



# north central news

the voice of the north central phoenix community since 1999

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## The Central Park heads to second round

By Kathryn M. Miller

After pushback from the surrounding neighborhoods, an 18-acre development at the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Indian School Road in Phoenix will make a return appearance at two public hearings in September.

Known as The Central Park, the project, as proposed and approved by Phoenix City Council July 3, 2019, featured a total of 600 residential units (150 for-sale condos, 250 market rate apartments and a 200-unit active senior living residence), a 200-room hotel, 760,000 square feet of commercial space, and 170,000 square feet of ground-level retail and restaurants, even a movie theater.

In August, the developer/owner of the property, Pivotal Group (<https://pivotalgroup.com>) sought to modify seven stipulations, conditions for approval," according to its Planning Hearing Officer (PHO) application, PHO-1-23—Z-9-19-4.

The development also had a completely "reimagined" look. The 2023 vision downgrades to some 78,000 square feet of ground-floor retail and restaurant space, to include a market/grocer space, and 245,000 square feet of office space, and increases the number of residential units to 1,450. Included in the residential mix are 320 senior-living units, 930 market-rate multi-family units and 200 condos.

**please see SECOND ROUND on page 4**



Phoenix's Team Corruptt, Tony Arme and Kayla Rundle, are all smiles after bringing home a win at the 2023 Roadkill Nights Grudge Race event (photo courtesy of Kayla Rundle).

## Six-hundred-foot thrill ride ends with a win

By Kathryn M. Miller

What do you get when you pair one rookie drag racer with a seasoned mentor and add an 1100 horsepower car to the mix? One heck of a thrill ride, say Kayla Rundle and Tony Arme, who competed as Team Corruptt in the Grudge Race at the 2023 Roadkill Nights event.

The 2023 Dodge Direct Connection Grudge Race at MotorTrend Presents Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge returned Aug. 12 with a twist in its annual competition. This year, the event introduced a new mentor-rookie format that delivered intense racing action as six teams pit their meticulously crafted machines against each other, all customized but with one common foundation — the supercharged 6.2-liter HEMI HELLCrate Redeye engine from Direct Connection.

The Phoenix team was made up of Rundle, an automotive design engineer, performance car enthusiast, and online content creator, and Arme, the owner and a builder at American Legends Hot Rods and Muscle Cars, which specializes in

1974 and older hotrods, muscle and classic cars in North Central Phoenix. The 2023 event was Arme's second year participating in the Grudge Race and Rundle's first drag race. Both natives of Phoenix, the team brought its 1969 Barracuda build to represent their home town at the race.

In front of a record-breaking crowd of more than 42,000 drag-racing enthusiasts in Pontiac, Michigan, the duo set out to prove their engineering and driving skills. But before the race, they reflected on what got them into cars to begin with.

"I've been into cars my entire life," Arme said. "My dad worked on them when I was little and I

**please see THRILL on page 6**

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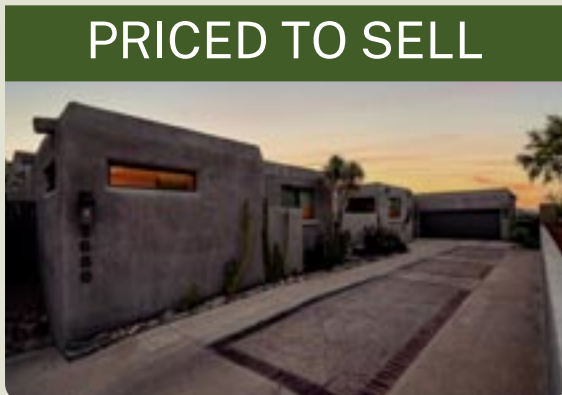
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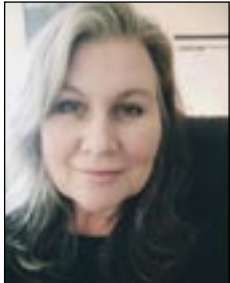


COMMUNITY

## From the Editor

Hello, North Central Neighbors!

As we ease into September (and the temperatures begin to ease off) it is the perfect time to get out and explore our beautiful Phoenix home — perhaps discover a new restaurant, catch a favorite band or check out the newly updated Dreamy Draw Park.



On the cover, we caught up with Phoenix locals Kayla Rundle and Tony Arme as they put their 1969 Barracuda build to the test at an August drag race competition, and break down the changes that developers of The Central Park are requesting. Residents will have two opportunities to make their voices heard on that case in September.

Many residents who use the ameni-

ties in the Dreamy Draw Recreation Area will be pleased to know that the park is set to reopen this month. A Sept. 7 grand re-opening celebration is planned. Read more in our Community section.

In this month's Café Chat, Marjorie Rice sits down with Jeff Martineau and Chef Chris Smith at North Central's Bluewater Grill. September also marks the return of Fall Arizona Restaurant Week, a celebration of the state's dining scene. Read more in Food for Thought.

As always, you can catch up on community, business and other dining news, read about what is happening in our North Central public and private schools, as well as explore our round-up of things to do in the Valley this month.

We hope that you all have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend — enjoy our September issue!

Until next month, all my best,  
 Kathryn M. Miller  
 Editor, *North Central News*  
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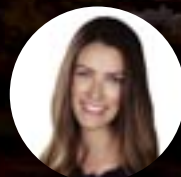
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COMMUNITY

## Dreamy Draw Park set to reopen

After more than a year, the city of Phoenix's restoration of Dreamy Draw Recreation Area is finally complete, and a grand re-opening event will be held this month.

Completed concurrently with the Water Services Department's Drought Pipeline project, the Parks & Recreation Department began construction demolition at Dreamy Draw Park in July 2022, and it is now ready to unveil the park updates. Among the improvements are a new parking lot with additional parking spaces and more efficient traffic flow; four new ramadas and refurbishment of two existing ramadas to match the new design; the addition of a new restroom with six unisex individual stalls; the addition of bike lock areas; better connection to trails and the bike path; updated signage and trail information; and a reconfigured horse parking and horse staging area.

The city will celebrate the reopening of the park, located at 2421 E. Northern Ave., Thursday, Sept. 7, from 8:30-10 a.m. In the meantime, the



After the much-anticipated Dreamy Draw Bike Path opened in May, residents can look forward to the rest of the park reopening in September (photo courtesy of City of Phoenix Parks & Recreation Department).

park and Dreamy Draw Drive remain closed, and no parking is available inside the park, but residents can enjoy the Dreamy Draw Bike Path, which reopened in May after updates, the Perl Charles Memorial Trail (#1A) and Dreamy Draw Pleasant Tunnel.

Learn more at [www.phoenix.gov/parks/trails/locations/piestewa-peak](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks/trails/locations/piestewa-peak).

would focus on the park's historic cafeteria tower and on the distant mountain views to the northeast. All popular aspects with neighbors, but many of which were removed or significantly reconfigured in the 2023 request.

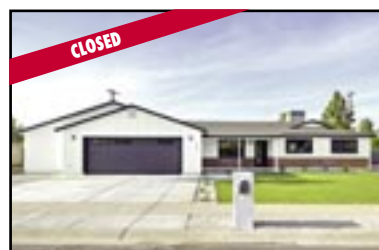
Also on July 3, 2019, the Phoenix Indian School Specific Plan was repealed on the basis that its primary goals had been met (the development of Steel Indian School Park and expansion of the Veterans hospital), and that The Central Park development, as presented and approved in 2019, "will address the outstanding goals and policies" of the Plan. Adopted in December 1991, the Plan's Land Use Concept included minimums of 1,200 housing units and 100,000 square feet of retail development, and a number of items focusing on open space and walkability, which some residents argue are now being walked back.

The developer brought its case to the Encanto Village Planning Committee (VPC) Aug. 7, but that was the first public discussion on the requested changes, which put them at odds with neighbors. Ed Hermes, president of the Carnation Association of *please see SECOND ROUND on page 8*

### SECOND ROUND continued from page 1

Included with the more than 20 stipulations approved in 2019 were a handful that addressed open space, public walkways, and not only pedestrian access to Steele Indian School Park but a diagonal view through the development from the intersection corner that

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**COMMUNITY**

**THRILL** continued from page 1

would kind of be out there tinkering with them, and he was always into all sorts of mechanical stuff; we did pin-ball machines and game room stuff. So, I was just kind of submersed in the mechanical world when I was young.

“When it started getting closer to where I was driving, I learned how to work more on cars and then bought my first car, a ’68 Mustang. Me and my dad kind of did the whole restoration project on it from start to finish. And that’s kind of where I learned how to work on more classic cars.”

He found out that he could go to school and make a career out of working on cars, which led him to working in a number of other garages before opening his own shop in 2017.

“I have a complete opposite background,” Rundle said. “I was not around cars at all. I discovered the world of cars actually by pulling up at a car show once I had my first car, when I was 16. I started just tinkering with my car with little things at a time.”

Although her first car, a Kia Optima, wasn’t very fast, it was reliable, but when she saw the “Transformers” movie she knew she had to have that Camaro. She worked all through high school babysitting, in fast food, and doing car detailing “basically around the entire neighborhood,” saving ever dollar so that when she was 18, she bought her Camaro — in cash, “Which I still have today,” she added. “It’s what I’m mostly known for on social media and that’s the car I learned how to drive manual on — it’s kind of what I learned how to do everything on.”

Rundle also has advice for those who may want to restore or update their own car, or perhaps buy their first project car.

“Never ever be afraid to take on a task because you could literally do anything, no matter how challenging it is. Motors for me were probably the scariest thing ever, and then you realize it’s just built like Legos. I also highly recommend YouTube and research everything, even before you start.”

Arme, who works mostly with older cars, requiring harder-to-come-by parts, has a slightly different perspective.

“Have a really good budget and a really good plan and make sure everything’s thought out before you ever jump into it,” she said. “You see projects out there being sold all the

time...you know, people can’t finish them.”

**Off to the races**

The 2023 Grudge Race marked the second year that Direct Connection provided the engine and transmission to the teams, which then have to build out the car — either a Dodge or Plymouth — that they will race. The Corruptt team received their engine July 12 and the car shipped out Aug. 5, giving them just under a month to build, test and make it camera ready (“We went crazy with the wrap this year,” Rundle interjected) and for Rundle to take a few test runs at Radford Racing, who taught her the basics of drag racing prior to stepping into the ’69 Barracuda.

On race day, Rundle hit the 600-foot drag strip first with a test pass, then matched up against Team Sick-Bastards out of Detroit, a second run was a “By Pass,” which she ran solo, and then she went head-to-head with the San Diego Team Throtl’s Dodge Viper — and Team Corruptt brought the win home to Arizona.

“As a first time drag racer behind the wheel of a car that makes 1100 HP, it was really intense, but I was never scared,” Rundle said. “My goal was to stay calm, and focus my vision down the track and make minor adjustments when the car wanted to go elsewhere.

“The car overall performed great, other than the wheels spinning on every pass,” she added. “It was spinning just enough for the car to launch properly while having to manipulate driving techniques to safely make it down the drag strip. If it was going any slower, we would have lost to the Throtl Viper, and if it were any faster, the wheels would have spun too much to where we would have been stationary. Tony got under the car in-between passes to tweak the suspension to ‘tune’ it to perfection.

“The celebration was the best part. I had people from RadFord, Dodge, RoadKill, competitors, and the crowd all congratulating me. Everyone expected the Throtl Viper to win in the end, so I was a ‘surprise’ for the event win,” Rundle said.

To find out what is next for Arme and Rundle, follow them on Instagram or visit their respective websites: www.alhotrods.com and www.kay-larundle.com.



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### OUR UNIQUE COMMUNITY

The responses received from readers of North Central News regarding the monthly columns over the last 18 years are always greatly appreciated and I love hearing from so many of you. The many changes that have occurred in our area over the past 10 years are quite exciting because we still hold on to the unique character of our area.

Before 2005, luxury sales in North Central were few, but gradually, some older 1–2-acre horse properties, aged over 50 years, have given way to new luxury homes. North Central seemed ready for builders to create multi-million-dollar homes, and the developments of the past 15 years have been astonishing. New builds have increased property values for the entire neighborhood. Most new homes often incorporate the latest architectural trends, technology, and energy-efficient features that set higher standards for sustainability. Allow me to introduce you to one resident of North Central who is also a homebuilder.

Dan Yonker arrived in Phoenix from Seattle in 2011. Upon his arrival, he dedicated the initial 4-5 years to thoroughly acquaint himself with the diverse cities and neighborhoods. Around 2015, Dan's focus turned towards North Central Phoenix, a promising area for real estate development. This decision coincided with his active engagement in "Arcadia Lite," a zone experiencing a surge in building projects. In contrast, North Central presented an appealing blend of community charm, expansive lots, meticulous property maintenance, and accessible pricing, comparable to the offerings in Arcadia Lite.

His first property acquisition in November 2015 marked the inception of a larger vision – building a home that reflected not only his family's needs but also his passion for quality craftsmanship. At the time of Dan's home construction, the area witnessed

limited new development activity, particularly in the luxury segment. In 2016, Dan embarked on his first speculative project. Determined to set new industry benchmarks, despite initial skepticism from agents who doubted the viability of multi-million-dollar homes in North Central, Dan's vision became a reality. Numerous homes constructed by him on Tuckey and Frier are now valued at close to \$2 million. Dan, residing in North Central himself, signifies a lot, even as he's currently working on homes over \$5 million in Paradise Valley. [www.YonkerConstructionAZ.com](http://www.YonkerConstructionAZ.com)

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COMMUNITY

**SECOND ROUND continued from page 4**

Neighbors (CAN), [www.carnationassociationaz.com](http://www.carnationassociationaz.com), said that the first notice he received was July 25, which left no time to discuss the changes, which are significant.

At the meeting, neighbors from Carnation, Encanto and Pierson Place all expressed their dismay at the lack of communication on the part of the developers, and their disappointment at many of the changes, encouraging the VPC to vote “no” on the stipulation modifications. After discussion among committee members seemed to be leaning towards a no vote, representatives Jason Morris and Benjamin Tate of Withey Morris Baugh, PLC, said that they would consider continuing the case to the next VPC meeting. The committee voted unanimously to continue the hearing to its Sept. 11 meeting, with the stipulation that the developer hold a public meeting with neighbors in the meantime.

Subsequently, the developers scheduled a neighborhood meeting for Aug. 21. At the scheduled Aug. 16 PHO

hearing, the request was continued to a Sept. 20 hearing.

**Neighbors remain engaged with the process**

The continuance was a rare win for the neighborhoods surrounding the Central Avenue corridor. Concerns about a massive influx of traffic created by the half dozen or more projects in the works for the one-mile stretch from Camelback Road to Indian School Road remain. The potential traffic impact is exacerbated by what many neighbors see as a lack of sufficient mixed-use components, which reduces the walkability of the area — something that is promised in the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) zoning in place along the light rail.

“We need every TOD project to be an A-plus in its contribution to the walkable urban life lifestyle,” said Ken Waters, a Pierson Place resident who has been a vocal advocate for increasing mixed-use components in Central Avenue developments. “That was the whole goal of voters passing the light rail initiative...to get people to leave the car behind, either to jump on the light rail to an attraction or destination or, they just walk over to the TOD and partake in that little pocket of walkable urban lifestyle — to shop, get services or whatnot and walk back home. But I think it’s failing big time.”

Hermes, who says that neighbors are pleased that the project is finally seeing some movement after four years, looked forward to meeting with the developers in August and had some advice for future project leaders.

“Engage with the neighborhood early,” he said. “Don’t see neighborhoods and neighborhood associations as an impediment. View them as a positive and engage, because folks who are involved in the neighborhoods and neighborhood associations want to see progress and oftentimes usually want to see development, but also want to have a hand in their communities and to help shape it.”

Information on the September VPC and PHO meetings can be found at [www.phoenix.gov/cityclerk/publicmeetings/notices](http://www.phoenix.gov/cityclerk/publicmeetings/notices).

*Editor’s note: Read more about the stipulation modification requests that are being made for The Central Park in our August web-exclusive story, “August meetings scheduled for The Central Park project.”*

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# North Central Phoenix HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

## North Central Phoenix Homeowners Association Annual Meeting 2023

Thursday, September 21, 2023

All Saints Episcopal Church (Manning Hall)

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

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

Please join us for the annual North Central Phoenix Homeowners Association Annual Meeting! Our volunteer neighborhood organization remains as busy as ever. If you live between 7th St and 7th Avenue, Missouri to Northern you are automatically a part of the NCPHA and have a voice in actively maintaining and safeguarding our cherished North Central Neighborhood.

Why attend this meeting? Not only will you hear about all the issues pertaining to our neighborhood but the panoramic view of our City from Mayor Kate Gallego, Councilman Kevin Robinson and representatives from Desert Horizon police precinct. Come and meet your neighbors and bring your questions and concerns.

### What has the NCPHA accomplished over the last year?

The NCPHA Tree Committee is working tirelessly to preserve our beautiful streetscape and tree canopy. It's been a long and hot summer and we are seeing the negative effects on the historic trees lining Central Avenue. Last year, because of your generous donations, we again partnered with the City of Phoenix and have planted 10 new



ash trees along both sides of Central Avenue. We continue to monitor the health and viability of our precious trees.

Thanks to your many emails and fervent advocacy to state legislators, we successfully defeated the By Right Housing bills, which would have a devastating impact to North Central. This is the second year in a row this aggressive legislation has been introduced and we will be working to support reasonable future legislation that addresses the affordable housing issue.

The NCPHA is also very concerned about the high rate of speed we are seeing daily on our streets. We encourage residents to SLOW DOWN and DRIVE THE SPEED LIMIT. We cannot control those speed demons who cut through our neighborhoods, but if you live here, steer with respect and abide the speed limit. There will be an update at the meeting about the City's safety initiative, Vision Zero.

With limited funds and shortages of City staff, the condition of the Murphy Bridle Path continues

to erode. If you live on the east side of Central Avenue, please remember there is NO PARKING between your property line and the street at any time. Each time a car or large truck drives or parks on the Bridle Path, it aids in further deterioration. Deep ruts create safety hazards for pedestrians and bicyclists. We are working with the City on renovation solutions.

Each year we have zoning cases that we carefully review and closely monitor. Thanks to the keen eye of many of our residents, we are able to stay on top of issues before they become difficult zoning violations. Our Board thoroughly researches and evaluates every zoning request and makes a fully informed vote to support or oppose.

Due to less personnel at our police department, it is our responsibility to discourage crime in our area. If you do not know your neighbors, please consider starting a Block Watch group on your street. Develop a plan to keep connected. Remember, if you see something, say something. For further information, visit <https://www.phoenix.gov/police/resources-information/block-watch-info>.

Want to be more involved? Please attend the meeting! We are always seeking residents who want to participate on a committee or a potential board position.

**Thank you for being such concerned and active property owners. We hope to see you at our annual meeting on September 21st.**

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

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

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

Two ways to pay: Go online to [www.ncpha.org](http://www.ncpha.org) and click **PAY DUES** tab on the Home page which will take you to PayPal. OR Fill out the information below and **mail your check, payable to NCPHA** to:

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COMMUNITY

### Historic preservation grants available

The city of Phoenix Planning and Development Department’s Historic Preservation Office announced the return of grant money to assist residents with historic home rehabilitation costs.

Voters approved more than \$42 million in bond funds from 1989 through 2006 for historic preservation. The city says that funds were used to enhance, preserve and protect dozens of city-owned historic properties in Phoenix and to establish multiple grant programs for private property owners, including the Exterior Rehabilitation Grant Program.

The remaining funds from the 2006 Exterior Rehabilitation bond were allocated in 2015, and no grant rounds occurred from 2016 through 2020. However, in 2021 and 2022, Phoenix City Council set aside \$200,000 each year from the General Fund to re-establish the Exterior Rehabilitation Grant Program. These funds were awarded to 24 grant applicants during the last two years. Now,



Residents can apply for up to \$20,000 to assist with historic home rehabilitation costs (photo courtesy of city of Phoenix).

Phoenix City Council has approved another \$200,000 for Exterior Rehabilitation grants for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Applications for the new fiscal year are now being accepted.

This year’s program offers more funding and flexibility than in previous years. Applications are now submitted electronically; only one cost estimate is required; and instead of a \$10,000 limit, requests up to \$20,000 are allowed.

Applications for this round of funding are due by Friday, Nov. 17, at 5 p.m. Those interested can attend a virtual grant workshop on Thursday, Sept. 14,

at 6 p.m. A WebEx meeting link will be provided on the city of Phoenix Historic Preservation Office website approximately 48 hours before the workshop begins. The workshop also will be recorded so it can be viewed later, with a link provided on the office’s website.

For more information, visit [www.phoenix.gov/pdd/historic-preservation/exterior-rehab-assistance](http://www.phoenix.gov/pdd/historic-preservation/exterior-rehab-assistance) or e-mail staff at [historic@phoenix.gov](mailto:historic@phoenix.gov).

### Unity Torah makes its way to synagogue

Chabad of Phoenix and the Jewish community will celebrate the completion of Shaina’s Unity Torah Scroll Monday, Sept. 4. The celebration will begin with the inscription of the final letters followed by a lively procession to the Chabad Center as the scroll makes its way home to the synagogue.

“This Torah Scroll is a unity project that was started in honor of Shaina Welner, a young Phoenix girl of 16, as she started her brave journey to beat cancer,” said Rabbi Dov Levertov. “We conclude the Torah in her memory and

take to heart the inspiration and lessons she imparted to her family, friends and community throughout her short life and brave fight.”

The Torah scroll will be carried under a canopy during the grand march and procession to synagogue. According to tradition, all the other Torahs will be carried out of the synagogue to “greet” the new Torah and all are carried back inside the synagogue where the new Torah will be placed in the Holy Ark accompanied by more dancing and celebration.



Shaina Welner

The writing of the final letters on the scroll will be held in a private ceremony, which will be followed by a 4 p.m. procession with live music to the Chabad Center at 2110 E. Lincoln Dr.

After the arrival of the procession, a buffet dinner will be served.

For more information or to participate, call 602-944-2753 or visit [www.chabadaz.com](http://www.chabadaz.com).

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**COMMUNITY**

**Fundraisers support special needs adults**

Autumn brings three fundraisers for Lura Turner Homes for Adults with Developmental Disabilities (LTH). The organization was founded in 1965 by Methodist deaconess Lura Turner as residential settings for special needs adults who don't qualify for governmental support.

First up is LTH's 28th Golf Tournament, which kicks off at 6 a.m., Friday, Sept. 22 at Stone Creek Golf Club, 4435 E. Paradise Village Parkway, South. Registration is \$150 per player.

Next is a benefit concert by Arizona music legend Igor Glenn and Friends, 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 4 at Central United Methodist, 1875 N. Central Ave. Tickets are \$25 at the door. The organization's third fall event is the 38th holiday bazaar, slated for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 3-4 at CrossRoads United Methodist, 7901 N. Central Ave. This two-day fair will feature more than 30 vendors specializing in homemade crafts.

All proceeds from these events augment the daily living expenses for men and women who live at LTH's central

Phoenix residences. For further details, visit [www.luraturnerhomes.org](http://www.luraturnerhomes.org) or call 602-943-4789.

**Temple hosts open house**

Beth Ami Temple adult congregation will host a Wine and Cheese Open House Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. The event is an opportunity for the community at-large to meet Rabbi Allison Lawton and Cantorial Soloist Michael Robbins, the board of trustees, and members of the congregation.

Everyone is invited to learn more about the congregation. The temple says that dues are modest and there is no building fund. As an added incentive, tickets purchased for the High Holiday services can be applied toward the annual membership dues. Many and varied social groups and activities are offered, such as movies, dining, hiking, Mahjong, book club, bridge, fitness, and travel. In addition, Beth Ami observes special holidays during the year along with guest speakers, concerts and a number of community affairs projects.

The open house will be followed by a Friday night Shabbat service at 7 p.m. The temple is located at 3535 E. Lincoln Dr., inside the Gloria Christi Church, where it has been meeting since founded over 40 years ago. To RSVP for the event, call 602-956-0805, or email [bethamitemple@hotmail.com](mailto:bethamitemple@hotmail.com). Learn more at [www.bethamitemple.org](http://www.bethamitemple.org).

**Enjoy yoga and happy hour**

With the temperatures finally cooling, Uptown Plaza will resume its community events this month and next.

Sweatshop on Central will lead a complimentary yoga class in the shopping center's courtyard Sept. 14 and Oct. 5 starting at 6:30pm. Donations are encouraged and will benefit the Arizona Humane Society. Following yoga, participants are invited to cool down with reverse happy hour at Huss Brewing Co. until 9 p.m., which will feature \$4 pints, \$7 pitchers, \$1 off wine and \$4 food items; just show your yoga confirmation email to take advantage of the happy hour pricing.

Uptown Plaza is located at 100 E. Camelback Road. Guests can sign up for class by visiting [www.uptownplaza-phx.com/events](http://www.uptownplaza-phx.com/events).





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## COMMUNITY

## Preschool celebrates 40th anniversary

Residents are encouraged to save the date for an anniversary party as Faith Lutheran Preschool celebrates 40 years.

The event will be held at the school, located at 801 E. Camelback Road, from 2–5 p.m. and will include food, raffles and games. More information about the celebration will be available closer to the event date.

For information about the school, visit [www.faithlutheranpreschool.org](http://www.faithlutheranpreschool.org).

## Club offers social space, activities

Looking for a night out in the neighborhood or a fun place for a special occasion? The Arizona American Italian Club welcomes everyone for dining, live music, games and a whole host of social activities.

The bar lounge features live music every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Community members are welcome to drop in to listen, sing along and dance (membership is required for alcohol purchase). Enjoy daily afternoon spe-

cial Tuesday through Saturday and Saturday night dinner specials at Galindo's, the club's restaurant, which features burgers, pasta, pizza, salads and more.

Recently recognized for having the best bocce ball courts in the Valley, the club offers bocce ball instruction and practice and instruction for anyone interested in learning the game. Bocce ball leagues will begin in October. Don't have your own equipment? Bocce balls are available to borrow.

The club offers bingo three days a week in the large community room, along with Bar Bingo on Friday afternoons and a new offering on Saturday mornings with bonus prizes.

There are special activities planned for the fall and the holiday season and the club's facilities are available to rent for meetings, family events and other celebrations.

You don't have to be Italian to enjoy the restaurant and the activities at the Arizona Italian American Club, located at 7509 N. 12th St. Membership in the club also is open to the public. For more information, call 602-975-8294 or visit [www.azaclub.org](http://www.azaclub.org).



The irresistible and resilient Barnicle is a two-year-old domestic shorthair tabby looking for a forever home (photo courtesy of Arizona Humane Society).

## Pet of the Month Beautiful Barnicle will grow on you

Meet Barnicle, the irresistible two-year-old brown and white domestic shorthair tabby cat with a heart as warm as his fur. His sweet and gentle personality is a magnet for anyone seeking a feline companion to brighten their days. Barnicle has an enchanting way of working his way into hearts.

Barnicle's journey began in the most unexpected way when a Good Samaritan discovered him nestled inside a car engine, overheated, and in need of

rescue. Saved just in the nick of time, he was taken into the caring hands of the Arizona Humane Society (AHS) trauma hospital's veterinarian staff, who worked tirelessly to nurse him back to health. Through their dedication and expertise, Barnicle triumphed over his ordeal and emerged as the resilient and lovable feline he is today. Now, this survivor with a heart full of gratitude is seeking his forever home, a place where he can find the warmth and security he deserves.

Interested adopters can meet the amazing Barnicle (pet number 746093) at the Arizona Humane Society's South Mountain location. His adoption fee includes his neuter surgery, current vaccinations, a microchip, and a follow-up wellness exam with a VCA Animal Hospital.

AHS has launched an adoption special where all cats, kittens and critters have buy-one-get one free adoption fees. Visit [www.azhumane.org/](http://www.azhumane.org/) adopt to learn more and see all of AHS' adoptable pets.

## Training offered at Sunnyslope campus

Training plays a vital role in nurturing a well-mannered, happy and confident companion. With the understanding that every dog is unique, the Arizona Humane Society's (AHS) trainers have crafted a variety of positive reinforcement, force-free training classes to address a wide range of needs and challenges.

AHS says that all of its training programs are structured to provide a nurturing and supportive environment for dogs of all ages, breeds and backgrounds. The organization recently opened registration for select Basics and Intermediate classes at its Sunnyslope Campus in North Phoenix, expanding the services that are offered at the Nina Mason Pulliam South Mountain Campus.

Beginning in September at Sunnyslope, interested dog owners can sign their pooches up for a Basics course where their pets will learn how to start off on the right paw with some standard commands like sit, down and stay. Sunnyslope will also offer Intermediate classes for more experienced pups who are ready to learn some more advanced fundamentals.

Learn more about available training classes at [www.azhumane.org/dog-training-classes](http://www.azhumane.org/dog-training-classes).



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When complete, the dual-branded Home2 Suites and Tru by Hilton at Park Central will add 207 guest rooms and play host to a new workforce training program (submitted photo).

## Hotels will host workforce training

A new workforce training program is bringing together a public-private-university partnership to train workers in the hospitality industry.

The Park Central Hospitality Training program is a joint venture that will bring together Grand Canyon University (GCU), the city of Phoenix, and the developers of Park Central, Plaza Companies, Holualoa Companies, and hotel operator Fayth Hospitality.

GCU's Hospitality Management program will collaborate with Fayth and the city to design the curriculum with the goal to equip aspiring hospitality professionals with essential skills, including technology, guest service, marketing, community ambassadorship, and collaboration with local partners. The work experience for the Hospitality Training Program will occur at the dual-branded Home2 Suites and Tru by Hilton at Park Central.

"This workforce initiative will bring valuable opportunities to our community, empowering aspiring individuals with essential hospitality skills and on-the-job work experience," said Phoenix City Councilwoman Laura Pastor. "The partnership between Fayth Hospitality, Park Central, GCU, and the city of Phoenix demonstrates a commitment to fostering economic growth and job prospects within my district."

The program is launching with a

\$25,000 grant from the Foresight Foundation, which will support program costs. The program will kick off in 2024 as the construction concludes of the Park Central hotels, part of the Phoenix Medical Quarter. The hotels will add 207 total guest rooms, spanning five stories and covering 105,000 square feet.

Upon completing the program, participants will gain invaluable firsthand work experience and benefit from job placement assistance. Additionally, the Foresight Foundation will financially support mentorships and leadership skills development for students participating in the program.

## Business Briefs

### Chamber hosts economic lecture

The Greater Phoenix Chamber and Cox Communications will present Economic Outlook 2024 on Oct. 6 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown, located at 340 N. 3rd Street.

"We're bringing back renowned Arizona economist Elliott Pollack for our Economic Outlook breakfast, along with chief investment strategist Steve Wyett to provide valuable insights for businesses of all sizes," said Todd Sanders, president and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Chamber. "It is our pleasure to bring our members and the community together to give everyone a look ahead at what people can expect of the economy, locally, nationally, and

*please see LECTURE on page 18*



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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/>**

## TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

**LECTURE continued from page 16**

globally to help them make more informed decisions for the next year.”

Early bird pricing for the event is available until Sept. 15 at 5 p.m. The cost is \$125 for members and \$150 for non-members. To register, visit <http://phoenixchamber.com/eo2024>.

### New director for preservation nonprofit

The Save Our Mountains Foundation (SOMF) announced that it has selected Maria Hechanova as executive director, effective Aug. 1.

SOMF is a Phoenix-based nonprofit formed in 1973 by concerned citizens that is dedicated to facilitating the improvement of the mountains and desert Preserves in Phoenix. It provides sanctuary for wildlife in unique, vanishing Sonoran Desert habitat. Outdoor opportunities for recreation and the enjoyment of nature for all ages and walks of life can now be found in preserves.



Maria Hechanova

Currently the foundation works with its partners to maintain the North Mountain Visitor Center, what had been shuttered in 2010 due to city budget constraints and since reopened to the public.

Residents who would like to learn

about the Visitor Center, located at 12950 N. 7th St., are invited to Live Music at the Coffee House, Sept. 16, 9–11 a.m. Admission is free. For information about the event, call 602-343-5125. Learn more about the foundation at [www.saveourmountains.org](http://www.saveourmountains.org).

### Resident announces County candidacy

Kate Brophy McGee officially declared her candidacy for the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors District 3 on July 10. With a track record of 25 years in public service and a deep commitment to her community, Brophy McGee seeks to bring stable, effective leadership and positive change to the district.

Brophy McGee's extensive public service career includes four terms as president of the Washington Elementary School Board, six years on the Arizona School Facilities board, and a decade in the Arizona State legislature. She served on the Maricopa County Planning & Zoning Commission for two-and-a-half years, and currently is an elected director of Valleywise Health, the Maricopa County Hospital system.

Brophy McGee has consistently advocated for small businesses, priori-

*please see CANDIDATE on page 20*



Kate Brophy McGee

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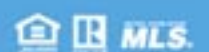
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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

**CANDIDATE** *continued from page 18*

tized neighborhood safety and fought for the rights of the most vulnerable.

Learn more at [www.katemegee.com](http://www.katemegee.com).

**Learn about launching a food-centric business**

Thrive Consultancy, Inc. is accepting applications for its Fall 2023 10-week Sustainable Cooperative Food Business Training Program. Sponsored by the city of Phoenix, this program is offered free of charge to Phoenix residents.

During the program, participants develop the skills and confidence to start or join a worker-owned business in the local food economy. Over the course of 10 weeks, participants learn how worker-cooperatives align social, environmental, and economic values with business to create quality jobs that support and uplift the community and the planet.

The program teaches business planning, group decision-making, budgeting, marketing, financing, and funding, and facilitates access to sustainable business experts, mentors, and seed funding. With the support of the pro-



Aspiring food-centric entrepreneurs are invited to attend a 10-week business training program (photo courtesy of Thrive Consultancy, Inc.).

gram’s facilitation team, participants will work with their peers to create a business plan, budget, and pitch for a co-developed food business idea. In previous programs, participants have cooperatively designed values-based food businesses such as sustainable farms, food trucks, and more.

Training sessions are held twice a week in Downtown Phoenix on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5–7 p.m., beginning Sept. 11 and running

through Nov. 15. Applications are due Sept. 4. Learn more at [www.thriveconsultancyinc.com/training-program](http://www.thriveconsultancyinc.com/training-program).

**Hospital expands Thomas campus**

In July, Phoenix Children’s Hospital announced the construction of a new 44,000-square-foot neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), slated to open next year at Phoenix Children’s Hospital — Thomas Campus.

The new space, which will replace the existing NICU, will include 48 spacious private rooms, each with a crib, window and private bathroom; comfortable sleeper couches for parents and caregivers; patient rooms equipped for emergency and advanced treatments, right at the bedside; a floor plan that gives clinicians quick access to patients and enables easy transport to radiology, the operating room and other ancillary areas; multipurpose room for physical and occupational therapy; washer, dryer, refrigerator and sink for patient family use; and family lounge and quiet areas for parents to work or relax

The NICU is one of many expansion projects underway at the Thomas Campus and will be built on the 11th floor of the patient tower. When it opens in 2024, it will continue to be Arizona’s only American Academy of Pediatrics-designated Level IV NICU, a designation indicating the highest level of medical care available for the most complex neonatal conditions, the sickest and the most premature newborns.

Learn more at [www.phoenixchildrens.org](http://www.phoenixchildrens.org).

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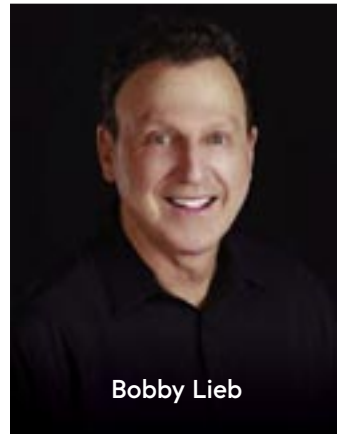
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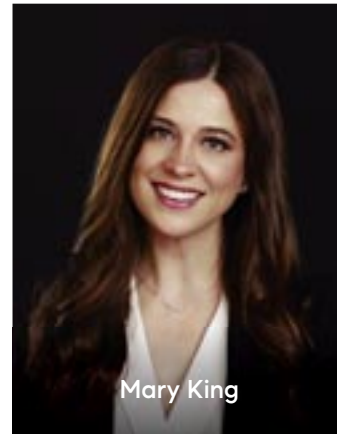
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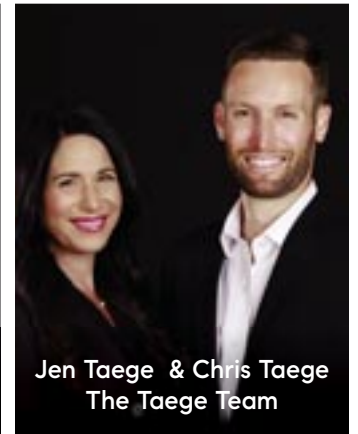
Aaron Carter & Mike Mosier  
CarterMosier Group



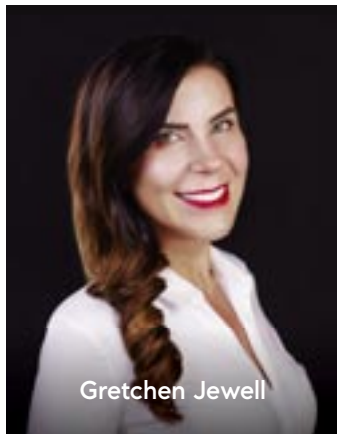
Bobby Lieb



Mary King



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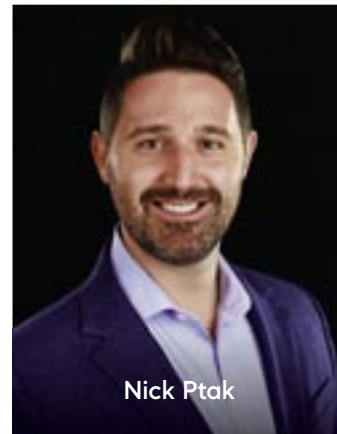


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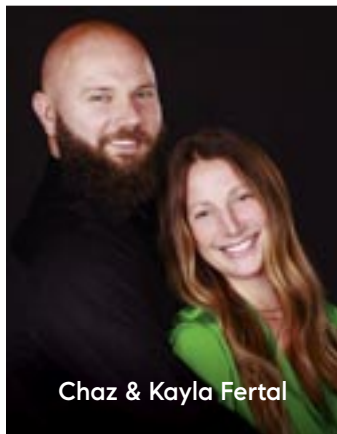
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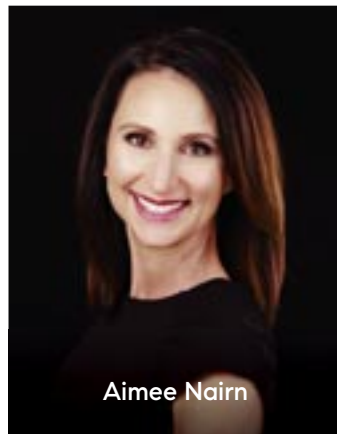
Nick Ptak



Ciara Rubalcava



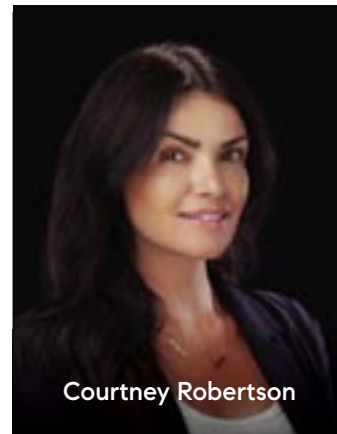
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## CURRENT LISTINGS/ESCROWS

6534 N 27th St.....In Escrow.....	3017SF.....	3BR/3BA .....	\$ 2,400,000	
17 W Sierra Vista Ave.....Just Listed .....	4450SF.....	4BR/3.5BA.....	\$ 2,250,000	
5737 N 2nd Ave .....	Acre-Plus Property.....	4169SF.....	4BR/4BA .....	\$ 2,095,000
1249 W Palo Verde Dr .....	New Price .....	3906SF.....	4BR/4BA .....	\$ 1,075,000
3103 E Hazelwood St.....In Escrow.....	1867SF .....	3BR/3BA .....	\$ 850,000	
77 E Missouri Ave #32 .....	New Price .....	3575SF.....	3BR/2.5BA .....	\$ 849,900
6629 N 14th St.....Just Listed .....	1890SF.....	3BR/2BA .....	\$ 839,000	
902 E Kaler Dr.....Lot .....	.....	14,262SF LOT.....	\$ 750,000	
23 E Laurie Ln.....In Escrow.....	2141SF.....	3BR/2.5BA .....	\$ 748,000	
240 W Missouri Ave #25 .....	New Price .....	2167SF .....	2BR/2.5BA .....	\$ 699,500
3618 E Coronado Rd.....In Escrow.....	1720SF.....	3BR/2BA .....	\$ 459,900	
4727 E Lafayette Blvd #128 .....	In Escrow.....	720SF .....	1BR/1BA.....	\$ 334,900

43 Homes SOLD in 2023, 8 currently in escrow. Call me to discuss your real estate needs and the value of your home. 602.376.1341. I work 7 days a week and am always available to help.

### SOLD HOMES 2023

620 W Lawrence Rd.....\$4,050,000	5319 E Rockridge Rd* .....	\$3,825,000	6811 N Central Ave*.....\$2,400,000	510 E Ocotillo Rd.....\$2,130,000	35 E Myrtle Ave.....\$2,125,000	25 E Myrtle Ave.....\$1,935,000	304 W Orangewood Ave* .....	\$1,800,000	4902 E Piccadilly Rd*.....\$1,700,000	6518 N 25th Way*.....\$1,683,000	345 E Pomona Rd.....\$1,500,000	334 W State Ave.....\$1,375,000	910 E Kaler Dr.....\$1,260,455	512 E Adair Dr*.....\$1,235,000	510 W McLellan Blvd.....\$1,175,000	7101 N 3rd Ave.....\$1,157,500	1324 E Lupine Ave*.....\$1,075,000	5130 N 6th St.....\$1,065,000	5645 N 7th Ave.....\$1,000,000	322 W Stella Ln.....\$ 895,000	2524 E Beryl Ave.....\$ 799,000	6811 N 11th Pl.....\$ 785,000	12243 N 58th St.....\$ 750,000	21206 N 62nd Ave.....\$ 725,000	3011 N 166th Pl.....\$ 685,000	122 E San Miguel Ave.....\$ 675,000	5576 N 12th St #1.....\$ 675,000	5804 N 14th Ave.....\$ 650,000	15027 E Desert Willow Dr.....\$ 645,000	14210 N 9th St*.....\$ 629,900	715 W Culver St.....\$ 625,000	715 W Culver St.....\$ 625,000	1400 E Bethany Home Rd #29.....\$ 585,000	17726 W Larkspur Dr.....\$ 575,000	7748 N 7th Ave.....\$ 572,500	1222 E Wagon Wheel Dr.....\$ 515,000	1516 W Glenn Dr.....\$ 505,000	1001 W Solcicio Ln.....\$ 400,000	106 E Echo Ln.....\$ 495,000	5220 N 16th Ln.....\$ 400,000	16182 W Winslow Dr.....\$ 378,000	10432 N 11th St #2.....\$ 359,900	23836 W Wier Ave*.....\$ 339,000	6541 N 41st Ave.....\$ 270,000
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\*represented buyer  
 \*\*represented both buyer and seller

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## Featured Homes for September

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23 E Laurie Ln • \$748,000  
2141SF • 3BR/2.5BA



GUARD GATED COMMUNITY



77 E Missouri Ave #32 • \$849,900  
3575SF • 3BR/2.5BA

NEW PRICE



240 W Missouri Ave #25 • \$699,500  
2167SF • 2BR/2.5BA

JUST LISTED



6629 N 14th St • \$839,000  
1890SF • 3BR/2BA

IN ESCROW



4727 E Lafayette Blvd #128 • \$334,900  
720SF • 1BR/1BA

IN ESCROW



3103 E Hazelwood St • \$850,000  
1867SF • 3BR/3BA

LOT



902 E Kaler Dr • \$750,000  
14,262 sq ft lot

IN ESCROW



3618 E Coronado Rd • \$459,900  
1720SF • 3BR/2BA



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SCHOOL DAYS



The band room at Osborn Middle School is ready for a new after-school program that is offered to students throughout the Phoenix area (photo courtesy of Sounds Academy).

### Partnership opens pathway to music

By Kathryn M. Miller

Students in the North Central area will have new opportunities to explore the world of music thanks to a new partnership.

On June 20, Osborn School District voted to partner with Sounds Academy and host the nonprofit organization's programs at its Osborn Middle School campus. This partnership started with a discussion between Kirk Johnson, Sounds Academy founder and CEO, and Michael Roberts, superintendent of the Osborn School District. Johnson and Roberts first met each other through REAP (Real Engagement through Active Philanthropy), an organization that helps provide Black men with a mechanism for community investment through active philanthropy.

The nonprofit music education organization teaches, mentors and provides musical experiences and opportunities for underserved youth. Students receive individual lessons and group classes on all instruments and voice. Instruments are provided to those who cannot afford one.

Sounds Academy, which will celebrate its ninth anniversary this September, currently serves around 4,000 students per year, Johnson said. The new partnership will allow Sounds to expand their impact by providing music education and character development opportunities to children attending Osborn and other area schools.

The middle school currently has about 450 seventh and eighth graders enrolled, and the Sounds program will enhance the existing choir class and award-winning band class.

"It's going to support our students and give them an opportunity for after-school enrichment for different classes — violin, piano, guitar classes, things like that. It will definitely add to our after-school club selection for students," Carol Hayes, Osborn Middle School principal, said.

Johnson said music education has many benefits for young students, and it has made a huge impact in his own life, including touring the world with a youth orchestra.

"Through music I was able to learn a discipline and learn how to be good at something and take that into other things and then also learn to take opportunities.

"One of the big things in music is that part of coming together and creating a great piece of music. That teamwork is an important aspect of music — I can't play the symphony by myself."

Hayes agrees, adding, "It has benefited our students in so many amazing ways to give them opportunities to collaborate with other students, to create something beautiful for other people to listen to. And it gives them an opportunity to perform in front of other people."

Parents and students interested in participating in the after-school music programs should contact Sounds Academy. Learn more at [www.soundacademy.org](http://www.soundacademy.org) or [www.osbornnet.org](http://www.osbornnet.org).

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SCHOOL DAYS

# School Briefs

## GLENDALE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Be aware that absences add up

Did you know that missing two times a month means a student misses 10 percent of the school year? GUHSD is spreading the message about the significance of attendance by encouraging students to attend regularly. Students' presence in the classroom not only benefits them but also contributes to a positive and engaging learning environment for their classmates and teachers.

## MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT

### District hiring fair scheduled

Madison School District will host a hiring fair Wednesday, Oct. 4, from 4–6 p.m. at the Madison District office. Madison is currently hiring guest teachers, before and after school program staff, student support paraprofessionals and more. Madison offers excellent benefits, professional development opportunities and more.

Madison District office is located at 5601 N. 16th St., Phoenix. View the current available positions at [www.madisonaz.org/jobs](http://www.madisonaz.org/jobs).

### Recognize staff with 'Awesome Award'

Was there a special Madison staff member who helped make the first

week of school a success for you or your child? Send them an Awesome Award.

The Awesome Award is a staff recognition that celebrates everyday greatness. Awesome Awards thank Madison employees for supporting students, families and their school communities. Employees receive a certificate that includes a brief explanation from the nominator about why they are so awesome.

The awards form is open to everyone. Students, families, staff and community members can send an Awesome Award to any Madison employee at [madisonaz.org/awesomeaward](http://madisonaz.org/awesomeaward)

### McKinley is 'Teacher of the Year' candidate

Madison Camelview Elementary School coding teacher Jessie McKinley was recently named as one of only 15 teachers across the state of Arizona to be a candidate for the 2024 Arizona Teacher of the Year award.



Jessie McKinley

The annual Arizona Teacher of the Year program is the premier event of the Arizona Educational Foundation, a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to spotlighting and championing the exceptional work of public schools. The educator ultimately selected as Arizona Teacher of the Year becomes the state's candidate for National Teacher of the Year.

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MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT



SCHOOL DAYS

OSBORN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Kahl nominated for 'Teacher of the Year'

In August, the Arizona Educational Foundation announced the 15 teachers named as candidates for 2024 Arizona Teacher of the Year award.



Kayce Kahl

Among those 15 candidates is Kayce Kahl, who teaches fifth grade at Clarendon Elementary School in the Osborn School District.

All 15 will be recognized at the Arizona Teacher of the Year Awards Oct. 14. The teacher receiving top honors will be announced live at the October ceremony, which will be held at the

Madison Center for the Arts. Learn more at www.azedfoundation.org/teachersrock.

PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PXU names 'Student of the Year'

Analy Cota Olguin is one of two Phoenix Union High School District (PXU) students who were named 'Student of the Year.'

The 2023 Bioscience High School graduate, who is Phoenix Union's first graduate to reach more than \$4.6 million in total awarded scholarships, will attend Williams College on a full-ride scholarship.

Cota Olguin is the daughter of immigrants from Mexico, and she feels that they have always instilled the value of education in her. She has always enjoyed learning



Kayce Kahl

and considers herself to be a book-worm. She decided to attend Bioscience High School because she wanted to attend a smaller high school.

At Williams College, Cota Olguin plans to major in biology and someday attend law school. She also is considering pursuing education and becoming a teacher.

Her advice to any prospective students is, 'If you are stuck on anything, ask for help. Don't be shy, just go for it.'

Camelback teacher joins Earthwatch research team

Lauren Hubert, a science teacher at Camelback High School, joined a research team for a nine-day expedition in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, to help scientists understand how climate change is affecting caterpillars.

The teacher was part of an Earthwatch Teach Earth USA Fellowship Program, and from July 1-9, served as senior fellow to a 12-person team of volunteers for the 'Climate Change and Caterpillars in Nevada' project, led by researchers from the University of Nevada - Reno.

Hubert explained that climate change is dramatically visible in the reduced populations of Lepidoptera - butterflies, moths, caterpillars - threatening the existence of some, such as the Monarch butterfly. Butterflies are primary pollinators for many herbs and vegetables, including those in the sunflower, mint, legume and carrot families.

'I never imagined I could take part in real climate science data collection like a real scientist,' said Hubert. 'I was thrilled to capture pictures of the caterpillars, moths, and butterflies we collected, as well as our beautiful surroundings. I can't wait to integrate it all into my classroom lessons and share what I learned with my community.'

Read about the expedition at https://earthwatchcaterpillars.weebly.com.

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
WESD is hiring for classified positions

Washington Elementary School District (WESD) currently has several



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STUDENT:TEACHER
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**SCHOOL DAYS**

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To apply online, please visit <https://jobs.wesdschools.org>. To learn more, call 602-347-2622.

**Schools receive 'Bus' donations**

WESD sent a hearty “thank you” to AZTV and Valley of the Sun United Way for their generous donations to Stuff the Bus 2023. As part of the program, 90 backpacks stuffed with back-to-school supplies and teacher boxes were donated to Maryland School, Mountain View School and Orangewood School.

The district said, “WESD is grateful for their support in helping ensure



WESD staff celebrated a successful AZTV/Valley of the Sun United Way 2023 “Stuff the Bus” campaign for back-to-school supplies for students and teachers (submitted photo).

our students and teachers have the supplies they need for success.”

**CHARTER AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS School celebrates school additions**

All Saints’ Episcopal Day School welcomed students back Aug. 16 with the grand opening of the Shaver Learning Commons, 45,000 square

feet of outdoor learning space in the center of campus, marking the conclusion of a \$14 million campus improvement project spanning nearly a decade.

After purchasing land adjacent to the school in 2013, the campaign funded the development of the Shaver Learning Commons and construction of the Christopher Ray Milisci Academic Building.

The Shaver Learning Commons

features outdoor classrooms, additional performance spaces, a swing arbor, an orchard with flowering and native fruit trees, and a discovery area complete with a human sundial and orbiting planets placed throughout the space to scale.

The space was made possible by a generous gift from the Shaver family. Jos Shaver was a member of the school’s class of 1978. The family’s gift marks the largest contribution from an alumni family in the history of the school.

Construction of the Christopher Ray Milisci Academic Building was completed last August. The new building houses 26 classrooms, a 3,000 square foot library, two makerspaces, and an open-air second-floor middle school plaza. As All Saints’ parents for over 13 years, the Milisci family provided instrumental leadership in the development and planning for the campus expansion. Together, the spaces add nearly 100,000 square feet of learning space to the 15-acre campus, and blend historical elements on campus with new, flexible spaces for innovative learning practices.

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**Xavier College Preparatory** is a Catholic community that strives to prepare young women of faith with knowledge, skills, and integrity to meet the challenges of a changing global society in a positive and productive manner celebrating unity.

**8th Grade Day**  
 Friday, Oct. 27, 2023 | 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Open House**  
 Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023 | 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**All are welcome**

**Admissions/Placement Exam**  
 Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 or Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023 at 7:30 a.m. Registration for exam and application information at [xcp.org](http://xcp.org). 9th Grade applications are due Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024.

**Affording a Xavier Education**  
 Financial Aid Workshops available to interested parents during the Entrance Exam Testing, Dec. 2, 2023 and Dec. 9, 2023.





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## SCHOOL DAYS

### Students selected for leadership program

Brophy College Preparatory senior Nathaniel George and Xavier College Preparatory senior Sonya Colattur were selected for the 2023 Bank of America Student Leaders Program. They were among a group of 300 student leaders selected for the program nationally out of more than 5,000 applications.

The students attended a week-long Bank of America Student Leaders Summit in Washington D.C. Learning from influential Bank of America corporate leaders, as well as leaders from national nonprofit and civic organizations, they had the chance to engage in discourse surrounding youth-led change and civic engagement.

During Capitol Hill Day, the Phoenix student leaders had the chance to meet Senator Kyrsten Sinema and staff from Senator Mark Kelly's office, to discuss issues relevant to Arizona's political and social landscape.

Both students completed eight-week paid internships over the summer at Boys and Girls Clubs of the Valley. George completed his internship at the



Nathaniel George and Sonya Colattur participated in the 2023 Bank of America Student Leaders Summit in Washington, D.C. (photo courtesy of Nathaniel George).

Harry & Sandy Rosenzweig Branch, and Colattur completed her internship at the Louis & Elizabeth Sands Branch.

High school juniors and seniors interested in the 2024 Bank of America Student Leaders Program can apply in October 2023 via the Bank of America website.

### Private faith-based academy opens

Great Hearts Academies is expanding its school network to include Great Hearts Christos, private faith-based academies set to open this fall in Arizona. The schools will include a Christ-based faith formation incorporated with the Great Hearts classical curriculum.

Great Hearts Christos will serve grades K-5 at schools connected to Redemption Alhambra in Phoenix (1830 W. Glenrosa Ave.) and Evident Life Church in Gilbert, with enrollment at each location expected to cap at 200 and 100 students, respectively.

Key additions to the classical curriculum include the addition of age-appropriate scripture instruction, morning prayer with the middle school history programing placing a greater focus on ancient Israel and the early church.

Families are not required to be Christian for their children to attend, though children will be instructed from a Christian perspective while actively participating in faith formation practices. Enrollment is ongoing.

Great Hearts Christos will have set tuition though through the Arizona Empowerment Scholarship program ([www.azed.gov/esa](http://www.azed.gov/esa)) so that attendance will be within reach of all families. Financial aid also will be available for qualifying income levels. For more information and to join the interest list, visit <https://christos.greatheartsamerica.org>.



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# HAPPY HOUR WITH HERSCH

I just returned home from a trip to my birthplace: Cincinnati, Ohio. I had not been there in 16 years, and I forgot what a beautiful and vibrant city it is.

Perched in the rolling green hills along the mighty banks of the muddy Ohio River, it is quite the picturesque site. I don't remember having those thoughts in my youth when the weather always made it an undesirable place for me. But if I were a younger man starting out, I would strongly consider living there now.

The redevelopment of its downtown "Over-the-Rhine" area brings a sense of life, youth and possibilities. Distinct hamlets like Hyde Park, Mount Lookout and Oakley provide their own unique sensibilities.

The Queen City does a fantastic job of mixing suburban and rural opportunities with urban living at a much lower cost than your traditional big city.

I am so grateful I was able to fall in love with Cincinnati again.

## \$100 TRIVIA CONTEST

Cincinnati has many unique food brands/restaurants.

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**ONLY 1 GUESS PER PERSON.** First person to correctly answer the trivia question via email, text or phone call will get a \$100 gift card to Portillo's. Winner will be notified via the same channel in which they enter. By entering this contest you agree that if you are the winner your name will be publicly announced in Bay Equity's North Central News ad next month. Real estate agents, brokers, escrow officers, title officers, appraisers, closing attorneys and other settlement agents or professionals are disqualified from this contest.

Winner for Last Month – Ray Muench | Last Month's Answer – USC Trojans

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# Phoenix Housing Market Snapshot as of 8/3/23

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

## Single Family Homes

**\$604,195**

Average Monthly Sold Price



↑5% from last month  
↑7.5% from last year

**\$302.19**

Average Monthly Sold \$/SF



↑1.2% from last month  
↓0.9% from last year

So far, in the third quarter of 2023, we have seen 7,447 new listings, down 40% from last year and down 36% from 2021. This annual drop in new supply has a far bigger impact on the market than the affordability issues caused by higher interest rates. Lower pricing looks unlikely.

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**GENERATIONS**

## Senior Living Tutoring program seeks volunteers

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

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

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



Volunteer tutor Louise Doyle assists a student with her reading (submitted photo).

the skills of reading, writing and communication. Organizers say that the program is as rewarding for adults as it is for children who participate.

Tutors receive fun, interactive training with other volunteers, presented by a reading specialist who will provide a tutor handbook, supplies and materials. A two-day training to become an

Oasis Tutor will be held Sept. 26–27, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days at Camelview Elementary School, 2002 E. Campbell Ave. Those interested should contact Kim Gullo at 602-664-7285 or [kgullo@madisoned.org](mailto:kgullo@madisoned.org).

## Duet offers help to veteran caregivers

A collaboration between Duet: Partners In Health & Aging and the Arizona Caregiver Coalition is offering help to veterans and their caregivers.

Through the program, which is funded by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services through the Arizona Veterans' Donation Fund, Arizona veterans can get up to \$1,200 in respite support per year for family caregivers of veterans and veterans who are family caregivers.

"We're proud to support our veteran families," said Justin McBride, program manager with Duet's Meaning & Hope Institute. "With over 500,000 veterans in Arizona and the increased

likelihood of veterans developing dementia or other cognitive impairments, there is a need to support these families. We know that caregiving can be incredibly challenging, physically and emotionally, and respite care can be a huge help to family caregivers so they can also take care of themselves."

The respite vouchers can be used for adult day health, in-home respite, outside-of-the-home respite, educational respite, emergency respite, and caregiver training. To be eligible for the program, the family caregiver should be caring for a veteran, or be a veteran themselves, and be actively participating in a caregiver support group or educational program. The family caregiver is then able to select the respite worker or service of their choice, and then get reimbursed for the expense up to \$1,200 per year.

For additional information and support, visit [www.meaningandhope.org/respite](http://www.meaningandhope.org/respite) or call 1-888-737-7494.



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With over 8,000 sq ft under roof, this ten resident luxury assisted living home offers 24-hour personal care,

- **Three large suites remaining**
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- **All-American staff**
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- **Memory care**

all meals, laundry, activities, church services and outdoor living!

Close to nature, on the Arizona Canal at third Avenue, your neighbors are mallard ducks, green parakeets and hummers. Featuring nearly 1000 sq ft of covered patios and less than one mile from the Honor Health Hospital.



A bright, accessible and modern kitchen with commanding great room access



Our roomy dining room is an art gallery!





## GENERATIONS

**Bi-lingual caregiver education available**

A new initiative is aiming to address caregivers' well-being by providing them with free resources, in both English and Spanish, as well as support.

Trualta is an online education and support platform for unpaid family caregivers. An estimated 53 million Americans provide care to loved ones, and many do not know where to turn for help and perhaps do not identify with the word "caregiver."

The company has a content library of short videos, articles and modules designed to help a caregiver learn specific skills and is currently available in 32 states and often partners with local Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) so that it is available for free to anyone who could benefit from its lessons.

The initial platform offered articles and videos in English, but in July, Trualta introduced its entire content library in Spanish. This is in an effort to be more inclusive and accessible. The content was not only translated but was updated to be culturally relevant.

The program is available for free to Phoenix area residents thanks to a partnership with Area Agency on Aging Region One ([www.aaaphx.org](http://www.aaaphx.org)). Families caring for loved ones with conditions such as Alzheimer's disease or dementia, an intellectual or developmental disability, heart disease, diabetes, COPD, stroke recovery and more can sign up at <https://aaaphx.trualta.com>.

**Kids & Families****Free yoga classes offered to veterans**

Ability360 Sports & Fitness Center will present monthly yoga sessions for military and veterans, hosted by Veteran's Yoga Project ([www.veteran-syogaproject.org](http://www.veteran-syogaproject.org)).

Once a month, all military and veterans are open to join in on a relaxing, soothing, slow-flow style evening of yoga, led by professionals at the Veterans Yoga Project. This class will be offered every second Tuesday of the month and will run from 6:15–7 p.m. The next class is Sept. 12.

The classes are free to all military and veterans — regardless of membership status at the Ability360 Sports & Fitness Center. All non-veterans, regardless of membership status at the Sports and Fitness Center, will need to pay \$5 to attend, including any additional guests.

For information about the classes, contact Autumn Ewert at [autumne@ability360.org](mailto:autumne@ability360.org). Learn more about the organization by calling 602-256-2245 or visiting [www.ability360.org](http://www.ability360.org).

**Program provides diapers, resources**

Thanks to a new collaboration among Wildfire, the Arizona Diaper Bank and Community Action Agencies, free diapers are available to qualifying low-income families at locations in most Arizona counties, including Maricopa.

*please see DIAPERS on page 32*



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WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP

*of Wells Fargo Advisors***Should you be thinking about volatility? Probably**

When the stock market is on the rise, investors can fall into the trap of believing the good times will never end. But in all probability, market volatility will return, and chances are it'll be when it's least expected.

Rather than waiting for it to happen and risking the possibility of panicking and making costly investment decisions, you may want to think about volatility during those good times. That way, you can be strategic rather than emotional about dealing with it, which may lead to better outcomes.

**What type of investor are you?**

What you should be considering now depends on which of these describes your current situation:

1. You have an investment plan.
2. You don't have an investment plan.

Let's begin by addressing type two investors.

Quite simply, if you don't have an investment plan, you should think about creating one, and here's why: A well-thought-out plan is built around what you're investing for (goals), how long you have until you need to tap into your investments (time horizon), and, most important for this topic, the amount of market volatility you're comfortable with (risk tolerance).

Taking these factors into consideration, your plan should include a strategic asset allocation, which is how your portfolio is divided up between different types of investments — primarily stocks, bonds, and cash alternatives.

You may be the type of investor who takes market volatility in stride. In that case, you likely have a relatively high risk tolerance. On the other hand, volatility may make it hard for you to sleep and cause you to panic, which would mean your risk tolerance is probably rather low.

If you're the second type of investor, a larger portion of your asset allocation would likely be in bonds, which historically have been more stable than stocks. However, along with that relative stability generally comes significantly lower returns.

The potential benefit of having an investment plan is you may be able to do a better job of dealing with volatility because you've "baked it into" your plan so you should be better prepared for its possible impact and your reaction to it.

**What if you already have a plan?**

If you have an investment plan, you should be thinking about whether your portfolio is currently aligned with your strategic asset allocation.

While it might be nice if you could set and forget your asset allocation, the fact is over time market activity can cause your investments to drift away — sometimes far away — from where you want them to be if you don't keep an eye on them.

For example, a hypothetical 50% stocks, 45% bonds, and 5% cash alternatives portfolio could become a 60% stocks, 35% bonds, and 5% cash alternatives portfolio without you realizing it. While that "new" portfolio may provide better returns, it's also likely to fluctuate more in value if the market becomes volatile. In other words, you could be exceeding your risk tolerance without being aware of it.

To help avoid this situation, consider periodically rebalancing your portfolio when necessary, which may require selling some investments and purchasing others to bring it back to your intended asset allocation.

Because creating a plan and keeping it in balance can be complicated, for help you may want to turn to a financial advisor with the necessary tools and experience.

*Asset allocation cannot eliminate the risk of fluctuating prices and uncertain returns.*

**DeNitto Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors****David De Nitto, CRPC®, CFP®**

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## GENERATIONS

**DIAPERS** continued from page 31

The Arizona Diaper Pilot Program is funded with a \$1.5 million grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Wildfire-led effort “expands free statewide diaper distribution and increases access to diapers for low-income families throughout Arizona,” said Kelly McGowan, Wildfire’s acting executive director.

Diapers are a critical need in Arizona. According to a 2017 study by Huggies nearly three in five parents struggling with diaper needs missed an average of four days of work or school during a specific month because they did not have enough diapers when dropping their children off at childcare or early education programs.

Each year, the Arizona Diaper Bank distributes 30,000 diapers to at least 8,000 unique individuals, 95 percent of whom live at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty line.

In addition to distributing diapers, the program will connect families to economic mobility and family support services such as job training, education-



Valley toddlers, and their designated grown up, are invited to the Children’s Museum of Phoenix to explore its interactive exhibits (submitted photo).

al support, Early Head Start and housing services, among others.

There are three Arizona Diaper Pilot Distribution Program locations in Phoenix: 3454 N. 51st Ave.; 914 W. Hatcher Road; 4732 S. Central Ave. Call 602-534-2433 to contact the City of Phoenix for information. For more

information about Wildfire, visit [www.wildfireaz.org](http://www.wildfireaz.org).

### Museum hosts exploration for toddlers

With the return of the “big kids” to classrooms, the Children’s Museum of Phoenix is bringing back Toddler Time.

The program offers little learners time to shine as they explore the museum’s interactive exhibits and take part in hands-on programs that foster creativity and help little ones discover new skills.

In addition, families who are planning a visit are encouraged to help the museum stock the Art Studio’s Thing-a-ma-jig supplies by donating recyclables. Some examples include but are not limited to bottle caps, plastic food containers, plastic lids, paper towel rolls, wood scraps, playing cards, old costume jewelry, stickers, foam shapes or sheets, feathers, foil and beads. Smaller items can be dropped off at the front desk during regular business hours. Questions about whether or not the museum will accept particular items should be directed to Exhibits Manager Beth Jenkins at [bjenkins@childmusephx.org](mailto:bjenkins@childmusephx.org).

The Children’s Museum of Phoenix is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week through Labor Day and is located at 215 N. 7th St. For additional information, call 602-253-0501 or visit [www.childrensmuseumofphoenix.org](http://www.childrensmuseumofphoenix.org).



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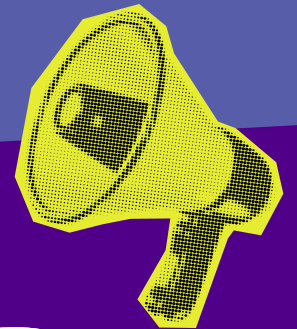
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For an energizing experience in our inclusive community, join us at this upcoming event.

### Rental Resident Power Panel & Lunch

Wednesday, September 13 - 10 am

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Hear from empowered Plaza Apartment residents as they highlight the financial flexibility of month-to-month rental agreements.

Call (602) 560-1040, scan the QR code or visit [BeatitudesCampus.org/Events](https://BeatitudesCampus.org/Events) to RSVP.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Cirque du Soleil will bring the magic of "Corteo" to Valley audiences at the Footprint Center in September (photo by Maja Prgomet).

### Cirque brings 'Corteo' to Valley

One of Cirque du Soleil's most enchanting arena productions is back in North America and heading to Phoenix this month. "Corteo" is a unique production, directed by Daniele Finzi Pasca, that first premiered in Montreal in April 2005. Since its creation, the show has amazed over 10 million spectators, in 20 countries, on 4 continents.

Corteo, which means cortege in Italian, is a joyous procession, a festive parade imagined by a clown. The show brings together the passion of the actor with the grace and power of the acrobat to plunge the audience into a theatrical world of fun, comedy and spontaneity situated in a mysterious space between heaven and earth.

"Corteo will be presented at the Footprint Center for seven shows only, Sept. 13-17. For information, visit [www.cirquedusoleil.com/corteo](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/corteo).

### Church hosts needlework exhibit

The Arts Council at Church of the Beatitudes will sponsor church member Kathy Hoffman in a show of her needlework this month.

The show, which will be on display in the church's gallery Sept. 17 to Oct. 29, includes framed and unframed needlepoint, crewel and cross stitch items. The space is open on Sunday morning 10 a.m. to noon. To make an appointment

to view the artwork, call 602-274-8992. An opening reception will be held Sept. 17, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Church of the Beatitudes is located at 555 W. Glendale Ave., in Phoenix for additional information, call 602-264-1221 or visit [www.beatitudeschurch.org](http://www.beatitudeschurch.org).

### Experience the magic of ballet

Ballet Under the Stars invites Arizonans to experience dance in their community in a unique outdoor setting complete with a professional stage, lighting and costumes.

Ballet Arizona's annual Ballet Under the Stars performances, presented by the Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation, will return Sept. 23-30 at four Valley locations. Free and open to the public, the performances are family-friendly and a great way to introduce ballet to young people for the first time.

The evening features a fully staged live performance by the professional company dancers of Ballet Arizona, including Juan Gabriel's "Se Me Olvidó Otra Vez" and George Balanchine's "The Four Temperaments"

Performances will also showcase world premiere performances choreographed by local school students through the Class Act program. Each year, Ballet Arizona's professional dancers provide a three-week dance training class for students in four different elementary schools across the Valley.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The culminating highlight of their work is delivered as a performance as part of Ballet Under the Stars. This educational program is provided to students tuition free and is generously funded by Joan Benjamin and Laurence Cherkis.

Enjoy Ballet Under the Stars Saturday, Sept. 30 at Steele Indian School Park, 300 E. Indian School Road. Guests can indulge in local food trucks and find space for picnicking and for aspiring young dancers to move along with the performance. All performances begin at 7 p.m.

For additional performance information, visit [www.balletaz.org](http://www.balletaz.org).

## On the Town

This month, celebrate a new season of events with live local music and theater, touring artists, classic films, the Arizona State Fair and so much more. See you on the town in September!

### 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show'

Sept. 2 – Oct. 8  
Madison Center for the Arts  
[www.themadison.org](http://www.themadison.org); 602-664-7777

### 'Metropolis' with Mysterium Quartet

Sept. 3  
Orpheum Theatre  
[www.orpheumphx.com/events](http://www.orpheumphx.com/events)



### Cold Cave

Sept. 5  
Crescent Ballroom  
[www.crescentphx.com](http://www.crescentphx.com); 602-716-2222

### French Police

Sept. 5  
The Rebel Lounge  
[www.therebellounge.com](http://www.therebellounge.com); 602-296-7013

### 'Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill'

Sept. 6 – Nov. 26  
The Phoenix Theatre Company  
[www.phoenixtheatre.com](http://www.phoenixtheatre.com);  
602-254-2151

### Chickenbone Slim and the Biscuits feat. Laura Chavez

Sept. 7  
The Rhythm Room  
[www.rhythmroom.com](http://www.rhythmroom.com); 602-612-4981

### Acoustic Open Stage Thursdays

Sept. 7  
Fiddler's Dream Coffeehouse  
[www.fiddlersdream.org](http://www.fiddlersdream.org); 602-997-9795



### Buddy Guy

Sept. 8  
Celebrity Theatre  
[www.celebritytheatre.com](http://www.celebritytheatre.com); 602-267-1600

### 'Children of a Lesser God'

Sept. 8  
Order Chaos Theater Company at Herberger Theater Center  
[www.herbergertheater.org](http://www.herbergertheater.org);  
602-252-8497

### 'Far and Away'

Sept. 8  
Irish Cultural Center  
[www.azirish.org](http://www.azirish.org); 602-258-0109

### Judy Carmichael with Larry Koonse

Sept. 8  
The Nash  
[www.thenash.org](http://www.thenash.org); 602-795-0464

### Fairy Bones, Birds and Arrows, Daphne + The Glitches

Sept. 9  
Last Exit Live  
[www.lastexitlive.com](http://www.lastexitlive.com); 602.271.7000

### 'Gentlemen Prefer Blondes'

Sept. 12  
Orpheum Theatre  
[www.orpheumphx.com/events](http://www.orpheumphx.com/events)

### Yolk Lore

Sept. 13  
Crescent Ballroom  
[www.crescentphx.com](http://www.crescentphx.com); 602-716-2222

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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### The Arcadian Wild

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### Saint Motel

Sept. 18  
The Van Buren  
www.thevanburenphx.com; 480-659-  
1641

### The Brook & The Bluff

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www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222

### Próxima Parada

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www.valleybarphx.com; 602-716-2222



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www.thevanburenphx.com;  
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### Wyatt Flores

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Valley Bar  
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### The Aces

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www.crescentphx.com; 602-716-2222

### Bob Corritore's Birthday Bash

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### Arizona State Fair

Sept. 22–Oct. 29  
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www.azstatefair.com; 602-252-6771

All event dates are current at time of publication. Check with individual venues for up-to-date show information. Find events throughout the month at [www.northcentralnews.net/events](http://www.northcentralnews.net/events).



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

# Café Chat

## At Bluewater Grill, the focus is on fish

By Marjorie Rice

For 35 years, customers at Bluewater Grill could walk into its original location at 16th Street and Camelback Road and have their pick of some of the best cooked fish and seafood in the Valley, or fresh fish to take home from the in-house market. Or both.

If it's been a while since you've visited Bluewater and are just discovering the handsome restaurant that opened a couple of years ago, in the former Z'Tejas up the road at the food-centric corner of Bethany Home Road and 16th Street, you won't see that glass-fronted fresh fish counter.

But don't despair. There's still fish available to take home and cook. Just ask, says general manager and partner Jeff Martineau.

"You can still buy fish here, we just didn't have space for a retail fish



Jeff Martineau, left, and Chef Chris Smith showcase the variety of their fish and seafood offerings at Bluewater Grill (photo by Darryl Webb, special for North Central News).

counter in the new building," Martineau said. "We have a lot of long-time guests who have always bought fish from us, and we're happy to sell it to them. The great thing about buying

it here is that we have the restaurant to move the product every day rather than it sitting in the case."

Clam chowders — New England and Manhattan styles — are sold in

quarts and pints to go, Martineau said. "And our bread, of course, which is pretty well known. We still make our own clam chowder, and it's phenomenal."

It's a good idea to call ahead to see what's available.

Sit-down dining at Bluewater has its own charms, in addition to the flavorful dishes. The design features a sophisticated nautical theme, with shells in wire cages acting as chandeliers, and thick ropes intertwining as a screen between the restaurant and bar areas. Walls are in a deep, nautical blue, festooned with colorful photos of fishing and the seaside.

"It's a terrific building, and we're really happy to be here," said Martineau, who oversaw the transition.

His own journey with Bluewater began in 1999, when he started serving tables at the market/restaurant — then called The Fish Market.

"When that was going to close, the son-in-law of the original owner

*please see BLUEWATER on page 38*



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**BLUEWATER** continued from page 37

stepped in and opened a restaurant in the same building, naming it Bluewater Grill in honor of his father-in-law who had built that building that was an iconic spot for 35 years,” Martineau said.

Today, Rick Staunton and his partner, Jim Ulcickas, own the restaurant, one of eight Bluewater Grills (seven of them are in California).

Chef Chris Smith joined Bluewater Grill when the new building opened.

“When I was young, I lived in Providence, Rhode Island, so seafood was a big thing for me. My grandfather and I would go to a restaurant where they’d catch crabs at the dock and boil them right there. Working at a restaurant with fish of this caliber has really been fun for me. It’s definitely been exciting to learn new things and put my own twist on things.

“I enjoy cooking, creating dishes — making people happy through food is really what it comes down to.”

One example of Smith’s creativity is the misoyaki black cod. “We marinate black cod in a reduced miso sauce for

about 24 hours, then sear it, and serve it with eel sauce and rice cooked with ginger, coconut milk and chicken stock, and topped with green beans and kiaware (daikon) sprouts,” Smith said.

Other examples include Cajun grilled barramundi, served on coconut jasmine rice and topped with arugula and crab salad with jalapeno mango vinaigrette; and seared Eastern scallops with olive oil-poached shallots, spinach, oyster mushrooms and a citrus beurre blanc.

At the sushi bar, traditional sushi, sashimi and rolls are favorites, along with such specialties as the seniorita roll (tempura shrimp, krab and avocado, topped with raw ahi, sriracha and eel sauce) and the spicy Avalon roll (yellowtail, cucumber and avocado, topped with jalapeno and crisp carrots).

“We always update dishes and find ways to do them better,” Martineau said, “though for the most part it’s a lot of the same staples. The seafood Louis salad, fish and chips, clam chowder, steamed shellfish baskets and items like that all have stayed the same. We’ll rotate seasonal specials and change our selection according to

what’s available and the best quality.”

Martineau recommends people sign up for the restaurant’s loyalty program, to keep track of specials, and to learn about monthly tastings.

“We do a tasting the second Tuesday of each month,” Martineau said. “Typically, it’s a way to introduce a seasonal special that’s coming up. We pair some wine with the dish, and sometimes a salad or chowder.”

Sustainability is important, too, he said. “We rely on the Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Marine Stewardship Council, who put out suggestions as to what types of fish are considered more sustainable, responsible choices for purchasing. An example would be Chilean sea bass. People enjoy it and we love it, too, but it’s not considered very sustainable, so we haven’t served it for years. We want to stay in business for many years to come.”

Bluewater Grill, at 1525 E. Bethany Home Road, is open Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. For reservations and information, call 602-277-3434 or visit [www.bluewatergrill.com](http://www.bluewatergrill.com).



Dozens of area restaurants will step back from their typical menu offerings, such as the pan-seared scallops with sweet corn grits from The Gladly, for the Fall Arizona Restaurant Week (submitted photo).

**Dining Briefs**  
Celebrate Arizona’s dining scene

With an expected 150 restaurants from around the state participating, the Arizona Restaurant Association (ARA) is gearing up for the return of its popular bi-annual event, Arizona Restaurant Week (ARW).



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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**



A new pop-up cocktail experience explores the topsy-turvy world of Alice's Wonderland (photo courtesy of Explore Hidden).

During 2023 Fall Arizona Restaurant Week, which takes place Friday, Sept. 8, through Sunday, Sept. 17, diners can indulge in 10 full days of culinary exploration to discover the breadth of amazing food and beverage options available throughout the state. Fall ARW features a variety of restaurants from small chef-driven, independently owned establishments to five-star fine dining and represents a wide array of cuisines.

During the event, participating restaurants offer specific menus featuring hyper-seasonal or limited-availability ingredients — frequently serving up dishes that are not generally on their regular menus. Guests can enjoy a three-course prix-fixe menu for \$33, \$44 or \$55 per person (and in some cases per couple). Wine or cocktail pairings are often also available to enhance the ARW dining experience at participating restaurants for an additional charge.

More than 80 establishments have already signed up to participate in the 2023 Fall Arizona Restaurant Week. A complete list of restaurants and their menus, will be available at <https://arizonarestaurantweek.com>.

**Adventurous cocktail experience opens**

The Alice Cocktail Experience is a immersive, pop-up concept bar that will return for a second season on west Adams Street this fall.

Residents are invited to step into the shoes of Alice, as she returns to Wonderland with The Caterpillar, The White Queen and The White Rabbit. During the adventure guests will discover hidden secrets in backwards mirrors, participate in a human-sized chess match, solve riddles and play croquet.

They also will be invited to The White Queen's exclusive party, where guests get to create their own liquid concoctions under the watchful eye of The Mad Hatter.

The 90-minute alternate reality experience in Wonderland opens Oct. 19. The cost \$47 per person and includes one welcome drink, two bespoke cocktails and an 'Eat Me' sweet treat. Family-friendly sessions are available for those who are under 21. All other sessions are strictly 21 and over.

This experience is only on sale for four weeks. Ticket and event information can be found at <https://explore-hidden.com>. Click on "Phoenix" in the location search bar.

**Cocktail lounge debuts at Chase Field**

Square One Concepts, creators of Bourbon & Bones Chophouse and Bar, and Bourbon & Bones Cocktail Lounge, is now open at Chase Field. The special cocktail experience will be available on game days and for major concerts and events, with doors opening two hours prior on these specific dates.

Among the refreshments on the menu exclusively at this location of Bourbon & Bones Cocktail Lounge is the drink Gonzo's Game Winner, a shout out to D-backs outfielder Luis "Gonzo" Gonzalez, whose game-winning hit clinched the team's 2001 World Series championship against the New York Yankees. The drink is a mocktail of fresh cucumber juice, muddled blackberry, house-made lemonade and club soda.

A leisurely throwback vibe welcomes guests to relax and linger over a menu created by Executive Chef Mutaz  
*please see CHASE FIELD on page 40*



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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**



Provision Arcadia's limited-time Spanish Sunset is available through the end of September, or until the seasonal ingredients are no longer available (photo by Joel Cronenberg).

**CHASE FIELD** continued from page 39

"Taz" Fakhouri featuring prime steak crostini with sliced prime tenderloin and green chimichurri, bleu cheese stuffed medjool dates, shrimp cocktail, oysters; and an array of sushi.

The spot has space for approximately 130 guests, including a patio with couches and bar-rail perches that offer a view of game and/or concert

activity on the field. Learn more at [www.bourbonandbones.com](http://www.bourbonandbones.com).

**Sparkling drinks offer seasonal flavors**

As September rolls around, residents can enjoy the last days of the season with Provision Arcadia's summer sipping beverages. Provision brought back three of its most popular sparkling drinks, containing exclusive and limited availability ingredients.

The Yuzu Espresso Tonic features yuzu, a citrus mostly grown in Japan and is a "first pressing" of 100 percent yuzu juice. The first pressing ensures the best quality juice from yuzu and captures its best acidity and fruit notes as well as its best aromatics and oils.

Black lemon bitter is the key ingredient in Provision Arcadia's Black Lemon Tonic. A spice generally used in North Africa and parts of the Middle East; black lemons are actually super dehydrated limes that are ground into powder to form the black lemon spice. The tonic features sliced lime as an ode to the black lemon as well as cherry notes and a Luxardo cherry garnish.

Finally, Provision's Spanish Sunset sparkling beverage is named for its use of saffron, considered the most expensive spice in the world. These strong flavors are highlighted in a drink that also features 100 percent concord grape juice, blood orange saffron, lemon juice, white tea and Mi Casa bitters.

These beverages launched on July 24 and will be available through September or until the ingredients are no longer available. Visit Provision Arcadia at 4501 E. 32nd St. For more information, call 602-626-3866 or visit [www.provisioncoffee.com](http://www.provisioncoffee.com).

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