

MESA Arts and Crafts Festival

RJ David Photography selected Festival Favorite

By Ron David
Special to the Independent

RJ David Photography was selected the Festival Favorite at the Dec. 20 Mesa Arts and Crafts Festival.

"As a native Arizonan, I have always had a deep respect for the beauty of the land and a pride in our history," owner Ron David said. "While in the Navy, my interest in photography developed. I enjoyed photographing planes and doing some aerial photography. Upon completion of my duty, I returned to Arizona and enrolled at Mesa Community College. After a short time, I realized that I wanted to explore the field of photography. In 1968, I enrolled at Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, California. While there I majored in portrait photography. However, we were also introduced to other fields of photography: industrial, commercial, illustration and underwater," he said.



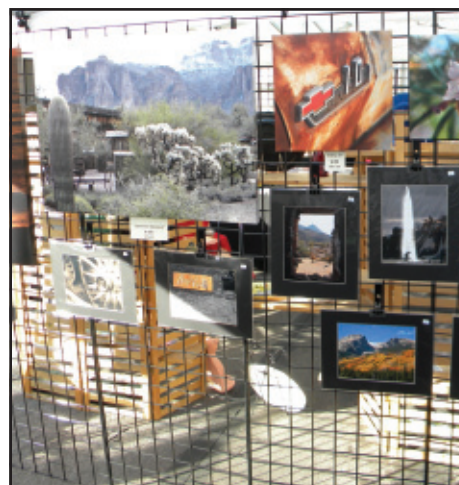
Ron David

returned to Chandler with the desire to open a portrait studio. They opened Studio D in 1971. After outgrowing the location, they moved the studio to Warner and Alma School and named it RJ David Photography. For 30 years they photographed families, children and high school seniors in the East Valley.

"I retired in 2001. It was then that I decided to follow my passion to do scenic photography; to capture the beautiful sunsets, the Old West and the essence of Arizona. Then the day came that my wife and I decided that it was time to share my images with everyone. During the spring of 2014, we started planning the prospect of art and craft shows. We wanted to show the aspect of professionalism in photography as well as presentation," he said.

"We have enjoyed meeting so many new people and discussing photography. In many cases, we have met aspiring photographers and enjoy helping them to improve their craft," Mr. David said.

The next MACFest is 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7 in downtown Mesa on North MacDonald Street near the Natural History Museum. This is a free event to the public,



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and all are welcome. Booth registration for MACFest is still available for \$20 per event. If you are interested, contact the box office at 480-644-6500 or info@macfestmesa.com or visit www.macfestmesa.com.

Letters

Continued From Page 6

makes me sleep better. I have controlled my future to some degree. But I don't enjoy watching APS try to silently hurt me.

When I first signed my solar lease, I faced a rush to avoid proposed surcharges by APS because solar customers weren't paying their fair share of the electric grid (even though I was getting paid a miniscule pittance for electricity I was selling back to APS.) APS was out to get solar customers. Fortunately I beat the deadline but I sweated. Sadly, others now pay this charge. I believe that original proposed charge by APS was to be \$100 per month for solar custom-

ers. Absurd.

The Arizona Corporation Commission supports most of what APS wants. Not 100 percent but enough to chip away at the people's protections over time.

It is said we are the greatest country in the world. That's because of our given rights in the Constitution. Sadly, the rights of Americans, real people, are losing to the American corporation people.

Parker S. Sims
Surprise

Arizona Gov. Ducey's cuts are wrong, letter writer says

This past week we've read and heard different articles regarding newly elected Gov.

Doug Ducey's budget plans. As I recall he campaigned heavily on cutting the budget but leaving out the specifics. Now we know that he had some things in mind that don't seem to fit his economic growth promises.

It is appalling that he would propose a 10 percent cut to our state university budgets. We have three state universities that all have been struggling to equip themselves with the necessary research and development labs that will train students in new technologies that are the fastest growing industries in the US. Cutting \$75 million from the budget stymies the universities' ability to provide a trained workforce in these fields. How can that possibly help Arizona's economic growth?

Robert McGregor
Apache Junction



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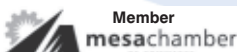
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We Pledge ...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.



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