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Strip-club owner's sister to run for council

By Linda Wright
Scottsdale, Ariz. — A woman who has spent her life in the entertainment industry is stepping into the political arena. Linda Wright, sister of Scottsdale Strip-Club owner, is running for council in the city of Scottsdale.

Wright, 45, is a former model and has worked in the entertainment industry for over 20 years. She has a degree in business and has worked for several major corporations.

She is running for council in the 10th district, which includes the city of Scottsdale. Wright is a member of the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce and has been active in the community for many years.

She is running for council to bring her business and marketing experience to the city. She is also a member of the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce and has been active in the community for many years.

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The real nanny diaries

The Nanny Diaries portrays a family situation in which a caregiver assumes the role of mother as well. That's not how nanny Irene Di Giuseppe does her job as she tends to Dylan Rarden, 1, of Scottsdale, and that suits Dylan's mother, Stacey, just fine.
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CATHERINE J. JUN/THE REPUBLIC

Scottsdale council candidate

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The Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce is looking for members. Join us today and help support our community.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
A group of people who are interested in helping our community. Join us today and help support our community.

Caring nannies fill the gaps in parenting

By Beth Duckett

BETH.DUCKETT@ARIZONAREPUBLIC.COM

SCOTTSDALE

A recent movie, *The Nanny Diaries*, may parody rich parents and the nannies who work for them, but it also reveals something deeper: Money can't buy you a relationship with your children — or the right nanny.

"It's hard for me as a working mother. Sometimes you miss your son, and you feel guilty ... but she gives us an added value."

Stacey Rarden
Mom who employs a nanny

Caught up in her image, Mrs. X puts her relationship with her son on the back burner.

Nanny Annie finds it hard to cope with the self-centered woman.

Movie reflects real life

Erika Frazier, client placement counselor at Caring Nannies near Scottsdale Road and Third Avenue, said this "lack of communication" between parent and nanny is common.

"Sometimes there is a personality clash you can't breach," said Frazier, who is the daughter of agency founder Beth Weise.

"Hollywood played it (the situation) up to make it entertaining," but the message is clear, Frazier said.

"There is a time and a place for a nanny. There are moms who do it all and need help," she said. "But then there's time that you know who your child is and let them know you're the love of their life."

Weise, who launched the business in 1983 with a friend, said the film shows that parents leading non-stop lives need help.

But nannies can't replace parents. They can only fill in the gaps.

"It's wonderful to have that extra pair of hands," Weise said. "I think today people have bigger houses and schedules ... and our society expects them to take them to a lot of after-school activities."

And finding the right "pair of hands" is what her business is about, Frazier

That's what staff and clients with the Scottsdale-based group Caring Nannies say after watching the recently released comedy.

The Nanny Diaries, based on the 2002 novel, follows a 20-something nanny as she cares for the hyperactive son of Mrs. X, a socialite from Manhattan's Upper East Side, whose marriage to a mostly absent husband is on the rocks.



PHOTOS BY CATHERINE J. JUN/THE REPUBLIC

Irene Di Giuseppe came to care for Dylan Rarden, 1, through Caring Nannies. Dylan's mother, Stacey, says she and Di Giuseppe are close.

said.

Real life needs to avoid clashes

While the film's characters don't see eye to eye, Caring Nannies tries to avoid clashes in personality or lifestyle, Frazier said.

She likens it to a dating game, where the agency can "send a mom 30 nannies, and they may not find the right one."

"It's all about matching," Frazier said. "We just focus on that a lot."

Caring Nannies, which has anywhere from 50 to 150 live-in and commuter nannies, takes its employees very seriously.

The agency requires a seven-year background check, at least two years of experience and "great references," Frazier said.

Caring Nannies

What: A Scottsdale-based nanny agency that provides live-in or live-out nannies, baby nurses, housekeepers and babysitters.

History: Caring Nannies was launched in 1983 by Beth Weise, who has five children.

Where: 4221 N. Winfield Scott Plaza, Suite 4.

Contact: (480) 946-3423 or www.acaringnanny.com.

"Nannying is absolutely by far the best option" for families that need help, Di Giuseppe says. But nannies shouldn't replace parents.

Weise said a person's character — that aura of happiness or bitterness — is key when hiring.

Enthusiasm is job requirement

"We look for people who are interactive ... and have that spark of enthusiasm," Weise said. "Kids absorb who you are and what you say. If the nanny is depressed and unhappy, it just makes all the difference."

Stacey Rarden, a client with Caring Nannies for almost a year, said the film's character Mrs. X went wrong by trying to "replace" her role as mommy with a caregiver.

"It's totally the opposite approach I have," said Rarden, who hired Caring Nannies employee Irene Di Giuseppe for her 1-year-old son, Dylan.

Di Giuseppe plays caregiver without taking over as mom, said Rarden, a Scottsdale resident.

"She and I are really close," she said. "It's hard for me as a working mother. Sometimes you miss your son, and you feel guilty ... but she gives us an added value."

Di Giuseppe said she wants parents to know that "there are good people out there to make you feel comfortable with the fact that you have to work."

And "nannying is absolutely by far the best option," she said, as long as parents remember to stay involved.