



north central news

the voice of the north central phoenix community since 1999

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19North shifts focus to Metrocenter

By Kathryn M. Miller

The acquisition of the former Metrocenter Mall, including the Dillard's and U-Haul buildings, was finalized Jan. 23 of this year. In mid-February, chain-link fencing sprung up around a staging site on the northeast side of the property and construction equipment began to roll in. The demolition of an iconic piece of North Phoenix history is imminent. It is the end of an era that will segue into the rebirth of this expansive property.

The development group, Concord Wilshire Capital and TLG Investment Partners in partnership with Carl DeSantis' CDS International Holdings Inc., formed a strategic alliance with international real estate firm Hines to redevelop the property into what they described in a press release as a "community-driven walkable village that will be home to a variety of residential apartment options including ownership and rental, curated boutiques, popular retail stores, restaurants, bars, a town-center park, and other commercial and entertainment venues."

According to the release, the village, which is adjacent to the under-construction Northwest Extension Light Rail Station, will include more than 2,600 multifamily units, 150,000 square feet of commercial with essential and service retail and 4,100 surface and garage-deck parking spaces. Total con-

please see METROCENTER on page 8



Hundreds of residents, both young and old, who live in the area around Solano Park will soon have a skate plaza to call their own (photo courtesy of Cowtown SKATE).

Building community, one skateboard at a time

By Kathryn M. Miller

In August 2022, dozens of area kids and families converged on Solano Park for the Cowtown Skateboard Foundation (SKATE) "Boards for the Barrio" trade-up event. Old boards were traded in for a brand-new board, and those old boards were refurbished and then given to those who have no boards at all. By the end of the day, the foundation had given away over 200 complete skateboards to children and families in area. One thing was missing, though: an actual place to skate. That, however, is about to change.

Cowtown SKATE is a nonprofit that was launched in 2018 by the team at Cowtown Skateboards to further its mission of making the benefits of skateboarding available to everyone. That was around the same time that the owners of Cowtown, Laura Martin, her husband Trent Martin and Ed Cox, began petitioning the city of Phoenix for a skate park in Central Phoenix.

This isn't the first time that Laura Martin has worked with the city to get a skate park in Phoenix. Her efforts go all

the way back to the '90s. Martin, along with Damon Alire and Daniel Shircliff, raised money and worked with the city to successfully open Desert West Skate Park in the west Valley in 1997.

Since Desert West, two additional parks and six skate plazas have opened at Phoenix parks. But there were still none in the central city, thus the 2018 petition. After conversations between the skateboarding advocates and the Parks and Recreation Department, numerous public meetings and working with City Council, it was decided that Solano Park would be the best place for a new skate plaza. The area was ripe for rejuvenation, a Parks representative said.

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From the Editor

Hello, North Central Neighbors! Spring is historically a time of new beginnings, and that is true here in the Valley where spring has most definitely sprung. With renewal in mind, our cover stories focus on the revitalization efforts taking place at the former Metrocenter Mall and the efforts to bring new skate parks and plazas to Valley parks.



Both of our cover stories have a strong community building element, as does our top story in Community, where we highlight the Sunnyslope Historical Society and Museum. The volunteer team at the Museum maintains the fascinating history of the Sunnyslope and invites residents in for a tour.

In Food for Thought, Marjorie Rice chats with the owners of Cartel Roasting Co., Jason and Amy Silberschlag, learns about the local company’s history, and enjoys what she says is the best croissant that she has enjoyed outside of France.

This month’s issue is chock full of things to do in the Valley, including visiting Fiddler’s Dream, which is celebrating its 36th anniversary this year and in February finally reopened after a nearly three-year closure. And, as always, we bring you other community business, dining and school news from around our North Central area.

We encourage you to get out and enjoy spring in the Valley, as well as new ways to engage with your community this month and beyond. In the meantime, we hope that you enjoy our March issue!

Kathryn M. Miller
Editor, North Central News
kathryn@northcentralnews.net



HERE’S TO STRONG WOMEN...

In honor of March 8th being International Women’s Day, Morris Hall would love to give a shout out to all the marvelous women out there! We all know dozens of incredible women in our lives. You could think of your wife, mother, sisters, daughters, aunts, and friends. Or you’re an amazing woman yourself!

Many of our clients are women, and they all have similar values. Some of these include maintaining their lifestyles, aging gracefully, not becoming a physical or financial burden to their loved ones, and ensuring their family continues to be cared for — even when they are gone. Because of these values and the vital role they play in everyday life, it’s crucial that women have an estate plan.

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www.northcentralnews.net

Publisher
Editor
Sales and Marketing
Office Manager

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

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COMMUNITY



Memorabilia from decades of Sunnyslope High School activities is showcased in one of the exhibits at the Sunnyslope Historical Society and Museum (photo by Kathryn M. Miller).

Preserving the past for the future

By Kathryn M. Miller

Stepping over the threshold and into the ‘40s House, as it is called by the Sunnyslope Historical Society and Museum, is literally taking a step back in time.

The house was built in 1945 by Walter Leon Lovinggood at 8924 N. 2nd St., and kept in the family until it was sold in 1983. In 1999, the Society become the fourth owner of the house and it was moved to the current museum grounds to make way for a new shopping center. After its move, the home was immaculately restored — a labor of love that led to opening the house to the public in September 2012.

As the Society’s board president, Pat Wilkinson, leads a tour through the home, she points out some of the era-appropriate artifacts that are housed there. A radio/record player cabinet, dining set and furniture in the front room; a 1940s stove, ice box and beautiful cast iron/enamel sink and metal cabinets (complete with spice tins and food boxes from the ‘40s) in the kitchen; bedrooms full of furniture and clothes of the era, along with photos of the home, the area and other historical items — all collected by the museum or donated by residents over the years.

Across the breezeway from the home is the museum proper, which was formerly the People’s Drug Store, located at 111 E. Dunlap. It was moved at the same time as the ‘40s House. The museum houses a visual history of Sunnyslope from its early beginnings, a

display that recreates the People’s Drug Store (complete with drive-through window), an archive room with more than a dozen file cabinets jam packed with area history and an extensive display showcasing the history of Sunnyslope High School and “S” Mountain. And if any Sunnyslope High School alums out there have a yearbook from 1975, 1992, 2000, 2003 or 2007 that they would part with, the museum would be happy to have it complete their collection.

From its turn of the last century homesteaders, the establishment of the Desert Mission in the late ‘20s, and its annexation by the City of Phoenix in 1959 to today, Wilkinson emphasized that preserving history like this is important — not only as an educational tool for younger generations to understand what came before them, but to maintain a sense of place and find direction toward the future of Sunnyslope.

“Sunnyslope has a unique history,” Wilkinson said, “and a lot of people jump to the wrong conclusion. When you say Sunnyslope, you know, it’s all automatically, the drugs and the gangs...every community has that to a point nowadays... There are so many things that first started in Sunnyslope that people have no idea — the evaporative cooler was developed on Hatcher Road.”

She added, “Everything in these two buildings, if we didn’t have the museum, it would be gone. That’s history, and history has a tendency to repeat itself over generations. And it’s interesting to come in and find out:

please see HISTORICAL on page 6

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COMMUNITY

SKATEBOARD continued from page 1

“We had the available space, and we were already looking at how we could make improvements to Solano Park.”

The city secured the \$800,000 needed, and construction on the Solano Park Skate Plaza finally began in December 2022. It is expected to be completed by May 2023 — just in time for summer vacation. The features of the plaza include grind rails, grind boxes, a bank ramp, mellow bank, a quarter pipe and more. Landscape improvements, site furniture and area lighting with push button activation will be part of the improvements. Also in the works is a public art feature for which funding has been approved. The new skate plaza is expected to draw hundreds of new users.

“Solano is a very active park just because of its location,” the Parks representative said. “It’s next door to a school, a library, a YMCA, as well as apartment complex and a shopping mall. I’m expecting, over the course of the month, maybe about 300 to 500 additional users to that park seems reasonable.”

The Parks department also says that the new skate plaza will help to activate the park in a way that will be important to the residents as well as the tight-knit skating community, adding, “Our skateboarding community is just as important as any other community.”

So why does skateboarding matter? Beyond the general health benefits of physical activity, it can help develop balance, endurance and coordination. Studies also have shown many mental and social health benefits as well. And, in addition to being a creative and passionate form of art, Martin says that there are important life lessons to be learned, “It teaches you how to fall and get back up.” “Skateboarding is such a mental release,” Martin added. “When COVID happened, the first thing I thought was, ‘please don’t close the skate park.’ Closing the store down, that was really hard, because the kids would hang out in the store and we have a lot of kids that are at risk, there are a lot of latchkey kids, a lot of single parent kids. I was worried about them...mentally. Skateboarding saves lives. Period. End of story.”

And the skate park is where that community comes together.

“The skate park itself is a meeting place. It’s a place to meet people, a place to learn new tricks. It’s a place to

go have fun and take your mind off things,” Martin said.

Although the Solano Park project is a big win for the skateboarding advocates, it is only one element of SKATE’s continuing work to build community across the Valley.

“I’d love to do another Boards for the Barrio with our nonprofit with an actual skate park there. That would be really cool,” Martin said.

She added, “And now, we’re working with the city on Safe Skate Spots. We’re working on building little projects at every park, so that every kid has a place to go and doesn’t have to wait for a big skate park anymore. So, they have something, somewhere.”

While skaters await the opening of the plaza at Solano, they can join their community at Cowtown’s annual PHXAM skate contest, which will be hosted at Desert West Skate Park for its 21st year. This year’s event will be held March 25-26 and showcase the best of the best amateur skateboarding talent from the Valley and around the globe.

Learn more about city of Phoenix skate parks at www.phoenix.gov/parks/parks/skate-parks. Cowtown has four locations across the Valley, including the Phoenix store at 5024 N. Central Ave. For information, call 602-212-9687 or visit www.cowtownskateboards.com or www.cowtownskate.org.

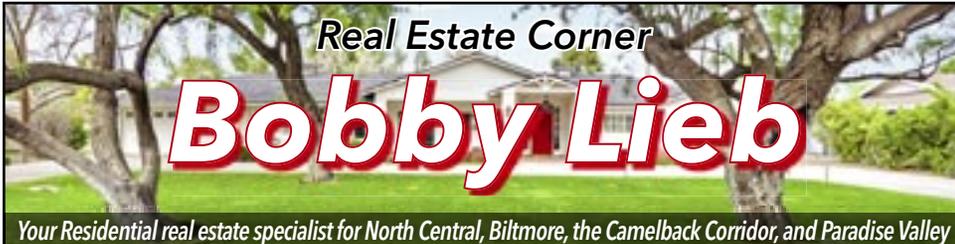
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how did another generation live, how did they survive in the heat with 120-degree temperatures. You know, people today I think have it pretty easy, if you stop and consider what the earlier generations went through.”

As far as the future of Sunnyslope, “I’m a firm believer that your neighborhood is what you make it. If you want to improve it and change it, then get involved,” Wilkinson said.

In the meantime, residents can take a step back into the past at the Sunnyslope Historical Society and Museum, located at 737 E. Hatcher Road. In addition to tours, the museum offers educational events throughout the month, including “The Golden Age of Radio” presented by Thomas Mihalchick with the House of Broadcasting, Saturday, March 18, at 10 a.m.

For information on hours and upcoming events, call 602-331-3150 or visit <http://sunnyslopehistoricalsociety.org>.



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In addition to joining HomeSmart, I felt that we could create a valued element to HomeSmart, a step-up, so that experienced agents looking to change brokerages, would feel comfortable. I again, spoke with my mentor, Ronnie Gilbert, my friend and an expert in the field of real estate. We came up with the name and I created HomeSmart Elite Group. Matt Widdows supported the idea and 11 of the top agents introduced HomeSmart Elite Group to our company. This also allowed me to recruit experienced agents to Elite Group. In less than a month, almost 250 agents joined HomeSmart Elite Group. It has been 11 years and we now have 1,300 agents in our group. We have monthly meetings at North Phoenix Baptist Church with notable speakers, always giving agents the ability to meet and network with their peers. We encourage sponsorships and have garnered valued companies from a title company to inspectors, plus, and there is always lunch.

We have been able to curate wonderful speakers, from the esteemed William 'Bill' Gray, who has been in the field of real estate and business education for over 40 years and was the president

and CEO of Arizona School of Real Estate and Business from 1980-2007, to Tina Tamboer of The Cromford Report, a formidable resource for the housing market, including but not limited to data, trends and forecasts in Arizona. We typically feature real estate attorneys, who are specially trained in handling issues involving real property and have the ability to communicate in layman's terms. We benefit annually from a presentation by Jay Josephs, owner/president of Josephs Appraisal Group in Phoenix. He has been appraising homes since 1991 with an expertise in VA, FHA, luxury and high complexity properties. And, one of our favorite speakers is North Central resident and former U.S. Marshal David Gonzales. His rich history, colorful stories and basic safety protocols for our agents is invaluable and necessary.

The HomeSmart Elite Group brand is all over the valley, Arizona, and nationally - expanding recently with more agents in Atlanta, Georgia (where I grew up). We have a special group of Elite agents working the North Central neighborhoods as well as throughout the Valley. We typically assist one another with price evaluations, resource inquiries, and many times work together completing transactions. Rest assured that when you hire a HomeSmart Elite Group agent, you are dealing with a very knowledgeable and experienced Realtor.

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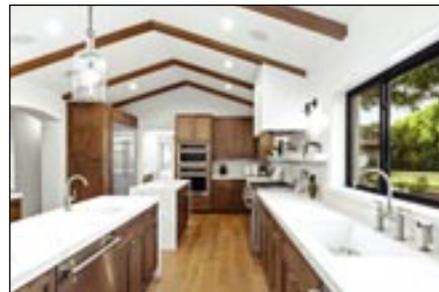


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struction costs are expected to exceed \$850 million.

Existing amenities that will remain include the Walmart Supercenter and Harkin's Theaters, as well as the adjacent Cholla Library, part of the Phoenix Public Library system and the Castles 'N Coasters amusement park.

But before the wrecking ball swings, a community-building effort is already underway with the goal of bringing a sense of safety and security to Metro and the surrounding area — something that had been lacking even before the venerable mall closed its doors in June 2020. That sense of safety is where the Metro District Community Collaboration is hoping to make a positive impact, and the city of Phoenix is investing in the program.

"The Metro District Collaboration is funded equally by the city and Concord Wilshire, the new owners of the former Metrocenter Mall," said Jeff Stapleton a program manager with the city's Community and Economic Development Department. "The city is pleased that Concord Wilshire, even prior to becoming the official owner of the mall, was willing to commit financially to an initiative designed to engage and improve not just the mall, but the surrounding area as well."

The city's goal, Stapleton says, is to seed a self-sufficient community organization that raises the capacity of the district's residents, businesses and property owners to advocate and provide for its interests.

"The district has some shared concerns that impact everyone equally such as crime, blight, attracting customers and visitors, creating a strong brand, etc." Stapleton added. "The collaboration creates a platform for the district to work together on these issues."

The Metro District, which runs from Dunlap Avenue to Peoria Avenue, I-17 to 31st Avenue, is led by Shannon McBride, who founded the 19North Community Alliance and helped create the Northern Avenue Public Safety Collaboration. The Metro District Collaboration is an expansion of the work the 19North nonprofit began.

McBride cited a 31 percent decrease in calls for service to police since the inception of the Northern Avenue Safety Collaboration in 2022, which covered the area along Northern Avenue from I-17 to 17th Drive. Plans

are in the works to expand that program to the broader 19North area.

"Do we still have problems? Yes. We're in the middle of a fentanyl crisis," McBride said. "This isn't the solution. This is an effective layer of deterrent. One layer. But police are still doing their thing. The city is still doing their thing. Neighborhood groups are still doing their thing. Everything still has to keep going. This isn't in place of, this is on top of."

She also wants residents to know that the safety programs are not just about patrolling the area. Some of the benefits that the Metro District is touting is a larger footprint of crime suppression, offering regular addiction resources and outreach, weekly bulk trash pick-up, support for property improvements, all in addition to 24/7 privately hired patrol service and a dispatch phone number for participating property owners to receive immediate support when calls to the Phoenix Police Department may not be warranted.

At the end of the day, though, it is all about collaboration, McBride says, and she is eager to team up with those who have been putting in the hard work in the area for years.

"We have, throughout the city of Phoenix, some amazing neighborhood leaders, and I think often they don't get recognized. And I want to recognize them.

"This is a layer of deterrent that is behind the scenes. They're volunteering their time often to call in the blight, to call police when it's needed, to organize their neighborhoods for picking up trash. That's what I hope this does: work beside them and support what they're already doing."

Residents who would like to get involved with the Metro District's efforts are invited to participate in a community clean-up event, scheduled for Friday, March 3, from 10 a.m. to noon. Neighbors should meet at the organization's office, 9610 Metro Parkway West, Suite A4. Gloves, bags and trash pickers will be provided. For more information, send an email to metrodistrictcollaboration@gmail.com or visit www.metrodistrictcollaboration.com.

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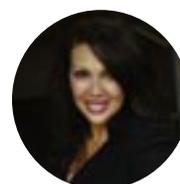
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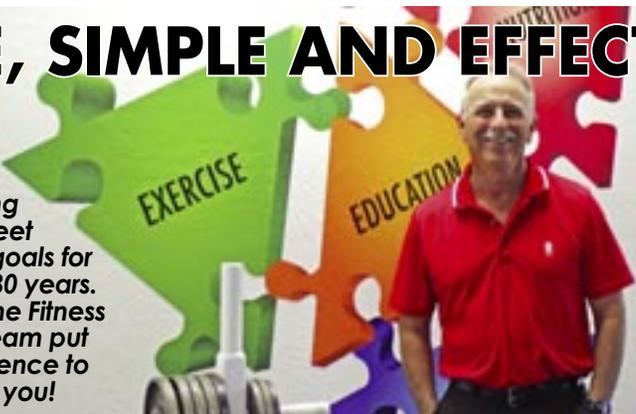
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COMMUNITY



Families are invited to join the Royal Palm Neighborhood for its Spring Movie in the Park event in March and a Spring Fling in April (submitted photo).

Council runoff election is March 14

This month, Phoenix residents in Council District 6 and 8 will have the opportunity to select who will represent them at the city level for the next four years.

Both council seats will be determined in a runoff election March 14 after none of the candidates received the 50% +1 votes required to secure the seat during the Nov. 8, 2022, election. The election is for a four-year term that begins April 17.

For more information, visit www.phoenix.gov/cityclerk/elections.

Celebrate spring in Royal Palm

The Royal Palm Neighborhood has several spring community events coming up in March and April, and residents are invited to join them for the fun. Two of the larger events are the Spring Movie in the Park and the Spring Fling and Egg Hunt.

The March movie is "School of Rock," which will be shown at Royal Palm Park, 8405 N. 15th Ave., Saturday, March 4, from 6–8:30 p.m.

Also in March, enjoy a Happy Hour Fiesta in the Garden at the 19North Community Garden (19th Avenue and Las Palmaritas Drive). The event will take place March 4, from 4–6 p.m., and serve as a fundraiser to support garden operations. Open to the public, the community garden is city-

owned property that is leased to 19North and cared for by the Royal Palm Neighborhood.

In April, the Spring Fling will be held Saturday, April 8, from 9–11 a.m. at Royal Palm Park. The family-friendly event will include giant egg hunt, food trucks, music, bounce houses, crafts and games, balloon artists, face painting, visit from the Easter Bunny and Helper Hare, local business vendors and more. The neighborhood also will have the famous Royal Palm matchbox car track up and running.

For more information on these or other scheduled events, visit www.royalpalmneighborhoodphx.com/events.

Neighborhoods join forces for yard sale

Two neighborhood associations, Carnation Association of Neighbors and Historic Pierson Place, will join forces for a collective community yard sale on Saturday, March 25, from approximately 7 a.m. to noon.

Carnation and Pierson Place cover a square mile in Uptown Phoenix: Indian School to Camelback, Central to 7th Avenue. Residents who would like to participate in the yard sale and be included on the seller's map should email their name, address and telephone number to carnationassociation-az@gmail.com.

A map of participating sellers will be posted on utility poles and message boards throughout the neighborhoods prior to the sale. All are welcome.

COMIC: 3 of 3

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COMMUNITY

Learn about rattlesnake behavior

The North Mountain Visitors Center invites area residents learn about snake behavior and how to deal with the inevitable interactions when hiking the trails this spring.

Rattlesnake Garage will show attendees what EMS professionals have been learning for the past two years about snake interactions. There will be a live arena for an interactive presentation. Topics will include desert conservation, snake recognition, snake encounters, first aid dos and don'ts, and snake myths. Free-flowing questions are encouraged.

Presented by Save Our Mountains Foundation (www.saveourmountains.org), the Rattlesnake Garage event will be held March 11 from 9–11 a.m. at North Mountain Visitor Center, 12950 North 7th Street, just south of Thunderbird/Cactus roads on the west side.

Although this is a free event, donations to the Foundation to help continue this type of program are appreciated. Other desert-related events will be presented at the Visitor Center March 26,



Learn about snake behavior at "Rattlesnake Garage," a March presentation at the North Mountain Visitors Center (submitted photo).

April 15, April 22 and May 13. For additional information, visit www.northmountainvisitorcenter.org.

Celebrate spring at Uptown Plaza

Residents looking for springtime fun are invited to stop by Uptown Plaza every Saturday in March for a variety of out-

door activities hosted in the courtyard.

Spring Into Uptown Plaza features a flower arranging class led by AJ's Fine Foods, March 4 at 10 a.m., acoustic live music by Serena Nicolle Music, March 11 from 5–7 p.m., arts and crafts for kids, March 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and yoga in the courtyard led by Sweatshop on Central followed by lemonade and dessert provided by

Flower Child, March 25 at 10:30 a.m. Uptown Plaza is located on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Camelback Road, in the heart of Phoenix's historic North Central neighborhood.

The Plaza has more than 20 retailers. For more information and to reserve a spot for the flower arranging class and yoga in the courtyard, visit www.uptownplazaphx.com/events.

Take tea at Desert Christian

Desert Christian Fellowship will host a Women's Tea Saturday, March 25. A "Traditional Tea" will be held at 10:30 a.m., and a "Mad Hatter Tea" will be held at 1 p.m. The cost to attend is \$10. Residents should call 602-861-4008 to reserve a spot, which the church says will fill quickly.

Desert Christian Fellowship is located at 1445 W. Northern Ave. For additional information, send an email to pastorkathydcf@gmail.com or visit <https://desertchristianfellowship.com>.

Association presents 'Celebrating Her Story'

Arizona's Children Association (AzCA) will hold the second annual "Celebrating Her Story" event, a Women's History Month luncheon for supporters, corporate and community partners, friends and allies to come together and celebrate exemplary women who have demonstrated resiliency in times of adversity.

"Celebrating Her Story" will take place at the FOUND:RE Phoenix Hotel on Thursday, March 9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event will showcase stories of empowerment and highlight strong women and youth who have overcome tremendous obstacles. Incredible speakers, inspiring experts and women from all walks of life, the special guests will share stories of resilience and expertise to empower women to succeed in both their personal and professional lives.

Proceeds from this event benefit AzCA's child welfare and behavioral health programs and services. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For additional information, visit www.arizonaschildren.org/celebrating-her-story.

A hidden gem in the middle of Phoenix's most livable neighborhood, the North Central home of your dreams is waiting at Willow. Tucked behind a privacy gate, this 14-home community showcases indoor and outdoor living with flexible and open floorplans that encourage connection with nature and neighbors, as well as the vibrant city beyond.

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January 2023 Phoenix MARKET SNAPSHOT

* Source of data: ARMLS & The Cromford Report for single-family dwellings.

Single Family Homes

2,243
Homes for Sale



\$522,736
Average Sold Price



1,139
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\$341.36/SF
Average Asking Price



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rinaepsch@gmail.com



Robert Yaguda
602-955-4555
robert.y@urbanbluerealty.net



COMMUNITY



Community members are once again invited to ride with their neighbors and area police officers at the Tour de Slope during the 2023 Slope Fest (photo courtesy of the East Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association and Block Watch).

It's time to celebrate the 'Slope

Sunnyslope's largest annual signature event will return to Palma Park Saturday, April 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., offering a day full of family entertainment, connection to services and information, food and community fun.

Hosted by the East Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association and Block Watch and its community partners, a highlight of the day will be the Tour de Sunnyslope, says organization president Jeff Tisot. The Phoenix Police Bike Squad will be heading up this bike ride for all ages on a predesignated route through Sunnyslope. The ride, which begins with registration at 8 a.m., will be escorted by bike and street officers, meaning lots of patrol cars with flashing lights for the kids to see and follow (not recommended for children biking with training wheels).

The ride will last approximately 45 minutes. The tour route map, along with a link to a registration form, is available at www.slopefestaz.org/tour-de-sunnyslope.

Other events during the day will include bounce houses, visits with animals, a children's book exchange, local food and other vendors, family-friendly entertainment and plenty of information on community services available to residents through the City of Phoenix and dozens of area nonprofits.

Sponsors of the event include Community Bridges, Community Medical Services and Molina Healthcare.

Palma Park is located at 1135 E. Dunlap Ave. For additional event information, visit www.slopefestaz.org.

Event commemorates women's history

In commemoration of National Women's History Month, three distinguished women veterans will speak to the public Saturday, March 18, 9–10 a.m., at Cross Roads United Methodist Church, 7901 N. Central Ave.

Speakers include Martha Kuhns, who served as an Army nurse in Vietnam; Joan Sisco, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps for three years; and Christeen Verchot, who served in the U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps for 21 years.

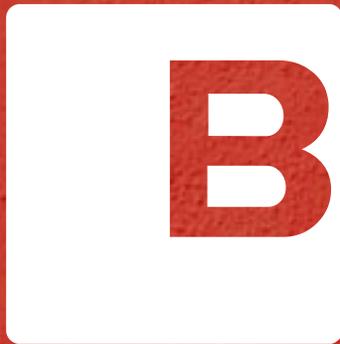
RSVP for this program by leaving a message at 602-943-7834. Questions about the presentation are welcome at caroleenculbertson@earthlink.net.

Sunday on Central returns to Midtown

The Midtown Neighborhood Association announced that Sunday on Central will return March 12.

This 12th annual community block party event is free and will include 100 vendors, Kids Zone, three live music venues, DJ and food trucks, and runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will take place on east Vernon Avenue between Central Avenue and 3rd Street.

For additional information, visit www.midtownphx.org



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COMMUNITY

Step back in time at historic home tour

For the first time in decades Encanto Palmcroft will offer its Historic Home Tour & Street Fair, presented by Waymo, in back-to-back years. The organizers say they are excited to be opening 10 homes plus the Valley Garden Center, a local landmark, for this year's tour, Sunday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This unique neighborhood tour welcomes visitors into some of Arizona's finest historic homes representing a variety of styles: Tudor, Spanish, Colonial, Bungalow and more — dating from the 1920s through the 1940s. The fun-filled day offers the opportunity to visit architecturally significant, superbly decorated homes while supporting one of Phoenix's most unique historic districts. In addition to the home tour, the Encanto Palmcroft Street Fair will feature vendors, artists, and food trucks along with a wine and beer garden.

One of Phoenix's most beautiful, and oldest historic neighborhoods, Encanto Palmcroft is west of 7th



The Encanto Palmcroft Historic Home Tour & Street Fair will include a tour of 10 homes and the Valley Garden Center and a street fair with vendors, artists, food trucks and a wine and beer garden (photo courtesy of the Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Preservation Association).

Avenue between McDowell Road and Encanto Boulevard from 7th to 15th Avenues. Visitors can walk from house to house at their leisure, or trolley cars will be running throughout the neighborhood, carrying tour guests to various stops near featured homes.

The street fair, located on Holly and 12th Avenue at the entrance of Encanto

Park, will showcase nearly 100 vendors offering hand crafted goods, unusual gifts, jewelry, antiques, local artwork and a variety of food options. There will also be live musical entertainment with a beer and wine garden throughout the day.

Tickets are available at www.encantopalmcroft.org/home-tour and day of at the Encanto Palmcroft Street Fair.

Aunt Rita's Foundation hosts AIDS Walk

Aunt Rita's Foundation is marking its 35th anniversary as the "Connector of the HIV Community." An organization that was born to cover friends' rent, medical bills, and eventually funeral costs, has over the years provided millions of dollars to programs working to end HIV in Arizona. Last year alone, Aunt Rita's funded over \$474,000 toward the extinction of HIV/AIDS.

The organization is celebrating by marking another milestone in its history as well — for the 15th year, the foundation will present AIDS Walk Arizona Festival and 5K, to be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, March 25, at Tempe Beach Park.

"This year's theme is 'Brand New Day,' to remind us of how far we've come," the organization said.

All proceeds are disbursed to partner agencies to cover the costs of programs and services supported by Aunt Rita's. Participants may sign up and form teams at www.aidswalkaz.org.

Women's League seeks members

North Central Women's League is a group of women who live in the North Central Phoenix community that seized the opportunity in 2016 to form an organization that focuses on the residents in need in their own backyard.

The goal of the organization is to provide members with the opportunity to serve the community through volunteerism in schools and nonprofits that provide livelihood to neighbors in need. With an emphasis on need-based scholarships in local high schools, the group has donated \$18,500 to both Sunnyslope and Central High School. They currently have 35 active members and have 2,500 volunteer hours to-date.

New members are encouraged to join the group in order to continue its efforts in the community. For an application to join the 2023-24 year in September, send an email to northcentralwomenleague@gmail.com. The application deadline is April 15, 2023.

For additional information, visit www.northcentralwomensleague.org.

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COMMUNITY

Pet of the Month

Regal Athena needs a place to call home

One look at this regal pup and it is no wonder she is named after a Greek goddess. Athena is a two-year-old Carolina Dog mix who loves playing with her toys, splashing in the water and going for car rides. She has excellent house manners, is potty trained and is happy to entertain herself or play with her favorite humans. Arizona Humane Society (AHS) staff say that it is important to share that Athena does not walk...she prances, just like the deity she is.

The absolutely adorable pup made her way to the AHS in November of last year after her previous owner passed away and their next of kin were unable to care for her. She has been treated for kennel cough while with AHS and has also had a very hard time adjusting to life in a shelter. As one of AHS' longest residents and after all she has been through, no one can blame her.

Athena currently is staying in a foster home and in need of extra help finding an adopter. The lovable pup is part of AHS' Couch Surfer program, which provides pets who are experiencing signs of stress in the shelter with a place to "crash." These pets remain available for adoption as they decompress and the shelter's team gets to learn a lot about their behavior in a home environment. Athena is a lucky gal who gets to stay with one of AHS' most dedicated Foster Heroes but she would much rather be in a forever home to call her own.

In order to help her find the perfect family, Athena's adoption fee is waived, which includes her spay surgery, current vaccinations, a microchip and a free follow-up wellness exam with a VCA Animal Hospital. Interested adopters can meet with adorable Athena (pet number 717083) by calling 602-997-7585, Ext. 1145, or visiting www.azhumane.org/adopt to set up an appointment to meet her.

Put your dog's nose to work

Pup owners who want to enhance their dog's sense of smell and have fun are invited to join the Arizona Animal Welfare League for "Nosework," a class that will emphasize putting a dog's nose to work in a productive way to search



Two-year-old Athena is a regal Carolina Dog looking for a forever home (photo courtesy of Arizona Humane Society).

out rewards. This 1-hour class will tap into the pup's gift of their nose by teaching them to utilize their brain and desire to sniff to find rewards while leaving other smells alone.

Classes will be held both indoors and outdoors, Sundays in March from 11 a.m. to noon. Participants must provide proof of current on vaccinations, and dogs must be at least six months old. The registration fee is \$135.

For additional class information or to register, visit <https://aawl.org/training/nosework>.

Tortoises can be forever friends

Arizona Game and Fish (AZGF) kicked off its tortoise adoption campaign in mid-February to find homes for nearly 300 rescued tortoises.

Qualified Arizona residents now have a unique opportunity to help protect Arizona's desert wildlife and find a forever friend (tortoises sometimes live up to 100 years) by welcoming a desert tortoise to their family this spring.

The tortoises are currently in a brumation (sleeping) period, which will last until spring. Much like a romantic fairy tale, when the torts awake from their slumber, they'll be ready for a fresh start.

Each year, AZGF rescues hundreds of captive desert tortoises that have been turned into the state or abandoned as a result of illegal breeding. It is not safe for these tortoises to be released back into the wild.

"Desert tortoises offer longtime companionship without the drama," said Tegan Wolf of AZGF. "Tortoises are adoring and low maintenance. They



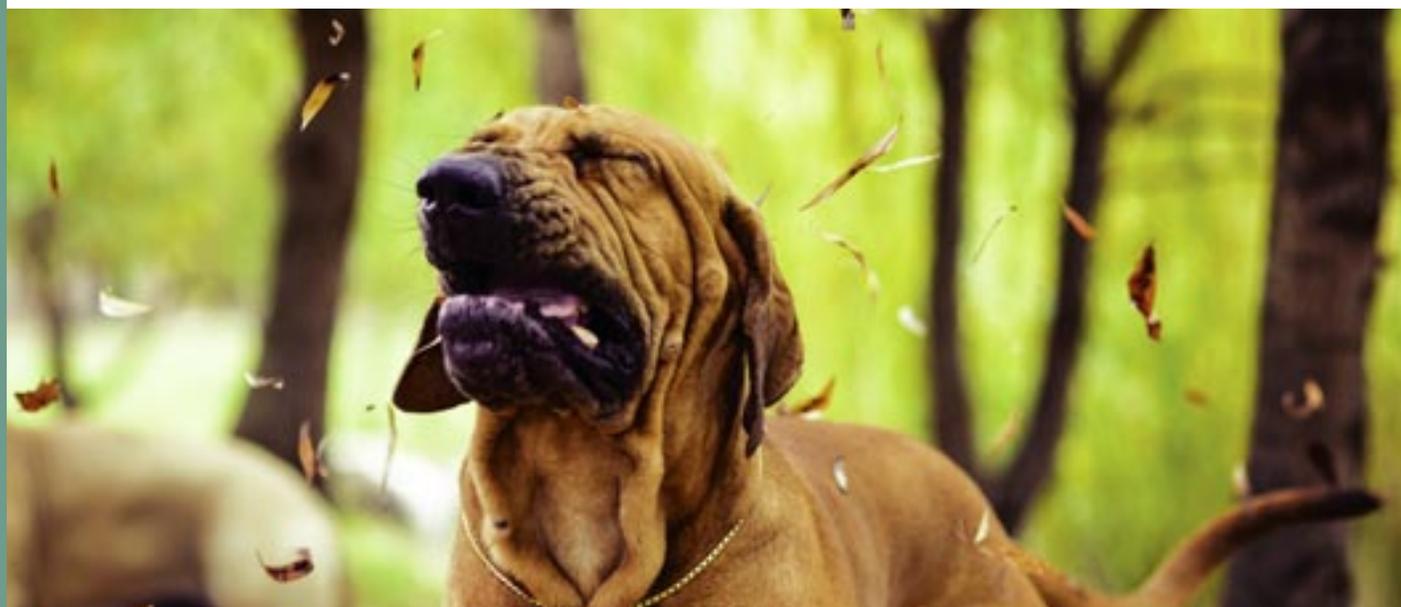
Qualified Arizona residents now have a unique opportunity to help protect Arizona's desert wildlife and find a forever friend (photo courtesy of Arizona Game and Fish).

enjoy healthy greens, exploring the outdoors and visiting with their companions. Desert tortoises make a great addition to a family home with the right preparation. Our team of specialists knows each tort's unique personality and we will help you find your perfect match and prepare for their arrival."

To help make adoption even easier, the wildlife specialists at AZFG provide detailed information about tortoise adoption, care, and habitat maintenance on the AZGF website: www.azgfd.com/wildlife/nongamemangement/tortoise/captivecare.



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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Reimagined Egyptian opens

The historic Egyptian Motor Hotel, which once thrived in Downtown Phoenix in the 1950s before operating as a different brand for decades, has been restored on its original turf.

Reopened to the public as a mecca for live entertainment, hospitality, nightlife, and premium culinary offerings Jan. 27, the Egyptian is home to the first brick and mortar outpost of Chilte, (www.chiltephx.com). A pop-up and food truck for new-school Mexican street food helmed by Chef Lawrence Smith, who competed on Food Network’s “Chopped” last year, Chilte is now open for dinner service.

Chicago-based hotel developer and management company Rebel Hospitality breathed new life into this Phoenix landmark. The property boasts 49 retro modern rooms with bunk bed (coined “stacked”) and king bed offerings; Egyptian Live, a 250-seat outdoor



The historic Egyptian Motor Hotel has been reimagined and reopened to the public with modern rooms, outdoor entertainment area and restaurant (photo by Gabby Usinger).

bar and entertainment venue for artists and performers of the local community; adult games and activities; Airstream guest room; water and firepit features to add to the ambience; and Chilte.

“We are ecstatic to open our doors to this retro time capsule reimagined

for nomads, locals, foodies, thrill seekers, and everyone in between,” said Rebel Hospitality Principal, Gene Kornota. “The Egyptian is a modern crash pad with a nod to the past. With an open-air entertainment venue, unique activities, a beloved food part-

ner and retro ambience, the hotel showcases the best of what this vibrant neighborhood has to offer. Grand Avenue’s spirit of creativity is a perfect match for the ethos of the Egyptian. We’re so grateful to have resurrected a time capsule of this important Phoenix community.”

The Egyptian Motor Hotel is located at 765 Grand Ave., Phoenix. For information, visit www.egyptianmotorhotel.com.

Business Briefs Architecture firm opens office in Phoenix

Childers Architect, a 30-year-old firm headquartered in Fort Smith, Arkansas, announced in late January that it has opened an additional office in Phoenix.

The company named Stanley Schimke as managing principal in the new office, which is located at 711 E. Missouri Ave., Suite 100. Sara Altieri

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has also joined Childers Architect as marketing and graphic design director, focusing on projects throughout Arizona and the Southwest region. Collectively, the Arizona team has over 55 years of experience working in Arizona and the United States.

Childers Architect is a Native American owned and certified business that provides architecture and interior design services in a variety of market sectors, including healthcare, hospitality and entertainment, education, civic and cultural and other specialty projects.

For additional information, call 479-783-2480 or visit www.childersarchitect.com.



Plan 6002, one of the floorplans in Camelot Homes' new Willow community, includes a basement option, which the builder expects to be popular (submitted photo).

Camelot Homes opens Willow sales center

Camelot Homes announced that an on-site sales information center is now open at its new 14-home private gated luxury community, Willow, which is located at N. 15th Ave. and W. Northern Ave. in North Central Phoenix.

Willow offers quarter-acre lots and single-level floorplans ranging from

3,100-4,100 square feet with 3-5 bedrooms and 3.5-5.5 baths. Pricing starts at \$1,499,900. The 6002 plan, Camelot's most popular plan at its Heirloom and Stone Crest communities, has been modified to offer homeowners a basement option, which is expected to be popular with buyers, the builders say.

The center is open Wednesday

through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For additional information, visit www.camelothomes.com/community/willow.

BBB offers monthly financial workshops

Better Business Bureau Serving the Pacific Southwest (BBB), with community partner Arizona Coyotes

Foundation, kicked off a series of monthly financial workshops in January to increase access to financial and business resources for underserved entrepreneurs.

The Better Money: A BBB Financial Workshop Series offers requested resources to small businesses in Arizona that include access to capital, business mentorship and networking opportunities with trusted peers. Micro-financing, alternative and conventional loans and personal finance education will additionally be covered in future workshops.

Better Money workshops are free to attend and will be held monthly on BBB's Maricopa campus in Phoenix and its Yavapai campus in Prescott.

For complete event details and to register, visit <http://events.bbbcommunity.org>.

Expo showcases franchise opportunities

MFV Expositions and Comexposium invites current and aspiring small business owners across *please see FRANCHISE on page 20*

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Spring Green was one of two Kohler heritage colors that were chosen by the public to bring back this year. Kohler will offer a limited edition collection in the two colors, which will be available for purchase this summer (submitted photo).

FRANCHISE continued from page 19

the West Coast to register for and attend this year's Franchise Expo West taking place at the Phoenix Convention Center March 31–April 1.

Working with the International Franchise Association, the event showcases a wide range of franchise brands and provides exclusive insight into various trends and growth plans for the future of franchising, offering an opportunity for both current and aspiring entrepreneurs to identify and begin pursuing their next business endeavor.

With franchise opportunities starting at investment levels as low as \$5,000, Franchise Expo West is geared to help entrepreneurs explore opportunities and make connections with franchisors. Attendees will have the chance to meet face-to-face with many of the top franchisors from every industry.

The Expo will be held at Phoenix Convention Center, North Halls C-D, at 475 E. Monroe St. in downtown Phoenix. For additional information or to register for the event, visit www.franchiseexpo.com/west.

Kohler announces heritage colors

Residents who have maintained their original Kohler bathroom fixtures, or those who would love to bring the vintage vibe into their home, will have the opportunity to update their space this year.

As the company entered its 150th year, it launched its Heritage Colors campaign, a year-long series of celebratory initiatives paying homage to the introduction of vibrant, colorful prod-

ucts that began in 1927. After asking fans to choose their favorites from among six historic shade palettes, two colors rose to the top and will be offered in a limited edition collection, available for purchase in summer 2023: Spring Green (1927-1944) and Peachblow (1934-1973).

Learn more at www.kohler.com/forever-in-color.

Psychedelic wellness center opens in Phoenix

An assisted psychedelic wellness center backed by medical professionals opened in Phoenix Feb. 18.

Founded by Ajona Olsen and Chris Cohn, Daytryp provides medically supervised ketamine therapy programs combined with psychotherapy in a tranquil atmosphere. The company explains that Ketamine Assisted Psychotherapy (KAP) induces neuroplasticity, which is the brain's ability to change, rewire, relearn and strengthen important connections. The owners say that research suggests that ketamine stimulates the regrowth of synapses, the connections between neurons, to effectively rewire the brain to think of the person's mental health differently, which over time improves their mental health.

Olsen began her career in health-care in 2001 as a registered nurse, and in 2006 became a nurse practitioner where she continued working in corporate medicine. Cohn spent 15 years as the CEO of Scottsdale Recovery Center, a drug rehabilitation and treatment center.

Daytryp is located at 3601 N. 44th St. For more information, visit www.daytryp.com.



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620 W Lawrence Rd	In Escrow	10,479SF	7BR/7.5BA	\$4,500,000
35 E Myrtle Ave	In Escrow	5196SF	4BR/5BA	\$2,200,000
910 E Kaler Dr	Just Listed	4205SF	4BR/4.5BA	\$1,500,000
510 E Ocotillo Rd	Just Listed	3602SF	5BR/5BA	\$2,700,000
910 E Kaler Dr	Just Listed	4309SF	4BR/4BA	\$1,500,000
5130 N 6th St	Just Listed	3304SF	5BR/4BA	\$1,300,000
7101 N 3rd Ave	In Escrow	3351SF	4BR/4.5BA	\$1,299,900
5570 N 12th St #1		2326SF	3BR/2.5BA	\$ 750,000
30111 N 166th Pl	In Escrow	3350SF	5BR/3.5BA	\$ 749,000
11416 N Century Ln	In Escrow	1719SF	2BR/2BA	\$ 583,900
17726 W Larkspur Dr	In Escrow	3483SF	5BR/3BA	\$ 574,900
1516 W Glenn Dr	New Price	2021SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 575,000
1222 E Wagon Wheel Dr		1540SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 545,000
106 E Echo Ln	In Escrow	1503SF	2BR/1.75BA	\$ 499,500
2233 E Sheridan St		2262SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 485,000
5220 N 16th Ln	In Escrow	2004SF	4BR/3BA	\$ 424,900
1001 W Solcito Ln	In Escrow	1765SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 399,900
16182 W Winslow Dr	Just Listed	1588SF	3BR/2BA	\$ 399,500

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6811 N Central Ave**	\$2,400,000
1400 E Bethany Home Rd #29	\$ 585,000
SOLD 2022	
7020 N Wilder Rd	\$3,400,000
5445 E Lincoln	\$2,849,000
4901 E Lafayette Blvd	\$2,700,000
800 E Circle Dr	\$2,500,000
7020 N 21st St	\$2,450,000
1527 W Caribbean Ln	\$2,000,000
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
205 W Lawrence Rd	\$1,362,000
5112 N 34th Pl	\$1,300,000
3436 N 38th Pl	\$1,299,500
7588 E Via Dona Rd*	\$1,275,000
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	1110 E Orangewood Ave	\$ 565,000
9411 N 13th Way	\$1,150,000	5302 N La Plaza Cr	\$ 565,000
7247 N 6th Pl*	\$1,040,000	3401 W Taro Ln	\$ 550,000
1825 E Cinnabar Ave**	\$ 989,000	1106 E Wagon Wheel Dr	\$ 549,000
1146 W Royal Palm Rd*	\$ 980,000	6532 N 16th Dr	\$ 530,000
1324 E Lupine Ave	\$ 975,000	77 E Missouri Ave #17	\$ 520,000
42 E Marlette Ave	\$ 970,000	1527 E Hudson Dr	\$ 519,000
121 E Claremont St*	\$ 935,000	700 W Northern Ave	\$ 510,000
132 E Tuckey Ln	\$ 925,000	804 E Corte Oro Dr	\$ 494,000
10251 N Central Ave	\$ 915,000	1124 E Rose Ln #21**	\$ 485,000
7730 N 2nd Ave	\$ 900,000	6357 S Blake St	\$ 480,000
1033 E Kaler Dr	\$ 899,000	1241 E Kaler Dr	\$ 475,000
7904 S 29th Pl	\$ 875,786	903 W Glendale Ave #3	\$ 465,000
4128 E Sunnyside Dr	\$ 825,000	2340 E Turney Ave	\$ 450,000
77 E Missouri Ave #67	\$ 815,000	8850 S Grandview**	\$ 449,000
7536 N 10th St	\$ 810,000	7526 N 10th Pl	\$ 440,000
800 W Bethany Home Rd	\$ 800,000	605 E Royal Palm Square	\$ 435,000
8058 E Via Del Desierto	\$ 775,000	6125 N Central Ave #5	\$ 435,000
7549 N 16th Dr	\$ 740,000	7321 N 11th Pl	\$ 425,000
6614 N 19th St	\$ 725,000	8125 N Central Ave #18	\$ 425,000
534 E El Camino Dr	\$ 720,300	914 E Osborn Rd #205	\$ 425,000
8123 N 13th Way	\$ 699,000	6223 N 12th St #13	\$ 422,000
4735 E Sleepy Ranch Rd	\$ 690,000	1507 E Pinchot Ave	\$ 403,000
827 W Linger Ln	\$ 656,000	2531 S 156th Ave	\$ 378,000
2316 E Desert Cove	\$ 630,000	5816 N 64th Dr	\$ 342,000
1415 E Flower St	\$ 616,000	750 E Northern Ave #1089*	\$ 310,000
1102 E Vista Ave	\$ 606,000	7640 N Dreamy Draw #3	\$ 299,000
8039 N 10th Ave	\$ 600,000	1263A E Maryland Ave	\$ 255,000
1105 E Wagon Wheel Dr*	\$ 600,000		
7321 N 11th Pl	\$ 575,000		
8124 E Whittan Ave	\$ 570,000		

*represented both buyer and seller
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30111 N 166th Pl • \$749,000



5576 N 12th St • \$750,000



5220 N 16th Ln • \$424,900



106 E Echo Ln • \$499,500



1222 E Wagon Wheel Dr • \$545,000



11416 N Century Ln • \$583,900



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SCHOOL DAYS

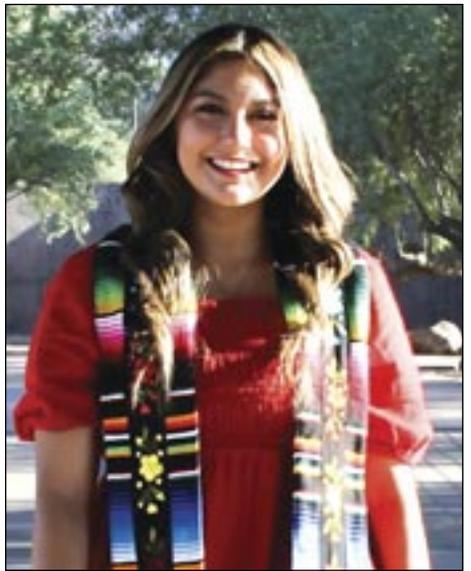
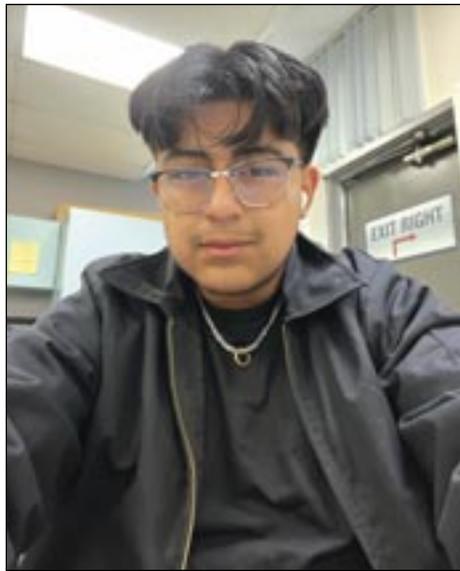
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Madison Highland Preparatory senior Joseph Arias Escobar (left) and Xavier College Preparatory senior Emily Ruiz (right) were among 30 students from Arizona and New Mexico to receive Hispanic Youth Heritage Awards (submitted photos)

Two students honored for Latinx leadership

The Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF) announced the Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards recipients in February for the Yellow region, which includes Arizona and New Mexico. Thirty local high school seniors were honored for their leadership in the classroom and community during a virtual ceremony held Feb. 9, including Phoenix students Joseph Arias Escobar of Madison Highland Preparatory, and Emily Ruiz of Xavier College Preparatory.

Three students per category were honored with gold, silver and bronze

medallions. Categories include Business & Entrepreneurship, Community Service, Education, Engineering, Healthcare & Science, Media & Entertainment, Public Service & Social Justice, Sports & Fitness, Sustainability, and Technology.

Joseph received the gold medallion in the Technology category. His interest in technology has been a lifelong pursuit, starting from the moment he was first introduced to a computer as a child, according to his bio. The allure of technology for Joseph lies in its versatility and practicality. He is drawn to its ability to entertain, organize, and bring a modern edge to life. This sparked a fascination for the inner workings of



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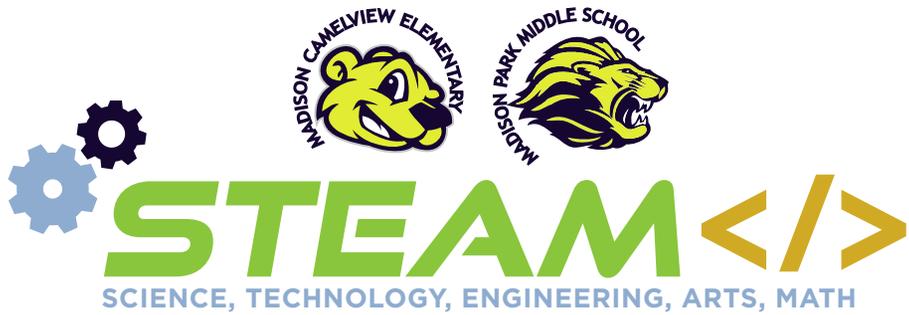
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SCHOOL DAYS

computers and a desire to build his own. For him, building a computer is like solving a complex puzzle, one that enriches and educates him as he progresses.

Joseph has set his sights on majoring in computer science and minoring in marketing at Arizona State University, Grand Canyon State University, or Northern Arizona University.

Emily was awarded with a silver medallion in the Education category. Her first experience with giving back to her community was when she was nine years old. It was her first time providing food to people who were struggling with homelessness, and she remembered giving a leather jacket to a man who appeared to be paralyzed from the cold, her bio says. As soon as he saw the jacket, his face lit up. Since then, her life has been filled with continuous service and love for her community. Being the oldest in her family, she has always been the example that her siblings and cousins admired, which greatly influenced her interest in the education field.

Emily plans to pursue a major in special education and a minor in Spanish at Arizona State University, the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, or the University of California, Santa Barbara.

To learn more about these and other recognized students and their achievements, visit www.rsvpya.com/yellow.html.

School Briefs

GLENDALE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Governing board honors 'Achievement' recipients

Glendale Union High School District's (GUHSD) Achievement Above All events highlight the excellence within the district and schools. Most recently, the GUHSD governing board honored Thunderbird High School's 2021–22 teacher, student, student group, support staff member and volunteer of the year during a meeting.

The recipients included teacher Christina Irvine, senior student Houston Hull, Varsity Football, support staff Luisa Coss and volunteer Kim George. In honor of their achievement, each recipient received an award or certificate for their dedication to the school and community.



Thunderbird High School's NJROTC was recognized as "Outstanding" during a recent inspection (submitted photo).

NJROTC is 'Outstanding'

Thunderbird High School's NJROTC cadets participated in the Annual Military Inspection. The cadets were inspected by Captain Scott McMahon, the senior Naval Science instructor from Cortez High School.

Each platoon was inspected, including uniform, military bearing, memorized inspection knowledge, in-place drill and regulation drill. The platoons

were in direct competition in these events, and the result was totaled for the coveted title of Honor Platoon. The NJROTC cadets received a grade of "Outstanding."

Art students receive scholarships

Two Washington High School art students were featured in the Shemer Art Center's "New Horizons" exhibition, a

prestigious show in which to be included.

Student Gina Ramirez received a scholarship for her photograph, "Cielo de Esperanza," and student Aysha Brown received a scholarship for her color pencil drawing, "Pulling on My Strings."

Senior is candidate for Scholars program

Sunnyslope High School senior Marcus Giorza was named as a candidate for the United States Presidential Scholars Program.

To earn candidacy, a student must have an outstanding performance on the ACT Assessment or The College Board SAT. Giorza earned a perfect score of 36 on the ACT.

MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT Registration open for Spanish Immersion camp

The Madison School District's Spanish Immersion Summer Camp, to be held June 5–22, will give students entering grades 1–4 the opportunity to build their Spanish language skills

please see IMMERSION on page 26

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SCHOOL DAYS

IMMERSION *continued from page 25*

through full language immersion. Students will also learn about culture, music, food and traditions. They will complete weekly challenges using communication skills in Spanish, hands-on activities and more.

Registration opened Feb. 13. The camp will be held at Madison Heights Elementary. For more information, visit www.madisonaz.org/spanish-summer-camp.

Students learn from symphony

Madison No. 1 Middle School students recently had the opportunity to attend a master class at the Madison Center for the Arts with members of The Phoenix Symphony. Students were able to watch the symphony's rehearsal and have a question-and-answer session with the musicians. Madison No. 1 Middle School is home to the district's Visual & Performing Arts signature program at the middle school level.

Madison students have opportunities to attend master class sessions with



Members of the Phoenix Symphony recently held a master class, which included a question-and-answer session, for students at Madison No. 1 Middle School (submitted photo).

a variety of artists and performers at the Madison Center for the Arts. These sessions provide students with opportunities to learn from industry professionals in theater, dance, music, art and more. The master classes are designed to teach students skills to continue developing their craft, see real world applications and support the important role of the arts in education.

Learn more about the district at www.madisonaz.org.

Heights students learn to sew

Madison Heights Elementary School Art teacher Kathrine O'Connor was recently awarded with a classroom grant from the Madison Education Foundation to support the "Sew a

Zenski" project. "Sew a Zenski" taught every fourth-grade art student at Heights how to sew, an important skill that can be used for arts, crafts and practical uses.

The Madison Education Foundation awards teacher grants to Madison teachers to help enhance and expand arts opportunities in the classroom.

Mobile Market to visit Camelview

The Farm Express Mobile Market Bus, which sells fresh, affordable fruits and vegetables, will be at Madison Camelview Elementary (2002 E Campbell Ave.) March 13 and 27 from 2:45–3:45 p.m. The market is open to Madison families as well as to the public. Accepted payment is cash, credit/debit and SNAP

Visit www.activatefoodaz.org/farm-express for more info.

OSBORN SCHOOL DISTRICT
New dual language program offered

Starting in the fall of 2023–24, the Osborn School District will open a new dual language program as a part of its current and existing Montessori program at Montecito Community School, located in central Phoenix. Interested families will now have the choice of supporting their child in a monolingual English Montessori Learning program or a Dual Language English/Spanish program. Both language programs will help support the child as he develops and fosters independent learning and life skills in the style of Maria Montessori from preschool age 3 to sixth grade.

The district says that the school campus has been going through remodeling and upgrades to the playgrounds, library and outdoor learning environment in an effort to provide its students with a quality learning experience through grants and partnerships with varied parties in the state of Arizona.

Interested families should call Preschool Coordinator and Montessori Guide Jill Singh at 602-707-2500 or email at jsingh@osbornsd.org for further information or to schedule a tour. Interested teachers and assistants are also encouraged to apply for employment to be a part of the program by contacting Singh. Additional informa-

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SCHOOL DAYS

tion can be found on the Osborn School District website: www.osbornnet.org.

**PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Camelback celebrates new field house**

Camelback High School had a huge day in early February that included a ribbon cutting for a new field house and a visit from former NFL player Tony Gonzales.

The field house was made possible by a partnership of multiple companies including EA Sports/Madden, Xbox, Microsoft, the Arizona Cardinals, Nike and Support My Club. The school also received a donation from Dick's Sporting Goods to further support Camelback's athletic programs.



Members of the Camelback High School community, led by principal James Arndt (center), celebrated a new field house at a February ribbon-cutting ceremony (photo courtesy of Phoenix Union High School District).

work was displayed in the boardroom this school year, from November 2022 to January 2023. The district extended its congratulations to student artists from Desert View Elementary School, Maryland School, Mountain View School, Richard E. Miller Elementary School and Sunnyslope School.

The board also awarded special certificates to the students to celebrate this achievement. The district said, "The

WESD family is proud of our students for displaying their skills in the arts!"

Baxter visits students to promote STEM

The Arizona Diamondbacks and Honeywell recently visited Washington Elementary School District (WESD) students to promote STEM education.

Baxter the Bobcat from the Arizona Diamondbacks surprised first through

third grade students at Orangewood School, Ocotillo Elementary School and Maryland School to gift them STEM-related books.

WESD sees growth on social media

Due to the support from students, staff and community, WESD has reached more than 12,000 followers on Facebook and its online community continues to grow.

Residents are encouraged to share the district's content and great news with family and friends to help reach 15,000 followers on Facebook. Families also can follow on Instagram and Twitter pages (@WESDschoo) to keep up with latest updates or visit www.wesdschools.org.

**PRIVATE AND CHARTER SCHOOLS
Xavier athletes sign letters of intent**

Xavier College Preparatory announced that four student-athletes signed their National Letters of Intent *please see INTENT on page 28*

**WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Governing board honors art students**

During a recent meeting, the WESD governing board recognized a second group of students whose art-

Dr. Amelia Ellingson DMD

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PREPARATORY SCHOOL

SCHOOL DAYS

INTENT continued from page 27

at a Feb. 8 signing event.

The student-athletes and their colleges include Savannah Angell (soccer), Ohio Dominican University; Reese Brown (cross country and track and field), Washington and Lee University; Sienna Cherwinski (basketball), Sonoma State University; and Ellie Hedges (soccer), Viterbo University.

Kindred named head football coach

Jason Kindred, a seasoned football coach and mentor with over 20 years of coaching experience, has been named head varsity football coach at Phoenix Christian Preparatory School.

Kindred holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology and brings to the position 25 years of experience working with youth from a variety of backgrounds and wealth of knowledge and experience to offer young men.

"Coach Kindred's passion for football and commitment to helping young men grow and develop is evident in his achievements," school administration said in a press release. "He places a strong emphasis on building relationships, instilling discipline through physical training, character development and focusing on being a strong student-athlete. He believes that emphasizing these characteristics is not just about preparation for games, but also about becoming Christ-like individuals."



Jason Kindred

Superintendent Jeff Blake said of the hiring, "Coach Kindred is committed to God-honoring excellence. He is a uniter, leader and visionary and will be a living curriculum for our students. His desire to unite excellence in athletics, school, parents and faith is inspiring. I cannot wait for Cougar football."

Students recognized for tech achievements

Xavier College Preparatory seniors Ximena Parra Rourke and Sara Klemmer and junior Hope Smith are recipients of the 2023 NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing National Honorable Mention Awards. They are three of only 400 students selected nationwide for



Seniors Ximena Parra Rourke and Sara Klemmer and Junior Hope Smith (not pictured) were awarded for their technological achievements (photo by Lisa Zuba; courtesy of Xavier College Preparatory).

technological achievements.

Each year, U.S. female high school students are eligible to receive recognition for their aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing, as demonstrated by their computing experience, computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and plans for post-secondary education.

Magazine wins national awards

Pierian Spring, Xavier College Preparatory's *Literary and Arts Magazine*, recently won two national awards for its content.

The American Scholastic Association awarded a First Place with Special Merit Award and an Outstanding Overall Art Award for its 2021–22 issue, *Komorebi*. The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) awarded Pierian Spring with a First Class Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines Contest (REALM) Award for its 2021–22 issue.

Fashion Show to support scholarships

For more than 30 years, Xavier College Preparatory Mothers' Guild Scholarship Fashion Show has supported the Xavier Scholarship Fund, with all proceeds from the event going directly to scholarships for students who qualify based upon financial need.

This year the Lunch and Fashion show, chaired by Karolyn Stayer, will be held at the Sheraton Downtown Phoenix Saturday, March 11. Social

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SCHOOL DAYS

and shopping begin at 10:30 a.m.; the lunch and show begin at noon.

Purchase tickets or sponsorships at <https://aesaz.co/ELP/XCPFSHOW23>.

Watt speaks at Power Breakfast

Brophy College Preparatory hosted its 18th annual Power Breakfast on Feb. 7 featuring speaker J.J. Watt. Watt is a renowned defensive end in the NFL who most recently played for the Arizona Cardinals. He retired this year after 12 years in the NFL — 10 seasons with Houston and two with the Cardinals.

Watt spoke about his upbringing and being able to play after-school sports, something he said he took for granted before meeting young people who didn't have that option. He established the Justin J. Watt Foundation to provide assistance for youth sports programs and has raised more than \$7 million toward that effort.

This year's student speaker, J.T. Craig ('23), talked about losing his father just before he started Brophy, and finding mentors at the school who



J.J. Watt (center), pictured here with Brophy president Adria Renke and students, spoke at the February Brophy Power Breakfast (photo courtesy of Brophy College Preparatory).

stepped up to provide him the guidance he needed at a difficult time and throughout his years at Brophy. J.T. will play baseball for the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in the fall.

Proceeds from the event will go to the Generations Endowment Campaign to provide for future financial aid needs at Brophy. Currently, 40 percent of Brophy students receive some level of need-verified financial

assistance. Learn more at www.brophyprep.org/giving/power-breakfast.

Partnership models peaceful resolution

The Phoenix Friends School (PFS), an independent school set to open this fall in midtown Phoenix, will feature a new model of values education and learning for grades five and six. As part of this model, the school will offer the

first of its kind community partnership with Phoenix-based Arizona Aikido.

“Our partnership with Arizona Aikido marks the first of many educational sources we’re tapping into that are not normally partnered with any middle school in the Valley,” said PFS founder Willard White, PhD. “While most instruction and discussion will take place within the school, PFS is uniquely designed to operate in the greater community,” he said. “The City is Our Classroom is our tagline, and we will live by it.”

Through this new partnership, Arizona Aikido, located on 939 W. Camelback Rd., will offer the Japanese martial art of Aikido to all PFS students. It’s just one way that PFS is creating unique student experiences that feed a sense of inquiry, reflection action, and discovery for its students, the school says.

“Aikido focuses on harmonizing with your opponent to bring peaceful resolutions to conflict, which is a core value of a Friends school,” said Arizona Aikido instructor Ray Perales. “Together, the two align beautifully, and we couldn’t be happier to be the first to bring this practice to middle school aged children, both in our studio and in their classroom.”

Perales explained that Arizona Aikido is not teaching young people to fight, but rather teaching them a means to non-aggressive problem resolution, self-discipline and cooperative goal achievement. It’s a curriculum-based program that promotes health and personal development and the necessary skills to confront and overcome the various negative influences and stressful situations that they deal with in their daily lives.

Learn more at www.phoenixfriends-school.org or call 602-562-2662.

Summit tackles ‘disinformation age’

Brophy College Preparatory will host its annual nine-day Summit on campus from Feb. 27–March 9. This year’s topic is seeking the truth in the disinformation age.

The Summit will cover the ways that the blurring of what’s real and what’s fake affects people’s personal lives, society and the world. Through a variety of presentations from keynote speakers and workshops, students will learn more about how to contribute to a more loving, more peaceful and more truth-filled world.

Learn more at www.brophyprep.org/faith-and-justice/summit-on-human-dignity.

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GENERATIONS

Senior Living State encourages boosters for seniors

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) is encouraging everyone, particularly seniors, to stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations.

ADHS says, “All evidence points to an even greater need for older Arizonans to get the lifesaving protection offered by the current bivalent booster, which targets Omicron. COVID-19 vaccines are safe, highly effective, widely available and free.”

The newly updated booster vaccines are called “bivalent” because they protect against both the original strain of COVID-19 and the Omicron variants BA.4 and BA.5. Previous boosters were called “monovalent” because they were designed to only protect against the original strain of COVID-19.

The state launched a website to make it as easy as possible for Arizona’s seniors and people with loved ones in

this age group to get the information they need and to connect with vaccine providers. This includes people needing boosters brought to them, such as those in long-term care facilities, and people who need assistance getting to a vaccination provider.

Visit www.azhealth.gov/boosters-forseniors.

Senior centers offer monthly activities

City of Phoenix senior centers offer a variety of programming for area older adults each month.

At the Devonshire Senior Center, 2802 E. Devonshire Ave., residents can take part in Memory Café, a welcoming place providing persons living with early to moderate dementia a safe place to socialize and participate in activities facilitated by professionals to stimulate and support brain health. Memory Café’s include care partners for a shared experience. Advance registration is required; there is no fee to attend. For

information about the program, call 602-534-5750 or send an email memo-ry.cafe@phoenix.gov. Contact the Devonshire Senior Center by calling 602-262-7807.

The Sunnyslope Senior Center, located at 802 E. Vogel Ave., includes Geri-Fit among its monthly program offerings. Held Tuesday and Thursday, 10–10:45 a.m., Geri-Fit is a series of eight 45-minute strength training exercise classes for older adults of all fitness levels. Classes are taught by certified instructors to help with muscle strength, balance, coordination and flexibility. Most exercises are performed with light weights while seated in chairs, and participants can work out at their own pace and enjoy the company of others. For information on this program, visit www.aaaphx.org. Contact the Sunnyslope Senior Center by calling 602-272-7572.

Membership gives older adults access to all 15 Phoenix senior centers. The annual membership fee is \$20 for

Phoenix residents and \$40 for non-residents. For additional information, visit www.phoenix.gov/humanservices/programs/older/senior-centers.

Foundation offers learning resources

The Foundation for Senior Living (FSL) offers a wealth of free educational resources for the Valley’s older residents as well as for those who care for them.

From a free six-part educational series that can be hosted at area churches, offices or other community organizations, to tip sheets and animated videos available online, FSL can help answer many aging-related questions.

The educational series includes topics such as “What About You?” for caregivers, “Are You Dementia Friendly?,” “Everyone Needs Long-Term Care,” “Gravity. Don’t Let It Win!,” “Avoid Fraud, Scams & Abuse,” and “Should I Age in Place or Look for Other Options?”

please see RESOURCES on page 32



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GENERATIONS



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RESOURCES continued from page 31

To sign up to host a presentation, ask questions or find online resources, visit www.fsl.org/familycaregivereducation.

Kids & Families
Nash announces summer camp

Valley youth ages 12 and older are invited to spend a fun-filled week learning and performing jazz with the Nash Jazz Summer Camp's all-star faculty.

The Nash will host an all-day Summer Jazz Camp for middle and high school instrumentalists and vocalists June 18-24. Camp will be taught by a stellar faculty including Lewis Nash, drums; Charles Lewis, piano; Dennis Rowland, vocals; Mary Petrich and Clark Gibson, saxophone; Chris Finet, bass; Deborah Weisz, trombone; Jeff Libman, guitar; and Jason Carder, trumpet.

Campers will participate in all-day jazz intensive studies featuring improv, combos and masterclasses with the faculty. Each day concludes with a concert for students on the ASA campus, with the fun-filled week culminating in concerts at the renowned jazz club, The Nash. Campers will be treated to an inspirational performance by the camp's faculty on Friday evening, June 23. The week concludes Saturday, June 24 with students performing on the Nash stage at 1 p.m.

The Nash Summer Jazz Camp will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Arizona School for the Arts, 1410 N.

3rd St., Phoenix. Registration is \$500; limited scholarships are available. For information and to register, visit www.thenash.org/2023-summer-camp.

Enjoy spring break at Sunnyslope

Sunnyslope Community Center will host PHXPlays Spring Break Camp @ Sunnyslope for young residents ages 6 to 12. The camp will be held from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 13-17.

The cost of the camp is \$60 and offers structured age-appropriate activities that include sports, games and arts and craft. A cold sack lunch is included; parents will have to provide afternoon snacks.

The Sunnyslope Youth Center serves the Madison and Washington school districts, and is located at 1702 W. Peoria Ave., adjacent to the Winifred Green Park, complete with a full-sized basketball court, playground, and sports field. Programming offered includes seasonal dance, art, sports and educational programs.

For additional information, visit www.phoenix.gov/parks/teens/sunnyslope-youth-center or call 602-534-5088.

MOM hosts family wellness event

Mission of Mercy Arizona (MOM), a Phoenix-based nonprofit dedicated to providing free primary medical care and medications to those in need, will host its Third Annual Spring Into Wellness Walk & Health Fair at North

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GENERATIONS

Phoenix Baptist Church from 8:30–11 a.m. Saturday, March 11.

The event will feature a 1-mile family fun run/walk at North Phoenix Baptist Church (5757 N. Central Ave., in the south parking lot off Central Avenue and Montebello), in addition to exercise activities with Restorative Fitness and a health fair featuring community information and resources.

There will be a DJ, bounce house, face painting, games and a raffle with great prizes. MOM will have its mobile medical RV on site for tours and the Phoenix Suns Gorilla will also stop by. Additionally, the Uptown Farmer’s Market will be happening, so attendees can grab fresh fruits, veggies and other goods after the event.

Registration is \$20 for those 13 and older, and includes all activities and games, a giveaway bag and a raffle ticket. Children ages 12 and younger are free. Register online at www.momwellness.org.

All proceeds raised will go directly toward funding MOM’s health clinic operations, which provide primary healthcare, diabetes education, and



Valley families are invited to Mission of Mercy Arizona’s Third Annual Spring Into Wellness Walk & Health Fair March 11 (submitted photo).

chronic disease management and prevention through six clinics operating five days per week across the Valley.

Spring break camp focuses on animal care

The Arizona Humane Society’s (AHS) Animal Doctors Spring Break Camp may be the perfect fit to keep ener-

getic kids entertained over spring break.

This STEAM early career-discovery program focuses on the science of veterinary medicine, animal behavior and the joy of pets. Campers will enjoy up-close-and-personal, hands-on interactions with AHS animal teachers and learn about animal anatomy and physiology. Animal camps teach kids how to

train and care for animals, be responsible pet guardians, align their choices with their values and make the community a safer and more compassionate place for all animals.

The camp, which is geared toward young residents ages 9 to 12, will be held at AHS’ South Mountain Campus, 1521 W. Dobbins Rd., Phoenix, March 13–17, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For additional information or to register, visit www.azhumane.org/youth.

Science center offers STEM camps in March

Arizona Science Center’s Camp Innovation, which will inspire and engage curious minds through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) learning, will return March 13-17 for spring break. The camp will explore two themes: “Dogs! A Science Camp” for grades 1-2 and “Impossible Science” for grades 3-6.

Both camps run from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. The cost is \$260 for members and \$295 for non-members. For details, visit <https://www.azscience.org/events-programs/camp-innovation/>.



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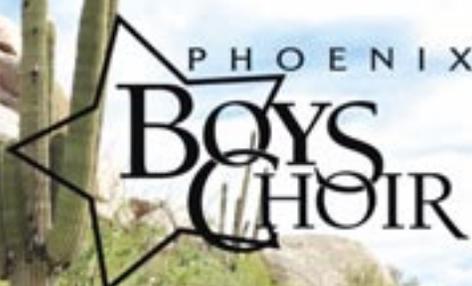
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Tom Chapin took the stage at Fiddler's Dream Saturday, Feb. 4 as the venue celebrated its grand reopening (photo by Nia Maxwell).

Music venue celebrates anniversary, reopening

By Kathryn M. Miller

In February, Fiddler's Dream celebrated its 36th anniversary with a grand reopening weekend. The non-profit, all volunteer live music venue had been closed to live music events since March 14, 2020.

After closing its doors in 2020, the musicians kept the music alive by opening a virtual stage using Zoom and Facebook, which was quite successful, said board member Jim Carpenter.

"We just ended that for the domestic artists, but the international version continues," he added.

The grand reopening weekend kicked off Feb. 2-3 with an acoustic open stage both evenings, with the festivities culminating in a live concert showcasing Tom Chapin in the large meeting room Feb. 4.

Chapin received a great response from the audience on every song, both his new music and old favorites, board member Nia Maxwell said.

"Tom always does brother Harry's song, 'Cat's in the Cradle,' and this year was no different; it's a powerful song that holds a powerful message," Maxwell said. She added, "The audience enjoyed Tom's instrumental talents on guitar, banjo, and autoharp, blending perfectly with his vocals. One of the comments made after the concert was, 'It was food for the soul.'"

The venue has a number of live music events already scheduled in the coming months, including an evening of Danish folk music featuring Gangspil,

March 10. Their events are listed on their Facebook page, on Meetup and on Instagram. Seating is limited and N95 masks are currently required.

The Acoustic Open Stage Night is also back, every Thursday, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Performers should be there by 6:28 p.m. to get their name in the first rotation. Check the website for admission cost and other details.

Fiddler's Dream is located at 1702 E. Glendale Ave. For more information, call 602-997-9795 or visit www.fiddlersdream.org.

The Madison hosts 'RBG' play

The Madison Center for the Arts will welcome "All Things Equal – The Life & Trials of Ruth Bader Ginsburg" on March 11 before it makes its Broadway debut.

Supreme Court Justice "RBG" welcomes a friend of the family to her cozy chambers to convey, over the course of 90 fascinating and often funny minutes, a sense of her life and its many trials: losing her mother the day before she graduated as valedictorian of her Brooklyn high school, being one of only nine young women studying law at Harvard while also raising a daughter and helping her husband battle cancer, fighting for women's rights in the 1970s before condescending all-male courts, and taking courageous stands for human rights as a voice of reason amid a splintering and increasingly politicized Supreme Court.

For show information, visit www.themadison.org.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Chorale presents multi-sensory concert

A new multi-sensory concert asks audiences to contemplate man’s rise to power over the earth and how this domination affects the natural world.

Phoenix Chorale brings “Dominion” to the Phoenix Art Museum March 24–25. During the multi-sensory event, audiences will experience the ethereal sounds of the Grammy winning chorale and chamber orchestra, while viewing the stunning moving digital art projected on the walls of the museum’s Great Hall.

“Dominion” juxtaposes the baroque with contemporary, beginning with Handel’s almost apocalyptic ode to royalty, “Dixit Dominus,” followed by Sarah Kirkland Snider’s Mass for the Endangered, composed in 2018. Deemed “a rising star on the American compositional scene” by the *Wall Street Journal*, Snider’s piece is paired with the visual accompaniment of moving digital projections created by Candy Stations/Deborah Johnson, a visual artist specializing in stage design and performance visuals from Brooklyn, New York.



Moving digital art plays a key role in Phoenix Chorale’s new multi-sensory concert, “Dominion” (submitted photo).

Mass for the Endangered is a celebration of, and an elegy for, the natural world — animals, plants, insects, the planet itself — an appeal for greater awareness, urgency and action.

Phoenix Chorale also will perform a traditional concert of “Dominion” March 26 at 3 p.m. at Camelback Bible Church.

The Phoenix Art Museum multi-sensory concert will be held at 7:30

p.m. both nights. Single tickets for “Dominion” are \$45 for adults, \$23 for youth and \$39 for seniors and active duty/veterans. Tickets can be purchased at www.phoenixchorale.org.

Art Detour celebrates art, creativity, culture

Art Detour will return in March for its 35th year with a month-long celebration. Created by the nonprofit

Artlink, the annual event is an all-inclusive celebration of art, creativity and culture that features events and exhibitions throughout the state.

A highlight of the month-long celebration is the Art d’Core Gala, which will be held at Park Central Saturday, March 11, beginning at 6 p.m. The “Rays of Light” theme for the 10th Annual Art d’Core Gala celebrates the energy of the moment, organizers say, and is in recognition of artists, donors, businesses, collectors, advocates and civic leaders who energize a creative culture that significantly contributes to the community and economy.

Other events include artist workshops in partnership with the City of Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture, Creative City Symposium with Phoenix Community Alliance, a celebration of the 10 years of IN FLUX Public Art Program, the 65th Annual Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair & Market, On Central Fashion + Art, and more special exhibitions and activities hosted by arts and culture destinations.

For additional information, visit <https://artdetour.com>.

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On the Town

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March 3
Last Exit Live
www.lastexitlive.com;
602-271-7000

M3F

March 3–4
Margaret T. Hance Park
www.m3ffest.com

'The Sound of Music'

March 3-5
Arizona Opera
www.azopera.org; 602-266-7464

Sandra Bassett

March 4
The Nash
www.thenash.org; 602-795-0464



Thee Sacred Souls

March 8
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com;
480-659-1641

On

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

Styx

March 9–10
Celebrity Theatre
www.celebritytheatre.com;
602-267-1600

Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers

March 11
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com;
480-659-1641



St. Patrick's Day Parade & Irish Family Faire

March 11
http://stpatrikdayphoenix.org

Steve 'N' Seagulls

March 11
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com;
602-612-4981

Tank and the Bangas

March 12
Crescent Ballroom
www.crescentphx.com;
602-716-2222

Doll Skin Farewell Show

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

'The Last Five Years'

March 15–April 2
The Phoenix Theatre Company
www.phoenixtheatre.com;
602-254-2151

The Beths

March 16
Crescent Ballroom
www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222



Pink Martini with The Phoenix Symphony

March 17–19
Orpheum Theatre
www.phoenixsymphony.org;
602-495-1999

PHX Flea

March 18
Heritage Square
www.facebook.com/phoenixflea

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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March 18
The Nash
www.thenash.org; 602-795-0464

Beth Lederman and Jazz con Alma

March 19
Church of the Beatitudes
www.beatitudeschurch.org;
602-264-1221



The Jive Aces

March 21
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

Titus Andronicus

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www.therebellounge.com; 602-296-7013

The War and Treaty

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www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222

A Flock of Seagulls

March 24
The Van Buren
www.thevanburenphx.com;
480-659-1641

Sugaray Rayford

March 24
The Rhythm Room
www.rhythmroom.com; 602-612-4981

**Black Theatre Troupe:
'Respect: The Musical'**

March 24–April 9
Helen K. Mason Performing Arts Center
www.blacktheatretroupe.org;
602-258-8128

**Phoenix Boys Choir:
'Harmonious Journey'**

March 26
First United Methodist Church
www.boyschoir.org; 602-264-5328

Dueling Divas

March 26
Trinity Cathedral
www.trinitymusicaz.org; 602-254-7126

Delta Rae

March 27
Crescent Ballroom
www.crescentphx.com;
602-716-2222



Dino Ranch Live

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Arizona Financial Theatre
www.dinoranchlive.com

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A Tribute to Dorothy Fields**

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www.thenash.org; 602-795-0464

**Arizona Theatre Company:
'Pru Payne'**

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

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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/>



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Founders of Cartel Roasting Co., Jason and Amy Silberschlag, enjoy the patio at their Coronado location at 7th Street and Monte Vista Road (photo by Darryl Webb, special for North Central News).

Café Chat

Serving up fragrant, friendly comfort in a coffee cup

By Marjorie Rice

There's just one croissant left at the Cartel Roasting Co. coffee/pastry shop in a renovated 1915 Craftsman bungalow on 7th Street. Fat, flaky and fragrant, it's pastry perfection — buttery layers lifted into a lofty crescent, the layers so thin they're almost translucent.

Paired with a cup of fresh-brewed cappuccino, it's a sublime start to this sunny day on the patio, where guests can meet up with friends or go solo, pop open a laptop and while away the morning.

It's the ambience owners Jason and Amy Silberschlag envisioned when they began their business in Tempe almost 15 years ago.

Jason was a youth pastor, while Amy worked at home raising three foster boys. Being a youth pastor wasn't the right fit, and Jason looked for another career path, one that would allow the couple to collaborate.

"Most people spend their whole days apart," Amy said. "We wanted to do something together."

"We said 'Let's do a coffee cart,'" Jason said.

There was one big hurdle to overcome: Amy didn't like coffee. That could be a game-changer, but Jason persisted.

He traveled to Guatemala to visit a coffee farm and learn about beans literally from the ground up. His education

included trade shows, and at one he purchased a home espresso machine and started making coffee for Amy.

"We got beans from specialty coffee roasters, lightly roasted, as opposed to nuked," Amy said. "It was the first time I had tasted coffee that way."

She grew to love the brew, and the pair were on their way.

"We transitioned to become a roasting company with a coffee cart and a few chairs in front, and people just kept coming," Amy said.

Their original location is in Tempe, just off Mill Avenue in the Maple-Ash neighborhood. Today, they have 13 locations, the newest due to open this month on the ASU campus. That will make nine in the Valley, two in Tucson, one in Palm Springs, California, and one in Austin, Texas. Their Valley locations include a shop in North Central Phoenix, inside the Rise Uptown Hotel, in a renovated office building at 4th Avenue and Camelback.

Where possible, they found locations with character. "I love the materials and shape of old buildings," Amy said.

"It's more work than to build new, but it's worth it," Jason said.

Jason took on skills that were far removed from running an espresso machine.

"By necessity, he learned to weld," Amy said. "Every time we needed something, he would go to the scrap yard and pick up some metal and make what we needed."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Customers and neighbors pitched in, one donating a chess set, another bringing a small side table.

“They grew with us,” Amy said. “Coffee brings people together, and we were inspired to help facilitate this community through our company.”

“The idea was always that it would be a community gathering place,” Jason said.

Their commitment begins with their own small community — their employees.

“We feel really strongly about being a good place to work — taking care of our employees,” Amy said. “We’ve been fortunate to have people who stuck it out.”

Giving employees opportunities to grow and be included in decision-making was key. “Our entire leadership team, with one exception, were all baristas,” Jason said.

This month, the company is set to open a 12,000-square-foot production facility, including a cold brewing and canning line, a full commercial bakery, and upgraded roasting capabilities.

“We’ll be able to produce the pastries more affordably, but also at a higher level,” Jason said.

They’ll go on shelves along with



Some of Arizona’s best bartenders will be slinging drinks at the 11th annual Arizona Cocktail Weekend, March 10–13 (submitted photo).

products ranging from whole beans to canned cold-brew and branded merchandise, including mugs and logo-emblazoned beanies. Customers also can subscribe online to regular coffee deliveries.

“We have a huge cold-brew following,” Amy said. To handle demand, they built a centralized brewery, producing canned cold-brew.

Jason pours out samples. “It’s an Ethiopian natural, single-origin cold brew, from one part of one farm,” he

said. “They dry the fruit on the bean, so you’re getting clean, floral, sweet flavors, almost berry and chocolate. The skin dries so the sugar from the fruit is saturating the beans, and you get a different flavor profile than washed coffee.”

It’s a long way from that first coffee cart, and the couple is ready to chill for a while.

Their fostered boys are grown, and the Silberschlags have three children of their own, just getting to the age where

they can work in the shops if they wish. Meanwhile, the couple is living their dream, working together and fostering community through their business.

“We do something that is very close to my heart,” Amy said. “Our guiding principle of why we do what we do is, with everything we do, we try to do the next right thing, for humanity and our earth and our team.”

Cartel Roasting Co. has 13 locations, including 2201 N. 7th St., and in the Rise Uptown Hotel, 400 W. Camelback Rd. Those locations are open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, email hello@cartelroasting.co, or visit their website, <https://cartelroasting.co>.

Dining Briefs

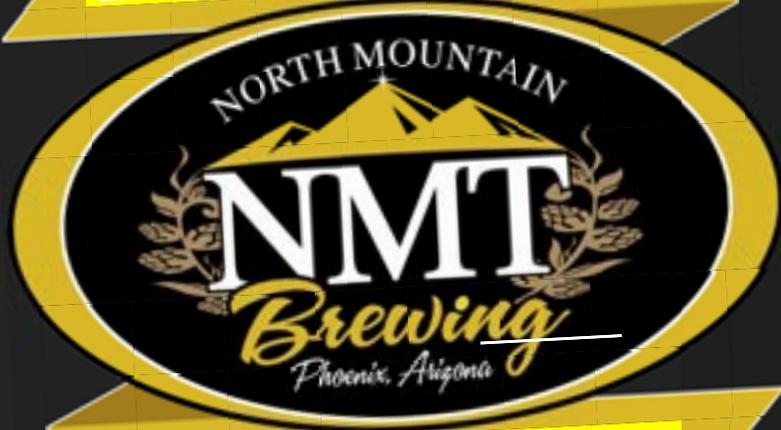
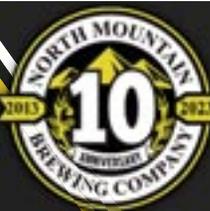
Cocktail event expands schedule

The 11th annual Arizona Cocktail Weekend (AZCW) unspools across dozens of bars, restaurants and entertainment venues in downtown Phoenix and beyond with an expanded four-day schedule March 10–13.

Highlighted by three events, the *please see COCKTAIL on page 40*

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Check out our events on Social Media! [f](#) [t](#) [i](#)

For more information visit us at
www.northmountainbrewing.com

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

COCKTAIL *continued from page 39*

2023 AZCW also will feature exclusive tastings, expert-led seminars and other cocktail events at bars across the Valley.

The four-day party begins Friday, March 10 with happy hour events and festive parties, including the return of The Cocktail Carnival at Walter Where? House, Saturday, March 11.

The Top Bars event, March 12, will showcase more than 40 pop-up versions of some of the best cocktail lounges from around world. The Last Slinger Standing bartending competition will close out the weekend on Monday, March 13. This bracketed matchup of 16 the state's top mixologists continues until there is only one Slinger Standing.

Tickets for the signature events are now on sale. Prices range from \$50–\$100 depending on the event, and when they are purchased. Visit www.arizonacocktailweekend.com.

Windsor offers jazz nights

Tucked into its namesake historic Phoenix neighborhood, Windsor invites residents to stop in for “The



Along with the neighborhood spot’s go-to dishes, residents can enjoy seasonal cocktails and live music at Windsor (photo by Grace Stufkosky; courtesy of Windsor).

Downbeat at Windsor.” The event features a lineup of jazz musicians, including Recordbar Radio and the Erik Olson Trio, livening up the patio with live music every Wednesday beginning at 5 p.m. through the end of March.

Guests are invited to cozy up on Windsor’s heated patio to pair the smooth tunes with toasty bites from the kitchen and a limited-time bourbon-

based cocktail feature, Maple Hot Toddie, with spiced bourbon notes, syrup and whiskey bitters and lemon juice poured in an Irish coffee glass garnished with lemon and blackberry.

Located at 5223 N. Central Ave., Windsor restaurant and bar offers a backyard-style patio, wine and beer on tap, a robust selection of prohibition cocktails and a kitchen that cranks out

“casual and familiar bar food with an upscale twist.”

For more information, call 602-279-1111 or visit www.windsoraz.com.

Celebrate Arizona Wine Month

The Arizona Wine Growers Association (AWGA) will host its Second Annual Arizona Wine Month Grand Festival and Governor’s Cup Celebration at Steele Indian School Park this month.

This year’s festival, which celebrates the proclamation signed by the governor in 2022 designating March as Arizona Wine Month, will be held Saturday, March 25, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will feature award-winning wines from across the state, along with live music, a variety of food trucks and local artisans.

The full list of wineries will be announced soon. General admission tickets purchased in advance online are \$35 per person and include a commemorative wine glass with eight wine tasting tickets, or \$45 at the door. Non-drinker tickets are \$10 for entry. Tickets are available at www.azwinegrowersassociation.com.

Pop up offers pastrami favorites, more

MercBar owner Rick Phillips was lamenting to his friend, Chef Aaron May about missing his favorite Jewish deli foods. So, they decided to make the food themselves and Little Pickle was conceived. Located in the Esplanade office building, the limited-time pop-up restaurant offers guests a taste of New York City with its deli-centric menu.

Breakfast offerings include traditional, scratch-made New York City specialties including hand-rolled bagels, a variety of house made cream cheeses, house-cured smoked salmon, and several versions of an egg sandwich. The menu also includes Challah French toast, blintzes, chia seed pudding and overnight oats with berries.

At lunchtime, the Pastrami Reuben has become a go-to sandwich — hand carved hot pastrami on rye with all the fixin’s — but there are about a dozen other sandwiches to choose from.

The restaurant also offers catering options. Little Pickle is located around the corner from MercBar at 2501 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 40, in Phoenix. For more information, visit www.littlepickleaz.com.

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CAN YOU SPEAK FOR YOUR CAR?



IT'S A NEW YEAR, IS IT A NEW YOU? With the rise in demand of car purchasing within the last year, we can't help but be creatures of habit by just going through the motions of buying a car without really knowing anything about them beyond its sleek color and looks. Even if your vehicle doesn't come with 500 horsepower or WiFi connectivity, your car is the biggest and most expensive gadget you own. And unless you trade your vehicle in as often as your Smartphone, keeping that ride in peak operating condition is vital to keeping repair costs down over its lifespan.

Let's understand that owning a vehicle is not an investment, it's a tool that is used for convenience. However, this tool can be dangerous in many ways. If you want to continue being convenient and stay safe, then it's your responsibility to maintain it.

That's not to say that every repair will be inexpensive—Routine maintenance interval, brakes, or oil changes for example, are notoriously expensive to repair regardless of the make or model—but here are a few ways to make sure that \$200.00 brake repair doesn't turn into a \$2,800 leak in your checking account. But how do you begin?

Ask yourself, do you honestly know your car? Are you capable to speak on behalf of your car? Obviously, the car can't speak for itself and the only way you can is to know it first. Let's see.... What size tires do you have? Were the spare tire jacks located? What kind of oil does it take? What does your vehicle weight? AHA!! You don't know and for that simple reason, you truly cannot translate what is going on unless you understand how it works.

Here are a few steps to get qualified so that you can eloquently speak on behalf of your vehicle.

READ IT:

It all begins with a simple book; they call it the OWNERS MANUEL! The auto manufacturer placed it there for a reason. Open it up and start reading. It's not complicated. The book and an

alphabetized Index, want to know something specific? Go to the index, look up what page it's on and boom...NOW YOU KNOW!

The obvious challenge with the auto industry is layered upon the lack of consumer confidence, simply because they have no idea how anything works, and they are dependent on the repair shop to inform them of the truth. This book will not make you an expert, but it will guide you to challenge your fears.

ASK AROUND:

The most fundamental and essential element of not getting ripped off by your mechanic is to only do business with an honest shop. This is as obvious as it gets, but it's easier said than done. From shade-tree mechanics to nationally-branded repair centers and dealerships, many shops can be less-than-completely-ethical when it comes to billing for repairs and service. But to find an honest shop, you should first ask around. Your best source is family and friends and it's really the most reliable method of narrowing down your search.

THINK INDEPENDENT:

Independent shops should also get some added consideration over the big-franchises or box shops, because the business model dictates, they build long-term relationships with their customers. It's imperative that an independent repair shop builds on trust with their customer through open dialogue and honest communication. The truths always hurts and when you hear it, remember not to shoot the messenger.

If any shop that routinely overcharges customers always risks damaging that relationship and could quickly find itself on the wrong end of negative reviews. An added benefit of this long-term customer service is that an independent shop will be better able to develop and maintain a full-service history for the vehicle, which will help guide scheduled maintenance (and it not only looks great but add value when you want to resell it).

DON'T GET PUSHED AROUND:

There's nothing a shop loves hearing more than "Do whatever's necessary." Or "Keep It under a Thousand" This is the goose that lays the golden crankshaft seal job, a license to steal, and the four words that should never, ever exit your mouth in the presence of a mechanic. Instead, take control over what's being done to your car—and how much you're paying for it.

Be specific and ask can it wait? If not, then ask for an exact cost with parts and labor. Make sure to not get pushed around because you don't know and most importantly don't let them suddenly tack on more work than you came in for, either. The obvious challenge with the auto industry is layered upon the lack of consumer confidence, simply because they have no idea how anything works, and they are dependent on the repair shop to inform them of the truth.

KEEP YOUR RECEIPTS:

If you've been jumping around from mechanic to mechanic for a while, you'll do well to keep all of your service records and receipts—preferably in a waterproof envelope in your trunk. NO JOKE! Since you don't have a single shop tracking your vehicle's service history for you, you'll have to do it yourself. By maintaining a solid service history, you'll be able to check these records when a new mechanic tells you that, a certain component is failing and needs to be replaced, you can quickly go to your file and reference if you have ever done that repair recently. . It is worth it. As busy as life gets, the auto industry depends on your lack of organization and knowledge to take advantage for more profits. For this reason, its important that you find one facility that you can build that trusting relationship that will not only save you money but empower you to become a better car owner.

It takes two to do the trust tango--the one who risks (the trustor) and the one who is trustworthy (the trustee); each must play their role.

Kirk

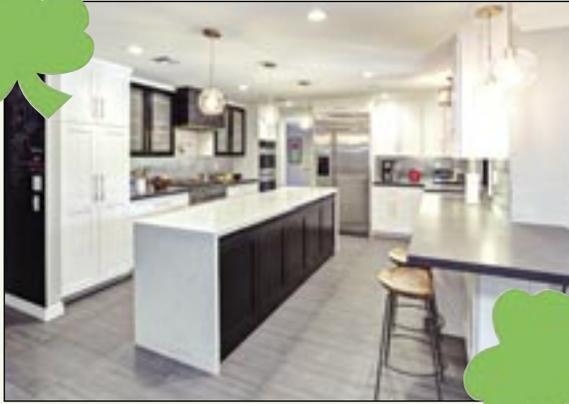
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