



north central news

the voice of the north central phoenix community since 1999

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In Phoenix, water is a 'forever business'

By Kathryn M. Miller

Water is life, especially in the desert, and for a growing city like Phoenix long-range planning and management of its resources is paramount.

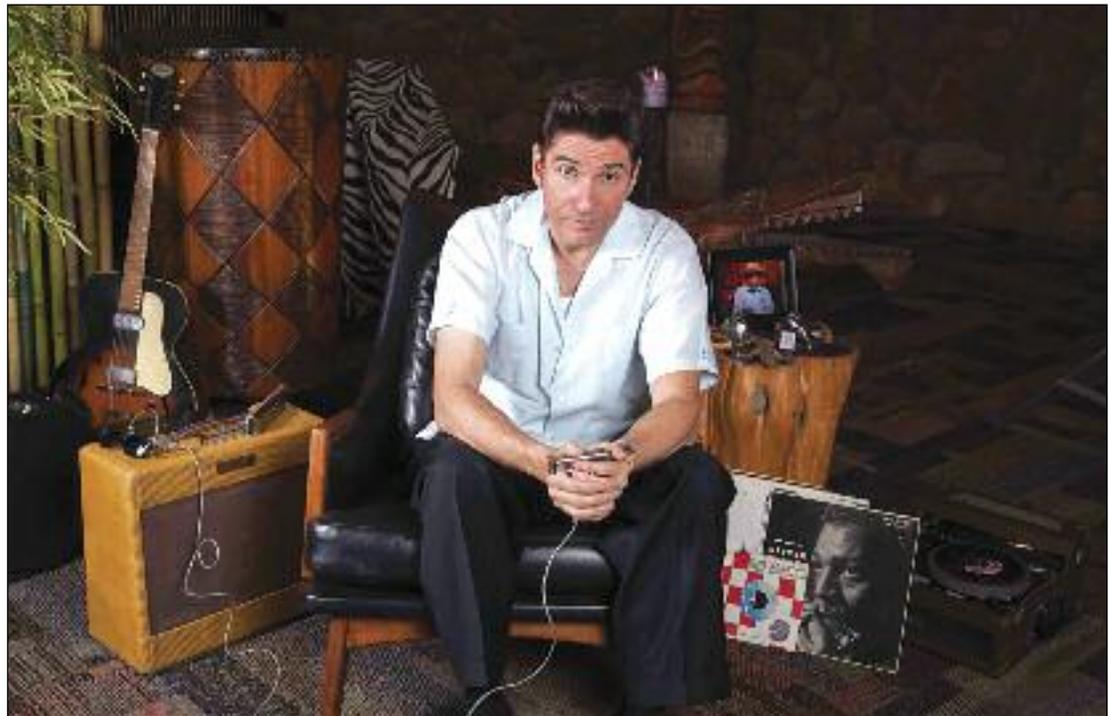
Phoenix gets 40 percent of its water from the Colorado River, which for years has been severely impacted by drought, exacerbated by climate change, and subjected to a complicated management history.

"Water is pretty simple," said Warren Tenney, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA), when we spoke to him in August. "But we sure make it complicated to manage it."

Formed in 1969, AMWUA is a collaboration among 10 municipalities in Arizona, including the City of Phoenix, which together provide water to 3.7 million people — more than half of the state's population.

Of the collaboration, Tenney said, "It's the principle of strength and numbers and speaking with one voice." The shortages on the Colorado River are a

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Chicago blues harmonica musician, North Central Phoenix club owner and radio host Bob Corritore has been helping keep blues music alive in the Valley, and beyond, at the Rhythm Room since 1991 (photo by Dave Blake).

Carrying the torch and keeping the blues alive

By Kathryn M. Miller

"They say that the key to happiness, is making the music louder than the chaos." A fitting statement for the times we live in from Bob Corritore — blues enthusiast, historian, preservationist, ambassador, performer and someone who has been bringing music to the Valley since his arrival in 1981.

Born in Chicago and raised in the suburb of Wilmette, at the age of 12 or 13, Corritore heard Muddy Waters, often called the Father of Chicago Blues, and it was life-altering.

"After hearing Muddy Waters, that was my North Star — that was the direction of my life from that point forward," Corritore said.

In Chicago, blues music was everywhere.

"As a matter of fact, the very first blues show that I saw was at my high school auditorium, the Sam Lay Blues Revival. It was like an all-star review of blues artists. And I would give my junior theme on Muddy Waters. Later on, in my senior year, Muddy Waters would play in my high school gymnasium."

Corritore learned the harmonica, played in a band in high school, then later in college in Tulsa, where he picked up a lot of work because he was the only guy around playing the instrument in a Chicago style. He

would also play at Southside and Westside clubs when he was home on spring and summer breaks. But at the age of 24, he began to wonder if his current trajectory was what he wanted, which is when a phone call from his brother in Phoenix opened a new path.

"I ended up moving right after I was 25 years old, and I planned on staying about a year," Corritore recalled.

It wasn't long before another phone call — this time from his Chicago friend and blues guitarist Louisiana Red — would cement Corritore's decision to make Phoenix his home. Red came out to Arizona and the pair started booking gigs.

"Red was just one of the guys that guided you in

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From the Editor

Hello, North Central Neighbors!

Despite a waterlogged August monsoon, water continues to be a major issue for the state — a resource near and dear to everyone living in desert cities and one that is under threat. Those I spoke with for our cover story say that collaboration will be key to the survival of our water sources. Part of that collaboration includes residents, who can do their part by looking at ways to conserve water at home. You will find resources in the story.



Also on the cover, I had the pleasure of talking with Bob Corritore. His North Central venue, The Rhythm Room, has been a mainstay for live music in Phoenix for more than 30

years, and he has been sharing his love of the blues for more than a decade beyond that as a musician and through is radio show, “Those Lowdown Blues.”

Our September Café Chat features a newer kid on the block, Neighborly Public House, the latest offering from Common Ground Culinary and owner/chef Christopher Collins. Also in Food for Thought, we catch up with the duo behind Dos Chris’ Bakery & Charcuterie Co., opening soon at the corner of 16th Street and Bethany Home Road, and update you on some delicious fall food festivals headed our way.

We round out the issue with local community, business, entertainment and school news and information. As always, we appreciate your readership and hope you enjoy our September issue!

All my best,

Kathryn M. Miller

Editor, North Central News

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A new mural by Phoenix artist Isaac Caruso graces the exterior of Dogtopia Uptown Phoenix, which is set to open in September (photo by Kathryn M. Miller).

Dogtopia will mark 20 years, 200th location

By Kathryn M. Miller

For many people, their dogs are more than just pets; they are family. Sometimes, though, furry family members need to spend quality time with canine companions, and many fur kids can't be left to their own devices during the day while mom or dad work. So, to help meet the needs of North Central pet parents, Dogtopia is gearing up to open its 200th dog day care location this month.

Established in 2002 as a daycare and boarding facility, Dogtopia has morphed into something much more. The company's vision, or "Noble Cause," is "to enhance the joy of dog parenthood and enable dogs to positively change our world." Their goal is to do this through safe socialization, exercise, and education at their daycare facilities.

David Duran, who handles new store marketing and enrollment for the company, says that while they are primarily a doggy daycare, they do offer overnight stays and spa services, but only for their day care dogs.

"All of our dogs are enrolled, so they're coming on a consistent basis," Duran said. "We really treat it like school. We like our dogs to be coming in regularly so that we get to know their friends, and their playmates. We feel that it's a lot safer environment for the dogs when they're coming regularly versus drop-in daycare."

They offer a full calendar of activities for enrolled pups — from dance parties and story time to Wellness Wednesday training and photo parties. They are also tech forward — most services can be scheduled from their app and webcams are in all the rooms so that pet parents can check in during the day.

Giving back to the community

through its foundation is a major part of the company brand. They partner with Canines for Warriors (www.k9sforwarriors.org) to raise funds through "treat days" at the day care centers to provide service dogs for veterans.

Duran said that, since its opening in 2020, the Historic Phoenix location downtown has raised funds for seven service dogs.

"Each one is \$6,000, so we just have really generous dog parents," he added.

The company also likes to get to know the neighborhoods they serve and create facilities that fit the vibe of the area, and they are not afraid to stand out either.

Anyone driving south on 7th Street past the new Uptown Phoenix location at Rose Lane likely noticed a beautiful new mural gracing the building exterior. Featuring a parade of dogs prancing towards the front door, the mural was completed in August by artist Isaac Caruso (www.isaacncaruso.com).

"When the time came to choose an artist, the stars aligned, and Isaac just made the most sense for us," recalled Duran. "He loves dogs (has a super cute one) and has painted man's best friend a few times in a realistic way that we so enjoy. It's going to really bring a corner of happiness to the Uptown neighborhood!"

A mural can offer "a sign of life" in communities, Caruso added. "It's also a bit of place making, and it gives our communities a visual identity and personality."

When he is not bringing artistic joy to area neighborhoods, the Phoenix native travels around Arizona with the aforementioned "super cute" Gustavo ("He's the brains of the operation," Caruso laughed, "I'm just the guy with thumbs."), working to complete a 50-mural project that will serve as illustra-

please see DOGS on page 10

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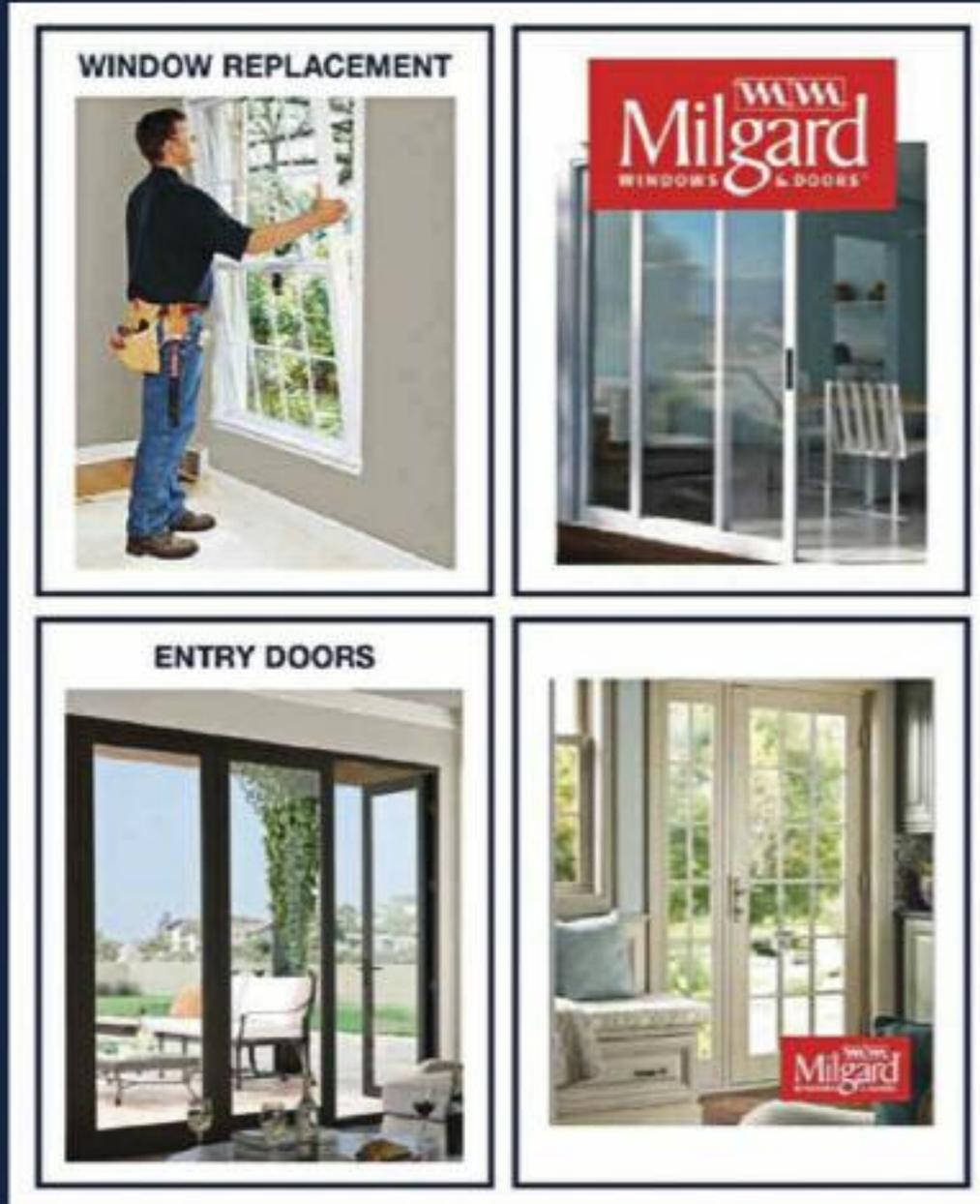
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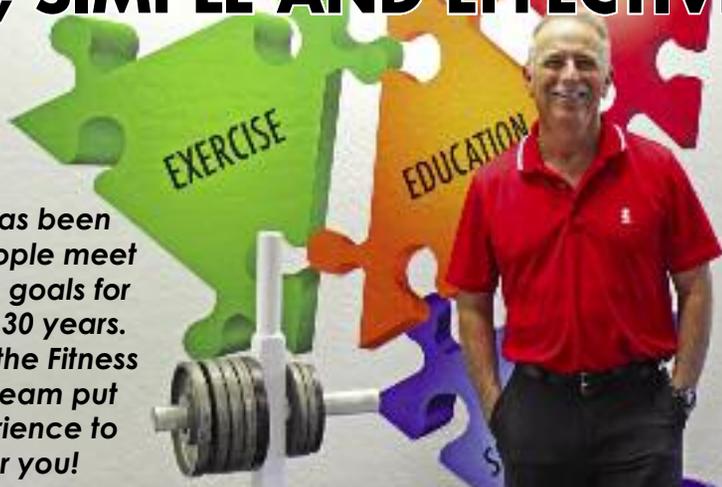
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serious concern, and at its Aug. 10 board meeting, he made the stark announcement: “Without strong action, the river is headed for disaster.”

The Colorado River is roughly 1,450 miles long and begins its journey southward into Mexico from Colorado and Wyoming. The drainage basin area, about 246,000 square miles, includes all of Arizona, and parts of California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming — also known as the Colorado River Basin States.

The river and its tributaries provide water to nearly 40 million people, both within and outside of the basin, and irrigates nearly 5.5 million acres of agricultural lands.

As we entered 2022, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland declared the first-ever Tier 1 shortage for Colorado River operations. This resulted in a substantial cut to Arizona’s river supply, about 18 percent. The reductions fell largely on central Arizona agricultural users, with no reduction in water to municipalities. The situation since the beginning of the year, however, has worsened.

At the beginning of June, Phoenix declared a Stage 1 Water Alert and activated its Drought Management Plan (www.phoenix.gov/drought), which states, “As a result of the declaration, the City will begin an intensive public education and information program to assist all customers in understanding the state of the emergency and the need for voluntary conservation.”

On July 14, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Touton testified before Congress that Colorado River Basin states will need to conserve between 2- to 4-million-acre feet of water in 2023 to protect Lake Mead and Lake Powell’s reservoirs. If the states were unable to come up with a plan together, Reclamation would do so. A deadline of Aug. 15 was given.

Reclamation released its Colorado River Basin August 2022 24-Month Study on Aug. 16 and called for additional cuts to water and ongoing conservation contributions. In a statement, U.S. Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Tanya Trujillo said, “Every sector in every state has a responsibility to ensure that water is used with maximum efficiency. In order to avoid a catastrophic collapse of the Colorado

River System and a future of uncertainty and conflict, water use in the Basin must be reduced.”

The bottom line for Arizona: in 2023, Lake Mead will enter Tier 2a Shortage status and the state will see a reduction of 592,000 acre-feet of water, which is approximately 21 percent of the state’s annual apportionment. Nevada, another Lower Basin State, and Mexico will also see reductions. California will only be required to make a water savings reduction under a Tier 2b status.

The City of Phoenix responded to Reclamation’s report in a released statement that said, in part, “Today’s announcement did not include a Basin State plan to reduce demand or a federal unilateral action to save the Colorado River. Given the serious circumstances on the Colorado River, this lack of action is disappointing.”

“Phoenix continues to advocate for additional collaboration throughout the Colorado River Basin and has demonstrated its commitment to sustainability and stability. In 2022 alone, Phoenix voluntarily gave up 23 percent of its available Colorado River entitlements to stabilize water levels in Lake Mead and help Pinal farmers who lost access to Colorado River supplies.”

So, what does all this mean for Phoenix residents? Will the city move into a Stage 2 Water Warning status?

A Stage 2 Water Warning occurs when “an insufficient supply situation occurs.” This stage authorizes the Water Services Department director to impose and enforce water use reduction regulations and impose a drought surcharge on the City Services bill. But we are not there yet, says City of Phoenix Water Resources Management Advisor, Cynthia Campbell.

“Stage 2, by definition, implies that we don’t have enough water to serve the full needs that we have right now,” said Campbell. “A Tier 2a shortage takes some of our Colorado River water, but it’s water that we were actually going to store underground. Our needs are already fully met with our higher priority supplies of Colorado water. The point is, the cut is not bad enough to impact customer delivery at this point.”

The city has been working for decades preparing for the possibility of water shortages. Campbell says that it has built a diverse and robust portfolio of water that is larger than current cus-

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Real Estate Corner
Bobby Lieb
 Your Residential real estate specialist for North Central, Biltmore, the Camelback Corridor, and Paradise Valley

Hello, September!

If you have school age children, they are back in school. You may be getting ready to celebrate Labor Day and the long weekend. Maybe you are just getting excited knowing that we will be settling into our cooler mornings and evenings. We are coming together more often and understand the advantages of doing so.

I recently was asked to sit on a panel. We were tasked with explaining the current real estate market as it pertains to existing clients as we navigate our sellers and buyers through this new and changing market. Allowing for more discussions, explaining how to successfully maneuver the process. There were approximately 200 people eager to learn how to facilitate and accommodate clients through these very different conditions, then really just months prior. We discussed setting reasonable and appropriate expectations.

For sellers: realistic sales price – time on market. For buyers: More homes on the market – higher interest rates, to name a couple.

To be honest, the real estate agents who have longevity understood that the frenzied sellers' market could not maintain itself. While Arizona continues to serve up the ultimate lifestyle and economic possibilities, the market has neutralized. Certainly, the shift is a huge contrast from the fervor that existed the past 18 months. Having been through short sales and foreclosure concerns in 2006 through 2011 and much higher interest rates in the early '80s and '90s, I was prepared for the readjustment that occurred in June of this year.

Rest assured, we are still in an excellent real estate market, only more balanced. Buyers and sellers are now on an equal path. The luxury market is still viable and I am impressed and energized by the number of luxury sales that have occurred in our North Central Phoenix corridor in the past two years. I'm honored to report that I have sold more than 25 homes in 2022 over a million dollars and currently have interested buyers willing to acquire their dream home, over a million dollars.

Our Central Phoenix values are still much lower than other coveted communities in the Valley and many young families, who grew up in

our area and moved out of state, are now moving back to reunite with their parents and siblings. One positive outcome of the restrictions 'Covid' revealed, was the importance of close proximity to our loved ones.

Significant to our neighborhood, is access to quality schools and the impact on home values this has for our neighborhoods. We are fortunate that the Madison School District has been one of the highest achieving and desired districts in Arizona, as are our exceptional private schools and early education options. The growth, in the past 10 years in North Central, north to Dunlap and from 15th Avenue to 16th Street, with considerable new construction, new businesses and the continued achievements of our own Sunnyslope High School - only preserve the attraction of our community. Our home values are a drawing source for many home buyers looking for their dream home, plus effortless access to all areas of town, not-to-mention the close proximity of hiking and biking trails and so much more.

Thank you again for all of our clients and companies, services who continue to work and allow us to represent them. Over the past 30 years, I have experienced more than 3,200 transactions. Couldn't have done it without you. Thank you!

Bobby Lieb

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life and you didn't even know he was guiding you," Corritore said. "But the first place I ever booked Red was a place called The Purple Turtle, it was at 1019 E. Indian School Rd. Well, little did I know that many years later I'd be the owner of that venue. Also, the first time I ever went to KJZZ was when Red asked me to go and back him up for a live, on the air performance and interview. So, I got to know the station through Red."

That venue, which Corritore took ownership of in September 1991 and established as The Rhythm Room, is still going strong, despite the challenges of the pandemic. He frequently takes the stage with his band and others, joining a who's-who of musicians on his home stage over the years. But some of his performances elsewhere have been incredibly memorable.

"I got to do couple tours with Jimmy Rogers. Jimmy Rogers was Muddy Waters' right-hand man."

In high school, Corritore bought a 1950s recording of their music on the Chess Records label, "I'd listen that

record and just loved it so much that I'd actually fall asleep dreaming about that and wondering if someday I'd play in a band that would sound something like that. I never even imagined that I'd actually get to work with that legendary artist and call him my friend."

It is that kind of history and personal connection to blues music that Corritore brings to the airwaves for five hours every Sunday night on KJZZ during his "Those Lowdown Blues" show — something he has been doing since February 1984.

"It would be hard to overestimate Bob's contribution to the blues," said Marty Kool, a promoter, blues music DJ and fellow Arizona Blues Hall of Famer (Corritore was inducted in 1997; Kool in 2008).

The "Marty Kool's Blues Review" hit the airwaves out of Tucson's KXCI the same year as Corritore's Lowdown show, and he, too, discovered the blues at an early age. For Kool, it was at the age of nine, tuning in at night with his crystal radio from his home in Iowa. He was able to pick up some of the Southern stations that were spinning

rhythm and blues in the '50s — powerhouses of the day such as WLAC in Nashville, WDIA in Memphis, and KAAY out of Little Rock.

But what draws a kid from Iowa to the blues?

"Honesty is a big part of it," Kool said. "The music itself, I mean, and there's the lyrics and things are so honest and true. And relatable, because everybody's had the blues."

The music, Kool says, also is the foundation for so much of the music around today.

"Whether it's country music, jazz music, bluegrass music, rock 'n' roll, rhythm and blues, mariachi music. And when you realize that root, and from that the tree grows and all these branches; everything comes off of that root. So, that's really what keeps me drawn to the blues."

Both he and Corritore continue to draw others to the genre in their own ways, but Kool says that, "Bob is unique. He's a great harmonica player. He's a nice, guy. He's got that radio show... and he's got the foresight to bring these real deal guys to town.

When he brings these real deal guys like Henry Gray or John Primer or folks like that to town and then he's got the foresight to take them into the studio, and get those recordings done. That makes him one of the best in the country, as far as I'm concerned, for keeping the blues alive."

Kool added, "Some people say, 'Oh, the blues is dying,' but it's not. It hasn't in the last 100 years. It waxes and wanes like everything does. But it's important to keep that live music alive. Support live music and buy CDs. Downloads just don't cut it money-wise for a musician."

Whether catching shows live, tuning in on the radio or supporting artists through sales, music is an integral part of the human experience.

"Music, in general, allows life to make sense," Corritore concluded. "There's a sweet spot in music that transports us to a better place. And we, as performers, when we are able to create that and deliver that to an audience and the audience is getting it — there's nothing better than that feeling.

please see BLUES on page 10



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Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

We are so looking forward to an in-person Annual Meeting this year as our volunteer neighborhood organization remains as busy as ever. City of Phoenix Zoning cases are still being conducted virtually, which has its challenges. But thanks to your emails of either support or opposition, we are actively maintaining and protecting our cherished North Central neighborhood.

The NCPHA Tree Committee is working tirelessly to preserve our beautiful streetscape and tree canopy. And all the rain we are receiving is such a blessing. Last year, because of your generous donations we continue to partner with the City of Phoenix and have planted 34 new ash trees along both sides of Central Avenue.

Our Public Safety committee continues to collaborate with the Phoenix Police Department to keep our neighborhoods safe. However, due to staffing shortages, we are seeing the effects



of higher crime in our area. If you do not know your neighbors, please consider starting a Block Watch group on your street. Develop a plan to keeping connected. For further information, visit <https://www.phoenix.gov/police/resources-information/block-watch-info>.

The NCPHA is also very concerned about the high rate of speed we are seeing daily on our streets. We would like to start a grassroots effort encouraging residents to SLOW DOWN and DRIVE THE SPEED LIMIT. We cannot control those who cut through our neighborhoods, but if you live here, drive the speed limit.

Last year we had multiple zoning cases requesting to build higher walls along our streets. The City came back with a strong message of NO, so please keep your side and rear walls to the legal maximum height of 6 feet. Consider using plant material and trees if you want to increase your

privacy. This emphasis on greenery and openness is a vital part of North Central character and has been so for the past 100+ years.

With our monsoon rains, the condition of the Murphy Bridle Path continues to erode. If you live on the east side of Central Avenue, please remember there is NO PARKING between your property line and the street at any time. Each time a car or large truck drives or parks on the Bridle Path, it aids in further deterioration. Deep ruts create safety hazards for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Finally, Election Season is in full swing. This is a very important election. Our City Council district, D6 will be on the ballot. Please get to know the candidates and VOTE!

Thank you again for being such concerned and active property owners. We hope to see you at our annual meeting on September 22nd.

Our website at ncpha.org has more detailed information regarding our neighborhood. We are a volunteer organization and rely on the generosity of property owners within the NCPHA boundaries (see below). Often we need to hire legal counsel and other means of assistance. Your annual dues covers our regular expenses, but we always appreciate and can use more. Additionally, your financial support allows us to continue to ensure that the beauty, charm and history of North Central is preserved. If you haven't signed up to get our email updates, please do so at ncpha.org.

Anyone who lives within the NCPHA boundaries* is considered a member of our volunteer organization. We ask that each property owner pay a **minimum of \$40.00 for annual dues (January-December)**. We appreciate any amount of generous support. For updates on zoning cases in our neighborhood, please visit www.ncpha.org.

**Northern side of Missouri to the southern side of Northern; the east side of 7th Avenue to the west side of 7th Street.*

Two ways to pay: Go online to www.ncpha.org and click **PAY DUES** tab on the Home page which will take you to PayPal.

OR Fill out the information below and **mail your check, payable to NCPHA** to:

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COMMUNITY

WATER *continued from page 6*

tomers use. It is working with developers to build infill that takes advantage of current infrastructure and promotes EPA Water Sense certification in new homes. Phoenix is conducting ecosystem restoration in the Salt River system, which provides 60 percent of the city's water. The city also has built new infrastructure when needed, such as the Drought Pipeline currently under construction, which will move water from the Verde River, a major tributary of the Salt.

"When we made that decision to, back in about 2017, to invest \$300 million in a pipe to move water from south to north, the reason was, we perceived a potential risk in the Colorado River supplies," Campbell said.

"We made that investment and lo and behold, it'll be ready next year, right about time we may need it. That's the kind of planning that Phoenix has historically done. The city of Phoenix paid \$3 million, an unheard-of sum in 1950s, to build infrastructure gates at Horseshoe Reservoir on the Verde River, 50 miles away. That bought us a water supply that we're now going to turn around and put in a drought pipeline to serve North Phoenix when we need to."

She added, "The most important thing to know is that Phoenix has been preparing for many, many years for prolonged shortage. We're in pretty good shape as we go in and, in the short term, there will be no interruption to customers. What we are looking at down the road is the possibility of a more severe impact to our portfolio, primarily caused by climate change. We need to make sure that we continue to do what the city has done for 70 years. And that is, we adapt. We get used to new situations. We double down on conservation, and we want our customers to be our partners in that."

There are ways that residents can hold up their side in this partnership. Even small acts can add up.

AMWUA shared five ways that residents can be part of the solution. First, learn where and how you use the most water. Then, find and fix visible and hidden leaks indoors and out; water your yard efficiently and effectively; don't overseed (plant winter grass); and transform your yard into a desert-adapted landscape.

Tenney added, "It's important for

residents to understand that there are committed professionals in all of the cities that — whether that is operating a treatment plant, or working out on the system, or the folks that look at water resources, as well as the conservation staffs — are all working to make sure that we have water every time we turn on our taps. Municipalities understand that they're in the forever business."

At the end of the day, says Tenney, "We're all in this together."

From history and current strategies to helpful conservation tips, both AMWUA and the City of Phoenix offer a wealth of resources to residents. Visit www.amwua.org/what-you-can-do and www.phoenix.gov/waterservices/resourcesconservation.

BLUES *continued from page 8*

"In this world, where there are all these frustrations and anger and people not wanting to get along, I think we can all agree on music. There's something that connects us with music. It's a beautiful bridge to our humanity."

Corritore's latest album, "You Shocked Me," will be released Sept. 9, and Valley residents are invited to join him and some of his talented friends as he celebrates his 66th birthday with a night of Chicago blues, Saturday, Sept. 24, at The Rhythm Room.

For information, call 602-612-4981 or visit www.rhythmroom.com.

DOGS *continued from page 4*

tions for his forthcoming children's book, "Sam & Sara." When complete, readers will be able to travel around the state and see the story unfold via the murals.

The book, expected to be completed in 2023, is a special project for the artist. It's a semi-autobiographical narrative of a creative, gifted nontraditional learner growing up in public school.

"I wanted to make a book for kids to kind of encourage them to be day-dreamers, be creative, think outside the box and let them know that's OK."

Keep up with the project at www.samandsara.org. In the meantime, check out Caruso's mural at Dogtopia. The Uptown Phoenix location is set to open in September at 6148 N. 7th St. Those wanting to enroll their pooch can call 602-607-2777 or find more information at www.dogtopia.com/uptown-phoenix.



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COMMUNITY

Cross Roads hosts military history speaker

Veterans, their families and friends, and the general public are invited to Cross Roads United Methodist Church, for a military history presentation, 8–9 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 17. Guest speaker Bill Reynolds, U.S. Army, retired, will present “Army — Airborne.”

A native of Chicago, Reynolds served in the Army for 21 years, including two combat tours with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Vietnam. He has advocated for veterans and their families as a volunteer service officer, expediting veteran’s compensation and benefit claims. In 2017, he logged more than 8,000 miles and 780 hours providing assistance to veterans and their families. In 2018 Reynolds’ continuing service to the people of Arizona was recognized by his induction into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame, Class of 2018.

To ensure adequate refreshments at the September presentation, RSVPs are appreciated. Leave a message at 602-943-7834 (Carol Culbertson, church Veterans Ministry team). Questions

may be directed to carolculbertson@earthlink.net. Cross Roads United Methodist Church is located at 7901 N. Central Ave. For additional information, visit www.crossroadsphx.com.

Chabad will offer High Holiday services

Chabad of Phoenix invites the Valley Jewish community to attend its High Holiday services in September and October.

Rosh Hashana will be observed Sept. 25–27; Yom Kippur, Oct. 4–5. Evening services will be held at sundown. Morning services are held at 9:30 a.m. Those who cannot make it to services are invited to attend Shafar in the Park and Tashlich service, featuring children’s treats, shofar sounding and a service, Monday, Sept. 26, at 6 p.m., at the lower lake at Granada Park, 20th St. between Ocotillo Rd. and Maryland Ave.

The services are free to attend (no membership fees or tickets are needed), but seating is limited and an RSVP is required.

Chabad of Phoenix is located at 2110 E. Lincoln Dr. To RSVP or for additional information, visit www.chabadaz.com/holidays.

Greek festival offers Hellenic hospitality

Residents are invited to mark their calendars for some Hellenic hospitality in October as the annual Phoenix Greekfest returns for its 61st year.

Attendees will enjoy Greek food, music, dancing, jewelry, art, grocery items and activities for kids. Authentic Greek foods include gyros, kalamari, pastitsio, spanakopita, lamb and melt-in-your-mouth loukoumades (Greek donuts). This festival offers the most Greek pastries of any other, including baklava, melomakarouna dipped in honey, and much more baked by Greek yiayias (grandmothers). Packaged handmade pastries are available to take home.

The Village Market features feta cheese, phyllo dough, olives, fresh oregano and more items imported from Greece. Popular Greek liquors such as

Ouzo and Metaxa brandy will be served alongside imported Greek beer and wine.

In addition, national award-winning Greek Folk Dancers perform virtually every hour. Dance lessons will be offered daily, and everyone can join the line dancing as a live Greek band plays. Also, international vendors showcase jewelry, artwork, pottery, clothing accessories, gift items and more.

Run entirely by volunteers, proceeds from the event benefit Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral ministries, including youth programs that build camaraderie, character and commitment to community.

The Greek Festival will be held Oct. 7–9 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Community Center, 1973 E. Maryland Ave., Phoenix. Admission is \$5 for adults; children under 12 free. Residents ages 60 and over get in for free Saturday, Oct. 8, from 11 a.m. –3 p.m. Parking is available on-site for \$10, and free at Charles Schwab, on the southwest corner 24th St. and Lincoln, with free shuttle every 15 minutes.

For more information, visit www.phoenixgreekfestival.org.

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COMMUNITY

Historical Society offers water discussion

The Sunnyslope Historical Society and Museum will bring Arizona's drought and water shortage issues into focus as it hosts Terry Goddard at a free September event.

Scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 17, at 10 a.m., Goddard will speak on Arizona's water resources and the future of water in the Southwest. Attendees also will have the opportunity to explore the museum's new exhibits.

Sunnyslope Historical Society is located at 737 E. Hatcher Rd. For additional information, call or visit www.sunnyslopehistoricalsociety.org.

Temple to host open house event

Beth Ami Temple, a Jewish reform congregation that limits its membership to adults, invites residents who would like to learn more about the congregation's religious and social activities to a Wine & Cheese Open House Sept. 16.

The Wine & Cheese event is an

opportunity to meet Rabbi Allison Lawton and Cantorial Soloist Michael Robbins and mingle with current members and other guests while learning more about the congregation's High Holiday and Shabbat services.

The event will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 16, with Shabbat service to follow. Beth Ami Temple is located at 3535 E. Lincoln Dr. (inside Gloria Christi Church). To RSVP, call 602-956-0805. For more information, visit www.bethamitemple.org.

Valleylife to celebrate a 'Legacy of Love'

Valleylife invites residents to join in their mission to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities as it celebrates its 75th anniversary.

Valleylife provides individuals with disabilities of all ages the opportunity to live a life with choices, independence and dignity. It services a full range of disabilities and by supporting such a broad spectrum of individuals, they have an in-depth understanding of how disability affects each person's life,

and what support is needed.

The Diamond Jubilee Gala, the 2022 Legacy of Love Gala, will be held Saturday, Sept. 24, 5 p.m., at the Sheraton Phoenix Crescent Hotel, 2620 W. Dunlap Ave, Phoenix. Proceeds from the event will benefit the art program and medical services at Valleylife.

Valleylife is located at 1142 W. Hatcher Rd., Phoenix. For additional information, call 602-371-0806 or visit www.valleylifeaz.org/events.

Voter registration deadline is Oct. 11

Valley residents who are not yet registered to vote but want to participate in the Nov. 8 general election, have until Oct. 11 to register. Voters can confirm their ballot status online at <http://beballotready.vote>.

Arizona's general election occurs every two years in an even year. This election includes federal, state, county and local offices. The general election is the final election held between nominees of various parties, as well as non-partisan races, ballot propositions and

initiatives. Learn more at <https://elections.maricopa.gov>.

In the city of Phoenix, the County-conducted election will elect Council members in Council Districts 2, 4, 6 and 8. If no single candidate receives a majority of the votes during the Nov. 8 election, the top two candidates will advance to a runoff election to be held on March 14, 2023.

Library closed for maintenance

Century Library, on Highland Avenue east of State Route 51, is closed for maintenance through the month of September. The library's book drop will not be available during this time.

The closure at the 6,500-square-foot library began Aug. 22, and will continue through Sunday, Oct. 2.

For information on other locations for book drops (available 24/7 at all open locations) and which location residents can temporarily select as their preferred holds pickup location, visit the Locations & Hours page on www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org.

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COMMUNITY

Pet of the Month

Kind Keller is handsome older feller

At 13-years-young, Keller is looking forward to another chance at finding his perfect forever home. Surrendered to the Arizona Humane Society after his owner's health took an unfortunate turn, this handsome boy hopes there is a family who is able to give him the love and care he so deserves.

Although it is not uncommon, this lovely kitty's story is a great example of ensuring to have a plan in place for your pets should an emergency arise. Both short and long term. As much as we love our pets and think those close to us can easily take them in and care for them, there are often many circumstances in which that is not the case.

Keller underwent a medical evaluation once in AHS' care and it was found that he may have limited vision due to microphthalmia. Microphthalmia is a condition where the eye is smaller than it should be either due to a birth defect or an injury. While it gives him a special look, this does not bother Keller



Keller is a handsome 13-year-old kitty looking for a new family to give him some love and care (photo courtesy of AHS).

at the moment and does not affect his quality of life.

The Arizona Humane Society's Virtual Matchmaking Adoptions by appointment is available to place pets with their forever families. Interested adopters can view available pets, like kind Keller, and schedule an appointment online at www.azhumane.org/adopt.

While Keller (pet number 702008) might have been adopted by the time of your Virtual Matchmaking Adoption by Appointment, AHS has dozens more wonderful pets who also need

loving homes. Take a moment to meet some of the other dogs, cats and other companion animals at the shelter. Interested adopters can view available pets on the "Adopt" pages on the website and schedule an appointment online to meet their next furry friend. Visit www.azhumane.org/adopt.

Flow with pups for a good cause

Almost There Rescue will host a Paws & Reflect Puppy Yoga event Wednesday, Sept. 7, from 6–7 p.m. The new series will be held on the first Wednesday of the month and offers a 30-minute flow with free-roaming puppies. All ages and abilities are welcome to participate. The cost is \$30 and will help support the work that the non-profit rescue does.

Almost There specializes in pregnant and nursing dogs and pups who need time and space to grow and become socialized. Moms and pups have significant social time with adults, children, and other dogs. While there, puppies go through a specially designed curriculum

"Puppy Culture" developed by a team of experts including behavioral veterinarians and credentialed trainers.

For additional information, call 480-336-9860 or visit www.almosttherescue.org.

Grant will help AHS support senior dogs

Pet owners with senior dogs in need of assistance from the Arizona Humane Society's (AHS) Pet Resource Center received a much-needed boost when The Grey Muzzle Organization announced the recipients of its annual grants this summer and AHS was among the winners. The \$10,000 grant will help AHS assist dozens of pet owners in need of monetary assistance through its Bridge the Gap program's Real-Time Solutions Fund to ensure struggling pet parents have the resources they need to keep their senior dogs out of the shelter.

The funding will help pets like Kiana, a 9-year-old Chihuahua who ran away after a monsoon storm and was hit by a car, resulting in injuries to her back legs. Not only was Kiana's owner completely devastated but also was faced with the possibility of having to give her up due to the costs to treat her. Thanks to this grant, AHS' Bridge the Gap program provided the financial aid needed to cover Kiana's medical care so she can remain with her family.

The Arizona Humane Society is one of 78 animal welfare groups chosen from 344 applicants to receive a grant to help local senior dogs. The winning groups received more than \$705,000 in grants to help save or improve the lives of senior dogs in their communities.

"This grant can help AHS provide owned senior dogs like Kiana the veterinary care they need to remain with their families, amongst an array of other resources," said Lindsay La Pre, AHS Pet Resource Manager. "AHS is dedicated to helping both pets and people and are so grateful to The Grey Muzzle Organization for their support in giving pet owners a helping hand in caring for their senior furry family members."

Over the past 14 years, the national nonprofit The Grey Muzzle Organization has provided more than \$3.8 million in grants to support its vision of "a world where no old dog dies alone and afraid."

For more information, visit www.azhumane.org.



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Business Briefs

Willow opens sales in North Central

In August, a new luxury community announced that it opened sales in North Central Phoenix.

Willow, built by Camelot Homes and located on 15th Ave. just south of Northern Ave., is a private gated community with 14 home sites situated on quarter-acre lots. The single-level floor plans range from 3,100-4,100 square feet with 3-5 bedrooms and 3.5-5.5 baths. Pricing starts at \$1,499,900.

"Willow's location presented us with a unique opportunity to build in this charming established North Central neighborhood that retains the character of simpler times in Phoenix past," said Camelot Homes co-owner and managing director, Julie Hancock.

She added that residents will experience the best of both rural and urban living. Willow's ranch style homes and tree-lined streets reflect historical elements while embracing contemporary styling. Homeowners can enjoy the quiet of Willow with easy access to the shops, restaurants and sports and entertainment venues of both Uptown Phoenix and Downtown Phoenix.

For additional information, visit www.camelothomes.com/community/willow.

Copyright system goes online

After more than two years of software development and extensive user-experience testing, in August the Library of Congress and the United

States Copyright Office opened the new Copyright Recordation System of the Enterprise Copyright System, a new technology platform, for use by the general public.

"This is an important step in the Copyright Office's Enterprise Copyright System modernization effort," said Denise Wofford, assistant register and director, Office of Copyright Records, "and will allow the processing of a major portion of transfers of copyright ownership or other documents pertaining to copyright to be processed more quickly; improving the time it takes to complete requests from the public. Our intention for this launch, is to continue to expand access to the copyright system to as many members of the public as possible."

Replacing a paper-based, manual process, members of the public can now use the online self-service portal found at <http://record.copyright.gov> to remit information about the transfer of copyright ownership.

Business Roadmap Series returns

Those who are ready to start a business in Phoenix are invited to attend the Phoenix Public Library's StartUpPHX Business Roadmap Series, offered in both English (Business Roadmap) and Spanish (Mapa Para Su Negocio). The eight-session series is geared to help Arizona entrepreneurs with specialized expertise in legal issues, target markets, budgeting, and pricing, setting milestones and accessing capital.

please see ROADMAP on page 20



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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

ROADMAP continued from page 18

The new series got underway in August and presentations are held in person inside StartUpPHX at Burton Barr Central Library. Additional Business Roadmap and Mapa Para Su Negocio series are scheduled to be offered online and at additional Phoenix Public Library locations throughout the fall. The next series kicks off Sept. 6 and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday from 5–7 p.m at Burton Barr. An online series begins Oct. 1.

Registration is required. Visit <https://calendar.phoenixpubliclibrary.org> for location, schedule, and registration details.

StartUpPHX is a discovery space for business entrepreneurs, combining elements of a co-working space with expert library fact-finding services and resources located on the 2nd floor of Phoenix Public Library's flagship, Burton Barr Central Library.

For more information, visit www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org/startup-phx or call 602-262-4636 during business hours.



The newest Phoenix-area American Furniture Warehouse has taken over the space of the former Costco at Christown Spectrum Mall (submitted photo).

Furniture showroom opens at Christown

American Furniture Warehouse celebrated the grand opening of its newest Arizona showroom Aug. 1.

Located in the former Costco space at Christown Spectrum Mall, the showroom doors opened to Phoenix shoppers with exclusive access to factory overstock items and special purchases at marked-down prices. The opening of the Christown showroom coincided with the most inventory AFW has had

in its 47-year history.

Founder and CEO Jake Jabs said, "We are excited to open our newest store and will be able to better serve our many customers in Phoenix. We will deliver the same great prices, and the same great service that we do at our Gilbert and Glendale stores."

AFW's third Phoenix-area showroom will give Arizona shoppers even more opportunity to find affordable furniture, and, according to the company, is just the beginning of its contin-

ued Arizona expansion strategy.

Christown Spectrum Mall is located at 1646 W. Montebello Ave. For additional information about American Furniture Warehouse, visit www.afw.com.

Medical center supports staff with lactation suite

Gina Shirah, MD FACS, held a ribbon cutting in May to celebrate a newly established lactation suite at HonorHealth John C. Lincoln Medical Center (between the Outpatient Diagnostic Unit and the Emergency Department).

The suite was created in conjunction with the Women Physicians Leadership Council, whose purpose was to create a comfortable and encouraging space for breastfeeding team members to address one of the challenges women are faced with when they return to work.

The CDC says that breastfeeding is an investment in health, and there are numerous benefits for baby and mom. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that, if possible, infants be exclusively breastfed for the first six months with continued breastfeeding while introducing solid foods for a year or longer.

At work, moms have unique challenges with breastfeeding. Most do not have enough time or access to space to help bridge the gap between home and work. This is especially true with new physician moms. Only 30 percent are successful in reaching one year of breastfeeding, meaning on average, they only breastfeed for three-and-a-half months.

The HonorHealth John C. Lincoln Medical Center is located at 250 E. Dunlap Ave. For additional information, visit www.honorhealth.com or call 602-943-2381.

Nonprofits merge under Alliance name

Following unanimous approval by both boards of directors, the merger of the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits and Arizona Grantmakers Forum was completed in August.

Alliance chief executive officer Kristen Merrifield will lead the combined organization, which will operate under the Alliance name for the immediate future. Arizona Grantmakers Forum President and CEO Laurie Liles

please see MERGE on page 22

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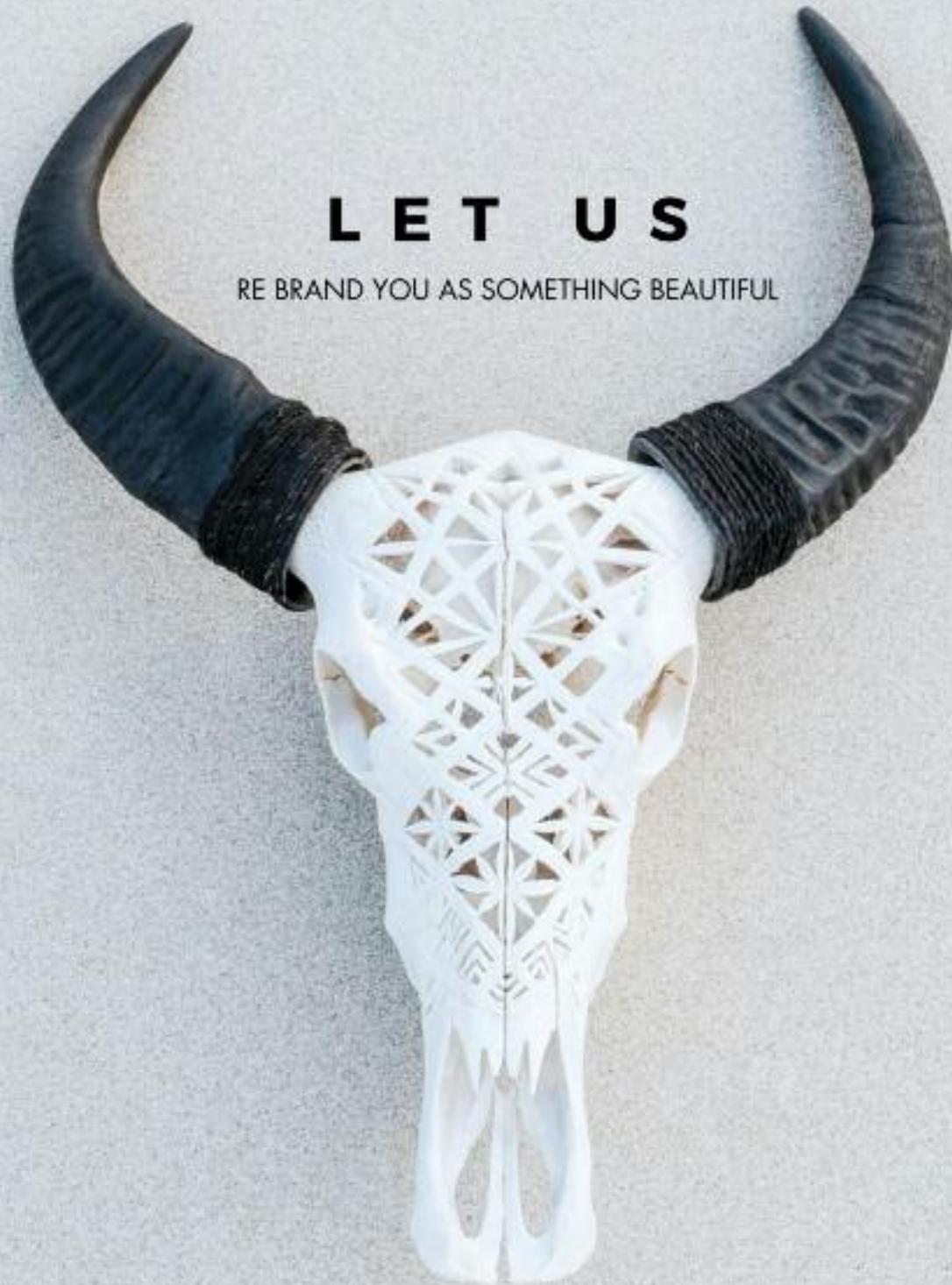


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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

MERGE continued from page 20

will become chief public policy officer and vice president of Arizona Grantmakers Forum as she shifts her focus to advocacy on behalf of the entire sector, while continuing to maintain relationships and provide support to the grantmaking members.

Merrifield said that current Arizona Grantmakers board members are now members of the Alliance board and all employees from both organizations will remain on staff. Current programming and membership structures will remain as they are through at least the end of the calendar year and likely into 2023 as the integration occurs in phases over the next year to two years.

The merged organization is located at 333 E. Osborn Rd., Unit 245, in central Phoenix. For more information visit www.aznonprofits.org.

Girl Scouts name new co-CEOs

Girl Scouts—Arizona Cactus-Pine Council (GSACPC) announced in August the appointments of Mary



Christina Spicer, left, and Mary Mitchell (photo courtesy of Girl Scouts—Arizona Cactus-Pine Council).

Mitchell and Christina Spicer as co-chief executive officers. Mitchell and Spicer take over the CEO role from Tamara Woodbury, who is retiring after leading the organization since 1993.

In their roles, Mitchell and Spicer will work together to maintain, establish, and grow key partnerships within the government and community; continue to make diversity, equity, inclusion and racial justice an organizational priority; and provide strategy and vision to ensure GSACPC's staff, 6,500 adult volunteers and 11,000 girls

grades K-12 in more than 90 communities across central and northern Arizona are supported and empowered to be unapologetically themselves as they discover their strengths and rise to meet new challenges while helping build a better world.

Arizona native Mitchell has been a member of the GSACPC team since 1998, most recently serving as interim co-CEO alongside Spicer since 2021. Spicer has been a member of the GSACPC team since 2014 and previously served as deputy director of the organization and as senior associate of fund development.

Local receives 'yes' from Walmart

Walmart recently wrapped up the ninth annual Open Call, a two-day event where 1,100 businesses from across the country pitched their products made, grown or assembled in the U.S. to Walmart and Sam's Club merchants. More than 330 of those pitches resulted in a deal for businesses to sell their items to Walmart customers through placement on store shelves or

online at Walmart.com.

Twelve Arizona businesses were invited to attend the event and pitch their products. Five came out with an offer, including North Central resident Jacqueline Kincer. An International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant, Kincer started a company called Holistic Lactation after working with breastfeeding moms, burdened by the fact that they struggled to make enough milk for their babies.

Kincer advised clients on various products and herbs to aid in the process but soon realized that it would be beneficial to have an all-in-one product that contains the right ingredients in the right amounts in one easy capsule. So, she created Advanced Lactation Formula, an organic herbal supplement for increasing breastmilk production. She pitched her product to Walmart, and they offered her a deal on the spot to sell her product on Walmart.com.

In 2013, Walmart pledged to spend \$250 billion over 10 years on products made, grown or assembled in the U.S. Last year, Walmart committed to invest an additional \$350 billion by 2031.

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42 W Marlette Ave	New Price	2932SF	4BR/3BA	\$1,050,000
131 E Tuckey Ln	New Price	2889SF	3BR/3BA	\$1,025,000
38 W Bethany Home Rd	In Escrow	3131SF	4BR/3.5BA	\$ 800,000
534 W El Camino Dr	Just Listed	1956SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 775,000
732 E Gardenia Dr	New Price	2728SF	3BR/3BA	\$ 649,900
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3120 E Coolidge St	\$1,990,000
7011 N Wilder Rd.....	\$1,745,000
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
640 E Echo.....	\$1,266,500
18005 N 65th Pl	\$1,225,000
10 E Cactus Wren Dr	\$1,225,000
2016 E State Ave.....	\$1,200,000
613 E Vista Ave*.....	\$1,200,000
901 W Wagon Wheel Dr.....	\$1,200,000
202 E Kaler Dr.....	\$1,195,000

1545 E Northern Ave	\$1,070,000
8989 E Gainey Center Dr #228	\$1,063,325
1025 E Morten Ave*.....	\$1,050,000
8902 E Rusty Spur Pl	\$1,050,000
9411 N 13th Way	\$1,150,000
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
7904 S 29th Pl	\$ 875,786
4128 E Sunnyside Dr	\$ 825,000
77 E Missouri Ave #67.....	\$ 815,000
7536 N 10th St	\$ 810,000
8058 E Via Del Desierto	\$ 775,000
7549 N 16th Dr	\$ 740,000
6614 N 19th St.....	\$ 725,000
4735 E Sleepy Ranch Rd.....	\$ 690,000
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 Dr.....	\$ 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
804 E Corte Oro Dr	\$ 494,000
6357 S Blake St	\$ 480,000
1241 E Kaler Dr	\$ 475,000
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2340 E Turney Ave	\$ 450,000
7526 N 10th Pl	\$ 440,000
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7321 N 11th Pl	\$ 425,000
8125 N Central Ave #18.....	\$ 425,000
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6223 N 12th St #13.....	\$ 422,000
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SCHOOL DAYS



Layton Duncan (Brophy College Preparatory) and Max Martin (Camelback High School) join a group of their peers this month in a series of video public service announcements designed to provide messages of hope to fellow teens (submitted photos).

Players participate in prevention campaign

Phoenix high school football players Layton Duncan (Brophy College Preparatory) and Max Martin (Camelback High School) are two of a group of 19 players and one cheerleader helping prevent teen suicide by starring in a series of video public service announcements designed to provide messages of hope to fellow teens.

The students, representing 18 Arizona high schools in the Phoenix, Tucson and Yuma areas, will appear in a series of professionally-produced video public service announcements (PSAs) organized by Teen Lifeline and the Grand Canyon State Gridiron Club (GCSGC).

The campaign will run on player, team and school social media channels in Arizona as well as on morning announcements in recognition of Teen Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in September.

When released during September, the PSA campaign is designed to provide messages of hope to fellow teens who may be struggling with depression, anxiety or thoughts of suicide. The messages let teens know they are not alone and encourage them to seek help if they feel depressed or suicidal.

“It would be difficult to overstate the importance of peer-to-peer connection for teens in every Arizona community,” said Nikki Kontz, Teen Lifeline clinical director. “Our teens are looking for validation. They need to hear from other teens that what they may be feeling is normal, that there is always hope

and that help is available 24/7/365.”

The organization said that teens are reaching out for help in record numbers statewide. The hotline received more than 22,000 calls and 20,000 text messages from troubled youths throughout Arizona in 2021. That’s a nearly 50 percent increase compared to 2019. Most of those calls and texts came from Arizona adolescents ages 10-19.

Teens who are struggling to feel hope in their lives are encouraged to call Teen Lifeline any day or time at 602-248-TEEN (8336) or 800-248-TEEN. Teens can also text with a teen peer counselor at 602-248-8336 between noon and 9 p.m. on weekdays and 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. on weekends.

The 24-hour hotline is staffed by teen peer counselors from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. daily. Trained, professional counselors are available at all other times.

School Briefs

GLENDALE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Sunnyslope senior receives Congressional award

Sunnyslope High School senior Abby Wolf received the Congressional Gold Medal award this summer. The Congressional award measures physical fitness, personal development and voluntary public service.

Wolf completed over 400 hours volunteering with the National Charity League, which aided Phoenix Children’s Hospital and St. Mary’s Food Bank. Additionally, she spent 200 hours learning computer languages,

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SCHOOL DAYS



Oasis tutor Roger Marce works with Harrison, a fourth-grader at Camelview Elementary. The Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring Program partners with the Madison School District to pair older adults with students who need literacy support (submitted photo).

which she used at the Sunnyslope Robotics Team. She also completed over 200 hours of physical fitness through tennis and individual enrichment.

Thunderbird NJROTC graduate from Sail Academy

Thunderbird High School's Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets were among the 108 Sail Academy 2022 graduates. NJROTC Sail Academy is a four-day and three-night experience that takes place each summer in Coronado, California.

The cadets camp on the beach and enjoy a variety of challenging events. The training includes the academic side of sailing, water survival, righting a capsized boat, hands-on sailing in a 16-foot sailboat, and culminates in a four-boat race in a 25-foot sailboat with a crew of four to five cadets.

Each Thunderbird cadet received the coveted Sail Academy pin and certificate at the graduation ceremony.

Washington teachers receive dance award

The Washington High School dance program, under the former leadership of Kelli Abramovich for 23 years and the future leadership of Tracey Holberg,

was awarded the 2022 Dance Program of Excellence Award for a high school.

The award comes with \$500 to support Washington's dance students' growth.

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tutors make a difference in the life of a child

The Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring Program is looking for dedicated and caring volunteers to go back to school and donate their time to make a significant impact on early literacy.

Oasis is a nonprofit organization that partners with the Madison School District to pair older adults, who may or may not be retired, with students needing literacy support. This program serves kindergarten through fourth grade children in four of the district's elementary schools — Heights, Camelview, Rose Lane and Simis.

The tutoring program is for community members who are interested in sharing a love of reading with a child. By becoming a literacy mentor, participants will support a student once a week for an hour during the school day to experience enjoyment and success in the skills of reading, writing and communication. The program is as reward-

please see TUTORING on page 28




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SCHOOL DAYS

TUTORING *continued from page 27*

ing for adults as it is for children.

Tutors receive fun, interactive training with other volunteers, presented by a reading specialist who will provide a tutor handbook, supplies and materials. Training to become an Oasis Tutor will be held Sept. 27 and 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Camelview Elementary, 2002 E. Campbell Ave.

Those who are interested may contact Kim Gullo at kgullo@madisoned.org or 602-664-7285.

OSBORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Breakfast, lunch free for all students

Osborn School District is committed to providing every student in the school community with all the tools they need to succeed, including nutritious meals.

The district announced that it will continue using the school meal program option that offers school breakfast and lunch every day to all students at no charge during the 2022-23 school year. All children enrolled in Osborn schools can eat at no cost and there is no application required.

Participating in school breakfast and lunch helps provide nutritious food for children at school so they can concentrate better and learn more and saves families valuable time and money. Families who have questions may contact any member of the Child Nutrition Department.

Students benefit from New Beginnings event

On July 19, Osborn School District took 25 students to the New Clothes New Beginnings Back to School event at Grand Canyon University. At this event, students were paired up with college students to “shop” for new clothing, shoes, backpacks, jewelry, hats and more. Afterwards, students ate lunch with their peers and the college students.

The Osborn students reported that they had a great time with some even claiming it was the “best day ever.” The district plans to take part in the event again next year and, hopefully, taking more students.

District addresses issues of pay equity

As a result of a recent compensation study, Osborn has made enhancements to its salary schedules and addressed other concerns related to pay equity. Specifically, the pay equity component addresses issues for current staff who have been with the district for several years and due to minimum wage increases, found themselves earning about the same as newly hired staff.

Through additional funding made available to the district, those inequities have been rectified. Additionally, the district has made enhancements to certified teachers schedules in an effort to value the work of professionals earning their master’s degree.

The district says that it continues its work to create a positive environment for both learning and work.

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SCHOOL DAYS

PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Henderson finalist for 'Teacher of the Year'

North High School teacher Erin Henderson has been named a top-10 finalist for the Arizona Educational Foundation's (AEF) Teacher of the Year Award.

The AEF Arizona Teacher of the Year Awards celebrates the dedication and hard work of Arizona's public school teachers. Ten outstanding teachers of the year, all of whom have been nominated by colleagues, parents or students, are honored. One teacher will ultimately be chosen for a "year of recognition" as Arizona's candidate for National Teacher of the Year. The awards ceremony is an opportunity for businesses, community organizations, local leaders, school districts and others who value teachers to join togeth-



Erin Henderson

er to show appreciation and respect for Arizona public school educators.

The district said, "Phoenix Union is extremely proud to have two teachers currently in the running for the Arizona Educational Foundation Teacher of the Year Award."

Learn more at www.azedfoundation.org/teacher-of-the-year.

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT Online Learning Academy opens enrollment

Enrollment is open for WESD's new online school — the Online Learning Academy (OLA). Serving grades K-8, the academy provides full day, real-time instruction with WESD teachers. The OLA serves as another quality educational opportunity that meets students' needs within WESD.

Those interested in enrolling a child in the OLA for the 2022–23 school year may send an email to distancelearning@wesdschools.org or visit www.wesdschools.org/wesdola. Space is limited in each grade level.

Principal named Hope Honor recipient

Sunnyslope School Principal Chance Whiteman has been named a 2022 Hope Honor recipient by the M A S T E R S Institute. The award celebrates organizations and individuals for outstanding leadership, courage and efforts in embracing the Kids at Hope philosophy of all children are capable of success.



Chance Whiteman

Kids at Hope's vision is that every child is afforded the belief, guidance and encouragement that creates a sense of hope and optimism, supported by a course of action needed to experience success at life's four major destinations: Home & Family; Education & Career; Community & Service; and Hobbies & Recreation.

Since implementing the Kids at Hope philosophy seven years ago when he became principal at Sunnyslope,

Whiteman has led the school community in focusing on creating lifelong learners and building a successful future for all students. Whiteman will be recognized at a luncheon in celebration of his achievement this month.

Resource Center available for families

WESD has a resource center to help families engage in positive early childhood experiences. Designed to be a one-stop shop for families with young children, the Washington Resource Information Center (WRIC) connects families to community resources, provides parents with support workshops and helps prepare children for kindergarten. The center's programs and resources are available to all families within the WESD. Specific WESD schools offer in-person programming including Moon Mountain Elementary School.

To learn about WRIC and the programming available at Moon Mountain this month, visit www.wesdschools.org/wric.

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SCHOOL DAYS



Xavier senior Sienna Cherwinski hopes to continue playing basketball overseas after graduating from college (photo courtesy of Cherwinski Family).

PRIVATE AND CHARTER SCHOOLS
Xavier senior plays at regional NBA event

Sienna Cherwinski, a senior at Xavier College Preparatory, was selected by an NBA director to play at Basketball Without Borders 2022 in San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

Cherwinski played for Team Columbia at the camp that brought together more than 60 of the top high-school age boys and girls from throughout Latin America, Canada and the Caribbean to learn directly from current and former NBA and FIBA players, legends, and coaches, and compete alongside their peers from across the region.

Ten all-stars, including Cherwinski, were selected from Basketball Without Borders 2022 to play at the NBA Academy Games in Atlanta in July.

Cherwinski, beginning her third season as captain of Xavier's Varsity Basketball team, plays point guard and shooting guard, and has been on Xavier's Varsity Basketball team since she was a freshman. After she graduates from college, she hopes to continue playing basketball overseas.

Brophy presents fall auction

Brophy College Preparatory will hold its fall auction, Brophy Ranch, Saturday, Oct. 15. The event will take place from 5:30–11 p.m. on Brophy's campus in Harper Great Hall. Event net proceeds will support the Brophy

Financial Aid Fund.

Attendees will enjoy an evening under the stars with cocktails, a silent and live auction, and an afterparty with dancing to the music of Nate Nathan and the MacDaddy-O's. Reservations will open on Sept. 8.

For more information and to make reservations on Sept. 8, visit www.brophyprep.org/giving/fall-auction.

Coach named to Hall of Fame

Jennifer Gillom, teacher and head basketball coach at Xavier College Preparatory, was elected to be inducted into the 2022 Arizona Sports Hall of Fame. This was announced by the Arizona Sports and Entertainment Commission. Gillom was elected by public vote, held from April through early May this year.

The Arizona Sports Hall of Fame honors athletes, coaches, administrators, and others who have made significant contributions to Arizona sports. The new members will be honored during the Crest Insurance Group Arizona Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Nov. 1.



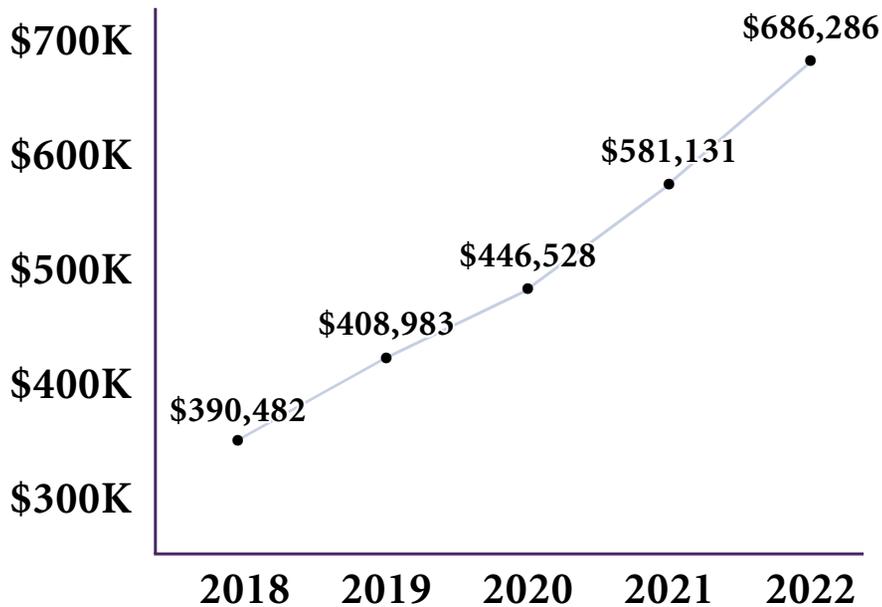
Jennifer Gillom

Gillom is a former Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) basketball player for the Phoenix Mercury and the Los Angeles

please see HALL OF FAME on page 32

WHAT IS ACTUALLY HAPPENING TO HOME VALUES?

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* Aver. sale price, all home types, Jan 1 - July 31

* North Central News approx. boundaries; 19th Ave to 44th St & Thomas to Thunderbird, according to ARMLS

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HAPPY HOUR WITH HERSCH

Football season is here and I am excited, though it is tempered by the recent news of USC and UCLA leaving the PAC 12 for the Big 10 in 2024. The loss of those two institutions is going to leave irreparable harm to the remaining members of the conference including our state schools, UofA and ASU. That being said it is time for me to make my 4 picks for the College Football Playoffs. Last year I was spot on with Georgia finishing #1 and Alabama #2.

- 4 **TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS** - This is a long shot but coach Heupel has them heading in the right direction and the offense is loaded and effective. If the defense can improve the SEC East could be for the taking.
- 3 **CLEMSON TIGERS** - Expect a rebound from the offense and quarterback DJ Uiagalelei. The defense is absolutely stacked especially the front seven.
- 2 **ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE** - I wish I could leave them out but that is just not possible. Saban will have them ready to respond to the Georgia loss and it does not hurt when you have the best offensive and defensive player in the nation.
- 1 **????????**

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Winner for Last Month - Curt Ingram | Last Month's Answer - Abe Froman

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SCHOOL DAYS

HALL OF FAME continued from page 30

Sparks. She was one of the first eight players to join the Women's Professional League. Gillom is also a former Sparks head coach, coached the Minnesota Lynx; and was assistant coach of the Connecticut Sun.

Gillom played basketball at the University of Mississippi and helped the United States Basketball Team win a gold medal in women's basketball in the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, Korea. Later, Gillom helped coach the 2012 gold medal team in London.

New college prep campus opens

A new college prep charter school opened in the Metrocenter area, just in time for the 2022-23 school year.

Called VCP-Metro North, the new location is an adaptive reuse of an existing call center and was chosen after an extensive socioeconomic and demographic analysis. VCP is a tuition-free public charter school educating K-8 students in metro Phoenix.

This marks the fifth Vista College



A rendering of the now completed Vista College Prep Metro North, on Peoria Avenue, just west of 19th Avenue in Phoenix (submitted photo).

Prep (VCP) campus location in the Valley, with all campuses built by Stevens-Leinweber Construction. Space within the Metro North campus will also be used for a new branch of the Boys & Girls Club.

"VCP's mission is to provide high-quality programming — often to

underserved communities — that prepares kids for success in college and life," said Julia Meyerson, CEO of VCP. "By locating within an existing building, VCP-Metro North can deliver on that mission at a much faster pace, in a market where population growth is placing heavy demand on

education. We're so proud and excited to start the 2022-23 school year at our newest VCP location."

Located at 2133 W. Peoria Ave., VCP-Metro North totals 64,162 square feet in the Black Canyon Commerce Park. At capacity, VCP-Metro North will serve 820 students from kindergarten through eighth grade with state-of-the-art classrooms, a library, generous multi-purpose room, cafeteria services and administrative space. Future development includes the addition of a gym and soccer field.

In addition to the school, VCP has also partnered with the Boys & Girls Club of the Valley, which is opening its first branch in the area. The Boys & Girls Club Metro North Branch will initially only be available to Vista College Prep students and will offer after school, summer and sports and recreation programs.

For more information, visit www.vistacollegeprep.org or www.bgcaz.org.

Brophy welcomes alums to Service Corps

Last month, Brophy welcomed back four Class of 2018 alums who will spend the year as members of the school's Alumni Service Corps (ASC). The ASC is a post-college service program for Brophy graduates and graduates of other Jesuit schools. Through their work as Brophy faculty members, ASC volunteers gain an important Ignatian service experience. The ASC volunteers also grow in their understanding of Ignatian spirituality through their community life and regular meetings with members of the Brophy faculty and the Phoenix Jesuit Community.

Beyond the work, an important element of the ASC experience is life in community. All ASC members live together and are intentional about structuring time for communal meals, communal prayer and reflection, and communal recreation.

Learn more at www.brophyprep.org/alumni/alumni-service-corps.

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GENERATIONS

Senior Living
Free dementia presentation offered

Area residents are invited to learn more about dementia and receive helpful resources at a September presentation, *Understanding Dementia: A challenging journey*.

Presented by Maribeth Gallagher, DNP, FAAN, director of Hospice of the Valley's dementia program, attendees will learn about dementia and how it progresses from early to advanced stages; learn to develop strategies to make and maintain meaningful connections with the person with dementia; and further value the caregiver role and explore ways to reduce stress.

Gallagher is a psychiatric nurse practitioner with a doctoral degree in nursing. Her commitment to improving dementia care was initially inspired by her own experience as a family caregiver, sharing the journey with her loved one from diagnosis to death.



Maribeth Gallagher, pictured with a dementia patient, will share her expertise with the community Sept. 24 (photo courtesy of Hospice of the Valley).

Understanding Dementia will be held Saturday, Sept. 24, at St. Francis Xavier Parish's Anderson Hall 4175 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.; the program runs

from 9 a.m.–noon. A continental breakfast will be provided. There is no cost to attend. To RSVP, email events2@hov.org or call 602-636-5396. For additional information, visit www.hov.org.

Sunnyslope has new classes

The City of Phoenix's Sunnyslope Senior Center will introduce a variety of new activities this month, and bring back a popular center event.

New activities offered in September include Yoga for EveryBODY, Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. with new instructor Joy Kathryn. This class incorporates breathing, balance, feet, body core; Mat Yoga by Peggy, Thursday, 11:15 a.m. to noon; and Beginner Conversational French class every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. with language certified instructor Dr. Al Martino.

Returning this month is Gentle Chair Yoga by Peggy on Thursday, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Conversational Spanish class will be offered every Monday, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., also presented by Martino

Finally, congregate meals will begin again at Sunnyslope Senior Center again. This had been put on hold dur-




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GENERATIONS

ing the pandemic. Members must register to receive meals.

The Sunnyslope Senior Center is located at 802 E. Vogel Ave. For additional information, call 602-262-7572.

Find more programs at www.phoenix.gov/humanservices/programs/older.

'Dementia friendly' means access to support, options

A reported 5.8 million Americans have Alzheimer's Disease. In Arizona, 150,000 people live with the disease, making it the fastest growing state in the nation for dementia diagnoses

In April 2020, the City of Phoenix became the largest "dementia friendly city" in the U.S., which means a city that is informed, safe and respectful of individuals with dementia and provides supportive options that enhance quality of life. These cities educate residents to build understanding and compassion for those with memory loss and their families.

To that end, each second and fourth Wednesday, the city offers Memory Cafes, friendly, welcoming

setting for individuals with cognitive impairments and memory loss, as well as their caregivers. They provide opportunities for socializing, memory stimulation, and support.

Hosted by the Human Services department, the virtual Memory Cafes are held 10:30 a.m.

Those interested in attending should RSVP via email to sanja.tetaric@phoenix.gov, or email memory.cafe@phoenix.gov for additional information. For information on other events for older residents, visit www.phoenix.gov/humanservices.

In addition, Jewish Family and Children's services in North Central Phoenix and Duet in Central Phoenix also offer Memory Café events. Spanish only Cafes are offered by Barrow/Foundation for Senior Living. For information, visit www.jfcsaz.org, www.duetaz.org or www.fsl.org.

Housing initiative receives boost

The Foundation for Senior Living (FSL) announced that it is set to receive nearly \$2 million in funding for their

Healthy Homes Initiative in Maricopa County during their pilot program. The funding is part of over \$40 million awarded to 21 organizations and five state agencies by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to help American families across the country make their homes more energy efficient and lower their utility costs.

The funds from the Weatherization Assistance Program, bolstered by more than \$3.2 billion through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will help repair, electrify and weatherize homes to save families money on their energy bills.

In a statement, Tami Bohannon, CEO of FSL, said, "We are Arizona's largest provider of weatherization assistance, and this funding will help us address the health and safety hazards for Medicare and Medicaid recipients with chronic conditions whose housing and home hazards contribute to poor health outcomes.

"We expect the interventions to demonstrate that removing health and safety hazards in the home improve health outcomes and reduce overall

health care costs. Our goal is to expand the program past the pilot program."

FSL will partner with Three3, a research firm, and Mercy Care, an Arizona Medicaid health plan and Maricopa County Human Services Department (HSD) weatherization program to identify clients in need of these services.

Learn more about FSL programs and services at www.fsl.org.

Oak Street Health opens at Encanto Village

Oak Street Health is now welcoming patients at the new Encanto Village center at 1940 W. Indian School Rd., Suite 1, in Phoenix. This is the company's eighth center in Arizona. The company plans to open additional new centers throughout the greater Phoenix area and Tucson in 2022.

The network of value-based primary care centers for adults on Medicare is the only primary care provider to carry the AARP name. It is geared toward delivering preventive primary care to meet the unique needs of older adults.

please see CENTER on page 36

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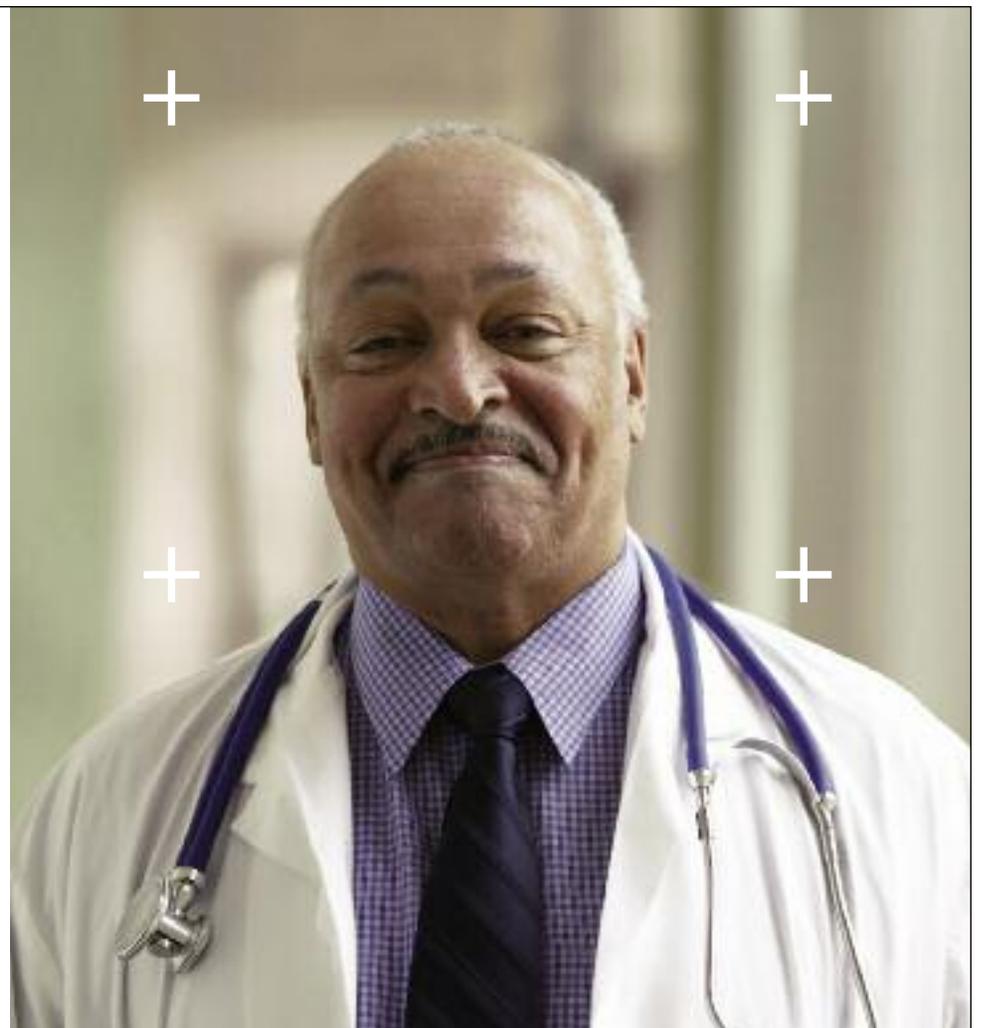


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EVERNORTH Care Group™

GENERATIONS

CENTER continued from page 35

The integrated model incorporates behavioral healthcare and social determinants support and is accessible through a mix of in-center, in-home and telehealth appointments, as well as a 24/7 patient support line.

For additional information, visit www.oakstreethealth.com and click on the “Find a Location” link or call 602-946-0150.

Kids & Families

AHS offers fun for all ages

The Arizona Human Society (AHS) is offering two programs this month geared toward ages 8 to 17.

First up, is the Reading For Fun program, for ages 8–11. The program gives children a chance to practice their reading skills while enriching the lives of the pups cared for at AHS. Reading Fur Fun takes place at the Nina Mason Pulliam South Mountain Campus. The cost is \$10. Dates and times vary.

Humane Teens is accepting appli-

cations from those age 14–17 for the fall semester, which begins in September. Participants can accrue volunteer service hours while training in animal handling skills with this unique leadership opportunity for teens. Those who are passionate about the welfare of animals will gain some of the skills necessary for a potential career working with pets.

For additional information, visit www.azhumane.org/youth or call 602-997-7585.

Free guide provides school readiness tips

While the 2022–23 school year is already underway, a new resource is available to families who need help making that back-to-school adjustment.

In partnership with the Arizona Governor’s Office, Arizona Science Center created the AZ OnTrack Parent’s Guide to help parents, caregivers and other caring adults get the kids they love ready for learning this school year. The 48-page booklet is filled with fun activities and videos to prepare students in the areas of

Interaction, Engagement, Participation and Application. From creating a nature journal to excavating chocolate chip “fossils” from cookies, parents will find unique ways to get students ready to learn and engage at school.

The guide has age-appropriate information for pre-K to second grade; third to fifth grade, sixth to eighth grade; and ninth to 12th grade.

As an incentive for families, those that download the guide will qualify for tickets to the Arizona Science Center. Additionally, those who complete the “On Track, Ready to Be Back Scavenger Hunt” at the end of the guide will qualify for a free one-year membership to the Arizona Science Center.

Download the guide at www.azon-trackdataportal.com/parentresource guide. Learn more about the Arizona Science Center at www.azscience.org.

Acacia Library hosts family events

Families are invited to Acacia Library this month to take advantage of a wide variety of free programming for all ages.

Thursdays this month, beginning Sept. 8, wiggle worms age birth to five and their favorite grownups can attend Music & Movement from 10:30–11 a.m. Some people learn better when they are moving. If that sounds like your child, this is the storytime for you.

Sing, dance and move in this fun, active program that builds reading skills. It has been shown that children who love books and stories become better readers. Support for early literacy programs is provided by a grant from First Things First (www.firstthingsfirst.org), which partners with families and communities to give all Arizona children the opportunity to arrive at kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed.

More reading fun is offered during Family Storytime events for children up to age five. Held Mondays beginning Sept. 12, from 10:30–11 a.m., participants will play, read, sing and dance in a fun, active program that builds reading skills.

Adults also can find several programs throughout the month at the library, including The Accidental



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- All-American staff
- Outstanding personalized care.
- Memory care



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Our roomy dining room is an art gallery!



GENERATIONS

Crafter and Front Porch Book Club.

Held Sept. 17, 10–11 a.m., The Accidental Crafter is for reluctant or inexperienced crafters or those who are looking for new projects but don't know where to start. All materials will be provided. Front Porch Book Club will convene Wednesday, Sept. 21, 1–2 p.m. The group meets every third Wednesday of the month to discuss a member-chosen book. This month's book is "The Emancipation of Evan Walls" by Jeffrey Blount.

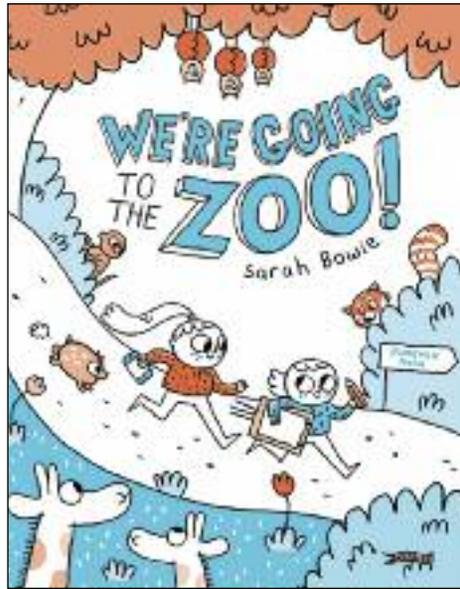
Acacia Library is located at 750 E. Townley Ave. For additional information, visit www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org or call 602-262-4636.

Family story hour offers Irish ambiance

The McClelland Library and the Irish Cultural Center will reopen in September after its August closure.

The library, which was designed by the architect, Paul Ahern, after a 12th century Norman Castle, celebrates its 10th year in 2022. The three-story building houses 8,000 books from Irish authors, poets and genealogical sources. The library houses a permanent exhibit on "The Book of Kells," several reading rooms and computer access to various disciplines of Irish and Celtic studies including genealogy. The library is the largest library of its kind in the Western United States.

After its reopening, Sept. 6, the library will host a number of events for the community, including Family Story Hour with Diane Ahern in the Library



"We're Going to the Zoo" is just one of the books featured at upcoming Family Story Hour events at McClelland Library (submitted image).

Keep, Saturday, Sept. 10, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The program runs about an hour and introduces parents and children to Irish authors, stories and traditions in a fun and interactive way, including songs, activities and an Irish-based craft to take home. Story Hour is suitable for all ages.

The Irish Cultural Center is located at 1106 N. Central Ave, Phoenix. For additional information, call 602-258-0109, email info@azirishlibrary.org or visit www.azirish.org.

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Photographers who participated in the Arizona-Guatemala Through Each Others Eyes exchange and photographic exhibition, on display at the Burton Barr Central Library, include (L-R) Rony Mejia, Javier Alvarez-Vassau, Geoff Reed and Rebecca Wilks (submitted photo).

Exhibit promotes understanding, diversity

For nearly 40 years, Through Each Others Eyes has sponsored exchange exhibitions with photographers from around the world. The nonprofit organization's latest exhibition, an exchange between Arizona and Guatemala, is currently on display at Burton Barr Central Library through Oct. 6.

In March 2019, Guatemalan photographers Rony Mejia and Javier Alvarez traveled to Phoenix where they were hosted by Arizona photographers Rebecca Wilks and Geoff Reed, who organized excursions in Phoenix and Tucson, as well as to Sedona, Jerome, Lake Powell, Monument Valley and the Grand Canyon. In October of that same year, Mejia and Alvarez returned the favor by showing Wilks and Reed around Guatemala City and destinations in the north of Guatemala to enable them to capture images of the people and landscapes of that country.

The result is an 80-print exhibition that reveals the different landscapes and cultures of Guatemala and Arizona as viewed through the eyes of two pairs of photographers.

"Without a doubt, an exchange like this one is a key ingredient for improving understanding between people and nations," Alvarez said.

The public is invited to meet Through Each Others Eyes Arizona

photographers at a free reception at the library on First Friday, Sept. 2, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The exhibit will be on display from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. through Oct. 6 on the 2nd floor of the Burton Barr Central Library at 1221 N. Central Ave. in Phoenix. Learn more at www.teoe.org.

Virtual exhibit explores impact of suicide

A new virtual exhibit, spearheaded by Arizona Art Alliance, and in partnership with Arizona Artists Guild and Your Art Your Story, will launch Sept. 1 and feature work by those affected by suicide.

Coinciding with National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, the third annual "Unspoken: Survivor Stories" celebrates the hope, growth and the strength of survivors, and is an effort to promote greater understanding of the survivor experience, and reach out to people who may need resources for themselves or loved ones. The exhibit will include a variety of media, including painting, drawing, collage, digital art, sculpture, photography and group art projects.

This exhibit will be available virtually through Sept. 30 on the Arizona Art Alliance, Arizona Artists Guild and Your Art Your Story websites.

For information, visit www.azartalliance.com, www.arizonaartistsguild.net or www.yourartyourstory.org.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Desert Rider' closes in September

Residents who have not yet seen "Desert Rider" at Phoenix Art Museum, or those who may want to see it again, won't want to procrastinate — the exhibit closes Sept. 18.

"Desert Rider" explores the relationships between transportation, industry, landscape and identity in our desert region. With a diverse display of large-scale installations, prints, sculptures and more, the major exhibition illuminates the influence of lowrider and custom-car culture on contemporary artists working in the Southwest today, including Cara Romero, Margarita Cabrera, Justin Favela, Liz Cohen and Douglas Miles, who examine themes of masculinity and femininity, migration and mobility, queer identity and more.

Phoenix Art Museum is located at 1625 North Central Ave. For additional information, call 602.257.1880 or visit www.phxart.org.

Student artists take the spotlight

A new exhibit featuring the works of the students of artist Kathy Taylor will open this month at the Church of the Beatitudes.

"Brush Strokes," a new art exhibit presented by the Arts Council of Church of the Beatitudes, runs Sept. 25 – Nov. 30. Taylor, whose students will be included in the new exhibit, teaches



Artwork by Kelly Sifferman and other students of Kathy Taylor will be on exhibit at Church of the Beatitudes beginning Sept. 25 (submitted photo).

creative development classes at her studio and creative hub, Tay MODERN. The classes/workshops are designed to guide budding artists in finding their own artistic voice.

Taylor currently lives and works in Phoenix. She has spent the past 40 years as a professional artist exploring the inner workings of the mind as well as personal development through the arts.

The opening show and reception is Sunday, Sept. 25, in the foyer of the Worship Center at The Church of the Beatitudes. Viewing is free to all, and the works are for sale. To purchase a work or make an appointment to view, contact Marcia Nix at msnix215@gmail.com. Thirty percent of the sale proceeds benefit the art pro-

please see STUDENT ART on page 40

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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/>

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STUDENT ART *continued from page 39*

jects at Church of the Beatitudes.

Church of the Beatitudes is located at 555 W. Glendale Ave. For more information, call 602-264-1221 or visit www.beatitudeschurch.org.

The Madison hosts new exhibition

The Madison Center for the Arts welcomed Bryson Bost's "Into the Wild: A Journey of Mindfulness, Imagination, and Presence" to The Gallery at The Madison Aug. 5. The show will run in the art exhibition space through Dec. 20.

Bost is a maximalist painter dedicated to the immersive nature of details. He aims to provide an optimal viewing point from every distance through patterns and hatchwork. Through this viewing point, he hopes that all those who choose to explore his paintings are rewarded with whimsical moments no matter how far they may be from the painting.

"The purpose of The Gallery at The Madison was to showcase talented artists, like Bryson Bost, in more ways than performing arts to help expand the arts within our community," said Ari Levin, executive director of The Madison.

Bost will also teach a masterclass series to the students in the Madison School District, which will run from Sept. 2 through Nov. 4, with a student art show scheduled for Nov. 7, 5–7 p.m., to showcase their art alongside Bryson's works. The student art show will be open to the public.

The Gallery is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is free to the public. The Madison Center for the Arts is located at 5601 N. 16th St, Phoenix. For more information, visit www.themadison.org.

On the Town

This month, Valley theater troupes begin to roll out their 2022-23 seasons, live music venues keep the tunes coming, museums offer fresh perspectives and more. See you on the town in September!

'Nosferatu' 100th Anniversary Screening

Sept. 6
Orpheum Theatre Phoenix
www.pcticketing.com

Duran Duran

Sept. 7
Footprint Center
www.footprintcenter.com;
602-379-7800



Dwight Yoakam

Sept. 8
Orpheum Theatre Phoenix
www.pcticketing.com

Paper Foxes

Sept. 9
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981



Alicia Keys

Sept. 10
Arizona Financial Theatre
www.livenation.com

Wet Leg

Sept. 15
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com

Johnny Rawls

Sept. 16
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

'Five Guys Names Moe'

Sept. 16–25
Black Theatre Troupe
www.blacktheatretroupe.org;
602-258-8128

Pasquale Grasso Trio

Sept. 17
The Nash
www.thenash.org; 602-795-0464

'The Book of Will'

Thru Sept. 18
The Phoenix Theatre Company
www.phoenixtheatre.com;
602-254-2151

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Robert Jon & The Wreck

Sept. 20
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

'Contemporary Moves'

Sept. 22-25
Ballet Arizona
www.balletaz.org; 602-381-1096

Andrew Bird/ Iron & Wine

Sept. 23
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com

The Collection

Sept. 25
The Rebel Lounge
www.therebellounge.com;
602-296-7013



The Arcadian Wild

Sept. 28
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

Mauskovic Dance Band

Sept. 28
Valley Bar
www.valleybarphx.com

Luna Luna

Sept. 29
The Rebel Lounge
www.therebellounge.com;
602-296-7013

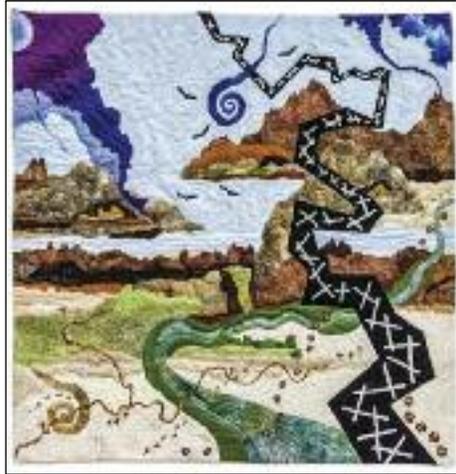


Lake Street Dive

Sept. 30
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com

Willie Jones III

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



Discovering Desert Diversity

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Thru Oct. 2
Herberger Theater Center Art Gallery
www.herbergertheater.org;
602-252-8497

All event dates are current at time of publication. Check with individual venues for the most up-to-date show information. For news about other upcoming events as they are announced, visit northcentralnews.net.



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Christopher Collins serves up some of Neighborhood Public House favorites: oysters Rockefeller, baby back ribs, smoked salmon, prime rib and crispy shrimp (photo by Marjorie Rice).

Café Chat
Settle in for comfort and creative cuisine

By Marjorie Rice

All you need to know about Neighborly Public House, at The Colony on 7th Street between Montebello and Missouri, is there in the name — a comfortable yet hip vibe where guests can eat, mingle and relax with delicious food and creative cocktails in a distinctly neighborhood setting.

It's the latest offering from Common Ground Culinary, founded in 2011 by Christopher Collins, a culinary veteran with roots that stretch back four generations.

For Collins, "neighborly" is the core concept of each of the business he has developed. They include Neighborly Friendly House, Collins Bros. Chophouse, Grassroots Kitchen & Tap, Wally's American Gastropub and The Macintosh, along with Sweet Provisions ice cream and bakery and Arcadia Catering Company.

"We get a lot of opportunities all over the Valley," Collins said. "If I don't have a personal connection with the neighborhood then I'm really not interested. I think that's one of the strengths of our group — we're not going to go everywhere."

The Colony, a mid-century mix of retail and dining, has seen a number of shops, service businesses and restaur-

rants in its seven decades.

Neighborly House is on the ground floor of the former Stock & Stable. Upstairs, one more Common Ground offering — St. Urban — is on tap.

"St. Urban will open later this fall, a very beautiful neighborhood wine café, with cocktails," Collins said. "I envision groups going up there, getting a bucket of shrimp, shucked oysters and deviled eggs and having a bottle of white wine on every single table, with a cocktail on the side, enjoying all the open doors."

"It's ready to go; I just didn't want to open up in the summer so I can have the full effect of the open doors and this beautiful second-story bar up there. It's going to be awesome."

Collins looks for existing buildings that can be re-purposed rather than building from the ground up.

"We like to find locations where maybe other people haven't done so well and there's an opportunity for a local operator to come in and prove they know what the neighborhood wants. This concept is New American, done well by a local restaurant guy who wanted to kind of mirror the neighborhood. This neighborhood is a little more hip, has a little more of a broad range of people and demographics; we went after all of that."

Customers here find historic photos of Phoenix lining one long wall, and original artwork by Collins' father, Walter "Wally" Collins, throughout. Tufted leather booths in deep butter-

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

scotch tones are linger-inducingly sleek and comfy, and that same comfort is repeated in the couches in the seating area outside, facing on 7th Street, which manages to be cozy despite busy traffic.

Cocktails are a big part of service at Collins' restaurants — a big change from years past, where wine was the favored beverage for many customers — and that's the case here.

"We tell people you can get wine at home. You can get a beer at home. But they don't know how, or don't have the ingredients readily accessible at home to make these cool cocktails."

Favorites from the cocktail menu include Bobo Jefe margarita, made with Casamigos reposado tequila.

"We make all our sours and we make our own grenadine," Collins said. "I'm a big Manhattan fan so we make it with Sazerac rye, and we make our own infused vermouth. It's taking these things that are classics and putting something special on them so they stand out."

Collins also pays particular attention to happy hour menus.

"We have very generous happy hours," he said. "I think customers are

looking for more creative food than than the average nighttime dinner-goer."

Collins' menus reflect influences from his days working in New Orleans, along with his college days in Boston, and his focus on sourcing good ingredients. On the happy hour "High End Junk Food menu" that translates to chowder fries: Fries lathered with New England clam chowder and topped with crispy bacon. They're a combination Collins discovered when he went to college in Boston.

"They're the most popular thing on our happy hour menu," he said. "If you haven't tried them you haven't lived."

Other hits: Short rib skillet nachos made with Mama Lola's tortilla chips, a rich reggiano cream sauce, pico de gallo and cilantro; and oysters Rockefeller, the oysters nestled in creamed spinach, topped with chopped bacon and broiled.

One standout starter on the dinner menu is the stuffed artichoke, and it reflects Collin's focus on sourcing.

"We source ours from a farm in California called Ocean Mist Farms, and they're known for having some of the oldest-most mature artichoke plants

in the country. That's a big part of the artichoke thing — you need an earthy, nutty, meaty artichoke, but come on, everyone gets an artichoke because they know there's going to be a dip in there. The remoulade sauce we serve it with really will blow your socks off."

On the main menu, can't-miss favorites include Collins Bros. prime rib (only available Wednesday through Saturday). Other favorites are a crispy shrimp platter taken up a notch with shattered fries and jicama peanut slaw, and sticky baby back ribs with a sweet/hot glaze.

Another standout is the smoked salmon. Collins manages to get just the right level of smoke while maintaining the silky texture. It's served with chef's sauce, which is fine, but ask for a side of remoulade. A bit of salmon on the "everything saltines," a dab of remoulade, some capers and red onion — perfection.

Good restaurant meals are the small luxuries many people still can afford, and places like Neighborly House provide community gathering spots that can be hard to find in large urban/suburban areas. Collins says he wants to

provide those places with his Common Ground locations.

"This has been a concept I've had in my head for a really long time," Collins said. "I was just waiting for the right spot."

Neighborly Public House, at 5538 N. 7th St., is open 4–9 p.m., Sunday to Wednesday; and 4–10 p.m., Thursday and Saturday. For information, call 602-675-1852 or visit www.neighborlypublichouse.com.

Dream collaboration 'meant to be'

By Kathryn M. Miller

Founded in February 2021 and inspired by the founders' love of sparkling holiday entertaining at home, the two Christophers behind Dos Chris' Bakery & Charcuterie Co. are nearing ever closer to opening their first brick and mortar location — a dream collaboration that feels like it was meant to be.

"Chris and I were, gosh, going married on two years, but we've been

please see COLLABORATION on page 44

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

COLLABORATION continued from page 43

together for five, and when you realize that you have the same first middle and last initials, I guess that's the universe...I think that you're meant to be," said Christopher J.H. Barbara.

Christopher J.H.'s family has lived in the North Central area since 1949, and he grew up not too far from the new storefront at 16th Street and Bethany Home Road. Christopher J. Barbara grew up in Tucson around his family's restaurant businesses. Both share a passion for entrepreneurship and had been mulling the idea for a joint venture when it struck them that they had been honing their concept for years.

"Right around Christmas of 2020, Chris and I realized, oh, wait, why don't we do what we do best?" said Christopher J.H. "Every year we host what's called our annual bottles and boards party. We create our charcuterie spread on our kitchen island and then on our dining table, we do a dessert spread and we ask all of our wonderful friends, family, neighbors to bring a bottle or two of wine to share. We open up the doors to the house and the outside and fireplace going, and everyone just mingles and has an enjoyable time. So, we're like, 'Why don't we combine bakery and charcuterie?'"

They went for it and founded the company in 2021 and have grown the business to the point where they can open a storefront.

The style behind "The Dos," as they are affectionately calling it, will match their love of everything mid-century modern. It will be very "Mad Men" style and an ode to the '50s.

"We are super excited to be in the neighborhood and to introduce our company into this community," said Christopher J. "We'll be more of a reversed bakery, opening up at 2 p.m. and closing anywhere from 8-10 p.m. Possibly on the weekend, 11 p.m., just depending on how the demand is and how the community responds to it. We want to have a different take on a bakery and then also have our charcuterie background, being more geared towards nighttime, lunchtime type kind of enjoyment."

He added that the concept is a "grab-and-go" bakery where customers can stop in, pick out what they want from the display case and head out. They will feature gourmet cookies, scrumptious baked goods and custom



Christopher J. (left) and Christopher J.H. Barbara are bringing their sparkle and their elegant desserts and charcuterie to a North Central storefront this fall. The duo will open Dos Chris' Bakery & Charcuterie Co. at 16th Street and Bethany Home on Oct. 1 (submitted photo).

cupcakes, along with premade charcuterie boards, including their popular "charsweeterie" dessert boards. The space is small, but they are planning for a small "waiting bar," where customers can grab a cup of local coffee or vintage soda, or a fresh bruschetta bite, while special orders are filled.

The duo wants their new space to not only be a go-to neighborhood shop, but also a safe, judgement-free and inclusive space for the community; a place where their company motto, "Leave a little sparkle wherever you go," will be on display along with their baked goods.

"And 'sparkle' means kindness," said Christopher J.H. "Chris and I fundamentally believe, the root of our business acumen is kindness."

Dos Chris' Bakery & Charcuterie Co. hopes to celebrate its grand opening at 6007 N. 16th St. Oct. 1. In the meantime, customers can still fulfill their bakery and charcuterie needs through the company's online store and catering service. Call 602-837-8899 or visit www.doschrisaz.com. Follow them on Facebook or Instagram for updates.

Dining Briefs

Taste of the Biltmore returns

National Bank of Arizona will host the 14th annual Taste of the Biltmore fundraising event Thursday, Oct. 6.

This year, the upscale block party will raise funds to support Gabriel's

Angels, whose mission is to inspire confidence, compassion and best behaviors in at-risk children through pet therapy. Learn more about the nonprofit at www.gabrielsangels.org.

Taste of the Biltmore will be held from 6-9 p.m. at National Bank of Arizona, 6001 N. 24th St., Phoenix. According to the event website, participating restaurants to-date include First Watch, Gadzooks, Grimaldi's, OHSO Brewery, Someburros, Superstition Meadery, The Genuine and Wrigley Mansion, among others.

For additional information or to purchase tickets, visit www.nbarizona.com/tob.

Ten-day dine around returns

This month, Valley diners will once again have the opportunity to take a tasting tour around the state as the Fall Arizona Restaurant Week (ARW) returns. The Arizona Restaurant Association (ARA) will host its bi-annual 10-day culinary event at participating dining establishments Sept. 16-25.

"Our Arizona Restaurant Week events are a fantastic deal for diners that want to explore Arizona's culinary scene at a fraction of what they would pay on a normal visit," said Arizona Restaurant Association president and CEO Steve Chucri. "This allows the dining community to support the hospitality industry — which is still recovering from the devastating impact of

COVID-19, price increases and labor shortages — while enjoying a fantastic menu not usually offered at these establishments. It's a win-win for everyone and we greatly appreciate the support of our loyal culinary enthusiasts."

During the event, restaurants will highlight the incredible and widely varying talents of their chefs, and the ARA will showcase the vast array of unique dining choices the state has to offer.

Fall Arizona Restaurant Week features specific three-course menus offered at three price points — \$33, \$44 and \$55 per person. In addition to the three-course ARW menus, many restaurants also offer wine pairing selections to accompany each dish for an additional cost. Takeout is also available at participating restaurants.

More than 100 restaurants are already committed to the 2022 event. For up-to-date information, visit www.arizonarestaurantweek.com.

Vegan restaurant event celebrates second year

Raising awareness for all things vegan, Phoenix Vegan Restaurant Week returns for a second helping, Sept. 11-18. The weeklong event gives diners an affordable opportunity to explore the growing plant-based scene in the Valley.

Not exclusively limited to full-service restaurants, Phoenix Vegan Restaurant Week is all inclusive, allowing fast casual eateries, bakeries, coffee shops, food trucks, meal delivery services, ghost kitchens and pop-up kitchens to also participate. The event was founded by Jozh Watson of PHX Vegan and Chef Jason Wyrick of The Vegan Taste meal delivery service. Longtime vegans, they are champions of expanding the accessibility of vegan eating and showcasing the many great options the Valley has to offer.

During the special week, restaurants and food purveyors offer an exclusive multi-course prix fixe menu or showcase a specially priced item that best represents their establishment. Menus include not only dine-in, but take-out as well. Breakfast offerings will feature an entrée and drink and be capped at \$15. Lunch meals will showcase an appetizer, entrée and drink and be capped at \$20. For dinner, a three-course option is available for a max of \$33 or a five-course meal with a cap of \$44.

For a list of participating businesses, visit www.phoenixvegan.com.

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Welcome back!

It's been quite a summer, full of travel and good times. I spent a few weeks away at various locations (Dallas, Austin, Albuquerque, New York City, and Maui to celebrate my 30th Birthday)!

Here in Phoenix, it's been a normal summer. Temperatures were high, people were out of town, and the real estate market has begun to normalize again. With years of multiple offers, way over list price sales, and buyer battles, things are finally beginning to feel a little slower. In my opinion, this is healthy for our market. Appreciation is still way up, and there is still plenty of activity.

Not only are we seeing more homes hit the market (inventory is rising quickly) but interest rates have risen too. While this is completely factual, it's important to note that they are still historically low. What does this mean for you? Well, it means if you're a seller, plan on having your agent really dive into comparable sales, and price accordingly. Moving forward, your home will need to be priced appropriately and well prepared for the market, so it will be imperative you are partnered with an experienced agent who is able to make your home stand out in a market with rising inventory.

As a buyer, this means you'll have more homes to look at, and a chance of grabbing one for at or under list.

As always, if you have any questions, I'm just a call or an email away!



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