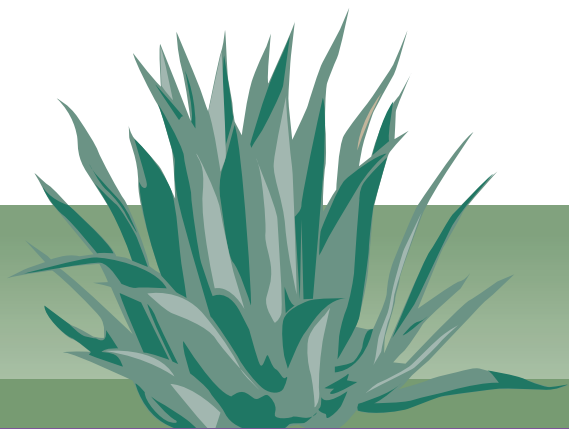


Mesa Uplands Up Close



Bringing neighbors closer to their community

May 2014

True Essence Salon and Spa WINS BEST OF MESA

By Dawn Abbey

T rue Essence Salon and Spa was voted first place as the Best of Mesa 2014 Hair Salon in the *East Valley Tribune's* annual contest.

"We are so excited and grateful to all who voted for us. It is such an honor," said owner Maytee Green.

This year's event was broken out by cities, so Mesa, Gilbert and Chandler all have their own Best of 2014 winners. Winners are chosen solely by votes on the newspaper's Web site, eastvalleytribune.com. So, residents had to make the time and effort to cast votes for their favorites.

The Web site described True Essence Salon this way: "Whether they're glamming up your nails or working out the pressure in your back, True Essence Salon and Spa puts you at ease with every appointment. The Aveda concept salon and spa offers a wide menu of services, from facials and perfecting plant peels to hair care, nail care and foot care."

When asked why she thought her salon was voted best, Maytee was thoughtful. "There are so many excellent stylists, colorists, aestheticians, massage therapists and nail techs in our area to choose from, and ours are top rate, too," she said. "But I think part of the reason is that True



Essence is an Aveda Concept Salon, and we use only Aveda natural and effective plant-based products. People who really care about choosing naturally derived color, hair care and skin and facial products come to us for that reason, also, and they are very adamant in their choice."

Aveda is an international leader in promoting environmental and social causes worldwide. "Last month, Aveda salons raised funds to provide clean water projects around the world, including right here in Arizona," Maytee stated. "Aveda also supports small cooperatives where women cultivate and extract argan oil for Aveda products. They promote organic cultivation. Aveda uses 100 percent wind energy in its manufacturing plants and plant-based plastics for its bottles," she continued. "Aveda is more than just a salon and products. It is a lifestyle choice that is fast becoming more obvious to aware consumers."

Maytee is very proud to be associated with Aveda and its philosophy. "All else being equal, consumers are looking for healthy, natural alternatives, and a company whose profits go to improve our world instead of amassing greedy profits," she said. "There's a lot of information on Aveda's Web site, aveda.com, about its mission and projects, if someone is interested in learning more, or they can call our salon, or just drop in to see what we're about." ■

True Essence Salon and Spa is located at 2910 N. Power Road, in the Bashas' shopping center. For more information, or to make an appointment, call (480) 396-3112. For more information about Aveda, its mission and products, visit aveda.com.

Mother's Day is always special at Cosmos

By Dawn Abbey

M other's Day is always treated as a special event by Cosmos Salon and Day Spa owners Sandra and Cosmo Barbetta and their staff.

"Moms do everything, every day for us, and there's only one day a year set aside especially for her, so we want to make it the most memorable," said Sandra. A mom and grandmother herself, and a hard-working businesswoman, she knows how difficult it can be to balance your life.

"Moms don't always take the opportunity to relax, refresh and have some me time," Sandra explained. "So, each year, for Mother's Day, we create unique and affordable gift packages designed to pamper and cater to moms."

The Queen for a Day package

includes a 50-minute custom facial, plus a 50-minute custom massage, all for \$120.

A Mother's Day of Luxury features a fantastic haircut and style, along with a classic manicure and classic pedicure, for \$100.

You don't have to be Italian to enjoy the Mama Mia, a 50-minute custom facial with a paraffin hand treatment to soften and moisturize, for \$75.

"We also can create a one-of-a-kind package just for your mom," Sandra said. "If you don't know what to get, give her a gift certificate for any salon or spa services or products." ■



Cosmos Salon and Day Spa is located in The Village at Las Sendas, on the northeast corner of Power and McDowell roads. For information, or to make an appointment, call (480) 844-0707.

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Cosmos

Happy Mother's Day



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Queen for a Day **\$120**

- 50 minute custom facial
- 50 minute custom massage

Mother's Day of Luxury **\$100**

- Haircut & Style
- Classic Manicure
- Classic Pedicure

Mama Mia **\$75**

- 50 minute custom facial
(including a paraffin hand
treatment)

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E-mail: Publisher@PhillipsWest.com

(480) 748-1127

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Kim Phillips

ADVERTISING

Monica Adair (480) 772-1949

Kim Phillips (480) 748-1127

STAFF WRITERS

Dawn Abbey,
AnnElise Makin, Kimberly Searles,
Sharon Wozny

COPY EDITOR

Sandra Van Dyke

DESIGN

LuckyYou! Creative, publication design
Erin Loukili, Dawn Williamson
www.luckyyoucreative.com

Ramey Newell, Web site design
KeenGraphics.net

CONTRIBUTORS

John Karadsheh, Nancy Nemitz,
Lorraine Ryall, Jay Williamson

www.UpCloseAZ.com

LOCAL BUSINESS

Pacino's Welcomes MASTER CHEF TO THE FAMILY

By Kimberly Searles

Pacino's is pleased to welcome master chef Anthony Damiano to its kitchen.

As an accredited master chef, Anthony brings years of culinary experience, creativity and passion to the Pacino's family.

"We're excited to have Anthony join us," said owner Frank Spacarelli. "We know he will bring nothing short of outstanding Italian cuisine to the table."

Throughout his career, Anthony's work has earned him many awards and honors. His passion for building a cohesive environment, where work should be fun, exciting and a constant source of learning, is evident in everything he does. Owners Frank and his wife, Alicia, know Anthony will help Pacino's rise to the next level.

Mother's Day is right around the corner, which is the perfect opportunity for chef Anthony to demonstrate his prowess in the kitchen. He has created a fine, three-course menu sure to please Mom and your pocketbook. If you're looking for a great way to show Mom just how much you love her, bring her to Pacino's on Sunday, May 11, for a Mother's Day meal she'll love. Plus, Pacino's will have a special gift for all moms, along with fine live entertainment.

It's hard to believe Pacino's will celebrate its one-year anniversary on June 3. Frank and Alicia would like to thank all their guests for a wonderful year.

"Our guests have welcomed us into their hearts and homes," Frank stated. "It's been a blessing to become part of their familia."

To celebrate, Frank, Alicia and the entire Pacino's team will throw a grand party on Sunday, June 8,

from noon to 3 p.m. The event will feature lots of free samples, live music and prizes. They also plan another grand celebration, in honor of all the dads, with a feast of all feasts.

With the warmer weather, Pacino's also will be rolling out its summer menu, featuring lighter, smaller plates to help you stay trim and healthy. Whether it's lunch or dinner, Pacino's is a must. After all, it's the only authentic Italian restaurant, owned and operated by real Italians. ■



Alicia and Frank Spacarelli

Pacino's is located in The Village at Las Sendas, at 2831 N. Power Road. For information or take-out orders, call (480) 985-0114. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 10:30 a.m. to whenever, Friday and Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday. Visit them online at pacinosaz.com and on Facebook.com/pacinosrealitalian.



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REAL ESTATE

BENEFITS OF VA LOAN NOT JUST FOR VETERANS

By Lorraine Ryall, Realtor
CDPE, CSSN, MSSC
Coldwell Banker Trails and Paths
Premier Properties



The VA loan, not just for active military or veterans, also allows those who have served in the Reserves or National Guard to qualify.

This great program offers so many benefits, including no down payment, no private mortgage insurance (PMI) and less closing costs, as some of these fees have to be passed on to the seller. The maximum loan amount is \$417,000, which is considerably above the Federal Housing Administration limit of \$271,000, and there is a jumbo VA loan up to \$1.5 million.

THE VA LOAN BENEFITS

No down payment

A VA mortgage is one of the only home loans allowing the borrower to finance 100 percent of the home's value and purchase with no money down.

No Private Mortgage Insurance

Many conventional lenders require borrowers to pay private monthly mortgage insurance unless they are able to put down at least 20 percent. PMI is an insurance, which protects lenders in case of a borrower default. Since VA loans are government-backed, banks do not require you to buy PMI.

Competitive Interest Rates

Interest rates on home loans are based on risk assumed by the bank to finance the loan. Because the VA backs each VA loan with a guaranty, financial institutions carry less risk. Therefore, they can offer interest rates, which are typically 0.5 to 1 percent lower than conventional interest rates.

A lower rate, combined with no monthly PMI, can substantially lower your monthly payment.

No Pre-Payment Penalty

With many different types of loans, paying off a home loan before it matures results in a pre-payment penalty. This is because lenders miss out on additional opportunities to

collect interest payments. The pre-payment penalty is a way for financial institutions to recoup some of that money.

The VA loan allows borrowers to pay off their home loan at any point without having to worry about a pre-payment penalty. With the absence of a pre-payment penalty, borrowers are free to consider future home purchases and refinancing options.

Eligibility

In general, you are eligible for a VA loan if you meet any one of these requirements.

- Served 181 days during peacetime (Active Duty).
- Served 90 days during wartime (Active Duty).
- Served six years in the Reserves or National Guard.
- The spouse of a service member who died while in service or from a service-connected disability.

Can You Still Qualify for a VA Loan After a Short Sale or Foreclosure?

Yes. Even if you have done a short sale or foreclosure, you still can qualify for a new VA loan in as little as 12 months. Your eligibility entitlement will be reduced based on the deficiency amount forgiven, but only if the mortgage you had on that property was a VA loan.

Short Sale

If you were able to stay current while doing your short sale, you can qualify immediately. If you were behind on your payments, the waiting period is one year, as long as you have had 12 consecutive months of rental payments with no late payments.

Foreclosure

If you had a foreclosure, the waiting period is two years.

For more information on the VA loan program or purchasing a home, please contact me today, or visit my Web site for a link to one of our preferred lenders to determine whether you qualify. ■

Lorraine Ryall is a multi-million dollar producer, and recipient of the Coldwell Banker International President's Circle Award. For more information, call (602) 571-6799, or visit her Web site at www.Homes2SellAZ.com.

ORGANIZING

Donation and Consignment Resources CAN SERVE THE COMMUNITY

By Nancy Nemitz

An Up Close reader asked me to recommend local consignment and donation sources.



I have found it is much easier to move out the things in your home you are no longer using if you know where these items will be helpful. Please refer to their Web sites for locations and current wish lists.

Save the Family offers programs designed to empower families to conquer homelessness and achieve lifelong independence. They accept children's clothes and household items with a few restrictions.

Free Arts of Arizona has an arts supply wish list. This is an organization working to heal abused and neglected children through the expression of art.

Dress for Success accepts women's professional clothing. They help women dress for interviewing success.

Maggie's Place helps pregnant women who find themselves alone and in need of help. They accept furniture, household articles, clothing and small appliances. Some of these items are sold in their thrift store, while women at their various homes in the Valley use other items.

My Sister's Closet is a consignment store for designer apparel and accessories. Its companion store for men is Well Suited. The furniture location is called My Sister's Attic. They are very particular about the brands accepted.

There are many more consignment and donation sites to fit your interests, and I encourage you to look around to find a good fit. ■

Nancy Nemitz, createthespace.com, is now offering downloadable classes on space and time management. Please visit her Web site for more information about this affordable, convenient option for getting more organized. Nancy offers on-site organizing assistance for homes and offices.

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A Closer Look at

LAS SENDAS GOLF CLUB

Features Entertainment, Dining & Golf

A Closer Look, Las Sendas Golf Club...is a monthly column written for the Up Close Publication by Las Sendas Golf Club. In this column, you will get an in-depth look at upcoming entertainment, dining and golf events. Our brand is our mission—to reach out to the community with entertainment, dining and golf events as your pathway to fun, recreation and a pleasurable lifestyle.



DINING

Weekly Specials at The Patio and The Grille

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Sunday | Chef Attended Pasta Bar—\$13.95 |
| Monday | House Fried Chicken—\$14.95 |
| Tuesday | Osso Bucco—\$18.95 |
| Wednesday | Wine Down Wednesday—Select half-price wines |
| Thursday | Garlic Rosemary Prime Rib—\$19.95 |
| Friday | Market Fish, chef's selection of fresh fish—\$17.95 |
| Saturday | Root Beer Braised Short Rib—\$15.95 |
| Tuesday to Saturday | Live Music on the Patio |

The Patio at Las Sendas is now taking dinner reservations from 5 to 9 p.m., Monday through Sunday. Please go to www.lassendas.com—Patio Reservations, or call (480) 396-4000.

SUMMER HAPPY HOUR is back from 3 to 6 p.m., Starting Monday, May 5

- Domestic Beer—\$2.50
- House Wine by the Glass—\$3.50
- Well Drinks—\$4.00
- Summer Special Cocktails—\$5.00

- \$5.00—Appetizers, including wings, meatballs, sliders, pretzels and pickle chips.
- \$5.00—Burgers and much more!

Mother's Day Brunch—Sunday, May 11

Come and share your special Mother's Day celebration, at The Vistas Pavilion, on Sunday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our chef has created an amazing brunch to dazzle

your mom. The buffet includes chef-carved New York strip; stuffed roast turkey; a seafood display, with crab and shrimp; an omelet station; a broad selection of pastries and desserts; and much more. For reservations, please call Erica at (480) 396-4000, or e-mail her at egomez@lassendas.com. The price is \$40 per person, and \$15 for children ages 6 through 12.



Wine Dinner—Saturday, May 17

The Vistas Pavilion is once again proud to host a spectacular five-course dinner paired with Trinchero Family Wines, from Napa Valley, Sonoma, Italy and France. Wines are available for purchase following the dinner. Dinner is Saturday, May 17, at 6 p.m. The cost is \$55 per person plus tax and gratuity. Reservations are required. Please call Erica at (480) 396-4000, or e-mail her at egomez@lassendas.com.

EVENTS

Help Support Mayor Smith for Governor of Arizona

The Las Sendas Golf Club cordially invites you to a reception in honor of Mayor Scott Smith, candidate for Arizona governor. Mayor Smith has been instrumental in his efforts to improve the lifestyle of each and every one of us. His campaign always has been to *Build a Better Mesa*. Our community is a prime example of what Mesa is becoming. It is time to show our support as he enters the race for governor. Your attendance at this reception will help toward the success of his campaign.

Thursday, May 22
The Vistas Pavilion, Las Sendas Golf Club
7555 E. Eagle Crest Drive

Please RSVP to Erica Gomez at egomez@lassendas.com, or call (480) 396-4000. If you are unable to attend, please send your contribution to:
Smith Governor 2014
PO Box 5057, Mesa, AZ 85211-5057
www.votescottsmith.com

LAS SENDAS GOLF ACADEMY



This month, I want to focus on chipping. These shots are 1 foot to 20 feet off the green. A chip rolls further than it flies, so the skill to learn is how to *bump and run* the ball. The key to chipping is solid impact, and it is where you begin to trust that the clubface will get the ball into the air. As an introduction to chipping, think of it as *off green* putting. The less the ball flies, and the more it rolls, the more control you will have of distance.

The only difference between putting and chipping is the fact your weight moves slightly forward, and the ball is slightly back in your stance, to give you a descending blow at impact. Your grip pressure should allow you to feel the weight of the club in your hands, so you need to be fairly loose. Use very little wrist action in these shots. Chip the ball with different clubs, producing different carries and rolls. Then, chip, using the same club, learning to carry the ball different distances. Pro golfers use the same stroke, with different clubs, to control distance.

Junior Golf Stick Summer Program

Join in on the fun. The ages of students range from 7 to 15 years. Juniors are grouped according to age, gender and skill level. Basic fundamentals, games, drills, rules and etiquette, as well as on-course play are offered. Join at any time throughout the summer. Group lessons are offered Wednesday and Thursday mornings on various weeks.

Dates—Wednesdays and Thursdays, starting June 4
June—7:30 to 9 a.m.
July—7 to 8:30 a.m.

June 4 and 5, June 11 and 12, June 18 and 19
July 16 and 17, July 23 and 24, July 30 and 31

A CLOSER LOOK AT LAS SENDAS GOLF CLUB (CONTINUED)

Registration forms are available at Las Sendas Golf Shop or online at www.lassendas.com. Send an e-mail to tberman@lassendas.com, or call Tracy Berman at (602) 920-8208.

THE VISTAS PAVILION WEDDING SPECIALS

Summer Wedding Special—\$4,500

The Vistas Pavilion is pleased to offer our amazing Summer Wedding Special. Book and host your wedding in June, July, August or September for only \$4,500. Your complete package, for 50 to 100 guests, includes the following:

- Ceremony
- Reception
- Tray-passed hors d'oeuvres
- Plated dinner with salad and entrée
- Dance floor
- Table linens and cake cutting
- Rolls, butter, coffee and tea
- Champagne toast and non-alcohol beverage package

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- Tray-passed hors d'oeuvres
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 - Dance floor
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 - Rolls, butter, coffee and tea
 - Champagne toast and non-alcohol beverage package
 - Onsite Wedding Coordinator and much more!
- **Does not includes tax and gratuity

For further information, please call Las Sendas Golf Club at (480) 396-4000, or send an e-mail to info@lassendas.com.

GOLF SHOP

Come and check out our new summer arrivals. We have all your needs covered, from head to toe—literally—Oakley and Sun Dog sunglasses, sunblock and straw hats for him and her. We've even got flip-flops.

Are you headed out for a big tennis match, and want to wow your friends with the latest in adorable tennis



attire? Come and try on our new fabulous lines, such as JoFit and Tail.

MAY GOLF RATES

May 5 through June 1
Monday through Thursday—\$79 plus tax
Friday through Sunday—\$89 plus tax
Monday and Sunday after 2:30 p.m.—\$49 plus tax
Be sure to check your e-mails for summer resident specials. If you are not on our e-mail list, just call the golf shop at (480) 396-0440 to get your e-mail on our list. You will receive fabulous specials on golf merchandise and more.

GOLF EQUIPMENT

New Titleist SM5 wedges just arrived. If you truly are looking to shave some strokes off your game, then, improving your short game is the way to do it. We have demos of these and other wedges. So, come and try them out. We also have a large assortment of putters on sale, which are sure to help you shave some strokes on the green, too.

LAS SENDAS GOLF CLUB LADIES LEAGUE—CONGRATULATIONS HOME AND HOME TEAM

Congratulations to the Las Sendas Ladies Club for winning the Home and Home Interclub competition this season. Other teams participating in these matches are Encanterra, Red Mountain Ranch and Seville. These are tough teams to beat. So, it is an honor to win. Be proud of your accomplishment. ■





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Appetizers and an exquisite 5 course
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Wines are available for purchase at the Wine Dinner




Saturday, May 17th, 2014 at 6:00 pm

\$55 per person plus tax and gratuity

Reservations are required. Please call Erica at
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5:30 PM- 7:00 PM


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RSVP E. Gomez at 480-396-4000 or email egomez@lassendas.com

Suggested contribution \$100 per person
Maximum Contribution - \$4,000 per person



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FUN SOCIAL EVENTS

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Lunch

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\$7 – \$12



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HAPPIEST Happy Hour

3PM-CLOSE EVERYDAY
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Happy Mother's Day 3 COURSE ITALIAN FEAST PLUS LIVE MUSIC

First Course Choices

Torn Romaine Caesar with Parmesan Crouton
House cured Albacore Tuna, Canellini Beans, Arugula
Mixed Greens with White Balsamic
Grilled Polenta with Wild Mushrooms and Fontina Fondue
Heirloom Tomatoes, Fresh Mozzarella and Pesto
Roasted Tomato-Basil Bisque

SERVED ALL DAY

Second Course Choices

Roasted Breast of Chicken with Rosemary-Garlic Jus
Seared Atlantic Salmon with Lemon-Caper Butter
Grilled Filet of Beef with Barolo Wine Sauce
Rosemary Roasted Loin of Pork with Parmesan Mashed Potato or Marscapone Polenta and Asparagus or Roasted Carrots
Fettucini with Shrimp in a Spicy Tomato Sauce
Braised Beef Tortelloni with Prosciutto, Peas and Thyme
Linguine with Manila Clams, White Wine and Butter
Mushroom Ravioli with Madeira – Black Truffle Sauce

Third Course Choices

Pacino's Tiramisu
Salted Caramel Cheesecake
Flourless Chocolate Cake
New York Cheesecake with Rosemary Stewed Berries

\$35 Per Person
PLUS A FREE SURPRISE FOR ALL MOM'S

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REAL ESTATE

PREPARE YOUR HOME TO BE SUMMER READY

By John Karadsheh
We know the heat is on its way, so here are a few things to get your home ready for the next few months of 100-degree weather.



John Karadsheh

- 1. Service your air conditioner.** May is always a great time to do a summer air conditioner tune-up, and knowing your unit is running smoothly will give you peace of mind as the temperatures heat up. Also consider installing a programmable thermostat, so you can keep the temps at the most efficient level when you are home and away.
- 2. Watch your pool.** As the weather heats up, pools tend to get off balance, and are prone to algae. Regularly check your pool's pH and chlorine levels, and tackle any bits of green immediately.
- 3. Trim your trees.** With the approach of monsoon season, make sure your desert trees haven't gotten too top heavy in the spring. Use an experienced landscaper or tree trimmer to make sure your trees are properly trimmed and balanced. Tree trimming is much cheaper than tree removal.
- 4. Dust your ceiling fans.** Dust loves to settle on ceiling fan blades. So, give them a quick wipe before they start their busy season.
- 5. Straighten the garage now,** or your significant other will decide it is a good idea in mid-July.
- 6. Get the outdoor grill ready.** Barbecue season is upon us, as well. Refill your propane tanks, and get your grill cleaned up because it is much less enjoyable when it is 115 degrees outside.
- 7. Adjust your sprinkler system** and watering times for the warmer temps, and move potted plants into afternoon shade to give them a break. In addition, let

- your grass grow a little longer to help it retain moisture.
- 8. Open your windows now.** Get fresh air into your house before it is closed up for the summer. Are you home all summer? Consider adding a houseplant to each room to help clean your interior air. Best choices include Boston fern, Dracaena (aka Janet Craig), Ficus and Golden Pothos.
 - 9. Check the coils on your refrigerator and freezer.** Clogged coils can strain appliances when they are already working overtime in the hot weather.
 - 10. Clean your oven,** and give it a vacation. Ovens heat our houses so much and force our air conditioners to work overtime. Use the barbecue when you can, and make do with a toaster oven when at all possible.
- The Arizona real estate market, just like the weather, stays hot in the summer. So, if you are thinking of moving, this could be just the right time. ■

John Karadsheh is a licensed REALTOR® with Coldwell Banker, Trails and Paths Premier Properties. He also is an Associate Broker, Accredited Buyers Representative, a Certified Residential Specialist and was the No. 1 residential real estate agent in Arizona by Ranking Arizona, the Best of Arizona Business. You can contact John with any of your real estate questions. Call him at (602) 615-0843, or go to his Web site at www.BuyAndSellAZ.com.



FOOD

Scrumptious BLUEBERRY MUFFINS ARE EASY TO BAKE

By Cheryl Standage, PIEfection
These muffins are the perfect accompaniment to a PIEfection Quiche. Enjoy the two menu items at your next family party or Sunday brunch.

INGREDIENTS	
1 3/4 cup blueberries	1/2 cup butter
3 cups flour	2 eggs
2 cups sugar	1 cup evaporated milk (canned milk)
1 tablespoon baking powder	2 tablespoons butter
1 teaspoon vanilla	

INSTRUCTIONS
Mix flour, sugar, baking powder, and cut in 1/2 cup butter. Set aside 1 cup of the mixture. Add to the rest of the dry mixture: eggs, milk and vanilla. Beat until smooth. Fold in berries. Spoon into lined muffin tins. Melt 2 tablespoons butter and drizzle over 1 cup dry mixture. Toss with fork until crumbly. Sprinkle over muffins. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 30 minutes, or until they are lightly golden, and tops spring back when touched. ■

PIEfection is located at 6731 E. Brown Road. For more information about all the delicious pies on the menu, call (480) 218-7437.



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STROKE: Do you know your risk?


According to the American Stroke Association, on average, a stroke occurs every 40 seconds. May is National Stroke Awareness Month and Mountain Vista Medical Center encourages the community to increase awareness of stroke risk factors, and its signs and symptoms through a free stroke risk assessment.

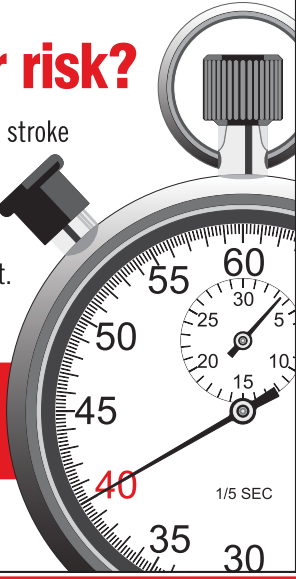
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UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP



LOCAL BUSINESS

East West Karate Teaches More Than Punches and Kicks

By Kimberly Searles

Mention the words martial arts and high-flying, fast action Jackie Chan-style kicks and punches may come to mind. But for Derek Frader and Mark Ten Eyck of East West Karate, martial arts encompasses so much more.

"The physical benefits are actually a small part of martial arts," said Derek. "It's also about life skills that develop students' strength from the inside out."

According to Derek, East West Karate's school focuses on developing leaders. Each month, the school emphasizes a different skill, such as confidence, discipline and focus, and incorporates the skill into each class. Doing so allows each student, regardless of age, to see the benefits and positive changes in all aspects of their lives.

For both Derek and Mark, teaching martial arts is their life. They recently took over ownership of East West Karate, and have made several adjustments to meet the needs of the families they serve. Some of these changes include the addition of several classes, such as Hyper (high-performance) martial arts, combat fitness, bully prevention and women's self-defense courses.

Both Mark and Derek have incredibly personal reasons for getting involved in martial arts. For Mark, he experienced two separate road rage incidents in a span of six weeks.

"Those experiences left me reeling, and I wanted self-defense

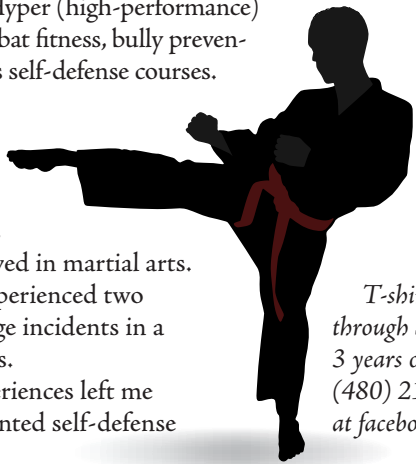
training," stated Mark. "Plus, with a family history of heart disease, I was looking for a long-term fitness system."

Derek's entrance into martial arts came courtesy of his mother. As a kid, being physically small in size, he got picked on so much he never wanted to leave his home. So, his mother enrolled him in martial arts. Thanks to an incredible instructor, he developed the self-confidence to stand up to bullies and the skills to avoid them altogether.

As instructors, Derek and Mark bring more than 30 years of teaching experience to East West Karate. They both love what they do, being able to help individuals reach their potential not only in martial arts, but also in life. As the new owners, they are excited to bring a personal approach to the school.

"Providing a resource and activity for entire families is such an important part of our philosophy," said Derek. "We also want to be involved in our community and schools. We're happy to work with parent teacher organizations, charities and local businesses to make them as successful as possible." ■

East West Karate is located at 2910 N. Power Road, in the Bashas' shopping center. They are offering a special two-lesson trial for \$10, including a free T-shirt. Classes are available Monday through Saturday, for students as young as 3 years old, to adults. To learn more, call (480) 218-7777, or visit their Facebook page at facebook.com/eastwestkaratemesa.



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SPORTS

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Arizona Pop Warner and Cheer is now accepting registration for the 2014 season.

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Pop Warner Cheer offers cutting-edge instruction, with opportunities to participate in multiple competitions both in and out of state. ■

Registration dates are May 3, June 7, July 12 and 19, with the first practice on Aug. 1, 2014. Additional information can be found at www.SuperstitionPopWarner.com.



EVENT

Rocking Rodeo Roundup

Starts the Summer Fun at Salt River Tubing



Submitted by Salt River Tubing

Dust off your cowboy hat, lasso a tube, hold on tight, and join Salt River Tubing's Rocking Rodeo Roundup on Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a unique, floating adventure in Tonto National Forest. The annual *More Kids in the Woods* hoedown, aligned with the USDA Forest Service's commitment to meet the challenge of reduced youth involvement in outdoor activities, attracts thousands of buckaroos each year. Located on the Lower Salt River, this western-themed event jumpstarts the tubing season.

The first 500 buckaroos will receive a free cowboy bandana. The event offers live entertainment, buckaroo line dancing, pony races, lasso contests and free giveaways.

President and CEO of Salt River Tubing Henri Breault celebrates 50 *Golden Years of Tubing* this year. In 1938, the Breault family launched one of the first tubing operations in the United States, on the Apple River in Somerset, Wisconsin. In 1941, Terrace Tubes was featured as a unique recreation experience in *Life Magazine*, as well as *National Geographic*, the *New York Times*, *Time Magazine* and *Playboy* magazine.

Henri took over the management of Terrace Tubes in 1964, and successfully ran the business for 16 years before relocating to Mesa, Arizona, in 1980. "Tubing has been in my blood for decades," said Henri. "What a way to make a living... watching people having fun in the sun and enjoying the great outdoors. I truly feel that I have never worked a day in my life."

The Rocking Rodeo Roundup special event offers a

unique river adventure, mimicking the Old West as the madcap Salt River Tubing crews load up their *stagecoaches* and *chuck wagons* to shuttle tubers to and from the Lower Salt River. Western attire is optional for tubers. However, Salt River Tubing will award \$17 tube rental passes (valid on return visit) for the best cowboy and cowgirl tuber costumes.

So, dust off those cowboy hats, tie on a bandana, and head to Northeast Mesa for the time of your life in the great outdoors of Tonto National Forest.

The cost of tube rental and shuttle bus service all day is \$17 per person/tube, which includes sales tax.

Children must be 8 years old or older and at least 4 feet tall for tube rental and shuttle bus service.

Glass containers are prohibited by law in the Lower Salt River Recreational Area and will be confiscated. Ice chests and coolers will be inspected for glass containers before boarding shuttle buses. Have a great time on the Lower Salt River by responsibly appointing a designated driver before beginning your tubing adventure.

Salt River Tubing is located in beautiful Tonto National Forest, just seven minutes from Highway 202 East, on Power Road. Click on www.saltrivertubing.com to catch a glimpse of previous rocking great times on the Salt River. ■

For more information about Salt River Tubing and the Rocking Rodeo Roundup event, please visit the Web site at www.saltrivertubing.com, or call (480) 984-3305. Daily operating hours are 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and latest tube rental is 2 p.m., weather and water flow permitting. Salt River Tubing opens seven days a week beginning May 5.

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LOCAL BUSINESS

Mike's Barbershops
CUT-A-THON
HELPS LOCAL KIDS

By Dawn Abbey
A daylong Cut-A-Thon at Mike's Barbershops raised \$1,132 for Sunshine Acres Children's Home.
The third year of the fund-raising event, all 10 of Mike's haircutting crew participated and did about 100 haircuts, donating all the proceeds to the cause. "We enjoy giving back to the community," said owner Mike Magri. "We support Sunshine Acres Children's Home, and also sponsor Red Mountain football and Little League."



Mike's Barbershops, at the corner of Higley and McKellips roads, is a traditional barbershop. "The barber-shop experience is a great tradition to carry down through the generations," Mike stated. "It's a good way to introduce a young boy to a barbershop, and make it a father and son experience by coming in together."
What makes a barbershop different from a salon? "Cosmetologists and barbers get different kinds of training," explained Mike, a fourth-generation barber and instructor himself. "Barbers must complete 1,500 hours of training to learn different techniques pertaining just to cutting men's hair. They also specialize in men's services, such as old-fashioned hot-lather, straight-razor shaves, trimming eyebrows or shaving around the ears," he continued. "A shoulder massage, with our hand-held power massager, is included with every service."
Mike offers \$2 off coupons on his Web site, MikesBarbershops.com. You also can get rewards for his services at Bellycard.com. Click on *find locations*, and enter Mike's Barbershops. ■

For more information about making a donation, for services and prices, or to make an appointment, call (480) 218-5964. You also can visit MikesBarbershops.com.

COMMUNITY

Mahnah Club Awards
SCHOLARSHIPS
to Deserving Students

By Pat Daniels, Scholarship Chair
Every year, Mahnah Club of the East Valley provides scholarships to East Valley high school seniors for the first year of their higher education.
A community service and charitable organization, Mahnah Club has been offering scholarships for the past 10 years. This past March, a total of 16 deserving young people were presented with gifts of \$1,000 each.
Mahnah Club chose the recipients based upon personal involvement in various community service projects during their high school careers. Also considered was individual academic standing.
Presenting scholarships is an exciting event for Mahnah Club members. However, the club also raises money for various charities, including Save the Family and the Child Crisis Center. ■

For more information about Mahnah Club, visit the Web site at www.MahnahClub.org.



FRONT ROW: Joanna Francisco, Alys Cruz, Wasiba Rahman, Sabrina Milano and Tanya Lasker. MIDDLE ROW: Raneem Tohaibeche, Diane Gonzalez, Tatianna Alvarado and Aundrea De Gravina. BACK ROW: Joe Jacquez, Marshal Powell, Jacob Gaare, Cody Holt and Levi Bunker. (14 of the 16 recipients are pictured)

EVENT

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Security Title Agency, in conjunction with Coldwell Banker Trails and Paths, will host a shredding event on Saturday, May 17 from 9 a.m. to noon at 2913 N. Power Road, Suite 105, at The Village at Las Sendas.
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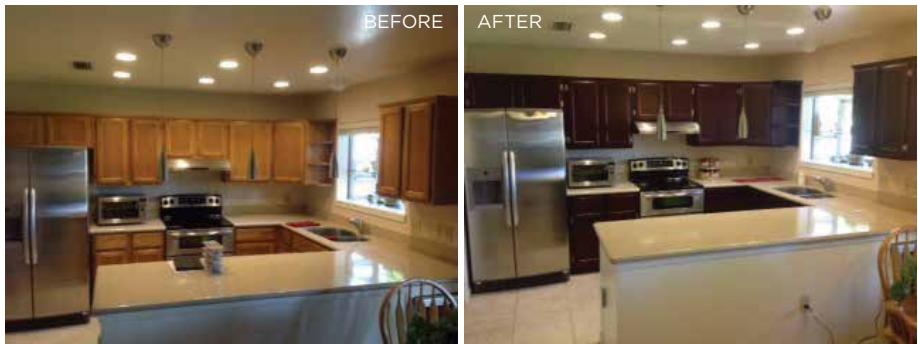
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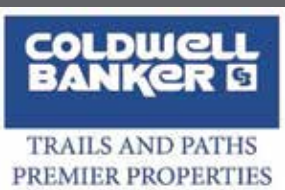


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Find beautiful fashions at Draper's and Damon's



Submitted by Draper's and Damon's
Do you have a passion for fine fashion? Is glamour and elegance a part of your everyday life? If so, you will be thrilled to know there is a Draper's and Damon's in your area.

For more than 87 years, Draper's and Damon's has been serving the chic, discerning woman who is 65 years and older and appreciates beautiful fashions designed for comfort and flattery.

Are you planning a cruise? Draper's and Damon's offers colorful, see-worthy designs, which travel like a dream. Does your day include lunching with friends? Then, you will adore their city-chic pieces, which captivate with exquisite charm.

Do you enjoy entertaining at home? Draper's signature fashions include hand-painted silk kimonos and lavishly smooth knits to transform you into a breathtaking host. In fact, no matter what your calendar includes, Draper's and Damon's has head-to-toe ensembles, which fit every aspect of your life with radiance and refinement.

A visit to Draper's and Damon's Mesa store, located at 345 S. Power Road, in the Power Plaza, provides an exceptional

shopping experience, with in-house designs, as well as renowned designer labels, such as Foxcroft, Alfred Dunner and Ruby Rd. While you are being personally assisted by one of Draper's skilled stylists, your husband or guests can relax in the lounge area.

The high-end service continues when you register to be a part of Draper's friends and family list. This exclusive program not only informs you of special events and upcoming sales, but, with a phone call, also notifies you about the arrival of new styles from your favorite designers.

Draper's and Damon's also hosts fantastic events each season. In addition to a weeklong open house celebrating the winter holidays, their Mother's Day Tea is a special gathering, to which customers look forward to all year. Complete with fashion shows, food and free gifts, guests can expect to make new friends, as well as lifelong memories.

So much more than a beautiful place to shop for beautiful clothes, any visit to Draper's and Damon's becomes a stylish affair. ■

For more information about Draper's and Damon's, call (480) 396-9910.

LOCAL BUSINESS

iPLAN Rides Wave of CUSTOM HOME TREND

By Kimberly Searles

Mesa-based iPLAN is at the forefront of the uptick in the custom home trend as the economy shows signs of life.

A full-service custom home design firm, the company finds itself booming with new business. "We're definitely seeing an increase in the demand for custom home designs," said Ben Scheier, iPLAN principal.

The creative team at iPLAN handles projects ranging from as small as 2,000 square feet to as large as 15,000 square feet. Some of the custom features becoming standard to homes include home offices, exercise rooms and game rooms for in-home activities.

"For the 15,000-square-foot home, we additionally designed an archery range, a climbing wall, a bowling alley and a hidden slide to the basement, as well as a slew of other amenities," said Ben. "Our job is to make our clients' dreams come true."

The sky is the limit with ideas, as long as it makes sense for the home and the property. What sets the iPLAN team apart from others is the fact they work

one-on-one with clients. The objective is to guide them through the possibilities, and help them hone in on the ideas to best enhance and add value to the home.

Although the majority of their projects center on the Las Sendas and Northeast Mesa communities, iPLAN also serves homeowners in Troon North, Desert Mountain, Paradise Valley and Tempe. iPLAN offers semi-custom and production homes, working with some of the finest builders in the area, such as Blanford and Lennar. The team also provides architectural review services for Las Sendas and other prestigious communities.

If you are in the market for custom home design, iPLAN offers the expertise and experience you want. As an architectural firm, they have created hundreds of luxury homes. ■

iPLAN provides a full-service custom home design for projects of all sizes. Learn more about iPLAN by visiting the Web site at www.iplandesign.com, or by contacting Ben Scheier at (480) 980-1119. You also can like them on www.facebook.com/IPLANLLC.



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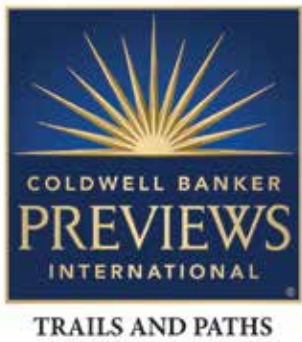
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