



Welcome to our Community News Bulletin.

This Week's Issues:

- Editorial & Report by Sara Vannucci- offered in three parts over two weeks for easier reading
- Editorial by John Vannucci
- Guest Editorials and Letters – Grace Meeth
- Art Announcements : Pat Cain / Angelika Zgainer / “ The Question” by R. Breuer Stearns
- Music Fest / Foothills Food Bank program
- Photo by Robert Hughes

I thank our readers in other jurisdictions for their patience with our Town hi-jinxagain...



SARA VANNUCCI, EDITOR

Most of you know by now that we are in a recall election for the Council seats in Cave Creek. This is not a surprise to many of our readers, inasmuch as the Sonoran News and some of the current new candidates announced to the public the very same night of the June 2013 election that they would pursue a recall election at the earliest opportunity. Arizona laws provided the time lines for such elections, and right on schedule, the battle was engaged months ago. The same law requires as well a showing of abuse of office, which could hardly be alleged on election night.

One could hardly pick up a copy of the Sonoran news since June 2013 without a discussion by editor or guests as to the intentions of warfare to come. I am advised by town staff that the approximate cost to you, the taxpayers, will be about \$30,000, just for the basic costs of filings, and regulation enforcement.

The first attempts failed for improper signatures, per two different court opinions. But now we are in the real deal. We at the Chronicle will make a genuine attempt to provide you with honest reporting. So far, there have been no public forums, but we will advise you of same as made known. That leaves our attention to some necessary correction of Big Fibs, or at best, careless presentation of information by the Sonoran News candidates.

One such very big story has alarmed many citizens, namely that the Town was cutting off Rancho Manana water supply, and worse. John will first introduce you to the main issue, namely the private deals cut by Usama for cheap water for favored customers, while raising most users' rates;

The Town Engineer is sending accurate information to the whole town via US mail as a summary. And

next week, the Chronicle will provide the fuller report completed by the Town Engineer with the real numbers, plus documentation that the water people at Rancho Manana were indeed aware and working with Town Engineer Prinzhorn on evaluation and solutions to help all affected parties.

Sadly, none of these gentlemen thought to keep the Sonoran News current.



The Sorchych Slates Big Stink

As so often is the case with Sonoran News' outlandish, sensationalized and fabricated headlines, their December 17, 2014 front page story 'Prinzhorn to Cut off Water supply to Rancho Manana Golf Course', is yet another example of a half-baked, non-existent and fabricated crisis, creating Cave Creeks' very own WATERGATE conspiracy.

This supposed crisis was initiated out of the Water Advisory Committee (WAC) review of a number of agreements and contracts signed by the former Town Manager and Rancho Manana principals. The WAC's review of these contracts is part of their mission to identify areas of problems and efforts to reduce costs and consumption concerning our water/waste water enterprises. There were no directives issued, no decisions were made and no corrective actions were proposed. The WAC meeting(s) are to review and make recommendations.

These contracts for 'Affluent Only' water were solely for the benefit of the Rancho Manana Golf Course. In return, the town subsidizes this benefit. Also, TM Usama received their support in promoting his agenda for multi-million dollar projects to create a grand 'Water Ranch' kingdom. What most of the town is not aware of, is, that all of the infrastructure (pipes, pumps, maintenance) to pump this affluent uphill to the golf course is subsidized by you the taxpayer.

So when Sorchych/Bentley states "Sonoran News will continue its investigation into this matter", I hope they will investigate all the backroom deals made by Usama and friends in building his dream water ranch. That is what the 'Old Watch Dog' should be focused on, but not likely.

Part Deux:

Two of Sorchych's recall candidates, Steve LaMare and newbie Mark Lipsky have latched onto the trumped up alleged persecution of Rancho Manana golfers by making ludicrous and outrageous statements to spin a non-issue into a political battering ram for political points. Example, Steve LaMare (editorial SN 1-7-15) "Recalled council continues its 'assault' (emphasis added) on residents" and "frontal attack on Rancho Manana Resort". Really? I have yet to witness pitchfork wielding citizens charging the ramparts of the resort.

Then we have Mr. Lipsky (SN 12-17-14). "He said he found it 'Terrifying' (emphasis added) such a decision was being made behind closed doors". I guess coming out of the entertainment business it is perfectly acceptable to express phony outrage and exaggeration as a way to shock your audience.

This type of phony outrage reminds me of the classic film 'Casablanca' when Claude Rains says to Humphrey Bogart's character Rick, "I'm Shocked, shocked I tell you!" as he accepts his cut of the illegal casinos profits. This type of hypocritical outrage that we have seen and heard from the Sonoran News and its minions over many years is a typical political maneuver; these are the folks who want to cleanse the town of this current council because of their personal animosity toward people they simply do not like for whatever reason. In all of their ranting and raving they (The Sorchych Slate) have yet to offer ANY solutions to all of the challenges this town will have to address eventually.

I'll tell you what I'm Terrified and Outraged about; the many unknown backroom deals Usama Abujbarah made in his 15 year quest to bankrupt this town and the people who blindly follow Sorchych's corrosive agenda. Eventually all of the truth will come out and prevail over fabricated crisis and lies.

John B. Vannucci - The Fiscal Conservative Creeker

Do-overs Are for Children

Councilman Charlie Spitzer, Candidate

Cave Creek is faced with a recall election with my name, Charlie Spitzer, on the ballot. Steve LaMar, the person who's put his name up against mine, received the absolute lowest number of votes of twelve candidates in the original 2013 council election.

Those who initiated this recall forget that "do-overs" are for kids in the playground when they don't get their way. It's immature and ethically wrong to think adults can label a do-over a political "recall" simply because they, too, didn't get their way. This was the reason a recall was decided by the opposition before I and my fellow councilmen were even sworn in. Since then, they have twisted and fabricated facts to support their recall mission. Now, Mr. LaMar hopes a do-over will give him the results he didn't get the first time around.

My constituents elected me Councilman because they felt I had the background and integrity for the job and, to date, I've served them well. I have a passion and commitment to do what's right for Cave Creek. I have neither hidden agendas nor disingenuous goals. I have obligations to no one but the citizens of Cave Creek.

My vision was, and will always be, for a thriving, positive Cave Creek that retains its Western, desert rural heritage. I appreciate and respect those who seek truth not in media propaganda, but in facts acquired by personal research and inquiry. That said, I invite fellow Cave Creek residents to contact me with questions and concerns on issues important to our town as well as ones they may have about my honesty, integrity and dedication to the job to which I've sworn.

I am proud to be seated on a Council that has accomplished unprecedented transparency, from streaming meetings live to publishing all town financial transactions and emails. We have worked towards purchasing open space, something no other previous administration has done. We have passed a budget \$1m less than the previous year, with a reduction in government staff, and with no reduction in service. We have corrected years of non-maintenance of public utilities, in order to protect our infrastructure.

You can count on my commitment of continued dedication and service to our Town. Unlike my opponent, I am NOT asking for a do-over. I'm simply asking for your vote so I can continue the job you've elected me to do.

Thank you for your support, and you may reach me at: Cspitzer@cavecreek.org, 480-442-1174.
Charlie

Recall Points

Letter to the Editor
By *Concerned Citizen*

**** It's important to maintain the status quo of our current Council by voting to retain all four incumbent Councilmen - Durkin, Monachino, Spitzer and Trenk. They should be able to serve out the full length of their terms, as originally decided by the voters, since they've done nothing to merit recall.***

Important to Know:

Recall Was Decided Early On:

The word "recall" was first publicly used as early as the night the Councilmen were sworn in (6/3/2013). Then, mention of a "recall" began appearing in print only 23 days (6/26/2013) after taking their seats on the Council. How can four men each merit recall after only 3 weeks in office?

Twisted Facts:

In order to support their recall mission, the opposition began "Spinning" (twisting) the facts immediately after the Councilmen took office, as evidenced by repeated editorials and letters to the editor in the local paper. In this way, the public was denied the facts.

NOT a Slate:

Durkin, Monachino, Spitzer and Trenk are NOT a slate, only four men who stood up to the plate for their community. On agenda items, their opinions vary and they always vote their own mind. Their votes are a reflection of their research and personal opinions as well as those of their constituents.

Usama's Choice to Sue Our Town:

It was Usama Abujbarah who chose to burden our Town with expensive lawsuits by initiating legal action; not anyone on Council. A loss of any of our four incumbent councilmen can almost guarantee sizable settlements (additional cost to our Town) in Mr. Abujbarah's favor. The Courts should have the opportunity to rule on this case, which has been a large taxpayer investment through court expenditures, as well costs for the Town.

Cave Creek is a One Vote Town:

One vote can make a difference in Cave Creek, as evidenced in the election of 2009 which resulted in a tied vote between Adam Trenk and Tom McGuire. Only one vote would have made a difference in that election. Your one vote can be the one that makes a difference in this recall! Please remember to vote. The future of our Town depends on it.

Be sure your vote is counted. Please mail in your ballot early!

Question? Concerns? Want the FACTS?

Contact one or all of our councilmen named in this recall.

MDurkin@cavecreek.org 480-440-5738

RMonachino@cavecreek.org 480-200-3913 or 480-595-9327

CSpitzer@cavecreek.org 480-442-1174

ATrenk@cavecreek.org 480-240-5646

LET'S BE VERY CLEAR

Grace Meeth

Let's be very clear what the March 10th election is all about. For close to ten years, major decisions concerning the town were influenced by two people – the editor of a local paper and the former Town Manager. Cave Creek Council members quickly learned that the best way to retain their seat on the Council was to garner positive press, and the best way to accomplish that was to do what the editor of the local paper wanted done. So to assure themselves an almost guaranteed retention of their Council seat in subsequent elections, many Council people abrogated their decision-making authority and allowed the Town Manager and the editor to control the town's agenda.

With the election of Mike Durkin, Reg Monachino, Charlie Spitzer, and Adam Trenk to the Council in June of 2013, those two people no longer have influence in Town Hall. The Council replaced the Town Manager, whose power, authority, and actions far exceeded the scope of his position. They awarded the contract for town advertisements to a paper other than the one that continues to berate and disparage citizens and Council members alike. Since Durkin, Monachino, Spitzer and Trenk can't be controlled, manipulated or humiliated into submission by the local paper, supporters of the editor want them removed from office – a recall. It's as simple as that.

This recall is not about performance; a recall was threatened before Council members even took the oath of office. This recall is about power, and whether Cave Creek will be governed by duly-seated elected officials or outside influences and favor.

On March 10th I urge you to vote for Mike Durkin, Reg Monachino, Charlie Spitzer, and Adam Trenk. They have represented this town with honor, transparency and inclusiveness. Let them do the job you elected them to do.

Grace Meeth
Former Councilmember



You're Invited!

what: Reception for the Gallery Artists of the Inaugural Exhibition

when: Sunday, January 18th
4 - 7 p.m.

where: The Gallery at el Pedregal

Wine, soda & hors d'oeuvres will be served.



R.S.V.P. by January 15th to
thegallery@sonoranartsleague.org

SHAKTI



mix media 36x48x1.5 2014 \$1500

Reception: Angelika Zgainer



Friday January 23, 2015 at 6:30pm
Walter Art Gallery, 6425 E. Thomas Road,
Scottsdale AZ 85251

gallery@thewalterproject.org
209-878-7474
www.walter-art.com

Artist Contact:
azgainer@hotmail.com and my phone: 480-7073027.

Current Exhibitions: Terravita, @Desert Pavilion,
Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale AZ 85266 (Japanese
Warriors)

Arizona Sun - acrylic 36x36x1.5 2013 \$1000

“THE QUESTION. If You Could have The Answer to One Question and Only One Question What Would You Ask?” From Katie Stearns, local painter, a new book by her husband Rob. (R. Breuer Stearns):

“Rob is one of four featured local AZ authors giving a talk at the Desert Foothills Library on Thursday, 2/26. I think the "Authors' Showcase", as the library is calling it, starts at 10 am. I'll send you more info on the event once I receive it.”

“Do all questions have answers? Are two minds better than one? Are science and faith compatible?”

The Chronicle hopes to provide our readers with a review before the reading.

ADORNMENTS

Elegant and Casual Ladies Apparel
Wearable Art and Accessories

**We Are Proud To Present
the paintings of well-known**

**abstract
expressionist
Pat Cain**



**SAVE THE DATE -
Meet The Artist Reception
Wednesday, January 21st
4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

La Mirada Shopping Center

8900 E. Pinnacle Peak R.d., Ste. B2 • Scottsdale, AZ 85255
(N.E. corner of Pinnacle Peak & Pima N.E.)

MUSICFEST / GRAMMY NOMINEES TO PERFORM AT ARIZONA MUSICFEST IN NORTH SCOTTSDALE

For 24 years, Arizona Musicfest has brought the best and brightest musical artists to Arizona, and soon venues in and around North Scottsdale will host multiple 2015 GRAMMY nominees as part of this year's Festival. Headlining the month-long series of concerts is Rosanne Cash, who will be performing February 20 at Highlands Church. The thirteen-time GRAMMY nominee has followed in the footsteps of her legendary father, Johnny Cash, extending the country genre to appeal to an even wider appreciative audience. She will perform songs from her 2015 GRAMMY nominated recording, *The River & The Thread*, plus other favorites.



In addition to Cash, other recent GRAMMY nominees performing at this year's Festival include New York Polyphony and Steep Canyon Rangers, the latter serving as the debut of Bluegrass at Musicfest.

Other 2015 Musicfest artists include the legendary Duke Ellington Orchestra, world renowned pianists Orion Weiss and Orli Shaham, as well as tribute concerts to The Eagles, Simon and Garfunkel, and the rock and roll hits of the 50's and 60's.

As the jewel in the Musicfest crown, the Festival Orchestra is comprised of the finest principal musicians from the top major American orchestras. These virtuosos, assembled like an All-Star team by Maestro Robert Moody, will undertake the massive classical masterpieces planned for Orchestra Week, including Rimsky-Korsakov's exotic *Scheherazade*, Strauss' enchanting *Blue Danube* and Tchaikovsky's thrilling *Symphony No.4*. The Orchestra will also be front and center as the sultry songbird, Storm Large, lead singer of the sensational group Pink Martini, joins them to perform songs from the Great American Songbook on February 27 at Highlands Church.

"Each season I get goose bumps of anticipation when we put together the Festival," said Robert Moody, Artistic Director. "It's such a thrill to have these incredible artists, clamoring to join us, excited to share their music with our appreciative Arizona Musicfest audiences. I can't wait to take the podium."

"After last year's Festival achieved record success with a 42% increase in ticket sales, we're enormously excited about the community's growing attention and appreciation for all that Musicfest has to offer. We're looking forward to another great season at Musicfest." - Allan Naplan, Executive Director, Arizona Musicfest

Arizona Musicfest opens January 29 with *A Salute to the Eagles* and runs throughout the month of February with Classical, Chamber, Jazz, Rock and Roll, Country, Bluegrass and Pop concerts.

Visit www.azmusicfest.org for a complete schedule of performances and to purchase tickets on-line.

IF YOU GO:

Arizona Musicfest

January 29-March 5

Primary Venues: Highlands Church, Pinnacle Presbyterian Church and Musical Instrument Museum

Tickets: \$23-\$75

Info: www.azmusicfest.org or call (480) 840-0457

ROBERT HUGHES, Cave Creek
Sunset January 13, 2015



Launch of Amazon Smile for Foothills Food Bank

The Foothill's Food Bank has joined with Amazon to take advantage of the Cyber shopping we all do this time of year and throughout the year. It is a new and convenient way for you to donate to the Food Bank just by doing your Holiday shopping. The program is called **AmazonSmile**. It is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Foothills Food Bank each and every time you shop, at no cost to you. The **AmazonSmile** Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible **AmazonSmile** purchases to the Foothills Food Bank. You'll need a login to **smile.amazon.com** to shop or you can use an already existing Amazon account going through the **AmazonSmile** link. Be sure to select (or change to) Foothills Food Bank as your charity.

Your generosity will go a long way to helping those in need in the Foothills area. We are an important and valuable community resource. And to those of you who are from out of town, we include you in our community through our monthly newsletter, emails, website and Facebook and Twitter and soon to be other social media forms.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/86-0619725>

We hope you will enjoy both the expanded news and our Art Journal of wonderful local artists.

Our Cave Creek-Carefree- North County venue necessarily will discuss various election issues. Responses directly to the editor at: creekerlady@gmail.com. Opt Out at same email. Advertisers requiring a full page or more for a flyer/event may obtain same for \$50. Nonprofits & Church events may have a full page at no cost, + at our discretion. "The Chronicle welcomes photographs intended for sharing on our website and newsletters. By submitting these images, the artist and end reader agree that this use is a limited license for personal enjoyment and social sharing, but no commercial re-use of the image is intended or permitted without written permission of the original artist. The Chronicle disclaims any ownership rights in any submissions provided to us."

Please watch for our Chronicle Art Journal on alternate weeks, for current news on art and library events. Your art events & showings are welcome, at creekerlady@gmail.com.

Sara Vannucci, Editor - Paid for by Chronicle News Bulletin 2014 – Cave Creek PAC2014-01