



Community

Goodyear remembers Juneteenth with a family day celebration; **4**



LITCHFIELD PARK/GOODYEAR INDEPENDENT

Business

Goodyear photographer turns her passion into a business; **10**



June 2025 Volume 6 Issue 6

Your Nonpartisan Community Newspaper • YourValley.net



Hometown Pride: One-n-ten offers LGBTQ+ youth programs across Arizona

K Krznarich develops programs to help LGBTQ+ youth make community connections across Arizona. (Submitted photos/K Krznarich)

By Mary Goldmeier
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Pride Month, recognized every June, serves as both a celebration and a call to action for LGBTQ+ communities across the globe.

The month honors the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan, a pivotal moment in the gay liberation

movement in the United States, according to the U.S. Library of Congress. What began as a single march on the anniversary of Stonewall has evolved into a global phenomenon: a time for parades, concerts, educational events, and memorials for those lost to hate crimes and HIV or AIDS.

At its core, Pride commemorates

progress while acknowledging the ongoing fight for equality. In Arizona, where both urban hubs and rural towns make up the fabric of the state, one LGBTQ+ youth organization is seeking to ensure Pride is visible, vibrant and accessible, no matter where

• See **Pride** on page **28**

Goodyear Police Officer rescues a woman from burning car

By Mary Goldmeier
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

A Goodyear police officer is being celebrated after rescuing a woman from a burning vehicle following a multi-vehicle crash on Interstate 10 near 91st Avenue in the early morning hours of Sunday, May 25.



Dakota Berry

Officer Dakota Berry was returning to Goodyear after transporting a prisoner to a jail in Phoenix when he came upon the crash, which left one vehicle fully engulfed in flames.

“Officer Berry did not hesitate, wasting no time to smash the driver’s side window of that vehicle, where he found that the driver, an adult female, her hair was actually on fire,” said Myra Reeson, Goodyear’s public information officer. “Officer Berry attempted to extinguish the flames with his bare hands and pulled the woman out of the

• See **Rescue** on page **27**

The Phoenix Independent Captures Valley News With a Focus on Community

Twice weekly in your USPS mailbox. \$12 every four weeks, or subscribe for one year by paying \$150 for 52-weeks and receive a free t-shirt

888-695-3848

or email us at customerservice@iniva.org

PRRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
Phoenix, Arizona
Permit No. 1424

ECRWSSDDM
Postal Customer



VISIT OUR DESIGN SHOWROOM:

2400 W. Union Hills Dr. Ste 110,
Phoenix, AZ 85027



www.TWDAZ.com



623-544-1211



ROC271236



YOUR FULL SERVICE REMODELER

OUR SERVICES:

- Kitchen & Bathroom Remodel
- Full Home Renovations
- Aging-in-Place Modifications
- Cabinetry
- Media Wall & Beverage Center
- Laundry Room Renovation
- Stucco & Drywall Services
- Exterior & Interior Painting



SCAN HERE
TO LEARN MORE!





City of
Hope®

CANCER CENTER

HOPE IS

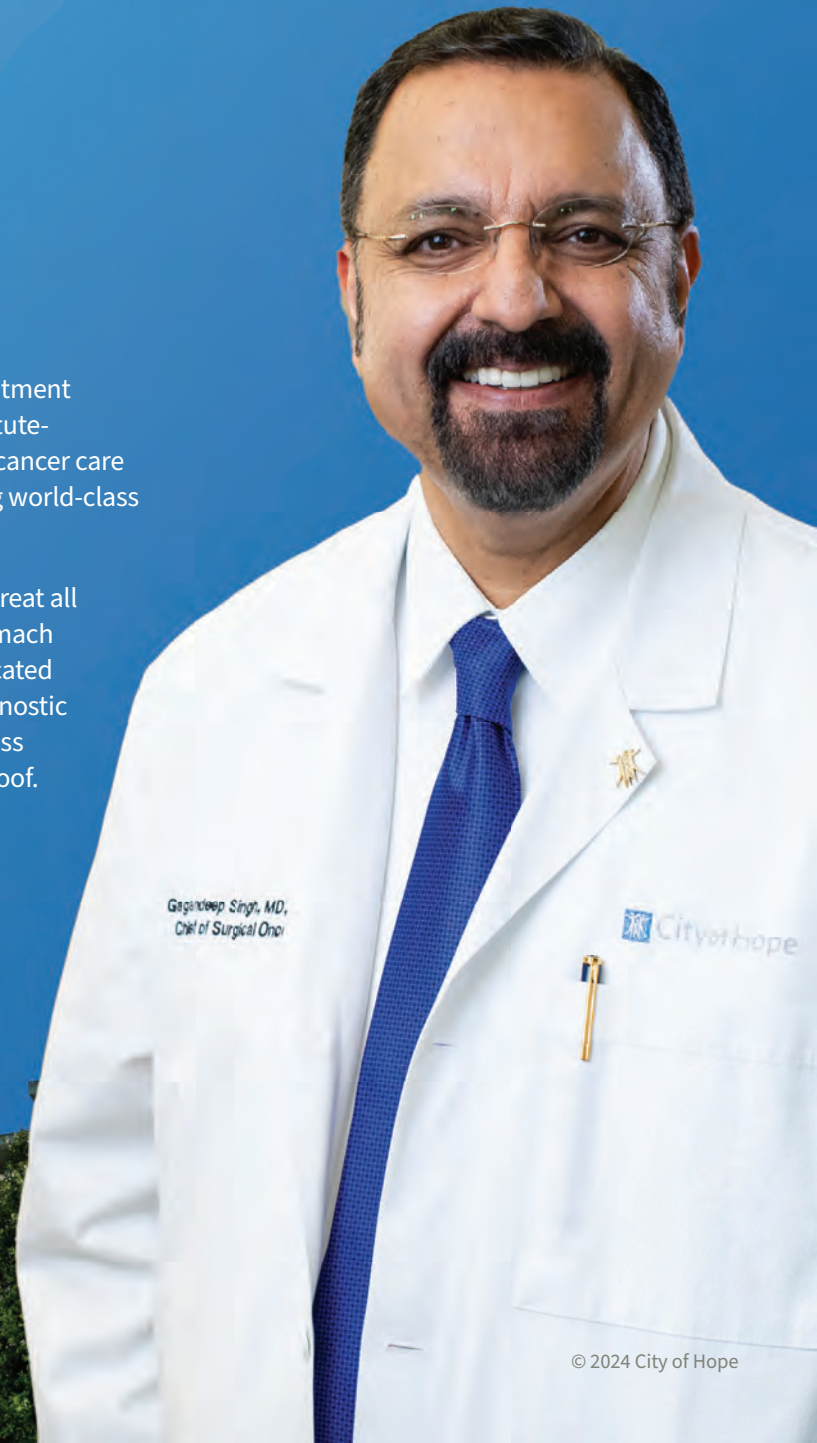
the brightest minds in medicine,
focused on your cancer diagnosis.

City of Hope® is one of the largest and most advanced cancer research and treatment organizations in the United States. With an independent, National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center that is ranked top 5 in the nation for cancer care by U.S. News & World Report at our core, we turn hope into reality by providing world-class treatments for all stages and types of cancer.

The experts at the Gastrointestinal (GI) Cancer Center at City of Hope Phoenix treat all gastrointestinal-related cancers, including colorectal, liver, pancreatic and stomach cancers, as well as neuroendocrine tumors. Our GI Cancer Center team is dedicated to treating patients with new and innovative cancer treatment options for diagnostic and surgical needs, using evidence-informed supportive care services to address gastrointestinal cancer symptoms and treatment side effects — all under one roof.



Learn more at
cityofhope.org/phoenix
by scanning the QR code
or call 855.622.HOPE



Gagandeep Singh, MD,
Chief of Surgical Oncology



COMMUNITY NEWS

IN BRIEF



The City of Goodyear is recognized with statewide awards for its water services. (Submitted photo/City of Goodyear)

Goodyear recognized with four statewide awards for water services

The city of Goodyear's Water Services Department received four awards from the Arizona Water Association, recognizing performance in wastewater management and workplace safety.

The department was named Wastewater Collection System of the Year, an award that highlights service quality, system performance and compliance with state and federal regulations.

In addition, the city earned three Arizona Water Safety Awards for its 2024 safety record, which included zero injuries among staff. Water Services employees often work in high-risk conditions, such as confined spaces and underground systems.

"I couldn't be prouder of our Water Services team," said City Manager Wynette Reed. "These

• See **Briefs** on page 7

Goodyear remembers Juneteenth with a family day celebration

By Mary Goldmeer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The city's award-winning Juneteenth Family Day celebration returns to the Goodyear Recreation Campus on Thursday, June 19, offering residents an evening filled with music, culture, food and history. The free, family-friendly event will run from 5 to 9 p.m., with expanded outdoor programming kicking off the festivities.

Juneteenth, observed each year on June 19, commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. The holiday marks the day in 1865 when Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation and informed over 250,000 enslaved people of their freedom. Now recognized as a federal holiday, Juneteenth serves as a time for celebration, reflection, and education about African American history and resilience.

Goodyear's Juneteenth Family Day, first held in 2022, has quickly grown into a signature city event.

"Goodyear hosts its Juneteenth Family Day to celebrate the significance of fostering cultural connections while educating the community about the importance of this piece of American history," said Councilmember Benita Beckles.

In 2023, the community event earned the Outstanding Cultural



Goodyear hosts its fourth annual Juneteenth celebration at the city's recreation campus. (Submitted photo/City of Goodyear)

Awareness Program award from the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association, honoring the city's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and community engagement.

"Our Juneteenth event is a community-driven celebration," said Natalie Reinen, the city's festival and events coordinator. "It transforms the Goodyear Recreation Campus into a space where culture, history and community all come together."

This year's event will feature an expanded schedule, beginning outdoors at 5 p.m. with food trucks, live music under the event pavilion, and space for families to gather and enjoy the

evening. Indoor programming starts at 6 p.m. and includes a wide variety of interactive workshops, cultural exhibits and performances.

"We really wanted people to come out earlier and enjoy the food trucks, enjoy some live music," Reinen said. "We'll have tables and chairs set up so you can enjoy your food before heading inside for all the workshops."

Among the new additions this year is a Historically Black Colleges and Universities panel featuring 12 alumni. The panelists will share their college experiences and career paths with attendees, offering young people in par-

• See **Juneteenth** on page 8



On Time
On Budget
For Your Peace of Mind
Your Contractor of Integrity!



WE SPECIALIZE IN

Kitchens • Bathrooms • Additions • Total Home Remodels

Tel: 623-546-8681 • Web: TruBuildersAZ.com

Licensed, Bonded & Insured • Full service design builder
Family owned and operated • Over 30 years of experience

Imagine your home, totally organized!

Custom Closets, Garage Cabinets,
Home Offices, Laundries, Pantries,
Wall Beds, Hobby Rooms and more!

40% off
Plus
Free Installation

PLUS TAKE AN EXTRA 15% Off

Terms and Conditions: 40% off any order of \$1000 or more or 30% off any order of \$700-\$1000 on any complete unit order of custom closet, garage, or home office, and any other products. Take an additional 15% off on any complete unit order. Not valid with any other offer. Free installation with any unit order of \$850 or more. With incoming order, at time of purchase only. Expires 07/31/25. Offer not valid in all regions.

**SPECIAL FINANCING
FOR 12 MONTHS!**

With approved credit. Call or ask your Designer for details.
Not available in all areas.



Call for a free in home design consultation and estimate

480-764-2884 IN

closetsbydesign.com



Locally Owned and Operated. Licensed and Insured: ROC312904

ClosetsbyDesign®

Litchfield Park observes Memorial Day

By Mary Goldmeer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Residents gathered the morning of May 26 at the World War II Memorial on the west side of Litchfield Elementary School to honor fallen service members in a Memorial Day ceremony led by Litchfield Park Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf.

The hour long program included patriotic music performed by the St. Thomas Aquinas Church Choir, a floral wreath tribute, a prayer and moment of silence, a playing of Taps and a special presentation by Lt. Col. Brian "Joker" Dudley of Luke Air Force Base.

"We recognize that our freedoms are not free. All too often, they come with a price. It is said of our brave military, all gave some, and some gave all," said Mayor Schoaf.

The Luke Air Force Base Honor Guard conducted a moving Missing



Lt. Col. Brian Dudley tells the story of a Luke Air Force Base graduate in WWII. (Mary Goldmeer/Independent Newsmedia)

Man Ceremony and flag raising, calling attention to the sacrifices of those who remain unaccounted for. The Missing Man table honors those still missing from each military branch. Its round shape shows enduring concern; the white cloth, their pure service. A

rose and ribbon reflect remembrance and resolve. Lemon and salt symbolize sacrifice and sorrow. The inverted glass and empty chairs mark their absence.

Lt. Col. Dudley, a Litchfield Park resident and Director of Operations

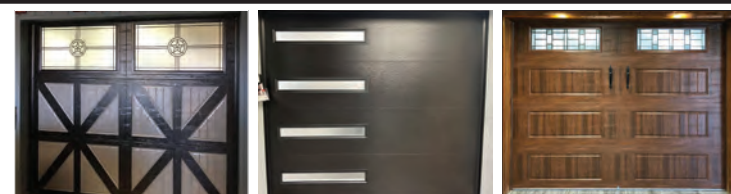
for the 61st Fighter Squadron, spoke of his military service and the meaning behind the monument where the event was held.

"Let's start with the monument itself. It's not flashy," Lt. Col. Dudley said. "You know, it's it's solid, it it doesn't demand your attention, but it is it is a good monument to that generation of men and women who served in World War II, were ordinary Americans, and who faced a great war and a great existential crisis in evil, and prevailed through community and through faith and camaraderie with their fellow Americans."

Lt. Col. Dudley graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 2005 with a degree in mechanical engineering and was part of the Wings of Blue parachute team, with more than 1,000 frefall skydives to his name.

• See **Observes** on page 7

DESIGN ARRAY
GARAGE DOOR STORE
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION • REPAIR



THE WEST VALLEY'S LARGEST GARAGE DOOR SHOWROOM!

OPERATIONAL DOORS & OPENERS ON DISPLAY!

LiftMaster
Amarr

LiftMaster Model 81600-7' DC
**7' DC Chain Drive WiFi
Garage Door Opener**
NOW ONLY! \$449 Plus Tax & Installation
Must present coupon. Can't combine with other advertised offers. Prices subject to change after 7/15/25.

16 x 7 Garage Doors
Starting at **\$1899** Installed. Plus tax.
Includes removing existing door & reconnecting existing opener.
Must present coupon. Can't combine with other advertised offers. Prices subject to change after 7/15/25.

SUMMER SERVICE SPECIAL
\$75 **Garage Door Tune-Up**
Tighten hinges, lube and/or adjust door springs and opener.
Includes 16 point safety inspection.
Must present coupon. Can't combine with other advertised offers. Prices subject to change after 7/15/25.

\$100 OFF
**Any Steel-backed Insulated
16' x 7' Garage Door**
Must present coupon. Can't combine with other advertised offers. Prices subject to change after 7/15/25.



★★ **Located In Sun City For Over 26 Years!** ★★
Free Estimates! • www.MakeMyDoor.com
9008 N. 99th Ave. • Sun City • 623-915-7777
99th Avenue & Olive • Monday-Friday 8am-5pm • Saturday by appt only
Residential & Commercial • LIC # ROC 161375 • HOA • COA • PORA



The Goodyear Police Department received a \$6,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety. (Mary Goldmeer/Independent Newsmedia)

Briefs

• From page 4

awards are a reflection of the dedication, expertise and safety-first mindset our staff brings to work every day. They play a huge role in keeping our community running smoothly, and it's great to see their hard work recognized across the state."

The Arizona Water Association is a nonprofit organization that supports education, training and advocacy for water and wastewater professionals throughout the state.

According to the city, the recognition reflects an ongoing commitment to providing reliable water services while prioritizing the safety of employees.

Visit goodyearaz.gov for more information.

Goodyear Police awarded grant for 'Click It or Ticket' campaign

The Goodyear Police Department has received a \$6,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety to support the national Click It or Ticket campaign.

The funding will allow for additional officer coverage and overtime enforcement during the high-visibility seat belt enforcement period from May 19 to June 1, 2025.

Observes

• From page 6

He first trained on the F-16 at Luke AFB in 2006 and has served multiple deployments, including Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lt. Col. Dudley used his speech by recounting the heroic sacrifice of Maj. John Louis Jerstad, a World War II pilot who once trained at what is now Luke Air Force Base.

Maj. Jerstad flew B-24s, four-engine heavy bomber planes, in Europe. In 1943, during Operation Tidal Wave, a mission to destroy oil refineries in Ploiești, Romania, his aircraft was struck by enemy fire. Rather than make an emergency landing in a nearby field, Maj. Jerstad stayed the course to drop his bombs. His plane crashed in the target area, and he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery.

In his remarks, Maj. Jerstad encouraged attendees to reflect not only on the past but on their relationships today.

"Well, today is more than remembrance, a time to bow our heads in honoring those gone before us. I think we should also take a moment to lift our eyes up to our neighbors, temporary and permanent and remember that we carry more in common with our fellow Americans than we have different," he said.

"(The fallen veterans we celebrate) didn't serve just some of the people around them, they served all of the people around them. Let's continue to build that community that we're proud of," he added.

The ceremony served as a reminder of the enduring legacy of those who gave their lives in the country's defense.

Mayor Schoaf echoed that sentiment of community, urging families to make the most of the freedom secured by those who gave their lives.

"Advertising in the Independent Community Newspaper Has Been a Game-Changer for Our Business!"

At **Vero Chicago Pizza**, we've always prided ourselves on delivering the best pizza in town — fresh, flavorful, and made with love. But we knew that great food alone wasn't enough to stand out in such competitive market. That's when we decided to partner with the independent Newsmedia for our local advertising, and the results have been incredible!

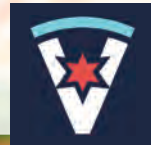
Since we started running ads in the Gilbert and Chandler editions, we've seen a noticeable increase in foot traffic. Our weekday lunch specials are getting more attention, and we've had more families and new customers coming in to try us out. The exposure we've gotten has been invaluable — it feels like our restaurant has become a true local favorite!

The newspaper's readers really resonate with the personal, community-oriented approach we've taken in our ads. We've received so many positive comments from customers who say they saw our ad and decided to give us a try.

Thanks to the Independent Newsmedia, we're not just a pizzeria — we're part of the community, and it's been amazing to see the growth we've experienced. We highly recommend advertising here to anyone looking to connect with local customers!

Isaac Younan

— Isaac Younan, Owner



LEAVE A LEGACY NOT A LEGAL MESS!

LIVING TRUSTS & WILLS
POWER OF ATTORNEY FORMS
HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVES • DEEDS & BENEFICIARY DEEDS
Retirement Income Planning • Insurance & Annuities

25 Years of *Your Security,
Your Peace of Mind*

FSGtrusts.com



Financial Security Group



Jared Gough



JoAnn Regan

**CALL TODAY FOR A
FREE CONSULTATION (623) 561-2323**
Located At 99th Ave & Bell Road

ARIZONA OWNED & OPERATED

No legal advice given
Not a law firm



Litchfield Park approves designs and construction on major La Loma developments

By Mary Goldmeer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The vision to transform the historic La Loma Homestead into a cultural and educational hub took a major step forward as the Litchfield Park City Council approved the design and construction plans for two of its feature projects: a performing arts high school and a new public library.

The council unanimously approved final plans for The Hilltop School for the Arts, a performing arts high school that will include a 700-seat theater. The council also voted 6-1 to approve a 10,000-square-foot Maricopa County Library District branch at the same site.

Both projects will be located on the historic La Loma Homestead, at the southwest and northwest corners of Litchfield Road and Brinton Avenue. The property, long underutilized, is zoned for Agritourism and sits atop a hill that once belonged to Paul W. Litchfield, founder of the city.

The Hilltop School for the Arts is being developed by the Agua Fria Union High School District and is set to open in August 2026. The design, approved by the city's Design Review Board on May 8 and finalized by the council later in the month emphasizes architectural harmony with the historic site. The building elevations mirror the style of the original hilltop cottages, with the school campus situated lower in the terrain to preserve views and minimize disruption to the natural hillside.

The natural hillside, once a desert oasis the city took pride in, has ended up as a nearly barren lot with unused historic landmarks on it.

"You look at the hilltop today and you would think 'do I really want to invest this kind of money and rely upon the fact that by the time we're



Litchfield Park City Council approves the design and construction of the new high school and library going up on La Loma Hilltop. (Submitted photo\City of Litchfield Park)

done with the school that the city will be able to transform the hilltop, so that the hilltop is an appropriate spot for this investment?" said Mayor Thomas Schoaf. "Thank you to Agua Fria staff who have put your reputation on the line with your governing board. We are happy that you and your governing board are going down this path."

The project's associated theater and restaurant will support both student productions and community arts events. Events at the theater will be limited to after-school hours to reduce parking overlap, and the restaurant is intended to serve theatergoers without triggering additional traffic or parking needs.

City officials say the development fulfills the cultural and social aspirations first outlined by the La Loma Homestead Planning Committee more than two decades ago.

"The proposed uses echo the goals established in 2003, when the city and members of the Litchfield family discussed keeping this land tied to its historical and cultural roots," said Li-

tchfield Park City Manager Mathew Williams.

Also approved was the design and construction of a new Maricopa County Library District branch that will replace the existing city library built in 1979. The new 10,000-square-foot facility will include adult, teen, and children's reading areas; a 1,500-square-foot program room; study spaces; and dedicated staff and storage rooms.

In the city council's meeting, concern was raised over the 30% of the new library space being used for a seven-cubical work space and a break room for Maricopa County Library District staff, leading to council member Andrew Fraser to vote against the construction on the presented design.

The site will be accessible via the shared driveway serving the overall Hilltop campus. It includes 68 parking spaces and 18 additional stalls for golf carts to support shared use with the adjacent school, museum, and park spaces.

Juneteenth

• From page 4

ticular a window into opportunities they may not have considered.

"It's really cool to have the youth sit in on that and see what's possible," Reinen said. "A lot of them might not even know that these are career choices available to them."

Also new this year are five large-scale murals created by artists commissioned by the city and selected in partnership with the Goodyear Arts and Culture Commission. The murals will be installed across the event space for visitors to explore and photograph. The event will also include line dancing lessons, with opportunities to join in a group performance later in the evening. As always, attendees can enjoy a wide selection of food options from local and Black-owned vendors, including vegan soul food, Chicago-style fried chicken and barbecue.

"We just want to do everything with authenticity," Reinen said. "That's where our planning committee really shines. We have residents and business owners in our community who shape this event year after year."

According to Reinen, last year's celebration drew more than 3,500 people across multiple generations.

The recognition from APRA affirms the event's success and intentionality. APRA's annual awards program celebrates excellence in park and recreation services statewide, with winners selected by a panel of industry professionals. Goodyear's Juneteenth Family Day event was praised for its innovative layout, inclusive programming, and strong community collaboration.

The Juneteenth Family Day celebration is free and open to the public.

For more information, visit goodyearaz.gov.

COMING SOON!

2025 VALLEY FAVORITES



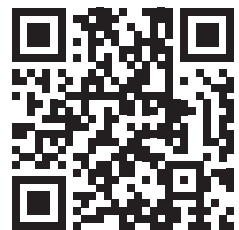
We are highlighting business favorites across the Valley.

This year we have separate ballots –

West Valley, East Valley, North Valley, and Fountain Hills.

**Our readers will nominate the best businesses in
our communities to tell us who they want to see
in the voting round.**

Only top 5 nominations move on to the voting round.



**NOMINATE YOUR
FAVORITE BUSINESS!**
NOMINATION ROUND JULY 1ST- JULY 31ST



WALK-IN SHOWERS FLOORING CUSTOM CABINETS

SHOWROOM & SLAB YARD

(623) 214 - 3599

13410 W. FOXFIRE DR. #100 SURPRISE, AZ 85378

DESIGN | FABRICATE | INSTALL



ROC 278090 278093

BUSINESS



Ahdi Duran develops her photography business. (Submitted photo/Ahdi Duran, Emily Dill Vance)
Duran's picture of Kelsey Moldonado and Danny Yenglin is featured on "Unscripted." (Submitted photo/Ahdi Duran)

Goodyear photographer turns her passion into a business

By Mary Goldmeer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

For Ahdi Duran, portrait photography is more than a creative outlet, it's a way to connect with people, celebrate identity and capture lasting memories. Now, it's also her official business.

The Goodyear resident recently launched her own portrait company, Ahdi H Photos, under a newly registered Limited Liability Company and secured a local business license through the City of Goodyear.

"It was intimidating at first because there's so much you have to do: registering your name, checking trade name availability, getting a tax license," Duran said. "But I made a checklist and just started ticking things off."

The process, she said, came with a familiar sense of independence. "I just Googled, 'How to start your LLC,'" she said.

The researching process could be

overwhelming, Duran said, but having experience with independent learning through being homeschooled, Duran said she was able to figure it out.

Duran, a new mom and lifelong creative, said the decision to make her business official came after continued community support and encouragement.

"I've been hearing it from everyone for years: 'You need to charge more, you need to go legit,'" she said. "After I had my baby, I was thinking about it, and I decided it finally felt like a good time to run with it."

To legally operate in Goodyear, entrepreneurs must apply for a city business license, even if the business is home-based or mobile. The application is available online at goodyearaz.gov.

A license is required for each physical location where business is conducted, and separate licenses are needed for

• See **Duran** on page 11

Duran

• From page 10

different individuals conducting business at the same address. The city also offers a program to help business owners get their start, InnovationHub guides entrepreneurs through those first steps.

Duran began by registering her LLC through the Arizona Corporation Commission at azcc.gov, a process that includes choosing a business name, confirming its availability, and paying a filing fee. She also applied for a tax license and figured out the operational tools she'd need, like an online booking system and custom session guides.

"It's so much more streamlined now than it used to be," she said. "But you still have to put in the work to make connections."

But Duran's photography career began long before her official paperwork.

"I was on Tumblr a lot growing up and all the kids had Canon Rebel cam-

eras, and I was so jealous," she said. "Then came the 2015 video game 'Life is Strange' and the main character was a photographer, and I thought that was so cool. I wanted to be her."

Her first camera was a basic Sony. "It didn't even have a detachable lens. My dad was convinced it was just a phase," she said, but Duran never stopped creating.

Growing up in a tight-knit community in Ohio, she got her start when neighbors began requesting family photos, she still serves that community on her trips to visit home. Duran said that her very first clients, and many who have come after, have become repeat customers who have grown alongside her.

Duran calls herself a "generalist," a photographer who embraces a wide variety of sessions including family, maternity, branding and couples shoots.

"I like being a part of people's lives, their stories, in small ways, especially when they come back to me over the

years," she said.

Her style leans into authentic moments, natural light and subtle enhancement.

"I'd describe my editing style as 'your life, but better,'" she said. "I try not to stray too far from real life, just enhance it a little."

She also leans on prompts rather than traditional posing.

"Instead of telling you to move your arm a certain way, I'll say, 'Slow dance with your partner to your favorite song,' only the music's not playing," Duran said. "That moment when you start laughing and trying to figure it out is when I take the photo."

Recently, one of those candid sessions led to a career milestone: a shoot that helped her rebuild her portfolio post-maternity leave and led to a feature on the photography app "Unscripted."

"They were gorgeous, so sweet, and the photos turned out exactly how I envisioned," she said. "Getting featured again after basically starting over meant

so much."

Duran said her client experience is designed to feel personal and intuitive. Prospective clients fill out a contact form on her website and receive a customized session guide. From there, everything including scheduling, payments and communication flows through a streamlined online platform built for photographers.

Now officially licensed, Duran is chasing consistency, connection and growth.

"I just want to grow, meet more people, and do this all the time," she said. "I want to be one of the photographers who pops up when someone searches in their area. I want to keep connecting with people and taking pictures of their lives."

For others hoping to start a business in Goodyear, Duran's advice is simple: take the first step, even if it's a Google search and a checklist.

Visit ahdihphoto.wixsite.com/ahdi for more information on Duran's work.

Coming Soon



Abrazo Medical Group – Verrado

21250 W. Roosevelt St., Suite 306, Buckeye, AZ 85326

Providing Quality, Compassionate Care, Close to Home

Our newest location near Verrado in Buckeye opens this summer.

Our specialty care includes:

- Cardiology
- Hand Surgery
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Neurology
- Sports Medicine

To schedule an appointment, call 602-674-6588 or scan the code.

AbrazoMedicalGroup.com



BUSINESS MOVES



1 Alta Goodyear

A modern residential community offering walkable access to the growing Goodyear downtown. 14965 W. Encanto Blvd, Goodyear, AZ

2 Burlington at Canyon Trails Towne Center

The national off-price retailer is now open, offering clothing, home goods, and accessories at discounted prices. 1083 S. Cotton Lane, Goodyear, AZ 85338

3 High Tide Seafood Bar & Grill

Known for its fresh seafood and handcrafted cocktails, this new GSQ location is making a splash with a coastal-inspired menu. 1825 N. Globe Drive, Suite 112, Goodyear, AZ

4 Rosati's Pizza

Serving up Chicago-style deep-dish, thin crust, and classic Italian eats, now open with delivery options available. 560 N. Estrella Parkway, Goodyear, AZ

5 Dave's Hot Chicken

This fast-growing Nashville hot chicken chain brings its signature chicken tenders and sliders to GSQ. 14980 W. McDowell Road, Goodyear, AZ

6 Walmart Neighborhood Market

A smaller-format Walmart focused on groceries and everyday essentials, reopened in Goodyear. 14200 W. Indian School Road, Goodyear, AZ



Arizona Leadership

Circulation Manager: Terri Rodgers.....trodgers@iniusa.org
Digital Sales Manager: Austin Moose.....amoose@iniusa.org
Editor-in-Chief: Patrick O'Grady.....pograde@iniusa.org
Business Operations Manager: Kathleen Kotzbauer.....kkotzbauer@iniusa.org
V.P. of Sales & Marketing: Barbara Wandling.....bwandling@iniusa.org
President & CEO: Charlene Bisson.....cbisson@iniusa.org

To Reach Us

Newsroom: aznews@iniusa.org
Advertising: azads@iniusa.org
Obituaries: azobits@iniusa.org
Advertising: 623-972-6101
Customer Service: 888-665-3848

Litchfield Park/Goodyear e-subscriptions
yourvalley.net/subscribe-today/

Memberships



©2025 Independent Newsmedia, Inc., USA. The publication of any advertisement in this newspaper does not constitute an endorsement by the publisher of products or services advertised. All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act. We will not knowingly accept any advertising that is illegal or considered fraudulent.

Your Local Team



Richard Smith
Reporter
rsmith@iniusa.org



Steve Chernek
News Page Designer
schernek@iniusa.org



Mary Goldmeer
Reporter
MGoldmeer@iniusa.org



Chris Williams
Graphic Designer
cwilliams@iniusa.org



Ann Kampmeyer
Multimedia Advertising Consultant
akampmeyer@iniusa.org

Buc-ee's breaks ground on its first Arizona location

By Mary Goldmeer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Buc-ee's, the Texas-based travel center known for its massive stores, cult following, and famously clean restrooms, officially broke ground on its first location in the Western United States, right off Interstate 10 in Goodyear.

"We are here today to mark a huge milestone: the groundbreaking of the very first Buc-ee's in the Western United States, and it's right here in Goodyear, Arizona," said Tammy Vo, with the City of Goodyear. "Who's excited?"

City officials, state legislators, Buc-ee's team members and dozens of residents gathered to celebrate the launch of what many consider more than a convenience store. Buc-ee's, often dubbed the "Disneyland of convenience stores," features fresh barbecue, a wall of jerky, taffy, roasted nuts, and



Buc-ee's officially breaks ground on its first location in Arizona. (Submitted photo\City of Goodyear)

its signature Beaver Nuggets all housed in a 74,000-square-foot space larger than an NFL football field.

"You might hear people ask, 'What is Buc-ee's?' Really, the only appropriate response is: it's a phenomenon," Vo said.

Goodyear Mayor Joe Pizzillo praised the company's decision to invest in the

fast-growing West Valley city.

"Nothing happens in a vacuum," said Pizzillo. "We've got the greatest people working for the City of Goodyear. And I really believe Buc-ee's came because we have a business-friendly environment here. We're easy to work with."

Pizzillo also emphasized the eco-

nomie benefit Buc-ee's brings, noting that most of the company's customers come from outside the city.

"That means they're not cannibalizing our businesses, they're just adding to our revenue that helps pay for police, fire, roads and streets," he said.

The mayor said Buc-ee's fits right into his broader vision for Goodyear's future, particularly the downtown district being developed nearby.

"My vision is, as they come to Buc-ee's, before leaving, they come visit this beautiful downtown that we're building," he said.

In addition to being a destination for travelers, Buc-ee's is expected to have a major impact on the local workforce.

"We're talking about 200 full-time jobs in the area," Pizzillo said.

Vo said Buc-ee's will offer starting pay above minimum wage, full benefits, three weeks of paid vacation, and a 6% 401(k) match.

WEST VALLEY REGIONAL CHAMBER

AWARDS *Gala*

SEPTEMBER 12 | 5:30PM | WIGWAM RESORT

A Golden Night to Shine

BLACK TIE AFFAIRE

REGISTER NOW AT WESTVALLEYREGIONAL.ORG

THINGS TO DO

IN BRIEF

JUNE 16

WHAM: Art a path to Healing — Veterans Art Class

A free art program for veterans of all ages, taught by professional artists. Includes drawing, painting, and various art mediums. Supplies and light lunch are provided. Military ID required at first class

420 E. Loma Linda Boulevard, Goodyear, AZ 85338.

10 a.m.–2 p.m.

JUNE 19

Juneteenth Family Day

Enjoy a high-energy magic show packed with illusions, music, and comedy from former World Teen Magic Champion Eric Gilliam.

420 Estrella Parkway, Goodyear, AZ 85338

5–9 p.m.

JUNE 24

Hot Coffee Art Lecture: 'Stitch by Stitch – Creating Art Paper Quilts'

Artist Sami Lange shares her creative journey and process of making "paper quilts" inspired by desert landscapes and printmaking techniques.

1900 N. Civic Square, Goodyear, AZ 85395

7–8:30 p.m.



A proposal to build a whitewater adventure park in Goodyear is being considered as part of the master plan update for Estrella Mountain Regional Park. (Submitted photo/Metro Creative Connection)

Proposal underway for whitewater adventure park at Estrella Mountain Regional Park

A proposal to build a man-made, recirculating whitewater adventure park in Goodyear is being considered as part of the upcoming master plan update for Estrella Mountain Regional Park.

The concept, submitted by East Valley resident Scott Burley, has been in development for several years. Burley began researching and exploring potential locations before formally proposing a long-term lease for a portion of the regional park to the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department.

If approved, the project would introduce a range of outdoor amenities to the area, including tubing, rafting, kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, zip lines, climbing areas

and extensive multiuse trails. A certified Olympic whitewater competition course is also part of the plan, alongside facilities for swiftwater rescue training to support local first responders.

The proposal draws on lessons learned from three existing man-made whitewater centers in the U.S. in Charlotte, North Carolina, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Montgomery, Alabama.

According to the proposal, the Arizona facility would be tailored to the state's climate and recreational needs. It would be operated as a nonprofit, public-benefit venture focused on providing affordable, year-round recreation while promoting environmental stewardship

and community engagement. The plan also emphasizes use of existing infrastructure within the park for large events and public programming.

The Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department has indicated that the project will be introduced during the park's formal master planning process, scheduled to begin in late spring or early summer 2025. A 30-day public comment period will follow, giving residents an opportunity to provide input. If the project moves forward, it will enter an open solicitation process for further evaluation.

More information and updates on the master plan process can be found at www.maricopacountyparks.net.

**ARIZONA
BROADWAY
THEATRE**

RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S
CINDERELLA

JUNE 20 THROUGH JULY 26, 2025

A classic fairy tale that teaches valuable lessons about kindness, resilience, and the power of hope, even in the face of adversity.

azbroadway.org | 623.776.8400

Special thanks to Dr. Keith and Kim Haar, generous sponsors of Cinderella

20TH
ANNIVERSARY
2024 - 2025
SEASON

Board & Brush creative studio®

Join us for a DIY wood project workshop and choose from over 900+ designs. We provide all the materials and guide you through the processes of distressing, sanding, staining, assembling, and painting your project—all while having fun in a lively atmosphere!

Use Code: DIYFUN20 for \$20 off a PYP Workshop



boardandbrush.com/avondale

13048 W Rancho Santa Fe Blvd, Suite 113
avondale@boardandbrush.com | (623) 335-0480

Board & Brush Avondale is a BYOB establishment only after 4 P.M. per Arizona law.

Expires 12/31/25



The Maricopa County Reads summer reading program launches in June. (Submitted photo/Maricopa County Library District)

Local libraries ready for summer reading challenge

Maricopa County residents of all ages are invited to join the 2025 “Maricopa County Reads” summer reading program, which launches Sunday, June 1 and runs through August 15 at many public, tribal and military base libraries across the state, including Georgia T. Lord and the Litchfield Park Branch Library.

Now in its twelfth year, the initiative from the Maricopa County Library District is designed to combat the summer slide, the common learning loss children experience between school years. With more than 80,000 participants annually, the program promotes daily reading habits, early literacy, and family engagement with a goal: read 20 minutes a day and have fun doing it.

According to the program website, participants can log their minutes online, earn points, win prizes and explore literacy-based activities both at the library and in their communities.

The program offers three main gameboards tailored to different reading levels:

- Pre-Reader (ages 0–4): Children and caregivers complete activities and track reading time together, earning points for every task completed. Each colored-in shape on the printable gameboard is worth 50 points.

- Kid and Adult Gameboards: Participants log every minute they read,

whether it’s a book, comic, or audiobook. One minute equals one point, and each 20-minute block can be marked off on their gameboard. Additional activities unlock secret codes and digital badges.

- All Abilities Gameboard: Designed for emerging readers or children with cognitive disabilities, this flexible option allows participants to track a mix of reading and literacy activities, with each activity earning 50 points.

All reading counts, including being read to, independent reading, and listening to audiobooks. Participants can enter minutes read in their online account. While entering book titles and authors is optional, accurate tracking is needed to unlock prizes.

Participants begin earning rewards as soon as they start logging their progress. Prizes vary by age group and are available while supplies last:

500 points earns a Peter Piper Pizza personal pizza coupon or a Raising Cane’s free drink coupon. 750 points will get readers an Arizona State Parks pass, a Ono BBQ free Ono Keiki meal or Phoenix Mercury tickets. 1,000 points, the end goal is celebrated with a free book, chosen from a selection of more than 150 titles

Prizes can be picked up at your local library throughout the summer. The final day to redeem prizes or order a free book is August 15.

VETERAN ADVOCACY FROM ONE WHO SERVED



LANG'S LEGAL
Veteran Advocate

Lang's Legal is a dedicated and experienced law firm focused on helping Veterans navigate the VA disability claims process. Founding attorney Matthew Lang is accredited with the VA and committed to securing the benefits Veterans deserve.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

- New and Original Claims
- Higher-Level Reviews
- Board of Veterans Appeals Notice of Disagreements
- Increase Claims
- Proposed Reductions
- Supplemental Claims
- Clear and Unmistakable Errors (CUE)

Let Lang's Legal fight for the benefits you've earned

13991 W Grand Ave, Suite 100, Surprise, AZ 85374

(480) 219-2101 | veteranlang.com

Contact Us Today for a **FREE** Case Evaluation



MATTHEW LANG
Accredited VA Attorney

West Valley Communities to Host Dazzling Fourth of July Celebrations

Cities across the West Valley are gearing up to celebrate America's birthday with fireworks, food, music, and fun for the whole family.

Light Up the Sky at Phoenix Raceway

Friday, July 4, gates open at 6 p.m. and fireworks at 8:25 p.m.

Phoenix Raceway, 7602 Jimmie Johnson Dr., Avondale

Presented as the West Valley's largest fireworks display, Avondale's "Light Up the Sky" celebration promises a 25-minute show lighting up the night sky.

This free, family-friendly event invites guests to tailgate with friends, explore food trucks and exhibitors, and enjoy face painting, crafts, and Kid Zone games. Live music will energize the crowd leading up to the fireworks finale.

Buckeye's Independence Day Celebration

6-9 p.m. Friday, July 4
Buckeye Municipal Airport, 3000 S. Palo Verde Rd., Buckeye

Buckeye invites residents to a tailgate-style celebration filled with live music, games, and patriotic spirit. Bring blankets, chairs, and yard games for a casual evening outdoors. Enjoy food truck fare while listening to local musical talent, including 13-year-old country singer Evelyn Errante and the Rob West Band. The night ends with a drive-in style fireworks show at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Goodyear's Independence Day Celebration and Drone Show

6-9 p.m. on Friday, July 4
Goodyear Ballpark, 1933 S. Ball-

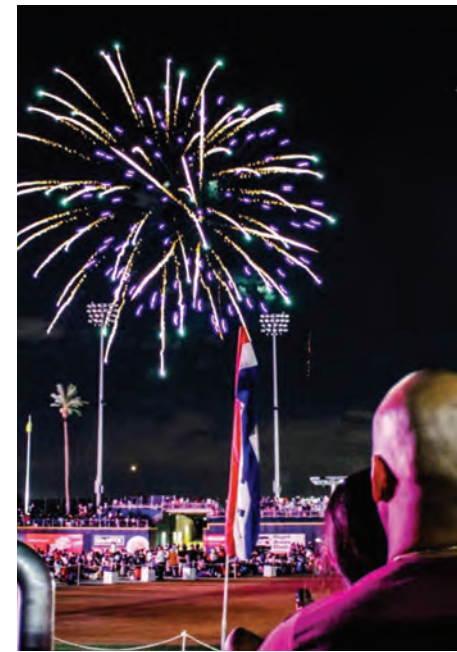
park Way, Goodyear

Goodyear is launching a new tradition this year with a spectacular patriotic drone show, a first for the city. The high-flying visual display will cap off an evening of live music, food trucks, and family-friendly activities at Goodyear Ballpark. Admission, parking, and activities are all free.

Sparkle in the Square in Litchfield Park

6-9 p.m. on Thursday, July 3, 2025
279 N. La Loma Ave., Litchfield Park

Litchfield Park kicks off the festivities a day early with its charming "Sparkle in the Square" celebration. Expect food trucks, face painting, lawn games, a pie-eating contest, a water balloon toss, and a fireworks show to finish the night.



Goodyear Ballpark starts a new tradition this year with a drone show. (Submitted photo/City of Goodyear)

WHEN YOU WERE A KID EVERYTHING GOT A SECOND LOOK



Brent Wilson, OD • Brayden Lundquist, OD, FAAO, FSLs
Tyler Mullen, OD • Michael Furey, OD • Dean Mallory, OD

Comprehensive Eye Exams • Myopia Management • Glaucoma • Cataracts • Diabetic Retinopathy
• Macular Degeneration • Dry Eye • Contact Lenses (including multifocal and hard to fit lenses)

Over 2,000
Eyeglass
Frames!



*Taking care of your eyes is something that should start at an early age.
Schedule regular eye exams for a lifetime of healthy vision.*

WEST VALLEY VISION CENTER

Serving the West Valley for over 60 years

2580 N. Litchfield Road, Goodyear
(One block south of Thomas Road)

(623) 932-2020
www.westvalleyvision.com



SPORTS

Desert Edge hurdler wins 2 state titles

By Jason W. Brooks
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

A Bellemy Amina-Harris could feel a strong breeze just before his late-afternoon 110-meter high hurdles race May 17.

After he came out of the starting blocks in the race at the AIA Open State Track & Field Championships, he could tell the breeze and gusts would affect how well he sailed down the Mesa Community College track.

“The wind was pushing,” Amina-Harris said after he won the race. “I could feel it pushing, but I had to push through if I wanted to get the gold.”

Amina-Harris left the MCC track with first-place medals for both the 110-meter high hurdles and for the 300-meter hurdles. The Desert Edge senior’s performance at the two-day Open meet caps his career as a Scorpion that included steady improvements.

“I was still over 14 seconds (at the 110 distance) last year, so I can see how much progress I’ve made,” Amina-Harris said.

The senior finished the Open 110-meter final in 13.98 seconds on May 17, or about 0.12 seconds ahead of the runner-up, sophomore Jett Merrill of Ironwood Ridge. He had equaled his personal-best in the 110 prelims on Friday, May 16, with 13.73 seconds.

In the 300 final, Amina-Harris stayed well ahead of a solid field to win in 37.17 seconds. Again, his time wasn’t as fast as it was in prelims the day before.

At the Division II meet the weekend of May 8-10, Amina-Harris ran a personal-best 13.73 in the



Bellemy Amina-Harris competes in a hurdles final Saturday, May 17 at the AIA Open State Track & Field Championships in Mesa. The Desert Edge senior won the state all-classes title in both the 110 and 300 hurdles. (Independent Newsmedia/Jason W. Brooks)

110 but was listed as “DQ — obstructed” in the 300 prelims.

Last year, Amina-Harris placed second at the Open meet, competing as a West Point High junior, running the 110 hurdles in 14.16 seconds and the 37.72 in the 300.

He was runner-up in the 300 to Vance Nilsson of Gilbert High, who set a national record in the race as the first American high schooler to break 35 seconds in the event.

When asked if he’d like to keep

running track in college, Amina-Harris was clear.

“For sure, that’s the goal,” he said.

“I have no idea where I’m headed yet, but I’ll probably figure that out soon.”

Canyon View girls win West Valley-centric relay at state

By Jason W. Brooks
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Aniya Smith knew the person she had to beat was wearing the same type of white track and field jersey as she and her Canyon View teammates.

That person was Audrey O'Connor of Basha. She and Smith were the anchors of the 4-by-800-meter relay — the first track event held May 17 as part of the 2025 AIA Open State Track & Field Championships.

Smith got the baton from junior teammate Ryane Ast just after O'Connor had taken off, but by the end of the first of the two anchor laps, Smith was right on her Basha opponents' heels.

The Canyon View senior then overtook O'Connor early in the final lap and kept ahead of her, giving the Jaguars the win.

Freshman Taelyn Janssen ran the



Canyon View senior and 4-by-800 relay anchor Aniya Smith pulls away from Audrey O'Connor of Basha in their May 17 race at the AIA Open State Track & Field Championships in Mesa. Smith and her team won the race. (Independent Newsmedia/Jason W. Brooks)

first two laps of the relay for the Jaguars, with freshman Peyton-Rae Isaac taking the baton for the second leg.

Fellow West Valley schools O'Con-

nor High and Mountain Ridge also had teams in the 4-by-800 relay. The Eagles placed fourth and the Mountain Lions finished fifth.

The win helped the Canyon View girls team place third overall at the two-day Open meet with 44 points. Chandler High ran away with first place with 74 points; runner-up North Canyon had 47.

The Jaguar girls bested several West Valley teams who had qualifiers at the all-classes meet. Liberty placed fifth with 33 points; ALA-West Foothills was 16th with 15 points.

Smith ended up in first place in three of the four events that she competed in at the Open meet. In addition to the 4-by-800, she anchored the winning 4-by-400 relay and she won the 400 meters with a time of 54.4 seconds.

Isaac and Ast placed third and fourth in the 400 meters, respectively. Rylee Fields placed eighth in the discus for the school from Waddell.



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME... *to retire*

Continue living the retirement lifestyle you love while staying happy and healthy at home.

A Sun Health At Home membership offers personal support and care coordination for all your future needs.



(520) 842-1088
SunHealthAtHome.org



Sun Health®



Step Up. Stop Cancer.

Help us stop childhood cancer in its tracks.



Isabella, 4

 **StepUpStopCancer.org**

Harkins
THEATRES

Layton

5 FOR THE FIGHT




REACH RELIABLE TALENT

HIRING SUCCESS!

Hiring today can feel like a revolving door—especially with many job seekers prioritizing short-term perks over long-term commitment. If you're looking for employees who value consistency, reliability, and community, our readers are exactly who you want to reach.

Advertising in our trusted publications puts your employment opportunities in front of motivated individuals who are looking to build lasting careers—not just chase the next offer.

Promote your employment opportunities where they'll make an impact—right here in your local newspaper.

Email: Azads@iniousa.org

 LITCHFIELD PARK/GOODYEAR
INDEPENDENT

EDUCATION

Litchfield school offers free summer meals to children

By Mary Goldmeer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

As summer begins and school cafeterias close, families in the Litchfield Elementary School District can still count on access to free meals for their children through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

The district announced it will provide free breakfast and lunch to children ages 18 and under.

"The goal of the Litchfield Elementary School District's... Food Services Department is to provide nutritious and appetizing meals for all students," stated Dr. Mary Venable, director of Food and Nutrition Services for the Litchfield Elementary School District. "Children need healthy meals to fuel their growing minds allowing them to achieve academic success."

The program will take place from June 9 through June 26, Monday through Thursday, at Barbara B. Robey Elementary School, located at 5340 N. Wigwam Creek Blvd. in Litchfield Park.

Breakfast will be served from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m., and lunch will be served from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m.

"Meals will be provided to all children, ages 18 and under," the district said in its public release.

Throughout the school year, many children in low-income households receive free or reduced-price breakfast and lunch at school. When summer break arrives, those same families may struggle to make up for those lost meals.

To help bridge that gap, the U.S. Department of Agriculture funds the SFSP and Seamless Summer Option, which are administered in Arizona by the Department of Education Health



The Litchfield Elementary School District offers free summer meals to children starting June 9. (Submitted photo/Litchfield Elementary School District)

and Nutrition Services. Schools, government agencies, food banks, and community groups like the YMCA sponsor summer meal sites statewide.

Last summer the program served over 3.2 million meals.

"Everyone is excited to donate around Christmas and the holidays, and they remember the people who need food," stated Linda Hamman, administrator of the Hunger Relief Program. "By the time summer comes, we're thinking about vacations and where we're going to go. We forget that our families need food."

According to the Arizona Department of Education's Free and Reduced-Price Percentage Report, about 4,537 of Litchfield Elementary School District's 10,500 students participated in free and reduced-price meal programs during the 2024–25 school year.

• See **Meals** on page 21

Meals

- From page 20

Through the school year, children are automatically eligible for free meals if anyone in their household receives SNAP, TANF, or FDIPIR benefits.

Schools should notify families if a child qualifies. Families can also submit an application to determine eligibility.

Children experiencing homelessness, those in foster care, runaway youth, and children of migrant workers qualify for free meals when a household completes the application. Children may also qualify based on household income.

Regardless of free or reduced lunch status, to receive summer meals, children just need to show up at an approved site.

Families can find a nearby food site by visiting the USDA's site locator at azhealthzone.org.

Estrella Foothills student earns 'Artist of the Year' scholarship

Estrella Foothills High School held its annual Senior Awards Ceremony, honoring the Class of 2025 for their achievements. Among the evening's standout moments was the presentation of the "Artists of Estrella" Artist of the Year Scholarship to senior Andrea Hasso.

The \$500 scholarship, awarded through a competitive application process, required a statement of intent, an essay, a high school transcript, and two letters of recommendation from teachers or administrators.

The scholarship money will go toward Hasso's plans to attend Arizona State University's Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising to pursue a four-year degree in fashion design.

Hasso was also recognized for

IN BRIEF



The Estrella Cigar and Whiskey Club funds an artist's scholarship for senior Andrea Hasso. (Submitted photo/Lynette Keating)

ceiving the Arizona State University Provost Scholarship and earning the Fine and Performing Arts Seal in Theatre. She is an Honor Thespian, a Scholar Thespian, and a SkillsUSA CTSO medalist and state participant graduating with distinction.

Lynette Keating, a member of the Estrella Art Gallery Committee that coordinates the community's resident club art gallery, presented the award,

which included a scholarship check and gifts.

This year's scholarship fund was supported by several contributors, including the Estrella Cigar and Whiskey Club.

Las Brisas Academy wins a Read Naturally award

Las Brisas Academy has been recognized as a runner-up for the 2025 Read Live School of the Year Award, an honor presented by Read Naturally to schools demonstrating effective use of its literacy intervention program.

The award highlights schools that show significant gains in student reading achievement through Read Naturally's Read Live program. Schools are selected based on their implementation efforts, student growth, and community engagement.

Visit lasbrisas.liberty25.org for more information.

Faith Law

Est. 1979

Your West Valley
Lawyers For
Over 45 Years

FULL-SERVICE LAW FIRM

#1 WEST VALLEY LAW FIRM

Helping Businesses & Families

**BIG FIRM CAPABILITIES
SMALL FIRM RESPONSIVENESS**

• Real Estate • Criminal Defense • DUI • Bankruptcy
• Business Law • Employment Law • Wills • Foreclosure
• Estate Planning • Personal Injury • Trusts • Probate

Visit us online to see all we can do for you!

1360 N. Bullard Ave., Suite 201
Goodyear, AZ 85395

623-932-0430 FaithLaw.com



West Valley

ACCIDENT ATTORNEYS

Your West Valley Injury Attorneys

- No Gimmicks - No TV Ads
- Speak To Actual Attorneys
- Owned & Operated By West Valley Residents Since 1979
- Not A "Personal Injury Mill"
- Not Afraid To Litigate
- You Are More Than Just A Number



602-834-0673 WestValleyAccidentAttorneys.com

Brought to you by Faith Law PLC d.b.a West Valley Accident Attorneys

COME SEE & DRIVE THE

Club Car

onward™

LEAD ACID & LITHIUM ELECTRICS
AND EFI GAS

AMERICAN MADE
80% American Parts
100% American Labor

FINANCING AVAILABLE
AS LOW AS 0%
OAC THRU SHEFFIELD FINANCIAL

**SOUTHWEST
GOLF CARS**

New • Used • Rebuilt • Gas & Electric Cars
Sales • Repair • Service • Parts • Accessories
Factory Trained Technicians • Batteries • Pick Up & Delivery

1975-2025 ... SERVING THE VALLEY FOR 50 YEARS

**UP TO \$2500 OFF
NEW 24 & 25 MODELS**

Authorized Club Car Dealer

13901 Camino del Sol
Sun City West • 623-584-0591
East of Grand/South of Meeker
Mon-Fri 8-4:30, Sat Sales 9-3

11124 Youngtown Ave.
Sun City/Youngtown • 623-977-3100
½ mile South of Grand off 111th Ave. | Mon-Fri 8-4

14175 W. Indian School Rd., Goodyear • 623-536-5625
Safeway Shopping Center
Mon-Fri 9-4, Sat 9-3

**Choose
Solstice
Today!**

**See why 97% of
current residents
would recommend
Solstice to a friend.**

**Schedule your tour
today at (623) 584-1999!**

18626 N Spanish Garden Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375
SolsticeSeniorLivingSunCityWest.com

**SOLSTICE
SENIOR LIVING
AT SUN CITY WEST**



The Litchfield Elementary School District votes to add a new solar power system to Troy Gilbert Elementary School. (Submitted photo \Litchfield Elementary School District)

Litchfield school district looks to expand solar power to new campus

The Litchfield Elementary School District is expanding its use of solar energy by adding a new solar power system to the future campus of Troy Gilbert Elementary School.

At its May 13 meeting, the district's Governing Board is looking to approve a resolution authorizing an addendum to an existing agreement with Veregy DER & Electric, LLC, the company managing the district's solar installations. The updated agreement covers the design and construction of a new solar carport structure that will generate electricity for the new school.

The project is expected to cost just under \$1 million and is part of the district's broader push to use renewable energy. A similar installation is already underway at campuses across the district.

The solar projects will be installed as a carport structure in the school's parking area and will include more than 400 solar panels. Once complete, it will generate enough electricity to

significantly reduce the school's need to purchase power from the utility company.

Work on the project will include the installation of electrical equipment, safety inspections, and coordination with Arizona Public Service, the local utility provider. The construction will be carried out in partnership with Core Construction, the contractor managing the overall build of the new Troy Gilbert campus.

District officials emphasized that all planning and legal review have been completed in advance. The resolution also gives the district's superintendent and CFO authority to finalize the necessary documents within the approved framework.

Construction of the new Troy Gilbert Elementary School and its solar project is part of the district's ongoing efforts to modernize its campuses and incorporate sustainable design.

Visit lesd79.org for more information.

Goodyear approves annexation for new Liberty school site

By Mary Goldmeier
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Goodyear City Council on Monday unanimously approved an intergovernmental agreement with Liberty Elementary School District that sets the terms for annexing a 15.8-acre site intended for the district's new Loretta Zumbro elementary school campus.

The property, near west Lower Buckeye Road between south Citrus Road and south Perryville Road, currently lies within unincorporated Maricopa County.

Liberty Elementary School District plans to develop the site into a campus with five buildings to serve approximately 850 students, with potential for future expansion.

Loretta Zumbro will cost \$33.0 million to construct and is due to open in August 2025 ahead of the school year.



Goodyear approves annexation for new Liberty school site Loretta Zumbro elementary school. (Submitted photo/Liberty Elementary School District)

The agreement outlines responsibilities for both parties ahead of annexation. Liberty will be required to complete a series of public infrastructure improvements before the property can be brought into the city and

connected to city services.

These include half-street improvements along West Lower Buckeye Road and South 183rd Avenue, construction of a three-legged traffic signal at their intersection, and develop-

ment of on-site and off-site water and wastewater systems.

"We know it's ambitious," said Kini Knudson, Goodyear's deputy city manager. "Liberty has been working on-site and with Maricopa County on a lot of inspections and working through the construction aspect of it. We anticipate being able to provide water and sewer primarily when they've completed their infrastructure work."

Goodyear will be responsible for reviewing and permitting infrastructure plans, inspecting construction, and ultimately annexing the property and providing water and wastewater services once the school district meets all requirements.

Goodyear Councilmember Trey Terry, who previously served on a school board, voiced support for the agreement, emphasizing the need for reliable public safety services.



**Summer Reading
At Your Library**

June 1 – August 1

Read to win prizes all summer long!

**"FUN EXPERIENCE
FOR ADULTS
AND CHILDREN!"**

- Summer Reading
participant



Enter this secret code for bonus points:
SKETCH



Maricopa County **READS**

MaricopaCountyReads.org



Save the Dates
SENIOR EXPO THE PREMIER SENIOR
 INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA HEALTH & LIFESTYLE EXPOS



Fountain Hills • July 15, 2025 • Fountain Hills Community Center
Sun City • September 24, 2025 • Sundial Recreation Center
Sun City West • October 21, 2025 • Briarwood Country Club
Apache Junction • January 7, 2026 • Central Arizona College
Chandler • February 24, 2026 • Sun Lakes Country Club
Peoria • March 26, 2026 • Westbrook Village

INTERESTED IN A SPONSORSHIP?
EMAIL AZADS@INIUSA.ORG OR CALL 623-972-6101



BRAVO DANCE Family

CLASS OFFERINGS
 Starting at age 18 months -Adult
 Toddlers, Preschool, Elementary,
 Teens, and Adults
 Hip Hop • Jazz • Acro • Ballet • Lyrical

★ 2024 ★
WEST VALLEY FAVORITES

TEENS 11 AND UP
 Register and pay for 1 month,
 get a second month **FREE!**
Offer expires May 31, 2025

PEORIA LOCATION 9800 N 91st Ave, Ste. 120, Peoria
 Olive & 91st Ave (Between Olive & Peoria)

LITCHFIELD PARK LOCATION 5110 N Dysart Rd, Ste. B150, Litchfield Park
 Dysart & Camelback (Next to Il Primo, Tailgaters)

www.bravodancefamily.com
info@bravodancefamily.com |  [@bravo_dance_family](https://www.instagram.com/bravo_dance_family)

NEIGHBORS



Goodyear Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Torres upon his retirement. (Submitted photo/City of Goodyear)

Goodyear honors its retiring Parks and Recreation Director

By Mary Goldmeier
 INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

After 38 years in public service and nearly two decades with the City of Goodyear, Nathan Torres, the city's longtime Parks and Recreation Director, has retired leaving behind a legacy of transformative projects and deep community impact.

During a City Council meeting, Torres was honored by Mayor Joe Pizzillo, councilmembers, and staff for his service, vision, and dedication.

Deputy City Manager Justin Fair led a tribute recognizing Torres' nearly 18 years with Goodyear and the milestones he achieved along the way.

"It is my privilege and the honor to recognize an extraordinary individual whose dedication and leadership leaves a lasting impact on the City of Goodyear," said Fair.

"Nathan's impact on our community has truly been immeasurable. He played a key role in designing and delivering transformative facili-

ties such as the Goodyear Ballpark, our beautiful recreation campus, the Georgia T. Lord Library, and our Civic Square Park."

Fair highlighted Torres' promotion to ballpark manager in 2009 during the stadium's inaugural spring training season, and his rise to Parks and Recreation Director in 2013.

"His efforts also resulted in the creation of over 18 parks, extensive recreation programs, public art and special events that have enriched the lives of countless residents," said Fair.

"He is known not only for results, but for unwavering enthusiasm and positivity in all circumstances."

Torres' leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic earned him the 2021 Gabe Zimmerman Public Service Award in the Community Builder category, recognizing his ability to keep Goodyear residents engaged and connected during a difficult time.

• See **Retiring** on page 26

Goodyear student awarded Empowering Diversity Scholarship

A Goodyear high school senior is among 25 Arizona residents awarded the Empowering Diversity Scholarship for the 2025-26 academic year, a program made possible through a partnership between Fiesta Sports Foundation and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona (AZ Blue).

Maria Palacios, a graduating senior from Desert Edge High School, will attend Arizona State University to study biomedical sciences. The Mexican-American student, whose parents immigrated to the U.S. before she was born, aspires to become a pediatrician and hopes to intern with a physician to gain real-world experience.

"This Empowering Diversity Scholarship is an answer to my prayers. This year, my family has struggled financially more than ever before. Thankfully, it is not extreme but it is still significant, and we notice how much we live paycheck-to-paycheck. We decided the



Desert Edge graduate Maria Palacios wins Empowering Diversity Scholarship. (Submitted photo/ Metro Creative Connection)

best option for me is to house on campus at ASU, and this scholarship will cut the cost of housing in half. It lightens the worry a little and it gives my parents something to lean on," said Palacios.

Now in its sixth year, the Empow-

ering Diversity Scholarship has provided financial aid and support to 144 Arizonans, including this year's recipients. The latest round of awards totals \$92,500 in scholarships and wrap-around services, bringing the program's

cumulative funding to \$539,500 since its 2020 launch.

"Too often, individuals face barriers in their pursuit of higher education. Many times, these same individuals need people to believe in their dreams, which can propel them to great heights," said Erik Moses, executive director and CEO of Fiesta Sports Foundation. "I am inspired by this year's Empowering Diversity Scholarship recipients, with their aspirations to be leaders and gamechangers in their desired professional paths. Fiesta Sports Foundation is proud to invest in their futures to help them pursue their dreams."

Funded jointly by Fiesta Sports Foundation and AZ Blue, the scholarship aims to empower underrepresented Arizonans by improving access to post-secondary education and GED completion. It offers \$5,500 each to students attending Arizona colleges and universities.

AT LEAST THERE'S ONE FAIR AND HONEST MECHANIC!

LITCHFIELD
AUTO REPAIR

litchfieldauto.net

623-882-8700

671 N 137TH AVE, SUITE 106 · GOODYEAR

**FREE
INSPECTION!**

Excludes euro and diesel vehicles



IN BRIEF



The Origin apartment complex opens its doors with celebration. (Submitted photo/Sharie Damm)

Origin apartments open in Goodyear

A new 408-unit apartment complex opened its doors in Goodyear with a festive celebration on June 5.

Origin, a multifamily housing development by 29th Street Development, held its grand opening with a Hawaiian themed event at its new location, 17445 W. Lower Buckeye Road.

The event included coastal-inspired food, cocktails and live entertainment.

"This is more than just a ribbon-cutting—it's a celebration of what Origin stands for: new beginnings, connection, and community," said John Kitson, executive vice president of development at 29th Street.

The Origin community features one, two and three-bedroom apartments, along with resort-style amenities. According to the developer, the complex is designed to offer upscale living with convenient access to major employers and outdoor recreation in Goodyear, a growing suburb in the Phoenix metro area.

More information is available at origin-goodyear.com.

Solar panel plant shuts down in Goodyear, up to 335 jobs lost

Swiss solar manufacturer Meyer Burger has closed its Goodyear factory and laid off all of its 282 remaining employees, citing a lack of funding to continue operations.

The announcement came May 29, just days after the company filed a WARN notice with the state on May 22, stating that a total of 355 workers would be affected. The facility, located at 1685 S. Litchfield Road, had been gearing up to produce solar panels but is now shut down. The future of the site is uncertain.

In a statement, Meyer Burger said it was "forced to stop its solar module production in the U.S." due to financial constraints. The plant, which was designed to produce enough panels to generate up to 1.4 gigawatts of electricity annually, ceased operations immediately.

The layoffs in Arizona are part of a larger financial crisis facing the company, which is also seeking to restructure its debt. Meyer Burger is in discussions with a group of creditors about two loans due in 2027 and 2029. Meanwhile, the company's German subsidiaries have filed for in-



Up to 335 jobs are lost as the Meyer Burger solar panel plant shuts down in Goodyear. (Submitted photo/Meyer Burger, Oliver Zarski)

solveny, similar to bankruptcy, after attempts to save those sites failed.

In Germany, two major facilities are affected: a solar cell plant in Thalheim that employs 331 people and a mechanical engineering site in Hohenstein-Ernstthal with 289 workers.

The company's Swiss facility in Thun, with about 60 employees, remains open for now.

The Goodyear factory had been part of Meyer Burger's push to expand into the U.S. solar market using a newer type of panel technology. But with financial troubles mounting, the company said it can no longer keep the operation running.

The company stated it will release more information as it becomes available.

Retiring

• From page 24

In brief remarks, Torres expressed gratitude for his journey and the people who made it meaningful.

"I'm humbled and appreciative to have been on this fantastic journey with you, and together we have accomplished many great things," Torres said. "As we reflect back, I think it's important to also look forward. The greatest Goodyear stories are those that are yet to be told."

He praised the city's staff and community members, calling them "passionate," "dedicated," and "phenomenal."

Torres has been connected with the council for more than 20 years, becoming longtime colleagues and friends with Vice Mayor Wally Campbell and working closely with the rest of the city staff.

"You've really been a shining example of what it takes to be that servant leader out in the community," Councilmember Laura Kaino said. "You've

built a great legacy, you've done great things, you've set us up well for the future."

Mayor Joe Pizzillo had a formal proclamation read noting Torres' role in delivering high-quality amenities and programs to enhance residents' quality of life.

It cited Torres' work on the Goodyear Ballpark, the Recreation Campus, and Civic Square, as well as his vision for public spaces that offer "rested and getaways for the public to experience by themselves or with family."

Rescue

• From page 1

vehicle, sustaining burns to himself.”

The woman was transported to the hospital in critical condition. She is expected to survive. In a striking coincidence, the victim was later identified as the daughter of a Goodyear fire chief Simeon Cheatham. The Goodyear Police Department held a press conference to recognize Berry’s actions and provide updates on the situation.

“Officer Berry exemplifies everything that we strive for in a Goodyear police officer,” Issitt said. “His journey with us began in 2017 as a police cadet, and in 2023, we were proud to officially welcome him into the department as a sworn officer.”

Berry’s bravery was described as both instinctive and extraordinary.

“There is no doubt in my mind that God placed Officer Berry in the right place at the right time to save a life,” Issitt said. “And when that moment came, Dakota answered the call without hesitation.”

According to the department, Berry approached the scene alone and was the first responder on site. Realizing someone was still inside the burning car, he ran back to his patrol vehicle to retrieve a glass-breaking tool and used it to shatter the driver’s side window. He then pulled the woman out of the flames and immediately began rendering aid.

“I ended up hearing the car horn honking and ran over to the driver’s side,” Berry said. “At that time, I realized that someone was still alive in the vehicle.”

He sustained injuries to his hand while breaking the window and removing the woman from the wreckage.

“The tool I used was a glass breaker tool, especially designed for emergency vehicle extractions,” Berry said. “I sustained some injuries to my hand from rescuing the driver.”

Even after the dramatic rescue,

Berry remained on the scene to ensure safety on the freeway.

“You don’t see in the video, but right after she was rescued and fire was on the way to transport her, he continued to do his job while he was injured,” said Reeson. “He went back on the road, he put out flares to ensure that another collision did not occur. His job wasn’t over just because the rescue had been completed. He continued to do his job until his backup arrived.”

In a statement read at the press conference, Goodyear Fire Captain Simeon Cheatham expressed his gratitude and emotion over Berry’s heroism. Cheatham’s daughter was the woman Berry saved.

“On behalf of our family, I want to thank everyone for the overwhelming love, support, and prayers for my daughter... as she begins the long journey of recovery following the tragic accident that left her with serious burns,” the statement read.

“Even in the face of unimaginable pain and challenge, her resilience shines through. This road will not be easy, but (she) has never backed down from adversity. With the continued outpouring of support from our community and with God’s grace, I have no doubt she will rise from this even stronger than before.”

When asked what went through his mind upon discovering the woman inside the car, Berry emphasized his sense of duty.

“As soon as I came across the vehicle, I was just making sure to verify if anyone was in there or not,” Berry said. “No matter what, I was going to do whatever I could to get them out.”

Berry also stated that he was unaware of the victim’s identity until he later arrived at the hospital.

“I ended up finding out when I actually got back to the hospital that she was a firefighter’s daughter,” he said. “As ironic as it is, obviously I would have done the same thing for anyone else.”



THE PREMIER HANDYMAN
NO TASK TOO SMALL!
480•442•2543

Contact@AZHomeRepairSpecialists.com

**ASK ABOUT THE
MANY SERVICES WE OFFER!**

Free Puzzles!
Words • Numbers • Strategy
YourValley.net/puzzle



DAILY
INDEPENDENT
at YourValley.net



LAST DAY 6/14/25



Osborne Jewelers
THE STORE INTEGRITY BUILT

15350 W McDowell Rd. Goodyear, Az 85395

www.osbornejewelersinc.com

623-925-1815

Pride

• From page 1

a person lives.

Founded in 1993, Phoenix-based nonprofit one-n-ten has become a statewide leader in LGBTQ+ youth advocacy. With programs spanning several satellite locations, the organization looks to ensure young people feel seen and supported, even in the most remote communities.

“We have 20 satellites across the state, we’re as southern as Yuma, northern as Flagstaff, Cottonwood, Show Low, and kind of everywhere in between,” said K Krznarich, satellite program manager at one-n-ten. “We’re really trying to get into those smaller towns that cannot easily access the metro Phoenix area, just making sure queer youth everywhere have that space.”

One-n-ten’s programs are designed for LGBTQ+ youth and young adults ages 11 to 24, offering wraparound support. The organization offers community connection to the LGBTQ+ youth they serve. They also offer real-world skills that their community might struggle with such as workforce development, housing assistance, identity-specific programming, and a parents and trusted adults support group.

“The space is for queer people by queer people, the fact that we can have these spaces is so wonderful,” said Logan Martin, youth center pro-



K Krznarich promotes community connections through one-n-ten’s satellite programs. (Submitted photo/K Krznarich)

gram specialist for one-n-ten. “Here you don’t need to talk about things. People can understand without having to ask. People here have that baseline acceptance that we don’t have in the larger world.”

The goal is to give youth safe spaces where they can explore their identities, develop leadership skills, and make healthy, informed decisions, Martin said.

“This is a microcosm of the young queer community,” Martin said.

That mission is especially critical in rural parts of the state. One-n-ten’s satellite programs serve as community lifelines in areas where LGBTQ+ youth may feel isolated or unsafe.

“It’s an inclusive space as everyone deserves the right to be seen and respected for who they really are,” Krznarich said. “And it’s also really

cool for young folks to know that they aren’t alone, and they have community right in their own neighborhood, even if that’s in, like, a really small, conservative town.”

Krznarich said that a sense of belonging can be transformative.

“The group is amazing at finding commonalities with one another and will make you feel like you’ve known them forever,” Krznarich said. “We’re bound to have laughs no matter what the program is.”

Programs can include art, guest speakers, guided community activism and more.

“It’s just so important to have a group that can come together with a mutual understanding of respect, inclusion, and valuing the authenticity of each person,” Krznarich said.

Each satellite runs once a week in

the evenings for 90 minutes, and like all of one-n-tens programs the weekly meetings are free with an open-door policy.

For Pride Month, one-n-ten’s satellites will tailor programs to highlight LGBTQ+ history and identity.

In Litchfield Park, youth will create bracelets using the colors of different Pride flags while learning the origin stories behind them. Other activities across the state include Pride-themed tie-dye parties and trivia nights.

While the city’s largest parades and festivals happen in the fall through Phoenix Pride, June is still an important month for grassroots recognition. One-n-ten’s localized programming helps to maintain that

• See **Inclusive** on page 29



DAILY INDEPENDENT
at YourValley.net

TAKE US WITH YOU!

Stay Informed & Connected
News • Sports • Entertainment • Puzzles & More
\$5/per month or \$55 annually

Visit yourvalley.net/subscribe or fhtimes.com/subscribe

SPECIAL OPS PLUMBING

★★★

602-679-4844

SPECIALOPSPLUMBINGAZ.COM

VETERAN-OWNED
LICENSED-BONDED-INSURED

Google ★★★★★ ROC # 339636

\$30 OFF

Restrictions Apply

Inclusive

• From page 28

visibility and celebration.

Backed by nearly a decade of expansion and community-building, one-n-ten is still looking to grow, with another satellite launching before the end of 2025. Krznarich said its programs will continue to evolve and be shaped by the lived experiences and voices of LGBTQ+ youth and the advocates who support them.

Krznarich started as a satellite volunteer before she was able to work with one-n-ten full time.

“My very first night of being a volunteer at the Litchfield Park satellite, I remember getting back into my car and crying a little bit about how happy I was, how much I felt appreciative to be in that space and how lucky I felt to experience that,” Krznarich said.

“After seeing how excited they were and how needed that safe space was for them, I just wanted to jump fully in and be able to provide this to even more young people across the state.”

One-n-ten is able to provide programs like these through its volunteers. Martin also started as a volunteer wanting to serve their community.

“It’s been so beautiful to go to work every day and get to provide resources for the people in the community that need it and especially so when you feel your work actually makes an impact,” Martin said.

For those on the front lines of one-n-ten’s mission, community building work is more than a job, it’s a movement and accompaniment to Martin, for LGBTQ+ youth across Arizona, it’s a lifeline.

In a month dedicated to honoring LGBTQ+ people across history, Arizona’s queer youth are finding, connection, and resilience in the heart of their own hometowns. Ac-

REACHING OUT

Phoenix-based one n ten has opened various centers across the Valley and state in an effort to reach LGBTQ+ youth.

Anthem: Anthem Way and Gavilan Peak Parkway

Chandler: Ray and Kyrene roads

Cottonwood: South 12th St and 89A highway

Deer Valley: West Happy Valley Road and North 35th Avenue

Gilbert: Pecos Road and Gilbert Road Gilbert, Arizona, 85225

Glendale: Olive and 59th avenues

Litchfield Park: Thomas and Dysart roads

Maricopa: Smith Enke Road and John Wayne Parkway

Mesa: North Stapley and East University drives

North Phoenix: Union Hills Drive and North 32nd Street

Prescott: Grove and Gurley streets

Prescott Meet-Up: Gail Gardner Way and Whipple Street

Queen Creek: Thompson and Mountain Vista roads

Scottsdale: Scottsdale and Cactus roads

Show Low: Deuce of Clubs Avenue and Fifth Street

Surprise: Bell and El Mirage roads

Tempe Meet-Up: Fifth Street and Hardy Drive

Yuma: Fourth Avenue and US Route 95 South

cording to Krznarich, through one-n-ten’s growing network of support, Pride isn’t just a celebration in June, it’s a year-round commitment to visibility, safety, and empowerment.

Visit oneten.org for information.

YOUR LOCAL GEICO AGENT MAKES BUNDLING SIMPLE.
HOME + AUTO = EASY

Bundling your home and car insurance is super easy with GEICO. Not only could you save money with a special discount, but you'll also save time by having all your coverages in the same place.



GEICO | LOCAL OFFICE

John Nix
602-234-3426
9515 W Camelback Rd
¡Hablamos Español!

Limitations apply. See geico.com for more details. GEICO & affiliates. Washington, DC 20076. GEICO Gecko image © 1999-2024. © 2024 GEICO. 21_633312129

BUSINESS DIRECTORY & CLASSIFIED ADS

VISIT US @ iniusa.org/classifieds | EMAIL US: azads@iniusa.org

DEADLINE: Wednesdays by 3pm | OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 9am-4pm

EMAILS

azads@iniusa.org
legals@iniusa.org
azobits@iniusa.org

To place your ad call us at

623.972.6101



AUTOMOTIVE, GARAGE SALES & MERCHANDISE RATES

\$20 per market - 30 words

Your ad appears in the newspaper
of choice plus online

\$5⁰⁰ for color and each additional photo
25¢ extra per additional word

\$60 four markets - 30 words

Your ad appears in four newspapers
of choice plus online

\$5⁰⁰ for color and each additional photo
25¢ extra per additional word

BUSINESS/SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES

Starting at **\$30**

for one column by two-inch advertisement
\$15⁰⁰ per inch after (maximum size 8.55 inches)
Logo and photos included
4-weeks minimum

EMPLOYMENT ADS

Starting at **\$30**

for one column by two-inch advertisement
\$15⁰⁰ per inch after (maximum size 8.55 inches)
Logo and photos included
No minimum commitment requirement

**CLASSIFIED ADS
ONLINE**

Create Your Own Ads Online, It's Easy!
Go to: iniusa.org/classifieds
then select "Place an ad"

Announcement

NOTICE
Independent Newspapers will not knowingly accept any advertisement that is illegal or considered fraudulent. In all cases of questionable value, such as promises of guaranteed income from work-at-home programs - if it sounds too good to be true, chances are that it is. If you have questions or doubts about any ad on these pages, we advise that before responding or sending money ahead of time, you check with the Better Business Bureau at 877-291-6222 for previous complaints.

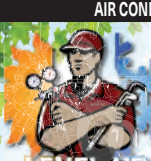
AC/Heating

GILLEY'S AC
 ROC#276614 | ROC#276616
 Residential & Commercial
 Providing Air Conditioning Sales, Service & Installation
 Licensed - Bonded - Insured
602-418-3790



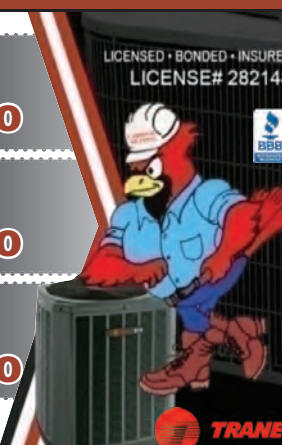
MINI WILL COOL ANY ROOM WITHIN 2 MINUTES

AIR CONDITIONING & DUCT CLEANING
TEMPERATURES IN THE VALLEY ARE CRAZY!
 Get Your Service On!
 Ask About Ductless Minisplit Units
 Maintenance • Service • Repair & Installation
 Call Today To Schedule Your Service Check!
 Present This Ad for
10% OFF a New Install!
623-999-8226 www.LevelUpHVAC.com




AC/Heating

cardinal HEATING & COOLING LLC
 LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
 LICENSE# 282148
3 Ton Installed \$6,500
4 Ton Installed \$7,500
5 Ton Installed \$8,500
 10 Year Warranty
602-301-2993
www.cardinalairaz.com



Cleaning

ANNA'S HOUSEKEEPING
 HOUSES • OFFICES • APARTMENTS
 Monthly • Bi-Weekly • One Time
 References Available
 FREE ESTIMATES
623-261-6360



Clean Windows

Excellent Window Cleaning & SUNSCREENS
 Free Estimates
 Interior/Exterior
 Local/Reliable
 Tyler
623-606-0722

Concrete

BERNIE'S CONCRETE
 Concrete Work
 • Driveway's
 • Sidewalks
 • Patio's
VETERAN OWNED
Bernie
602-538-5649



NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
suicidpreventionlifeline.org
SELL IT NOW
 Call
623-972-6101
 To place your ad.



Electrical

LAKE ELECTRIC
 Keeping your lights on since 1998
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
 Our electricians are highly trained and ready for any emergency electrical situation.
 MENTION THIS AD FOR **FREE HOME ELECTRICAL SAFETY INSPECTION**
 Senior and veteran's discounts
623-810-9788 • LakeElectricAZ.com
lakeelectrician@gmail.com LakeElectricAZ.com



Floor Coverings

FLOORING INSTALLATION

VINYL-LAMINET
TILE-STONE-CARPET

DEMOLITION TEAR
OUT CREW

CALL JIM
623-466-3537
Licensed-Bonded-Insured

GREAT RATES

Call
Today
and
Get
Results
623-972-6101

Gutters

RAIN GUTTER EXPRESS

QUALITY PRODUCTS & SERVICE
• Seamless 5" & 6" Gutter Installation
• Custom Fabrication
• Cleaning, Restoring & Repair

EXPERIENCE • LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
FREE ESTIMATES!
10% OFF with New Installation
www.RainGutterExpress.com

602-300-7472
miguelgaxiola9@gmail.com
ROC#347844

Landscaping

SUNSET YARD MAINTENANCE

- Irrigation & Sprinkler Repairs
- Tree & Palm Trimming
- All Yard Needs
- Weed Control Prevention
- Pavers
- Concrete Work

Andres 623-204-7694
INSURED

Plumbing



**DON JONES
PLUMBING**
INSTALLATION • REPAIR

Replacement of

- * Sewers * Toilets * Faucets
- * Water Heaters
- * Garbage Disposals



623-670-8060

Licensed/Bonded/Insured
BBB Roof# 272507

DOBASH Plumbing INC.

Serving the Valley for over 25 years!

Christopher Dobash
Owner



Quality Plumbing with Quality Service

WATER, SEWER, GAS

Repair, Remodel, Residential, Commercial, New Construction
(623) 878-1102 • dobashplumbing@icloud.com

Licensed • Bonded • Insured • Lic# C37R122566 • L37 • 122567

Remodeling



*On Time, On Budget,
For Your Peace of Mind.*

Kitchens • Bathrooms
Additions • Remodels

Your Contractor of Integrity



Free Initial Consultation

623-546-8681

TruBuildersAZ.com

Licensed/Bonded/Insured • Listed with PORA/SCHOA

G&G Design & Remodeling



- Home Additions
- Patio Covers
- Kitchens & Baths
- Garage Enclosures



623-332-0672

ggdremodeling@cox.net

Licensed • Bonded
Insured • ROC#271402

Remodeling



ALBRECHT AND SON LLC
Painting and Bath and Kitchen Remodeling

623-933-4312

www.ALBRECHTandSON.com

**CUSTOM INTERIOR &
EXTERIOR PAINTING & FULL
HOME REMODELING**

- BATH • KITCHEN • PAINT • CABINETRY
- DRYWALL REPAIRS • WALLPAPER & POPCORN REMOVAL
- FLOORING • WINDOWS • DOORS • CROWN-MOLDING
- TRIM WORK • BASEBOARDS & MORE!

11126 W. Wisconsin Ave, #5 - Youngtown
Licensed/Bonded/Insured Limited Liability Corp • ROC #155822 KB02

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DISCOUNT COUPONS!



Listed HOA/PORA

We make publishing your legal notices fast & easy!

Business filing, public notices, court summons, legal
postings - and more - can now be published in your
hometown newspaper!

- All notices published in your local newspaper AND the Phoenix Independent
- a newspaper that complies with A.R.S. 10-140.34 and A.R.S. 39-201A & B as
required by the State of Arizona for publishing legal notices.
- Includes a notarized affidavit of publication



Celebrating & Connecting Our Communities

Email: **legals@iniusa.org**

Call: **623-972-6101**



THIS WAY TO THE BEST LOCAL DEALS

Buy or Sell
in the Classifieds
**All Types of
Classified Ads**

In Print & Online

- merchandise • services
- jobs • homes • vehicles • & more

Call or Go Online to Place an Ad:
623.972.6101
iniusa.org/classifieds



Celebrating & Connecting Our Communities

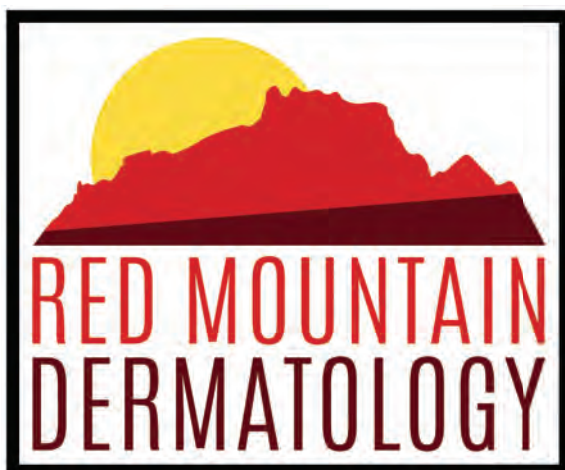


Celebrating & Connecting Our Communities

Classified doesn't cost... It Pays!

For information, Call the Independent at

(623) 972-6101



623-748-9165

RedMountainDerm.com

Palm Valley Medical Plaza

13657 W McDowell Rd #207

Goodyear, AZ 85395



Skin Care For All Ages

**Eczema | Acne | Rosacea | Psoriasis | Skin Cancer | Fine Lines/Wrinkles
Sun Damage | Age Spots | Stretch Marks | Spider Veins**

SCAN HERE



**To Schedule
Your **FREE** Skin
Cancer Screening**

We are specialists trained to deal with the skin-related problems for ALL patients aged six months or older. From pediatric dermatology to dermatology for adults, your entire family can be treated in one office.

From treatments for common skin conditions like acne and sun spots to serious conditions like skin cancer, we are equipped to help you attain and maintain vibrant, healthy skin for life.

**Accepts
Medicare &
Most
Insurance**
Se Habla Espanol



**JONATHAN HARRIS
PA-C**

- Mesa, AZ Native
- NAU Graduate with a degree in management
- Physicians Assistant Degree from University of Saint Francis, NM
- Diplomate fellow of the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants
- Worked in family practice, urgent care and geriatric medicine



**JEREMY K. BINGHAM
DO**

- Mesa, AZ Native
- ASU and Ottawa University graduate
- Degree from Midwestern University-Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine
- 3 year residency in Family Medicine, Chief Resident
- 3 year residency in dermatology, Chief Resident