

Tucson Lifestyle

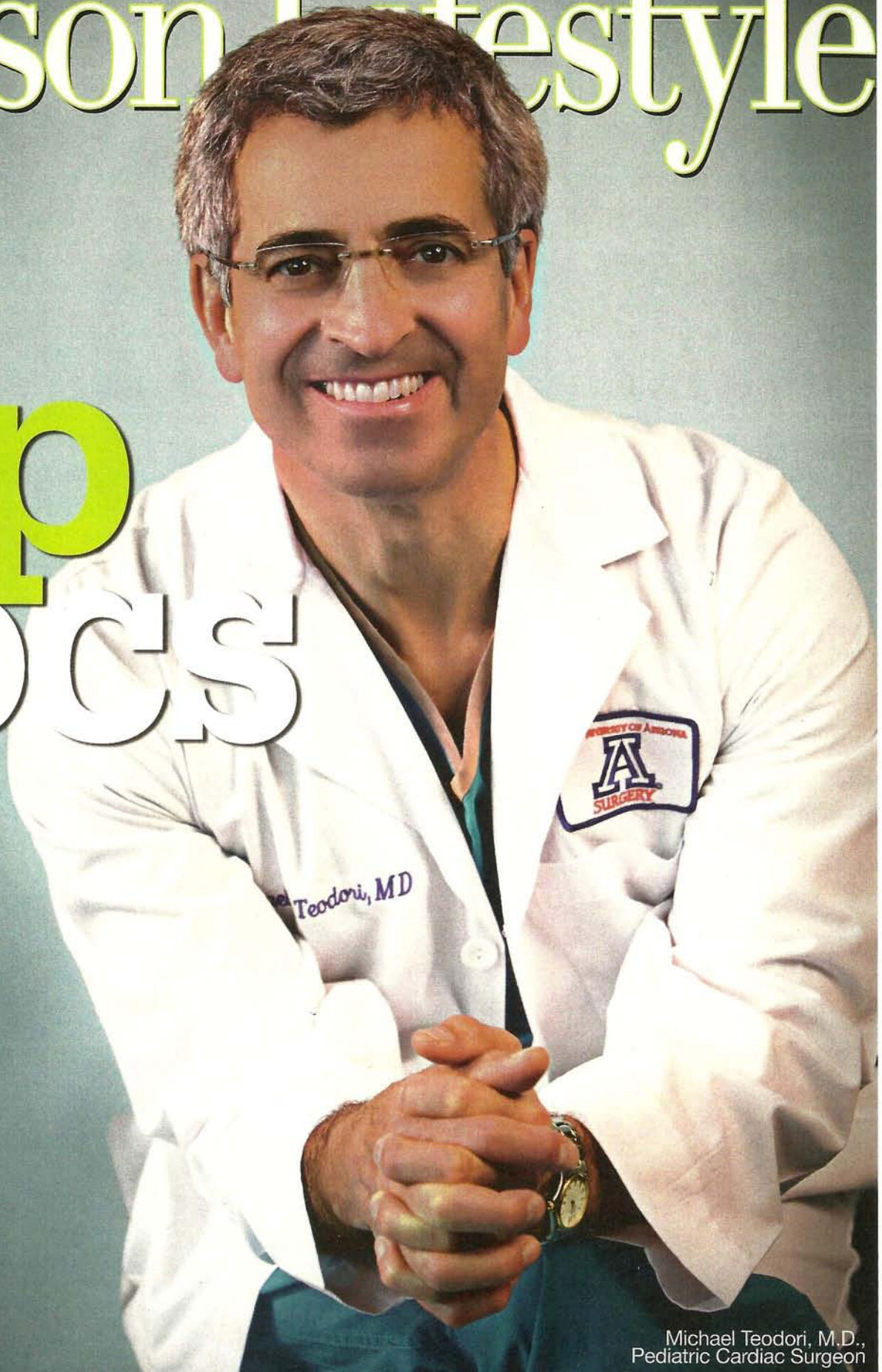
439 top docs

Voted Best
By Their Peers



Desperately
Seeking Sushi

Napahhh!



Michael Teodori, M.D.,
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon

www.tucsonlifestyle.com
JANUARY 2011 • \$3.99
0 1 >
25274 12360 5

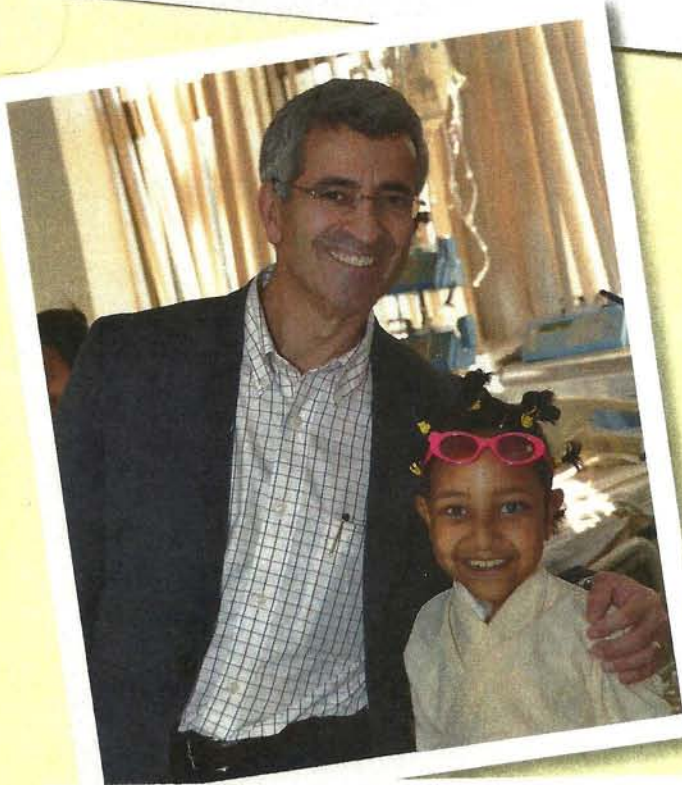
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Michael F. Teodori, M. D.

Specialty: Pediatric Cardiac Surgery
Affiliation: University of Arizona Health Sciences Center,
Dept. of Surgery; director of pediatric and adult congenital
heart surgery, University Medical Center

Brent J. Barber, M. D.

Specialty: Pediatric Cardiology
Affiliation: University of Arizona Health Sciences Center,
Dept. of Pediatrics



Two months ago, local physicians

Michael Teodori, M. D., and Brent Barber, M.D. traveled to Ethiopia to help children with congenital heart problems. The mission was sponsored by Gift of Life-Arizona and supported by University Medical Center and University Physicians Healthcare. Gift of Life-Arizona is administered by participating Rotarians and friends for the purpose of providing medical care and support for needy children and their families who are suffering from congenital heart defects. Dr. Teodori, who has been involved with the group for 20 years, has performed surgeries, at no charge, for more than 60 underprivileged children with congenital heart diseases, both in Arizona and Ethiopia. Many of these missions were sponsored by the charity group known as Healing the Children-AZ.

Director of pediatric and adult congenital heart surgery at University Medical Center, Dr. Teodori organized the recent trip to Addis Ababa, enlisting help from other physicians and medical support staff, as well as procuring medical devices, medicines and equipment. In addition to Dr. Barber, the local team included Dr. Teodori's wife, Dr. Janet Teodori (child neurologist at UMC), as well as Dr. Goholem Felema (anesthesia resident at UMC), Dr. Ballal Joseph (acute care surgery at UMC) and Whitney Elton and Kim Liston, critical care nurses in pediatric intensive care at Diamond Children's at UMC.

Gina Guglielmo, executive director of Gift of Life-Arizona says that "our program simply wouldn't be the same if not for the tireless and never-ending support we've been blessed to receive from Dr. Teodori."

“It was an honor for me to work with a fantastic and dedicated team from the UA. This trip, while emotionally and physically exhausting, was ultimately inspiring and reminded me of why I decided to become a physician. It was a privilege to care for the children and families in Addis Ababa and a tremendous learning experience collaborating with the physicians in Ethiopia. I hope to return!”

— Dr. Brent Barber



“I feel blessed to be able to do this work ... anywhere. Isn't it amazing that we can stop the heart, fix it and then it starts again! When Gift of Life-AZ or Healing the Children bring kids here to Arizona we are helping one child. When we travel overseas we are helping other countries learn how to do this type of care themselves.”

— Dr. Michael Teodori

