

## In this issue

### News:

Canada Detains  
Canadian Citizens

### Features:

How does the class of  
2021 feel about  
graduation?

### Special Features:

What You Need to  
Know About  
Vaccinations

### Opinions:

We Need to Stop  
Glorifying Serial  
Killers

### Sports:

One year after Kobe  
Bryant's Death

### Entertainment:

The Gaming Industry  
Carried 2020



photo courtesy of Drew Perine/The News Tribune via AP

## Biden Lifts Transgender Military Ban

*Madeline Moran*

On January 25th, 2021, President Joe Biden signed an official executive order lifting the Pentagon's ban on transgender people joining the U.S military.

The ban was put in place by the Trump administration back in 2017. When the ban was first being devised, Trump tweeted "Our military must be focused on decisive and overwhelming ... victory and cannot be burdened with the tremendous medical costs and disruption that transgender in the military would entail." Before Trump's presidency, former President Barack Obama not only allowed transgender personnel into the U.S military, but he also allowed them to receive transition

surgery and medical care.

When speaking to reporters, President Biden said, "What I'm doing is enabling all qualified Americans to serve their country in uniform, and essentially restoring the situation as it existed before, with transgender personnel, if qualified in every other way, can serve their government in the United States military."

According to ABC News, "It is unclear how many transgender people serve in the military, though some advocacy groups have said it could be as high as 15,000 individuals." And to this, Marine Corps Capt. Emma Shinn says, "I am elated that the approximately 15,000 transgender service members proudly serving across the globe can rest easier knowing that their service

to our nation is seen, valued and that they can continue to serve as their authentic selves.”

Also in support of President Biden’s decision to lift the ban is new Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin. He said in a statement, “I fully support the

President's direction that all transgender individuals who wish to serve in the United States military and can meet the appropriate standards shall be able to do so openly and free from discrimination.”

He also mentioned that he believes it is not only the right thing to do but the smart thing to do. President Joe Biden plans to allow transgender Americans who are qualified to serve in the U.S military as of 2021.

## Canada Detaining Canadian Citizens



*photo courtesy of BriYYZ*

**Imani Davis**

[Canada's new travel restrictions](#) went into effect on February 7th. Canadian citizens traveling back into Canada must have a negative COVID-19 test and must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival. Travelers must submit a 14 day plan for self-quarantine to the government. If not approved, they must spend their quarantine in a government facility. Approval of the quarantine plans has no parameters and is under the discretion of a government

official. To leave the country, travelers must pay over \$2000 to stay in a government mandated hotel while waiting for a COVID-19 test. There have been reports of several Canadians being forced into government hotels for quarantine regardless of their COVID-19 tests or previous quarantine plans.

According to [the Toronto Sun](#), Steve Duesing was detained in a hotel room in the Radisson hotel after landing at Pearson airport on January 31st. He entered the country with a

negative test that was not accepted and was told to quarantine in the hotel while waiting for another test. Duesing was told the test would take 48 hours for results, but after that time had passed he received no information. Duesing released photos of the room, where a guard was stationed to ensure he did not leave. He also released photos of the food; a ham sandwich one day and a bagel and apple the next. According to Duesing, he received only four water bottles a day. [The JCCF](#), a Canadian legal organization, says the Canadian government faces a lawsuit for unlawful confinement, arrest without charge, and refusal to inform family of the whereabouts of these Canadian citizens. This news comes after several Canadian officials admitted to breaking COVID-19 travel laws to go on family trips out of the country, including eight officials in Alberta alone where COVID-19 numbers are the highest.

## Summer 2021 OLYMPICS?

As the 2020 Olympics didn't occur last year, people are wondering if there will still be a 2021 Olympics.

### 01 Info



Jen Psaki, the current White House secretary said, "Nothing has changed about our plans, we want Team USA to succeed on the international stage, and the health and safe of our athletes is the priority. Ultimately though, this will be the USOPC's decision."

The United States hasn't made any further decision to send their athletes to the summer 2021 Olympics. The White House says that athlete safety remains top priority. The Tokyo games were originally scheduled in 2020, but got postponed due to the coronavirus.



Jen Psaki

### 02

### 03 Japan



IOC President Thomas Bach states that "Beijing's Winter Olympics in 2022 were still on track to take place as scheduled." Bach also states, "We have, at this moment, no reason whatsoever to believe that the Olympic Games in Tokyo will not open on the 23rd of July in the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo." As this will be their only option, due to there is no plan B.

Currently, Japan is trying to find a way to host the Olympics as safely as possible for other countries and themselves. Yet if the summer Olympics were to be canceled, it would be the first time since WWII and could cost the IOC over \$1 billion in television revenue, per Mather.



Plan B

### 04

# ARIZONA:

## The World's COVID Hotspot

### The Post-Holiday Season

The conclusion of the holiday season marked an upswing of COVID-19 cases in Arizona. At the beginning of January, Arizona became the 'hotspot of the world' as the state experienced the highest rate of cases and number of hospitalizations in the world. Despite a decrease in new cases as we move beyond the holiday season, Arizona remains a national hotspot.



#### Top Five Counties Ranked by Cases

(Per 100,000 people)

1. Pinal County: 26
2. Santa Cruz County: 20
3. Mohave County: 19
4. Cochise County: 13
5. Apache County: 11

Data as of 3/25/2021  
Source: Mayo Clinic

#### Data on Cases

Total Number of Cases: 811,987  
Total Number of Deaths: 16,874  
Number of COVID-19  
Tests: 8,400,353  
Total Percent Positive  
(test results): 10.9%

Data as of 3/25/2021  
Source: Arizona Department of Health Services

## Recommended Actions

Avoid meeting in enclosed locations. Meet outdoors or in locations with natural ventilation.

Limit the amount of time spent in crowded spaces with long periods of close contact.

Wash your hands before touching your mask. When removing your mask, store in a sterile container and wash or dispose of medical masks after every use.

Source: World Health Organization





*photo courtesy of Daniel Rowe*

## How Do Seniors Feel About Graduation?

**Daniel Rowe**

The end of the school year is approaching, and for seniors the end is almost here. The 13 years of hard work, studying after midnight for a test, staying after school for help, time after time where they feel the world is against them, and all that stress is finally about to pay off. The class of 2021 will be taking to the field for their graduation in the coming months. Many seniors have begun planning their graduation parties with friends and families, while others are beginning to look forward to the next step in their lives whether it be college or the workforce. With graduation not too far away, the looming question is “Will there even be one?” With the ongoing pandemic lasting for what seems to be forever, no one knows what kind of graduation there will be.

For the most part, seniors are not letting a pandemic stop them from having a graduation this year.

They want to have some sort of event, even if it requires some restrictions. However, the senior class would like a real graduation instead of a virtual one. Brandon Lyon is a fellow senior at Campo Verde High School who will be graduating in May. When asked how he felt on a real or virtual graduation, he replied “I prefer a real graduation. To work all these years and finally be a senior, and to not walk across the field would leave a bitter taste.”

For some seniors, their graduation is a little more special because they will be the next generation of their family to graduate from the same school as other family members. Nicolas Riley, a fellow senior who will be graduating at Chandler High School, has had family members before him graduate at CHS. When he was asked about him being the next member of his family to graduate at CHS, his response was, “I am very excited about it. My mom

graduated on Austin Field, and hopefully I can walk across that same field she did”. As a fellow senior myself, I do have family ties here at Chandler. My grandpa graduated at CHS in the class of 1958. It would be awesome to graduate on that same field he walked across 63 years ago.

In the end, the class of 2021 just want to receive their diploma. Even with everything that has gone on the last year and a half, it doesn't take any meaning away from graduation. This graduation is a celebration of all the hard work the seniors put in to get to this point, and for some seniors, this may be the only graduation they will ever have. Whatever the graduation looks like in May, families and friends will still celebrate their child's accomplishment and wish them luck going into the real world. Congratulations to the Class of 2021 and best of luck in the future.

## Benefits of Working as a Teenager

*Brianna Bromley*

Among teenagers, the most common reason for getting a job is to make money, but there are plenty of other benefits to gain when first going into the workforce.

When teenagers get a job, it could be their first time in a professional environment where they need to rely on themselves to get work done. This gives young employees the ability to connect with people who could be a potential reference for future employment. Dianna Miller, a writer for [Youth First](#), said, "As teens work a part-time job, they learn how capable they are, which in turn builds confidence and self-reliance. This can help teens feel more independent and have the confidence to further their development with a sense of responsibility."

As high school students, we put so much thought into what our careers after graduation will look like, but that shouldn't be a huge factor when finding a job as a teenager. "If you find a job as a high school student that's in the field you eventually want to work in, that's great, but be aware most high schoolers take jobs that have absolutely nothing to do with their career paths," said Christine Sarikas, a tutor at [PrepScholar](#). Your job now won't necessarily be your job forever, so be open minded.

Unpleasant jobs can have their benefits as well. Mary Margaret Ruben, a theology teacher at Notre Dame Prep, worked as a lifeguard and taught swim lessons. She said, "It taught me how to go to work and gave me a work ethic. It taught me to go to a job and clean a bunch of gross toilets and then go home and clean my own toilet. Then I would appreciate it when I had a job where I didn't have to clean toilets. It taught me humility and respect." Teenage jobs are a good way of obtaining work experience and many other life skills.

## THE RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN AMERICA

**Since 2016, there has not only been a surge of anti-Semitic views, but anti-Semitic attacks. According to a study by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), out of 237 million people, 24 million people harbor some sort of anti-Semitic view.**

**According to the same study done by ADL, 20% of the 24 million believe "Jews still talk too much about what happened to them in the Holocaust."**

**In 2019, the FBI reported that there was a 14% increase in hate crime from 2018. However, the ADL stated that "the FBI numbers are almost certainly a significant undercount...many municipalities do not submit hate crime data to the FBI."**





By Mara Benfield









# COMPARISON





## PFIZER

-  95% effective at preventing COVID illness
-  Approved for Emergency Use on 12/11/2020
-  mRNA vaccine, kept between -112 and -76 °F
-  2 shots, 3 weeks apart

## MODERNA

- 94% effective at preventing COVID illness 
- Approved for Emergency Use on 12/18/2020 
- mRNA vaccine, kept from -13 to 5 °F 
- 2 shots, 1 month apart 

## JOHNSON & JOHNSON

-  85% effective at preventing severe COVID
-  Approved for Emergency Use on 2/27/2021
-  Adenovirus vaccine, kept from 35 to 46 °F
-  1 shot



# SAFETY

## PFIZER

The most common side effects are injection site pain, tiredness, or muscle pain, but chills, joint pain, fever, injection site swelling or redness, nausea, and swollen lymph nodes are possible.

## MODERNA

The most common side effects are injection site pain, swelling, and redness, along with chills, tiredness, and headaches. Fevers, nausea and swollen lymph nodes have also been observed in some.

## JOHNSON & JOHNSON

The most frequent effects in the clinical trial were fatigue, headache, muscle pain, injection site pain, and fevers.

Data courtesy of the FDA, CDC, and the New England Journal of Medicine

**THERE IS NO EVIDENCE  
OF A COVID VACCINE-  
LINKED DEATH**

Side effects and adverse reactions will differ from person to person. Some experience few side effects, and some have more severe symptoms.

**"My arm hurt, and I was unable to sleep that night due to chills, sweats, and body aches. I was so laid out that I couldn't get out of bed the entire day that Sunday. By Monday morning, though, I felt about 90% back to normal."**

**- Brandi Rasmussen,  
Vaccinated CHS Teacher**





# AVAILABILITY

ALL MARICOPA COUNTY RESIDENTS OVER 16 YEARS OLD CAN NOW REGISTER FOR THEIR VACCINE USING THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SITE. SCAN HERE TO ACCESS THE SITE.



THE CDC SAYS FULLY VACCINATED PEOPLE CAN GATHER INDOORS WITH OTHER FULLY VACCINATED PEOPLE WITH NO MASKS, VISIT RELATIVES WITHOUT MASKS, AND STOP QUARANTINING WHEN EXPOSED TO COVID-POSITIVE INDIVIDUALS. THE PERKS OF GETTING A VACCINE ARE GREAT!

BY GETTING VACCINATED, WE CAN GET BACK TO NORMAL LIFE. PROM, GRADUATION, AND MORE ARE POSSIBLE IN THE FUTURE ONLY IF WE GET TO HERD IMMUNITY! IF YOU ARE OVER 16, REGISTER FOR YOURS TODAY.



# RETURN TO NORMAL?

podvaccine.azdhs.gov/home

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
VACCINE - PATIENT PORTAL

English Home Book Appointment Help

## Schedule vaccination appointment

Complete the following application to schedule your vaccination, you will be asked to choose a center based on the location of your choice.

**Scheduling**

All fields marked with \* are required

\* Search for events by preferred zip code  
85225

Events within 50 miles

Earliest Available Appointment

Currently no appointment available for you preferred location.

* 1. Select Event	* 2. Select Date	* 3. Select Time
State of Arizona POD - Glendale, 12 Jan - 03 Apr 1 Cardinals Dr, 85305, Glendale, Arizona	MARCH 2021 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa	No Slots Available

photo courtesy of Griffin Eckstein

## Griffin Eckstein

As vaccine production and distribution speed up, many are asking when we will "return to normal." A return to normal, or a pre-pandemic life, may never be possible. Yes, we might be able to overcome the pandemic in the next few years, but the lasting scars of COVID-19 will exist for years to come.

Herd immunity is needed to end the pandemic. Dr. Fauci estimates that 75 to 80% or more of the population need to have antibodies, via infection or vaccination, to reach herd immunity. In the US, assuming everyone who is eligible chooses to get a vaccine, we may reach this target relatively quickly. However, we need worldwide herd immunity.

If we allow COVID to spread in other nations that haven't reached herd immunity, the possibility of mutations that the vaccines don't provide immunity may emerge. According to the British Medical Journal, "At least 90% of people in 67 low income countries stand little chance of getting vaccinated against COVID-19 in 2021." If we seek to eradicate the coronavirus, we need to work not only in the US, but make vaccines available to people in every country.

There is a light at the end of the tunnel, but we risk going backwards if we continue with the current unequal vaccine distribution that favors the wealthy. A return to normal requires global collaboration.

## We Need to Stop Glorifying Serial Killers

**Serial killers are meant to be condemned, not acclaimed or worshipped.**

**Mara Benfield**

If you're on any social media, chances are you've run across some sort of 'true crime' account. Their posts likely consist of breaking down notorious crimes and creating theories for unsolved ones. They post unsettling facts about serial killers, discovered or undiscovered.

However, if you go too far in the true crime community, you'll find something that looks like a normal true crime account on the surface. But the deeper you dig, the more you see pins of Jeffery Dahmer, shirts with Richard Ramirez, and even tattoos of Charles Manson's face. You see quotes from them, formatted as if they're inspirational. And worst of all, you'll see comments upon comments about how attractive and good-looking these killers are.

Some hotspots for these 'fan accounts' are Tumblr and TikTok. If you search for any serial killer's name on these sites, you'll likely find several posts gushing over these killers. In an article by Adrian Maldonado, titled 'Serial Killers Should Not be Glorified by the Media', he says "Tumblr is a hotbed of serial killers being glorified by users on the site...there is a post by an anonymous user asking, 'Do you think Ted Bundy is hot? I find him very attractive.'"

No doubt, some people will dispute that it isn't a big deal. It's a harmless 'crush'. Tell that to Nancy Wilcox, Lynette Culver, Carol Kyle, James Doxtator, Jay Sebring, Sharon Tate and her unborn child.

Of course, the only problem here isn't that people find them attractive. It's that there are people in the world who want to be like these killers. They want to be idolized, like what they see on social media. These people can turn into copycats of other deranged killers. Richard Ramirez was inspired by the Hillside Strangler. Seung-Hui Cho, the Virginia Tech shooter, was heavily influenced by the Columbine shooters.

People will argue that nothing dangerous or harmful can come from these 'fan accounts'. But think of all the future victims of copycat serial killers who were misled into thinking they'd be hailed a hero.

There is nothing wrong with being interested in serial killers. It's normal for us to be intrigued by horror and macabre. But it's not normal when the interest becomes a fascination that swells into obsession and glorification. We need to treat these killers as they are: disgusting and abhorrent people, unworthy of forgiveness.

## Positive Partisanship

**Simone King**

Partisanship has always been a point of contention that has only increased through the political divide of the last decade. Collaboration between government officials regardless of party lines has been an ideal emphasized in our country since its founding. However, while striving to achieve the goal of bipartisanship, the rights of minority groups are often sacrificed in these compromises. Historical instances of compromise like the Compromise of 1850, a temporary treaty between opposing factions on the issue of slavery, and Executive Order 9066, which placed Japanese Americans into internment camps during World War II, prove that those whose rights are up for debate usually experience the costs of bipartisanship.

These compromises, meant to preserve the welfare of our country, were at the sacrifice of not only its people but our country's integrity.

A history of bipartisanship has often caused the rights of oppressed groups to be compromised. A survey conducted by Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy found that 81% of participants believed that "without our freedom America is nothing." In our constitution, all citizens are provided with essentially rights and liberties that must be protected and upheld. Mrs. Carol Gould, Social Studies Department Chair at Chandler High School, expressed the importance of maintaining these liberties, "Our [constitutional] rights should never be compromised...our morals should never be compromised."

By standing firm in beliefs, partisan actions have led to some of our country's greatest accomplishments.

Despite increasing division within our country, government actions such as The Emancipation Proclamation, Roe V. Wade, and Obergefell v. Hodge helped our country progress by ensuring that all citizens could obtain their constitutional rights. What began as partisan initiatives became some of the most successful laws and government programs in terms of helping

minority groups achieve greater liberties. While conflict between political parties may seem counteractive, the only way for our democracy to truly advance is through the challenging of our political officials and our citizens. Partisanship for the sake of advancement is not only justified but is necessary to protect the rights of oppressed groups.

## Is This Really Progress?

President Joe Biden has reintroduced the idea of putting American abolitionist Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill replacing Andrew Jackson. However, there have been mixed feelings about this matter.

*Vy Truong*

As a minority in America, I was thrilled to hear that Harriet Tubman may be on the \$20 bill. Having the first woman to appear on such a valuable currency was exhilarating to imagine. Senator Jeanne Shaheen stated on NBC News that, "Having Harriet Tubman on the \$20 shows that we value what she did, that we value women, that we value people of color." These were my first thoughts until I considered its core benefits. I wonder about the purpose of putting Tubman on the \$20 bill. For justice? For materialistic purposes? Or is it to show the "progressiveness" the United States has towards marginalized communities?

As many know, Andrew Jackson was an infamous racist in American history. He owned hundreds of slaves and established the horrific Indian Removal Act of 1830. It only makes sense to remove him from the \$20 bill. Nonetheless, I believe we should take this energy into another focus. "Time" reports that a weekly median wealth for single Black women is \$200 and a weekly median wealth for Black men is \$300. "Nearly a quarter of Black women live in poverty." Instead of investing millions of dollars in putting Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill, I believe we should prioritize helping our Black communities. We need to help close their wage disparities and provide quality funding for their education. The government needs to address the poor access to health care in Black communities and proper housing.

I believe putting Tubman on the \$20 bill would only romanticize the idea that America is "progressive" and "inclusive." If America truly wants to be dynamic, we need to correct our history books and teach students



*photo courtesy of Vy Truong*

about their country's racist past. For example, students have learned about Christopher Columbus and how honored he is for discovering the Americas. Yet, we did not study his mass-murdering of Native Americans. Educating our youths will be a vital step towards a better tomorrow.

Amaya Cooks, a sophomore at Chandler High School, says, "If they want to show support to the Black communities in America, make radical changes not just to money." It is rather materialistic to not give our attention to the Black community and their struggles but put their faces on our currency. They are not objects; African-Americans have been through pain and were dehumanized throughout American history. The Treasury needs to understand the inequality at hand and manage it before anything else.

This is not to say Andrew Jackson should stay on the \$20 bill, because he does not need to be glorified. I relish the idea that Harriet Tubman will be on our currency. However, America needs to put its money into helping POC communities before putting POC on their money.

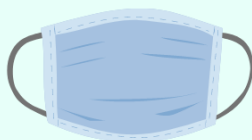
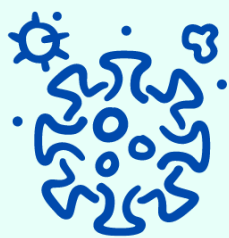
## Am I ready for the Covid-19 Vaccine?

By: Asia Cruz & Alyssa Rosenberg

### Yes

Being someone who has a family full of elders and babies, I would get the vaccine to decrease the chance of giving them COVID. I know there have been multiple scientists making this vaccine their top priority recently which is why I think it's out so early.

Whether you like wearing a mask or not, I also know everyone wants to go back to normal- back to traveling, parties, regular outings, and normal social interactions- including myself. Since some are unwilling to wear a mask, this is the only way to bring numbers and make life normal again. Therefore, I am ready to be vaccinated.



**\*NOTE\***  
Everyone is entitled to their own opinion about the COVID vaccine

### No

As a young woman planning to have children in the future, I am worried about the limited evidence available that a vaccination will not cause harm to my reproductive system. Although there is conversely no evidence that it will cause harm, I do not feel comfortable taking a risk that could potentially greatly impact my future ability to have children.

Researchers at Harvard said, "The mRNA vaccine trials did not deliberately include pregnant or breastfeeding individuals, so our direct knowledge is currently limited." Therefore, I am not ready to be vaccinated.

# COVID-19 Successes and Failures

As the pandemic continues to spread with no clear end in sight in the United States, many Americans look to other nations and wonder if it had to be this way.

## *Griffin Eckstein*

With 27.8 million COVID-19 cases, according to Johns Hopkins University, as of February 17, 2021 and continued case growth, the U.S. COVID-19 response is a clear failure. Compared to nations with much more immediate and far-reaching responses like New Zealand, with only 2,340 cases, or Cuba, with 39,914 cases, the slowed, varied, and weak prevention measures in the US contributed to the world's worst outbreak.

The United States had its first confirmed case of the novel coronavirus on January 21st, 2020. On February 2nd, former Pres. Trump announced a restriction on travel to the United States from China's Hubei province. It wasn't until March 13th when COVID-19 was declared a National Emergency and travel restrictions for non-US Citizens in Europe began, despite the President's proclamation in February that the virus would "miraculously go away" by April. By April 16th, the President was encouraging governors to reopen their states, ignoring the advice of medical experts like Dr. Fauci or Dr. Birx. By May, all 50 states partially or fully reopened, and cases rapidly grew. Throughout the spring, summer, and fall of 2020, the US faced the worst COVID-19 numbers on Earth, surpassing 200,000 deaths in September. A glimmer of hope appeared in December, when the first COVID-19 vaccine was approved for emergency authorization. However, having faced defeat in the presidential election, the White House left the Biden administration with no plans for federal vaccine distribution and production, according to Vice President Harris.

New Zealand, however, acted boldly under the

leadership of Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. A level 4 lockdown, restricting all non-essential business, was implemented on March 26th. The nation was able to move to a level 3 lockdown after 5 weeks, and ended all stay-at-home orders after just 7 weeks. Unlike the United States, the nation took decisive and unified action to stop the spread. There was little to no resistance to mask mandates, lockdowns, and closings. Individuals acted in the interest of public health rather than taking dangerous and selfish actions. Today, New Zealand stands as an exception among almost every country on Earth, proof that adhering to the words of scientists and the government saves lives. Prime Minister Ardern's leadership was effective because she treated the nation as a "team of 5 million," asking every citizen to unify and respect disease prevention measures.

While Americans bitterly resisted stay-at-home orders, ignored mask mandates, spread disinformation on vaccines and the virus, and reopened gyms, restaurants, and bars, New Zealand and others dramatically reduced the death toll. While the President gave a platform to conspiracy theories, didn't publicly wear a mask until July, and pushed for reopening as cases grew, the Prime Minister pushed unity and science. Today, as over a thousand people die a day in the US, New Zealanders still live in relative safety. The nation is so committed to safety that Auckland, the largest city in the nation, was recently placed under a temporary lockdown over three cases. The successes of New Zealand and others serve as an example for the United States of a government willing to prioritize public health over all else.

## Legendary Suns Basketball Players

*Alyssa Rosenberg*

Since the Phoenix Suns joined the NBA in 1968, they have had a slew of influential and inspiring players on the team. Although they have never won a championship, the Suns have still hosted a variety of highly talented players including Amar'e Stoudemire, Charles Barkley, and the one and only Steve Nash.

Amar'e Stoudemire is an obvious choice as one of the top three most influential basketball players the Suns have ever had. He was the 9th player drafted to the Suns in 2002, he quickly made his presence on the team known. After just one year on the team, he won the NBA Rookie of the Year award. In the following years, his impressive skills on the court led him to play in six NBA All-Star games and was selected as a member of the All-NBA team five times.

Another highly influential player for the Suns is Charles Barkley. He is widely considered one of the most dominant power forwards of all time, shooting 54% overall. For 11 years, Barkley was an NBA



*photo courtesy of Alyssa Rosenberg*

All-Star as well as a regular member of the All-NBA team. His highest honor, however, was being selected as the 1993 NBA Most Valuable Player. Concurrently, Barkley was a member of the 1992 and 1996 US Olympic "Dream Teams," where he won two gold medals.

Although these two are highly impressive, the most influential player the Suns have ever seen is Steve Nash. He played for 18 NBA seasons, and was named an NBA All-Star eight times and additionally was selected for the All-NBA team seven times. He was named the league's Most Valuable Player twice, and in 2006, ESPN named him the 9th best point-guard in history. For a period of time, he led the league in assists and free-throw percentage, causing him to rank as one of the best players in NBA history.

Clearly the Suns' lack of championship wins doesn't define the merit of their team members. Who will be the next legend?



*Photo Courtesy of Asia Cruz*



## Super Bowl 55

*The legend of Brady continues*



The Tampa Bay Buccaneers are Super Bowl 55 Champions. The Bucs beat the Kansas city Chiefs 31-9 to take home the trophy. Tampa beat Washington, New Orleans, and Green Bay to be the first team ever to host the Super Bowl. The Buccaneers dominated the Super Bowl to claim their second title in franchise history, this being their first since 2003.



*photo courtesy of loodibee.com*



*photo courtesy of commons.wikipedia.org*

Many people refer to Tom Brady as the greatest of all time. He proved once again why he is. This Super Bowl win marks Brady's seventh Super Bowl Title. With this win, Brady now has the most Super Bowl victories in NFL history. He even has more victories than all 32 teams in the NFL. Tom Brady also secured his 5th Super Bowl MVP, making that the most Super Bowl MVP awards ever. This is a special athlete that we are blessed to watch every Sunday.



"On the day his numbers meet (8 and 24), we celebrate the life and talent that was Kobe Bryant."

National Kobe Bryant Day - August 24th  
8/24

Kobe didn't just have an impact on the game of basketball, but to everyone who looked up to him.

"The most important thing is to try and inspire people so that they can be great in whatever they want to do."

- Kobe Bryant

"Keep on trying till you make it," that's the Mamba Mentality."

## KOBE BRYANT

# 24

## MAMBA FOREVER

Bryant was an avid philanthropist. Throughout his career, Kobe granted terminally ill children over 250 wishes through the Make A Wish Foundation, raised \$81 million for research through Stand Up to Cancer, was named an honorary ambassador of After-School All-Stars, started the Kobe and Vanessa Bryant Family Foundation with his wife to provide comprehensive services to homeless children in LA, and donated at least \$1 million to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Kobe Bryant, a five-time NBA champion and the fourth all-time leading scorer in league history, has been posthumously elected into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility.

"Legends never die. The Mamba Mentality lives on." -- Copper Kupp

## Phoenix Suns Regular Season: Clash or Splash



Photo Courtesy of Asia Cruz

### **Asia Cruz**

Starting their season off on December 23rd, 2020, with a win against The Dallas Mavericks, 106-102. A close game overall, but giving their best effort, Phoenix came into clutch to finish the game strong. Their first loss of the season was against The Sacramento Kings 106-103. In another close game, their skill level and energy unfortunately cost them a win.

In January, their overall score is 6-7. Their most successful game was against The Golden State Warriors with a score, 114-93. At the beginning of the game, it was predicted by ESPN stats that Phoenix had the winning probability of 51.8% during the first half. The Suns lead the game with more turnovers and rebounds than the opposing team. The Suns did a great job carrying the game with a consistent lead and took the dub from Golden State. Games against The Atlanta Hawks, The Golden State Warriors, and The Indiana Pacers, were postponed and hope to play at least one of the teams by late February.

In February, The Suns ended the month with only three games lost. Leaving the team with an overall score of 12-3 for the month. Their closest game, against the Milwaukee Bucks, was a game worthy of targeting everyone out of their seats. During the first half, the Suns were falling behind by over 20 points, however, with a combination of strategy and encouragement from their fans, the Suns were able to take the lead with a score at, 104-101. In the third quarter, Devin Booker, shooting guard of the Suns, was able to score the Suns 30 points contributing to the extent of the suns winning the game. However, the Bucks managed to make a come back and score just below the needed points for them to win. As the clock ran out, Phoenix continued to keep the ball and end the game with a score 125-124

By the end of March, Phoenix took the lead during the month. A crazy game against Orlando Magic brought watchers out of their seats. Although it was close, during the first half the Suns maintained a good lead. Although, by the end of the second quarter Orlando caught up to a tie 59-59. In the end, Orlando won 112-111. The Arizona crowd expressed mixed feelings of irritation and a sense of feeling let down.

The NBA regular season ends May 16th, 2021; playoffs continue May 18th, 2021. The Suns will most likely make it to the playoffs based on their ranking in the Western Conference, but the best the Suns fans can do is hope for the best. Good luck to the Suns and the rest of the NBA teams in the 2020-21 season.

# Looking for Volunteer Opportunities?

Click the boxes below to learn more!

## Saving One Life



Love hanging out with cats? This is the perfect place to volunteer.

## W.O.W Dog Rescue



Play with the cutest puppies in Chandler at this rescue.

## Shanti Hospice



Helping the elderly in Chandler is the best way to show you care.

# 1.3 billion

hours are put into volunteering yearly by youth alone

## Parks and Recreation



There are tons of parks around the community that need your help.

## Community Garden



Keep your community clean and beautiful by gardening.

all recipes

## traditional white bread



## gluten- free carrot cupcakes

gluten-free palette



## sweet + savory snacks.

IMANI DAVIS

## fluffy pretzels



fifteen spatulas



## Top Rated Food in Downtown Chandler

### Share Tea Boba



Hours: Sun-Thurs 11am-9pm  
Fri-Sat 11am-10pm

✓ Dine-in ✓ No-contact delivery ✓ Take-out

### West Alley BBQ



Hours: Sun-Thurs 11am-9pm  
Fri-Sat 11am-11pm

✓ Dine-in ✓ Delivery ✓ Curbside pick-up

### Chop Shop



Hours: Sun 7am-8pm  
Mon-Sat 7am-9pm

✓ Dine-in ✓ No-contact delivery ✓ Curbside pick-up

### Truland Burgers & greens



Hours: Sun-Thurs 11am-9pm  
Fri-Sat 11am-10pm

✓ Dine-in ✓ No-contact delivery ✓ Curbside pick-up

### The Screamery



Hours: Sun-Thurs 12pm-10pm  
Fri-Sat 12pm-11pm

✓ Dine-in ✓ Delivery ✓ Curbside pick-up

As of now all downtown locations,  
masks are required for service



Truland Burgers and Greens



Sharetea Boba



West Alley BBQ



## For the Foreign Film Fanatics

International Movie Recommendations on Netflix  
Created by Vy Truong, Reporter



### 1 Les Intouchables- (Rated R for language) - France

An aristocrat with tetraplegia hires an ex-con as his caregiver. The two men goes on an unforgettable adventure and learn more about each other.

### 2 Okja - (TV-MA) - Korea

A young girl and a super genetic pig find themselves stuck between corporate greed and environmental ethics.



### 3 Mom - (TV-14) - India

When her stepdaughter was sexually harassed, a distraught mother is set forth to catch the offenders and bring justice.



### 4 The Platform - (TV-MA) - Spain

A social commentary film about a vertical self management center where those on top get a buffet of food while those on the bottom gets scraps.



### 5 Ne Zha - (TV-14) - China

Ne Zha is a Chinese animated movie about one of the country's classic fables. A young warrior, who was sent to the heavens to save the world, is reincarnated as a demon instead.



## Gaming Industry Carried 2020

Yushin Son

Let's admit it. 2020 was rough. But, if there was a highlight of the year, it was the rise of gaming. As people were forced indoors, they looked for ways to entertain themselves without going outside.

This is where gaming came in.

2020 started off with a bang with massive, highly anticipated game releases such as Animal Crossing and Call of Duty. Then there were the releases of two new powerhouse consoles: the PS5 and Xbox Series X.

There was no shortage of gamers ready to play either. Four-fifths of all US consumers played a video game in the past six months according to the latest report from the NPD group, which was only a fraction of the good news for the industry.

Greatly surpassing the expected revenues of \$159.3B, the gaming industry accrued a neat \$179.7B and an increased playtime among all demographics, with the most pronounced increase for people aged 35 to 54 years old.

Engagement on all sides of gaming absolutely exploded. People used video games as alternatives for real-life events. An in-game Travis Scott Fortnite concert saw over 12 million concurrent views from players. Schools across the world used sandbox games such as Minecraft and Roblox as graduation sites. Speaking of Minecraft, the explosive prevalence of survival multiplayer (SMP) servers skyrocketed live streaming. Twitch, a popular video game streaming platform, saw 1.49 billion gaming hours watched in April – a 50% increase since March. Steam, another popular PC gaming platform, hit its all-time high concurrent user count of over 20 million people, in March.

The influence gaming has had on the worst year ever is nothing short of astounding, and this will have a rippling impact on years to come.