



# INDEPENDENT

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PARTNERSHIP

## Maricopa Animal Control, Mesa Community College renew care contract



[\(/uploads/original/20221028-150745-102922 County Animal Shelter & MCC.jpg\)](#)

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control moves forward on partnership with Mesa Community College. (Unsplash)

Posted Saturday, October 29, 2022 12:30 pm



By **Frank Espinoza** ([/browse.html?byline=FRANK%20ESPINOZA](#))

Mail (<mailto:fespinoza@iniusa.org>)

MESA — Mesa Community College’s veterinary medicine program will continue to care for animals being held by Maricopa County Animal Care and Control under a contract renewed last week.

Under the agreement, Maricopa Community College District will house select animals provided by MCACC prior to adoption. This will be implemented in their educational modules as they will provide medically necessary services such as dental procedures, spay and neuter, and grooming.

This contract between the county and MCC was originally created on Jan. 17, 2017, as a five-year agreement. The renewal now spans from Sept. 1 and ends Sept. 1, 2025, with the opportunity to be renewed for two one-year extensions.

“MCC requires subject animals to perform certain medically necessary procedures to allow for the use of the students in the Veterinary Technology Program,” the contract states. “The use of subject animals allows the students to acquire experience and assist with certain medically necessary procedures, such procedures being taught in the Veterinary Technology Program.”

Neither party has a financial obligation under the contract.

Not only does this program give a select number of homeless animals a better chance for adoption, but it’s the only school in the county that gives this kind of experience to students, officials said.

“It’s been a really nice community partnership,” said Program Director Kimberly Focht. “We usually get around 6-8 dogs and 5-7 cats a year, and the students get assigned their animal for the year.”



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The course spans both the fall and spring semester in which students run lab work and complete behavior training. In the spring semester, the students get hands-on experience with spaying and neutering as well as with the use of anesthesia. This experience is what Focht said makes the partnership special, as the students get to master their skills as well as give physical care toward the animals.

Focht said most students fall in love with their companions over the course of the school year, which tends to result in adoption of their animal or from a close relative. They also helps to spread awareness to help the remaining pets seeking adoption.

Students that complete this program receive their associate in applied science in veterinary technology, which prepares students for careers in veterinary technology which require knowledge and skills involving basic medical sciences, animal care and management, veterinary medical care, and client communications and service.



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**Frank Espinoza is a recent graduate of Northern Arizona University from the beginning of 2022. He prides himself on covering topics that give a spotlight to individuals or groups who give back to the community. He has covered local sports, community events, and important issues that impact the state. In his spare time, he loves to watch Street League Skateboarding and hang out at Cowtown Skateboards in Goodyear.**

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## Keywords

Mesa Community College Maricopa County Animal Care and Control Kimberly Focht

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**Maricopa County gets an additional \$500,000 grant to help solve cold cases (/stories/county-gets-3m-grant-to-help-solve-cold-cases,338558)**

**County gets \$3M grant to help solve cold cases (/stories/county-gets-3m-grant-to-help-solve-cold-cases,337982)**

**County approves \$4.68M in deal extension for homeless help (/stories/county-approves-468m-in-deal-extension-for-homeless-help,337728)**

**Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2022**  
Vol. 1 No. 71  
1 Section 52 Pages

**DAILY INDEPENDENT**  
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# Safe from shortage

## Lake Pleasant won't see drop in levels soon

By Mark Carlisle  
Many Arizonans have seen the "bath-tub ripples" on Lake Mead on the Arizona-Nevada border either in photos or person, showing one of the key reservoirs for the state's water supply to lower than it has been in decades.  
Those who visited Lake Pleasant in north Phoenix in the spring and returned in the late summer or fall may fear the same thing is happening to a reservoir closer to home — the water levels have dropped between 30 feet and 40 feet from where they were in April.  
"It is an important point to make because we get the 'bath-tub ripples' on Lake Mead, and it's not as good as the Central Arizona Project," they say. "Think of the lake as a reservoir. Oh, and it's like Lake Mead, and it's actually not at all."  
Officials at CAP, which is in charge of pumping water from Lake Havasu City to the south in Tucson, said the common misconception that the water crisis impacting other reservoirs serving the state is hitting Lake Pleasant. Rather, the drop in water levels is part of the normal lake progression — water levels rise in the late winter and spring and drop in the late summer and fall.  
\* See Lake on page 18

**ELECTION 2022**  
**Prop 129 would limit ballot measures to one subject**  
By Ryan Knappenger  
WASHINGTON — Proposition 129 asks just one question — whether or not all future ballot initiatives should ask just one question. The proposition would amend the Arizona Constitution to require that any ballot initiative be limited to just one subject, a move supporters say will make the process more accessible for voters by simplifying what could be an unworkable issue.  
"It would make it a lot clearer for voters and it would align the initiative process more closely with what has generally worked," said Suzanne Kinney, CEO and president of the Commercial Real Estate Development Association's Arizona chapter.  
But critics see it as another attempt, along with propositions 128 and 132, to increase the Legislature's power at the expense of voters this fall.  
"If you're a state legislator and you would prefer to have total control over the policymaking process, then you prefer to have people ... keep their hands off your legislation," said Stephanie Landquist, an Arizona State University professor of law and political science.  
Proposition 129, which was introduced by Rep. John Karsmough, R-Fountain Hills, both propositions 128 and 132 came out of the 2021 session of the Legislature.  
\* See Prop 129 on page 17

**Business Local**  
**Angry Crab Shack raises many for sale**  
\* See page 14

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**Things to do**  
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### MOST RECENT

#### **New coronavirus cases drop in Queen Creek area (/stories/new-coronavirus-cases-drop-in-queen-creek-area,339801)**

The Arizona Department of Health Services on Nov. 2 reported the number of coronavirus cases in Queen Creek and San Tan Valley at 57,152 in ZIP codes 85140, 85142 and 85143. That is an increase of ...

#### **Fewer new coronavirus cases in Florence (/stories/fewer-new-coronavirus-cases-in-florence,339798)**

#### **At 0-4 on the road, Curry and the Warriors aren't panicking (/stories/at-0-4-on-the-road-curry-and-the-warriors-arent-panicking,339800)**

#### **Mesa lawmaker needs support for special session on education funding (/stories/mesa-lawmaker-needs-support-for-special-session-on-education-funding,339792)**

# Chevy, GM trucks and cars make way to huge 2-day Glendale event (/stories/chevy-gm-trucks-and-cars-make-way-to-huge-2-day-glendale-event,339600)



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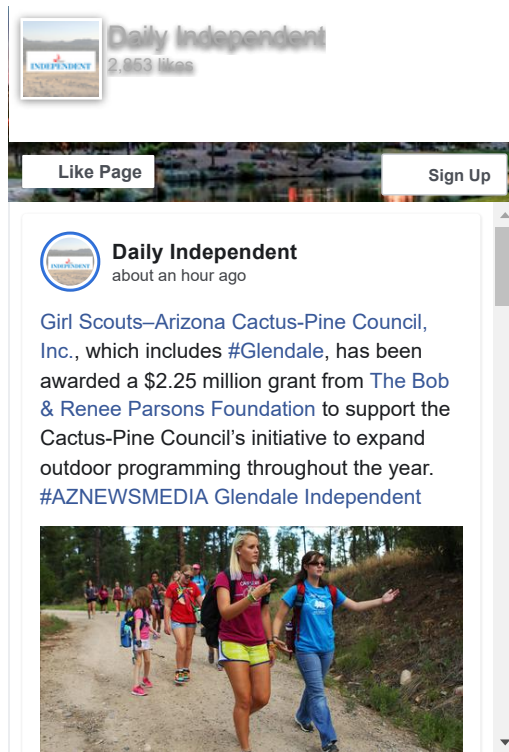
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**RHDyer**  
@RHDyer · 19h

We asked candidates, "The school board evaluates the @AJUSD43 superintendent. How do you rate Heather Wallace's performance as superintendent: Exceeds, meets, approaches, or far falls below the level of performance required and why?" #AZNEWSMEDIA




The image shows a screenshot of a Facebook post from the 'Daily Independent' page. The page has 2,853 likes. The post, made about an hour ago, features a circular profile picture of the Daily Independent and a text-based announcement. The text states that the Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc., which includes Glendale, has received a \$2.25 million grant from The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation. The grant is intended to support the council's initiative to expand outdoor programming throughout the year. The post includes the hashtags #AZNEWSMEDIA and #Glendale Independent. Below the text is a photograph of a group of people, including children and adults, walking on a dirt path outdoors. The background of the post shows a scenic view of a town with a river.

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Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc., which includes #Glendale, has been awarded a \$2.25 million grant from The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation to support the Cactus-Pine Council's initiative to expand outdoor programming throughout the year. #AZNEWSMEDIA #Glendale Independent



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