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Lifestyles

A Community Service Publication

Property Executive Chef *Richard Pelz*
brings the sizzle to We-Ko-Pa Casino
Resort's culinary scene

Award-winning destination's six dining outlets
reflect his unique flair and flavor

Special feature pages 12-13



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Camelot Homes Wins Gold for Stone at The Nationals Homebuilder Awards
Best Single Family Detached Model Home: 3,501 to 4,000 Square Feet Category

At the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) awards, “The Nationals,” held in Las Vegas, Camelot Homes was honored with a Gold Award for Best Single Family Detached Model Home: 3,501 to 4,000 square feet category. The honor went to Plan 3 (6006) at the new Stone Crest community in Gilbert. This was the second major award for the Robert Hidey Architects-designed home, which also won the prestigious Home of the Year Award last year at the Home Builders Association of Central Arizona MAME Awards.

“It was a fantastic night at The Nationals in Las Vegas,” says Camelot Homes Managing Director and Co-owner Julie Hancock. “I have so much love for our Camelot Homes team and am incredibly grateful to our partners Robert Hidey Architects, Pacific Dimensions interior design firm and the many other consultants we work with to create these award-winning communities.”

Stone Crest, nestled in the heart of Gilbert’s greenbelt, is a family-focused private gated community featuring a collection of Camelot Homes’ most popular single-level floorplans. The Gold Award-winning Stone Crest Plan 3 (6006) can flex from 4 - 5 bedrooms and 4.5 - 6.5 baths, with multiple living or play areas all on one level. This plan comes standard with a 4-car garage and can be expanded to 6 cars. Square footage for this plan ranges from 3,501 - 4,012 sq. ft. square feet. All bedrooms are ensuite, providing privacy for all. Stone Crest homes are designed around large ¼-acre homesites, offering true indoor/outdoor living with center yard spaces and courtyards for entertaining. Pricing for this plan starts around \$1.5 million. Additional information and video tours can be found at www.camelothomes.com/community/stone-crest/.

Established in 1982, The Nationals celebrates North America’s best new-home sales and marketing and recognizes outstanding achievements in categories that include homebuilders and communities, model homes, sales experience, architecture, interiors and sales offices, landscaping, merchandising, individual sales professionals, councils and associates,



Garrett Hoskins, ALA; Julie Hancock, Mark Hancock, Trent Hancock, and Mike Brekke Celebrate Camelot Homes’ Gold Award at The Nationals

logos, graphics, brochures and signage, websites, special promotions, and advertising and overall campaigns. Presented by the National Sales and Marketing Council (NSMC), a council of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), along with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, The Nationals showcase winners in distinguished national, regional and local publications.

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From the Publisher...



Spring is in the air here in the Valley of the Sun and there are all sorts of events happening this month. Be sure to check out the feature on pages twelve and thirteen highlighting We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort. If you have not been out to the resort, this is definitely a destination that you must experience. They have so much to offer for a mini vacation or a weekend getaway. Offering several dining options, live entertainment, poolside relaxation, golf and a full-service spa, this is the perfect weekend getaway for you and that special someone, or maybe even just you!

If you are looking for something fun to do for the day, the Maricopa County Fair is back. This is always a great way to spend the day and make memories with friends and family. Offering live entertainment, monster trucks, thrilling rides, carnival games, special events and of course a plethora of healthy fair food, the Maricopa County Fair runs April 5th through the 7th and April 11th through the 14th. For more information, you can visit maricopacountyfair.org. Maybe I will see you at the fair!

I look forward to bringing you another exciting issue in May.

Until next month, *Susan*

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Olive Blossom Festival Returns To Queen Creek Olive Mill

Queen Creek Olive Mill is springing into the new season with their annual Olive Blossom Festival! Guests are invited to enjoy the beautiful weather and walk through their scenic olive groves in full bloom while celebrating the loveliest time of year in Arizona.

This two-day festival celebrates springtime in Arizona while also kicking off the launch their Master Blender's bottle, a limited edition late-harvest EVOO that is handcrafted by Perry Rea, their Olive Oil Sommelier and in partnership with the Corning Olive Oil Company. Complete with live music, special vendors and tractor tours, this festival is the perfect way to launch into the springtime season!



Olive Blossom Festival is Saturday, April 20th and Sunday, April 21st from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Queen Creek Olive Mill is located at 25062 S. Meridian Road in Queen Creek. Admission is free; for more information, visit www.queencreekolivemill.com. ❖





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Phoenix Art Museum to Celebrate 65th Anniversary under the Sapphire Sky with “The pARTy in the Garden” Gala and “Pink afterpARTy”

Phoenix Art Museum is thrilled to announce its 65th Anniversary Sapphire Gala at The pARTy in the Garden, which is set to take place on Saturday, April 13th, 2024. Following the gala, the public is invited to continue the celebration at The Pink afterpARTy for a special museum-after-dark experience. Featuring an exclusive inside look at the Museum’s newest major art exhibitions, along with fine food, custom cocktails, dinner under the stars, dancing and more, The pARTy in the Garden and The Pink afterpARTy play an essential role in supporting the Museum’s exhibitions and arts education programs.

The pARTy in the Garden starts at 6:00 p.m., and festivities will begin with a cocktail hour and the enchanting melodies of acclaimed Valley vocalist and pianist, Luke Holton. Guests will enjoy an exclusive opportunity to be the first to view the Arizona premiere of Multiple Realities Experimental Art in the Eastern Bloc, 1960s-1980s. Known for its edgier, more experimental artwork, the exhibition uncovers how a generation of artists from the Cold War period pursued creative freedom and battled systems of censorship that sought to surveil and silence them. At 7:30 p.m., attendees will dine under the stars in the Dorrance Sculpture Garden, the first time the dinner has been hosted outdoors, and will enjoy a soulful French swing and jazz performance by Arizona-based Zazu West.

Following the gala, pARTy guests and those who purchase tickets to The Pink afterpARTy are invited to continue the celebration in Cummings Great Hall from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. (Doors open at 8:30 p.m. for afterpARTy guests to check in.) During this late-night, “museum-after-dark experience,” attendees will enjoy music by DJ Yeezus, late-night snacks, pink-themed desserts including cotton candy and craft cocktails included with the ticket cost. Guests will also enjoy unlimited, private access to Barbie®: A Cultural Icon and its complementary exhibition, The Power of Pink, drawn largely from the Museum’s expansive fashion-design collection and features haute-couture fashions such as Post Malone’s 2019 GRAMMY ensemble.



Donald C. Opatrny, Jr., Chair of the Board of Trustees, Judith Opatrny, Michele Feeney, Trustee, and Matthew Feeney

Evening cocktail attire with a pop of pink and/or sapphire is requested for pARTy goers. For The afterpARTy, the public is invited to dress to impress in their finest fuchsias or arrive blushed to the nines. Complimentary valet parking will be provided for both events.

A limited number of individual pARTy gala tickets will be available to the public. Individual tickets to the 65th Anniversary Sapphire pARTy in the Garden begin at \$1,250. Table sponsorships begin at \$10,000 and include seating for up to 10. All gala tickets include access to The afterpARTy. For event information, ticketing, donor and sponsorship opportunities, please visit phxart.org/special-events-series/party2024.

Individual tickets for The Pink afterpARTy are \$165 for the public or two tickets for \$300 and \$125 for members of Phoenix Art Museum and Arizona Costume Institute. To purchase tickets to this portion, please visit <https://phxart.org/special-events-series/afterparty2024>. ❖



The Saguaros to Host 2024 Olympiad at Scottsdale Stadium

Fresh off their successful Niteflite fall fundraiser which raised \$1 million, The Saguaros are pleased to announce that the 2024 Olympiad fundraiser, now in its 25th year, will take place Friday, April 19th at Scottsdale Stadium, with the games kicking off at noon. The Olympiad, often referred to as an adult field day, is the culmination of a massive effort by the Phoenix residential and commercial real estate community to raise funds on behalf of The Saguaros for Arizona children's charities.

The Olympiad includes the Agents Benefiting Children (ABC) division and Brokers

for Kids (BFK) division. The ABC division includes teams of residential real estate professionals, and the BFK division includes teams of commercial real estate professionals.

"The Olympiad is a pretty unique fundraiser, because we have hundreds of real estate professionals who passionately raise funds on behalf of The Saguaros for months, then come together to have a huge party on the field of Scottsdale Stadium to celebrate our community impact," says this year's Olympiad Chair, John Theis. "It's a lot of work, and a ton of fun!"

The Olympic-style competition includes a

variety of lawn games including corn hole, kong pong, pop a shot, pickleball skill shot, and dodgeball. The public is welcome to support the cause by purchasing a \$100 general admission ticket, which includes food and drink, music, and entry to the beer garden spectator area to view the Olympiad competitors.

Last year's Olympiad raised over \$800,000 and Theis says this year's goal is to raise \$1 million. Those interested in signing up for a team or sponsoring should visit www.saguaros.com or you may email Olympiad chair John Theis at jtheis@saguaros.com. ❖



✈️ Be Travel Ready at Phoenix Sky Harbor this Spring ✈️

Spring is a busy travel season at America's Friendliest Airport®, and with several of the Valley's biggest attractions and sporting events in full swing as well as the upcoming Men's College Basketball Championship, it's important to stay travel ready. One of the best ways to avoid congestion at the airport, if you're picking up and dropping off, is to take advantage of the PHX Sky Train® stations. Both stations at 44th Street and 24th Street offer passenger pick-up and drop-off curbs with significantly less crowds than driving to the terminals.

When flying out of the airport, there are several ways you can add ease to your trip and reduce stress. First, always confirm your flight status with your airline before leaving for the airport and give yourself plenty of time. Delays and unplanned events happen, a safe rule to live by is arrive at the airport two hours before a domestic flight and three hours before an international flight. This will allow you and anyone you're traveling with plenty of time to get through the entire airport process and board your flight on time.

It's also critical that when flying, passengers check their bags for prohibited items before coming to the airport. If a prohibited item is found in luggage, it can slow down the security screening process for all travelers trying to get through the checkpoint.

Additionally, when going through security, passengers can utilize PHX RESERVE. This is a program that allows you to reserve your spot in the TSA security line before coming to the airport. Reservations can be made up to six days in advance of your trip and will give you a dedicated time and location to go through security, avoiding long security wait times.

Speaking of reservations, travelers can also reserve a parking spot in advance in the terminal garages, East Economy and the 24th Street Express Pay Parking areas. Making a parking reservation can be done by visiting skyharbor.com/parking and ensures that there will be space available for you in one of the airport's parking facilities.

With more than 130,000 passengers each day, Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is a busy place and not everyone is a frequent flyer and familiar with the airport layout and where to go. To help get travelers where they need to be and make their flight on time, look for Navigator volunteers dressed in purple. They offer friendly assistance, directions, and information.

Travelers headed to the airport after the Men's College Basketball Championship should also keep in mind the Five, Four Three, Two, One rule. Leave your hotel five hours before your flight departs, return your rental car four hours before your flight departs, check-in at the ticket counter three hours before your flight departs, get in line at the TSA security checkpoint two hours before your flight departs, and finally be at your gate one hour before your flight departs.

As always, travelers can find additional travel tips and helpful information at skyharbor.com along with the latest updates on parking, security wait times and airport amenities. ❖



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Picazzo's Healthy Italian Kitchen Announces Fundraising Partnership with Bloomkidz for Autism Awareness

When Picazzo's Healthy Italian Kitchen Managing Partner Chris Disney launched the restaurant's fundraising campaign for autism research in 2021, he had no indication that the following year his own daughter Collyns would be diagnosed with Rett Syndrome, a rare genetic neurological disorder that falls on the Autism spectrum. Through family connections, the Disneys were connected with BloomKidz Wellness & Recreation, the nonprofit clinic where 3-year-old Collyns has been receiving comprehensive occupational therapy, speech therapy, feeding therapy, behavioral therapy, and physical therapy to help stave off the effects of Rett Syndrome. This condition leads to severe impairments affecting nearly every aspect of life: speaking, walking, eating, and breathing. For the entire month of April, Picazzo's will be donating \$1 for every dessert sold to BloomKidz.

Chris says he and his wife Ang knew they found the right place when they first met with BloomKidz Co-founders Katie and Daniel Feavel, parents of five children, three with Autism and two with additional medical complexities. The Feavels created BloomKidz out of a necessity to provide their own children with integrated therapy. They said there was no place where families like theirs could receive collaborative multidisciplinary therapy. And while their backgrounds were in tech and criminology, they knew they wanted to bring a fresh approach and develop a financially sustainable nonprofit clinic that would improve the trajectory of kids' lives.

The warm and inviting BloomKidz clinic includes over a dozen varied therapy rooms, a large therapy play space, an onsite Family Nurse Practitioner, which allows them to offer what they call a "micro urgent care" inside the building, and a co-work space where parents can work on site while their kids are in therapy sessions.

"The staff at BloomKidz treat our daughter as if she were their own," says Ang. "Therapy is the best thing we can do for Colly right now and the help she is receiving there is helping her hold on to her physical capabilities like walking and using her hands, while we wait to get her into a pediatric clinical trial for gene therapy that could dramatically improve the outcome of her life."

Since BloomKidz was founded in 2022, the clinic has grown to include 30 clients and a staff of 60. The founders are currently expanding into an adjacent building, where they will welcome children with complex needs over age five, with the inclusion of integrated Academy services. They're also kicking off a partnership with ASU College of Health Solutions, which will measure how their clients are progressing with their therapy.

"This partnership with Picazzo's feels like a full circle moment," says Katie. "I've been a fan of the restaurant for years because I have Celiac and love being able to go there and eat just about anything! We look forward to supporting this April fundraiser, and plan to put the Picazzo's donation towards improvements in our multi-sensory spaces."

Guests can dine at any Picazzo's location (Paradise Valley, Scottsdale, Tempe/Chandler, Sedona, Gilbert, Arrowhead) and \$1 from every dessert ordered during April will be donated to BloomKidz. ❖



Big Brothers Big Sisters Announces the Big Draft. An NFL Draft Watch Party

Join Big Brothers Big Sisters for an NFL Draft Watch Party to help draft a new line-up of Mentors. They will celebrate on Thursday, April 25th at 5:00 p.m. with food from The Habit Burger & Grill, drinks, games and the opportunity to meet other like-minded people who are looking to give back to the community. They encourage every guest to bring at least one Potential Big. This is an opportunity for your friends/family members to learn more about becoming a Big and get any mentoring questions answered in a casual setting.

The first 50 people to RSVP and attend the event with a potential new Big will receive a BBBS Exclusive Football Jersey!

The event will be Thursday, April 25th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 p.m. at BBBS Office located at 1615 E Osborn Road in Phoenix. ❖

//// //// //// //// //// BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL ARIZONA

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théa Mediterranean Rooftop at The Global Ambassador Launches Weekend Brunch

Following a successful debut earlier this year as the final of five original restaurants to open at The Global Ambassador in Phoenix, théa Mediterranean Rooftop has quickly become one of the Valley's most coveted dinner hotspots, and starting this month, the restaurant will also be open and will be accepting reservations for weekend brunch.

Inspired by the sun-soaked Mediterranean region, théa, which translates to the goddess of light, offers unrivaled views from its picturesque rooftop under the shadow of iconic Camelback Mountain. This is a perfect setting for guests seeking an elevated, sky-high haven for their midday weekend revelries.

The new menu features staple brunch items with a Mediterranean flair rooted in fresh and house-made ingredients that combine the classic with the unexpected. Standout dishes include Chocolate Babka French Toast (\$20) with whipped chocolate labneh and orange marmalade; Shakshuka (\$20) with baked egg, tomato, pepper, onion and kalamata olives; Sausage Scramble (\$19) with merguez, Havarti cheese, onion, pepper, chickpea, red zhoug aioli and potatoes; and a Sesame Jerusalem Bagel (\$25) with smoked salmon, labneh cream cheese, hard-boiled egg, marinated tomato, cucumber, onion and kalamata olives.

Of course, what would brunch even be without a round of cocktails? Enjoy elevated classics like Champagne for Breakfast (\$16), sparkling wine accompanied by peach, clover honey, pomegranate, apricot or lemon juice; the Perfect Bloody Mary (\$17) with Wheatley vodka, peppercorn tincture, chipotle, Sacramento tomato and a salt & pepper rim; or the Espresso Martini (\$19) with Ketel One vodka, borghetti Italian liqueur, slow-steeped coffee – perfect for those who like a little extra buzz.

Details:

Brunch is available on Saturdays and Sundays starting at 12:00 p.m. théa is also open for dinner nightly (4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and the bar is open until 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and until midnight on Friday and Saturday. The address is 4360 East Camelback Road in Phoenix and phone number is (480) 697-6201. Reservations are now open and can be made by visiting the website at GlobalAmbassadorHotel.com/Restaurants/Thea. ❖



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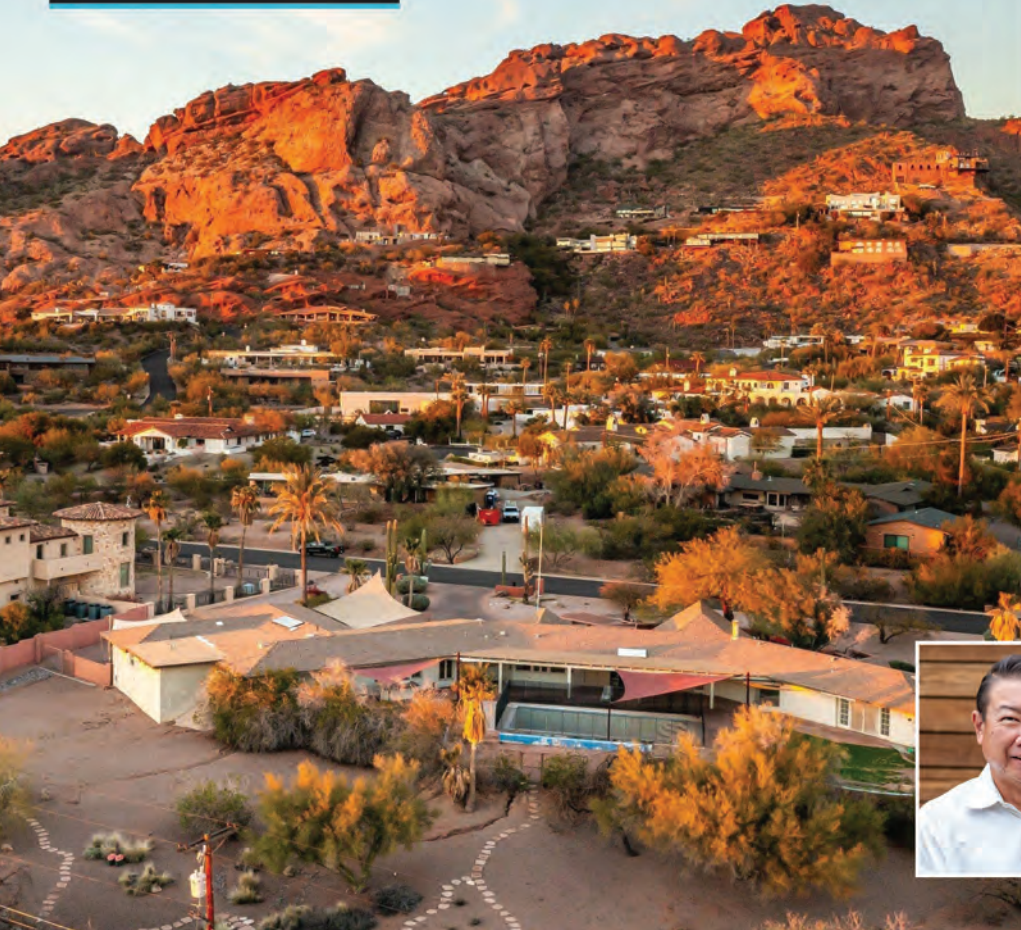
The Ravenscroft ~ Arizona's Premier Jazz Venue April Performances to Impress

Arizona's premier jazz venue, The Ravenscroft, has an incredible lineup of April performances just in time for National Jazz Appreciation Month! The Ravenscroft's concert hall showcases world-renowned and Grammy-Award winning artists throughout the year. The Scottsdale venue also features the Jazzbird, a modern lounge with an urban New York City jazz club theme, and hosts music from popular and up and coming local musicians. For more information on The Ravenscroft, the artists or to purchase tickets, visit www.theravenscroft.com.

April Concerts at The Ravenscroft:

Zazu West – Friday, April 5 @ 7:00 p.m.
Holly Pyle Quartet – Friday, April 12th @ 7:00 p.m.
Donny McCaslin – Saturday, April 13th @ 7:30 p.m.
Michael Weiss Trio – Friday, April 19th @ 7:00 p.m.
GEORGE – Saturday, April 20th @ 7:30 p.m.
West By Northwest – Friday, April 26 @ 7:00 p.m.
Mark Guiliana – Saturday, April 27th @ 7:30 p.m.
Jazz for the Soul: Russel Schmidt Quartet – Sunday, April 28th @ 6:00 p.m.





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Studio B Smiles Alongside Devin Booker, Deliver on Book It Program

This past February, Special Olympic Arizona athletes scored big with complimentary teeth cleanings at Studio B Smiles and even received a surprise visit by Suns Superstar, Devin Booker. As part of the BOOK IT program, these athletes took the liberty to schedule dental cleanings on their own, learned about the importance of dental hygiene and took home a pair of Booker's exclusive Nike Book 1 Mirage shoes. Their smiles lit up the room as they got the chance to meet with Devin Booker and receive a pair of signed shoes.

Official Team Dentist of your Phoenix Suns, Dr. John Badolato (aka Dr. B) of Studio B Smiles first partnered with Devin Booker and his Starting Five Foundation to support Special Olympics of Arizona by providing free dental care to local athletes in need. At the launch of the program in 2021, Studio B Smiles pledged to donate up to \$250,000 in services over the course of 10 years. Now, in its third year into the program, \$140,000 has already been provided to thirty athletes in need. Because of this, Studio B Smiles and Devin Booker doubled their donation pledge to \$500,000 in services such as exams, cleanings, fillings, crowns, Invisalign, teeth whitening, and anything else athletes need to have good oral health and winning smiles.

For every new patient who says "BOOK it" when they "BOOK" an appointment at either of Studio B Smiles' state-of-the-art offices in Scottsdale and downtown Phoenix, Dr B. will continue to donate dental care to local Special Olympic Athletes in need. Services will include exams, cleanings, fillings, crowns, Invisalign, teeth whitening, and anything else athletes need to have good oral health and winning smiles. Jacob May, a Special Olympics Athlete who received a life-changing smile makeover through the program shared a letter with Booker that said, "Thank you for your contributions you've made to help people like me. I've been so fortunate to have been given great dental care from Dr. B and his staff, because of you."

Offered as part of the Studio B Smiles' dedicated charitable and philanthropy arm, B All Smiles, Dr B. is committed to giving back to the local community, including supporting Phoenix Suns Charities, the Make A Wish Foundation, Pujols Family Foundation, Banner Health Foundation of Arizona and more. ❖





Property Executive Chef Richard Pelz Brings the Sizzle To We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort's Culinary Scene

If you think you know casino restaurants, think again.

Because under the experienced leadership of Property Executive Chef Richard Pelz – whose culinary innovation, attention to detail, and inspired direction is evinced throughout the six dining establishments at the We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort – casino dining has been elevated to an entirely new level.



An integral part of the opening team when the new state-of-the-art casino was unveiled in October 2020, right in the middle of the pandemic, Pelz initially served as Chef de Cuisine for Ember, the property's award-winning, fine-dining restaurant.

An open kitchen concept that allows guests to overlook the culinary team at work, Ember uses wood-fired grills to prepare the highest quality USDA Prime and Angus Wagyu beef, game and seafood from around the world. A piano lounge and seasonal outdoor patio dining by the fireplace further enhance the upscale, relaxing ambiance.

Pelz conceptualized Ember's vision, crafted innovative fare incorporating modern cooking techniques, and introduced a variety of seasonal menus and popular wine-themed dinners. The result? Numerous accolades, including *OpenTable's* Diner's Choice Awards for 2022 and 2023 and *Wine Spectator's* coveted Best of Award of Excellence for the past three years (recognizing Ember's extensive wine program that covers 29 countries with more than 900 wines by the bottle – including 36 "Century Club" vintages – 26 wines by the glass, and an array of unicorn, dessert and Ports-Madeira wines.)

Three years after launching Ember, Pelz was promoted to Property Executive Chef, where he currently oversees the culinary operations and stewarding departments for all six of the award-winning resort's dining outlets (Ember, The Buffet, Ahnala, WKP Sports & Entertainment, the Market, and Daubs) as well as for the banquet kitchen, in-room dining, poolside food service, and special events at Fort McDowell Adventures, another Enterprise of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.

A lot of plates to keep spinning, literally, but Pelz has proven eminently up to the task. His passion for cooking was ignited at an early age by his parents, who dabbled in

winemaking and had a discerning palate for fine cuisine. After graduating from the Culinary Institute of America at Hyde Park's hospitality management program, Pelz' ever-progressing culinary career included such esteemed establishments as LaGrenouille and La Caravelle (New York City), Le Louis XV – Alain Ducasse (Monte Carlo, Monaco) and Restaurante Martin Berasategui (Spain). He also owned Goblin Market in New York City, which was nominated for best new restaurant in its first year of operations.

By leveraging the freshest-and-finest ingredients in his innovative menus, leading his highly talented team by example, and offering multi-course wine dinners that pair menu items with top vintages from around the world, Pelz continues to elevate the dining scene at the We-Ko-Pa Casino's Resort – making it a go-to destination for local foodies as well as area visitors looking for a memorable dining experience.

The beauty of dining at a casino is that there's so much more to do before and after your meal, and the We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort is no exception. The spectacular 166,341-square-foot casino boasts 950 multi-dimensional slot machines, a 650-seat smoke-free bingo hall, action-packed table games including blackjack, poker and roulette, and sports betting through a partnership with Betfred Sports.

The attached AAA Four Diamond hotel offers 246 luxurious guestrooms and suites, a boutique spa, two resort-style outdoor pools with uber-luxurious cabanas, and 25,000 square feet of meeting space. And the casino resort's proximity to the two highly acclaimed courses at We-Ko-Pa Golf Club, and trail rides and Jeep tours (new for 2024!) at Fort McDowell Adventures, make it the ideal destination for a vacation, business function or special event.

But don't take our word for it. Head over to the We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort, nestled in the breathtaking Sonoran Desert, and experience Chef Pelz' magic for yourself. Tasting is believing!





~ Golf Tip ~

The Basics for Your Driver Ball Position

By Tina Tombs, The Arizona Biltmore Golf Club



When we talk about ball position for a right-handed golfer, we refer to front, middle and back of your stance or also relative to alignment to your upper body. I like to refer to ball position to the upper body alignment systems because the club follows the path of the upper body and it is much easier to build the relationship of club, ball position and upper body to your target to play great golf!

Basics:

- 📌 **Front** - The golf ball is in-line with your lead armpit and closer to your front or lead foot.
- 📌 **Middle** - The golf ball is in-line with your center line (sternum) of your upper body, your nose, and is equal distance from your front and back foot.
- 📌 **Back** - The golf ball is in-line with right eye, right chest and nearer to your trailing foot.

Golf Ball Position For Your Driver:

The driver is the longest club in your bag. Ball position and set up are essential to being a good driver of the ball.

Having the correct golf ball position with longer clubs, especially the driver, is essential for making clean contact. A tee gives us the best chance of getting the ball to fly further in the air, combining the correct ball position – in-line with our lead armpit, inside our lead foot – is the best ball position that will allow us to make a great swing with the best swing arc to hit the ball high and far off the tee. You will also notice that I do not ground my clubhead on the ground. I do this because the ball is on the tee and not on the ground.

Our goal is to hit the center of the ball with the center of the clubface. Tee it high and let it fly!

In summary, pay attention to your ball position, tee height and in particular your set up when you are on the tee to hit your favorite club – YOUR DRIVER! Believe in yourself and practice to learn what you want to do with all of your golf shots. It will help give you feel, visualization and more confidence to play great golf.

Tina Tombs is a 2020 Arizona Golf Hall of Fame Inductee, a *GOLF Magazine* Top 100 Teacher in America, and two-time LPGA National Teacher of the Year. To schedule your next golf lesson or clinic session, you can contact Tina or her staff by downloading our app TinaTombsGolf on the app store or google app store. ❖



Wine Girl Debuts NEW Brunch Menu ~ Toast Flights!

Wine Girl in Old Town Scottsdale is thrilled to announce its NEW 'Brunch Bites' menu! This is the first time Wine Girl has offered brunch on their menu, with a selection of decadent toasts guests can enjoy as a single order or as a toast flight, with the choice of three flavorful options. Available Friday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Wine Girl, patrons are encouraged to catch flights, not feelings.

The new Brunch Bites menu includes:

- ✦ Avo Toast - avocado, grated egg, parmesan, seasoning
- ✦ Peanut Butter Crunch - organic peanut butter, granola, banana, honey drizzle
- ✦ Whipped Ricotta - whipped ricotta, pistachio crumble, organic honey drizzle
- ✦ Smoked Salmon - Norwegian smoked salmon, cream cheese, dill
- ✦ Sweet and Crunchy - Nutella, sliced banana, blueberry, organic honey drizzle
- ✦ Blueberry Ricotta - whipped ricotta, blueberries, organic honey drizzle

*Single Toast - \$9, Toast Flight (choose 3) - \$25

Wine Girl has also introduced a new beverage to the menu – iced coffee – the perfect companion for your brunch outing.

Wine Girl features rotating wines on tap, a reserve bottle/by the glass list, locally crafted beers, spritzers and other libations along with an ever-changing array of food options served up in a delightfully chic, Insta-worthy interior. For more information on upcoming events, visit www.winegirl.com. ❖





New Spring Facials at Arizona Facial Plastics To Get a Summer Glow

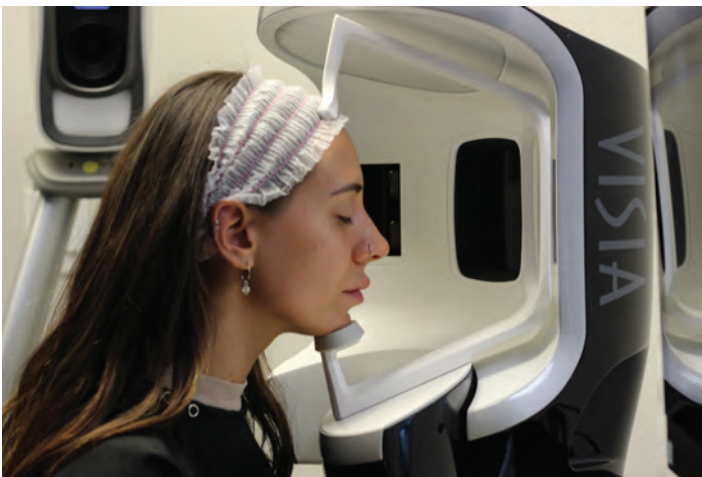
Arizona Facial Plastics in Phoenix is offering NEW spring-inspired facials customized for transitioning our winter skin to warmer weather. These facials perfect for giving your skin a ‘Spring Cleaning’ refresh while adding a summer glow.


Spring Glow Facial – Featuring the best combo for hydrated spring skin, the Spring Glow Facial starts with a double cleanse and exfoliation followed by a HydraBoost Masque to instantly quench dry skin leaving you feeling fresh and hydrated.

Flush Facial – Flush away the winter from your skin with this facial designed to get rid of excess fluid drainage and increase blood flow. The flush facial now features a NEW add-on, lymphatic therapy, which is known to lift and contour for an instantly sculpted look. This add-on is incredible at reducing puffiness and redness while working to detoxify and optimize skin health.



In addition, stay glowing this spring and beyond with Arizona Facial Plastic’s Refresh Membership. For \$129 per month, receive one treatment a month with additional perks. Arizona Facial Plastics also offers several other facials including the popular Hydrafacial. Appointments can be booked online at www.arizonafacialplastics.com or call (480) 296-0488. ❖






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Culture Pass Enables Kids and Families to Explore Arts Activities, Museums Across Arizona at No Cost

Community Program Helps Keep Kids Engaged During Spring and Summer Vacation Without Breaking the Bank

Did you know there is a way to get two free tickets to dozens of museums and arts organizations across the state? With spring break and summer vacation on the horizon, parents often worry about how to keep kids busy and off electronics during the extended time off from school. The Act One Culture Pass is the perfect solution to this conundrum.

The Act One Culture Pass provides access for students, seniors and under-resourced families to visit many of Arizona's arts and cultural treasures at no cost.

"Families looking to explore Arizona are in luck," said Anne Osborne, Act One Culture Pass manager. "Not only do we have exciting activities to explore in the Valley, but we also have excellent community partners across the state from as far north as Flagstaff to as far south as Tucson and everything in between."

"There are so many opportunities to take day trips and discover everything these cultural centers and museums have to offer all for the cost of just a tank of gas," Osborne added.

This year there are 26 arts and cultural venues and 16 performing arts organizations that are part of the program. In Metro Phoenix, the culture pass can be used at dozens of well-known establishments including the Desert

Botanical Garden, Heard Museum, and the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art. It also includes smaller and lesser-known facilities in the Valley like the River of Time Museum, the Desert Caballeros Western Museum and the Gilbert Historical Museum.

Those interested in exploring Northern Arizona can embrace the pines at the Arboretum at Flagstaff or spend the day with red rock art and culture at the Sedona Heritage Museum. In Southern Arizona, community partners include the Tucson Botanical Gardens, the Tucson Museum of Art, the University of Arizona Museum of Art, and many others.

"Using the Act One Culture Pass is simple, all you need is a library card and a desire to explore our great state," said Osborne. "Arizona residents can stop by one of the more than 175 libraries statewide to "check out" the Act One Culture Pass. Passes are good for free admission for two individuals to the arts and cultural institutions in their local area and throughout the state."

The Act One Culture Pass is also good at more than a dozen Phoenix and Tucson performing arts organizations, including the Arizona Opera, The Phoenix Symphony and programs at the Chandler Center for the Arts.

The logo for Act One, with "act" in black lowercase letters and "one" in red lowercase letters.

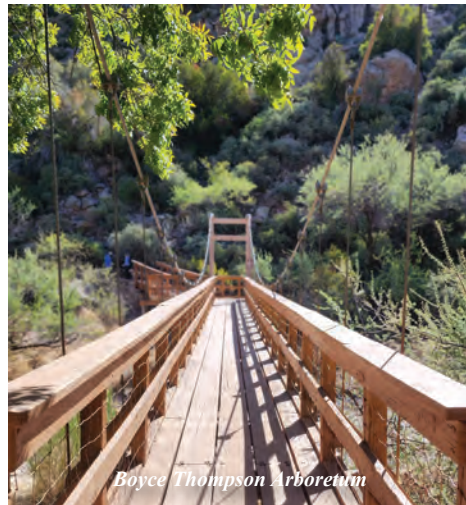
The program offers more than 500,000 passes annually in 13 of 15 counties. Currently, 87 library branches in Central Arizona support the Act One Culture Pass along with 51 in Southern Arizona and 32 in Northern Arizona, and new locations are being added regularly. Each library has a designated number of passes for the public. Once individuals check out a pass at a local library, they have seven days to redeem the tickets at the location.

Since taking over management of the Culture Pass in 2013, Act One has offered more than 3 million passes to Arizona families.

To find a library that hosts the Culture Pass program, visit <https://act1az.org/culture-pass>. ❖



Phoenix Art Museum



Boyce Thompson Arboretum



Gilbert Historical Museum



Kuykendall Art Exhibit Mesa



Reality Table at River of Time Museum



Phoenix Art Museum Entry Courtyard

The Brokery Co-Founder Oleg Bortman Launches New Book on Entrepreneurship

Always Ahead Features Inspiring Stories from 12 Business Leaders

Oleg Bortman's glass is always full. Born in Ukraine in 1975, Oleg came with his family to the United States as a Jewish immigrant at the age of three. Over time, he found his passion in real estate. Along the way, he was influenced by stories of influential leaders. In a desire to bring his blessings forward, Oleg, Co-Founder of The Brokery, a successful residential real estate brokerage, has written and published a new business anthology, "Always Ahead: 12 Striking Stories of Determination, Commitment, and Inspiration in Pursuit of Success and Freedom," now available on Amazon.com. The book includes personal stories from Oleg and 12 other entrepreneurs. From this variety of narratives, Oleg hopes to illustrate there is more than one way to become successful and inspire others to pursue their calling.

"Always Ahead" chapter authors include Upward Projects CEO and Co-Founder, Lauren Bailey; Driven Coaching Founder, Jon Bohm; pharma company President, Craig Boyd; Boyer Vertical Founder, Jason Boyer; Bison Ventures Founder & CEO, Stuart M. Crawford; J.P. Kush Construction LLC Owner and President, Jason Kush; Performance Coach CEO, Olympic athlete and Marine Corps Vet, LaDarren Landrum; CEO of import and export company, Rick LaRue; 3EO Health CEO, Jeremy Schubert; luxury real estate expert Caleb Spears; Universal Insurance Programs Chairman of the Board, Randy Tipton; and Elaina V. Public Relations Founder, Elaina Verhoff.

"I believe each day brings opportunities to positively impact your life and the lives of others," says Bortman. "I have been blessed by those who have taken their time to mentor me

over the years by sharing their journeys. I hope to do the same by publishing these impactful and inspiring stories of success."

In this book, readers will discover:

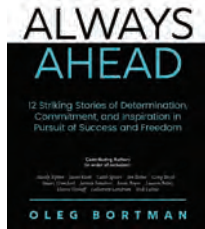
- 14 of the most soul-searching questions you need to ask yourself to discover what you want from life
- Why you might not hit your stride until your 40s, and why this is actually a great thing to help you generate wealth
- The importance of developing a growth mindset, including 10 ways to embrace its key principles
- Why using the phrase "I'm fine" could damage your prospects, and how you can let others in to share your burdens
- Tales of entrepreneurs from a range of backgrounds, from construction to real estate
- Philosophies you can take forward into your own life to help you achieve your dreams
- Why your background doesn't determine your success, and how you can overcome the past to keep your eyes focused on the future
- The 5 key lessons you need to learn in order to develop your character and build resilience

And much more.

"Each story in 'Always Ahead' highlights the importance of entrepreneurs investing in themselves, and the mentors who invested in them along their journey," says Bortman. "My hope is that readers will see they are worthy of the same investments — and that they are inspired to carry their blessings forward too."

About Oleg Bortman

Oleg Bortman, author of the "Always Ahead" business anthology, is Associate Broker and Co-founder of The Brokery, a residential real estate firm with four offices in Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona. Born in Ukraine, Oleg moved to the



United States in 1979 as his family sought the American Dream. Oleg studied biology at York College and upon graduation began working in pharmaceutical sales and was a Regional Sales Director for a fortune 100 Pharmaceutical Company for several years. However, deep down, Oleg knew his true passion was and is real estate. He bought his first investment property in 1999 and quickly became captivated with the entire real estate market. He expanded his portfolio from New Jersey to Nevada and then on to Arizona, quickly seeing his return on investments. When Oleg moved out West, he realized he didn't just want to be an investor; he wanted to give other people the same opportunity he has had. He loves working not only with buyers, but sellers and investors as well. Oleg has been in real estate for over ten years as it continues to be his dream career.

About Always Ahead

"Always Ahead" is a collection of heartfelt, honest, and relatable tales that will help readers discover a future of happiness, success, and wealth. Readers will discover twelve real-life stories from inspirational people who made their way in the world to achieve that sense of peace through success. Use their advice to mentor and guide you. Understand just what it takes to really be the best and unwrap tips to help you outshine the competition and achieve the American Dream. "Always Ahead" is available at Amazon.com. This is the first in a series of anthologies that will be published by Bortman under the "Always Ahead Series" name. ❖



Camelot Homes Announces 2024 Brunch & Browse and Wine & Design Events

Camelot Homes is once again hosting a series of open browse sessions in 2024. This series of Wednesday evening Wine & Design events and Saturday morning Brunch & Browse events provides an opportunity for current homeowners, interested prospects and realtors to tour the Camelot Design Studio and learn more about Camelot's luxury home communities currently selling across the Valley. Guests will also enjoy light appetizers, wine and refreshments while learning more from featured Camelot partners. Upcoming Brunch & Browse and Wine & Design dates:

- Camelot Homes Brunch and Browse Events – held Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
April 20th, June 15th, August 17th, and October 19th
- Camelot Homes Wine and Design Events – held Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
May 22nd, July 24th, September 25th

A few examples of Camelot partners who will be speaking with attendees and showcasing their products and services are The Viridian Scottsdale and Innovative Wine Solutions:

The Viridian Scottsdale is a luxury botanical studio bringing biophilic design to both commercial and residential spaces. With a variety of everlasting trees and arrangements as well as bespoke moss art, The Viridian enables homeowners to bring the beauty of nature in, without the maintenance of taking care of live plants. They also offer one-of-a-kind containers and décor. After serving Camelot Homes and other home builders with botanicals for their model homes for many years, The Viridian recently began offering their designs to the public at their Scottsdale studio, which is open by appointment only.



Innovative Wine Cellar Designs creates commercial and residential custom wine cellars and solutions, offering cutting edge refrigeration solutions, custom wine racking and cellar accessories to ensure that each client's custom wine cellar has the perfect blend of architectural elements and functional design. The company has built several of their custom wine cellars for Camelot Homes model homes and for Camelot homeowners.

Learn more at camelothomes.com.



Lights, Camera, Action...Movies in The Courtyard at Uptown Plaza

April in Arizona is the perfect time to be outside, so Uptown Plaza is excited to invite the community to sit back and relax with family-friendly movies in the courtyard on two Saturday evenings in April. Plus, Scoopwell's Dough Bar will be handing out gourmet edible cookie dough samples to enjoy during the movies. Guests are encouraged to bring picnic blankets or chairs and enjoy snacks from Uptown Plaza businesses.

The movie schedule is:

- ✦ April 13th at 7:00 p.m. – Trolls Band Together
- ✦ April 20th at 7:00 p.m. – The Super Mario Movie

Uptown Plaza will host various events throughout the year, including Halloween Trick-or-Treating, a Holiday celebration, mini golf in the courtyard, family-friendly events and more. To stay up-to-date on the latest events happening, please visit www.uptownplazaphx.com/events.

Uptown Plaza is located on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Camelback Road, in the heart of Phoenix's historic north-central neighborhood. The newly restored mid-century modern shopping center is a lively urban hotspot, boasting a wide selection of health, retail, and restaurants. The Plaza has over 20 retailers, and the full list can be found at www.uptownplazaphx.com.





DIYA Beauty and Wellness Acquires WR Group Retail Brands and the North American Sales Division

Supermodel and beauty expert, entrepreneur Angie Everhart and partner Renee Niles have successfully acquired WR Group's widely distributed and very popular brands and products, as well as its ability for private label manufacturing. Everhart is CEO and Renee Niles, a seven-year veteran and former EVP of WRG with her decades of documented product development, management and sales expertise in the CPG space, will continue to be responsible for those areas as President of DIYA Beauty and Wellness LLC. DIYA is now the parent company of Oralgen NuPearl Teeth Whitening, ProBiogen Spore Based Probiotics, and BareOrganics Superfoods, including the newest product entry, BareOrganics Ground Coffee including Focus, Cardio Care, Energy and Daily Defense coffee. DIYA has also acquired exclusive licensing rights for all North America for the natural hair regrowth line, Foligain Hair and Grooming products. The new owners are proud of being a woman owned and operated company. They are currently filing for certification as a women owned business and seek to participate in Diverse Supplier opportunities with new and existing clients.

Everhart became familiar with the products when she served as spokesperson for Oralgen NuPearl natural teeth whitening system and the NuPearl teeth whitening pen. Not only did she believe in the products, but she also learned about all the brands and products the company owned, and as a woman very conscious of nutrition and product purity, she became a fan. As she grew to know Renee Niles, she was so impressed with her that she asked Renee to work with her on a line of hair products she was developing called Ever. When WRG's brands became available for sale, Angie opted to put Ever on the back burner and make an offer to buy all intellectual property for the brands, private label programs, brand LLC's and their inventory. DIYA Beauty and Wellness officially owns the brands and inventory as of October 20th, 2023. The experienced and very effective executives, operations and sales force have moved over to DIYA and will continue in their respective roles. Angie will be the face of the company in advertising and marketing campaigns.

It is extremely important to DIYA to give back. Since the DIYA products are all organic, a portion of the profits from each product will be donated to a non-profit in the region from which their ingredients are sourced. "Every product has a story," said Angie, "Giving back explains the story. And it's like a good hug – it feels great for both parties and is mutually beneficial. We will be focused on supporting our farmers and providers of our organic raw materials as a starting place to allow for continued sustainable practices and caring for Mother Earth."

Angie and Renee, along with the entire DIYA team, are excited to bring this new chapter of growth to the brands whose names are already recognizable and stable in the market. "It is an honor to be working with Angie as the team and I continue our seven-year journey of bringing high-quality, affordable, organic and natural products to the mass market," states Renee, "We have always believed that organic and natural products should be affordable for all and strive to make a difference in people's lives, one product at a time. DIYA will continue this mission and we wish to thank every one of our loyal customers and clients that have believed in the brands and continue to support us. We are unstoppable with you and can't wait to bring even greater engagement, new product offerings and customized retail programs to market."

The reviews are in for the products, and they're amazing. Whether you drink, eat or apply DIYA branded or private label products, they're winners, literally, with awards from *New Beauty*, *Delicious Living*, *Good Housekeeping* and more! Products are available in Whole Foods, Walmart, Sprouts, HEB, Kroger, Wegmans, Meijer, KEHE, UNFI, Palko and more. ❖

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Thai Chili 2 Go Launches Thai Tuesday Specials

Tired of tacos? Thai Chili 2 Go is spicing up Tuesdays with exclusive offers, available only to those that sign up for TC2GO's Rewards program.

TC2GO loyalists will be privy to special offers every Tuesday such as a free three-piece order of Thai Dumplings with the purchase of an entrée, \$5 off any order of \$35 or more or \$2 off any order. The offers will change weekly.

TC2GO enthusiasts can sign up via tc2go.com/rewards to receive notifications of exclusive weekly offers and earn rewards or download the app via tc2go.com/app. ❖

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Museum of Arizona Artists Presents Through The Eyes of The Beholders: Two Families Collect Arizona Art

In celebration of 112 years of Arizona statehood, The Museum of Arizona Artists (MOAZA) announces the unveiling of a magnificent collection exhibition, *Through the Eyes of the Beholders: Two Families Collect Arizona Art*. Artwork on display is from collections amassed and generously loaned from two Arizona families. These are Eric and Eva Jungermann and their son, William Jungermann of Phoenix; and Jerry Barber and Betty Barber-Hughes and their daughter, Jerre Lynn Vanier of Paradise Valley and Scottsdale. The exhibition runs through June 14th at the Arizona Capitol Museum.

This exhibition, which is free and open to the public, aims to explore the diverse perspectives of those who engage with art, including the general public, art collectors, curators, and most importantly, the artists themselves. The exhibition will provide a space to establish communication between the viewers and the artwork, delving into concepts of place and memory, aesthetic explorations, contemporary challenges, and divergent ideas about the historical and mythological West.

Featuring the creation of 34 Arizona artists both living and deceased from across the state, including Maricopa, Pinal, Yavapai, Coconino, Navajo, Gila, and Pima counties, the exhibition includes a mix of emerging talents and esteemed figures such as James Turrell, Fritz Scholder, Anne Coe, Steven J. Yazzie, Ed Mell, Merrill Mahaffey, Billy Schenck, and Beth Ames-Swartz. The exhibition's emphasis and educational activities are designed to cater to a broad range of age groups, offering family-friendly subjects that encourage exploration and learning.

"Through the Eyes of the Beholders" exhibition of two family collections of Arizona artists is curated by Karen L. Churchill. Karen returned to her native Arizona after working at the Cleveland Museum of Art. While there, she did her doctoral studies in Art History and Museum Studies at Case Western Reserve University, where she held a Mellon Fellowship. Currently, she resides in Prescott, AZ and teaches Art History at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. "Before moving to Ohio some thirty years ago," Churchill stated, "I was honored to curate an exhibition of Arizona artists at the invitation of then Secretary of State Richard Mahoney and the International Friends of Transformative Art at the Arizona State Capitol. How special it is to now be working with MOAZA, the museum created by so many of the wonderful artists and collectors that I worked with before. The circle completes itself."

Join MOAZA in this exciting journey of Arizona's artistic landscape, bridging the gap between creators and audiences, and fostering a deeper appreciation for the various perspectives that shape our understanding of art.

The opening reception will take place on Friday, March 15th, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., in the Historic Senate Chambers on the rarely publicly accessed 3rd floor. Desserts and beverages will be served. The gallery exhibition will be held on the 2nd floor.

For more information, visit MOAZA's website at MOAZA.org.

Scottsdale Gallery Association Debuts Small Works, Big Talent ArtWalk

The Scottsdale Gallery Association (SGA) is pleased to present its Small Works, Big Talent Gold Palette ArtWalk. The event takes place Thursday, April 11th from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. throughout the Scottsdale Arts District, which stretches along Main Street from Scottsdale Road to Goldwater Boulevard and north of Indian School Road on Marshall Way to 5th Avenue.



During the event, guests can enjoy live entertainment and refreshments. Participating SGA members will host themed exhibitions highlighting small works of amazing artists within their galleries.

The following galleries are featuring exhibitions within their storefronts during the event:

Carstens Fine Art Studio & Gallery

7100 E. Main Street, #B

Guests are invited to peruse and purchase new small works paintings as well as enjoy live music and light refreshments inside the gallery.

Gebert Contemporary Art Gallery

7160 E. Main Street

An installation of smaller works by John Randall Nelson will be on view at Gebert Contemporary during the event. Among this variety of works, the smallest dimension is 11 inches and the largest is 24 inches.

On the Edge Gallery

7045 E. Main Street

Spring has sprung at On the Edge Gallery! During the ArtWalk, guests are invited to drop in and meet multiple artists including Allison Shock, who creates idiosyncratic clay works inspired by the natural world, Nancy Palmisano, whose works are inspired by florals and landscapes, and Carol Bendell, whose pastels and watercolor, both utilizing solid drawing skills, are the foundation of her compositions.

The Signature Gallery

7177 E. Main Street

The Signature Gallery is pleased to feature an exhibition of original contemporary southwestern artwork by Ray Tigerman. The event will showcase Tigerman's art alongside his live performances as an accomplished country-western singer. In addition to artwork and live music, guests can enjoy a selection of wine, refreshments and light bites.

Wilde Meyer Gallery

4142 N. Marshall Way

Throughout April, Wilde Meyer Gallery will present a show of small works by gallery favorite artists. During the ArtWalk, the gallery will host a reception featuring artists Sandra Pratt, Dara Daniel, Alix Stefan, Jaime Ellsworth and many more.

Scottsdale Art Auction at Legacy Gallery

7178 E. Main Street

Following the ArtWalk on Friday, April 12th and Saturday, April 13th, the Scottsdale Art Auction takes place at the Legacy Gallery. Each day begins with registration and preview from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and auction begins at 11:00 a.m.

The highlight of this event is the rare and important oil painting "The Broken Rope" by Charles Russell. One of only a handful of Russell's oils to come to market over the past decades, "The Broken Rope" is expected to bring between \$5 million and \$7 million.

Other unique pieces include the Russell Bronze "A Bronc Twister," Frederic Remington's Bronze "The Cheyenne," "The Sculptor" by Eanger Irving Couse, "Carmelita," an oil by Nicolai Fechin and "A Singer" by Walter Ufer.

The Scottsdale Gallery Association's weekly ArtWalk, held most every Thursday evening from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. in partnership with the city of Scottsdale, highlights the finest art in Scottsdale featured throughout more than 30 galleries and two museums — Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art and Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West. In addition, the SGA's Gold Palette ArtWalks, with multiple events throughout the year, feature extended hours, a dedicated theme and specialty activities including entertainment, refreshments, demonstrations and more. For more information, visit scottsdalegalleries.com. ❖



Scottsdale Golf Event Benefitting Arizona Cancer Foundation for Children

The annual **Tom Londen Memorial Golf Classic** is returning to Scottsdale this spring, benefiting the **Arizona Cancer Foundation for Children**. The annual golf tournament is held by the Londen Family who lost their father Tom to cancer and helps spread awareness and raise money for children with cancer.

The golf classic is a two-day event starting Friday, April 19th with an evening reception at the Talking Stick Resort. The reception is free to attend and will include a charity auction, raffle prizes, complimentary hors d'oeuvres as well as a cash bar. The tournament will take place the next day, on Saturday, April 20th at the renowned Talking Stick Golf Club. For more information, to register for the event or to donate, please visit the website at www.azcancerfoundation.org/event/2024-tom-londen-golf-classic.

All the proceeds from the Tom Londen Memorial Golf Classic benefit Arizona Cancer Foundation for Children whose mission is to provide social, emotional, and financial support directly to families managing the health and wellbeing of a loved one with pediatric cancer. For more information, visit www.azcancerfoundation.org. ❖

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