My folks, who are from the Pittsburgh area, decided they wanted to stay here. I've lived in the Philippines, Italy, and from New Hampshire, New York, Delaware, and D.C. We then came out west from New Mexico to Phoenix.

Which place is your favorite?

I love Phoenix except for July, August and parts of September. It's grown on me, and all the years I've lived here, you get acclimated to it, but I just don't like it. We moved here in November, and it was like, 'there's nothing on the ground. This is different,' but then I remember the first summer, and it was like, 'What did we get ourselves into?'

Did you attend school in Arizona?

I went to Trevor Browne on the west side. Back then, it was the newest high school in the Phoenix Union high school system. I think I was the second four-year class to graduate. The city wasn't nearly as big as it is now – it was a trek to get to Mesa. Gilbert was really small. Scottsdale had its own persona. Now, you look at the entire Valley – and it's millions more people than it was then – but the Valley still has a little bit of that small-town feel. No matter where you go, you'll run into someone you know.

Did you always know you wanted to be a police officer?

Always. My mother would have told you that when I was six years old, I would say that I wanted to be a police officer. I watched Adam 12, Dragnet, and the FBI on Sunday evenings. The one constant was that they

helped people, and that was something I was raised with. Much to my mother's chagrin – she didn't want one of her babies to be a police officer. But I was able to live that dream.

What positions did you hold in policing?

I started with the Phoenix PD in August 1980. My first assignment was out of the old 700 Precinct at 24th Street and Lincoln. My first beat was the Arcadia neighborhood. That's where I cut my teeth as a police officer in the early 80s.

I spent seven years working in east Phoenix, mostly the midnight shift. I'd go in at nine at night and get off at seven in the morning. You saw a little bit of everything.

I was assigned for a short time to the police recruitment bureau and the training academy. I did a small stint as an undercover officer, where we had to stay close to a homicide suspect. That was a month that seemed like a year.

I was a walking beat sergeant in the homeless shelters and housing projects for a couple of years. I was a field training officer, training officers fresh out of the academy. I was in the middle of that, having a great time – I was applying to be transferred to the training academy, which is what I wanted to do, and I got a call to come down to police headquarters. The assistant chief asked if I wanted to be the spokesman for the Phoenix PD. I said it wasn't what I wanted to do, and the chief said, 'Let me ask you this a second time and let's see if you get it right.' And I was assigned there the following Monday. I did that for about four years.

I got promoted to lieutenant. Then I eventually went to Central City Precinct. I was briefly in Internal Affairs and then promoted to commander of the Maryvale Precinct. Then before I knew it, I was promoted to the assistant chief of police, where I spent 13 years. I retired after 36.5 years with the Phoenix Police Department.

What did you do after that?

I started teaching at Arizona State on a full-time basis. I've taught a few classes a semester for ASU part-time since 1999, but



Kevin Robinson

they asked me to come on full-time after I retired. For the past six years, I've taught around five classes a semester in a criminal justice arena or sometimes leadership courses. I was doing that, and about 18 months ago, a group of people approached me and asked me to consider running for Phoenix City Council. After some thought and reflection, I realized I could do a good job based on my experience with the city. So I ran for office, and here we are. I've assembled a great team that's a great fit, and we were able to hit the ground running.

The pressure of situations you dealt with while with the Phoenix PD – will you use the same tactics to stay calm in your new position?

That's my intent, my hope. I like to slow things down. It gives you a chance to reflect and understand things more completely. I'm hoping I'll be able to do that as we make decisions in our office, not just for constituents in District 6 but throughout the city and region. My wife says I don't get rattled easily, and I think that's because of my experience in law enforcement. I'll take everything one step at a time. The best decisions are made when you have as much information as possible. It'll allow you to understand all sides of the issue.

What are some issues you find important in regard to the City of Phoenix?

What's important to me is what I heard on the campaign trail for 18 months. As a group, we knocked on 12,000 doors and consistently heard three things: public safety – fire and police services; homelessness and home affordability, and the issue of water and how it's used in Phoenix.

How do you decide which one to work on first?

The good news is I have some great people with me, so we're working on all three at the same time. We'll attend conferences – the more we know, the better, right? We'll be able to approach it appropriately and figure

out what more the City of Phoenix can do. Some things may work in one place and not another, so it's good for us to garner as much information as possible about the issue.

Public safety met with the executive fire chief over several issues within fire services, so they're keeping us up to speed on that. We met with the police chief and his team about crime suppression issues. Mayor Gallego has placed me on the public safety and justice subcommittee that has some direct involvement with emergency management, police and fire.

I've spent some time with the city water department, with experts inside and outside the city, so we understand more completely what's happening. We took a helicopter tour of the Salt River watershed, and they explained how it gets down here to the Valley and what it's being used for; it was an opportunity to understand more completely what our water situation is and how we can be more efficient with our use. I learned that, per household, we use less water now than we did 60 years ago. We're a lot more efficient. We also talked about replacing old pipes and fixing leaks promptly so we can preserve and reserve.

So all three issues are being attacked because that's what is important to the constituents of District 6, and I want to make sure we deliver on those.

What does a day in the life of Kevin Robinson look like?

This morning started with a staff meeting. I've got no less than 100 pages of reading I need to get done. These three – Jennifer, Cody and Jack [Kevin's team] – are doing all the heavy lifting. They've been talking to constituents about concerns, everything from pickle ball courts to homeless issues...a little bit of everything.

It's a fast moving office because we have a constituency that really cares about their city and what goes on. There's a constant stream of things that have to be done. I have a list of folks who have called in, and I don't know that they're expecting a return call, but I think it's important for me to call them and let them know that we received their information and understand their concerns.

What would you like readers to know?

We put out a newsletter outlining where we will be every other week. We'll be in different parts of the council districts at different times to talk to the communities about what they want to discuss and to stay up to speed on what's important to them. If folks have concerns, they can call or email, and we will respond and find out what we can do to help. I want to be as responsive as I possibly can be. I want to give them the service that they deserve.

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A reminder of injustice in this small Arizona town

Poston is a small, unincorporated community in western Arizona’s La Paz County on the Colorado Indian Reservation. Less than 300 people live on those desert flatlands, three miles east of the Colorado River and 15 miles north of Parker. So there’s not much to do or see there.



The Lowe Road

BY SAM LOWE

A former Valley newspaperman who now writes about his travels across Arizona, the U.S. and the globe.

But the Poston Memorial Monument makes it worth a visit because it is such a stark reminder of a great injustice.

The monument marks the site of the Poston Internment Camp, the largest (in the area) of the American concentration camps operated by the War Relocation Authority during World War II.

At the outbreak of the war, more than 120,000 people of Japanese descent living on the West Coast and in western Arizona were removed from their homes under the

provision of Executive Order 9066, authorized by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. They were relocated to ten internment camps in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming.

The Poston site, more commonly known as the Colorado River Relocation Center, became a temporary home to 17,867 men, women and children who were interned in three camps from May 5, 1942, to November 28, 1945.

The camp was composed of three separate units arranged in a chain three miles from each other. Those interned there named the camps Roastin’, Toastin’ and Dustin’ due to their desert locations. They were built over the objections of the Colorado River Tribal Council, which adamantly opposed using their land because they did not want to be involved in the same type of injustice inflicted upon them when federal and state governments forced them off their homelands and onto reservations.

The council was soon overridden, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the War Relocation Authority jointly took control of 71,000 acres of tribal land and began construction of the camp in early 1942. The Del E. Webb Construction Company (which would later develop Sun City near Phoenix) completed the first segment in less than three weeks; the other two



The Poston Memorial Monument is a 30-foot concrete pillar that symbolizes “Unity of Spirit.” Twelve smaller pillars surrounding the monument make it a functional sundial.

were done in about 120 days. When finished, the camp consisted of hundreds of residential barracks, a hospital, an administrative center, and guard and staff housing.

A single fence surrounded the camps because the site was so remote that authorities felt there was no need for guard towers. The facility was named after Charles D. Poston, a government engineer who established the Colorado River Reservation in 1865. Some internees were released from the camp after joining the U.S. Army; all the others stayed until the camp was closed in 1945.

Most of them lost their own homes and lands during their confinement.

About 50 years later, in 1992,

Colorado Tribes (Mohave, Chemehuevi, Navajo and Hopi) joined the Japanese community to build and dedicate the monument. The single concrete column, symbolizing the unity of spirit, stands 30 feet tall.

The inscription reads:

“This memorial is dedicated to all those men, women and children who suffered countless hardships and indignities at the hands of a nation misguided by wartime hysteria, racial prejudice and fear. May it serve as a constant reminder of our past so that Americans in the future will never again be denied their constitutional rights, and may remembrance of that experience serve to advance the evolution of the human spirit.”



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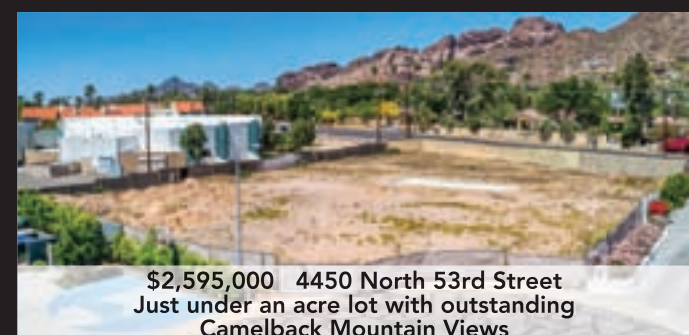
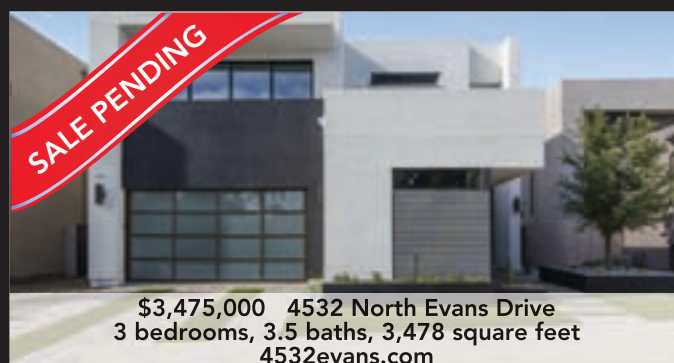
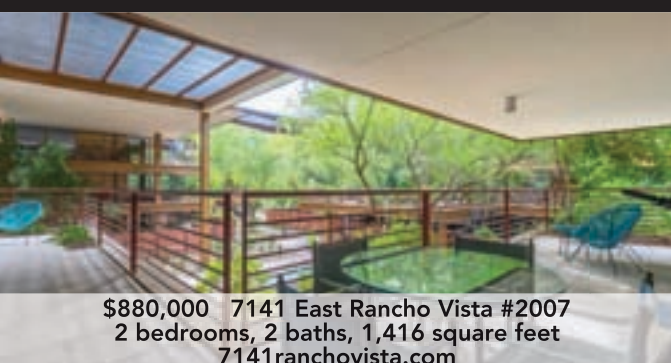
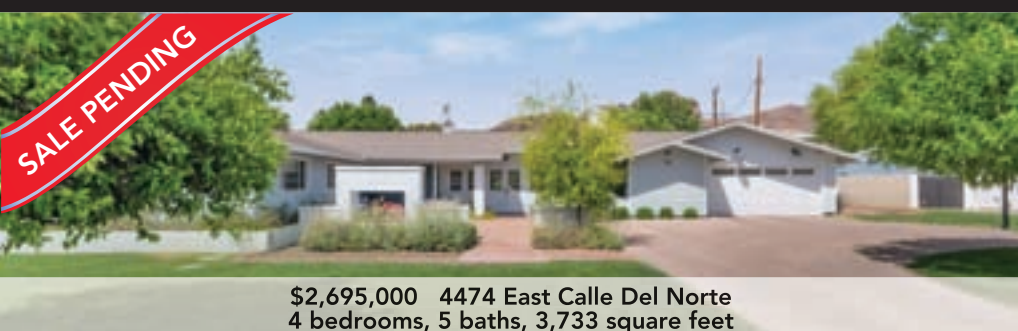
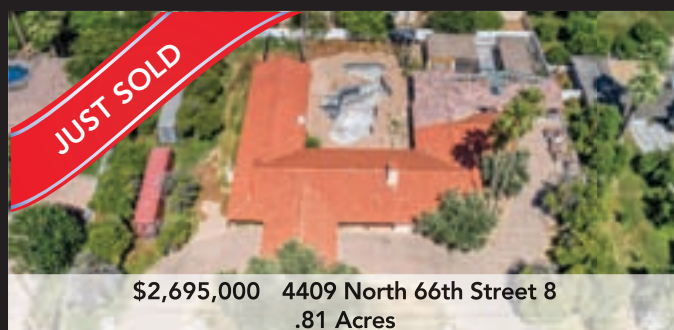
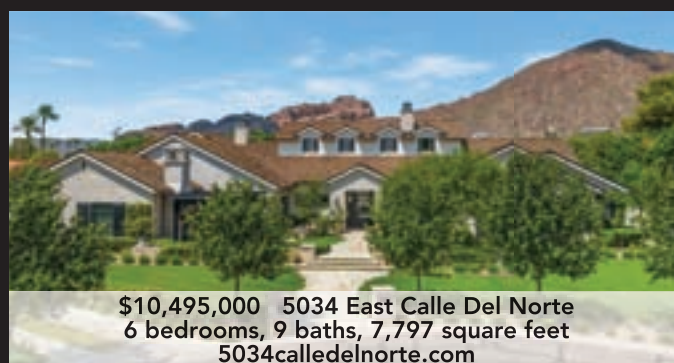


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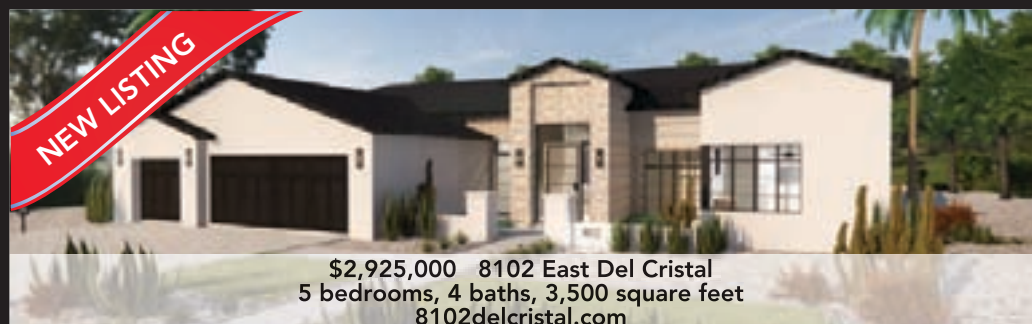


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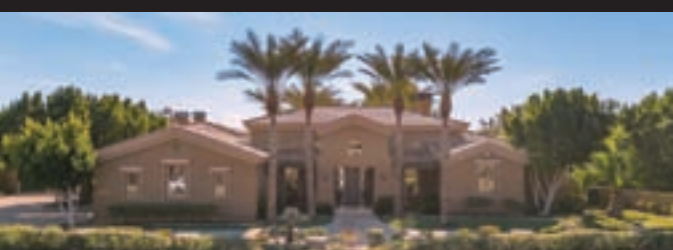


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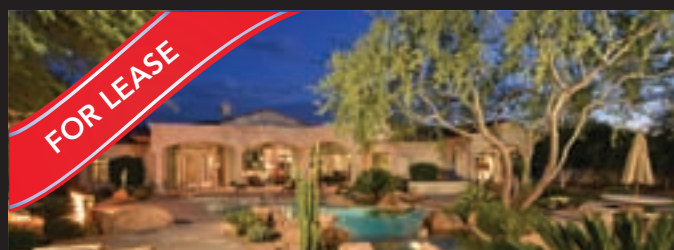


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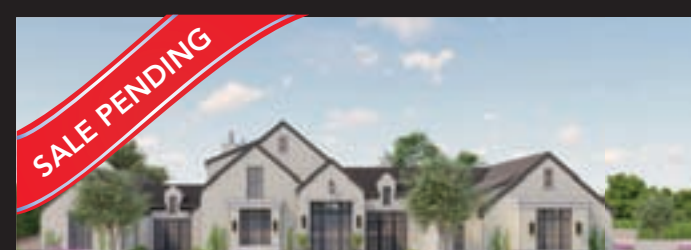


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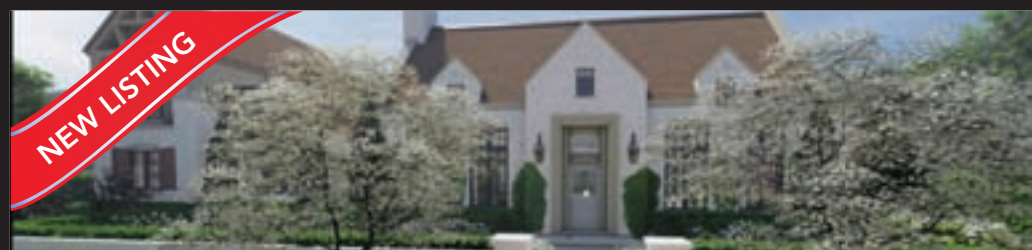
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In the Kitchen

with **Stefano Fabbri**,
owner of Pomo Pizzeria

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The passion for Italian cuisine is evident in Stefano Fabbri’s love for his restaurants and commitment to its culture. Born and raised in a small village in Italy, Stefano grew up in his father’s and grandfather’s restaurants before bringing the skills he learned to America.

Where are you originally from?

I am from Rimini, a small town near the Adriatic Coast in Emilia-Romagna, Italy. It’s a region most famous for its food: bologna, prosciutto di parma, mortadella, parmigiana reggiano, tagliatelle, homemade pasta and egg pasta.

Tell us about your childhood.

I was lucky to grow up where I did, especially in a little village. You don’t understand how free you are. My 13 and 15-year-old daughters are going there this month, and they are so excited – there were no babysitters, we did whatever we wanted. You are completely free. In a

little village, everyone knows everyone. It’s safe.
I moved to America in 2008 – first to Seattle, then Arizona, mostly for the weather.

Did you grow up in the restaurant industry?

In 1949, my grandpa opened a bakery called Forno Fabbri. My father and uncle helped run and operate the family bakery. After 20 years of working in the family bakery, my father and mother decided to move on and they opened their own business, a pizzeria and gelateria named Luna.
They named the business after the English word moon, because they opened in July 1969 when we landed on the moon.
After 74 years in business, my family still owns and operates Forno Fabbri.
When I was 14 years old, I went to my father’s restaurant, and he told me to dust the shelves. I didn’t see dust – I told him, ‘If you see dust, you can clean it,’ and I quit [laughs]. I told my mother I quit, and

that I didn’t want to clean the dust! The day after, I went and got my job back.

Did you always know you wanted to open a restaurant?

When I was in Italy, no, but when I moved to America – well, it came all on its own. I didn’t see any opportunity like the one I was doing in Europe, so I was looking for something different, and the passion for Neapolitan pizza came naturally. I didn’t see many pizzas where the flavor brings you straight to Italy. So I said, ‘Let’s find a great location and make great pizza.’

Did you learn any cooking skills from family?

I went to school to learn how to make gelato, but I didn’t go to school to be a chef – that’s not my title. I learned as I went. I wanted to study supplies and products – flour, cheese, Italian foods – and focus on updating them.

What is the inspiration behind the vibe at Pomo?

To have a place where the people can enjoy authentic Italian food in a way like we do in Italy. In the beginning, it was difficult because guests would complain that the pizza was soggy or wet. But that’s how Neapolitan pizza is cooked – in 60 to 90 seconds – so it’s going to be a little soft. That’s how they cook it in Naples. It was tough in the beginning, but I’m thankful for my team and that my customers keep coming back.

Did you have to get special certification to be considered a Neapolitan eatery?

Absolutely. We had to get a special

certificate stating that we practice the same pizza methods that they do in Napoli. It is VPN, “Vera Pizza Napoletana;” vera means true. The VPN Association assures we are using specific standards when making our pizza, i.e. DOP brand tomatoes, “00” Caputo whole wheat organic flour, etc. Our oven is very specific to this, as well, and we have to use a special hook for the dough mixer to assure the exact consistency.

In order to complete the certificate, we had to make a video of our pizza making process from beginning to end. The dough recipe, rising process, sauce made from tomato DOP, volcanic ash oven from Napoli, the wood we burn and the fast cooking time. The certificate is 100 percent worth pursuing, as it stands out from other pizzerias in the Valley and in the country. Our guests appreciate the attention to detail and the truest flavors of Neapolitan pizza that we give them.

Are all of Pomo’s ingredients imported from Italy?

As much as we can, yes. It doesn’t need to be Italian if it models the Italian flavor. Every year, I go back to Italy and spend “a couple of weeks” [laughs] – I spend three months researching foods and new flavors. If you go to Italy and taste something, you can find something in America with a similar flavor.

How does Italian culture tie in?

It’s important to have a good work culture. People stay and work with us. Our regulars are here all the time and love to be part of our family. We have an amazing team working in all of our locations. The customers come back because they see the same people every time. They love



The Italian Vespa that Pomo uses for special events is outfitted with a portable wood-fired oven.

to be treated like family, and that’s part of Italian culture. You have to have that family feeling between your employees and guests. We don’t only sell food. We sell an experience.

There are three Pomo locations?
Yes – we opened the Scottsdale location in 2010, then we moved that from the Borgata to the shops at Gainey Village on Doubletree; that one opened in 2013. That was a great step for us because, with the new location, the lunch hours have really picked up. At the Biltmore location, we just installed a Neapolitan wood-fired oven to make the pizzas.
There’s another location in downtown Phoenix on First Street.

Speaking of ovens, Pomo has a portable one for events?
Oh, yes! For many years, my manager, Cricket, wanted to have a catering option. So we have a little Italian Vespa with a portable wood-fired oven connected to it, and we can bring it to any event – wedding, anniversary, birthday, shower, bath [laughs].

What’s the most challenging part of owning a business?
The most difficult thing is to find employees. After the pandemic, it’s impossible. I don’t know where the people went. It’s not just a lack of finding people. It’s the lack of finding *good* people. Because now, they come to work and do whatever they want. If you fire them, they can find another job in three seconds. Thank God we have Cricket, and we’ve built a great culture. We have a good, respectful, clean environment. Respect is number one.

What’s the best part?
That I never work. What I mean is when you love the job you do, you’re never working. I love what I’m doing. I enjoy the energy. I love spending time with people, with my team. This is my passion. If you don’t love what you’re doing, you shouldn’t be doing it.
We posted a video on Instagram recently and got 10,000 likes, and it’s like the kids today – I saw that and AHHH! Sometimes it’s difficult, but most of it is fun. The team makes everything better.
The first step is just to start. And now, I can’t stop [laughs].

Tell us about Rosso Italian.
We just opened Rosso Italian in downtown Phoenix [at 2 E. Jefferson Street]. Rosso means red in Italian. Why red? Because red is a great color, especially for Italian food. Red is a Ferrari. It’s an Italian flag. It’s a tomato – it’s power. It’s everything. I’m really happy with everything there so far.

What does Pomo mean?
Well, I like short names. Pomo is short for Pomodoro, which means tomato. It’s easy to remember and difficult to misspell.



The Burratella.

What are your responsibilities within the restaurant?
My job is mostly making sure of the quality of the food, updating the menu, changing recipes, bringing new items and products and looking to improve on all aspects; consistency is one of the most important things in a restaurant. You can’t change the menu day after day, you know? Training your employees is also important.

What’s the most popular item on the menu?
Well, we have two popular items – pasta and pizza. For pasta, it’s the Strozzapreti Salsiccia [tomato cream sauce, sausage, Parmigiano and rosemary]. Lately, the Burratella [burrata cheese, hot soppressata, organic honey, mozzarella, chili thread, basil] pizza has been really popular, but people also love the Margherita.

What do you eat when you cook at home?
I eat at Pomo [laughs]. No, I’m joking. If I had to choose one, it’s Paccheri with lobster. Paccheri is a big, huge macaroni noodle – lobster sauce, tomato, lobster. I like to cook that when I’m home.
Who is your biggest inspiration?
I don’t think I have a person. My passion is to make a business to be happy and proud of – my inspiration is to make sure the guests are happy and enjoy themselves. I want the guests to have an authentic experience.

Is there anything you miss about Italy?
I would say the food, but I’m around it every day, so I don’t miss that. I don’t miss it very much, except for the quality of life. Here, we live to work. In Italy, they live to live. It’s a different style of life there. But I would only go back there for vacation. I love Arizona.

What’s next for Stefano Fabbri?
What’s next? I need to get to the Scottsdale location [laughs]. We’ll see – I have a dream project, but it’s still in the planning stages.



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AHS students Joe, Maddy, Parker, Garrett and Lauren.

Returning the support of one AHS teacher

By Rachael Bouley

Clayton Guy has made a lasting impression on countless Arcadia High students since joining the school in 2005. Now, the long-time AP Government and Economics teacher is on the receiving end of a heartfelt gesture during a challenging time.

When Mr. Guy learned his wife would need heart surgery, he was understandably concerned about her health and the financial impact of a significant operation. When his students learned of the news, they set out to give back to the teacher who had given them so much support and encouragement in the classroom.

Parker Bond is in Mr. Guy's third-period government class, and he was pleased to be part of a solution for the Titans' treasured teacher, setting up a GoFundMe to raise money for the family in need.

"My classmates and I came up with the idea after realizing the mental toll the surgery was taking on him," Parker said. "He's been such a great teacher this year, and we just wanted to help."

The campaign has raised \$7,500 so far to assist Mr. Guy and his wife with their medical bills.

"Surgery is very expensive, and we thought by helping him out, it would relieve him of stress," Parker added. "Mr. Guy is a very down-to-earth person. He loves his job, which is why everyone loves his class. He goes above and beyond to make sure everyone is participating and understanding lessons."

Mr. Guy said he was incredibly touched by this thoughtful gesture as his family navigated unfamiliar territory. Although he was initially hesitant to accept help, with the urging of his friends, he embraced the extra support that would make a big difference to him and his wife.

"When I learned about the student's request, I was in tears. This is new for us, and I was so thankful," Guy said. "I love what I do and teaching the subjects and students."

Word quickly spread, and soon the online fundraiser received donations from students past and present, Arcadia families and fellow educators. With more than 60 donations in one month, the fundraiser lifted Mr. Guy's and his wife's spirits, especially going into the big operation in mid-May.

"I appreciate all the help and support from Arcadia staff and teachers," he added. "My wife and I are so grateful."

The students hope to reach their fundraising goal of \$10,000 as the GoFundMe campaign benefitting Mr. Guy remains open.

gofundme.com/pay-for-an-arcadia-teachers-wifes-heart-surgery

OUT OF THE AREA, BUT WORTH THE DRIVE

THURSDAY 6/1

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

5:30 p.m. at the Arizona Broadway Theatre, 7701 W. Paradise Lane, Peoria. Based on the popular 1988 film, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels takes guests to the French Riviera for hijinks and hilarity. This comedy features a score by David Yazbek (of *The Full Monty*) and was nominated for 11 Tony Awards. Tickets start at \$65 and include dinner, with beverages available for purchase separately.

azbroadwaytheatre.com

FRIDAY 6/2

Mariachi Sol de Mexico

7 p.m. at the Mesa Arts Center, One E. Main St., Mesa. Immerse yourself in culture with a Mariachi Sol De México de José Hernández performance. This group has been on the music scene for 30+ years and is the first mariachi ensemble nominated for a Grammy. It might be hard to stay in your seats at this performance! Tickets start at \$60.

mesaartscenter.com

FRIDAY 6/2 – SATURDAY 6/3

Peace Out Bliss Out Yoga Festival

3 p.m. on Friday, 8 a.m. on Saturday at Blissstopia Retreats, 9135 W. Saddlehorn Road, Peoria. This inaugural festival is all about wellness. Friday night's VIP event includes dinner, reiki and a sound bath. Saturday's events include yoga sessions, workshops, vendor markets and more. Tickets are \$100 for Saturday, \$333 for VIP.

blisstopiaretreats.com

SATURDAY 6/3 – SUNDAY 6/4

Flagstaff Hullabaloo

10 a.m.-9 p.m. on Saturday, 11 a.m.-

6 p.m. Sunday, at Wheeler Park, 211 W. Aspen Ave., Flagstaff. Raising money for local nonprofits, the Flagstaff Hullabaloo will kick off with a bike parade on Saturday morning. The weekend is full of live music, a food court, kid's games and activities, plus puppets and clowns from Circus Americana. Tickets are \$18 for general admission, with VIP packages available.

flaghulla.com

THURSDAY 6/8

Gathering of Heroes

4 p.m. at the American Legion Post 34, 6272 E. Cave Creek Road, Cave Creek. Join the Marine Corps – Law Enforcement Foundation as they celebrate military service members, veterans and service members at this annual event. Guests can enjoy an early dinner and entertainment by guest emcee Mike Broomhead plus live music from Josh Scott. Entry is \$20.

mclefaz.org

FRIDAY 6/9 – SATURDAY 6/10

Flagstaff Blues and Brews Festival

2-9 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, at the Continental Driving Range, 5000 E. Old Walnut Canyon Road, Flagstaff. Blues music and cold brews, need we say more? This event will have local and nationally-known bands rockin' the house, microbreweries, wineries, food vendors, arts and crafts and a kid-friendly area with games and activities. Tickets start at \$50 for general admission.

flagstaffblues.com

WEDNESDAY 6/14

Pizza Date Night

6:30 p.m. at Queen Creek Olive Mill, 25062 S. Meridian Road. Get ready to enjoy date night – DIY-style. Chef Vaughn will provide techniques for making the



Dirty Rotten Scoundrels at Arizona Broadway.

perfect pizza: dough, crust, toss and enjoy while sipping paired wines with each of the three courses. Attendees will also receive discounts on retail items or an autographed cookbook. Registration is \$85 per person.

queencreekolivemill.com

SATURDAY 6/17

Cars and Cigars

6 p.m. at LCD'S AMA Room, 4825 E. Warner Road, Phoenix. Does your dad like cars and cigars? If so, this might be the perfect event for Father's Day. Guests can peruse the classic and vintage car show, listen to live blues and jazz music, check out the casino tables, and grab some dinner in between all the fun. This event is for folks 21 and up. Tickets start at \$75.

lcdamaroom.com

Father's Day Comedy Show

6-9 p.m. at the Ginger Monkey Gastropub, 135 W. Ocotillo Road, Chandler. This year, Father's Day is serving up the laughs. Ginger Monkey Gastropub is hosting a stand-up comedy show featuring dads roasting dads. There will be a dinner and cocktail hour before the show. This is an 18+ event. Admission starts at \$5.

gingermonkeyaz.com

FRIDAY 6/23 – SUNDAY 6/25

White Mountain Balloon Festival

5-9 p.m. on Friday, 4-9 p.m. Saturday, 6-8 a.m. Sunday at the Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex, 1101 N. Woodland Road, Pinetop-Lakeside. Join the Pinetop community for the sixth annual Balloon Festival. There will be balloon rides, a balloon glow, live entertainment by the Mogollon band, a pancake breakfast on Friday, a kids zone, food for purchase and retail vendors. Admission is free.

wmbfaz.com

Tombstone Reunion

10 a.m. at Schieffelin Hall, 402 E. Fremont St., Tombstone. It's been 30 years since the iconic western hit the silver screen – and now, guests have a chance to meet some of the supporting actors from *Tombstone*. Michael Biehn, Dana Wheeler-Nicholson, Joanna Pacula and more will be on-site signing autographs. There will also be presentations with behind-the-scenes facts, creating the film and the Birth of the Buckaroos. Tickets are \$25.

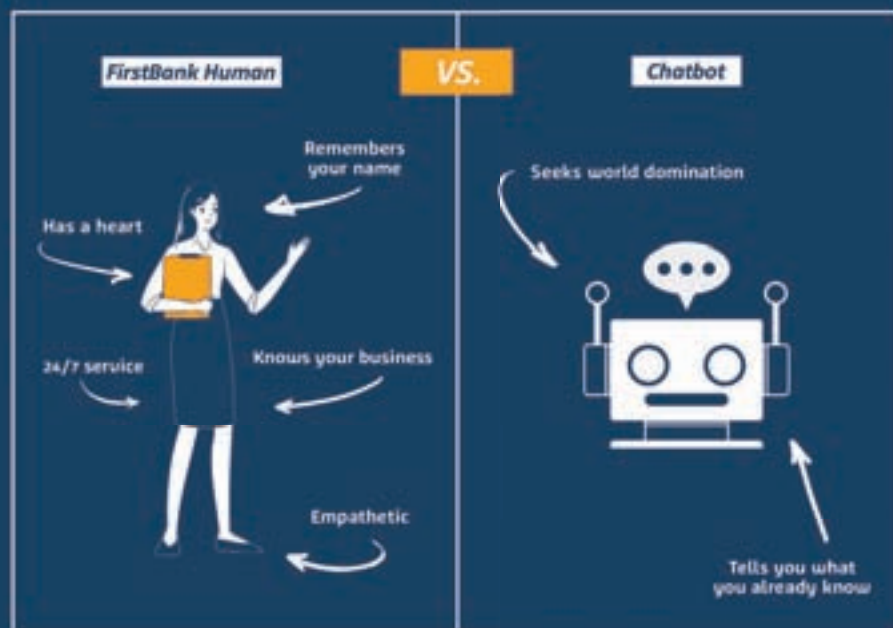
tombstone30th.com

SATURDAY 6/24 – SUNDAY 6/25

Prescott Bluegrass Festival

11 a.m.-9 p.m. at the Yavapai County Courthouse Plaza, 120 S. Cortez St., Prescott. This festival is celebrating its 42nd year with all the tunes. There will be national, regional, and local musical groups – and headlining this year's show are The Sonoran Dogs, an Arizona foursome that's been playing for over a decade. Guests will find a raffle prize giveaway, vendors, a food court and camping spots available. This event is free for all ages.

prescott.org



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The Vig



The Short Course at Mountain Shadows Resort



Humble Bistro

The Dining Scoop

This Father's Day, treat the father figure in your life to some food and fun. Here are a few businesses in Arcadia and beyond that are hosting specials just for dad.

FOOD

The Spot at Arcadia (4801 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix) is offering several specials for Father's Day: \$5 draft beers and \$20 buckets of domestic beer all day; \$5 off the signature Lobster Roll; a Father's Day meal for \$25 that includes four wings, the Arcadia Burger with fries and two draft beers; or the Family Father's Day Special for \$50 that includes a pizza, the BBQ Brisket Platter, Mac & Cheese, two draft beers and The Spot Zookie dessert. thespotarcadia.com

The Vig (4041 N. 40th St., Phoenix) has two specials for Father's Day: Dad's BBQ Plate includes smoked baby back ribs, pulled pork sliders, corn on the cob, creamy coleslaw and sweet potato fries for \$25 – and don't forget to finish on a sweet note with the \$10 hot fudge sundae, featuring vanilla, chocolate and caramel gelato, hot fudge, whipped cream and peanuts. The Vig is also offering \$5 Tito's and rosé drinks. This offer is valid at all six locations. thevig.us

Tracy Dempsey Originals (1325 W. University Dr., Tempe) and ODV Wines have some suggestions for snacking during your Father's Day outing. At the shop, folks can find Tracy Dempsey Original Bacon Pecan Brittle, snack mix, salt and pepper crackers, Roastery of Cave Creek coffee, Big Red Hot Sauce, Arizona wines, scones, donut muffins, cookies and more. tracydempseyoriginals.com

For \$20, Dad can order the **Over Easy** (4730 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix) Breakfast Burger stacked with a six-ounce beef patty, over easy egg, arugula, tomato, cheddar, American cheese and crispy onions on a toasted brioche bun, paired with a Four Peaks Brewing Co. 'The Joy Bus Wow Wheat' beer. eatatovereasy.com

Dads who come in on June 17 and provide proof of the **Koibito Poke** (4280 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix) app on their phones will receive 50 percent off their bowl. Offer valid for dine-in only, one bowl per person. koibitopoke.com

Chompie's (9301 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale) is celebrating dads by treating them to a free dessert. On June 18, dads will receive a free mini slice of cake with their entrée purchase. Options include carrot, mousse, 7-layer or red velvet cake. chompies.com

FUN

The Camelback **Village Health Club** (4444 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix) is offering a Father's Day Package that includes a one-hour Signature Massage and Gentlemen's Facial Special, which includes a brow clean up, hot steamed towels, microdermabrasion and a cooling facial mask for \$220. Guests will receive a \$10 bounce-back coupon for every \$100 in gift cards purchased from June 1-18. villageclubs.com

Rainbow Ryders will offer gift certificates for dads with a discounted rate of \$169 per person, on sale June 10-18. Valid for sunrise flights booked after June 18 and valid up to one year from purchase. rainbowryders.com

If your dad loves to golf, this might be the gift for him: Mountain Shadows Resort (5445 E. Lincoln Dr., Paradise Valley) is offering a **Summer Unlimited Golf Pass** at The Short Course. Golfers can enjoy unlimited rounds of 18-hole golf for \$499. The pass works Mondays-Thursdays and after 10 a.m. Fridays through Sundays until September 17. mountainshadows.com

For Father's Day, dads can enjoy free range time at **C2 Tactical** (8475 S. Emerald Dr., Tempe and 7000 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix). All indoor range experiences include a safety officer, protective ear and eyewear. C2 Tactical has a simulation room for practice and safety courses for firearm safety, home protection, firearm awareness, and more. c2tactical.com

Uptown Plaza (100 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix) is running a Father's Day enter-to-win contest. To participate, visit the website for a chance to score \$150 to Manor, \$150 to Huss Brewing and \$100 to the Boardroom Salon from June 1-16. uptownplazaphx.com

BEYOND ARCADIA

Terra Tempe Kitchen & Spirits (11 E. 7th St., Tempe) will serve dad-style dishes and cocktails from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Guests can enjoy a curated menu that includes the Father's Bagel Brunch Burger, Papa's BBQ Baby Back Ribs and Tata's Frittata, plus "Almost Bottomless Dad-mosa Beer" cocktails. Terra will also offer a Build-Your-Own Brunch Tower – Dad Style, where guests can create their own meal with four signature dishes, including Grandpa's Southwest Ruben Eggs Benedict or Pop's Country Fried Chicken and Waffle. terratempe.com

Ling's Wok Shop (20511 N. Hayden Road, Scottsdale) will offer two specials. On June 18, dads can get a free entrée

with the purchase of another; and, in the week leading up to Father's Day, Ling's is offering a takeout Father's Day Meal for \$99 that includes two small bites, one salad and four entrees. This special starts June 12. Funds from each meal sold will be donated to Child Crisis of Arizona. lingswok.shop

Ling & Louie's Asian Bar and Grill (9397 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale) is going all out on Father's Day weekend with two ways to celebrate. The Brunch + Brews event happens from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, June 17-18. Families can enjoy dishes from the classic brunch menu or new items like Vietnamese Steak & Eggs, Louie's Loco Moco and the Spicy Chicken Breakfast Sandwich – and pair it with a draft beer for a special discount. The eatery will also host a three-course dinner after 3 p.m. lingandlouies.com

Humble Bistro (5415 E. High St., Phoenix) has a couple of items that might just be what dads are craving! The Gentleman pizza has sausage, ricotta and spicy honey. The Old School Burger has fresh brisket, chuck grind, candied bacon, aged sharp cheddar, pickles, and "fancy sauce" on toasted brioche. humblebistro.com

Queen Creek Olive Mill (25062 S. Meridian Road, Queen Creek) has Father's Day-themed gift boxes for the snackers. One option is The Super Dipper gift crate, which includes three different tapenades, aged balsamic vinegar, olive oil crackers, balanced extra virgin olive oil, four olive wood square dipping dishes, garlic dipping spice, Superstition chipotle dipping spice, desert dipping spice and Sedona dipping spice. The crate is \$160. queencreekolivemill.com



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*Phoenix Magazine, 2021, 2022 & 2023

“Meet Mr.” | Ray Artigue

Pete Walsh

Pete Walsh is an eternal optimist, and he feels so strongly that people should fulfill their destinies that he has made it his life’s work to help them get there.

“You have to make the most of every day, and though that may sound trite, it really is up to you,” Walsh said.

The executive business coach has been preaching his gospel of contentment and success for many years. In 2010, he wrote a book entitled *Coach to Win the Leadership Game*, which draws many parallels to sports and team play.

If he were one of those coaches that scream their message, it would have everything to do with A-C-C-O-U-N-T-A-B-I-L-I-T-Y. Both for the business leaders and those they are attempting to lead.

“Accountability in business, and life for that matter, is a two-way street,” Walsh said. “Teams are built on trust, which happens when mutual understandings and respect exist.”

He’s been coaching businessmen and women for 24 years, and his ultimate objective is to turn them into what he calls a “coaching leader.” In 2013, he created the Family Business Performance Center and has since worked with companies worldwide.

“Since the pandemic, the workplace has been turned

upside down, making good leadership even more important. But it’s more difficult than ever, as workforces have become siloed,” he said.

Growing up, Walsh had a front-row seat at his grandfather’s business, Walsh Bros., where he learned by observing others. Founded in 1919, the company sold office equipment of all kinds.

“I could have stayed in the family business until I retired, but I felt a calling to do something different, and my new role was an answer to prayer,” Walsh said.

In 1999, he set out on his own and has never looked back. First, he took night classes, learning the application of leadership principles in the burgeoning new field of executive coaching.

“Leadership is more important than ever in today’s ever-changing workplace. It is important to have a trusted relationship with your people,” Walsh said.

He met his wife, Karen, at his grandfather’s business, and they have been married for 36 years. They moved to Arcadia in

1961 and raised two children, William and Laura.

“Pete lived across the street from me for many years and was known and respected by everyone on the block,” former neighbor Mark Hughes said. “Whether he was sharing good advice with the adults or tossing baseballs with the kids, he was a model Arcadian.”

When Walsh isn’t on the go, he and his wife enjoy retreating to a second home in Munds Park and taking UTV rides in the forest. A lifelong learner, Walsh is a prolific reader, and one of his favorite books is *Zen Mind*



Beginners Mind, which teaches the benefits of meditation and mindfulness.

“I tell people that they should try to get better at whatever they are doing; be a better husband, a better father and a better employer, and fall in love with your roles,” Walsh said, adding, “It’s important to be a good listener and a reflective practitioner.”

Though Walsh’s advice is often about “quieting the mind,” his personal pace belies such counsel.

Almost as if an apology, he offers, “I was called to coaching by the guy upstairs.”

“It is so important to have a trusted relationship with your people.”



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Arcadia can now get schooled in fishing with ‘reel experts’

By Cassie Hepler

Clint and Amber Woods are following their dream to share a passion for the outdoors. The husband and wife business partners grew up fly fishing – and they plan to pass along those skills and love with their new venture: an outdoor specialty fly fishing shop.

Pheasant Tail Fly Fishing will open on the southeast corner of Thomas and 40th Street in the 40 Palms Shopping Center in June. The duo are taking a boutique approach to sourcing different brands and products and want to appeal to the hardcore fly fisherman, the person who wants to learn to fish or those that just love cool outdoor apparel.

“The shop will be a complete outfitter with everything anyone would need: rods, reels, flies, packs, boots, wading gear, sunglasses and outdoor apparel; everything needed to get outfitted whether you’re fishing for trout in Arizona or giant trevally in Seychelles,” Clint said.

The duo grew up in Tucson and spent ample time outside, hiking and camping.

“Our dads fly-fished, so we grew up fishing with them. But we didn’t become completely obsessed with it until about ten years ago when we started spending more time in the White Mountains. Now, we fish a lot,” Clint said.

Clint and Amber have a corporate background and have worked for two decades with Sam Fox and Fox Restaurant Concepts.

“Fishing is how we spend our free time when not opening and managing the restaurants. Restaurants can sometimes equal stress, and fly fishing is the perfect escape for us. It’s about getting outdoors for



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLINT WOODS
Arcadia locals Amber and Clint Woods spend as much time as they can exploring outdoors.

your physical and mental well-being and gaining an appreciation for preserving nature – two tenets of the fly-fishing ethos,” Clint said.

“My husband has always been very passionate about hobbies, and he’s had many over the years, but none as fulfilling as fly fishing. We hike everywhere we can with our fly rods, we travel to find new water, and learn what we can about where we’re fishing, like how to read the water or what bugs are out,” Amber said.

Part of that experience is visiting new fishing shops – not only do they learn about the area, but they also get to meet people and learn new things – and as it happens, meeting new people is part of what helped them get involved in the industry.

“Arcadia is where we live, where we work every day. It’s a tight-knit neighborhood that appreciates small, local businesses and so full of families looking to get outdoors

and explore with their kids,” Amber said. “We hope to provide something enjoyable for the neighborhood.”

The shop will eventually offer casting classes, education workshops, fly-tying events, guided trips, and will weave in some food and beverage tastings with area restaurants.

Teaching the next generation is part of the principle behind the boutique.

“When I was a kid, I remember my dad tying on a simple traditional pheasant tail fly when he first showed me how to cast in the White Mountains, and I couldn’t believe how you could catch fish on that,” Clint said. “Thirty years later, it’s still one of the most important patterns we fish.”

Clint and Amber are excited about their crew, from the guide who gets out there, figures out the water and gets fish no matter the occasion, to award-winning fly tyers, to backcountry guides.

“We’ve built a well-rounded, experienced team that will excel in all aspects of hospitality, customer service, technical ability and passion. Amber and I will be more involved from a distance and stopping by on evenings and weekends,” Clint said. “We will focus more on bigger picture stuff, strategy, sourcing new brands, etc. Our number one goal is to serve the community, build relationships and trust, and introduce people to the sport.”

Amber is excited to get as many restaurant workers fishing as possible so they can experience the same stress relief.

“We’ve talked about how to combine the two in the future, maybe a cool little trout lodge on a stream up north where we can feed people through food and fishing,” she said.

The grand opening of Pheasant Tail is set for June 1.
pheasanttailflyfishing.com



Pheasant tail fly

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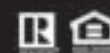
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Arcadia-based group supports single moms

By Jennifer Marshall

In early 2023, Arcadia moms Avery Olmsted and Angeles Klein founded the Better Together Single Moms Group. The inspiration was to provide single mothers the same opportunities and experiences as traditional households through meetings and fellowship.

“As single moms ourselves,” Klein said, “we know and understand their struggles. When you add on being single to being a mother, the responsibility doubles because there is no longer someone there to be your partner and share all of your day-to-day business.”



Angeles Klein



Avery Olmsted

Currently, the group has about 103 members, and they enjoy meeting every month for socialization, fun, support and conversation.

“Better Together offers moms a sense of community, a circle of support, many opportunities to make connections, offers guidance through shared experiences (including available resources) and helps one another thrive by promoting businesses and professional endeavors,” Klein said.

Each event varies from month to month, is family-friendly and

sometimes donation-based.

Some of their activities thus far include meet and greets at Little O's and Lou's Bar and Grill at Papago, a park day, birthday celebrations and outdoor yoga. For Mother's Day, the group held a family picnic and photoshoot at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park.

“We seek to encourage growth by building confidence in one another and to remind all single moms that we are not alone,” Klein said. “Avery and I both feel a special connection to all of the moms we have met, and the support they've given us has changed our lives by knowing there is someone who understands.”

She said that one of her most heartfelt experiences was when three mothers, who did not have family in town, met through one of the events and spent Easter together with their little ones.

Looking toward the summer, the group has various events planned: a “Moms Brunch: Running a Small Business as a Single Mother” on June 4 at Olive and Ivy; “Beginner Jiu Jitsu for Women's Self Defense” on June 17 at the Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Social Club and a “Private Aerial Yoga Party” on July 8.

“I believe that happy, healthy moms raise happy, healthy children,” Olmsted said. “By changing a single mother's life for the better, we can help change a child's life for the better as well.”

meetup.com/bettertogether

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SOLD

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Making a difference, one entrepreneurial step at a time

By Jennifer Marshall

Junior Achievement is a national nonprofit dedicated to teaching students about the world of business and all the topics therein. It also celebrates students, especially those who have made a difference in their communities. This is known as the Junior Achievement 18 Under 18 award.

Each year, 18 high school juniors around the Valley are chosen based on their passion for helping others, a creative idea, or entrepreneurial spirit to make a difference.

“The award aims to recognize the potential of Arizona youth and inspire our community by showcasing a group of students that represent the future leadership, community impact and entrepreneurial spirit in our state,” Vice President of Strategic Impact Anne Landers said.

The winners received a medal, gift cards and a cash award to use for scholarships or future career plans. Meet the Arcadia area winners below:

Sanya Somani, Phoenix Country Day School

Sanya co-founded a nonprofit called HealthforHer in December 2020. The organization provides health and educational resources for underserved women and their families worldwide.

“It’s eye-opening being able to immerse yourself in an issue that you don’t experience every day,” she said.

Sanya has engrossed herself in the nonprofit’s work in various ways. During a trip to India, she met with girls from a rural community to better understand their lifestyles and provide resources and education surrounding “culturally taboo” topics.

“It’s not normal to talk about this stuff in other parts of the world,” she said. “To learn how to help care for yourself and others, you need to talk about it.”



Sanya Somani Harper Hipps Abby Pearson Nathaniel George

Harper Hipps, Xavier Prep

Harper has always loved science. While volunteering at Goldensun Peace Ministries, a group home for adults with developmental disabilities, she realized she could bring science to the residents.

She raised \$600 to create the Immerse Science Pop-Up Club, using the money to buy supplies and materials. Each month, Harper brings the club to the residents at Goldensun and teaches a science lesson.

“I started volunteering at Goldensun in middle school and, my freshman year, realized I could share my love for science with others,” Harper said. “We hold monthly meetings and do science experiments. The residents love it and look forward to learning.”

The club gained such popularity that Harper now teaches lessons to those at the Southwest Autism Research Center.

Abby Pearson, Xavier Prep

Abby is passionate about the environment, so she convinced her family to start composting a few years ago. She learned about balancing the amount of green

and brown materials and maintaining a garden where the compost is used.

She then asked neighbors for their organic waste, and as the project grew, she looked for a composting project to partner with. She found the Pierson Street Garden.

Today, Abby has 25 neighbors participating. Each week, she delivers a bucket to them for their organic waste. She then takes the full buckets to Pierson. Her efforts have resulted in redirecting over 1,000 gallons of organic material from a landfill to the garden compost pile.

“It feels good to be doing something to help my neighbors, community and planet,” Harper said.

Nathaniel George, Brophy Prep

Nathaniel founded the Young Entrepreneurs Club at Brophy. He also participated in JA Inspire and visited StartUpPhx at the Burton Barr Library to learn more about resources for small business owners.

“I remember feeling a little disheartened that everything at the library was for adults,” Nathaniel said. “There were no resources for young entrepreneurs. That’s when I realized I could create something to help other teens.”

Nathaniel created The Cactus Flower Initiative for Youth Entrepreneurship. He approached the ASU J. Orin Edson Entrepreneurship + Innovation Institute, Junior Achievement of Arizona and the City of Phoenix about creating more student resources.

He pitched his idea and now partners with StartUpPhx to offer additional resources and perspectives.

“Entrepreneurship has been reserved for adults for a long time,” Nathaniel said. “Entering this field as a young person was challenging. But I have realized the power of my voice as a young person in motivating and empowering others to create change.”



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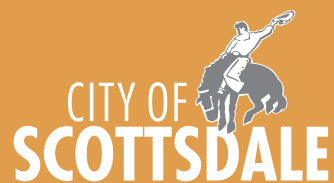
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JUNE DAYS

Old Town SCOTTSDALE

On the list of most popular months to visit Old Town Scottsdale, June makes a compelling argument to be number one. What began as a fun concept to kick off summer before the heat set in, June Days has become a celebration of all things that make this area so unique. With daily activities and events – wine tastings, art exhibits, crafting workshops, live performances and family-oriented outings – June Days leaves visitors with suntans and sunshiny demeanors, and a yearning to return again for more signature Old Town fun.



OldTownScottsdaleAZ.com



Recipes dads will love

Eating a plant-based diet has become increasingly popular in recent years, with more and more people making the switch for health, ethical, and environmental reasons. However, it's no secret that men are traditionally less likely to embrace the plant-based lifestyle. There are several reasons for this, including cultural expectations around masculinity and the perception that plant-based diets lack protein. But with a little education and a lot of delicious food, it's possible to get men on board with plant-based eating. One of the most important things to understand is that plant-based eating doesn't have to be all about salads and tofu. There are plenty of hearty,

Plant-based Wellness



BY MIRIAM HAHN
Owner of YouCare-SelfCare, a private wellness practice specializing in plant-based lifestyle and disease prevention.
youcare-selfcare.com

satisfying and well-balanced meals that our guys will come to know and love. Don't forget, you can join my monthly membership for recipes, health videos and live Zoom cooking classes for \$10 per month. *In honor of Father's Day, I'm sharing plant-based 'dad' food!*

Spicy lentil taco SERVES: 6

Ingredients

- ½ onion, diced
- 1 jalapeno, diced
- ¼ cup vegetable broth
- 3 cups cooked lentils or 1 package pre-cooked lentils
- ¼ cup green salsa
- 1 tsp. each: chili powder, cumin, smoked paprika, garlic powder, onion powder, pink salt

Guacamole

- 2 avocados, mashed
- 2 tbsp. red onion, diced
- 1 jalapeno, diced
- ¼ cup cilantro, chopped
- 1 tsp. each: pink salt, garlic granules
- 1 tbsp. lime juice

Directions

1. Sauté the onion and jalapeno for about five minutes, then add broth, lentils, salsa and spices. Cook on low for about 10-15 minutes. 2. Combine guacamole ingredients. 3. Warm up taco shells, fill with lentil mixture and top with guacamole and fresh tomatoes.



Saucy black bean taquitos SERVES: 3-4



Taco "meat"

- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 cans black beans, drained
- 1 tsp. each: cumin, pink salt, smoked paprika
- ½ cup vegetable broth
- 8 six-inch tortillas
- Tomatoes, cilantro, and red onion for topping

Sauce

- 1 large avocado
- ½ cup coconut yogurt
- Juice of one lemon
- 3 tbsp. water
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. 2. Sauté the onions and garlic in water or a little oil for five minutes. Add beans, spices and broth. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes. Mash bean mixture. 3. Add some of the mixture to each tortilla and roll up tightly. Place seam side down in a baking dish. Bake for 20 minutes. 4. While cooking put the sauce ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth. Add more water if you want thinner sauce. 5. Top taquitos with sauce, tomatoes, cilantro, and red onions if desired, or use sauce for dipping.

Pesto ciabatta sandwich SERVES: 2

Ingredients

- 1 zucchini, sliced
- ½ eggplant, sliced ¼"
- Red and yellow pepper, sliced
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 1 large tomato, sliced
- 6 large basil leaves
- 2 ciabatta rolls, toasted

Pesto

- 2 cups basil
- ½ cup pine nuts
- 1 garlic clove minced
- Juice and zest of one lemon
- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- ½ tsp. pink salt

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400°. 2. Toss the zucchini, eggplant, and peppers with the olive oil, salt, and pepper. Roast for 20-30 minutes. 3. Blend pesto ingredients in food processor. 4. Toast ciabatta bread, then layer pesto, roasted veggies, fresh tomato, and basil.



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FASTEST KIDS ON FOUR WHEELS

By Mallory Gleich

Both Gio Santora and Mia Lovell have been featured in *Arcadia News* before. They both also attend Arcadia area schools – but these aren’t the only things they have in common. Both Gio and Mia love all things fast – and, with the help of their families, they’ve taken their racing careers to the next level in their respective categories.

Thirteen-year-old Gio has been racing go-karts for nine years. With parents who grew up racing just for fun, it’s no wonder he took to the sport – and has succeeded in various ways.

Since his feature in the December 2022 edition, Gio has spent time practicing, attending regional and national races, and improving his racing skills.

“I recently moved up to a No. 2 ranking out of over 1.2 million adults at Octane Raceway’s Adult Pro Skills for indoor karting,” he said. “I am focusing on executing our driving plan and strategies.”

His love for racing started when he was just a tot. At four years old, his family would spend time at CrackerJax – where he discovered go-karts and his need for speed developed. He moved his way up through indoor karting to outdoor karts and has now participated in over 100 outdoor races. Most recently, he won the Club Championship for the Phoenix Kart Racing Association in April.

There were 10 races at the championship, but only eight of those accrued points. Gio received a total of 1,514 points – 62 ahead of the second-place finish. He came in first place three times, second place four times and third place once to win the Club Championship.

“It felt really good to win, and I’m grateful for everyone that helped me get the championship: my team, my coach, and my family,” Gio said. “Everyone supported me and worked together, which makes me feel

proud to be part of the team and have that support.”

He also held the track record at PKRA, and beat that time for this year’s track configuration.

“I picked up the win, fastest lap, and the championship all in one race. I hold three course records at PKRA,” he said.

Gio races competitive go-karts on an asphalt track. He drives with various engines: Rotax, KA, or the Briggs and Stratton engine – it depends on the race.

Competitions start with a warm-up race, a qualifying race (to set positions), heat races (one to three each, depending on the race) and the primary race, which has a similar setup to the Formula 1 racing circuit. Gio drives a 2023 Compkart Covert with a Rotax 125cc engine, with speeds up to 72+ mph.

Each track that Gio races on has different configurations. To get a feel for it, drivers can walk the track with their teams to make a plan and get familiar with the curves, rumble strips, curbs and, of course, the finish line.

A race series typically has a practice day with six sessions. The next day, usually a Saturday, consists of Heats and Qualifying races for six sessions. Sundays kick off with a warm-up, and then it’s “light ‘em up” for the main race, about 20 laps and approximately 20 minutes of continuous racing.

“This is where my strength, focus and conditioning come into play,” Gio said.

In January, he received some great news when he was added to the J3 Competition team, which has been part of

the kart racing world for over 20 years.

“I’m thrilled that he found his passion so early in life. I feel grateful that we can support him and his dreams,” Gio’s mom, Melissa, said.

“It’s so nice to see him developing into a gentleman, and this sport has helped him in many areas of his maturation process,” Dad, George, said. “He has the confidence to do other things in life because of the fundamentals he has learned in karting. This sport promotes independence, teamwork, resilience, relationship building, discipline, motivation and build character.”

Melissa hopes that Gio stays grounded and happy and continues to bring up others around him.

“Gio is a wonderful person and has the heart of a champion. When he focuses, and it’s race time, he has all the skills to be an elite driver. I’m happy we can support him, and I know there is a special place in racing for him,” George said.

Sixteen-year-old Mia first stepped onto the race track when she was 13 – thanks, in part, to her father’s love for cars and racing.

“We’ve always been into extreme sports, and we’ve always liked action,” Mia said. “My dad has been club racing his whole life, and when I was old enough, he put me in a car. I did not know much about the racing world, but since then, I’ve become a rabid Formula 1 fan and look up to those drivers.”

Her father, Mike, is also an avid car collector.

“My father was a National Corvette Restoration Society judge when I was a child,” Mike said, “so I spent my childhood summers traveling to shows, participating in judged events and restoring cars on weekends with my dad and brother. It’s in my blood.”

Mike bought a stock Toyota 86, and he and Mia turned it into a racecar by adding wheels, suspension, a supercharger, a roll cage and brakes. Once it was ready, they headed to the track.

“We built that car, but the first proper race car I drove was my dad’s Multimatic Mustang GT4,” Mia said. “I did my first race when I was 15 in the Apex Challenge series at our local track, Apex Motor Club, where I got first in class.”

Mia partakes in sports car racing and road course racing. This means that instead of racing on an oval track, she races on tracks with left and right turns. Her passion – and extra practice time with go-karts – has paid off,



(left) Gio has been racing go-karts since he was four years old. (right) Gio with parents George and Melissa at the Club Championship in April.

as she recently took part in the GRCup Series, her first professional race.

“The GRCup Series is a ‘spec’ series, meaning all cars are identical. Toyota Gazoo Racing built 40 cars specifically for this series. To do well, it comes down to the driver’s skill,” Mia said.

At the GRCup, Mia will drive a Toyota GR86, a low horsepower car that tops out at 120 mph, so drivers will rely on momentum through the corners to make speed. The races are 45 minutes long, with zero pit stops and no driver changes or rolling starts.

Drivers start with two 30-minute practice sessions on Friday, a qualifying session and a 45-minute race on Saturday, and then another qualifying and 45-minute race on Sunday. Each qualifying session will determine the grid for that day.

There are 14 races at seven tracks (two at each track). The series started in Sonoma, CA, and will travel through Austin, Virginia, Nashville, Wisconsin, and Sebring, with the finale held at Indy Motor Speedway in Indianapolis. Drivers who place 10th and up receive points toward the GRCup Driver’s Championship, with a total prize of \$1 million.

“I am beyond excited for this racing season. I would say that this is the most exciting and thrilling thing that I’ve ever done. There’s just something about being in the car and racing 40 other drivers that ends up being the most fun experience in the world,” Mia said.

To race in the series, drivers must buy their own car. Mia said that Toyota was very selective with who they chose to get a car because they wanted this to be a good, developmental series.

“I’m a professional skateboarder, and when we applied for a car, they saw my background in skateboarding, which convinced them to give me a spot because there are so many similarities between skateboarding and racing: good hand-eye coordination, body awareness, and being



Mia and her dad, Mike, who helped inspire her love for racing. Mia is currently competing in the GRCup Series, her first professional race.

mentally strong,” she said. “I already had the Toyota 86 that my dad and I built, so I had experience.”

The majority of Mia’s practice comes from her racing simulator, where she practices all the tracks she’ll be racing on from her house.

“It is vital to learning track layouts, and it’s quite realistic. I’ll drive those tracks on the simulator, and then once I get to do the real thing, it feels like I’ve done it a million times already,” Mia said.

She also has a workout regimen and trains her body to stay in shape because of the physicality of the car, track and race. She says it’s all worth it.

“There are so many things to love: going through a corner on the edge, having a good battle with other people, making a good overtake,” Mia said. “The highs are high, but the lows can be very low. It can be nerve-

wracking, frustrating, and feel like a lot of pressure, but all of the hard work and struggle is worth the thrill.”

Outside of racing, Mia skateboards, rides dirt bikes and plays guitar, piano, and other instruments.

“My whole goal in life is to have as much fun as possible,” Mia said. “I aim to become as good as I can in that discipline. I like to work hard at the things I love.”

“I’m excited beyond belief that Mia loves to race. To have my daughter racing professionally is simply a dream for both of us,” Mike said. “I’ve been around the sport my whole life, so I understand how far safety equipment has evolved. There are certain risks that come with racing at speed, but I’m confident that we have provided her with the best safety equipment and training available. The rest is up to her.”

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Arcadia staff were treated to yummy snack bars.



Hopi's librarian showing off her door decor.



Ingleside students decorated staff doors.



Tavan staff enjoyed catered lunches.

Honoring educators for Teacher Appreciation Week

By Rachael Bouley

Early May marked Teacher Appreciation Week, and Arcadia area schools showed their support with special activities to honor educators and their dedicated efforts in and out of the classroom. Take a look at what the schools got up to for a big week of staff appreciation.

Arcadia High

The Titans celebrated their teachers, staff, and administrators with a food bar theme featuring plenty of sweet treats.

Coffee and donuts on a Monday got the week started right, while teachers found candy bars in their mailboxes on Tuesday. On Wednesday, they had a popcorn bar with tasty toppings, a power bar on Thursday with healthy snacks and energy drinks, and a sweet and salty bar on Friday.

PTO president Kim Kleski was pleased to see the school come together to highlight teachers and support staff who contribute to their community.

"It really does take a village. The teachers at Arcadia work tirelessly and wear so many hats," Kleski said. "Arcadia teaching professionals inspire their students, nudge them when needed, and see them for who they are in a very formative time of their life."

Biltmore Prep

Biltmore Prep appreciates its hardworking, dedicated teachers and staff throughout the school year and Teacher Appreciation Week is a time where they are showered with love and appreciation for all they do. Each day of the week, the PTO and leadership team had special things in place to show appreciation.

"We have the best teachers at Biltmore Prep and we know our school is an A+

School of Excellence because of the dedication and quality of our teaching and support staff. I want our teachers to know they are loved and appreciated every day and that bringing their best to our A+ School is what makes our community so special," Principal De Mar said.

On Monday, as teachers and staff arrived on campus, Creative Cappuccino was set up in the staff lounge to thank teachers "for all they brew!" Tuesday, staff was treated to a popcorn and candy bar. Wednesday was special for VI-Teachers as they were treated to a custom swag bag, including Bespoke Bookmarks which featured why students think each teacher is amazing.

Thursday hosted a Breakfast Bar as parents said "Thanks a brunch for all you do" with treats and office supplies. Teacher Appreciation Week wrapped up with a special lunch provided by PTO and Sacks Sandwiches for a "Picture Perfect Year" and teachers selected an inspirational quote and frame as a daily reminder of the hard work they do and how much they are loved.

Echo Canyon

The Parent Teacher Organization rolled out the red carpet for teachers with an Academy Award themed Teacher Appreciation Week this year. Teachers and staff won daily cash prizes along with Oscar themed statuettes. Students announced Best Actor/Actress in a Lead Role and Best Supporting Actor/Actress during morning announcements. Teachers and staff were also treated to breakfast, lunches and snacks all week long. The PTO would like to give a shout out to Arcadia businesses The Spot and Little O's, who donated food to help them indulge Echo Canyon's teachers and staff. Little O's

Cookie Monster donut and The Spot's brisket flatbread were fan faves!

Hopi

HOPIWOOD rolled out the red carpet, bringing the star treatment to hardworking teachers and staff. Colorful balloons and a VIP stage door set the scene for a fun week, with staff receiving catering and tokens of appreciation each day.

The festivities kicked off with Door Day and pizza lunch from Mr. Moto on Monday, then an all-staff gift on Tuesday as students brought in flowers, handmade cards, and snacks. On Wednesday, educators were greeted with flowers and a taco lunch; Thursday was homemade gifts and cards with lunch from O.H.S.O., and the conclusion of Appreciation Week kicked off with a staff breakfast and "teacher's favorite" gifts brought in by students.

Staff Appreciation Committee Chairs Joey Ghelfi, Carlie Garcia, and Summer Warrender enjoyed putting HOPIWOOD together and encouraging students to get involved.

"Hopi teachers and staff members go above and beyond for their students each and every day," Ghelfi said. "We always look forward to the opportunity to express our gratitude for their hard work, dedication, and sacrifices that often go unnoticed. We truly cannot thank them enough for all they do."

Ingleside

Ingleside Student Council got into the teacher appreciation spirit by planning daily themes with snacks and door decorations for every staff member. PTO, admin, and outside supporters prepared breakfast and lunch for staff to enjoy all week.

Principal Dr. Junior Michael was

proud to see the school come together to support educators who worked countless hours to provide a welcoming learning environment.

"The professionals who work to make these positive educational outcomes a reality deserve all the world's recognition and appreciation," Dr. Michael said.

Tavan

"Tavan Teachers are PUNtastic" was the theme of Teacher Appreciation Week for the Wildcats, and it was a big hit with staff and students alike. The school's Sunshine Committee got local restaurants on board, with Flower Child and Chick-fil-A donating catered lunches.

The week started with an "un-be-LEAF-able" Monday as kids brought flowers for their teachers, followed by "thanks a latte" drinks and gift cards on Tuesday. Students wrote notes for the "sharpest teacher in the box" on Wednesday and earned brownie points on Thursday with special treats. Friday was full of favorites for PURR-fect teachers, who were treated to a fun gathering at O.H.S.O. to end the week.

"Teachers are incredible people. They inspire our kids, help their growth and support them," PTO Secretary Carrie Diekmann said. "It takes a very special person to be a teacher. They deserve thanks daily, so it's the least we can do to make this week extra special for them."

Veritas Prep

The Veritas Parent Service Organization showered faculty and staff during the week with breakfasts, lunches, snacks and coffee. "What makes Veritas unique is the genuine love and support from our community," Joshua Rognstad, Senior Humane Letters teacher, said.

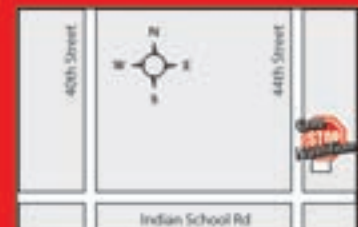
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Making a triumphant return to the French Quarter

By Rachael Bouley

A small but mighty high school jazz band from Arcadia recently returned home from their second adventure in New Orleans, Louisiana and the 2023 French Quarter Festival.

After attending the cultural celebration last year, the 32nd Street Jazz Band embraced the Big Easy once more, taking in all the sights and sounds at the world's largest showcase of Louisiana music.

Valley music teacher Dave Rowe, who oversees the band, was in attendance and joined 18 local students who play trumpet, trombone, saxophone, piano, drums, guitar and tuba.

"The 40th anniversary French Quarter Festival was attended by 875,000 people. It was just as amazing as ever with all of the bands, entertainment, food and ambiance of New Orleans," Rowe said.

The jazz lovers prepared for their big trip with weekly practices at Dayspring Arcadia Church and performances at the Phoenix Downtown Farmers Market.

"Playing at the French Quarter Festival is playing the real thing," Rowe said. "Performing alongside professional musicians and taking in the culture of New Orleans is experiencing another world. The trip's highlight was hearing the Jazz All-Star Band at Preservation Hall and visiting with the musicians afterward."

Another memorable moment for the group



The 32nd Street Jazz Band at Preservation Hall.

came on a rainy Saturday afternoon when six musicians found a tree to play under while the festival temporarily shut down. They played their hearts out, attracting a large crowd and earning \$600 in tips in 10 minutes!

"People were there to hear music, and

these guys delivered the entire weekend," Rowe said.

Senior keyboard player and charter band member Tommy Jacobs celebrated his love of music with others who share the feeling.

"The festival is a great opportunity not only to learn and enrich one's understanding

and appreciation for jazz music but also foster a sense of expression and individuality," Tommy said. "I play to express myself and tell a story. It's one of the purest forms of expression because it says so much of what words can't, but you know exactly what it means."

Senior tuba and charter member Caleb Humphreys was excited to hear eclectic live music that positively influenced the band.

"The event showed examples of the kind of live jazz you don't get in Phoenix," Caleb explained. "The people in New Orleans play in a different style that's so much more real and raw, so I think that inspired our playing a lot."

Since their trip to New Orleans, the band has played at festivals in Scottsdale and Chandler and at events like the Men's Esthetician Conference. Some members will head to San Francisco in June to play and attend a concert at the SFJAZZ Center before regular practice resumes in the fall.

After forming the band in 2021 at the urging of his former students, Rowe is proud of the musicians and everything they've accomplished.

"The 32nd Street Jazz Band wants everyone to know that jazz music is alive and well," he said. "The next generation of musicians will see to that."

The group always welcomes new high school members. Interested parties can call or text 602-527-6005 for more information.

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Brophy Prep won the Arizona Lacrosse League State Championship over Perry in May.



Xavier Prep's varsity lacrosse team.

Area high schools celebrate 2023 lacrosse season

By Mallory Gleich

Spring sports have come to a close – and the lacrosse teams at Arcadia High, Brophy Prep and Xavier Prep are sending their senior players off with lots to be proud of.

For those new to the sport, scoring works like this: offensive players use a lacrosse ‘stick’ to throw the ball into the opposing team’s goal (past the defenders and the goalie). Players receive one offensive point each time the ball goes into the goal.

There are ten players on the field. However, if a team receives a penalty, they may have to play with nine or eight players depending on the length of the penalty and how many players were penalized.

The team consists of a goalie, three defensemen, three midfielders and three attackmen.

Read on to see how area teams did this season.

ARCADIA HIGH

The Titans geared up for their lacrosse season in February, although many players started early with Arcadia’s “fall ball program” that helps prepare the team for the main season.

According to Coach Dwight Witherspoon, there are around 16 games played per year in Arizona, but that can vary as several Arizona Lacrosse League teams invite other clubs from outside the state to play in Phoenix. This year, AHS hosted teams from Nevada and Washington.

Arcadia made it to the first round of the playoffs this year but lost after playing Perry High.

With that loss came a win, though, as Arcadia gained an All-State selection in senior Kaidan Carr, who played in the All-Star Showcase game on May 12.

“Lacrosse is often referred to as the fastest sport on two feet. It is no surprise that speed and quickness are always a premium. Outside of physical speed, fast thinking is also important. The game moves with constant substitutions, possession changes, etc.,” Witherspoon said. “Plays are changed during the fluidity of the game. Lacrosse is also a physical sport, and players should expect to play with a mental toughness to excel.”

Arcadia was a young team this year and relied on first- and second-year students for key starting and backup positions.

“Those players need to work on their physicality through strength training and stick skills during the summer,” Witherspoon said. “Many players will participate in summer travel teams and play in tournaments, attend lacrosse camps and clinics, while others will focus on wall ball training to improve their game.”

Although the Titans didn’t make it to the championships, they said they still felt amazing after beating their primary rival, Chaparral High, to get to the playoffs.

“That game was a one-point victory with just 30 seconds remaining in regulation. We were very happy to make the playoffs with such a young team, but of course, our goal is to go deeper into the playoffs and win championships. This will be our goal during off-season workouts,” Witherspoon said.

Senior Garrett Nelson said that his ultimate goal this season was to be a good leader and the best version of himself.

“I stayed motivated by chasing my goals, staying around positive people and continuing to want to be the best,” he said. “My favorite memory is the Sandstorm Tournaments and all the fun times spent in the locker room, laughing and celebrating with my team.”

After graduation, Garrett will attend the University of Arizona and play lacrosse for the Wildcats while studying entrepreneurship.

“This team always plays hard together. We were proud of how hard the boys worked to get better during the season and how well the seniors mentored the younger players,” Witherspoon said. “We are also exceptionally proud of our JV team. Many of the players were new to the sport or had only recently started. They were highly competitive this year, even against the league’s toughest opponents.”

BROPHY PREP

Brophy’s lacrosse team recorded a 19-10 victory over No. 2 seed Perry High School to win its second consecutive Arizona Lacrosse State Championship on May 5. The Broncos were led by offensive MVP Joshua Buse, with five goals and two assists.

“We went into the game with a lot of grit and worked hard for this moment,” Joshua said. “We came through and won.”

The top-seeded Broncos had goals from eight players, including five by Buse and



Arcadia High's varsity and JV lacrosse squads.

junior Laird Miller. Freshman Eli Friedman, senior Ethan Swenson and junior Erik Volfson (who also had three assists) each added two goals.

Perry, the only Arizona team to previously defeat Brophy this season, kept it close with three goals and only trailed 5-3 after the first quarter.

“We had to ride the wave,” Joshua said. “There are going to be ups and downs. We capitalized on the moments we had.”

Brophy opened the second quarter with five goals to extend the lead to 10-3 and eventually led 14-5 at the half.

Junior Deion James was named the Defensive Player of the Game, recording 13 face-off wins with six ground balls. Freshman goalie Ryan Peitzmeier had eight saves in the net for the Broncos. Ethan Swenson had seven ground balls to lead the team.

This was the third consecutive state championship appearance for the Broncos under Head Coach Pat Harbeson.

“Brophy has some outstanding players and a tremendous team. It feels nice to win back-to-back, but it was not something we talked about during the season. It was about winning the day and the game, enjoying the journey and moments,” Harbeson said. “That way of thinking allows special moments to happen and realize how far we have come.”

The Broncos finished the season with a 17-6 overall record.

XAVIER

At the conclusion of the regular season, the Xavier lacrosse team had 10 wins and three losses under their belts, with an 8-0 streak in Division II. The season started at the end of January and ran through the first week of May. The Gators played 14 regular season

games, with semifinals and championship games happening at the finish.

There are 17 players on the varsity squad, four of whom also play on the JV team when needed.

“The team has a high lacrosse IQ, and our offense’s ability to score and run an offense, whether they are free playing or running a set, is definitely a plus,” Head Coach Diana Oduho said. “Their unselfishness and willingness to share the ball and assist is one of their greatest strengths.”

Conversely, Oduho said that the team needs to work on defense, specifically stick work and their ability to clear the ball.

“Five of our seniors are graduating, so we’re welcoming freshman and JV players next season. We’re working on getting our new players up-to-speed so everyone can work together,” Oduho said.

The Gators headed to the AGLA Division II State Semifinal game on May 1, winning 21-8 against Corona del Sol High School. They then headed to the championship game on May 5 at Higley High School, where they lost to the Knights, 14-13.

“This season has been a period of monumental growth and strong connections between our team. The chemistry on both sides of the field is almost magical to watch and be a part of,” senior Peyton Bryant said. “I’m glad my last season as a Gator has been so fruitful and so glad we got to go to state for the second time in the last three years.”

“It’s been a really great experience with my teammates, the new ones and the ones I’ve been alongside for a few years,” junior McKenna Boyer said. “I’m happy to have had the chance to go to finals with them. It’s not every day that this opportunity comes around, especially with some people I’ve known and played with for six or more years!”

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Providing help and hope to foster children in Arizona

By Justin McCoy

Arcadia resident and foster mom Darcy Olsen has started a movement – one she wants to turn into a national conversation.

Olsen has been a foster parent to 10 children since 2011, and while observing the treatment of children in court dependency hearings, she said she felt a need to help in the frequently broken foster care system.

What shocked her was that the accused adults often had more legal rights inside the courtroom than their child victims.

“I saw a lot that was good in the system but also a lot that was broken. Often, no questions were directed to the children; it was all about the perpetrators or birth parents and their rights. It was eye-opening to see that the victims – the children – were voiceless and didn’t have a seat at the table in these hearings,” Olsen said.

Five years ago, Olsen set out to change the system. She founded The Center for the Rights of Abused Children, a private charity based in Arcadia dedicated to advocacy and giving foster children a voice, in 2017. The organization estimates it has helped over 500,000 foster kids nationwide since its inception.

The center’s mission is to protect children, change laws, inspire people, and ensure every abused child has a bright

future. Olsen envisions a day when all of America’s youngsters can live in safe, loving homes.

In addition to advocacy, Olsen and her team help potential foster families and directs them to licensing agencies where they can get more assistance and training in adoption and fostering. The center also provides a law clinic with free legal advice and continuing education for attorneys in the adoption field.

Olsen has seen much change in the last five years in Arizona and nationwide. She’s helped to pass laws in a dozen states, including the “Foster Care Bill of Rights” in Kansas and Arizona. This law guarantees abused and neglected children the right to live with their siblings, visit their families, and live with relatives whenever possible.

In 2021, former governor Doug Ducey signed a historic law that appoints an attorney to every child in foster care – giving them their voice and representation in court proceedings.

“We can put a million laws on the books to ensure a child’s time in foster care is safe and temporary, but without



Darcy Olsen

an attorney to argue the law on the child’s behalf, the law means nothing,” Olsen said.

Since starting the organization, Olsen has had many memorable moments, but one child’s case, in particular, stands out.

The center helped a nine-year-old girl, who had been a victim of horrific abuse for years, to get adopted. The child decided to choose a new name, something Olsen says abuse survivors do to disassociate themselves from their past lives and their safety. She chose to name herself after the attorney the center provided.

“The little girl knew she had been rescued and protected from ever going back to her abusers,” Olsen said.

In the future, Olsen said she wants to “convene the country” to recognize the work that must be done for every state’s children. She said she’d like a coalition of individuals to come together to bring awareness to the fostering system and elicit social change, similar to the numerous other social justice movements that have taken hold in recent years.

“We would like to see a real movement take off for children in this country. We want to unify the voices of foster parents, the children, relatives, and allies and take them to Washington to make even bigger reforms,” Olsen stated.

thecenterforchildren.org

Finishing out the year with growth, grit and victory laps

By Melissa Hirschl

Volleyball athletes at Arcadia High, Brophy Prep, Veritas and Xavier Prep head into summer with many memorable events to reflect on. Here’s a recap of the 2022-23 accomplishments, challenges, and moments of glory.

ARCADIA

The Lady Titans were flying high at the end of the season as the first-ever Division II Section 5 beach volleyball champions in Arcadia history.

Coach Jackie Bunker said she was thrilled that the team finished their regular season 12 to 1, playing against Salpointe Catholic in the final game before playoffs. Another high point for the team, she recounted, was the playoff run, where they advanced to the final four after wins over Scottsdale Prep and Gilbert Christian. Unfortunately, they lost their third playoff game to Estrella Foothills, 3-2.

“This is the first time in program history that we have reached the final four since the program began in 2015,” she said. “Our indoor volleyball team is the 2022 Desert Sky Region Champions and the 4A state runner-ups, losing 1-3 to Estrella Foothills this fall in the State Championship match.”

According to Bunker, the team draws its strength from talented athletes and positive attitudes that coaches strive to foster. The dynamics of coaching also contribute to the team’s success.

“Our practice drills are like real games,” Bunker said. “That helps our athletes develop game strategy while improving their skills. Hopefully, the experience of advancing to the final four this season will help returners advance the team further next season.”



Veritas Prep's beach volleyball team

BROPHY PREP

The Brophy volleyball team lost in the AIA 6A Conference semifinals to No. 2 seed Perry in three sets, 3-0: 25-21, 25-16, and 25-15. The Broncos finish the season with a 37-9 record after making their third consecutive semifinal appearance.

“I am proud of them and how they lifted each other up,” Head Coach Tony Oldani said. “We had guys all season without experience who stepped up. We have never had a season like this, with injuries and missed matches.”

Junior Connor Oldani and senior Teddy Churchill led the team with six kills, while Teddy had a team-best with 11 digs.

Brophy led by seven in the first set, 11-4, with a strong start on the road against a team they had faced three times this season. But the Perry Pumas rallied to tie, and the score remained tight, with six ties overall. After Brophy forced a tie at 19, Perry won six of the next eight points to close the first match, 25-21.

“We knew we were going to need to be almost perfect to keep them off balance,” Oldani said. “We had a momentary lapse in what we were trying to do, and they are the type of team if you give them something

they will take it away. They are unbelievable defensively.”

Coach Oldani highlighted the skills of Benjamin Cugno, who had nine kills.

“Cugno stepped into a role that he has been great at all season long,” said Oldani. “There is no greater ability than availability. He has been great for us every time he has been called upon.”

It was the final match for seven seniors: Dylan Boyle, Teddy Churchill, Ari Joslin, Adam Matchinsky, Bobby Munhall, Patrick Oldani, and Ricky Snyder.

“It is bittersweet for the seniors and knowing it was the last time I get to coach my son, Patrick, in a Brophy jersey,” Oldani said. “Now we start rebuilding for next year.”

VERITAS PREP

The beach volleyball team at Veritas Prep finished the season with a three-win, eight-loss record, placing fifth in Division II, Section 5. The Falcons also received a valuable bonus this spring when they added a new JV team, resulting in 26 girls participating in grades 9-12.

“We fell a little short of our goal to make the playoffs, but our pairs improved and competed every match,” Coach Brooks

Dockter said. “This year, we had a noticeably younger team, so goal setting and celebrating our progress was important. Younger players can be challenging, but it’s exciting because we return the bulk of our roster.”

According to Dockter, the team’s strength is its chemistry. “Our athletes enjoy spending time together, which makes it much easier as a coach. We had many pairs play three-set matches this year, so we look forward to future growth and winning more matches.”

XAVIER PREP

The Gators have a record eight championship wins under Coach Tim McHale’s leadership. They finished the season with 13 wins, two losses and a No. 1 spot in Division I.

“Our most memorable experience is our 3-2 victory over Desert Vista in Ahwatukee in May,” he said. “We were proud of our participation in 15 matches, along with the fact that we went to two state championships, where we won twice: once for the teams and the other for ‘pairs’ in the second round.

Unfortunately, the Gators lost to defending champs Sandra Day O’Connor in the state semifinals.

“We have lots of experience, but sometimes we are not as knowledgeable as we should be in championship experience,” McHale said. “Some stronger players have graduated, and some injuries have occurred.”

In reflecting on his coaching style, McHale related it is considered ‘grandfatherly’ by some former students.

“They jokingly say I’ve gotten soft in old age,” he said with a smile. “However, I’ve learned I no longer must be as strict in dealing with the players. I get the same results by collaborating and talking them through the games.”

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Switching jobs is not something people plan out in much detail. For the majority of job seekers, there is a personal connection to the job opening. The process is fairly straightforward and relatively painless. Most tend to assume that's what job seeking is like, but this all changes when a job seeker is forced to proactively search without connections.

Ask anyone who has landed a career entirely on their own, and they will very likely have a harrowing story to share. When job seekers search on their own time, the process can easily take two to six months.

This length of time is normal. It is not a reflection of the person's abilities or worth. It certainly doesn't feel that way. The issue is that the search process is completely different than when you know someone.

There are examples of difficult job searches shared every day. Recently, a job seeker applied to 600 jobs. These applications led to 30 interviews. The 30 interviews ultimately

led to one job offer. This job seeker had many years of experience and multiple advanced degrees. The entire process took three months.

A job search can often become elongated. The reason is that 570 rejections are emotionally exhausting. On top of this, friends and family judge the job seeker for how complex their search is. It leaves the job seeker feeling worthless and wondering if they're even in the

right career field.

Dear job seeker, please remember: it's not you. The application process is broken. You are competing against hundreds of online applicants. You are also competing with friends of the hiring manager. You are contending with less-than-ideal economic conditions.

Remember, you are prepared for this. The key is not to lose hope. You are the same talented, hardworking professional that you were before you started this search. You will find your path.

Set goals for yourself. Keep doing your best to meet the goals, even when difficult.

In the example above, the job seeker applied to approximately 200 jobs per month, 50 per week, or 10 per business day. This process is a lot of work, but it will result in success.

In addition to applications, write a list of all the great things about your background. You may have fifteen years of experience in project management. You are great at organizing teams. You have advanced knowledge of specific topics. Once you have your list compiled, keep it handy. Each morning, read the list. Remind yourself of who you are.

You are valued. You are needed. You are the person you were before the economy started to turn. Outside factors changed, but you have not. You remain the same person you always have been.



*Career
Corner*

BY ANGELA COPELAND

Career expert
and founder of
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From the Archives



Race driver and engineer Matt McMurry was featured on both a 2012 and 2017 cover of Arcadia News. He was the youngest driver to compete in the Le Mans racing series at 16 years old. Most recently, he competed in the 2023 CrowdStrike Racing series.

See page 34 in this issue to read about two additional Arcadia racers who have big dreams – just like Matt did.

High school tennis seasons serve up magnificent memories

By Rachael Bouley

It was another action-packed spring on the tennis court, with local high schoolers giving it their best shot. Let's recap the season and how Arcadia area tennis teams stacked against some fierce Valley competition.

ARCADIA

Titans varsity tennis had a busy season in Division II, Section 6, facing new competition with Peoria, Paradise Valley, Notre Dame, and AZ College Prep.

The Titans finished 11-4 overall, placing second in the section at 6-1 behind undefeated McClintock and narrowly missing out on playoffs.

As the boys set their sights on an even stronger season next year, the Lady Titans are reflecting on back-to-back runner-up titles in Division II.

After an early loss to AZ College Prep, the girls picked up 14 straight wins with a 7-0 section run, giving them great momentum heading into the state championship.

Ultimately, Catalina Foothills proved too tough to beat as the Lady Titans settled for second place.

BROPHY

Brophy went into the AIA State Championship strong as the No. 1 seed in Division 1 Premier but ultimately fell 5-1 to No. 3 seed Desert Mountain in the final. Although the team wanted to defend their state title after winning last year, the Broncos faced a tough fight.

"Desert Mountain played really well," Head Coach Eric Chalmers said. "They had good energy from the jump, they were making shots, and we were missing shots we usually make. Tennis is a game played on the margins. It is tough to win if you don't make the shots."

Before the loss, Brophy won 35 straight matches spanning



Brophy Assistant Coach Chris Campbell, Andre Johnson, Hadley Kukla, Head Coach Eric Chalmers (and son), and Assistant Coach Ford Oliver.

last season when they defeated Chaparral for the 2022 championship.

"We are a young team with a bunch of sophomores," Chalmers said. "We will be competing for years to come, and the team will remember this moment and not want to repeat it."

Brophy produced the Division 1 doubles champion for the third straight season, with senior Hadley Kukla and junior Andre Johnson taking the title. The Broncos finished 17-1 overall, have 10 AIA runner-up team finishes in school history, and have 21 state titles.

VERITAS

Both Veritas boys and girls varsity tennis teams qualified for state for the third consecutive year, overcoming challenges

with practice time and court availability to keep up with the competition in Division 3, Section 5.

"As a coach, I would say this was a rebuilding season. Last year we lost some key players, but we did what we always did and rallied around each other," Head Coach Lisa Townsend said.

The boys finished 9-3 and the girls finished 9-4, with both teams fighting hard to make it to state. Although they lost in the first round, they had a fun experience and learned a lot throughout the season.

"Coach Peter and I were very proud and like to believe that we have made a name for Veritas Prep in Division 3 tennis," Townsend said. "The highs for us were competing and sometimes winning when we were not supposed to."

Four Veritas teams represented an individual state, with senior Anna Schillinger losing in the girl's singles quarterfinals to the No. 1 seed and eventual winner. Boys double duo Ian Townsend and Jack Victor finished runner-up to Phoenix Country Day School.

"As with any season that involves so many different moving pieces and personalities, we all finished proud of ourselves and with stronger friendships than ever," Townsend said.

XAVIER

Xavier was the team to beat in Division 1 Premier up until their 5-3 loss to Desert Vista in the championship. They only lost one other match all season and finished 5-0 in the section and 13-1 overall with a No. 2 division ranking.

The Gators cruised through their first two state matches, beating Rincon/University 5-0 and Horizon 6-0 before finishing runner-up for the second year. Juniors Dani Dyer and Belani Soto placed second in the state doubles championship.

With no graduating seniors this year, the unified Xavier team will look to come back even stronger next season.

Team spirit helped St. Theresa win big at the CYAA

By Mark Hays

St. Theresa Catholic School's fifth-grade girls' basketball team had an outstanding season in which athletic excellence was combined with teamwork and growth.

The team advanced through the playoffs to the Catholic Youth Athletic Association (CYAA) championship, which they won in April.

A solid record of six wins and three losses in the regular season set the team up to advance to the big game.

"Our girls played nine games, not including the tournament," said Athletic Director Noah Mayers. "The total amount of 'fun' they participated in throughout the year is 13 games."

The team consisted of basketball veterans and students new to the game. With the skillful leadership of Head Coach Kopp, he, Coach Hernandez, and Coach Posta fostered a strong team spirit in every player.

"The way that they coached was very hands-on," Mayers explained. "They were constantly practicing and wanting to see improvement in these girls. The coaches did a great job building them up and understanding that some girls had never played basketball."

At the championship game, St. Theresa squared up against the team from Saints Simon and Jude School. Their strategic skills were the main strength that led the team to

victory. One play especially highlighted this and tipped the scales in St. Theresa's favor.

"The most memorable moment during the game was when they came out in a half-court press, and Coach Kopp called a timeout," Mayers said. "The coach organized a way to beat the half-court press, and they used the whole game to win their defensive scheme."

The entire team expressed a sentiment that playing basketball at St. Theresa was an exciting team-building activity and that winning the championship was an exciting way to wrap up the season, improving their skills as athletes and individuals.

"The girls said they all had the same feelings – they liked hanging out with their friends and winning the championship game together after all their hard work," Mayers said. "Coach Kopp was very proud of how the girls improved throughout the year. The girls ended the season well, through hard work and dedication."

Two standout players were Reese Hernandez and Ainsley Kopp.

"They plan on practicing and playing club ball in the summer to enhance their basketball skills," Mayers said. "They have a lot of dedication to their craft, evident in their championship this year."

The team celebrated by taking many pictures and having a championship dinner at Sauce.

Check out how Arcadia area middle schools did this season:

Veritas Prep

The Falcons middle school swim and dive team brought home the second-place trophy for the Great Hearts Middle School League. The girls' team placed second, and the boys came up close with a finish in fourth.

Abigail McKinzie won the 50-yard breaststroke, and Jack Schloz won the 50-yard freestyle and the 50-yard backstroke. Middle school tennis made it to the championship match in late April. The girls won first place in girls' doubles and singles, with the boys' team winning runner-up in doubles and singles.

St. Thomas

The seventh-grade baseball team at St. Thomas made it to the CYAA championship games in April but was defeated 3-13 by St. Francis Xavier.

Ingleside

The Ingleside Trojans boys' and girls' Championship Track Meet took place in late April at Coronado High. Based on three previous qualifying meets, only the

top 16 SUSD athletes in each event were invited to compete.

Ingleside dominated the sprints by taking first, thanks to Aubrey Folger (13.91) and second, thanks to Sydney Kelly (14.03) in the 100 meters. Aubrey also won the 200 meters (28.63). The Ingleside girls' team also qualified two teams for the 4x100 meter relay, with Ingleside winning in a time of 56.72.

Runner Braylon Wilkerson topped the field in the Boys' 100 meters with a 12.34 finish. He also won the 200 meters in 25.88 and anchored Ingleside's second-place 4x100 relay in a photo finish.

Christ Lutheran School

The CLS teams made it to the CYAA Championships in various sports:

- Seventh-grade volleyball won third.
- Eighth-grade flag football won third.
- Eighth-grade boys' basketball won third.
- Eighth-grade softball won second place.
- Boys' baseball won second place.
- Girls' basketball won second place.

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The world's fastest public train – called Shanghai Maglev – is the only train in the world that carries passengers using magnetic levitation instead of conventional steel wheels on steel rails. It has a maximum commercial speed of 286 mph and can complete an 18-mile journey in just 7.5 minutes. China has also developed a 373 mph Maglev train and has plans to create a network of Maglevs in the future.



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TRAIN FACTS

The Grand Canyon Railway made its first journey to the Grand Canyon on September 17, 1901.

The word train comes from a French verb which means to draw or drag.

Some trains have a second locomotive which pushes the train forward from the back.

The longest train ride in the world is a trip from Portugal to Vietnam. It is 10,056 miles long and takes approximately 12 days to complete.

The Trans-Siberian Railway spans into a total length of 5,778 miles. This route can be taken entirely within the bounds of Russia and takes a week at minimum to travel the entire distance.

The train used in the Harry Potter films can be accessed in real life and is still currently running.

The first American steam locomotive was originally imported from England in the year 1830. The first American train was not built until much later that same year.

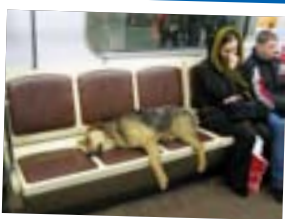
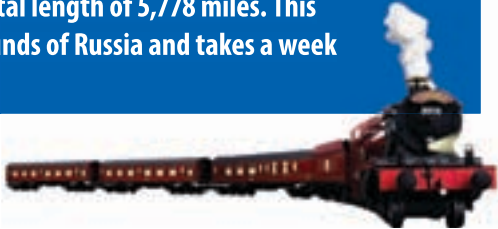
The term 'horsepower' originated as a marketing tool and was coined by the inventor of the modern steam engine, James Watt.

Stray dogs in Moscow have learned how to take the railway system from the suburbs to the city. These dogs use the train to get to the city to scavenge for food.

Forty percent of the world's freight cargo is transported via train, a number that continues to grow each year.

The Great Depression of the 1930s managed to almost completely destroy the U.S. railway industry.

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SAY WHAT?

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In 1827, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad became the first U.S. company granted a charter for transporting passengers and freight. The company struggled to produce a steam engine that could traverse over rough terrain, instead relying on horse-drawn trains. Industrialist Peter Cooper, who owned land holdings over the proposed route, offered to design and build an engine. In August 1830, Cooper's engine was undergoing testing when a horse-drawn train pulled up alongside it and challenged Cooper to a race. The steam engine quickly got the lead, but when a belt broke loose it was forced to give up, and the horse crossed the finish line first. B&O eventually became one of the most successful railways in the United States.

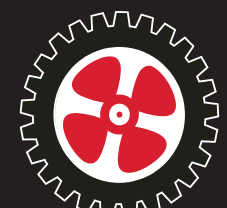
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PHOTO COURTESY OF VERITAS PREP

(front): Erika Ghassemi, Aubrey Klain, Ethan Mathew. (back): Kishan Bhatnagar, Logan Edgell, Christian Graeff.

Veritas Prep is heading to 'Capitol Hill'

By Mark Hays

Since 1937, the programs within Arizona Boys State and Arizona Girls State have provided opportunities for high school students to engage with and learn about State Government through participation in mock elections and governmental positions. This year, Veritas Prep was excited to send six students to the events in June.

The American Legion sponsors the boys' program. It aims to "provide a working knowledge of our governmental process. The American Legion believes that individual students are thusly better prepared to assume the responsibilities of citizenship," according to the website.

The girls' program, sponsored by The American Legion Auxiliary, has a similar mission: educating young women about the duties, privileges and responsibilities of American citizenship.

A focus on helping students become responsible adults is at the forefront. The program seeks to "help them grasp the meaning of some of the responsibilities they must assume when they become adults."

The week-long event consists of creating a mock government modeled after Arizona. Participating students elect a governor, mayor, and city council members and set up legislative assemblies, courts, and law enforcement agencies.

The boys will head to Northern Arizona University. The girls will head in the opposite direction - their program is at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Last year, Veritas Prep only sent three students to the boys' program.

"It has been a few years since we have had students attend Girls State. We are so excited to have students attending both this year," Director of College Counseling Judi Paffenbarger said.

Last year's attendees enjoyed the process, noting it to be an exciting, challenging event.

"Boys State helped me to discover the variance of character and family backgrounds, which enabled me to understand how big the world truly is," participant Krikor Maranian said.

"The program pushed me out of my comfort zone in many good ways, building my character and widening my view of politics in America," Andrew Logan said.

This was a common theme for attendees.

"Boys State was an amazing experience, pushing me out of my comfort zone, granting a deeper understanding for the inner workings of our government, and a love as well as respect for the world of politics," Luke Hurst said.

Only around 350 high school juniors with strong academic records and leadership skills are accepted to each program. Students apply through school guidance counselors and local American Legion Posts.

"Everyone is a winner as they learn so much about our government, and they network with other top students in the state," Paffenbarger said.

At the end of the event, two boys and two girls are elected to represent their programs.

azgirlsstate.com
azboysstate.org

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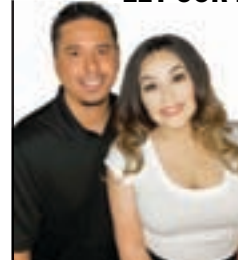
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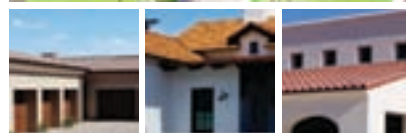
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