Dear Patrons,

For the past year, I have been Publisher of the CITYSunTimes and I can’t express the appreciation of the warmth I received from my staff, past and present advertisers and, most of all, the readers. It has been an amazing experience to be surrounded by such wonderful people. It has truly been a rewarding and memorable year!

I want to take this opportunity to thank our readers, who have patronized our advertisers. We value you, our advertisers, who have believed in us to drive business to your business. Without your support we would not be able to provide this wonderful publication to you each month!

On behalf of all of us at CITYSunTimes, please have a healthy and happy holiday season. At this time, and at all times, we wish you and yours happiness, good health and prosperity in 2015!

Fondly,

[Signature]

Lorrie Pomeroy, Publisher

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

I am writing to thank you, CITYSunTimes, and the Arizona Broadway Dinner Theater for the wonderful opportunity to see The Producers. The show was top notch and extremely professional from the acting, to the set design and costume. I will certainly spread the word about such a fine, professional theater sitting right here in the Valley of the Sun for all to enjoy.

- Mary Zolkiewicz

I received a wonderful e-mail from a reader (Barbara) about Candles of the Desert [November 2014]. She was so touched by the loss of our saguaro, she offered us a replacement one. Now that’s a trip it was. In more than one sense of the word!

I was so touched by the loss of our saguaro, that I wrote my wife, about how proud I was of her for offering to replace it.

Now you know why I’m so proud to be me!

This is not boasting. This is fact! VYT was just named “Best Star-Making Machine” by The Arizona Republic.

In my serendipitous life I fall upon opportunities that lead me to explore and create – to follow my instincts. Thus, “Musings of a Distractible Mind.”

I would dearly love to tell you that my path has been one meticulously planned. But that would be a lie. Find a need and fill it. That’s my mantra. Or, a “need” finds me. And I do likewise.

In 1997 the “need” found me when I was asked to serve on the newly formed Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation Board. For the 17th year (yikes!), I’ve just completed reviewing a myriad of applications for grant money that span a broad cross section of need – from homelessness to indigent healthcare and children’s programs of all types. The services needed are endless. The resources – though generous – are nonetheless limited.

As 2014 comes to an end – and the pressure of defining one’s New Year’s resolutions creeps into our consciousness (immediately following the hysteria and pressures of the holiday season) don’t consider for a minute that the “Season for Giving” has ended. The “Season for Giving” is a constant. If you are amongst the more fortunate, make a commitment to yourself to do something on-going for your community. It doesn’t come with a paycheck – but the payback is priceless.

Hope H. Ozer is founder and Publisher Emeritus of CITYSunTimes. Her monthly columns previously written as “Publisher’s Pen” range from personal – some humorous, some poignant – to observations on life, and continue to be one of CST’s most enduring features.

PS. Valley Youth Theatre is collecting new stuffed animals for Operation Noah, a program initiated in 2004 by then teen Dennis Fries. Operation Noah delivers the stuffed animals to hospitals, gifting them to pediatric patients and children treated in the emergency rooms. Donations are welcome at any performance of A Winnie-the-Pooh Christmas Tail, running December 5 thru 23.