AFM September 2010 Letter

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OUR NEIGHBORHOODS DEFINE who we are at the current moment in our lives.

My first destination growing up was a high-rise in downtown Chicago—what a fun place for a young person to live. My first house was in a quaint young neighborhood 25 minutes south of Minneapolis near Edina. Since moving to the Valley 18 years ago, I have lived on the west side, in the Arcadia neighborhood of Phoenix, in Ahwatukee, and I now call North Scottsdale home. When I lived in each of these places, I could not have been happier at that moment.

Destinations are key when deciding on schools, work and play. Where do we go and what makes the most sense? We are very fortunate to have so many great places to live in the Valley. Arcadia, North Scottsdale and Paradise Valley are my favorite places to live at the moment. These three areas are all close to where I do business and the places I visit the most. North Scottsdale is an escape for me because it's close to the foothills. When I arrive home, I'm in the desert—no palm trees—only native plants and the wild. I prefer private, guard-gated communities and beautiful golf courses to look at even though I do not play the game.

I am confident that if I choose to move later in life, I will stay within the Valley. There are so many great villas and condos that have already been built. More are
actually in the works, and we hear some new ones are set to break ground in 2011.
That is exciting news.

We took a look as a team and, though there are many more destinations that we like, we chose 10 places that we'd gladly call home today. They are not all in expensive areas of the Valley, but they are where people choose to live and are happy there. We wish you and your family the very best each and every day—wherever you may be living.

We love Arizona and the great people that make this the very Best Place to Live!

Have a great day!
Michael S. Dee *President and Publisher*