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OBITUARIES

Scott Becker

Scott Becker, 37, passed away on Monday, Oct. 12, 2015 in Gilbert. He began his life Jan. 8, 1978 in Cass City, Michigan, the son of Thomas and Susan Brown Becker. Always being in a hurry for the next experience, he departed too soon for his loved ones he left behind.

Scott is survived by his mother, Susan Brown; children, Preston Ethan, Teagan Tiara and their brother Logan Corey; brother, Derrick; grandmothers, Joann Martin and Marie Scott; several aunts, uncles and cousins. Among others important in his life were his special supporter and friend, Dianne Sanderson, and Rachel Vandemark. Scott earned his associate's degree in business. He was employed as a granite installer and fabricator before moving to Arizona. During that time, he participated in the renovation of the Michigan Governor's Mansion during the Granholm administration. He was starting to get involved in repair and manufacturing of home furnishings at his time of death. Scott also followed in his father's footsteps, enjoying motorcycles.

A private ceremony, for family and friends, is being planned after cremation.

Ricardo 'Rick' M. Andres

Ricardo "Rick" M. Andres, 65, of San Tan Valley, Arizona, passed away on Nov. 1, 2015. Rick never met a stranger. He spoke seven languages and lived around the world. Rick was a teacher, earning a Master's in Education. He taught Native American Art History at the University of New Mexico, as well as NJROTC for a high school in New Mexico. Rick enlisted in the US Navy in 1968, serving for 23 years, until retiring as Chief Gunnery Sergeant in 1991. Rick was an actor, producer, writer and Civil War reenactor. In addition, he had a passion for horses and teaching children, and operated the Scarlet Rose Ranch and Horse

Rescue.

Rick is survived by his loving wife, Rhonda, of San Tan Valley, AZ; his son, Ryan, of California; daughter, Kimberly, also of California; step-daughter, Valarie, of Flagstaff, AZ; stepsons, Jason of Arkansas and Bryan of Plano, TX; as well as two sisters, two brothers, seven grandsons, one granddaughter, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at San Tan Mountain View Funeral Home. 21809 S. Ellsworth Rd., Queen Creek, AZ 85142 Ph. 480-888-2682 www.santanmountainviewfuneralhome.com

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Published each Wednesday by Copper Area News Publishers. Mailing address is Southeast Valley Ledger, c/o Copper Area News Publishers, PO Box 579, Kearny, AZ 85137.

www.SEVLedger.com





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The Ledger is distributed via stands and mailed free to subscribers. Subscriptions are free to those with a Queen Creek or San Tan Valley address.

"There are numerous countries in the world where the politicians have seized absolute power and muzzled the press. There is no country in the world where the press has seized absolute power and muzzled the politicians"

David Brinkley

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In support of Florence Copper

Prosperity vs Poverty: Did you clean your house? Use cleanser, do your dishes or use your dishwasher? Did you pretreat your clothes with a stain remover before washing them? Have you ever cleaned your aquarium water for the fish, your swimming pool, or unclogged a drain? Did you go spray the roses? Are you a farmer who fertilizes crops? Have you baked a cake from a box mix? Do you grocery shop for meat and poultry that's "fresh", not spoiled? Do you like produce that isn't turning brown?

Most of us have been doing these things forever, and using the products necessary to accomplish these tasks almost as long. We never stop and think, but, we know millions of gallons of our filthy water we create literally goes down the drain!

The water gets cleaned, purified, sanitized and run back through our taps, free of Salmonella and E Coli, as our drinking water. We assume its safety is guaranteed. We exercise a blind faith when we drink it. We assume that the products we use to maintain our homes, businesses, hospitals and restaurants are perfectly fine. We let our kids use them to clean their rooms or do chores (hopefully). We do so because these products have been inspected, regulated, and deemed safe for human beings to use. They are GRAS (generally recognized as safe) by the FDA.

Despite the fact that the residents of Florence are dumping copious amounts of chemicals into water on a consistent daily basis nobody has dropped dead because they drank their own Kool-Aid. They're very much alive and well. They have been for decades.

So what does all this have to do with the Florence Copper Project and in situ copper mining? All of the products you use every day,

and dumping into your own drinking water, contain Sodium bisulfate and Sulfuric acid and/or some forms of them. Sodium bisulfate and Sulfuric acid are the exact same chemicals Florence Copper Project will be using in its in situ mining process.

Nobody in Florence ever thought of their drinking water as poisoned, since long before the arrival of Florence Copper Project. What makes anyone think that would change now? Sodium bisulfate and Sulfuric acid are just that: a part of our daily existence. They're already in our water. We put them there. This is why I cannot understand what the problem is in regards to allowing Florence Copper to move forward.

Of course, it is natural to have concerns. It is not natural to willfully ignore or fail to comprehend simple facts. Instead the good citizens of Florence are reduced to believing in propaganda stuffed in their ever-increasing water bills. It doesn't matter if you're a tree-hugging, dirt-loving environmentalist or a proponent of deregulated big business. Florence Copper has struck the balance. It embraces the concerns and cares of both sides.

Today, 47% of all mining in the world is done via the in situ method. Yes, I understand that the rest of the world is the rest of the world, and Arizona is Arizona, but, the Arizona Department of Environmental Control (ADEQ) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) agrees Florence Copper meets their standards. Consider these facts. They are neither provided by Florence Copper nor Johnson Utilities

Water department.

The World Nuclear Organization in the United States of America, explains clearly about in situ

Continued on page 4

IT'S THE WEEKEND



Queen Creek Farmers Market

Every Sunday from Oct. 4- March 27 at the Queen Creek Library from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., patrons of the Queen Creek Farmers Market will have the opportunity to purchase Arizona grown fruits and vegetables while browsing goods from local vendors. There will be occasional entertainment, games (Chess, Tic-Tac-Toe, Jenga, Checkers, Cornhole, ect.) and food trucks. For more information please visit on.fb. me/1Lvn2pF.

NOVEMBER

12 Florence Copper Coffee Club to Meet

Join Florence Copper on Thursdays at 10 a.m. for the weekly Coffee Club. Enjoy a hot beverage and pastry with other residents of the community as you chat about the Florence Copper Project, the future of Florence, or anything else. Coffee Club meets at the Florence Copper Community Center, located at 130 N. Main St. in Florence.



14 POWWOW comes to Farmers Market

On Saturday, Nov. 14, Produce on Wheels Without Waste will return to the San Tan Valley Farmers Market. Buy 60 pounds of produce for just \$10. And you get to pick it out! Artisan breads will also be available for purchase. The Farmers Market is located at Combs High School, 2505 E. Germann Rd., San Tan Valley. For more information please call 602-684-5489.

14 Kyle Carey Benefit Fundraiser

The San Tan Valley Rangers are sponsoring a benefit fundraiser for Kyle Carey. Kyle suffers from a rare condition called Moyamoya Disease. This has caused several strokes and a blockage in his brain. He is 29 and just had brain surgery on Oct. 21. All money raised will go toward medical bills and the expenses for him and his family. The event will be held Saturday, Nov. 14, from 1-7 p.m. at the Johnson Ranch Terrace, 30761 N. Golf Club Dr., San Tan Valley. Gates open at 11 a.m. There will be live music by the RJ Band, EZDZ Band, Talon and others to be announced. An auction starts at 5 p.m. and there will be a raffle, bake sale, bounce house and face painting. This is a family-friendly event. Tickets are \$5 per person and children under 5 are free. For additional information on how to donate or volunteer, please call 480-267-8019 or 480-659-6297. Follow Kyle's story online at www.gofundme. com/kylec



Exploring Desert Holes, San Tan Regional Park

You see them all over the desert floor, in the trees, and in the cactus: Holes. They seem to be everywhere. Explore the origin of these mysterious holes at the San Tan Mountain Regional Park on Sunday, Nov. 15, from 9-10 a.m. as Rangers offer a walk on the Moonlight Trail. Wear closed-toed shoes, hat, and sunscreen. Bring plenty of water. Meet at the main trailhead area. No registration is needed and the event is free in celebration of Take a Hike Day! For more information, go online to: http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/ santan/



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STV Farmers Market, POWWOW at new location

By Andrew Luberda Southeast Valley Ledger

After operating for nearly 18 months at its former location on Ocotillo Road, the San Tan Valley Farmers Market is set to debut this Saturday, Nov. 14, at Combs High School, located at 2505 E. German Rd. in San Tan Valley.

"It was a good fit for our community and the farmer's market to be able to bring an event like this to our students and families," J.O. Combs School District representative Kelly Guerra said about the school becoming the new home for the STV Farmer's Market.

"Very affordable produce is available to them and it benefits everyone around us. We're very excited about bringing it here."

The Market is open every other Saturday through spring from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. and on the second Saturday of the month, enough product permitting, is the home of Produce on Wheels Without Waste, aka POWWOW.

POWWOW allows customers to purchase up to 60 pounds of produce for just \$10.

In addition to the once a month POWWOW visits, the market showcases several vendors each week, who sell other food items, clothing, and arts & crafts items.

"The J.O. Combs School District saved the STV Farmers Market," said the Market's co-organizer Carrie Ribeiro. "They welcomed us with open arms and there wasn't any hesitation."

For additional information and dates for POWWOW please visit www.santanvalleyfarmersmarket.com.

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Call Mila Besich-Lira at 520-827-0676 or email at mila@sevledger.com to be included in the directory!

FLORENCE COPPER

Continued from page 3

copper mining: "Copper mining is not the same as uranium mining, but since activity is underground for both there is minimal release of radon and dust contaminants. Walls are coated to prevent any solution from escaping this way. Because all things are possible, regulations and legislation are required for the water treatment and testing. Still, there is less risk and harm to the environment and human health than with traditional mining (open pits, strip mining, waste pits and tailings dams and fracking)."

The World Nuclear Organization also states, "In the U.S.A., legislation requires that the water quality in the affected aquifer be restored, so as to enable its pre-mining use and the water must be usable for the same purposes as before." I think that means are aquifers, drinking water, agriculture and associated public uses, ves?

Florence Copper has earned a multitude of EPA and ADEQ approvals in regards to the safety of their operation and that they promised ongoing monitoring to ensure the aquifer, drinking water and its ground zones at all times. Florence Copper has also posted a multi-million dollar surety bond with State and Federal agencies guaranteeing that it will be used to pay for any cleanup

without costs to the taxpayers.

I don't recall Mr. Johnson making promises to the citizens of Florence or putting up surety money. Instead he paid the highest drinking water fine in State history. Mr Johnson, aside from his water monopoly, is also a big time property and real estate developer Public record shows his long string of EPA violations. Let's not forget the whopping \$12 million dollar settlement he paid for bulldozing acres of our native protected plants and destroying Hohokam Indian ruins without permits or permission. And, you wonder why your water bill keeps going up? Seriously!

I see only one thing: the unbiased proof and promises of safety as given by the World Nuclear Organization in the U.S.A, ADEQ and the EPA in regards to the safety of in situ mining and your drinking water. Now it becomes a simple choice between your prosperity vs poverty. Do you want jobs? Do you want more tax money for your kid's schools and higher property values? Stop playing politics and let business conduct business.

Florence Copper will be hiring!

Thank you,

/s/ Veronica Middleton

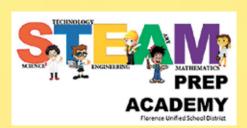
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Outdoor play area where children can learn engineering by building things out of these foam pieces.



Each room is designed with shelving units like this. Each child is assigned their own cubby.















Local band set to take the stage at Polarfest 2015

By Chase Kamp Southeast Valley Ledger

Hard rock singer Rick Frederick of San Tan Valley is a man of unyielding faith: faith in the Lord and in himself. His rising hard rock band Tridon began as a simple bedroom project with an 8-track recorder, yet through years of struggling to find gigs, plucking reliable members out from the pool of flakes, and never succumbing to external or internal doubt, he has earned opening slots for classic rock legends and recorded with a Grammy-winning engineer.

"So many people across the board have overcome overwhelming odds because they never gave up and no one could deter them," Frederick said. "I want to be that beacon of light that inspires and attracts other people to do that same thing."

Tridon will bring that uplifting message to San Tan Valley for the very first time at this year's PolarFest on Dec. 5. That message is particularly hard-won, as Frederick has never veered from his dream of rock stardom.

Quickly writing confident solo songs in his Tucson home, Frederick fired up a full band in earnest starting in 2006, but after playing around town for a few years, he said the band hit the ceiling.

"It's like any good product: if it's sitting your garage, it's going nowhere," he said. In 2010, the operation moved to Phoenix to seek more gigs and bigger stages, and Frederick soon settled in San Tan Valley with his future wife. The group was pulling better shows, scoring gigs with classic rockers like Tesla and LA Guns, but still had something of a membership revolving door. A few years ago, Frederick took a phone call from one former band member who was quitting the group without notice.

"I don't wish to badmouth anybody," Frederick insisted, "but this guy was very arrogant."

He recalls the former member dismissing all of Frederick's work with insults before hanging up the phone.

"He told me, 'Your music isn't that good. You have no chance of making it, so you should give up and join a cover band."

This was a turning point, and in that moment, he was unfazed by the put-downs. "I took that as a rallying cry," he said. He thought to himself: I accept this challenge.

He took that experience and penned the song "What You Are", a kiss off ode to abandoning all the negative entities that can harm one's self-purpose.

"It's about those people that try to tear you



Alex Oswald, Chad Edwards and Mykk Hannon join Rick Frederick as Tridon.

apart," he said, "to tell you your dream is absolutely crazy, that you'll never achieve it."

In a few years, Tridon would open shows for the likes of crossover alt-rockers Flyleaf and rock 'n roll good old boy Ted Nugent, and "What You Are" would end up on a record they recorded with one of the most accomplished producers in contemporary hard rock.

The group recorded its latest album, 2014's Edge of Redemption, with Jeremy Parker, a high-profile producer/engineer who's worked with some of hard rock's biggest names. Parker's massive track record begins with his work engineering Evanescence's breakthrough album, Fallen, which won Grammys and sold millions. He quickly became a hard rock household name, working on records for hard rock radio stalwarts like Godsmack, Disturbed and Trivium.

All of those bands are on the list of Frederick's favorite acts. And as luck would have it, Parker happened to be at the Saltmine Studios in Mesa while Frederick was laying down vocal tracks.

Sight unseen, Parker sat in on the session,

and they struck up a friendly rapport. The two soon arranged to work together on Tridon's newest material.

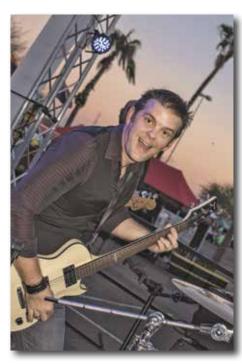
Clearly, Frederick was floored by the opportunity, saying it was no less than an honor. Tridon began the sessions for Edge of Redemption at Premier Studios in Phoenix with a legend in the producer's seat.

"I immediately became a student, listening and learning," he said. "Any musician in a studio like that is a kid in the candy store."

The result is a record that closely follows the potent formula of chugging verses and triumphant choruses that proved so successful for the early 2000s radio rock and nu-metal bands Tridon admires. The darkest of these songs is the agile metal of "When It's Over", with guitarist Alex Oswald's anxious buzzsaw riffs compacted by Chad Edwards' airtight drum wallops and Mykk Hannon's rupturing bass, all before the chorus gives way to soaring distorted chords.

But the band's most common mode is redemptive anthems like the album's title track, bursting with bright guitar leads

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Hard rock singer Rick Frederick of San Tan Valley. He is the founder of the rising band Tridon.

Voters approve QCUSD override and FUSD/CUSD school transfer; Combs celebration cut short after Pinal County Elections Dept. discovers counting mistake

By James J. Hodl Southeast Valley Ledger

Two school-related ballot initiatives were approved and one was narrowly rejected on Nov. 3 by voters in Queen Creek and San Tan Valley.

In Queen Creek, a proposed 15% override to increase funding for day-to-day operations for schools within the Queen Creek Unified School District (QCUSD) was approved by nearly 56% of voters.

In southern San Tan Valley, more than twothirds voters also approved transferring three schools in the southwestern portion of the community from the Coolidge Unified School District (CUSD) to the Florence Unified School District (FUSD).

But in northern San Tan Valley, the fate of a \$40 million bond issue to fund school improvements in the J.O. Combs Unified School District took a roller coaster ride. Early returns on Election Night had the initiative trailing with only about 45% voting "yes." But as the ballots cast by mail were counted, the gap narrowed so that by 10 p.m. the Yes votes

'To find out we lost by 16 votes only a day after we thought we won is heartbreaking.'

~ Kim Bane Combs Kids Count! Vote YES!

rose to 48%. And by 4:30 p.m. on November 4, the tally released by the Pinal County Election Department (PCED) had the Combs bond issue approved by 36 votes (a slim 50.55% of ballots cast)

The celebration was short lived. After 6:00 p.m. on Nov. 5, post-election auditing by PCED found that some late early ballots had been counted twice. Once eliminated from the tally, the Combs bond issue received 1,426 Yes votes (49.72%) and 1,442 No votes (50.28%). The ballot initiative lost by only 16 votes.

Reaction to the paper-thin loss was somber. "We're profoundly disappointed," Combs Superintendent Dr. Gayle A. Blanchard said through an aide.

"I and the volunteers who worked furiously to win voter approval for the Combs bond issue are extremely upset," said Kim Bane, who headed the pro-initiative volunteer group Combs Kids Count Vote YES! "The volunteers couldn't have worked harder, having rang nearly every doorbell of San Tan Valley homes in the district to promote the bond issue. We even doubled our efforts in the Ironwood

Crossing subdivision that has been unfavorable to district issues in the past.

"To find out we lost by 16 votes only a day after we thought we won is heartbreaking," added Bane, who also is a Maricopa County probation officer who lives in San Tan Valley and has children enrolled in the District's schools.

Had the Combs bond issue passed, it would have been used to fund necessary infrastructure and classroom improvements throughout the district. These upgrades would have included school and building renovations and improvements, technology upgrades along with new classroom furniture and equipment, and student transportation (buses) upgrades, and construct a maintenance/transportation facility. A community auditorium with concert hall seating 800 to 1,000 people at Combs High School also was proposed.

The news was happier in Queen Creek where the QCUSD 15% override was approved by a vote of 3,126 Yes to 2,477 No, for a victory margin of 649 votes.

QCUSD, which began the 2015-16 school year with zero override funding, said it would use the additional \$4.3 million the override would raise through a hike in property taxes to attract and retain quality teachers by offering competitive salaries, which would reduce teacher turnover and help the District retain its "A" rating with the state. The additional revenues also would be used to reduce class sizes, increase academic programs that prepare students for college or the workforce, expand art and music classes, and expand and enhance athletic, ROTC and gifted programs.

"The public spoke on November 3 and said education was an important priority," said Bobette Sylvester, the Queen Creek resident who headed the pro-override group Yes to a Stronger Community.

Key to the campaign were the more than 100 volunteers who spent three consecutive Saturdays ringing doorbells throughout the district explaining to voters the benefits of approving the 15% override, as well as appearances before civic groups and local festivals.

"The volunteers pointed out that QCUSD needed the additional revenues to maintain educational standards as per student spending has dropped by \$2,000 since the 2008-09 school year, and that funding education now will assure a better future for Queen Creek," added Sylvester, who also is past president of the Arizona Association of School Business Officials.

QCUSD Superintendent Dr. Perry Berry offered deep appreciation for the community effort that secured the 15% override.

"I want to thank our voters and all the

people who organized a structured and honest campaign on our behalf. Many people worked tirelessly to commu8nicate the facts and encouraged our community to vote. I want everyone to know how impressed I am with the support they have for a quality K-12 educational system. Our institution serves as a cornerstone to a strong economy and democracy, and I want to encourage everyone to share the 'good news' about QCUSD," Dr. Berry said.

Prior to the vote, QCUSD said approval of the override will add on average about \$244 to property tax bills for Queen Creek homeowners.

The margins of victory were even greater in southern San Tan Valley where voters were asked to shift boundaries between two districts that would result in the transfer three schools from CUSD to FUSD. To accomplish that, voters in three areas would all have to separately approve the shift. And all three did by margins of at least 71.95%.

In FUSD, including all of Florence and a section of San Tan Valley south of Empire Boulevard and east of Gary Road, voters cast 3,917 Yes (71.95%) and 1,527 No (28.05%). Inside CUSD within Coolidge (south of Arizona Farms Road) the vote was 1,009 YES (82.23%) and 218 NO (17.77%). And in the area of southwestern San Tan Valley that was part of CUSD (bordered by Empire Boulevard on the north, Gary Road on the east, Arizona Farms Road on the south, and Bell Road on the west) was 985 YES (82.15%) and 214 NO (17.85%).

Continued on page 9



Yotes give Cougs all they could handle in playoff loss

By Andrew Luberda Southeast Valley Ledger

After a 49 – 22 loss to Show Low earlier this season, not many gave No. 15 Combs a chance versus the No. 2 Cougars in last Saturday's Division IV first round playoff game.

But to no surprise to themselves, the Yotes gave the Cougars all they handle, entering halftime with a 15 - 14 lead.

Show Low outscored the Coyotes 14 - 6 in the second half to avoid the upset, ending the Yotes season after the 28 - 21 loss.

"We had a chance to win that football game," Combs' head coach Jesse Hart said. "We went into the game thinking we could win it. It's heartbreaking, it's tough. The season is over and it was the last game for the seniors, but, at the same time, I've never been more proud of my team than I was Saturday night."

"It was a great game," he continued. "We competed, we played hard. It was a good all-round game and we gave them a run for their money."

With the game tied 7 - 7 entering the second quarter, Show Low reclaimed the lead with about two minutes left before halftime, 14 - 7.

The Yotes answered with less than a minute left in the half, when senior quarterback Ethan Hunt threw a five-yard touchdown pass to Dominic Ramirez. Fide Quirarte's two-point PAT gave Combs a 15 – 14 lead.

The Cougars scored 14 unanswered points in the third quarter before Hunt threw his second touchdown pass of the game midway through the fourth quarter. Hunt found Nick Howland on a 7-yard pass to make it 28 – 21 with about six minutes left.

The Coyotes had one final chance with about a minute left in the game, but were

forced to turn it over on downs, ending the game and their season.

It was a great season for the Yotes, who say goodbye to a group of seniors that leaves Combs as the winningest class in school history.

"They're great young men," Hart said of his seniors. "I thanked them after the game for letting me coach them for the last three years up on varsity. It was an absolute blast to watch them grow, not only as football players but as young men. We're going to miss them."

The Yotes, who have made three-straight playoff appearances since Hart took over the program, expect their run to continue with the program as healthy and deep as it's ever been.

"We have some great younger guys that are ready to come up," Hart said. "They've got some big shoes to fill."

Indeed they do.



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San Tan Valley Holiday Parade set for Dec. 5

By Andrew Luberda Southeast Valley Ledger

The seventh annual San Tan Valley Holiday Parade will take place on Saturday, Dec. 5, beginning at 10 a.m. An after-parade event will follow the parade, from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. at the Florence Unified School District (FUSD) Community Education Building, which is located at 29895 N. Desert Willow Blvd.

FUSD Community Education and the San Tan Chamber of Commerce are

sponsoring this year's events.

The parade, which features floats, marching bands, cool cars, and, of course, Mr. & Mrs. Claus, will start at the corner of Johnson Ranch Blvd and Golf Club Drive and end at the other end of Johnson Ranch Blvd, near the empty lots off Desert Willow Blvd.

The after-parade event will feature games, pictures with Santa, and more.

Those interested in participating in the parade must complete a parade entry form and will be required to register at the Johnson Ranch Golf Course parking lot between 8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. on the day of the parade.

Entry forms are available by contacting

Monti Martinez, FUSD Community Education Financial Specialist, at 480-987-5386. All parade entry forms must be completed and submitted no later than Monday, Nov. 23.

Vendors that want to operate at the after-parade event must complete an application, which is also available by contacting Monti Martinez at the number listed above.

A reminder to food vendors: the Pinal County Health Department requires an additional application for a Temporary Event Food Booth no less than two weeks prior to the event. Contact the Pinal County Health Department for details and restrictions.

ELECTION

Continued from page 7

Approval of the schools

transfer also is expected

to result in property tax

decrease in Coolidge proper

of about \$19 per \$100,000

valuation, and a \$12 decrease

As a result of the vote, San Tan Heights Elementary School, Mountain Vista Middle School and San Tan Foothills High School currently in CUSD will be transferred to FUSD. This action would enable FUSD to take advantage of unfilled seats at San Tan Foothills by transferring students from its Poston Butte High School, a school built to serve 1,890 students but currently attended by nearly 2,100. San Tan Foothills was built to serve 1,520 students but currently is attended by only 500.

Work to assure the transfer of schools goes smoothly will begin soon, said FUSD Superintendent Dr. Amy Fuller. It is expected that the three CUSD schools will go to FUSD on June 30, 2016.

"We are pleased that the victory margin in all three areas was so large," Dr. Fuller said. "It shows what can happen when we all work together."

In promoting the school transfer, the group Action For the Children headed by retired teacher and San Tan Valley resident Dave Downey accomplished its goal by stressing the property tax savings to local homeowners.

For FUSD residents, the emphasis on savings was the elimination of the need for FUSD to build a second high school in San Tan Valley at a cost of \$40 million to alleviate overcrowding at Poston Butte High School. Instead of taking on a new debt, homeowners take on only about \$16.2 million to take over the remainder of the

bond issued used to build San in the San Tan Valley portion of CUSD.

All vote totals are considered "unofficial" by PCED until they are accepted and canvassed by the Pinal County Board of Supervisors at its Nov. 18 meeting.

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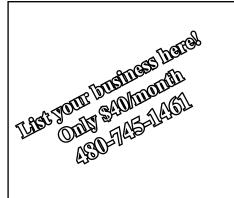
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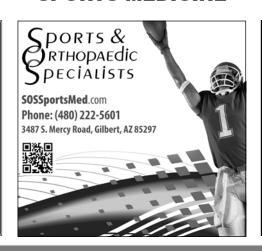
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TRIDON

Continued from page 6

and sweeping vocal hooks. Throughout the album, Frederick's voice careens and coos much like Saliva's Josey Scott or Chad Kroger of Nickelback, and the lyrics make less-than-subtle allusions to the spirituality behind the message.

Hard rock and Christianity were quite cozy at the turn of the millennium. Bands that originally launched in the Christian

rock market, like Evanescence and Flyleaf. eventually had massive crossover success with secular audiences. But some groups, most infamously Creed, fell prey to rock hedonism and alienated large swathes of their audiences.

Frederick said that besides Creed spinoff band Alter Bridge, he hasn't really ever connected with explicitly Christian music.

He remembers his sister getting him into secular hard rock and his brother psyching him up on albums by 90s alt rock chart toppers Live.

But while his message of redemption comes from a deep place of faith, he wants the positivity of his music to be universal.

"My writing isn't trying to nail down a

specific form of belief," he said. "I'm trying to speak to the world as a whole."

"There's evil and there's good, light and darkness," he adds, "and they're at war with each other."

With his heart set on taking Tridon around the world, Fredrickson will let nothing dim his light.

The Bubbly Hostess Serves Kahlúa Pecan Brie

have been serving this appetizer for years – it is straight out of my Colorado Collage Cookbook from The Junior League of Denver. It's simple, a crowd pleaser, and can easily be made JUST before your guests arrive! This is delicious to enjoy with cooler weather upon us and perfect for holiday celebrations.

A couple of variations I have made to the recipe include adding the dried cranberries and using a smaller round of Brie. I make just about the same amount of topping, but the original recipe calls for a 16 ounce round of Brie - using the smaller round gives you more "sauce" per serving. I also serve with baguette slices, but this could easily be paired with crackers and fruit as the original recipe suggests. Enjoy!

I love to hear feedback - please visit my blog at www.bubblyhostess.com. You



THE BUBBLY HOSTESS

By Heather Sneed Special to the Ledger

can also follow The Bubbly Hostess on Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, and Twitter.

Kahlúa Pecan Brie

8-10 servings Recipe adapted from Colorado Collage - a cookbook from The Junior League of Denver

3 tablespoons packed brown sugar ¼ tablespoons Kahlúa or strong, freshly brewed coffee, cooled ½ cup pecan halves, toasted 1/4 cup dried cranberries 18-ounce round Brie cheese Sliced baguette for serving



In medium skillet, combine brown sugar and Kahlúa. Heat, stirring constantly until blended. Add pecans, simmer until hot, but not runny. Remove from heat. Place Brie on microwave-safe serving plate and spoon warm pecan mixture on top. Microwave on high 1-2 minutes or until cheese softens. Watch carefully, cheese will melt quickly. Garnish with dried cranberries and serve with baguette slices.





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