

# Community Service Award

**Nominee: Christine Salehi**

Nominated by:

Principal, Walt Chantler

Christine has a son with autism and has done a great deal to bring autism awareness to our faculty and community.

Christine annually works behind the scenes to promote autism awareness every April. She sells items to benefit Autism Speaks and helps the staff to get the word out about autism. This year, she helped to decorate the entire campus with awareness slogans and decorations.

Christine is an active member of our parent organization and coordinates a number of staff appreciation lunches for us. She also decorates doors several times a year to promote different messages or appreciations. She is a volunteer in the library and volunteers to help run our annual book-fair each year.

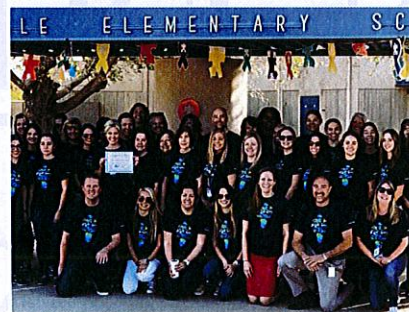
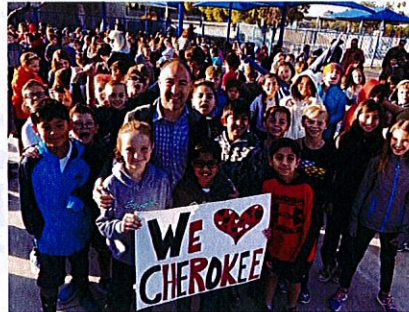
Christine was also the event planner for our Literary Landmark designation last year. She decorated, provided food and helped coordinate our efforts when we became the very first Literary Landmark in Arizona. Several dignitaries attended the event including the Secretary of State etc.

Christine also provides the school with prizes and incentives that we use with the staff and students to promote a positive environment.

Christine is a hard-worker and leads by example. She is very generous with her time, her efforts and with donations she gives to the school.

This year, she earned the right to be named Volunteer of the month because of her many contributions to our school.

I hope this information is helpful. Christine is a wonderful person and deserving of recognition for all the things she does for children.



# Community Service Award

**Nominee: Salehi Family**

Nominated by:

Officer Steven McGhee

I was very impressed to see the Salehi family in action for our Special Olympics Torch Run and learn all their family has done at Cherokee Elementary School.

On 04/30/2018, the Salehi family children helped with short notice to do a welfare check on the animals for our petting zoo for a Press Release about our Community Carnival Celebration.

As weeks led into the Community Carnival Celebration, the Salehi family secured 14 staff from their store, made donations to cover prizes so all children had a prize at the carnival, and provided a fully equipped rehydration station for over a 100 volunteers at the event.

While at the Community Carnival Celebration, I was awestricken when their son who had autism approached me. He told me he was touched by my speech and he wanted to donate all his prizes and candy to Special Olympic Athletes.

Due to their hard efforts, together we raised \$2,108 for Special Olympics Arizona.

On 05/11/2018, while attending a community event at Cherokee Elementary School I learned the Salehi family helped raise \$836.00 with the help of another family for Autism Speaks Arizona.

I have not met another local family so active within our community to make changes for the lives of our educators and community with intellectual disability. I hope to see others follow their step.

I would like to nominate the entire Salehi family for our Community Service Award because each one is a leader in their own unique way.

