

Arizona Girls State Independent



June 5, 2017 • Volume 11, Issue 1 • Tucson, Arizona

Welcome to the 70th Session of Arizona Girls State at UofA

Welcome to the 70th Annual Arizona Girls State. Congratulations on being chosen as a delegate. Your leadership and academic skills have given you the opportunity to represent your school, community and local American Legion Auxiliary Unit at this amazing program.

We as staff are proud to have you here and hope that your learning experience is one that you will take with you.

Girls State Sponsorship

Girls State is sponsored by the world's largest women's patriotic organization... The American Legion Auxiliary. The Auxiliary is dedicated to helping veterans as well as our future leaders, such as you.

Established in the early twentieth century, the Auxiliary has grown to nearly one million members. In 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) was created, dedicated to supporting the United States Armed Forces and all of the veterans.

Today, the ALA has over twenty national programs that benefit through money and other donations. Two of the ALA's most well known programs are Girls State and Girls Nation.

New Experiences

As our wonderful Governor explained last night each day here will be filled with new and exciting experiences. Your first day brought you to a dorm floor filled with new and exciting young women who were just as nervous as you. Yet, each of you took that first step in creating welcoming lines and waiting in the lobby area for each girl to come in. You welcomed each girl with a smile and a compliment.

Each day here will bring more fun and more learning with all that excitement of something new. Did we mention lack of sleep? The sleep thing never really gets better with all those exciting emotions and all the new stories.

Things To Come

During the week you will learn about city, county and state government with emphasis being placed on political parties, campaigns and elections. You will be challenged to use your initiative and imagination. You'll make the most of your week by 'getting involved'.

Within your city you will be able to run for offices, set laws and create your very own city. Creations from businesses to parks and recreational facilities. Remember to be creative when decorating your doors and hallways to show just how much you enjoy your city. Show pride in what you have created. *These will also be judged for awards!!!*

Within the county you will be running for offices and helping to create the best county in Girls State. You will run for State offices as well and of course everyone will be giving speeches.

Fun gatherings coming

This week there will not only be meetings and speeches but so much more. We have glee club that will be practicing all week to sing us some amazing songs during our Magical Evening.

There will be a talent show held on Thursday evening. A fun way for each of you to show off your talent. Please keep an eye out for the sign up sheet.

Did you see the mention of the magical evening? Oh yes we have a wonderful evening of song and dinner planned with some very special guests.

We will round off our week with an awesome court trial on Friday!! Your court officials that you elect later this week will be working on that one.

Don't forget all of our wonderful guests speakers that are sure to keep you laughing and learning.

A Few Things To Remember

Please be respectful of the staff and other citizens as we are all here to learn and have fun.

Do not forget to bring your Girls State handbook with you to ALL GS events, including meals as we may not return to the dorms after some meals.

Be mindful of your things in your rooms. If you have valuables that you would like to have secured please see your City Advisor.

Never leave your city without first signing out or letting your advisor know where you are going and why.

If you are feeling ill or become injured remember to see the nurse. Don't wait if you feel sick. The nurses are located on the 6th floor in rooms 633 and 635.

Togs and Treats

Togs and Treats is the official Arizona Girls State Store. They have so much to offer, from t-shirts, shorts, stuffed animals, snacks, roses, and SO MUCH MORE!! Stop by the store and see what wonders they have to offer. They also have a small drawing for all those that make a purchase each evening at dinner.

WELCOME TO GIRLS STATE!!



WANT TO SEE YOURSELF AND YOUR CITY ON THE BIG SCREEN??

Send in your photos all week and see your photos during the slide show and in this year's yearbook. Send pictures to photos@azgirlsstate.com

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is published daily by
 American Legion Auxiliary
 Arizona Girls State
 Penny Maklary, Director
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2017 Girls State Reporters
 Summer Dahlquist-Tookey - Ironwood
 Rachael Hunt - Ironwood
 Grace Barrett - Palo Verde
 Annabelle Rangel - Palo Verde
 Emily Garcia - Juniper
 Evon Nguyen - Juniper
 Maylee Acosta - Pinon
 Makayla Aysien - Pinon
 Dailey Kohtz - Ocotillo
 Carla Rendon - Mimosa
 Emma Stewart - Mimosa
 Nataly Rascon - Cholla
 Jourdan Chavez - Manzanita
 Alysa Rippee - Manzanita
 Penelope Charkavy - Yucca
 Madison Goforth - Yucca
 Lindsay Baez - Saguaro
 Jayme Reed - Saguaro
 Megan Crimmins - Mesquite
 Madeline Lewis - Mesquite
 Catherine Elliott - Sycamore
 Rachel Hartenbower - Sycamore
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Meet Your Arizona Girls State Reporters



Say hello to your Girls State Independent reporters. These lovely ladies will be writing articles regarding your cities.

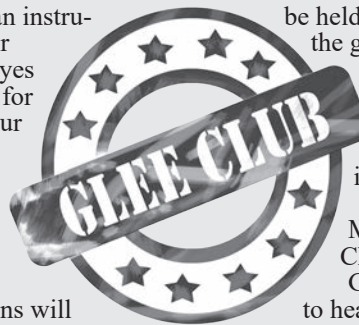
- From Ironwood:**
Summer Dahlquist-Tookey & Rachel Hunt
- From Palo Verde:**
Grace Barrett & Annabelle Rangel
- From Juniper:**
Emily Garcia & Evon Nguyen
- From Pinon:**
Maylee Acosta & Makayla Aysien
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Nataly Rascon
- From Manzanita:**
Jourdan Chavez & Alysa Rippee
- From Yucca:**
Penelope Charkavy & Madison Goforth
- From Saguaro:**
Lindsay Baez & Jayme Reed
- From Mesquite:**
Megan Crimmins & Madeline Lewis
- From Sycamore:**
Catherine Elliott & Rachel Hartenbower

Do you sing or play music? If so then GS Glee Club wants you!

Do you love to sing or play an instrument? How about lead the choir during a big show? If you said yes to either then we have the club for you! Come on down and join our Glee Club.

We are looking for talented young ladies to perform at our Magical Evening dinner. After all, what is dinner without a little music?

The first meeting and auditions will



be held on Monday starting at 4:15pm in the great room #140. Please be sure to bring your instruments with you if you have them. Also perhaps a few song ideas as well. Please note you must be present at the first meeting in order to participate.

If you have questions please see Mrs Sawyer-Sinkbeil, Room 406, Cholla City..

Good luck ladies and we cannot wait to hear those wonderful chords on Friday.

Prepare to be entertained at the Annual Girls State Talent Show!

Do you have that one special talent that sets you a part from the rest? Do you love to sing, dance or act on stage? If you answered yes to either of these questions then we want you for our Annual Talent Night!

Thursday has been set aside just for you to show all of us here your very own talent. Strut your stuff or rock the rafters with that amazing voice.

Of course no talent show is complete without the auditions. All talented citizens are encouraged and must attend the auditions in order to participate. Keep an eye out for the audition sign up near Mrs. Maklary's office.

Remember to bring all of your needed materials for your talent with you at the time of auditions as we need to see exactly what it is you will be doing for the show.

For all questions and comments concerning the event, please see Mrs. Tincher in room 457.



70th Annual Girls State begins with registration

Yesterday each of you began your journey to Girls State by packing up the car and heading to Tucson with your parents and family. Some of you traveled all the way from the Grand Canyon while others came from Yuma and all over in between.

Once you arrived it was time to stand in line and wait. Always the hurry up and wait right? Once the door opened it was all moving from there.

First you started with a warm greeting from the UofA staff giving you your handbook and room assignments. The wonderful staff was so gracious to lend us a hand checking you in today.

Next it was off to see the nurses where you dropped off those wonderful yellow cards and the parents could chat with our team of nurses that you will see off and on all week. They are awesome and very caring!

Now you turn and off to the Store/Bank where you meet our lovely store staff

and have the opportunity to bank your money so that you do not lose it this week. Remember you will have plenty of opportunity this week to stop in to the store and pick up some great items, like shirts, lanyards, snacks and of course WATER!!!

Hopefully you turned in your Samsung Scholarship application on your way through that door before getting your room key and pictures.

Here you met our Assistant Director Mrs. Matteson who guided you through the patio and off to get your room key from the UofA team and then into portrait mode for your new ID badge. Be sure to wear these at all times. Here you were asked to stand on the blue tape and smile big!! All those beautiful smiles, we love it!

Then it was off to get those new pink shirts that will tell everyone on campus that WE ARE GIRLS STATE in a sea of beautiful pink. Don't worry about only getting two, there will be laundry days, we

promise.

Finally it was off to the elevator where the advisors told your parents that it was time to leave you to adventure Girls State on your own. Don't worry they will see you again on Saturday!!

Once you stepped out of the elevator you were greeted by your JCs and of course your City Advisor. I even bet you got to see some of your new city members. Remember that you will be with these girls for the next week so make the best of each situation.

Now that you are in your rooms and beginning the program take a quick moment to thank those that helped get you here today. Each of the Girls State staff members have volunteered their time to help make this a wonderful experience for each one of you. If you see them wondering the cities or during session give them a quick thanks for everything. They are sure to enjoy it.



Opening Session At Girls State

Last night was an amazing first night. There were many wonderful speakers and lots of fun. To open the evening our girls posted our very patriotic colors. We were introduced to our wonderful Governor Yakira Flanagan and Secretary of State Shannon Watson. Each welcomed you and wished you the best time here at Girls State as well as to reach for your goals and make the best of the week you have here.

Next we heard from the U of A Conference Manager. She gave us a great welcome and let us know that the University is here to help us have a wonderful and safe Girls State session.

We had a wonderful flag ceremony present by Post 36's Copper Knight Color Guard and Mrs. Matteson. During this presentation the 13 folds of the flag

were explained so that you will be able to understand why these ceremonies are so important and such a treasure. It gives true meaning and respect to all those who have fought bravely for this country.

Mrs. Maklary explained the purpose of Girls State and how important it is to be yourself. Each one of you is special and has potential. Stand out and be yourself. Don't let others make your decisions for you. Just B U.

Let's not forget our wonderful and talented JC's, who modeled for us just before dinner. These lovely ladies were kind enough to show you all the store has to offer. Remember "Togs and Treats" has all that you are looking for while you are here at Girls State.

We also owe a special thank you to the staff for the wonderful power point presentation that was not only informative but

fun. Thank you ladies for all that you do for us and our veterans.

Our second part of the evening was saved for our special guest speakers. Teresa Martinez the Voting Rights Ambassador gave a wonderful and creative speech on the function of political parties. What an amazing speaker, so informative. She even gave away some really neat copper coins to all those with wonderful answers and questions.

We were also joined by Joseline Matta, a former Girls State Citizen, speaking about the Precinct Committeeman.

Ladies a great job on all the wonderful and interesting questions. Way to stay on topic and keep our speakers thinking. Keep it up this week with all of the wonderful guest speakers to come.



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It's harder to hate up close

Madeline Lewis
Mesquite City Reporter

On Sunday afternoon, the first day of Girls State, all of the citizens and staff were treated with some amazing guest speakers.

The first of which was Teresa Martinez who is involved in politics and government on the state-wide level. She is a voting rights ambassador for the state office. She spent some time discussing the function and importance of political parties, along with engaging the citizens in the presentation by asking and answering numerous questions on the topic.

One statement made during the presentation was especially profound, "It's harder to hate up close." This idea is relevant in many cases, but undeniably applies to the relation-

ship between both political parties and other parts of politics. It's easy for people to hear or read something and respond negatively within an instant, because at this point in time, information is sent and received so quickly. Seeing so many opinions and the reactions to them are easy to do online and on other sources of media.

This hating problem is resolved by the aforementioned profound statement, "It's harder to hate up close." As members of society, people should try to understand one another. Name calling is a form of hate easy to say to an empty persona, but it's rare to feel the need to say those things to a person. The reason for this is that when having a respectful conversation with someone, it's easier to see that they are a real person with valid opinions, and

the reasoning behind those opinions.

One more thing that we learned was that most people want the same things! The fact that there are different ways to reach those goals is indicative and a normal part of society.

With the conclusion that conversation and listening skills are vital to not only understanding political parties but society in general, all citizens should keep this in mind throughout the week. As voting and campaigning start up, along with the formation of the Nationalist and the Federalist parties, keep that statement in mind. "It's harder to hate up close." If you are confused on a platform, have questions on ideas, don't be quick to judge. Remember to be respectful and eager to learn, and things will turn out for the best.

REMEMBER TO DRINK LOTS OF WATER!!

The first morning at Girls State

Catherine Elliott
Sycamore City Reporter

While yesterday was technically the first day of Girls State, today marked our first full day at the U of A campus. Many girls reported being exhausted after the late lectures and meetings the night before. However, few went to sleep early as they were busy introducing themselves to their dorm neighbors. Most of the delegates went to sleep late with promises to get up early on their first day.

However, this reporter, who managed to wake up early, noticed that the halls and bathrooms were all but empty at 6:30 a.m. It appears both staying up late and getting up early isn't easy when working as hard

as the delegates do at Girls State. However, as the morning went on, everyone quickly woke up. By 7:00 a.m. the line to the continental breakfast led all the way to the second floor. Even though breakfast was optional it appeared few girls were willing to wait for lunch to eat.

While many delegates were exhausted, spirits were high in the breakfast line. There were many good things to choose from for breakfast, including bagels, muffins, fresh fruit, and yogurt. There was also, to the delight of the many caffeine fans among the delegates, coffee. There was decaf coffee as well, though, as one student quipped "it's definitely not a decaf type of day".

It certainly was not, as citizens gath-

ered downstairs to eat breakfast with their peers, the room was full of animated conversations. Many Girls State citizens were curious as to how the day would go down. While all of them had been informed as to what was supposed to happen, many people were nervous as the time came for the daily flag ceremony.

The flag ceremony went well as we pledged allegiance to our flag. Afterward, Ironwood gave a wonderful rendition of Amazing Grace. This, along with the anticipation of voting for the first set of positions helped wake up even the most stubborn of morning people. All in all it was a good start to the first proper day of Girls State.

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Insightful start to Girls State session

**Maylee Acosta
& Makayla Aysien**
 Pinon City Reporters

Many of us have seen those endless, dreadful presentations in the past, but I think we can all agree that tonight, we have witnessed two presentations that have never been seen before. Two very lovely ladies, Teresa Martinez, and Joseline Matta, graced us with their presence and gave insightful speeches on various governmental topics. The amount of knowledge, collaboration, and laughter that they brought to the room was immense, and it perfectly set the stage for a fun, exciting, if not busy week!

Arizona Voting Rights Ambassador, Teresa Martinez, presented to Girls State first; she gave a speech about the function of political parties. She explained what parties were (mainly Democratic and Republican), then went on to explain their function in society. The benefits of having political parties, and having differences in these parties, we realized is critical to the growth of a society. Differences in thoughts and

beliefs ignite greater flames of creativity and are catalysts for well-rounded perspectives. The competition between the two major parties is one that pushes each side to think smarter, to challenge what they know so the opposing side does not do it for them.

Teresa was more than just a politician tonight, she truly inspired the girls to embrace differences and use them to their advantage. Apart from her enlightening presentation, I think we can all agree we found her son to be a very engaging part of the presentation as well.

Our next charismatic and insightful speaker was one Jose-line Matta, who just so happens to be a Girls State Alumni! Not letting spirits in the exhausted audience die down, Matta got up on stage and gave an impassioned speech about her role in the United States government, and more specifically, the role of the precinct committeemen. She enlightened all of us on many various topics, her most central being, "what is a precinct committee member?"

Joseline Matta, being a pre-

inct committee member herself, gave us the ins and outs of what it takes to become a member, and I don't know about the rest of you, but that inspired me to get out there and start getting involved in my government right this very instant! I am not the only one who thought Matta's speech was filled with fantastic information. Ella Stephens and Lauren Matti were heard saying that, "...[Matta's] young age made her very relatable, which in turn will make young people, like us Girls State delegates more likely to become involved in government work.

Her overall message that one is never too young to begin participating in government will hopefully stick with all of us for the remainder of our lives and push us all to achieve the greatness I know we can.

As the speeches winded down, it was obvious that everyone was really tired. However, we all walked the long journey back to our rooms. One thing is for sure though, if we were not motivated to get involved before we came to Girls State, we sure are now, thanks to these insightful speakers!

City themes show

**Grace Barrett
& Aannabelle Rangel**
 Palo Verde City Reporters

Girls State is an exciting week where girls come together and form cities, bond, and make new, lasting friendships. One important thing that helps promote this bonding is the city theme. Themes help bring cities together and promote camaraderie, as well as friendly competition between cities to see who wins the best decorations. Girls pull out all of their art supplies and art skills to decorate their halls.

This year cities picked a variety of interesting themes and the halls are looking crazy and fun. Yucca is looking very green with their environmental theme. Saguaro's halls are crawling with their bugs life theme. May the odds be ever in your favor!, as Mimosa is killing it with the Hunger Games theme.

Walking into Cholla's halls you will feel only happy vibes with their coachella theme. Watch out for spells and quidditch matches in the halls of Manzanita as their theme is Harry Potter. And there is no stopping Mesquite with

their growing theme. Just in Juniper is jumping with their jungle theme.

Ironwood is taking their theme beyond with their creation of Ironworld. It is getting bubbly in Ocotillo with their under the sea theme. Finally, Pinon, Sycamore, and Palo Verde are bringing dreams to life by bringing the Disney theme to their cities.

All the cities are extremely creative and the halls of Girls State are looking better than ever. Best luck to the judges who will definitely have a tough decision to make this year. Good luck to all!

The truth behind assigned roommates

MeganCrimmins
Mesquite City Reporter

Coming into Girls State, we all had fears about who our roommate would be, but did they turn out better than we thought? Or are they even worse than we imagined could be possible?

My last name starting with a C, I arrived Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. for check in. After waiting three hours with the expectation of a roommate arriving, I attended my first city meeting to discover she was a no show. Of course, this was extremely exciting because I did not have to worry about any of my roommate fears anymore, but what about the ones who still did? I met up with Kristin Kevershan from Mesquite

City, Paiute County and Grace Barrett from Palo Verde City, Supai County to get to the bottom of how, exactly, it feels to live with a complete stranger.

My first question was “what were some of your biggest concerns coming into this week when it came to having an assigned roommate?” Grace responded with, “I was worried that I wouldn’t have someone friendly or someone who would talk to me and that it would be super awkward”. Kristin responded with “I was concerned that my roommate would snore or have a really different opinion on when to turn the lights out than I did”.

My follow up question was “how is it in reality?” Grace responded with, “Really my roommate is pretty nice and we are

having a great time working together on our city theme”. Kristin responded with, “my roommate and I actually get along great and she is super cool. She doesn’t snore and she wanted to go to bed at the same time as me so all of my worries were for nothing.”

Overall, despite personal experience, it sounds like all of our fears about roommates weren’t very valid in actuality. Assigned roommates have offered everyone a chance to get to know someone new, for better or worse, and that’s what Girls State is about. Whether you’re making a new best friend or just learning to deal with living with someone different than you, assigned roommates offer a good learning experience.

Breaking News: Manzanita exposes bad drivers

AlysaRippee
Manzanita City Reporter

As Girls State welcomes all types of girl’s and personalities from around Arizona, it also manages to ignite the back-grounds that come with them. While most cities discussed favorite hobbies, colors and foods, Manzanita citizens found common ground on the sharing of bad driving stories.

One particular Manzanita bad driver told her unlucky first drive after achieving her license, “Three hours afterwards I was with my two friends and we were driving to the middle of the desert to scream because it was that point in the semester and we were just going at it.”

After they drove 10 or so miles into the desert and let go their yells they turned around and decided to start driving back. As she described, “We go around the curve about 50 miles an hour, should’ve taken it at 25, but it’s fine.” Although, that “its fine” would soon turn fatal. Eventually, the previously excited young girls would end up coming to a sharp skid along the road, hitting a speed limit sign and ending up in a patch of desert. The scarred Manzanita citizen exclaimed her relief for them all being safe, but told her obvious upset over cracked axels and soon-to-be

very angry father.

“In the end, we laughed a little bit, we put it on Snapchat and called my dad... he murders me; it’s all good,” the experienced bad driver now has explained that she still has a “need to speed” but realizes that being distracted by Kanye West’s “Gold digger” is not as important as her safety.

“So I was jammin’ to some Fergie and going to hang out with some friends and I was driving you know get my glamorous on” She had got on the dirt road “I was driving all cool and then I had hit some ice, you know like my whole car spinning spinning spinning and then I was kind of closing my eyes really tightly and holding the steering wheel and then I went down a mountain” she was just going going down in and then “damn I hit a tree that saved my life”

Is there something about Fergie’s music that deeply affected it? Do you think if it was something else it would not have happened? ?No matter what song she was going to crash.

Was that your first car? Yes
What else makes you think that you’re a bad driver? Dose not pay atten-

tion while changing songs every often.

Your first thoughts as soon as you crash.? “I’m Never getting another car.”

Do you think it was more your fault or the ice’s fault? More her fault because she could have done something to get around the ice.

So, as Girls State continues on for the week, it is obvious that many participants are more welcoming to the idea of walking around than driving. While it may not be as efficient or AC-controlled, it does prevent certain Manzanita girl’s from exemplifying their not-so-pretty driving skills.



The friendship of parties

Rachel Hartenbower
Sycamore City Reporter

Friendship has been defined many different ways throughout the years. Most generally it is defined as two or more people being courteous and loving towards one another. As a society, we have lost the ability to love one another and choose to fight one another instead.

The political world has become arrogant and refuse to listen to other party members, believing that there is no other way to run a government. The speaker from Sunday night, Ms. Teresa Martinez, addressed this issue as well. She discussed how the function of political parties are crucial for a successful government and how competition helps us thrive in all trades. She also mentioned how both political parties fall into the horrible habit

of believing everything they say is right and not listening to the other side. This not only affects the way we view politics but also the way we interact with one another.

As we see our world leaders and our media refuse to consider a new opinion, the way we communicate with each other changes as well. We buy into the absurd belief that if two people disagree on things they are not able to be friends. We lose respect from the people we do not agree with simply for that reason. This cannot continue. Now is the time to set an example for others. As the future leaders of our nation, we have the ability to set a new course rather than continue the bad habits of past generations.

Each one of us have become citizens of mythical cities, and now it is time to learn how to love one another, despite the political party. Through our cities we have met

people we would not ordinarily interact with and now must learn how to work with them. More importantly, however, we have to learn how to love and respect the fellow citizens of our cities. These are the skills that will allow us to not fall into the arrogance of believing there is only one way to do things.

As we go through this week, let us all remember what friendship is and how it is not impossible to be friends with the people we do not agree with. Soon we will start our campaigns and compete with each other for certain positions and we must remember to be courteous to others and to truly consider what our candidates say. This week and these elections will give us the skills we need to be able to thrive in both our mythical and real communities.

Getting to know Ocotillo

Jessica Vaupel
Ocotillo City Reporter

Jessica: Have you had any members of your family serve in the military?

Cheyenne Fox: "Yes, my grandfather and uncle in the Army."

Jessica: Do you plan on joining any service?

Sophia Hoffman: "No, I do not plan on joining."

Jessica: What do you do to show you appreciate their service?

Lauren Matt: "My family and I go every year to visit where he was buried on Memorial Day."

Jessica: Would you consider joining the American Legion Auxiliary?

Lauren Matt: "I would definitely consider joining."

Saguaro's Buggy Stores

Jayme Reed
Saguaro City Reporter

Saguaro's storefronts are booming with a variety of businesses that cater to every need. From pets to the hottest bug ride, Saguaro has it all. Buy-A-Bug Pet Store has all the pets and supplies you need. Want a crab? Stop by and buy one. They make great pets.

Want to go from a caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly? Stop by the Butterfly Beauty Salon and get a makeover. Get their special butterfly clips for your special someone. Need a break from worries? Try Roly Poly Roller Rink and roll your worries away. This roller rink is the hit place to be and see everyone.

How about a break from all your annoying family members? Take a trip with

Dragonfly Airways and fly high on a dragonfly! Dragonfly Airways is your ticket to paradise and a little bit of freedom. Have you recently crashed your bug? Try Slug Bug Rentals and get the hottest ride. For those who like slow rides, they have snails; the perfect ride for the slow paced person.

Need a bug that fits the whole family? Try the centipede and everyone has a seat. Or want a bug that's fast and small? Try the Black Widow, the fastest bug they have. Rides are always amazing with Slug Bug Rentals.

But Saguaro doesn't just have these fun places and supplies. They've also got lots of food too! For a nice cup of coffee try Creepy Crawlers Coffeeshop and their signature drink Crawly Caramel Cappuccino. For those who don't like coffee, try

Beetlejuice Smoothie Shack. They've got all the hit drinks including Strawberry Banana Spider Shake.

Need a quick bite to eat? Try Bug Bites Snack Shack, where you only need to crawl on in for a quick treat. And we didn't forget the sweet tooth. Busy Bee Bakery has all those treats from yummy cookies to juicy cupcakes. Stop by for all those nice treats and snacks!

Shopping can be difficult, but life becomes easy with Bugsmart! The superstore of Saguaro, this place has everything you need when you need it. Look better, fly better, bugsmart is what they are without a doubt. Need a good dress or skirt? Try Ladybug Boutique and get all the essentials that you need.

Saguaro is full of fun places to shop and explore. Stop by and see what they've got!

Sunday night shower scramble

PenelopeChorkavy
Yucca City Reporter

After the hustle and bustle of our Sunday arrivals and the stop and go traffic to and from the dorms, the only topic on our mind in Yucca - and likely every other city - was who is going to get the shower first. As the last 9:30 p.m. meeting came to its conclusion, the Yuccas discreetly inched towards the door of our City Hall.

Girls ran to grab their things after Mrs. Kennedy dismissed us, attempting to stake their claims on one of the 4 available showers. Aiyana Francies, my roommate, strolled alongside a few other girls and myself, thinking of how there wouldn't be a free shower until 12:00 a.m. As I desperately tried to insert the dorm key to

enter the room we never thought we would see again, we contemplated the logistics. *Curly haired girls are more likely to shower in the morning, and there are a lot of straight haired Yucca girls.* Far too exhausted to wake up any earlier, Aiyana and I decided on 12:00 a.m., and would have to accept the consequences in the morning: mad curls and frizz galore.

The shower struggles weren't over, however. The two girls in the dorm next to ours, Madison Goforth, my fellow Yucca reporter, and Lena Han, elected mayor of Yucca city, were contemplating it all as well. Lena, unsure of how many available bathrooms there were for the dorm, informed us that 2 of the 4 available bathrooms in our hallway had been reserved for the JC's and staff. Lena also happened

to discover a men's room, which she noted that we could use since we are at (you know, Girls State). After a laugh and slight grimace from the rest of us, Lena added, "to be honest, that's one of the things on my bucket list!". Clarifying, I asked her, "wait, you mean using the men's room?". When she replied with a "yes", we simultaneously burst into laughter. Already, on the first day of Girls State, we are finding out some very interesting - or rather quirky - facts about our fellow delegates.

Whether it be discussing the serious shower situation or city, county, or state matters, we are all going to come to know our cities inhabitants very well, learning about their hobbies, passions, or odd bucketlist desires.

Primary elections in Cholla

VeroniqueVillalba
& **Nataly**Rascon
Cholla City Reporters

Today in Cholla City of Supai County, primary elections were held and for Mayor Frenki Hykollari won the nationalist party unopposed and Sarah Strickland won the federalist primary. Sarah Strickland went on to win the general election for Mayor. The four councilmen

are Lucy Song, Alison Prickett, Brianna Hanson and Carley Dennington.

After elections your trusted city reporters went on to question the lovely citizens of Cholla to hear their responses to the election results. Citizen Bethany Lovell believed the voting process to be "pretty simple and it felt real." Although she was happy with said outcomes she felt her roommate Daniela Nunez deserved better, as she ran for council-

man and did not win. She did love the Mayors presence as she showed she was comfortable in a crowd.

Frenki Hykollari showed her feelings on the election as well. She stated, "even though I did not get the position I ran for, I think the people that got elected will help make Cholla a great town. Although Cholla had an eventful time, citizens showed great enthusiasm for their new representatives."

A peak into Girls Nation

SummerDahlquist-Tookey
Ironwood City Reporter

Today, many groggy but still determined girls woke up early in the morning in preparation for the first full day at Arizona Girls State. Though breakfast was quite packed and primary elections may have gone slower than expected, lunch was when the real fun began.

First, I would like to point out how great the pizza tasted. My second point is the amazing speech given to us by Meena Venkataramanan afterward addressing Girls Nation. Meena's talk truly pointed out the importance of our time spent here spent at Girls State and what our goals should be during that time; hence, we should focus more on

gaining friends and memories rather than an office position or title.

However, she went on to describe Girls Nation in its differences and similarities to State, along with the significance of the conference. Two lucky Girls at AZ Girls State will be going to Girls Nation and will have the opportunity to more effectively strengthen their government and leadership skills.

Good luck to those who will be attending Girls Nation and good luck to Meena Venkataramanan who will be attending Harvard to study government!



Exceeding expectations

EvonNguyen
& **Emily**Garcia
Juniper City Reporters

Before a Girls State citizen arrives to the University of Arizona, they have many expectations of how their week will go.

Ellie Mason from Ironwood did not anticipate the girls would be as friendly, motivated, and fun to work with. She was also surprised to find the dorms are nice and that you really do need to stay hydrated or you will “literally die”.

Some girls were not sure what to expect

during their time at Girls State. For instance, Bridget Hodges from Juniper was pleasantly surprised when she realized the depth that the American Legion Auxiliary was going into about how American democracy works. Overall, each citizen of Girls State was amazed by their experience thus far.

WANT TO SEE YOURSELF AND YOUR CITY ON THE BIG SCREEN??

Send in your photos all week and see your photos during the slide show and in this years yearbook. Send pictures to photos@azgirlsstate.com



Well, get out there

MadisonGoforth
Yucca City Reporter

It is the 70th Annual Girls State and the second meeting of Arizona Girls State happened at 7:00pm on Sunday, June 4th. We had the pleasure of hearing two wonderful guests speakers, but I am only going to talk about one, grace us with information pertaining to political parties and the role of precinct committeemen.

Teresa Martinez is the Voting Rights Ambassador within the Arizona Secretary of State's Office. As part of that office, she oversees county elections and gives us the

reasoning on why it is important to vote. After that explanation she went in to detail about political parties.

She started by asking “What are the four political parties in Arizona?” There are the Democrats, Republicans, Green Party, and the Libertarians. Her main question to us all was what made up a political party. This was a rhetorical question because she wanted to enlighten us with her speech instead of asking us all. To make a political party happen, a group of people who share similar beliefs and ideas, get together to develop their platform. Afterwards, they elect their chairman and

treasurer because it is a must to have both. Then when the political party is established, candidates are chosen and there are organized experts to help get the candidate elected.

Now does this want to make you become a part of a party to express your ideas? To see a change in the community? Well, Get Out There! At Girls State, we are here to learn and grow with the knowledge we gain. If you were inspired by Sunday's guest speakers get out in your community and ask around. Because at Arizona Girls State, we are here to work together.

Arizona Girls State Independent



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The struggles of campaigning

Rachel Hartenbower
Sycamore City Reporter

County and State elections are now beginning and the pressure is on! All day Tuesday, girls from all different cities were scrambling to come up with a way to run their campaign. Many hours have been spent on becoming well known and searching for votes in our counties and state.

I went around and asked a couple different cities what they thought were the most difficult parts of running a campaign. Almost every city said things along the lines of the lack of time and ideas they had to run their campaigns.

The city of Yucca said that they were having a difficult time coming up with

original ideas in the small amount of time they were given. Mesquite expanded on this talking about how it was hard to dedicate so much to their posters and speeches in so little time. They also revealed how difficult it was for them to get good exposure to other cities and counties. A couple citizens from Mesquite included how sometimes there was a fear of failing during this campaign process.

Manzantta continued with these themes of struggling with the little time they had to prepare and properly spreading who they were. Mimosa particularly focused on how challenging it was to show the citizens of their cities or counties how dedicated they were to their position.

The mayor of the city, Ann Chang, gave me a little more insight on this as well:

“At times, campaigning can be a battle against oneself; you set your own limits and barriers that you have to surpass.” (Ann Chang is also running for Girls Nation). She told me about how she felt that campaigning is not only a competition with others, but against yourself as well.

The most important thing to remember as we go through these next few days of little sleep and lots of campaigning is to be courteous to others and make good use of the time given. The biggest struggle with campaigning at this level is how little time we have, but let us all remember to have fun with these positions and enjoy the process! Best of luck to everyone who is running and do not forget to vote for the candidates you believe in.

Why County Government?

Megan Crimmins
Mesquite City Reporter

To kick start our day on Tuesday, we listened to a speech on “why county government” from Lisa Matthews, the Assistant to County Administrator Pima County. Here is a quick overview of her speech.

Matthews began her speech by pointing out her background in IT and the Air Force. She then described her job as Assistant to County Administrator. Her tasks included producing records and recommendations to the County Administrator, trying to save taxpayers money, and attending homeowner association seminars.

She then moved on to describe one question that they had dealt with recently in the county: “How are we going to find roads here in Pima County?” Their original idea to solve this problem was to impose a gas tax. This tax was lobbied to the committee but never made it out and was ultimately shut down. The follow up solution was a property tax that was approved and is currently tentative. In Matthews’ opinion, the

gas tax would have been better because everyone who visited would also have to pay this tax, not just residents.

Matthews also took this chance to go over some positions within the county government, the superintendent of schools and county health care were two of these. The superintendent of schools provides information from the legislature to the schools within the county. The county may have a health care system but it can prove difficult and expensive.

Matthews concluded her speech by asking for questions. One of the first questions was whether or not the state or county can override city decisions. The answer was that they can not. Another question was what Matthews’ advice for a first job in the government. Her answer was “get involved, you know, learn as much as you can... ask how and why.” One of the final questions was who someone could contact in order to push problems they see within their school. The answer to this question was to push it up the chain of command and begin with your

principal.

Overall, Matthews had a good speech and there was much to glean from it. Matthews’ concluded her speech with some importing closing words: “Get involved... we need all of you.”



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 American Legion Auxiliary
 Arizona Girls State
 Penny Maklary, Director
 Shannon Mead, Editor

2017 Girls State Reporters
 Summer Dahlquist-Tookey - Ironwood
 Rachael Hunt - Ironwood
 Grace Barrett - Palo Verde
 Aannabelle Rangel - Palo Verde
 Emily Garcia - Juniper
 Evon Nguyen - Juniper
 Maylee Acosta - Pinon
 Makayla Aysien - Pinon
 Dailey Kohtz - Ocotillo
 Jessica Vaupel - Ocotillo
 Carla Rendon - Mimosa
 Emma Stewart - Mimosa
 Nataly Rascon - Cholla
 Veronique Villalba - Cholla
 Jourdan Chavez - Manzanita
 Alysa Rippee - Manzanita
 Penelope Chorkavy - Yucca
 Madison Goforth - Yucca
 Lindzay Baez - Saguaro
 Jayme Reed - Saguaro
 Megan Crimmins - Mesquite
 Madeline Lewis - Mesquite
 Catherine Elliott - Sycamore
 Rachel Hartenbower - Sycamore
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Saguaro's New Mayor

JaymeReed
 Saguaro City Reporter

Saguaro's new mayor is Alejandra Ruelas and she is from the city of Douglas. I interviewed her to find out her opinions on her city and her people.

Reporter: Why did you run for mayor?
Alejandra: Because I love my city and my city is the best.

Reporter: What is your favorite part about being mayor?
Alejandra: My favorite part is all the girls in my city. I love each of them and they are very important to me.

Reporter: What were you most scared about when you were appointed?
Alejandra: Messing up my speech.

Reporter: What do you want to accomplish with your city?
Alejandra: Capital City of course. *whoop, whoop*.

Reporter: What are you going to do for your citizens?
Alejandra: I'm going to be there for them. If they need something, I'll be there for them. If they are running for state or county, I will be there for them and give them the support of our city.

Reporter: What do you want to do to become Capital City?
Alejandra: Being on time to the places we have to be. Being respectful and being 100% on everything.
Reporter: Explain your city theme and why you choose it?
Alejandra: We are Saguaro's Superbugs, because our city was destroyed in an apocalypse and just like Wall-E, we moved to space. Bugs rescued us and allowed us to return to Earth so we support bugs.
Reporter: What is your least favorite part about being mayor?
Alejandra: The fact that it only lasts a week.
Reporter: What was your inspiration during your campaign?
Alejandra: One of my state officers was treasurer and what she did during her own campaign inspired me. She gave a speech about trying things you aren't used to.
Reporter: What do you plan on doing in your real life community when you return?
Alejandra: When I return to my community I want to apply all the skills I learned in Girls State in my community. I want to inform the people of Douglas how the state government is run, especially the young people in my community.

Ten thoughts for Girls State

EvonNguyen & EmilyGarcia
 Juniper City Reporters

Ten thoughts all girls at Girls State experience.

1. "Oh shoot, I forgot my towel... & pillow!"
2. "Wait, why did I come here again?"
3. "Everyone is so uplifting!"
4. "Where is the store at?"
5. "I wonder what we are eating today?"
6. "Vote for me... please!"
7. "When can I nap?"
8. "I'm so glad I met you!"
9. "Can't wait to wash my shirt."
10. "Are you a Federalist or a Nationalist?"

Girls State is a unique and rewarding encounter with American ideals and these are thoughts that cross each individuals' mind!

What was your first impression?

MadisonGoforth
 Yucca City Reporter

Here at Girls State, the people you have bonded with and have gotten to know had doubts and suspicions to how this week was going to be played out. But after the first couple hour of bonding with roommates and learning more about your city, girls all around felt at ease with one another.

Terra Savage from Sycamore City said in an interview, "I was nervous that I thought I was going to have to walk up those stairs with my bag. I was also nervous to meet all the girls."

She wasn't the only one. Tatum Ball from Yucca City also expressed her thoughts on the first day, "I was really intimidated and nervous and I felt like I was going to throw up. Yet when I got to my room and met my roommate, I started to relax...when we went to the city hall meeting, I was excited because everyone was nice."

Though it was all nerve wrenching to come to Girls State, because it is a new experience, the first day wiped away most of the jitters felt by many. This was due to everyone's nice personality and meeting new people. With this, thank you to everyone for the experience we all get for this week at Girls State.

Pima county guest speaker

Catherine Elliott
Sycamore City Reporter

This morning in social science building 100, Lisa Matthews spoke to the assembled Girls State delegates about her job as a county official for Pima County. She started off her talk with some information about her background. She served in the United States Air Force for the first part of her career. After she left she went to work for IBM before they downsize. She applied to work for the county and state government and was hired to work for the county. She has had many different positions including receptionist and as a member of the transportation department. These were only a few of the jobs she had before she became assistant to the Pima

County Administrator.

Ms. Matthews began by giving an overview of her job and the jobs at the County Government. For her job, she is responsible for getting information and helping the Pima County Administrator. She often has to go to meetings of the homeowners association. Another important part of the county is the Board of Supervisors, who help run the county. They are appointed by the taxpayers. The treasurer is also an important part of the county. They are in charge of collecting taxes and taking care of grants. Meanwhile, the recorder record deeds and confirms lawful ownership of property. There is also the superintendent of schools, who gives information to schools about the law.

Ms. Matthews then went on to describe

what the County's job is. They are responsible for setting County taxes, and "are responsible for public health and welfare." One of the most recent taxes the government of Pima County has put into affect is a new property tax to pay for road repairs. They are attempting to put in a gas tax to make sure the tax is for people who drive and not just those who own property. The gas tax hasn't been changed since 1981.

After finishing her talk, Lisa Matthews took questions. When asked what advice she had for girls during the military she recommended choosing a job that can be used in the outside world. She also gave the advice: "Learn what you don't know. Get involved. Keep a curious mind." All in all, it was an informational as well as inspirational talk.

Heated campaigning at GS

Summer Dahlquist-Tookey
Ironwood City Reporter

What better day to run around the University of Arizona attending various campaigning seminars and hanging up election posters than a day that has a heat advisory warning? Yes, June 6, the day Girls State County and State campaigning began, was a very hot day for us all. Yet, the heat seemed to grow even more intense as girls began to campaign, realizing their friends are now their

opponents as they run for office.

Posters began to line the walls of hallways, despite many cities requiring coronations, if you will, for girls from other cities to be able to hang up posters in their cities. Ironwood required girls to spin around twice before sticking their poster on the wall in a very pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey type fashion while Mimosa asked girls to sing their favorite song from High School Musical.

After the walls had become heavily adorned, we all traveled to the court-

yard to become more familiar with the candidates we share counties and parties with. Afterward, the girls separated throughout the courtyard, and those campaigning for State or even Girls Nation positions personally introduced themselves to fellow citizens and passed out campaign materials in order to better their chances at winning.

Only the next day's election results will show who of us are the most successful in our campaigning strategies, and may the best girl win!

Pep with the Federalists

Madeline Lewis
Mesquite City Reporter

On Monday night the first pep rally for both parties was held in the court yard. The Federalists gathered at the west patio and the Nationalists on the east patio. Each party was represented by their precinct committee's spirit team, members from each county. After introducing some party leaders, each part was led in new chants that the spirit teams created themselves. Some of the songs even had hand-made signs to go along with them.

Part way though the rally the Federalists could all of a sudden hear the cheers of the Nationalists growing louder and

louder. Turning around, the Federalists were greeted with a face-to-face confrontation with the other party. Shouting and chanting was exchanged between the two huge hoards (all in great spirit of course). The middle center of the exciting event was surprised when an enthusiastic Nationalist performed a back flip in the middle of a cheer!

This year, the Federalists platform is based off of an acronym of their nickname, Feds. AS shared by Natalie Rasku, a member of the Federalist precinct committee and citizen of the city of Mesquite, the letters stand for family, economy, diversity, and service.

As related by another member of the

precinct committee at the rally, all of these elements have a deeper meaning. Family includes not only biological family but friends and all members of the community and the idea that they should all be supported and supportive of each other. Economy is about improving the state of the Federalist community. Diversity is about promoting and enforcing equality and other important social factors in the community. Last but not least is service, the service to and from leaders and member of the community is important.

In the days coming, we'll see how the candidates for office will apply these policies to their platforms.

All levels of government are important levels of government

Grace Barrett
Palo Verde City Reporter

Lots of amazing people work behind the scenes to make America function as one nation. However, many people do not consider the work that goes into helping run a state, county or even a city; which also all contribute to helping the nation continue everyday.

Cities take care of citizens' everyday needs and provide safety. Without the basic governments of cities citizens lives

would be much harder. Cities whether they are big or small are the backbone of the American country.

Those working for their cities at Girls State are working to create the wonderful foundation that will hopefully be one of the greatest sessions that has ever been.

On the next level, the county level, the people are working equally as hard as those in the cities to create a great environment for the people that depend on them. Counties take care of water, provide services, and help maintain cities within their county.

These people also fight for citizens to be able to live their best lives safely and happily through state legislature. Having a county position is one of the best ways to help fellow citizens. Counties help the state function as well, which in turn helps the nation function.

All of these people on the 'lower' levels of government are some of the best people in the government system and the nation could not survive without them. Congratulations and thank you to all city and county officials!

The hardships of decorating

Nataly Rascon & Veronique Villalba
Cholla City Reporters

The colorful city of Cholla has been put into panic mode. After choosing their theme 'Cocholla,' a mixture of their city name and the music festival 'Coachella' they got straight into decorating mode.

Alessandra Young talks about the theme as, "I think it's a really unique theme. People next year will think it is a really funny surprise."

Although it is funny, it is not all fun and games. Your trusty reporters have noticed several in panic. Trying to be the most colorful, and unique door can be your downfall. Either way Cholla citizens are making the most of it.

Being extremely open with each other, citizens do not hesitate to borrow supplies from one another. To some it is not about the amount of supplies you have or how colorful it is, it is about the effort. A direct quote from Katie Cook, "I think it's about one's creativity."

Cholla City is nothing but creativity, using skill and creating amazing looking doors. Cholla has gone one step further into decorating their hall walls. Using their unique creativity Cholla City is a memorable hall to walk through.

Sister bonding, always a thing... even in cities

Madison Goforth
Yucca City Reporter

It was Monday night at 9:00 p.m. in the evening. Everyone was all hyped to meet their sister cities of Yucca and Pinon. Though one party was late by a greater of 20 minutes, we were all excited to share our history and laughter all night long. Some serious conversations and some silly ones were exchanged while we played a game as a whole. Five blank pieces of lined paper were passed around and on each of them a girl wrote a sentence. A random one at that. There were five sentences that would turn into stories by the end of the night. Alas, we were told by our city advisors that we needed to work on our city books.

So we had to finish the stories to present. It all took about five minutes just like the Pinon Mayor Aurora said.

Some started off with, "I was once a dog and had diabetes," to others that said, "he found that suicide was the best choice." Another ended with, "the only way to stop it was with a fleet of baby pilots."

At the sister city meeting, it was a blast and everyone was sad for it to end at 9:21 p.m.

County & State Elections

Jessica Vaupel
Ocotillo City Reporter

This upcoming election has already shown how passionate and genuine every girl here is. Most of us are making posters and asking for your vote; but there are 12 girls (Mayors) who aren't able to run and these are two of their thoughts..

Ella, Mayor of OCOTILLO
"I feel pretty relieved that I don't have to run because I have a great job already. I have a really awesome city so I'm enjoying working with just them so far. I've also really enjoyed working with the other mayors, I think it's really fun for us to watch everyone go at it. I can't wait to watch my city and cheer for them as they run, and work on Girls Nation."

Alison, Mayor of PALO VERDE..
"Honestly, I'm disappointed I can't run. There's a lot of empty slots that I feel are a lot of fun that I would love to do. But I like being mayor because I know my city and I enjoy governing people in my city. Ultimately though there's a lot of passionate people running so it'll be excited to see and hear their speeches and campaigns."

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Career Choosing

DaileyKohtz
Ocotillo City Reporter

Choosing a career can seem like a daunting decision to make. The multitude of options and things to consider can even make it terrifying.

Girls State is full of talented, driven girls that already have some idea of what they want. So, a number of them have been interviewed on their thinking behind their career choices. By asking why, hopefully one can be inspired to see the challenge in a more approachable light.

Callista Gregory, from Saguaro, wishes to be an art teacher because she has “a very strong passion for art, and she wants to be able to mentor kids...” Like many individuals, she considered what she was passionate about.

One’s passions are things they love doing. While considering passions, one may have complementary interests, or conflicting ones. Art and working with

kids may match, but karate and math may not mesh so well.

Of course, there are more ways to make this decision. According to Rachel Deckert from Sycamore, she hopes to be an architect, because her “geometry teacher recommended it to her and she realized how well it fit.”

Sometimes, asking an individual who knows your interests and abilities might have insight into careers one has never thought about. Moreover, investing time in research offers an abundance of information. This can help in learning about a person’s options.

Of course, both asking someone, and research can have their downsides. Nobody knows an individual’s heart like they know their own. Likewise, their ideas on the person’s abilities may be inaccurate. Research is imperfect because it can lead to overwhelming, or misleading information.

What is to be done when every option

sounds great? This does not mean there are not other trains of thought in career hunting.

In Ocotillo, Sophia Hoffmann wants to be either an environmental engineer or go into environmental marketing. This is because she believes in cleaning up the planet.

Many people choose a career based on the difference they want to make. Thinking this way is noble, but one may not know what they wish to change.

Alone all of these approaches can be helpful. They each offer means to learn about one’s self, and narrow down the choices. It would be wise to explore through the internet, and talking to other people.

Last but not least explore noble causes. Find a need to care about and fill it. Best of luck if you are still hunting. Hope this was inspiring!

Teamwork abound

CatherineElliott
Sycamore City Reporter

It is truly amazing what a group of people working together towards a common goal can accomplish. There are many examples of it throughout history, from the building of the pyramids to the beginning of our country. While Girls State does not deal with issues as weighty as those, it is still a good showcase of what people working together can do.

The most obvious example of this is the main goal of the delegates at Girls State. During the week we are expected to create a city. This would be nearly impossible to

do in twice that time if not for our Cities. It would also be nearly impossible if we were all not united by our common goal to succeed in Girls State. If not for the help of our fellow delegates we wouldn’t be able to be sucked in to our tasks. This isn’t a phenomenon exclusive to Girls State either. Many jobs, from military to civilian, cannot be accomplished without help from other people.

Another example of the importance of the team dynamic is during our many elections. Without support from our fellow delegates, being elected into any office is impossible. To do this, it is important to convince prospective voters that the electee is not only going to be

best for the individual, but best for the team.

Creating the team dynamic is also important. It doesn’t matter how many people are on your team if they can’t work together. Girls State is a good example of this. At the beginning of the week, tasks were harder to do as we didn’t know each other. Now that we’re adjusting to our cities and building our teams, working on tasks is much easier.

It is important to remember that no matter how good you are at something, it is better to have help than do everything alone. Girls State is a good reminder of this, as it shows just how far a dedicated team of people can go.

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Girls State Talent Show 2017

**Emcees: Katia White (Manzanita),
 Lindsay Bauer & Calli Gregory (Saguaro),
 Rachel Hartenbower (Sycamore) & Carissa Eich (Pinon)**

Name/s:	City:	Description:
Carolina Esquerra	Mesquite	Singing "En Nuestro Padre"
Brianna Dilodilo	Cholla	Singing "All I Want" a capella
Nadia Lukay	Palo Verde	Singing "Flashlight"
Emma Young	Mimosa	Acting from <i>Hamlet</i> "Act 5, Scene 1"
Angelica Williams	Palo Verde	
Kira Johnson	Mimosa	Apache Language Traditional Song
Da' Shae Tolbert	Manzanita	Singing "The Glory of Love"
Kyla Sympson	Saguaro	Singing "Stay"
Jamie Alexander	Palo Verde	Dancing to "Cheerleader"
Alaina Rowitsch	Sycamore	Reciting Pi
Rachel Johnson	Manzanita	Singing "Edelweiss" from Sound of Music a capella
Emily Rodas	Sycamore	Dancing to "Revolution"
Nhi Nguyen	Sycamore	Singing "Irreplacable" a capella
Sophia Kaylor	Mimosa	Puns
China Dennington	Cholla	Singing "Mean"
Camden Wawro	Ocotillo	Ukulele playing and Singing "Sleepy"
Lilianna Espinoza & Bayleigh Graham	Mesquite	Dancing to "Bop to the Top"
Ashley Lewis	Manzanita	Singing "Super Love"
Anika Flores	Manzanita	Singing "As We Stumble Along"
Destiney Stevens	Manzanita	Dancing to "Super Woman"
Mackenzie White	Ironwood	Singing Italian Opera "O mio babbino caro"
Carla Rendon	Mimosa	Reciting her poem "In the Storm"
Makayla Aysien	Pinon	Singing "Guns and Ships" ???
Ann Chang	Mimosa	Playing the Violin: "Mendelssohn's Concerto for Violin"
Jourdan Chavez & Madlyn Weaver	Manzanita	Slam Poetry about Women's Empowerment
Anna Agosto	Yucca	Ukulele playing and Singing "Over the Rainbow" and "Wonderful Word"
Adia Adeogba	Ironwood	Singing "Hallelujah"
Special Presentation		Mrs. Maklary

The Executive Branch

Rachel Hartenbower
Sycamore City Reporter

The results are coming in! Primary and general elections have taken place and girls are swearing into office. Sadly, this means our current governor and secretary of state, Ms. Yakira Flanagan and Ms. Shannon Watson, will soon be leaving office. Fortunately, both members of the executive branch gave me some insight on who they are and some advice for the upcoming governor and secretary of state.

Ms. Flanagan and Ms. Watson sat with the Sycamore table Wednesday at lunch and we got to know them a little better. The governor told us that it is a truly humbling experience to be in such a position of power, watching us develop in a similar way that she did. She also said that it was a rewarding position as well to govern girls who are passionate about what they are learning here.

Our secretary of state said something similar to this, discussing how it is one thing to undergo the development at Girls State but a completely other thing to watch others undergo that development.

Next, I asked them what advice they had for those running for the executive positions. Not shockingly, they said similar things. Ms. Watson said that you should not take yourself too seriously in this job.

She told me about how she was very outgoing during her campaign and rather than trying to be very serious all the time she made friends with people and was herself. With that being said, however, our secretary of state warned me to know the proper time and place for when to be sincere and when to joke.

Ms. Flanagan said that the best thing to keep in mind is that it is okay to be wrong during this election. She emphasized that it is good to remember that you will make mistakes but it is a good lesson in accept-

ing responsibility and learning how to adjust.

Hopefully, our next governor and secretary of state will keep this in mind and flourish in their new positions. The governor and secretary of state also talked about their friendship a little bit. They revealed that they had never met one another until Girls State, but have been best friends ever since.

Our governor said, "Not only is she [Shannon Watson] my other half, she's also my better half." Though in the upcoming fall semester they will be miles away, their friendship will not falter in any way.

The most important message our executive branch left me with is that during this week at Girls State it is crucial that we act as we are rather than what we think people will want to hear. On behalf of all the girls in Girls State, thank you for your service and good luck in your future endeavors.

What is Passion?

Madison Goforth
Yucca City Reporter

This week is getting to know your fellow Girls State members. Today we will look at a few from different cities who have some cool facts about themselves.

Carina Cruickshank-Taylor, from Ironwood city, was asked, "What is interesting about you?" She replied after a pause saying she would like to be able to work with disabled kids when she gets older as her career.

Next up we have Jade McLaughlin from Mimosa city, who was asked the same questions. Right off the bat she answered that she played the clarinet, is the drum major at her school, and loves to swim.

Another interviewee was Victoria Watkins and she is from Juniper city. Her answer was very strong as to what she thought was interesting about her. Victoria took karate classes and also taught for two years. She is a black belt, so stay on her good side! She also participates in decanationals. She went to nationals twice and

she is the co-president.

Meeting these girls has opened my eyes to all the possibilities that are out there in the world. In the beginning, it was specializing in hunting and collecting plants/herbs; not it goes into a plethora of subjects, each with multiple subdivisions. A piece of advice, if one branch did not grow from your tree, grow another and another until you have a fully grown tree; because there are so many activities that suit your "tree".

Getting to know you!

Lindsay Baez
Saguaro City Reporter

I interviewed Ashley Hill and Fiona Houston as a get to know you for the paper. They are roommates from Saguaro City. Although they are very different they are also very similar. They both consider themselves introverts, they like to keep to themselves.

One interesting fact about Fiona is that she has been to Paris, France. She went

last year in 2016. Something interesting about Ashley is that she balances 5 sports, they are; golf, swim, track, softball and tennis.

Their college dreams are different, Ashley wants to go to NAU, while Fiona wants to attend BYU with her siblings. After college, Fiona would like to stay in Arizona and have a family with many kids. Ashley on the other hand would like to join the Air Force.

For the rest of the interview I threw

random questions at them, mostly about their favorite things. Ashley's favorites are pink as her favorite color, The Beatles as her favorite artist, Target as her favorite store, and mac & cheese as her favorite food.

Fiona's favorites are green as her favorite color, The Eagles as her favorite artist, Target is also her favorite store, and pizza as her favorite food. They're both really cool people to get to know!



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Why does Girls State feel like it is already over?

Madison Goforth
Yucca City Reporter

Though we may have two more days at Girls State, our brains are convinced that Girls State is coming to a close faster than we suspect. Why is that?

A mayor from Yucca city, Lena Han, shed some light on the situation at hand in the dorms at 11:00 p.m.

"Towards the beginning of the week everyone was trying to run for a position

and get their name on the ballot. There were campaign posters everywhere."

This may be the primary cause of why everyone feels that Girls State has ended sooner than it actually has. Or it could also have some contributing factors such as sleep deprivation or the lack of family pets being within close proximity to us.

AS I sit writing this and contemplating the question, I look back on all the memories that girls have created at the week-long event. The bonds grow more tight as

the days progress and we are completely relaxed with people who were total strangers before 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Yet, congratulations are in order. To those who ran for a city leader, to those who ran for a county position, and to those who ran for a state position; congratulations. And to all the citizens, collectively, we made it almost through an entire week without someone falling to the ground due to lack of sleep or water. May the rest of the time be spend in merriment.

Cholla Girls Bonding

Veronique Villalba & Nataly Rascon
Cholla City Reporters

"This is the quietest you're ever going to be," said by city advisor Traci Sawyer-Sinkbeil.

"I thought I was not going to talk to anyone and I wanted to go home," was what Alexis Vestal thought, what all of

Cholla thought.

Little did the citizens of Cholla know, never realizing what was going to happen. The first two days of Girls State were rocky between off of the girls. Everyone was figuring each other out. By getting to know everyone's quirks the girls were getting to know each other.

By day three, Kiera Lamoreaux

thoughts were, "we're all stuck with each other," making all the girls cough. Talking to each other was becoming easier and easier, soon there was no silence or awkwardness in the city.

Cholla citizens made a bond that is unbreakable. From just realizing with one another to racing each other in the hall way, Cholla girls have become more than friends, they have become family.

Girls State Attorney General

Jayme Reed
Saguaro City Reporter

I interviewed the new Attorney General, Lindsay Bauer. A volleyball player from Desert Mountain High School in Scottsdale, AZ, Lindsay has big dreams for her life. All heard her amazing speech Wednesday night which demonstrated the goals she has. I asked her a few questions.

Reporter: Why did you want to be Attorney General?

Lindsay: Because when I grow up I want to be a lawyer and I thought this would be a good experience I have experience with being a peer lawyer and thought I would be good at it.

Reporter: What was your inspiration to run for Attorney General?

Lindsay: Teen court, where I am a peer lawyer, has inspired me to help people,

especially juveniles by giving them the second chance that the justice system doesn't.

Reporter: How do you feel this experience will change/impact you?

Lindsay: I feel like it will teach me how to cooperate with people and how me how to approach different topics.

I believe Girls State choose an excellent Attorney General and it will be interesting to see where else Miss Lindsay Bauer goes.

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The Immortal Problem of Plastic

MeganCrimmins
Mesquite City Reporter

Have you ever heard of the great pacific garbage patch? This is a large area, around the size of Texas, of plastic waste in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, near the island of Midway. This garbage patch began do to ocean currents that meet up here. Much of this plastic washes up on the shores of Midway and kills much of its wildlife.

This is not only occurring in Midway, or in the great pacific garbage patch, but these are some of the biggest examples. I doubt there are very many of you, if any, who have been to a beach and not seen at least one piece of plastic that has washed up on shore. This is a problem, and a serious one at that. Toxins found within plastics are transferred from plastic into the animals who consume them, thinking they are food. These toxins are passed up the food chain and magnified as they move up do to a process called bioaccumulation. These toxins have the potential to, and commonly do, kill many animals.

Plastic was invented as a substance that was meant to last. There is no problem with this, except for the fact that it is constantly used for one use products. Why would you use a non-biodegradable resource for one use products? The plastic does not just go away. The materials put into these plastics are never put back into their natural chemical cycles. Incinerating plastics release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, so burning it is not a sustainable solution.

Let's take a plastic, one use, cup that you might find at a quick water station in a restaurant, sports game, etc. These plastic cups are used once, maybe

twice, and then they are discarded. Now think about how many people at that restaurant or sports game got water that day. Then multiply that by seven. Then multiply that by four. That's one month of just one plastic resource being used in two circumstances. This plastic was used once, for at most an hour, and then was discarded without a thought of where it might end up. Now think of every single plastic material that is used in the same way as this plastic cup would be and how many people a day use these products.

I could go on and on with this, but I strongly believe that it is important to think through issues on your own, so I will leave you with these questions or topics to think about:

Do you believe that an environment that provided the chemicals for these products, but did not create them, deserves to pay the price for our use of them?

What plastic materials that you use have reusable equivalents? (Water bottles, grocery bags, etc.)

Do you really need a plastic straw to drink that one drink with?

If you did not use a basket or cart to shop, then you do not need a plastic bag to carry your items to your car.

If there is an emailed receipt or no receipt option, use it!

If the label says it's recyclable, recycle it!

If you see a piece of plastic on the sidewalk or blowing around, pick it up, the majority of loose plastic will end up in the ocean.

Actively take notice of how many one use plastic materials you use in your everyday life and think about ways that you could not use these materials.

We love our funny, quirky pets

DaileyKohtz
Ocotillo City Reporter

Many of the glamorous girls have pets at home. Some of these fuzzy, scaly, and feathery friends are the particular favorite. Some even have stories that insight awws and giggles. Some of these lovely ladies have graciously shared their rainbow of pets for everyone to enjoy.

The first story is by Kassondra Estrada. She decided to share about her dear cat Tyga. According to her, "she left home for a couple of days, and when she came back, Tyga wouldn't let her leave without him, and during the night he kept wanting to lay on her face." It is clear that she is his favorite human.

Most pet owners can relate to this kind of special attention when their pets dub them number one human. There is nothing more pleasant that the

warm fuzzies.

Of course, there are days that our pets do something weird. One girls dog ate a box of crayon. Everyone is likely thinking how gross that is, especially if they have tried eating crayons as a kid. It gets better as this dog ended up pooping rainbows. Gross or not, this is sure to create a funny mental image.

Of course, some of the quirky things pets do are discovered in strange places. Lane Parrett has a corgi, and a german shepherd husky mix. Her corgi, Milly, likes to bury her treats in her hoarder closet. The other day she found a rotten mini-pancake in a shoe.

Sometimes pets stash snacks just like a number of ladies here. Have cat toys ever would up in a shoe? Yes, they have. We all see what our pets do, and sometimes it makes us laugh. When you get home, thank your pets with lots of love!

Whistle-Stop Excitement

Madeline Lewis
Mesquite City Reporter

On Wednesday night, the energy in the state was still high thanks to some exciting campaigning taking place.

In the State House the night started out with speeches from both Federalist and Nationalist representatives explaining their parties platforms.

After that we heard a series of speeches from the state position candidates. One highlight was Mesquite's Clarinda Mersowsky vying for the posi-

tion of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Her speech included the themes of every single city in the state! When hearing their theme the respective cities cheered excitedly.

Another highlight was the speeches from the candidates for Secretary of State and Governor. Speeches were not all that those candidates had in store for the cities though afterwards, all of the participated in the whistle-stop campaigns.

In this specific campaign, each candidate has three minutes on stage alone to

answer as many questions as they could. Those asking the questions were the Girls State Independent reporters, two from each city. These questions were meant to challenge but also help the candidates by showing their personalities.

The first two candidates, Angelina Ramirez and Kylie Cochrane, answered five questions each! The last two candidates, Madlyn Weaver and Nhi Nguyen, also shared enlightening answers.

Great job to all those that participated in the amazing whistle-stop campaigns!

Which part of the pineapple are you quiz?

Evon Nguyen
Juniper City Reporter

How prepared were you?

1. I didn't forget anything at all.
2. Forgot some toothpaste.
3. We were supposed to bring posters?

What was your "dream position"?

1. I was destined for Governor.
2. As long as I got one, I was happy.
3. I would prefer none of the above.

How much did you campaign?

1. I talked to every person I could see!
2. I made plenty of posters.

3. I forgot my materials!

- 1: leaves- you are bold and outgoing.
- 2: sweet stuff- you are genuine and a compassionate individual.
- 3: hard exterior- you go with the flow and are unconditionally yourself

You're the Judge!

Rachel Hartenbower
Sycamore City Reporter

Thursday morning, a lovely speaker came to Girls State and talked to us about her life. Mostly she talked about how she took every opportunity that came her way and now she is a successful judge in the Court of Appeals.

The most important message she left us with is that working hard and taking opportunities is the key to achieving your goals. This information is crucial for us to remember for when we leave Saturday morning, back to our everyday lives.

Often, we sell ourselves short and believe that we cannot reach our goals because of some arbitrary restriction. This, however, is not the case. As we go back to our hometowns, let each remember that it is hard work that leads us to success.

The world too often tells us how we cannot do things for one reason or another, but it is so important to remember that these restrictions are completely made up. You are the ones who know what your limitations are, so do not let others tell you what you are capable of.

Also, it is important that we do not fall into the habit of making excuses

according to the arbitrary obstacles. Rather than blaming the things people tell you for why you cannot do something, ignore these things and choose to thrive instead.

It is so important for us all to remember that we determine our future, and that it is not determined for us. It is the hard work and the opportunities we take that lead us to success.

Soon we will leave Girls State and new challenges will come our way. I encourage us all to remember that it is hard work and taking advantage of every situation that helps us achieve our dreams.



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