We are saddened to announce the passing of Terry Mikel, retired Horticulture Agent at Maricopa County Cooperative Extension. Terry was an expert on turfgrass and native grasses, and he dedicated his career to improving the quality of life for Maricopa County residents.

Thanksgiving and a gift drive for Christmas.

Despite the COVID-19 chaos and the constraints imposed by the pandemic, we continued to offer our Discovery 4-H Garden class series, offered by the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension. We shifted to an online format, adding a formative assessment and a live Virtual Celebration of Learning is taking place from around the house.

We are doing the garden because it's a fun thing to do and it shows us all how to do it! We are actively recruiting for Class 30 and the application deadline is March 15, 2021.

The first time that we went, we started with the basics of gardening. We learned about soil, water, and sunlight, and how they all work together. We also learned how to choose the right plants for our climate and soil conditions. It was a lot of work, but we didn't mind because we were having so much fun.

We learned about soil science and how it affects plant growth. We also learned how to care for our plants, from planting to harvesting. We practiced our gardening skills by working on our marvelous oasis and together in our community gardens.

Water from local water professionals. Replacing turfgrasses, native grasses can be seeded and use less water and fertilizers.

Other horticulture classes were also done online, which actually increased attendance. Thanks to some very dedicated volunteers, we had a very successful Master Gardener class.

A loving son, brother, father, and grandfather. Our prayers and thoughts are with his family.

John, Class 22 for winning his first election in LD4 and joining six other alumni already serving in the State Legislature beginning in 2021. Several of our over 650 alumni have been active across the state with several running for local, county and state-wide offices. Congratulations to Joel Panzarino, Class 35, for winning his first election in LD7 and joining five other alumni already serving as state legislators.

In January 2021 they will interact with legislators and state leadership and in February 2021; they will learn about the winter budget: corrections, healthcare and education. In January 2021 they will interact with legislators and state leadership and in February 2021; they will learn about the winter budget: corrections, healthcare and education.

The past year has been challenging, but we've made the most of it. We've learned new skills, made new friends, and had fun. We're looking forward to what the future holds.

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What do you do during a pandemic and want to teach students about agriculture in their daily lives? Make lemonade! Well, not really, but we can teach students about how to do that. We are doing the garden because it's a fun thing to do and it shows us all how to do it! We are actively recruiting for Class 30 and the application deadline is March 15, 2021.

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