



# north central news

the voice of the north central phoenix community since 1999

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## Groups join forces to enhance the 'Slope

By Colleen Sparks

Momentum is building to try to bring sweeping upgrades to Sunnyslope, as shown when residents, business owners, non-profit organizations and neighborhood groups recently rolled up their sleeves to give an historic building a major facelift.

The Sunnyslope Village Alliance threw a "Sunnyslope Swank" community gathering to celebrate the grand re-opening of its building at 755 E. Hatcher Road last month. Norton Vista Neighborhood Association sparked interior renovations to the house that was built decades ago and many businesses and residents volunteered their time and materials to create the enhancements, which included new wood floors.

Besides supporting the Sunnyslope Village Alliance building getting new life, the Hatcher Urban Business Alliance (theHUB) plans to keep working with city of Phoenix officials this year to discuss resi-

*please see ENHANCE on page 4*



Volunteer Isaiah Norris works in a garden with his children (from left) Anaya, Nehemiah and Josiah as part of a Project Roots, Inc. project. Former Phoenix Mercury player Bridget Pettis started Project Roots, which grows and provides fruits and vegetables, as well as soup with the vegetables, to people in need (photo by Samantha Talavera).

## Growing gardens to help those in need

By Colleen Sparks

A former Phoenix Mercury player is getting her hands dirty literally as she cultivates her new non-profit organization that is grounded in gardens where vegetables are grown for people in need.

Bridget Pettis, a WNBA champion and long-time North Central Phoenix resident who now works as assistant coach for Chicago Sky women's basketball team, started the non-profit organization Project Roots, Inc. The organization's purpose is to teach and feed homeless people with its community garden and mobile kitchen service. Her non-profit recently gathered friends, families and volunteers to start their first crop plan on a farm and it plans to hire a farmer. Project Roots also would love to have donations including vehicles for the farm and soup kitchen, as well as garden equipment and supplies and kitchen equipment and supplies.

Pettis has gotten her hands dirty learning about gardening at Agave Farms at 4300 N. Central Ave. slightly south of Camelback Road, over the last two years. She began giving the food she grew to area food banks.

"I really wanted to get healthy food to people who can't easily afford to go out and buy this food," Pettis

said. "Why not put it where it's best served, back into the community?"

She began making soups out of the vegetables she grew. Now on Sunday afternoon Pettis and volunteers hand out soup grown from garden vegetables to homeless people in downtown Phoenix. They also donate fruits and vegetables grown at Agave Farms and on the Spaces of Opportunity farm in south Phoenix to The Cultural Cup Food Bank Inc., which is based at 342 E. Thomas Road, once a week.

Pettis, family members, friends and volunteers also recently planted seedlings at the Spaces of

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## COMMUNITY

## Concerns prompt new pipeline route

By Colleen Sparks

Neighbors' push to protect their neighborhoods and the Phoenix Mountains Preserve is prompting the city to move installation of a water pipeline closer to the 51 freeway.

City of Phoenix officials said last month they intend to ask workers to install the 66-inch-diameter water pipeline closer to the freeway, pending final approval of a right-of-way agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). The city's Water Services Department has a draft agreement with ADOT for permanent use of the right-of-way next to the freeway as an alternate route for the pipeline.

This pipeline is expected to start at the 24th Street water treatment plant near 24th Street and Maryland Avenue, head north along 21st Street, go west on Myrtle Avenue and then north near 20th Street, ending at 32nd Street and Shea Boulevard. An open house for the public to ask questions and learn more about the pipelines will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4 at the Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral at 1973 E. Maryland Ave.

Residents in three neighborhoods along with the Phoenix Mountains Preservation Council, Inc. had sent the city petitions urging it to stop plans to build that pipeline and another one on local streets and in the Phoenix Mountains Preserve. While several said they recognized that pipelines are needed to prevent water shortages, they wanted the city to take more time to study different options for supplying water and to better involve the public in discussions.

While the Phoenix Land Use and Livability Subcommittee voted unanimously last month to deny the petitions, it did support the city's plans to move the 66-inch pipeline so it would have less impact on neighborhoods and the Preserve after residents and lawmakers met several times to discuss residents' concerns. The subcommittee, which is made up of four City Councilmembers, also told city staff members to keep engaging the community in talks and plans about the project. Residents have said they believed

the pipeline alignment study was flawed, the pipelines were not needed and would cause safety and traffic issues.

"We know there's been some criticism about the alignment process," said Darlene Helm, deputy Water Services director for the city of Phoenix. "We're really trying to work through to make sure we've accounted for everything."

The 66-inch-diameter main is needed to address drought concerns on the Colorado River and will provide alternative water supplies to north Phoenix as that water shortage looms, city officials said.

Katherine Roxlo, a Biltmore Highlands neighborhood resident who organized the neighbors' action, is glad the pipeline will be moved closer to the 51 freeway but she is not completely satisfied with the planned route.

"There's still people that we feel are going to be impacted," Roxlo said. "They could have paused it. You can wait a month or two to do it right."

## ASK THE LAWYER

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## COMMUNITY

ENHANCE continued from page 1

dents and business owners' ideas to make sidewalk improvements, add street lighting, create artistic waste receptacles and implement other changes to revitalize the community. It already surveyed people in Sunnyslope to see what they thought the biggest priorities were for the area.

Of those surveyed, 67-percent said sidewalk improvements are the most important to accomplish this year in Sunnyslope. Of the respondents, 58-percent said pedestrian/street lighting was the most vital to complete this year and 55-percent said artistic crosswalks were the most needed projects in 2020. Bike lane/bike racks, street events, cafes, safety signage saying "No Trespassing," traffic control – turn lanes and street-integrated art were also noted as priorities though not as high on the list of priorities among those surveyed.

Caroline Lobo, co-chairwoman of theHUB and treasurer of the Sunnyslope Village Alliance, said she created a document through her architecture firm suoLL Architects on a volunteer basis, that illustrates innovative ideas for how to enhance Sunnyslope, based on residents and business owners' feedback. It is going one step further from the Hatcher Road Overlay, a district approved in 2008. The Hatcher Road Overlay is a special purpose zoning district for properties on both sides of Hatcher Road between 7th Street and 7th Avenue. Lobo said the document she created takes the "Hatcher

Road Overlay to the next level."  
"The point is to say that Hatcher Road has been talked about for the longest time," Lobo said. "It's just continued to be a light industrial and neglected street. Now it's kind of the heart of the city in more than one way."

She added the document aims to "get people excited" about the possibilities for improvements in Sunnyslope. Some ideas revealed in the document include putting benches along streets, installing sculptures and other street art, adding security and lighting, building sidewalks and planting trees to offer shade. Integrating pocket parks into areas of Sunnyslope is another proposal in the paper.

"I can't say enough about that folks really need to invest in this place," Lobo said. "Any time you have a group of people who want to see the change and are part of that change and are investing their time and energy, change happens."

Lobo said city of Phoenix streets employees would come to future theHUB meetings to talk about what is required as far as zoning for improvements to be made on streets. TheHUB also has been working with the city's economic development team to discuss ideas for revamping the area.

The strong sense of community and teamwork was clear at the "Sunnyslope Swank" event, where schoolchildren gave the public tours of the Sunnyslope Village Alliance Community Building near the Sunnyslope Historical Society & Museum. Guests also toured the

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COMMUNITY

museum. The Sunnyslope High School Jazz Band performed and Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego and Phoenix City Councilmember Debra Stark spoke at the event. Gallego, Stark and state Senator Kate Brophy McGee and state Representative Kelli Butler were the guests of honor.

“When you talk about Renaissance it just begins to scratch the surface of what’s happening,” Gallego said. “It really is an exciting time for this community.”

Lily Williams, coordinator of the Norton Vista Neighborhood Association, said many businesses and volunteers contributed their time and materials to renovate the building, in which the neighborhood association meets. New wood floors and tabletops were installed, new lighting was added, new plumbing and electrical work was done and walls were painted in bright colors. A room is styled to accommodate children, in case neighborhood association members want to leave their kids in there during meetings. The goal is to attract other community groups to meet in the newly renovated building



Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego (center), Phoenix City Councilmember Debra Stark (right) and students in the Sunnyslope High School Jazz Band pose near the newly renovated Sunnyslope Village Alliance office building during the “Sunnyslope Swank” community celebration (photo courtesy of Phoenix City Councilmember Debra Stark’s Facebook page).

and to offer classes there.

“I love how it turned out,” Williams said. “Thank you to all the people (who helped). This should have cost tens of thousands of dollars. It cost very little.”

Candy Berkner-Frogozo, president of the Sunnyslope Village Alliance and

co-owner of North Mountain Brewing Company, also was thrilled with the renovations.

“We always wanted to give the building to the community,” Berkner-Frogozo said. “It’s just amazing. It’s just really fresh. It makes you feel like you’re home.”

Food drive set for military, vets’ families

Humana and United Food Bank are teaming up to help military members and veterans’ families with a food and fund drive through Friday, Feb. 28.

Drop off donations of food at three locations and make financial donations online. Drop-off sites include the Humana office at 2231 E. Camelback Road; Iora Primary Care at 3137 W. Indian School Road and Iora Primary Care at 3202 E. Greenway Road.

Humana and United Food Bank are working with Feeding America to help military members and veterans’ families. It is part of a partnership with Feeding America and the VFW to form a campaign called “Uniting to Combat Hunger.” A recent study revealed one in five homes served by a local food bank had at least one member who was currently serving in or who had served previously in the U.S. military.

Every \$10 donated to this drive will help United Food Bank provide 50 meals. Visit [feedaz.org](http://feedaz.org) to make a financial donation.



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**GROWING** continued from page 1

Opportunity farm. She acquired a quarter acre of land there and Project Roots has given some of that space to eight families in need to grow their own vegetables and fruits on there.

The former Phoenix Mercury player is passionate about helping everyone have access to good nutrition.

"I really felt like if people felt better than they would think differently; they feel better, they might be motivated to go try something, not give up," Pettis said. "Everyone can grow their own food. That's my point of Project Roots is to encourage my community to grow their own food. I'm an athlete and I'm a coach. I tell my players, 'You're going to play your best basketball when you feel your best, when you feel better.'"

Pettis also trains many local youth basketball players.

She and the volunteers have planted 800 seedlings for chives, lettuce, carrots, kale, collard greens, broccoli, arugula and other vegetables.

Pettis and her partner, Dionne Washington, Project Roots director,

involve their three children, ages 14, 13 and 12, in gardening and preparing the soups.

Isaiah Norris of Phoenix recently brought his children Anaya, 8; Nehemiah, 6 and Josiah, 4, to plant seeds in the south Phoenix garden. He is friends with Washington and Pettis. The owner of Norris Business Consulting, he had served as their consultant for other projects.

"It's very much needed on so many different levels," Norris said of Project Roots. "There's just a lot to learn from gardening and growing your own food. My kids, they love getting out there."

He said he also works for the City of Tempe as a housing specialist assisting homeless people so Project Roots' mission is "near and dear to me."

"It's pretty rare to come across someone as passionate as Bridget," Norris said. "This is something she truly believes in. That's been really great to kind of experience and even to expose my children to. She's always got something green around her. It's her life."

Those who wish to support Project Roots may make a donation to Project

Roots, Inc., 7000 N. 16th St., #326, Phoenix, 85020 or make a donation to the organization at any U.S. Bank branch. If you would like to volunteer your time, donate materials or apply for the farmer position, call 602-775-2090.

Project Roots also is trying to plant 200 trees at the Spaces of Opportunity farm in south Phoenix on Saturday, Feb. 15. For every tree purchased, a farmer with The Urban Farm Fruit Tree Program will donate \$20 to the project. To buy a tree, visit <https://store.urbanfarm.org/treedonation>.

## First Things First seeks volunteers

First Things First, the state's early childhood health and development agency, is looking for 150 volunteers to collaborate with other committed community members around Arizona.

First Things First aims to help children; from birth to 5 years old receive quality education, healthcare and family support.

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Memories of my dad

My dad, Herb Lieb, would have been 100 years old on Feb. 8, 2020. WOW!! Dad has been gone now for nine years but certainly his spirit still lives in all of us who were lucky to have known him.

Dad moved to Phoenix in 1964 while my brother Michael and I moved to Atlanta with our mom Sharon. Dad partnered up with Geri Aron at Kagel's Women's store at Park Central Mall and Michael and I were fortunate to meet so many people through my dad. At Park Central Mall we met Marcia and Mal Straus (Leonard's Luggage), Jeff Pollett (Pollett's Men Store), Midge Galst (Great Expectations), Tony from Miracle Mile and Bernie Teck from Switzers.

The Strauses and Arons/Hanilas were very special to Michael and me because they always welcomed us into their homes when we were in town for Passover and breaking the fast on Yom Kippur. They always made us feel like we were part of their family.

Another special person in our lives then was Gregory Andro who was part of Rocky's Hideway on 4th Avenue and Maryland and years later, Gregory's Penthouse Restaurants. Gregory always had us over his home for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners (HE COOKED EVERYTHING) along with Gov. Rose Mofford, who was an amazing person and always very kind to my dad. Gov. Mofford could always handle my dad.

I cannot forget another great friend of dad's, Larry Debus, who also was Dad's attorney. I am not sure how much money dad paid Larry for legal fees but I am certain it was not enough because dad was a FULL TIME CLIENT! Also a huge shout out to Mike Davis, who was always there for dad.

Many of you did not know that my

dad had the very first disco in Phoenix called Herb's Underground in 1970. His disc jockey was the one and only Bill Heywood, who was the #1 DJ in the country at that time. Bob Sikora, who opened many Bobby McGee's restaurants, credits dad for the success of all his nightclubs because he learned from my dad how to run one. After Herb's Underground came The Jockey Club, which was a private disco/restaurant that dad opened in 1976 at Town and Country Shopping Center.

I started at the Jockey Club in 1978. We had over 2,000 members when we sold the building and business in 1985. I was lucky enough to hire a disc jockey in 1981, Mary Ann Ortiz, who worked for me for five years and then we got married in 1986. Yes, we are still married after 33 years. Mary Ann also doubled as a referee between my dad and me while at the Jockey Club and afterwards!!!! She earned her \$60 a night pay!!

We then opened another Jockey Club in 1987 at Uptown Plaza (Central and Camelback) and sold the location/lease to Sweet Tomatoes in 1995. I started doing real estate in 1992 but still helped out with the club on weekends. During our last five months in the club, we leased the space for the movie Waiting To Exhale to be filmed, which featured Whitney Houston and Angela Bassett. A lot of the scenes were filmed at our club.

My dad passed in 2011 but those of us who knew him certainly miss his smile, personality and wisdom. Happy 100th birthday DAD. Your family and friends know you are looking down at us and giving us support.

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## #LoveBeingEmpowered and Defy the Stereotype



### Five expert tips for women to avoid rip-offs in the male-dominated auto repair industry.

It's February, and love is in the air. But one thing nobody loves is getting their hearts (and bank accounts) broken by a hefty car repair bill. Now, imagine how much that would sting if your bill were higher based solely on your gender. For women, this is often the unfortunate reality – the stereotype that women know less about cars makes it easier for repair shop owners to take advantage. But we can change this unfair practice, and one area business owner is leading the charge. We spoke with Shahe Koulloukian, owner of Mazvo Auto Car Care Center, whose longtime mission has been empowerment of his clients, both female and male. He believes that no one should feel intimidated by car repairs, or pay an inflated price because they aren't familiar with what they should actually be paying.

"When the consumer has no idea how something works, they are dependent on the repair shop to inform them of the truth," says Shahe. If your repair shop lacks integrity, you're ripe for a rip-off. No matter your gender, familiarize yourself with your owner's manual so you have an idea of what your car needs. "Never call a repair shop and say, 'I have no idea about cars! What is this supposed to cost me?'" Shahe warns. "You've just set yourself up for a higher bill." There are many reputable shops with professionals making an honest living, but a few bad apples will try to cheat drivers – mainly women – out of their money. To avoid being taken for a ride, Shahe recommends these five tips:

**Do your research.** Have a solid idea of what to expect before you even set foot in the repair shop. Find out how long they have been in business and whether they offer a warranty. Get an idea of their reputation by asking around. You want value over price, so don't be led by lowball pricing; the cheapest quote isn't necessarily the best one.

**Get it in writing.** Before you agree to any service, make sure your estimate is in writing. Ask for the final price, including tax and shop fees.

**Know your car's suggested services.** Dig out that handy-dandy owner's manual that you might have shoved into your glove compartment, buried under Target receipts and parking tickets. Check to see when your car will need certain services, like spark plug replacements or oil changes, so that you can have the mechanic perform those services only when necessary. If the mechanic attempts to perform an action prematurely, ask for a detailed explanation before deciding whether to allow it.

**Understand the difference between the types of repair.** The first type is recommended repair work, or maintenance that could improve your car's performance, such as acceleration or fuel efficiency. The second type, preventative, is work that isn't urgent right now, but will likely need future attention. By agreeing to preventative work now, you could be saving beaucoup bucks on a more serious problem later. Finally, necessary repair work is absolutely vital for your car's safe performance.

**Sometimes it's just expensive.** There's really no way around the fact that repair costs can be expensive. Even required parts and labor can cost a pretty penny. You may not want to pay for 12 hours of labor, but a mechanic who takes the time to perform a thorough, quality service is worth the price.

For car owners, the fear is in the unfamiliar, the shift in perspective comes from encountering the truth. Shahe's best advice for anyone, but especially women: "Ask and tell, don't get pushed around." Trust your instincts. Women who tell the repair shop they've done their research about the facility, who aren't afraid to ask for explanations, and who understand the difference between a necessary repair and one that can wait are more likely to pull out ahead of being taken advantage of. AND THAT'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING TO LOVE!

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## COMMUNITY



Samantha Hirsch, North Central Phoenix Homeowners Association treasurer, accepts a check from Realtor Sam Miller and Realtor Rick Ramella from the North Central Realtors Tour to purchase trees that will help beautify part the neighborhood (submitted photo).

### Realtors donate trees to homeowners group

Local Realtors are helping make the community greener through a donation of \$5,000 to purchase trees.

The 180 members of the North Central Realtors Tour made the donation to the North Central Phoenix Homeowners Association as a way to further beautify the area. Realtor Sam Miller said he grew up in North Central Phoenix and wanted to support the community. He and the other Realtors heard about the need for more trees from the homeowners association.

"This is the area that we work," he said. "We walk the walk. We talk the talk. This is our territory and we want to help keep it beautiful for generations to come. I went to Central High School. We had been saving all year for it and we just knew this was a wonderful thing to do."

Miller said people had walked in the North Central Realtors Tour area and "thought trees were sparse" and wanted more greenery. On the tours, Realtors visit neighborhoods in the area the first and third Fridays of every month to see homes and what is new in the industry. They see up to 12 houses per tour and provide feedback to the listing agent and seller.

### Esperança marks service milestones

It is a new year and a new decade but also the start of a year of celebration for local non-profit organization Esperança and one of its long-time directors.

Maria Valenzuela, the Domestic Program director, is marking her 20th anniversary of Esperança service in the

community, which means that the program she oversees also is celebrating its two-decades-long anniversary. Over the last 20 years, the Domestic Program has served more than 30,000 children, adults and seniors in some of the most vulnerable communities, ensuring they receive preventative health education for chronic disease and illness.

Esperança's Domestic Program offers health education and resources to Maricopa County's most at-risk and underserved youths and adults through programs including Salud con Sabor Latino (Health with a Latin Flavor), Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP), Platicas (30-minute talks on various health topics), oral health education and a parent ambassadors program that helps parents learn how to best advocate for their children.

This year Esperança as a whole also will celebrate its 50th anniversary. The non-profit has been dedicated to transforming lives since its inception in 1970. It works in the underserved communities of Nicaragua, Bolivia, Ecuador, Mozambique and Peru, providing life-altering surgeries, health education, food security, disease prevention, access to clean water and ecological home-building.

To learn more about Esperança, attend a free public screening of PBS's "The Visionaries," a docuseries narrated by Sam Waterston that examines Esperança's work here and abroad, at 6 p.m. Feb. 27 at Mayo Clinic, 5779 E. Mayo Blvd. in Phoenix. The non-profit will host its major fundraiser the 10th Annual Hope Breakfast, at 7:30 a.m. on May 7 at Phoenix Art Museum at 1625 N. Central Ave. To learn more about Esperança, visit [esperanca.org](http://esperanca.org).



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4645 N. 12th Avenue • Leased \$1225  
1017 E. Butler Drive • Leased \$1027  
6209 N. 12th Place • Leased \$1150  
912 W. Frier Drive • Leased \$2000  
6229 N. 12th Place #3 • Leased \$1095  
912 W. Frier Drive • Leased \$2310  
4869 N. 183rd Lane • Buyer Side \$302,490  
345 W. Las Palmaritas Drive • Buyer Side \$510,000  
1439 E. Flower Street • Seller Side \$315,000  
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7335 N. 11th Place • Seller Side \$342,700  
10015 N 14th Street #1 • Seller Side \$115,000  
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8909 N. 13th Avenue • Seller Side \$430,000  
20900 W. Ridge Road • Buyer Side \$323,000  
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901 W. Vista Avenue • Seller Side \$412,500  
7014 N. 11th Avenue • Buyer Side \$350,000
- 24346 W. Atlanta Avenue • Seller Side \$217,000  
13238 W. Hubbell Street • Seller Side \$335,000  
15555 E. Cavern Drive • Buyer Side \$429,000  
7833 N. 13th Avenue • Seller Side \$465,000  
5407 E. Piping Rock Road • Buyer Side \$626,500  
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5004 N. 41st Avenue • Seller Side \$75,000  
8417 W. Northview Avenue • Seller Side \$425,000  
19307 W. Morning Glory Drive • Seller Side \$223,000  
8824 N. 9th Avenue • Seller Side \$700,000  
7215 N. 16th Drive • Buyer Side \$337,500  
820 E. Lamar Road • Buyer Side \$364,900  
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COMMUNITY

M7 Street Fair offers artisans and music

Explore all the Melrose District has to offer at the M7 Street Fair on Saturday, March 7.

The festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on 7th Avenue between Indian School Road and Campbell Avenue. It is free and anyone in the public may attend. There will be more than 200 area and independent artisans selling their goods, as well as food trucks, live music, a farmers' market, children's activities and a craft beer garden.

The Phoenix Metropolitan Men's Chorus will perform from 11 to 11:45 a.m., the Haymarket Squares will take the stage from noon to 1:30 p.m.; then The Waters will perform from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. and The Senators will play from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Also expect the "Wild Man Phil Reptile Show and Exhibit," Stunt Masters Skateboard, BMX and Scooter Pros to show off their skills, as well as Dino Crew Entertainment and face painting.

The Seventh Avenue Merchants Association (SAMA) will host this

street fair. This organization's goal is to facilitate safety, community, revitalization and beautification in the area. To learn more, visit [m7streetfair.com](http://m7streetfair.com).

**Ballet couple stars in PBS documentary**

Two Ballet Arizona dancers and North Central Phoenix residents, who are partners on stage and in life, are taking the spotlight.

Arizona PBS recently aired a show about Jillian Barrell and her husband, Nayon Iovino, both seasoned dancers. Barrell has danced with Ballet Arizona since 2007 and Iovino has performed with the company since 2012. The show filmed the couple at home, where they have cats and chickens, and dancing in rehearsals. They talked about how they met, what it is like to work with each other, how they grow food on their property and the hard work that goes into dancing professionally.

Originally from Wilmington, Delaware, Barrell is in her 13th year dancing professionally, having previously danced with Boston Ballet for a year.

Iovino is originally from Goiânia, Brazil and is in his 11th season dancing professionally. He danced previously with Washington Ballet and with Houston Ballet's second company. They have been married since 2017.

"We love the North Central area!" Barrell said. "When we were looking for a house we knew we wanted to be in this area even though we knew we would probably end up spending a bit more. We loved the special that PBS produced about us! We thought they did a great job telling our story and capturing professional ballet in an accurate way. We have lots of friends and family who live far away and who may not really know what our job is like. It was a treat to be able to share that with them."

Iovino agreed, saying "It was so much fun to share a little bit of our lives and our art."

To watch the show on Barrell and Iovino, visit [azpbs.org](http://azpbs.org). The couple will perform with Ballet Arizona in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Feb. 13-16 with The Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall at 75 N. 2nd St. For tickets, visit [balletaz.org](http://balletaz.org)

**Local residents tapped for arts awards**

Several North Central Phoenix residents are among the contenders for the 2020 Governor's Arts Awards.

Sixty artists, arts organizations and administrators, businesses and philanthropists from around the state have been nominated. Finalists will be announced this month at special events in Phoenix, Prescott, Tucson, Yuma and Winslow. The winners will be acknowledged at the 39th annual Governor's Arts Awards on March 26 in Mesa.

North Central nominees are Steve Ciezki (Artist), Sam Gomez/Sagrado Galleria (Arts Administrator/Organization), Dorothy Lincoln Smith (Philanthropy), OnMedia (Business), Andre Licardi (Arts Administrator/Organization), Chris Hamby (Artist), Teniqua Broughton (Arts Administrator/Organization), Phoenix Center for the Arts (Arts Admin/Org) and House of Broadcasting Radio & Television Museum, Inc. (Arts Admin/Org).

To learn more, visit [azcitizensforthearts.org](http://azcitizensforthearts.org).



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## COMMUNITY

## Community Central

### The Big Night Out Gala

5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21

The Arizona Biltmore

2400 E. Missouri Ave.

Join Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona for its gala celebrating its 65th anniversary of service in the Valley. Wear black, white and sapphire attire and enjoy a story-filled evening celebrating the power of mentors. Tickets are \$250 each for individuals and tables, half-tables and sponsorships also are available. To buy tickets, visit [bbbsaz.org/bignightoutgala](http://bbbsaz.org/bignightoutgala).

### Beach Ball 2020

6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22

Arizona Biltmore

2400 E. Missouri Ave.

Leave your tuxedos and ball gowns at home and don your resort wear to raise money for Phoenix Children's Hospital. This annual event has raised almost \$20 million to help patients and families over more than two decades.

For more details or to purchase tickets, visit [phoenixchildrensfoundation.org/signature/beach-ball](http://phoenixchildrensfoundation.org/signature/beach-ball).

### The Junior League of Phoenix Rummage Sale

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22

Arizona Exposition & State Fair Exhibit Building

1826 W. McDowell Road

Find bargains on dining room sets, patio furniture, TVs, bicycles, baby clothes, books, designer purses, jewelry, collectibles, office equipment and more at this indoor garage sale that raises money for non-profit community programs sponsored by The Junior League of Phoenix. Admission is \$5 from 8 a.m. to noon and free from 1 to 4 p.m. Doors close from noon to 1 p.m. To learn more, visit [jlp.org](http://jlp.org).

### Storyteller Program

Featuring Marty Brounstein

2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23

Stepping Stones of Hope

4000 N. 7th St.

Stepping Stones of Hope will host a fundraising program with storyteller

Marty Brounstein, author of "Two Among the Righteous Few: A Story of Courage in the Holocaust," the true story of Franks and Mien Wijnakker, who saved the lives of more than two-dozen Jewish people during the Holocaust and World War II. A book signing will take place afterwards. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. For tickets, visit [steppingstonesofhope.org](http://steppingstonesofhope.org) or send a check, payable to Stepping Stones of Hope at 4000 N. 7th St., Suite 108, Phoenix, 85014.

### Arizona's Day of Hope Spring Carnival

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 29

Cancer Support Community Arizona

360 E. Palm Lane

People who have survived cancer and their families can enjoy a celebration with live music, food trucks, crafts, games, a cupcake walk, a beer and root beer garden and other activities. This event is free and open to anyone affected by a cancer diagnosis. Sponsored by Cancer Support Community Arizona (CSCAZ). To register and learn more visit [cscaz.org/DayofHope](http://cscaz.org/DayofHope).

### 49th Annual Celebration of Caring Gala

5 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 13

Chateau Luxe

1175 E. Lone Cactus Drive

Experience "The Heart of Emerald City" at Assistance League of Phoenix's annual gala. The League's Operation School Bell program provides school uniforms, shoes and other needed items for thousands of children who live in poverty. Fiesta Bowl Charities will receive the Excellence in Philanthropy Award at the event. Tickets are \$250 per person. For tickets, visit [e.give smart.com/events/eAP](http://e.give smart.com/events/eAP).

### Arizona Tennis Classic

March 16-22

Phoenix Country Club

2901 N. 7th St.

See players compete to win a grand prize in this tournament to benefit Phoenix Children's Hospital. General admission tickets during the week are \$25 and weekend general admission tickets are \$35. To learn more, find out about volunteer opportunities or buy tickets, visit [arizonatennisclassic.com](http://arizonatennisclassic.com).



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I was recently moving some books in my house when I realized it had been quite some time since I had read a book. I was a little embarrassed, even ashamed. In the past, I enjoyed reading novels, so much so I am not sure why I stopped. It got me thinking about the first book that made a lasting impression on me: “To Kill A Mockingbird”. When my young mind was introduced to this epic work, I was immediately taken in by the story of an average man doing remarkable deeds. Atticus Finch represented the ideals of what an ordinary “everyman” was capable of accomplishing. When I read it again as an adult many years later, I was struck by how this novel, could leave an even bigger and more lasting impression the second time around. Though the decency of Atticus still resonated, this time I also noticed his deficiencies. The concept of a good person being imperfect was something I did not understand in my youth but one that I fully appreciate and accept as an adult. We all have flaws and greatness within us. I also picked up on all the weightier topics my young mind missed - courage, compassion, injustice (class and racial), gender roles and the loss of innocence. How amazing that this little novel published in 1960 could still be so relevant today, 60 years later. Thank you, Harper Lee, for blowing both my young and old mind.

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## COMMUNITY

### Pet of the Month

**Fluffy, energetic Dot  
needs loving home**

Adorable Dot is as cute and fluffy as they come. She has lots of puppy energy and playfulness she loves showing.

This German Shepherd mix is only a few months old and one of almost 40 dogs recently transferred from an animal welfare partner in the Navajo Nation through the Arizona Humane Society's Project Outreach program. This program allows the Arizona Humane Society to accept pets from other shelters when they are overrun. The Humane Society has extra kennel space to take care of these pets and get them adopted as an attempt to save as many lives as possible.

Dot is as sweet as can be and would love a home with a family that is willing to work with her on basic skills, help her get her physical and mental stimulation and offer her lots of love and treats. If she receives plenty of toys, playtime and cuddles, Dot will make a wonderful pet and addition to a family.

Dot is available at the Arizona Humane Society's Sunnyslope location off 13th Avenue and Hatcher Road. When you visit, she might have been adopted, but the Humane Society has dozens more great pets that also need loving homes. Dot's animal number is 627172.

To find pets available to adopt now, visit [www.azhumane.org/findapet](http://www.azhumane.org/findapet).

### Fundraiser features vintage cars, raffles

A fundraiser benefit for Lucky Dog Rescue is set for 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, at The Rhythm Room, 1019 E. Indian School Road. The donation cover charge is \$10 and all proceeds go to benefit Lucky Dog Rescue. Doors open at 2:30 p.m.

The 21-and-older benefit will feature live performances from rockabilly favorites, The Booze Bombs, local band Pat Roberts and The Heymakers, along with Chops and the Shakem Ups.

The event includes a vintage car show, vendors and Lucky Dog rescue dogs, up for adoption. The Pin-up ladies "Devoted Dolls" will be on hand to pose for pictures. There also will be a raffle with prizes including a Gretsch guitar.

For more information, contact Dee Alschuler at 602-321-8376, or [dee@luckydogrescue.org](mailto:dee@luckydogrescue.org).



Sweet, fluffy Dot is a German Shepherd mix and one of almost 40 dogs recently transferred to the Arizona Humane Society from an animal welfare partner in the Navajo nation (photo by Arizona Humane Society).

### Spay/neuter deal at Humane Society

You can catch a deal on getting your dog or cat spayed or neutered if you act quickly.

Book a spay/neuter with the Arizona Humane Society by Feb. 28 for just \$20. Spaying/neutering likely leads a longer, healthier life for your pet and experts also say these treatments will save you money in the long run. You also will enjoy knowing that you are saving lives and making a difference in the problem of pet overpopulation.

To book your appointment, contact Margaret McAllister Brock or Marge Wright Veterinary Clinic, call 602-997-7585 and choose Option 5. Mention this article when making the appointment.

This promotion is available because of Arizona Humane Society's Circle of Friends, Valley spay/neuter advocates who have made possible the spay/neuter surgeries of tens of thousands of animals.

### AAWL offers walk-in chips, vaccinations

The Arizona Animal Welfare League & SPCA will offer walk-in vaccinations and microchips for cats and dogs on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. No appointment is necessary, but you must be in line by 11:30 a.m. to participate in the low-cost clinic.

Services are provided on a walk in basis. Veterinarians are not available for consultations, to diagnose, treat, or prescribe medications for any ailments during our walk-in vaccination clinic dates and times.

The clinic takes place at AAWL at 30 N. 40th Place in Phoenix. Call 602-358-7267 to confirm clinic dates and times.



COMMUNITY

Residents on alert after spike in break-ins

By Colleen Sparks

Residents are on high alert after an unusually high number of burglaries recently in Sunnyslope.

There were 15 residential and car burglaries within about a 20-mile radius of the intersection of 12th Street and Butler Drive in September, said Phoenix Police Commander Aimee Smith of the Desert Horizon Precinct. Smith said that area saw four residential and car burglaries in October, four in November and three in December.

“September was very odd, a very high month,” she said. “We’re working some good leads in the area. At the precinct, we have a burglary reduction program. We also have burglary crimes detectives from the Property Crimes Bureau; they’re located here in the precinct.”

Smith said in most of the home burglaries a golf ball was thrown through a window in the back of a house to break in. The thieves came through the rear gate of homes to access a window. Smith recommends people put a padlock on the back gates to their houses if they have gates.

The burglars have stolen jewelry, small electronics and golf clubs, things they can sell at pawn shops, she said.

Phoenix Police and the East Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association & Block Watch held a public meeting Jan. 28 to discuss the rash of burglaries.

Wayne Schutsky, who lives with his family in a house near 12th Street and Butler Drive, said one night in December he came home to find someone had broken into their home and stolen a laptop computer, speaker, electronics and a safe that had cash and documents in it. Someone had broken into a window in the back of the home. It happened sometime between when he left the house at 8:30 on a weekday morning and when he arrived home shortly before 6 p.m.

“They just scouted it out and knew we’d be gone,” Schutsky said. “You get that feeling of violation. It’s a crime of opportunity.”

He has since had an alarm system installed and the window replaced. Schutsky said his next-door neighbors did not see or hear anything suspicious the day of the break-in.

Jeff Tisot, president of the East Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association & Block Watch, said that organization

is aware of the unusually high number of burglaries in the area.

“We’re all over it and we’ve been all over it,” Tisot said. “We don’t know the reason why. We work with the police a lot. I talk to them frequently and let them know anything.”

He said neighbors need to team up to try to prevent burglaries.

“Act as a community,” Tisot said. “Get to know your neighbors. It’s not up to the police to take care of us. It’s up to us working in partnership with them. And if you see something you’ve got to call it in.”

Smith agreed, encouraging residents to contact Crime Stop to report burglaries and other issues after the fact at 602-262-6151. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. Victims also may file police reports at phoenix.gov/police/policereport.

Gates will be installed in Sunnyslope alleys through a pilot program, which also will hopefully deter burglaries, Tisot said.

Smith said security systems also are a good way to prevent home burglaries, as well as putting motion lights outside your home.



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## Tour historic homes, mingle with neighbors

Homes in the Coronado, Willo and Windsor Square neighborhoods were built in the 1920s and 30s, during the era of flappers and later the Great

To learn more about the Windsor Square Home Tour, visit <https://windsorsquarephoenix.com>. For details on the Coronado Historically Modern Home Tour and Street Fair at [eventbrite.com/e/coronado-historically-modern-home-tour-street-fair-tickets-57434879270](https://eventbrite.com/e/coronado-historically-modern-home-tour-street-fair-tickets-57434879270) and for information about the Willo Home Tour visit [www.willophx.com/home-tour](https://www.willophx.com/home-tour).



HOME & GARDEN

Learn how gardens grow at free class

If you want to get a green thumb, you may learn from an expert at a free gardening class on Saturday, Feb. 29. The “Jump Start your Spring Garden” class will take place from 1 to 2 p.m. that day in the 19NORTH Community Garden at 8215 N. 19th Ave. This class will be held in partnership with Urban Farm U. Master gardener Greg Peterson will lead the class. 19North is a non-profit corporation that brings together neighborhoods, schools, churches, businesses, non-profit organizations, local government and law-enforcement officials. The 19North Community Garden is free open to anyone to help work and harvest produce, which the community shares. To learn more, visit 19north.org.

Hear about history of citrus in Sunnyslope

Learn about the history of growing citrus in Sunnyslope from the 1890s to the 1950s during the presentation “Ed Dobbins Presents Citrus in Sunnyslope” on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Sunnyslope Historical Society & Museum. Dobbins will share the colorful early adventures of Sunnyslope’s first families planting the orchards along the newest waterway, the Arizona Canal and talk about the valuable contributions of Sunnyslope farmers to the citrus indus-

try’s development in the Salt River Valley. Lunch will be served after the presentation. Tickets for lunch for non-members are \$12 and for members are \$10. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Reserve your spot and purchase tickets at sunnyslopehistoricalsociety.org/event/citrus-in-sunnyslope or call 602-331-3150.

Get gardening, land tips at Dig It Gardens

Dig It Gardens will offer a Spring Gardening class from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8, in its gardens at 3015 N. 16th St. Learn the basics of garden preparations including seed and soil preparation for the spring. The class will cover seasonal seed choices, starts, fertilizer and recommended soil amendments. The cost is \$10; children may attend for free. Interested in desert landscaping? Dig It Gardens will offer a Native Plants for Native Landscapes class from 11 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 22. Learn about using native plant material in your landscaping and how it affects the environment. Topics include selecting native plants, appropriate placement in the landscape and the best maintenance practices. Bring your questions to help guide the class. The cost is \$10 and there is a 40-person maximum for the class. Dig It Gardens holds workshops throughout the year and offers plant materials and pottery for sale. To learn more, visit www.digphx.com.




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Adriana Martinez Campbell was inspired to start her own skincare line because of her brother's struggles as an amputee and clients who struggle with dry skin in the desert (submitted photo).

## Trauma, dry desert inspire skincare line

By Colleen Sparks

A local woman said her brother's trauma in losing parts of both his legs and her own skincare struggles prompted her to start a business that offers pure beauty products.

Adriana Martinez Campbell, who has been an esthetician for 10 years, began doing research for her company about five years ago. She then launched ALINE SCOTTSDALE, a locally produced skincare line while she provides treatments at her business, ALINE SKINCARE Studio around 38th Street and Indian School Road. ALINE SCOTTSDALE products do not have toxins, fillers, artificial colors, artificial fragrances or synthetic chemicals. Martinez Campbell works with a formulator to come up with recipes for the products and uses homemade products on her clients when they come for facials and other treatments.

Her ARCADIA All in One Oil is an anti-aging day and night moisturizer, purifying cleanser and makeup remover all in one, designed with all skin types and conditions in mind to gently get rid of makeup and deeply cleanse congested skin. PHOENICIAN Youth Serum includes daisy flower extracts, aloe vera, Kadaku plum, Citrullus Lanatus (watermelon) and other ingredients. It aims to reduce fine lines and wrinkles and to make skin look fuller. PARADISE of the Valley is a 100-percent essential oil blend with oils

designed to help the mind relax.

Martinez Campbell said she is in the process of formulating a product for amputees because of her brother, Eric Martinez, a scheduler and product fulfillment manager for the company, who also is a double amputee.

"He's very sensitive to chemicals," Martinez Campbell said. "When he was 23 years old we almost lost him to meningitis. He ended up losing both his legs. Half of his body has skin grafts. I started sending him concoctions. It started helping him. At the same time my clients were telling me they can't find anything that keeps their skin hydrated. My passion is science. I'm also a registered dental hygienist."

To learn more about ALINE SCOTTSDALE and her skincare studio, visit [alineskincare.com](http://alineskincare.com).

## Business Briefs

### City councilmembers will discuss business issues

Connect with city of Phoenix leaders to address topics the business community and city are facing at an event on Friday, Feb. 14.

The Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce will hold a Council Connections interactive program from 8:45 to 10:30 a.m. at City Hall at 200 W. Washington St. Check-in is at 8:30 a.m. City Councilmembers and leaders will talk about community development/arts and culture, economic development, public safety, transportation and workforce issues.



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Speakers will include Mayor Kate Gallego and Vice Mayor Betty Guardado; City Council members Laura Pastor, Debra Stark, Thelda Williams and Jim Waring; and Phoenix City Manager Ed Zuercher. There will be a continental breakfast, followed by a short program and then the opportunity to take part in roundtable discussions with the city councilmembers focused on major issues affecting business.

This event costs \$25 for Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce members and \$75 each for non-members. To register, visit phoenixchamber.com.

Write-Ons offers cards, Valentines in new location

If you are looking for a place to find the perfect card to express to your loved one how you feel for Valentine’s Day, you might want to check out Write-Ons, Etc, AZ.

The stationary, cards, invitations and gifts store is moving to its new space, just across 7th Street from its current location. It will be at 6226 N. 7th St. starting Feb. 3 after closing for a few weeks last month to prepare for the move.

In the neighborhood for 38 years, the store has seen many long-time customers. Local artists, as well as those from around the country, create the cards and other products. Pepper Rusnak owns Write-Ons and her daughter, Jenny Street, manages the business.

To learn more, call 602-234-9988 or visit facebook.com/Write-Ons-Etc-AZ-569728679730241.

Business owners, experts to talk about recycling

If you ever get confused about what items you need to rinse out and which plastics you can recycle, there is an event coming up that might be helpful.

Local First Arizona will hold Sustainable Series: Understanding Plastics from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday, April 24 at The Refuge at 4727 N. 7th Ave. Panelists John Strawn, owner of The Refuge Café; Garret Schwartz, CEO and founder of Resinate Remanufacturing and J.B. Shaw, recycling coordinator with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, will speak at the event. These experts will provide detailed information on how plastic is made, how you may reduce it, ways to reuse it, what

the plastic gets recycled into and what they believe the future of recycling will bring. You may ask questions and learn more about how to help the planet.

To RSVP for this event, visit local-firstaz.com.

See’s Candies offer sweet Valentine’s treats

If you are looking for a way to spoil your sweetheart for Valentine’s Day, See’s Candies has lots of options.

The retailer, which has a location at 132 E. Camelback Road, offers a variety of heart-shaped boxes of chocolates, including one called “Tuxedo Heart” that looks like a tuxedo on the outside. A one-pound Tuxedo Heart box of milk, dark and white chocolates costs \$35.50. The largest heart box called “Elegant Heart” for \$106.90 includes more than three pounds of milk, dark and white chocolates and is in a box covered with a red satin bow.

See’s also has other sweet treats including the Sour Hearts bag that contains sour and sweet, tart and tangy jelly hearts with lemon, cherry and

please see TREATS on page 20

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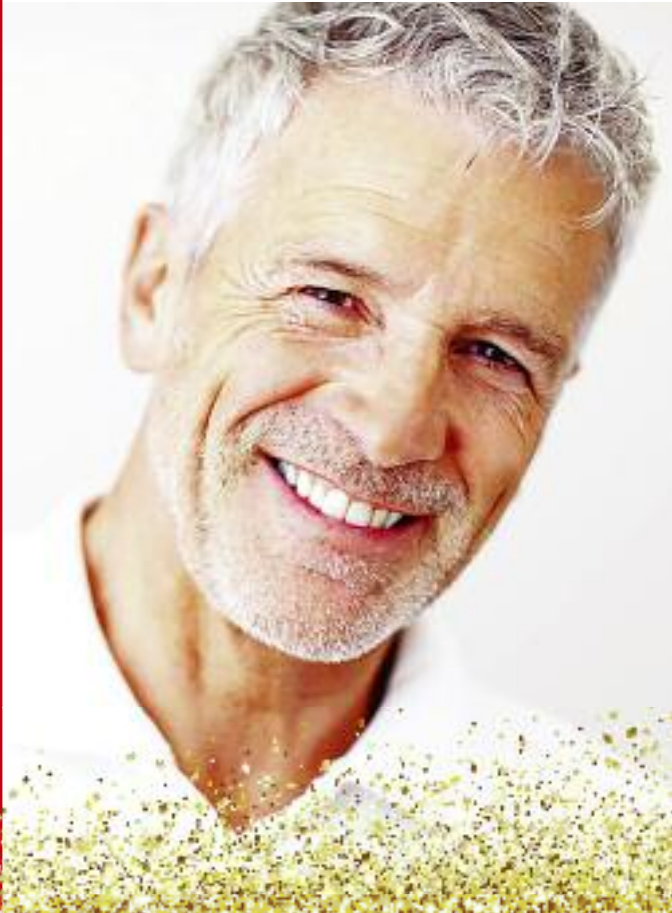
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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

TREATS continued from page 19

berry flavors, for \$7.45. The “Happy Galentine’s Assortment” is a small box with heart illustrations filled with six pieces of chocolate for \$7.60.

To learn more, visit [www.sees.com](http://www.sees.com).

AAA Auto Repair center being built

Construction is underway on a AAA Auto Repair Center in a strip mall in a revitalized area.

The business on 7th Street, just south of Bethany Home Road, will be 9,150 square feet and feature a 12-car service garage designed to blend seamlessly in with the existing neighborhood. It will be in a 1950s-era strip center at 5827 N. 7th St. with trendy restaurants Mora Italian, Otro Café and The Yard nearby. The building was sold and scraped in the fall except for a U-shaped, street-front monument sign that will be carefully restored and re-lighted to serve as a beacon for the AAA Auto Repair Center.

Scott Whittington, principal of Avalon Development, said it was impor-

tant to his company that the unusual vernacular of the neighborhood was honored when it built a modern building with excellent amenities to serve the neighborhood “for decades to come.”

The center will offer general auto repair, oil changes and services required by the Motor Vehicle Division, as well as access trip planning at the AAA center. It is expected to open in May.

Club to discuss business tips from book

Business owners and those who are striving to be entrepreneurs or just looking for tips on how to succeed in the workplace might want to check out the Mind Your Business Book Club.

The club’s next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 10, at Changing Hands Bookstore Phoenix at 300 W. Camelback Road. Participants will discuss the book “The Hard Thing about Hard Things” by Ben Horowitz. This book gives advice on building and running start-ups including managing the most challenging problems.

Horowitz, co-founder of Andreessen Horowitz and a respected



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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Silicon Valley entrepreneur, writes about how hard it is to operate a business and shares insight he has learned developing, managing, selling, buying, investing in and supervising technology companies.

The Mind Your Business Book Club is open to anyone who is interested in attending. Those who come to meetings work in big businesses, own their own businesses or aspire to start their own companies. It is free to come and no RSVP is required but you should bring the book with you. Javelina, a company based at 800 N. 1st Ave. that offers marketing and advocacy strategies, sponsors the book club. To learn more, visit javelina.co.

Kaya Hemp Co. offers unusual gifts

Find something different for your loved one for Valentine’s Day at Kaya Hemp Co.

The shop, located at 6102 N. 16th St., offers lots of unusual gift items to give your sweetie Feb. 14 or any time of the year. Check out the gift box for \$45 that includes a Kushed Candle Tin that

has a relaxing scent in a hand poured, soy wax blend infused with exotic essential oils and fragrances. The gift box also has a Lotus Lava CBD Bath Bomb (organic) with raw crystal, lavender and rose flowers, 50 mg of CBD colored with organic beet power, pomegranate relax gummies that contain 15 mg of organic, non-GMO hemp CBD and a jasmine green tea lip balm. You also may buy these items individually.

To learn more, visit kayahempco.com.

AT&T retail store opens on 7th Avenue

A new AT&T store recently opened at 3350 N. 7th Ave., Suite 130, offering the latest devices, services and accessories. It is owned and operated by authorized retailer Noble Wireless Group.

This new store is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays. Active military members, veterans and first responders and their families receive special promotions and discounts.

To learn more, visit att.com.

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2205 E Colter St	JUST LISTED	11,038SF	7BR/8BA	\$4,950,000
7020 N Wilder Rd	IN ESCROW	6461SF	6BR/6BA	\$2,585,000
6020 E Doubletree Ranch Rd	IN ESCROW	5943SF	5BR/5.5BA	\$1,995,000
10825 N 55th St	JUST LISTED	4488SF		\$1,350,000
9904 E Quarry Trail	IN ESCROW	4173SF	4BR/3BA	\$1,100,000
209 W Lamar Rd	IN ESCROW	3345SF	5BR/3BA	\$ 899,500
1439 E Echo Ln	JUST LISTED	3650SF	5BR/3BA	\$ 850,000
1002 E Kaler Dr	JUST LISTED	3125SF	4BR/2.5BA	\$ 775,000
6522 N 14th St	IN ESCROW	2906SF	4BR/2.5BA	\$ 750,000
902 W Claremont St	NEW PRICE	3479SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 725,000
1801 E Berridge Ln		3561SF	6BR/4BA	\$ 724,999
3853 E Crittenden Ln	IN ESCROW	2459SF	3BR/2.5BA	\$ 714,900
1516 W Winter Dr	IN ESCROW	3202SF	3BR/3BA	\$ 650,000
1001 E Missouri Ave	JUST LISTED	2750SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 675,000
412 E McLellan Blvd	IN ESCROW	2802SF	4BR/2.5BA	\$ 659,000
517 W Lamar Rd	IN ESCROW	2025SF	4BR/2BA	\$ 619,900
1555 E Ocotillo Rd #10	IN ESCROW	2515SF	4BR/2.5BA	\$ 599,000
1555 E Ocotillo Rd #9	IN ESCROW	2432SF	3BR/3.5BA	\$ 592,000
1555 E Ocotillo Rd #11	IN ESCROW	2432SF	3BR/3.5BA	\$ 592,000
4430 N. 22nd St #13	IN ESCROW	3202SF	3BR/4.5BA	\$ 550,000
6050 N. 10th Pl	IN ESCROW	2329SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 525,000
1525 W Vernon Ave	JUST LISTED	1578SF	2BR/2BA	\$ 469,000
8145 N 13th Pl	JUST LISTED	3194SF	3BR/2.5BA	\$ 450,000
6302 N 11th St	IN ESCROW	1672SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 439,900
1902 E. Coolidge St		2004SF	4BR/2BA	\$ 435,000
902 E Kaler Dr		Vacant Lot		\$ 400,000
1007 E Missouri Ave		1398SF	2BR/2BA	\$ 379,000
509 W Missouri Ave	IN ESCROW	1710SF	4BR/2.5BA	\$ 359,000
847 E McLellan Blvd		1283SF	2BR/1.5BA	\$ 349,000
4301 N 21st St #61	JUST LISTED	1789SF	3BR/2.5BA	\$ 335,000
350 W Maryland Ave	JUST LISTED	1192SF	2BR/2BA	\$ 239,900
750 E. Northern Ave #2003	JUST LISTED	720SF	1BR/1BA	\$ 149,900

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Featured Homes for February



1002 E. Kaler Dr • \$775,000



1001 W. Missouri Ave • \$675,000



8145 N. 13th Pl • \$450,000



1525 W. Vernon Ave • \$469,000



4301 N. 21st St #61 • \$335,000



902 W. Claremont St • \$725,000



517 W. Lamar Rd \$619,900



350 W. Maryland Ave • \$239,900



509 W. Missouri Ave • \$359,000

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SOLD Homes for 2019/2020

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6045 N Foothill Dr	\$5,400,000	19 W. Frier Dr.	\$ 715,000	521 W. Mariposa St	\$ 548,000	726 E. Tuckey Ln	\$ 370,000	8426 N. Central Ave D	\$ 267,000
4724 E. Arroyo Verde	\$1,735,000	101 W. Lawrence Rd	\$ 710,000	1322 W Frier Dr	\$ 545,000	1601 W Indianola Ave	\$ 369,500	1650 E. Rancho Dr.	\$ 267,000
5437 E. Cortez Dr	\$1,730,000	11 E. Lamar Rd	\$ 707,440	1340 E Luke Ave	\$ 542,500	3030 N 38th St C105	\$ 363,000	2329 W Berridge Ln	\$ 265,000
4625 E. Exeter Blvd	\$1,685,000	711 W Claremont	\$ 705,000	7603 N. Central Ave	\$ 540,000	27344 N. 91st Ln	\$ 360,000	8000 N Central Ave #8	\$ 235,000
4842 E Cheryl Dr	\$1,387,749	711 W. Claremont St	\$ 705,000	7344 N 14th Dr	\$ 532,700	1102 W Glendale Ave #125	\$ 350,000	1828 W Lawrence Ln	\$ 230,000
5131 E. Desert Park Ln	\$1,375,000	7247 N. 6th Pl.	\$ 700,000	345 W. Las Palmaritas	\$ 510,000	7338 N. 11th Way	\$ 350,000	1285 E Maryland Ave #A	\$ 205,000
7151 N. 3rd St.	\$1,300,000	310 S. 4th St #2001	\$ 699,000	1940 E. Cactus Wren	\$ 500,000	7748 N. 7th Ave	\$ 350,000	2919 N Casa Tomas Ct	\$ 175,000
522 W. Northview Ave	\$1,300,000	5710 N 10th Ave	\$ 677,000	1251 W. Rancho Dr.	\$ 499,000	2323 N Central Ave #1804	\$ 350,000	750 E. Northern Ave #108	\$ 175,000
7339 N 2nd Ave	\$1,250,000	6246 E Helm Dr	\$ 665,000	121 W. Georgia Ave	\$ 499,000	29 E Butler Dr	\$ 349,000	1123 E. Maryland Ave #1	\$ 165,000
3934 E Crittenden Ln	\$1,210,000	231 W. Frier Dr.	\$ 610,000	77 E Missouri Ave #36	\$ 497,500	5709 N 8th Pl	\$ 344,000	3302 N. 7th St #242	\$ 159,000
3934 E. Crittenden Ln	\$1,210,000	1205 W Orchid Ln	\$ 606,000	30850 N. 74th Way	\$ 485,000	1012 E. Rose Ln	\$ 340,000	8241 N Central Ave #8	\$ 156,900
2123 E. Bethany Home Rd	\$1,160,000	1555 E Ocotillo Rd #21	\$ 600,000	2431 E. Squaw Peak Dr.	\$ 485,000	321 E Hayward Ave	\$ 337,500	257000 N. 16th Ave	\$ 145,000
115 W. Morten Ave	\$1,100,000	8045 N 7th Ave	\$ 595,000	1205 W Stella Ave	\$ 450,000	3008 N 17th Ave	\$ 330,000	8035 N. 7th Ave	\$ 125,000
6611 N. Central Ave	\$1,060,000	110 E. Lawrence Rd	\$ 590,000	1022 E. Wagon Wheel Dr	\$ 440,000	8938 N 18th Ave	\$ 328,000	8039 N. 7th Ave	\$ 125,000
318 W. Lawrence Rd	\$1,059,000	521 W Mariposa St	\$ 548,000	1160 E McLellan Blvd	\$ 439,000	5637 N. 14th Dr.	\$ 316,000		
7319 N. 6th Pl	\$ 995,000	1555 E Ocotillo Rd #4	\$ 580,000	6418 N 13th Ave	\$ 435,000	718 E Boca Raton	\$ 309,036	<b>SOLD IN 2020</b>	
6111 N 2nd Pl	\$ 940,000	3474 E. Lions St	\$ 576,180	15106 E. Sierra Madre	\$ 425,000	1102 E Vista Ave	\$ 302,500	321 E Pomona Rd	\$1,250,000
4201 N. 42nd Pl.	\$ 875,000	7010 N. 13th Pl.	\$ 575,000	812 W Earl Dr	\$ 417,500	14640 N. 90th Dr	\$ 300,000	5112 N 34th Pl	\$ 784,000
546 W Kaler Dr	\$ 865,000	301 E Berridge Ln	\$ 575,000	1836 W Redfield Rd	\$ 415,000	6535 N. 14th Pl	\$ 300,000	6050 N 10th Pl	\$ 502,500
4817 E. Arroyo Verde	\$ 775,000	525 W. Lamar Rd	\$ 575,000	1710 E. Palo Verde Dr	\$ 410,000	6535 N 14th Pl	\$ 300,000	6302 N 11th St	\$ 439,900
27 E San Miguel	\$ 752,000	8216 N. 14th St	\$ 575,000	7714 E Primrose Path	\$ 400,000	1529 E Cortez St	\$ 299,900	7340 N 11th St	\$ 400,000
31 W. Marlette Ave	\$ 752,000	1010 E Pierson Sr	\$ 555,000	401 E. Rose Ln.	\$ 390,000	715 E. Boca Raton Rd	\$ 292,696	720 W. Thunderbird Rd	\$ 369,000
7051 N 1st Ave	\$ 740,000	1321 S. Camellia Dr.	\$ 550,000	16 W. Oregon Ave	\$ 380,000	619 E. Manzanita Pl	\$ 269,500	1124 E Rose Ln #6	\$ 255,000



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## Health Briefs

### Groups offer support for cardiac caregivers

It's Heart Month and there are many resources in the area to help people who are caring for someone with heart disease.

There can be challenges for spouses, children, parents, siblings and friends, who often are unsure how to support someone dealing with heart issues.

Sarah Wilmowski, a structural heart nurse navigator at Abrazo Arizona Heart Hospital at 1930 E. Thomas Road, recommends caregivers provide love and support to their family member or friend with heart disease. However, instead of giving the person with heart disease advice about what to eat or how often to exercise, they should find other ways to assist them. Some things they can do are to accompany the heart patient to doctors' appointments and to help them research physicians.

Wilmowski also urges caregivers to

get help from the many support groups in the state. The Arizona Caregiver Coalition has a resource line and information on its website at [azcaregiver.org](http://azcaregiver.org), where you can search for support groups. The Area Agency on Aging Region One, Incorporated, lists various support groups at [aaaphx.org/program-services/family-caregiver-support-program](http://aaaphx.org/program-services/family-caregiver-support-program). Mended Hearts, another organization that offers support groups for caregivers of loved ones with heart problems, offers information at [mendedhearts.org](http://mendedhearts.org). The non-profit organization Duet also provides support groups for family caregivers; to find one near you, visit [duetaz.org](http://duetaz.org).

Hospitals also provide resources for heart patients and their caregivers, as do churches.

Caregivers often forget to take care of themselves but it is important they give themselves permission to leave work early, allow a friend to bring dinner over or hire a laundry service to ease their burdens.

### Support group to help people tackle anxiety

If you are struggling with anxiety there is a support group that may help.

Believe Counseling Services will offer an anxiety management group called Anxiety and Me, which will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays at the counseling office at 8841 N. 1st St., Suite B. Participants will meet March 12, 19 and 26 and then meet again April 9, 16 and 23. The March sessions are for adults ages 18 and older. Men and women are eligible to participate.

The support group will help people identify anxiety as it reveals itself in their lives in general and in specific situations. Members will learn effective tools to address, reduce and possibly eliminate anxiety spikes.

The cost for this support group is \$240 for all six sessions and may be paid \$40 per session or prior to the first session for \$216. Enrollees must commit to attending all six sessions.

To learn more, visit Believe Counseling Services at [believeinyourtruth.com](http://believeinyourtruth.com) or call 602-574-6544.

### Group helps grieving families

Families grieving the death of a loved one may find comfort and gain strength in a support group Stepping Stones of Hope offers.

The organization provides First Steps, a support group where families can explore their thoughts and feelings along with other families that have lost someone. It typically meets the second Monday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Stepping Stones of Hope office at 4000 N. 7th St, Suite 108.

Stepping Stones of Hope provides the opportunity for people to reach children who have experienced the death of a loved one, as well as spaces for adults and teens to learn to cope with grief. The organization also offers camps for families to find their way through grief together and individually and for adults who do not have children living at home to heal.

To attend the First Steps support group call Stepping Stones of Hope at 602-264-7520 or email [info@steppingstonesofhope.org](mailto:info@steppingstonesofhope.org). To learn more about the organization visit [steppingstonesofhope.org](http://steppingstonesofhope.org).

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Children run in last year's Madison Dash that the Madison School District has every year. This year the Madison Dash & Wellness Bash will take place on Saturday, March 7 (photo by Jacqueline Gouin/Madison School District).

## Dash and bash to promote wellness

Grab your tennis shoes and gear up for the third annual Madison Dash & Wellness Bash on Saturday, March 7 in North Central Phoenix.

The Madison School District gathering will be made up of two different events: a 5K competitive run and a 1Mile Mini Dash. Both courses start and end at 24th Street and Missouri Avenue. The 5K run will start at 8 a.m. and the 1Mile Mini Dash will begin at 9 a.m. Registration for the 5K costs \$40 for adults and \$15 for students and it includes a T-shirt, finisher medal, water and healthy snacks. The 1Mile Mini Dash is free for everyone. All race participants can take part in an awards ceremony that starts at 10 a.m. at the Renovation Church at 5604 N. 24th St. These events are open to the public.

For the first year there will be a Wellness Bash as part of the day's festivities. It will take place at the 5K start/finish line from 7 a.m. until after the awards ceremony. The bash will include educational and community involvement booths with representatives from the Madison District Wellness Committee, Phoenix Fire Department, Touchstone Behavioral Health and other organizations. There also will be a bike rodeo, where Phoenix Police officers teach children bicycle safety and a helmet giveaway for kids. All proceeds from the dash and wellness bash will help fund wellness

initiatives in the Madison School District. These events strive to encourage physical, social and emotional health for Madison students, staff members and the community.

If you would like to help, there are many volunteer opportunities for the dash and bash including helping with water stations and registration. To sign up, visit [madisondashtotheshash5k.org](http://madisondashtotheshash5k.org).

## School Briefs

### CREIGHTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Teacher seeks support creating sensory space

A teacher at Monte Vista Elementary School is hoping to provide comfort and creative tools to help special needs students succeed.

Nick Indoma has posted a request on Donorschoose.org seeking financial support to create a "sensory corner" in a special education classroom on campus. He said students in the varying exceptionalities program (who have autism and other developmental disabilities) have unique, specific learning needs and they "bring joy, patience, perseverance, and determination to move forward in school and life."

The total project goal is to raise \$582.32 to buy sensory tools in a corner so when students cannot cope with classroom demands because of an overwhelming sensory stimulation, they can take a break. This will provide a



SCHOOL DAYS



3TV Reporter Gina Maravilla, Washington High School teacher Beau Wagner, Washington High School Principal Ashley Burns, Glendale Union High School District Superintendent Brian Capistran and Dairy Council of Arizona representative Eric Rovey pose as Wagner receives the Silver Apple Award (submitted photo).

calming space for students to relax with a beanbag chair, noise-reduction ear muffs and fluorescent light filters. It also needs dividers and partitions to offer a well-defined area and to keep distractions for students at a minimum, Indoma wrote.

To make a financial donation to his project, visit [donorschoose.org](http://donorschoose.org).

Parents can provide input about attendance

If you have a child in the Creighton Elementary School District, officials want to hear from you.

The district is asking parents with students in its schools to answer a survey as it is considering whether some of its signature schools should become schools of choice. If they were schools of choice they would no longer have set attendance areas. The benefit of those types of campuses is that they offer families an option to send their children to alternate learning model schools while still providing them with the option of staying in an attendance area.

Creighton’s governing board will talk about proposed attendance maps at its meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4, at the district board room at Papago-West at 2052 N. 36th St. To take the survey and learn more, visit [www.creightonschools.org](http://www.creightonschools.org).

GLENDALE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Washington High teacher earns Silver Apple Award

Washington High School Teacher Beau Wagner is getting state recogni-

tion for his work with students.

3TV and Dairy Council of Arizona officials recently surprised him with the Silver Apple Award for his excellence in education. As part of the honor, he received a \$1,000 check. 3TV chose him for this distinction after one of his students nominated him.

Wagner teaches government and economics at the school.



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# SCHOOL DAYS



Arizona School Boards Association President Steven Chapman, Glendale Union High School District Associate Superintendent Craig Mussi, district Governing Board members Susan Maland and Patti Hussey and district Governing Board President Patty Kennedy and district Superintendent Brian Capistran celebrate the district’s Golden Bell Promise Programs High School Level Award for its Summer Academy Programs (photo by GUHSD).

# Summer Academy receives award

There is good news for those who enroll their children in the Glendale Union High School District’s Summer Academy Programs. The Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) recently honored these programs with the

Golden Bell Promise Programs High School Level Award, which was presented by ASBA President Steven Chapman at the ASBA annual conference.

The Golden Bell Promise Programs awards go to districts that demonstrate excellence through educational initiatives and programs that maximize the promise in all students and that have shown student growth and success.

Glendale Union High School District’s Summer Academy Programs are free of charge and available to high school and elementary school students. Youths take classes in math and other subjects with some courses offered online. Transportation is free and free lunches and breakfasts are provided to participating students.

To learn more about the district’s summer programs, watch for updates this spring at [guhdsaz.org](http://guhdsaz.org).

# Sunnyslope High students to pack meals for kids

Students at Sunnyslope High School are going to help starving children around the world.

The Sunnyslope Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Club is collaborating with the non-profit organization Feed My Starving Children to host a community service MobilePack Event on the high school campus on Saturday, Feb. 8, during which students will aim to pack more than 108,000 meals. The club also hopes to raise more than \$20,000 to pay for the meals.

The club also received a \$1,000 grant for the project through #GivingTuesday, a global generosity movement that gives back to organizations.

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SCHOOL DAYS

District to host  
job fair for teachers

If you or someone you know would like to teach children in the Glendale Union High School District, the district will hold a job fair on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Greenway High School media center at 3930 W. Greenway Road.

The district, which is hiring for the 2020-21 school year, is a top-performing high school district in the Valley with schools in North Central Phoenix.

District Human Resources Department employees will be on site to conduct interviews. To schedule an interview, contact Ester Evans at 623-435-6017.

MADISON ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Third-grader donates  
gifts to hospital

Kirean Chesser, a nine-year-old third-grader at Madison Heights Elementary School, was the one giving gifts on his birthday recently.

After visiting some children at Phoenix Children's Hospital with his



Kensie Neville, 13, a seventh-grader at Wigwam Creek Middle School, and Kirean Chesser, a nine-year-old third-grader at Madison Heights Elementary, delivered gifts for children at Phoenix Children's Hospital. Kirean decided to donate toys and other items his friends brought to his birthday party (photo by Jarica Vinson-Chesser).

mother, Jarica Chesser, he decided he wanted to do something for the patients. Jarica is a special education teacher at Madison Camelview Elementary School and she was visiting some of her students that are frequently admitted to the hospital for specialized care. She and Kirean came up with a plan.

"I realized they were stuck inside and couldn't go outside to play," Kirean said. "They must get so bored and I told my mom I wanted to do something to help."

He decided to invite friends to his birthday party and told them on the invitation he would be donating the

gifts they brought to children in the hospital. Kirean's friends were excited and brought more than 30 gifts and toys to the party for him to donate.

He donated all the gifts to the hospital and said he felt good knowing "how many kids and their families would be happy." Kirean's selfless act has influenced other kids. One of his friends recently decided to host a sock drive at her upcoming birthday party.

Fifth-grader's essay  
wins college savings


A fifth-grader at Madison Traditional School already has some money saved for college after he won an essay contest.

Samuel Lipovitch was one of five students in Maricopa and Pima counties whose essays were chosen as winners in the Arizona College Savings Program (AZ529) essay writing contest



Samuel Lipovitch

please see ESSAY on page 30



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SCHOOL DAYS

ESSAY continued from page 29

recently. The contest was designed to commemorate 20 years of providing college savings around Arizona.

In his essay, Samuel said his goal to “change the world in 20 years,” which was the essay prompt, was to “publish a collection of children’s chapter books.” He wrote his books would “teach important-life lessons through interesting story lines and exciting characters.” Samuel wrote that he wants to share stories about “being kind; helping the environment; supporting your family; always trying your best, and loving yourself.” Hundreds of essays were submitted for the contest. To learn more, visit [az529.gov](http://az529.gov).

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Seniors give school music program a boost

The music program at Richard E. Miller Elementary School is reaping the benefits of a senior citizens community that showed it some love recently.

HonorHealth Desert Mission Adult



Fifth-graders at Richard E. Miller Elementary School sang for senior citizens at three senior centers. HonorHealth Desert Mission Adult Daycare Center gave Kelsey Mcalarney, music teacher at the school, a check for \$1,350 for the school’s music program (submitted photo).

Daycare Center gave Kelsey Mcalarney, music teacher at the school, a check for \$1,350 for the school’s music program. That was when fifth-graders at the school recently sang to people at the center. The fifth-graders also visited Beatitudes and Acosta Senior Living to

E. Miller Elementary School. They visited the school as they have for the last several years to show appreciation for what employees at the school do for children in the area.

The church has been consistently supportive of the school community and some of its members also took part in the Love our Schools Day. They helped the school make bulletin boards to highlight its after-school program.

PRIVATE AND CHARTER SCHOOLS

Auction to raise money for Brophy students

Get ready to enjoy a night of dinner and dancing to benefit students who want to attend Brophy College Preparatory.

The school will have its annual auction from 5 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, March 21 on the campus in the Harper Great Hall at 4701 N. Central Ave. There will be an “Under the Boardwalk” theme and silent and live auctions, as well as dinner and dancing. Proceeds from the event will go to the Brophy Endowment Fund that helps

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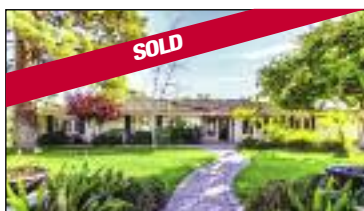
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SCHOOL DAYS

ensure the school may follow its Jesuit mission to offer an education to all qualified students, regardless of their financial situation well into the future.

The event fundraising will include a chance to win a 2020 Jeep Wrangler in a raffle. The vehicle was donated by Moore Automotive Group. There will be other raffle prizes that night. The event committee also is looking for items to provide in the auctions. To learn more, visit [brophyprep.org/giving/brophy-auction](http://brophyprep.org/giving/brophy-auction).

CASA Academy to hold fundraiser

Help low-income children receive a quality education, building the skills they need to succeed in life by attending a fundraiser at CASA Academy.

The school will hold its “There’s No Place Like CASA” fifth annual fundraiser from 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28 on its campus in Burns Hall at 1500 W. Maryland Ave. At this chic event, there will be appetizers and desserts, as well as beer and wine, live entertainment and testimonials given by CASA Academy staff and students. All proceeds from the gathering directly benefit the low-income children the school serves as it transitions into a new home (building) in August.

Tickets for the fundraiser are \$40 each if bought in advance or \$50 at the door. There also are opportunities for people and companies to be sponsors for the event.

Buy tickets at [casaacademy.org/annual-event](http://casaacademy.org/annual-event).

Xavier College Prep To host I.T. Day for girls

Xavier College Preparatory is hoping to get girls excited about STEAM (Science, technology, engineering, arts and math) during a special event.

The private girls school will host the Annual Girls Have I.T. Day from 1 to 3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21. Middle school girls are encouraged to come to the event, where Xavier students will engage them in writing computer programs, making lip balm, creating paper rockets, making “elephant toothpaste” and other STEAM activities. There will be 100 activities at the gathering.

To learn more about the program, contact Catherine Wyman at [cwyman@xcp.org](mailto:cwyman@xcp.org).

Midtown Primary School to celebrate Valentine’s Day

Midtown Primary School is feeling the love this month for Valentine’s Day.

The charter school that serves students in grades kindergarten through fourth will celebrate the holiday with students buying Valentines produced by the school. Children can buy them for friends and teachers and parents may purchase them for their children and teachers. The cards are delivered and there will be parties in classes on Feb. 14.

Students also have fun events planned earlier this month and in March. On Feb. 3 and 4 the school’s third and fourth-graders will visit Lake Pleasant’s Desert Outdoor Center for a hands-on educational, overnight sci-

*please see CELEBRATE on page 32*



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SCHOOL DAYS



Andrew Milek, an anchor on Brophy College Preparatory’s offensive line, signed a letter of intent to play football at the University of Southern California (photo by Brophy College Preparatory).

CELEBRATE continued from page 31

ence trip. They will stay in the dorms and take classes that rangers provide.

On March 2, for Read Across America, children at Midtown Primary School will celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday. They will wear pajamas and bring books and pillows to school and read in the morning. The National Education Association delivers Read Across America year-round to help people motivate children to read, bring the joys of reading to students of all ages and to make all kids feel welcome and valued.

Brophy students sign sports letters of intent

Several Brophy College Preparatory students are on the ball as they signed National Letters of Intent to attend and play sports at various universities. The seven Brophy seniors signed the letters at events in November and December. One of them is Francisco “Case” Montanile, who led his team to a state championship last school year. He signed to play soccer at the University of California Irvine. Francisco was chosen to play in last summer’s Allstate All-American Cup. Also on the soccer team, Conner Leber signed to play for Cal Poly.

A standout on the cross country team, Jose Acuna signed to run at Rice University. He has been in all-state for the last two years.

Michael Diaz, a two-sport athlete, who had an option of playing football or baseball in college, signed to play baseball at Santa Clara University.

Meanwhile his teammate, Colby Musselmann signed to play baseball at Central Washington University.

A major contributor on Brophy’s 2018 state champion golf team, Zack Missigman, who was also on last year’s runner-up team, has signed to play the sport at St. Mary’s University.

Andrew Milek, an anchor on Brophy’s offensive line, received offers from five schools, and signed to play football at the University of Southern California.

Friends, family members and President Adria Renke and athletic director Bill Woods joined the student-athletes at the signing event and noted their accomplishments.

**Madison Highland Prep adds musical programs**

Madison Highland Prep is taking its musical offerings to a new level.

The school has added three, new extracurricular options. MHP Creative Musicianship is being offered, where students can work with digital audio workstations (DAWs) to build musicianship and explore how to create beats, as well as contribute music to various different genres. Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs) are electronic devices or software that can record, edit and produce sound files and they are often used in the music industry to write, create and compose music that might be produced for movies, musical performances and other outlets.

Madison Highland Prep also added two new clubs tied to music. MHP String Orchestra Club serves students



SCHOOL DAYS

who are interested in bowing, song playing, and song writing with a violin, viola, cello or orchestral bass. In the MHP Guitar Club, students can strum, play songs and write songs with a guitar, ukulele or mandolin. The children in the classes must rent or bring their own instruments but they do not need to have any playing ability or musical knowledge to participate.

The Madison Highland Prep’s music program runs under the supervision of music teacher Russell Biczo.

“Learning how to perform and write music create skills that could transfer over to multiple career positions and appreciation for creativity that can last a lifetime,” Biczo said.

CASA Academy kids make brain ‘hats’

CASA Academy students put on their “thinking caps” literally as they explored various parts of the brain.

At this kindergarten through second-grade, non-profit charter school, students are called “scholars” and classrooms are named after their teachers’ alma maters as a way to help children



LEFT: Gisselle Ponce writes down what each part of the brain does in a lesson at CASA Academy. RIGHT: Esther Nuam shows off the brain “hat” that she made illustrating what different parts of the brain do. Second-graders in the California State San Marcos class recently learned about different operations of the brain and how they help the body function (submitted photos).

develop the mindset that they will go to college someday.

CASA Academy second-graders in the California State San Marcos class recently learned what different parts of the brain do and how they help the



body function. The scholars learned the location and name of specific areas of the brain, including the frontal lobe. They then wrote down what that part of the brain does for a body and drew pictures to represent that section of the

brain’s function. As a culminating activity, students colored each part of their brain to create brain “hats.”

Second-grader Gisselle Ponce said her favorite part of the lessons was learning about the cerebrum because “it’s the part of the brain that controls talking, and I love to talk!”

Empower College Prep reaches milestones

Empower College Prep is celebrating its new construction, consolidation and its first graduating class.

The school at 2411 W. Colter St. recently held an event to mark these milestones and celebrate National School Choice Week. Staff members, students, donors and community members were invited to participate. They had a chance to see what the campus offers.

Empower College Prep serves students in elementary, middle and high school grades and aims to help prepare them for success in college. To learn more, visit [empowercollegeprep.org](http://empowercollegeprep.org).

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## Senior Living

### Ground is broken for dementia care center

Construction is underway on Hospice of the Valley’s new Dementia Care & Education Center. The not-for-profit agency broke ground last month on the comprehensive, new center at 3811 N. 44th St. at a ceremony that drew nearly 200 guests.

The multipurpose campus will offer care for people at all stages of dementia and will feature an intergenerational adult and child center and an education venue to teach best practices in dementia care. There also will be a café open to the public. The campus will support healthcare providers, students, volunteers, neighbors and the community.

To learn more, visit [hov.org](http://hov.org).

### Learn about dementia care

Do have a loved one with dementia? Learn how to best care for them at a free event this month.

Smile on Seniors of Arizona will host “Understanding Dementia Behaviors & Communication,” an interactive discussion by dementia expert Lori Nisson, at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, in its center at 2110 E. Lincoln Drive. Nisson will talk about changes in communication as dementia advances, common mistakes caregivers



Hospice of the Valley Board Chairman Dieter Gable; Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego; Hospice of the Valley’s Gillian Hamilton and Executive Director Debbie Shumway; and Phoenix City Councilman Sal DiCiccio move dirt at the ceremonial groundbreaking for Hospice of the Valley’s new Dementia Care & Education Center last month (photo by Hospice of the Valley).

make that lead to arguments, and the most common types of behavioral problems. Nisson will provide solutions for caregivers.

To reserve a seat call 602-492-7670 or email [chani@sosaz.org](mailto:chani@sosaz.org).

### Art museum offers socials for seniors

Phoenix Art Museum members who are at least 65 years old can combine coffee and conversation at the Senior Coffee Social events.

The next ones will take place at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 13, in Singer Hall in Wolfswinkel Education Center at the museum at 1625 N. Central Ave. At the 10:30

a.m. gathering, free coffee and breakfast will be served and a docent will lead a presentation on a featured object from the collection. The afternoon Coffee Social includes coffee and the docent-led talk.

You must RSVP in order to attend. It is free and available to Phoenix Art Museum members 65 and older. To RSVP or for more information, email [membership@phxart.org](mailto:membership@phxart.org).

### LGBTQ Caregivers can access support

If you are a caregiver who is part of the LGBTQ community who faces unique challenges and stressors, a local non-profit organization can help.

DUET has a new caregiver support group for LGBTQ members designed to give them a safe place to speak freely about any concerns and problems with other people who do not understand them. Whether you are taking care of a spouse, partner, parent or friend, the group strives to help you feel you are not alone in your difficult journey.

The group meets from 2 to 3:30 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of every month at Community Church of Hope at 4124 N. 6th Drive. It is free to attend. To participate, call George at Duet at 602-274-5022, extension 139 or email [burson@duetaz.org](mailto:burson@duetaz.org).

### Senior center to hold Valentines dance

Love is in the air at the Devonshire Senior Center, which will hold a Valentine’s Dance on Friday, Feb. 14.

The dance will begin after lunch at 12:30 p.m. There will be a DJ, dancing, snacks and drinks and a photo booth. It will take place in the auditorium in the center at 2802 E. Devonshire Ave.

Any senior center members in the city of Phoenix are welcome to attend, as well as those who obtain a day pass. The dance free of charge; lunch is provided for senior center members or guests who pay a small contribution fee (\$2.50 for those age 60 and over and \$5 for those under age 60).



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GENERATIONS

Devonshire Senior Center has many, diverse programs and services including an art gallery, fitness area, lunch, billiards and classes. To learn more, visit [phoenix.gov/humanservices](http://phoenix.gov/humanservices) or call the senior center at 602-262-7807.

Kids & Families

Touch A Truck to feature diverse vehicles

If your children can't get enough of fire trucks, police cars, tractors and other vehicles, you might want to check out the 3rd Annual Touch A Truck for Camp Patrick coming up Saturday, Feb. 8.

More than 40 different vehicles will be on display at the event that goes from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at North Phoenix Baptist Church Preschool at 5757 N. Central Ave. All proceeds go to Camp Patrick, a free-of-charge sleepaway camp for children who were born with Spina Bifida. Garbage trucks, military vehicles and boats also will be displayed at the family-friendly festivities. There will be face painting, interactive games, vendors and food trucks.

Admission is \$5 per person with a maximum cost of \$20 per family. To learn more, visit [camppatrick.com](http://camppatrick.com).

**Impact Gymnastics to host open gym for a cause**

Children can bounce, jump, tumble and otherwise burn energy and socialize at an open gym fundraiser at Impact Gymnastics Academy.

The event will take place from 6 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 15, at the academy at 7812 N. 12th St. There also will be raffle baskets, baked goods and arts and crafts. The cost is \$20 per child. The event is designed for kids who are potty trained, generally ages 4 to 18. Proceeds will benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Arizona Chapter.

To register your child, call 602-870-7574. For more information about Impact Gymnastics Academy, visit [impactgymaz.com](http://impactgymaz.com).

**Children can get creative, learn about artists**

Budding young artists can explore their creative sides at a free event on Saturday, Feb. 15 at Acacia Library.

Mini Masters will be held from 1 to 1:45 p.m. that day at the library at 750 E. Townley Ave.

Children at least 6 years old will complete an art project, as well as learn about a specific artist, style or medium. Adults may come with their child and participate.

To learn more, call 602-262-4636 or visit [phoenixpubliclibrary.org](http://phoenixpubliclibrary.org).

**Museum offers kids' Presidents Day camp**

The Children's Museum of Phoenix will hold a day camp when school is closed on Presidents Day.

The camp will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 17, at the museum at 215 N. 7th St. Kids will play games and take part in other activities designed to boost the minds and muscles of those ages 5 to 8 years old. The camp also includes lots of free play on all three floors of the museum.

The standard rate for the camp is \$65 per child and for museum members it is \$55 per child. There is an extra \$20 fee for a child to participate in the camp during early care from 8 to

9 a.m. and after-care from 4 to 5 p.m.

To register your child, visit [childrensmuseumofphoenix.org](http://childrensmuseumofphoenix.org).

**Bond with babies at free yoga classes**

Parents and babies can bond, stretch and sing in free classes coming up at The Teapot, which serves breakfast, lunch, coffee and other drinks with a British theme.

Check out Peri's Sing and Play Yoga from 10 to 11 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 7, Friday, Feb. 21, Friday, March 6, and Friday, March 20. The yoga classes are for adults and their babies, from newborns to those actively crawling. Bring a yoga mat, a blanket for you and your baby and two lightweight scarves to classes.

Participants should arrive 15 to 20 minutes before class starts. The class is open to The Teapot customers who have children older than 1 year old. You must purchase the play ticket with your food or drink order.

The Teapot is located 818 N. 5th Ave. To learn more, visit [facebook.com/theteapot.us](http://facebook.com/theteapot.us).



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**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

## 'Diary of Anne Frank' comes to arts center

By Colleen Sparks

After the recent anti-Semitic attacks on the East Coast, The Jewish Ensemble Theatre will shed light on the importance of preventing discrimination and violence against anyone when it takes the stage for the first time in Phoenix.

The theater company will be in the Valley to perform "The Diary of Anne Frank" at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 13, at Madison Center for the Arts at 5601 N. 16th St. This vivid production reveals the horrors of the Holocaust and genocide through the eyes of a Jewish girl, who must hide with her family and others in order to try to avoid getting captured by the Nazis.

A cast of 16 actors will perform the play and as they do in other theaters, the actors will talk to students who are in the audience after the shows in Madison Center.

"It's the first time we're taking 'Diary' on the road and we're very excited and so pleased that the reception has been as strong as it has," said Christopher Bremer, executive director of the Jewish Ensemble Theatre. "The teachers realize that this is an extremely important message that we have to make sure the young people understand. The anti-Semitism that's pervasive, it's horrifying. The truth is there's all kinds of marginalization of people who aren't the norm. Now more than ever we have to call out man's inhumanity to man."

The Jewish Ensemble Theatre has been performing "The Diary of Anne Frank" for 25-plus years, reaching more than 100,000 children. Youths in local schools and others with limited budgets will be able to see the play thanks to the Jewish Community Foundation of Metropolitan Phoenix making a donation to the theater so ticket prices can remain affordable, Bremer said. A board member for the Jewish Ensemble Theatre spends winters in Phoenix, which prompted the plans to bring the show to the stage locally.

If you would like to arrange for your school's students to see the play, call the Madison Center for the Arts at 602-664-7777. For tickets for the general public show, visit [themadison.org](http://themadison.org).



The Jewish Ensemble Theatre, based in Walled Lake, Michigan, will perform "The Diary of Anne Frank" on Feb. 13 at Madison Center for the Arts (photo courtesy of Madison Center for the Arts).

## A & E Briefs

### Music of ABBA with Rajaton

**Friday, Feb. 7, Saturday, Feb. 8, and Sunday, Feb. 9**  
**Symphony Hall**  
**75 N. 2nd St.**

Experience the music of the Swedish supergroup ABBA, which found fame in the 1970s, in a blend of sound, light, dance and grooviness at this APS Pops Series featuring The Phoenix Symphony and Finnish pop group Rajaton. Expect to hear classics including "Dancing Queen," "Take a Chance on Me," "Money, Money, Money" and "Mamma Mia." Shows are at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 7 and 8 and 2 p.m. on Feb. 9. For tickets, visit [phoenixsymphony.org](http://phoenixsymphony.org).

### 'When Douglass Met Lincoln'

**Lunch Time Theater**  
**Feb. 3-6 and 11-13**  
**Herberger Theater Center**  
**222 E. Monroe St.**

Learn more about these two self-made, charismatic historical figures. Douglass, who was an Abolitionist leader and intellectual who advised presidents and lectured on many causes and former President Lincoln only met a few times in their lives. But the impression they made on each other was much bigger than either of them expected and they developed an uncommon friendship. Shows are at 12:10 p.m. except for the Monday, Feb. 3 performance, which is at 7 p.m. For tickets, visit [herbergertheater.org/calendar](http://herbergertheater.org/calendar).



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

**'Million Dollar Quartet'**

Feb. 1-2, 5-9 and 12-16

**The Phoenix Theatre Company – Mainstage Theatre**  
1825 N. Central Ave.

Go back in time to 1956 when Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis made a record together at Sun Records Studios in Memphis. This is half stage play and half a live musical show about the four legends forming an incredible musical act. This show includes herbal (non-tobacco) smoke. For tickets, visit phoenix-theatre.com/tickets.

**'The Diary of Anne Frank'****The Jewish Ensemble Theatre**

7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13

**Madison Center for the Arts**

5601 N. 16th St.

The Jewish Ensemble Theatre company performs this dynamic production about the horrors of the Holocaust as seen through the eyes of a young girl, Anne Frank. Tickets are \$16 each for adults and \$10 each for students. The seats are general admission. For tickets, visit themadison.org.

**'Garden Musings'****Photography Exhibit****Opening reception 6 to 8 p.m.****Thursday, Feb. 20****Shemer Art Center****5005 E. Camelback Road**

This photography exhibition reveals various natural and man-made beauty discovered in today's gardens. It will run from Feb. 19 to April 4. To learn more, visit shemerartcenter.org or call 602-262-4727.

**Cirque du Soleil's 'OVO'****Feb. 20-23****Talking Stick Resort Arena****201 E. Jefferson St.**

Watch performers impersonating insects playing, fighting and search for love in an energetic show where characters discover a mysterious egg that represents the cycles and enigma of their lives. The cast of 52 artists from 14 countries specializes in various acrobatic acts. This show has entertained more than 6 million people around the world since it made its debut in Montreal in 2009. Shows at Talking Stick will be at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20 and 21, 4 and 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 22 and 1:30 and 5 p.m. Feb. 23. For tickets, visit talkingstickresortarena.com.

**Tim Kapeluck****8 p.m. on Saturday, March 7****Fiddler's Dream Coffeehouse****1702 E. Glendale Ave.****602-997-9795**

Singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Tim Kapeluck's music is infused in the traditions of bluegrass and Appalachian folk. His debut album "By Time and Gravity," featured eleven original songs that include tales of characters living on the fringes, as well as stories of heartbreak, social commentary and redemption. The cost of the show is \$8 per ticket. The doors open at 7:20 p.m. To buy tickets, visit fiddlersdream.org.

**Pink Martini****7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25****Orpheum Theatre****203 W. Adams St.**

Thomas Lauderdale formed the band Pink Martini in 1994 as a way to offer more beautiful, inclusive musical soundtracks for political fundraisers

when he was thinking about running for mayor of Portland, Oregon. The band combines classical, jazz and old-fashioned pop genres and their first song, "Sympathique (Je ne veux pas travailler)" became a hit in France and was nominated for "Song of the Year" at France's Victoires de la Musique Awards. Pink Martini features a dozen musicians performing songs in 25 languages. For tickets, visit phoenix.ticketforce.com.

**"Jewish Treasures of the Caribbean"****Through March 26****Arizona Jewish Historical Society**  
**Cutler-Plotkin Jewish Heritage Center****122 E. Culver St.**

See photos of synagogues and a historical description of what Jewish life is like in the Caribbean. It is free with a \$5 suggested donation. This exhibit will be on display from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 6 to 9 p.m. the first and third Fridays and by appointment. To learn more or to RSVP, contact Jeffery Schesnol at jschesnol@azjhs.org or visit azjhs.org.

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Jason and Katherine Dwight prepare organic vegetables at their restaurant Persepshen. The couple has extensive restaurant experience and opened their eatery where Hula's Modern Tiki used to be on Central Avenue (photo by Marjorie Rice).

## Café Chat

### Community vibe, organic treats at Persepshen

By Marjorie Rice

Step into the patio at Persepshen, Jason and Katherine Dwight's transformation of the former Hula's Modern Tiki on Central Avenue, and the first thing you see is a vintage military trailer parked in the open area. Inside, a huge bare tree suspended from the ceiling and festooned with bare-bulb lights hangs above an enormous slab of pine supported by a framework of old pipes. It's industrial austerity warmed with natural touches and the result is a place where you want to pull up a bench and strike up a conversation with the strangers across the table. The table serves more than the Dwights' design esthetic – it fosters a sense of the com-

munal table, where people come together over good food to converse and bond. The menu is designed to encourage family-style dining. "It gives people the opportunity to pick a bunch of stuff and share it at a communal table next to strangers and enjoy food – no TVs, no cell phones," Jason said. "The idea is bringing people together with food." Jason and Katherine have worked more than two decades in the restaurant business. "We realized working 100 hours a week really wasn't getting us closer to our goal of owning a restaurant," Jason said. "So we quit our jobs and found this old World War II military trailer and we built a wood oven on the back and started selling at Uptown Farmers Market, doing private dinner parties and catered events."



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

They built a loyal following with their menu including pickled vegetables, Katherine’s pastries, sandwiches and smoked sausages, varying with the seasons and availability and focusing on organic ingredients.

When the Hula site became available, they took the plunge. Jason’s father helped them build a large wood-burning stove, and they called on designer friend Bill Hemphill to help create a welcoming environment using repurposed and recycled materials. Hemphill built the communal table, using Arizona beetle-killed pine with legs that are old irrigation water pumps with cast-iron pipes.

The focus on recycling materials is an important part of the Dwights’ vision. They believe in using what’s at hand – and using it up, every scrap. Anything left over is recycled.

The focus is on local ingredients, organic sustainability and making everything possible from scratch, including cured meats – recent visitors could see sausages hanging in a curing chamber along with pork jowls.

“We make all of our own salumi – prosciutto, cappicola, coppa, everything like that,” Jason said. “What we stand proud and true to is, if we don’t make it, we don’t serve it, all the way to ketchup and mustard.”

That means sourcing a locally raised, organic, antibody-free whole animal, then changing the menu, depending on the cut of the animal the cooks are working on that week.

Some items always are on the menu, Jason said.

“We always have a charcuterie board with an assortment of five house-made meats, three pickled vegetables with mustard, jam and sesame seed lavosh,” he said. “And there always are variations on house-made pasta, pork, beef, shellfish and fowl. Those items are going to be here, but what the dishes are is going to change depending on what we’ve got.”

Another item that stays is Katherine’s “overloaded” chocolate chip cookie, worth a visit just for a taste.

Persephen, located at 4700 N. Central Ave., is open from 5 to 10 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. For information call 602-935-2932 or visit [www.persephenarizona.com](http://www.persephenarizona.com).



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Dining Briefs

Pie Snob rolls out new location

Pie Snob recently opened a second location at 6522 N. 16th St., Suite #1, in addition to its store at 3630 E. Indian School Road.

The shop offers pie flavors that change every week. Buy individual slices or whole pies (order whole pies ahead of time). Pie Snob also offers a variety of cheesecakes, along with tarts and flourless cakes.

To learn more, visit [piesnob.com](http://piesnob.com).

James Beard Foundation to hold pop-up dinner

The James Beard Foundation's Taste America presented by Capital One will hold a pop-up dinner on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

The dinner, part of a larger national tour, will combine food and conversation starting at 6 p.m. at Wrigley Mansion at 2501 E. Telawa Trail. Guests will feast on diverse cuisine crafted by Taste America Visiting All-Star Kristen Kish and local All-Star and host chef Christopher Gross.

Tickets for the dinner start at \$225. More exclusive experiences in a private

dining or the kitchen are \$500 and up. To learn more, visit [jamesbeard.org/events/taste-america-phoenix-pop-up-dinner](http://jamesbeard.org/events/taste-america-phoenix-pop-up-dinner).

Crepe House Café offers diverse treats

Crepe House Café, a restaurant centered around thin pancakes, known as crepes, wrapped around sweet fruit, flavorful meats and vegetables opened last month in the Biltmore Fashion Park at 2502 E. Camelback Road.

It features an extensive menu of crepes, both sweet and savory. Small crepes range from \$4.50 to \$5.50 while regular-sized crepes at the eatery run \$6.50 to \$8.90.

Crepe House Café is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays.

Someburros opens Central Phoenix location

The family-owned Someburros restaurant group has opened an eatery at 5115 N. 7th St., where it serves specialties including poll fundido, a borracho burro, and its popular tacos.

Someburro's dishes are made using long-time family recipes from Sonora,

Mexico, and the family's late Nana Isabel. The Vasquez family opened their first restaurant, Poncho's, in 1972 and in 1986 opened the first Someburros.

Every Tuesday is Taco Tuesday and this month, in honor of Valentine's Day, customers may order cheese crisp for \$2 at the restaurants.

To learn more, visit [someburros.com](http://someburros.com).

Valentine's Day menu coming to Southern Rail

Southern Rail, located at 300 W. Camelback Road, will offer a special Valentine's Day menu for you to spoil your sweetheart.

The three-course menu will be offered from 5 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14, for \$55 per person. Diners will have the option of adding a wine pairing, beer or bourbon flight or special menu items for an additional cost.

Reservations for that night are recommended. To make a reservation call 602-200-0085 or visit [southernrailaz.com](http://southernrailaz.com).

Treat your sweetie with Phoenix City Grille menu

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a special dinner at Phoenix City Grille. The restaurant at 5816 N. 16th St. will offer menu specials exclusively from 3

to 10 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14.

The menu will feature New England clam chowder, a wood-grilled filet and butter-poached lobster, Chula Seafood scallops and bass, and a variety of sweet treats, including a Bailey's cheesecake and a red velvet cheesecake.

Every couple will receive a free chocolate-covered strawberry with dinner. Reservations are recommended. Call 602-266-3001 or make reservations online at [phoenixcitygrille.com](http://phoenixcitygrille.com).

Weekend to feature cocktails, entertainment

The 9th Annual Arizona Cocktail Weekend will take place Saturday, Feb. 15 to Monday, Feb. 17, offering educational seminars, tastings and other events.

Throughout the weekend, many bars and restaurants throughout the Valley will reveal their best drinks and offer brunch, happy hours and cocktail dinners. Some are free and others will help raise money for causes.

To learn more, visit [arizonacocktailweekend.com](http://arizonacocktailweekend.com).

For local restaurant listings, visit our Dining Guide online at [www.northcentralnews.net](http://www.northcentralnews.net)

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