



Maricopa

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October 2018

EDUCATION

Deseg funds
prove divisive

THINGS TO DO

Trick-or-Eat
to debut

Magic Time

Kaden Rogers creates
his own world of wonder

GOVERNMENT

100 days of
new city
manager


**Election
Guide**

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LEADING OFF

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Illusions, eerie tales for October

October gets a little bizarre and fantastical around the world, and Maricopa has its share of the unusual.

In this issue, with a tip of the hat to National Magic Week, our cover subject, teen magician Kaden Rogers, explains how he creates his illusions, and not just for his magic show but also for filmmaking. In both fledgling careers, he likes to engineer a creative piece and then hide the biggest part of the work and let viewers try to figure out how it's done.

Another teen, Cash Riggle, wants to turn Halloween into an opportunity for community service by starting a new "Trick-or-Eat" project. On the topic of Halloween, Maricopa doesn't have many haunted spots, but that doesn't prevent a few "ghost" stories from becoming local lore. Some current and former residents share eerie tales in this issue.

If that's not scary enough, the mid-term election is just around the corner. Read up on the ballot issues and check out who's on the ballot for November's General Election.

Of course, there are more pragmatic pursuits at hand, too. Desegregation funding became tied to the state's education budget talks. We looked

inside the issue and talked to Maricopa teachers and students impacted by the funding.

New City Manager Rick Horst talks about his first 100 days on the job. The city's Planning Department is looking at possibilities of "course correction" in residential and commercial development tactics.

Be Awesome Youth Coalition's Brandi Homan talks about ways to improve services to special-needs kids. Murray Siegel dismisses the old spin that girls aren't as good in math as boys are. Educator Bernadette Russoniello explains how CTE is education's best-kept secret.

Realtor Dayv Morgan presents the expectations of the autumn housing market. New Master Gardener Wende Gehrt offers tips for container gardening in "hot pots." And person trainer Aaron Gilbert returns to explain plant-based nutrition.

These stories and much more are in this issue of InMaricopa. Have a spookin' good read.



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Contributors



MASON CALLEJAS
The photographer for InMaricopa signed off with some great photographic work of magician Kaden Rogers (page 26) and ELL teacher Deborah Kohls (page 9).



FRAN LYON
The freelance writer loved talking to "go-getters" Cash Riggle and his mom Kristen Stodhill about their new Halloween project (page 60), a community service effort they are working to create.



TED YOCUM
Writing this month's Senior Corner (page 55), the retired senior advocate and Planning & Zoning commissioner said it was important to discuss the importance of exercising as cancer treatment.

One more cowboy rides away

Farmer, laborer, rancher and all-around cowboy Samuel Craig Jr. passed away Sept. 10, in Toltec at 88 years old. He is pictured at age 20, already a husband and father, and then in his 70s. Craig formerly was a property foreman in the Maricopa/Stanford area and heavy-equipment operator for the City of Coolidge. Craig, also known as Junior, was born Jan. 12, 1930, in Crockett, Texas. In the 1950s, Craig Jr., his wife and young family moved with his parents to Arizona, eventually settling in the Maricopa/Stanford area. They pioneered the newly developed land for the Sellers ranch via Louis Johnson's estate and met Johnson's partner, John Wayne. Craig became the foreman of over 2,000 acres of land from Maricopa to Coolidge. His wife also worked on Johnson's estate. His love for horses landed him a great position as the head rancher at Sellers ranch in Valley Farms. By 1960, he was raising seven children while he performed numerous duties, including picking cotton, driving tractors and herding cattle. Then he became involved in the rodeo circuit as one of the first African-American cowboys in Pinal County to compete as a team roper, and he rode his horse Chip Jr. in numerous rodeos and parades, winning ribbons along the way. He had 13 children, 50 grandchildren, 124 great-grandchildren and 12 great-great-grandchildren.



Craig family

Craig family

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At a 9/11 commemoration at Maricopa High School were (from left) MUSD Governing Board-member Patti Coutre, Superintendent Tracey Lopeman, Col. Linda Lyon (retired), Col. Hollace Lyon (retired), Lt. Col. Allen Kirksey (retired), Tracy Davis (Blue Star Mothers), Mike Kemery (VFW), Monica Rojas, Cadet Gabrielle Pereira and Cadet Alex Odell.

Cadet Christina Barcello



Ben Owens will sit on the Maricopa Unified School District Governing Board after only two candidates ran for two seats, eliminating the need for an election. *Raquel Hendrickson*



The City of Maricopa celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 18 with special guests, music and dancing. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Sgt. Hal Koozer modeled the uniform for Maricopa Police Department's new Community Response Team. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Ames Construction makes steady progress on the bridge portion of the overpass. *Raquel Hendrickson*



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MUSD desegregation funding divisive issue

By Michelle Chance




Destinee Cruz and Gracila Brambila spend four hours in Structured English Immersion each day.

Michelle Chance

Destinee Cruz is a sophomore at Maricopa High School with a life like most teenagers. She has a large circle of friends and is dedicated to her studies. Born in Arizona, she moved with her family to Mexico at a young age and spent the next 13 years immersed in the culture and language.

Cruz’s return to the States, her birthplace, was met with obstacles inside the classroom, like navigating favorite subjects in a different language. But the challenge doesn’t keep Cruz from working toward her goal. “I came back to study English,” she said. Cruz and classmate Graciela Brambila take lessons on writing, reading, grammar and listening and speaking in English. Panter’s instruction includes lectures and lessons through technology platforms. “For me, it was very hard the first day. It’s difficult because I don’t understand everything,” Brambila said. Brambila and Cruz help each other in their traditional studies, like math, outside of their SEI classroom, where teachers usually do not

instruct in Spanish. Maricopa Unified School District receives \$1.29 million annually to assist English Language Learners like Cruz. That funding recently came under fire by state politicians, arguing the tax that delivers desegregation dollars to school districts like MUSD should be killed. The debate began as the state shifted the funding responsibility from taxpayers statewide to those in districts that receive desegregation money. The change resulted in increased secondary property taxes for Maricopans. That tax funds the program and salaries of 25 teachers who instruct ELL students. Senate Bill 1529, signed by Gov. Doug

Ducey and passed by the Legislature in May, alleges secondary property taxes “levied pursuant to this subsection do not require voter approval.” MUSD could join in a lawsuit with Pima County and Tucson Unified that would ask a judge to rule on the legality of the state’s action to change the desegregation funding source without a vote of the people. Pinal County and the City of Maricopa have expressed solidarity with MUSD as news of the tax source broke — going so far as to publish a seething press release in August, stating in part: “The State Legislature passed a law that instituted a secondary property tax without putting it to a vote of those affected, which we believe is illegal and unconstitutional. The City of Maricopa, the Maricopa Unified School District and Pinal County did not raise your local property taxes. The state Legislature and the Governor did.” No matter the funding source, the program remains active. And teachers in non-SEI classrooms who have ELL students said the program is invaluable. Desert Wind Middle School instrumental music teacher Roger Wagner criticized the view of some politicians that desegregation funding should be ousted altogether. “Beyond it being a tax issue, I think you may also have potentially a discrimination issue,” he said. Wagner, one of thousands of Arizona teachers to support the #RedForEd movement earlier this year, expressed frustration with the governor and the Legislature, who have touted increasing teacher salaries — while also working to shift the burden of desegregation tax to the local level. “You can’t light a house on fire and call 9-1-1 and be the hero,” Wagner said. 



State Rep. Mark Finchem (R – LD 11): “This is not a new tax. It is a tax moved from one funding source to another, putting the responsibility for funding on the community that uses the school system, and not other communities that do not have a segregation compliance problem with the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Civil Rights.”

The faces of desegregation funding



Mason Callejas

Deborah Kohls teaches English Language Learners in second grade at Maricopa Elementary School.


Deborah Kohls teaches second-grade English Language Learners (ELL) four hours every day at Maricopa Elementary School. MES has four Structured English Immersion (SEI) classrooms that provide smaller class sizes and more resources for children learning a new language. Kohls said the program is vital to the community. Kohls said she had a message to political leaders who’d like to see the tax pulled.

“One of the things that I think our country was founded on was a free, public education for everyone, and it was to make things equal for everyone. And if you’re pulling resources and money from us you’re not making that possible anymore,” Kohls said. The majority of ELL students in Kohls’ class are Spanish speakers. The teacher instructs only in English and said children usually show immense progress by second quarter. “When they’re amongst other kids who are growing at their same rate, their confidence is boosted,” Kohls said.

SEI classrooms face challenges other than funding The program at MUSD’s high school has its

differences from the SEI classes at lower grade levels. Emily Panter, fluent in English and Spanish, is the only SEI teacher at MHS and said she has trouble motivating older students to perform well on tests, adding many of them feel more comfortable with their friends in SEI and fear transitioning out. “I really explain to them how it’s to their own benefit to put in the effort,” Panter said. Additionally, she said the class often has an isolating effect on her students, who are separated for half the school day from mainstream classrooms. And, though the program provides high schoolers more technology resources, Panter said the state needs to change requirements to

ensure small class sizes. “In order to have an SEI classroom, you have to have 20 students within three grade levels, which I’ve always had that, but not enough to make it two classes,” Panter said. Of Panter’s 26 students this year, 23 are Hispanic. The biggest challenge in class, Panter said, is the majority of students speak the same native language — and continue to prefer speaking it in class over English. Last year, the SEI class at MHS was split between ability levels, with 20 basic English learners in Panter’s morning class and six intermediate level learners later in the day. “The afternoon class always did better because it’s easier to separate them,” Panter said. “If you’re going to have this structure, it really needs to be super small.”

How are students placed in SEI classes? Students are required to test in instances when their registration paperwork indicates they speak a second language at home, Panter said. Other times, teachers will refer students to testing. Based on results, students are labeled pre-emergent, basic, intermediate or proficient. The first two categories require four hours of daily SEI study; intermediate requires two. Destiny Cruz and her classmate Graciela Brambila, 15, spend four hours every school day under Panter’s instruction. For the past four years, Panter has developed the curriculum based on state standards and what her students need to succeed. 



State Rep. Vince Leach (R – LD 11): “[Ducey’s teacher salary-raise plan] was on the table long before the now very successful 20×2020 was finalized.”



State Sen. Steve Smith (R – LD 11): “[Desegregation funding] is a bad tax that the local level should eliminate and get rid of it altogether.”



Submitted

Would-be emergency volunteers receive training in post-disaster relief efforts.



Submitted

Residents begin annual disaster-response training

By Michelle Chance

Major disasters are rare in Maricopa but not unheard of. Local historians have recorded seven floods since 1890, the worst prompting the response of the National Guard in 1983. But what can residents do to contribute to post-disaster relief efforts before emergency services arrive?

The Maricopa Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), under the direction of Maricopa Fire/Medical Department, trains everyday citizens how to help themselves and each other when the unthinkable happens.

Bill Robertson is a retired fire chief from Farmington, New Mexico. He's a CERT training lead entering his third year in the program.

"In a major disaster, your emergency services are very busy. So how do you fill that gap? You fill it with organized citizens," Robertson said.

In October, 20 residents will participate in CERT's free, annual Basic Training Class. The program is administered by FEMA through the Arizona Citizen Corps Council and the Pinal County Office of Emergency Management. The six classes teach participants about disaster preparedness, fire safety and utility controls,

medical treatment, disaster psychology, light search and rescue, and terrorism.

CERT holds its final drill in mid-November. Those who complete the drill successfully and 20 hours of class time receive a certificate.

Graduates can apply to be a Citizen Cert Member. This team responds to structure fires and other nearby emergencies the fire department deploys to.

"We have a volunteer corps of volunteers that assign ourselves to shifts everyday where we are on call," said CERT Lead John Mulquin.

CERT members give overheated first responders water, cool towels and shelter. They also help decontaminate firefighters covered in carcinogens.

"Having walked in their shoes, I know the importance of someone helping you get your gear off, handing you a cold, wet towel, a drink, a granola bar, setting you down in the

"In a major disaster, your emergency services are very busy. So how do you fill that gap? You fill it with organized citizens."

—Bill Robertson

shade, providing you a misting fan — that is so important," Robertson said.

The Citizen CERT Team of nearly 30 volunteers also works crowd control during city events, provides triage to concertgoers in Florence during Country Thunder and participates in shelter training with the American Red Cross.

Mulquin and Robertson said their efforts helping those in the brutal Arizona heat is fulfilling — especially when it's benefitting those fighting fighters.

"It's gratifying," Mulquin said.

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Ghost stories from Maricopa’s past

By Michelle Chance



Maricopa Historical Society

Maricopa’s history is chronicled well into the mid-19th century, when much of the American Southwest was still frontier land.

Most structures and relics from that period have been lost — whether from disaster, vandalism or purposeful destruction in the name of progress with new construction. The romanticized wild west, and the ghost stories that accompany it, however, live on.

Woman in white mourns in the wash

A summer storm lingered above Maricopa as a group of teenagers returned from church camp one evening in 1974.

Brent Murphree, who would later grow up to become vice mayor, was 14 at the time when his mother stopped at Headquarters Café to drop off campers. Inside, Murphree reunited with two friends from school. He waved his mother on for a chance to hang out with buddies.

After dinner, a slow drizzle met the teenagers outside; low-hanging clouds kept the air damp and the August evening cool.

“It’s a perfect setup for a scary story,” Murphree recalled. “It was a dark and stormy night.”

The friends piled in a vehicle and headed east on Honeycutt Road. The unpaved path, illuminated only by headlight beams, was crowded with outstretched branches



Michelle Chance

belonging to pecan groves lining each side.

There was no bridge back then preventing Santa Rosa Wash from carving into the rural road. To continue to the other side, the geography forced motorists down a narrow, steep dip through the wash.

This monsoon, different from the usual, quick-moving, violent storms of its kind, produced a steady stream of runoff water that night.

Suzie Smith in front of her house that was south of the railroad tracks. She lived there until the mid-1950s.

“The wash was running so we took it really slow and as we got closer to the top, there was a lady standing there and she was all in white,” Murphree said.

An unfamiliar face tends to stick out in rural towns. This fair-haired stranger shook the psyches of the passengers who discovered her standing near the bank, drenched in water from her feet to her thighs.

Murphree thought she must be stranded, lost or even hurt. His attempt to open the door to assist her was met with immediate resistance from the driver, his friend, whose instinct was to place foot to accelerator at the ghostly sight.

“Her face was blank. She didn’t wave. There was no reaction whatsoever,” Murphree said.

The teens had heard the legend of La Llorona before, a woman in white who haunts the river where she killed her children and then herself. But the Mexican folktale and others like it never phased a skeptic like Murphree — until that night.

“That’s how I got really interested in the legend and doing a little bit of research on La Llorona and the white lady,” Murphree said.

The mystery of the woman in white hasn’t been solved, but Murphree said classmates claimed witness to other sightings of La Llorona in other areas where washes run.

Mobile’s ‘Ghost House’ spooks neighbors

Spirits reportedly haunt many parts of the Maricopa area beyond the banks of its running waters.

Longtime Maricopa resident Pierre Deck spent most of his childhood living in Mobile, a neighboring community 14 miles west of Maricopa. In the early 1960s, he and his brother entertained themselves by hunting rabbits and exploring the desert.

One day, the teenaged siblings took on a new expedition, one that took them into the

bowels of a grand, abandoned house made of wood in their neighborhood. Inside, a grand staircase arched upward to a second story, the ceiling polished with a dusty but still-glistening chandelier.

“We went upstairs and all of a sudden that door shut, and the chandelier started going around,” Deck said.

The boys quickly left the home on their bicycles and later told the experience to a friend down the street. Come sundown, it was time for the Deck brothers to return home.

“We started riding, and all of a sudden the lights come on in the house,” Deck said, adding there was no electric service running to the estate. “Boy, you should have seen us tear them bikes up; we burned rubber.”

The ‘ghost house,’ as residents called it, was later demolished.

Haunted homestead south of the tracks

The 1950s in Maricopa were a simpler time, according to Maricopa historian Patricia Brock in her book “Reflections of a Desert Town.” However, it wasn’t without some aspect of paranormal terror.

Many of Brock’s notes are archived by the Maricopa Historical Society. One describes an old adobe home that provided a thrill for many school children.

The “Old Perry Williams and Dallas Smith House,” built in 1884, was a large, 10-room home that once stood south of where the business barn is today. Cactuses, shrubs and trees protected otherwise unobstructed views of the homestead. However, curious kids did get a glimpse from time to time.

“As we approached the house, we would gradually ease out toward the road so we did not disturb anyone or anything that might be beyond the sentinels. We knew it would be death before dawn if we did. One dare devil could not leave well enough alone and just had to push the button. He took a quick peek through the bushes, jumped back and screamed all the way to school. We never did find out what he saw,” Brock’s note alleged.

The home was occupied by Maricopa pioneer Susie Smith until the mid-1950s.

Brock’s book said Maricopa lost its ‘haunted house’ in 1960 when two boys playing with matches near the property accidentally set a blaze that brought the home down. 🗨

Have you experienced paranormal activity in Maricopa? Tell us about it at [Facebook.com/InMaricopa](https://www.facebook.com/InMaricopa).



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General Election Candidates

U.S. Senate



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■ Martha McSally
■ Angela Green

Write-ins: Sheila Bilyeu (Democrat), Michael DeCarlo (independent), Robert Kay (Republican), Jonathan Ringham (other), Benjamin Wirtz (Republican)

U.S. Congressional District 1



■ Tom O'Halleran*



■ Wendy Rogers

Write-in: David Shock (independent)

Governor



■ David Garcia



■ Doug Ducey*
■ Angel Torres

Write-ins: Arthur Ray Arvizu (other), James "Marvelman" Gibson II (other), Christian Komor (independent), Patrick Masoya (independent)

Secretary of State



■ Katie Hobbs



■ Steve Gaynor

Attorney General



■ January Contreras



■ Mark Brnovich*

State Treasurer



■ Mark Manoil



■ Kimberly Yee



■ Kathy Hobbs



■ Frank Riggs

Write-in: Matthew Harris (Democrat)

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mine Inspector



■ William "Bill" Pierce



■ Joe Hart*

Corporation Commision (vote for 2)



■ Sandra Kennedy



■ Kiana Maria Sears



■ Rodney Glassman



■ Justin Olson*

Write-in: Neil DeSanti (Republican)

State Senate District 11



■ Ralph Atchue
■ Mohammad Arif



■ Venden
"Vince" Leach

State House District 11 (vote for 2)



■ Hollace Lyon



■ Marcela Quiroz



■ Mark Finchem*



■ Bret Roberts

Clerk Of Pinal County Superior Court

■ Amanda Stanford*

Maricopa/Stanfield Justice of the Peace

■ Lyle Riggs*

Maricopa/Stanfield Constable



■ Andre LaFond



■ Glenn Morrison

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General election town hall to feature state, local candidates

In a survey of attendees after the Primary Election Town Hall, more than 90 percent said the event affected the way they would vote.

The InMaricopa.com General Election Town Hall is set for Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Maricopa High School's Performing Arts Center.

State and local candidates will discuss the issues with their opponents and take questions from the public ahead of the Nov. 6 election. The event is free to attend. RSVP at MaricopaEvents.com.

"The opportunity for political candidates to engage with prospective voters about issues the voters care about is a priceless element of our democracy," InMaricopa Editor Raquel Hendrickson said. "So, we encourage voters and candidates to bring thoughtful discussion points to help highlight the differences between the campaigns."



ACC candidates Sandra Kennedy and Kiana Sears

The morning block starting at 10 a.m. will have candidates for state house and senate for Legislative

District 11. The afternoon block starting at noon will have candidates for Arizona Corporation Commission, constable and more offices.

The rules for candidates and audience alike are simple: Be respectful, be succinct and stay on topic.

The town hall is in partnership with Maricopa High School and Be Awesome Youth Coalition.

Doors open at 9:45 a.m. A LEGO pool supervised by Be Awesome Youth Coalition volunteers will be available for children whose parents wish to attend.

520-568-0040
Raquel@InMaricopa.com
MaricopaEvents.com.

How do you like your judges?

At the end of the General Election ballot, voters are asked whether to retain some current Superior Court, Court of Appeals and Supreme Court judges. The Judicial Performance Commission, getting feedback from attorneys, jurors, litigants and witnesses through surveys, found the four Pinal County Superior Court judges on the ballot meet the standards.

Judges Delia Neal, Daniel Washburn and Kevin White each received 27 votes of "meets judicial standards" and none against.

Judge Steven Fuller received 19 votes of "meets judicial standards" and four votes of "does not meet judicial standards." Six members of the commission did not vote on Fuller. He was the only judge up for affirmation in the state to receive more than one vote of "does not meet judicial standards." However, his overall average score was still a high 97.75 percent.

Fuller and Neal received their lowest marks

among attorneys in "judicial temperament," with Neal scoring 91 percent and Fuller scoring 85 percent. On the other hand, Washburn scored 100 percent in judicial temperament, and White 99 percent.

Washburn's lowest marks came from attorneys rating his communications skills at 92 percent. White's lowest score came from litigants/witnesses rating his integrity at 93 percent. His lowest mark among attorneys was also in integrity (96 percent).

Washburn and Neal scored 100 percent across all categories with litigants and witnesses.

Average survey ratings

Fuller - 97.75%
Neal - 98.3%
Washburn 98.1%
White - 98%

Arizona Supreme Court judges Clint Bolick and John Pelander III are also on the ballot

for retention, and both received 27 votes of "meets the standards" and no votes of "does not meet standards." Bolick had an average score of 94 percent. His lowest score was in judicial temperament at 83 percent. Pelander's average score was 99.6. His lowest score was a 98 in communication skills.

In Divisions I and II Court of Appeals, four judges are up for retention. All were found to meet the standards, and none received a ruling of "does not meet judicial standards."

In Division I, Judge Peter Swann had an average score of 96.1. His lowest mark came in "legal ability" with 91 percent. In Division II, Peter Eckerstrom averaged 97.25 percent. His lowest mark was in "legal ability" at 84 percent. Philip Espinosa's average was 92.7 percent. His lowest mark, too, was in "legal ability" at 82 percent. Christopher Staring scored 98.86 percent, with the lowest mark of 96 percent coming in "legal ability" and "administrative performance."

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- Stop the corruption at the Corporation Commission
- Create more solar and renewable energy in Arizona, especially roof top solar

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PRIMARY ELCTIONS

How Did You Vote?

In the Aug. 28 primary election, residents of Maricopa averaged a 25 percent voter turnout. That was boosted in large part by a nearly 33-percent turnout in Precinct 90, which includes Province and part of Homestead and The Lakes. The unincorporated precinct of Thunderbird Farms had a higher voter turnout (almost 30 percent) than any of the municipal precincts except Precinct 90. Statewide voting was 33 percent, a record for an August primary, despite serious technical voting problems in Maricopa County.

Primary Election 2018 Voter Turnout

Maricopa/Stamfield

| PRECINCT | REGISTERED VOTERS | EARLY | POLL | PROVISIONAL BALLOTS | % |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|------|
| 30 Maricopa | 2,734 | 459 | 179 | 30 | 24.4 |
| 31 Stanfield | 469 | 81 | 17 | 2 | 21.3 |
| 54 Thunderbird Farms | 1,614 | 322 | 142 | 18 | 29.9 |
| 67 Hidden Valley | 1,268 | 257 | 69 | 10 | 16.5 |
| 73 Santa Rosa | 1,515 | 290 | 109 | 11 | 27.1 |
| 74 El Dorado | 2,492 | 385 | 160 | 15 | 22.5 |
| 77 Ak-Chin | 401 | 21 | 35 | 3 | 14.7 |
| 78 Maricopa Meadows | 2,404 | 514 | 181 | 22 | 28.6 |
| 79 Maricopa Fiesta | 2,724 | 451 | 215 | 34 | 25.7 |
| 80 Province | 4,784 | 1,295 | 248 | 33 | 32.9 |
| 90 Senita | 2,297 | 343 | 103 | 28 | 20.6 |
| 100 Desert Cedars | 2,106 | 295 | 141 | 12 | 21.3 |
| 101 Alterra North | 2,401 | 389 | 128 | 14 | 22.1 |
| 102 Maricopa Wells | 2,782 | 465 | 156 | 27 | 23.3 |
| TOTAL | 29,991 | 5,567 | 1,883 | 259 | |

How You Voted for City Council (by precinct)

Candidates elected outright in red

| | Linette Caroselli | Vincent Manfredi | Bob Marsh | Cynthia Morgan | Paige Richie | Rich Vitiello | Henry Wade | Write-In |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|----------|
| 30 Maricopa | 160 | 279 | 218 | 134 | 116 | 330 | 316 | 10 |
| 73 Santa Rosa | 114 | 153 | 120 | 94 | 85 | 226 | 168 | 4 |
| 74 El Dorado | 137 | 202 | 177 | 146 | 114 | 269 | 226 | 11 |
| 78 Maricopa Meadows | 141 | 280 | 206 | 169 | 143 | 393 | 311 | 16 |
| 79 Maricopa Fiesta | 151 | 306 | 191 | 153 | 101 | 381 | 305 | 26 |
| 80 Province | 371 | 598 | 522 | 448 | 217 | 809 | 691 | 36 |
| 90 Senita | 146 | 208 | 117 | 114 | 83 | 241 | 193 | 5 |
| 100 Desert Cedars | 120 | 188 | 155 | 116 | 76 | 201 | 196 | 8 |
| 101 Alterra North | 142 | 273 | 177 | 136 | 75 | 237 | 231 | 10 |
| 102 Maricopa Wells | 172 | 244 | 208 | 151 | 97 | 348 | 265 | 13 |
| TOTALS | 1,654 | 2,731 | 2,091 | 1,661 | 1,107 | 3,435 | 2,902 | 139 |



Voting Precincts

30 Maricopa
Desert Wind Middle School
35565 W. Honeycutt Road

31 Stanfield
First Baptist Church
615 S. Stanfield Road

54 Thunderbird Farms
Thunderbird Fire District
Community Building
12356 N. Ralston Road

67 Hidden Valley
Pinal County Public Works
43910 W. Meadowview Road

73 Santa Rosa
Santa Rosa Elementary School
21400 N. Santa Rosa Drive

74 El Dorado
Pima Butte Elementary School
42202 W. Rancho El Dorado Parkway

77 Ak-Chin Community
Ak-Chin Service Center
48227 W. Farrell Road

78 Maricopa Meadows
Maricopa Community Church
44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

79 Maricopa Fiesta
Villages at Rancho El Dorado
20991 N. Butterfield Parkway

80 Province
Global Water Center
22590 N. Powers Parkway

90 Senita Precinct
Maricopa Unified School District Office
44150 W. Maricopa-Casa Grande Hwy.

100 Desert Cedars
First Baptist Church of Maricopa
18705 N. John Wayne Parkway

101 Alterra North
Maricopa Wells Middle School
45725 W. Honeycutt Ave.

102 Maricopa Wells
Legacy Traditional School
17760 N. Regent Drive



Maricopa total population (2017)

48,007

Maricopa voting-age adults (est.)

34,421

Maricopa registered voters

26,220

Maricopa primary voters

6,703

Find your precinct at bit.ly/PrecinctPolls.



ON THE BALLOT

Controversy abounds in 5 ballot propositions

Arizona has five propositions on the ballot for the General Election. They range from solar power to education, and most are very divisive.

Prop 125

The Arizona Constitution prohibits diminishing public retirement system benefits. Prop 125 would create an amendment to permit adjusting benefits for retired corrections officers and elected officials as an answer to underfunded pensions. The Legislature already passed Senate Bill 1442 and House Bill 2545 to permit the adjustments; the proposition allows the legislation to go into practice and replace cost-of-living increase with a new, compounding cost-of-living adjustment. The adjustment cannot exceed 2 percent of the base benefit.

FOR
Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board of Trustees: “Proposition 125 also will shore up the state’s underfunded Elected Officials’ Retirement Plan and the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan.”

Pinal County Supervisor Anthony Smith: “High pension costs are burdening local taxpayers and crowding out available resources for vital public health, criminal justice and road maintenance responsibilities... These reforms will help rein in costs and protect the taxpayer, while providing a sustainable benefit for existing retirees and a private sector-type defined contribution program for future employees.

AGAINST
Eric Hahn, Tucson: “Corrections officers who are retired fulfilled their employment agreement with their employer and the retirement plan. They should get all the benefits that they were promised and successfully worked for. The Arizona State legislature should not be proposing changes to retiree pensions after the fact. The Corrections Officer Retirement plan is the strongest in Arizona. No changes need to be made except for the Arizona State Legislature to stop raiding all the trust funds and using that money for other areas.”

Prop 126

A proposed constitutional amendment would prohibit the taxation of any service that was not

taxed as of Dec. 31, 2017, and prohibit the state, counties and cities or towns from imposing new or increasing existing sales tax or any transaction-based fee.

Backers include Citizens for Fair Tax Policy, Arizona Real Estate.

FOR
Holly Mabery, chair, Citizens for Fair Tax Policy, Cottonwood: “Sales taxes hit low-and middle-income families hardest. The Protect Arizona Taxpayers Act protects those who are least able to afford new taxes, including senior citizens, the disabled and others on fixed incomes.”

Chad Heinrich, state director, National Federation of Independent Business: “Imagine paying more for childcare services, rent, installations or repairs in your home, or automotive service for your car. These are just a few services provided by small businesses that could someday be taxed if we don’t act to prevent it... This proposition provides certainty and a simple protection for Arizona citizens and businesses against tax-and-spend politicians and bureaucrats who may seek to extract a new tax from us.”

AGAINST
Grand Canyon Institute: “Currently the state foregoes about \$12 billion by exempting services from taxation. GCI does not advocate applying sales taxes broadly to services, but Prop. 126 would prevent consideration of possibly taxing select services, say advertising, at even a rate as low as 1 percent.”

Michael Shelton, retired Foreign Service Officer, Tempe: “Our modern economy is becoming a service-based economy. The Arizona Department of Revenue estimates that the value of services sold already exceeds the value of goods sold in this state. If we started a sales tax on some of those transactions, it would be possible to lower the state’s sales tax rate.”

Prop 127

A constitutional amendment would require electric companies (but not government utilities like Salt River Project) to sell increasing amounts of renewable energy by increasing the portion of their retail energy sales generated from renewable energy to 50 percent by 2030.

Backers include Clean Energy for a Healthy Arizona, Natural Resources Defense Council and Conservative Alliance for Solar Energy.

FOR
David Garcia, governor candidate Phoenix: “The Clean Energy for A Healthy Arizona initiative will position Arizona as the solar superpower it should be by increasing the amount of our energy that comes from renewable sources to 50 percent by 2030.

William Mundell, Paradise Valley, and Sandra Kennedy, Phoenix, former Corporation Commissioners: “APS/Pinnacle West has unethically spent millions of customer dollars to elect and control the Commission. The result has been to fall behind other states in the use of solar energy. Arizona should be the Solar Capital of the world.

Chris Herstam, former president of the Arizona Board of Regents: “By using millions in ratepayer money, APS has established complete control over the very regulatory body established to keep them in check. Perhaps that is why only 6 percent of Arizona’s power comes from solar despite the fact that we are the sunniest state in the country.”

Kris Mayes, former Arizona Corporation Commissioner: “As a Republican former Arizona Corporation Commissioner, I support increasing the amount of renewable energy produced or purchased by our state’s utilities to 50 percent... By utilizing more solar, wind, biomass and landfill gas, Arizona will tap into what is now the cheapest form of energy available — this will reduce rates for utility customers by more than \$4 billion.

AGAINST
Cesar Chavez, Arizona House of Representatives, Phoenix: “As a Democrat, I recognize my opposition to this initiative puts me at odds with some of my colleagues. We all share a common goal of cleaner air and increased reliance on renewable energy, but it’s important we do it the right way... This proposal is being forced on our voters by somebody who has no one’s interests in mind but his own.

Bas Aja, executive vice president, Arizona Cattle Feeders’ Association, Phoenix: “Make no mistake: this California-conceived energy initiative is not about improving our air quality

or making Arizona a healthier place to live. In fact, study after study has shown that — not only will this proposal do more harm than good for the environment — it will also result in lost jobs, cause irreparable economic damage and hurt hardworking Arizona families and business owners — including the industry men and women we represent.

Victor Riches, president/CEO, Goldwater Institute, Phoenix: “The debate is not whether we should or should not be looking to renewable energy for our state’s future — the issue is with forcing Arizona’s taxpayers to implement a program that is not fiscally sound.”

Vince Leach, State Representative LD 11, SaddleBrooke: “The consequences of complying with these unrealistic mandates would be catastrophic to Arizona — electric bills would skyrocket, tens of millions of dollars in tax revenue would be lost, thousands of jobs would go away.”

Prop 305

This proposition would enact Senate Bill 1431, expanding the eligibility for Education Empowerment Scholarship Accounts for kindergarten through 12th grade and more funding for low-income students for tuition, textbooks, tutoring, educational therapies at a private or home-based school.

Backers include The Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference and Arizona Free Enterprise Club.

FOR
Cathy Parisi, Tucson: “As Arizona’s population continues to grow, the few of us who choose private schools provide a relief for growing school districts, not a drain.”

Matt Simon, former teacher, Tucson: “Prop 305 has strong accountability and transparency requirements to ensure that these dollars are being spent in accordance with the law and on the student. This is more transparency and accountability than exists for the traditional school system.”

Jason Bedrick, Phoenix: “Our public education system should be designed to meet the needs of children, not the other way around. Students are not mere funding units, but individuals with varied aptitudes, interests and preferences. Different children advance in different subjects at difference paces, and some learn better in certain environments than others. ESAs empower families with greater access to a variety of learning options that best meet their child’s unique needs.”

AGAINST
Charles Siler, former external affairs manager, Goldwater Institute, Scottsdale: “While I am a

believer in the ESA program, Proposition 305 is not well thought out. They could have written the bill in a much more responsible way that fixed existing flaws in the ESA program and made accessing ESAs more just.”

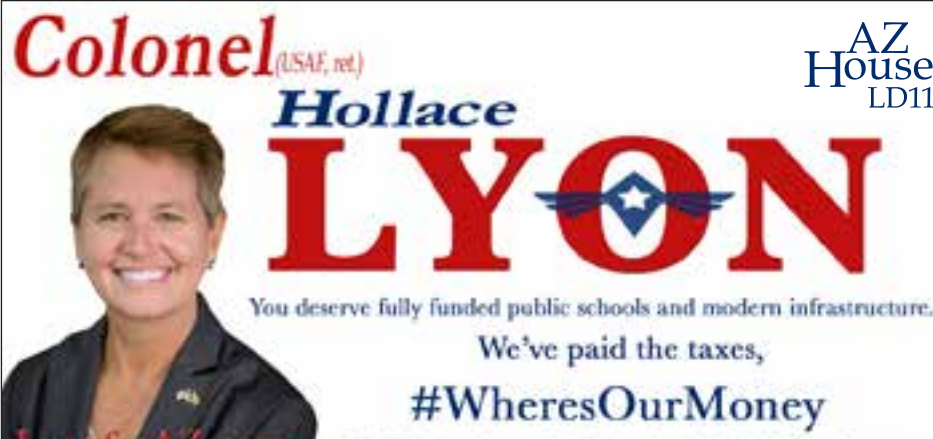
Susan Collins, Kingman: “Even if money is not taken directly from your local district and charter schools (both publicly funded), money is taken from the education budget on the state level. That effects every public district, charter, school, teacher and student in the state of Arizona.”

Susan Edwards, ESA Family Network,

Tempe: “Those in favor of Prop. 305 are exploiting our children to crack open the funding door for private religious education. Our children were paraded around as the justification for a voucher expansion for those seeking a private religious education. ESA benefits will not go away for children with disabilities if Prop. 305 is rejected.”

Prop 306


This change to the Citizens Clean Elections Act would prohibit clean-election candidates from transferring any money from their campaign



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- ✓ Where government is transparent and accountable, participation is invited, and each citizen's input is valued.

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funds to a political party or other tax-exempt organization that influences elections.

Backers include Stop Taxpayer Money for Political Parties and Americans for Prosperity.

FOR

Henry Ritter, Scottsdale: “Of all the problems I have heard people complain about in Arizona, I have never once heard someone say the political parties need more money. That is why it is strange that the Arizona Clean Elections Commission voted to give government money — your money — to political parties so they could afford to send you campaign advertisements and robo-calls.”

Mark Finchem, House of Representatives LD11, Oro Valley: “In 2016, it was discovered that several Clean Election candidates had contributed over \$100,000 to the State Democrat Party. This was an obvious abuse of the system and opens up the possibility that both state parties could look to place candidates on the ballot for the sole purpose of providing Clean Election funds to the party. Even more interesting, Clean Elections included language in the rule to permit participating candidates to contribute to 501(C) organizations. The practical effect of this change is that a candidate is now allowed to give money to a nonprofit (for example, a labor union) that could use the money to support and oppose candidates for office. This activity is far afield from the intentions of the voters to fund individual candidates, not political machines.”

AGAINST

Katie Hobbs, Senate minority leader, Phoenix: “Clean Elections is an independent, bipartisan guardian for our elections. Its job is to protect democracy for all of us, not just billionaires and greedy corporations. It’s part of what makes Arizona great — most states don’t have anything like Clean Elections to hold their politicians accountable. Prop 306 would put Clean Elections under the control of a group of political insiders chosen by the governor. That’s a recipe for less transparency in our state government, and more corruption.”

State legislative contingent from LD26: “Arizona’s democracy is in trouble. We see it every day at the state Capitol. Lobbyists for greedy corporations get the special favors they want from a political establishment that benefits from maintaining this unequal status quo. Meanwhile pleas from students, teachers and parents for well-funded schools go unheard, and working-class families struggle to find good-paying jobs in an economy whose rules are rigged in favor of the elite. Prop 306 is their latest trick to undermine Clean Elections. Don’t fall for it. We fought against Prop 306 as the politicians at the state Capitol passed it (literally) in the middle of the night, because you deserve better.”

Small Businesses Looking for Growth Find Home at Ak-Chin

Five years ago, when Beth Mundell was looking for a place to grow her fledgling cheer and tumbling business, she found the perfect home in Suite E of the Mesquite Building in Ak-Chin’s industrial park, Santa Cruz Commerce Center. A year ago, the affordability of her suite in this multi-tenant office/warehouse building and the growth of her business enabled Mundell to expand with a move to Suite C, a larger space in the same building and to change her business name to Rockstar Arizona. Now Mundell is poised to expand again and overtake the adjacent space in Suite D. “For a new business starting out, the price was affordable and the terms doable for us,” said Mundell. “We could not have made this dream a reality anywhere else.”

After outgrowing two garage spaces and storage units, co-owners Jeff Hamilton and Steve Trivisonno of Advanced Performance Motorcycle Repair

decided to find a brick and mortar location for their business. That’s when they found Suite B in the Mesquite Building to have the right combination of price and location.”We do good quality work at an affordable price, said Trivisonno, “and we think our new location is helping us attract more business from Casa Grande.”

Location and affordability were also cited by Shelly Guilford of Liquidate AZ, who just recently moved her auction business from Tempe to Suite E of the Mesquite Building. A Maricopa resident, Guilford says her business is now just minutes from her house and her new location has greatly reduced her overhead.

Another start-up that has chosen Ak-Chin for its home is Ibarra Family Farms. The family-owned hydroponic operation recently broke ground on a 16,000 SF greenhouse that will produce leafy greens for farmers markets, supermarkets

and local restaurants.

With the Mesquite Building now fully occupied, the Ak-Chin Industrial Park Board, who is responsible for the development, marketing and management of the industrial properties in the Santa Cruz Commerce Center, has begun discussions of a new multi-tenant building. In addition, there are new build-to-suit projects in the planning. “It really is a great place to grow your business,” said Board Chairman Charles Carlyle.

To find out more about leasing and build-to-suit opportunities, visit leaseakchin.com or call 520-568-3246.



Sponsored Content



Advanced Performance offers custom performance engine building and motorcycle repair in Suite B of the Mesquite Building.
Photo courtesy of Nice Creative, Inc.



Carlos Ibarra; Ann Marie Antone, Ak-Chin Council Member; Carlos Ibarra Jr. and Maria Hernandez, Vice Chair, Ak-Chin Industrial Park Board; bend to plant seeds in celebration of the groundbreaking of Ibarra Family Farm’s hydroponic operation at Santa Cruz Commerce Center.
Photo courtesy of the Ak-Chin O’odham Runner.



Rockstar Arizona, a Mesquite Building tenant for 5 years, is expanding for a second time.
Photo courtesy of Nice Creative, Inc.





Maricopa High School swim team gathers for a photo: (from left): Emma Carr, Emily Fauth, Kaitlyn Crean, Sequyai Crockett, Kennedy Leonard, Lexie Nordhoff, Paige Hennigar, Mandy Carroll, Salma Roman, Chase Woodhouse, Emily Hollingsworth, Malia Kealoha, Nolan Ford, Victor Moreno, Luis Vallejo, Abel Rodriguez, Connor Schrader, Olivia Byers, Joseph Lambert, Aubree Wittemann, Egan Packard, Geric Kramarczyk, Eva Zavala, Jayden Call, Meghan Jackson, Camden Bitter, Katelynn James, Rafe Scoresby, Deborah Stenzel, Kian Carroll and Logan Nordhoff. *Victor Moreno*



Caleb Feiles, 6, Brown Belt leadership student, demonstrates at Kids Day Maricopa. *Angelica Ramis*

Senior Tylen Coleman follows blockers toward the end zone as Maricopa High School started the football season 4-1. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Junior Ajani Elliot and the Sequoia Pathway Pumas prep for a game. The Pumas started the football season 1-2. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Cassandra Presume won four prizes at the International Models & Talent Association competition in New York: On-Camera Talent, Screen Test, Head Shots and TV Beauty. *Submitted*



Denny the Nature Dog was a winner in Desert Wind Middle School Toy Expo 2018. Denny was created by Catalina Springstroh, Jazmin Perry-Marr, Baily Martinez, Aubree Nez-Garcia and Autumn Hardy. *Submitted*



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1 Rams win Homecoming game with blowout ending in altercation

2 Hotel major element of Copper Sky commercial plans



3 Palo Brea sports Maricopa's most expensive home sold

4 Rain may interrupt heat wave

5 Kids Day Maricopa draws hundreds to MWMS



6 Real-world' teacher keeps 4th graders tuned into school



7 Overnight lane closures on SR 347

8 Oliver Anderson life of service



9 Family thanks fire crew for daughter's life

10 DUI arrest made with 4 children in vehicle

Kaden Rogers

‘Crazy creative’ teen entertains on stage, behind the camera

By Raquel Hendrickson

Magic or movie magic, imagining or engineering, Kaden Cruz Rogers has a side business as an entertainer, even a stage name, and a fledgling career in filmmaking.

He’s also a high school freshman who turned 15 in July.

As Kaden Cruz, he performs close-up magic shows for private, public and corporate gatherings. He received audition call-backs from “America’s Got Talent” and was a hair’s breadth from appearing on the show a season ago.

As Kaden Rogers, he is director in a young crew of moviemakers with a film about to screen at the inaugural Show Low International Film Festival. He is also president and co-founder of the new film club at Maricopa High School. And he’s in band. And has been part of prize-winning Future City teams.

His mother calls him “crazy creative.”
 “I think the reason I like magic and filmmaking so much is because they both bring wonder,” Kaden said. “They take people out of their everyday life and put them momentarily into some different reality.”

He and his family have lived in The Villages for 12 years. The family includes parents Charlie and Amy Rogers, who own a karate business, and two younger siblings, Gracie and Mason. Kaden’s education has come through Butterfield Elementary and Maricopa Wells Middle School.

“From a young child he loved to just take things apart and look at all the pieces inside,” mom Amy Rogers said. “He’s always had that engineering kind of mind. I guess we never expected it to take this film course. We really thought he’s just going down this engineer kind of path.”

“Everything that I like has to do with creating something and then showing it,” he said.

Kaden discovered his knack for creating magic after a trip to a magic shop at Disneyland when he was 4 years old. The interest built and lapsed over the years but reignited when he was 11.

He was on a birthday trip with his grandmother to Lake Tahoe when they



Submitted



Submitted

Kaden Cruz Rogers auditioned for “America’s Got Talent” during eighth grade and received a call-back.

MHS Film Club films a promo at the football field to invite more students to get involved.

stopped in Las Vegas. They caught a magic show by Alex Ramon and bought his CD of magic tricks. For the rest of the trip, Kaden was locked into learning the new tricks and even uploaded a phone app that taught more tricks.

“And that’s all I was doing,” Kaden said. “Here’s this beautiful lake outside, and I’m inside the hotel watching magic tricks.”

Soon he was not just “doing tricks” but forming an act. He even performed for a non-family audience for the first time during that trip when his uncle, then an activities coordinator at a Lake Tahoe dude ranch, convinced him to do a magic show for the guests.

He’s been building the act ever since and makes a point of fitting it to his personality.

“When you think of a magic trick or a magician or anything magical, you think of a top hat and a rabbit and a guy in a cape dancing around on a stage,” Kaden said. “I think a 15-year-old wearing a cape and a hat doing all these hocus-pocus things is just cheesy. Any other teenager wouldn’t do that. They wouldn’t go up on a stage and act like that. So, I do it more to my age.”

After seeing a series of “America’s Got Talent” magicians doing card tricks he already knew, including season 9 winner Mat Franco, Kaden began to think he could do the same.



Mason Callejas

What he thought was an off-hand comment at dinner — “Why don’t we just sign up for the show” — turned into his mother signing him up to audition in Vegas.

That was at the beginning of his eighth-grade year at Maricopa Wells Middle School. With just a few weeks to come up with a big trick for television producers, he studied what had been done before. He worked out a routine that incorporated photos of all previous contestants and the judges on a deck of cards. The center of the trick is a missing piece that ends up somewhere unexpected.

To audition, the Rogers family was in line at 5 a.m. at the Rio in Vegas, waiting their way through two holding rooms. Then Kaden was ushered into a room where an AGT producer sat with a camera and camera operator behind him.

“He said, ‘Stand on the X, and you have 90 seconds and good luck.’” The producer showed little reaction during the course of Kaden’s trick.

“I finished the trick, and he just looked at me and said, ‘That was amazing. You just showed me the last 12 years of my life in a card trick.’ That, to me, was just really cool. He said, ‘Can you show it to my other producers?’”

After another hour in another holding room, and filling out more paperwork, he was asked to have his picture taken in case he was cast.

“And I said, ‘Wait, there’s a small chance you would cast me?’ The whole thing was just like shock. I don’t remember half of it, I was so amped up on adrenaline. This time there’s like five producers in a row. I did the trick for them, and they pretty much had the same reaction as the guy before: ‘Wow, this is really good. We are considering you.’”

Weeks, months and the holidays went by before they received a call from casting producer Renee Massie. AGT wanted videos of Kaden performing and wanted him to develop bigger tricks for a large stage. He worked late to put together a documented video presentation to send in. That project kept him up until 3 a.m., and he had to get up at 5 a.m. to go to the regional Future City competition for his MWMS 20+1 Blended Learning program.

Then AGT added Phoenix as a last-minute audition location. Massie called Amy at 10 a.m. the morning of those auditions and asked if Kaden could come in that afternoon to see more producers. Despite not having perfected his new tricks, he decided to give it a shot. He was sent to the head of the line and straight in front of producers.



Submitted



Mason Callejas

One told him she liked the act, but it was obvious he had been rushed in creating new tricks. She said there were five spots left and they were still “on the fence” about him. In the end, he was not selected.

“I was still really amazed that I auditioned twice in Vegas and then they called me back in Arizona,” Kaden said. “Even though I didn’t make it on the show, the whole experience was crazy.”

He is considering trying out again. In the meantime, word of mouth has become Facebook bookings for schools, libraries and businesses. He continues to use ancient magic books for his inspiration.

“I like the part of making it my own — the creative part that no one else knows about except for me. All they see is this finished product, but they don’t know how many other tiny things go into it. I think that’s what I like, coming up with this crazy plan and hiding it. That’s also like directing. There’s a ton of stuff going on that you don’t see, and then you

“Kindness Equals Calm,” directed by Kaden Rogers, had an acting crew of (from left, front row) Joe Szoltysik, Aubrey Pick, Kaden Rogers and Rori Gosiak; (back row) Thomas Abel, Zoie Zimpleman and Joseph Abel.

end up seeing just this flat screen. But there’s people with boom mics and lights and all this stuff happening in the background.”

Kaden wasn’t exactly smitten with making movies at the start. In seventh grade in MUSD 20+1, teacher Joe Szoltysik gave Kaden and his classmates information video assignments for language arts.

“What’s interesting about Kaden’s evolution into film is at the beginning of seventh grade he ‘hated making videos,’” Szoltysik said. “Kaden and the Abel twins [Joseph and Thomas] worked together and produced a video that was not technically sound, and I was certainly critical of it. That is when Kaden revealed his disdain for making videos.”

The disdain did not survive long after he next co-directed *The Fault*.

“I hadn’t before that even thought about making movies at all,” Kaden said. “And we just made one in school. It didn’t compete in Copa Shorts [Film Fest], but they showed the movies that everyone made in the class at the film festival and when we went there, I realized, ‘Oh my gosh, that’s amazing. Keep doing this.’”

He analyzed the experience and worked out improvements in the whole filmmaking process.

“I remember him telling me ‘I think we can do a lot better next time,’ and that is when I first saw his passion for filmmaking grow,” Szoltysik said. “That passion grew throughout his eighth-grade year; his second film, *The Inverted*, was shot in various locations in Arizona, and won the student category of the 2018 Copa Shorts Film Fest. That’s when



Mason Callejas

“I like the part of making it my own – the creative part that no one else knows about except for me.”

—Kaden Rogers

Kaden exploded onto the scene.”

For the third time, Kaden and the Abel brothers collaborated on a film with classmates when the film class acquired better equipment. The production of *Kindness Equals Calm* extended well after they finished eighth grade. The full-length film is a comedy about a group of young people on a weekend trip to Camp Shinebright.

“One word to describe Kaden as a young director would be ‘precise,’” Szoltysik said. “I’ve worked as an actor on Kaden’s latest feature film, and I will tell you, on set he is in charge; respectful of course, but in charge.”

Kindness Equals Calm will appear multiple times in the Show Low Film Fest Oct. 11-14.

This fall, Kaden and the Abels came to MHS with the assumption there was a film club. They found not only was there no club but there was no longer a class or program of study for video.

He composed a lengthy email about the need for a film club and sent it to all MHS staff. Administrative Assistant Danielle Byers spoke to Amy Rogers about the situation and was insistent on making the club happen. Reid Martin, a RAM Academy teacher, emailed them back and said, ‘Let’s do it.’”

Most of the club’s 17 members were involved in the 20+1 filmmaking projects at MWMS and Desert Wind Middle School.

“I have been teaching and involved in high school culture for 17 years and never seen a club so focused, energetic and excited about what they are doing,” Martin said. “Primarily freshmen, I believe these students are going to be doing some really cool things here in Maricopa, and for the rest of their lives.”

Kaden and the Abels envisioned a club that could bring together skills and talents from all other campus programs — theater and theater

tech, design, computer graphics, music, even culinary.

“Kaden is doing an amazing job leading the club, learning what that role means, and is excellent at directing some really cool experiences for his peers,” Martin said.

Whether Kaden Rogers or Kaden Cruz, he continues to evolve his magic and balance his other activities and school while educating himself on the business end of the film festival circuit and moviemaking.

“Through these filmmaking experiences, Kaden has not only developed a passion for the filmmaking process,” Szoltysik said. “From lighting, camera angles, and editing, it’s the process that he loves and wants to share with others.”

 **Learn more about Kaden Rogers’ story online at [InMaricopa.com](https://www.maricopa.com).**

Resources slim for special-needs kids

By Brandi Homan

One population of youth where Maricopa falls short of opportunities for is our special-needs kids. This issue is at my heart because my oldest has autism.

We are Be Awesome for a reason. We don't just identify problems and complain and hope somebody does something. We do something. We do it carefully and deliberately. We have a plan. We have short- and long-term solutions. Here are three areas Maricopa falls short for its special-needs youth and solutions we are going to implement.

1. **Recreation Opportunities.** Too often our kids with special needs don't participate in activities because they feel anxious, and current youth-centric activities aren't set up to accommodate them. Other participants don't understand. I can share some experiences, but my point is my son and others like him just want to



Brandi Homan

be included, but they don't make friends easily. My son could use a group with local kids who understand him, relate and can be his buddy. We are proposing meaningful recreation activities designed and carried out by a team of people who are trained and skilled to provide a fun experience where real connections can be made. Not a night off for parents but a night out for them.

2. **Information.** Awareness is one thing; light your porch blue, that's great. We are ready for the next step. Providing a real understanding of why my son and others are behaving as they do in public is a whole other discussion. We want to help inform business owners and community members of the reasons special needs kids behave the way they do so our community can react in an accommodating and caring manner. We are offering to use our Talk-O Tuesday platform as a way to educate the community

and help foster an appreciation for our special needs kids.

3. **Authentic opportunities for life skills.** People throw this term around all the time. But a real place for young men and women like my son to be employed and contribute does not exist. Our solution for this is long-term, but we want to acquire our own office space with a place for a retail snack bar or coffee shop that can help employ and provide our special needs teens opportunities for entry-level work in an environment that accepts and includes them. The model already exists. Let's replicate it here.

If this mission resonates and you're ready to make a difference, contact me. The well-meaning need not apply.

520-428-6633
 BHoman@BeAwesomeYouth.life

Brandi Homan is a Be Awesome Youth Coalition board member.



MUSDNEWS

THE PRIDE AND PROMISE OF MARICOPA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

By Dr. Tracey Lopeman
Superintendent of the Maricopa Unified School District #20

For nearly six months, I have had the pleasure to serve as the superintendent of the Maricopa Unified School District. Initially, I worked as a consultant, dividing my time between MUSD and my former district in Phoenix. On July 1, I began to serve here fulltime.

Through countless impromptu conversations and formal meetings, I have learned about the values of our community. A rich farming history, vibrant relationship with Ak-Chin, and

the Mayor's focus on developing Maricopa as a Destination City reflect the pride and promise that compelled me to work here.

As the superintendent, I listen to teachers, support staff and principals nearly every day. Without exception, our classrooms are filled with staff who prepare and deliver intently and care deeply about the well-being and development of every child. I seek opportunities to listen to parents and it is clear to me that their expectations match

those of the entire staff regarding the care and education of their children.

While the highlights of MUSD far outweigh the deficiencies, these conversations have also revealed areas where we must improve so that we can continue to meet and exceed the standards for an excellent education for every child. To that end, we have begun to articulate the hopes and dreams we have for the precious children of Maricopa.

Over 100 stakeholders —

parents, students, teachers, classified employees, parents, administrators, police personnel, elected city officials, and board members will collaborate to chart a course that prepares every child to graduate with the skills and knowledge to succeed. We believe every one of us has a role in creating and supporting the schools we want for our children.

We invite everyone's input and embrace the accountability associated with the important promise we will make to our children, their parents, and our entire community. Together, we will achieve the vision of Maricopa Unified School District, a Premier Educational System, a Destination District in a Destination City. ■

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MHS AFJROTC Cadets Remember Senator John McCain

Submitted by Lt. Col. Allen Kirksey –
Jr. AFROTC Instructor

In October 2016, Maricopa High School AFJROTC cadets posted the colors, performed the POW/MIA Table Ceremony, and had the opportunity to meet Senator John McCain in Casa Grande at the State Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting. What an honor!

The Maricopa Unified School District along with the Nation mourns the loss of this great Arizonan and American. ■



"I fell in love with my country when I was a prisoner in someone else's."
Arizona Sen. John McCain (1936–2018)



The mission of the Maricopa Unified School District is to ensure all students achieve excellence by preparing them to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens who value innovation and global diversity.

Pima Butte, Butterfield elementary schools earn PBISAZ Achievement Awards

Pima Butte Elementary and Butterfield Elementary Schools in the Maricopa Unified School District care about providing a positive and safe learning environment for their students and community. The PBISaz Achievement Award recognizes schools for successful implementation and outcomes with school-wide systems of Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS).



Award criteria required high scores on national fidelity and integrity assessments and measurable student outcome data. Principals Mr. Randy Lazar and Mrs. Janel Hildick note that this award recognizes the dedication of school staff and our community to uphold their school expectations every day:

- PBIS EXPECTATIONS:**
- ✓ Be Responsible
 - ✓ Be Respectful
 - ✓ Be Safe

Together we are building a school culture that is more positive, proactive, and supportive for all our students so that they can be successful citizens and leaders of our nation. Our awards will proudly be displayed in our respective school offices and on our websites.

Pima Butte Elementary is committed to excellence and Preparing Students to Succeed in a Global Society Through the Use of Science, Technology and Arts Across the Curriculum.

Butterfield Elementary is committed to excellence and A Focus on the Subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) to Prepare Students for College and Future Careers. ■

See our achievements and outcomes at <http://pbisaz.org/awards/>.



Show Low Film Festival Showcases Maricopa Wells Student Film

Submitted by Blended Learning Instructor Joseph Szoltysik

Aug. 20, the inaugural Show Low Film Festival formally announced the films to be shown at its festival this fall. One of the films selected, Kindness Equals Calm, was written and produced by students from Maricopa Wells Middle School during the 2017-18 school year. The film was completed in Mr. Joe Szoltysik's film class. The class taught students all the aspects of film making; including screenwriting, story-boarding, lighting, camera angles, makeup, and editing. The culminating project was to produce a film for submission to the Show Low Film Festival.

The students who produced Kindness Equals Calm are Kaden Rogers (director), Zoie Zimpleman (actress, screenwriter), Thomas Abel (actor, storyboard editor), Rori Gosiak

(head writer), Joseph Abel (camera 1) and Aubrey Pick (actress, assistant to the director, screenwriter).

The film is a comedy about a group of young people who embark on a weekend journey to Camp Shinebright with their overly enthusiastic therapist, played brilliantly by MUSD Butterfield Elementary teacher Liz Zimpleman. The film was submitted to the Show Low Film Fest as a full-length feature film. The Show Low Film Fest is Oct. 11-14 and will feature various films, both local and international.

Kindness Equals Calm will be shown multiple times at the festival, and the students will partake in a Q&A after each showing with the public and media outlets. Congratulations to these students for their accomplishment! ■

MHS Band Joins Arizona Bands for National Anthem at Diamondbacks Game

Submitted by Mr. Ivan Pour
MHS Instrumental Music Instructor

Aug. 25, the Maricopa High School Marching Rams traveled to Chase Field as part of the annual Diamondbacks Band Night. The Marching Bands performed the National Anthem among with bands from Tombstone

High School, Desert Mountain High School, Ironwood High School, Raymond S. Kellis High School and Rancho Solano Prep. The massed band was led by Rebecca Robinson, band director from Tombstone High School. Following the performance, the band enjoyed watching the Dbacks take on the Seattle Mariners.

The Maricopa High School Band was honored to be part of this event and would like to thank Rebecca Robinson for her leadership of the group as well as Tom Demeter and the Arizona Diamondbacks for coordinating this event and making this opportunity possible. ■



Back to School

The District began another exciting school year with a high-energy, all-staff convocation celebrating our past successes and renewing our commitment to the Maricopa community for an exciting and rewarding new school year. District employees, Governing Board members, local elected officials and community members participated in this 30 minute assembly that featured the following celebratory video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwaLjUNZvqk&feature=youtu.be>





MUSD Updates Strategic Plan - Enlisting Staff, Students, Parents and Community Leaders. Call for more information!



Maricopa Wells Middle School’s Panther Ambassadors a leadership opportunity

*Submitted by Maricopa Wells Teacher
Treva Jenkins*

Maricopa Wells Middle School is providing a new leadership opportunity for all sixth, seventh and eighth graders. All students are encouraged to have a voice on campus and become leaders for their grade level. This new leadership opportunity is called Panther Ambassadors. Students volunteer for this position and can also be nominated by their teachers.



Ms. Treva Jenkins commented, “The response has been overwhelmingly positive. More than 60 students across the three grade levels have decided they want to become a Panther Ambassador.” The Panther Ambassador initiative is an extension of the school’s approach to mentoring young people entitled, Helping Kids Succeed Panther Style.

The two advisors for the Panther Ambassador initiative are Treva Jenkins, teacher and mentor and Jason Szoltysik, assistant principal. The Panther Ambassador initiative will allow students to be their unique individual selves. The program will shine the light on their passions and strengths and help them become leaders of their own lives.

The tenants of the initiative include teamwork, trust, honesty, respect and integrity. Ambassadors will be trained in peer mentoring and peer mediation. These young people will take a prominent and active leadership role on campus as well as participate in mentoring

elementary students at the elementary schools. Principal Thad Miller stated, “I believe every child has the potential to be a leader and I am excited about the leadership possibilities and the positive campus culture this new initiative will bring.” ■



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Project

Parent group, Boy Scout to build ‘little free library’

By Michelle Chance

A local group is thinking outside the box when it comes to traditional libraries. MOMS Club of Maricopa will utilize the help of a Boy Scout to construct three “little free libraries” in local subdivisions by June.

The concept and design plan are inspired from the non-profit organization of the same name.

The little library is a small, wooden structure fixed atop a post. A hinged door swings open to reveal books on shelves. A latch secures the door and literature inside.

The local group of stay-at-home moms considers it a way to build a sense of community where “people come in and are able to give something and take something as well,” said MOMS Club Secretary Jomarie Bradt.



The book swap operates on an honor system, according to members. There is no sign-out list or time limit. A book should be returned or replaced by another. And it’s all done free to the reader.

Club President Jessica Holmes said the project is not meant to replace the public library but provide children even more access to books.

A Boy Scout from Troop 993 will organize the construction and installation of the group’s first three libraries as part of his Eagle Scout project.

The first will be mounted near a playground at Lousandra Drive and Kristal Lane in Senita. Supplies will likely be donated from area hardware stores. His project will also include a book drive.

Other libraries could pop up in Cobblestone and Alterra South before next summer, given funding and approval from homeowners associations, members said.

It’s the group’s goal to install more than 10 little libraries in Maricopa neighborhoods — three every year, Holmes said.

Other funding will come directly from the club. Members will monitor the libraries in weekly rotations to ensure books are stocked and clean. Members plan to host book drives to keep the supply steady.

The local moms’ group has been a charter of MOMS Club International since 2005. Members offer support to fellow mothers through playdates for children from birth to school age. The club initiates several service projects every year and donates annually to local nonprofit organizations.

The charter has also recently launched its Just Us Moms Play (JUMP) group which comprises of outings with stay-at-home mothers of school-aged children.

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CTE: Skills pay the bills

By Bernadette Russoniello

Career and Technical Education, known as CTE, is education's best-kept secret.

CTE programs across the state and country focus on preparing students with a combination of academic knowledge, technical skills and work-based learning that prepares students for the next step in their career and education plan. CTE focuses on "soft skills" that industry and employers require and find lacking in many high school and college graduates.

All CTE programs must be primarily work-based; these requirements make the courses highly interactive and engaging for students while providing authentic experiences for school, community and industry-involved learning. Additionally, all CTE programs must lead to industry-recognized certifications or an industry-identified skill set to give students a boost in applying for and landing jobs.

Statistically, CTE produces results. Graduation rates for CTE concentrators (students who complete a two-year program) exceed 98 percent compared to 68 percent for all Arizona students. There's also an alarming trend of disconnected youth — young adults with no career or educational goals — accounting for nearly 11 percent of adults ages 18-24. CTE programs help connect with these students before they leave public education without a plan.

Maricopa High School offers students a variety of Career and Technical Education options. Many courses are state and national award-winning programs, modeling innovative strategies and learning experiences for students. Programs offered at MHS include Air Force ROTC, automotive technologies, computer repair and networking, culinary arts, digital photography, graphic design, marketing,



Bernadette Russoniello

sports medicine and technical theatre.

Additionally, MHS students have access to additional CTE programs through Central Arizona Valley Institute of Technology. CAVIT courses provide certifications and dual enrollment credits from CAC. These opportunities include cosmetology, dental assisting, fire science, law enforcement, massage therapy, medical assisting, nurse assisting and veterinary assisting.

At MHS, students who complete at least two years of Air Force JROTC enlist at higher rank in the U.S. armed forces. Automotive students earn student ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) certifications. Computer repair and networking students complete the CISCO Academy and A+ Certification. Culinary Art students become ServSafe food managers in addition to recipients of the standard Food Handler card. Graphic Design students work to become Adobe-certified associates. Marketing students utilize Google Ad Words and Google Analytics certification in addition to regular work hours and sales experience through their student-based enterprise. Sports Medicine students certify in CPR and First Aid as well as Emergency Medical Responder.

Maricopa High School CTE programs seek the participation and involvement of local business and industry to advise program focus. If you have questions about the programs or would like to offer your expertise and guidance on program advisory boards, please reach out.

Bernadette Russoniello is the Career and College coordinator at Maricopa High School. She can be reached at BRussoniello@MUSD20.org.

Text

"InMaricopa" to 31996 for local news and info

Girls are good at math, too

By Murray Siegel

There is no question understanding and utilizing technology are vital tools for a successful career. Those considering the social sciences, the financial industry or the arts for one's vocation must be able to function with technology, and it is helpful to have a strong background in science.

An article in the Aug. 7 edition of *New York Times* (page A23 "Make Your Daughter Practice Math") highlighted a researcher who is concerned about preparing young female students for a world where competence in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) is a requirement.

Barbara Oakley, the author of the article, is an engineering professor at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, and authored the book "Learning How to Learn." Oakley is convinced research demonstrates the key to STEM success is a solid foundation

in mathematics.

Parents of daughters must be concerned about their children's mathematical development. Research results show boys and girls have similar abilities in mathematics, while girls generally outperform boys in reading and writing. Many girls believe they are better in language arts than in math and translate this into a belief that they are really not good in math. This leads to a lack of effort in math lessons. The basis for this behavior is false since girls can excel in mathematics the same as boys.

Mathematics is the language of science, engineering and technology, and as a language it is acquired using in-depth practice.

Professor Oakley writes, "Unfortunately, thinking you're not very good at something can be a quick path to disliking and avoiding

it, even if you do have natural ability. You can begin to avoid practicing it, because to your mind that practice is more painful than learning what comes more easily. Not practicing, in turn, transforms what started out as a mere aversion into a genuine lack of competence. Unfortunately, the way math is generally taught in the United States — which often downplays practice in favor of emphasizing conceptual understanding — can make this vicious circle even worse for girls."

What is the professor's advice for parents of girls? She emphasizes, "Do your daughter a favor — give her a little extra math practice each day, even if she finds it painful. In the long run, she'll thank you for it. (And, by the way: the same applies to your son.)"

Murray Siegel, Ph.D., has 42 years of teaching experience. He is a volunteer teacher of advanced math classes at Butterfield Elementary School.



Murray Siegel

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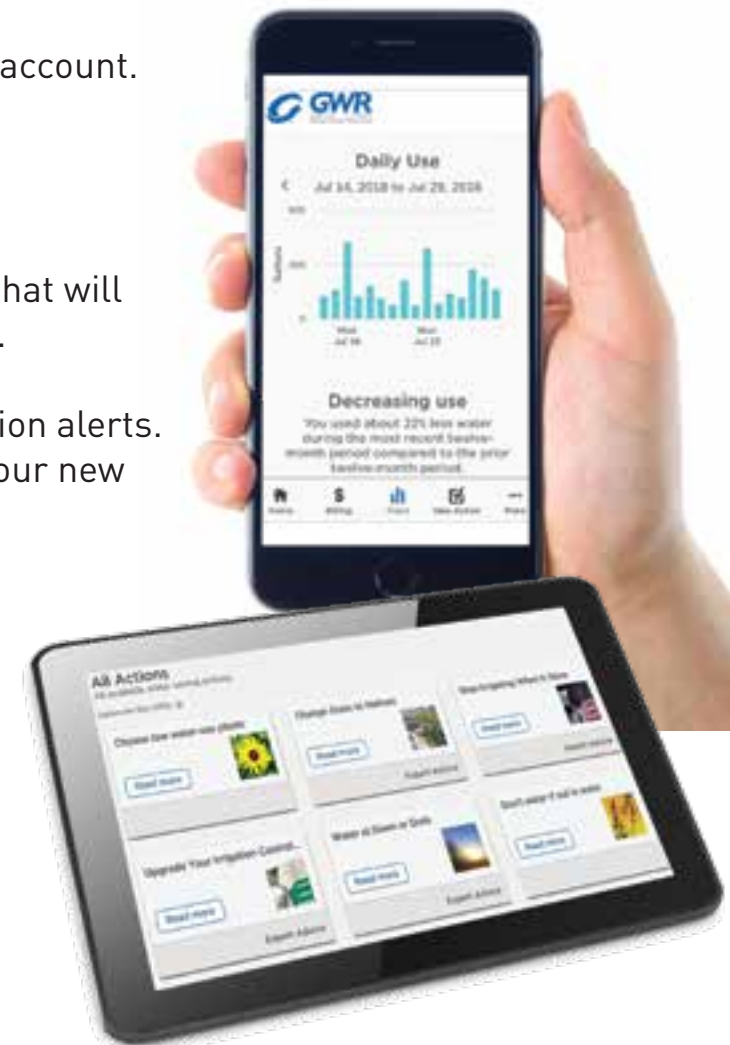
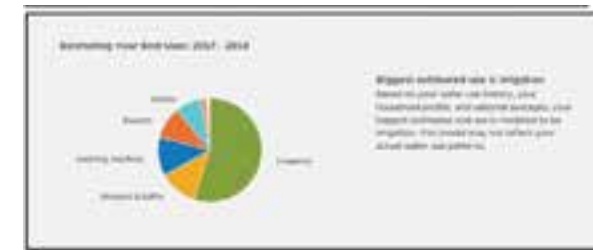


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Raquel Hendrickson

New city manager focuses on results, not processes

Rick Horst's first 100 days

By Raquel Hendrickson

During his first 100 days as Maricopa's city manager, Rick Horst has worked to make City Hall more results-oriented and streamlined. There have already been changes, including a new department. Horst sat down with InMaricopa to talk about the first three months of his three-year contract.

So, you're still in the honeymoon phase.

Horst: I tell people it's three months going on three years. As the old saying goes, drinking out of a firehose. But that's what I enjoy. It's been fun. It's been educational. We've been able to set some things in motion. We have a lot of things on our list yet to set into motion. It's why I'm here; it's why I wanted to be here.

As a leader, what kind of imprinting did you want to have on your employees?

Horst: I've never been one for silos. I think we're all one team. I kind of use the football analogy that, yes, a football team has offense and defense and special teams, but they all wear the same uniform, and at the end of the day they have the same goal. That's to win. I find sometimes that we need to make sure that our main objective is to meet the goals that we've made. I've always felt that government is really good at process, but we should be good at results. I really want our employees to feel empowered to make decisions at the lowest level possible. I want us to streamline. I want us to make things more simple. I want us to spend time in achieving goals, not figuring out the process of how to get there.

How did you go about learning the institutional culture?

Horst: Well, you learn pretty quickly, right? I've invested myself in a lot of the meetings. I don't believe in micromanaging, but at the same time, what I knew I had to invest myself in the system to learn what is going on and what they're trying to do, what processes

they have. I think sometimes we work so hard to create the momentum, the process, the program, and we work so hard we don't want to let it go. We do things right, but we don't always do the right thing.

What are some key areas you're focusing on?

Horst: We're hoping to deregulate, not only internally but externally, to make it easier for those whom we're here to serve. We're hoping to streamline our processes. I use the term, sometimes we spend a dollar to save a nickel, and I want to be careful that we don't do that. There's two structures within government — there's the structure that supports the services we provide, IT, Finance, HR. The other is there to serve the customer, which is the people who provide the operations and services of the City, which is Public Safety, Parks and Recreation, Streets, etc. Our job is to make sure we can internally support those purposes by streamlining how quick they can get personnel hired, how quick they can get resources, materials, the things they need to do their job, and to make

sure we don't get bogged down in process so we can kick out the product at the end of the day.

What are some of the clear-cut strategies you've given your team?

Horst: Well, I'm trying to empower them. For instance, we've merged all our support services together to a new department called Administrative Services. So, our IT, Finance, HR and those type of things are now under one leader, which is Jennifer Brown as our department head. Therefore, she can cross-utilize those resources. As an example, HR today has to know it's very involved with financial numbers, and vice versa. Current costs, future costs, benefit costs, all those type of things, so everything can't be done in a vacuum. It has to be done more holistically as we approach these issues. I sometimes find a department can create a great idea and implement it but didn't realize it created some unforeseen consequences for another department or action. So, we want to come together and resolve those issues and be collective in our focus. We really have a great team, and they're accepting these changes and welcoming these changes. To some degree, they've taken the handcuffs off so they can be more effective in what they're doing. Every one of our employees has something significant to offer. We just need to be patient enough to hear them out... So, I'm encouraging people to talk back to the boss, so to speak. Just be polite about it. (Laughs)

What did you consider City Hall's strengths when you took the job?

Horst: We have great people. We have talented people. Most of them are not here for a paycheck; they really want to make a difference. And they really work hard to make a difference. They go the extra mile. And I consider them public servants, not employees. Most people won't ever understand all the things they do to benefit the community. A lot of them do things in their spare time after hours. They participate in other community events, charities, programs, all because they care about this community. They are well invested both personally and professionally.

Where did you find City Hall lacking?

Horst: If we do something in 15 steps, we could probably do it in 10. Or if it's in 10, we can do it in five. We're looking at our processes and we're saying, "Did it outlive its usefulness? Is there a way to do it better? Are we still doing it because we worked so hard to put it in place?" Sometimes you've got to give it up and move onto something new. The city's changing every day. 🗣️

🗣️ **Read more of the interview with Rick Horst at InMaricopa.com.**

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Maricopa eyes ‘red flags’ in development plans

By Raquel Hendrickson

“We are going to run into some problems in the future.”

Maricopa Development Services Director Martin Scribner was talking to the Planning & Zoning Commission Sept. 10 after a presentation on development patterns. The report by planner Ryan Wozniak, “Maricopa: The Living Experiment,” red-flagged problems in land-use productivity and heavy reliance on vehicles.

“Residents spend 61 percent on housing and transportation,” Wozniak said. “That’s higher than the rest of the county.”

He said explosive growth comes with explosive cost. “There is nothing magical about infrastructure.”

With streets currently “too wide” to create pedestrian-friendly business areas and

ongoing development sprawl across several acres, Maricopa may need course correction, Wozniak said. “The more you accommodate vehicles, the more you spread out,” Wozniak said. “The less you accommodate, the more people are accepting.”

Without a lot of Arizona examples to help guide Maricopa’s development plan, “We’re trying to identify the crack when it’s been broken,” he said.

In a later interview, City Manager Rick Horse gave an example. “A developer comes in, he builds a new subdivision, he turns over roads to us. In governmental accounting, we call that an asset. Anywhere else it would be called a liability because it just has future dollars tied to it. But we have to have roads. The question is, ‘How do we best utilize our assets, our infrastructure, to capitalize and

serve the people the best?”

Commissioner Michael Sharpe said that was one of the frustrations of Maricopa’s current development model. “We’re just a bedroom community designed around the automobile. It’s going to be tough to course-correct aggressively.”

Horst had encouraged Wozniak’s initiative in gathering the information and asked him to present the information to city departments.

The report showed potential property tax per acre on the same size property developed differently.

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“For instance,” Horst said, “you can have a mile of road that services 100,000 square feet of retail, which brings in a lot of revenue to the city to support Public Safety, Parks & Rec and all those things. Or it can support 100 acres of forest that’s in a nonprofit reserve, for which you get nothing. Is a road too wide when it should be more narrow? Is it a road to nowhere? We have to begin to think about that.”

The research also highlighted long-term development successes in other cities in other areas, from Louisiana to Italy. Wozniak said their experience showed “small interventions add up to different results.”

Horst said current housing stock does not meet the circle-of-life needs of everyone in the city. “We kind of have one level of housing stock. What about the seniors when the kids leave home and they’re empty nesters? What about when one spouse passes? We don’t have apartments; we don’t have more affordable work-force housing, which is our school teachers, the police officers, the firefighters. Those are all the things we need to think about to be a well-rounded, purposeful city.”

The decision to change course or not could have “political ramifications long-term for some,” Scribner said, indicating a future impact on the city council and P&Z.

“It will take an attitude shift across the board.”

Commercial activities, in brief

Mountain Trace Development received the recommendation of Maricopa Planning & Zoning Commission for a rezoning of 5.83 acres from light industrial to general mixed use. The company, which has 14 apartment complexes in Arizona and 60 more in Illinois and Indiana, is planning multi-family housing at the site of Oasis at the Wells, between Walmart and Banner Health on Porter Road.

IHOP received a permit to build a new commercial building at Edison Pointe. It is planned for 4,767 square feet, to be constructed by Straightline Builders Inc., and valued at \$628,000. The project was also granted a variance for its setback on the property at the northeast corner of John Wayne Parkway and Edison Road.

Empty business suites at **Maricopa Fiesta** continue to undergo modifications. Suite D8 is being modified into an open white-shell, and suite D4B is being separated into an independent suite to be renovated into a white-shell, tenant-ready suite. **East Valley Cardiology** received a business license for a suite in Maricopa Fiesta.

The former Zoyo Yogurt shop is changing into a **Rosati’s Pizza** at 21423 N. John Wayne Parkway. Contractor Imagine Builders received a permit to demolish the current interior. The remodeling project is valued at \$150,000.

DRH Construction received a permit for a sales/construction office a 36894 W. Maddaloni Ave. as well as permits for a welcome sign and attention flags. **Treasured Smiles Children’s Dentistry**, 21300 N. John Wayne Parkway, was also given the OK for monument signs.

KB Home was given a temporary use permit for a model home complex at 18198 N. Christopher Drive.

Liquidate AZ Inc. has leased Suite E in the Mesquite Building at 12501 N. Murphy Road in Ak-Chin’s industrial park, Santa Cruz Commerce Center. The company specializes in both personal and business merchandise liquidations that range from coins and jewelry to flooring and furniture.

NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

The following organizations received new or renewed business licenses from the City of Maricopa from Aug. 16 to Sept. 15.
Commercial: Arby’s, Bounce Back Nutrition, Chi-Town Barber Shop, East Valley Cardiology LTD, KFC/LJS, Tacos N More
Home-based: A&P House Cleaning LLC, All American Girl Painting, Avasu LLC, AZ Property Doctors LLC, Cat’s Meow Design, Catering Your Way, Dutchman Home Inspections LLC, La Flying

Dacha LLC, Liften High Garage Door Repair, Onsite Mobile, Rikkisparkles, Simply Elegant Fashions and Gifts, The Sew Suite, With Love Signed Nikki
Out of town: Ace Home Services, Arizona Hardwood Floor Supply, Cochise Contractors, Coin & Professional Equipment, Ellison Mills Contracting, Freedom Forever Arizona LLC, JS Waltz Construction, Photovoltaic Systems, Resilient Drilling Services, Rox Media Group, Softinc, Summit Fire Protection Co., Waffle Crush & Sweet Thangs Bakery & Café
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Spa opens at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino

As Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino continues its multi-million-dollar expansion, it has opened The Spa. The business within the complex offers massage, waxing and facial treatments and a full-service nail salon. Its grand opening was Aug. 28.

“Our customers have told us over the years that one of the amenities that they would like to see on property is a full-service spa,” said Robert Livingston, general manager and regional president of Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino. “We are excited to bring this luxury experience not only to our guests but to local visitors as well.”

The spa features four treatment rooms including one couple's suite. Features include adjustable beds, complimentary LED Light Therapy in each treatment room, a dedicated Esthetics Room with back bar feature, and the Signature Hungarian Face Massage. The spa uses Eminence and Farmhouse Fresh treatments.

The Spa at Harrah's Ak-Chin is open Monday—Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Reservations are required at 480-802-3340.



3 EATERIES MARKED BY HEALTH INSPECTOR

Out of 20 Maricopa food establishments inspected by Pinal County's health department Aug. 16-Sept. 15, all but three received perfect scores.

Neighboring eateries Yogurt Jungle and Say Sushi were inspected the same day, and both had a cold-holding issue. Yogurt Jungle reportedly had pistachio yogurt measured at 45 degrees instead of the required 41 degrees or below.

Say Sushi had a prep table that was not keeping food at 41 degrees or below. Food items were measured with temperatures between 56 and 60 degrees. A tray of ice was holding food at the correct temperature but was not approved refrigeration equipment. Items were placed in a walk-in unit. The inspector also noted teriyaki sauce at 119 degrees when it should have been

no less than 135. The restaurant was also dinged for a shortage of date markings and a rice acidification log not being maintained.

Denny's also had a cold-holding issue on the day of inspection. Some food items in the prep table were at 44 to 47 degrees instead of 41 and were rearranged to allow for better air flow. Liquid eggs were discarded.

EXCELLENT [No violations found]

- Butterfield Elementary
- CAC — Culinary
- Children's Learning Adventure
- Desert Wind Middle School
- Francisco's Mexican Food
- Leading Edge Academy
- Legacy Traditional School
- Li's Garden
- Maricopa Head Start
- Maricopa High School — Concessions
- Maricopa High School — Culinary
- Pima Butte Elementary

- Saddleback Elementary
- Santa Rosa Elementary
- Sequoia Pathway Academy K-6
- Sequoia Pathway Academy — Secondary
- True Grit Tavern

SATISFACTORY [Violations corrected during inspection]

- Denny's
- Say Sushi
- Yogurt Jungle

NEEDS IMPROVEMENT [Critical items noted during inspection cannot be corrected immediately requiring follow-up inspection]

No

UNACCEPTABLE [Gross, unsanitary conditions necessitating the discontinuation of service]

None



Getting to KNOW

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Occupation: Broker/Owner
Family: Daughter Kelly & her husband JD, grandchildren Gillian, Caylie & Dillon
Pet peeve: Selfish and inconsiderate people
Like most about Maricopa: Still has small town feel

FAVORITE . . .
Charity: United Blood Services
Book: Daily Reflections
Musician: Cat Stevens
Team: Arizona Cardinals
Website: AhwatukeeRealty.com
Quote: “Lead, follow or get out of the way”

 Learn more about Chad at InMaricopa.com/Getting-To-Know



Submitted

Hot pot gardening: Look for thrillers, fillers and spillers

By Wende Gehrt

Gardening in containers, or hot pots, can be a great deal of fun and affords the gardener accessibility, opportunities for creativity, and relative ease in terms of daily chores. The challenges include lack of moisture and susceptibility to hot and cold temperatures and should be considered when determining placement of the container.

Containers are available in a variety of materials including terra-cotta, plastic, ceramic, metal, fiberglass, wood, stone and concrete. Of course, you may choose any whimsical container you desire.

Plants may grab the attention, but good-looking plants begin with healthy planting medium. A good potting mix will contain organic material and air but rarely contain any real soil. They're available in a variety of brands and sold in pre-packaged mixes. Avoid garden soil as it's too dense and lacks organic material. If the container is quite large or deep, crumpled plastic water bottles or bubble wrap may be used to fill space before adding the potting mix. The plant's roots will only grow to a depth of about 12 inches, so filling a deep container with potting mix only adds to the cost and weight.

When selecting plants for hot pots, be sure to choose plants that have similar light and water requirements. Think in terms of "thriller," "filler" and "spiller" when choosing plants.

A thriller is a tall plant placed in the back of the pot such as dracaena, yucca or lavender.

The filler is the main focal flowering plant, and chrysanthemums, salvias, nasturtiums, petunias and zinnias are all good choices.

The spiller could be a vine or creeper such as marguerite, ivy or elephant food.

With the kaleidoscope of colors available, you can choose whatever color arrangement you like. Think of the color wheel and use either contrasting colors,

complementary colors or whatever appeals to you. The addition of white flowers makes the other colors "pop." Even herbs including rosemary, basil, dill, chives and thyme can be incorporated in a container.



Wende Gehrt



Submitted

To attract butterflies, choose blue mist flower, lantana or desert milkweed. Hummingbirds are attracted to autumn sage, scarlet creeper and velvet honeysuckle. To attract birds, select ocotillo, hesperaloe or southwest coral bean. If you prefer cacti and succulent plants, keep them together to avoid overwatering or feeding. Succulents and cacti do need water, but only when the soil is very dry.

When selecting plants for hot pots, be sure to choose plants that have similar light and water requirements. Think in terms of "thriller," "filler" and "spiller" when choosing plants.

Watering and feeding will be determined by the type of container, variety of plants and location. You may choose to add a line to a drip irrigation system or water by hand. Fertilizer choices include granular, soluble crystals or pelleted and include the three nutrients — nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K). Follow the directions on the package for application and frequency.

Container gardening in Arizona is not only fun, but also can be enjoyed year-round. Express your creativity with your container and plants.

520-374-6263
macmastergardener@gmail.com

Wende Gehrt is the newest member of Maricopa Master Gardeners.

Fall trend in Maricopa housing market is flat

By Dayv Morgan

The end of summer typically brings with it the sluggishness of the Maricopa housing market for the cooler months. Last year, for instance, the median price for a closed/sold home was \$190,000 in September and stayed the same in December.

You can also expect fewer homes going under contract when the market is flat.

In 2017, Maricopa had 157 homes that went under contract in October. That dropped to 134 in November and then 106 in December, according to Multiple Listing Service (MLS).

As sales slow, the number of homes on the market increases. That coincides with an increase in active homes in the Maricopa market during the fall months.

The market is expected to behave the same

way this autumn, too. Though a stagnant housing market is often a buyer's market, families looking for new homes usually search toward the end of the school year, so they can move over the summer.

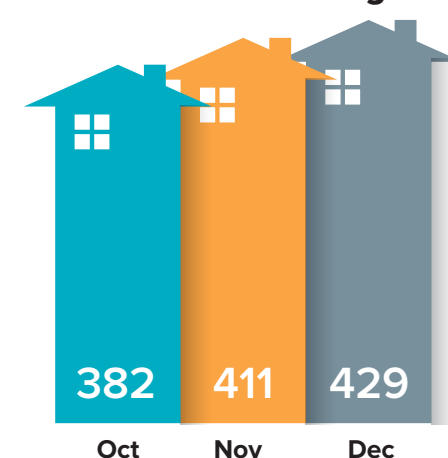
And while October is "snowbird" season and visitors from the Midwest and Northeast return, Canadians do not seem to be having the same impact on the housing market as they once did. Canadian ownership is now under 5 percent, according to Empire West Title Company.

The exception to the flat fall market is Province, which is expected to see an upswing in activity, as they do get a lot of buyers who are in Maricopa only during the cooler months. Meritage Homes at Province is ramping up its spec homes. It has 14 completed



Dayv Morgan

2017 Active Listings



and available specs right now, nine more were started in September and 22 spec homes are scheduled to start by the end of November.

Dayv Morgan is a Maricopa Realtor and owner of HomeSmart Success.

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**MOST
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HOME SOLD**

1. 42443 W. Bravo Drive, Rancho El Dorado

Raquel Hendrickson

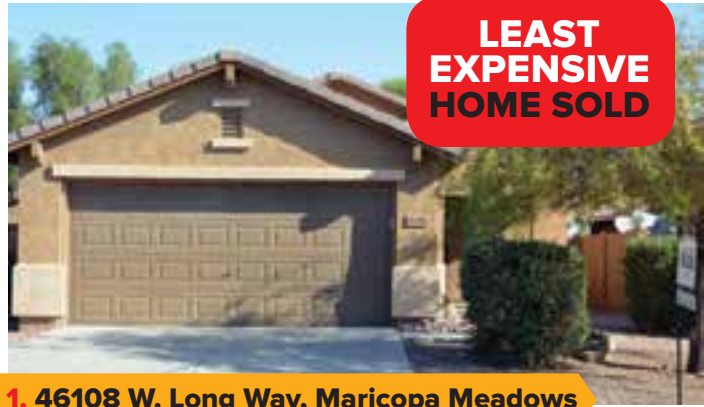
The most expensive home sold in Maricopa Aug. 16-Sept. 15 was a two-story, five-bedroom home in the middle of Rancho El Dorado with a backyard pool and a master-suite balcony overlooking the golf course. It also sports a three-car garage, loft, fireplace and lots of space. Listed at just under \$400,000, it sold for \$5,000 under the asking price. That was \$69,000 more than its selling price four and a half months earlier.

Sold: Sept. 1
Purchase price: \$394,000
Square footage: 3,890
Price per square foot: \$101.29
Days on market: 130
Builder: Hacienda
Year built: 2004
Bedrooms: 5
Bathrooms: 3
Community: Rancho El Dorado

Features: Large diving pool with new tile, great views, master suite with walkout, new carpet and paint, multiple ovens, walk-in pantry, covered patio
Listing Agent: Heather Schmidt, The Maricopa Real Estate Company
Selling Agent: Bobby Johns, Realty Pointe LLC

- 2. 22026 N. Cline Court, Rancho El Dorado.....\$375,000**
- 3. 21954 N. Olson Court, Rancho El Dorado.....\$373,000**
- 4. 40358 W. Dennis Lane, Smith Farms.....\$275,000**
- 5. 42166 W. Santa Fe St., Glennville.....\$260,455**

For a full list of last month's Maricopa home sales, see InMaricopa.com/Real-Estate.



**LEAST
EXPENSIVE
HOME SOLD**

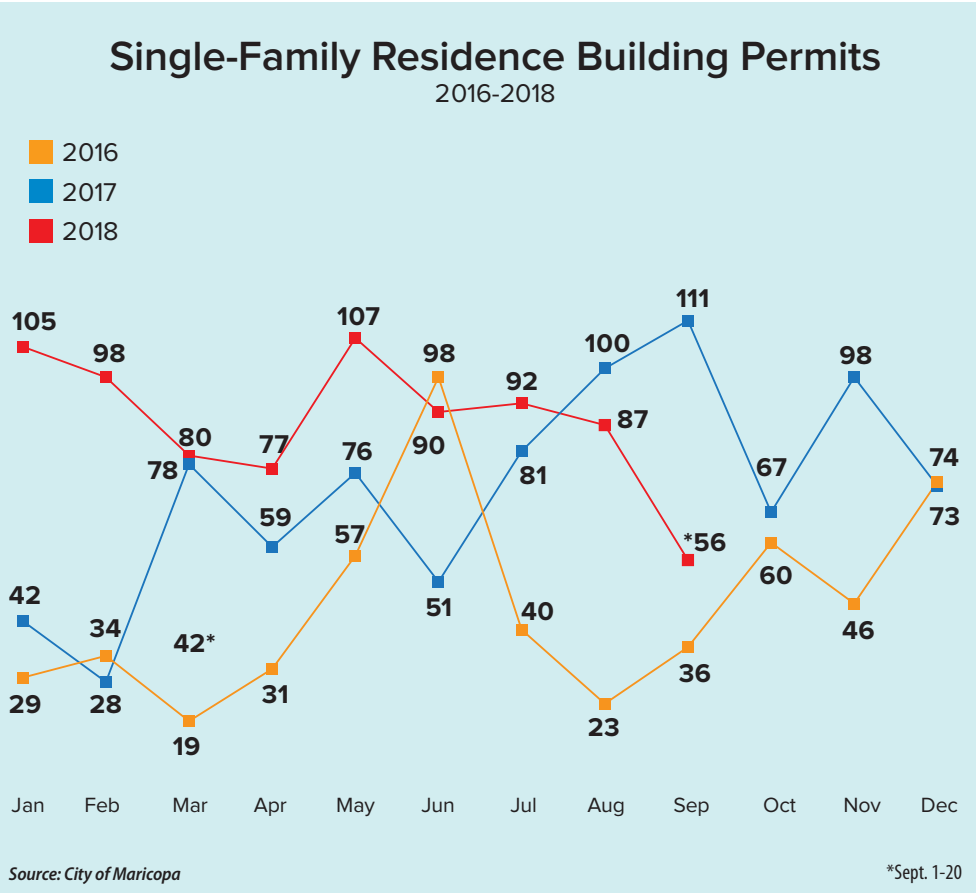
1. 46108 W. Long Way, Maricopa Meadows

The least expensive home sold in Maricopa Aug. 16-Sept. 15 was a 13-year-old starter home in Maricopa Meadows. The home lost nearly 25 percent of its value since the last time it sold in 2005. Newly carpeted and painted inside, the home served as a rental.

Sold: Sept. 14
Purchase price: \$155,000
Square footage: 1,447
Price per square foot: \$107.11
Days on market: 39
Builder: Elite
Year built: 2005
Bedrooms: 4
Bathrooms: 2
Community: Maricopa Meadows

Features: New tile in kitchen, bathrooms and laundry room, new toilets, lots of ceiling fans, dual-pane windows, sheltered entry, two-car garage.
Listing Agent: Mary Almaguer, Apache Gold Realty
Selling Agent: Charles D. Powell, Realty Executives Tucson Elite

- 2. 45638 W. Amsterdam Road, Maricopa Meadows ...\$165,000**
- 3. 42466 W. Hillman Drive, Rancho El Dorado\$168,000**
- 4. 44773 W. Portabello Road, Acacia Crossings\$169,000**
- 5. 41293 W. Capistrano Drive, Glennville\$170,000**



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Seniors: Get moving!

By Joan Koczor

When the temperature reaches 100-plus, our first inclination is to crank up the a/c and just stay inside. With the end of the monsoon season we can (hopefully) say goodbye to those excessive temperatures and all the crazy weather the monsoon season brings. Time to get out there and get moving.

Being home all the time can increase the effects of aging and make people feel depressed. This is especially true for people who live by themselves. Getting out of the house is also good for your emotional health.

For mental, physical and social reasons, being active is very good for everyone, most especially senior citizens. Shut off the television. Take advantage of the fall season and the cooler temperatures. Get out and participate in activities like sports, dancing, walking, etc. Craft fairs are popular at this time, find one that interests you.

Our age should not stop us from being

active. There are a lot of activities and events you can participate in. Is there something you always wanted to know more about? A place you always wanted to travel to? Learn a new language, take dance lessons, crafts, low impact sports, water aerobics. Or just walking. Whatever interests you — go for it.

It is necessary for seniors to be active on a daily basis to maintain good health.

Unable to do physical exercise? Have difficulty walking? Playing games is a cost-effective method of entertainment and it keeps your mind and body active and encourages

socialization. Consider playing cards. You can sit and be comfortable. Card games are also good for improving cognitive skills. Shuffling, dealing, and moving the cards around exercises their fingers and hands. They also have to use their judgment skills to decide if they want another card or to discard a card, stay in the



game, etc. Playing bingo is similar; you can sit, be comfortable and socialize.

Join a club that shares your interest. Dinner clubs, book clubs, movie clubs to name a few. Dancing is a popular activity for senior citizens. Many seniors may remember going dancing every week. You have the time, now take the opportunity to do what you have always wanted to do. Most of all enjoy every day.

There are several websites that offer ideas and suggestions on how to be more active, more involved.

Information is out there — just ask.

Joan Koczor is a senior advocate and a member of the Age-Friendly Maricopa Advisory Committee.



Joan Koczor

Exercise a valuable tool in fight against cancer

By Ted Yocum

“If we could turn the benefits of exercise into a pill, it would be demanded by patients and subsidized by government — it would be seen as a major breakthrough in cancer treatment.”

So says Professor Prue Cormic, chair of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia, who helped formulate a position paper based on data gathered worldwide from 20 health organizations as quoted in the *Arizona Republic*.

There is overwhelming evidence that exercise for cancer patients contributes to longer life and less recurrence. What does exercise do for cancer patients?

- Lowers the risk of heart disease.
- It can help overcome the stress of chemotherapy and radiation on the cardiovascular system.
- Lessens the risk of osteoporosis and diabetes.
- Improves your mood—lowers the risk of being anxious and depressed.
- Helps with fatigue and tiredness.
- Lessens nausea.
- Contributes to higher self-esteem and helps improve your ability to keep social contacts.
- Greater bone and muscle strength, less weight gain, leaner body mass.
- Stress reduction. To quote the National Cancer Institute, “Evidence from experimental studies does suggest that psychological stress can affect a tumor’s ability to grow and spread.”

The list goes on. General factors that may affect your ability to exercise include the type and stage of your cancer, your treatment regimen, and your overall endurance, strength and fitness level.

Generally, The American Cancer Society recommends “at least 30 to 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous physical activity at least three times a week.” However, as with any exercise program, it is important to first consult with your oncologist, get a physical examination, then discuss what is right for you considering your own abilities, stamina, limitations, frequency. Also, cancer patients may be at slightly higher risk for heart problems, which should be discussed with your doctor(s).

Finally, even if the cancer is advanced, or has spread to other places and is not responding to treatment, it might still benefit from exercise at some level to improve quality of life. But, the situation can change quickly. It is essential to base physical activity on continued close contact with your doctor along with your ongoing and changing goals and abilities.

Ted Yocum is a member of the Maricopa Multi Cultural Consortium and the Copa Seniors.



Ted Yocum

The Maricopa Multi Cultural Consortium (MMCC) will present another educational program for seniors and their families Oct. 25, 2-4 p.m., at the Maricopa Police Department Community Conference Room (adjacent to Copper Sky). The topic will be “Benefits, Entitlements and Advocacy for Senior Citizens,” presented by Jane Jones and Jean Carr, benefit specialists from the Pinal-Gila Council for Senior citizens (PGCSC), a part of the State Region V Area Agency on Aging. Al Brandenburg, 315-427-5507



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Teamwork makes the dream work!

By Sherioly Curry, CSA

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK is on a poster in our Comfort Keepers Office. To those of us who work there, it's not just a poster but it's how we work at Comfort Keepers!

You see, it takes the agency, the caregiver, the family and the client all working together towards our common goal — what's best for our client. We become a team. If each member does their part, it's a win for all.

The agency's role is to assess the client's daily needs and along with the family write a plan of care. Do they need full help with a bath or shower or just the confidence to know that someone is nearby while they shower? Companionship? Help with range

of motion exercises? Are they a fall risk? This is usually done at the first meeting — the Assessment or Intake. We send a Care Coordinator to the client's home to meet with the client and the family. We try to find



Rev. Sherioly Curry

out not only what the client's needs are but also their personality and preferences in the person they will have caring for them.

We take finding the right caregiver very serious. To do this, we may have to go through a couple before we settle on the best fit. This takes honest feedback from the client and family. We need to hear

what goes good and not so good. We not only need to know our client's needs but also their desires. For example, how they want to be helped out of the chair, what they like to eat and how they like that food cooked, etc.

The caregiver's role is to carry out the plan of care for the client. In doing so, they are to be courteous and maintain the client's dignity. They interact and engage the client whether while cooking, playing cards, doing a puzzle or looking at old photos, to help clients maintain happy, independent lives.

In summary, Comfort Keepers provides in-home care that makes a difference in the lives of their clients and other adults. For more than a decade, clients in Maricopa have entrusted their care to us. We offer the care and support that improves clients' quality of life and enables them to continue living at home. TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!

Sherioly Curry is a certified senior advisor and owner of Comfort Keepers of Maricopa.
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Sun Life: Managing the opioid crisis locally

By Dr. Matthew Bertsch, PharmD. and Dr. Chinwe Chukwurah, M.D., Sun Life Family Health Center

The opioid crisis has had an effect on many people around Arizona, and around the country. Although the problem with opiates is not a new one, it certainly has developed much traction recently. With governors, legislators, our national congressional representatives, our senators and even our president talking about the issue, it has garnered a lot of mainstream attention. Opiates/opioids, often used interchangeably, are not new, and neither is drug abuse. However, the attention on the crisis has made health care challenging, even to Sun Life Family Health Center.



Integrated Behavioral Health and a Family Practice Provider collaborate on patient care.

Patient education

It really is not all about the opiates though. Drug abuse, legal and illegal, has run rampant for decades. People who abuse have abused promethazine with codeine for its pleasurable and sedative effect; have abused dextromethorphan for its mild euphoria or extreme hallucinations depending on dose; and have abused other medications meant to treat neuropathic pain for its marijuana-like effects. Drug abuse is not new.

The laws and technology in our state have changed, and there is now an Arizona Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program for the safety of patients. Prescribers are now required to check the prescription monitoring program. Prescribers will also be required to prescribe addictive medications electronically. Continuing education will be required for providers as a part of maintaining their license. Prescription doses will also be limited and new opioid packaging requirements have been implemented.

The scrutiny around opiate prescribing has led to opioid refugees, those who have had to abandon their addictions to prescription opiates and have turned to illegal street drugs. Patients have turned to both methamphetamine and heroin. Because of all of these overdoses, both legal and illegal, access to the life-saving overdose drug naloxone has increased as well.

Sun Life

At Sun Life Family Health Center, we practice pain management responsibly. While our primary care providers have autonomy in pain management, their decisions are guided by policy and proper clinical judgment using guideline-based therapy.

What makes us unique, however, is our integrated approach to pain management. We have a team of integrated behavioral health specialists who work with our patients, as many times symptoms can be managed at a behavioral level as opposed to prescribing a medication. This is where our Mindful Alternative Pain Program comes into play. MAPP is a series of classes that focus on alternative and natural ways to cope with issues associated with pain.

Clinical pharmacy has made a huge impact on the approach to pain management within Sun Life. Clinical pharmacy has teamed up with primary care providers to review dosing of pain medications of the patients we serve. Clinical pharmacists also provide education to patients about opiates, discuss pain goals with patients, check dangerous drug interactions and consult with providers to ensure proper therapy for patients. The goal of this collaboration is that patients learn to manage their pain and reduce their dependency solely on medications.



Dr. Chukwurah and Dr. Bertsch consult about Pain Management at Sun Life Family Health Center in Casa Grande.

Sun Life's community pharmacists assist in the process by providing a thorough review of the prescriptions sent by the providers to one of our six pharmacies. Although this is not different from how other pharmacies should operate, Sun Life pharmacies have the advantage of being in close proximity to the clinical pharmacy team, the behavioral health team and the primary care provider.

Pain management is a complicated subject. We have seen that with this collaborative, interdisciplinary approach, medication use is decreasing, and there is an overall decreased risk for medication-related problems. Patients benefit when health care providers set an example and work together to ensure proper care of our patients who are in need.

Matthew Bertsch, PharmD., is the director of pharmacy and Chinwe Chukwurah, M.D., is the medical director at Sun Life Family Health Center.



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More local jobs at InMaricopa.com/Jobs

Optimal plant-based nutrition

By Aaron Gilbert

Q Why do some folks feel plant-based eating doesn't provide enough protein?

Most people aren't familiar with plant-based diets and the research supporting them. Look no farther than athletes who eat plant-based. Eat properly, and you'll get all the protein you need. We're also misled to believe that meat, milk, etc. are the best "protein" foods. Indeed, many people do not even know that plants contain any protein at all. Don't worry, plants have protein.

Q Joe/Jane Meat-Eater decides to start eating more plant-based. Where will Joe/Jane likely go wrong?

Eating too many refined and processed "vegetarian" foods. The real benefit from "plant-based" comes when the diet is centered on whole unrefined/unprocessed fruits,

vegetables, intact whole grains and legumes with the addition of a few nuts/seeds.



Aaron Gilbert

Q Some folks are concerned with controlling carb intake and often get scared away from plant-based eating. What do you tell them?

Over 90 percent of carbs consumed in America are highly refined, highly processed, and mostly in the form of refined flour and sugar. This is the problem. Avoid these. However, carbs in the form of fresh fruits, vegetables, starchy vegetables, intact whole grains and legumes are the healthiest foods for us and should be the center of any healthy diet.

Q Some folks want to gain muscle/strength and fuel high levels of performance. What do you suggest they do to get enough nutrient-dense



food each day?

Try to eat only when hungry, eat only until satisfied and drink lots of water. To lose fat, eat two meals and three snacks per day. To maintain body composition, eat three meals and two snacks per day. To gain muscle, eat five meals per day.

Make yours meals using nutrient-dense foods like veggies, fruits, raw nuts and seeds, legumes and then grains (in that order). Eating like this consistently will lead to amazing results.

DOS AND DON'TS:

If you're considering moving toward a plant-based diet, or just want some more plant-based choices, here are the experts' tips:

DO choose your protein sources carefully.

DO aim for about 1 gram of protein per kg of bodyweight; add 30-40 grams each day if you are in a phase of intense training.

DO get enough fat.

DO eat a variety of whole foods, especially lots of vegetables and fruits.

DO stay active.

DO use your body's hunger cues to guide you. If you want to lose fat, eat a little less than you would normally. If you want to gain mass, eat a little more.

DON'T get your nutrition information from bodybuilding magazines.

DON'T just cut things out without adding healthy alternatives.

DON'T consume too many processed foods, including "healthy" protein powders and processed soy products.

Aaron Gilbert, CSCS, is the owner of Longevity Athletics.

520-261-4661
Aaron@LongevityAthletics.com

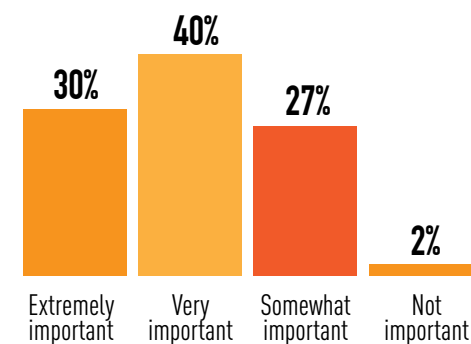
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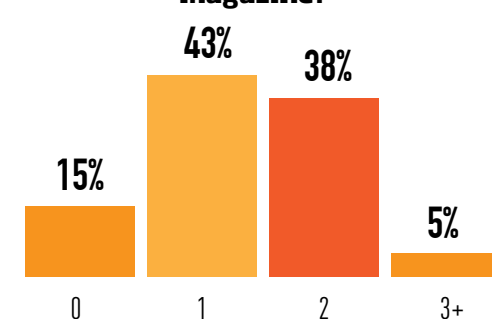
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Submitted

Cash Riggle has Halloween plans for the community.

Teen to debut Trick-or-Eat to help others on Halloween

By Fran Lyons

The inaugural “Trick or Eat” Halloween event will be Oct. 31. All neighborhoods in Maricopa are invited to participate by donating and volunteering.

High school freshman Cash Riggle came up with the idea last year. He was introduced to a program for high schoolers that requires them to accumulate 100 hours of community service to graduate. He became inspired and started planning.

Where could kids have fun, gather service hours and benefit those in need? Halloween was a perfect choice. How about collecting food while trick-or-treating? Oh, yes.

This year’s event is a food drive that will benefit F.O.R. Maricopa food bank and is focused on “making sure that nobody goes hungry for the holidays,” Cash said. “Our goal is to get as many kids that need service hours to participate and to make sure that people in need can have a good, fulfilling holiday season.”

The event is 5:30—9 p.m. on Halloween night. Forty students are being recruited to collect donations — canned goods and nonperishables — all across Maricopa. They’ll do this while trick-or-treating, in costume or not. Students will be in groups of two or more and will collect five community service hours for their participation.

In addition to food donations, 40 wagons are needed to hold the food. The wagons will be returned to the owners the next day. Volunteers in the neighborhoods willing to be drop locations for wagons overnight are also needed. Contact Kirsten Stodghill, Cash’s mom, know if you can contribute.

“Anything that you can donate will be appreciated and will help someone in need here in Maricopa,” Stodghill said.

☎ 480-369-3838
✉ kstodghill80@gmail.com

Things to do

OCTOBER

1

MHS Girls’ Golf vs. Apache Junction

3 p.m., The Duke at Rancho El Dorado
42660 W. Rancho El Dorado Parkway

Cultural Heritage Management

5:30 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

2

City Council Work Session

6 p.m., City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

City Council Regular Meeting

7 p.m., City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

5

8-Bits video gaming

4 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

6

InMaricopa.com General Election Town Hall

10 a.m., Maricopa High School Performing Arts Center
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Bark for Life

10 a.m., Copper Sky Regional Park
55345 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

All-Maricopa Poetry Slam

6 p.m., Honeycutt Coffee
44400 W. Honeycutt Road, Suite 109

10

MUSD Governing Board

6:30 p.m., Maricopa Unified School District
44150 W. Maricopa-Casa Grande Hwy.

“Cabaret”

7 p.m., Leading Edge Academy
18700 N. Porter Road

11

MHS Swimming vs. Poston Butte

4 p.m., Copper Sky Aquatic Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Explore the Works of Frida Kahlo

5 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

“Cabaret”

7 p.m., Leading Edge Academy
18700 N. Porter Road

12

“Cabaret”

2 p.m., Leading Edge Academy
18700 N. Porter Road



13

Maricopa Mud Run

7 a.m., Copper Sky Regional Park
44345 W. Martin Luther King Blvd.



Coffee with the Chief

8 a.m., Copper Sky Police Substation
17985 N. Greythorne Drive

“Cabaret”

7 p.m., Leading Edge Academy
18700 N. Porter Road



For details on these and other local events — and to list your own — visit InMaricopa.com/Calendar.

Things to do

15

Shutter Shots Photo Contest

12 a.m.-11:59 p.m., Various locations within Maricopa

16

City Council/MUSD Joint Meeting

5:30 p.m., City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

City Council Regular Meeting

7 p.m., City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

17

Business Speed Networking

6:30 p.m., City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

18

Zonta Club of Maricopa

5:30 p.m., Honeycutt Coffee
44400 W. Honeycutt Road, Suite 109

MHS Volleyball vs. Casteel

6 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

19

8-Bits video gaming

4 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

MHS Football vs. Casteel

7 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Sequoia Pathway Football vs. Canyon State

7 p.m., Pacana Park
19000 N. Porter Road

20

Friends of the Maricopa Public Library Book Sale

9 a.m.-2 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road, Building 10



23

MHS Volleyball vs. Gilbert (Senior Night)

6 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

24

State of the City Address

6 p.m., City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

MUSD Governing Board

6:30 p.m., Maricopa Unified School District
44150 W. Maricopa-Casa Grande Hwy.

26

MHS Football v. Gilbert (Senior Night)

7 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.



31

Halloween Trick-or-Eat

5:30-9 p.m., various locations in Maricopa



For details on these and other local events — and to list your own — visit InMaricopa.com/Calendar.

NOV 2



Raquel Hendrickson

Alissandra Juarez (left) and Dana Coutts rehearse for “Absurdity.”

Student actors get weird in ‘Absurdity’

By Raquel Hendrickson

Ask kids to delve into the “weird and absurd,” and you never know what you’re going to get.

In his second year of teaching at Sequoia Pathway Academy and his first year of teaching acting, Christopher Goodrum is getting his students to do just that in a collection of one-act plays to be performed Nov. 2-3 at 7 p.m.

The show is called “Absurdity.”

Goodrum, often seen with Maricopa Community Theatre, said he wanted to give Maricopans “a taste of what we can do.”

What they will do is an adaptation of Goodrum’s own published work, “Two Souls, One Door.” Two individuals are trapped together playing cards for an eon in an unending room, waiting for the door that can take only one of them. “I love the confusion and wondering,” said Camryn Janssen, who plays Bilbee. “There are so many questions. It’s keeping me intrigued.

Another two-person one-act is “A Matter of Husbands.” It takes place in the dressing room of a famous actress when she is confronted by a woman who suspects her husband is having an affair with the actress. “I love the twist at the end,” said sophomore Dana Coutts, who plays the actress.

“The Mad Tea Party” is taken from “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.” Sixth grader Kayla Sherman plays the dormouse in the four-person play full of illogical madness. “I think I fit the part because I’m small and because of my voice,” she said.

Carter Johnson takes the lead in “The Actor’s Nightmare” as an apparent accountant who is mistaken for an understudy and forced on stage without knowing any lines or even the plot as it shifts from play to play. “He thinks he’s in a nightmare,” Carter said.

“Treat or Treat” will be performed by the sixth grade-students. “I had been searching for a Halloween story for years,” Goodrum said. Trick-or-treaters are led to a haunted house. Among them is Elise Densmore, who said she is the twist in the story.

Goodrum said the production is a jumping-off point to build a thriving theater environment at SPA.

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Things to do

NOVEMBER

2-3

"Absurdities"

7 p.m., Sequoia Pathway
Multi-Purpose Room
19265 N. Porter Road

3

Relay for Life Maricopa

10 a.m.-10 p.m., Copper
Sky Regional Park
55345 W. Martin Luther
King Jr. Blvd.

5

The 1857 Battle on the Gila

5:30 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

8-10

"Peter Pan"

7 p.m., Maricopa High School
Performing Arts Center
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

SUNDAYS

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Maricopa
Community Church
44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

MONDAYS-FRIDAYS

Senior Drop-In

8 a.m.-4 p.m., Santa Cruz
Elementary School
19845 N. Costa del Sol Blvd.

MONDAYS

Kids Bilingual Story Time

9 a.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Senior Bowling

10 a.m., UltraStar Multi-
tainment Center
16000 N. Maricopa Road

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Maricopa
Community Church
44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL)

7 p.m., Maricopa Behavioral
Health Services
21300 N. John Wayne
Parkway, Suite 103

TUESDAYS

Kids Bilingual Story Time

9 a.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Celebrate Recovery Coffee & Karaoke

5 p.m., Maricopa
Community Church
44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

WEDNESDAYS

Babytime

9:30 a.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Harrah's Club 777 Toastmasters

3 p.m., Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino
15406 N. Maricopa Road

S.M.A.R.T. Kids

3:30 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Maricopa Police Explorer Post Meeting

5 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

THURSDAYS

Family Story Time

4 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Ak-Chin Social Services
48227 W. Farrell Road

FRIDAYS

Al-Anon Meeting

7 p.m., Community of Hope Church
45295 W. Honeycutt Ave.



Raquel Hendrickson

Relay for cancer a varied, month-long benefit

October is full of events benefiting the Relay for Life to help fight cancer. Now in its eighth year, the Maricopa Relay has raised more than \$400,000.

According to American Cancer Society numbers, 47 Maricopans have used ACS services so far this year from Relay funding. "We're hoping to raise awareness within our city, so more patients will call them and take advantage of these beneficial services," said Relay organizer Trisha Paige.

Paige became involved in Relay after her father died of pancreatic cancer in 2010. She discovered how widespread the impact of cancer is across the country and has been helping with Relay since.

Bark for Life

Oct. 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Residents are invited to bring their dogs to the Copper Sky Dog Park for demonstrations, vendors, contests, activities and the "Strut Your Mutt" dog walk. Registration is \$20 for your first dog; each additional dog is \$15. The fee includes a doggy bandana, gift, raffle ticket and contest entries. MOUSE RelayForLife.org/BarkMaricopaAZ

Bake/Craft Sale

Oct. 13, 8-11 a.m.

Helping Associates hosts a bake and craft sale at 1901 N. Trell Road in Casa Grande. All money stays in Pinal County to help cancer victims.

Zumba in Pink

Oct. 14, 11 a.m. to noon

Instructors Jeannie Day and Donna Aguilar lead this Evan Grace-organized event at Copper Sky.

Garage Sale

Oct. 20, 6 a.m.

Arizona Storage Company hosts a garage sale at 40675 W. Honeycutt Road. Rent table space for \$10.

Relay for Life Maricopa

Nov. 3, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

At least 15 teams will participate in the Disney-themed event at Copper Sky Regional Park. There will be vendors, fundraising activities and DJ'd and live music. The day will include the survivors/caregivers walk and the luminaria ceremony.

BamaGoldens@msn.com, Trisha.Paige@hotmail.com

Trisha Paige is an employee of InMaricopa.

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