



TUCSON MED CLUB

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A publication of the Tucson MED Club

Volume 6, No 2

Fall 2006

Congratulations to MED Scholarship and Graduate Award Recipients



The MED awards are given every year to MED graduates from high schools and colleges who clearly demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, character, and community service. The MED scholarship is one-time, non-renewable award of \$500.00. The college graduates receive a certificate of appreciation for their accomplishments and an award of \$100. The awards were given during our annual graduation party that was held on April 29 at the Sky-line resort. We are pleased that this year recipients of the MED awards were outstanding and make all of us proud of their achievements and success. The MED Scholarship recipients for 2005-2006 academic year are:

1. Nicole Lahood (first from right) who graduated with from Salpoint High School . Nicole received the Salpoint Honor Scholar Award and a scholarship from the University of Arizona.
2. Tania Wer (second from right) who graduated from the Academy of Tucson. Tania received a scholarship from her high school as well as from the university of Arizona.
3. Aaron Brewer (second from left) received an MBA (Master of Businesses Administration) from University of Arizona.
4. Sarab Sarah (first from left) received a Master of Science in Management with a concentration in Finance (MMF) from University of Arizona.

Please join us in congratulating these young MED members and wish them all a very successful and exciting journey in the future to achieve all their potentials and their dreams.



I am the descendant of a people that builded Damascus, and Byblos, and Tyre and Sidon and Antioch, and now I am here to build with you, and with a will.
Kahlil Gibran

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My Lebanon is Just Like Yours

Contributed by Nick Mansour

My Lebanon is just like yours.

It lives in my mind, my heart and my spirit.

It lives in my humour and sadness.

It thrives in my family, my friends, my countrymen, my memory.

Lebanon is in the air that I breathe.

It is the moon climbing slowly from behind the hills to crawl into the sky, shimmering softly on the calm Mediterranean.

It is a row of pine trees along a mountain road and a little stone house set back in a quiet little village.

My Lebanon is just like yours in the long hot summer days beating us down to sleep in the shade of the afternoon.

It is in the feasts, lunches and dinners stretched out along long tables with friends and drink.

It is the heart-thumping rhythm of the derbakkeh and the whirling dance of the dabke.

It is the smoke that curls from the nargileh as you sip your coffee brewed fresh from a large boiling pot.

Lebanon is the sheik in his mansion and the priest in his church.

It is the Mouezzin calling Muslims to prayer at dawn the voice ringing through the crisp air.

It is the Church bell tolling loud and clear from the hilltop.

Lebanon is the farmer leading his oxen to plow.

It is the shepherd whistling and calling to his flock and the stone flung with the aim of a hunter walking beyond him in the valley.

My Lebanon is like yours and the neighbors who welcome you into their hearts and their homes.

It is in the old woman sitting cross-legged before her sajj baking the mouth-watering mankousheh and mark-ouk.

It is the men sitting before the Saraya under a eucalyptus tree playing tric trac each wiser than the next and both content in their rivalry. It is in Beirut on a busy day with the people walking and the cars honking.

My Lebanon is just like yours when the snow falls on Sannine, Faraya and Bcharre.

It is the white laden branches of the cedars in winter that have stood before time itself knew of them.

It is the olive tree that was planted by the grandfather of my grandfather and the sindianeh under which he sat and told me.

Lebanon is Fairuz and the songs of the loves and dreams of all of us.

It is the stars on a clear autumn night flickering like the lights of the fishing boats in the bay.



Continue on page 3

My Lebanon is Just Like Yours— (continue from 2)

My Lebanon is all of that and more.
It is beyond any enemy and their devices.
It is above any politician and his manipulations.
It is bigger than any scheme or any plot.

My Lebanon is invincible, it is unconquerable and unwavering.
My Lebanon is beyond the traitors and the thieves; it is beyond the cowards and the knaves.
My Lebanon cannot be bombed nor beat, nor bowed.

My Lebanon is made of things that cannot be broken, of dreams that cannot be erased, of passion that cannot be withheld.
My Lebanon is as free as the hawk that flies on a hot summer day and as tough as the pillars of Baalbek.

My Lebanon is powerful and proud, tolerant and forgiving, beautiful and stern. My Lebanon is made of the immortal.
My Lebanon is just like yours.

LETS GET IT BACK



Dear Federation Family,

The events of the past weeks have been horrifying to people throughout the world; however, no more so than to members of The Southern Federation whose heritage and culture began there and to those whose family and friends still reside.

The Federation and the Foundation have begun organizing a Humanitarian Relief Fund to help those affected. I, along with the Vice President and the Chairman of the Board wish to express our sincere sorrow to those who are suffering during this crisis.

Funds can be sent to Norma Hanna, Charity Director of the Foundation, 5442 Ocean Dr. Corpus Christi, TX, 78412-2747.

May God grant relief to the suffering of the innocent and may peace be brought to the Middle East.

Sincerely,

Irv Schwary
President
Southern Federation

Reba David
Vice President
Southern Federation

Michael Hiffa
Chairman of the Board
Southern Federation

Anthony Campbell
Southern Federation Foundation

Norma Hanna
Southern Federation Foundation





The Most Common Driving Mistakes Teens Make

By Lana Hariri

1. They tend to expect the best outcomes of any driving situation rather than the worst. They don't drive defensively which means they aren't aware that another driver may do something crazy or unexpected.
2. They don't look around often enough and check the positions of cars around them.
3. They drive with other teens in the car. Music, conversations, and laughter can be distracting. Teens are four times more likely to die in a crash when they are with other teens than if they are alone or with an adult.
4. They drive too fast.
5. They drive too aggressively. They take risks like driving through red lights and tailgating. Impatient teens make terrible drivers, especially if they tend to get angry easily.
6. They don't slow down in difficult conditions
7. They don't check for cars twice before pulling into an intersection at a stop sign.
8. They fail to look behind them before backing out of a parking place.
9. They don't watch for cars rushing through intersections at the end of a red light
10. They don't look both left and right when making a right-hand turn.
11. They don't always wear seat belts and don't insist that their passengers use them.
12. They blast the radio, making it impossible to hear either a siren or other drivers' warning beeps.
13. They drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
14. They try to drive even when they know they can't do it safely.
15. They talk on their cell phones while driving
16. They put on makeup, comb their hair, or eat while driving.
17. They fail to look behind them before backing out of a parking place.



Waters from Another World *My Excellent Biosphere 2[®] Adventure!*

By: Eng. Mohamad Amin Saad

masappeal7@yahoo.com

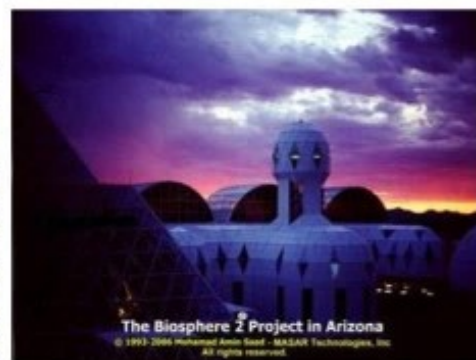
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It was 10 a.m. on a hot sunny day at Mission Control. The Nerve Room was buzzing with activity; computer monitors flickering with system updates from over 1,500 sensors every 15 seconds, two-way radios fighting for an open channel, and a steady stream of people coming and going. Then the daily call came from the Rain Forest: we want rain! Within 10 minutes, and with a few mouse clicks, 5,000 gallons of pure condensate water was pouring down on the coconut and azalea trees. The rain gods smiled again.

That is not a scene from Star Trek 3, Voyage from the Moon or a make-believe NASA weather simulator. This is what is called normal operating procedures at the unique, environmentally-closed Biosphere 2[®] Project, so named after the mother ship earth which is known as Biosphere 1. The project spreads over hundreds of acres of cactus-spotted desert landscape located some 25 miles north of Tucson, Arizona. From 1993 to 1996, I had the good fortune of being involved with an awesome adventure: a world that is a marvel of engineering, so tightly isolated that the air leak rate from its sealed 3.5-acre glass and concrete structure was less than 10% a year. This is almost 100 times less than what the Space Shuttle was designed for! The \$250-million privately funded environmental project was originally conceived to simulate manned missions to Mars, but after a few both marvelous and rocky years, Biosphere 2[®] quickly came crashing down to earth. It has since been managed as an environmental research and educational center under Columbia University as the West Coast Campus. Sadly, it is now on the block for prospective real estate developers, resort & spa operators and playground thrill seekers!

At Biosphere 2[®]'s limited space, naturally-looking ecological habitats, called ecosystems or biomes, co-exist within a few yards of each other. You can walk in the lush desert, check out the crops in the agricultural biome and climb over a few steps to the marsh and beautiful rain forest. From the very top, you can get a spectacular view of the 5-million-gallon deep blue ocean, with its own gorgeous coral reef and indigenous marine life, a view that rivals any breath-taking sunset on the beaches of California! More than 4,000 species of plants and animals call Biosphere 2[®] their home; some came from Brazil, the Bahamas or Malaysia but for some they have known none other. The first two years of the project's life, 4 men and 4 women of diverse backgrounds but with rival tenacity and thirst for challenges of the unknown, lived totally isolated inside. A second crew of 6 followed before the mission's objectives and direction was changed forever in 1996. I personally had the incredible once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to live sealed inside for a whole weekend (*no one can keep me isolated for two years!*). It was an awesome and scary experience: the sheer knowledge that you are almost alone is over-powering yet rejuvenating; the magic of being in control of your own planet is almost corrupting, yet the responsibility is humbling, and the fear of the unknown made you sleep like a fox, with one eye open. Then there is the human habitat or living accommodations, a modern paperless society with instant access to the outside via phone, fax, closed television circuits and of course the internet! You can wonder around endlessly and actually get lost in the maze of trees, narrow tracks and desert landscape, or you can head to relax on the "beach", overlooking the amazing man-made ocean I had to watch out for tourists, though. As the inside was off-limits to tourists, the minute they spot you on the beach through the outside glass panels, they make you feel you are as strange and important as an alien from Mars who just landed on earth!



Let's Look at the MED Graduation Party!





Fast Facts

By Lana Hariri

Lady Peseshet of Ancient Egypt (2600-2100 BC) is the world's first known female physician.

There are more than 600 million telephone lines today, yet almost half the world's population has never made a phone call.

Alexander Graham Bell never phoned his wife or mother because they were deaf.

Playing-cards were known in Persia and India as far back as the 12th century. A pack then consisted of 48 instead of 52 cards

Julius Caesar was the first to encode communications, using what has become known as the Caesar Cipher.

Only one of the Seven Wonders of the World still survives: the Great Pyramid of Giza.

The world's first skyscraper was the 10-storey Home Insurance office, built in Chicago in 1885. (During Roman times buildings were up to 8 storeys high.)

Traffic jams are nothing new. In 45 BC, Rome banned all vehicles from within the city - and in other cities vehicles, including horses, were allowed only at night., because of traffic jams.

Sails were first used by the Phoenicians around 2000 BC.

More than 60 million people annually visit France, a country of 60 million people.



Really Weird and Useless Facts

1. Peanuts are one ingredient for dynamite.
2. The national anthem of Greece has 158 verses.
3. There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar
4. Women blink nearly twice as much as men.
5. If you keep a goldfish in a darkroom, it'll eventually turn white.
6. All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.
7. American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 from eliminating one olive from each salad served in first-class.
8. China has more people who speak English than the U.S.
9. You share your birthday with at least 9 million other people in the world.
10. Polar bears are left-handed
11. A cockroach will live for 9 days without its head before it starves to death.
12. Donald Duck comics were banned in Finland because Donald doesn't wear any pants.

Happy Events

Birthdays

August

Julie Michael 13th
Oday Wer 15th
Elham Lahood 18th

September

Manal Kidwany 8th
Bshara Mezher 1st
Gabriel Sarah, 1st
Wadia Sarah, 1st
Mary Sahyouni, 6th
Hannah Sarah, 13th
Kim Callan, 18th
Zoe Hildebrand 19th
David Abraham 21th
Midhat Abraham 25th
Domingo Cheleuitte 26th

October

Josephine Sabbagh 10th
Megan Nichole Connet 17th
Jacob Mikel Connet 17th
David Basila 21st
Rene Aidwlaimi 23th
Amer Said 23th
Marge Yessian 23rd
Stewart Salmon 27th
Jamil Hijazi 27th
Angelle Casagrande 28th
Younna Abdulhadi 29th

Novemeber

Michael Abraham 2th
Rebecca Shapiro 4th
George Hobeich 5th
Carmen Moussa 6th
Joycelyn Connect 9th
Cristina Casagrande 18th
Sonia Hariri 21st
Adel Ziady 25th
Mikey Moussa 26th
Kelly Callan 27th
Sharif Nafeh 29th
Nicole Lahood 30th

Anniversaries

Robert & Rebecca Shapiro 8/9
Hanna and Wadia Sarah 8/19
Aftim and Nadia Acra 8/30
Salim & Sonia Hariri 11/17
Terry & Mena Aidwlaimi 11/22

Come celebrate with The Tucson **MED Club**

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Saturday
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\$45 children 12 and under

Seating is very limited, please make your reservation by October 4

For more information please contact Kamal Moukabary, 797-9083, Salim Hariri, 577-9734, or Hassan Hijazi, 751-4420

Happy Events



Congratulations to
Tarek and Samia Nassif
on the birth of their
sun Anthony, born on
August 27, 2006.



Congratulations to
Alif and Deanne Sarah
on the birth of their
daughter Savanna,
born on July 1, 2006.

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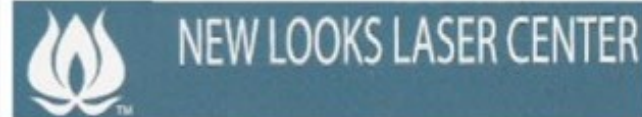
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"You should be proud of being an American, but you should also be proud that your fathers and mothers came from a land upon which God laid His gracious hand and raised His messengers."

TUCSON MED CLUB

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[Http://www.tucsonmedclub.org](http://www.tucsonmedclub.org)**Zorouna Editor****Lana Hariri**

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