

# Community News

The Hometown Newspaper

★ The News ★

September 20 - September 26, 2004

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## Mesa Couple Wins Car

Raffle win was "answer to their prayers"

By Jill Jones  
The News

The lucky winner of the Ford Focus donated by Robert Harding and wife Mary Ann of Desert Rose Collision Center, 1442 E. 18 Ave., was Elva and Steve Yasolsky of Mesa who purchased the ticket at the Apache Junction Walmart.

Although Elva says she usually doesn't participate in raffles, when she saw that one of the benefactors of the proceeds was the Community Alliance Against Family Abuse (CAFAA), she decided she wanted to donate to a "worthy cause."

According to the Hardings, the Yasolsky's say the car is an answer to their prayers. Their current car is on the brink of breakdown and Steve Yasolsky was recently diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and can no longer work.

The couple, who have been married for 42 years, had been lighting candles at church each week for their financial situation and for Steve Yasolsky's health.

The proceeds from the car do-



Steve and Elva Yasolsky (l) are presented the Ford Focus by Mary Ann Coyne and husband Rob Harding (r) of Desert Rose Collision.

nated by Desert Rose will benefit CAFAA, Superstition Mental Health Center, Triple R Behavioral Health and the Apache Junction Boys and Girls Club.

Rob and Mary Ann thank all who purchased tickets to make the raffle a success.

## Education House Party

AJEA hosts 'Meet Your School Board Candidates' Night

By Shayne O'Brien  
The News

APACHE JUNCTION- The Apache Junction Education Association (AJEA) is hosting an Education House Party, "Meet Your School Board Candidates Night," on Wednesday, September 22, 2004.

The evening is designed to introduce the candidates for election to the school board and to raise awareness about the state of the public schools in the Apache Junction Unified School District (AJUSD).

The non-partisan event will be held at the Performing Arts Center in the Apache Junction High School complex, located at 1575 W. Southern Ave., from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and is open to all school district residents.

The AJEA, the local branch of the Arizona Education Association (AEA), is organizing the open house as part of a national movement that kicks off on September 22, inviting local communities to get together to discuss what is needed to accomplish the education goals in their community. The date is also a teacher inservice day for the AJUSD, and they hope to encourage as many teachers as possible to get involved.

At the open house, the group will focus on the importance of voting in the upcoming November 2 general election and educate attendees on local issues. For the Apache Junction/Gold Canyon community, 3 seats on the AJUSD Governing Board will be vacated and new members will be elected on November 2. The seven candidates vying for the open positions on the

board have been invited to attend the open house and speak about their position on the issues and to educate the public so they can make an informed decision at the polls.

The AJEA is encouraging the candidates to stay after the program to visit with attendees and to answer questions.

As the local branch of AEA, the AJEA open house will also discuss the Great Public Schools Action Agenda. Earlier this year, AEA members collaboratively developed a formal agenda for improving public schools—a 10 point plan addressing the attraction and retention of quality teachers, class size, early education, ESP rights and support, rural issues, salaries and health care costs, student behavior and discipline, student testing, time and work load demands, and unfunded mandates (the complete agenda can be found at [www.arizonaaea.org](http://www.arizonaaea.org)).

Their goal is to ensure a 'Great Public School for Every Arizona Child' and they are sharing this action agenda with parents, community activists, business leaders, educators, and elected officials to try and enact it into public policy.

The September 22 events were initiated by the National Mobilization for Great Public Schools, a coalition consisting of ACORN (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now), Campaign for America's Future, MoveOn.org, the NAACP National Voters Fund, the National Education Association and the U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute.

The coalition was formed out of concern regarding the state of public education in America today and to encourage people to join together to step up the fight to ensure basics such as smaller classes, skilled teachers and safe schools for every child.

The coalition is encouraging non-partisan, issue based events and are providing groups having the parties with a video/DVD that will lay out the facts and what they believe can be done for the schools.

They will also be suggesting a number of steps that the groups can take to mobilize their community in order to get the message out to political leaders such as attending debates and forums, registering new voters and getting people out to the polls in November. For more information on the National Mobilization for Great Public Schools go to [www.greatpublicschools.org](http://www.greatpublicschools.org).

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## 'Mighty Muffins'

Healthy flourless muffins debut at AJ Basha's



Dee McCaffrey in the kitchen with her Mighty Muffins.

By Shayne O'Brien  
The News

A new kind of muffin is coming to the valley— It's flourless and made especially for people trying to make healthy choices in their diet.

Dee's Mighty Muffins were developed by local entrepreneur Denise (Dee) McCaffrey using oat bran and all natural ingredients. They contain no refined flour or sugar.

McCaffrey specifically created the muffins to meet her own health needs while eliminating refined substances from her diet.

"Many people don't know how difficult it is for our bodies to digest today's processed flour," she explains. "Every time you eat flour, your body pulls nutrients from its own bones and tissues just to digest it. In fact, eating flour regularly has been found to cause a number of degenerative diseases."

Trained as an organic chemist and a Certified Diet Counselor, Dee is passionate about nutrition and healthy living. Through her nutrition practice located in Mesa, she has helped hundreds move towards better health and weight loss by guid-

### Mighty Muffins In Apache Junction

Monday, September 27, 2004

9:30 am - 12:00 noon

Bashas' Supermarket

Superstition Mtn. Dr. & US 60

Gold Canyon

Monday, September 27, 2004

4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Bashas' Supermarket

Apache Trail & Idaho

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

9:30 am - 12:00 noon

Bashas' Supermarket

Signal Butte & Apache Trail

ing people toward their goals using principles addressing the needs of the body, mind and spirit, as well as personal experience. McCaffrey lost over 100 pounds and has kept it off for over twelve years.

Dee's Mighty Muffins will be available in most Bashas' and AJ's locations throughout the valley on September 20. Free samples will be given out by Dee herself in Apache Junction on September 27 and 28. Come out for a free sample or visit [www.deemightymuffins.com](http://www.deemightymuffins.com) for additional valley locations and times.



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## Citizen Leadership Institute



### The City of Apache Junction

#### An Educational Program

for citizens who want to learn more about how government works

- The Role and Responsibilities of City Government
- Planning and Zoning
- Economic Development
- Budgeting, and more!

Each of seven sessions focus on a different area of municipal government.

#### This is the City's 7th Leadership Institute,

Elected officials, city employees, and guest speakers contribute valuable knowledge and insight into the workings of municipal government— The program is designed to promote and provide better citizen understanding of local government and an orientation for possible future members of city boards and commissions and others wishing to serve their community.

#### Classes for the Institute begin November 4th

Free Enrollment  
Limited Openings  
Register Now!

#### Seven Sessions

All session dates are on Thursdays  
Beginning November 4, 2004  
& Ending February 3, 2005

November 4, 2004— Getting to Know the City  
November 18, 2004— Local Government:  
How We Work Together

December 2, 2004 — Planning, Zoning &  
Development: Building A City  
December 16, 2004— Economic and Community  
Development: Paying Our Way

January 6, 2005— Other City Services: City  
Attorney's Office & the City Budget  
January 20, 2005— The Bottom Line –  
Delivering Services  
February 3, 2005— Infrastructure and More  
Demand-Driven Services

Download Registration Form at [www.ajcity.net](http://www.ajcity.net)



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Mesa	Jack-in-the-Box - Lindsay & Main (Daily)	8:25am	5:15pm
Mesa	Factory Stores of America - Power & Baseline (Daily)	8:45am	4:50pm
Apache Jct.	Meridian & Apache Trail (Daily)	9:00am	4:30pm

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