



north central news

the voice of the north central phoenix community since 1999

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Associations push back against development

By Kathryn M. Miller

At a June 7 presentation to the Camelback East Village Planning Committee, the developers of Zola North Central made their case to rezone 2.55 acres located at the northeast corner of 7th Street and Colter Street. The request would rezone the lot from the existing C-2 zoning (Intermediate Commercial) to PUD (Planned Unit Development) to allow for a new, five-story multifamily residential development.

The proposal, as presented, met with opposition from area neighborhood associations.

In its narrative, the developer, ZOM Living (www.zomliving.com), states, "This project provides an opportunity to redevelop this underutilized site into a neighborhood enhancing, luxury residential community. Development of the project will help to further diversify the availability of housing types and density ranges in the immediate surrounding area, as well as attract residents with disposable incomes to spend at

please see PUSHBACK on page 6



A makeshift memorial has bloomed at the corner of 10th Drive and Hatcher Road after a June 4 shooting that left a 14-year-old dead and eight others wounded (photo by Kathryn M. Miller).

Community comes together over tragedies

By Kathryn M. Miller

In the early morning hours of June 3 and 4, two violent incidents took place that left the Sunnyslope community shaken and looking for answers.

Just before midnight on June 3, 15-year-old Damarkus Edison was shot and killed just steps outside of his home near 13th Avenue and Vogel. Barely an hour later, shots rang out at a strip mall near 10th Avenue and Hatcher, where some 100 people had gathered for a social media promoted party. That incident left another teenager dead, 14-year-old Emily Morgan, and eight others injured.

The back-to-back incidents have left one Sunnyslope family grieving and leaders looking for answers on how to help the community heal and move forward.

In an online "Go Fund Me" set up to help the family (www.gofundme.com/f/damarkus-edison-funeral-expenses), Damarkus' aunt, Nicole Walter, described the teen as, "an ambitious child who pursued the things he loved. He had a passion for music and wrote songs regularly. He enjoyed playing basketball in the park, singing at the top of his lungs, and spending time with loved ones."

Walter added, "Nothing in the world could have prepared our family for the tragic shooting that took

my precious nephew's life that night. His murder is still under investigation, and we are only left to try to make sense of such a senseless tragedy."

She encourages anyone who can offer investigative leads to contact the police.

Action from city and state officials came swiftly. On June 22, the Phoenix Police Department (PD), Mayor Kate Gallego, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Maricopa County Attorney's office and the U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, were joined by the family of Emily Morgan as they announced the launch of Operation Gun Crime Crackdown, a multi-agency effort to reduce gun

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COMMUNITY

From the Editor

Hello, North Central Neighbors!

The summer months in Phoenix are always a good time to take things slow and easy, as well as a time to take stock.

This month, we are talking community engagement.

For our cover stories, we spoke with members of the Sunnyslope community as they do the work of healing after a deadly weekend at the beginning of June. We also take a look, both on the cover and elsewhere, at how area neighborhood associations are working in concert to ensure a bright future for their respective neighborhoods.

One thing that we heard repeatedly was “come together; get engaged.” Positive, lasting change comes from the inside, when communities work together.



On a lighter note, in this month’s Café Chat, Marjorie Rice catches up with CJ Kahley, chef at Geordie’s at Wrigley Mansion. Kahley joined the team last October and has been busy putting his own stamp on the eclectic menu. We also spoke with Wesley Herrera, co-owner of The Original Hamburger Works, which has been serving up mesquite broiled hamburgers (and more) for 45 years.

As always, you will find news from neighbors, area schools and businesses, as well as events taking place in and around North Central.

Finally, I have so appreciated the calls, emails and letters about news that is happening in our community. Thank you — keep them coming.

In the meantime, we appreciate your readership and hope you enjoy our July issue!

All my best,

Kathryn M. Miller

Editor, *North Central News*

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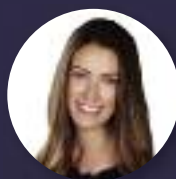
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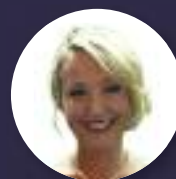
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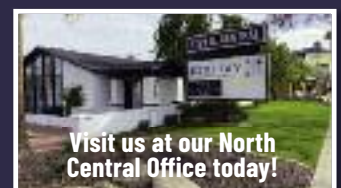
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COMMUNITY

Neighborhood group urges involvement

By Kathryn M. Miller

There is a newly reorganized neighborhood association in the North Central corridor, and they are looking for neighbors to join their ranks.

The North Central Canal Neighborhood Association & Block Watch (NABW) covers the area of Northern to Dunlap, Central Avenue to 7th Street. While the organization is not entirely new — it was founded about a year and a half ago — it has recently undergone a change in leadership, adjusted its boundaries and has an updated mission. It's goal? To build a resilient and inclusive community, promote neighborhood pride and unity, connect its many diverse neighborhoods with each other and to available resources, and to be that unified voice that can speak their concerns to city, county and state officials.

Led by Wallis Hardie, president, and neighbors Joyce Brown, Bruce Canon and Kate Brophy McGee, who are part of the leadership team, the organization



The point where the Murphy Bridal Path meets the Arizona Canal is a feature encompassed by the North Central Canal Association and Block Watch (photo by Kathryn M. Miller).

is currently in the process of setting up a 501(c)3, identifying and prioritizing issues and closely collaborating with the leaders of other area organizations.

Hardie previously served the vice president of the East Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association and Block Watch, and when the founder of the Canal NABW announced she was moving out of state, Hardie stepped in. Her first order of business was to change the boundaries, which previously ran to 7th Avenue, but stopped at the canal.

The change allowed for a smaller,

more manageable, yet more diverse area, that included businesses, both big and small, multiple schools, houses of worship and both single-family and multifamily housing.

One of the top priorities for the group is to address the parking situation in the neighborhoods surrounding Sunnyslope High School. As the popular school continues to grow, overflow parking has become an issue.

Crime also is in the forefront of many neighbor's minds.

"If people don't feel safe in their

homes, people don't feel safe in their businesses... It's not a real community, it's not a real neighborhood," McGee said, adding, "We are experiencing an increase in crime, and it works so much better to be ready, to be an organized voice with the city council and with our city council members, when our voice is needed."

But as McGee points out, that also requires that those in the community get involved.

"[We] want people who are reading this to say, 'I can do that. I can show up to a meeting, I can contribute, and then if I have a problem, then I know where to bring it.'"

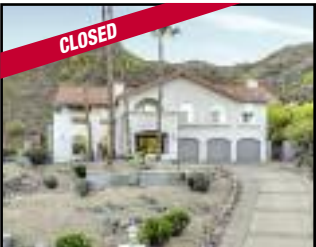
The group began meeting four months ago on the third Thursdays of the month at Desert Mission Anglican Church, 234 E. Alice, but Hardie says that it will be on hiatus over the summer as it works to prioritize issues and grow the organization.

The North Central Canal Neighborhood Association & Block Watch will reconvene meetings in August. In the meantime, residents who would like information on how to get involved should send an email to northcentralcanalphx@gmail.com.

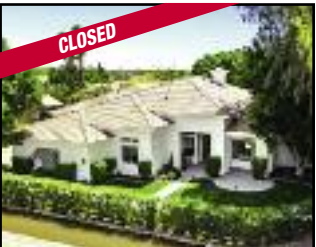
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COMMUNITY

PUSHBACK continued from page 1

the local retail and restaurant businesses within the 7th Street corridor.”

According to Nick Wood, Esq., who presented in June on behalf of the development, the 194-unit Zola would consist of 24 efficiency units, 122 one-bedroom units and 48 two-bedroom units.

From the developer narrative, “The project’s architectural style is focused on a modern, contemporary design vernacular, complementing the surrounding built environment while also following a development trend that has reinvented this area with higher density housing with an emphasis on quality design and visual interest within the pedestrian realm.”

During the public comment period, Mike Freret, vice president of the Windsor Square Historic District laid out his and other neighborhood association’s opposition.

“Windsor Square is adamantly opposed to changing the zoning from the current C-2 designation to the proposed PUD,” Freret stated. “There’s simply no compelling reason to permit the level of density proposed on a site that’s already approved for residential at a density level that is consistent with the overall ethos of North Central. To approve such a project would be to ignore what is already an unsafe traffic level on 7th Street, which the city traffic staff has already acknowledged is operating substantially over capacity.”

Freret continued that Windsor Square is not anti-development, “We’ve

worked closely over the years with developers in the area to be able to build creative, attractive and lucrative projects, but that exist in balance with the surrounding neighborhoods.”

He added, “We are sensitive to the housing shortage that the city is under pressure to address. But let’s not address that challenge by permitting wildly inappropriate developments when a more measured approach, such as asking the developer to create a residential project that works within the current zoning classification, can create a balance between municipal needs and the importance of retaining the character of historic neighborhoods.”

Mary Crozier, president of the North Central Phoenix Homeowner’s Association, citing a delay in communication from the developer added, “We’re not opposed to the developing of this site. But the project, as presented, does not meet the minimum requirement as a superior product for our neighborhood. We appreciate and hope to use the time between now and September to work with the applicant collaboratively on this proposed PUD.”

The June presentation to the committee was for information only. The developer will go the Village planning committee again in September of this year.

Residents can follow the progress of this proposed development on the City of Phoenix Planning and Zoning website at www.phoenix.gov/pdd/planning-zoning. Click on the “Planned Unit Development (PUUD) Cases” link.

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1645 E. Missouri Ave., Suite 450
Phoenix, AZ 85016
(602) 277-2742 • Fax: (602) 277-6689
www.northcentralnews.net

Publisher
Editor
Sales and Marketing
Office Manager

Tara A. Blanc
Kathryn M. Miller
Joanne Day
Janice Backus

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Real Estate Corner

Bobby Lieb

Your residential real estate specialist for North Central, Biltmore, the Camelback Corridor, and Paradise Valley

Reflections on the heat, holidays and history

July in Phoenix is definitely not for the weak, and for those of us who battle the heat and take advantage of its end result, the golf courses are wide open. I did play 18 holes in 2.5 hours; it was 112 degrees. And yes, I did hydrate the day before and applied and reapplied sunscreen.

Our family has always taken long weekends throughout the summer, mini getaways. When the children were younger, it was club sport teams that kept us from longer getaways and now, maybe I am a bit of a very dedicated realtor, another word may be workaholic. Later in the month, I am looking forward to going to Newport and will play Pelican with my brother Michael and my good buddy, Dr. Martin Arellano. There is something to be said about playing in 80-degree weather, I may need a long-sleeve.

A couple of months earlier this year, I took a month off and did not write a monthly article. I actually received a minimum of 10 emails checking in on me. Thank you for your kind words regarding how much you enjoy reading about the early years through and including the present. I promise you I will not let that happen again. It is no secret to those in my inner circle that my wife, MaryAnn, is my editor on my story-based articles. She may have made a few edits for this month. It is very much appreciated and better than our friend, Mary Holden, red-lining the entire article.

My dad, Herb, moved to Central Phoenix in 1964 and lived here until he passed in 2011. He loved the area and had a few businesses here, Kagel's lady shop (with Geri Aron) and Mr L's at Park Central Mall. He also opened Herb's Underground, which was Phoenix's first disco, located on Clarendon and 1st Avenue in 1970. The late Bill Heywood, a nationally recognized disc jockey (DJ to young folk), directed the dance floor with one turntable. In 1976, Dad opened up the Jockey Club Nightclub at 2110 E. Highland Ave. (built by Jerry Hassett, another North Central icon) where I worked after I graduated from Coastal Caroline in 1978 on a baseball scholarship. As some of you know we sold the Jockey Club on Highland and 22nd Street in 1985.

Dad then opened another Jockey Club in the former Navarre's Restaurant at 52 E. Camelback in Uptown Plaza in 1987 (together with Burt Lewin, Mal and Marsha Straus and Mike Hayes). We had that club until 1995 when we sold our lease to Sweet Tomatoes. The last 5 months at that location we leased the club to the producers of the major movie Waiting to Exhale, which used our club for all the nightclub scenes. The movie starred Whitney Houston, Angela Bassett, Gregory Hines and Forest Whitaker, which was really a thrill for me to see our club on the big screen.

I have said many times in this article that I was very fortunate that my dad chose to live, work and make so many friends, in North Central. It has been almost 60 years, since he moved to the Valley and if he were still alive, he would tell me two things, "son, I am very proud of you and your family" - and "Bobby, you owe me, your father, referral fees for introducing me to all of his friends and family members who have bought and sold homes from me in my 33-year real estate career living in North Central." I actually can hear him saying it right now!

Have a great summer and please be safe.

Bobby Lieb

Bobby Lieb
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COMMUNITY

SHOOTING continued from page 1

crime in Phoenix that will launch July 5.

The Phoenix Police Department will assign detectives to precincts with the highest gun related crimes to work with neighborhood enforcement teams and patrol officers. In addition, the ATF will provide access to gun intelligence technology, PD will work in real time with Maricopa County prosecutors, and the U.S. Attorney's office when a federal crime is indicated. But above all, the community is asked to speak up when they see something.

Police Chief Jeri Williams implored, "If you hear gunfire in your neighborhood, we want you to know we need you to call 9-1-1. Please don't turn a deaf ear."

Gabe Keely, Emily's father added, "We need help." He shared his confidence that there would be justice done in this case, and added, "But it will come sooner if you help us."

Those who have information on unsolved crimes can contact Silent Witness: 480-WITNESS or 480-TES-TIGO.

As the families of the victims cope

with their loss and grief, Sunnyslope leaders are thoughtfully, resolutely looking for ways to help the community heal and move forward.

The evening of June 4, Reverend Cleo Lewis was struggling to come to terms with the night's violence.

"This was probably the last thing... getting a phone call in the middle of the night that there's a mass shooting in a tight-knit community was surprising as well as shocking. To hear that teenagers were among the victims of this was, I can't even find the words for that."

Lewis is uniquely familiar with the area. As an outreach pastor, he ministers to area families and those who are experiencing homelessness, particularly in the Hatcher corridor. As a resident for more than a decade, he is also actively involved with the West Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association & Block Watch (www.facebook.com/groups/362132434276105).

Whether it is pushing for more programs at local youth centers, implementing the Hatcher Road Community Safety Plan, which was approved by the Phoenix mayor and council in February, or just engaging the community in

ongoing dialogue, Lewis feels that there is a lot that can be done.

"Sunnyslope may not be everyone's impression of a bedrock community; it's exactly our bedrock community. So, we're going to be communicating. We're going to be talking to residents. And we're going to help everyone heal from this, and we're going get better."

Nadine Alauria echoed many of Lewis' sentiments. She is a Phoenix native and Sunnyslope transplant. Her family's business has four decades of history in the area, and she, too, is deeply engaged with the community, particularly as co-chair with Caroline Lobo of the H.U.B. — Hatcher Urban Businesses (www.sunnyslopehub.com). Her message to the community is one of safety, "If you see something, say something," and of engagement.

"I've just never seen anything like the community; the neighborhood groups working with the schools, the police department, the businesses, some nonprofits here in the area. Then we work with other business alliances and other community groups outside of Sunnyslope, not to mention the six or

seven here in Sunnyslope." (www.east-sunnyslope.com/sisterblockwatches).

She added, "Even though we all might have different beliefs on this or that, I do know that everybody would agree on peace."

Those messages of peace, love and healing for the neighborhood were echoed once again at a community vigil, held June 16 at the Sunnyslope Family Services Center, across the street from where the June 4 shooting took place.

Lobo, who organized the event, opened by saying, "We have come together today in solidarity and community healing spirit."

Community members young and old performed music, read poems, shared prayers and spoke of the spirit of Sunnyslope, community togetherness and a path forward.

Lewis closed the vigil by remarking, "The theme tonight is, 'We love you. We care about you.' And we will do anything to promote your healing and wellbeing. In spite of tragedy, we stand with you and among you. And we encourage our young people to keep moving forward and pressing in."



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COMMUNITY

Do you know who your legislator is?

As we move into election season, residents may be seeing some new names on the political signs that are blossoming on just about every street corner in Phoenix. In many cases, the names aren't new to the game, just new to the district. So, what's up?

In November 2000, Arizona voters passed Proposition 106, a citizen initiative that amended the Arizona Constitution by removing the power to draw congressional and state legislative districts from the state legislature and reassigning this task to the newly created Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC).

The IRC's mission is to redraw Arizona's congressional and legislative districts to reflect the results of the most recent census, in this case, the 2020 Census. According to the commission's website, "The concept of one-person, one-vote dictates that districts should be roughly equal in population. Other factors to be considered are the federal Voting Rights Act, district shape, geographical features, respect for communi-

ties of interest and potential competitiveness." The state Constitution requires the commissioners — two Republicans, two Democrats and an independent chairperson — start from scratch rather than redraw existing districts.

A new Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission was appointed in January 2021 to adopt new congressional and legislative districts for Arizona. The new legislative maps were enacted Jan. 24, 2022.

A comprehensive website is available to inform the public about the commission's work. Explore the new congressional and legislative district maps in depth at <https://irc.az.gov> and click on the "Maps" link, then click on "Official Maps."

Voters can also visit www.azleg.gov/findmylegislator or find Maricopa County elections information at <https://elections.maricopa.gov>.

Community to host back-to-school drive


The Royal Palm community will host its Stay Cool Back-to-School Supply Drive, Saturday, Aug. 6. The event will help Richard E. Miller Elementary School students and teachers kick off the 2022–23 school year by collecting much-needed supplies.

According to the Royal Palm Neighborhood council, on average, kindergarten through 12th graders spend about \$850 a year on supplies. In addition, teachers often dig into their own bank accounts to pay for classroom supplies. An Economic Policy Institute analysis three years ago found the average teacher spent \$459 a year on classroom supplies.

Area residents are asked to drop off their donated supplies at Royal Palm Park (8405 N. 15th Ave.) after the sun goes down (between 7–9 p.m.) Aug. 6. All participants will be treated to a free ice cream from the Old School Ice Cream Bus.

All types of school supplies are appreciated but needed supplies not normally in stock to purchase at the district include Mr. Sketch Markers, Kleenex, Clorox Wipes, glue sticks, variety pack dry erase markers (for teacher use), crayons, reusable write and wipe pockets and Flair pens.

Residents interested in sponsoring, volunteering at or donating to the Back-to-School Supply Drive can visit www.royalpalmneighborhoodphx.com and click on the "Get Involved" link.



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BG’s Heart and Sole Shoe Drive continues

While the Phoenix Mercury and fans across the country continue to await the safe return of Brittney Griner, the mission that the WNBA star began in 2016 continues.

The community has rallied together to continue BG’s Heart and Sole Shoe Drive in partnership with the Phoenix Rescue Mission. With the help from fans and teams around the WNBA and NBA, the drive has collected more than 500 pairs of shoes and raised more than \$12,000 for the Phoenix Rescue Mission this year.

To continue the momentum, FirstBank is hosting collection bins at retail locations throughout the Valley for fans to donate new or gently used shoes. In North Central Phoenix, visit FirstBank branches at 20th St. and Camelback Rd. or Glendale and 19th Ave. Visit www.efirstbank.com for details.

The drive will continue throughout the 2022 season and, in addition to FirstBank branches, fans can bring donations to all Mercury home games



WNBA star Brittney Griner began the Heart and Sole Shoe Drive in 2016 to support Phoenix Rescue Mission (photo by Barry Gossage; courtesy of Phoenix Mercury).

or to the Team Shop at Footprint Center during business hours. Visit <https://mercury.wnba.com> or www.footprintcenter.com for details

To make a monetary donation to Phoenix Rescue Mission through the drive, visit www.phxmission.org/valley.

Toddlers eligible for COVID-19 vaccine

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) announced June 18 that nearly 400,000 additional Arizona children are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

In June, the Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention authorized the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for use in children as young as 6 months. The Pfizer vaccine, which had been available to everyone 5 and older, is now available to children 6 months through 4 years old. Federal officials also have authorized Moderna vaccination for children 6 months through 5 years old.

Residents can check with their provider or visit the ADHS Vaccine Finder at www.azhealth.gov/findvaccine. Find more information at www.azhealth.gov/vaccinesforkids.

Renters have right to cool air

As high summer temperatures continue, residents who rent their homes and find themselves with underperforming or non-functioning cooling systems have rights when it comes to keeping cool.

Phoenix City Code Sec. 39-5 mandates cooling requirements for rental housing units: “Every rental housing unit where such systems are installed shall have cooling capable of safely cooling all habitable rooms, bathrooms and flushing toilet rooms to a temperature no greater than 86 degrees Fahrenheit, if cooled by evaporative cooling, or 82 degrees Fahrenheit, if cooled by air conditioning.” Also, “Required cooling shall be provided by permanently installed cooling facilities.” The city’s ordinance also states that heating, cooling and ventilation systems in any building are to be maintained hazard-free, operational and in a state of good repair.

If you have issues with a cooling system in your rental unit, contact the Human Services Landlord and Tenant Program for assistance at 602-262-7210 or landlord.tenant.hsd@phoenix.gov.



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COMMUNITY

Pet of the Month
Charming Daisy seeks home
where she can blossom

Adorable Daisy is a three-year-old boxer who is as cute as her name suggests and an even bigger goofball, according to Arizona Humane Society (AHS) staff. The huge love bug was surrendered to the AHS in April of this year after it was found that she prefers to have all eyes on her and be the center of attention.

Those who have been lucky enough to get to know Daisy say she is a shy but charming pup who would love a home that will allow her to blossom. As a very smart and energetic pup, she also loves to have lots of puzzle toys and slow feeders around to allow her to not only get some tasty treats but also enable her to use her brain with lots of mental stimulation. And Daisy's nubby tail really gets going when she gets her favorite type of pets — booty scratches.

The Arizona Humane Society's Virtual Matchmaking Adoptions by appointment is available to place pets with their forever families. Interested



Adorable Daisy is a charming and energetic goofball who loves tasty treats and booty scratches (photo courtesy of Arizona Humane Society).

adopters can view available pets, like diligent Daisy, whose animal number is 688524, and schedule an appointment online at www.azhumane.org/adopt.

Vehicle donations
support homeless pets

Residents who have an old car or truck sitting around that will cost more to repair than it is worth, may want to

consider donating it to support homeless pets.

Through its Wheels for Wags campaign, the Arizona Humane Society (AHS) is encouraging supporters to skip the middleman and donate the old vehicle to the organization. AHS will pick up the vehicle right from your door, sell it directly to buyers, and use the proceeds to care for pets and save the lives of even more animals, giving you a tax write-off in return. They will also accept your unwanted camper trailer, boat, tractor, ATV, RV and more.

Since 1957, the Arizona Humane Society has fostered the belief that every pet deserves a good life. What began as a small shelter established by a compassionate group of volunteers has since grown to become the state's largest animal welfare and protection agency, as well as the state's designated responder for animals in distress during natural disasters.

To learn more about donating a vehicle to support Arizona Humane Society, visit www.azhumane.org/donate-your-vehicle.



"Taking care of bottle babies can be grueling work, but it's also very rewarding as you will help these babies flourish and develop their own personalities," says AAWL (photo by Kathryn M. Miller).

Fostering pets
helps save lives

According to the Arizona Animal Welfare League & SPCA (AAWL), close to 2,000 animals at risk for euthanasia at other shelters but who were not yet ready to be put up for adoption, were saved by fostering. The organization says that fostering is a safe, cost-effective alternative to the stressful shelter environment, and it helps AAWL save even more lives. And they are looking for dedicated foster families to care for homeless animals until they are ready to find their forever homes.

Fostering opportunities include neonate kittens and puppies/nursing moms program, where families take in kittens and puppies to nurse them back to health until they are strong enough to be put up for adoption. Sometimes a nursing mom just needs somewhere safe and warm to take care of her babies while they grow. Other times, foster families are needed to help bottle feed orphan kittens or puppies until they can eat on their own.

The organization says, "Taking care of bottle babies can be grueling work, but it's also very rewarding as you will help these babies flourish and develop their own personalities."

Other foster programs include medical fosters, who help vulnerable animals recover in a safe environment, and the Homeward Bound program, for shy animals who don't do well in a shelter environment.

Interested residents can fill out a foster application, or view pets currently available to foster on the AAWL website: www.aawl.org/foster.



What do you mean it's too hot for a walk?



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The father/son duo of Jim and Joe LaBrie operate five Bug & Weed Mart locations across the Valley (submitted photo).

Pest control company is a family affair

By Kathryn M. Miller

What began more than 40 years ago with an interest in do-it-yourself pest control has grown from one store in

Mesa to five stores Valley-wide, including one in North Central Phoenix. Joe LaBrie, director of operations at the family-owned Bug & Weed Mart, shared that his father, Jim LaBrie, purchased a little store called Do it Yourself Pest Control in 1979.

Over the years, the company become a true family-owned business. Joe joined the company in 2010. A few years ago, his sister, Cara, joined the family business to manage the marketing side of things. Jim remains at the helm and oversees finance.

Joe said that the company does things differently than many big box home improvement stores. The team focuses on educating consumers on how and when to use their professional-grade products.

“Our job is to really kind of break it down for the consumer. You know, what’s in that bottle and what to expect if used right. And we’ll show them exactly how to apply those products and kind of hold their hands through the process,” he said.

He added that “bug season” in the Valley is perpetual.

“Since we don’t get frost very often or have snow in Phoenix, the ground never gets so cold that the bugs completely go away for very long periods of time. We don’t really have an end to the bug season. But without a doubt, the warmer months are the busier months for most people.”

For those who may be new to DIY pest control and have questions, Joe

please see FAMILY on page 18

Going to the beach or the mountains in July?

Mission Beach, California, has always had a special place in my heart as my childhood family would head to the beach for two weeks every summer. Time away from the desert heat is good for the soul I often tell myself. Time away with family and friends to swim in the ocean, take in a sunset sail, enjoy fresh seafood OR perhaps traveling to northern Arizona for some relaxing cooler days playing golf or pickleball in the pines. Vacations are a way we reward ourselves. They give us something to look forward to and help us to achieve clarity of thought.

If your summer getaway has you feeling ready to make a change, in addition to being energized and inspired, give me a call. Whether you’ve been thinking about downsizing, relocating to another part of the valley, or moving up to a more luxurious home for your family, I will be feeling refreshed, energized, inspired and ready to help you!



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Our current political environment frowns upon the concept of compromise. The far sides of each major party currently rather play a zero sum game. It makes no sense to me that we have become comfortable with our politicians working against one another and not with each other to find solutions for our numerous problems. We went from a system that honored true policy debate to one that now rewards those who look at the rival politician as an enemy of the state. This is not a common practice in other aspects of our daily lives. We compromise in our personal relationships and work relationships all the time. We do this because it works! Can you imagine having a relationship with a partner who never compromised?

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

FAMILY continued from page 16

says, “Come on in and talk to us. If you can’t, call us, we’ll walk you through it.” In Phoenix, visit Bug & Weed Mart at 5030 N. Central Ave. For additional information, go to www.bugweed-mart.com or call 602-265-0046.

Business Briefs
Virtual health care hiring expo scheduled

The Greater Phoenix Chamber Foundation and Career Connectors are partnering to connect local health care and social assistance employers to job seekers through AZ Careers NOW. Arizona experienced 50,251 combined health care and social assistance career openings by the end of 2021 and is projected to grow 1.4% in 2022. During a July virtual event, employers will have the opportunity to showcase their company to job seekers throughout the state before heading into private breakout rooms to meet with potential candidates. Educators will also join breakout rooms to discuss certification and training opportunities with job seekers.

Both employers and job seekers are invited to register to attend the virtual hiring event, Thursday, July 28, from 9 a.m. to noon, via Zoom. To register, visit www.azcareersnow.com.

Foundation boosts work-based learning initiative

In 2020, the Greater Phoenix Chamber Foundation, embarked on a two-and-a-half-year pilot program on a work-based learning initiative for secondary education. They convened business and education stakeholders to create a strategic plan and launched ElevateEdAZ in partnership with Phoenix Union High School District (PXU). Over the 2021–22 school year, ElevateEdAZ expanded to five schools across PXU and Mesa Public Schools. The program’s primary objectives include increasing the number of students enrolled in and completing high-wage, high-demand career pathways, increasing student attainment of industry-recognized credentials and early post-secondary credit, providing more students with work-based learning experiences, and empowering educators to reimagine classroom learning through educator externships.

Last month, the Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation granted ElevateEdAZ funding to expand to two additional schools in Maricopa County, one public and one charter in the 2022–23 school year. The funding will be used to embed one ElevateEdAZ College and Career Coach at each of the campuses, provide a YouScience aptitude and interest assessment to all students to help them determine their career path, fund career awareness events such as mock interviews and resume-building workshops, and provide incentives to students, teachers and schools to accelerate outcomes. With this funding, as well as other local and national philanthropic partners, the program will expand to a total of eight high schools in 2022–23 and at least one charter school. Learn more about the initiative at www.elevateedaz.com. Learn more about the Chamber Foundation at www.phoenixchamberfoundation.com.

Local nonprofit adds board members
One Step Beyond, Inc., a Phoenix-based provider of programming and services for adults who have intellectual disabilities, recently announced the appointment of six new board members to a three-year term. The new board members include North Central resident Hugh Knoell, who is an architect, founding principal and design leader of Knoell & Quidort Architects. He has more than 40 professional awards for planning and design of residential, commercial and community projects. Also joining the board is Mary Lou Micheaels, a retired educator who has been a longtime advocate for public education, including six years of service on the WESD Governing Board. For more information, visit www.osbi.org.



Hugh Knoell

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CURRENT LISTINGS/ESCROWS

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 7020 N 21st St..... | In Escrow..... | 6853SF | 7BR/6.5BA | \$2,500,000 |
| 1001 E Tuckey Ln | Just Listed | 2631SF | 4BR/2.5BA | \$1,199,000 |
| 631 E Vista Ave..... | In Escrow..... | 3154SF | 4BR/3BA | \$1,195,000 |
| 8989 E Ganiey Ranch Center Dr #228. | In Escrow..... | 1970SF | 2BR/2BA | \$1,150,000 |
| 7904 S. 29th Dr | In Escrow..... | 2901SF | 4BR/3.5BA | \$ 949,900 |
| 38 W Bethany Home Rd | New Price | 3131SF | 4BR/3.5BA | \$ 900,000 |
| 7549 N 16th Dr | In Escrow..... | 2349SF | 4BR/3BA | \$ 725,000 |
| 4735 E Sleepy Ranch Rd..... | In Escrow..... | 2026SF | 3BR/2BA | \$ 725,000 |
| 732 E Gardenia Dr..... | New Price | 2728SF | 3BR/3BA | \$ 675,000 |
| 804 E Corte Oro | In Escrow..... | 1768SF | 3BR/2BA | \$ 509,900 |
| 1241 E Kaler Dr | In Escrow..... | 1493SF | 3BR/2BA | \$ 475,000 |
| 7526 N 10th Pl | In Escrow..... | 1655SF | 2BR/2BA | \$ 460,000 |

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| 4901 E Lafayette Blvd | \$2,700,000 |
| 1527 W Caribbean Ln..... | \$2,000,000 |
| 1 E Northview Ave | \$1,700,000 |
| 526 E Tuckey Ln..... | \$1,575,000 |
| 3229 E Sells Dr | \$1,525,000 |
| 5112 N 34th Pl | \$1,300,000 |
| 3436 N 38th Pl | \$1,299,500 |
| 18005 N 65th Pl | \$1,225,000 |
| 10 E Cactus Wren Dr | \$1,225,000 |
| 2016 E State Ave..... | \$1,200,000 |
| 202 E Kaler Dr..... | \$1,195,000 |
| 1545 E Northern Ave | \$1,070,000 |
| 1025 E Morten Ave | \$1,050,000 |
| 8902 E Rusty Spur Pl | \$1,050,000 |

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| 7247 N 6th Pl | \$1,040,000 |
| 1146 W Royal Palm Rd | \$ 980,000 |
| 1324 E Lupine Ave | \$ 975,000 |
| 10251 N Central Ave..... | \$ 915,000 |
| 7730 N 2nd Ave | \$ 900,000 |
| 1033 E Kaler Dr | \$ 899,000 |
| 4128 E Sunnyside Dr | \$ 825,000 |
| 7536 N 10th St..... | \$ 810,000 |
| 6614 N 19th St..... | \$ 725,000 |
| 1415 E Flower St..... | \$ 616,000 |
| 1102 E Vista Ave | \$ 606,000 |
| 7321 N 11th Pl | \$ 575,000 |
| 8124 E Whitton Ave | \$ 570,000 |
| 1110 E Orangewood Ave..... | \$ 565,000 |
| 3401 W Taro Ln | \$ 550,000 |
| 1106 E Wagon Wheel D | \$ 549,000 |
| 6532 N 16th Dr | \$ 530,000 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| 77 E Missouri Ave #17..... | \$ 520,000 |
| 1527 E Hudson Dr | \$ 519,000 |
| 700 W Northern Ave | \$ 510,000 |
| 6357 S Blake St | \$ 480,000 |
| 903 W Glendale Ave #3 | \$ 465,000 |
| 2340 E Turney Ave | \$ 450,000 |
| 605 E Royal Palm Square..... | \$ 435,000 |
| 7321 N 11th Pl | \$ 425,000 |
| 914 E Osborn Rd #205..... | \$ 425,000 |
| 6223 N 12th St #13..... | \$ 422,000 |
| 2531 S 156th Ave..... | \$ 378,000 |
| 5816 N 64th Dr | \$ 342,000 |
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Madison welcomes new superintendent

Madison School District welcomed new Superintendent Dr. Kimberly Guerin on July 1. Guerin most recently served the Scottsdale Unified School District as the assistant superintendent of Educational Services. Prior to this, she served the Paradise Valley Unified School District as the assistant superintendent of leadership — elementary, director of elementary education, assistant director of curriculum and principal of Echo Mountain Elementary School.

Guerin regularly leads sessions on the topic of effective leadership at both Arizona School Administrator and Arizona School Board Association conferences.

Both Guerin and her husband grew up in Phoenix, graduating from neighboring school districts. Her husband is a former Madison student, attending both Vista Elementary and Madison #2. As a high school student growing up in North Phoenix, Guerin created before and after school programming at a middle school in the Madison School District as part of the Western Savings Community Service Scholarship Program. She stated that it was one of the most rewarding experiences of her youth, and as a result, she decided to become an educator.

“Now, I have the privilege of joining the community that inspired me to take this path. Please know, I am truly grateful to join the Madison family as we celebrate our students, appreciate our staff, and embrace our supportive community members,” said Guerin.

School Briefs

GLENDALE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Enrollment open at GUHSD schools

Glendale Union High School District (GUHSD) offers nine nationally recognized high schools right in your own backyard. All schools are ranked among America’s best high schools by U.S. News & World Report. GUHSD provides championship athletics, extracurricular activities, cutting-edge STEM opportunities, career and



As of July 1, Dr. Kimberly Guerin is the new superintendent of the Madison School District (submitted photo).

technical education options and more. The new school year begins on Aug. 8. It is not too late for new students to enroll for the 2022–23 school year. For additional information, call 623-435-6000 or visit www.guhsdaz.org.

Students earn perfect ACT score

Sunnyslope students Abby Wolf and Marcus Giorza, and Thunderbird High School student Houston Hull, all earned the highest possible ACT composite score of 36. Fewer than half of one percent of students who take the ACT earn a top score. In the U.S. high school graduation class of 2021, only 4,055 out of 1.29 million students who took the ACT earned a top composite score. The ACT consists of English, mathematics, reading and science tests.

In addition, Abby was awarded with a Congressional Award Gold Medal. The recognition is the most prestigious award the United States Congress bestows upon a youth civilian. Abby is the first student at Sunnyslope High School to achieve a Gold Medal. In 2022, only eight candidates in Arizona were awarded a gold medal and only 518 youth received a gold medal nationwide.

Washington grad receives prestigious award

Recent Washington High School graduate Kiara Smith is the Maricopa County student recipient of the Black Alliance Georgie and Calvin Goode

SCHOOL DAYS



Madison Simis Elementary is just one of the district schools to receive “gold” status for their Smarter Lunchrooms Assessment (submitted photo).

Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to students of Black or African descent who have shown a commitment to service to others and plan to further their education at an accredited post-secondary institution.

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT Food and Nutrition receives ‘Gold’ status

The Arizona Department of Education Health and Nutrition Services recently announced the 2022 Farm Fresh Challenge awardees and Madison School District met the Gold Criteria.

The Farm Fresh Challenge encourages child nutrition operators to serve locally sourced ingredients and involves the community to engage in activities to learn about Arizona agriculture.

Challenge participants served 23 different local ingredients, hosted 10 educational activities that students learned about and made nine announcements about their challenge activities.

Additionally, Madison Camelview, Simis, Rose Lane, Park and Heights received gold status for the Smarter Lunchrooms Assessment. The Smarter Lunchrooms Assessment aims to increase participation, decrease food waste and assist students in selecting and consuming healthy food. This is done through low-cost/ no-cost strategies. The assessment is graded in the area of fruit, vegetables, salad offerings, reimbursable meals, lunchroom atmosphere, student involvement, school and community involvement.

To learn more, visit www.madison-az.org/foodandnutrition.

After-school program seeks leaders

Kacie Burns is an after-school club leader at Madison Park Middle School working with fifth- through eighth-grade students. She has been with the Madison Adventure Club (MAC) program for almost a year.

please see AFTER SCHOOL on page 24



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



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SCHOOL DAYS

AFTER SCHOOL continued from page 23

“My favorite part about working at MAC is creating meaningful connections with the students,” Burns said. “I want to be able to be a support system for any student that needs it. After school care is so important because it gives kids an opportunity to decompress after the school day and have fun playing outside, doing arts and crafts, and participating in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) projects.”

For those who are looking to make a difference in students’ lives, the MAC program is now hiring. Visit www.madisonaz.org/jobs or contact the district at 602-664-7900.

**OSBORN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Osborn summer
learning and beyond**

Osborn School District’s Native American Summer Program encompasses culture, identity, movement and the beauty of learning all while focusing on the Common Core Standards in math, literacy and the arts.

Through the program, Native American students learn the importance of physical, mental and emotional well-being through the spiritual lessons of the Medicine Wheel. Students apply ideas and concepts about the sacred elements they have learned throughout their lives and bring their ancestors to life while experiencing the pottery making process. Using the Medicine Wheel as a symbol

and tool for creating healthy habits for continuity in life and weaving mathematical and literacy concepts through culturally responsive teaching, is a critical part of Osborn’s Native American Summer Program. Field trips to the Heard Museum and Traditional Native Health Gardens will bring student learning to real life

Approximately 50 kindergarten through fourth grade students enrolled in Dual Language participated in the SPARK Spanish Immersion Summer Program. Students were provided SPANISH academic, language and cultural instruction to develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing and participated in ballet folklórico twice a week.

At the conclusion of summer programming, the 21st Century program will continue serving students through its before and after school programs during the 2022–23 school year. During the 2021–22 school year, more than 1,100 students participated in the program enjoying a wide array of activities ranging from academic interventions, sports, dance, STEM, arts, leadership, fish and wildlife, cultural awareness and robotics.

Work is currently underway to offer additional opportunities for family engagement and developing community partnerships to enhance program offerings and a more robust after-school program for students in the 2022–23 school year.

For information on these or other offerings, visit www.osbornnet.org or call 602-707-2000.

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SCHOOL DAYS



Rising Brophy sophomores tutor kindergarten through fourth-grade students from underserved schools as part of the school’s Loyola Project (photo courtesy of Brophy College Preparatory).

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Library technicians selected for grants

In June, Washington Elementary School District (WESD) congratulated the seven WESD library technicians who were selected as winners of the 2022 Barbara Park Memorial Grant in May.

The librarians include Marci Dunn, Arroyo School; Stacey Kilcran, Ironwood Elementary School; Heidi Birt, Richard E. Miller Elementary School; Lizzie Post, Royal Palm Middle School; Holly Hanson, Shaw Butte Elementary; Rebekah Clark, Sunset Elementary; and Nicole Gonzalez, Sweetwater School.

Sponsored by GBS Books, the grant allows winners to select up to \$500 worth of books for their school library.

PRIVATE AND CHARTER SCHOOLS
Loyola Project helps underserved students

In June, Brophy Prep began its summer Loyola Project, an annual service experience for rising sophomores where they tutor kindergarten through fourth-grade students from underserved schools. The students come from local Catholic and public elementary schools that Brophy has strong relationships with, as well as the children of Brophy faculty.

Brophy students complete their service by accompanying, mentoring,

coaching and tutoring the children on campus. The program is run by Brophy’s Office of Faith and Justice, who believes that working with children in an educational setting helps Brophy sophomores foster a sense of responsibility to be there for a young child and a joy in sharing their Brophy education with another person.

The program began June 6 and runs through July 1. Learn more about Brophy College Preparatory at www.brophyprep.org or by calling 602-264-5291.

Brophy students return to Peru

A group of Brophy students and chaperones left for Peru May 28 for almost four weeks of learning, service, reflection and growth. It is their first time returning after a two-year pandemic hiatus. They will visit Lima, Arequipa and Cusco, as well as the countryside. Along the way, they’ll explore issues of poverty, migration, climate change and fair trade.

The school shared that it is grateful to the students and their families for making this commitment of time and resources in order to fully experience lives different from their own and learn how they can facilitate positive change in the world.

For more information on Brophy immersion trips, visit www.brophyprep.org/faith-and-justice/magis and click on the “Immersions, Exchanges & Pilgrimages” link.



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If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Leyva at elizabeth@firstchurch.church

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SCHOOL DAYS

Enrollment is open at Gateway Academy

Gateway Academy, a school serving students in grades six through 12 diagnosed with high functioning autism, announced its first day of school and open enrollment for the upcoming year.

Faculty will be returning July 5, with an open house and a "Meet the Teacher Night" scheduled for July 8, and the first day for students is set for July 11. Students will dive into STAR Assessment sessions at the end of July and beginning of August, and Curriculum Night is scheduled for Aug. 18.

Gateway's curriculum supports academic, social and emotional development, and they strive to help students improve their executive functioning skills while also providing opportunities to participate in activities such as student council, National Honor Society, multimedia art, world language, Gateway NASA, virtual reality labs, instrumental and digital music and more.

Prospective parents can check out the calendar for the upcoming year here and schedule a tour now by calling 480-998-1071. For additional information, visit www.gatewayacademy.us.

Student wins journalism award

Incoming senior Layla Torres was selected to attend the Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference this summer.

One student from each state in the country was chosen for the conference. As a delegate, Layla was awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship. She has completed two years of journalism at Xavier.



Layla Torres

Student places in Congressional competition

Kathryn Nilssen, a junior at Xavier College Preparatory, won second place in the Congressional Art Competition for District 9 (CD-9) on May 6. Nilssen submitted a mixed media piece titled "School Daze."



Kathryn Nilssen

The work includes actual notes from her Xavier classes. She made it for her AP Studio Portfolio, which focused on transitions and belonging.

Alison Dunn, chair of Xavier's Studio Arts Department, said of Nilssen, "She is an outstanding student who takes her work seriously and is willing to dig deep."

STEM teacher recognized by Diamondbacks

The Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation honored Xavier teacher Chris Pfaff as a D-backs "Most Valuable Teacher in STEM" in April. He received a \$1,000 grant for classroom supplies and took part in an on-field pregame recognition.

Pfaff was nominated by a parent of one of his students, who said, "My youngest daughter, a sophomore, resisted all my attempts to get her remotely interested in Computer Science. She hated the thought of taking a class in CS, let alone a computer programming class in Java. Mr. Pfaff changed all that this year, she loves it, has a 'A' in the class, mentors other students, loves programming, and now has expressed in interest in pursuing CS as a career."

Teaching at Xavier for almost 25 years, Pfaff was on the forefront of Xavier's Programming Essentials class. All sophomores are required to take the class.



RAMMS is a parent run, volunteer organization founded in 1961 to provide recreational youth sports opportunities for children in and around North Central Phoenix.

We welcome all children regardless of skill level, school or previous experience and look forward to continuing to serve our community.

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| VOLLEYBALL (Girls and Boys Leagues) (GRADES 3-8) Registration Opens: 7/9/22 Player's Clinic: 8/6/22 Evaluations: 8/13/22 Coach's Clinic: 8/20/22 Season Starts: 9/10/22 Playoffs End: 10/29/22 | | OPENING DAY CELEBRATION 3/4/23 |

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GENERATIONS

Senior Living

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The Devonshire Senior Center offers opportunities for the area's older residents to stay active, fit and engaged.

Ongoing activities include fitness classes, entertaining events, artistic activities, a technology hour and more.

The center also offers special programming each month, with everything from pickleball to Phoenix Art Museum lectures and special holiday events. The Human Services Department offers nutritional and social services for older adults at the center, with a St. Mary's food box distribution at 11 a.m. the first Tuesday of each month.

Devonshire Senior Center, located at 2802 E. Devonshire Ave., Phoenix, offers programs and activities 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

For more information, call 602-262-7807 or visit www.phoenix.gov/seniorcenters.

Virtual programming offered for older adults

Jewish Family & Children's Service (JFCS) invites older residents to participate in a wide variety of offerings, enjoyed from the comfort and safety of their own home through its Center for Senior Enrichment (CSE).

Highlights of this month's programming include Sit or Stand Ballet Summer Series with Jennifer Cafarella Betts and friends from Ballet Theatre of Phoenix. The free class takes place on Fridays beginning July 1, from noon to 12:45 p.m. via Zoom, and is geared

toward improving strength, flexibility, movement and balance. No prior dance experience is required.

Other events include Brain Fitness with Toby Lazarus, Character and Stages Story Telling Workshops, Phoenix Art Museum Docent Summer Series and other fitness programs.

Contact CSE site director Jennifer Brauner with any questions (senior-center@jfcsaz.org or 602-343-0192). Visit www.jfcsaz.org for information about other program offerings.

Grant to eliminate heat-related hazards

As summer temperatures soar in the Valley, one local nonprofit organization wants to make sure vulnerable people at risk have help to stay healthy and cool. With a grant from Arizona Public Service (APS), the Foundation for Senior Living (FSL) will continue the Healthy Homes Air Conditioning Program into its second year. SRP is also a funding partner in this program.

Summer temperatures can range from 105-115 degrees and higher during the day and, in 2020, Arizona Department of Health Services reported 522 heat-related deaths across the state.

The FSL program provides free repair and replacement of eligible homeowners' air conditioning systems when outside temperatures reach over 100 degrees. The program will be offered through the 2022 calendar year and is open to low-income households in metropolitan Phoenix, as well as in Yuma, Pinal, and La Paz Counties. The home must be owned by the applicant.



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Availability is very limited and subject to available funds.

Priority will be given to the elderly, persons with disabilities or small children in the home. Household income requirements follow Federal Poverty guidelines and applicants must show proof of household income to qualify.

To learn more, email ACHelp@fsl.org, visit www.fsl.org or call 602-285-1800.

Duet needs summer volunteers

The arrival of the hotter summer month also marks the departure of many who help serve Valley home-bound adults, and one organization is looking for residents to fill the gap.

Duet: Partners In Health & Aging pairs volunteers with adults who can no longer drive, affectionately referred to as “neighbors,” and provide vital services such as grocery shopping and rides to medical appointments. The organization is putting out the call for volunteers to help this summer in three ways.

Virtual shoppers: While many neighbors are willing to purchase gro-



A classroom at the new Solano Elementary Enrollment and Resource Center is ready for young learners (photo courtesy of Southwest Human Development).

Kids & Families
New early childhood resource centers open

Southwest Human Development announced that the doors are now open at two new community centers created to help an underserved area of the community improve access to educational programs.

A new Solano Elementary Enrollment and Resource Center (at 1526 W. Missouri, Phoenix) and the Longview Elementary School Head Start Building (at 1209 E. Indian School, Phoenix) both celebrated grand opening events June 10.

The facilities will be hubs of community collaboration and have been renovated into new early childhood and social service professional space. The two brand new facilities are in the Osborn School District and will serve as Enrollment and Resource Centers for families with children birth to age 5.

For more information visit www.swhd.org or call Southwest Human Development at (602) 266-5976.

ceries online, they need assistance. For neighbors who cannot be transported to the grocery store or for those waiting to be matched with a volunteer, virtual shopping is an ideal solution. So, those who are tech savvy, taking orders over the phone is an easy way to assist.

Substitute shoppers: Volunteers are needed to fill in for those who are on vacation so that neighbors can have access to the most basic of needs — food.

Drivers: Those who don’t have time to take a neighbor grocery shopping still can help by picking up and delivering a grocery order already placed by a virtual shopper. This not only provides the neighbor with their food, but it also saves them from paying a delivery fee.

The first step to becoming a Duet volunteer is to attend an orientation. There will be an orientation at Duet’s Phoenix office July 12, 2–4 p.m. Additional orientations are offered throughout the Valley. Contact Duet to RSVP for an orientation at 602-274-5022. For additional information, visit www.duetaz.org.



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GENERATIONS

Phoenix public pools open

Valley residents looking for cool activities or swim lessons this summer can head to a City of Phoenix public pool in their area.

Phoenix's public pools are open six days a week seasonally from Memorial Day weekend through July 31 (closed Fridays), and on weekends only August through Labor Day. Pools in and near North Central Phoenix that will be open on weekends in August through Labor Day include Encanto, Paradise Valley, Perry and Sunnyslope.

Those looking for swim lessons can take advantage of Session C: July 5-14; and Session D July 18-28. Swim lessons cost \$3-\$15, depending on class.

Entrance to Phoenix pools is free for kids at most locations, \$3 for adults and \$1 for seniors. Check with the pool location for pricing. For more information, visit www.phoenix.gov/parks/pools.

Back-to-school drive to support foster children

Arizona Helping Hands (AHH) is holding its 10th Annual Back to School Drive, and Valley residents are invited to help support their efforts to provide school supplies to thousands of children in foster care.

Residents can get involved in a variety of ways: businesses and community groups can sponsor a collection drive now through August — the organization will even provide boxes and posters; donate \$35, which will provide a backpack filled with school supplies for a child; or donate individual items.

Bring donations to AHH's facility at 3110 E. Thunderbird Rd., Suite 100, Phoenix, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For more information, send an email to volunteer@azhelpinghands.org, call 480-889-0604 or visit www.azhelpinghands.org.

Feeding families over the summer months

In an effort to ensure that kids and teens get healthy meals over the summer months, the Arizona Department of Health Services, through its AZ Health Zone program, is teaming with local schools and community sites to serve free meals to kids and teens ages 18 and younger. All meals are served free to any participant, and some sites offer low-cost meals for parents and caregivers.

In North Central Phoenix, Acacia Library, Biltmore Preparatory Academy, Cholla Library, Loma Linda Elementary School, Longview Neighborhood Recreation Center, Madison Camelview, Meadows, Simis and Traditional Academy schools, Sunnyslope Youth Center, Washington Activity Center and Y Kids at Christown will offer meals through July and beyond.

No sign-up or registration is required to participate at an open site. Visit www.azhealthzone.org/foodsites (www.zonadesaludaz.org/recursos) and click on a location name for contact information and meal times. You also can call the AZ Hunger Hotline at 602-528-3434 or 1-800-445-1914 or text FOOD to 304-304 (envíe el texto COMIDA al 304-304).



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



A new immersive exhibit at Walter Where?House allows guests to discover the life and work of influential Mexican artist Frida Kahlo (submitted photo).

Explore the life and work of Frida Kahlo

A mesmerizing new exhibition, “Frida Kahlo, An Immersive Biography,” will make its American premiere in Phoenix July 8 at Walter Where?House.

A co-creation between the Frida Kahlo Corporation and Layers of Reality, a renowned digital arts center in Spain, the immersive biographical exhibition of the artist utilizes seven different transformational spaces enabling guests to enter the life and work of the Mexican artist who, in the 21st century, continues to be more relevant than ever.

The exhibit showcases a unique combination of digital art, historical photographs, projections and installations accompanied by virtual reality experiences that reproduce the most relevant moments of the life and work of one of the most influential artists in history.

The exhibition will tour across the U.S. before continuing onward to Latin America.

Walter Where?House is located 702 N. 21st Ave. Tickets for adults start at \$34.99 and can be purchased at www.fridakahlophoenix.com. Discounts for students, children, and families will be available as well.

Beatitudes hosts local artist exhibits

The Arts Council of Church of the Beatitudes will feature the work of local artists in two new art exhibits this month.

First up is an exhibit that explores the central theme of the cross as the principal symbol of the Christian religion. A com-

bination of work by local artists Nicolette Nelson and John Guagliano, each cross is handmade using either wood and plants or metal from recycled materials and is emblematic of the Christian struggle to balance the traditional with the new.

The exhibit runs through Sunday, *please see LOCAL ARTISTS on page 32*

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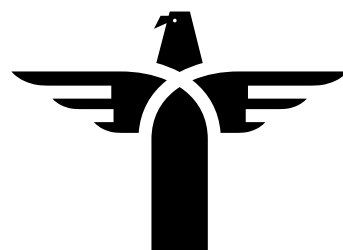


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



“Hummingbirds of Phoenix,” by local photographer David Pool will be on exhibit this month at Church of the Beatitudes (photo courtesy of the artist).

LOCAL ARTISTS continued from page 33

July 17. Viewing is open to all on Sunday mornings from 10:20 a.m.–noon, and by appointment.

Beginning July 22, and running through Sept. 19, the work of local photographer David Pool will be exhibited. The works explore the beauty and maneuverability of the inquisitive and very social hummingbird.

Testing his wife’s patience, Pool spent much of 2018–2020 photographing hummingbirds in his backyard in North Central Phoenix.

“I just wanted to see if I could photograph a hummingbird at all,” said Pool. “I thought it would be a good photo skills exercise. I had no idea that an obsession would develop and that the project would evolve into two books and an art show.”

The photos in “Hummingbirds of Phoenix” are mostly of Anna’s hummingbirds, which are common in the Phoenix area. Each of the framed pieces are touched to look like an oil painting. Using his home printer, David produced a set of 41 individual photographs in February of 2020. They are each the only one of its kind.

Both exhibits will be hosted in the foyer of its Worship Center at Church of the Beatitudes, 555 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix. To learn more, visit www.beatitudeschurch.org or call 602-264-1221.

Crossroads to host moving screening

In honor of Independence Day, CrossRoads United Methodist will screen “Four Chaplains: Sacrifice at Sea,” Sunday, July 3, at 10:45 a.m.

The documentary movie tells the true story of four American chaplains who willingly sacrificed their lives when their ship, The Dorchester, was sunk in the North Atlantic during World War II. The public is invited to this stirring, patriotic tale directed by James Moll, who co-founded the Shoa Foundation with Steven Spielberg. Admission is free; however, donations will be accepted for the United Methodist Church’s military chaplaincy program.

CrossRoads United Methodist Church is located at 7901 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. For additional information, visit www.crossroadsphx.com.

On the Town

This month brings indoor family-friendly art and exploration exhibits, cool concerts, live theater and so much more. See you on the town in July!

Sundressed

July 1
Crescent Ballroom
www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222

Hans Olson’s 70th Birthday Party

July 3
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

Sky Creature

July 4
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

Fleet Foxes

July 5
Arizona Federal Theatre
www.arizonafederaltheatre.com;
602-379-2800

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Adia Victoria

July 9
Valley Bar
www.valleybarphx.com

The Summer Set

July 10
Crescent Ballroom
www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222

Big Gigantic

July 10
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com

Mapache

July 12
The Rebel Lounge
www.therebellounge.com;
602-296-7013

Enanitos Verdes

July 13
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com

‘On Your Feet! The Story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan’

July 13 – Aug. 28
The Phoenix Theatre Company
www.phoenixtheatre.com;
602-254-2151

Kenji Wagner

July 15
The Nash
www.thenash.org; 602-795-0464

Poliça

July 15
Crescent Ballroom
www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222



Icon for Hire

July 15
The Rebel Lounge
www.therebellounge.com; 602-296-7013

‘How to Make an American Son’

Thru July 17
Arizona Theatre Company
www.arizonatheatre.org; 602-256-6995

Reina del Cid

July 17
The Rebel Lounge
www.therebellounge.com; 602-296-7013

Iya Terra

July 18
Crescent Ballroom
www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222

King Princess

July 20
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com

Purity Ring

July 20
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com



James Taylor

July 26
Footprint Center
www.footprintcenter.com; 602-379-7800

Dennis Jones

July 29
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

Frankie Valdez Septet

July 30
The Nash
www.thenash.org; 602-795-0464

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Aug. 4
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

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All event dates are current at time of publication. Check with individual venues for the most up-to-date show and safety information.

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Who We Are

We are a more-than-175-member-strong group of actively selling agents who have a vested interest in the community, the real estate market and North Central Phoenix. This tour is a cooperative effort among the active REALTORS of the Central Corridor. The tour has been in existence for more than 35 years and is an all-volunteer organization.

Location & Meeting

Our meetings are held on the first and third Friday of each month beginning at 9:00 am. Our meeting spot is at The Casa patio, 7878 N. 16th St., Phoenix, AZ 85020. Following the meeting, we tour up to 10 homes new to the market. We require those REALTORS who have a property on the tour to attend the meeting and then participate in the virtual tour of all houses on that day's tour. Each agent provides constructive feedback on price, condition, and key features of the home. The goal is to network with fellow REALTORS who also specialize in North Central Phoenix neighborhoods and help sell the property.

Tour Boundaries

Tour boundaries are Campbell Avenue to the south, 40th Street to the east, 19th Avenue to the west, with the northern border running south of the North Phoenix Mountain Preserve (roughly Peoria) and just north of Lincoln from 16th Street east to 40th St. The Phoenix Country Club area also is included.

Join Us!

We love working with new members. Join our team and receive news and information about new homes on the market in the North Central Region of Phoenix.

**For more information or to become a member,
visit our website at**

<https://northcentraltour.com/>



Geordie's chef CJ Kahley with octopus fritto, left, steamed mussels braised in white wine with tomato nage and steak tartare served with squid ink tuille (photo by Marjorie Rice).

Café Chat

A long and winding road for Geordie's chef

By Marjorie Rice

As a journalism student in Michigan, CJ Kahley, today chef de cuisine at Geordie's in the Wrigley Mansion, wanted to be a travel writer, exploring different cultures through the lens of their cuisines.

His career path took a turn when he entered culinary school to get a solid grounding in cooking.

"Culinary school (Le Cordon Bleu in Las Vegas) is where the passion started," Kahley said. "I realized I enjoyed being in the field rather than writing about it."

He graduated in 2007, then began a cook's tour of another sort. Being a top restaurant chef is a journeyman's profession, with chefs moving from kitchen to kitchen to learn hands-on about different cuisines and techniques from experts, and Kahley's career has followed that path.

"I chose Las Vegas because Vegas had everything," he said. Stops included Hubert Keller's Fleur de Lis, Bouchon by Thomas Keller (no relation) and at Michael Mina at the Bellagio, then on to San Francisco, where he worked with the MINA Group, helping to open Steph and Ayesha Curry's International Smoke restaurant and PABU Japanese restaurant, among others.

"I was fortunate to live in San Francisco and visit the restaurants and chefs I had only read about," he said. Eventually Kahley made his way to Arizona and another series of kitchens, learning all the way.

It began at The Mission in Old Town Scottsdale, with chef/owner Matt Carter. "I consider him my mentor," Kahley said.

The seven years he was at The Mission was an education in Latin cuisine, Kahley said, especially learning to work with fresh and dried chiles and various citrus fruits.

"I consulted with Matt to open The Mission in Kierland Commons and Fat Ox in Scottsdale," he said. "Fat Ox has a fantastic pasta program and I learned how to make pasta from a guy there named Chops Smith. I think he's the best in the state."

Last October, Kahley joined Geordie's.

As he relaxed at the chef's table, Kahley talked about his goals for the restaurant. "We changed a couple of the pastas, and added a couple of new dishes, like the octopus fritto, but I still feel like I'm trying to figure it out — what does this want to be?"

The octopus is braised for three hours in olive oil, almost like a confit, so it's succulent and tender, then it's dipped in a squid ink tempura batter for a light, crispy crust, served over fennel puree and topped with pickled fennel.

"It's been well received," Kahley said.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Another favorite is the steamed Prince Edward Island mussels, cooked with wine, fennel and garlic, then enriched with a bit of tomato nage, a buttery coulis with sherry vinegar, and served with baguette and pistou butter.

The menu is a work in process. For now, call it eclectic.

“We call it American food because American food is basically anything and everything,” Kahley said. “I take little things from my chefs as well. One of my sous chefs is Jewish — I fell in love with that cuisine when I was in San Francisco — so we talked about doing something with an Israeli influence.”

About that chef’s table — a long table in the spacious kitchen that serves 10. Dinners run \$175 to \$195, not including wine.

Guests come into the wine cellar and have a few small bites and some sparkling wine, then sit at the long chef’s table, where Kahley prepares and serves each course.

“We go all out at the chef’s table, but for our regular menu we try to keep it with as little fuss as possible,” Kahley said.

As an example, the prime beef tartare gets taken up a few notches for the chef’s table patrons, but the foundation is the same — prime beef, aged in-house.

Kahley points out the cabinet where whole prime rib roasts are aging in controlled humidity and temperature.

“We keep them in there for 60, 65 days before we start selling them,” he said.

These days, the Mansion Cut of that beef on the main dish menu is one of those “if you have to ask you can’t afford it” main dishes, but the taste and texture are incomparable.

Other menu temptations include onion soup gratinee; whole branzino served with toasted farro, chicory salad, black garlic and yuzu; bucatini carbonara; and can’t-miss duck fat potatoes as a side dish.

Paired with those is the mansion’s award-winning 12,000-bottle wine collection, under the direction of Paola Embry.

“I don’t pretend to know much about wine,” Kahley said. “I know what tastes good, and what I like, but I can’t tell you where it’s from or what vintage

it is. Just sitting with Paola, sometimes just a few minutes, I take on more knowledge than I ever had before.”

Geordie’s, at 2501 E. Telawa Trail, is open 5 to 9 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday (the bar opens at 3 p.m.), and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, for brunch. For more information, call 602-955-4079 or visit www.wrigley-mansion.com.

Going strong after 45 years of burgers

By Kathryn M. Miller

One hundred-twenty pounds of mesquite wood charcoal a day, a handful of dedicated employees and a passion for the restaurant business — just three of the ingredients that have kept Wesley Herrera, co-owner of The Original Hamburger Works, going the past couple of years.

Originally opened in September 1977, and modeled after The Chuckbox in Tempe, The Original Hamburger Works has been a mainstay in Phoenix’s Encanto area for more than 40 years. And while Herrera is not

the original owner, it feels like he was fated to be there.

“I’ve been in restaurants pretty much since I was in high school. I loved it. I love restaurant work,” Herrera shared.

In fact, his high school job was at The Chuckbox, so when the opportunity came in 1994 to purchase Hamburger Works, he was in the right place, the timing was good, and he jumped at the chance.

While Herrera and his business partner, Paul Marquardt, have made improvements to the dining and bar areas, much of the restaurant has remained the same. Guests are greeted with the enticing aroma of mesquite wood, and instantly transported back in time through the eclectic décor that is like a trip through Phoenix history. The walls are covered with memorabilia — from a Legend City poster (where Marquardt worked in high school) to a vintage Mary Coyle Ice Cream sign, Phoenix Fire and Police shields, along with dozens of advertising signs from bygone eras and more.

Another thing that has not changed

please see BURGERS on page 36

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

BURGERS *continued from page 35*

is that their burgers and chicken are cooked over an open fire with mesquite charcoal (using up to 120 pounds each day), and that customers can fix the way they like it with a variety of condiments available.

Diners can get a burger from a quarter pound up to the “Super Great One,” which is a pound of beef. Also available are mesquite broiled chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, broiled fish sandwich, garden burger and fish and chips, as well as go-to sides and salads. As with most restaurants, the last couple of years have been difficult for the business. From a complete shut-down during the height of the pandemic and figuring out a delivery model to staffing challenges and now skyrocketing costs, the business is constantly adjusting to meet the ever-changing landscape of the restaurant business, “Every single day just about.”

Herrera credits his amazing staff, some of whom have been at the restaurant for 20 or more years, and the restaurant’s incredibly loyal customers with their survival during the recent tough times, as well as their ability to adapt.

“We’re trying. Trying to keep everything new, trying to keep everything fresh,” he said.

And he still loves the business.

“I always tell my wife. ‘I think we’re in the right business.’ She says, ‘Why is that?’ I say, ‘Everywhere I go, I always eat a hamburger. I’m in the right business.’”

The Original Hamburger Works is located at 2801 N. 15th Ave, Phoenix. For additional information, call 602-263-8693 or visit www.originalhamburgerworks.com.

Dining Briefs

New bakery concept coming to Bethany Plaza

Residents who have seen the “Coming Soon” sign at the northeast corner of Bethany Home Road and 16th Street won’t have to wait much longer to visit Bethany Plaza’s newest tenant, Dos Chris’ Bakery & Charcuterie Co.,

“As of now, we are hoping for our grand opening to be held at the end of August or mid-September,” shared owners Christopher and Christopher Barbara. “‘The Dos,’ as we are affec-



Specializing in mesquite broiled burgers, The Original Hamburger Works has been a Phoenix mainstay for more than 40 years (photo by Kathryn M. Miller).

tionately calling it, will match our love of everything mid-century modern. It will be very ‘Mad Men’ style and an ode to the 50s.

“Our family has lived in this neighborhood since 1949, so it’s important that we be a safe, judgement-free and inclusive space for the community to come and purchase to-go charcuterie cups, boxes, boards, bakery items (including our famous ‘Charsweeterie’ boards), made-to-order bruschetta bites, coffee from a local coffee company, vintage sodas, etc.”

More information will be available as the opening date approaches. In the meantime, keep up with The Dos at www.doschrisaz.com or find them on Facebook.

Family-owned market and eatery keep it fresh

On the southeast corner of 7th Avenue and Missouri are a pair of family-owned businesses that offer a diverse array of freshly prepared foods and provisions to area residents.

Corner on the Market is a store/bakery that offers coffee and fresh-baked breads and pastries. In June, the market began offering fresh baked bagels. Pizza is also available, as well as a large selection of wine to purchase and take home to enjoy.

For those who would like to stay awhile to enjoy the market’s offerings, “We offer Wi-Fi and comfortable seating for studying, or just getting together with a friend or work associate,” shared manager Kelly Bower-Hall, who is also

the daughter of owner Kathy Blackwell.

Next door to the market is Hatch-It Green Chili Burgers & Tacos, which is celebrating its fourth anniversary this month. Diners will find a variety of different burgers, burritos and tacos with a “New Mexican” flavor.

“We also have sides to go with these. We offer breakfast as well, burritos, eggs, bacon or sausage,” Bower-Hall added.

Corner on the Market and Hatch-It are located at 5345 and 5341 N. 7th Ave., Phoenix. For additional information, call 602-607-5048 or visit www.cotmphx.com; or call 602-607-5036 or visit www.hatchitphx.com.

Four ways to celebrate Ice Cream Day

Sure, it’s hot outside, but these Valley shops are hitting the cool, sweet spot this summer with seasonal specials and regular fan favorites. So, whether you are celebrating National Ice Cream Day, July 17, or just in the mood for a sweet treat, here are four ways to chill out and satisfy your sweet tooth.

Churn will offer their Tangerine Buttermilk and Goat Cheese, Honey & Pistachio (a fan favorite) flavors on their July seasonal menu. Guests can also cool down with a variety of sundaes, milkshakes and floats, or customize an ice cream cookie sandwich with their choice of ice cream and cookies. Churn is located at 5223 N. Central Ave. For more information, call 602-279-8024 or visit www.churnaz.com.

Miracle Mile Deli is celebrating a Summer of Shakes & Floats, with all milkshakes and ice cream floats \$5, now, through Aug. 31. For those who want a dog with that shake, July 1-31 is Dog Days of Summer, and guests can get the \$6 hot dog special (hot dog, fries and a drink) Monday through Saturday. Visit them at 4433 N. 16th St. For more information, call 602-776-0992 or visit www.miracleclemiledeli.com.

Pop into Scoopwell’s at Uptown Plaza this month and check out their edible cookie dough bar. Flavors range from the go-to Chocolate chip cookie dough to Lemon poppyseed and Oh, gingersnap. Of course, it’s National Ice Cream month, so guests can also try their ice cream options with either a cone or with a cookie sandwich.

Located at 100 E. Camelback Rd., Uptown Plaza is also offering live music July 8 with Elvis Before Noon at 6:30 p.m. Learn more about Scoopwell’s at www.scoopwells.com or contact them at 602-296-5146.

Finally, Sweet Republic is always concocting new and exciting flavors. Recently, they added Sweet Berry Cobbler to the menu. Featuring blueberry and strawberry sauce in vanilla ice cream with a waffle crust, it sounds like summertime in a cone. Visit Sweet Republic in North Central Phoenix at 6054 N. 16th St. For more information, call 602-535-5990 or visit <https://sweetrepublic.square.site>.

Celebrate your independents

Throughout the year, but especially during its Independents Week celebration, Valley nonprofit Local First Arizona encourages Arizonans to “go local” by supporting as many locally owned businesses as possible.

Traditionally held over the first week of July, this year’s celebration kicked off June 25, allowing first-timers and returning customers across the state to discover new and fun ways to support Arizona’s small, independent businesses.

While Local First Arizona’s 2022 Independents Week officially ends July 4, every day is a good day to dine at the small, independent restaurants in North Central and around the state. Just visit the website, www.localfirstaz.com, and click on the “Food” link under “Find,” then dine, enjoy, repeat.

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