Well school is back in session. We hope you were all as ready as possible for this school year. Hopefully we supported your efforts to fill positions and supply partners for your success. Our “Career Center” is far from being where we want it to be, but the use was astronomically greater than ever before. Here are some numbers. As of July 25, 2016 we have had – 162 applicants, 99 organizational sign-ups, 1370 organizational log-ins and 4872 views. We know of 16 positions that were filled by applicants. We have also partnered with RK-staffing which has placed 12 teachers in our member schools.

CONFERENCE TIME!!! We have been working diligently to make the September Conference a success. Our keynotes are Kathy Weibke from the K12 Center in the morning and Shaun Martin at noon. We have invited the Arizona School Impact Aid Association to join us this year at the conference September 15th – 17th at “Little America” in Flagstaff. We have some brand new exhibitors signed up and some very timely and informative break-out sessions scheduled. We will again be playing the “MYSTERY EXHIBITOR” game with a very generous prize already promised to the winner.

The highlight of the conference is, of course, the announcement of the winner of the Rural Arizona Teacher of the Year, at a dinner on Friday evening. All of our County Teachers of the Year will be honored first and they are sponsored by Grand Canyon University. The Arizona Rural Teacher of the Year is sponsored by Northern Arizona University. After the awards we have karaoke sponsored by Edgenuity. We will all have fun listening to our great singers in the organization like the Maynes, the Uterhardts and Kristin Turner just to name a few. We are always looking for new talent so come have a great time with us.

Saturday morning, at 8:30, will be a joint membership meeting of ARSA & ASIAA. On the agenda is AIA, ADE, ASBA (Chris Thomas) hopefully, and others.

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S.T.E.D.Y. is the Southwest Technical Education District of Yuma and is the JTED (Joint Technical Education District) for all students in Yuma County. A JTED is a public school district that partners (joint) with public, private and charter school districts to support career and technical education (CTE) opportunities for all students of Yuma County.

In May, 1990 lawmakers recognized the financial need to support career and technical education and wrote a bill (SB 1491) creating “vocational” and technical education districts. Later in May, 1991, SB 1264 removed “vocation” replaced it with “joint” and shortly thereafter in 1992, the first JTED, East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) was established. In 2000, the second JTED, Northern Arizona Vocational Institute of Technology (NAVIT) was established. And then quickly, most counties in Arizona established a JTED. It wasn’t until 2008 that a steering committee was formed for Yuma County to explore the potential for our JTED. Planning continued until 2014, when a ballot was placed for citizens to approve STEDY. Because STEDY is a public school district, supported partly by tax revenue, the establishment of STEDY required voter approval. The Governing Board was appointed by our County Superintendent and in 2015 employees were hired and operation began.

The citizens of Yuma County value Career and Technical Education! And as a result, students in career and technical education programs offered across the county are able to receive instruction at their local school or by attending courses offered outside their classrooms at the community college (tuition free) or at a JTED central campus building using resources provided by S.T.E.D.Y. Today, S.T.E.D.Y. supports over 3,300 students. Close to $6 million has been distributed to local school districts, allowing them to purchase industry-standard technology and equipment in areas from automotive to welding, from culinary to cyber-criminology. In addition, STEDY has provided tuition and books for students to earn college credit, or obtain industry certifications, and/or a state license in the area of their interest. It is recognized that possession of an industry certificate, and/or a state license will provide students with a head start in their career choice. S.T.E.D.Y. was formed to help students find a faster way forward in life.

A skilled workforce is critical to Yuma’s economic health. To promote and support this, S.T.E.D.Y. works collaboratively with community shareholders to inspire students to make a successful transition from school-to-career and become contributing members of society.

We know to help today’s students be prepared for tomorrow’s workforce, it is our obligation to work closely with business and industry to offer students internships, job shadowing and work experience. We understand the role businesses (both large and small), play in our mission. Therefore, we call upon industry experts to provide students with information and relevant training for industry certifications.

Continued on Page 4
The Southwest Technical Education District of Yuma is prepared to help students meet their academic and career aspirations. And although S.T.E.D.Y.’s primary mission is to support students interested in career and technical education, it is not safe to assume this “vocational” intent is the same as it once was. The vocations of “yester-year,” such as those in manufacturing, were considered to be low skilled, low pay and forever associated to be part of the industrial revolution. Today, vocations even those in manufacturing, require highly technical expertise. As a matter of fact, there are some that say we are entering a new industrial revolution as a result of the exponential growth in technology. The “industrial internet” will create a smarter factory floor connecting people and machines across society. This will lead to more efficient and faster collaboration reshaping global labor markets. The outdated perception of the dirty shop floor is now replaced by “clean rooms” yielding well paid careers for those that possess the hands-on skills and certifications. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median salary for an industrial production manager in manufacturing is $92,470, while a mechanical engineer in manufacturing earns a median salary of $83,060.

We are looking to the future to train students for jobs of tomorrow; to contribute to the community by providing a talented, skilled manufacturing workforce and to provide those students with an interest in manufacturing a competitive advantage. The intent of STEDY is to equip a new generation of employees with the skills to succeed on the 21st century “shop floor.”

Antelope Union Relationship

Over the past year the relationship between Antelope Union High School and S.T.E.D.Y. has reaped tremendous benefits. Essentially, Antelope Union High School functions as a satellite campus and the programs currently offered include Auto, Cabinet-Making (Woods), Agriculture, Accounting and finally Music/Audio Production which will be added for 2016-2017. Additional funds through the JTED have allowed the district to modernize and enhance all areas of the Career and Technical Education program. Some of this new equipment includes a greenhouse, an eight channel portable public address system, furniture, and an alignment system. Through this endeavor, all Yuma County students will have increased opportunity and it is our hope that our students will enjoy greater career options.

*Kevin Imes is the superintendent of S.T.E.D.Y. and Dr. Andrew L. Smith is the superintendent of the Antelope Union High School District #50.*
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West Lafayette, IN--- John Hill, Executive Director of the National Rural Education Association, announced the selection of Virginia Sautner as the Monsanto Fund National Rural Teacher of the Year. Sautner teaches at Lake Havasu High School where she has taught 9th grade English Language Arts and Student Government for the last 13 years. She achieved National Board Certification and is an Arizona Master teacher.

Sautner shares, “While student impact is at the heart of good teaching, my experience has taught me that being an effective teacher means lifelong learning and leading. Strong schools and strong communities go hand in hand – I recognize how collaboration with parents and the community at large is integral for our students and our education system as a whole.” Lake Havasu principal, Scott Becker, describes Sautner as placing “sincerity and compassion into all of her extra responsibilities as well as her teaching assignment.” Katie Henderson, Lake Havasu parent says, “Mrs. Sautner is the reason my children are as successful as they are in their peer and community leadership efforts.”

Sautner’s peers hold her in high esteem. Kelsey Balint, fellow staff member, emphasized: “Sautner is one of a kind. She is a well-rounded educator who inspires those around her to have love for education.” “She is the biggest role model to me and continues to surprise me with leadership, knowledge, and genuine care that she shows her students,” says Lake Havasu student, Savannah Causey.

In her letter of support, Jaime Festa-Daigle, Lake Havasu High School assistant principal, stated, “She never lets the fact that we live in an isolated community, where education is not always the focus, stop her. She continues pushing our school forward.”

Sautner will receive the award at the 108th National Rural Education Convention and Research Seminar and National Rural Education Forum on October 14th in Columbus,
Arizona Teacher Named 2016-2017 Monsanto Fund Rural Teacher of the Year

By John Hill, Executive Director of the National Rural Education Association

Continued from Page 10

Ohio. She will receive a $2000 award and Lake Havasu High School will receive $1000. All finalists for the award will be recognized at the banquet.

Finalists for the 2016-17 Monsanto Fund Rural Teacher of the Year were:

Tiffany Adair – Mexia, TX
Brenda Bowman – Galveston, IN
Scott Lambley – Benkleman, NE
Kristen Richerson – Oakfield TN
Leah Shannon – Livingston, MT
Ronald Von Glahn – De Soto, WI

The Rural Teacher of the Year program is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, who works to substantially and meaningfully improve the lives of people around the world. We’re focused on one goal – strengthening both farming communities and the communities where we live and work.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela
Elsie was a member of the 1st graduating class of Bisbee High School in 1906 (6 years before Arizona statehood). She became a teacher and taught at Bisbee and Douglas before being elected the Cochise County Superintendent of Schools, a remarkable achievement for a woman in the early 20th century. During her second term she served on the Arizona Board of Education and Board of Regents. She became the first female State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1920. During this time the State Superintendent was also a member of the Paroles and Pardons many people did not see a woman as being able to perform these duties.

At the end of her first term she was swept out of office along all the other Republicans by the usual 6 to 1 democratic majority. This included the State Superintendent. This ended the political career of Elsie Toles. She remained politically active and in 1956 the state Republican Party chose her to hold the honorary position of presidential elector.

Her chief interest, however, remained education. She returned to the University of Michigan to complete her last semester and secured her A.B. degree. She was a demonstration teacher at the University of California Berkeley for three years. She became a professor of education and teacher training at San Jose State College, a position she held for 17 years. During this time she was in charge of the supervision of student teachers in rural schools. She also did part-time supervision in the schools of South San Francisco, as a reading consultant.

When World War II began, at the request of the state of California State Department of Education, she left San Jose State to establish day care centers for the children of Mothers employed in the ship yards and war plants.

Elsie retired after the war and returned to her ranch at Portal, Arizona. She wrote occasional articles and with her sister, Myrium Toles, wrote a reading text “The Secret of Lonesome Valley” that was so successful, it was revised and reissued by its publisher. It can still be purchased on Amazon.com.

Elsie is a member of the Arizona Women’s Hall of Fame.
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2016-2017 Monsanto Fund Rural Teacher of the Year:

Virginia Sautner

Quotes about Ginny Sautner

From Karl Uterhardt - “That’s incredible! Congratulations to Ginny!!”
From Tim Carter - “Great News!!”
From Angela Jangula - “This is fantastic!!! Way to go.”
From Kristin Turner - “That is awesome! Congratulations, Ginny and Jaime! It is so wonderful to see that Arizona has such outstanding teachers and that they win a disproportionate share of national titles!!”
From Shaun Martin - “NIZHONIGO!!!! (Navajo - “It is finished in beauty”) WOW! So cool! We will have much to celebrate next month!”
From John Warren - “That is AWESOME!!!!!! Thank you to Jaime Festa-Daigle for taking the time to nominate a deserving educator!”
In the state of Arizona, when asked, 90% of parents said that they want their child’s school to teach Computer Science. Even teachers, 56% percent of them in fact, believe Computer Science should be required in schools. Unfortunately, only one in four schools in the state teach it. (2015 Gallop Poll-Google).

Grand Canyon University and Science Foundation AZ have decided it is time to change that number.

Grand Canyon University and Science Foundation AZ have been recognized as Code.org (www.code.org) Arizona’s Professional Learning Partners dedicated to bringing Computer Science to every school and every student, especially women and underrepresented students of color.

For elementary schools in the Greater Phoenix area GCU is providing FREE high quality 1-day Computer Science Fundamentals Workshops for Elementary throughout the year on our campus. This workshop will prepare your teachers to introduce computer science basics in their classes and/or in school STEM-related programs, in a format that’s fun, accessible and relevant to elementary learners. Participants will receive free curriculum, lunch and 6 professional development hours. To register for a FREE 6-hour workshop on campus, please visit http://www.gcu.edu/codeorg

For elementary schools outside of the Phoenix area we can arrange for a Code.org facilitator to come to you! Your teachers will receive the same free 1-day, 6 hour workshop at your school or district if 25 or more elementary educators can attend. Anywhere in the state!

For high schools, Code.org Arizona’s Professional Learning Partners are supporting 10 high school teachers from across Arizona in their instruction of AP Computer Science Principles for 2016-17. These teachers will make immediate application of this new curriculum organized around seven big ideas which are foundational to studying Computer Science. The seven teaching points are Creativity, Abstraction, Data and Information, Algorithms, Programming, the Internet, and Global Impact.

To learn how your high school can participate, contact Kathryn Scott (Kathryn.scott@gcu.edu)

For middle schools, beginning in Spring 2017, Computer Science Discoveries, an introductory Computer Science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with Computer Science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun for middle schools will complete the K-12 Computer Science Pathway

Grand Canyon University, Science Foundation Arizona, and Code.org have dedicated this program to bringing computer science to all students in Arizona, building a strong computer science pathway toward college and career ready students.

Please join us on November 12, from 5:30-7:00pm at the GCU Golf Course to learn more about how we can advocate to make Arizona a prominent leader in Computer Science education.

Please direct any questions to Kathryn.scott@gcu.edu
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☐ Friday Buffet Luncheon ☐ Friday Dinner ☐ Steak ☐ Salmon (please choose one)

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The Teacher of The Year Awards Ceremony and the Hall of Fame Ceremony will be held during the Friday Dinner.

Please return the registration form with your P.O. or check to: ARSA
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For reservations call 800-865-1401. Reservation deadline: August 15, 2016
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