



## The Shooting Star<sup>★</sup>

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## FIESTA AL FRESCO

Fiesta was held this year on October 21 at Singh Meadows. It was a farm to table event held outside under a perfect autumnal crescent moon. A delicious 6 course meal with wine pairings was served. New and long-time supporters were present. In true “farm style” guests enjoyed the communal tables, shared platters and great conversations. Susie and Don Fowls (parents of a STARS participant) along with Chris Gammel (our corporate partner) relayed all the good work that goes on at STARS. Thank you to all who attended and donated to the STARS mission.

Plan on joining us next year for another delicious meal at Singh Meadows – pencil in October 13, 2018!



## A Holiday Fashion Extravaganza

FASHION SHOW  
AND  
DINNER

Buy  
Tickets  
Now

## STARS FASHION SHOW

Please join us on December 7th at 6:30 pm for the STARS Holiday Fashion Show featuring STARS Participants! It will be a great show and a tasty dinner. Paradise Valley United Methodist Church is our host at 44554 E. Lincoln Dr. Paradise Valley. Tickets/details on line at [starsaz.org](http://starsaz.org). Don't miss the chance to see our participants in action and to gather with the STARS community.



Annual Holiday Party

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

Please join us on December 15, 2017 from 5:30pm to 8:00 pm at Cholla Campus for our Annual Holiday Party! We will be serving an Italian Dinner, with ziti, salad, rolls, drinks, cake and holiday cookies! Also join us for karaoke, gifts and much more.

## CHOLLA CAFETERIA RE-DO PROJECT: GREAT CHANGES ARE COMING!

Here at STARS, we are always looking for new and exciting ways to enrich the lives of our participants. They are, after all, the reason why we are even here and reading this newsletter! So, when STARS was recently lucky enough to receive a grant, we knew it was time to do something extraordinary because our population and accompanying staff deserve no less. That is why when it came time to decide what to do with this grant, we thought to ourselves what if we completely transformed a space that is largely underutilized; namely, the Cholla cafeteria. Thus, the STARS Cafeteria Project was born. The committee formed to see this project through wanted to revamp the cafeteria in a way that when the project was done, the space would look quite different from how it did before. The project sees the cafeteria getting organized into four different “Zones”, each of which is designed with one goal in mind- give our participants as many options as possible when it comes to doing activities on campus. The committee hopes to see all programs work these Zones into their monthly calendars, including those from Osborn. Make a field trip to Cholla to play some games with your fellow participants, or perhaps come for a weekly fitness class! The cafeteria will continue to be used as a place for cooking and eating as well.

Now, I bet you want to know more about these “Zones” ... First off, there will be a Comfort Zone. A zone designated for rest, relaxation and silent activities such as reading, drawing/coloring, puzzles, etc. This zone will include amenities such as a couch, a lounge chair, coffee tables, books and magazines. Next, we'll have an Exercise Zone adjoined by a Digital Game Zone. The Exercise Zone will feature amenities such as medicine balls, yoga mats, yoga balls, small weights and jump ropes. The Digital Game Zone will feature a new flat screen TV (that the Fitness Zone will also be able to use for fitness videos) that will be hooked up to an Xbox One with a Kinect, along with a small selection of Kinect games. For those who don't know, an Xbox One is a premier gaming console that is an all-in-one entertainment center. This device will not only be able to play games, but also DVDs, CDs and Blu Rays. The Kinect is a camera that is affixed to the top of the TV and hooked up to the Xbox. This camera reads the area in front of the TV as well as any body movements someone may be performing, turning your body into the game controller! Picture using a Nintendo Wii, but without controllers in your hands. Some of these games are even wheelchair friendly! These Kinect games will encourage individuals who are more stimulated by visuals and audio to get up and get active or just get creative and have fun. There are fitness games, dancing games, music games and silly games. Finally, we will also have a Physical Game Zone. This zone will be dedicated to more physical type games such as shuffle board, ping pong, pool, magnetic darts and air hockey. When all is said and done, we hope these four Zones will provide several benefits to our participants and promote growth in ways such as, but not limited to, learning, memory, hand-eye coordination, basic mathematics, fine motor skills, interpersonal relationship building, creativity, time management, fitness and health. The project is currently slated to be completed by the turn of the new year. There will also be a “Grand Opening” party, so be sure to tell your friends and family and keep an eye out for a date in early January to come see the new and improved STARS Cafeteria!

**Erik Mansfield**



## STARS VOLUNTEER CORNER

October has been a very exciting month for STARS Volunteer Program. We've updated our Get Involved, Volunteer Opportunity website, look for some exciting opportunities.

Scottsdale Community College reached out to STARS for their "Artie has Heart Volunteer Day" on Friday the 13th. Eight wonderful student volunteers arrived at the Osborn facility to make Snicker Doodles with the DTA groups and 3 volunteers arrived at the Cholla facility ready to get their hands dirty to prepare the 3 raised garden beds for STARS Fall garden, fun for everyone that was involved. If you are visiting the Cholla Campus please check out the garden, some of the plants will be used for the DTA cooking classes. In the afternoon Kendra from SCC helped the Osborn Work Center participants decorate Halloween cookies and what beautiful and scary cookies they were.

STARS also have several International Students from SCC that will be **bringing to STARS their native, Dance, Songs and Food**. Puja from India taught DTA3 a native dance and stayed to color with them.





## THE HALLOWEEN PARTY WAS A MONSTER MASH!!

Lots of tasty food, drinks and music for a scary evening of dancing and pumpkin carving. We want to thank the NCL group for the pumpkin carving experience, fun for all.

STARS would like to thank all the volunteers at Scottsdale Community College and NCL for your time and talent. We hope that your experience was a positive and rewarding one. We would like to welcome Margie Maples, we are so excited to partnership with her. She will be teaching our participants stretching exercises, starting in December with the Osborn Work Center participants.

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## WISH LIST ITEM

As part of our cafeteria re-do project, we want to offer our participants the opportunity to sit and read!

We could use **large picture books featuring interesting sights** - for example: National Parks, Architecture, Animals, World Wonders etc.

We have had several requests from participants for **“math books, puzzle books and word searches.”**

Please consider a donation to our new reading area. **Any questions or need more ideas please contact Anne Gray at 602 881 3377.**

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## DAVE'S CORNER

Greetings STARS supporters!

It's that time of year again when our home mailbox and email inbox quickly fill up with requests from charitable organizations for financial support. The sustainability – and sometimes survival – of nonprofits is dependent on these annual donations.

Donations to STARS during the past fiscal year helped to defray costs associated with operating necessities such as computing technology, utilities, payroll services, liability insurance and vehicle safety.

A donation to STARS may result in the following:

1. Reduced federal income tax obligation
2. Dollar-for-dollar tax credit on AZ taxes
3. A reduction in capital gains from gifts of appreciated stock

**Consult your tax and/or legal advisors before implementing any transactions and/or strategies concerning your finances.**

Thank you in advance for making your thoughtful gift to STARS at [www.starsaz.org/donate](http://www.starsaz.org/donate)

Wishing you much joy and happiness,

**Dave**



## Contact Us

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