The Voice of Marana since 2007

VOLUME 30 • NUMBER 12 MARCH 22, 2023

www.Maranaweeklynews.com

INSIDE This Week



FEATURES6

Winter rains bring plenty of color to Picacho



CHOW10

Pasta, sandwiches on the menu at new Pasta Shop



SPORTS......14

Paulo Bracamonte is Athlete of the Week

FEATURES	6
CHOW	10
SPORTS	13
HEALTH	15
OUTH	16
PUZZLE/HOROSCOPES	19
WORSHIP/CLASSIFIEDS	20



Marana Middle School student Karen Opoku-Appoh won the 2023 Arizona Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 18, by correctly spelling "passage." (Arizona Educational Foundation/Submitted)

Marana teen wins state spelling bee

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO-KARASINSKI

Tucson Local Media Staff

'aren Opoku-Appoh, an eighth grader from Marana Middle School, won the 2023 Arizona Spelling Bee hosted by the Arizona Educational Foundation on Saturday, March 18.

The 13-year-old correctly spelled the word "passage" to win the bee.

The runners up were:

Second place: Opal Mishra, sixth grade, age 12, Basha Accelerated Middle School, Chandler Unified School District, Maricopa County Region 6

Third place: Sai Manvik Malreddy, eighth grade, age 13, Explorer Middle School, Paradise Valley Unified School District, Maricopa County Region 2

Fourth place: Regina Rascon, seventh grade, age 11, Bogle Junior High School, Chandler Unified School District, Maricopa County Region 6

Fifth place: Alrick James, fourth grade, age 9, Estrella Foothills Global Academy, Laveen School District, Maricopa County Region 3

The 2023 Arizona Spelling Bee event was held at the Madison Performing Arts Center in Phoenix. It was the 25th year the event was

SEE SPELLING BEE PAGE 16

Treasures await teachers at this nonprofit

BY KAREN SCHAFFNER

Tucson Local Media Staff

hat looks like trash to the rest of the world is treasure to teachers - literally and figuratively.

At Treasures4Teachers, shelves are stacked with bins filled with cast-offs and effluvia.

One bin finds bundles of used but unbroken crayons. In another there are scads of pull tabs. Hard plastic floppy disks are placed in another.

That's just a tiny bit of what is stacked on the many shelves at Treasures4Teachers, a nonprofit that bridges the gap between the need for tools and supplies and effective teaching.

"The things that we like the most in this store we call loose parts," said Adrienne Ledford, who opened Treasures4Teachers eight years ago.

"Loose parts are a part of the new STEM movement. The more loose parts you can give a child, they can create whatever they want with it. You just give them a whole bunch of things — glue sticks and glitter, foam, nuts and bolts, whatever - and let them just create."

Treasures4Teachers is run on donations and prayer. This month, however, Ledford received good news in the form of a \$25,000

SEE TREASURES PAGE 8









A Beautiful Life Now Under Construction.

La Posada, Southern Arizona's award-winning Life Plan Community is bringing its commitment to excellence to Oro Valley.

Finely appointed apartment homes. Awe-inspiring mountain views. An oasis of first-class amenities.

Secure your future where great neighbors connect to live life well.

Please join us for an upcoming luncheon and informative presentation on a date and location that is convenient for you:

ORO VALLEY COUNTRY CLUBWednesday, April 5
Thursday, May 4

SADDLEBROOKE 2 BALLROOM Friday, March 17



RSVP today by calling 520-531-3480. *Seating is limited. Lunch will be served.*





"SHE SAVED MY LIFE"

Oro Valley resident Dawn R. had been experiencing the painful side effects of Peripheral Neuropathy. "My feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do, and that I would have to take Gabapentin for the rest of my life." Then she met Oro Valley's very own Kari Hahn, L.Ac.

Peripheral Neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage of the peripheral nervous system. Dawn explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the bathroom were overwhelmingly painful. "How can you live for the next 30 years when you don't even want to get out of bed to do simple things?"

She was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling and sharp pains that those suffering with neuropathy often describe. "The way that I would describe it, it's equivalent to walking on glass." Dawn hadn't worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would 'touch' her feet.

Unfortunately Dawn's story is all too familiar for the over 20 million people in the U.S. suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy.

If you're unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis, perhaps you're not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet. You may have difficulty walking, shopping or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain. You're possibly struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor may have told you to 'just live with the pain' and you may be taking medications that aren't working or have uncomfortable side effects.

Fortunately, four months ago, Dawn read an article about Kari Hahn and the work she was doing to treat those suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy, without invasive surgeries or medications.

Kari Hahn, founder of Oro Valley Acupuncture, is using the time tested science of Acupuncture along with other modern therapies to assist in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

"Now when I go to bed at night I don't have those shooting pains. I don't have that burning sensation. I don't have pain coming up my legs," Dawn enthusiastically describes life after receiving Kari's treatments. "I can wear socks and shoes!"

Dawn and her sister now operate a successful dog walking business, sometimes covering up to 5 miles a day.

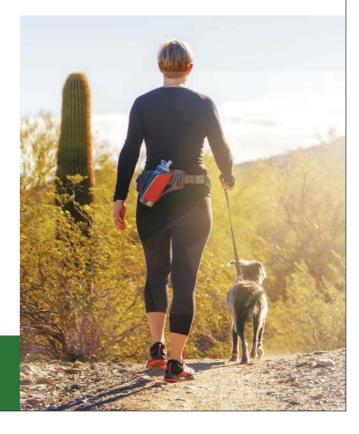
"It's life altering. As far as I'm concerned Kari saved my life!"

Kari Hahn has been helping the senior community for over 19 years using the most cutting edge and innovative integrative medicine. Specializing in chronic pain cases, specifically those that have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results. What was once a missing link in senior healthcare is now easily accessible to the residents of Oro Valley.

If you've missed too many tee times because of pain or you've passed on activities with the grandkids because you're afraid of falling, it's time to call Kari and the staff at Oro Valley Acupuncture.

It's time you let your golden years BE GOLDEN!

Oro Valley Acupuncture is now accepting new patients but only for a limited time. In an effort to protect her patients, both current and future, she has made the difficult decision to limit the number of patients seen in her clinic. Only 20 new neuropathy patients will be accepted before summer, so call (520) 532-2012 now to schedule a consultation. Mention this ad for a consult fee of \$30 for our New Patient Offer.



190 W Magee Rd, Ste 142 Tucson, AZ 85704 (520) 532-2012 www.OroValleyAcupuncture.com

JOIN US FOR the Tucson Unified school Ochoice DISTRICTWIDE FESTIVAL

Saturday, Apr. 1 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Catalina High School Track 3645 E Pima St.

Meet schools & programs from all over the district and register for next year!

FREE Train, Games & Obstacle Course
Student Performances • Food Trucks
Free COVID Test Kits

TUCSON UNIFIED

Hot Picks

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO-KARASINSKI

Tucson Local Media Staff

ARTS

African American Museum of Southern Arizona Ongoing

The African American Museum of Southern Arizona has opened its doors at the UA. Co-founded by Beverly and Bob Elliott, the museum presents a cultural and educational experience through items of significance and intentional storytelling to preserve African American and Black life, culture and history in Southern Arizona to benefit the community. Admission is free to the museum in room 244 of the Student Union Memorial Center. Until regular hours are established, interested visitors can schedule an appointment by emailing aamuseumofsouthernaz@gmail.com. African American Museum of Southern Arizona, 4511 N. Campbell Avenue, Suite 255-2. Info: aamsaz.org

"¡Pleibol! In the Barrios and the Big Leagues/En los barrios y las grandes ligas"

To Saturday, April 8

The Tucson Desert Art Museum presents its "¡Pleibol! In the Barrios and the Big Leagues/En los barrios y las grandes ligas" now through Saturday, April 8. Organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in collaboration with the National Museum of American History, this exhibit examines the sport and how Latinos helped shape it. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$6 students/children, and free for active military. Tucson Desert Art Museum, 7000 E. Tanque Verde Road. Info: tucsondart.org

"Woman-Ochre" To Saturday, May 20

Willem de Koonig's "Woman-Ochre" was stolen in 1985 from the University of Arizona Museum of Art. It's returned home and on display through May. Tickets for "Restored: The Return of Woman-Ochre" are \$8 general admission; \$6 seniors 65-plus and groups of 10 or more; and free for students with ID, museum members, UA faculty, staff, military personnel, AAM members, visitors with a SNAP card or Tribal ID, and children. The University of

Arizona Museum of Art, 1031 N. Olive Road, Info: artmuseum.arizona.edu

Linda McCartney Retrospective To Friday, Aug. 4

The North American premiere of the Linda McCartney Retrospective comes to the University of Arizona Center for Creative Photography, now through Friday, Aug. 4. Spanning McCartney's entire career from 1965 to 1997, this exhibition features 176 photographs and archival materials, including Polaroid images and presents three sections such as family life, photographic experimentation and artists. The exhibit will recur weekly from Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The exhibition will also feature various community events inspired by the collection. Center for Creative Photography 1030 N. Olive Road.

Info: ccp.arizona.edu

THEATER

"Pru Payne"

To Saturday, March 25

The Arizona Theatre Company presents "Pru Payne." Created by Pulitzer Prize nominee Steven Drukman and directed by Sean Daniels, "Pru Payne," follows the emotional story about an esteemed critic Prudence, in the face of memory loss. The Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott Avenue. Info: atc.org

LIVE MUSIC

Teddy Morgan, Cathy Rivers, Steve Grams

Saturday, March 25

Teddy Morgan, a former Tucsonan now established as a Nashville session cat and producer, also produces and plays in actor Kevin Kostner's band, Modern West. Joining him in this set is Cathy Rivers, current executive director of the Rialto Theatre and former head of KXCI community radio. Rivers has been a rocker grrrl her whole adult life, writing, performing, producing and booking music and even, for a time, managing the band Cracker. Arizona Blues Hall of Famer Steve Grams joins Morgan's Modern West bandmates, John Coinman and Neil Harry, and original Hacienda Brothers drummer Richard Medek

SEE HOT PICKS PAGE 5

EXPLORER MARANA NEWS

The Explorer and Marana News is published every Wednesday and distributed free of charge to homes and in single-copy locations throughout the Northwest Tucson. To find out where you can pick up a free copy of the Explorer and Marana News, go to www.TucsonLocalMedia.com

STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Steve T. Strickbine, Publisher Michael Hiatt, Vice President Claudine Sowards, Accounting claudine@tucsonlocalmedia.com

Christina Fuoco-Karasinski, Executive Editor christina@tucsonlocalmedia.com

Karen Schaffner, Staff Reporter kschaffner@tucsonlocalmedia.com

Veronica Kuffel, Staff Reporter vkuffel@tucsonlocalmedia.com

PRODUCTION

Shannon Mead, Production/Design Supervisor smead@timeslocalmedia.com

Arman Olivares, Graphic Designer aolivares@timeslocalmedia.com

CIRCULATION

Aaron Kolodny, Circulation Director, aaron@phoenix.org

Brian Juhl, Distribution Manager, brian@timeslocalmedia.com

ADVERTISING

TLMSales@TucsonLocalMedia.com

Laura Meehan, Associate Publisher, Imeehan@tucsonlocalmedia.com

Kristin Chester, Account Executive kristin@tucsonlocalmedia.com Candace Murray, Account Executive candace@tucsonlocalmedia.com

Tyler Vondrak, Account Executive

Leah Pittman, Account Executive lpittman@tucsonlocalmedia.com

NATIONAL ADVERTISING

Zac Revnolds.

Director of National Advertising Zac@TimesPublications.com

EDITORIAL & AD CONTENT

The Desert Times expresses its opinion in the editorial. Opinions expressed in quest commentaries, perspectives, cartoons or letters to the editor are those of the author. The content and claims of any advertisement are the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Tucson Local Media assumes no responsibility for the claims or content of any advertisement. Publisher has the right to edit for size or refuse



Tucson, Arizona 85741 • 520-797-4384

Copyright: The entire contents of Desert Times are Copyright Times Media Group. No portion June be reproduced in whole or part by any means without the express written permission of the Publisher, Tucson Local Media, 7225 N. Mona Lisa Rd., Ste. 125, Tucson, AZ 85741.

Explorer/Marana News is distributed by AZ Integrated Media, a circulation company owned & operated by Times **Media Group**. The public is limited to one copy per reader For circulation services, please contact Aaron Kolodny at aaron@phoenix.org.





To start or stop delivery of the paper, please visit: https://timespublications.com/tucson or call 480-898-7901

To receive your free online edition subscription, please visit: newsletter/signup/

HOT PICKS FROM PAGE 4

to round out the sound.

7 p.m., Hotel Congress Plaza, 311 E. Congress Street, \$10.

Info: hotelcongress.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rillito Park Racetrack To Sunday, April 2

It's racing season at the historic Rillito Park Racetrack. Every Saturday and Sunday, check out fast horses, jockeys and big purses for nine weekends this spring. Gates open at 11 a.m. on race days. Post time is at 1 p.m. Rillito Park Racetrack, 4502 N. First Avenue. Info: rillitoracetrack.com

Arizona Renaissance **Festival** To Sunday, April 2

Huzzah! The 35th annual Arizona Renaissance Festival returns to Pinal County. The medieval amusement has a 16-stage theater, a 50-acre circus, arts and crafts fair, jousting tournament and feast. Mingle with over 2,000 characters in costume and don't forget to eat a giant roasted turkey leg. Eat, drink and be merry, for there is so much to see and do. Tickets start at \$33 for adults, but they're discounted at Bashas' or Food City. Arizona Renaissance Festival, 12601 E. U.S. Highway 60, Gold Canyon. Info: arizona renfestinfo.

Western Experience To Sunday, May 7

Journey into a Western Experience at Old Tucson Studios, through Sunday, May 7, and witness the spirit of the Old West come alive. Get a glimpse of a historic town in Arizona territory during the

1800s and enjoy live action cowboy gun fights, death defying stunts, rides and attractions. Tickets are \$34 for adults, \$17 for children (5-11) — include admission and attractions. A Western Experience will be open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays to Sundays. Western Experience at Old Tucson Studios, 201 S. Kinney Road.

Info: oldtucson.com

LOCAL MARKETS

Oro Valley Farmers Market Saturdays

The Oro Valley Farmers Market sets up every Saturday morning at Steam Pump Ranch. The market supports local farms, ranches, and small food purveyors year-round. Visitors will find local fruits and vegetables, as well as beef, pork and farm-fresh eggs. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. October to April; 8 a.m. to noon April to September. Info: heirloomfm.org

5-DAY WEATHER WEDNESDAY AM SHOWER 61 41 **THURSDAY** 63 39 SUNNY FRIDAY 71 43 SATURDAY 42 **73** SUNNY SUNDAY **70** 42 SUNNY MOUNTLEMMON SATURDAY **52** 22 SUNNY SUNDAY

49

22

this is a paid advertisement WARNING!

PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY AND CHRONIC PAIN TREATMENTS **NOT WORKING!!**

Oro Valley, AZ - When it comes to chronic pain and/ or neuropathy, the most common doctor-prescribed treatment is drugs like Gabapentin, Lyrica, Cymbalta, and Neurontin. The problem with antidepressants or anti-seizure medications like these is that offer purely symptomatic relief, as opposed to targeting and treating the root of the problem. Worse, these drugs often trigger an of uncomfortable onset painful, and sometimes harmful side effects.

The only way to effectively treat chronic pain and/or peripheral neuropathy is by targeting the source, which is the result of nerve damage owing inadequate blood flow to the nerves in the hands and This often causes feet. weakness. numbness. tingling, pain, and balance problems. A lack nutrients causes the nerves to degenerate - an insidious and often painful process.



As displayed in figure 1 above, the nerves are surrounded by diseased, withered blood vessels. A lack of sufficient nutrients means the nerves

survive. thus, slowly die. leads to those painful and frustrating consequences we were talking about earlier, like tingling, and burning sensation.

The drugs your doctor might prescribe temporarily conceal the problems, putting a "Band-Aid" over a situation that will only continue to deteriorate further action.

Thankfully, Oro Valley is the birthplace of a brandnew facility that sheds new light on this pressing problem of peripheral neuropathy and chronic pain. The company is trailblazing the medical industry by replacing outdated drugs and symptomatic reprieves with an advanced machine that targets the root of the problem at hand.



Effective neuropathy treatment

1. Finding the underlying cause and This treatable) weakness, numbness, balance issues, perhaps even a



relies on the following three

2. Determining the extent of the nerve damage (above 95% nerve loss is rarely

3. The amount of treatment required for the patient's unique condition

Arrowhead Physical Medicine

Oro Valley, AZ uses state-of-the-art electric signaling systems cell worth \$100,000.00. ground-breaking treatment is engineered to achieve the following, accompanied by advanced diagnostics and a basic skin biopsy to accurately analyze results:

- 1. Increases blood flow 2. Stimulates and strengthens
- small fiber nerves 3. Improves brain-based pain

The treatment works by delivering energy to the affected area(s) at varying wavelengths, from low- to middle-frequency signals, while also using Amplitude Modulated (AM)

It's completely painless!

and Frequency Modulated

(FM) signaling.

THE GREAT NEWS IS THAT THIS TREATMENT IS COVERED BY MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND MOST INSURANCES!!

Depending on your coverage, your peripheral neuropathy treatment could cost almost nothing - or be absolutely free.

The number of treatments required varies from patient to patient, and can only be determined following an in-depth neurological and vascular examination. As long as you have less than 95% nerve damage, there is hope!

Arrowhead Physical Medicine begins by analyzing the extent of the nerve damage - a

This Arrowhead Physical Medicine begins by analyzing the extent of the nerve damage a complimentary service for comprises a detailed your friends and family. Each sensory exam evaluation, extensive peripheral vascular testing, and comprehensive analysis of neuropathy findings.

> Arrowhead Physical Medicine will be offering this free chronic pain and neuropathy severity evaluation will be available until March 31, 2023. Call (520) 934-0130 to make an appointment

Due to our very busy office schedule, we are limiting this offer to the first 10 callers. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SUFFER ANOTHER MINUTE, CALL (520) 934-0130...

We are extremely busy, so we are unavailable, please leave a voice message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Arrowhead Physical Medicine 10425 N. Oracle Rd., Suite 125 Oro Valley, AZ, 85737

(520) 934-0130



520-934-0130

10425 N Oracle Rd., Suite 125 Oro Valley, AZ 85737

FEATURES

Picacho painted in bright blooms

BY DAVE PERRY

Tucson Local Media Contributor

hat some describe as a wildflower "superbloom" is painting the flanks of Picacho Peak.

The iconic volcanic mountain just northwest of Marana is glowing with acres of golden poppies, purple Coulter's lupine, white tackstem and twist flower, owl clover, Arizona bluebells, scorpion weed, globemallow, yellow fiddlenecks, creosote and brittlebush. The gold can be seen from miles away.

The 2023 bloom is bounteous because, since Sept. 1, Picacho Peak has been bathed in more than 9 inches of wellspaced rains, topped by more than 3 inches in December.

Michelle Thompson, chief of communications and public information officer for Arizona State Parks and Trails,

SEE **BLOOMS** PAGE 7



Poppies are the "star of the show" this spring at Picacho Peak State Park. Purple lupine add the accent color. (Dave Perry/Contributor)

Offers available only through 3/31/23

\$500 OFF HEARING **AID PURCHASE**

RISK-FREE, 2-WEEK TRIAL

Zero cost. Zero obligation.

Be Brilliant™

For a better hearing experience, you need Augmented Xperience.

Discover the hearing aids that 94% of wearers report excellent speech understanding.*

To learn more,

call us today and schedule your free, no-commitment demonstration!

520-219-1151

NEW

Upgraded eWindScreen for

Improved AX Soundscape Processing

to help you engage in challenging

sound environmments.**





Hear better and live better with Augmented Xperience (AX). Look for it in full range of Signia hearing aid styles, models and price points. smarter, faster wind noise reduction.

AZ technology delivers speech that sounds clearer and closer to you - speech as it was always meant to heard.

It's speech clarity your ears will notice, and it's only available in Signia Hearing aids with AX technology.













Arizona State Licensed & Board **Certified Hearing Specialists** SIGNIA Authorized Dealer



Accepting most major insurance. | AARP Discounts.

See store for more details. ** Avail-







BLOOMS FROM PAGE 6

said this is "definitely a great year for the blooms.

"This year's winter precipitation and cool weather helped create a good environment for the blooms," Thompson said. "This is the first good wildflower season we have had in several years, which also means that seeds from previous years had been getting ready for this time. With the cool conditions, soil was able to hold in more moisture, flowers were able to bloom, and with no frost, they kept going."

And going. And going. And the people are peeking, and peeking.

Kristin Brown, who has worked at Picacho Peak State Park for about 18 months, became the park's manager in early March. Talk about trial by flower.

"I cannot even believe this," Brown said on a late-evening call from her home at Corona de Tucson, more than an hour's drive to work. "It is crazy."

On that sunny Wednesday, more than 600 vehicles entered the park. More than 1,000 vehicles were counted the previous Saturday. The line of vehicles strung from

the park entrance nearly to I-10. Portable toilets are in place; Picacho Peak has to truck in water for general use. Rangers from other state parks are on loan to Picacho, helping to monitor parking ... and behaviors.

"People going off the trails is a huge problem right now," Brown said. They are encouraged to "stay on trail, don't pick the flowers, and they're just not listening."

Social media posts show guests laying in poppy fields. Those in repose need to be careful, she continued. Brown, who loves snakes, said two active diamondback rattlers showed up at the park's Sunset Vista a week ago. Snakes are visible on trails; among the flowers, she said, "you don't know what's under there."

Brown is torn by the impact, to an extent. So many people say, "'I drive by here all the time and I never stop. It's so beautiful here," Brown said. "I love sharing it."

Enthusiasts have driven to see Picacho's blooms for decades. A good wildflower bloom requires an unusually early, wet winter rainy season, sources indicate. Those rains must be well-spaced for a superbloom, which typically occurs about once every 10 years across the Sonoran

Picacho Peak's rains have been ample, and ideally spaced, over the last six months. A half-inch fell in September, .75 in October, a half-inch in November. Then, in December, the park was awash in 3.5 inches of rain, followed by 1.75 in January and 2.25 in February. That's 9.25 inches in half a year. Nearby Eloy averages 13 inches a year. Even a rare March snowfall didn't chill the bloom.

Poppies, light yellow to rich orange, are "the star of the show," Brown said. Brittlebush and creosote are coming into full

Visitation bloomed in late February. The first weekend in March was "just insane," Brown said, "and every day this week so far. We've just had hundreds of vehicles coming in, from all over the

Devotees think the Picacho bloom may last "a couple more works," toward the end of March and maybe into early April, Brown said. Still to come - cactus flowers, most often starting in April, and extending into May before the saguaros

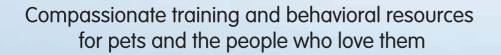
bloom mid-May to mid-June, ahead of

As the heat rises, Picacho Peak State Park will become "a ghost town," Brown said. Those few early-morning hikers are gone by 10 a.m. "We get a lot of projects done in the summer," Brown said. Buildings are painted, signs fixed, campgrounds groomed. She wants to make big improvements in park facilities, and very much wants to promote the park.

Park management is a career change for Brown, who hails from Southern Indiana and spent years in South Carolina. She worked in sales and marketing, and sold building materials, before she and her husband moved to greater Tucson.

"I fell in love with the landscape and the mountains," she said. "I said 'I'm getting an outside job." She was a volunteer for state parks before landing work at Picacho Peak State Park. "It's been amazing," she said. "I love it out there."

Catalina State Park is in the initial stage of a wide bloom, too. It's been cooler and cloudier in the Catalinas, but there's been "good moisture," the state has posted, and the bloom is rising.



Do you have a dog? We have a class for you.

Whether your pup needs enrichment and socialization, behavior modification, or basic manners and life skills, we've got classes to help you improve your relationship with your best friend!



Puppy Kindergarten Mindful Manners





Life Skills 1



Behavior Modification 1:1



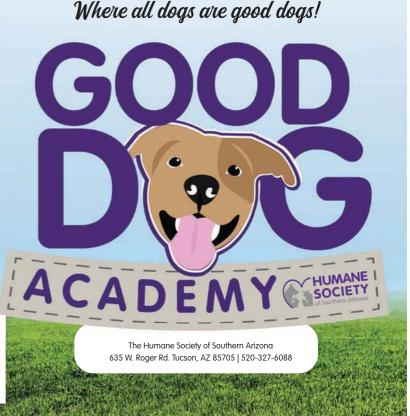
Pet VIP Certification ...and many more!

Improve your relationship with your best friend Sign up today!

Find the right class for you and sign up today!

www.HSSAZ.org/GOODDOG





TREASURES FROM PAGE 1

grant from Angel Charity for Children. She could hardly believe it when she heard the news.

"The Angel Charity, winning that was a freak," she said.

"I never expected that. I applied on a whim. I hadn't applied before because it's a very hard grant to get...(I thought) if we get it, we get it. If we don't, we don't, we'll try for another one, and they called me, and I almost died."

Tucson-based Angel Charity strives to meet the needs of all Pima County children ages 0 to 18. It's an impossible task, of course, but that doesn't stop the members from working toward that goal, to which they are committed said vice chair Carrie Durham.

One way they do it is by raising money, then giving grants to Pima County nonprofits that serve children. This year Treasures4Teachers was one of seven nonprofits that were awarded a check, out of the more than 50 that applied.

It was no small task to apply.

"It's pretty extensive," Durham said. "They are required to be a 501(c)(3) (charity organization). They are required to submit doc-



Adrienne Ledford established Treasures4Teachers eight years ago to help teachers get the class-room supplies they need. (*Karen Schaffner/Staff*)

umentation of who they are, what they do, audits, tax returns. They basically have to show the work they have been doing and the

demographics that they serve."

Then there's the presentation for the charity selection committee of Angel Charity, where Ledford told the story of Treasures4Teachers. Their mission fell right into Angel Charity's purview.

"A lot of us in that body were remembering COVID, remembering how devastating that was to families and how families immediately learned how important teachers are," Durham said.

"There is such a lack of funding to teachers through the state of Arizona. (The grant) was trying to do whatever we could and can do to help the teachers have an easier time educating our children."

Treasures4Teachers works by membership: \$35 a year for unlimited shopping. It's not just loose items; it's books — lots of books, including textbooks, picture books, middle school and young adult novels and books that help teachers deal with children's emotional issues.

There are classroom posters and dry erase markers; yarn and knitting needles; games, puzzles and electronics, like a working printer just waiting for a new home. Many items are free; many cost \$1 or \$2. Then there's the \$5 bag, where a member teacher may walk

the aisles and fill the bag.

"It's \$35 a year," Ledford said. "We're open four days a week. They can come all four days if they want and take as much as they want."

That \$35 membership fee is part of what Ledford plans to do with the grant money.

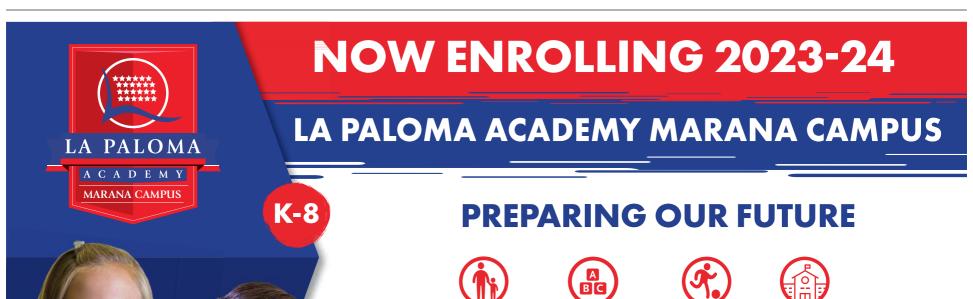
"On April 1 we are giving away 100 free memberships to teachers," Ledford said. She is also giving away six T for T-Mobiles, which is when they deliver bags of supplies and snacks to Title 1 schools worth about \$1,200 each. Finally, the grant will go toward the salaries of two part-time employees.

The organization runs on donations — items and money. One of their donors is Joann Fabrics, which sends goods that might otherwise end up in a landfill. It's the same with their local dollar store. Most people think of office supplies when they think of classroom needs, but Ledford wants something else.

"(People) think of paper and pencils and crayons and markers," Ledford said. "No. I don't want any of that stuff. What I prefer is loose parts (for) science projects. These are things teachers have to spend money on at

IN ACADEMICS

SEE TREASURES PAGE 16



AFTER-SCHOOL

PROGRAM

RESERVE A SPOT FOR YOUR CHILD NOW!

KINDERGARTEN

LPATUCSON.ORG

(520) 825-9667 • 13644 N. SANDARIO RD. • MARANA, AZ 85653

DO I HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF TRANSACTIONS?

DO I HAVE THE HIGHEST VOLUME OF SALES?
NOT CLOSE

DO I DELIVER EXCEPTIONAL PERSONAL SERVICE AND AN EXEMPLARY CLIENT EXPERIENCE?

DOWNERSY SINGLE TIME

WAS I VOTED A TOP REALTOR IN THE NORTHWEST?

WHY? BECAUSE I'M:
AUTHENTIC
ALWAYS AVAILABLE
PERSONALLY RESPONSIVE
AN ORO VALLEY RESIDENT
APPROACHABLE & FRIENDLY

PLUS I HAVE:
SUPERB COMMUNICATION
SKILLS AND TOP NOTCH
MARKET KNOWLEDGE
EXCELLENT CLIENT REVIEWS
TIME TO DEVOTE TO EACH CLIENT

JEFF SCHUCHART



VOTED AS BEST REALTOR

JEFF SCHUCHART





JEFFS@LONGREALTY.COM WWW.JEFFS.LONGREALTY.COM

C: 610-401-7553

O: 520-918-5956

CHOW

The Pasta Shop serves quick food, impacts community

BY VERONICA KUFFEL

Inside Tucson Business Staff

hen Luz and Ben Platt married, he insisted on catering their wedding. Brian worked in an Italian restaurant and discovered a love for the cuisine. Both dreamed of the day they could manage their own pasta shop.

"He's always catered different friends' events and Christmas parties," Luz said. "We knew he could do it, but we never had the funds to make it happen. In 2022, we sold our franchises and decided to go for it."

After years of managing restaurants and franchises, the Platts opened The Pasta Shop, a build-your-own Italian restaurant with fresh sandwiches and salads, in 2022.

They figured it was the perfect project. Platt said they saw a need for quick service in a family-friendly environment. They enjoyed the cuisine, but with two

toddlers, fancy pasta restaurants felt inaccessible.

"We didn't really see that anywhere," Luz said. "We have two young kids, and it's so important for us to have those quick meals. We wanted to be able to grab spaghetti and go, to have it at your table within 10 minutes."

At The Pasta Shop, customers can choose between different types of pasta, like bow tie or fettuccine, and add any homemade sauce from marinara to alfredo. The Pasta Shop also offers gluten-free or vegetable noodles as dietary alternatives. From there, customers may add protein and vegetable options at an additional price.

The Platts also offer a list of savory sandwiches and salads, along with classic Italian desserts and variants of garlic bread. The couple sources their food from Shamrock Farms, and Brian makes almost everything homemade. Luz noted that although they're not a fully scratch



Luz and Brian Platt pose in a booth at The Pasta Shop. (Luz Platt/Submitted)

kitchen, they cook a lot of their cuisine with fresh ingredients.

"Most of our sauces are made in-house, only our pesto is ordered out," Luz said. "Everything is made fresh, so our chicken, for example, is breaded in the restaurant. We don't do frozen meatballs, either. Brian makes them in the restaurant."

SEE PASTA PAGE 11







Menu items from The Pasta Shop, a new Italian restaurant in Marana. (Luz Platt/Submitted)

PASTA FROM PAGE 10

In addition to quality fast food, The Pasta Shop also has a play area for children with books, blocks and other toys. Luz ensured the corner is sanitized regularly and safe for kids to play while their parents watch and eat.

Every choice on the business side reflects the Platts' vast experience in the industry. For the past 12 years, the couple worked in restaurants and local franchising. It took time for the Platts to open The Pasta Shop, but according to Luz, gaining their present knowledge and expertise was worth it.

"We both really took some time to learn our skills," Luz noted. "Now, we're able to combine them into The Pasta Shop. It's great to see the response from everybody and how our ideas are conceptualized."

Brain learned the operation and finance skills to run a restaurant. His wife noted he knows the price of a single napkin and could cut down costs when needed and still maintain quality.

Like her husband, Luz worked in food industry management and specialized in marketing. She currently works with Sun Tran as their community outreach manager and utilizes her connections and experience to improve The Pasta Shop. She also handles the restaurant's marketing and social media.

The pair's success in Marana goes beyond the restaurant. With Platts Partner-

ship LLC, their next goal is to help other food entrepreneurs with their businesses.

"We would love to help other amazing people in the industry to open their own restaurants," Luz said. "So many people are so good and talented, but they don't have the operational or marketing skills. We want to give back, and we want to drive business to each other."

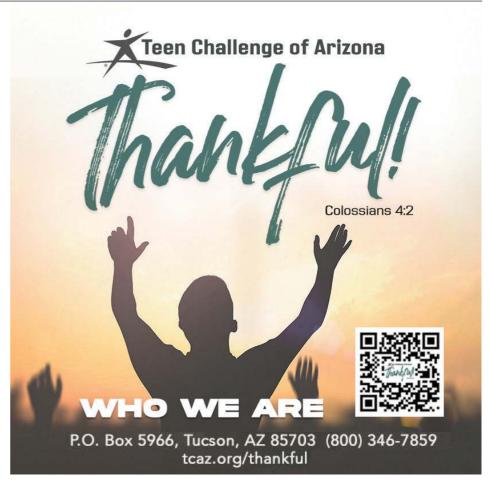
Through their restaurant, the Platts also help other organizations throughout the community. The pair serve the Marana public school system by catering events for the PTA. They partnered with the Southern Arizona Diaper Bank after learning how expensive they were with their first child. The Pasta Shop will help cut the ribbon at the nonprofit's upcoming celebration at Benson Hospital on March 31.

According to the couple, the restaurant is their way to give back to the community. Marana is growing, and The Pasta Shop works to increase local progress.

"If you're not there, you don't know," Luz said. "It's so important to be in the community you serve because that's how you know the need and you're able to help. I'm excited to be able to help through our restaurant."

The Pasta Shop

3951 W. Ina Road, Marana 520-467-3840 https://thepastashopaz.square.site/





MARANA MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Town provides 'one water' services

BY JING LUO

Town of Marana Water Director

s the director of Marana Water, I am pleased to share with you our commitment to providing safe, reliable, and affordable water to the community. Water is an essential resource, and we take our responsibility to manage it seriously.

It is our goal to deliver cutting edge "one water" services to current and future generations, while fostering a nurturing, trusting, and empowering workplace.

In this message, I want to highlight some key areas of focus for Marana Water and share our progress toward achieving our mission.

Our top priority is ensuring long-term water sustainability in the community. We work to protect and manage the water sources, reduce water waste, and promote water-saving practices. We also collaborate with professional consultants to identify and develop new renewable water resources and implement innovative solutions for sustainable water management.

One of our additional priorities is ensuring that the water supply is clean and safe for everyone to use. We use state-of-the-art treatment technologies to remove emerging contaminants, such as per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) from community's drinking water supply. We also work closely with professional consultants to develop strategies to meet potentially more stringent standards for emerging contaminants.

Water is a precious resource, and we recognize the importance of conserving it. We are working on a water conservation program that will offer rebates for water-efficient appliances. We also educate customers on the importance of reducing water waste and how small changes in daily habits can make a significant impact. We encourage customers to participate in Marana's "Water Citizen Academy."

We understand the importance of maintaining and upgrading our infrastructure to ensure a reliable water supply for years to come. We have awarded the construction contract to build a 1.5-million-gallon reservoir and an 800-gpm production well.

We also prioritize upgrades to aging infrastructure to prevent water loss and ensure water quality.

Our commitment to customer service is at the heart of everything we do. We strive to provide excellent customer service and be responsive to customers' needs and concerns. We recently commissioned a new customer information system, calledl SpryPoint, which offers convenient online billing and customer portals, as well as a user-friendly interface with our smart meter program.

We are always looking for ways to improve and make our services more accessible and user-friendly.

Marana Water is committed to providing clean, safe, and reliable water to the community while also prioritizing water conservation, infrastructure improvements, customer service, and, overall, environmental stewardship. We have and will continue to work diligently to ensure that we meet and exceed our goals while maintaining the highest standards of service and quality. Thank you for your trust and support in Marana Water.



Jing Luo is the town of Marana's water director. (Town of Marana/Submitted)



SPORTS & RECREATION

EXTRA POINT WITH TOM DANEHY

Some spring cleaning in time for the vernal equinox

BY TOM DANEHY

Tucson Local Media Columnist

he vernal equinox will occur on Monday, March 20. It's the moment when the sun crosses the celestial equator in a northerly direction, marking the prime meridian of right ascension. (Hey, you can like sports and know stuff like this, too.) Accordingly, it's time to do a little spring cleaning, touching on a few topics of note.

It's been more than a decade since Tucson hosted its final spring training game. It was a semi-sad moment, seeing as how Tucson had been home to spring training since 1946 when baseball legend Bill Veeck brought his Cleveland Indians out west to get ready for the regular season.

It appeared to have been a perfect fit for the Arizona Diamondbacks, a chance to train in Arizona but away from the Valley where they would be spending the next six months. But the combination of whiny millionaire ballplayers griping about having to make the occasional bus trip, and money-is-everything baseball executives looking to squeeze out every last penny from fans, eventually led to the end of spring training in the Old Pueblo.

I was wondering about how other longtime Tucsonans felt about the loss of spring training. A while back, I went to Udall Park on Tucson's eastside to talk to some members of Tucson Old-Timer Baseball group. (It's really cool; they're a bunch of guys in their 60s and 70s who have never lost the



thrill of playing baseball.)

There was a wide range of responses, but the consensus was that they had all attended spring training games back in the day, but they don't really miss it all that much. Most will make a trip to Phoenix, San Diego, or LA for a regular-season game, but spring training? Nah.

Kids who are playing high-school base-ball and have lived in Tucson their entire lives have no memory of spring training in these parts. When spring training came to an end here, it was initially treated as something cataclysmic. Now, it's just a Major League Meh.

A few weeks ago, I wrote about the highschool basketball playoffs, in general, and the new Open Tournament Championship, in particular. Misguidedly taking their cue from other states (in many of which the format is different), the Arizona Interscholastic Association came up with an odd format in which 32 teams were selected from among the top teams in the 6A, 5A and 4A. (Theoretically, a team from 1A, 2A or 3A could be selected, but that will probably never happen.)

Those 32 teams play a single-elimination tournament to (theoretically) determine the absolute best team in Arizona. To keep teams from opting out of the open championship, the AIA added an odd kicker. If a team lost in the first or second rounds of the open, they would just drop back into the regular 4A, 5A or 6A State Tournaments to compete for that title.

I suggested (warned) that it might lead to a situation where teams would either regret making it past the first two rounds or, looking at what lay ahead, would perhaps consider not making it that far (opening up a giant ethical can of worms). Well, it didn't take long.

The girls' teams from Flowing Wells, Sahuaro, Salpointe and Pueblo all made it to the open tournament. Flowing Wells lost in

the first round, while Sahuaro and Pueblo lost in the second round. Meanwhile, Salpointe (which had beaten the three other aforementioned teams twice each during the season) won a close second-round game at home to advance to the third round of the open.

Flowing Wells and Sahuaro won their first-round games in the 4A Tournament, but lost in the second round. Pueblo went on a run that included an upset of the top-ranked team, Mesquite, and a spot in the championship game, which they lost by three. Meanwhile, Salpointe was hammered in the third round of the Open by eventual champion Desert Vista, a team that looked and played like a college squad.

I haven't spoken to any players or coaches from Salpointe, but they're probably beside themselves. They had a good shot of making it back to the 4A State Championship game this year.

I did talk to some other coaches off the record and they all said that they would give serious consideration to finding a way not to win that second-round game in the Open. You don't hang a banner for reaching the third round of the open.

The AIA has a serious problem of its own making.

A quick note about filling out your NCAA Basketball Tournament bracket. First off, you're not going to win. Somebody else is. Second, while upsets are what make the tournament so much fun, in the end, two or three of the teams in the Final Four will be No. 1 seeds. Pick accordingly.





TucsonArizRealEstate.com | facebook.com/RichmanTucsonHomes/

SPORTS

Athlete of the Week: Paulo Bracamonte

BY TOM DANEHY

Tucson Local Media Columnist

t had been a shaky start of the season for Paulo Bracamonte and his Ironwood Ridge teammates. The senior third baseman was hoping that the Nighthawks could get off to a strong start, settle on a pitching rotation, get the offense going, and set up a tough defense. And he was hoping that they could get all of that done before the early-season matchup with rival Canyon Del Oro.

The two schools, both in the Amphi District, are only a few miles apart, so a rivalry between the two seems preordained. However, it's not all it could be, because Ironwood Ridge is in Class 5A while CDO is 4A. So, they only play once a year and it's a nonconference game.

Last year's game was a great one. Bracamonte's Nighthawks fell behind 5-0 after two innings, but came all the way back to tie the game, only to eventually lose, 6-5. After that, the two teams' paths diverged.



Senior Paulo Bracamonte is keeping his eye on a spot on a college baseball squad. (Submitted)

Ironwood Ridge finished fourth in their division before losing a first-round game at state, while Canyon Del Oro went on to win the 4A State championship, beating powerhouse Salpointe Catholic (which doesn't belong in the 4A) in the title game.

This year's game with CDO came too early in the season for Bracamonte. The Nighthawks had stumbled out of the gate. Playing in a preseason tournament, they won three games by a lopsided score of 37-12. But they had also lost to a team from Texas before getting blasted by Yuma High, 22-3. Cool fact: Yuma High's mascot is The Criminals, so named for the (in)famous Territorial Prison, the one referred to in the movie title "3:10 To Yuma" and one that is now a State Historic Park. Yuma is the only school in America with Criminals as a mascot.

What followed was a week to forget. In a span of five days, they went 0-3. A brutal 2-1 pitchers' duel loss to Sahuaro was sandwiched in between blowout losses to powerful Tucson High and Casteel High from Queen Creek. Then came the CDO game, with absolutely no momentum on the Nighthawks' side whatsoever.

After he graduates in May, Paulo wants to go to a college where he can study kinesiology. But he also wants to go someplace where he can continue playing. "I love baseball. I want to keep playing. It's part of who I am."

He would love to be a part of the Pima Community College program. He loves just about everything about Pima — its approach to the game, the way it plays with a combination of passion and discipline, even the way it warms up. "I like to go to the Pima games early, just to watch them get ready and take batting practice."

But that's off in the distance. First, he has to try to help his team turn around a 5-8 start to their season. Well, how's this for a turnaround? Last week, Paulo's RBI double helped spark Ironwood Ridge to a rousing 10-6 win...over CDO.





advance. The interest rate will be fixed at 4.99% APR during the twelve-month introductory period. Variable Rate HELOC: After the twelve-month introductory period, the APR will range from 8.00%-17.25% and will vary quarterly based on the Prime Rate (7.75% as of 2/2/2023). The rate will not adjust higher than 18.00% APR Fixed Rate HELOC: After the twelve-month introductory period, the APR will range from 9.00%-18.00%. Offer

is subject to normal credit qualifications and acceptable loan to value. Rates are subject to change

Membership required – based on eligibility and a minimum opening deposit of \$5.00. Estimated aggregate third-party fees are \$200-1,025. Federally insured by NCUA. NMLS #408885.

Xylazine: Another drug problem looming

BY MIA SMITT

Tucson Local Media Columnist

s if we do not have enough problems as a society with the proliferation of heroin and fentanyl, there is another drug surfacing that causes as much, if not more devastation.

Xylazine is an animal tranquilizer; hence its common street name is "tranq." The most common trade names are Rompun, Anased, Sedazine and Chanazine. This is a legal nonopioid analgesic medication that is available to veterinarians in doses according to an animal's weight. It is not approved for human use.

But we are seeing today that it is being mixed into such opiod substances as heroin, fentanyl and cocaine to boost and lengthen the effects of these drugs. Because of these heightened effects, other street names have arisen such as "zombie drug" and "tranq dope," "trash can," "rampage," "black mask" and others. It has been of concern in the street supply of illegal drugs in Puerto Rico for several years and recently the supply hub has been Philadelphia, where 90% of the illicit fentanyl was found to contain xylazine.

This is dangerous stuff. Xylazine can induce a blackout loss of consciousness or stupor that can last for many hours. Users with diminished consciousness can become more vulnerable to the physical dangers of busy streets, inclement weather and crime-ridden neighborhoods where robbery and rape are common.

It can cause physical wounds at injection sites that fester and become covered with a dead tissue layer called eschar and if left untreated can lead to amputation.

It is an alpha 2 agonist drug that can cause a slowed heartbeat, and temporary high blood pressure followed by a very low blood pressure. Blurred vision, confusion, somnolence, high blood sugar, problems with walking and balance, slowed breathing, and unconsciousness may occur. These effects have been seen in people with a blood concentration between 30 and 4,600 nanograms (one billionth of a gram) per milliliter. The effects occur within minutes. Add this to the effects of fentanyl and heroin and the



results are often deadly. Overdoses are hard to detect and xylazine does not respond to Narcan since it is not an opiod.

According to the journal, Drug and Alcohol Dependence (April 2022), in 10 jurisdictions representing the four U.S. Census regions (northeast, south, midwest and west), xylazine was increasingly present in overdose deaths. Illegally manufactured fentanyl was present in 98.4% of xylazine-present overdose deaths. Cocaine was found in 45.4%, 28.4% in benzodiazepines (such as valium and Xanax), 23.3% in heroin, and 19.7% in alcohol overdose deaths. The increase in xylazine related deaths is astounding in every region.

From 2020-2021, the increase in the northeast was 103%. In the Midwest, there was a 515% increase and the west saw a 750% increase. In the south, sadly, that increase was a 1,127% increase in the xylazine related overdose deaths. This drug is a legitimate animal tranquilizer and sedative, but it is a scourge in the illicit drug using population.

A study published in the Oct. 14 issue of the Journal of Analytical Toxicology showed that xylazine was found in the illicit drug supply in 36 states and in Washington, D.C. In November 2022, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a four page xylazine alert for clinicians. The detection of xylazine in drug mixtures, especially fentanyl, is increasing across the country. Though not an opioid, it can cause respiratory depression similar to that of an opioid overdose.

Narcan can neutralize the effects of the opiods such as fentanyl or heroin in the drug mixture but not the xylazine so the potential for a fatal overdose is much higher. First responders and emergency clinicians may not be aware of the xylazine factor and may not know how to apply additional life saving treatments when the narcan only partially reverses the overdose symptoms. Maintaining breathing is paramount to saving lives.

The increasing abuse of xylazine may be partly due to its inexpensive price. Its low cost is a boon to drug traffickers, and it is being mixed into such opioid substances as heroin, fentanyl, and cocaine to increase and extend the effects of these drugs. A "new and better high" attracts more customers. This drug has been on the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) radar for a few years.

In 2019 it found xylazine in 5.8% of overdose deaths. During the first six months of 2020, that number almost doubled to 11.4%. The full scope of overdose deaths related to xylazine is uncertain as statistics are often not available for analysis. Research has shown these overdose deaths have been spreading westward in

the United States for a few years.

In Pennsylvania, from 2015 to 2020 the percentage of drug overdose deaths involving xylazine increased from two to 26 percent. There are no available national statistics 2022 or for Arizona as yet and the true prevalence is unknown. Many hospitals and medical examiners don't routinely test for this.

The FDA has issued an import alert, but its value is questionable since the xylazine in the illicit drug supply is not coming from outside the country but from American distributors. The push should be for the DEA to include xylazine in its scheduled drugs list since it has such a high abuse potential.

So, what's the take home message? Clinicians need to be aware of this rising menace and be prepared to treat its victims. As a community we can petition the DEA to make this a scheduled drug and monitor its sale and use. And we can pray for an end to the scourge of deadly drugs so easily available for abuse.

Mia Smitt is a longtime nurse practitioner. She writes a regular column for Tucson Local Media.



Council to host finance workshops for teens

SPECIAL TO TUCSON LOCAL MEDIA

he town of Oro Valley's Youth Advisory Council will continue its series of finance workshops targeted to teenagers and their parents or legal guardians with "How to Pay for College" on Saturday, April 22.

The free workshops will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. and will be taught by a financial advisor with over 20 years of experience. The schedule is as follows:

Saturday, April 22 Topic: "How to Pay for College" Oro Valley Public Library 1305 W. Naranja Drive

Saturday, May 6 Topic: "How to Think like a Businessperson" Oro Valley Council Chambers 11000 N. La Cañada Drive

For more information, contact Jessica Hynd at 520-229-4711 or jhynd@orovalleyaz.gov.

The Oro Valley Youth Advisory Council is a diverse group of youth advocates from several high schools in Oro Valley.

Its mission is to develop the voices of Oro Valley's youth, bridge gaps in the community, create and participate in public service projects and serve as a voice for youth in the Oro Valley town government. The Youth Advisory Council is seeking applications from students interested in serving on the council for the 2023/24 school year. To apply, visit https://bit.ly/YACApplicationOV. To learn more about the Youth Advisory Council, visit orovalleyaz.gov.

SPELLING BEE FROM PAGE 1

coordinated by the Arizona Educational Foundation. Spellers competed against each other from different school locations across the state. Arizona has one of the largest spelling bee participation rates in the nation, with over 484,122 students competing from all schools that are eligible to compete across the state, including public, private, charter and homeschools.

"It's thrilling and inspiring to see the dedication and determination of these students," said Dr. Teresa Hill, AEF deputy director and coordinator for the Arizona Spelling Bee. "Being a champion speller takes thousands of hours of hard work, and it's exciting to see all of the students showcasing their talents at the bee."

AEF was the recipient of a \$25,000 grant from Thunderbirds Charities to support the Arizona State Spelling Bee this year.

"We are proud to support The Arizona

State Spelling Bee, hosted by the Arizona Educational Foundation," said Michael Golding, Thunderbirds Charities president. "This program provides another opportunity for students to improve upon their literacy skills in a fun and exciting way. We look forward to this event each year and are proud of the student's hard work and dedication."

For the two students who place first and second place in the State Spelling Bee, AEF supports travel for the students and their chaperones to represent Arizona as official champions in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in National Harbor, Mary-

The 2023 Scripps National Spelling Bee Finals will be broadcast live on ION Thursday, June 1.

A video recording of the spelling bee will be uploaded to the Arizona Educational Foundation's YouTube channel and website after April 1.

the other big box stores."

TREASURES FROM PAGE 8

Ledford is also asking for toilet paper rolls (the inner cardboard part), egg cartons and, frankly, money.

"Teachers suffered during the pandemic," Ledford said.

"I saw a lot of crying teachers, and then they got a bad rap because the kids weren't learning. We weren't ready to handle (the shutdown) properly. The kids are behind so we're struggling to catch up. People say, 'Why do you have to have this kind of place?' Because it helps the kids to learn better."

"That group of people for Treasures4Teachers is just amazing, and again, we cannot do enough for teachers right now," Durham added.

Treasures4Teachers

6800 N. Camino Martin, Suite 124, Tucson 520-425-3956 t4teachers.org Angel Charity for Children angelcharity.org

TRICO ANNUAL MEETING

Your Source For Community News! Tucson<mark>local</mark>media

SAVE THE DATE: 2023 TRICO ANNUAL MEETING

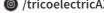
SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023 • 11AM CASINO DEL SOL RESORT, 5655 W. VALENCIA RD.

- 9 a.m. Registration opens
- 9–11 a.m. Informational Booths and Workshops
- 11 a.m. Meeting starts
- Please bring a copy of your bill for fast check in
- Win raffle prizes (must be present to win)
- Trees will be available for purchase



(520) 744-2944 • www.trico.coop 👔 /tricoelectric 📵 /tricoelectricAZ









Linsalata chosen as MUSD assistant superintendent

SPECIAL TO TUCSON LOCAL MEDIA

he Marana Unified School District Governing Board selected Denise Linsalata as assistant superintendent.

The MUSD Governing Board members voted during their regularly scheduled March 9 meeting in favor of hiring Linsalata for the role.

Linsalata will assume her position as assistant superintendent effective July 1. The position is held by Dr. Carolyn Dumler, assistant superintendent of human resources, who is retiring after 37 years of service at MUSD.

Over the past few weeks, an assistant superintendent selection committee — comprised of directors, principals, senior staff and governing board member Kathryn Mikronis — paper screened several highly qualified applicants for the position.

From that process, four candidates were chosen to proceed with the interview process. At the recommendation of the selection committee, Linsalata was recommended to be one of the candidates to move forward with a final interview with governing board President Dr. Maribel Lopez and Superintendent Dr. Dan Streeter.

Linsalata serves as executive director of state and federal relations for MUSD, where she supports five Title 1 elementary schools, manages state and federal entitlement grants and programs, and supports schools with improvement planning. An employee since 1995, she has served in additional positions including teacher, assistant to the principal, principal, and director of state and federal relations.

"As an employee of more than 28 years, I am proud to be a part of the Marana Unified School District, further promoting and supporting the district's vision and mission," Linsalata said. "I look forward to continuing to serve the students, staff, and families in the district in this new position."



Denise Linsalata has worked for the Marana Unified School District for 28 years. (Denise Linsalata/Submitted)



Our Players Get The Perks!

New Members Get Up to \$40 in FREE PLAY!

Join the Apache Legends Players Club! New members get \$20 in FREE PLAY upon registering. Plus, you could qualify for an extra \$20 in FREE PLAY! Visit Players Club and sign up today!

APACHE-GOLD-CASINO.COM | 877-APACHE-3

Apache SKY

APACHESKYCASINO.COM | 888-7-APACHE

Must be 21 to participate. New member sign-ups only. Must provide valid email address at time of sign-up. Promo credits are restricted, nontransferable, and non-cashable. Unredeemed offer will expire and cannot be retrieved once it expires. Management reserves the right to alter or cancel any promotion without notice. See Players Club for full details and rules. New guest must not be barred or excluded to participate.

YOUTH

Scafede named principal of Picture Rocks

SPECIAL TO TUCSON LOCAL MEDIA

he Marana Unified School District Governing Board selected Vanessa Scafede as principal of Picture Rocks Elementary School.

The MUSD Governing Board members voted during their regularly scheduled March 9 meeting in favor of hiring Scafede for the role.

Scafede will assume her position as principal effective July 13. The position is held by Mary O'Hara-Perkins, who is retiring after 22 years of service at MUSD, and of those, six years as principal of Picture Rocks Elementary School.

Over the past few weeks, the principal selection committee —comprised of teachers, support staff, parents, principals, senior staff and governing board members — has paper screened and interviewed candidates for the principal opening at PRE.

From that process, four quality candidates were chosen to proceed with the interview process. At the recommendation of the selection committee, two finalists were recommended to move forward with a final interview with Governing Board President Dr. Maribel Lopez and Superintendent Dr. Dan Streeter.

Scafede has been with the district since 2007 and serves as associate principal of Ironwood Elementary School. In that



The Marana Unified School District Governing Board voted to hire Vanessa Scafede as principal of Picture Rocks Elementary School. (Vanessa Scafede/Submitted)

role, she has ensured quality instruction and professional learning and collected and used data to set school goals while supporting the principal through assigned duties and responsibilities.

She also mentored new elementary associate principals in MUSD and served as a member of the district's Elementary Discipline and Social & Emotional Learning Committees. Prior to serving the Ironwood Elementary community, she was the associate principal for Picture Rocks Elementary.

Scafede is excited to return to the Picture Rocks community as the principal.

"I'm eager to bring my experience, knowledge, and passion to a school that holds a special place in my heart. I look forward to re-connecting with the staff, students and families that make up this wonderful community, and working together to create a school culture that fosters growth, learning, and success," Scafede said. "Let's make this school the best it can be."





The New York Times Crossword

20 33 39 44 50 53 62 63 65 66

Across

- Center of an ear of corn
- Met the golf course standard
- 11 X, to Greeks
- "Wise" bird 14
- Last car on classic trains
- Word repeated before 16 "hurray!"
- Only three-letter zodiac sign
- 'Bama rival
- 19 Letters on a wanted poster
- Mexican marinade made with chili peppers
- 22 Craving
- 23 Officiated at a baseball game
- Bit of banking documentation
- "Let me inquire about that" 28
- "Finally!" 30
- Modernist architect I. M. 33
- Coins used in 19 countries 34
- 38 Status
- 39 Cause of many California earthquakes
- 44 "Aida" or "Lohengrin"
- Lead-in to "for a moment" or "for profit"
- 46 Ways reporters get some secret information

- Stadium cheer
- Oily roofing material
- 50 Former moniker of reality TV child star Alana Thompson
- Cole
- Scottish estate owner
- Letters on love letters
- **Bottle stopper**
- "Oopsie!" ... and a hint to the ends of 18-, 25-, 39- and 50-Across
- 63 "This round's "
- 64 Novelist James who co-wrote the screenplay for "The African Queen"
- 65 Like a margarita glass rim
- 66 Gravy glob
- 67 Flushed, as cheeks
- "Didn't I tell you?!"
- Dry cleaner's target

Down

- Pepsi or RC
- 2 Had bills to pay
- 3 Concern for a horse breeder
- 4 lce cream cone portions
- 5 Shakespearean prince
- 6 Earns a dog treat, say

Edited by WIII Shortz

- 7 Actress Marisa of "The Wrestler"
- 8 Pencil tip
- Beast of burden
- Outcome
- Town in Westchester County, N.Y., where the Clintons live
- Walk with a backpack, maybe
- Amazon Fire competitor
- Actress Arthur of "The Golden Girls"
- Thousand G's
- Gave approval
- Back talk
- 28 facto
- Big jump
- Act like a sore loser
- Many "PAW Patrol" watchers
- Caterer's coffee vessel
- Onetime manufacturer of the Flying Cloud and Royale
- 37 Cheerios grain
- It's pressed to go left, right, up or down on a computer
- Flatbread in Indian cooking
- Makeup of a "muffin top"
- Some hairsprays
- Steering equipment on ships
- Hot boozy beverage
- Unlike rabbits, their young are born open-eyed and hopping
- 51 "Get Yer Out!" (Rolling Stones album)
- Book used at inaugurations
- Speak at length
- Confess (to)
- Surgical souvenir
- Bull's-eye for Target, e.g.
- Water balloons at summer camp, maybe
- Hung on to

* Horoscopes *

By Holiday Mathis

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Your days will be enhanced by a fresh ritual you stumble upon or create. The repetition will calm and center you, giving you one more thing to be certain about in an uncertain world. Simple rituals are best, like having the same morning, night or exercise routine.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Your opinion of yourself will fluctuate guite a lot over the course of the week, but don't let it worry you. Self-esteem doesn't determine selfworth, and it's not necessarily healthier to have high self-esteem either. Your success-move is to get curious about your thoughts and determine which ones help or hinder you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You may feel that someone is humoring you or not taking your work as seriously as they should. However, the joke is on them. They'll catch up to what you're doing eventually. Until then, seek the company and feedback of the like-minded and the open-minded. Once you start looking for them, they're everywhere.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Sure, you like to win, but you also know that winning all the time (or acting like you are) is neither useful nor fun. This week, you'll take that pressure off yourself. You find out what you're capable of the same way everyone does: by trying and sometimes missing. You'll progress joyfully.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You'll be in an existential mood, and you'll think about the kind of person you want to be and what it will take to move toward that. You'll have greater control over your time this week, which allows you to focus where you'd prefer to instead of reacting to the demands of others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

People tend to think that anyone trying too hard is covering something up. The power move is to believe in your own inherent worth so you're not overly concerned with pleasing anyone else. Do what it takes to feel confident. Prove things to yourself so you don't have to prove them to anyone else.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Staying on task and focusing on the priorities of the moment will be your forte this week. Being motivated to tend to the right thing is a gift you don't take lightly. The ability to apply yourself in this way will bring you many rewards, including a lucrative offer and a fun social opportunity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Of course it would be weird and boring if everything went the way we wanted it to. While dissatisfaction is a normal part of life, chronic discontent brings everyone down. This week, you'll gravitate to sunny personalities, and you'll add to your network of easygoing types. They're usually more interesting, as they have better things to do than complain.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Making mistakes doesn't mean (SET ITAL) you (END ITAL) are a mistake. Be careful not to overidentify with the things that happen this week. Problems are something you have, not something you are. Whether it's good luck or bad luck, don't assume you earned it, but do take your good fortune and run with it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You've a keen sense of the energy in people, places and things. You'll immediately sense good and bad vibes. You'll spend some of your week making this talent work for you by favorably arranging the elements of your environ-

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

There are many reasons you might choose to fix a thing -- for instance, a sense of responsibility, to satisfy your curiosity or to prove that you can. Beware of the fear-based reaction of "anxious fixing." Be willing to sit with a circumstance for a moment. You'll find felicitous success on the other side of acceptance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

In life and buffets, your eyes can be bigger than your appetite, and not everything tastes as good as it looks. Processing events is easier when you do it in small bites. Too much too fast can be upsetting. Portion your week modestly. You can always return for more.

Crossword Puzzle Answers

T	0	d	S			3	3	S			Y	S	0	В
Ч	M	U	٦		Y	T	٦	A	S		3	Е	B	A
3	M	N	0		a	A	В	٨	M		Ж	Я	0	Э
Ж	A	M	S		D	В	T	A	٦		M	A	٦	S
	- 1	0	0	В	0	0	В	٨	3	N	0	Н		
			Я	A	1				Н	A	Я			
S	К	A	3	٦		I	0	N		A	Я	3	Ч	0
1	٦	n	A	ь	S	A	3	В	a	N	A	N	A	S
0	n	б			S	0	В	n	3			1	Е	d
1	S	A	٦	1	A				Ж	S	A	٦	٦	Τ
		Ч	1	٦	S	Ι	Τ	S	0	Ч	3	D		
a	3	d	M	n		N	3	٨		0	В	0	a	A
A	Ж	A		S	S	T	M	3	٦	0		0	3	٦
d	Τ	Н		Ξ	S	0	0	В	A	Э		٦	M	0
T	Н	Э		Я	A	d	T	0	Н	S		В	0	Э

Worship Guide

EXPLORER MARANA NEWS 520.797.4384 CLASSIFIEDS@TUCSONLOCALMEDIA.COM

BAPTIST



Join us & our New Pastor:

Pastor Jerry Griffin & Wife Cindy

Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.

In Person: 15501 W Ajo Hwy Online: https://facebook.com/SerenityBaptistAZ/videos/

Youth: Weds @ 6:00PM Office Hrs: 9am to 1 pm Mon to Fri (Except Holidays) connect@serenitybaptist.church https://serenitybaptist.church 520.822.2026

COWBOY CHURCH

Christian Cowboy Ministries Cowboy Church

For upcoming dates, and locations for 2023

Contact: Mark at (520) 991-8511 or ccbm777@aol.com



LUTHERAN

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday 8am & 10am Wednesday Taize 6pm

Office Hours **Mon-Thurs** 9am - 3pm

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Pastor David Pavesic 7570 N Thornydale Rd • (520) 744-2665 www.beautifulsavior.net

METHODIST



Changing the world through Christ, by caring for all people

SUNDAY

8:30 & 10 a.m. in person • 10 a.m. online umcstmarks.org/live-worship

1431 W. Magee Rd. (520-297-2062) www.umcstmarks.org

Get the word out!

Reserve Ad space in your local Worship Directory

Call 520-797-4884

LUTHERAN



RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

11575 N. 1st Ave. • Oro Valley, AZ 85737 (520) 575-9901

Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran! Come join us every Saturday evening or on Sunday for worship!

Oro Valley Location

5:00 pm Saturday evening Worship 7:45 am and 9:15 am Traditional Worship and our 10:45 am Contemporary Worship!

SaddleBrooke Location

SaddleBrooke 9:00 am Worship **HOA1 Clubhouse Vermilion Room**

Online worship available anytime to fit your schedule. www.orovalley.org

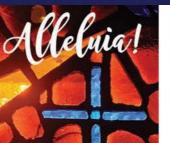
LUTHERAN

The Voice, Hand,

Santa Catalina Catholic Church

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30 am - 2:30 pm (Closed 12-12:30 pm) 520-825-9611

> Sunday Masses 7, 9, 11 am, and 5 pm Saturday Vigil Mass: 4 pm | Daily Mass: M-F 8 am Reconciliation: T-F at 7:30 am, Sat at 3:15 pm and by appointment.



Holy Week Schedule

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

6 pm - Tenebrae Service, Church

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6

5 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper, Church 6pm - Lenten Taizé Service, Church

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7

12 pm - Stations of the Cross, Memorial Garden

3 pm - The Passion of the Lord Service, Church

aster Mass Times

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8

5 pm - Easter Vigil Mass, Church

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

7 am Mass, 9 am Mass, 11 am Bilingual Mass

14380 N Oracle Rd. Tucson, AZ 85739

Visit us online at www.SantaCatalinaParish.org | ① /SantaCatalinaCatholicChurch

520.797.4384 CLASSIFIEDS@TUCSONLOCALMEDIA.COM

ORSHIP (\(\frac{1}{2} \)

520.797.4384

CLASSIFIEDS@TUCSONLOCALMEDIA.COM

METHODIST

VISTA DE LA MONTAÑA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Please join us for In-Person and Live Streamed Worship Service @10:00am, Sunday | www.vistaumc.org or watch anytime using the previous brodcast button! Please visit our website and/ or VistaUMC on Facebook for viewing and daily updates on our Sunday services.

> (520) 825-1985 www.vistaumc.org

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ORO VALLEY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Enjoy our GORGEOUS mountain view location!

www.orovalleyucc.org

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Casas Adobes Congregational, UCC

Open and Affirming

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Join Us In-Person and Online

Sundays at 9:30am In-person Taizé, 2nd Thursdays, 6:30pm



www.caucc.org/welcome

520.297.1181 | info@caucc.org | 6801 N. Oracle Road

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Service Directory

FIREARMS WANTED

Retired Saddlebrooke Gentlemen are interested in purchasing your firearms. All Kinds, Any condition, All inquiries Confidential. **CALL BOB** 520-818-0423

CLEANING SERVICES

EXPERIENCE Cleaning Services

(520)-396-8695

Free In Home Estimates Marisol Gomez: ExperienceCleaning150@gmail.com

- 25+ yrs Experience Low Prices
- Licensed & Insured
- Disinfecting
- **Eco-friendly**
- Detail is a focus
- Satisfaction is a Priority

AUTO

Tucson Car Kevs

Replace Lost or Damaged Car Keys & Remotes



www.tucsoncarkeys.com

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Dugan Elect

Immediate Response

520-850-6660

Trouble Shooting **Ceiling Fans** Lights: Recessed/LED and Under/Over Cabinet/LED **Dimmers & Outlets** Spa/Pool Wiring

Whole House Surge Protection ROC #225243

CARPET CLEANING

Awesome 30k Steamer Cleans Perfect

orovalleycarpetcleaners.com

520.331.7777 Guaranteed

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

WEIRICK ELECTRIC



"Let's build a relationship"

Weirick Electric LLC

520-256-9875

weirickelectric@gmail.com

Tyler Weirick

ADVERTISING WORKS!

Service Directory

MARANA NEWS 520.797.4384

CLASSIFIEDS@TUCSONLOCALMEDIA.COM

ELECTRICAL SERVICES



HAULING



HOME SERVICES



LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Budget Landscape

Best Quality/Lowest Price

- Irrigation Installation & Repair Tree Service • Weed Control • Cactus Removal
- Maintenance Plans Decorative Rock Hauling Junk Removal • Commercial/ Residential

358-4005 JOE

Free Estimates

10% Discount for Senior Citizens, **Military and First Responders** Insured & Bonded • Not Licensed Contractor

EMPLOYMENT-GENERAL



HOUSE CLEANING

WINDOW CLEANING

520-260-6360

LICENSED & INSURED

BBB

520-873-7848

Tucson Airport \$60

Phoenix Airport \$150* *per trip NOT per perso:

Services \$30 per hour

within 150 miles of Tucson

Insured . Licensed . Bonded

ADVERTISING WORKS!

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

ARACELI'S

Trimming • Planting & Removal

Any Type of Trees • Cactus Clean-up Maintenance We Install Timers **Repair Irrigation Systems** Gravel • Cholla Removal • Etc... All of your landscape

maintenance needs FREE ESTIMATES

Cell (520) 405-8107

LANDSCAPING

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

AZ Grand Canyon Landscaping

Most popular landscaping services we offer: Tree Trimming, Weeding,

Mowing, Junk Removal Services

Customer Satisfaction Guaranteed **Monthly Maintenance**

Low Prices Call today for a FREE ESTIMATE!

(520) 622-8167 or (520) 286-1319

www.grandcanyonlandscaping.com ROC # 3035681

LANDSCAPE DESIGN



- Maintenance
- Pathways and patios
- Irrigation
- Tree trimming
- Design and install

Reliable **Quality work Affordable** prices

CALL OR TEXT 520-389-1541

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Economy Landscape

Commercial/Residential

FREE ESTIMATES

Weed Control

Irrigation

One-Time Clean Ups

Pavers

Tree Service

· Maintenance Mgmt

*All Types of Masonry

LICENSED CONTRACTOR



520-495-8444 economylandscapellc@gmail.com

ROC# 331733 Insured and Bonded BBB





HANDYMAN

Interested applicants, please contact:

Mayra Martinez at:

mmartinez@redrockschools.con

**** **GF and Son Contractor**

Family Business 25 yrs. BBB Member & licensed. Specialize in all types of (New/Old) Roof repairs, Coating, Rotten Wood, Fascia Boards, Remodeling & Additions, Permit plans. Now Accepting Credit cards Gary or Chase 520-742-1953

PROFESSIONAL

PRICES THAT WON'T LEAVE A STREAK!

WWW.TWOGUYSANDASPONGE.COM

ALL WORK GUARANTEED • FREE ESTIMATES

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SCREEN CLEANING · WINDOW TINTING · CEILING FANS · MIRRORS

HOME SERVICES

Fran the Gopher Errand Service

www.franthegopher.com

Private Airport Transportation

Errand/Personal Assistant

Medical visits, shopping, pharmacy, transport to locations

Now providing home notary services and home watches

SERVICE DIRECTORY

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

EXTERIORS @ A DISCOUNT, Inc.

Exterior & Interior Painting For Residential & Commercia

- Pressure Washing
- Stucco & Masonry Repairs These colors
- · Kool-Dek Refinishing
- Security Door Refinishing
- Wrought Iron Gate & Fence Refinishing
- · Roof Coating, Epoxy Garage Floors

520-247-6369

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

PABLO Landscapina

IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE GRAVEL CLEAN UPS TREE TRIMMING *Call for more services FREE ESTIMATES

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

(520) 481-2824



- Irrigation
- Pavers
- Synthetic Grass
- Trimming
- Tree Trimming
- Clean Up, Maintenance
- Licensed

Español - 520.530.1523 English - 520.278.7331

Arizona.eagle77landscaping@gmail.com

GET YOUR MESSAGE TO OUR READERS CALL 520-797-4384 Tucson<mark>local</mark>media

LANDSCAPE DESIGN



PLUMBING



PLUMBING



ROOFING



ADVERTISING WORKS!

REMODELING





www.TucsonLocalMedia.com 520.797.4384 **Tucsonlocal**media

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

ARBORIST/ ISA CERTIFIED

TREE TRIMMING * TREE REPLACEMENT*TREE REMOVAL

LANSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION

COMPLETE OUTDOOR LIVING SPACES* RENOVATIONS

IRRIGATION SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

NEW INSTALLATION* TROUBLE SHOOTING EXISTING SYSTEMS

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

SPECIAL RATES: COMMERCIAL, HOA'S

ONE TIME CLEAN-UP • PREA



Spring Special 10% Savings Let's Schedule Your FREE ESTIMATE!

Call 520-312-8726 VISA 😂 🔤 DISCOVER





LICENSED CONTRACTOR Oro Valley Landscape Systems.com

ROC #219543 INSURED WE 7197A / FREE ESTIMATES

Must Mention This Ad to Receive Discount!



THE HIGHLANDS AT DOVE MOUNTAIN PRESENTS

GOVE MOUNTAIN GRANT STATE AND STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL

April 15, 2023

Held on The Highlands at Dove Mountain Driving Range

LINEUP

ONE OF THESE NIGHTS THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S FAVORITE BAND, THE EAGLES

ED-ZEFFIED

GRYNYRD

Tickets Available at https://thehighlands.showare.com

Brought to you by:

OPENIALOSE
Openly The Best!

