



Hobbs defends ‘toilet to tap’



Hobbs

HOWARD FISCHER
Capitol Media Services

SCOTTSDALE — Gov. Katie Hobbs is lashing out at those trying to undermine plans for what some call a “toilet to tap” system of converting wastewater into drinking water.

Her comments come as the question of whether cities should pursue programs to produce purified water from wastewater has become an election issue in Scottsdale. There, a city council candidate is running on a program to kill the program, even making a campaign video featuring a brown-looking liquid and saying that’s what people will be asked to drink.

Hobbs countered, “It’s irresponsible to spread the kind of misinformation that’s being spread about technology that we need to continue into the future.”

She also took a poke at those who believe that what they are drinking right now is pure and untouched. “The fact is, most of the water that we get out of our taps in Phoenix comes out of the Colorado River,”

she said. “I don’t know if you’ve been to the river at any time. But people recreate in there.”

That river water goes through a purification process before it comes out of the faucet, Hobbs said.

“This is no different,” she said of what is

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Leaving the roost

ABOVE: Bats stream into the sky from the bridge over the Rillito River on North Campbell Avenue for their nightly insect hunt. Tens of thousands of the bats make their home under the bridge through the summer, but should soon be migrating back to Mexico for the winter. **RIGHT:** A falcon flies off with one of the first Mexican free-tail bats to recently emerge from the roost under the Campbell Avenue Bridge over the Rillito River.

KELLY PRESNELL PHOTOS, ARIZONA DAILY STAR



Three finalists to replace Leshner

HANNAH CREE
Arizona Daily Star

A longtime county employee and two newcomer candidates have been selected as finalists after a nationwide search to replace Pima County Administrator Jan Leshner.

The three final candidates for the county’s top appointed role are: Carmine DeBonis Jr.; Leonard Hernandez; and Leah Rhineheimer.

— **Carmine DeBonis Jr.** DeBonis is currently one of three deputy county administrators and has been with the county for his entire professional career, according to a news release. He currently oversees the county’s public works, economic development, environmental quality, and finance and risk management. He was previously director of development services for the county for 15 years.

— **Leonard Hernandez:** Hernandez is currently the county manager of Thurston County, Washington and has 25 years of local government experience, including 13 in San Bernardino County, California. He was chief executive officer of the county for three years until 2023, when he prepared a budget of \$8.7 billion, according to his résumé.

— **Leah Rhineheimer:** Rhineheimer is currently an assistant town manager for the Town of Gilbert, and has been in the job for five years. She has been in Gilbert government since 2011, working her way up from assistant to the town manager and deputy town manager before her current role. She currently oversees Gilbert’s public works, engineering, water resources and quality of life initiative, according to her résumé.

All three candidates will meet with county employees and the public over two days next week, before a special session to conduct interviews on Oct.

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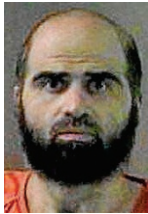
Trump: Execution won’t be live-streamed

MILES J. HERSZENHORN
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said the U.S. military will not livestream the execution of a former Army officer convicted of the 2009 mass shooting at Fort Hood, reversing the Pentagon’s plan to turn it into a televised event.



Hegseth



Hasan

Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth previously committed to livestream the execution by firing squad of Nidal Malik Hasan, who killed 13 people and injured 32 others in what was the largest mass murder at a U.S. military installation.

“I think streaming the execution for all to see might have been a strong

deterrent for the World to witness how America deals with Terrorists and SCUM like Hasan but, many very good and well meaning people would rather not watch him die, through streaming, or through any other visual device,” Trump wrote in a post on social media on Oct. 15.

“He will die, as scheduled, by firing squad, but this event will not be streamed,” Trump added.

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University of Arizona cancer researcher dies

Dr. Rachna Shroff studied gastrointestinal cancers, trying to find cure

PRERANA SANNAPPANAVAR
Arizona Daily Star

Dr. Rachna Shroff, a leading University of Arizona cancer researcher, spent most of her career studying gastrointestinal cancers and trying to find cures.

She died Sunday after battling a form of the same disease.

Shroff, associate director of clinical investigations and co-leader of the Gastrointestinal Clinical Research Team at the UA’s Comprehensive Cancer Center, was 47.

She had been diagnosed with cancer only months earlier, reported The Today Show on NBC. She developed a swollen lymph node, discovered in May, that may have originated in her stomach or intestine.

While the swollen lymph node was initially thought to be lymphoma, a type of blood cancer, it was later confirmed to be terminal adenocarcinoma, a type of cancer

which starts in the glandular cells lining organs, such as the lungs, colon, breast or pancreas, The Today Show reported.

“It’s been a journey,” Shroff told NBC News in an interview shortly before her death. “I’ve spent my entire life trying to eradicate cancer, primarily pancreatic cancer, but also liver cancers.”

NBC News said Shroff spoke at the 2025 conference for the American Society of Clinical Oncology days after she was diagnosed.



UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Dr. Rachna Shroff

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