



# north central news

the voice of the north central phoenix community since 1999

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## Another July, another round of tax increases

By Teri Carnicelli

Phoenicians have two things to not look forward to come July 1: the rising heat, and the rising property taxes.

Property taxes are calculated by taxing the assessed value of a property, divided by 100, times the tax rate. These taxes are determined primarily by economic factors. A stronger housing market means higher property values.

Primary tax levies are used for the maintenance and operation of school districts, cities, community college districts and counties. Secondary tax levies consist of bonds, budget overrides, and special districts such as fire, flood control and other limited purpose districts.

The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) board in late May voted to increase its primary property tax rate by 3.92 percent, expected to bring in approximately \$18.6 million in

*please see TAXES on page 6*



Celebrating the grand opening of UMOM's 19West affordable housing complex are, from left: Kris Newman, chair of the UMOM Board of Directors; Phoenix City Councilwoman Debra Stark; 19West resident Susan G.; Darlene Newsom, CEO of UMOM; Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego; and (former) Phoenix City Councilwoman Vania Guevara (photo by Teri Carnicelli).

## Nonprofits answer call for affordable housing

By Teri Carnicelli

When Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego gave her first State of the City address last month, she highlighted the growing need for affordable housing in what has become the nation's fifth-largest city.

"Low wage earners maintain a fragile balance in their lives. Any single unexpected expense can send the entire household into crisis, and possibly, onto the streets," she said.

Gallego spoke about the city's responsibility in leveraging its own land assets to do more to bolster affordable housing, and pointed out that "every city and town should be doing their part to ensure services and housing are spread across the metro area and not just in one small area of one specific city." The call for more affordable housing in one of the country's fastest-growing cities isn't a new one. But it is becoming more critical as struggling families and single low-wage earners are finding fewer and fewer affordable options of where to live.

Per the U.S. government, housing is deemed "affordable" when it consumes 30 percent or less of a family's monthly income. A February 2019 report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition found

that, given Arizona's minimum wage of \$11 per hour, a head of household would need to work 56 hours or more a week to afford a two-bedroom unit in the greater Phoenix area.

Making matters worse is the fact that for every extremely low-income household in Arizona, only 25 affordable rental housing units are available. Two Valley nonprofits have already been answering the call for more affordable housing. UMOM recently opened a new housing development project, while Catholic Charities has one already under construction—and both are in the Central Phoenix core.

*please see HOUSING on page 8*

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## COMMUNITY



Hospice of the Valley patient Chester Dorr, a World War II veteran, shares D-Day memories as HOV volunteer Rodney Dehmar looks at a shoebox filled with wartime photos (photo courtesy of Hospice of the Valley).

## 99-year-old war vet receives special tribute

By Lin Sue Cooney

Army veteran Chester Dorr has been honored multiple times for his World War II service, including storming the beaches of Normandy in France on June 6, 1944.

But the recognition he received from Hospice of the Valley (HOV) volunteer Rodney Dehmar on June 6, 2019—the 75th anniversary of D-Day—“just tops the cake,” says Chester’s son, Jim.

Dehmar has been a part of HOV’s Saluting Our Veterans program since its inception in 2011. Trained volunteers make about 30 tribute visits a month, thanking military veteran patients like 99-year-old Chester for their selfless service and honoring them with a special lapel pin and keepsake flag.

“This is one hell of a program!” Jim says of the emotional ceremony at his dad’s home in Phoenix.

Dehmar, a Goodyear resident, is among 48 Salutes volunteers—all veterans from every branch of the military. “A vet knows what a vet feels,” points out Dehmar, who served in the Vietnam War, as did Jim.

“That’s right,” Chester chimes in as he lovingly shows off historic photos and WWII memorabilia he brought home from France and Germany.

Every Salutes visit is different, just as every patient is unique.

“They all have their own memories,” Dehmar says.

Chester’s war memories are as vivid as ever. After the Normandy landings,

the largest seaborne invasion in history, he remembers being scolded by Gen. George Patton for briefly taking his helmet off. Why? “Because you don’t  
*please see WAR VET on page 6*

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## COMMUNITY

**Hearing for home  
demo moved to July**

By Teri Carnicelli

The owners of a home built in 1926 and located at 7019 N. Central Ave. have obtained legal representation to assist them with an application to have the home demolished—an application that was denied by Phoenix Historic Preservation Officer Michelle Dodds in May.

Referred to as the William F. McElroy house, the home sits on property that was part of the original Orangewood subdivision platted by William J. Murphy in 1895. David and America Young, owners of the property, filed an application in April to have the home torn down.

However, the Phoenix Historic Preservation Commission voted 6-0 at its May meeting to initiate historic preservation review for the home, which could result in the home being listed on the Phoenix Historic Property Register, providing a new zoning overlay that would protect the home from major changes—including demolition.

The Youngs filed an appeal, which was scheduled to be reviewed by a city historic preservation hearing officer first on June 6, and later rescheduled for June 26. Last month the couple retained the services of Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., who submitted a request on behalf of their clients to continue the appeal, again. It is now tentatively scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, July 24, in the west ground floor conference room at Phoenix City Hall.

An initial review of the home by the city's Historic Preservation office concluded the home, representative of American Colonial Revival style architecture, is eligible for placement on the city's Historic Property Register, but further study must be made. The Youngs contend the home has no historic significance and is irreparable, far beyond the scope of what the average person would pay to "fix up" a home.

Given its present condition, the Youngs believe their best and most profitable option would be to have the home torn down and sell the 1.2 acres

of prime land, adjacent to the Murphy Bridle Path, to a developer.

The North Central Phoenix Homeowners Association has come out strongly in opposition to having the home torn down, and representatives have said they will fight it all the way to the Superior Court, if needs be.

William Fischbach, an attorney and shareholder with Tiffany & Bosco, said in a statement, "We feel very strongly about protecting our clients' private property rights under the United States Constitution and Arizona law. That said, we look forward to working cooperatively with the city of Phoenix, North Central neighborhood representatives, and other stakeholders to explore viable options for this property."

For updates on the tentative July 24 hearing, visit [www.phoenix.gov](http://www.phoenix.gov) and select "More Public Meeting Notices" from the home page, then click on the Historic Preservation Hearing link for July 24 and look for Application #HPDA 1900271 on the agenda. You also can call the Historic Preservation Office at 602-261-8699.



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# HAPPY HOUR *with* HERSCH

When I was growing up I loved watching sports and thought they were so pure. Whether it was the Montreal Summer Olympics, Bjorn Borg winning Wimbledon or Darrell “Dr. Dunkenstein” Griffith and the Louisville Cardinals cutting down the nets after winning the NCAA basketball championship – they all brought me so much joy. I still enjoy sports, but I’ve lost my youthful naivete and take it for what it is - an entertainment conglomerate. Recently, I’ve been fascinated watching the NCAA men’s basketball cheating scandal unfold. I’m an alumnus of the University of Arizona, a main player, so it really piqued my interest.

For argument’s sake, I will assume the UA program basically did everything it is accused of and maybe more. I will not even argue the point that I believe all major programs in men’s basketball and football pay their players. I think the bigger issue is does the NCAA have a right to disallow or limit the amount of money a student-athlete makes? I know from a business standpoint they would prefer to control the purse strings, but I don’t think that’s doing what’s best for the sport or the athletes. If my child was attending a university and they were a great coder or flutist and Google or Yamaha wanted to pay them money for their talents, no one would care. It seems odd to me that we care simply because they can shoot, hit or throw a ball. It also seems to run contrary to our belief in capitalism.

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## COMMUNITY

### TAXES continued from page 1

the next fiscal year. The increase will cause the tax rate on a home in the district's vast boundaries to go up by about \$4.41 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Last year, the MCCCDD also set a property tax increase at a rate of 1.3 percent, expected to bring in nearly \$6 million.

Maricopa County itself is also getting in on the action. The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, in setting its expected \$2.57 billion budget for fiscal year 2020, indicated it anticipates receiving more money overall from its primary and secondary property taxes, even though board members state they are not actually changing the rates.

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, which governs the Flood Control, Library, and Stadium districts, does not control property values. The board only sets the tax rate, which will be the same in fiscal year 2020 as it was in fiscal year 2018 and 2019.

Nonetheless, residents can expect to pay about \$140.09 (per \$100,000 of valuation) in primary property taxes to the county, as well as \$17.92 in secondary property taxes for the Flood Control District, and \$5.56 to the Library District. The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors will meet on Aug. 19 to vote on the final tax levy proposal.

Similarly, the city of Phoenix also says its anticipated primary property tax levy will go up, even though officials say the rate itself is going down—again.

According to a statement from the city, "The city of Phoenix's proposed primary property tax rate for 2019-20 of \$1.3055 per \$100 of assessed valuation is lower than its 2018-19 rate of \$1.3163." The fiscal year prior (2017-18), it was \$1.3359 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

However, the city expects that overall increases in assessed valuation will result in a 3-percent increase in primary property taxes for the average city of Phoenix property owner. The previous fiscal year, the city anticipated a 2-percent increase.

So the rate itself is dropping from about \$1.32 to approximately \$1.30 per \$100 of assessed valuation, but the assessed valuations of homes in Phoenix are expected to rise, which will ultimately bring in more money than last year, despite the nominal drop in the rate.

The city's secondary property tax rate for 2019-20 will remain constant for the third year, at \$0.8241 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Secondary property taxes collected by a city pay the bonded debt service for facilities like libraries, police and fire stations, storm drains and parks.

The college district and city of Phoenix tax rate changes go into effect on July 1. The county tax rates will be reflected on property tax bills when they go out in the fall.

### WAR VET continued from page 3

know what's going to happen next," Chester explains.

These special visits give families one last chance to hear stories from the past, and share deeply touching moments. Moments that humble volunteers like Dehmar. "For me to recognize them, it's a privilege. It's a gift to me."

To learn more about this and other volunteer programs at Hospice of the Valley, visit [www.hov.org/volunteer](http://www.hov.org/volunteer), or call 602-636-6336.

*Editor's note: Lin Sue Cooney is director of Community Engagement for Hospice of the Valley.*



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## COMMUNITY

**HOUSING continued from page 1****UMOM's 19West**

It was open less than three weeks and nearly all the units were already filled, with the number of people on the “wait list” growing daily.

It just goes to show how critical the need is for affordable housing, said Darlene Newsom, CEO of UMOM New Day Centers, during the official grand opening of the new 19West apartments on March 27.

UMOM is an innovative leader in shelter, services and housing for families, single women and youth experiencing homelessness in Maricopa County. This is the fourth affording housing complex the nonprofit has built, with a fifth—targeted toward homeless and low-income veterans—already in the works (<https://umom.org/housing/>).

State and local leaders, business partners, and supporters of UMOM were given a tour of the new 54-unit complex, located at 2011 W. Morten Ave. UMOM began the project two years ago after first acquiring the vacant lot which had previously been used for camping

by people experiencing homelessness.

This new four-story building with underground and surface parking offers two- and three-bedroom apartments available at reduced rent to individuals and families with demonstrated need. Each unit has a full-sized washer and dryer, large kitchen and spacious bedrooms.

Susan G. was one of the lucky people to get one of the new apartments. She spoke of her journey, beginning with losing her home, then losing her job, then a short time later having her husband of 38 years pass away. She found herself living in her car, struggling to find her footing again. “Two weeks ago, I got to sleep in a bed for the first time in four months,” she said. “I cannot tell you what this place means to me. Everyone here is so thankful, so happy.”

As with most residential projects overseen by nonprofit organizations, many partners were instrumental in making 19West a reality, including: BOK Financial, the construction and permanent lender; the Arizona Department of Housing, providing \$15

million in federal low-income housing tax credits; Enterprise Financial, the equity investor; and the city of Phoenix.

**Laurel Tree at Northern**

Located near the southeast corner of 19th and Northern avenues, Laurel Tree at Northern is 70-unit, four-story affordable housing project already under construction, with an anticipated completion by winter 2019. The project will cost an estimated \$18 million, and PNC Bank is the primary lender. AHCCCS (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System) also contributed \$2 million.

Catholic Charities currently manages 4,300 units of affordable housing throughout Valley, including the recently opened Rosewood Court at 5104 N. 16th Ave. in Central Phoenix ([www.housingforhopeaz.org](http://www.housingforhopeaz.org)).

At Laurel Tree, the tenants will need to meet income requirements of 40 percent (\$20,000) to 60 percent (\$40,000) of the federal median income. Average rents are expected to be \$590 a month for a 1 bedroom, \$708 for a two bedroom, and \$818 for

a three bedroom—all utilities included.

There will be 52 units for individuals and families, and 18 units for individuals and families with a serious mental illness who live independently and are supported by one-to-one case management.

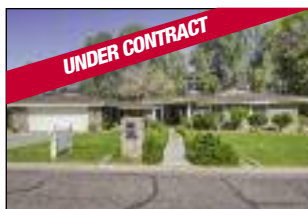
“A dedicated, onsite resident services specialist familiar with the area will engage the residents with various services and activities on and throughout the community,” said Malissa Geer, director of Community Engagement & Volunteer Services for Catholic Charities. “Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care will further case manage the 18 individuals and family households with serious mental illnesses.”

“This new housing project will be a great addition to our community,” said Shannon McBride, executive director of the 19North Community Alliance, whose offices are directly across the street from the housing project. “Families living at Laurel Tree will have services, support, safety and a beautiful home. This project also benefits our community through their economic/social investment and community engagement.”

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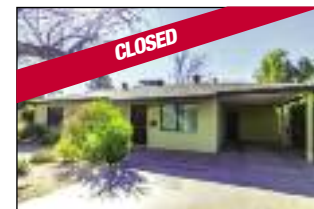
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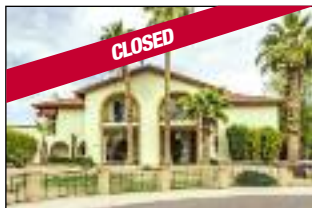
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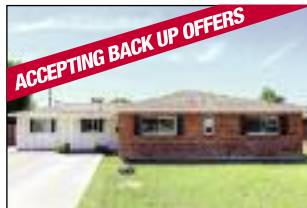
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## Retire old flags at 4th of July event

For the third year in a row, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) from the Central District region will be at the Royal Palm Park for the July 4th celebration to collect torn and worn out American flags ready for a retirement.

The Royal Palm Neighborhood 4th of July Festival & Parade, now in its 43rd year, will take place 7-9 a.m. Wednesday, July 4 at Royal Palm Park, 8405 N. 15th Ave. This family-friendly event takes place early in the day to beat the heat. There will be vendors, food trucks, children's activities and more. Admission is free. No glass containers allowed in city parks.

A covered table will be provided for the flag collection station area, which will be manned by packs and troops from the Central District region. The parade will start at 8 a.m. and travel around the neighborhood park area.

BSA is one of the last groups that has the duty and proper training to present, and to retire, the American symbol. This event will be considered the "kick-off" for

the Central District's civic service projects.

The flags collected on July 4 will be retired in a special ceremony on Nov. 11, in recognition of Veterans Day. For more information, contact Roger Ottaway, Activities & Civic Service chair, BSA Central District, at 602-930-8327 or [roottaway@aol.com](mailto:roottaway@aol.com).

## Daughter of 'Big Daddy' seeks help for her dad

Stephanie Smith, daughter of Dave "Big Daddy" Smith, owner of Big Daddy's Sports Lounge on Cave Creek Road, has launched a GoFundMe page to help her family with her father's recent medical expenses.

Dave Smith was hospitalized last month after an infection in his toe spread to his bone and joints. He had surgery on his foot and remained in the hospital for several days for additional tests. He has been ordered to stay off his feet for several weeks and will be unable to work during that time.

If you want to assist the family with their medical expenses, visit <https://bit.ly/2ZIWMUZ>.



Dr. Lisa

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## Pet of the Month

### Daffodil is an affectionate flower

Sweet Daffodil is the most unique flower who has grown from a pretty sad situation. The adorable 8-year-old Chow Chow mix was brought to the Arizona Humane Society after her previous family abandoned her in a local pet store.

Although her story is heartbreaking, Daffodil still always has a smile on her face and greets everyone she sees with a tail wag. An adorable little quirk of hers shines through when you stop petting her and she feels like more pets need to come her way, she will look at you and give you a little baby yelp until you continue to rub her fluffy booty.

Unfortunately, Daffodil's story is not a unique one but is extremely avoidable. The Arizona Humane Society encourages anyone who needs help with their pets to reach out to its Pet Resource Center, which works hard to provide resources to pet owners in need in an effort to keep animals in their homes.

Meet the loving Daffodil at the



Daffodil is as sweet as a flower—until you stop giving her belly rubs and back scratches. Then she becomes a little more demanding! She would make a great addition to any family home (submitted photo).

Arizona Humane Society's Sunnyslope Campus at 9226 N. 13th Ave. Her adoption fee includes current vaccinations, a microchip and a free follow-up wellness exam with a VCA Animal Hospital. For more information, call 602-997-7585 and ask for animal number 606630, or visit [www.azhumane.org/adopt](http://www.azhumane.org/adopt) to see all animals available for adoption right now.

## Public dog parks closed for repairs

Pet owners looking for shaded grassy areas to exercise their dogs in during the warm summer mornings are going to have to deal with some restrictions at Central Phoenix public dog parks in the next couple of months.

Maintenance at The Rose Mofford Sports Complex Dog Park, 9833 N. 25th Ave., began in May and continues through August. The large and small dog areas will be closed for maintenance on July 11 and 25, and Aug. 8 and 22.

Steele Indian School Dog Park off-leash activity areas are located north of Indian School Road and accessible from the west side of 7th Street. Both the large and small dog areas will be closed for maintenance starting on July 2 and will reopen on Aug. 13.

For all city dog park notices and closure information, call 602-495-0739 and press line 1, or visit [www.phoenix.gov/parks/parks/dog-parks](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks/parks/dog-parks).

## Low-cost surgeries offered by mobile vet

Dr. Kelly's Mobile Surgical Unit will pay a visit to Doggy Daze, 5555 N. 7th St., on Saturday, July 20, to offer its affordable surgical care for dogs and cats. Make an appointment for: dental clean-



COMMUNITY

ing; mass removal; bladder stone removal; vaccines; spay or neuter; and more.

If you can't make it that day, the mobile vet will be parked at Noble Beast, 1005 E. Camelback Road, on Wednesday, July 31. Advance appointments are highly recommended.

Visit [www.DrKellysMobileVet.com](http://www.DrKellysMobileVet.com) for more information (including pricing) or to make an appointment, or call 602-909-5383.

Art auction aids  
AZ Search Dogs

Scramble, a local fast-casual breakfast and lunch spot, will hold its Enhance the Space semi-annual fundraiser to benefit Valley nonprofit Arizona Search Dogs from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 31 at its Biltmore location, 2375 E. Camelback Road.

The event features local artist David Dauncey, who will have two pieces of his work auctioned that night with proceeds benefitting AZ Search Dogs. The works are on display at the restaurant now until the night of the event. Advanced bids and tickets to the event

can be pre-purchased at <https://www.azscramble.com/copy-of-enhance-the-space>. Admission is \$10.

Guests will be able to mingle with Phoenix firefighters and their canine companions, meet the artist and enjoy delicious breakfast bites and cocktails from many of Scramble's popular menu items.

Therapy dog visits  
D-backs games

The Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation has teamed up with Raising Cane's and Gabriel's Angels to bring rescued dog, Brenly, to Chase Field with the goal of training Brenly to become a certified therapy dog.

Brenly is a golden retriever rescued by Blake Blackman-Woody with Gabriel's Angels. The members of the Blackman-Woody family are big D-backs fans and decided to name him Brenly due to their love of watching Bob Brenly on FOX Sports Arizona during every D-backs game.

Brenly will work with Gabriel's Angels to become a certified therapy dog through a series of training sessions on



Meet Brenly, a therapy dog-in-training, at select Arizona Diamondback games in July and August (submitted photo).

select D-backs game days at Chase Field throughout the season. The goal of the training sessions will be to teach love, trust, compassion and kindness so that Brenly will learn to connect with children in a positive and meaningful way.

Together, this tail-wagging partnership will raise awareness of the complex issues facing at-risk children and the role that therapy animals can play in the hope and healing process.

Fans can meet Brenly as well as some

of Gabriel's Angels active Pet Therapy teams, on select Sunday D-backs games at 12 p.m. in the Phoenix Children's Hospital Sandlot. Dates include: July 7, Aug. 4, Aug. 18 and Sept. 15. Brenly will also make special visits to the D-backs clubhouse throughout the season.

For more information, visit [www.dbacks.com/puppylove](http://www.dbacks.com/puppylove).

Saving dogs left  
alone in hot cars

In August 2017, the "Good Samaritan" law went into effect in Arizona, allowing concerned bystanders to, if necessary, break the windows of locked cars to rescue animals—or children—left inside in dangerous heat.

If you see a child or pet in a hot car and believe they are in imminent danger of physical injury or death: Call 911; determine whether the vehicle is locked; if unlocked, open a door to enter the vehicle; if locked, you may break the window. Do not use more force than is necessary; and remain with the child or pet until the authorities arrive.



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Science center marks  
Apollo 11 anniversary

Arizona Science Center, 600 E. Washington St., is celebrating one of the greatest human achievements in science—the 50th anniversary of human’s first steps on the moon.

Tuesday, July 16, is exactly 50 years after the launch of the Saturn V rocket that carried astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, and Michael Collins on the first manned lunar landing. All month long, the Science Center will be commemorating the historic mission with events and space-themed programming, leading up to the anniversary celebration on Saturday, July 20.

Activities leading up to the celebration include a Global Rocket Launch Day on July 16, with rocket building and launches from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the CREATE space, and an “Observe the Moon Family Night” from 5-9 p.m.

From exploring the Sun, Earth, Universe exhibit to engaging in hands-on space and moon-themed activities, the Arizona Science Center will spark



curiosity in what’s next in innovation and exploration through a fun-filled day for the entire family on July 20.

In addition, the documentary “Apollo 11: The First Steps,” will be shown daily at 12:30 and 3:30 p.m. (additional ticketing prices apply).

For a full schedule and tickets, visit <http://azscience.org/apollo11>.

Kiwanis help launch  
club at VALLEYLIFE

At the start of the year, VALLEYLIFE members started an Aktion Club in an effort to give back to their community—thanks to a sponsorship by the North Phoenix Kiwanis Club.

VALLEYLIFE, 1142 W. Hatcher Road, is a nonprofit organization that provides services to individuals with disabilities. Aktion Clubs are service clubs for adults with disabilities and there are currently over 500 clubs worldwide, which are each sponsored by a local Kiwanis group.

The purpose of this group is to allow VALLEYLIFE members the opportunity to serve their community. These groups help members build self-confidence, encourage leadership, and help members realize their ability to make a difference in their community. VALLEYLIFE members elected officers for their club and meet monthly to discuss community service activities they would like to perform.

In January, Members created Valentine’s Day cards to deliver to residents at the Orchard Pointe Arrowhead retirement assisted living facility. The February meeting activity was devoted to placing messages of encouragement on water bottles that were given to those in need at Andre House, which assists members of the homeless population.

For more information about Kiwanis Aktion Clubs, visit [www.aktionclub.org](http://www.aktionclub.org).

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Uptown Psychiatry provides evaluations and medication management for a variety of conditions including: ADHD, Anxiety, Depression and Insomnia. In response to the current opioid crisis, medication assisted treatment is also available to help those struggling with alcohol and opioid addiction.

While Uptown does not contract with insurance, they aim to find a balance between cost and value. "Using a direct pay model allows us to provide the best care possible with less administrative burden. We're also able to ensure complete privacy of sensitive information."



Please visit Uptown Psychiatry at [uptownpsychiatryaz.com](http://uptownpsychiatryaz.com) or call (480) 542-8202 to schedule an appointment.



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# Local teen youngest to complete swim event

Katie Blessington, 17, has accomplished something no other person her age has ever done. Earlier this year, the North Central resident completed the SCAR Swim, which consists of swimming approximately 41 miles in four lakes: Saguaro, Canyon, Apache and Roosevelt (SCAR), over the course of four consecutive days.

The swim serves as a major event for some—as it was for Katie—and as a training event for others, such as those preparing for swimming the English Channel.

Katie is no stranger to swim competitions. The high school senior is a member of the Sunnyslope swim team and trains 10-14 hours per week at Phoenix Swim Club.

However, this was her first multi-day, open-water swim competition, something that made her family nervous.

“Katie has completed other open water swims but when she asked her dad and I about this event, we realized it was at an entirely new level,” says mom Jackie Blessington. “We were her



North Central teen Katie Blessington was the youngest swimmer ever to complete the SCAR Swim event, which consisted of swimming approximately 41 miles in four Arizona lakes, over the course of four days (submitted photo).

kayak crew, a new experience for us, too. As a parent, this was a nerve wracking event—but the experience was truly amazing for the entire family.”

During the event, the Blessingtons met people from across the country and around the globe. “I am certain Katie has a newfound community of swimmers who will offer support if she chooses to continue open water swimming,” Jackie says.

“Open water swimming challenges both my mental and physical endurance in a way that competitive swimming never has,” Katie pointed out. “Knowing that it took everything I had to finish this race makes it even more rewarding.”

Katie was 22nd out of 41 at Saguaro; 28th out of 39 at Canyon; 24th out of 38 at Apache; and 33rd out of 37 at Roosevelt. Out of the swim-

mers who completed all four swims, Katie finished 21st out of 31, with a total time of 20:01:36.7.

# Bake special cakes for kids in foster care

For Goodness Cakes invites you to spread love, joy—and frosting. The nonprofit organization matches volunteers to make and hand-deliver birthday and academic graduation cakes to partner agencies that work with foster children and at-risk youth, who will then get it to them on their special day.

A new chapter of the organization has launched in the Phoenix Metro area, and volunteer bakers are being sought. After completing an orientation, you can go online to view the Task Calendar, with agency locations and delivery windows.

You don’t have to be a professional baker to participate. Even a simple box mix and pre-made icing, with some pre-made decorations from the store, will be enough to make these children and teens’ special day.

For more information, e-mail Leslie Nilsen at [leslie@forgoodnesscakes.org](mailto:leslie@forgoodnesscakes.org), or visit [www.forgoodnesscakes.org](http://www.forgoodnesscakes.org).

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# Community Central

## First Friday at the Heard

6-10 p.m. Friday, July 5  
Heard Museum  
2301 N. Central Ave.

Featuring a special performance by The Guardians (heavy metal band from the Tohono O’odham Nation) in the Steele Gallery, with free general evening admission to the museums’ galleries. The Café and Cantina will be open for dining, drinks or snacks, and a cash bar is also available for both adult and family-friendly beverages. The Heard Museum Shop, the Collector’s Room and Books & More will be open until 8 p.m. Visit <https://heard.org/firstfridays/>.

## Monsoon Gardening in the Desert

2-3 p.m. Saturday, July 13  
Century Library  
1750 E. Highland Ave.

The Monsoon Season is the traditional time to plant many vegetables in

the desert and is known to many gardeners as "second spring." The season promises a wide range of planting possibilities as well as new complications. An educator from Native Seeds/SEARCH will go over what vegetable and herb varieties to plant, how to protect your garden from the heat and winds, and how to maximize rainwater. This workshop is for the newbie desert gardener as well as experienced gardeners. Free; no preregistration required.

## Strike Out Hunger

12-3 p.m. Saturday, July 13  
Let It Roll Bowl  
8925 N. 12th St.

A fun event to raise money for the Joshua Tree Feeding Program, which provides nourishment, as well as medical and community resources, to low-income HIV+ residents of Maricopa County. For \$20, receive three games of bowling plus shoe rental. Each lane holds five people; bring your own team, or meet new friends by joining with others on a lane. Prizes for highest & lowest scores. Also raffle prizes available. For tickets, go to: <https://bit.ly/2ID7W6C>.

## AAUW Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 16  
Beatitudes Luther Life Center  
1616 W. Glendale Ave.  
602-750-9231

The Phoenix Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) will feature Jillian Herner, a Phoenix College student who was a recipient of a Phoenix AAUW scholarship. She will speak on insights gained from a leadership conference to which Phoenix AAUW was pleased to send her. The program will begin after an optional dinner (\$15) at 5:30 p.m. RSVP for the dinner by July 13. Visitors are welcome.

## Rattlesnake Workshop

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday, July 27  
North Mountain Visitor Center  
12950 N. 7th St.

Rattlesnake Garage and Save Our Mountains Foundation will offer a live rattlesnake demo that will cover desert conservation, snake recognition, snake encounters, first aid do’s and don’ts and snake myths. Admission \$8 adults, \$4 children, and free for military with ID. No RSVP needed.

## Free Summer Sunday

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, July 28  
Heard Museum  
2301 N. Central Ave.  
<http://heard.org>

Enjoy free performances, activities, and free admission to the museum every 4th Sunday of the month through August. This summer’s medium is printmaking. Each month the Heard will have a different printmaker in the Crossroads Gallery with a hands-on print activity using color as the main theme.

## Free summer programs for kids at the library

Children ages 6-11 can beat the heat and have fun doing it this July at Phoenix’s branch libraries, including Acacia, Century, Cholla and Yucca. Programs vary at each library, including: Space-themed activities at Acacia and Century; hands-on science fun at Yucca; and robots, rockets and reptiles at Cholla.

Visit <https://bit.ly/2WXtxzM> to see the full schedule.

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Employees donate hygiene items, more

The law firm of Jaburg Wilk, 3200 N. Central Ave., again supported the relief efforts for Catholic Charities Community Services’ Bless Refugees program. The company expanded its support this year and included MANA House, which focuses on supporting homeless and formerly homeless veterans through temporary house and day center support services.

Employees of Jaburg Wilk raised more than \$1,500 to purchase essentials for both programs as well as donated hygiene supplies, clothing, bedding, diapers, cleaning supplies, and personal care supplies.

The Bless this Refugee program was started in 1975 in response to the Vietnam refugees fleeing violence and continues to support thousands of refugees each year. In Arizona, there are more than 62,000 refugees who have been forced out of their country of ori-



Kenneth Ray, an employee with MANA House, a shelter and service program for homeless and formerly homeless veterans, shows off a large donation of clothing, bedding, hygiene supplies and more from the law firm of Jaburg Wilk (submitted photo).

gin due to persecution and violence.

MANA House is a peer-run organization of homeless and formerly homeless veterans offering critical housing needs as well as day center support ser-

vices. In the housing unit, there was a critical need for bedding, locks and coffee. Employees donated these items as well as clothing and hygiene items.

Business Briefs

Covarrubias named program manager

Esperança, a Phoenix-based non-profit whose mission is to improve health and restore hope both locally and globally, has named Aidee Covarrubias as the organization’s senior program coordinator.

Covarrubias will oversee Esperança’s relationship with HUD housing facilities and manage implementing its health education.

She is a native of Sonora, Mexico and has lived in Arizona since 1996. As an experienced promotora de salud (community health worker), Covarrubias’ bi-cultural background and passion for community service led her to many volunteer opportunities

and community leadership roles.

She has completed the behavioral health sciences program at South Mountain Community College. In June 2018, Covarrubias received the Joel S. Meister Outstanding Community Health Worker Award from Arizona Community Health Workers Association.

For more information, visit [www.esperanca.org](http://www.esperanca.org).

Ellish achieves Circle of Success

North Central resident Jeffrey Jay Ellish, a private wealth advisor with Ellish Wealth Management—a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services—has qualified for the company’s Circle of Success annual recognition program for 2019. He also achieved this recognition last year.

To earn this achievement, Ellish established himself as one of the company’s top advisors. Only a select number of high-performing advisors earn

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

this distinction. He has 20 years of experience with Ameriprise Financial. As a Private Wealth Advisor, Ellish provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations, and is delivered in one-on-one relationships with his clients. Ellish Wealth Management has served the Glendale area since 1999. For more information, call 623-308-2000.

Froelich is a partner at MRA Associates

MRA Associates recently named Will Froelich as one of three new partners at its Phoenix office, located at located at 3200 E. Camelback Road, Ste. 300. Froelich currently resides in North Central’s Windsor Square neighborhood with his wife Megan and four children.

As partner, he works with client families on a variety of wealth management issues including investment advisory, financial planning, tax planning, estate planning, and other wealth management services. His professional focus is on portfolio management and he serves as a member of the MRA Associates Management Committee.

Outside the office, he is a member of the Finance and Investment Councils for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix. He is also on the Finance Council at St. Thomas the Apostle.

Froelich earned a Master of Science in Management as well as a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Arizona’s Eller College of Management. He is a certified financial planner.

MRA Associates provides investment advisory, wealth management, and tax compliance and consulting ser-

vices to individuals, families, corporate retirement plans, endowments, foundations, and sovereign nations throughout the United States. For more information, visit [www.mraassociates.com](http://www.mraassociates.com) or call 602-737-2750.

Restaurant collects sports equipment

Twin Peaks, 2135 E. Camelback Road, has partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix (BGCMP) for a summer sports equipment drive.

Through Aug. 2, Twin Peaks will be a drop-off location for any new sports equipment for kids ages 6 to 18, including basketballs, soccer balls, jump ropes, footballs and more. For guests who donate equipment, Twin Peaks will honor them with a \$5 gift card that can be used in the future.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix hosts summer camps at all 13 BGCMP locations throughout the Valley. These camps provide kids with the opportunity to have fun, meet new friends, discover new interests and create lasting memories.

To learn more about Twin Peaks, visit [www.twinpeaksrestaurant.com](http://www.twinpeaksrestaurant.com).

Shop local during Independents Week

Valley residents are encouraged to “go local” by supporting as many locally owned businesses as possible during Independents Week, June 29-July 7.

The annual shopping event is organized by Local First Arizona, a non-profit organization that celebrates and promotes independent, locally owned businesses. Local businesses contribute to a sustainable economy for Arizona and build vibrant communities.

please see SHOP LOCAL on page 20

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

SHOP LOCAL continued from page 19

For the entire week, consumers can use a Golden Coupon for 20-percent discounts at hundreds of participating businesses across the state. The weeklong celebration of local businesses lets you save money while shopping participating businesses in every imaginable industry.

Download a digital version of the Golden Coupon from the Local First Arizona website, or pick one up at some of the participating businesses, a listing of which also can be found online at: <https://www.localfirstaz.com/independents-week/>.

Martinez joins Vitalyst Health

North Central resident David Martinez III joined Vitalyst Health Foundation in March as director of capacity building and community Engagement. Prior to joining Vitalyst, Martinez was project manager for the Center for the Future of Arizona, and community engagement manager for St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance.

In addition to his work at Vitalyst

(<http://vitalysthealth.org>), Martinez serves as a Flinn-Brown Fellow with the Arizona Center for Civic Leadership and a steering committee member for the Center for LGBTQ Philanthropy with the Arizona Community Foundation.

“I have a passion for our state and making it better,” says Martinez, a native of Marana, Ariz. “Vitalyst is an amazing organization that does fantastic work across the state, bringing Arizonans together no matter their political affiliation, culture, or age, to create a state that we can all be proud of.”

Martinez will support the Vitalyst mission to connect, support and inform efforts to improve the health of individuals and communities in Arizona. Specifically, he will work closely with community-based leaders, groups, organizations, and coalitions to increase their capacity and effectiveness.

Collaborating with program staff, he will work with a wide range of community groups and other philanthropic organizations to address issues related to their priorities.

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**UNDER CONTRACT**

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volume and units sold in 2016

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in Maricopa county for  
number of closed  
transactions in 2017**

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Ranked  
**#2 Agent Residential Realtor  
in Maricopa County**  
for sales in 2016 for  
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**Kathy Wright**  
Licensed Assistant

**Juliann Lieb**  
Licensed Assistant

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## Current Listings/Escrows

2123 E. Bethany Home Rd	<b>JUST LISTED</b>	3984SF	3BR/3BA	\$1,350,000
6611 N. Central Ave	<b>NEW PRICE</b>	6339SF	6BR/4.5BA	\$1,295,000
2935 E. Madison Vistas Dr	<b>JUST LISTED</b>	4303SF	5BR/5.5BA	\$1,034,000
7102 N. 18th St		4100SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 799,900
7501 N. 1st Ave	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	3874SF	4BR/4BA	\$ 750,000
7247 N. 6th Pl	<b>JUST LISTED</b>	3128SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 745,000
8219 N. 3rd Ave		2774SF	4BR/2BA	\$ 650,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #19	<b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>	2875SF	4BR/3.5BA	\$ 647,861
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #17	<b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>	2209SF	3BR/3.5BA	\$ 646,631
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #3	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2875SF	4BR/3.5BA	\$ 625,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #1	<b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>	2432SF	4BR/3.5BA	\$ 623,071
1205 W. Orchid Ln	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2376SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 619,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #14	<b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>	2432SF	4BR/3.5BA	\$ 613,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #18	<b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>	2515SF	4BR/2.5BA	\$ 612,322
8045 N. 7th Ave	<b>NEW PRICE</b>	2690SF	3BR/4BA	\$ 599,000
521 W. Mariposa St	<b>IN ESCROW</b>		Triplex	\$ 599,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #9	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2432SF	3BR/3.5BA	\$ 592,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #11	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2432SF	3BR/3.5BA	\$ 592,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #8	<b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b>	2515SF	4BR/2.5BA	\$ 578,000
1555 E. Ocotillo Rd #4	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2209SF	3BR/3.5BA	\$ 580,000
1340 E. Luke Ave	<b>NEW PRICE</b>	2623SF	3BR/3BA	\$ 575,000
16 W. Oregon Ave	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	3310SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 499,000
812 W. Earll Dr	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2023SF	3BR/2.5BA	\$ 475,000
6418 N. 13th Ave	<b>NEW PRICE</b>	2567SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 459,000
7714 E. Primrose Path	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	1506SF	3BR/1.75BA	\$ 425,000
1836 W. Redfiled Rd	<b>IN ESCROW</b>		5BR/3BA	\$ 419,000
27344 N 91st Ln		2815SF	5BR/3BA	\$ 385,000
1102 W Glendale Ave #125	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2103SF	4BR3BA	\$ 350,000
5637 N. 14th Dr		1621SF	4BR/2BA	\$ 339,500
8938 N. 18th Ave	<b>NEW PRICE</b>	1963SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 329,000
1529 E. Cortez St	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	2377SF	5BR/3BA	\$ 299,900
8426 N. Central Ave D	<b>NEW PRICE</b>	1308SF	2BR/2BA	\$ 275,000
1123 E. Maryland Ave #1	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	860SF	1BR/1BA	\$ 169,000
8241 N. Central Ave #8	<b>IN ESCROW</b>	952SF	2BR/2BA	\$ 156,900

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# Bobby Lieb

Associate Broker



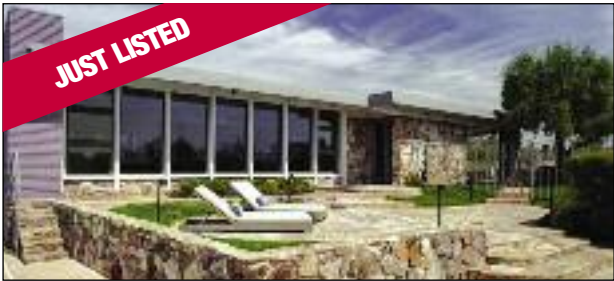
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## Featured Homes for July



2935 E. Madison Vistas Dr. • \$1,034,000



2123 E. Bethany Home Rd. • \$1,350,000



6611 N. Central Ave. • \$1,295,000



1205 W. Orchid Ln. • \$619,000



521 W. Mariposa • \$599,000



6418 N. 13th Ave. • \$459,000



7102 N. 18th St. • \$799,000



7247 N. 6th Pl. • \$745,000



8219 N. 3rd Ave • \$650,000

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6045 N Foothill Dr	\$5,400,000	19 W. Frier Dr.	\$ 715,000	1251 W. Rancho Dr.	\$ 499,000	718 E Boca Raton	\$ 309,036
4842 E Cheryl Dr	\$1,387,749	11 E. Lamar Rd	\$ 707,440	77 E Missouri Ave #36	\$ 497,500	1102 E Vista Ave	\$ 302,500
5131 E. Desert Park Ln	\$1,375,000	310 S. 4th St #2001	\$ 699,000	2431 E. Squaw Peak Dr.	\$ 485,000	14640 N. 90th Dr	\$ 300,000
7339 N 2nd Ave	\$1,250,000	5710 N 10th Ave	\$ 677,000	1205 W Stella Ave	\$ 450,000	715 E. Boca Raton Rd	\$ 292,696
3934 E Crittenden Ln	\$1,210,000	1555 E Ocotillo Rd #21	\$ 600,000	1022 E. Wagon Wheel Dr	\$ 440,000	619 E. Manzanita Pl	\$ 269,500
3934 E. Crittenden Ln	\$1,210,000	110 E. Lawrence Rd	\$ 590,000	15106 E. Sierra Madre	\$ 425,000	2329 W Berridge Ln	\$ 265,000
115 W. Morten Ave	\$1,100,000	7010 N. 13th Pl.	\$ 575,000	1710 E. Palo Verde Dr	\$ 410,000	8000 N Central Ave #8	\$ 235,000
318 W. Lawrence Rd	\$1,059,000	8216 N. 14th St	\$ 575,000	3030 N 38th St C105	\$ 363,000	1828 W Lawrence Ln	\$ 230,000
6111 N 2nd Pl	\$ 940,000	1010 E Pierson Sr	\$ 555,000	7338 N. 11th Way	\$ 350,000	1285 E Maryland Ave #A	\$ 205,000
546 W Kaler Dr	\$ 865,000	1321 S. Camellia Dr.	\$ 550,000	2323 N Central Ave #1804	\$ 350,000	2919 N Casa Tomas Ct	\$ 175,000
4817 E. Arroyo Verde	\$ 775,000	1322 W Frier Dr	\$ 545,000	29 E Butler Dr	\$ 349,000	3302 N. 7th St #242	\$ 159,000
27 E San Miguel	\$ 752,000	7603 N. Central Ave	\$ 540,000	5709 N 8th Pl	\$ 344,000	257000 N. 16th Ave	\$ 145,000
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HEALTHY LIVING

From not walking, to mastering yoga

As 5-year-old Mishell Vale was jumping rope with a neighborhood friend, she fell and hit her head on the concrete driveway. After being rushed to what was then the John C. Lincoln North Mountain Hospital, she was later transferred to the Barrow Neurological Institute where, after months of physical therapy, doctors declared she would never speak nor walk again.

That was in 1972. Today, Mishell Vale Elliston teaches yoga and personal fitness classes through her mobile business, Eightlimfit. Elliston and her team customize on-site group fitness classes, as well as private instruction, for all ages. They work with senior retirement communities, corporate groups, and even high-school sports programs.

“If I can do it, anybody can do it,” says Elliston, whose fit, athletic body belies the once bleak prognosis for her



North Central resident Mishell Vale Elliston, who suffered a traumatic brain injury when she was 5 years old, uses a medicine ball to enhance her core strength and help balance left and right brain activity (photo courtesy of Mishell Elliston).

future. Through the continual repetition of simple tasks, Elliston essentially had rewired her brain around the injury, a result supported by subsequent brain scans. Nearly all physical functioning had returned, except in her

left wrist, hand and foot. There, some loss of fine motor skills remained, though her lingering disability did not keep her from trying new things, including softball and tennis.

While running or working out on

gym equipment was one thing, managing the kind of moves yoga required was entirely another. At first she was hesitant, but was encouraged by the yoga instructor to give it a try. She began by attending class twice a week, then three times, and before long, she was hooked.

She credits yoga with significantly increasing strength and flexibility in her left arm, hand and foot as well as improving her overall balance, focus, self-confidence and connection with her body.

Elliston went on to earn her 500-hour yoga teacher certification through Advanced Yoga Sciences in San Francisco, Calif. She is a member of the Arizona Yoga Association and the International Association of Yoga Therapists, and she recently completed Ayurveda therapy training through the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine.

She and her team specialize in post-physical therapy work and also offer sessions geared toward those with Parkinson’s Disease. Eightlimfit also offers the added convenience of coming



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Health Briefs

Free indoor fitness classes downtown

FitPHX and AARP Arizona present “Fall Into Fitness”—a free, family-oriented fitness program for all ages and experience levels. Classes take place 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays through Aug. 6 inside the A.E. England Building at Civic Space Park, 424 N. Central Ave.

Professional instructors will lead classes such as Turbo Kick LIVE, Zumba, P90X LIVE, PiYo, HIGH Fitness, and Core de Force. The workouts are interactive and designed to get people moving. Participants are encouraged to bring their own water, towel and mat.

Parking is limited, so park at Margaret T. Hance Park (67 W. Culver St.) and take the light rail to Central and Van Buren, or walk.

Visit [Phoenix.gov/FitPHX](http://Phoenix.gov/FitPHX) for more information and to learn about other free fitness programs offered this summer, or call 602-262-6864.

What is auditory processing disorder?

Your child passes a hearing test but is diagnosed with auditory processing disorder (APD). How is it possible to have an auditory disorder when you don’t have a hearing impairment?

Children with APD typically have normal hearing. But they struggle to process and make meaning of sounds, explains Dr. Dana L. Day, AuD., with Arizona Balance & Hearing. This is especially true when there are background noises. Day says that researchers don’t fully understand where things break down between what the ear hears and what the brain processes. But the result is clear: Kids with APD can have trouble making sense of what other people say.

Typically, the brain processes sounds seamlessly and almost instantly. Most people can quickly interpret what they hear. But with APD, some kind of glitch delays or “scrambles” that process. To a child with APD, “Tell me how the chair and the couch are alike” might sound like “Tell me how a cow and hair are like.”

Children with APD usually have at least some of the following symptoms: Struggle with oral (word) math prob-

lems; find it hard to follow conversations; find it hard to learn songs or nursery rhymes; and have trouble remembering details of what was read or heard.

To have your child evaluated for APD, call Arizona Balance & Hearing, 4004 N. 7th St., at 602-265-9000.

Free yoga sessions those with TBIs

Nonprofit LoveYourBrain Foundation (LYB) this month launches its free yoga program for those with traumatic brain injuries and their caregivers, in partnership with Kharma Life Center, 700 W. Campbell Ave., Ste. 1.

LYB believes in the holistic and dynamic nature of yoga to meet the individual needs of each person with TBI, from wanting to rebuild strength and balance, to manage stress, and to find comfort in a community of people with shared experiences.

Kharma Life Center will host its six-week FUNdamentals series starting on July 24, every Wednesday from 11-12:30 p.m. through Aug. 28. To register, visit <http://www.loveyourbrain.com/yoga/az>. For more information, call 602-795-9767.

IS YOUR CHILD...  
easily distracted in noise?  
saying “huh” or “what” a lot?  
having trouble reading & spelling?



Dr. Day

Please join Dr. Dana Day, Doctor of Clinical Audiology, as she begins to unravel the mystery of Central Auditory Processing.

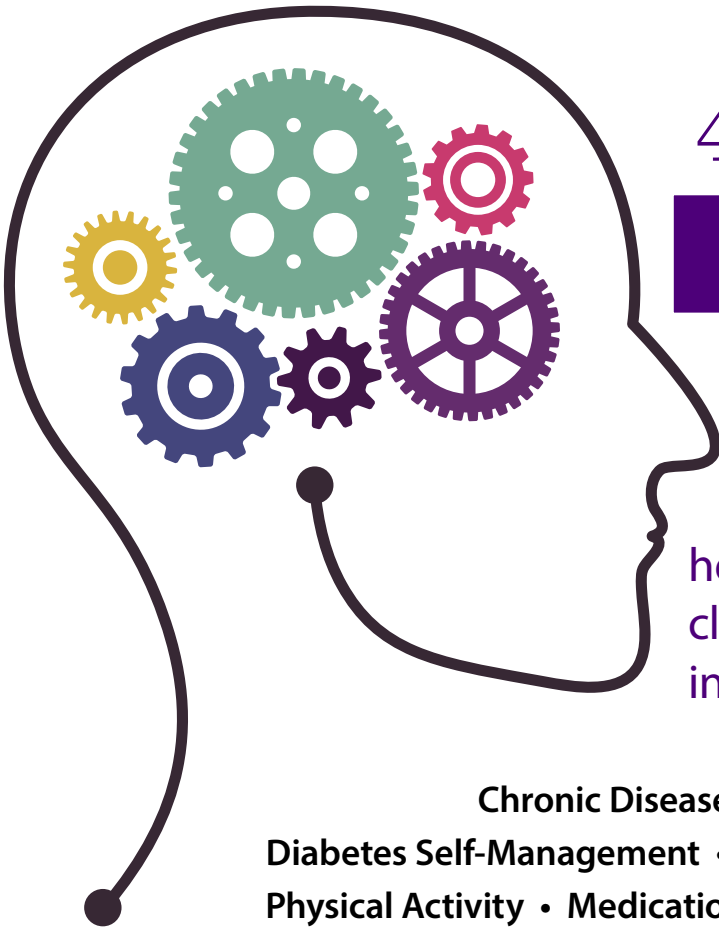
Thursday, July 18, 2019 • 10:30-12:00 pm  
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For event details and registration, please call 602-551-8404 or go to the Events page on our website, [www.azbalanceandhearing.com](http://www.azbalanceandhearing.com)

Seating is limited so please call today.



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SCHOOL DAYS



Joyce Flowers, who served at principal of Madison Richard Simis Elementary School for 14 years, has left big shoes to fill as she moves on to new opportunities (submitted photo).

## Madison says so long to a friend and leader

In 2005, Joyce Flowers was named the new principal of Madison Richard Simis Elementary School, serving more than 900 students in grades kindergarten through fourth. In the 14 years since, Flowers has become a beloved and powerful leader that supports and lifts up her students, teachers, team members, parents, the Madison District and her North Central Phoenix community.

Flowers stepped down from her longtime post in June, moving on to new opportunities. She leaves behind a grateful—and sad—community.

“To say that Joyce will be missed is an understatement. She is a friend, teacher, administrator, mentor, mother, and through it all, a consummate professional that knows the names of just about every one of the 900 students at Simis,” shared Sarah Speer, Madison Elementary School District Governing Board member. “I feel privileged to have been able to learn from her and to call her a friend.”

One significant accomplishment for Flowers at Simis was leading the school to become one of only seven elementary schools in Arizona to earn an International Baccalaureate (IB) World Designation. The IB status involves a rigorous three-year authorization process of self-study, professional development and curriculum development to benefit students.

As Simis IB coordinator Melissa

Powers shared, “It’s not easy to shift an entire school from one way of thinking to another, however Dr. Flowers was able to help our school stay on course through the long and sometimes difficult authorization process, providing tremendous professional and personal support to us as teachers and team members.”

Flowers and Simis have won numerous awards the past 14 years. She has been a presenter, keynote speaker and panelist for multiple international and national education conferences, volunteered as a community leader and worked hand-in-hand with Simis’ PATS (Parents and Teachers at Simis) group to support and lift up Simis students.

Although Flowers is moving on, her focus on each child to ensure their social, emotional and academic needs are being met will live on at Simis.

## School Briefs

### GLENDALE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Dominguez gets ballet scholarship

Performance Company Dancer and Thunderbird High School Game Dancers lead choreographer, Lexi Dominguez, was awarded a ballet scholarship while taking a ballet workshop earlier this year at a dance convention 24/7. This is only awarded to a select few.

Dominguez, an incoming senior, has shown great dedication to the dance program for the past three years.



SCHOOL DAYS

GUHSD sets walk-through registration

Glendale Union High School District is gearing up for the 2019-20 school year with its student walk-through registration sessions July 22-26, which will offer information about academics, extracurricular activities, clubs, sports and more at each campus. Students also will receive their schedules.

Visit your school’s website for specific event details (<https://www.guhsdaz.org/>). Students’ first day of school is on Monday, Aug. 5.

Hatch recognized by Junior Achievement

Sunnyslope High student Alexis Hatch was among those honored at the 2019 Junior Achievement (JA) 18 Under 18 awards program.

When Sunnyslope’s speech and debate program was in danger of going extinct, Hatch made it her goal to save the program. She got 10 students to join for her sophomore year, and 50 to show up to the first meeting for the club in her junior year. The team took second place in a tournament this past school year.



Alexis Hatch

Now a senior, Hatch also is involved in bringing a TED-Ed chapter to Sunnyslope. These student talks, similar to TED Talks, encourage students to develop ideas and gain confidence in public speaking.

Zlystra earns perfect score on ACT exam

Incoming Thunderbird High School senior Jessica Zlystra has earned the highest possible ACT composite score of 36. This achievement is significant and rare with only about two-tenths of one percent of all test takers earning the top score.



Jessica Zlystra

Scores earned on the ACT exam, taken by high school juniors around the country each year, are accepted by all major colleges and universities throughout the nation.



Officer Bob Corveil with the Phoenix PD’s Traffic Education Safety Unit instructs children from Madison Rose Lane about the importance of wearing a helmet when riding a bicycle (photo by Teri Carnicelli).

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT Teaching kids about ‘rules of the road’

The Phoenix Fire Department and Phoenix Police Department hosted a “Bike Rodeo” on the campus of Madison Rose Lane to teach children—  
*please see BIKE RODEO on page 28*

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## SCHOOL DAYS

**BIKE RODEO continued from page 27**

and their parents—the importance of being safe while riding their bicycles.

Bikes for toddlers up to young adults were provided for use, including some with training wheels for the “still learning” riders, and a skills course was drawn out in chalk under the large covered area next to the basketball court. At the start of the course, children were fitted with free bike helmets, then give instructions from Officer Bob Corveil with the Phoenix PD’s Traffic Education Safety Unit. There were reminded to always come to a full stop when at a stop sign, to look left, then right, then left again before proceeding.

Halfway through the course they met Officer Eric VanHook of the Traffic Education Safety Unit, who took them through the drill again. And before reaching the end of the course, Anthony Mustacchio of the Phoenix Fire Department manned the last stop sign. Mustacchio said parents play a crucial role in not only reminding children to be careful of traffic, but also making sure then never ride a bike, scooter or

other wheeled vehicle in public without wearing a proper safety helmet.

Madison Rose Lane Kindergarten Teacher Melissa Mersch rode her own bike to school that day and also participated in the Bike Rodeo, but admitted she forgot to wear her helmet that morning. She received a free helmet at the event, agreeing how important it was for adults to model proper “rules of the road” and safety precautions for the younger generations.

### OSBORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT Solano Elementary gets STEM grant from SRP

Students across Arizona will explore how to use drones, virtual reality and energy-efficient architecture to learn more about math and science thanks to Learning Grants by SRP. The grant program, which awarded a record \$147,855 to 33 schools—including Solano Elementary—provides an opportunity for schools and teachers to develop projects and programs that improve student performance objectives in math, science and engineering.

Solano Elementary received a grant of \$5,000 for the 2019-20 school year. The grant will be spent on purchasing 27 microscopes to provide high-quality science-learning experiences. While investigating different sciences such as biology, anatomy, geology and environmental science, students will be exposed to math concepts as they graph their findings, technology as they record their data and writing as they express what they figure out through qualitative and quantitative observation.

### PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Students, alumni honored at banquet

Over 200 student-athletes and coaches were honored at the third annual All-Phoenix Union Sports Awards, May 14, at Central High School. Team and individual awards were presented for each sport.

All-Academic Athletes of the Year for a boy and girl on each campus were recognized, and the top Male and Female Athletes of the Year for each campus received \$500 scholarships. One of the two Phoenix Union Athletes of the Year was Central High’s Cosmas Kwete, who also received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Phoenix



SCHOOL DAYS

Union Foundation and Phoenix Union Sports Hall of Fame.

Kwete was a dominating defensive end for Central, playing with his twin brother, Eloi. He came to the U.S. four years ago from Zimbabwe, and is on his way to Washington State University on a football scholarship.

Central’s Eli Fuentes won the Joseph Grant Community Outreach Award. The football player was Youth of the Year at his Boys and girls Club branch, and completed over 1700 hours of community service, and continues to work with nonprofits that serve the homeless, refugees and children.

Joseph Grant was a Camelback High athlete who gave his Make-a-Wish wish back to his school for a campus project before his passing. His mother presented the award to Fuentes.

Students selected for Harvard-related programs

Eight Metro Tech juniors were accepted into the Harvard Academies this summer, attending the pre-med or business programs. In addition, one Metro Tech sophomore was accepted



Don Sheldon, a Computer Networking teacher from Metro Tech High School, was surprised by a visit from Channel 3 after his student, Liliana Vasquez (left), nominated him for a Silver Apple Award (submitted photo).

into the Harvard Pre-College Program. These are two-week programs. The junior students were Maria Vargas, Angel Palazuelos Ortiz, Katherine Velazquez, Brian Zepeda, Jesus Gomez, Anahy Rascon, Brittney Perez-Montoya, and Lesli Arreaza. The sophomore was Lorena Calderon.

All the students are in honors and

Advanced Placement classes and several are involved in MEChA and/or other community organizations.

Teacher honored with Silver Apple

Metro Tech’s Computer Networking teacher Don Sheldon received a surprise visit from an

entourage of fans on May 10, led by Channel 3’s Gina Maravilla, who came to present the Silver Apple Award, along with a \$500 check, sponsored by the Dairy Council of Arizona.

Sheldon was nominated by Liliana Vasquez, a senior who, through Sheldon’s efforts, will continue to college and work with the Year-Up Organization. In her nomination, Vasquez wrote: “Mr. Sheldon pushes us to do our best and take every good opportunity life throws at us. He introduced me to a program called ‘Year-Up,’ and without him, the thought of going to college wouldn’t even cross my mind.”

Franklin adds forensics classes to school offerings

Franklin Police and Fire is expanding its Forensic Science offerings next year to include Forensics Chemistry 3-4, teaching students how to apply chemistry to forensics. There are currently three sections of Forensics 1-2.

The mostly junior and senior Honor classes fulfill a required science credit and students can receive dual

*please see FORENSICS on page 30*

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## SCHOOL DAYS

**FORENSICS continued from page 29**

enrollment credit with Phoenix College. Forensics 1-2 covers the fundamentals of investigation, including hair and fiber analysis, handwriting and document analysis, fingerprinting, DNA, and toxicology covering blood, drugs, poisons and other toxins,

**WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WESD to host  
job fair on July 19**

The Washington Elementary School District (WESD) will host a Classified Job Fair 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, July 19, to hire support staff for the 2019-20 school year. It will take place at the WESD Administrative Center, 4650 West Sweetwater Ave.

The WESD is hiring: Special Education assistants; bus drivers and assistants; Food Service assistants; substitute health technicians; substitute teachers; office technicians and managers; Food Service managers; translators; and after-school support.

Candidates are encouraged to come

prepared to interview. Successful candidates may be recommended for a 2019-20 contract. Apply online prior to the Classified Job Fair at <http://jobs.wesd-schools.org>. Human Resources will contact qualified applicants directly to preschedule an interview. For more information, contact the WESD Recruitment Office at 602-347-2668 or e-mail [Jennifer.Deckwa@wesdschools.org](mailto:Jennifer.Deckwa@wesdschools.org).

**PRIVATE AND  
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Brophy competes in  
National Quiz Bowl**

Some of the brightest minds in the Phoenix area competed in one of the most challenging academic activities in the country: the NAQT quiz bowl 2019 High School National Championship Tournament (HSNCT), held in Atlanta May 24-26.

Among the Valley schools that competed was a team from Brophy College Prep, which finished 97th out of 336 teams.

The NAQT quiz bowl is a fast-paced game that tests students' knowledge on subjects ranging from sports

and pop culture to classic literature and biology.

Quiz bowl has served as the launchpad for thousands of high-achievers across the globe who have often gone on to attend prestigious universities, where they (usually!) continue competing in quiz bowl, and later pursue impactful, innovative careers. Quiz bowl alumni have gained national recognition and set records on TV shows like Jeopardy! (Ken Jennings, Larissa Kelly) and Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? (Kevin Olmstead).

**Student a candidate for  
QuestBridge Scholarship**

Madison Highland Prep student Jay-ar Gloria, who will be a senior in August, was selected as a 2019 College Prep Scholar by QuestBridge Scholarships. He is one of 3,123 students selected from more than 10,800 high school juniors throughout the United States based on his academic record and personal qualities.

As a College Prep Scholar, Gloria is recognized as a strong candidate for the 2020 QuestBridge National College

Match, offering full four-year scholarships to one of the nation's best colleges of his choice.

Additionally, he has been invited to participate in the National College Admissions Conference in June. This conference provides a unique opportunity for Gloria to receive expert advice from admissions officers from QuestBridge college partners.



Jay-ar Gloria

**Curriculum addition  
helps 'navigate' life**

At Metropolitan Arts Institute, students are learning not just academics, but how to be good people, and how to find balance in their lives and education.

Among MetroArts' school community, this approach has long been referred to as "the invisible curriculum." But this past school year, thanks to an organization called Project Wayfinder, that curriculum has been made visible.

*please see WAYFINDER on page 32*



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Recreation Association of Madison Meadows and Simis

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# 2019-2020 SPORTS SCHEDULE\*

## FALL SPORTS

**FLAG FOOTBALL**  
(GRADES 1-8)  
Registration Opens: 7/9/19  
Evaluations: 8/17/19  
Season Starts: 9/7/19  
Playoffs End: 11/1/19

**VOLLEYBALL**  
**(Girls and Boys Leagues)**  
(GRADES 3-8)  
Registration Opens: 7/7/19  
Player's Clinic: 8/10/2019  
Evaluations: 8/17/2019  
Coach's Clinic: 8/24/2019  
Season Starts: 9/7/19  
Playoffs End: 10/26/19

## WINTER SPORTS

**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
(GRADES K-6)  
Registration Opens: 9/21/19  
Evaluations: 11/2/19  
Season Starts: 12/4/19  
Playoffs End: 2/28/20

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
(GRADES K-8)  
Registration Opens: 9/21/19  
Evaluations: 11/2/19  
Season Starts: 12/4/19  
Playoffs End: 2/28/20

## SPRING SPORTS

**BASEBALL, SOFTBALL,  
FARM & T-BALL**  
(GRADES PREK-8)  
Registration Opens: 1/4/20  
Evaluations: 2/1/20  
Season Starts: 2/29/20  
RAMMS Select Tryouts: 4/25/20  
Playoffs End: 5/27/20

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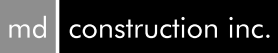
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**SCHOOL DAYS**

**WAYFINDER** *continued from page 30*

Project Wayfinder is an educational organization developed at the Stanford University School focused on a wayfinding metaphor. The curriculum equips students and teachers with tools and skills they need to create purposeful lives.

MetroArts incorporated the Project Wayfinder for the 2018-19 school year, with more than 50 seniors experiencing the curriculum.

Head of School, Matt Baker, says he brought Project Wayfinder to MetroArts to help young adults figure out what they want to do—or don't want to do—early on.

“Our current education system focuses solely building knowledge and skills without any sense of why except to get into college. And that’s just kicking the can down the road,” Baker ponts out. “Conversely, helping students cultivate their own unique sense of purpose is invaluable.”

When Wayfinder comes out with a program for a younger cohort, Baker says he will be eager to bring it to the school’s 8th or 9th graders. “Because the fact is, when it comes to inquiring deeply into what makes a meaningful life, the time is always now.”

**Making specialized schools affordable**

Education Savings Accounts (ESAs), introduced in Arizona in 2011, have not gone away and they can be an important resource for families with

kids with disabilities. But many families still aren’t aware of them.

ESAs are a key but often untapped resource for parents. They can cover 100 percent of costs for students with Autism to attend innovative and elite schools such as Gateway Academy, a K-12 school specializing in academically bright children with Asperger’s Syndrome and high-functioning autism. Gateway’s annual tuition of \$26,800, all of which can be paid for by the state.

Approximately 5,000 families currently use the ESA program to pay for private and other schools. ESAs give the parent 90 percent of what the state would pay to the school for that individual child. For a neurotypical child who does not require any services, that number is around \$5,000. However, since Gateway’s students have an autism diagnosis and require additional services, aids, classrooms, etc. the state pays a significant amount more. Most families are receiving approximately \$28,000 per year.

Voters turned down an expansion of ESAs in 2018 but the program benefiting kids with disabilities as well as Native Americans, military families, foster children and students living near underperforming schools has not gone away.

Gateway Academy accepts enrollment year round. For more information, call 480-998-1071 or visit <https://www.gatewayacademy.us/>.

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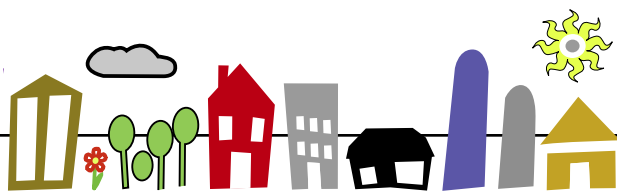
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## GENERATIONS

### Senior Living Monthly support groups for family caregivers

The Desert Southwest Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association hosts two family caregiver support groups in North Central Phoenix each month.

The groups provide an opportunity to share experiences in a safe setting while learning from other families also impacted by Alzheimer's disease.

Groups meet 3-4:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Ave., Room A-209; and 9:30 - 11 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month at First Church UMC, 5510 N. Central Ave. For more information, call Jodi Ford at 602-859-6047.

### Answers about Social Security

The Area Agency on Aging will conduct a workshop from 3-5 p.m. on Friday, July 26 to provide information for anyone with questions or concerns about Social Security benefits.

There is no charge and registration is recommended for the workshop, which will be held at AGEconnect on 7th, 2950 N. 7th St. A presentation about benefits by Social Security Administration Public Affairs Specialist Jack Burns will take place during the first hour with a question-and-answer session to follow. Burns also will explain how to apply for benefits.

To reserve a seat, call the Area Agency's 24-Hour Senior HELP LINE at 602-264-4357 or on line at [www.aaaphx.org](http://www.aaaphx.org).

### New rideshare service specializes in seniors

Transportation for seniors can be challenge—particularly for those who can no longer drive. Services such as Dial-A-Ride have been cut back and often operate on a limited schedule. Taxicabs are an option, but may pose a problem with seniors with mobility issues.

Envoy America is a ride share service in the Phoenix area designed specifically for seniors. The service has made connections with Valley groups and organizations that work with seniors, such as churches, Phoenix Cancer Support Network, the Jewish

Federation of Greater Phoenix, Bosom Buddies of Arizona, and Banner Alzheimer's Institute.

Envoy America provides transportation plus assistance services, including a steady hand while walking to the car, waiting during church services or medical appointments, and helping with shopping at the grocery store.

The driver companions are vetted and are specially trained to assist seniors, including helping clients get in and out of a car, transfer in and out of wheelchairs, First Aid and CPR certification, and how to best interact with senior clients and who have memory issues.

Envoy America's driver companions are required to pass background checks, have clean driving record and a senior-friendly four-door vehicle in excellent condition. Vans with wheelchair ramps are not available in this service. Individuals can arrange for a driver companion by making a reservation at <https://envoyamerica.com> or by calling 888-375-5558.



VALLEYLIFE is a non-profit organization that provides programs and services to men, women, and children with developmental disabilities.

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GENERATIONS

## Kids & Families

### Story time, crafts at coffee shop

Enjoy free crafts and Story Time 10-11 a.m. every Thursday at the new Cultivate Coffee, 505 W. Dunlap Ave. This nonprofit-run coffee shop has a mission to work with local disadvantaged teens and young adults (refugees, foster care, etc.) to create opportunity for them through job training as well as life and social skills.

For more information, e-mail [info@cultivatecoffee.org](mailto:info@cultivatecoffee.org).

### Encore Dance Center moves into new studio

Encore Dance Center has moved into a new state-of-the-art facility at 8821 N. 7th St., Ste. 400. The new studio space is less than 3 miles from the previous location at 709 E. Palo Verde Drive.

Encore provides a comfortable environment and approaches dance as an activity that will bring enrichment to many areas of a child's life. The studio offers competitive and recreational classes for all ages and levels.

Encore's new facility has two studios with expanded seating and viewing areas for parents. The students have specialized flooring, premium sound systems, changing rooms and more.

Among the school's offerings are ballet, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, tumbling, hip-hop, and many others, at levels from beginner to advanced.

For more information, visit [www.edc03.com](http://www.edc03.com) or call 602-266-4499.

### Summer classes begin at Music Works

Music Works Community (MWC), 302 W. Bethany Home Road, offers an introductory class for the PRELUDE Piano Program on Fridays in July.

A 45-minute Intro class for your 3- to 6-year-old young musician-to-be is an ideal way to see the studio, experience a class and determine if your student is ready for the 15-week Prelude fall semester that begins the week of Aug. 26.

Enrollment also is now open for the MWC fall schedule that begins the week of Aug. 12. Registration forms are located on the Resources/Forms page at [www.musicworkscommunity.com](http://www.musicworkscommunity.com).

For more information, call the studio at 602-264-5188.

### Children will have a 'Wild' time at VBS

Central United Methodist church, 1875 N. Central Ave., hosts a Vacation Bible School July 22-26, for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Cost is \$5 per child.

The theme is "ROAR! Life is Wild—God is Good!" Get ready for an African adventure that engages the whole herd. Powered by a ferocious faith, this energetic program teaches kids that "life is sometimes wild, but God is always good."

The program takes place from 5:45-8 p.m. To register, visit [www.centralumc.com](http://www.centralumc.com) or call the church office at 602-258-8048, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Thursday.



The first morning I helped Stanley down the stairs, the third step creaked. That's when I found out his wife, Martha always told him to fix it. And now he's just glad he never did, because that's home. I love hearing Stanley's stories about home. And now I get to be a part of them.

  
— Maddie G.  
Stanley's CAREGiver



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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Public art in the city of Phoenix

Initially intended to honor the beliefs or rulers of the day, public art has evolved along with society toward a more open form of expression. Learn more about Phoenix's growing culture of "public art" during a presentation and slide show set for 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 11 at the Shemer Art Center, 5005 E. Camelback Road.

Besides art commissioned by elected officials to grace a public space, commemorate a moment in local history or recognize a prominent citizen, today's entrepreneurs and patrons have realized that associating art with their name adds status to it. Freelance artists also contribute unsolicited art—graffitis, murals—that at its best and most recognizable (i.e. Banksy), delivers powerful social statements that cannot be ignored.

There is a \$10 requested contribution for the presentation, snacks and refreshments. Seating is limited, RSVP using the following link: <https://bit.ly/2Wwb2y8>.



No More Stolen Sisters is part of a collaborative mural intended to bring awareness about missing and murdered indigenous women and girls in Arizona (image courtesy of the Shemer Art Center).

colors of light throughout the day. In the exhibition, the artist provides an immersive and informative experience for attendees. Admission is free on the night of Friday, July 5, as part of First Friday. Visit <https://heard.org>.

## A & E Briefs

### \$4 on the Fourth

July 2-6

**Pueblo Grande Museum**  
4619 E. Washington St.  
602-495-0901

Celebrate Independence Day week and enjoy a discounted museum admission rate of \$4 to all adults and seniors. Bring the whole family out for a fun and affordable uniquely Arizona experience at the ancient heart of Phoenix. Note that Pueblo Grande Museum will be closed on July 4, in observation of the Fourth of July Independence Day holiday. Visit [www.pueblogrande.com](http://www.pueblogrande.com).

### Still Life No. 3:

#### Raven Chacon

July 5-Nov. 3

**Heard Museum**  
2301 N. Central Ave.

A solo exhibition that tells the story of Diné Bahane', a Navajo story of creation and emergence into the current world. The exhibition is comprised of sound, speakers, text and timed lights, which scrolls through several hues over an eight-hour cycle—relating to the

# Creative Arts Camp 2019

- Registration for our 7th Annual Creative Arts Camp is currently open online. You can find the link on our website, [firstchurch.church](http://firstchurch.church).
- Don't delay in getting your kiddos signed up for this fun and activity-filled week on our campus as it fills up quickly.
- The camp runs July 29 - August 2 and is open to kids entering 1st - 7th grades.
- There will be classes for singers, painters, crafters, chefs, yogis and more. We even offer Taekwondo!
- If you have any questions, please contact Jen Heffington at [jen@firstchurch.church](mailto:jen@firstchurch.church) or 602.263.5013, ext. 1108.

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**Must pass both background and pre-employment drug test.**

**Caregivers start at \$11.50 an hour.**

**If you are interested in opening your heart and loving what you do then please apply at LTH - 8640 North 19th Avenue, Suite #14, located in Faith United Methodist Church  
(602) 943-4789**



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

**'The Addams Family'**

**Arizona Broadway Theatre**  
**July 12-28**  
**Herberger Theater**  
**222 E. Monroe**  
**602-252-8497**

It's the ultimate nightmare: daughter Wednesday, the ultimate Princess of Darkness, has grown up and fallen in love...with a sweet young man from a respectable family! While her parents wonder "Where did we go wrong," all Wednesday wants is one normal night—but everything is about to change as they host a dinner for her fiancé and his parents. Tickets are \$44-\$73 plus fees. Visit [www.herbergertheater.org](http://www.herbergertheater.org).

**Full Moon Art & Music Festival**

**8 p.m. Saturday, July 20**  
**The Pressroom**  
**441 W. Madison St.**

Enjoy a lunar gathering to remember, with a multi-genre music and arts festival spilling out onto the adjacent city block. This is an 18 and older event, and there will be cash bars avail-

able. Tickets are \$20 presale until the week of, when they go up to \$25. For tickets and the full music lineup visit [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) and use keywords Full Moon Festival (select city of Phoenix).

**Kristina Kuzmic:**  
**The Hope and Humor Tour**  
**7 p.m. Sunday, July 28**  
**Orpheum Theatre**  
**203 W. Adams St.**

Kristina Kuzmic has an in-your-face perspective on issues of parenting and life in general. She has become an Internet sensation with her "mom-centric" videos about raising children and juggling all of life's challenges. Her creative parenting advice and unique humor have garnered her a large following, launching her second career—beyond being a mom—as a motivational speaker and comedienne. Tickets are \$29.75-\$75 plus fees. Visit <https://bit.ly/2K08t5P>.

**'Spamilton: An American Parody'**  
**Through Aug. 11**  
**Phoenix Theatre**

**1825 N. Central Ave.**  
**602-254-2151**

From Gerard Alessandrini, the mastermind behind the legendary Forbidden Broadway, comes a sidesplitting new musical that roasts, eviscerates and celebrates Lin-Manuel Miranda's hit Broadway musical "Hamilton." Tickets are \$38-\$88, fees included. Visit <https://www.phoenixtheatre.com/calendar>.

**'Matilda: The Musical'**

**Valley Youth Theatre**  
**Aug. 9-25**  
**Herberger Theater**  
**222 E. Monroe**  
**602-252-8497**

Matilda is a little girl with astonishing wit, intelligence and psychokinetic powers. She's unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Over the course of her first term at school, Matilda and Miss Honey have a profound effect on each other's lives, as Miss Honey begins not only to recognize but also appreciate Matilda's extraordinary personality. Run time is 2.5

hours. Show includes intermission. Tickets are \$20.40-\$39.50 plus fees. Visit [www.herbergertheater.org](http://www.herbergertheater.org).

**'Music of Billy Joel & More'**

**Phoenix Symphony**  
**Sept. 27-28**  
**Symphony Hall**  
**75 N. 2nd St.**  
**602-495-1999**

Relive hits from Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis, the Beatles, The Who, Elton John and, of course, Billy Joel, performed live by The Phoenix Symphony and vocalist Michael Cavanaugh. Known for his energetic stage presence, Cavanaugh was handpicked by Billy Joel to star in the hit Broadway musical Movin' Out and received both Tony and Grammy-Award nominations for the role. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Tickets are \$25-\$93 plus fees. Visit [www.phoenixsymphony.org](http://www.phoenixsymphony.org).

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Farm & Craft and Pure Sushi, both located at The Colony retail center at 5538 N. 7th St., closed unexpectedly last month. Pure Sushi was one of only two remaining original restaurant tenants of the center (photo by Teri Carnicelli).

Café Chat  
Four restaurants  
close on 7th Street

By Teri Carnicelli

The overabundance of restaurants that line both sides of 7th Street between the two “M’s”—Maryland and Missouri avenues—may have finally reached a tipping point. In the last month alone, four of them abruptly shut their doors.

The first to go was Farm & Craft, operated by Riot Hospitality Group and located in The Colony retail center at 5538 N. 7th St. The Colony is an adaptive re-use project located on the west side of 7th Street just north of Missouri Avenue.

Farm & Craft, which also has a Scottsdale location and touted “healthy and sustainable food,” barely made it to the one year mark before closing in early June. And with its closing, Riot Hospitality has exited the Central Phoenix marketplace, but still maintains other restaurants in Scottsdale and Tempe.

It wasn’t the only restaurant to shut its doors recently.

Right next door, Pure Sushi—one of the original tenants at The Colony—unexpectedly closed down on June 9. It was so unexpected, in fact, that employees were reportedly only given 24 hours’ notice of the impending closure.

Pure Sushi opened in July 2016. It had a popular happy hour and touted a bar well stocked with sake bottles. The

north Scottsdale location remains open.

It has been a challenge for The Colony to retain its restaurant tenants. When first launched, The Colony housed Stock & Stable, Pure Sushi, The

*please see CLOSURES on page 38*



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### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

#### CLOSURES continued from page 37

Herb Box and Casa Añejo Tacos + Tequila. The only one that has been there from the beginning—and celebrated its third-year anniversary last month—is Stock & Stable.

“From the start, Stock & Stable was specifically designed to cater to the surrounding neighborhood, offering a cozy yet stylish space to kick back with friends and family,” said Diane Corieri, co-owner of Stock & Stable. “Chef Joe Absolor and GM Jason Lothner are both residents of the North Central community and have embraced the culture of the area.”

The east side of 7th Street also has felt the brunt of the restaurant glut. The popular Joe’s Midnight Run was sold in January 2018 and then unexpectedly closed by the new owner just two months later. The building at 6101 N. 7th St. was sold again and the laid-back vibe of Joe’s was replaced by Hatter and Hare—which closed last month after not quite a year in business.

Hatter and Hare had a sort of “Alice in Wonderland” concept and was part

of the Glass Half Full Hospitality Group, which relocated from the Chicago area.

Camp Social, next door to Hatter and Hare and also part of Glass Half Full, abruptly closed less than a week after its sister restaurant across the parking lot. Featuring a “camp theme” complete with indoor tire swing seats at the bar and an old travel trailer converted into a private seating area, Camp Social was open only two years.

However, some businesses continue to thrive in the corridor, despite their many and various competitors.

Further down 7th Street at Missouri Avenue, family business Spinato’s moved from its longtime 12th Street and Glendale location to the Cinema Park Shopping Center in November 2013. Anthony Spinato is vice president of Spinato’s Pizzeria and Family Kitchen and son of the original founders, Ken and Elaine Spinato. He says one of the key factors to bringing in customers, and keeping them coming back for more, is quality service.

At Spinato’s, employees are part of the family (in some cases, they actually

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

are family members), and many have been there a decade or more.

“We have always been in the people business, never mistakenly thinking we are in the pizza business,” Spinato says. “That is the first thing I communicate to our new team members in our employee orientation. They all have to be contributors to our culture, our environment—not consumers. I believe that our people (staff) do that better than any other restaurant in town.”

“Chain” type restaurants that have multiple locations, such as Pita Jungle and Cold Beer & Cheeseburgers, could potentially stick around even if one location is not as successful, because of the support of the larger group.

Cold Beer & Cheeseburgers, which opened at 5625 N. 7th St. in March 2017, is part of Square One Concepts, with locations in California and Arizona. Currently there are 11 Valley locations, with two more openings planned this year.

Square One Concepts President & CEO S. Barrett Rinzler created the concept in 2012, when he realized his favorite sports bar lacked a high-quality scratch kitchen.

“While the summer months can be challenging for restaurants, we’re pleased with our 7th Street location,” Rinzler said. “We do have great food, a comfortable, lively environment and when people walk in they want to stay a while.”

Dining Briefs  
Summer scratchers and kids eat free at restaurant

Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers is serving up a deal to fans this summer with the return of two popular promotions: Summer Secret Scratch-Off and Kids Eat Free.

Dine in at any metro area Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers and receive one Summer Secret Scratch-Off to redeem at a future visit. The next time guests dine in, give the scratch-off to an authorized Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers staff member and they will reveal the prize. Each guest wins at least 10 percent off their order or one of a number of great prizes, including a staycation, a golf outing, and \$1,000 in cash.

In addition, kids 12 and younger eat free with the purchase of an adult entrée all day Tuesday at both Phoenix locations, including 5625 N. 7th St. and 3950 E. Indian School Road. The

Kids Menu available every day at Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers is only \$7.50 and features cheeseburger sliders, chicken tenders, grilled cheese, mac & cheese, a small drink and fries.

Visit <https://www.coldbeers.com> or follow them on Facebook at Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers.

New chef, new menu items at Taco Guild

Taco Guild recently welcomed a new executive chef, Diego Bolanos.

Originally from Costa Rica, Bolanos brings a unique vision and approach to Taco Guild. His redesign of the menu shows a commitment to using locally sourced ingredients.

Bolanos has spent time working in acclaimed kitchens including the Four Season in La Jolla, the Del Mar Market in San Diego and with Chef Lisa Dahl in Sedona at Mariposa Latin Grill.

Bolanos seeks to maintain an elevated approach to the Mexican heart of the restaurant, but also combine different cuisines to create distinctive dishes that helped put Taco Guild on the map.

please see CHEF on page 40



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## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**CHEF continued from page 39**

Many of the fan favorite dishes including the grilled romaine lettuce salad and the coffee-braised beef taco remain on the menu, however, 23 new dishes were added including the street corn trio; grilled fruit salad; pork chicharon taco; lobster taco; roasted artichoke taco; Korean fried chicken taco; roast leg of lamb taco; and tostones, which are plantain cakes with bean dip, pico de gallo, Cotija cheese, chipotle garlic aioli and choice of carnitas, chicken or coffee-braised beef.

Taco Guild, 546 E. Osborn Road, serves lunch and dinner during the week with daily happy hour specials, and brunch on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, visit [www.tacoguild.com](http://www.tacoguild.com).

### Shorts Leash hosts 'Wurst Festival Ever'

Short Leash Hot Dogs, 4221 N. 7th Ave., hosts its annual Wurst Festival Ever 5-10 p.m. Saturday, July 20.

You'll laugh your buns off with a pun competition, "meat" local chefs, and maybe even "mustard up" the courage to try different hotdog combinations. It will be a hot dog of a day

but that's what makes a cold beer taste so good, right? The event wraps up with crowning the "wurst wiener" (and by wurst, they mean best).

Admission is \$10, wiener samples are \$3, and beer is \$5. Tickets go on sale July 1 at [www.shortleashhotdogs.com/event](http://www.shortleashhotdogs.com/event).

### Happy hour, weekday specials at SanTan Brewery

SanTan Brewery's North Central brewpub is making summer sizzle with food, drink and merchandise specials. During happy hour and reverse happy hour, enjoy a selection of wine, beer and spirits from \$4-\$6. In addition, you can snack on a variety of menu options from \$6-\$7. Happy hour is 3-6 p.m. Monday through Friday, with reverse happy hour Sunday-Thursday from 9 p.m. until closing.

Weekday special include Merchandise Monday, where you will receive 10 percent off everything when you wear your "SanTan" gear (hats, T-shirts, etc.) On Taco Tuesdays, a la carte tacos are \$2 each for carnitas and chicken, and \$3 each for beef or shrimp.

Hamburger Hump Day rolls in on Wednesday with \$2 off any burger (Beyond burgers available). On Thirsty

Thursdays, order any 16-ounce SanTan beer and automatically get upgraded to a 20-ounce pour at no additional charge.

SanTan's uptown brewpub is located at 1525 E. Bethany Home Road. For more information, visit <https://santanbrewing.com/> or call 602-595-7390.

### Cool drinks, cool treats at The Orchard

Need some relief from our Valley's scorching triple degree temperatures? Adults and children alike can find treats to cool them down at The Orchard, 7100 N. 12th St., which is surrounded by more than 80 citrus trees on a historic orchard property.

For the entire month of July, Splurge at the Orchard will offer 2-for-1 scoops all day long. Swing by next door to Luci's at the Orchard, where happy hour includes half-off on smoothies & pastries after 5 p.m.

Children can play in the splash pad while the adults enjoy their smoothie—or a different kind of cool beverage from Pomelo, a full-service restaurant serves American food and craft cocktails with an Arizona twist.

Running through August, Pomelo at the Orchard will offer \$6 cocktails all day long, this includes all alcohol types.

The only exception is Pomelo's specialty cocktails, which will be offered for just \$8.

Specialty cocktails include options such as the Run for the Roses, with Four Roses Bourbon, fresh lemon juice, R&W Peach Liqueur and Cinnamon Syrup; and the Bellissimo, with Pomelo vodka, blackberry thyme syrup, fresh grapefruit juice and sparkling wine.

Visit <http://www.lucisurbanconcepts.com> or like them on Facebook for more information.

### Customize your Thai food options

Thai Chili 2 Go, which opened on June 24, at 1949 E. Camelback Road, Suite 161, offers starters, two varieties of Thai hot and sour soup, and a variety of familiar and traditional main entrée dishes. Guests can customize their orders with vegan options and select their level of heat, making their dish as mild or spicy as they wish.

Thai Chili 2 Go is open daily from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. For more information, visit [www.tc2go.com](http://www.tc2go.com).

**For local restaurant listings,  
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at [www.northcentralnews.net](http://www.northcentralnews.net)**

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