



# COUNTY SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA

## CSA Weekly Update

April 14, 2017



*A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.*

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**CSA Wishes you  
a Joyous Passover  
&  
a Happy Easter!**



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### FAC Discusses Revenue Forecasts

The Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) Meeting was held on Wednesday this week for an update on revenue forecasts for the budget. The FAC, usually convenes three times each fiscal year, and is made up of private and public sector economists who present their views on the state of the United States and Arizona economies over the next few years. The FAC also serves as one of the inputs to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee's (JLBC) 4-sector consensus budget forecast.

On Wednesday, JLBC presented their [April 2017 Revenue and Budget Update](#). Adjustments to January's forecast were shared with changes to total revenues of (\$10.5M) in FY 2017 and \$19.3M in FY 2018 as well as on-going revenues of (\$10.4M) in FY 2017 and \$29.7M in FY 2018. These changes create an expected structural balance of \$1.6M in FY 2017 and \$76.0M in FY 2018.

Elliott Pollack shared his [“Different Policies, Different Results, But Still Uncertainty”](#) presentation with highlights including the recent rise in consumer confidence, the historic slow rate of growth out of the recession, a comparison of the current length of business cycle expansion to others since 1949, and a look at some of the metrics that define the current Arizona housing market. Average quarterly economic growth rates during economic expansions from 1949-2016 have ranged from 2.8-6.4%, with the current expansion at 2.1%. Additionally, the current economic expansion lasting 94 months is the third longest since World War II, the only two longer lasting periods of economic expansion were 106 months through most of the 1960's and 120 months through most of the 1990's. Mr. Pollack considered it extremely unlikely that the next four years will pass (the current economic expansion would have to continue to 138 months) without an economic downturn.

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## Representative Lovas Resigns

This week Representative Phil Lovas, a Republican serving Legislative District 22, resigned as a state legislator, effective Monday, April 17, 2017. He was selected as the Regional Advocate in Region IX for the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy.



Representative Lovas stated, “It's been an honor to represent Legislative District 22 in the Arizona House of Representatives these past five years. The state was presented with a series of serious challenges this last half decade as we weathered the recession, yet we confronted those challenges head-on and have continued to make Arizona a great place to do business and raise a family.”

To fill this House vacancy, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors will appoint a new House member from a list of three nominees that will be selected by Republican precinct committeepersons in Legislative District 22.

*Source:* [Arizona House of Representatives Release, April 10, 2017](#)

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## Session Snapshot

Today marks the 96<sup>th</sup> day of the 53rd Legislative Session. After the rather contentious debate and passage of the empowerment scholarship account legislation last week, calendars were light this week as budget conversations ramped up behind closed doors. Of the 1,062 bills introduced this year, the legislature has already passed 162 bills, and Governor Ducey has signed 151 of them, and vetoed four.

This week, Senator Lesko's Corrections Officers Retirement Plan (CORP) reform package, [SB1442](#), passed the House on Final Read, 23-7 and has been sent to the Governor for his signature. At this point the other half of the reform proposal, [SCR1023](#), is awaiting Rules, Caucus and Floor action in the House.

On Wednesday, Governor Ducey [signed into law](#) Representative Farnsworth's [HB 2477 civil forfeiture: report information; remedies](#) (*E. Farnsworth*).

For more information on legislative deadlines, please [click here](#).

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## Sharlot Hall - Arizona's First Territorial Historian

To continue our celebration of National Poetry Month, this week's celebrated poet is Sharlot Mabridth Hall, a poet and writer, activist, politician, and Arizona's first territorial historian. Sharlot was born in Kansas, but in 1882 she and her family traveled across the Santa Fe Trail making their way to Arizona, finally settling on Lynx Creek near today's Prescott Valley.

Sharlot was considered an unusual woman for her time as a largely self-educated, but highly literate, child of homesteaders, and in an age when women were often considered inferior to men, she loved a good fight and often broke gender barriers. She was fascinated with the Arizona frontier and used her love of the written arts to express the sense of freedom she felt. By the age of 22, Sharlot worked as a journalist, poet, and essayist, and in 1906, became associate editor of “Out West” magazine.

That same year, Sharlot Hall emerged as an activist in the crusade against the congressional measure which would have brought New Mexico and Arizona into the Union as one state. Sharlot toured Arizona gathering opposition to the bill, and wrote a 64 page article in "Out West" praising Arizona's resources. Her epic poem, "[Arizona](#)," describing why Arizona deserved separate statehood, is said to have aided in the defeat of the measure, helping to pave the way for Arizona to later become its own state in 1912.



(Hall with the Territorial Officials of AZ)



(Hall standing over a deer she shot)



(Portrait of Hall)



(Hall flying in an airplane)

Early on in her career, Sharlot saw the need to protect Arizona's history. The territory of Arizona was founded in 1863, but by 1900, as many of the early settlers died, their possessions were being lost along with their stories. From 1909 to 1912, Sharlot served as Arizona's first female salaried territorial historian, thus beginning her lifelong quest to save what she could, collecting both Native

American artifacts and pioneer material from all across the state. After many years of building her extensive collection, Sharlot agreed to move her artifacts and documents into the Old Governor's Mansion and open it as a museum.

After her death in April 1943, the Prescott Historical Society changed their name to the Sharlot Hall Historical Society. Additionally, she was among the first to be inducted to Arizona's Women's Hall of Fame, and in 1984, the Sharlot Hall Award was established.

If you ever find yourself in the lovely city of Prescott, in Yavapai County, you can visit the [Sharlot Hall Museum](#), which serves as an educational and cultural center, fostering community understanding and appreciation of the historical, social, and natural aspects of Arizona.

**Sources:** [Sharlot Hall Museum](#); [The Arizona Memory Project](#); [Cowboy Poetry](#); [WikiMedia Commons](#)

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## NACo 2017 Aspire Awards Opportunity

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has launched its [2017 Aspire Awards: Creating Opportunities for County Employee Retirement Readiness](#). It honors and recognizes counties for innovative solutions and for promoting employee retirement savings.



To submit an application, please [click here](#). For additional information, please [click here](#) and [here](#).

Winners will be notified around the week of June 12, 2017, and the awards will be presented during the NACo Annual Conference in July.

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## County Supervisors Association of Arizona

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### Smell of Rain

Smell of drought on every side;  
Every whirlwind flings aside  
Acrid, evil-smelling dust  
Like some burning mold or musk.  
Wind across the garden brings  
Scent of blistered, dying things.  
Deep corral dust trampled fine  
Stings the lips like bitter wine.  
Warping boards ooze drops of pitch  
Scented with a memory rich  
Of cook forests far away.  
In the sunbaked fields the hay  
Yields a piteous, panting breath  
As it slowly burns to death.  
Roses in the ranch-house yard  
Turn to mummies dry and hard.  
Out of dusk and out of dawn  
Every fragrance is withdrawn.  
Hot, hot winds, and clear, hot sky  
Burn the throat and sear the eye.  
Then, at last, a cool dawn wind  
Pitying and deeply kind,  
Brings a far-off scent of rain.  
Ah, the sick earth lives again!  
Herds that straggle dusty-pale  
Down the deep-worn water trail,  
Life their sunken eyes with hope  
To the distant mountain slope.  
Lean work horses shy and snot  
In an awkward, eager sport;  
And the ranch dogs, baying, run  
Out to meet the rising sun.  
In the yard a woman stands,  
Touching with bewildered hands  
Wan buds trying to unclothe  
On a parched and dying rose.

From *Poems of a Ranch Woman*, 1953