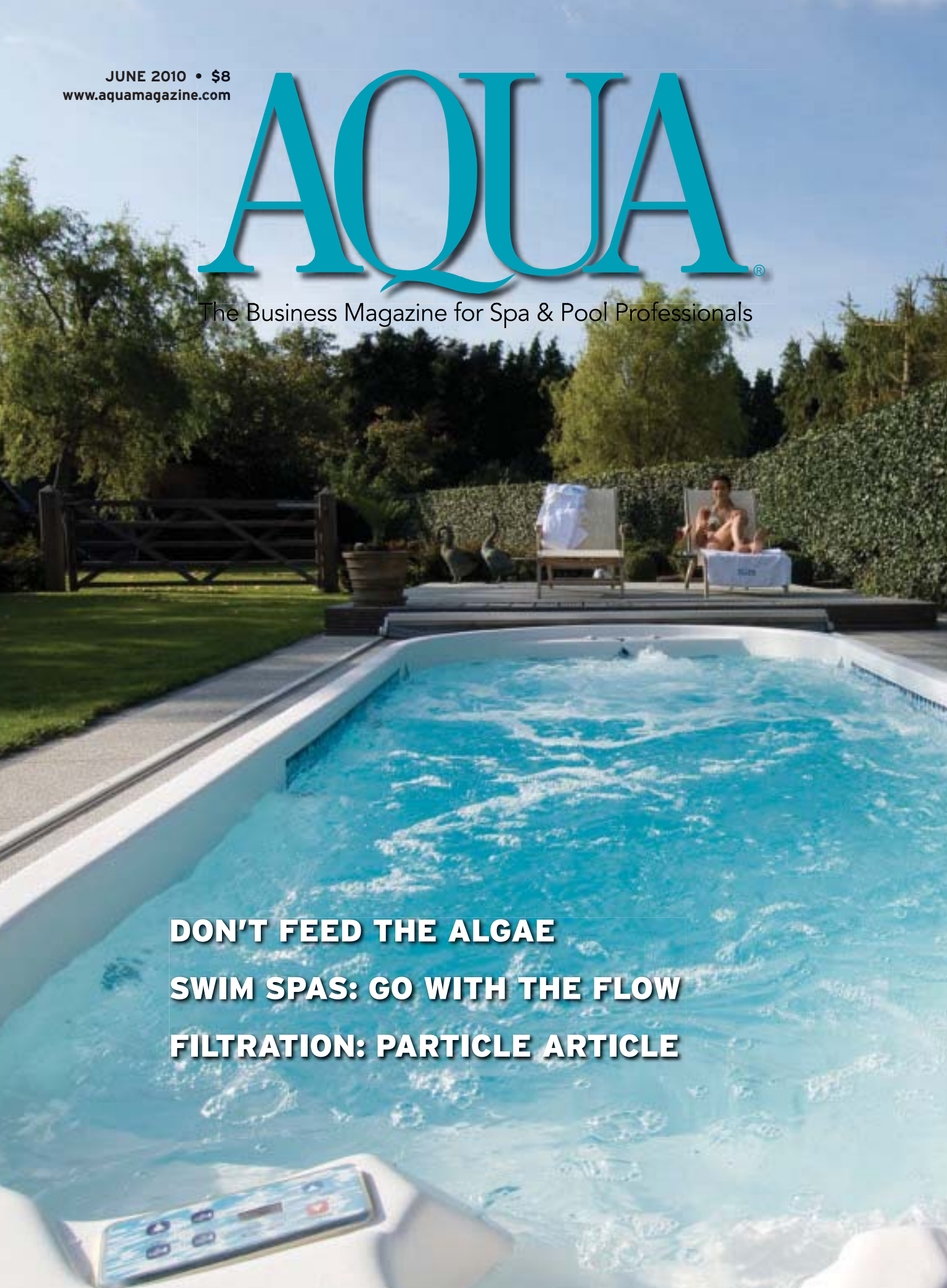


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The Business Magazine for Spa & Pool Professionals



DON'T FEED THE ALGAE
SWIM SPAS: GO WITH THE FLOW
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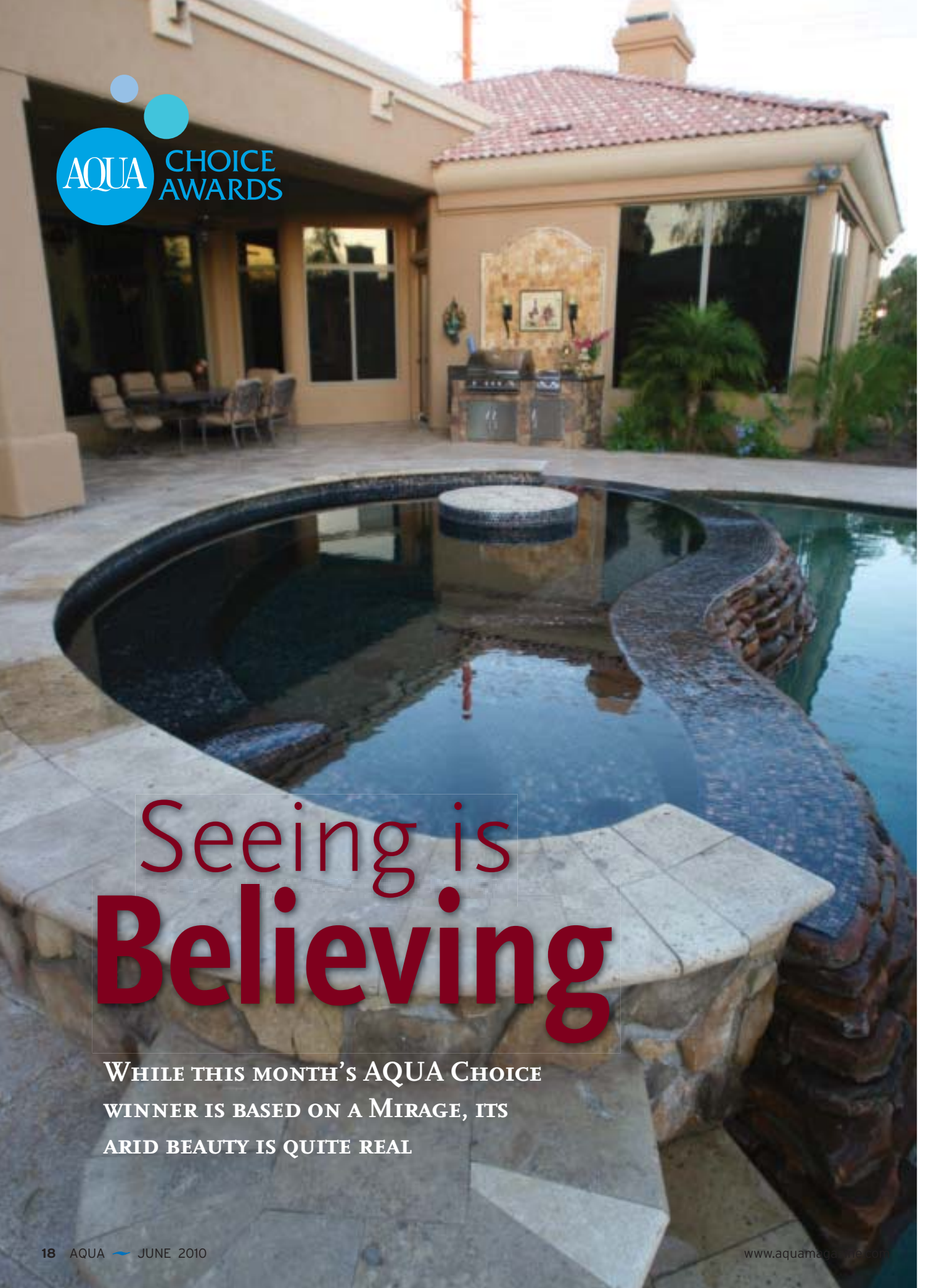


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A photograph of a swimming pool with a stone deck and a house in the background. The pool has a circular section with a stone surround. The house has a tiled roof and large windows. The scene is set in an arid environment.

Seeing is Believing

WHILE THIS MONTH'S AQUA CHOICE WINNER IS BASED ON A MIRAGE, ITS ARID BEAUTY IS QUITE REAL



Those who have visited the Mirage hotel in Las Vegas will find themselves in familiar surroundings at this pool in nearby Arizona. The swaying palms, rock waterfalls and gentle, undulating curves of this AQUA Choice winner are reminiscent of one of the Strip's most luxurious pools.

The connection is no coincidence, says Rick Chafey, co-owner, Red Rock Pools & Spas, Gilbert, Ariz. "When the client approached us about building their pool, they already had plans and conceptual drawings of the project they had envisioned: a private, personalized, backyard oasis that resembled the Mirage in Las Vegas."

After meeting with the chief designer, Moore/Swick Partnership, Chafey says, the finished product ended up being quite different from the original plans. The waterfalls were elongated and elevated, the decking was expanded, and boulder sets were moved while still maintaining the original shape of the pool itself.

The soul of the waterscape is the interplay of the four elements of ancient physics and how they are arranged to

form a coherent design.

"The contrasting elements of fire and water were a big inspiration, not only for the homeowner, but for us as general contractors," says Chafey. "Gas fire features combine with misting and fog systems on all five waterfalls to create a well-balanced look, and the surface-select boulders used to create the waterfalls give the space a Sonoran Desert feel. Natural travertine decking provides a beautiful contrast to the darker boulders.

"The sheer size and scope of this project, at 3,600 square feet, created unique opportunities for personal touches that would otherwise be difficult to incorporate. The bronze water sculpture, inset tile mosaic, tornado palms and bent slide give the project a unique, one-of-a-kind, personal feel." —

AQUA CHOICE WINNER

RED ROCK POOLS & SPAS

GILBERT, ARIZ.

Category: Concrete pool or pool/spa combo

Comments or thoughts on this article? Please e-mail scottw@aquamagazine.com.

Submit your pool project for the 2011 Aqua Choice Awards at www.aquamagazine.com. Deadline is Oct. 1, 2010.