

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR SCRUGGS TO SERVE AS MAÎTRE D' FOR DEC. 3 FROM THE HEART FUNDRAISING EVENT

GLENDALE, Ariz. – During her 17-plus years as Glendale’s mayor, Elaine Scruggs has received many requests to help promote and support community causes in various ways.

Over the years, she has served as an honorary school crossing guard, served as an official witness for a Guinness world record, thrown the ceremonial “first pitch” at a spring training baseball game and driven a fire truck in a parade.

But in all her years as mayor, Scruggs has never been asked to serve as a restaurant maître d' . . . until now.

From 5 – 10 p.m. Friday, December 3, *Mayor d' Scruggs* will find herself partaking in another unique experience when she takes the reins at Tuscan Oven at Westgate City Center as part of a fundraising event to benefit the *From The Heart* program. The program is a partnership between Glendale residents, businesses, the BHHS Legacy Foundation and the city that enables Glendale’s most vulnerable children, families and elderly residents to receive essential social services.

“*From The Heart* touches literally thousands of our residents each year who are dealing with life-altering challenges in their personal lives,” said Scruggs, who is a major advocate for the program. “So we are extremely appreciative that the owners of Tuscan Oven are donating a portion of their evening’s proceeds to support this critically important community program.”

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Mayor d' Scruggs/add 1-1-1

To help generate greater awareness and additional funds for *From The Heart*, Scruggs will be performing the duties of a restaurant maître d', from serving as host for the evening to taking customers to their assigned tables.

Tuscan Oven's General Manager Cody Lewien is looking forward to the event.

"Tuscan Oven is tremendously excited to partner with Mayor Scruggs and the city of Glendale for such a great cause," said Lewien. "By providing funds to the *From The Heart* program, we can make sure that the money raised at this event directly benefits our neighbors right here in Glendale."

Reservations for the December 3 event, which are encouraged but not required, can be made by calling 623-877-4670. Tuscan Oven, located in Westgate near Waterdance Plaza, features Italian cuisine, including pasta, pizzas, paninis and other food items.

Scruggs is looking forward to the event and thinks it's a great time for it. "Tuscan Oven's generosity during this time of year truly represents what the upcoming holiday season is all about, and I encourage everyone to come out and share in the holiday spirit."

Funding for *From The Heart* is made possible through contributions the program receives when residents add \$1 to their monthly city utility payments and through business donations. The BHHS Legacy Foundation matches every dollar donated to *From the Heart* by 50 percent. All the money is then distributed to non-profit agencies serving Glendale residents in need of social services.

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