

National Scholar Society Welcomes Nia Garcia

AJ resident studying at ASU



Nia Garcia

Nia Garcia of Apache Junction has accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS). Garcia will be honored during an induction convocation this fall on the Arizona State University campus where she is a sophomore.

"NSCS is more than just a symbol of academic achievement," said Stephen E. Loflin, NSCS executive director. "Membership gives students access to a number of amazing benefits including career and networking resources, scholarships, travel and service projects both on campus and in the community."

NSCS is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies and is the nation's only interdisciplinary honors organization for first- and second-year college students. Membership is by invitation only, based on grade point average and class standing. NSCS has more than 675,000 lifetime members and 250 chapters in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Nia is the daughter of Joe and Cynthia Garcia of Apache Junction.

Police: Mystery Shopping E-mails May Be Scams

Fake checks problematic

Mystery shopping is a service in which shoppers are hired by a marketing research company to evaluate the quality of goods and service in a variety of stores and restaurants. Unsolicited ads and e-mails for shoppers are popping up everywhere, and it sounds fun and easy. But before you apply for that job, research the company and the variety of scams that have filtered into this business.

According to the Apache Junction Police Department, this type of scam has occurred in Apache Junction and all over the country. It may work like this.

After responding to the ad, an individual is sent an information packet, which includes business evaluation forms, a training assignment, and one or more cashier's checks, often totaling between \$2,000 and \$4,000.

The assignment would be to cash the checks, shop at Walmart or other stores for specific items, return the evaluation form to the com-

pany, and keep a few hundred dollars as payment. The remainder of the money is to be wired to a specific address outside of the United States and must be done within 48 hours in order to receive the next assignment. Often several assignments can be completed before the bank advises that the checks are bogus.

According to Arizona's attorney general, "Consumers need to know that a legitimate company will never send you a cashier's check out of the blue or require you to send money to someone you have never met."

"The scam artist uses realistic-looking documents, the 'secret' nature of the job, and the 48-hour deadline to pressure consumers into cashing the check and wiring the money quickly before the bank or the consumer can determine it was a fake check. By then, it's too late."

The public should take notice that there are signifi-

cant numbers of these types of scams currently being perpetrated against citizens across the country. There is one common thread however; you are being asked to wire transfer money to an unknown person when there is no legitimate reason to do so. It could take several days for a financial institution to determine whether a cashier's check is good, especially when coming from outside the United States. And once the check bounces, the bank deducts from the victim's account the amount that was credited with the fake check—often with charges added. The bank will not take the loss.

If you have been a victim of fraud, file a local police report and a consumer fraud report with the Attorney General's Office in Phoenix at (602) 542-5763 or www.azag.gov.

These crimes should also be reported to the Postal Inspection Service at 1-800-372-8347.

Project WET Big Success

Arizona Project WET, with the help of the Apache Junction Water Company, Apache Junction Parks & Recreation Department and the Apache Junction Fire District, hosted the first Project WET Water Festival in Apache Junction on Thursday, May 6, at Prospector Park.

Arizona Project WET directs the "Make a Splash with WET Water Festivals" held around the state each year. These events bring fourth graders together in a standards-based, hands-on

learning experience to supercharge their understanding of water concepts. Children participate in four different fun filled water related stations teaching them about the water cycle, water shed, ground water and water conservation.

About 375 fourth grade students attended the event. For more information about future events or questions about Arizona Project WET, please call Holly Thomas-Hilburn, the Arizona Water Festivals Statewide Coordinator, at (520) 621-7477.

AARP Driver's Safety Class Set For June 17

1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

AARP will host a comprehensive defensive driving course designed for drivers age 40 and older to update driver safety knowledge and to provide strategies to drive crash free.

The class is from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, June 17. The cost of the class is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Bring AARP

Card at time of registration at the Apache Junction Parks and Recreation office.

For more information about this class or other recreation activities, contact the Apache Junction Parks and Recreation office at (480) 983-2181.

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Benefit Concert

Country music recording artist Bobby Hitt will perform two benefit concerts on Friday, July 2—2 p.m. and 7 p.m.—at the Community Recreation Hall at Superstition Buttes, 301 S. Signal Butte Road, Apache Junction.

Hitt is known throughout the Valley as "The Singing Tour Bus Driver of Arizona." He puts on a family-oriented type show and sings country classics.

Tickets are \$10; \$5 from each ticket goes to Newborns in Need, an organization that provides assistance to families of newborn babies.

For tickets, contact Shari Musser via e-mail at jsmusser49058@yahoo.com or call (480) 380-5703.

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THURSDAY SAUSAGE PATTIE & EGGS Served with Sausage Pattie, 2 eggs, choice of potato and 1 pc. of toast.	\$3.99	
FRIDAY DICED HAM & SCRAMBLED EGGS Two eggs scrambled with diced ham. Served with 2 pc. toast & jelly. Incl. small juice your choice.		

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