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LEDGER

**APRIL 20, 2016
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BUILDING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS IN SAN TAN VALLEY AND QUEEN CREEK

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Obituary: Earl Lee Moore

Earl Lee Moore, age 86, was born Oct. 2, 1929 in Ft. Morgan, Colorado. He was the

son of Emmett Moore and Marie Brown. He and his brother spent time between

his divorced parents. At age 17, he took his 15 year old brother Roy and left home. He lived in California, Oregon and Colorado doing odd jobs and even became a Western Union messenger boy, biking all over Denver, Colorado. Earl moved back to Missouri to help out his Grandfather and met Wilda Eagen and entered into marriage three weeks after going on a blind date. He and Wilda were married October 7, 1950 in Burlington, Iowa. They bought their farm in Sperry, Iowa in 1958 where they lived until retirement in 1991. Earl went to school to become a Machinist and later on a Tool and Die maker for the Iowa Army Ammunitions Plant in Middletown, Iowa.

creations.

Earl was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, American Legion Post 27, V.F.W. 7968 and the Southeast Valley Ostomy Support group.



Earl will be deeply missed by his wife, Wilda, two daughters, Debbie (Steve) Lewis of Queen Creek, AZ, Delena (Don) Runyon of San Tan Valley, AZ. Grandchildren: Tina (Tyler) McCulloch, Aaron (Becky) Runyon and Ryan (Stacey) Runyon. Great Grandchildren: Ava and Aydren McCulloch and Kaitlyn Runyon. Earl was preceded in death by his parents, one sister Violet, one brother Roy and grandson Craig Lewis.

The visitation for Earl Moore was held Monday, April 11, 2016 from 10 until 10:45 a.m. at Mountain View Funeral Home, 7900 East Main Street Mesa Az. 85207.

The Graveside Funeral Service began at 11:00 AM following Earl's visitation in Mountain View Cemetery.

Memorials may donated the Ostomy Support Group EV/AZ PO Box 1681, Mesa, AZ 85201-1681 for the Youth Rally Fund for Ostomy Camp in Earl's Memory.

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"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

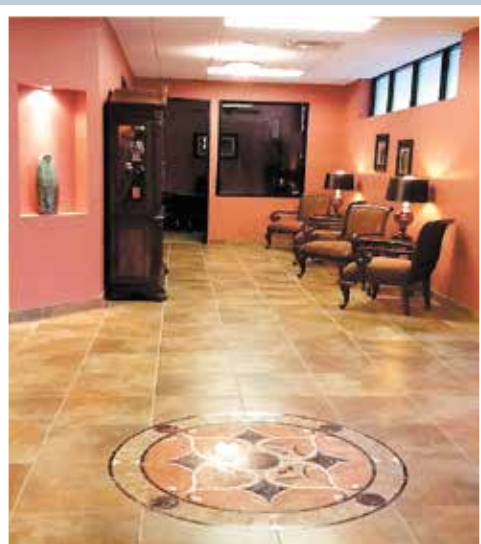
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Arboretum daily tours, wildflower walks; summer hours resume May 1

You're truly missing out if you haven't attended an 11 a.m. guided tour at Boyce Thompson Arboretum; here's a "last call" alert because only 2 weeks remain – daily guided walks along the main trail end April 30.

Weekend wildflower walks end soon, too; the four remaining dates are April 23-25 - plus one final Saturday walk guided by Cass Blodgett on April 30.

Arboretum guides research, study and prepare themselves to answer an array of brow-furrowing questions: is it true that Saguaro cacti grow arms to counter-balance the trunk? What plant is harvested, roasted and distilled to make tequila? Does creosote bush produce the pungent coating used on railroad ties - and are palm trees native to Arizona? Where does BTA get its water? And how do those massive boulders of volcanic rock stay in place above the switchbacks section of trail below Picketpost Mansion? Learn about the Sonoran Desert and hear the answers to those and many more questions on a guided 11a.m. tour. Confirm guided tour and event start times at ag.arizona.edu/bta; connect with 5,000 BTA fans and check out new photos daily at facebook.

com/boycethompsonarboretum

And happy days are near for early birders, dog-walkers, and for all those chipper "I'm-a-morning-person!" types with the return of BTA's summer schedule. Starting May 1, the Arboretum's open from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily through the end of September. Admission is taken until 2 pm. Visitors aren't admitted after 2; final guests each day have one full hour to walk the gardens and trails.

The final Saturday this month brings your choice of two 10 a.m. tours: a wildflower walk April 30 guided by Cass Blodgett, or a 'Lizard Walk' at 10 a.m. guided by reptile enthusiast 'Wild Man Phil' Rakoci. Most guided tours in May and June move to morning start times (History Walk May 1 at 10 a.m., Dragonfly Walk May 7 at 8:30 a.m.; Plants of the Bible Lands May 21 at 8 a.m.; Edible-Medicinal Plants May 22 at 8 a.m.; Butterfly Walk May 28 at 9 a.m.).

Boyce Thompson Arboretum is located on U.S. Hwy. 60 near Superior. From San Tan Valley, head east on U.S. Hwy. 60 (Superstition Freeway). From Florence, head north on SR 79 and then east on U.S. Hwy. 60.

calendar APRIL-MAY 2016

FLORENCE COPPER COFFEE

21

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. Event repeats April 28.



FULL PINK MOON HIKE

22

Head over to the San Tan Mountain Regional Park and meander along the Stargazer loop trail for an easy 2.2 mile trail. The April 22 hike is named after Wild Ground Phlox, or Herb Moss pink, one of the earliest widespread wildflowers of the spring. Listen for sounds of wildlife while enjoying the silvery glow of the desert. Flashlights are welcome. Dress comfortably and wear closed toed-shoes and bring water. Meet at the main trailhead area. The hike starts at 8 p.m. and is included with the \$6 per vehicle entry fee. For more information, go online to: <http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/santan/> The Park is located at 6533 W. Phillips Rd., Queen Creek, AZ 85142.



POWWOW FARMERS MKT.

14

On Saturday, May 14, 7 a.m. to noon, 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 480-STVFM48.



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Three Poston Butte student-athletes sign NLI

By Andrew Luberd
Southeast Valley Ledger

Two members of the Poston Butte baseball team and one from the Lady Broncos' third-ranked softball team signed National Letters of Intent during a signing event at the school last Wednesday.

Seniors Aaron Kern, Keegan Vercoe, and Kaily Candell signed with their respective schools.

Kern, a four-year varsity player at Poston Butte, signed with Minot State University in Minot, North Dakota, a member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.

"Aaron is a great leader," Broncos' head coach Chris Holcombe said. "He runs our infield as a shortstop for us and he has an incredibly strong arm. He pitches for us and he'll pitch at Minot State as well."

Kern plans to study rehabilitation and wants to pursue a career as a trainer or perhaps a high school coach. He chose MSU after throwing a bullpen session with the Beavers' staff.

"I took a visit up there and liked the environment and the team, which was very welcoming," he said. "Coach showed he wanted on the team and said he like what he saw. It made me want to go there."

Vercoe, a three-year varsity player for the Broncos' baseball team, signed with Azusa Pacific University, located in Azusa, California, about 15 miles east of Pasadena. The Cougars are members of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

Azusa Pacific's baseball team is a highly-competitive Division II program that is perennially ranked in national polls each year.

"Keegan is incredibly athletic," Holcombe told the Ledger. "He runs well, has a plus arm, has a lot of pop (in his bat), and plays good defense. He's going to need all of those tools to play at the school he's going."

Vercoe admits he's not completely committed to a specific area of study, but he knows it'll be something in biology or math.

Two major factors played a role in his decision to attend APU.

"It's a high-competition conference so there are a lot of scouts in the area," he said about his choice. "(And) it's a Christian university, which was a big part of what I was looking for in a college."

Candell, an undersized but powerful four-year varsity player at Poston Butte, signed with Phoenix College.

"Kaily's always had the hustle and the heart; we could see that early on with her," Lady Broncos' head coach Don Baker said about the player he's known since she was a 10-year-old. "She's not the tallest girl or the biggest girl on the field, but she's always made up for that with hustle and heart. Her strength is unbelievable as well. The amount of work she's put in the last eight years is something special and it really has her to the point she's at now."

Candell was asked why she chose Phoenix College.

"I really enjoyed the atmosphere and the

coaches," she responded. "They recruited me at a young age so they know me and we connected."

Candell is planning a career as an Ultrasound Tech, but not before she continues her playing

career beyond Phoenix College.

"Phoenix College has had a lot of players advance to the next level in their careers," she said. "I plan to continue playing (after I'm finished there)."



THEIR FUTURES DECIDED

Poston Butte student-athletes (from left) Aaron Kern, Keegan Vercoe, and Kaily Candell all signed NLI's to continue their academic and athletic careers at the next level.
Andrew Luberd | Ledger

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FUSD offering rewarding job opportunity

By Andrew Luberd
Southeast Valley Ledger

Do you want a job that offers primary or additional income?

Need a job that has a flexible schedule?

Do you enjoy working with and positively affecting the lives of students?

If you answered yes to any or all of these questions then Florence Unified School District may have a job that interests you. The district is looking for bus drivers and monitors for various times and routes at all of its schools, including morning, afternoon, and evening transportation for students and student-athletes.

“We’re always looking for people, (even non-bus drivers),” said Mary Ellen Tascoe, a nine-year FUSD employee, who currently serves as the Poston Butte Depot Dispatcher, Trip Coordinator, and occasional bus driver. “People who may want to drive van routes because we have special-needs students that maybe can’t ride a bus. We always need bus monitors,

those people who ride with special-needs drivers to assist with loading, unloading, and securing the students in their seats.”

Driving candidates must possess or have the ability to obtain a CDL. FUSD will provide the necessary classroom and on-the-road training for interested candidates without a CDL to acquire their license.

Employees who work 30 or more hours per week are eligible for benefits that include medical, dental and vision. A Health Savings Account is also available to those who are interested.

Tascoe, who had more than 22 years of experience as a bus driver, says there are plenty of routes available for drivers who desire to work a 30-hour-or-more weekly schedule.

A traditional bus route includes transporting approximately 65-70 students to and from school as well as special events (e.g., field trips). There are fewer students for sporting event and other routes.

According to Tascoe, regardless of the number of students on a bus, drivers and

monitors with the right temperaments will always find the job rewarding.

“What a person has to understand is what you put into the job, you get back out of (it),” she said. “If you love working with kids you have to remember they are kids, so in a way you’re teaching them about listening, being respectful to you and others, and also teaching them other things.”

“When you greet the kids every morning, you get to know the kids on your bus,” Tascoe added. “You get to see when they’re having a bad day and ask, ‘Hey, are you doing ok today?’ and sometimes they’ll share things with you. They appreciate that and it’s very rewarding for us.”

Interested persons can apply at the FUSD website: www.fusdaz.com/HR.



A COOL CREW

FUSD Bus Drivers at the PBHS depot.
Photo courtesy of PBHS student William Gordon.

Have a story idea for us?
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SCHOOL BUS

Announcing the First All-Ledger Basketball Teams

After watching and reporting on the student-athletes at the high schools in our coverage area, we decided to recognize the top area players in basketball, baseball, softball, and football. We start with our first-ever All-Ledger Boys' and

Girls' Basketball Teams, which includes a male and female Player of the Year.

Congratulations to the following players for being named to our inaugural All-Ledger Basketball Teams:



LEDGER ATHLETES

PBHS All-Ledger Team members. Not pictured - Gabby Musselman.

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Frigny Niclasse (Senior), Queen Creek

Boys' First Team

G - Preston Anderson (Senior), Poston Butte

G - Bradley Woods (Senior), Poston Butte

F - Clayton McCarthy (Junior), Combs

F - Kade Parks (Junior), Queen Creek

C - Tyson Berringer (Junior), Poston Butte

Boys' Second Team

G - Brian Tucker (Sophomore), Combs

G - Kevin Johnson (Sophomore), Poston Butte

F - Qujuan Steward (Senior), Poston Butte

F - Josh Zaker (Senior), Poston Butte

C - Tyler Bloom (Senior), Queen Creek

Boys' Honorable Mention

G - Norman Touey (Junior), STFHS

G - Josh Allen (Junior), Combs

F - Malik Cobbins (Senior), Queen Creek

F - Skylar Johnson (Junior), Combs

F - John Craig (Junior), STFHS

C - Andrew Craven (Senior), Combs

Girls' Player of the Year

Gabby Musselman (Senior), Poston Butte

Girls' First Team

G - Abigail Urquidez (Senior), Poston Butte

G - Tiffany Eriacho (Sophomore), STFHS

F - Cydnee Colpaert (Senior), Combs

F - Landry Armstrong (Senior), Combs

C - Jayden Kartchner (Senior), Queen Creek

Girls' Second Team

G - Kendyl Payne (Senior), Queen Creek

G - Nikki Ruiz (Senior), Combs

G - Angelica Garrido (Senior), Poston Butte

F - Darby Albertson (Junior), STFHS

F - Ilaria Vesely (Junior), Combs

Girls' Honorable Mention

G - Torrie Gillespie (Sophomore), Queen Creek

G - Leonor Guardado (Senior), Poston Butte

G - Paola Lopez (Junior), STFHS

F - Ashlyn Allen (Junior), Combs

F - Kyla Pena (Junior), Combs



LEDGER ATHLETES

Combs HS All-Ledger Team members. Not pictured - Cydnee Colpaert.



LEDGER ATHLETES

STFHS All-Ledger Team members. Not pictured - Norman Touey.



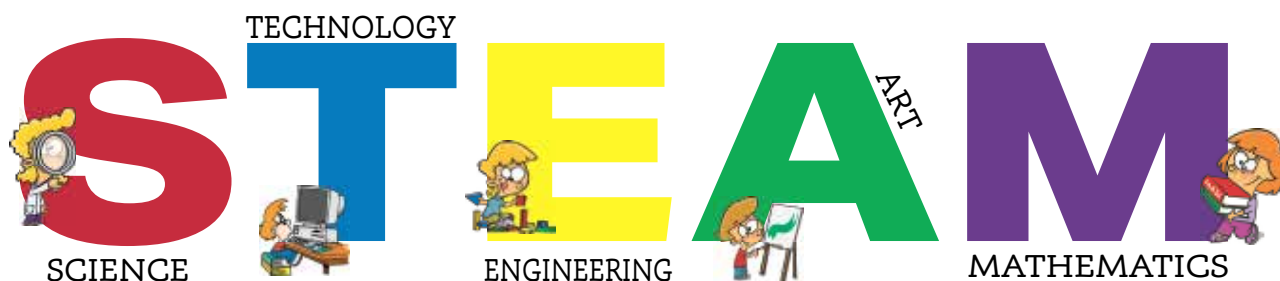
LEDGER ATHLETES

QCHS All-Ledger Team members. Not pictured - Kade Parks, Torrie Gillespie and Kendyl Payne.



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PREP ACADEMY

Florence Unified School District



FUSD STEAM Prep Academy opened on Aug. 3, 2015. We have Preschool/K-Prep/Child Care at our facility from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Ages range from 6 weeks old to school age.

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Coyotes narrowly get by Bears in unified basketball game

By Andrew Luberda
Southeast Valley Ledger

The Combs unified team defeated Coolidge's team 52 - 48 in a Unified Sports® basketball game, which was played last Thursday at Combs.

The game was close throughout - neither team led by more than four points for most of the game - before the Yotes opened a six-point lead in the game's closing minutes. But the Bears would not go down quietly after getting consecutive defensive stops and converting back-to-back hoops to pull within two in the final seconds. The Yotes sealed the win with a bucket with less than one second remaining.

For the second-straight year, Combs High School is competing with other area schools in Unified Sports®.

Unified Sports® is a Special Olympics event that is also recognized by the Arizona Interscholastic Association and includes basketball, cheerleading, and flag football. Schools choose which sports they want to participate in.

The Unified Sports® program brings together students with intellectual disabilities, aka "athletes," with their typically developing peers, aka "partners," to form a team, giving them a chance to represent their school as an official team on campus and offering a typical high-school sports experience.

Jette Thompson, a Combs' varsity girls' team assistant coach, became familiar Unified Sports® in Indiana, a mecca for high school basketball. It was there where she experienced the "magic of basketball."

"What a great way to connect students on campus that may not normally have an easy connection," Thompson told the *Ledger* last year. "We love it."

Thompson and boys' varsity basketball head coach Kirk Fauske serve as coaches for the unified team.

"It gives (the athletes) a sense of belonging and they feel like they're a part of



NUMBER ONE

Both teams are No. 1 in a postgame photo.

something," Fauske said.

Wins or losses are of little significance to everyone involved. Instead, seeing the athletes learn the fundamentals of basketball and, perhaps more importantly, seeing them have fun is at the forefront of unified games.

"It's so much fun to come out here and spend time with these kids," said partner Josh Allen, a junior, who recently earned All-Ledger honors as a member of the Yotes boys' basketball team. "I have an uncle with cerebral palsy and being able to be with these kids reminds me of the times with my uncle. It's awesome to see the kids on the

team smile and laugh."

The athletes enjoy competing, making shots, and winning on the court with their teammates. But there is additional enjoyment off the court, according to one unified partner.

"I think it means a lot to them because they meet new friends," said Ashlyn Allen, also an All-Ledger honoree and member of the Lady Coyotes' basketball team. "When I see them at the school they say 'hi,' so to them it's fun and cool to be friends with the traditional basketball players and feel like any another athlete at the school."

Fauske, a special education teacher at the

school, was asked why the Unified Sports® program at Combs is important to him.

"I learn more from these kids than I teach them," the 2015 Section VI Coach of the Year told the *Ledger*. "To see kids make their first-ever shot in front of their parents and friends means the world (to them and me). Just to see to their smile (is so rewarding)."

"It's serious competition to them even if it's not the day-to-day operation and pressure of a traditional game," Fauske added. "I enjoy watching them compete just the same."

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The Bubbly Hostess

Serves Citrus Grilled Shrimp with Rosemary Quinoa



↑ SAVORY DELIGHT

Citrus Grilled Shrimp with Rosemary Quinoa.

Citrus Grilled Shrimp with Rosemary Quinoa

For the marinade:

32 medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
 2 garlic cloves, minced
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1 tablespoon lemon zest
 1 teaspoon minced ginger
 2-3 dashes Tabasco sauce
 1 tablespoon orange juice
 salt & pepper, to taste

For the quinoa:

1 box of Near East Rosemary & Olive Oil Quinoa Blend
 1 cup diced cucumber
 2 tablespoons diced red onion
 1 cup julienned kale
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1 tablespoon lemon zest
 salt & pepper, to taste

Make the quinoa according to the package directions - it will take about 20-25 minutes total. Once done, place in a bowl and refrigerate.

Combine the ingredients for the marinade in a zip top bag and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Once the grill is preheated, use a grill pan to cook the shrimp. Remove shrimp from the bag and discard the marinade. Turn the shrimp frequently and cook until they are nice and pink, 5-7 minutes.

Combine everything in a serving bowl and toss with the grilled shrimp.
 Serve immediately.

By Heather Sneed
 The Bubbly Hostess

When the weather is warm (but not scorching hot), I absolutely love grilling dinner for my family. Being the backyard while dinner cooks, we often hear other families in our neighborhood enjoying time together outside as well as smelling what they have on the grill for dinner. I walk around the yard, check on the garden, maybe enjoy an ice cold beer or a nice glass of wine - it is a very relaxing process for me.

I had a box of Near East Rosemary & Olive Oil Quinoa Blend in my pantry and decided to make something with that for dinner

this past weekend. I came up with Citrus Grilled Shrimp with Rosemary Quinoa - it was delicious and a hit with my boys even. This is a delightful summer dish and super easy to make.

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

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



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