

# HANDLING HOME LIFE

Quaranteens found ways to kill their boredom while waiting for online classes to start March 30

story: every hull



"I learned how to play piano on my own last school year. Being stuck at home gives me extra time to practice songs like Bohemian Rhapsody." Rhys Ho (8)  
photo: ho family



"Taking mini photo shoots gives me something to do during quarantine. My brother helps me sometimes and spending that time together with him is nice." Sophie Baker (8)  
photo: baker family



"My family calls me a natural born germaphobe, but really I was just trying to keep everyone in my house healthy during all of this COVID-19 stuff." Vincent Francetic (7)  
photo: francetic family



"I have mostly played video games. I practice hitting off the tee in my backyard to stay ready for baseball, but other than that I haven't done much." Noah Dominguez (7)  
photo: dominguez family

## HEALTH TALK

Adding a new set of words we didn't really want to our daily vocabulary

**CORONAVIRUS**  
"A virus sort of like the flu, just more deadly and spreads faster than the flu. It came from China and is a horrible disease that is killing a lot of people." Reese Turner (7)

**INCUBATION PERIOD**  
"How long it takes to notice that you have symptoms. They say it takes 4-14 days to know if you are sick with COVID-19." Leah Dulgarian (8)

**PANDEMIC**  
"An outbreak of a disease where it can get really bad. It also can effect the world over time, like the world can be put on lock down for awhile until it calms down." Michael Louis (7)

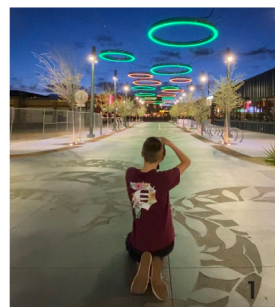
**QUARANTINE**  
"It means you have to be stuck in your boring home with your family and not go anywhere except going outside, it's really boring. So very boring." Payten Michael (8)

**SOCIAL DISTANCING**  
"Social distancing is like staying away from someone, but still talking to them, like socializing, just farther away than normal." Kash Allen (7)

## ALL BUT EMPTY

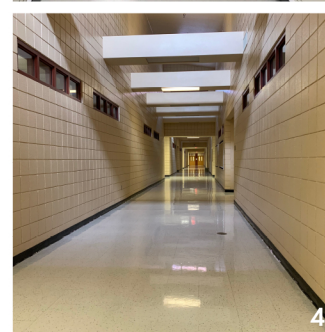
No problem with the six foot rule

Long before the Governor announced the stay-at-home order, many Gilbert residents had already found healthy choices to help keep their distance. Hiking, bike riding, trail running and walking around the block with the dog were all simple ways families kept their bodies and sanity in check. story: every hull



1. With no crowds to fight, Aidan Hammersmith (8) was able to get out of the house and get a clear shot of one of the Heritage District's most popular photo ops. City imposed shut downs cleared busy streets in just 24 hours. photo: hammersmith family 2. Kim and Nathan Bress (7) practice social distancing on Treasure Loop Trail #56 in the Lost Dutchman State Park. The 2.4 mile hike was the perfect way to get some fresh air and sunshine. photo: bress family 3. "Going mudding keeps me safe because I'm not surrounded by people in a public place," Alyssa Guercio (8) said. "This virus is ruining my life. I get to do things I love, but I can't see the people I love." photo: guercio family

1. The school marquee flashes through a series of messages, one which declared that school was closed. Students and parents were referred to the district website for the latest updates on closures and available community resources. photo: jennifer parsons 2. Aisle eleven in the south east Gilbert Target was where the toilet paper was supposed to be. People were hoarding toilet paper, making it impossible for others to buy necessities. Both TP and hand sanitizer were found online for jacked up prices, leaving those in need with no choice but to pay up. photo: megan sebold 3. "While the office is open, we keep the doors locked to control how many people come in," Kay Gift said. Notices were required to be posted in both English and Spanish on every school office door in the district. photo: jennifer parsons 4. Darkened hallways in the 200 building that should have been crowded with students were instead silent. The custodians took advantage of the extra time to sanitize the school from top to bottom. photo: brian yee 5. One place you never see empty is a Starbucks. Food retailers of all sorts, from coffee shops to grocery stores, were forced to re-think their operations and close down public dining areas in order to conform to the social distancing norms set forth by the Centers for Disease Control. photo: megan sebold



Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) Director Dr. Cara Christ, Governor Doug Ducey and Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman joined together on March 12 to brief superintendents, school leaders and educational organizations on the state's efforts to respond to the global COVID-19 outbreak. Over 400 people participated in the call, which lasted 90 minutes. Nearly 30 questions from education leaders were answered on the call. "My focus was on providing a sanitary and clean environment to keep our students and staff safe while on campus. That shifted when our district closed schools. Then my thoughts turned to the safety and welfare of our students, their families, our staff and their families, and how I could provide support for all of them," Principal Brian Yee said. photo: office of the governor

## UNCOVERING CLOSURES

"Our school buildings may be closed, but Gilbert Public Schools is very much open. We are here for you and to support the continued growth and learning of our students." SHANE MCCORD, GPS Superintendent story: every hull

## FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE

You didn't have to look far to see effects of COVID

There was no warning. There was nothing visible to allow families to see the threat that was invading their cities and neighborhoods. When the decision was first made to shut down schools, people were in a state of disbelief. "I hate the fact that I can't go back to school and at least say goodbye to all my friends that are going to different high schools," Justice Kroff (8) said. While the virus couldn't be seen with the naked eye, the effects of the pandemic were painfully clear. Classrooms

sat empty and dark. Restaurants were empty but still busy helping provide families with needed food. And store shelves, those were just empty. "The whole toilet paper thing is really absurd. It's just toilet paper," Alessy Madero (7) said. The separation was tough on everyone. Students did their best to keep in touch via social media and video games, but it wasn't even close to the same. "I was excited to get to walk to school and meet new friends in my classes. But...nope," new student Brianna La Vallee (7) said. story: every hull