



Arcadia News

VOL. 32 NO. 7

ARCADIA • BILTMORE • CAMELBACK CORRIDOR

OCTOBER 2024



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS

Arcadia Little League concluded a tremendous season in 2024 with multiple wins, including an All-State Title.

PAGE 20

WHY VOLUNTEER?

Eight Arcadia women share their reasons for joining the Phoenix Heart Ball committee.

PAGE 26

MAKE KINDNESS VISIBLE

Biltmore Prep unveiled its plans to install a Ben's Bells mural to go along with their Be Kind curriculum.

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OCTOBER

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A new home décor store has opened in our neighborhood. FOUND is a collection of furniture, accessories, gifts and more, collected from the owners' travels.

36 Go, kart, go!

Fourteen-year-old AHS student Gio Santora was invited to participate in the F4 FEED Racing Academy at the Magny Cours Circuit in France over the summer.

43 Helping people heal

Banner Health orthopedic surgeon Dr. Joshua Hustedt has developed a new technique called Joint Denervation to help those suffering from chronic joint pain.

45 Ace, ace, baby

Arcadia High, Veritas Prep and Xavier Prep are ready for a new volleyball season filled with competition, growth, and unforgettable moments on the court.



Max Sapik, Liam Voris,
Cole Luepker, Jack Harvey, Olly Fouts,
Chase Amundson, Beau McCray,
Will Clancey, Walker Freckmann,
Keaton Hancock, Cody Openden.

PHOTO: HEATHER ZVIRGZDINS, CHAOS IN FOCUS



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EDITOR'S NOTE

I may be a little biased, since my birthday is this month - but there's just something about October in Phoenix that makes it one of the best months of the year.

Halloween decorations have made an appearance, pumpkin-flavored drinks and eats popped up on menus across the Valley and for those who work ahead, Christmas lists are already being created.

Before Santa makes his way here, though, we're soaking up all the outdoor activities going on in the Valley: pumpkin patches, awareness events and - a favorite among culinary enthusiasts - food festivals. The ninth annual Italian Festival takes place in Scottsdale this year, and there's also a Greek and Taco Festival later in the month. If you're looking to expand your palate, October in Arizona is a good place to start!

This edition shows some love to area students who are making their way in the sports, racing and business worlds. Two Archway Veritas fifth-

graders, Juliette Welch and Alicia Martinez, created Lovey's Bracelets, a jewelry company that doubles as a party extension: elementary schoolers who are looking to add a fun craft to their birthday parties can hire Lovey's to come to their homes and create beautiful bracelets, necklaces, earrings and more to take home.

We're diligently working on our upcoming Arcadia Home & Design edition and excited for what's to come. Thank you, as always, for reading Arcadia News, and we'll see you next month!

Mallory
- Mallory Gleich



UPCOMING THEMES:

NOVEMBER

Veterans

DECEMBER

Holidays

JANUARY

Fitness and Health

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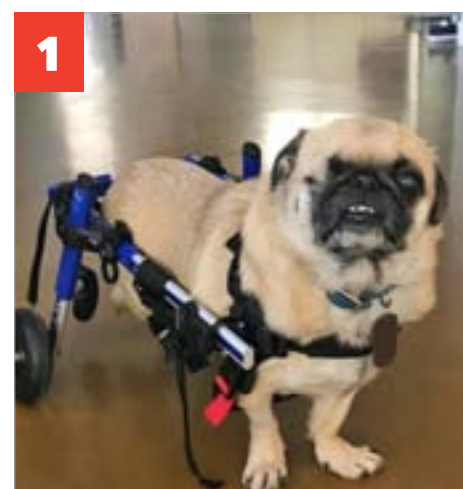
"Sticky fingers, tired feet; one last house, "trick or treat!"

- Rusty Fischer

ARCADIA'S PETS

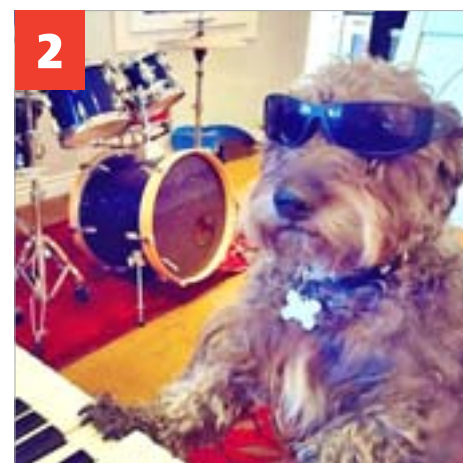
1. We adopted **Wink** in 2013. In 2017, we went on our annual Thanksgiving hike at Papago Park and when I parked my Jeep, Wink jumped out and accidentally ruptured a disc - by that evening he couldn't use his back legs and was paralyzed. He was fitted with a doggie wheelchair to help him move. Wink passed away in July, after seven years of what we called "Wink 2.0, Wink re-imagined." He was an absolute warrior that everyone he came across loved dearly.

- Renee R.



2. **Rexxie Raymond Reckling** is a 12-year-old Glen of Imaal terrier. He is the official mascot for venerable Valley group Azz Izz Band, who recently performed at Roger Clyne's Circus Mexicus Festival in Rocky Point. Rexxie had "thumb addition surgery" so that he could safely drive himself to the dog park, and can be found enjoying a beverage at Postino or sipping an espresso at La Grande Orange. As an accomplished canine musician, Rexxie is well versed in keyboards and steel drums.

- Mark R.



3. My sweet **Simon** is 16 years old and was adopted from MCAC&C. When he's not su-purr-ving me while I'm painting in my art studio (as he's my biggest critic), Simon can be found napping away in his cat tower. He's been a wonderful companion and is still going strong!

- Valerie M.



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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Fifth-grade duo turns bracelet-making into a party sensation

By Tiffany Gonzalez

Alicia Martinez and Juliette Welch aren't waiting until graduation to begin their entrepreneur empire – the two Archway Veritas fifth-graders have already begun. Lovey's Bracelets, a jewelry business run by the ten-year-olds, debuted in August and is the talk of the neighborhood.

"We love to make jewelry and wanted to show it to the world in a fun way," Juliette said. "Our business of teaching younger kids how to make jewelry will create memories for everyone."

Lovey's Bracelets is different from other jewelry companies in that the duo will bring your jewelry directly to you. Grown-ups can also book the company for children's parties (for kids ages 5-8) where they will lead a bracelet-making activity.

"We created this business because at our school a lot of people were making bracelets and putting them up for sale on Etsy," Juliette said.

"We wanted to stand out and do bracelets everywhere, like at birthday parties," Alicia added.

These bracelet-making parties include

two kits per child, each containing an array of colorful beads, charms, string, and a clip for the end of the bracelet. Juliette and Alicia then lead the party in making the bracelets for attendees.

"We hope to attend a lot of parties and also have the opportunity to share our new business, which will give us a window to let the world know what we are all about," Juliette said.

Launching Lovey's Bracelets took months of planning. The idea began last year, when the pair would make jewelry together for fun after school.

"We know each other a lot better now, so we never have to ask if a bead pattern looks good," Juliette said. "We've been friends since second grade and

are now in fifth, so it makes our business pretty easy."

Lovey's is not bracelet-inclusive – the girls also make earrings, necklaces, keychains and decorative pieces. They package the kits themselves – after homework is done, of course.

"We meet either in person or over FaceTime – usually on weekends – to design different pieces," Alicia said.



Juliette Welch and Alicia Martinez debuted Lovey's Bracelets in August 2024.

"We decide together which designs will become kits. Once we've selected them, we carefully count out all the beads and decorations needed and pack them into kits for the parties," Juliette said.

The parties cost \$100 for a service fee, plus \$5 per child (up to 10 children per party) and a travel fee up to five miles.

"We hope to start a website to sell the kits," Juliette said. "Even though we love

attending birthday parties, some parents prefer not to have extra people over, so we want to give them the option to do it independently."

The duo is currently in talks about featuring a holiday discount. It's still in the works, but interested parties can stay updated by following @loveysbraceletsaz on Instagram.

loveysbracelets@gmail.com



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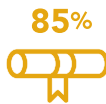
CLASS SIZE

15 students average per class



STUDENT:TEACHER

8 students average per 1 teacher



FACULTY DEGREES

85% of Upper School faculty hold advanced degrees



CAMPUS SIZE

40 acres
Athletic fields, aquatic center, gyms, auditorium, music spaces, and science, art & tech center



ATHLETICS

15 state championships in the past 4 years
12 Upper School sports and 13 Middle School sports



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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?

BRIEFS

Huss Brewing Co. is partnering with **Upward Projects** and **Wigged Out** to raise funds for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. At participating locations from October 1-31, Huss and Upward Projects will donate a portion of sales of Huss' Pink Pineapple Haze IPA to Wigged Out. Upward Projects is also hosting a pop-up on October 2 from 4-6 p.m. at Joyride Central.

upwardprojects.com

Celebrate Oktoberfest with Postino (3939 E. Campbell Ave., Phoenix) until October 31. Guests can order a draft pitcher of Sierra Nevada's limited-release Oktoberfest Festbier paired with Postino guest favorite "Nick's Board," with a soft pretzel, Italian sausage, Spanish pork link, pimento cheese, Peruvian corn nut, drop pepper, and packo pickle for \$27.

postinowinecafe.com

Scottsdale's Museum of the West (3830 N. Marshall Way) is offering a docent training program starting on October 2. Training will equip interested individuals with knowledge and skills to help the museum tell stories of the American West. The program will run through January 22, 2025, with sessions every Wednesday. The museum is also in need of volunteers for various roles: welcoming visitors, providing information and assisting at special events.

westernspirit.org

Bricks Studio's specialty classes are happening throughout the fall. **Parent Dance with Me** classes, for ages 2-3 years old, include dancing, reading and creating playful movements. October 25 offers a three-year-old Parent Dance with Me class and on October 26 there will be a Halloween costume party for ages 4-16.

bricksstudio.com



Pumpkinferno at the Arizona State Fairgrounds.

Step into a world of magic with **Pumpkinferno**, presented by the Arizona Science Center. This event, happening Wednesday-Sunday through October 27, boasts thousands of intricately hand-carved, artificial, larger-than-life pumpkins. There are seven zones, including the Monsters Mugshots and Witches Brew, each with a scientific tie-in...so guests will be in awe and learn something new in the process. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for kids.

azscience.org

Southwest Human Development's **"Birth to Five Helpline Awareness Week,"** is open until October 6. This event showcases the organization's free support line for Arizona parents, caregivers and professionals to call, text, or email questions or concerns about parenting and early development of children from birth to age 5. Childhood specialists are available at 877-705-KIDS, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

birthtofivehelpline.org

Scottsdale Fashion Square's (7014 E. Camelback Road, Scottsdale) **Indoor Walking Moai** series will run until October 9. Each Wednesday morning, participants will gather at the shopping center to walk and socialize from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Each participant will receive a coffee from Capital One Café and an entry to win a \$50 restaurant gift card for use at any of the shopping center's restaurants.

fashionsquare.com

EVENTS

FRIDAY 10/4

The Planets

7:30 p.m. at Phoenix Symphony Hall, 75 N. 2nd St., Phoenix. The 2024/25 season opens with a blast-off as Colombian-American conductor Lina Gonzalez-Granados leads Gustav Holst's most famous work, *The Planets*, while visual images projected above the Symphony enhance the performance. Tickets start at \$35.

phoenixsymphony.org

SATURDAY 10/5

Pink Out 5K

8 a.m. at Steele Indian School Park, 300 E. Indian School Road. The eighth annual Pink Out 5K happens today. Before the race, there will be a vendor village, food trucks, a kids' zone and live music. One hundred percent of the funds raised will provide Arizonans with free breast health education, mammograms, wigs and support. Don't forget to wear pink! Registration is \$40 for adults, \$20 for kids.

checkforalump.org

Pet Portrait Class

10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Shemer Art Center, 5005 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix. Learn to capture the personality of your furry friend in this pet portrait workshop with artist Sue Hunter. Sue will lead students

through the process of composing, sketching and painting pets with mark-making techniques, color-mixing tips and guidance on important details. Attendees should bring several pictures of their pet and supplies for creation. Cost is \$125.

shemerartcenter.org

SAT. 10/5 - SUN. 10/6

Brat Haus Oktoberfest

12-8 p.m. at Brat Haus, 3622 N. Scottsdale Road. This year's family-friendly Oktoberfest event includes a beard contest, brat eating and stein holding contests, Polka music, garden games, and a special firkin tapping with Scottsdale Mayor David Ortega. Food options include bratwurst, pretzel bites, The Big Weenie, chicken schnitzel with spaetzli and gravy, and more. Admission is \$10 for one day and \$15 for both days.

brathausaz.com

THURSDAY 10/10

"Date" Night

5 p.m. at Sphinx Date Co., 3039 N. Scottsdale Road. Guests are invited to stop in the Palm & Pantry this evening for a sampling tour courtesy of Sphinx Date Co. Sphinx will be serving up homegrown products by local artisan producers, who will be on-site sharing their stories. Owner Rebecca Seitz will also offer a brief history of dates in Arizona. Admission is free, registration is recommended.

sphinxdateranch.com

SATURDAY 10/12

Phoenician Fall Fest

5:30 p.m. at The Phoenician, 6000 E. Camelback Road, Scottsdale. The iconic resort is hosting its inaugural Fall Fest, an evening that kicks off with line dancing lessons. There will be live country music from The Herndon Brothers Band, dancing, food, cocktails and western-themed activities like a mechanical bull, caricaturist, lawn games and more. A portion of proceeds will be donated to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, benefiting PCH. Tickets are \$55 per person with VIP packages available.

thephoenician.com

FRI. 10/11 - SAT. 10/12

The Great American Seed Up

5:30 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. Saturday at North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Ave. The 10th annual Seed Up is a one-of-a-kind, pop-up bulk-seed buying bazaar. Included with pre-registration is access to online presentations with seed and gardening experts, and there will also be presentation with Don Guerra of Barrio Bread on Friday. Registration is \$7.50 per person.

greatamericanseedup.org

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?



Phoenix Greek Festival at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

FRIDAY 10/11 – SUNDAY 10/13

Phoenix Greek Festival

Times vary, at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 1973 E. Maryland Ave. Celebrate Greek culture with the 63rd annual Phoenix Greek Festival. There will be authentic cuisine, dancing and live performances, music, a village market with groceries, décor, jewelry, pottery and more, culture and history tours and activities for the kids. Admission is \$5 per person. phoenixgreekfestival.org

FRIDAY 10/11-SUNDAY 10/13

Four Peaks Oktoberfest

5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-12 a.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday at Tempe Town Lake, 80 W. Rio Salado Pkwy. This 51st annual outdoor festival features a plethora of activities to help celebrate Oktoberfest, including live music from Black Moods and Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers, carnival rides, adult coed volleyball, soccer, and kickball games, wiener dog races, celebrity bratwurst eating contest, comedy performances by Tempe Standup, the stein holding competition, and the Frank Kush Foundation Runnin’ for the Brats. General admission is \$25 per person, free on Sunday. fourpeaksoktoberfest.com

SUNDAY 10/13

A Beautiful Day at the Symphony Luncheon

12 p.m. at Symphony Hall, 75 N. 2nd St., Phoenix. Those who are fans of Wicked might not want to miss this event. Guests will find a reception meet-and-greet with composer/songwriter Stephen Swartz, a three course lunch, a ticket to Defying Gravity: The Music of Stephen Swartz and Friends, and a post-concert tea event with Phoenix Symphony musicians. Tickets start at \$500 per person. phoenixsymphony.org

TUESDAY 10/15

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

6 p.m. at the Scottsdale Public Library, 3839 N. Drinkwater Blvd. This month’s Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable will host Dr. Thomas Cutrer, who will lecture on the 1864 Red River Campaign – an important part of Arizona’s history. Doors open at 5 p.m. for meeting the speaker, book sale, and viewing Civil War videos. This event is free. scottsdalecwr.org

THURSDAY 10/17

Rhythm of Well-Being Community Concert

7 p.m. at the Orpheum Theatre, 203 W. Adams St., Phoenix. This inaugural event will host an evening of music by national and local entertainers and celebrity guests (Vivica A. Fox will be there!) while spotlighting the importance of mental health. Guests can join in the VIP reception at 6 p.m. for cocktails and small bites. Tickets start at \$25-\$100. equalityhealthfoundation.org

Evening of Hope Gala

6 p.m. at 6301 E. Mariposa St., Scottsdale. Evening of Hope is an opportunity to join trauma survivors, supporters and representatives from the community for food, fellowship and fun. This year, inspirational speaker Ron Blake will take the stage to share stories of success that came from the darkness of PTSD. The event also includes an auction. Attendance is free but registration is required. courageoussurvivors.org

FRIDAY 10/18

Silver and Turquoise Ball

5:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Downtown Phoenix, 340 N. 3rd St. This year marks 41 for the event and 77 for the Phoenix Indian Center – time to celebrate! This evening’s theme is “Elevating Indigeneity

–Community, Culture & Commerce.” Guests will find a silent and live auction (with art, jewelry and gifts from local businesses up for grabs), an American Indian-inspired dinner and cultural entertainment. General admission tickets are \$275. phxindcenter.org

SATURDAY 10/19

Bold Brush Student Showcase

12-5 p.m. at Art One Gallery, 4130 N. Marshall Way, Scottsdale. The inaugural Bold Brush Student Showcase, a juried art exhibition that celebrates the talents of high school and college students, happens today. Students will earn awards and monetary grants for their work. Art One Foundation will provide each participating student with a gift card for supplies and a canvas for their work. All pieces will be available for sale during the event. artonegalleryinc.com

SAT. 10/19 – SUNDAY 10/20

Italian Festival

11 a.m.-9 p.m. at the Scottsdale Waterfront Plaza, 7135 E. Camelback Road. Bring out the Italian in you and head to the ninth annual Phoenix Italian Festival. Guests will experience live music, including opera and other performances, a handcrafted vendor market, authentic food vendors, face painting

for kids and other family-friendly activities. General admission is \$25, VIP packages (including wine tasting tickets) are \$65. italianassociation.org

Taco Fest

11 a.m. at Salt River Fields, 7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. The second annual Taco Fest will bring together over 40 of Arizona’s taco makers slinging all the taco goodness, along with agave spirit artisans and small businesses to create two days of food and fun. There will be tequila and mezcal tastings, live music and art, activities for kids and more. Tickets are \$15-\$100. tacofestaz.com

WEDNESDAY 10/23

War of the Worlds

6:30 p.m. at Heritage Square Pavilion, 113 N. 6th St., Phoenix. A martian invasion is taking over the world – starting right here in our neighborhood. The Phoenix Art Deco Society presents a live show of the 1938 radio broadcast “War of the Worlds.” Audiences will listen in on the news while a live big band accompaniment plays. Guests will also find a dance floor, drink service, and vintage car show. Tickets range from \$35-\$350. phoenixartdeco.org

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WHAT'S HAPPENING, ARCADIA?

FRIDAY 10/25 – SUNDAY 10/27

Balloon Spooktacular

5-9 p.m. at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, 7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. Dress up in your Halloween costume and head to Salt River Fields to witness more than 20 hot air balloons on display handing out 4,000 pounds of candy. There will be live music, food and drinks, activities, a haunted trail, a costume contest and a fireworks display to cap off the night. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$17 for kids.

azspooktacular.com

FRIDAY 10/25 – SUNDAY 10/27

Waterfront Fine Art & Wine Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Scottsdale Waterfront, 7135 E. Camelback Road. Head down to Old Town for the annual Waterfront Fine Art and Wine Festival. More than 100 juried fine artists will be on-site showcasing their masterpieces, from sculptures to paintings to photography and everything in between. Grab a glass of wine and enjoy live music while you browse. Admission is \$5; \$15 for wine tickets and a souvenir glass.

thunderbirdartists.com

SATURDAY 10/26

Will Your Wings Debut

10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Cave + Post Trading Co., 509 W. McDowell Road, Phoenix. Red Wing Shoes will debut their new “Will Your Wings” campaign at Cave + Post Trading Co. today. During the event, Cave + Post will give out a \$50 store gift card (to be used at a future date) and Red Wing Tote Bag with

the purchase of any Red Wing boot. There will also be live music, a whiskey tasting and special fall releases.

caveandpost.com

Fiesta de Muertos

12 p.m. at the Scottsdale Civic Center, 3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd. Part of the eighth annual Scottsdale Dia de los Muertos Fiestas, the Fiesta de Muertos invites attendees to delve into the rich cultural traditions of this celebration through musical performances and presentations. Food, arts and crafts booths and merchants will also be on-site. This event is free and family-friendly.

scottsdaleiadelosmuertos.com

SUNDAY 10/27

Yes Day for Autism

9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Tempe Beach Park, 80 W. Rio Salado Pkwy. Join Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center for YES Day for Autism. Guests can revel in a family-friendly fundraising event that includes a one-mile walk, resource fair, carnival and kid’s zone, live entertainment, games and activities, a pumpkin patch, plus food trucks and drinks for purchase. This event is free but registration is required.

autismcenter.org

WEDNESDAY 10/30

An InspirED Evening

6 p.m. at the J.W. Marriott Camelback Inn, 5402 E. Lincoln Dr., Scottsdale. An InspirED Evening will bring together community leaders, businesses, organizations and individuals to honor and celebrate those making an impact on education and attainment in Arizona. The evening will consist of dinner,



Fiesta de Muertos at the Scottsdale Civic Center.

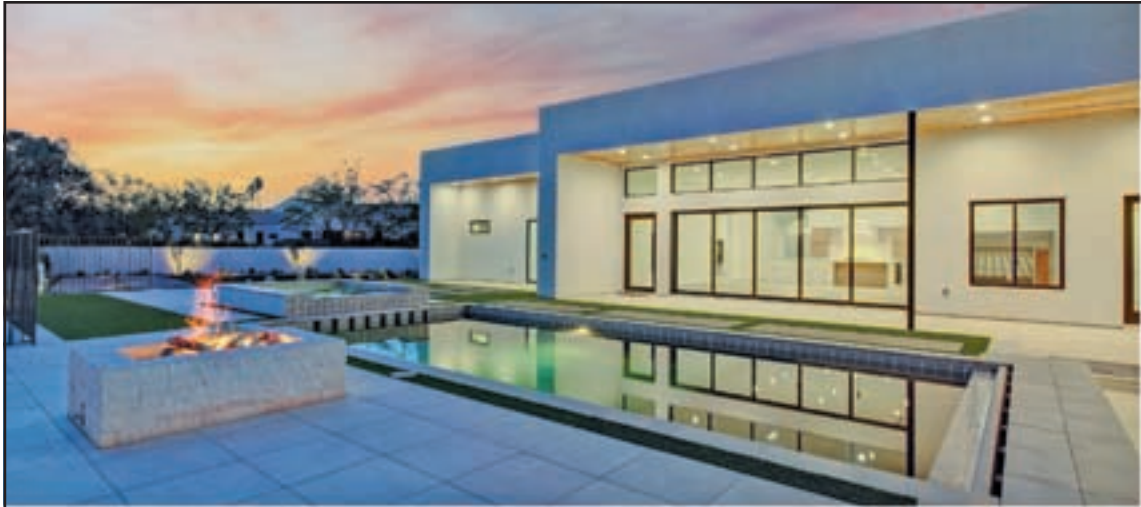
awards, speakers and videos. Proceeds will benefit Education Forward Arizona. Registration prices vary.

educationforwardarizona.org

Tianyu Lights Festival

5:30 p.m. at Camelback Ranch, 10710 W. Camelback Road, Phoenix. The Tianyu Lights Festival is a nighttime walk-through experience that brings nature and art together. Open to all ages, the festival boasts more than 40 sets of lantern sculptures crafted by artisans using metal, steel, fabric and LED lights. The walk-through experience has four themed sections. There’s also a marketplace and a food court. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$18 for kids.

tianyuculture.us



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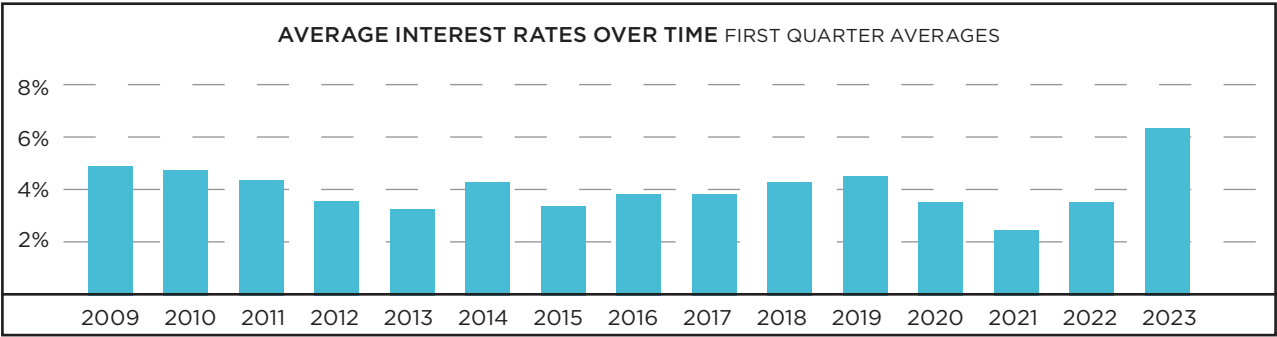


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Interest Rates Just Hit a 1-Year Low

Here is everything you need to know about how today's rates will impact our local market....



According to the Federal Reserve, interest rates peaked exactly a year ago when the average 30 year fixed mortgage hit 7.79%. Today, rates are down to an average of 6.2%. For perspective, this makes a loan of \$1,000,000 almost \$1,100 cheaper per month!

In Arcadia Proper, changes in interest rates don't significantly affect the market. Over the past year, approximately 60% of the 86 sales were closed using cash. The average sales price in Arcadia Proper is now over \$3,200,000 so the average buyer in this luxury market is driven more by an increase in wealth changes such as the stock market, business environment, and other high net worth events.

In Arcadia Lite, the average sales price over the past year was around \$1,600,000. This segment of the market benefits greatly from reduced rates as more buyers rely on mortgages to complete their home purchase. Every 1% reduction in rate is the equivalent of about \$800 per month or about 10% of their monthly payment (if using \$1,280,000 loan amount which is 80% of average price of \$1,600,000.)

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Tucker Blalock

*P.S- We are an official sponsor of the locally inspired Dreamy Draw Music Festival coming up on November 1st and 2nd.
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SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 2

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PAUL CAUTHEN
MOLLY TUTTLE & GOLDEN HIGHWAY



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SATURDAY 10/5

Monster Jam

7 p.m. at State Farm Stadium, 1 Cardinals Dr., Glendale. Heated rivalries, high-flying stunts and head-to-head battles happen at Monster Jam. This afternoon’s event will also debut four Marvel Monster Jam trucks: The Amazing Spider-Man, Iron Man, Black Panther and Thor will face off against fan favorites in freestyle, skills and racing competitions. Don’t forget the pit party, where attendees can meet the drivers and see trucks up close. Tickets start at \$25.
monsterjam.com

Phoenix Children’s 5K

7:30 a.m. at Salt River Fields, 7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. This 3.1-mile event invites friends and families to join in running, jogging and walking to support life changing causes and FUNdraise for Phoenix Children’s Hospital. There will also be a kid’s dash for the youngsters. All proceeds and donations will help PCH provide care to patients. Registration is \$60 for adults, \$15 for kids.
phoenixchildrens5k.raisely.com

Mariachi and Folklorico Festival

7 p.m. at the Chandler Center for the Arts, 250 N. Arizona Ave. This concert is back for its 25th anniversary, and will have guests out of their seats and dancing to the music of Pepe Martinez, Jr. and Miguel Barron Gigio from Mariachi Vargas, Steve Carrillo of Mariachi Cobre, Juan Rodriguez from Mariachi Los Comperos, and Leyendas del Mariachi. Tickets start at \$48, with VIP including a reception, tequila tasting and meet-and-greet for \$88.
chandlercenter.org

Flagstaff Oktoberfest

10 a.m.-9 p.m. at Wheeler Park, 212 W. Aspen Ave., Flagstaff. If you’re looking for a festival with potentially cooler temperatures, head to Flagstaff’s annual Oktoberfest. There will be costumes, live polka music, dancing, pretzels, bratwurst, eating and stein-holding



Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships at WestWorld.

contests, and plenty of brews. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and 12 and under get in free.
flagstaffoktoberfest.com

TUESDAY 10/8

Ghosts and Gunslingers of the Wild West

7 p.m. starting at 6th St. and E. Allen St., Tombstone. Perfect for history buffs and fans of the supernatural, this immersive experience takes guests deep into the heart of Tombstone. Local experts will guide explorers to the most haunted spots in town, where notorious outlaws, lawmen, and fateful gunfights left their mark on history. Tickets start at \$25.
tombstoneterrors.com

WED. 10/9 – SUN. 10/13

Prescott Plein Air Art Festival

Time and locations vary. This annual festival showcases 19 artists who will paint at various locations around Prescott while attendees witness and interact. There will be pre-festival workshops and sales at Yavapai College Gallery, artist demos, and a post-exhibit ticketed reception and art sale at

the college’s Performing Arts Center and the Yavapai College Prescott Art Gallery at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday.
highlandscenter.org

FRIDAY 10/11 – SATURDAY 10/12

Route 66 Fest

2 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday at Lewis Kingman Park, 2201 E. Andy Devine Ave., Kingman. The fourth annual Route 66 celebrates all things – you guessed it – Route 66. Families and friends of all ages can check out live music, The Queen of the Mother Road pin up contest, a road sign graffiti contest, food and art vendors, a classic car show and activity zones with inflatables and train rides. This event is free.
66fest.com

SATURDAY 10/12

Monster Mash and Dash

7:30 a.m. starting at Tortoise & Hare Sports 17570 N. 75th Ave., Glendale. It’s a Halloween-themed ‘marathon’! Grab your team, dress in your costume and get ready to run through the haunted course. There will also be games and activities, and no October event is complete without lots of treats. Proceeds from the event will go toward Maggie’s Place. Registration is \$25 per person.
tortoiseandharesports.com

SUNDAY 10/13

Bikers for Boobies

10 a.m., starting at J&P Cycles, 8606 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale. Arizona-based charity Bikers for Boobies will hold its 15th and final annual motorcycle event for breast cancer awareness. Guests will find live music, raffle prizes, a silent auction, vendors and food for purchase. Then, hop on your bike to end the night with an outdoor party at Roadrunner Restaurant & Saloon. Registration is \$30 per person; this is a 21+ event.
bikers4boobiesaz.org

SATURDAY 10/19

Desert Foothills Book Festival

10 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Holland Center, 34250 N. 60th St., Scottsdale. This festival is for book lovers of all ages. Guests will have the opportunity to meet over 70 published authors – fiction, non-fiction, children’s books, romance – you name it, it’ll be here. There will also be door prizes and a raffle. This event is free, but donations are welcome.
desertfoothillsbookfestival.com

WEDNESDAY 10/23

With One Voice Breakfast

7:30 a.m. at The Farm at South Mountain, 6106 S. 32nd St., Phoenix. Hosted by A New Leaf, this event raises awareness and support for survivors of domestic violence. Guests are treated to breakfast while participating in a hands-on activity and also hearing from keynote speaker and bestselling author Leslie Morgan Steiner. Attendance is free, but registration is required and donations are welcome.
turnanewleaf.org

SATURDAY 10/26

Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships

10 a.m. at WestWorld, 16601 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale. The most attended polo event in the country is back with all new added events: a night polo game, more VIP ticket options including a Dinner Under the Stars upgrade, live music and performances, human and canine fashion shows, a car show, DJs, food and an all-around good time. General admission starts at \$45.
thepoloparty.com

SATURDAY 10/26 – SUNDAY 10/27

Fine Art and Wine Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Kierland Commons, 15205 N. Kierland Blvd., Scottsdale. Main Street will have the vino flowing at this second annual event. Guests will find over 150 world-class artists showcasing their wares in an outdoor gallery, plus 16 of the region’s best wineries pouring more than 150 wines, and live entertainment. Wine-tasting tickets, which include a commemorative glass, are available for \$30-\$35. Admission is free.
kierlandcommons.com

THURSDAY 10/31

Halloween Town

4 p.m. at 2209 N. 99th Ave., Phoenix or 4500 E. Orchid Lane, Gilbert. Halloween Town will offer an array of activities for all ages this Hallows Eve, from carnival rides and games, a hay maze, kid’s activities, face-painting, a pick-your-own pumpkin patch and plenty of spots for photo ops! Tickets are \$7 per person.
halloweentownaz.com

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How'd you get that name?

Several Arizona towns and cities have been named under unusual circumstances. Show Low and Sierra Vista are two prime examples.

Back in 1954, the community now known as Sierra Vista was little more than low income housing that surrounded and served Fort Huachuca. Although there wasn't much there, the residents decided to incorporate, so a group formed, met and set the wheels in motion. They took out petitions, got the necessary signatures and asked the state legislature for approval.



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 few had wanted either of those so the committee asked the citizenry to submit more appropriate suggestions.

The most submitted name would be declared the winner. Included on the list were Buena, Garden City and Nola

Walker's favorite, Sierra Vista. Walker was a 33-year-old housewife at the time and she said the name came to her as she looked at the Huachuca Mountains to the south.

Because there were no city offices, the woman who served as community clerk had to use the trunk of her car to store the ballots. Worried that they might get lost, she asked Nola Walker to keep them in her home.

A little while later, a man representing the soon-to-be-named-city called Mrs. Walker from Phoenix and said the incorporation had been approved. But,



In a downtown park in Show Low, two old bronze cowboys play an eternal card game.

he added, they needed the new name right away.

Without hesitation, Mrs. Walker replied, "It's Sierra Vista." Assuming that Sierra Vista had been the popular choice, the officials in charge dutifully applied it to the new city.

Years later, however, Mrs. Walker revealed what had actually happened: "I put those cards (ballots) into a drawer and forgot all about them," she told me in 2006, while recalling the incident during the city's 50th anniversary celebration. "When they told me they needed the name right away, I said it was Sierra Vista. Then I took

those cards and threw them in the trash. I never even looked at them."

So even today, nobody knows for sure which name actually won the contest. But the residents have forgiven, even thanked, Nola Walker. She was awarded a Certificate of Forgiveness during the 2006 festivities and she rode on a parade float declaring her "The Woman Who Named Sierra Vista."

In a downtown park in Show Low, two old bronze cowboys play an eternal card game as a perpetual reminder that the community got its name from a gambling incident.

It was back in the late 1800s. Marion Clark and Corydon E. Cooley were partners who operated a 100,000-acre ranch. But they had a falling out and decided to dissolve their partnership with a card game called Seven Up. Under the rules of the game, the winner would buy out the loser. According to local lore, the game went on through the night, and on the last hand, Clark allegedly said, "You show low and you win."

Cooley cut the deck and came up with the two of clubs, thus winning the game and the option to buy the land that eventually became Show Low. In recognition of the event, the town's main street had been named Deuce of Clubs, while two other thoroughfares bear the names of Cooley and Clark.

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GREEK Festival

63RD ANNUAL

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SATURDAY
OCTOBER 12
11am - 10pm

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 13
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phoenixgreekfestival.org

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Golden Keys, designed in 1964 by architect Ralph Haver, is an iconic resort style adult community in the heart of Scottsdale. This light & airy home with an oversized front arched window has been upgraded & meticulously maintained. With magnificent views of Camelback Mountain, Travertine 16in flooring, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, vaulted ceilings, plantation shutters, upgraded baths with high cabinets, custom sinks, & extended closets! The primary BR is on the lower level with a private BA. French doors open to the expansive covered back patio where you'll enjoy your morning coffee or host the perfect party! Steps away from Old Town, Fashion Square & award-winning restaurants. Amazing community with great neighbors.

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Photo by: Gus Mejia

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OLDTOWNSCOTTSDALEAZ.COM



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6216north38thplace.com



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4615royalpalm.com



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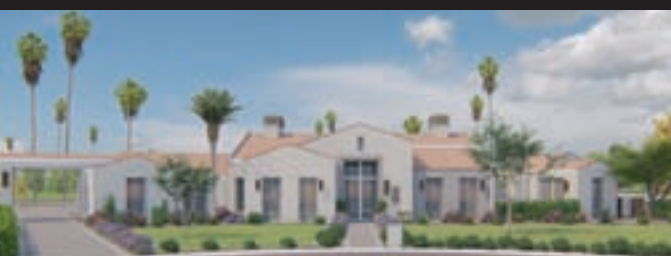
JUST SOLD \$6,595,000 4545 North Launfal
5 bedrooms, 6 baths, 5,630 square feet
4545launfal.com



JUST SOLD \$3,595,000 7130 East Caballo Circle
7 bedrooms, 10 baths, 7,382 square feet
7130caballo.com



JUST SOLD \$2,405,000 3713 East Camelback
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3713camelback.com



SALE PENDING CALL FOR PRICING 8436 North Golf Drive
6 bedrooms, 7 baths, 8,216 square feet



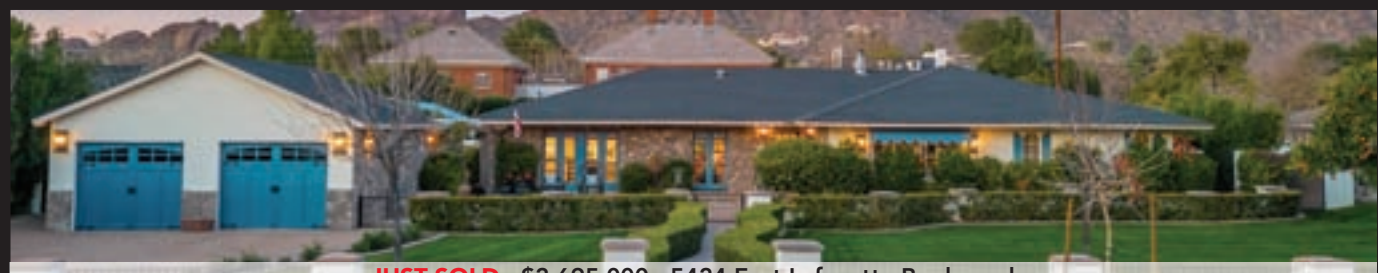
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\$3,850,000 4615 North 61st Place
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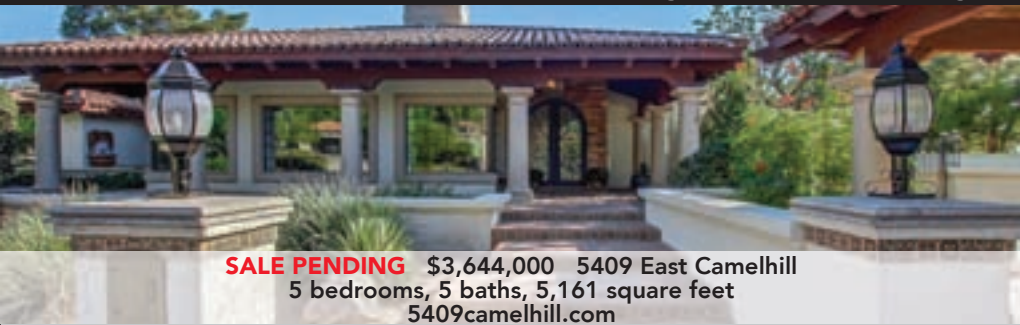
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5409mcdonald.com



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8200northcharles.com



\$5,795,000 6601 North Mountain View Drive
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6601mountainview.com



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4415arcadialane.com



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\$7,995,000 6737 East Exeter
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6737exeter.com



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Oldtown5.com



\$2,274,000 221 East 14th Street
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221east14thstreet.com



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8648onyx.com



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In the Kitchen

with **Chef Bernie Kantak**, owner of The Gladly

2201 E. Camelback Road • thegladly.com

With three popular restaurants operating in the Valley, it's clear that when Chef Bernie Kantak decides to do something, he sticks with it and does everything he can to make the experience enjoyable for all. Before opening The Gladly, Citizen Public House and Beginner's Luck, Kantak was an art student that grew up in New York, who had no idea that owning a restaurant was in his very successful future.

Give us a little insight into your upbringing.

I was born and raised in Syracuse, New York. My grandfather on my dad's side was a German butcher shop owner and he did everything in the shop and market. His brother had a restaurant and bowling alley next door. My grandmother on my mom's side lived in Ohio and ran a reception hall in a church. She's Hungarian and all the food she made was Hungarian, like chicken paprikash and stuffed cabbage. When I would visit my grandmother I'd go to church with her and watch all the crazy old Hungarian ladies making all these different foods. I washed dishes in the church kitchen when I was nine. Don't worry, there wasn't any kind of child labor going on [laughs].

How did you get involved in the restaurant industry?

After I graduated college, I moved to Phoenix [in 1995] to attend Scottsdale Culinary Institute. My first real job was at an old Italian restaurant in Syracuse. I did dishes, prep cooked, line cooked, served, bartended... you name it, I've done it. That was my job through high school and college. I attended SUNY Cortland in New York and got a degree in sculpture.

Wait...sculpture?

When I got to college, I had no idea what I wanted to do – like everybody else. My advisor was the sculpture professor, and he told me to take an easy class. 'You're going to have to take an art class before you graduate,' he said. I never really enjoyed art after elementary school because it felt like I was being told what to do, so I didn't take any classes until senior year of high school.

As a senior, I took 3D Art and the first day of class the teacher showed us where everything was and said 'here's everything – do something and you'll pass.' I jumped on a pottery wheel and it came naturally to me. It's therapeutic, the way the mud slips through your fingers.

I found myself skipping other classes to go in there. My freshman year of college I took a ceramics class. At some point I'd like to semi-retire and make plates and stuff like that. Right now I have too much going on [laughs].

After college, you ended up at culinary school?

Both of my sisters live in New York – one was in Brooklyn and one in Manhattan at the time. My plan was to work at a restaurant in Phoenix for a year, save up some money, go back and work in New York City. There or San Francisco, Chicago – somewhere with an amazing food culture. I was completely broke so I went to work for Peter and Marianne at Cowboy Ciao, and they gave me an opportunity to take over the kitchen.

I was like, 'I have no idea what I'm doing,' but I really loved what they were doing and a lot of what Marianne and Peter taught me was that it's all about making people happy – whether its guests, or your teammates, it should be something enjoyable.

I started at Cowboy Ciao right out of culinary school. I forget how long I was there before we opened Kazimierz and I would jump back and forth between the two, which was easy because they were right next to each other. I was with Peter for 12 years.

Was there a lightbulb moment where you went, 'I want to open my own place'?

Kind of. I didn't want to deal with all the things an owner deals with, but I was already dealing with all of those things without reaping the benefits so I figured it was time to do my own thing.

You have a partner in the restaurants, yes?

Yes! My partner, Andrew Fritz, was also at Cowboy Ciao when the idea came up to do my own thing. I'm not a front of the house person, I know nothing about it – I mean, I can go talk to a table, but there's lanes that I believe people should stay in. Andrew is amazing at the things he does and I'm pretty good at the things I do. We work well together.

How would you describe the cuisine at your restaurants?

Well-traveled comfort food. The most popular item is the OG Chopped Salad, by 100-fold. It's insane how many of those we sell. The Gladly and Citizen share



three plates – the salad, a scallop dish with roasted corn grits, snow pea leaves, bacon and a little cola gastrique and espresso short ribs with parsnip purée and cherry BBQ sauce – those are really, really good.

What makes The Gladly different from Citizen Public House?

I like to explain Citizen as a little more 'me.' It's been around a long time, I've been around a long time, it's a little more casual. Gladly is more like Andrew – he's a little younger, definitely more hip, he's always dressed very nicely and presents himself well, while I'm a little more artsy.

Where do you find inspiration for the dishes?

Life, honestly. A lot of what I'm doing right now is based on my experiences. There's a dish at Beginner's Luck called My Rich Uncle's French Toast. My uncle used to take me for breakfast on Thanksgiving morning when I was little and one year, he said 'let's make everyone breakfast,' and he taught me how to make French toast.

You know those friends that give you a hug and you're like 'thanks, buddy,' and then there's others that you don't want to let go of? That's what I'm trying to do with food. I'm taking comfort food to a more intimate level.

What's the story behind the names?

Andrew named all three of them. Citizen Public House – I think he was on a hike with Chris Lingua, who owns Sauvage Wine Bar, and came up with the name after we came up with the concept.

You know the advisories that are put on menus for undercooked or raw foods? We like to add a line... 'we will gladly accommodate...' And that encompasses our approach to hospitality. We'll bend over backwards for you if it makes sense – and sometimes if it doesn't.

Beginner's Luck came about after a cocktail from Gladly that Andrew named. We had a bartender and it was the first drink they put out and Andrew went 'Hmm, Beginner's Luck!' We decided to turn that restaurant into a brunch-type place to start your day or night off. I couldn't tell you what that original drink had in it [laughs].

Tell us about your awards and accolades.

Oh, jeez! I don't even remember them all. James Beard semifinalist 2017; lots of 'best new restaurant' – we had a hat-tip in *Esquire* for best new restaurant, honorable mention. These awards are mind-boggling. I had a friend text me congratulations and I said 'Thanks! For what?' and she sent me a screenshot of the

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“Meet Mr.” | *Ray Arsigne*

Ken Bonham

Ken Bonham likes to think he’s got it made in the shade. And why not, as he and his wife, Tiffany, own multiple Budget Blinds franchises that serve most of the Valley.

“You could say that we have the city covered, but that comes off as a corny pun,” Bonham laughed.

In a more serious tone, the 44-year-old entrepreneur says Arcadia is the neighborhood that he and his employees most enjoy serving.

“The people are so genuine. They know what they want, and they appreciate quality products,” he said.

Before getting into the window covering business, Bonham owned several marketing firms, and admits that he sometimes wishes that the Budget Blinds brand wasn’t so named.

“Our window covering products run the gamut and we can provide anything that even the most discriminating homeowner may want,” he said.

Bonham and his sister and brother grew up in Trenton, Michigan – the fourth generation of Bonhams living in that south Detroit suburb. He found his way to Arizona to attend ASU, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in secondary education.

“I started working when I was very young, first in a

flower shop, and then other odd jobs. I saved up money to pay for college,” Bonham said.

Bonham is a big sports fan and his greatest love is hockey. He first started skating at the age of two – his older brother played hockey and his sister figure skated, all while they were babysitting him.

“All I ever knew was being in the ice rink, and I was officiating hockey games by the time I was 15. The minimum wage was \$4.25 an hour and so I made \$10 a game. It was a no-brainer,” he said.

He officiated hockey games for 26 years – 16 at the professional level – before retiring in 2021. He says he learned many valuable lessons as a referee and may one day write a book.

“Being a successful official in any sport is extremely difficult. You are managing time, people and unforeseen situations. I have carried a lot of the lessons learned on the ice into my professional and personal life,” he said.

Bonham considers himself a master networker, so it’s little wonder that he met his wife at a political networking event. They stayed in touch but didn’t start dating until 10 years later.

“Tiffany lived elsewhere but when the pandemic introduced the world to working remotely, she was able to move here and still keep her job,” Bonham said.

“And today we have a beautiful baby daughter.”

After considering other areas of town, they chose to live in Arcadia.

“Arcadia has it all; family-friendly environment, great location, quality schools and it’s close to our friends,” Bonham said.

These days, he’s exchanged ice skates for golf clubs and plays whenever he can. Like most everything he has done, he excels at the game, sporting a 7 handicap.

“I’m not playing as often as I used to, now that I’m a



father, but I’m not complaining because having a family is my proudest achievement.”

His advice for Gen Z and those who follow is about who you associate yourself with:

“No matter who you are or where you came from, you can always choose who you surround yourself with,” he said, “and those people will play a big part in who you become.”

“No matter who you are or where you came from, you can always choose who you surround yourself with.”

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Arcadia Little League triumphs in championship season

By Catherine Alaimo

Arcadia Little League (ALL) captured an All-State Title, a third-place finish, and six district titles in the Arizona Little League Baseball and Softball tournaments to conclude a banner season in 2024.

In July, the 11U boys' all-star baseball team defeated Tucson's Rincon Little League team 3-2 to win ALL's second-ever state championship since the league's establishment in 1957.

The girls' all-star softball team placed third in the state after they narrowly lost to Tucson's Willcox team, which went ahead to compete in the Junior Softball West Regional tournament and secured a coveted spot at the Little League World Series. All but one of the league's teams across the majors, minors, AAA, and varsity levels took first in the District 6 Championships to earn their qualifications for state.

President Mike Ord, who coached the 8-9-10 minors' baseball team to the district's historic first state title in 2021, said the teams' performances reflect the strength and commitment of ALL's players, coaches and parents.

“To win two state championships at different age levels within three years is a huge accomplishment for the league. I think it speaks to the level of dedication our kids and coaches are putting into their baseball and softball experiences,” Ord said.

Danny Openden, who coached the 9-11-year-old boys' all-stars, said winning the state tournament was especially rewarding for his team after Rincon beat them with a devastating 12-1 score at the state championship game last year. However, 10 out of 12 players from last year's team returned this summer, eager for a second chance to prove themselves.

At the first practice in May, the team set three goals: to win the district championship, beat Rincon, and win the state



Max Sapik, Liam Voris, Cole Luepker, Jack Harvey, Olly Fouts, Chase Amundson, Beau McCray, Will Clancey, Walker Freckmann, Keaton Hancock and Cody Openden.

tournament. Players recited these goals at the beginning of each practice to ensure they maintained their focus.

The team achieved all three, winning the district tournament and advancing to state for their rematch with Rincon, ultimately emerging triumphant. The game was close, with neither team scoring in the first and second innings.

Liam Voris broke the standstill by scoring two runs in the third. Boosted by encouraging words from catcher Cody Openden, pitcher Max Sapik struck out Rincon's batter in the last play of the game, sealing Arcadia's victory.

Coach Openden, who grew up playing Little League, told his team that learning to set goals and stick to them is an important skill that extends beyond playing baseball.

"After the game I said, 'Look, this is what happens not just in baseball, but in life. You set your goals, you set them

high and you work hard to achieve them – and look what happens,” he said.

Ord said one of the key factors in the league's success is the support of the players' families, who commit to staying in Phoenix all summer so their children can practice.

"It's an immense amount of sacrifice and dedication to be successful at the state level. These families go without vacations or summer camps or really anything else because it dominates plans for the whole family," he said.

Ord said ALL is “the biggest entity that touches the most families” in Arcadia, with a record number of more than 1,000 local kids under 12 participating in the league this year.

Over 100 Arcadia fans drove to Lake View Park in Maricopa to cheer on Openden's team at the championship. He said this demonstrates the community spirit he feels is essential to ALL.

"Arcadia Little League just does such a good job of bringing people together and rounding up support for one another," he said.

Next year, Openden hopes to rally his players to return, aiming to win state once more. If they repeat their victory, they will be of age to compete in the West Regional Tournament and have a chance to play in the World Series.

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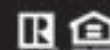


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Scottsdale Poet Laureate celebrates community and fellowship

By Sherry Sklar

Lois Roma-Deeley, Scottsdale's Poet Laureate, has long brought the art form to life in her community. Known for her evocative writing and commitment to arts and education, she was recently awarded a \$50,000 fellowship from the Academy of American Poets. This recognition celebrates her work as a poet and advocate for fostering a more profound connection in Scottsdale and beyond.

Founded in 1934, the Academy of American Poets is a leading organization supporting and promoting poetry across the United States. Its mission is to help poets at every stage of their careers while fostering a broader appreciation for the arts.

Roma-Deeley is the author of six collections, the latest of which, "Waiting for The Mercy Ship," will be published by Broadstone Books in 2025. Her poem "Wild Horses Drink from the River of History" features a profound encounter with the wild mustangs of Saguaro Lake and was featured in the Academy's Poem-a-Day series in 2022, reaching more than 300,000 readers.

She was surprised to be selected alongside 21 others for the honor and was one of the fellows chosen to attend the Library of Congress National Book Festival. Tens of thousands participated in the conference this August, which featured best-selling authors, poets and illustrators.

"I was stunned to be chosen, and the experience was amazing," she said. "Our group had an opportunity to meet the National Endowment of the Arts staff, and I read my poem to attendees. I'm still trying to process it!"

Roma-Deeley plans to use the fellowship to highlight poetry in ways that might otherwise be overlooked. She sees an opportunity to connect the community and advocates finding inspiration in our desert nature. She finds that people have misconceptions about poetry and are not taught to enjoy it properly.

"Scottsdale is like a poem in the making. I mean, we have these remarkable landscapes. Even the names of our flowers and bushes are lyrical," she said. "I would love poetry to be taught in our schools on a much broader scale. This fellowship will help me teach people how to listen and respond because you must hear it to read it properly."

Denise Levertov wrote a book of essays



Lois Roma-Deeley was awarded a \$50,000 fellowship from the Academy of American Poets.

titled *A Poet in the World* in 1973. In it, she discusses how line breaks and pauses in poetry function like musical notation.

"Without understanding this, readers may miss the significance of pauses or the role of white space, both of which are integral to the poem," Roma-Deeley said.

She encourages emerging poets to immerse themselves in their craft:

"My journey has been imbued with as much wonder and surprise as hard work. My advice to emerging poets is to enjoy the journey and remember that the journey is in the living."

She recommends reading and exploring all kinds, types, and eras of poetry, joining a writer's community, and keeping a journal.

Roma-Deeley feels that deciphering poetry and understanding its form are essential for enjoyment. She compares this to understanding the rules of a game.

"My husband is a big sports fan; though I'm not, he's patient enough to watch and explain the plays with me. After his explanation, I suddenly enjoyed it more," she said. "Poetry is much the same. Once you understand how it works, it becomes far more pleasurable. I hope the poetry festival will be a first step toward fostering that understanding."

Roma-Deeley will lead an upcoming festival called *These Mountains Know My Name: Celebrating Poetry, Identity, and Place*, on Saturday, October 19 at the Indigenous Cultural Center at Scottsdale Community College.

The event will feature a workshop for poets and writers and networking opportunities with local literary organizations. It's free to the public, but admission is limited.

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LEADING WITH HEART

Meet the Arcadia women behind the annual Phoenix Heart Ball

By Mallory Gleich

The 65th annual Phoenix Heart Ball will be held in November at the Phoenician Resort and will celebrate 100 years of the American Heart Association. Attorney, philanthropist and Phoenix Heart Ball Chairman Pamela Risoleo's team of over 100 Valley women includes eight Arcadians who shared with us their reasons "why" they volunteer.

Dr. Ingrid Haas, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology

"I have been a member of the Heart Ball Committee since 2011. I was fortunate enough to serve as vice chair in 2018 and am currently president of the Phoenix Division of the American Heart Association. My 'why' is my father, my husband, and the knowledge, as a physician, of how heart disease impacts all of us in some way."



Kristine Thompson

CEO and Co-Founder of Nini Designs

"I have been honored to serve on the Heart Ball Committee for 20 years, including chairing the 60th Heart Ball in 2019. My 'why' is my grandfather, grandmother, father, and husband who have all dealt with various heart-related issues. Heart disease and strokes touch just about everyone, which is why our committee strives to raise awareness and funding to educate our communities."



Ashlyn Rowe

Philanthropist

"My family and I have been supporters of the Phoenix and Tucson Heart Ball for the last six years. This is my first year as a committee member and I am honored to be a part of such an impactful charity. Unfortunately, heart disease and strokes run through my family tree and friendship circle. I have witnessed the suffering that comes with such catastrophic illness, and it is my mission to continue to drive awareness for our cause to ensure the safety of all. I also strive to instill the same philanthropic heart in my children so that they will one day understand the importance of supporting our mission here at Heart Ball."



Lisa Jaffe

Fitness Professional

"I'm honored to serve on the Heart Ball committee because of my personal connection to heart health. As the wife of a cardiologist, I've seen how heart disease affects people from all backgrounds, and how preventable it often is. My more than 20-year-career as a fitness and Pilates professional, as a preventative measure, further fuels my passion for this cause. I am committed to raising awareness and supporting initiatives that combat heart disease."



Mischelle White

Director of Events, Caretaker
Landscape and Tree Management

"I've been lucky to be part of the Heart Ball Committee since 2020. Over the years, I've helped with the New Guest Cultivation Committee, co-chaired Premier Donor Development, and this year, I'm on the Golf Committee. My 'why' is because heart disease runs in both sides of my family. As I get older, I see how crucial it is to take care of myself so I can be around for my son, husband, family, and friends for as long as possible while supporting the Heart Ball's mission."



Caroline Pricher

V.P. Commercial Real Estate
& Transactional Attorney,
Thrive Services Group

"After attending Heart Ball for many years, I was honored to be invited to the committee and support the mission, which is so dear to my heart. My 'why' is in memory of my best friend's father, who taught me to ski and lived life to the fullest, until he passed suddenly from a heart attack at the age of 52. It is also in celebration of my dad, whose life was saved in 2021 after emergency quintuple bypass surgery, giving my children precious time with their grandpa. I have hope that the AHA's educational and preventative programs will continue to raise awareness and save lives."



Traci Chandler

Owner, Oh, Sugar!
Events + Paperie

"I have had the joy of being part of the Phoenix Heart Ball Committee since 2017. The friendships I have cultivated with the women involved in this remarkable organization are cherished! My 'why' is my precious children. I want them to know that heart health is key to a long and healthy life. Being part of this organization has shown them that if people come together for a cause they believe in, anything is possible. Raising awareness about the importance of taking care of our hearts allows us to share them with our families, friends, and community."



Tracy Flaherty

Business Owner

"After joining the Heart Ball committee in 2015, I have had the pleasure of serving in many different capacities. I enjoy spending time with so many strong and driven women for a cause that is close to my heart. My father had his first open heart surgery at the age of 49 and passed away from a heart attack at 57. My 'why' is to honor my father and to support an organization that fights to offer education and funding to an issue that brings heartbreak to so many families."



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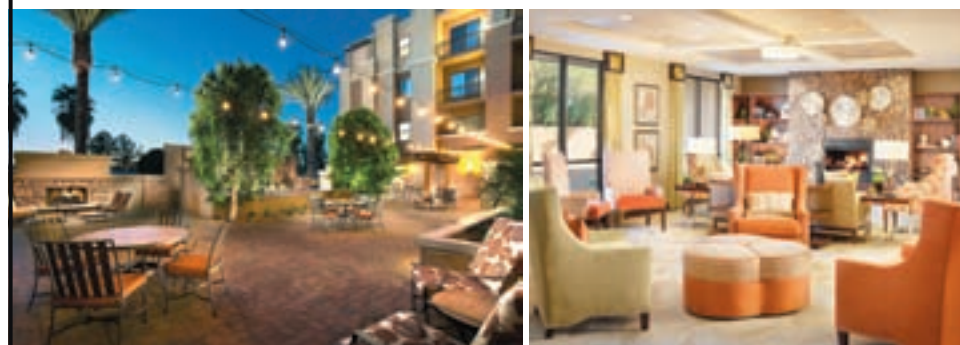


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Arcadia High student and Laws for Paws founder Jordan Sucato.

AHS student honored in *TIME* for Kids Magazine

By Kristen Carli

Jordan Sucato, a passionate animal advocate and founder of the initiative Laws for Paws, was recently named an honoree by *TIME* for Kids. Jordan, who was previously covered in the Arcadia News July edition for her work with Laws for Paws, continues to make waves in her mission to protect animals.

Though she wasn't the ultimate winner, Jordan said being recognized by such a prestigious platform was a highlight in her dedication to animal welfare.

Unlike many who are aware of their journey toward recognition, Jordan's story began with a heartfelt surprise.

"My mom nominated me, but I was unaware she did until we received a phone call saying I had been selected," Jordan said.

Her mother took it upon herself to submit a few paragraphs outlining Jordan's work with Laws for Paws, which led *TIME* to take notice.

The selection process involved several stages, including follow-up questions posed to Jordan's mom by Executive Editor Allison Singer. After much anticipation, the Arcadia High sophomore finally learned of her selection over the summer. The good news was quickly followed by an interview with Allison, solidifying Jordan's place among this year's *TIME* for Kids honorees.

At just fifteen years old, Jordan is



Jordan Sucato

already making a significant impact and garnering national attention for her efforts. The recognition did not involve a formal ceremony, but for Jordan, the honor of being featured in

both *TIME* and *TIME* for Kids magazines is reward enough – and her work is far from over.

With Laws for Paws, Jordan has ambitious plans to continue expanding her efforts to advocate for animals,

particularly on a legislative level. In the meantime, the nonprofit is still collecting dog boots

for the Bear's Boots fundraiser, an ongoing project designed to help dogs in extreme climates by providing them with protective boots.

Her next venture includes partnering with a Boy Scout troop for a new fundraiser, which

Jordan said she is particularly excited about. With her unyielding passion and support from the community, Laws for Paws is poised for significant growth, and Jordan said she is ready to take on whatever challenges come her way.

time.com/jordan-sucato
lawsforpaws.org

“My mom nominated me, but I was unaware she did until we received a phone call saying I had been selected.”

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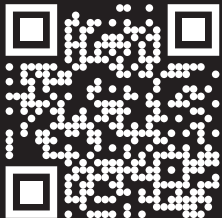
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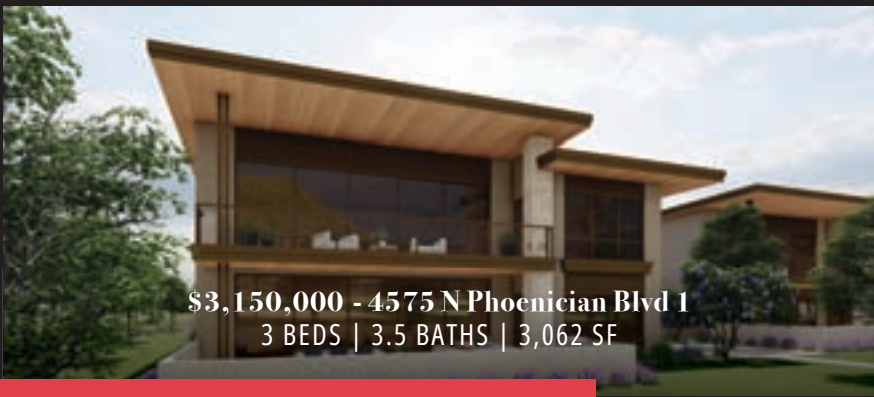
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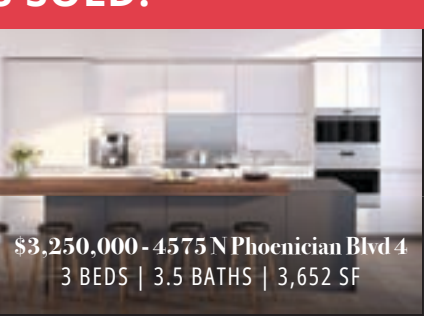
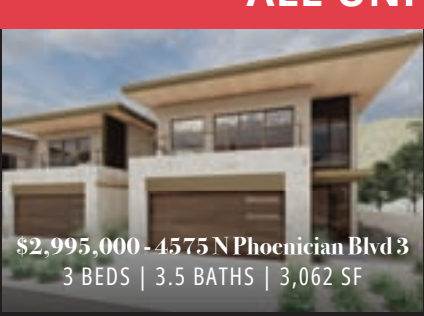
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Unfinished Business captures the Broncos' journey through a season defined by determination, camaraderie, and the drive to finish what they started.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Brophy football is on a quest for redemption

By Sherry Sklar

High school football has moved beyond the field and into the spotlight as the Brophy Broncos take center stage with Unfinished Business, a docu-series on Arizona's Family Sports.

The series captures the Broncos' journey through a season defined by determination, camaraderie, and the drive to finish what they started. With the community rallying behind them, every game becomes more than just football – it's a story waiting to unfold.

Jason Jewell has led the charge as head football coach at Brophy for the past six years and views the series as an opportunity to showcase his players' diverse talents, the football program and the school that helps them shine.

"We have a dynamic, unique group of students and coaches. What excites me most is the opportunity for people to see the diversity, culture, and everything that makes Brophy special," Jewell said.

The Broncos have been on a journey of growth and grit. Two seasons ago, they

struggled through a 3-8 record, but last year, they bounced back with a 10-3 finish and advanced to the state semifinals. Now, with a roster packed with talent and high expectations, they're determined to take things further.

"We have a very talented group of kids," Jewell said. "With the added layer of being on TV, and even the show's title, Unfinished Business, we want to finish what we started last year."

Discussing Brophy's reputation as a private, all-male Jesuit school, Jewell acknowledged that the community's perception doesn't always reflect the school's true diversity and culture.

"Brophy is unique and more than what people might assume. Our students come from various religious beliefs, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds. I want people to see that through this series," he explained.

Jewell's philosophy of caring and accountability is the foundation of his coaching style.

"I care deeply for my guys. I coach them

hard and keep it real. The conversations aren't always what they want to hear, but sometimes it's what they need. I'm tough on them, but I also love and support them every step of the way," he said.

A strong connection and dedication to development set the stage for an unexpected opportunity: television. The idea came about with a simple mistake, when a cameraman left a piece of equipment behind at a Brophy football game.

"Chris Peterson, who's producing the show, was a cameraman for Channel 12 and was shooting a segment in 2019. The Broncos were the team of the week, and he liked the energy around our football team," Jewell said. "After the shoot, he realized he had left his camera battery behind. I had it returned, and we stayed in touch."

In 2021, the pair did a microphone session for part of a game and last year, Chris approached Jewell about Unfinished Business.

"The timing wasn't right in 2021 – I didn't want to rush things – but we spent the next

year putting it together, lining everything up, and now here we are," Jewell said.

Peterson expressed his excitement about collaborating with Jewell and the team and hiring a crew of veterans of local sports journalism to work on the series.

"I've been talking with Jason for a couple of years about this project, and the timing finally felt right. I'm excited because this team is dynamic, with great depth and diversity. It'll be great to showcase the hard work these athletes put into becoming elite players," Peterson said. "I know many of them aspire to play at the next level, and hopefully, this project will shine a light on a few players who might not normally get noticed and provide an opportunity to advance."

This season, the Broncos are set on proving their potential and showing that last year's success was just the beginning. Viewers can watch episodes on Arizona's Family Sports Fridays at 9 p.m. and on Saturdays at noon throughout the season.



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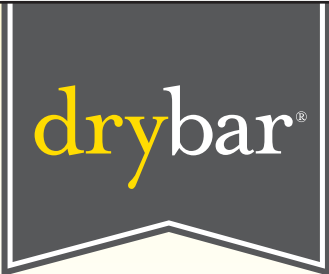


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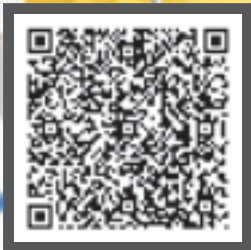
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Hello Arcadia residents,

As we dive into Hispanic Heritage Month, I'm thrilled to celebrate the incredible contributions and traditions that make our community so special. It's a great time to appreciate the vibrant cultures that add so much to our city. I am also excited to introduce a new water conservation incentive that we hope will help everyone save water and protect our environment. Let's make the most of this month and work together towards a sustainable future!

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District6@phoenix.gov

Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed annually from September 15 to October 15, providing a time to honor and celebrate the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans throughout U.S. history and culture. This month-long celebration highlights Hispanic heritage, acknowledging the significant achievements, cultural impact, and historical advancements made by those of Hispanic descent. Phoenix is hosting an array of festivities, and District 6 is the holding the "Guelaguetza" at The Desert Botanical Garden on October 5-6, offering a vibrant showcase of Hispanic culture. By recognizing the diverse experiences and contributions of Hispanic Americans, we gain a deeper appreciation for their vital role in shaping the nation's history and the state of Arizona. This serves as an opportunity to reflect on the many ways Hispanic Americans have enriched the cultural landscape and to celebrate the ongoing influence in various fields, from arts to education.

I also would like to add that our next District 6 Coffee Chat will be on October 25 from 7-9 a.m. at Luci's at the Orchard (7100 N. 12th St., Phoenix). Hope to see you there!

Thank you,

Kevin



Bespoke decor store has FOUND a home in Arcadia

By Jennifer Marshall

There are two things to know about Kristin and Dan Alber. The first is that they love to travel. The second is that they love to help customers find unique décor to accessorize their homes and offices – which is part of the reason why they opened FOUND Arcadia, a home décor shop at 44th St. and Indian School Road.

The Alber family is familiar with entrepreneurship. They owned and operated a store in Mesa called Domestic Bliss before changing lanes and trying out a children's clothing boutique. After a few years, they found their niche in home and design.

“The heart of our business is to create a truly unique and immersive experience for our clients that is special and feels different from other shopping destinations,” Kristin said. “FOUND Arcadia is a culmination of our favorite places and personal experiences.”

The store's aesthetic and products – sourced from all

over the United States and Europe – are inspired by the couple's travels and favorite things. In the store, shoppers can find pieces that complement each room in a home, from barstools to dining tables and chandeliers to outdoor furniture. Mirrors, books, wall art and planters are abundant.

For life's celebrations, the Albers dedicated a portion of the store to gifts: greeting cards, party decorations, packaging and an assortment of jewelry, health and wellness pieces (think candles and lotions), and tote bags.

“In a world where online shopping and mass production dominate, we at FOUND are committed to showcasing the beauty, uniqueness and value of meaningful pieces,” Kristin said. “We want to create a place where you can feel inspired and find something truly special and we are constantly searching for antiques and unique finds for our clients.”



The store features an on-site event space called The PROPER, a separate gathering place for workshops and events put on by Kristen and Dan, such as Mahjong lessons and cake decorating and design classes. Clients can also rent out The PROPER for special occasions.

As the holidays approach, the duo will be offering holiday-themed programs, and when spring rolls around, they plan on hosting a European Flea Market.

FOUND also offers both in-store and full-service design services and has worked with design clients throughout Arizona, Utah, California, Las Vegas, Oregon, and Colorado.

Design packages include partial or full home, new builds and renovations, home styling and holiday/event design.

foundarcadia.com

Veritas hosts inaugural Great Hearts Constitution Day Address

By Carol McNamara, Ph.D.

The Great Hearts Institute partnered with Great Hearts Veritas on September 18, 2024, to host its inaugural Great Hearts Constitution Day Address. Generously supported by the Jack Miller Center, the event was free and open to the public, offering a unique opportunity for the community to engage with important historical conversations that continue to shape our nation's future. Events like this are essential for celebrating Constitution Day, a federal observance commemorating the signing of the United States Constitution.

The study and discussion of the Constitution, the documents and speeches associated with the American Founding throughout American history, have been an integral component of Great Hearts classical education, which seeks to instruct students in the ideas and practices that inform their way of life as participants in American democracy.

In September 1787, the delegates of the Constitutional Convention took the monumental step of signing the document they had drafted during the summer of the Philadelphia Convention. The signatures on that document and the following ratification process were the final steps in creating a constitutional experiment that informed and protected the principles of the United States of America and set a pattern for emerging democracies worldwide.

Andrew Porwancher, a professor at Arizona State University's School



Great Hearts Arizona Superintendent Brandon Crowe with Andrew Porwancher.

of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership, delivered the keynote lecture, “The Constitution: Hidden Truths and Enduring Myths.” As a noted scholar and author, Porwancher focused on debunking several common misconceptions about the Constitution, underscoring the importance of historical accuracy for understanding the document in its proper context.

He pointed out that popular opinion incorrectly holds that the First Amendment in the Bill of Rights appended to the U.S.

Constitution provides for our religious liberty by establishing a wall of separation between church and state. Porwancher explained that while the Constitution does protect pluralistic religious belief and practice, the concept of a wall separating religious institutions and practice from state power actually emerges from an 1802 letter sent by Thomas Jefferson to the Danbury Baptist Association in Connecticut. The concept represents then President Jefferson's interpretation of the U.S. Constitution but

does not reflect the precise wording of the document.

Porwancher similarly explained that the Constitution does not explicitly establish the judiciary's role to review and judge the constitutionality of congressional legislation. Instead, it was the prudent judgment of John Marshall, the first Supreme Court Chief Justice, who avoided a conflict with the newly elected president, Thomas Jefferson, in the famous decision of *Marbury v. Madison*, which he found for the president, but through which he established the power of the Supreme Court as the final arbiter of the constitutionality of legislation.

Following the lecture, a Q&A session moderated by Great Hearts Arizona Superintendent Brandon Crowe allowed attendees to explore the nuanced constitutional issues raised by Porwancher further. Conversations continued during the reception, where guests enjoyed refreshments and lively discussions, deepening their engagement with the event's themes.

Gatherings like this provide us with a designated day to read, teach, and study the Constitution as a means to remind ourselves that government dedicated to the protection of civil rights and liberties, derived from an understanding of human beings as fundamentally equal, is in the long history of the world a relatively new creation, and one that we should not take for granted.



Arcadia teen takes racing dream overseas

By Rachael Bouley

Gio Santora has taken his decade-long go-karting journey across the pond – in August, he attended the F4 FEED Racing Academy at the famous Magny Cours Circuit in France, inspiring his next steps in the racing world.

The 14-year-old AHS freshman has dedicated the last 10 years to go-kart racing. He started at CrackerJax in Scottsdale when he was four and worked his way up through indoor karting, eventually heading to the outdoor tracks.

As a fan of the sport's adrenaline and excitement, Gio is a regular at the raceway and recently moved up to the No. 6 ranking out of over 1.3 million adults at Octane's Adult Pro Skills for indoor karting.

"I've always loved cars and speed, so go-karting seemed like a fun way to start learning how to race," Gio said. "Being on the track is challenging, but it's also a lot of fun competing against other drivers."

In August, he made the most of an incredible opportunity to attend the F4 Feed Racing Academy, where he raced



Gio with competitors Ethan Jeff-Hall from the United Kingdom and Tommie van der Struijs from the Netherlands.

against talented drivers (or pilots, as they are called in Europe) and karting champions from all over the world.

"I learned a lot from the coaches, especially on braking in an F4 race and being strong enough to handle the kart,"

Gio said. "It definitely helped me improve my driving skills."

He did so well at the academy that he scored an invite to the quarter and semifinal races at the end of that month. Gio was the youngest driver in the quarterfinals in August, racing against 15-20-year-old drivers in a F4 car for the first time – and hitting speeds of up to 165 MPH.

"I was super excited and proud of making it that far," he said. "It felt great knowing I had a chance to compete again and potentially win a seat on the French F4 team for 2025."

While he didn't advance, he now has the experience and motivation to return next year. He hopes to carry this momentum into U.S. races this fall, including Super Nationals in Las Vegas. He also looks forward to time at PKRA, his home track in Glendale, and preparing for next year's FEED race at Magny Cours.

"I'm proud of how much I've improved and how I can now race with older, more experienced drivers," Gio said. "Plus, I've made some great friends through racing, and it's given me the confidence to handle situations I'll face in the future."

Gio is eager to continue developing

his skills in F4 racing and karting. He aspires to progress to higher levels of motorsports, such as Formula 3 and international races in the U.S. and Europe. No matter what, Gio said he has the full support of his family, friends, and go-kart champions he's met along the way.

"His commitment to hard work, growth and perseverance, even when facing challenges, has been amazing and is a testament to great coaching over the years," Dad, George, said. "I'm most proud of his dedication and passion for racing at such a young age and how he's handled the pressures of racing, learning to manage complex machines like F4 cars, new environments, and competing internationally."

“I’ve always loved cars and speed, so go-karting seemed like a fun way to start learning how to race.”

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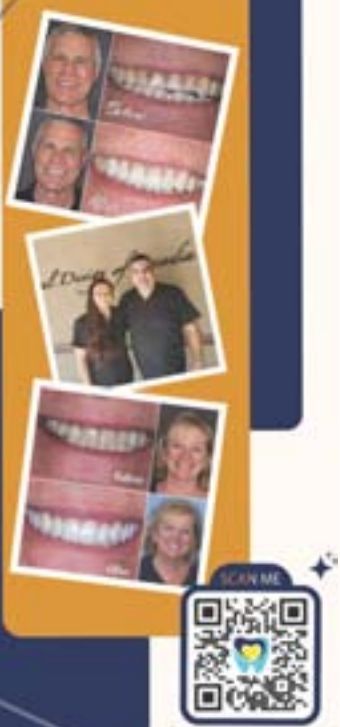
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF JENNIFER PARKS-STURGEON



A jam-packed day of polo and entertainment awaits as the Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships return to Scottsdale later this month.

‘America’s Greatest Polo Party’ returns in October

By Rachael Bouley

The Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships are back and bigger than ever. The event will mark its 13th year on October 26 at WestWorld with an expanded event of five polo matches – three during the day and two at night.

As event founder, owner and producer, Jason Rose was excited to take advantage of the city’s improvement and offer all day polo matches.

“We are always trying to innovate and create new experiences, so even if you’ve been before, there will be something different,” Rose said. “Polo is a beautiful sport to watch. Many people call it horse hockey, as it flows like hockey but with horses going 30 miles an hour. Players can score goals from up to 100 yards away!”

Rose, a graduate of Arcadia High School, was excited to see how the event has grown over the years, thanks to a myriad of things

– but mostly, thanks to community support. It all started when a group of polo players walked into the office of his PR company, asking for help promoting their club.

After witnessing the evolution of major events like the Phoenix Open, Barrett-Jackson and MLB Spring Training, he was inspired to create a similar polo showcase and set out to bring the first championship event to life.

The inaugural Polo Party in 2011 welcomed

about 2,500 partygoers, and it’s gone from strength to strength ever since, bringing in high-profile athletes and celebrities, and support from local businesses.

The 2024 edition will feature matchups between reigning champions Aspen Valley Polo Club (led by America’s top polo star Nic Roldan) and Napa Valley, Arizona Polo Club vs. Wales Polo Team, and Nashville Polo Team vs. Pride World Polo League. New Orleans and Calistoga and Sonoma County and El Paso are also on the docket.

Polo After Dark is made possible by the City of Scottsdale’s recent installation of lights on the polo field, which is roughly three times the size of an American football field.

Whether guests want to attend during the day, at night, or both, there will be lots to explore in addition to the on-field action. Fashion shows, luxury brands, live music, and a car show are all part of the lineup, as is the popular Canine Couture showcase of stylish pooches.

Guests can also catch a lacrosse game between Brophy and Notre Dame, a Valley Youth Theatre show, opera, and other cultural performances. DJ Jai Wolf will headline the day club music with a full roster of musical acts before a sunset concert produced by Relentless Beats.

The whole family is welcome, with general admission tickets starting at \$40 and various VIP packages available. Thanks to the success in Scottsdale, Rose and his team plan on expanding into other markets in 2025.

“Polo is fun to learn and fun to watch, and it’s a great excuse to go out and socialize,” Rose said. “Our secret sauce has been to create a very welcoming environment. Polo is not an exclusive sport, it’s a fun luxury platform everyone can access and enjoy.”

thepoloparty.com

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Andiamo! Let's go to the Italian Festival!

By Lauren Geiser

The sights, sounds and flavors of Italy are coming to Scottsdale as the ninth annual Italian Festival transforms the Waterfront into a vibrant celebration of culture on October 19 and 20.

The event hopes to transport attendees to the bustling city streets and beautiful countryside with food, entertainment and cultural activities. This festival is more than just a celebration – it's a labor of love, according to the folks who put it together.

"This event is organized by the Italian Association of Arizona, a nonprofit with a goal of creating an Italian Cultural Center here in the Valley," Founder and Board Member Dario Soldan said. "Our mission is to share our culture with the community."

Of course, no Italian festival would be complete without food. Guests can expect dishes from local vendors such as Pomo Pizzeria, Mama Lucy, Aroma Culinary and Marcellino Ristorante. Festival goers will be able to savor wood-fired pizzas, homemade pasta, gelato, Italian pastries and more. Hand-made goods like leather bags, clothing and gourmet olive oils will be available for purchase, providing attendees a chance to bring a bit of Italy home.

One of the highlights of this year's festival is the theme: La Strada del Vino, a journey through Italy's most well-known wine regions. Over 30 wines from seven regions of Italy will be available, and attendees will



The ninth annual Italian Festival will boast authentic foods, musicians and entertainers.

receive a wine glass and lanyard with their ticket, allowing them to explore the festival while sampling wines from each region.

"We want to expose people to the diversity of Italian wines and give them a chance to try something they have never tried before," Soldan said.

The festival will also offer a lineup of live performances from Ripalta Bufo, a soprano flown in from Italy, who will headline the main stage. The Ziarella Folk Group,

Santo and Alexa and others will perform traditional dances and songs. There will be cooking demonstrations, plus face painting, balloon artists, games and activities will help keep the little ones entertained.

For anyone on the fence about attending, Soldan has some simple advice: "Be Italian for a day! Come eat, drink, enjoy the music, and experience the culture. It's an opportunity to enjoy the weekend and immerse yourself in everything Italian."

And for Soldan, this festival isn't just about the experience; it's got a personal touch. He recently visited his family in Italy, soaking up the inspiration that will soon be present at the festival.

"Being able to connect with other Italians here in Arizona is like having a little piece of home," he said. "This festival is our way of bringing that to life for everyone."

italianassociation.org

OTHER FOOD FESTIVALS HAPPENING IN OCTOBER:

The **Phoenix Greek Festival** takes place at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral (1973 E. Maryland Ave., Phoenix) on October 11-13. Celebrate Greek culture with authentic cuisine, dancing and live performances, a vendor village, culture and history tours and activities for the kids. Admission is \$5 per person.

phoenixgreekfestival.org

The second annual **Taco Fest** will bring together over 40 of Arizona's taco makers slinging all the deliciousness, along with agave spirit artisans and small businesses to create two days of food and fun. There will be tequila and mezcal tastings, live music and art, activities for kids and more. The festivities take place at Salt River Fields, 7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale on October 19-20. Tickets are \$15-\$100.

tacofestaz.com

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3x3=9

Clara

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Kicking off their senior year...with a fiesta

By Mark Hays

Four football players from the Arcadia area kicked off their seasons with gusto. Not only did they hit the fields with successful first games, but they did so as part of the Fiesta Bowl preseason all-Arizona football team.

Arcadia High senior Gehrig Heil and Brophy seniors Anderson Kopp, Cree Thomas and Logan Powell were honored with the award at a banquet in August.

The team, comprised of 50 of the best football and flag football players in the state, was selected by the Fiesta Bowl Sports Foundation in partnership with the AIA, and based on last year’s production on the field, off-season training, and projections for the 2024 season.

The selection committee included coaches, media, AIA officials, USA Football and Fiesta Sports Foundation representatives who nominated players and determined the winners through several rounds of voting. The team is honorary – meaning it’s not intended to compete as an actual football team with actual games.

In total, 29 boys on tackle football teams and 21 girls on flag football teams were at the celebration, which featured a keynote

speech by 2024 College Football Hall of Fame inductee and former NFL star Larry Fitzgerald, Jr.

Anderson, who has committed to playing football for the University of Kansas after he graduates, said it was an honor to be recognized along with the best players from the state – many of whom were classmates and teammates at some point in his career. He and Gehrig even played Arcadia Little League together in elementary school.

“It was a huge honor to be part of a team with so many other great Arizona high school players,” he said. “My plan for the immediate future is to have an amazing senior season at Brophy with my teammates. Our team has worked extremely hard in the off-season, and we are focused on having a great year, but I am also excited to further my education and athletic career at KU.”

Gehrig echoed the sentiment: “It was an honor to be included among the best players in the state,” he said. “Many of them will be dominant college players, and I wouldn’t be surprised to see some of them on NFL rosters one day.”

Gehrig said he hasn’t decided where to

“My plan for the immediate future is to have an amazing senior season at Brophy with my teammates.”



Former Arizona Cardinals star Larry Fitzgerald Jr. and Anderson Kopp.

attend college yet, but he most certainly plans on continuing his football journey.

“I’m in the middle of the recruiting process and still weighing options about where I’ll play,” he said. “Wherever I go,

I’d like to pursue an education in sports medicine. I’ve been an athlete all my life and I’d like to stay connected to sports by helping others.”

fiestabowl.org

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MacDonald's Ranch



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The Dining Scoop

THIS MONTH: PUMPKIN PATCHES!

In October, pumpkin patches sprout up all over Arizona, offering a fun twist on fall traditions within the desert landscape. Visitors can enjoy classic autumn activities – and what makes the journey even more worth it is the seasonal treats these farms offer, like pumpkin pie, spiced cider, BBQ and chili. Check out what these Arizona farms are offering for spooky season!

MACDONALD'S RANCH
26540 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale
macdonaldsranch.com

MacDonald's Ranch has been a staple in the Scottsdale community since 1956, but it didn't officially open to the public until 1970. Owned and operated by Robby Richardson and his family, MacDonald's Ranch offers a pumpkin patch that boasts so much more than pumpkins.

Guests can check out the petting zoo, hay bale maze, pedal car and track, target toss, corn sensory pool, lawn games, carnival games, hay bale climb and rides and the scavenger hunt.

After you've found your pumpkins, head over to the Snack Shack for a pretzel dog, pulled pork sandwich, nachos, kettle corn and shaved ice. If you're in need of something more substantial, the grill menu has various burgers, pulled pork from the smoker and sides like french fries, coleslaw and potato chips. Admission to the farm is \$15 per person.

MORTIMER FARMS
12907 E. State Route 169, Dewey
mortimerfarmsaz.com

Mortimer Farms was established in 2010, thanks to an agricultural passion and the heritage of its founders, Gary and Sharla Mortimer.

The Farm Park has rides, games, activities and seasonal pick-your-own events. There's the Animal Encounter, educational farm tours, and festive events like The Pumpkin Fest & Corn Maze – open until October 27 – that offers a lineup of shows, entertainment, Grain Train rides, hayrides, and a marketplace, with extended hours and activities on the weekends.

The Windmill Kitchen serves farm-to-table meals with fresh ingredients harvested from the farm. During festivals, visitors can enjoy a variety of snacks and beverages from food stands, including homemade bakery treats, BBQ and locally produced drinks. Mortimer Farms is a real working farm environment where guests can harvest their own pumpkins directly from the vine. Admission is \$26.50 per person.

MOTHER NATURE'S FARM
1663 E. Baseline Road, Gilbert
mothernaturesfarm.com

Mother Nature's pumpkin patch opened in 1990 and has since become a popular spot for families in the East Valley. Adults and kids can check out the hayride, straw bale maze, pedal cars, corn pit, play houses, tire mountain, outdoor games and the debut of the all-new mega slide. There's also a petting zoo and boutique.

"It's a little slice of heaven in the middle of Gilbert," Owner Caroline Kelsall said. "Once you enter the farm, you don't realize you are in the middle of the city!"

When you get hungry, stop by Maneau's Munchies for classic snacks like a pulled pork sandwich, hot dog, nachos, or jumbo pretzel. The snack bar also offers walkable eats

like popcorn and kettle corn, peanuts and chips – and those with a sweet tooth can indulge in chocolate covered bananas, caramel apples and cotton candy. The pumpkin patch is \$15 per person and is open until November 3.

SCHNEPF FARMS
24810 S. Rittenhouse Road,
Queen Creek
schnepffarms.com

Every October, Schnepf Farms breaks out all things fall with its Pumpkin & Chili Party – an event that offers an expansive pumpkin patch to kick things off. Guests can take a scenic hayride to the patch and pick the perfect pumpkin for Halloween.

There are rides and games, a petting zoo, a corn maze, pig races and stunt dog shows, plus Market Street, where attendees can shop for crafts and goods from local vendors. Like the event name suggests, the food star of the show is the chili – guests can taste a variety of recipes from the grill and pair it with the farm's famous roasted corn on the cob or something sweet.

Schnepf also offers BBQ and there's a bakery and country store that serves breakfast and lunch dishes like fresh bread, cinnamon rolls, biscuits and gravy, burgers, cookies, pies and more. Admission is \$25.95 per person.

VERTUCCIO FARMS
4011 S. Power Road, Mesa
vertucciofarms.com

Vertuccio Farms was opened by Italian immigrants Joe and Maria Vertuccio, who purchased 40 acres of land in Chandler. These days, the farm is run by Joe's son, Cono, and his family. Guests can find various activities at the Fall Festival, including the new pig race ride and ropes course, plus a five-acre corn maze, petting zoo, slide, carnival games, jump pad, mini golf and the pumpkin patch.

At snack time, families can visit the concessions and grab handhelds like candy, popcorn, cookies and snow cones. There's also a food court and fresh vegetables for sale. Admission is \$16 per person.

THE SCOOP

Chef Christopher Collins and his team at Common Ground Culinary recently announced plans for a new wine bar, **Saint Urban**, slated to open in November. Named for the patron saint of wine vintners, Saint Urban (8260 N. Hayden Road) will have a rotating selection of 30 premium wines by the glass, plus cocktails and AZ-only craft beers, paired with a shareable menu of gourmet bar bites, charcuterie boards, sandwiches and salads.
commongroundculinary.com

Chef **Joey Maggiore** released his debut cookbook, **BRUNCH KING**, in September. The book's chapters



include 70 recipes under titles like Gangsta Sweets: So Good It's Almost Criminal, Let's Get Cracking, and Hash, Hash Baby. Recipes for ten-layer breakfast lasagna, crème brûlée waffles with strawberries, biscuits and gravy "Yorkshire Puddings," mega mimosas and more are included. Purchase **BRUNCH KING** on Amazon.

Francine Restaurant (4710 N. Goldwater Blvd., Scottsdale) introduced a new prix-fixe menu and dishes for the fall. Founder Laurent Halasz and Michelin Trained Executive Chef Remy Lefebvre will showcase dishes like a flatbread pizza; Bluefin tuna tartare; Salmon Riveria and Duck Pithiviers. Guests can choose between the regular fall menu or the fall prix-fixe, which is \$65 per person and includes whipped goat cheese, mushroom rigatoni and crème brulee for dessert. View more fall specials on the website.
francinerestaurant.com

Alternative joint pain treatment

By Mark Hays

Banner Health orthopedic surgeon Dr. Joshua Hustedt has developed a new technique to help those suffering from chronic joint pain – especially those who aren't finding relief through traditional replacement surgery.



Dr. Joshua Hustedt

With the help of the University of Arizona, Hustedt developed clinical trials for the procedure – which is called Joint Denervation – to help those with wrist problems. The trials were successful and the technique was expanded to assist with knee pain.

Hustedt explained that while doctors usually recommend joint replacement, not everyone can undergo the procedure. For them, his new technique can offer relief.

"In the United States right now, if you have deep knee pain, you're told you can get a cortisone shot or you can get a knee replacement," Hustedt said. "Those are very different options; not everybody qualifies to get a knee replacement."

Those over a certain weight or with specific blood conditions aren't eligible, and Hustedt said that there are a large number of people in the U.S. that fall into that category as obesity, chronic diseases and aging have become deciding factors.

"On top of that, with people that get a knee replacement...it doesn't necessarily mean that the pain goes away," he said.

With Joint Denervation, surgeons operate on the affected area by blocking pain signals. Instead of replacing a joint because it has pain, the doctors target the nerves. They then cut those nerves and transfer them to the surrounding muscle. The nerve grows into the muscle, and what was once a sensory nerve becomes a motor nerve.

While underlying conditions like arthritis aren't cured, patients have been shown to not suffer from pain anymore.

"It's like a short circuit," Hustedt said. "By interrupting that pain signal between the joint and the brain, we convince the body that there's no pain signal anymore."

Hustedt published his findings in the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Medical Journal and has already treated hundreds of patients who are no longer suffering.

"It's been wonderful," he said. "I went to medical school to help others, and I feel like this will make a big difference worldwide."

Hustedt also founded the Joint Denervation Consortium, where he partners with internationally based surgeons to help make the practice accessible for people in parts of the world where replacement isn't an option.

When he's not performing or developing surgical techniques, Hustedt enjoys spending time with his family and appreciating the outdoors.

"I have three kids – two girls and a boy," he said. "Two of them go to Hopi. I enjoy volunteering in the community. I'm a soccer coach for our girls on the Hopi team and coach with Arcadia Little League. My family also enjoys going to the lake, water skiing, mountain biking, and snow skiing."

jointdenervation.org

30 YEARS AGO



The lead story in this 32-page edition shared the tale of three unstoppable pals – Carolyn Bosworth, Keven Richardson, and Betty Belsher – armed with determination and a dash of stubbornness. Their mission? To turn a barren patch of weed-infested dirt into the neighborhood's crown jewel.

Fifteen years prior, the ladies formed "The Friends of Arcadia Park," and began a long effort of fundraisers (think bake sales, babysitting services, hedge trimming). They carved their way through red tape while they sweet-talked big companies into coughing up cash and construction services.

In November 1994, at the annual Great Arcadia Picnic (if you know, you know), Arcadia Park was rededicated, and the ladies were celebrated for their commitment to the neighborhood. Now, not all those original neighbors are still sipping lemonade on the porch. So, the next time you go by Arcadia Park, pause... and tip your hat to these unsung heroes who turned love for their community into a green oasis.

ARCADIANEWSARCHIVES.COM

Spend a night under the stars at this northern Arizona ranch

You might not think that after driving up a dirt road for more than a dozen miles in the middle of nowhere that you would arrive at a five-star destination – but think again. In fact, it all starts with the journey to get to this one-of-a-kind place. You leave Phoenix, go to the high desert in Payson, and from there, across the rim through the largest continuous ponderosa pine forest in the world. There, you'll find a ranch where the desert and the tall pines meet.



Robin's Adventures
BY ROBIN SEWELL

Robin is the host and executive producer of the Arizona Highways Television, Saturdays and Sundays on CBS.

Just outside of Young, Arizona, is the Cherry Creek Lodge, a luxury hospitality destination for folks wanting to experience the old west and Arizona history. There are people that have described the great room of Cherry Creek Lodge as a cross between Ralph Lauren and Ben Cartwright with Julia Child whipping something up in the kitchen. Others



have said it's like being on the set of "Yellowstone." The property, which is set on ten square miles in the middle of the Tonto National Forest, is a working cattle and guest ranch. Owners Michael and Sharon Lechter designed the lodge so it would have a little something for everyone. For those who want to experience the outdoors, there's horseback trail rides, roping and riding lessons. For the more advanced, there's a competition called team penning. There's target shooting and a lake to



throw in a line where everyone catches a fish. Cherry Creek Lodge is a place both for adults and families, with activities suitable for all ages. Guests can even sleep in comfort under the stars. The lodge offers "glamping" right across from the lake – what the owners call Glamp Camp. They've set up beautiful tents with queen beds and there's a converted two horse trailer that serves as a commode. Guests can barbecue on their own or have dinner at the lodge before enjoying an outdoor slumber party.

At the heart of the Cherry Creek Lodge is the ability to disconnect so you can turn moments into memories. Whether that's roaming the endless acres, gathering round the table for gourmet family style breakfast, or watching a beautiful sunset with pink skies ushering in the moon and the stars. As families and friends connect around a fire making s'mores (another addition at Cherry Creek), you can't help but smile knowing you are making memories that will last a lifetime.

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(Back): Siddha Lennox, Riley Rooney, Katie Musselmann, Lane Sheedy, Emma Lindenmeyer, Daniela Mendez, Trinity Thompson. (Front): Brooke Mitchell, Bella Scaramella, Reagan Jackson, Tessa Dwyer-Kim, Chloe Herwig.



(Back) Courtney Snopko, Tessa Larkin, Elle McCreery, Annemarie O'Gara, Amari Frazier, Allison Dunnion, Annabelle Ross. (Middle): Jane Burkhardt, Vivian Hickman, Gracie Graf, Selah O'Connor. (Front): Chineze Gray, Leighton Fig, Olivia Lenz, Madi Araujo, Mattea Saunders.

Arcadia area volleyball teams "set" for success

By Kylie de Best

Arcadia High, Veritas Prep and Xavier Prep are ready for an exhilarating volleyball season filled with fierce competition, personal growth, and unforgettable moments on the court. Coaches and players have set their sights on championship wins – but building chemistry and sportsmanship are also at the forefront.

ARCADIA HIGH

The Lady Titans are goal-oriented, hoping to win state and retake the region and district titles. Five players are returning from last year's varsity squad. With the seniors' veteran leadership and the eagerness of younger players, this team is ready to compete for a successful season.

There are 17 matches and two tournaments scheduled, followed by playoffs. Opponents come from all over the Valley, including Chaparral, Desert Mountain, and Saguaro, all from the same district as Arcadia High. The team is looking forward to continuing the friendly rivalry they have developed over the years with Flagstaff, which is looking to be a powerful program this year.

"As a long-time teacher and coach, I like to emphasize the process and why we do things a certain way," Coach Adrian Chang said. "I find that when players understand the reasoning behind the methodology, they are more likely to buy in and fully invest in the team process."

Players said they have created a strong bond with memorable experiences.

"My favorite memory is last year when we were down two sets to Flagstaff, then pulled together as a team and came back to win the next three sets," Senior Captain Lane Sheedy said.

"I have made so many meaningful friendships through my time in the program, I wouldn't be the same person without it," Senior Captain Brooke Mitchell said.

XAVIER PREP

According to Captain Annemarie O'Gara, Xavier's volleyball team can best be described as "hardworking, energized, and confident." With these important qualities, the team prides itself on having good chemistry. Though they lost in the quarter-finals last year, they are motivated to push through all the way to the end in 2024. The Gators will play 17 matches and two tournaments: The Durango Fall Classic and the Nike Tournament.

Practices are divided into three categories: warm-up, skill development and competition. These categories aim to strengthen the team so that it can fulfill its goal of playing its best in the state tournament.

"I want the team and I to hone in on the mindset and goals by playing with purpose and competitively to accomplish what we know we are capable of," Captain Elle McCreery said.

Lamar-Renee Bryant's coaching style centers on giving her players the opportunity to make decisions. Instead of demanding specific actions from players, she gives them "situational recommendations."

"It is my job to analyze their results and provide positive and negative feedback – and try to assist them in learning from their past experiences so that in the future they might make the best decisions," Bryant said. "I believe that the best one can hope for in life is to be held accountable for the actions and decisions one makes, to reap the accolades or accept the criticisms."

VERITAS PREP

The Falcons have a busy season ahead, with 17 matches against 1A-3A teams in addition to playing three invitational tournaments. According to Coach Brooks Dockter, their most significant strengths include cohesiveness and competitiveness.

"Our biggest question mark to start the season is offense. We graduated our top two scorers and are looking for offensive players to help fill those gaps," Dockter said.



(Back): McKenna Swonger, Mary Hamann, Grace Hamann, Mia Wall, Cate Schneider, Isabella Espinosa, Coach Brooks Dockter (Middle): Salma Ahmed, Dianne Salem, Vivian Keery, Joanna Llusco, Sara Escobar, Taylor Nicks, Sofia Suarez. (Front): McKenzie Perrault.

His coaching style is flexible, considering the staff is still getting to know the players and finding out what motivates them and how they learn best. With the program having high expectations, Veritas coaches believe in the importance of setting up all the athletes for success.

To execute this vision, practices are intense and competitive. The Falcons hope to continue getting better throughout the

season and win enough matches to earn a high postseason seed.

"The ultimate goal is always the same: to win a state championship, with many other goals along the way," Dockter said.

"I love our team. It took some time to become comfortable with everyone, but as I grew and started to know my teammates more, I realized how special everyone was," senior setter and Captain Joanna Llusco said.

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Invite autumn in with these superfood dishes

While Arizonans wait for the air to turn crisp, we can still celebrate the seasonal superfoods that make autumn so special: pumpkins, squash and apples. These fall favorites aren't just delicious, they also provide a variety of health benefits that can help keep you feeling your best as the weather cools down.

Pumpkins are loaded with beta-carotene, which your body converts into vitamin A – key for maintaining healthy skin, boosting your immune system and supporting eye health. Whether you're blending pumpkin into a latte or adding it to chili, it's a great way to nourish your body.

Squash, in all its forms – butternut, acorn, and spaghetti – is rich in fiber, vitamins and antioxidants. It's a great option for promoting digestion and reducing inflammation. Roast it for a simple side dish or toss it into grain

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

bowls or salads for extra texture. Packed with vitamin C, apples support your immune system and help regulate blood sugar levels. They're also high in fiber, making them perfect for digestion and heart health. Incorporating these seasonal superfoods into your meals can boost your well-being and add some cozy fall flavor to your diet.

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Autumn orchard kale salad SERVES 6 *(Save this one for Thanksgiving!)*



Ingredients

- 1 bunch dino kale, stems discarded
- Juice of lemon + salt
- 2 lbs. cubed butternut squash
- 1 ½ cups cooked wild rice
- ½ cup toasted pepitas
- ½ cup dried cranberries

Dressing

- 3 tbsp. olive oil
- 3 tbsp. apple cider vinegar
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- ½ tsp. each: garlic granules, pink salt, pepper

Directions

1. **Preheat oven to 400. Spray squash with avocado oil spray and shake on some salt, pepper and garlic granules. Roast for 30 minutes.**
2. **Cut the kale into slivers and add to a large bowl. Squeeze on lemon and shake on salt. Massage for a few minutes.**
3. **Mix up dressing.**
4. **Combine everything.**

Pumpkin cream cold brew SERVES 1 *(For International Coffee day on October 1!)*



Ingredients

- 12 ounces cold brew coffee or strong coffee that has cooled
- ½ cup canned coconut milk
- 2 tbsp. vanilla syrup or 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 tbsp. pumpkin puree
- ¼ tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 pinch nutmeg

Directions

1. **In a tall jar or bowl combine the cream, vanilla syrup, pumpkin puree, cinnamon and nutmeg.**
2. **Use an immersion blender or a handheld frother to blend well.**
3. **Add ice to two glasses and pour six ounces of cold brew into each glass.**
4. **Add the frothed cream and serve.**

Slow cooker pumpkin chili SERVES 6



Ingredients

- ½ diced onion
- 3 minced garlic cloves
- 1 diced red and green bell peppers
- 1 diced jalapeño (discard seeds)
- 1 (15-ounce) can fire-roasted tomatoes
- 1 can black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin puree
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- 2 tsp. each: cumin, chili powder
- 1 tsp. each: onion granules, pink salt
- ½ tsp. each: pepper, smoked paprika
- Juice of one large lime
- 1 medium chopped sweet potato

Directions

1. **Put everything into a slow cooker except lime juice and cook on low for 6-8 hours. Check at six hours to see if the sweet potatoes are done.**
2. **Add lime juice and stir. Keep on warm setting until ready to serve.**
3. **Top with red onion, jalapeño, cilantro, and avocado**



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DID YOU KNOW? WILLY WONKA

WHAT YEAR?

1971

The Willy Wonka Candy Company opened in 1971, when the Chicago candy company Breaker Confections licensed the “Willy Wonka” name so it could be used as a merchandising tie-in for the movie. In 1980, Breaker Confections changed its name to Willy Wonka Brands. Nestlé then bought the company in 1988.

The movie’s production was funded by Quaker Oats to promote their upcoming Wonka chocolate bar. This was the company’s first – and only – venture into candy. That’s why the film is called Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory instead of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, like the book it was based on.

Fun fact: According to a Reddit thread, the formula on Quaker’s initial batch made it so the chocolate would melt at shelf temperature – and they didn’t get the recipe right until after the movie’s release.

HOW MUCH?

\$2.8B



In 2018, Nestlé sold the branding and production rights to its U.S. confectionary business to the Ferrero Group, who currently owns the rights to the Wonka Bar name, for \$2.8 billion. After the sale, Wonka candy bars were discontinued in the United States.

HOW MANY?

Three



There are three books under the Willy Wonka franchise: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, published in 1964; Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator, published in 1972; and an unfinished third book called Charlie in the White House.

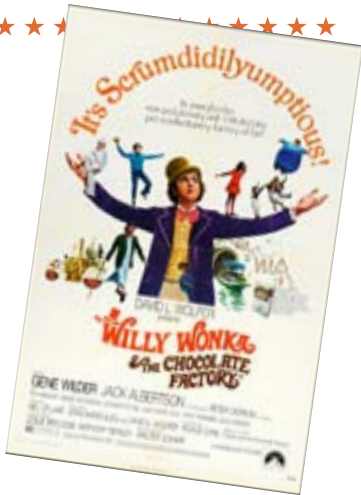
Charlie’s family and Mr. Wonka are invited by President Gilligrass to have dinner at the White House, as thanks for rescuing a spacecraft from an attack by the Vermicious Knids. Dahl only wrote the first chapter, which is on display at the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre in Great Missenden, England.

HOW MUCH?

\$4M

Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory was released

by Paramount Pictures on June 30, 1971. The film was not a big success, earning \$4 million worldwide on a budget of \$3 million. The 2005 remake Charlie and the Chocolate Factory earned \$470 million worldwide on a \$150 million budget. The third installment, Wonka, came out in 2023 and is a prequel to the original film. On a budget of \$125 million, it grossed \$632.3 million.



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DID YOU KNOW? WILLY WONKA

Wonka brand candies include Bottle Caps, Everlasting Gobstoppers, Kazookles, Laffy Taffy, Nerds, Pixy Stix, Runts, Sprees and SweetTarts.

“Chocolate spying” was a real thing that happened in the 1920s. Rival companies would send out spies, and during author Roald Dahl’s childhood, British confectionary companies Cadbury and Rowntree’s were constantly in competition.

In early drafts of the book, Oompa-Loompas were called Whipple-Scrumpets.

Willy Wonka was also called Mr. Ritchie in the first draft, but Dahl renamed him after a boomerang that his brother made, which he called a “Skilly-Wonka.”

The lost first draft of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory might have had as many as 15 children – with names like Tommy Troutbeck, Clarence Crump, Marvin Prune and Bertie Upside – visiting the factory.

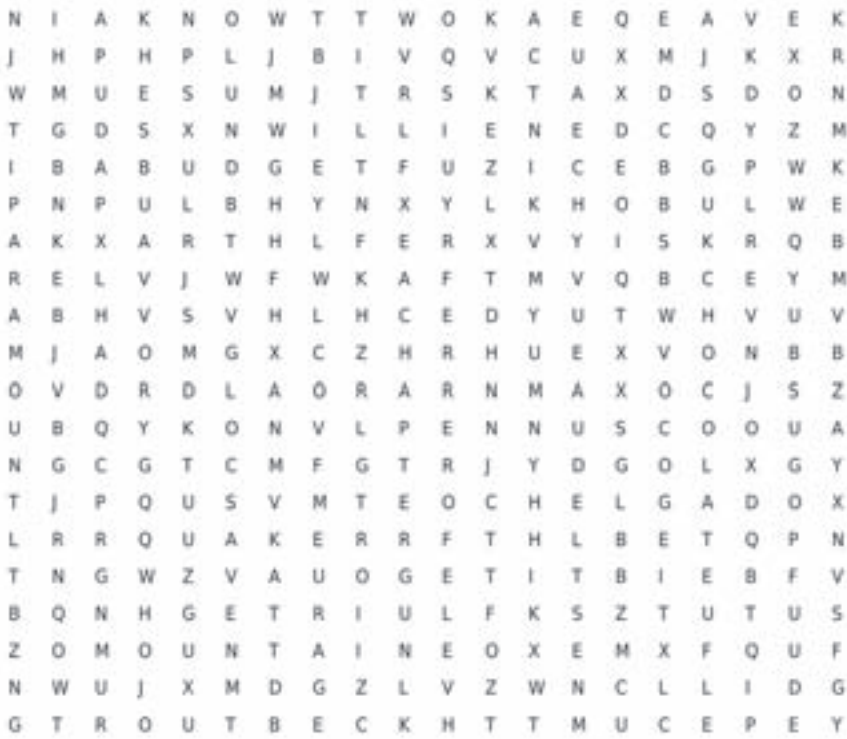
Actor Gene Wilder said he would only accept the role if he could appear crippled in his entrance and then “do a forward somersault and jump up” to surprise the crowd. His request was granted, and the scene is now a famous movie entrance.

Wilder confirmed that a third of the candy in the film was real. The rest of the props were made out of cardboard, wax or other inedible materials.

Most of the movie was shot in Germany.



WORD SEARCH



BUDGET
CADBURY
CHAPTER
CHARLIE
CHOCOLATE

DAHL
FERRERO
MOUNTAIN
MUSEUM
NESTLE

PARAMOUNT
ROALD
TROUTBECK
WILLIE
WONKA



SAY WHAT?

THE LOST CHAPTER

A single chapter of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory that was deemed too depraved for kids when it first came out in 1964 was published for the first time in 2014. In it, Charlie and the others learn of the Pounding and Cutting Room.

“In the centre, there was an actual mountain, a colossal jagged mountain as high as a five-story building, and the whole thing was made of pale-brown, creamy, vanilla fudge,” the chapter reads. “All the way up the sides of the mountain, hundreds of men were working away with picks and drills, hacking great hunks of fudge out of the mountainside. When they reached the bottom they were picked up by cranes with grab-buckets, and the cranes dumped the fudge into open wagons.”

Timmy Troutbeck and “a rather bumptious little boy called Wilbur Rice” ignore Wonka’s warnings, jump into the wagons, and are carried through a hole in the wall that leads to the Pounding and Cutting Room, where the fudge gets tipped into a huge machine. The machine pounds it against the floor until it is smooth and thin. After that, a whole lot of knives come down and cut the fudge up into neat little squares.

Up on the mountain, the workers sing, “Eight little children, such charming little chicks. But two of them said ‘Nuts to you,’ and then there were six.” No more is ever heard of Troutbeck and Rice.



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This tennis star has her sights set on college ball and beyond

By Lauren Geiser

Vessa Turley is no stranger to the Arcadia sports scene. Featured multiple times in Arcadia News, this tennis powerhouse continues making waves on and off the court with her relentless drive and national rankings. Now a senior in high school, her tennis journey is only gaining momentum.

Inspired by her mother's participation in a local tennis league, Vessa started playing

propel her to the top of the national rankings for 18 and under doubles. She's placed as a tennis champion in numerous competitions this year, including the J60 International Tennis Federation Doubles Champion in Las Vegas, J200 International Federation Doubles Finalist in Canada, J100 International Tennis Federation Doubles Champion in Florida, National Clay Court Championship 18s Doubles and National Doubles Championship 18s.

She even got the chance to meet tennis legend Billie Jean King at the Billie Jean National Title Doubles Championship last year. (Read that story in the Arcadia News October 2023 edition!)

"This is Vessa's fifth ball at USTA National Championship events all time. She has three gold, one silver and one bronze," Dad, Andrew, said. "The only surface she hasn't won a national title on is indoors, but she has national titles from clay courts summer, winter clay nationals, National Doubles hard courts, Eddie Herr Adidas Hard courts and more. It's pretty incredible!"

Her success has also taken her beyond U.S. borders. She has competed in Peru, the Dominican Republic, and more, which she said helps broaden her tennis skills and perspective.

"Playing internationally is a whole different experience," she said. "You're not just playing in front of the usual crowd,



Vessa with partner Riley Crowder at the National Clay Court Championship 18s doubles.

you're surrounded by new cultures and players with different playing styles."

Looking ahead, Vessa is set on going pro and entering professional tournaments in the fall and winter. Teaming up with other ranked players to enter these events, Vessa said she recognizes the value of playing alongside fellow seasoned professionals as she starts building an athletic career.

Vessa's college recruitment process has already begun. She has received full-ride offers from Division 1 schools but is still exploring her options. She's looking forward to making a final decision by November.

"It's nerve-wracking but exciting," she said.

Her rigorous training schedule includes five to six practice days a week, split between the court and gym workouts. Despite the demanding routine, she balances tennis with academics and time spent with friends.

As she looks toward her future, the lessons she learned on the court will continue to fuel her drive. Whether she's competing in national tournaments or stepping into the pro circuit, Vessa continues to refine the game and push her limits.

at age eight and instantly fell in love. The individual aspect of the game is what drew her in.

"I tried volleyball, soccer and softball, but none clicked like tennis," Vessa said. "With tennis, I didn't have to wait for a whole team to show up. I could play as long as I wanted."

That self-driven nature is what's helped

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For the love of apples

There are 31 days in October, but how do we celebrate these days since golden leaves have yet to fall and cozy clothing is still packed away?

As a child, I always looked forward to fall because my German grandmother began baking apple pies.

Years later, I visited the East Coast during October

when pumpkins of every shape and size accompanied an abundance of nearby potted chrysanthemums in striking colors. Halloween contests consisting of whimsical pumpkin carvings and floral displays greeted visitors upon entering the lobbies of every hotel and restaurant. Emotions wore the veil of fall, and the scent of baked apples drifted everywhere!

As residents of the Valley of the Sun, these subtle luxuries

allude us. Our weather hasn't changed, but the recipes in our kitchens can! Pumpkins, squash, pears, and apples are abundant this month.

An apple tree's sturdy limbs beckon us to climb high into the twisted, curling branches. Their display of gold and crimson skins calls to us to pluck from their stems. America's first apple trees were planted from seeds, cuttings, and small plants brought by the Jamestown settlers to the New World in the early 1600s. The Pilgrims planted orchards soon after. Going back before recorded human history, we find the origin of the modern domesticated apple, *Malus domestica*, deep

in the southeastern corner of Kazakhstan, along the Tien Shan Mountain range.

To this day, the Tien Shan's forests are filled with ancient groves of wild apple and other fruit trees. They grow as high as 50 feet, with fruit ranging in size from tiny walnut-shaped fruitlets to enormous globes, and in every color from yellow to deep violet.

It was here and in another nearby mountain range, the Dzungarian, that the ancestors of today's sweet table apples first appeared about 4.5 million years ago – the result of an evolutionary dance between native wild apple trees and the mountain birds and animals who favored the fleshiest, most honeyed fruits, then distributed those seeds far and wide. Natural selection, at its finest, allowed the fruits with the highest sugar levels to dominate their habitat.

Arizona hosts roughly nine orchards producing abundant supplies of fruit. Besides being delicious with a tart-sweet balance, apples are adaptive plants. They are the world's third most widely grown fruit after bananas and grapes. They're grown commercially in 35 states and in home gardens and orchards – there are actually more than 7,500 known cultivars of apples.

I recently went to Apple Annie's Orchard in Willcox. This family-owned and operated, year-round, you-pick retail farming operation in the Sulphur Springs Valley sits at an elevation of 4,300 feet. Fresh-baked pies, bread, fudge, gourmet jar goods, and gift items are available.

In the 1980s, peaches and pears were added to



Apple Annie's mix. In 2003, they expanded the business by purchasing Hunsdon Farms and 125 acres of vegetables. In 2013, they bought the Stout's Cider Mill building, a Willcox landmark. The Apple Annie's Orchard Country Store opened in May of the same year. Guests can even watch apple cider donuts being made and, while still warm, rolled in a sugar and cinnamon mixture.

No matter the weather, nothing compares to the lush beauty of

the orchards at full fruit. Walking among the trees gave the most pleasing vision of nature, in which sweet fruit was being given in abundance as if by some universal kindness.

Apple orchards represent everything inspiring in nature – their abundance and sweetness strike me as a spiritual setting. Before leaving, I drove to the field of bright orange pumpkins that basked in the sun, waiting to be picked. This month, the sky is the limit for apple anything – apple pie, sausage, apple and cheddar strata, Dutch baby, apple crisp, apple tea cake with lemon glaze, apple galette, and apple cider donuts.

October's cookbook recommendation:

"APPLE Recipes from the Orchard" by James Rich

October's novel recommendation:

"The Glass Chateau" by Stephen P. Kiernan

October's recipe: Apple pie

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Diving into senior year

By Amelia Guzman

Arcadia's dive team captains, seniors Avery Bowling and Mallory Yates, are throwing themselves into the deep end by juggling classes and practice – but they know how to take care of business. The two captains are seasoned divers who have been on the team all four years, love the sport, and are ready to conquer their final season at Arcadia.

How do you find time for your education and extracurriculars during the season?

Avery and Mallory agree that it may be difficult at times, but they must find time to fit in and prioritize their academics. They both try to get as much done as possible before and after practice or during their free time.

What's your favorite part about being on the team?

For Avery, it's the people: "It's like one big family and everybody treats each other equally." Mallory loves having an escape from the rest

of her busy day: "Whether I'm stressed about college applications or having lots of homework, diving is a great space to step back from stress and have fun. My favorite part about being on the team is making friends and having fun for a few hours."

What is your favorite thing about Arcadia High?

Avery's favorite part of Arcadia is the people and the community. Meanwhile, Mallory appreciates Arcadia for all it has to offer: the variety of clubs, classes, and sports to choose from.

Do you have any after-high school plans?

The two plan on attending four-year universities after graduation. Mallory is hoping to attend college in California or Florida. Avery has his sights set on schools in Montana or Alaska to procure a degree in aerospace engineering.



Mallory Yates



Avery Bowling

Arcadia Theater Gets Smart

By Maya Campbell

Arcadia High School Theater has been working tirelessly for the past two months to put on its annual fall production. This semester's play is the spy comedy *Get Smart*, which focuses on main character Max Smart, a top secret agent trying to save a princess from the evil organization Chaos. It's set in the 1970s. Student actor Sarah Salt describes the play as "really fun because there are a lot of different roles [one can] play within the story."

What really makes the play great this year is all the people involved. All the actors are working tirelessly at rehearsals in order to make the production extra special this time around. Arcadia technicians are also working around the clock in order to bring the 70s to modern society in a realistic and over-the-top manner.

Student director Lauren Guana said that the play is unique and interesting.



"The resurgence of such an old story makes this play really fun for young kids who'll enjoy the spies, teens who will enjoy the humor, and adults who will like the call back to an old TV show," she said.

According to Lauren, the play is a great one to bring the entire family to due to its multiple appeals. Opening night is October 17 at 7 p.m. in the Arcadia High School auditorium. There will be subsequent shows on the 18th and 19th. Arcadia Theater has been working overtime in order to get this play to theater-goers, and they hope everyone loves it just as much as they do!

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THE CHOICE IS OBVIOUS

Our Knowledge is Unparalleled, Our Connections are Limitless and Our Marketing Works



NEW LISTING \$6,995,000 4350 North Jokake
6 bedrooms, 7 baths, 6,750 square feet



NEW LISTING \$5,345,000 4802 North 46th Street
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4,996 square feet
4802north46thstreet.com



COMING SOON \$2,195,000 3500 East Lincoln #15
3 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,501 square feet
3500lincoln.com



SALE PENDING \$2,999,000 4702 East Arcadia Lane
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,760 square feet
4702arcadialane.com



NEW LISTING \$2,800,000 6920 East 2nd Street
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 3,014 square feet
oldtown5.com



NEW LISTING \$2,595,000 4450 North 53rd Street
Exceptional .78 acre lot with superb mountain views



COMING SOON \$2,795,000 5010 East Calle Redonda
4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,156 square feet
5010calleredonda.com



JUST SOLD \$4,395,000 4601 East Calle Del Medio
4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4,238 square feet
4601callemedio.com

See many more TJG listings inside

THE JOFFE GROUP

LAUNCH
POWERED BY
COMPASS



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