

## As society returns to normal, Foundation fundraising, event planning, and other efforts begin to ramp up



**Jeffrey Gardner (2002)**  
President, Cougar Foundation  
Board of Directors

Although the world seemingly paused during the pandemic, like most of you the Foundation Board of Directors continued to meet virtually to work towards our shared goals.

**15 Students honored with 17 scholarships and awards** - We are proud to have administered over \$25,000 in scholarships and financial aid to deserving students - please meet these exceptional young people on page 2.

**Annual Golf Tournament to be held on October 30th 2021** - For the first time since April 2019, the Foundation will be able to host it's annual golf tournament - please see more on page 3.

**Hall of Fame Breakfast Scheduled - November 13th 2021 (HOF 2020)** - The HOF 2020 Hall of Fame Breakfast will be held at Sahuaro on November 13th. Learn more on page 4.

Thanks to all the teachers, staff, students, parents, and Alumni in the Sahuaro Community for coming together during a very challenging time. Your efforts have made a huge difference in the lives of Sahuaro Community members.

## From the mailbag

We, at the Foundation were thrilled with the response to our latest donations of Gift Cards, including the **BRAKEmax**-sponsored purchase from **Sonoran Brunch Co.** Activities Office Assistant **Andrea Schlecht** sent us this update:

*Once a month I meet with some dear friends for brunch and we decided to try Sonoran Breakfast Company because of the gift card given to me by the Cougar Foundation. I ordered Huevos Rancheros, Pickled Cauliflower Tots which I strongly recommend and a Churronot (Churro-Donut). We all enjoyed our food and I look forward to going back and trying other items on their menu.*



Thank you, Cougar Foundation, for a wonderful treat and the support you continue to provide to the faculty and staff at Sahuaro High School!

**Golf Tournament**  
10/30/2021 - see page 4 >

**Hall of Fame Breakfast**  
11/13/2021 - see page 6 >

### Cougar Foundation Board of Directors

**PRESIDENT:** Jeffry Gardner  
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Amy Fitch-Heacock  
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Jerry Halfmann  
Fred Knapp  
David Laszakovits  
Ed Rothlisberger  
Scott Rumel  
Steve Weinstein

**COUGAR FOUNDATION  
FOUNDING MEMBERS:** Harry Johnson  
Dr. David Ashcraft



Visit us on the web:  
[sahuarocougars.org](http://sahuarocougars.org)



# Honoring Scholarship and Award Winners

Each year with the help of the community, the Cougar Foundation administers over \$25,000 in scholarships and financial aid. This year's winners, in particular, dealt with the adversity of the past 18 months with honor, dedication, and excellence. The Foundation is very proud of them; we can't wait to see what they'll accomplish next.



**Mia Boatner**  
Cougar Pride Scholarship



**Maryah Brookins**  
Diane Small Perseverance Scholarship



**Eric Foiryolo**  
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Cavanaugh Scholarship  
Diane Small Perseverance Scholarship



**Latanya Khissy**  
Cougar Pride Scholarship



**Orion Kitzmiller**  
Senior Scholarship



**Ethan Kyte**  
Russell Public Scholarship



**Alexis Lopez**  
Red and Blue Scholarship



**Denise Najera**  
Red and Blue Scholarship



**Kamryn Redlin**  
Ann Grose Scholarship



**Damon Robledo**  
Cougar Pride Scholarship



**Hannah Sawyer**  
Senior Scholarship



**Bethany Seal**  
David Ashcraft Artist-Scholar Award



**Felicity Sepulveda**  
Red and Blue Scholarship



**Sam Sides**  
Hal Eustice Award



**Alysia Sims**  
Dick McConnell Scholarship  
Diane Small Perseverance Scholarship

The Foundation would like to extend a very special thanks to members of the community who provide the funding for many of these awards, especially:

**Dr. and Mrs. Mark R. Cavanaugh**  
**Russell Public Communications**  
**Jim and Audra Small**  
**Linda Stallings**  
**David Ashcraft**

and to all who paid dues, contributed via Amazon Smile, or donated.

**We couldn't do it without you!**

# Founder’s Corner: In thanks to those who came before

Over the past thirty years of the Foundation, dozens of volunteers deserve our gratitude



2023 will mark the 30th Anniversary of the Sahuaro High School Cougar Foundation, founded in 1992 on the occasion of the school’s 25th Anniversary.

The Sahuaro Silver Celebration, co-chaired by **Harry Johnson** and **David Ashcraft**, was held on March 19-20, 1993 and featured a Friday evening rededication program of former and current principals, as well as overviews presented by students. The first Sahuaro Cougar Foundation Hall of Fame inductees were introduced and included founding principal, **Henry D. “Hank” Egbert** and **Harold “Hal” Eustice**, chemistry teacher and state champion baseball coach. An alumni choir conducted by David Ashcraft performed at the ceremony. The event was organized and MC’d by English teachers **Linda Schloss** and **Paula Walter**.

*Untold numbers of individuals are credited with the success of the Foundation and its activities from its inception, up to the present.*

Also part of the weekend celebration on Saturday was the dedication of the Hal Eustice Baseball Field, organized by **Jack Lehmkuhl** and **Joe Estes**. An outdoor fair staged on the football field included BBQ from Johnnie’s Drive-in. Commemorative booklets, t-shirts, sweatshirts and posters were sold. School tours were also conducted. Some 250 alums, families, friends, and current and former members of the faculty and staff attended the festivities.

Over 30 individuals worked tirelessly to bring the event to fruition. The Silver Celebration helped spawn the first annual Cougar Foundation Breakfast that occurred on Saturday, October 30th in the Sahuaro Cafeteria.

Untold numbers of individuals are credited with the success of the Foundation and its activities from its inception, up to the present. One group of loyal and dedicated individuals includes the founding board of directors, organized during the 1992-93 school year. These Cougars assisted in the organization’s incorporation and spearheaded all of the events and activities, including working to build membership and support. Those founding members are listed to the right.

In future issues of Cougar Tracks, we will strive to list all board members who have served. It goes without saying that each and every individual from the Sahuaro Community that has been a part of the Foundation is appreciated and treasured.

## Founding board members are as follows:

<b>David Ashcraft</b> ('70; teacher)	President
<b>Joe Estes</b> ('82)	Vice-President
<b>Lita Bratt</b> (teacher)	Secretary
<b>Harry Johnson</b> (retired)	Treasurer

**Robert Fee**, Attorney ('73)  
*Bob assisted with the legal aspects of incorporation.*

**Carolyn Campbell Whitaker**, CPA ('71)  
*Carolyn assisted with finance issues.*

**Jan Boyd** (teacher and coach)  
*Jan helped organize Foundation activities.*

**Phoebe Chalk** ('85)  
*Phoebe helped guide Foundation development activities.*

**Ann Grose** (teacher and Student Council Advisor)  
*Ann was instrumental in providing ideas and student assistance.*

**Jerry Halfmann** ('71)  
*Jerry assisted with photography.*

**Carol Orcutt Holly** ('70; teacher)  
*Carol organized and coordinated the school alumni directory, Reunion information, and created and maintained photo collages and displays.*

**Bob Jones** (Assistant Principal for Activities)  
*Bob served as a liaison to the administration and school.*

**Karen Jorgensen Kornman** ('71) and **Steve Kornman** ('71)  
*Karen and Steve assisted with ideas and fundraising; acquired items for raffles and silent auctions. Steve would later go on to serve as the Foundation’s second President.*

**Wanda Lee** (teacher)  
*Wanda provided ideas and worked on select committees.*

**Editor’s note:** As Dr. Ashcraft thoughtfully addressed above, the history of the Foundation is rich with examples of volunteers who served to make Sahuaro a better place - but not all of them are fortunate enough to be recorded in our files.

If you have any historical board rosters or other information we should add to the website, we’d love to see it - please email me at [jeffry@sahuarocougars.org](mailto:jeffry@sahuarocougars.org).





Sahuaro High School Cougar Foundation

# Charity Golf Tournament

Saturday October 30th 2021

Forty Niner Country Club

**Join us for 18 holes of golf at the world-class Forty Niner Country Club!**

Win cash at the **money hole**! Enjoy a **delicious lunch**!

Win some fabulous **raffle** or **silent auction** prizes!



**Cindy Rarick**  
Sahuaro Class of 1978  
Former LPGA Pro  
Honorary Tournament Chair

## » Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **YES**, I would like to donate a raffle prize!  
a Foundation representative will contact you. Donations are tax-deductible, ID 86-0720942.

☐ **YES**, I would like to join the Cougar Foundation (add \$15)

## » Player Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

## » [A] Golf and Lunch Selections

Golf and Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ x \$80\* = \_\_\_\_\_  
Fdn Membership \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Lunch Only \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Donations \_\_\_\_\_

**[A] Subtotal** \_\_\_\_\_

## » [B] Sponsorship

Title ☐ \$5000 Red ☐ \$2500  
Blue ☐ \$1000 Plat. ☐ \$400  
Hole ☐ \$225 Tee ☐ \$175  
Green ☐ \$100

**[B] Subtotal** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total owed: (total of sections [A] and [B])** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\$80 registration for pre-payment only (postmarked or received online on or before 10/23/2021).  
Registrations that take place after that date cost \$90/player.**

## Event Information

Registration 6:30am  
Start Time 7:30am

### Contact Information:

Fran Johnson 520-247-0336  
Fred Knapp 520-609-6392  
Debbie Glasser 520-360-3788  
Jeffry Gardner 520-990-1190  
Ed Rothlisberger 520-465-9048  
Amy Fitch-Heacock 520-331-2261

Find out more at [sahuarocougars.org](http://sahuarocougars.org)

## Sponsor the event!

Sponsors are incredibly important to the results of the tournament - and it's a great way to have your business seen by local, well-qualified residents.

We assure you that your sponsorship will be of tremendous value to your company and that the Cougar Foundation will work hard to promote and support those who have helped us support the Sahuaro community.

To find out about all the sponsorship opportunities available for this year's event, please see the next page!

Please mail this form to the Sahuaro Cougar Foundation - PO Box 18181, Tucson, AZ 85731

Checks should be made out to Sahuaro Cougar Foundation. If you prefer to use credit card, enter information below or visit [sahuarocougars.org](http://sahuarocougars.org)



Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
CSC/CVV: \_\_\_\_\_





Sahuaro High School Cougar Foundation

# Charity Golf Tournament

Saturday October 30 2021 Forty Niner Country Club

Last year the Sahuaro High School Cougar Foundation distributed **over \$25,000 in scholarships** to graduating seniors towards their college education. These scholarships are paid for by our only annual fundraiser – our charity golf tournament.

Based at the beautiful Forty Niner Country Club on Tucson's northeast side, the tournament has attracted hundreds of golfers, local businesses, and the Sahuaro community at large. Golfers, by and large, tend to be affluent and businesspeople. Guests enjoy 18 holes of golf, a delicious catered lunch, prizes and so much more.

We assure you that your sponsorship will be of tremendous value to your company and that the Cougar Foundation will work hard to promote and support those who have helped us support the Sahuaro community. Whether you support the Cougar Foundation's efforts with a Title Sponsorship, one of our subsidiary sponsorships, a raffle prize or other form of support, please accept our sincere gratitude!

## Title Sponsorship (limit 1) - \$5000

- Exclusive position as the ONLY Title Sponsor
- Tournament foursome with preferred seating at Lunch
- Additional lunches provided for up to 2 lunch guests
- Strong association with the Sahuaro Community
- Opportunity to insert prizes into golfer's goodie bags
- Opportunity to insert literature into golfer's goodie bags
- Opportunity to speak to event attendees at the lunch
- Visibility for your company name/logo
- Tournament literature
- On-course signage (includes 1 tee sponsorship)
- Golf Cart signage
- Cougar Foundation Website and social media
- Thank-you letters to participants

## Other sponsorship opportunities

### Sahuaro "Red" Sponsorship (limit 3) - \$2500

- You may provide and set up a tent w/ exclusive signage on a hole of your choice.
- Tournament foursome with preferred seating at Lunch + 2 lunch guests
- Visibility for your company name/logo
  - Tournament literature
  - On-course signage (includes 1 tee sponsorship)
  - Cougar Foundation Website and social media platforms
  - Thank-you letters to participants
- Strong association with the Sahuaro Community
  - Opportunity to insert literature in golfer's goodie bags
  - Special recognition during lunch

### Sahuaro "Blue" Sponsorship (limit 5) - \$1000

- You may provide and set up a tent w/ exclusive signage on a hole of your choice.
- Tournament foursome + 2 lunch guests
- Visibility for your company name/logo
  - Tournament literature
  - On-course signage (includes 1 tee sponsorship)
  - Cougar Foundation social media platforms
  - Thank-you letters to participants
- Strong association with the Sahuaro Community
  - Opportunity to insert literature in golfer's goodie bags
  - Special recognition during lunch

### Platinum Sponsorship - \$400

- You may provide and set up a tent w/ exclusive signage on a hole of your choice.
- Tournament foursome + admission for up to 2 additional lunch guests
- Visibility for your company name/logo
  - On-course signage (includes 1 tee sponsorship)
- Strong association with the Sahuaro Community
  - Special recognition during lunch

### Hole Sponsorship (NEW!) - \$225

- You may provide and set up a tent w/ exclusive signage on a hole of your choice.
- Have a chance to meet all golfers, gather leads & distribute literature/goodies.

### Tee Sponsorship - \$175

- Tee sign and opportunity to have representative at the sponsored tee box

### Green Sponsorship - \$75

***If you'd like to sponsor the event, please contact Fran Johnson at 520-247-0336***

# HOF2020 Honorees, Reintroduced

## Ashley Ross Ashcraft ('03)

Ashley Ross Ashcraft graduated from Sahuaro in 2003 and from the University of Arizona in 2008. While at Sahuaro Ashley was very involved with student council, National Honor Society, and cheerleading.



After graduating from the University of Arizona Ashley went into the teaching profession. She taught high school English in Texas and Alabama. She received many awards for her students' accomplishments including Teacher of the Year in 2014.

Ashley was awarded the Yellow Rose of Texas award in 2014, which is given by the Governor of Texas to women for exceptional community service. Ashley has also been very involved with her church activities. She is the founder of Our Faithful Home, an online ministry helping women fulfill their callings in life. She has been asked to speak at many church leadership functions. Ashley was a leader in high school as the student council president her senior year; she was a leader in college at the University of Arizona on the Business College's student council; she was a leader as a teacher in Texas and Alabama; and is a leader in her church. All of this while moving continuously with her husband, Tim, who is a Major in the United States Army. She also has raised three wonderful children.

## Major Tim Ashcraft ('03)

Major Tim Ashcraft graduated from Sahuaro in 2003 with honors then attended The United States Military Academy at West Point, where he earned a degree in Engineering with an emphasis in Aeronautical Systems. While at Sahuaro Tim earned 1st team All Southern Arizona honors in football. Tim was the first recipient of the AIA Everyday Heroes Student of the Year Award for his achievement in academics, activities and athletics. Tim also excelled in Fine Arts as the lead in three Sahuaro musicals during his four years. He went on to sing in the US Military Academy's Glee Club as well as other choral groups.



After graduating from West Point Tim went to helicopter flight school where he earned his wings as an aviator. Tim flew several hundred missions in Afghanistan over a period of nearly two years earning multiple Air Medals and a Bronze Star. Following Flight School, Tim served as a platoon leader and company commander and was recently promoted to the rank of Major. He is currently with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC where he is S3 Operations Officer for an Air Cavalry Squadron. Tim and his wife Ashley are blessed with three beautiful children.

## Steve Botkin ('86)

Steve Botkin graduated from Sahuaro in 1986 and from the University of Arizona in 1990. While at Sahuaro Steve played football and discovered his love for basketball. He volunteered as an assistant girls' basketball coach with Jim Scott while he was still in college. Steve also was mentored by legendary coach Dick McConnell.



In 1988 Steve became the freshman girls' basketball coach and his love for coaching flourished. Steve then became the junior varsity girls coach at Sahuaro and then the Varsity coach at Rincon High School.

When Jim Scott retired in 2000 Steve became the 3rd Varsity girls basketball coach at Sahuaro. He has amassed over 550 career wins and is currently ranked #1 in Southern Arizona for girls basketball. His most recent accomplishment was his girls' team playing in the State Championship game. Steve has also coached football and softball at Sahuaro. In 2001 Steve started teaching. He taught physical education and also ran the drivers education curriculum along with the Behind the Wheel program after school for students. Steve has run basketball camps, been involved with the American Cancer Society for over 10 years, and has run the Boyd Baker Basketball tournament for several years at Sahuaro.

Steve's mother (Clara Botkin) is a member of the Cougar Hall of Fame. His wife Laura is a Sahuaro graduate (1989) and his two children Rick and Alyssa are Sahuaro honors graduates.

In 2017 Steve became the Activities Director at Sahuaro. Steve continues to support the administration and all aspects of Sahuaro through athletics and activities. He definitely bleeds Red and Blue!

## Herbert "Will" Montoya ('80)

Herbert "Will" Montoya graduated from Sahuaro in 1980 and while at Sahuaro competed in football and wrestling. He was also Homecoming King his senior year.



Will earned a scholarship to play football at Baker University in Kansas. While at Baker, Will was proud to have been the Senior class Vice President and recognized by his graduating class as the "Outstanding male". In 1990, he started Montoya Financial Services providing wealth management services in Jacksonville, Florida. Over time he expanded his firms services to include Retirement Plans, Employee Benefits, and Commercial Insurance. His firm would eventually be recognized as one of the "fastest

growing company's" and "Best Places to work" in Northeast Florida.

Will has been active with his local community and State. He has served as an elected official for Ponte Vedra's Municipal Service District, appointed by Governor Rick Scott to the Environmental Regulation Commission for the State of Florida and has served as president of the Ponte Vedra Rotary Club. Currently, Will is the Chairman of the Board for Seamark Ranch, that provides nurturing home(s) and family system that gives children from families in crisis the tools they need for a brighter future.

Will and his wife, Leslie, have three grown children, a wonderful daughter-in-law and four grandchildren.

## Jane Stratman

Jane Stratman worked at Sahuaro from 1968 to 1977. Jane earned her Bachelor's Degree in 1944 from Butler University, her Master's Degree in 1951 at Purdue University and her Administrative Certificate from the University of Arizona in 1970. Jane taught at Tucson High and Pueblo High School.



In the Fall of 1968 Jane was appointed by Henry D. Egbert, Sahuaro's founding Principal as the first Dean of Girls'. She was instrumental in assisting with the implementation of the school's philosophy as well as setting the tone for effective student discipline. Jane was instrumental in the formation and advising of the Girls League, an association consisting of all female students at Sahuaro.

In 1977 Jane moved to Pinetop, Arizona where she served as Principal of Blue Ridge Junior High School. Jane also served for 12 years on the Blue Ridge School Board. She also served on the Navajo Silent Witness Board for 15 years. Jane loved Pinetop and golf. She served in numerous capacities on the Women's Golf Association Board of Pinetop Country Club.

## Hall of Fame Breakfast

The Sahuaro High Cougar Foundation cordially invites you to attend the Annual Breakfast and Hall of Fame Induction:

**Saturday, November 13**

See the next page for details!



SAHUARO  
COUGAR  
FOUNDATION

# Hall of Fame Breakfast

The Sahuaro High Cougar Foundation cordially invites Cougar Alumni, Faculty, Parents, Students, and Friends to attend the Annual Breakfast and Hall of Fame Induction:

**Saturday, November 13, 2021**

at Sahuaro High School, 545 North Camino Seco Tucson, Arizona 85710

Registration will take place at the front gate at 8:30am, with the program starting at 9:00am



**Join us as we honor our 2020 inductees:**

Major Tim Ashcraft '03, Ashley Ross Ashcraft '03, Steve Botkin '86, Herbert "Will" Montoya '80, and Jane Stratman, Sahuaro's first Dean of Girls

**Cost:**

\$300 for a table of 10 - a savings of \$50 (\$100 is tax deductible)  
\$25 for Cougar Hall of Fame Members (\$5 is tax deductible)  
\$20 for Alumni celebrating a reunion this year (includes membership)  
FREE admission for children age 5 and younger

\$35 for an adult admission (\$15 is tax deductible)  
\$20 for Current Faculty & Staff (includes membership)  
\$15 for children 6-18

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ticket Purchases**

Table of 10: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$300 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Adult Admissions: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Hall of Fame Members: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Faculty/Staff: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Alumni (reunion year) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Children 6 -18: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Children under 6 (free): \_\_\_\_\_

**2021 Foundation Dues (optional)**

Individual Dues: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Dues: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Donations (optional)**

Donation amount \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

Please list names of other attendees in your party:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Checks and Cash Accepted, or register with credit card online at [sahuarocougars.org/hall-of-fame-breakfast/](https://sahuarocougars.org/hall-of-fame-breakfast/)

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ CSC # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail registration to: Sahuaro Cougar Foundation, PO Box 18181 Tucson, AZ 85731**  
**For additional information call: 520-247-0336    RSVP DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 30, 2021**