

celebrating  
**VETERANS**

Mesa WWII veteran piloted missions over Europe • A6



LOOKING BACK: Mesa Air Force Base salutes about 100 veterans about this experience flying B-24s in World War II during an interview Thursday at the home of Mesa, Arizona, Tribune.



MORE VETERANS DAY COVERAGE ON PAGES A4-A8

**Veterans' voices**  
CELEBRATE: Honor their sacrifice at various events in East Valley. A4  
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EVTRIB.COM: A group of Arizona State University students chronicle the stories of Valley veterans. Check out the slideshow on our Website.

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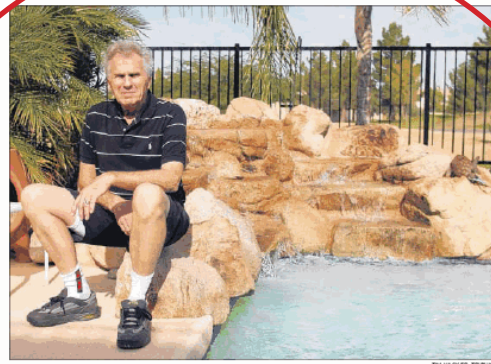
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Review: 'Modern Warfare 2' marred by weak story.

SPORTS: Re-energized Nash fuels stellar start.

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Today's quick take



Lee Fiet is a member of the Arizona Trade Exchange bartering group. Fiet, who operates a travel agency from home, has obtained many items and services by bartering, including this fountain in his pool. A15

Bad economy sparks interest in bartering

**ALL NEWS**  
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Audit: Arpaio violated policy  
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did not comply with ozone procurement policies or guidelines when it spent \$40,000 chartering a spending...  
Attorney looks to recoup money  
A Mesa attorney with ties to County Supervisor Don Shalaby has begun the legal process to recoup any money that the Maricopa County Attorney's Office and sheriff's office might have improperly spent on a custom bus and hiring special prosecutors. A6

and was a provocateur by the communist nation...  
Obama honors Fort Hood victims  
One by one, President Barack Obama spoke the names and told the stories Tuesday of the 18 people slain in the Fort Hood shooting rampage, honoring their courage as he denounced the "retired logs" that led to their deaths. A22

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Tribune readers have their say  
THE VIEW: Our lawmakers in our state voted for the health care bill. Those are the representatives who will not be going back to Washington after the 2010 elections: Harry Mitchell, Russ Cortright, Gabriela Carreras, Ann Kirkpatrick and Ed Pastor. A24

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North, South Korea clash at sea  
The navy of North and South Korea clashed at sea Tuesday for the first time in seven years in what some analysts...

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WHAT READERS ARE LOOKING AT  
So, bus driver asks kids to sing LDS songs

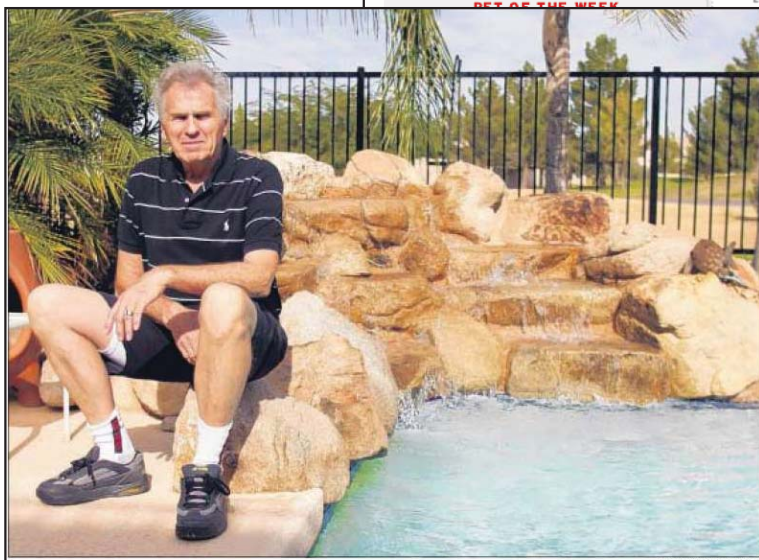
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Cliffhanger novel: Invasive man killed by pine  
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WEATHER ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD  
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TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1828: Farmer slave Nat Turner, who led a violent rebellion, is executed in Jerusalem, Virginia.
- 1918: World War ends with Germany and the Allies signing an armistice in a railroad car at Compiègne, France.
- 1923: US President Warren G. Harding dedicates the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.
- 1928: The Church of England votes to ordain women priests.
- 2002: Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates pledges \$100 million to fight AIDS in India.

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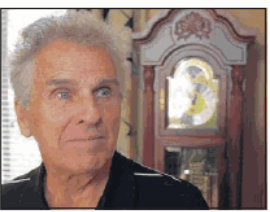
ARIZONA  
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EastValleyTribune.com MESA TRIBUNE • WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2009 • A15

## Bad economy sparks interest in bartering

Arizona Trade Exchange putting on fair in Mesa  
By ED TAYLOR  
TRIBUNE

Thousands of Christmas gifts will be available at a Mesa trade fair this month, and no money will be needed to purchase them. But the holiday gifts will be available only to a select group of invitees who are members of the Arizona Trade Exchange. The organization will sponsor one of the state's largest barter trade fairs Nov. 14 at the Mesa Marriott Hotel in downtown Mesa. The fair will offer merchandise ranging from cars and bicycles to jewelry and gift baskets. But only members of the exchange and their employees will be able to make the cashless acquisitions. The exchange is a bartering organization in which member companies provide products and services to other members in exchange for their products and services. The exchange acts as a third-party record keeper of the transactions. Under the rules of the exchange, when one of the 585 members provides a service or product without charge to another



**BARTER BENEFITS:** Lee Fiet, who operates Anchors Away travel agency, barter's cruises to obtain many items and services, including this grandfather clock.

er member firm, the first company earns trade credits, which it can then use to purchase a service or product from any other member in the exchange without having to pay cash. One trade credit is considered equal to \$1, which ensures that goods and services are bartered on an equal-value basis, said Rob Miller, president of the Arizona Trade Exchange. He cited the example of an attorney who could provide free legal services for a member of the exchange, then use the trade credits he earned to obtain braces for his child from an orthodontist member. Subsequently the orthodontist could use trade credits he earned to obtain services from another member, and so forth — while everyone keeps cash in their pockets. Members make a one-time payment of \$495 to join and pay a monthly fee. Also the exchange takes a 12 percent cut of every transaction payable in cash, which pays for the staff and other expenses needed to maintain the organization. Members have to pay any applicable sales or income taxes. The trade fair is held once a year to allow member firms and their employees to use their accumulated trade credits to acquire Christmas items and gifts

change was a good way to develop contacts when he moved to the Valley in 1999. He has been with it ever since and has also joined several other barter groups. "It put me in immediate contact with about 500 other people," he said. In exchange for providing cruises for other members, Fiet has received many services for his home and business including a home swimming pool, auto repair, carpeting, landscaping, printing and advertising. He added that he completes his Christmas shopping in about six hours at the annual trade fair each year. "Our annual big deal is doing our Christmas shopping at the trade show," he said. Jennifer Funicello, owner of Az Party Pals, a Mesa-based business that provides clowns, Santas, superheroes and other entertainers for birthday and holiday parties, said she will offer gift certificates at the trade fair that will allow buyers to provide a party for friends or family. "We enjoy it," she said of the barter exchange. "It brings you business you might not get otherwise."

that would have a pretty slim Christmas without this." Exchange members are doing more than \$6 million a year in transactions, up about 20 percent in the past year, Miller said. The economic recession has contributed to that growth, he said. "Everyone is slow now," he said. "This is a way to increase their business." Lee Fiet, owner-manager of the Anchors Away travel agency in Mesa, said joining the ex-

Dr. Paul Sandstrom, Dentist  
Dr. David Edwards, Dentist  
Seniors  
FREE BREAKFAST! FREE LUNCH!

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