PHOENIX VIEW
INDEPENDENT
Volume 8 Issue 12
@yourvalley.net

INSIDE

Phoenix Symphony resumes concerts; **16**



DECEMBER 2026

Serving Arcadia, Biltmore and the Shea corridor communities



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

A slate of holiday events may be found inside this issue. From family-friendly activities to crafts, concerts and shopping, there are plenty of ways to keep spirits merry and bright through the holidays.
Pictured, the Desert Botanical Garden presents its annual "Las Noches de las Luminarias." Page 15

Phoenix to add electronic signs at 8 more trailheads in next year

By Mark Carlisle
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Hikers in Phoenix will soon be seeing more electronic message boards at the start of their hikes.

The city is already using the signs at Echo Canyon Trail on Camelback Mountain and at Piestewa Peak. The Park Department has eight other locations under design that will be finished by the end of 2027.

The signs are one of several efforts to tell hikers if a trail is closed due to an Extreme Heat Warning by the National Weather Service. They will also cycle through safety reminders for hikers.

"It's designed to get people's attention right before they get on a trail and maybe think about some things that they hadn't previously," Deputy Parks Director Jarod Rogers told the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Board during its Oct. 22 meeting.

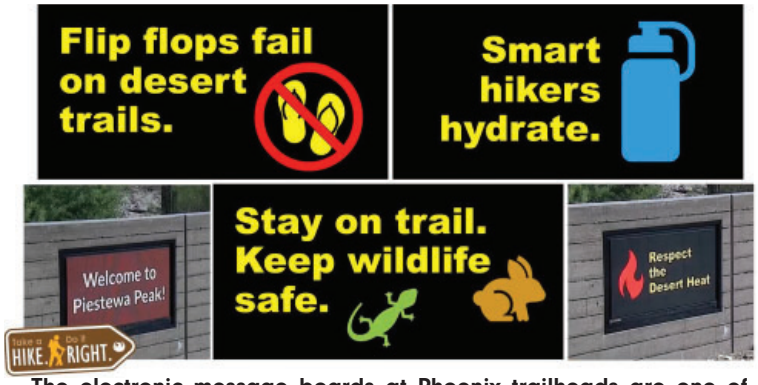
Rogers previewed three safety reminders that are planned to start being displayed over the next couple of weeks:

"Flip flops fail on desert trails."

"Smart hikers hydrate."

"Stay on trail. Keep wildlife safe."

• See **Signs** Page **9**



The electronic message boards at Phoenix trailheads are one of several efforts to tell hikers if a trail is closed due to extreme heat. They will also cycle through safety reminders like these for hikers. (Submitted/Phoenix)

THE FOUNDRY
HOT YOGA HOT PILATES YIN YOGA HOT HIIT HOT BARRE



7 STUDIOS IN THE VALLEY
2 WEEKS FOR $30
ARCADIA PARADISE VALLEY
ARROWHEAD RANCH SCOTTSDALE
AVONDALE GILBERT TEMPE-MESA

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

**********ECRWSSEDDM****
Postal Customer

BOB HERTZOG
YOUR REAL ESTATE DAD
HONEST. STRAIGHTFORWARD. WISE.

THE BROKERY
LOCAL REAL ESTATE BROKERS



Bob Hertzog
Your Real Estate Dad
602-957-1583
neighborhoodsinphoenix.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE HOUSING MARKET IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

Here's what the numbers look like if you live in the Sheaborhood, Biltmore, or Arcadia.

THE SHEABORHOOD – 85028

Metric	Nov. 2025	Nov. 2026	% Change	Seller Indicator
Active Listings	70	70	**0.0%**	○
Pending Contracts	29	19	**-34.5%**	↓
Closed Transactions	22	19	**-13.6%**	↓
Avg Days on Market	45	21	**-53.3%**	↑
Median Sales Price	$755,000	$727,000	**-3.7%**	↓
Closed $/SF	$356.77	$371.07	**+4.0%**	↑

○ Neutral
↑ Green = favorable for sellers
↓ Red = less favorable for sellers

(Source: Cromford ZIP Snapshot – 85028.)

What the numbers are telling us: The Sheaborhood is giving us some mixed signals this month. Inventory is exactly where it was a year ago, but homes under contract are down nearly 35%, and monthly closings have declined as well. The encouraging news is that homes that sold spent considerably less time on the market, with the median dropping from 45 days to just 21. While the annual median sales price has softened, price per square foot is up 4%.



BILTMORE – 85016

Metric	Nov. 2025	Nov. 2026	% Change	Seller Indicator
Active Listings	115	119	**+3.5%**	↓
Pending Contracts	22	22	**0.0%**	○
Closed Transactions	15	16	**+6.7%**	↑
Avg Days on Market	95	52	**-45.3%**	↑
Median Sales Price	$760,000	$732,500	**-3.6%**	↓
Closed $/SF	$411.82	$406.79	**-1.2%**	↓

○ Neutral
↑ Green = favorable for sellers
↓ Red = less favorable for sellers

(Source: Cromford ZIP Snapshot – 85016.)

What the numbers are telling us: Biltmore continues to be a market where pricing matters. There are slightly more homes for sale than last November, and the number under contract is unchanged. Closed sales have edged higher, and the median selling time has improved dramatically, dropping from 95 days to 52. However, both the annual median sales price and price per square foot have declined. Buyers are purchasing homes, but sellers need to be realistic about pricing.



ARCADIA – 85018

Metric	Nov. 2025	Nov. 2026	% Change	Seller Indicator
Active Listings	184	194	**+5.4%**	↓
Pending Contracts	40	37	**-7.5%**	↓
Closed Transactions	31	44	**+41.9%**	↑
Avg Days on Market	74	77	**+4.1%**	↓
Median Sales Price	$1,516,250	$1,650,000	**+8.8%**	↑
Closed $/SF	$569.67	$583.13	**+2.4%**	↑

○ Neutral
↑ Green = favorable for sellers
↓ Red = less favorable for sellers

(Source: Cromford ZIP Snapshot – 85018.)

What the numbers are telling us: Arcadia continues to show strength in its pricing and closed sales. Monthly transactions are up nearly 42%, while the annual median sales price has climbed to $1.65 million. Price per square foot is also higher. However, inventory has increased, fewer homes are under contract, and the median selling time is slightly longer. There's clearly demand for Arcadia homes, but buyers are still being selective.



WHAT THIS MEANS IF YOU OWN A HOME HERE

November's numbers are another reminder of something I've been saying for years: there really isn't one "Phoenix real estate market." What's happening in your neighborhood can be quite different from what's happening just a few miles away.

The Sheaborhood is an interesting example. Inventory hasn't changed from last year, but fewer homes are going under contract. On the other hand, homes that sold spent less than half as much time on the market as they did a year ago. The annual median sales price is down slightly, while price per square foot is higher. That tells me we need to look beyond the headlines and evaluate each property on its own merits.

Biltmore is showing some price pressure. Inventory is slightly higher, and both annual pricing measures have declined. But homes are selling faster, and monthly closings are up a bit. My takeaway? Buyers are still out there, but they're looking for value. Overpricing a home in this environment can be an expensive mistake.

Arcadia is showing the strongest closed-sales activity of the three neighborhoods. Monthly closings are up nearly 42%, and the annual median sales price has increased almost 9%. That's encouraging for homeowners. Still, more inventory and slightly longer selling times suggest that even in Arcadia, buyers aren't rushing into every home that hits the market.

The bottom line: There are opportunities for sellers in all three neighborhoods, but this isn't the kind of market where you can simply put a sign in the yard and expect buyers to line up. Proper pricing, preparation, and a thoughtful marketing strategy make all the difference.

THINKING ABOUT DOWNSIZING?

Have you been in your home for 20, 30, or even 40 years?
One of the questions I hear most often from longtime homeowners isn't:

"Can I sell my house?"

It's:

"If I sell it...where do I go next?"

And that's a pretty important question.
Maybe the kids have moved out, the house feels bigger than you need, or you're simply tired of spending your weekends maintaining a home and yard.

Downsizing doesn't necessarily mean downgrading. It might mean finding a smaller, low-maintenance home, freeing up equity, or simply having more time to enjoy the things you love.

As a **Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES®), third-generation real estate broker, native Phoenician, and real estate professional with more than 25 years of experience**, I help homeowners look at the entire picture before deciding whether a move makes sense.As a Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES®), third-generation real estate broker, native Phoenician, and real estate professional with more than 25 years of experience, I help homeowners look at the entire picture before deciding whether a move makes sense.

No pressure. Just honest advice and a clear plan.

SRES® designation
25+ years of experience
Third-generation real estate broker
Native Phoenician

CURIOUS WHAT YOUR HOME MIGHT SELL FOR IN TODAY'S MARKET?

Scan the QR code to see what homes like yours are selling for right now in your neighborhood.

NeighborhoodsInPhoenix.com/What-Is-My-Home-Worth

Instant home value • No phone call required

SCAN FOR HOME VALUE
SCAN FOR HOME VALUE

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

PHOENIX VIEW INDEPENDENT
@yourvalley.net

Get In Touch
16853 E. Palisades Blvd., Ste. 201,
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
888-665-3848
YourValley
PhoenixViewNews

Advertising
azads@iniusa.org

Press releases
aznews@iniusa.org

Opinions with Civility
azopinions@iniusa.org

Staff
Editor
Jeremy Carr
Newsroom
Brittany Bowyer, Mark Carlisle, Jeff Wendt
Editor-in-Chief
Patrick O'Grady
Advertising sales
Brett Beckwith, Brent Cruikshank, Duke Kirkendoll, Kris Marler
Marketing & Brand Manager
Natasha Beal
Graphic Designers
Erik Maurer, Mona Lisa Navarrette, Erica Odello, Chris Pitts, Chris Williams
Business Operations Manager
Kathleen Kotzbauer
Director of Circulation
Terri Rodgers
President & CEO
Charlene Bisson

This publication is offered free of charge in an effort to keep our neighbors informed, as well as to support the local business owners who make up our community. Please support their business. Every effort is made to avoid errors, misspellings and omissions. If an error comes to your attention, please accept our sincere apologies and notify us.

This newspaper is recyclable, biodegradable and contains recycled materials. Copyright 2026. All rights reserved. No part of this publication can be printed or reproduced without the publication's permission. *Independent Newsmedia Inc., USA,* assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MORE ONLINE
See more news at yourvalley.net

Donations help people experiencing homelessness

Phoenix encourages residents to join Healthy Giving Friendsgiving, a donation drive for neighbors experiencing homelessness.

Rather than giving directly on the street, the state's donations make a bigger impact when donated through trusted nonprofits working alongside the city's Office of Homeless Solutions that connect individuals with shelter, services, meals, healthcare and other resources.

The city's Friendsgiving builds on the Healthy Giving initiative, which promotes safe, responsible ways to give back in the community, without creating negative impacts on neighborhoods, like blight or trash.

Partners include A New Leaf, Central Arizona Shelter Services, The Salvation Army, Phoenix Rescue Mission, Andre House, St. Vincent de Paul, Keys to Change, UMOM, and Valley Dogs Rescue. OHS also has volunteer and donation opportunities at the Safe Outdoor Space or the Turquoise Navigation Center shelter (formerly Phoenix Navigation Center).

Web: phoenix.gov/friendsgiving

Phoenix partners with St. Mary's Food Bank

Residents may join the City of Phoenix in supporting families and individuals facing increased food insecurity as the cost of living continues to rise. Many households are struggling to keep nutritious food on the table, and the city is again partnering with St. Mary's Food Bank to help meet this growing need, ensuring residents have access to nutritious meals.



Phoenix is partnering with St. Mary's Food Bank for a food drive this holiday season. Pictured Mayor Kate Gallego at the podium. (Submitted)

"Phoenix residents are always willing to step up to support their neighbors in need," Mayor Kate Gallego said.

Monetary donations are strongly encouraged because food banks can stretch the donation through bulk purchasing, tax exemptions, and dollar matches from the community. One dollar can provide an estimated ten meals for a food bank. Monetary donations can be made by going to St. Mary's Food Bank's donation page.

Food items in demand include proteins like canned meats and beans, peanut butter and canned fruits and vegetables.

Those who need assistance may visit phoenix.gov/foodhelp.

Donation locations include Paradise Valley Community Center at 17402 N. 40th St., Phoenix, Sunnyslope Community Center at 802 E Vogel Ave, Phoenix and Ministerio Cristo Sana at 3632 E Greenway Rd., Phoenix.

Web: phoenix.gov/hungerrelief

$3 million grant helps SCC students on pathway to careers

The U.S. Department of Education awarded Scottsdale Community College a five-year, nearly $3 million Title III grant.

The funding launches Aspire.

• See **News** Page **4**

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

December 1928:
The Westward Ho Hotel opened Dec. 12, 1928, with a gala celebration. At the time, it stood as the tallest and most modern high-rise hotel in the state, featuring hand-operated elevators and early air conditioning.

News

• From page 3

Achieve. Advance., a college-wide initiative that creates a new model for connecting career-focused education and bachelor's degree attainment, according to a press release.

Web: scottsdalecc.edu



Phoenix launches on-demand shared ride service

Phoenix launched PHXLink, introducing a new on-demand, shared ride transportation option to connect Phoenix residents with existing public transit services and help with planning the transit system's future expansion based on ridership data during the pilot.

PHXLink will operate in three service zones across north, west and south Phoenix. For $2 per ride, passengers may request a trip through the PHXLink mobile app or by phone, and travel between designated pickup and drop-off locations within each zone. The pilot will provide another option for residents traveling to specific transit centers, light rail stations, RAPID commuter routes and other local destinations.

"PHXLink gives Phoenix an opportunity to explore new ways of connecting residents to public transit," stated Jesús Sapien, Phoenix Public Transit Director. "By pairing flexible, on-demand service with our existing transit network, we can better understand where additional connections may be needed and how different public transit options can work together to serve our community."

Riders can also use PHXLink to connect with the I-17 RAPID and I-10 West RAPID routes. Expanded weekday bidirectional RAPID service will provide additional travel options for commuters.

The three-year pilot is part of Project EASE (Effective Access Solutions for Easing Congestion), supported by a $12.9 million federal Congestion Relief Grant from the Federal Highway Administration and partially funded through the City of Phoenix's Transportation 2050 program.

Web: phoenix.gov/link



Parks & Rec partners with State Forty Eight

Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department partnered with Arizona apparel brand State Forty Eight to release a limited-edition "Take a Hike. Do it Right." T-shirt. This collaboration aims to raise awareness about safe hiking practices and highlight the importance of preparedness on Phoenix's desert trails.

The T-shirt is now available for pre-order on State Forty Eight's website, with $5 from every sale donated directly to the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department's "Take a Hike. Do it Right." hiking safety campaign. The funds will support the city's ongoing effort to increase education and community engagement focused on preventing heat-related and emergency hiking incidents.

"This collaboration helps us promote an important message in a way that resonates with both residents and visitors," stated Phoenix Parks Director Marty Whitfield in a news release.

For some Phoenix residents, the mission behind this T-shirt is deeply personal.

"My brother Clint McHale lost his life on Camelback Mountain at just 25 years old. This collaboration represents far more than a shirt. It's an opportunity to educate hikers, encourage responsible decisions, and potentially save lives," stated Chelsey McHale, a Phoenix safe hiking advocate and partner of the Parks and Recreation Department, in the news release.

Web: statefortyeight.com.

Phoenix among highest with motorcycle fatalities

New data shows Phoenix and Tucson are two of the nation's most dangerous cities in which to ride a motorcycle.

Motorcycle crashes claimed 424 lives in Phoenix between 2015 and 2024, giving the city the highest number of fatalities among the 10 U.S. cities with the highest annual motorcycle death rates relative to population.

A study conducted by Allen Law Firm, which examined federal traffic fatality records, ranked Phoenix ninth among the 50 most populous U.S. cities. Phoenix averaged 2.53 motorcyclist deaths per 100,000 residents annually, amounting to approximately 42 fatalities each year.

The numbers tell two different stories when population is taken into account. Although Phoenix had the largest overall death toll among the top 10 cities, several smaller cities recorded higher fatality rates relative to their populations. More on this topic at yourvalley.net.

Rosendin Foundation gives $90K to 100 Club

The Rosendin Foundation presented a $90,000 the 100 Club of Arizona as part of its annual charity golf tournament in October.

The 100 Club of Arizona supports public safety personnel and their families.

In total, the foundation gave $340,000 to 14 Phoenix-area nonprofits, according to a press release.

The Rosendin Foundation also awards emergency grants to nonprofits experiencing the sudden loss of critical equipment or damage caused by flooding, fire or other unexpected circumstances. In 2026, the foundation awarded $50,000 in emergency grants to 11 organizations nationwide.

Web: therosendinfoundation.org

Send us your news & photographs to aznews@iniusa.org



Carved *from* 2 Million *pounds of* Ice

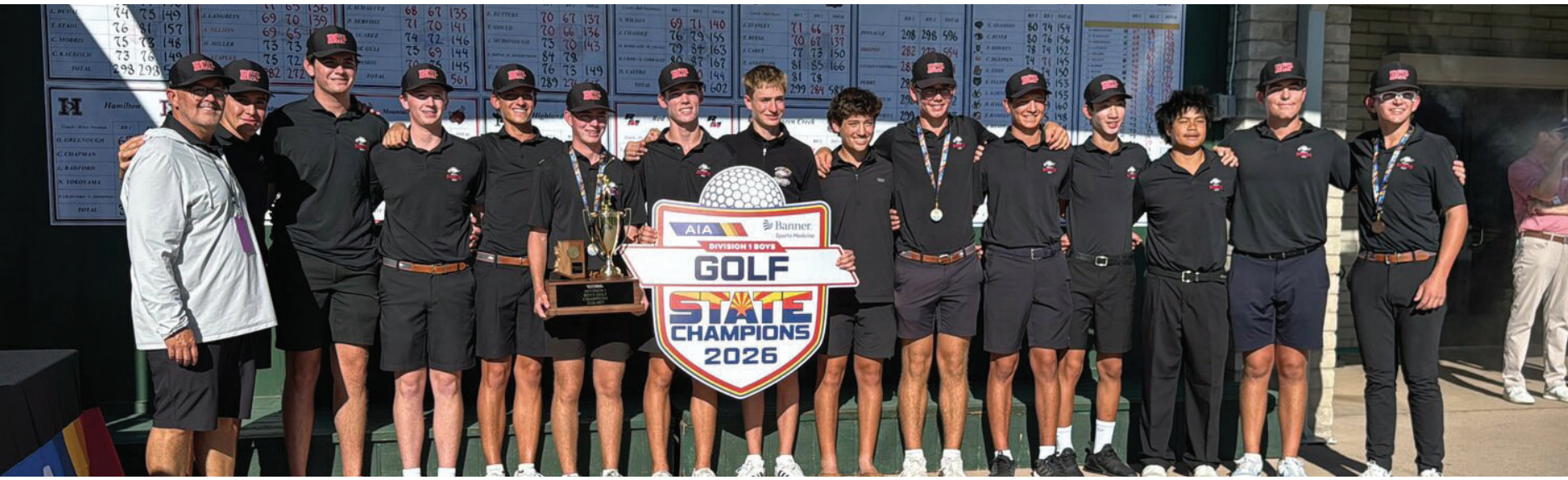
Phoenix, discover ice! featuring Elf™, a beloved Christmas attraction filled with hand-carved scenes, icy slides, and unforgettable family moments.

So Much Christmas | ***Nov. 18 - Jan. 3***
JWDesertRidgeChristmas.com

ELF and all related characters and elements © & ™ New Line Productions, Inc.

NORTH VALLEY PREPS

MORE ONLINE
Find high school sports stats online at yourvalley.net



Brophy Prep wins the 2026 Division I boys golf state championship Nov. 5. (Independent Newsmedia/Brittany Bowyer)

Brophy three-peats as Division I state champions

By Brittany Bowyer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

For the third consecutive year, the Brophy Broncos claimed the Division I Boys Golf State Championship. It was a special moment for Brophy as it marked the program's 12th title, putting them in the lead for the most in state history.

"It means everything," senior Asher Nelson said. "All my best buddies are on this team. All my favorite memories are with this team, so being able to make history with these guys is just a blessing."

The Broncos shot 22-under-par 554 over the course of the two-day competition, finishing in front of second-place Tucson Catalina Foothills by seven strokes.

"I'm grateful that I get to coach these kids and be a part of the Brophy program," Coach Jon Shores said. "We've got obviously a lot of great players, and a lot of good families that commit to what we're doing ... I'm thrilled for the kids, thrilled for our school. It's just a special accomplishment."

Things were neck and neck going into the second day of competition, with Brophy only leading by one stroke. Shores said his message to the boys was just to be confident in what they've done all year to reach this point.

"They had a lot of confidence going into this tournament because we've played really well," Shores said. "We didn't particularly play our best yesterday, but we obviously put ourselves in the position to be successful today. And I told them to just play free and not be bogged down by the worry of messing up, and they did that today. They just went out and played a really solid round of golf."

Despite competition being close, the Broncos were able to stay calm to close out day two and work their way out to a big lead.

"What helped us was we played the front end really, really good," Shores said. "It gave us a cushion on the back and allowed us to play a little more free on the back."

In the individual competition, Brophy had three golfers finish in the top ten. Senior Jack Langbein, who is committed to GCU, finished in ninth place by shooting a five-under-par 139.

Another senior, Texas A&M commit Evan Tyree, shot eight-under-par 136 to finish in fourth place.

Nelson, an Oklahoma State commit, won the individual competition by shooting a ten-under-par 134 to finish in first place. Nelson edged out the second-place finisher by one stroke to claim gold.

"It feels awesome," Nelson said. "There's really nowhere else I'd rather get my first individual win for high school. This is just the best day, it's awesome."

Nelson said he feels his putting was definitely the factor that pushed him over the edge to victory.

"I didn't really miss anything from under eight feet on both days," Nelson said. "That was definitely my biggest strength."

He was able to clinch the victory on the 17th hole, but he was unaware of where he stood going into hole 18.

"I didn't really know it," Nelson said. "I knew that my one-shot lead wasn't necessarily going to hold up, so I was fighting until the end."

Brophy's state championship team included juniors Hank Miller and Luke Staples, who will be essential to building next year's team.

Brittany Bowyer is a Report for America corps member, covering sports for Independent Newsmedia in Arizona. Report for America places talented journalists in local newsrooms to report on under-covered issues and regions.

NORTH VALLEY PREPS



Xavier Girls Golf wrapped up the 2026 season by bringing home its fourth consecutive state championship, putting a bow on top of a successful season for the Gators. According to iWanamaker, the golf rankings and statistical website, the Gators finished the season as the third best team in the nation. They were the only girls Arizona team to make the list. Finishing in front of them in first place was Santa Margarita (CA) and Orion International Academy (CA). (Submitted/Xavier Golf Instagram)

Xavier Golf claims fourth consecutive championship

By Brittany Bowyer
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

For the fourth consecutive year, the Xavier Gators Golf Team was able to claim the Girls Division I Golf State Championship title. The Gators shot 19-over-par 595 over the course of two days, defeating second-place Pinnacle by four strokes.

"I'm kind of shocked, but at the same time, I'm super happy and thrilled for the girls," Xavier Coach Tui Selvaratnam said.

For the Gators, it was an exciting afternoon, as senior Alexis Lamadrid finished in first place in the individual competition for the third year in a row. She had an outstanding competition, shooting eight-under-par 136 overall, finishing three strokes ahead of Liberty junior Natalia Fox.

"It definitely means everything," Lamadrid said. "To win individually, but also as a team ... I'm happy with my game and the way I held it together for 36 holes."

"I'm super proud of them, I'm just happy for each and every one of them, especially Alexis for winning her third straight," Selvaratnam said.

Selvaratnam said in Xavier's school history, there have been a small number of individual golfers who have won three consecutive titles, putting her in select company.

As soon as Lamadrid's final stroke was complete, her teammates rushed her on the course cheering for her finish. It was a moment she says she'll never forget.

"It definitely snapped me

• See **Sports** Page **8**

Sponsored Content



Primary Care is Getting a Makeover in Phoenix. And it's About Time.

Longer appointments, less waiting, and no fees. Corner Health is rethinking how primary care works in Arizona

Finding a primary care provider close to home shouldn't be this hard. Yet, nearly one in five adults in the state doesn't have a personal doctor or healthcare provider, according to 2024 data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For those who do, getting an appointment can mean waiting weeks or months, only to spend a few rushed minutes discussing their health concerns.

A growing network of local providers thinks Arizonans deserve better, and they're working with Corner Health to build a different kind of primary care practice to prove it.

Through Corner Health, more than 100 local practices are putting the focus back on the patient-provider relationship, including several right here in Phoenix.

Their approach? Fewer patients. Longer appointments. And more time to actually listen.

Across the Corner Health network, appointments average 34 minutes and new-patient visits average 40 minutes. Instead of racing through a packed schedule, providers have time to ask questions, understand their patients' concerns and develop a plan together.

While this type of personalized healthcare is often associated with concierge medicine and expensive fees, practices on the Corner Health network accept major insurance plans, including Medicare, without requiring a membership fee.

The model gives highly vetted, experienced nurse practitioners the freedom to own and operate their practices, while Corner Health handles the behind-the-scenes work. Providers get to spend more time caring for patients and building lasting relationships instead of getting bogged down in paperwork and corporate red tape.

Meet Your Neighborhood Primary Care Providers in Phoenix.
These locally owned practices on the Corner Health network are welcoming new patients:

Celina Ruiz Escamilla, FNP-BC
Contigo Healthcare
927 W Hatcher Rd, Unit 103,
Phoenix, AZ 85021
Book an appointment:

Margaret Hauer, FNP-C, APRN
Hauer Health
12657 N. Tatum Blvd., Ste 123,
Phoenix, AZ 85032
Book an appointment:

Kenya Louis, MSN, FNP-C
Keger Health and Wellness
14040 N. Cave Creek Rd., Ste 310,
Phoenix, AZ 85022
Book an appointment:

Services vary by practice but may include preventative care, annual wellness visits, chronic condition management and women's health. Appointments across the network are typically available in under two days.

To find additional providers, visit CornerHealth.com.

Sports

• From page 7

back into reality, the moment that I saw them coming down the hill," Lamadrid said. "It was just so amazing, I really kept myself concentrated on the 18, and I was really in the zone. Especially when that ball went, it was kind of a surreal moment, and seeing them come down kind of just made it seem more real. It's definitely something I'll never forget and a really special memory."

Xavier needed Lamadrid to be at the top of her game, given the changes they had to make to their lineup just before the start of the State Championship match.

"I put the lineup in on Friday, and we had a very solid team because that was my top five throughout the whole year," Selvaratnam said. "[Monday] morning I had to take out number two for a back injury, and so I was like, 'Okay, it is what it is.' I'm just proud of how everybody else stepped up, especially my number six, who was just put into the number two spot just like that."

Aside from Madrid, other members of the Xavier golf team include sophomores Gabrielle Doss, Addison Taylor and Jaina Bhatnager, along with freshman Claire Brooks.

Taylor finished in seventh overall, shooting four-over-par 148, while Brooks finished in fourth, shooting one-over-par 145.

Selvaratnam said she believes the key to the program's sustained success is the culture they've created and carried on throughout the years. Throughout her 21 years with the program, along with former Head Coach and athletic director Sister Lynn's multiple decades of serving, the Gators have been able to create and maintain unique environment for the girls, which has propelled them to the top.

"In the last 46 years we've pretty much won or have been runner-up, which I think is an amazing feat," Selvaratnam said.

MORE ONLINE
Find high school sports stats online at yourvalley.net

Meanwhile for second-place Pinnacle, Coach Ryan Evans said his team did a phenomenal job of fighting until the finish.

"They really showed up," Evans said. "They came out and they played well, they gave it a good run all the way down until the end with the last few holes. We were right in it. I'm very proud of them."

Senior Katelyn Moreland shot two-under-par 142 to finish in third place individually while leading things for the Pioneers on the course.

Other members of Pinnacle's team include seniors Kaeleen Giardina and Hannah Haines, junior Emersyn Oldroyd and sophomore Hannah Nguyen.

Pinnacle will be losing a few key seniors going into next year, but Coach Evans feels strongly about the team he has returning.

"We're losing three seniors, but we have one of our juniors, [Oldroyd] who placed in the top ten ... Then we'll have a couple of the underclassment coming back who will fill the spots."

Coach Evans feels good about the run they've made in recent years at the State Championship.

"Second, third, fourth, second," Evans said. "Hopefully we'll keep the momentum going."

Brittany Bowyer is a Report for America corps member, covering sports for Independent Newsmedia in Arizona. Report for America places talented journalists in local newsrooms to report on under-covered issues and regions.

Almeida Roofing Inc.

All Types of Roofing

602-743-3175

FREE Roof Inspections

www.almeidaroofing.com

Licensed • Bonded • Insured • ROC #215758



THANKS FOR THE VOTES -
Best of Peoria!



BUSINESS IN BRIEF

LevRose CRE completes industrial lease in east Phoenix

LevRose Commercial Real Estate completed an industrial lease for Ritz Safety in east Phoenix.

Ritz Safety, a leading national distributor of personal protective equipment, facility safety, and environmental safety solutions, is leasing 40,000 square feet of property at 3155 E. Rosier Road.

The new facility will allow the company to expand its operations and accommodate continued growth as it relocates from its current location in Tempe to the larger Phoenix property.

Vestar acquires Phoenix development site

Vestar acquired a 20-acre parcel of land in north Phoenix.

The land, bought from the Arizona State Land Department, is at the intersection of Black Mountain Parkway and Deer Valley Road.

The development, known as Black Mountain Village, is a grocery-anchored retail destination representing an investment of more than $50 million in the rapidly growing Desert Ridge community.

The new development will feature about 120,000 square feet of retail space, anchored by a 65,000-square-foot grocery store, alongside a mix of restaurants, shops and neighborhood services.

Shamrock Warehouse slates grand opening

Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse will host a grand opening 7 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 at 10810 N. Tatum Blvd., Suite 103.

There will be giveaways with every purchase while supplies last. This 32,000-square-foot warehouse gives restaurant operators, caterers, food trucks, coffee shops and other foodservice businesses a way to shop thousands of restaurant-quality products.

Web: shamrockfsw.com/locations/scottsdale-az

Signs

• From page 1

The parks department has similar messaging already displayed at trailheads, but Rogers said these signs may be more eye-catching for hikers.

One location to get electronic signs is North Mountain Park, which is undergoing a major renovation that is planned to be finished in late 2027 or early 2028.

"Any new big renovations like that will also have the new electronic signage," Rogers said.

To notify hikers that trails are closed on Extreme Heat Warning days, other than the electronic message boards, the Parks Department also closes the gates to trailhead parking lots, places signage at trailheads and sends staff to check on restricted locations. News about trail closures is also sent out to the Parks Department email list, shared on phoenix.gov and city social media pages, shared with many hotels so they can inform out-of-town guests and shared with the local news media.





EDUCATION NEWS

MORE ONLINE
Find education stories online at yourvalley.net.

Arizona could gain $11B by increasing education after high school

By Stacy Mantle
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Arizona could gain more than $11 billion in long-term economic benefits if more students pursue and complete education after high school, according to a new report examining the state's workforce needs and postsecondary education system.

The October report, "Billions in the Balance," released by Helios Education Foundation, estimates that achieving a 60% postsecondary attainment rate among Arizona's 2026 high school graduates would generate $11.1 billion in lifetime economic benefits, including $3.75 billion in fiscal gains.

The estimates represent projected lifetime benefits for a single graduating class, not annual revenue or guaranteed economic growth.

Arizona's Achieve60AZ initiative calls for 60% of adults ages 25 to 64 to hold a postsecondary degree, certificate or license by 2030. The state's attainment rate was 50% in 2024.

Paul Perrault, senior vice president of community impact and learning at Helios Education Foundation, said the findings reinforce the economic value of education beyond high school.

"The data really continues to show that earning a degree or credential is still probably the most reliable way for greater economic opportunity for students in the state of Arizona," Perrault said.

The report estimates nearly one-third of Arizona's 2026 high school graduates will not enroll in postsecondary education, while another 25% will enroll but leave without completing a credential.

Compared with high school graduates, those earning associate degrees are projected to gain approximately $354,000 in additional lifetime earnings, while bachelor's degree recipients could gain $1.1 million. Individual outcomes depend on education costs, career choices and employment opportunities.

Increasing educational attainment is only part of the challenge. Arizona also struggles to retain college graduates.

According to research from Strada Education Foundation cited in the Helios report, just 41% of graduates from Arizona postsec-

• See **Education** Page **11**



Education

• From page 10

ondary institutions remain in the state, placing Arizona among the five lowest states nationally for graduate retention.

By comparison, Texas retains 84% of its graduates and California retains 83%.

Perrault said expanding industries such as semiconductor manufacturing could help to reverse that trend by providing more career opportunities.

"We want Arizona students to get those good jobs. We want them to have good opportunities," Perrault said.

The report identifies healthcare and semiconductor manufacturing as two industries facing significant workforce challenges.

Arizona institutions currently award approximately 37,400 healthcare credentials annually. Meeting projected demand would require another 8,700 credentials each year, a 23% increase.

Perrault said expanding healthcare education presents challenges because some programs have waiting lists and limited capacity.

Semiconductor manufacturing faces a different problem: connecting students with career opportunities in a rapidly expanding industry.



New research identifies workforce shortages in healthcare and semiconductor manufacturing as Arizona works toward its 2030 education attainment goal. (Submitted/TSMC Arizona)

The report estimates Arizona needs approximately 1,240 additional semiconductor-related credentials annually, a 28% increase in the current sector-specific pipeline.

Perrault said healthcare careers generally have established educational pathways, while semiconductor careers remain less familiar to students and school counselors.

"How do we make those pathways visible for students?" he asked.

Pearl Chang Esau, founder of Shan Strategies, a consulting firm working with Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. on workforce development, said Arizona's expanding semiconductor industry offers opportunities extending well beyond traditional manufacturing jobs.

She said workforce initiatives supported by federal CHIPS Act funding include semiconductor technician apprenticeships and partnerships with Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, Maricopa Community Colleges and Grand Canyon University.

Those programs help develop pathways into careers involving equipment maintenance, facility operations, engineering, data analysis and semiconductor processing.

Esau said the opportunities extend to adults seeking more stable employment or a career change, including those without four-year degrees.

Entry-level semiconductor technicians can earn starting salaries ranging from approximately $40,000 to $70,000 annually, depending on the position, according to Esau. Engineering positions generally start $20,000 to $30,000 higher, she estimated.

The opportunities extend beyond engineering and manufacturing. Esau said every semiconductor fabrication facility requires business operations and supporting positions, creating potential career pathways for workers with a variety of interests.

Students pursuing career and technical education in robotics, welding, electrical systems and related trades may already be developing skills applicable to the industry.

Esau said TechSmart Learning Fund and approximately nine semiconductor companies worked with the Arizona Department of Education to develop semiconductor CTE standards in 2026. She estimated about five Arizona schools are beginning to adopt them.

Editor's note: A grant from the Arizona Local News Foundation made this story possible. The foundation awarded 15 newsrooms to pay for solutions-focused education reporters for two years.




XTREME GYMNASTICS
move • learn • excel
Beginner-Competitive Boys & Girls » Ages 3-12 years
Parent/Tot Classes » Ages 1-3 years
Risk FREE Trial » All ages
(480) 596-3543 • xtremegymnastics.com
14000 N. Hayden Rd. #102, Scottsdale, AZ
XTREME GYMNASTICS move • learn • excel

Sponsored Content

In 30 Minutes I Had a Plan for My Shoulder Pain that Didn't Require Surgery or Pills

By Shoulder Pain Expert, Dr. Matthew Hernandez, Ethos Integrative Medicine

"I was losing sleep. I couldn't get comfortable at night and would wake up constantly. That was the most frustrating part. Everything I was told to do was not helping... the pain was only getting worse."

Tim, 46, came to us after exhausting every option outside of surgery. A competitive volleyball player, energetic entrepreneur, and father to two boys, Tim took pride in his active lifestyle and was determined to find a solution for his shoulder pain.

Ice packs and heat compresses were no longer helpful, and relying on pain-pills was not an option he wanted to take. He committed to physical therapy for several weeks with little impact, tried dry needling and cortisone injections without success, and was ultimately told by multiple doctors to stop all activity that aggravated his arm. Tim had done everything his insurance allowed but was still stuck at square one.

What The Other Doctors Missed...

Tim had fallen into what we call "The Gap"— where insurance-based care cycles with no end in sight, surgery isn't an option, and waiting for the pain to get worse seems like the only choice. Most providers only look for what they know how to treat. But our comprehensive 'Deep Dive' approach and expertise allowed us to bridge that gap for Tim.

Using a detailed pain profile, 32-point shoulder inspection, MSK ultrasound scan, and diagnostic injection, we were able to confirm Tim's SC Joint injury and quickly develop a targeted treatment plan to heal the damaged tissue.

A Comprehensive Solution, NO Surgery or Pills

In just 4 weeks, the pain improved significantly, allowing Tim to regain his range of motion, sleep soundly at night, and return to the sport he loves:

"My body is performing better than before, and I have resumed playing volleyball — something I didn't think I would ever be able to do again! If you're tired of the 'just hope for the best' from many in the medical field, and want a complete set of options, Ethos Integrative Medicine is the place to go."

Your Next Step: The Deep Dive for a Pain-Free Shoulder

You're one step away from a pain-free shoulder, too! Imagine being able to comfortably sleep in your side again, play catch with your kid, or put on a t-shirt without pain...

Call 480-573-6171 to schedule your Deep Dive with our specialists at Ethos Integrative Medicine and scan the QR code to access our free report, "Shoulder SOS: The Expert Guide to Decoding Your Pain."

OUR COMPREHENSIVE DEEP DIVE TO AVOID SHOULDER SURGERY

1. Ethos Pain Profile: Is designed to identify the specific characteristics of your pain, so we can pinpoint exactly where it's coming from.

2. 32-Point Shoulder Inspection: Your pain bothers you during specific movements. Our 32-Point Shoulder Inspection allows us to replicate those painful movements so we are one step closer to eliminating them.

3. Precision Shoulder Scan: Our advanced musculoskeletal ultrasound exam gives a detailed, real-time view of your shoulder's structures, providing more accuracy than a regular MRI.

4. Ethos Pain Map: This is a specialized method to confirm the exact source of pain in your body. This detailed approach helps us create a personalized strategy, increasing your likelihood of long-term success.

5. Easy-To-Understand Explanation: We skip the complex terms and offer you a direct, honest breakdown of your diagnosis.

6. Leave You Better Promise: If by the end of the visit you do not have a better understanding of your pain or what your options are moving forward we will give you a full refund on your visit.

Get Out Of Pain TODAY: Call 480-573-6171 to Get Started with your Deep Dive at Ethos Integrative Medicine!

Save the Dates

SENIOR EXPO

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

THE PREMIER SENIOR HEALTH & LIFESTYLE EXPOS







Apache Junction • January 6, 2027 • Central Arizona College

Surprise • January 19, 2027 • The Colonnade

Litchfield/Goodyear • February 17, 2027 • Tuscany Falls Clubhouse (Pebble Creek)

Chandler • February 23, 2027 • Sun Lakes Country Club

Peoria • March 25, 2027 • Westbrook Village

Sun City West • April 13, 2027 • SCW Foundation Center

Sun City • May 3, 2027 • Sundial Recreation Center

INTERESTED IN A SPONSORSHIP? EMAIL AZADS@INIUSA.ORG OR CALL 888-665-3848

Law Talk

Sponsored Content

Update On Preventing Title Fraud

By Libby Banks, the Law Office of Libby Banks, PLLC

As I've written in these pages before, there is real concern these days about title fraud. This can take the form of someone forging a deed to take title to your property and refinancing to steal your equity, or accessing the equity with a home equity line of credit. If you are buying or selling a home, a criminal might provide fake wiring instructions so the payment for the home goes to a fraudster, and the thieves are off with your money.

A few years ago, the Maricopa County Recorder set up a program to alert you if a document is being recorded that affects your title. You can sign up for notices at https://recorder.maricopa.gov/MaricopaTitleAlert/. Other counties have followed suit.

Additional help arrived in September in changes to the laws governing notaries. Now, when a notary is executing a document that could affect real estate, they must get a thumb print from the person whose signature they are notarizing. While this may not prevent fraud, it can help catch the criminals who commit fraud.

Even more helpful is the Early Real Estate Sales Alert System. Found at earlyalert.azre.gov, this system gives homeowners an early warning of a pending real estate sale and the opportunity to stop the fraud. Register your home address for alerts on your property.

Holding your home in a trust can also help prevent fraud. The easier for a fraudster to steal your property, the more likely they are to try. Having your home titled in your trust adds complications for a thief. It takes a higher level of sophistication to commit fraud regarding a home in trust than when the home is in an individual's name.

When the title is in an individual's name, the criminal only needs to sign the name to forge a deed or loan document. If the home is in a trust, they must provide proof that the trustee has the authority to take out the loan or transfer the property. Sometimes the title company or lender will ask for the entire trust document. Faced with these additional requirements, a fraudster is likely to move on to an easier target.

A trust is a great way to manage your property while you are living, assure that you have the right people named if you become incapacitated, avoid probate and provide specific directions for your estate on your passing. If you've been thinking about creating a trust, the possibility that it may help prevent fraud is one more reason to move forward.

If you're looking for help with your estate planning, the Law Office of Libby Banks, PLLC can help. We are a boutique law firm that specializes in trusts, wills and estate planning, probate and trust administration. Our attorneys offer a free initial consultation to talk about developing an estate plan for you. Call us at 602-375-6752 or visit our website at www.libbybanks.com.



At The Law Office of Libby Banks, we create highly customized estate plans that meet your unique situation, values, and personal goals. In our complimentary first meeting you will meet with one of our experienced attorneys to discuss your situation and determine what plan best fits your needs.

Remember, when you choose us, you are choosing an experienced team to create a plan that serves your family in the way that you want and, after you are gone, a trusted advisor that your loved ones can depend on. We pride ourselves on the relationships we form with our clients, so that they know they are taken care of and have peace of mind both now and into the future.

THE LAW OFFICE OF
LIBBY BANKS
ESTATE PLANNING | WILLS | TRUSTS

5010 E. Shea Blvd, Suite 205 Scottsdale, AZ 85254
602.375.6752 | www.libbybanks.com | info@libbybanks.com

MUSIC • COMEDY • JOUSTING • FEASTING
GAMES • RIDES • SHOPPING



39TH ANNUAL ARIZONA
RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL™
& ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

NINE FESTIVE WEEKENDS
FEB. 6-APR. 4
Sat., Sun., & Pres. Day • 10am-6pm

SAVE WITH DISCOUNT TICKETS AT:
Bashas' & FOOD CITY

PEPSI DELTA BUD LIGHT GUINNESS GOLD CANYON GOLF RESORT & SPA SUNSTATE Equipment Co.

TICKETS, DIRECTIONS & FESTIVAL INFO: ARIZONA.RENFESTINFO.COM

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO-DO LIST

MIMKIDS MINI MUSIC MAKERS

ABOUT: 9:30–11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 19 at Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix
INFO: The museum's early-childhood music program introduces young children to music through guided activities. Classes cost $12 each or $40 for four.
WEB: mim.org

LAS MIGAS IN CONCERT

ABOUT: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19 at Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix
INFO: The Spanish music group Las Migas performs at MIM Music Theater as part of the museum's concert series. Tickets range from $44.50 to $54.50.
WEB: mim.org

PARSONS DANCE

ABOUT: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E. Second St., Scottsdale
INFO: The contemporary dance company returns to Scottsdale after eight years with a program emphasizing ensemble choreography and athletic movement.
WEB: scottsdalearts.org

PHOENIX ZOOLIGHTS

ABOUT: 5:30–10:30 p.m. Nov. 25–Jan. 15 at Phoenix Zoo, 455 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix.
INFO: The zoo's annual nighttime holiday attraction features approximately 5 million lights, illuminated animal sculptures and seasonal displays. General admission is listed at $35, with discounts for zoo members. Most animals will not be visible during the evening event.
WEB: phoenixzoo.org/events



The annual Phoenix ZooLights nighttime holiday attraction kicks off Nov. 25. (Submitted/ Phoenix Zoo)

THANKSGIVING TURKEY TROT

ABOUT: 7:30–9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 26 at Arizona Biltmore, 2400 E. Missouri Ave., Phoenix
INFO: The Thanksgiving morning 4K walk/run travels through the Biltmore Estates and welcomes runners, walkers, families and leashed dogs. Registration opens at 6:30 a.m. and includes a commemorative shirt, race bib and refreshments. A portion of proceeds supports Paws for Youth.
WEB: arizonabiltmore.com/turkey-trot

HOLIDAY SHOPPING AT ARIZONA BILTMORE

ABOUT: Fridays through Sundays beginning Nov. 27 at Arizona Biltmore, 2400 E. Missouri Ave., Phoenix. Hours to be confirmed.
INFO: The resort's "Sparkle & Stroll: Sip & Shop" seasonal shopping experience is part of its holiday programming. Additional vendor information and scheduling details are available through the resort.
WEB: arizonabiltmore.com/holidays

GINGERBREAD DECORATING CLASSES

ABOUT: Saturday, Nov. 28, and Saturdays, Dec. 5, 12 and 19 at Arizona Biltmore, 2400 E. Missouri Ave., Phoenix. Times to be confirmed.
INFO: The resort offers seasonal gingerbread-decorating classes as part of its holiday programming. Registration details and pricing are available through the resort's holiday calendar.
WEB: arizonabiltmore.com/holidays

FRAGGLE ROCK: BACK TO THE ROCK

ABOUT: 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28 at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E. Second St., Scottsdale
INFO: The stage production brings characters from "Fraggle Rock" to a live theater setting with music, audience participation and special effects.
WEB: scottsdalearts.org

NUTCRACKER TEA

ABOUT: Sunday, Nov. 29, and Sunday, Dec. 13 at Arizona Biltmore, 2400 E. Missouri Ave., Phoenix. Times to be confirmed.
INFO: The resort hosts a Nutcracker-themed holiday tea experience. Admission is listed at $135 for ages 13 and older and $85 for children ages 3–12. Reservations required.
WEB: arizonabiltmore.com/holidays

HAVE AN EVENT?

Have something happening in or near the Sheaborhood, Biltmore or Arcadia? We welcome submissions from clubs and groups, as well as nearby nonprofits, churches and community organizations. Include the event name, date, time, location, a brief description and contact information.
Email: **jcarr@iniusa.org**

IN EVENTS

The Surprise Independent will host a senior expo 9 a.m.-noon Jan. 19, 2027 at The Colonnade, 19116 N. Colonnade Way, Surprise. Businesses wishing to participate may reach out to the sales team.
Email: **azad@iniusa.org**

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO-DO LIST



(Submitted/Desert Botanical Garden)

LAS NOCHES DE LAS LUMINARIAS

ABOUT: 5–9:30 p.m. Nov. 27–29; Dec. 4–6, 11–13, 16–23 and 26–31 at Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix
INFO: The garden's annual holiday event features illuminated desert pathways, thousands of luminarias and seasonal entertainment. Adult admission ranges from $39.95 to $44.95, depending on the date and ticket type. Advance tickets are recommended.
WEB: dbg.org/events



(Submitted/Heard Museum)

HEARD MUSEUM ORNAMENT MARKETPLACE

ABOUT: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Nov. 27–29 at Heard Museum, 2301 N. Central Ave., Phoenix
INFO: The museum's holiday marketplace features ornaments and seasonal artwork. Shopping admission is free; regular museum admission is required to visit the galleries.
WEB: heard.org



(Submitted/Madison Center for the Arts)

'A CELTIC CHRISTMAS'

ABOUT: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9 at The Madison Center for the Arts, 5601 N. 16th St., Phoenix
INFO: The international touring company A Taste of Ireland presents a holiday production combining champion Irish dancers, live music, traditional songs, comedy and a Christmas romance set in an Irish pub.
WEB: themadison.org



(Submitted/Musical Instrument Museum)

CHINESE MUSICAL TREASURES TOUR

ABOUT: 2–2:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19 at Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix
INFO: A curator-led tour explores "Unearthed Musical Masterpieces from the Southern Kingdoms of Ancient China," an exhibition featuring historic musical instruments and other objects. The tour is included with special exhibition admission.
WEB: mim.org



Phoenix Symphony resumes concerts after financial crisis

By Steve Stockmar
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Just weeks after a financial crisis halted its season and left 66 musicians temporarily without pay, the Phoenix Symphony is performing again.

The orchestra announced fundraising commitments will allow concerts to resume following a suspension announced Oct. 20.

The financial emergency forced the Symphony to suspend performances after Nov. 1, with the musicians laid off without pay Nov. 2. Their return to the stage began with Brahms' "Serenade No. 1" at the Musical Instrument Museum Nov. 12.

Although the fundraising commitments address the immediate crisis, the Symphony still faces the task of resolving its longer-term financial problems.



The Phoenix Symphony, pictured here with conductor Paolo Bortolameolli, will return to its performances starting Nov. 12 with "Brahms' Serenade No. 1" at Musical Instrument Museum. (Submitted/Tavits Photography)

An 11-member New American Symphony Commission, chaired by business leaders John Graham and Don Opatrny, will examine the orchestra's expenses, organizational structure, revenue opportunities and fundraising practices, according to the Friday announcement. Two musicians selected by Local 586 of the American Federation of Musicians will serve on the commission, which will recommend changes to the Symphony's board.

"Getting our musicians on stage again was our top priority," Graham shared in the statement. "Now we must build a financial and operating model that allows the Symphony to thrive, not simply survive from one season to the next."

The Symphony's musicians and development staff are also collaborating on "The Next Movement," a fundraising campaign intended to support performances and improve the organization's financial stability.

The announcement also restores a longstanding holiday partnership with Ballet Arizona. The ballet company confirmed that its annual production of "The Nutcracker" will proceed Dec. 11-27 at Symphony Hall, with live accompaniment by the Phoenix Symphony.

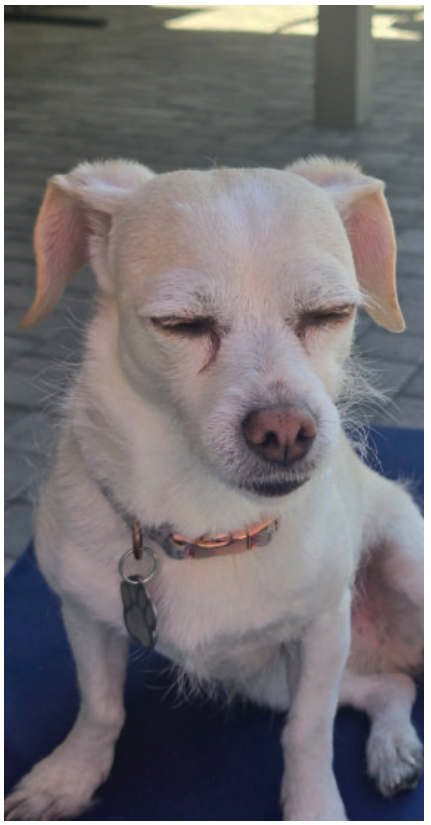
"We are thrilled to join our colleagues at The Phoenix Symphony once again," Ballet Arizona Executive Director Jami Kozemczak shared in a separate statement. "It has been such a gift to see how our community has swiftly rallied behind the performing arts."

Visit phoenixsymphony.org for concert schedules, tickets and additional information.



PET OF THE MONTH:
WE LOVE OUR PETS





MEET MOLLY

Molly is a seven-year-old Carin Terrier mix adopted from Home Fur Good. She loves cozy snuggles and neighborhood walks. Her special talent is that she smiles. She lives with Kristin Gubser in Phoenix.

JOIN THE FUN & SUBMIT YOUR PET TODAY

Email Jeremy at jcarr@iniusa.org or use the QR Code to save a step.

Karsten's ACE Hardware
December 2026

Always Accepting Applications!

RED HOT BUYS VALID DECEMBER 1-24

Wrap it in RED ACE

READY IN 15

Order Online, Pickup in 15 minutes.»
...Now that's Holiday Helpful

$29.99
Owala® FreeSip Vacuum Insulated Bottle, 24 Oz.
8139068
FreeSip Sway Vacuum Insulated Bottle, 30 Oz., 8139798...$34.99.
SmoothSip Slider Vacuum Insulated Tumbler, 12 Oz., 8139923...$24.99.

$45.00 each
Stanley® The Quencher H2.0 FlowState™ or IceFlow Flip Straw 2.0 Tumbler, 40 Oz.
8128683, 8128731, 8128684

$35.00 each
YETI® Rambler® 14 Oz. Stackable Mug with MagSlider™ Lid or 6 Oz. Stackable Mugs
8122925, 8089450
Stackable Cup with DuraSip™ Ceramic Lining, 8 Oz., 8122887, 8122891...$25.00 each.

YOUR CHOICE
$149.00 -$50 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE*
$99.00 each

DEWALT
Select DEWALT® 20V MAX Power Tools and Kits
Brushless Random Orbit Sander (tool only), 2862977
ATOMIC™ Brushless Drill/Driver Kit, 2029374
5 Ah Battery and Charger Starter Kit, 2037549
ATOMIC™ Brushless Impact Driver Kit, 2029375

BUY ONE $139.00
CRAFTSMAN® V20 Advanced™ 3 Ah Battery & Charger Starter Kit
2053420

GET TWO FREE
CRAFTSMAN® V20 6-1/2" Circular Saw, Cordless High-Pressure Inflator or 3-Speed Misting Fan (tools only)
2834398, 8090757, 2029954
UP TO $278.00 VALUE

BUY ONE
Milwaukee® M18 FUEL™ Brushless Drill & Impact Driver Kit or REDLITHIUM™ Extended Capacity Battery & Charger
2026543, 2809424

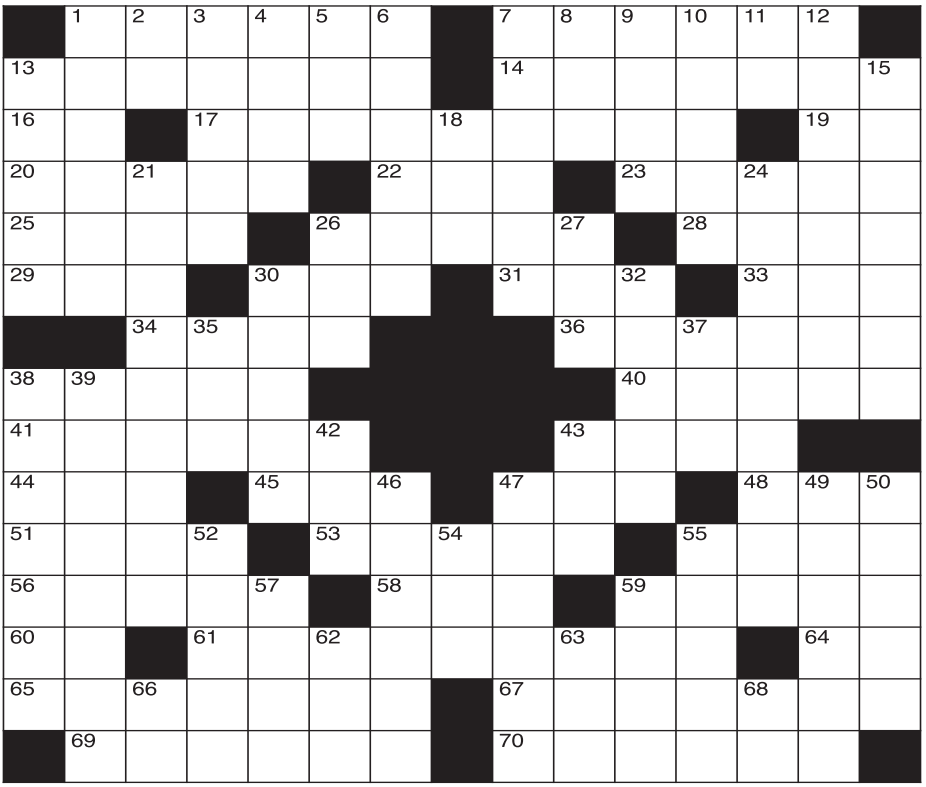
GET ONE FREE
Milwaukee® M18™ FUEL™ Brushless Grinder or Tire Inflator (tools only)
2023252, 8077050
UP TO $249.00 VALUE

Zach, Cheryl, and Dave Karsten

Proud Partner of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals
Helping Local Kids

10620 N 32nd St, Phoenix
(602) 971-1036 • www.karstensace.com
Open Every Day • Holiday Hours May Vary

CROSSWORD BY METRO CREATIVE SERVICES



CLUES ACROSS

1. Spiritual leaders
7. Containing salt
13. Fortified wine
14. Edible mollusk
16. Blood type
17. Make a comparison
19. Government lawyer
20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran
22. 8th month of the year (abbr.)
23. Very willing
25. __ ex machina
26. Satisfies
28. New Zealand mountain
29. A doctrine
30. Popular Dodge truck model
31. Dekagram
33. Naturally occurring solid material
34. Company higher-up
36. Villains
38. Cricket frog genus
40. Influential early psychologist
41. Endured
43. Servant
44. You can get stuck in one
45. __ and feather
47. Passive optical network
48. French ballet dynasty
51. Employee stock ownership plan
53. Forming a bottom layer
55. Sound
56. Yankees slugger Judge
58. Dickens character
59. Beloved late sportscaster Craig
60. "The Mount Rushmore State"
61. Sarcastic and critical
64. Atomic #79
65. Longtime Atlanta Braves pitcher
67. Humor
69. Shawl
70. Preliminary assessment of patients

CLUES DOWN

1. Animal disease
2. Commercial
3. Craft supplies
4. Containers
5. A way to save for your golden years
6. Common Arabic greeting
7. Bulged downward
8. Acquired brain injury
9. Lay about
10. Intestinal
11. Not yes
12. In a way, pleased
13. Messianic figure in Islam
15. Resulting from intense conviction
18. Not in
21. Number above the line in a fraction
24. Lawn pest
26. Pouch
27. Ancient language (abbr.)
30. Start anew
32. Wild flower
35. Fourteen
37. Graphical user interface
38. Facing the same way
39. Campaigns
42. Touch lightly
43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
46. Violent seizure of property
47. One who supports the Pope
49. Malaise
50. Body fluid
52. Inauthentic person
54. Title of respect
55. Moth genus
57. Central Japan city
59. Silk garment
62. Draw from
63. Automobile
66. A male
68. Powerful government lawyer

SOLUTION ON PAGE 22

America's Choice in Home Care®
Visiting Angels®
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES
Trusted In-Home Care.
Peace of Mind for You and Your Family.
Companion Care
Meaningful Support at Home
Personal Care
Help with Daily Living
Transportation
Stay Active & Connected
FREE
In-Home Assessment
& Complimentary Safe at Home Kit
CALL TODAY!
623-267-0546
We're Here to Help!
A HIGHER STANDARD OF HOME CARE.™

Shadow Mountain Auto Service
10410 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85028
602-482-7100
WHERE CHARACTER COUNTS!
Hours:
Monday – Friday
7:00a.m. to 5:30p.m.
See our reviews on Google
Like us on f

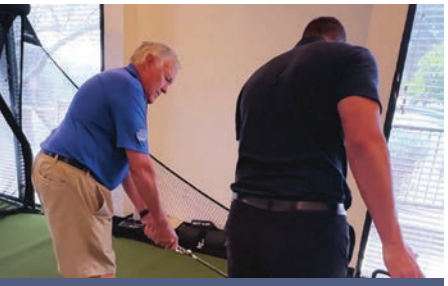

• Engine Diagnosis & Repairs
• 30, 60, 90, 120k Services
• Diesel Repair
• Alignments
• Electrical Diagnosis & Repairs
• Check Engine Light Diagnosis & Repair
• Cooling System and Transmission Services
• Brake Services
• Pre-Purchase Inspections
• Suspension Repairs
• And Much More!


Dr. Jenna Dye
naturopathic physician
Naturopathic Care for You and Your Family
General Family Practice • Pediatrics
Women's Health • Gastrointestinal Disorders
Adrenal Health • Thyroid Disorders
Autoimmune Diseases • Acute/Chronic Conditions
New Location! 10210 N 32nd St Suite C-5, Phoenix AZ 85028
drjennadye.com | 480-448-8888

THE ACTIVE ADULTS EDITION · PART 1 OF 3: GOLFERS

In One Visit, Find Out Why Your Back Hurts Every Time You Play. No Surgery. No Pills.

Why back, hip, and sciatica pain has so many Scottsdale golfers taking something off every swing, and what a TPI-certified Doctor of Physical Therapy looks for first.



"Sometimes it's not even the pain. It's the anticipation of pain."
— Chip H., Scottsdale golfer

Dr. Lance Martin, PT, DPT, TPI-certified, checks how a golfer's hips and back share the work of the swing.

By Back Pain Expert Dr. Tom Padilla, PT, DPT
Founder, The Doctors of Physical Therapy, Scottsdale · Bestselling author, Solving the Root Cause of Pain

"Sometimes it's not even the pain. It's the anticipation of pain."

That is how Chip described it. At 51, he was a Scottsdale golfer who didn't want to quit, and he hadn't. He was just taking something off every swing.

You may know the feeling. You swing a little easier now. You think twice before you turn hard through the ball. Nobody in your foursome says anything, but you think about it on the walk back to the cart.

Or the clubs are already in the garage, and you keep telling people you'll get back out once the back settles down.

WHAT EVERYONE ELSE MISSED: THE ROTATION GAP

"There's a lot of linkage in the body," Chip said. "If one area isn't working properly, other parts start compensating."

That is exactly it. The golf swing is a rotation, and most of it should come from your hips and mid-back. When those stop turning, after years at a desk or an old injury you forgot about, the swing still has to happen. So your lower back turns instead. It was never built to do much of that.

Stretching eases it for a day. A massage buys you a weekend. Neither one gets your hips turning again, which is why so many golfers go from one treatment to the next and end up right back where they started.

TWENTY CLINICS, THEN ONE SCREEN

Dylan J., another Scottsdale golfer, had been to close to twenty clinics for low back and hip pain before he came to us.

"Now I can swing a golf club almost every day without thinking about my back."

Chip, after his: "I regained flexibility and was able to turn better." And: "I can play without taking Advil now."

Neither one needed surgery.

WHO THIS IS FOR

If back, hip, or sciatica pain has changed how you play, or whether you play, this is for you.

If you have tried stretching, massage, injections, or another round of therapy and it didn't hold, this is for you.

And if someone mentioned surgery and your gut said slow down, get a second look first.

Or as Chip put it: "If you don't address the root cause, you're not going to get a good result."

WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR TPI GOLF SCREEN

1. Your Golf Timeline: when it started, what you've tried, and what you want back.
2. Hip Rotation Test: how far each hip turns, and whether one side is doing less.
3. Mid-Back Rotation Test: whether your upper back is helping the swing or sitting it out.
4. Pelvis and Spine Load Check: where your body is actually sending the force of the turn.
5. Balance and Core Stability: what your body braces against when you rotate hard.
6. The Roadmap Promise: you leave knowing what we found and the plan that follows from it, whether your next step is with us or not.

In one visit, you'll find out what's driving your pain, why it keeps coming back, why the things you've tried haven't lasted, and your step-by-step path back to confidence on the tee.

Each month we set aside a limited number of TPI Golf Screens for golfers whose back, hip, or sciatica pain has lasted longer than three months. One-on-one with a Doctor of Physical Therapy.

Requests must be received by December 30, 2026.

Call 623-432-8311 and say "golf screen," or visit thedoctorsofpt.com/discovery-visit-golf

SCAN TO REQUEST YOUR SCREEN



NOT READY TO COME IN? ASK FOR THE GOLF LONGEVITY KIT.

Dr. Tom's bestselling book Solving the Root Cause of Pain, plus the Golf Longevity Guide and Scorecard. A $47 value, mailed to your door free. Call 623-432-8311 and say "golf kit," or visit thedoctorsofpt.com/golf-kit

SUDOKU

By Metro Creative Services

6			9				7	
	3		5	7			8	2
	1							
4								
								9
			8	2	3			
	6	9					3	
		2			1		5	8
		3		4		7		

Level: Advanced

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

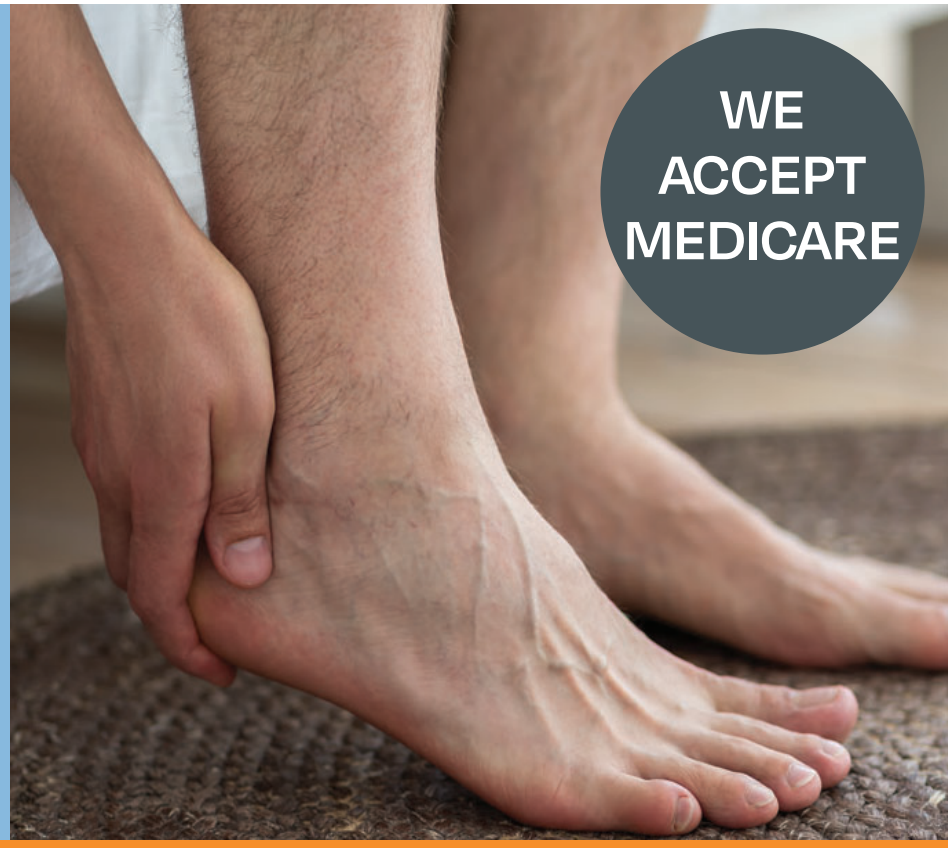
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes.

ANSWER:

1	6	7	9	4	2	3	5	8
8	9	5	6	1	3	2	4	7
4	3	2	5	8	7	9	6	1
7	4	6	2	3	8	1	9	5
9	2	8	4	5	1	6	7	3
5	1	3	7	6	9	8	2	4
6	5	9	8	7	4	3	1	2
2	7	4	3	9	6	5	8	1
3	8	1	6	2	5	4	3	9

Do Your Feet Burn, Tingle, or Feel Numb?

It Could Be Neuropathy and Yes, There are Treatments!



CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR NEUROPATHY EVALUATION

T: 623.544.9090

Cash-Pay Treatment Options Available

Eight convenient offices:
Northwest Valley, Central & North Phoenix, East Valley

Foot & Ankle Specialists of Arizona

footandanklearizona.com

BUSINESS DIRECTORY & CLASSIFIED ADS

VISIT US: INIUSA.ORG/CLASSIFIEDS | EMAIL US: AZADS@INIUSA.ORG | OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9AM-4PM

EMAILS:
azads@iniusa.org
legals@iniusa.org

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL US AT
888-665-3848

AUTOMOTIVE, GARAGE SALES & MERCHANDISE RATES
$20 PER MARKET - 30 WORDS
Your ad appears in the newspaper of choice plus online
$5 for color and each additional photo
25¢ extra per additional word

BUSINESS/SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES
STARTING AT $45
for one column by three-inch advertisement
$15 per inch after
(maximum size 8.55 inches)
Logo and photos included
4-weeks minimum

EMPLOYMENT ADS
STARTING AT $60
for one column by three-inch advertisement
$15 per inch after
(maximum size 8.55 inches)
Logo and photos included
No minimum commitment requirement

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.

Beauty Salons



Kirsten Balletti, *Owner Stylist*

SALON SUITES ON SHEA
Serving the 32nd St. Corridor for Over 38 Years!

$15 OFF
ANY FULL HAIR SERVICE
First Time Clients Only. Exp. 12/31/2026

602-739-9591
3222 E Shea Blvd. Ste 109
Phoenix AZ 85028

Cellular

Consumer Cellular®
OVER 50? UNLIMITED FOR JUST $35/MONTH.
Backed by #1 Network Coverage and Customer Satisfaction.*
Switch & Save Today. **877-398-0956**
© 2026 Consumer Cellular Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. Plans shown above include $5 credit for AutoPay and E-billing. Taxes and other fees apply. Credit approval required for new service. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations. For unlimited plans, high-speed data is reduced after 35GB on single-line plans and 50GB of combined usage on multi-line plans for the remainder of your billing cycle. Unlimited data plans only for customers age 50+. *2025 ACSI® Survey of customers rating their own wireless service provider. ACSI® and its logo are registered trademarks of the American Customer Satisfaction Index LLC. For more about the ACSI®, visit www.theacsi.org.

Cleaning

About Blind Cleaning Inc.
DO YOU HAVE HUNTER DOUGLAS BLINDS?
CALL CUSTOMER SERVICE
1-888-501-8364
FOR CERTIFIED CLEANING AND REPAIRS
"Professional Cleaning Services"
Since 1996 - Veteran Owned
30 Years of Experience
ROC228042



Dry Cleaning



20% OFF Dry Cleaning
Expires December 31, 2026
Comforters $19.99
Expires December 31, 2026
TIFFANY DRY CLEANERS
(602) 996-1123
3375 E. Shea Blvd. Ste. Q
in the Shea Plaza Shopping Center
HOURS M-F 8-6, Sat 9-3
American Flags Cleaned Free!

BUY SELL TRADE
almost anything under the sky!
Starting at just $20
CALL 888-665-3848

Aging Care

IN-HOME CARE LEADER
Always Best Care
senior services®
- Caregiving Services
- Respite Support
- Senior Living Placement

Call 480.676.1446
for a FREE consultation
alwaysbestcaretempe.com



Happy Holidays! Best wishes from the Independent Newsmedia team!

Fountain Repair

FOUNTAIN FIXER
Remodel • Repair
All types of fountains
Serving AZ Over 35 Years
Robert Robinson
602-586-7538



Garage Doors

LICENSED CONTRACTOR

DYNAMIC DOOR SERVICE

Sales - Service - Installation

GARAGE DOOR REPAIR

24 Hour Service

Cave Creek Chamber Member

Residential Repair Specialist
Broken Springs & Cables
Panels & Rollers Replaced
New Garage Doors
Garage Door Openers
New Construction
Automatic Gate Motors

480-451-1931

Senior/Military Discounts
Locally Owned & Operated

BBB A+ Rating

ROC 222636

SAVE 5% WITH THIS AD

Handyman

Mr. Fixel Will Fix It

General Home Repair & Appliances • Est. 1995

- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Home Appliance Repair
- Pool Equipment Repair
- Landscape Lights
- Irrigation Repairs
- Roof Repair
- Drywall Repair & Paint
- Windows and Doors
- and More

Just call, I do it all

602-321-7009 | sfiksel@cox.net

Insured • Not a Licensed Contractor by Choice

Hearing Care

Audien Hearing

The World's First Hearing Aids With Touchscreen Controls.

No tiny buttons. No apps. No prescriptions.

Atom X

Call 844-915-3543 to get your 45-day risk free trial.

Miscellaneous

AMERICA'S ORIGINAL BUTCHER

OMAHA STEAKS SINCE 1917

Butcher's Deluxe Package

2 Bacon-Wrapped Filet Mignons (5 oz.)
2 Butcher's Cut Top Sirloin Filets (5 oz.)
4 Air-Chilled Chicken Breasts (4 oz.)
4 Boneless Pork Chops (5 oz.)
4 Classic Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
8 FREE Omaha Steaks Smash Burgers (3.2 oz.)

82792CKZ PACKAGE PRICE $89

GET 8 FREE SMASH BURGERS on $89+ orders

OmahaSteaks.com/Deluxe4087 | 1.855.758.1301

Ask for 8 FREE burgers on $89+ orders with offer 82792CKZ

See site for details. Expires 12/31/26. 26M10423

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

PUZZLE ON PAGE 18

■	R	A	B	B	I	S	■	S	A	L	I	N	E	■
M	A	D	E	I	R	A	■	A	B	A	L	O	N	E
A	B	■	A	N	A	L	O	G	I	Z	E	■	D	A
H	I	N	D	S	■	A	U	G	■	E	A	G	E	R
D	E	U	S	■	S	A	T	E	S	■	C	R	A	N
I	S	M	■	R	A	M	■	D	K	G	■	O	R	E
■	■	E	X	E	C	■	■	R	O	G	U	E	S	■
A	C	R	I	S	■	■	■	■	W	U	N	D	T	■
B	R	A	V	E	D	■	■	M	A	I	D	■	■	■
R	U	T	■	T	A	R	■	P	O	N	■	H	U	S
E	S	O	P	■	B	A	S	A	L	■	T	O	N	E
A	A	R	O	N	■	P	I	P	■	S	A	G	E	R
S	D	■	S	A	T	I	R	I	C	A	L	■	A	U
T	E	H	E	R	A	N	■	S	A	R	C	A	S	M
■	S	E	R	A	P	E	■	T	R	I	A	G	E	■

CLASSIFIEDS WORK

888-665-3848

Gutters

THE GUTTER GUY LLC

5" & 6" SEAMLESS GUTTERS & LEAF FILTER SYSTEMS

Office: 602-675-0949
Doug: 480-363-3464
Cindy: 623-329-8980

Ask About Our Senior & Military Discounts

FREE ESTIMATES

Licensed, Insured, Accredited

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Insurance

Home | Auto | Business | Life

(480) 951-5056

www.InsureLocalAZ.com

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

Miscellaneous

The Swiss Colony

FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1926

24-HOUR ORDERING: Call 866-635-5895

Gutters

RAIN GUTTER EXPRESS

Quality Products & Service

- Seamless 5" & 6" Gutter Installation
- Custom Fabrication
- Cleaning, Restoring & Repair

FREE ESTIMATES!

www.RainGutterExpress.com

602-300-7472

LICENSED BONDED - INSURED

ROC#347844

Handyman

NO TASK TOO SMALL!

AZ HOME REPAIR SPECIALISTS

ASK ABOUT THE MANY SERVICES WE OFFER!

"The Premier Handyman"

480•442•2543

Contact@AZHomeRepairSpecialists.com

Season's Greetings

iniusa.org/classifieds

Miscellaneous

Hale GROVES

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

REG. $49.99 NOW $34.99 +$9.99 shipping

Hale Select Deluxe Gift Box | #483X

855-680-8709 Use Code H7YG41

HaleGroves.com/H7YG41

SAVE 35%*

IC: H7YG41

Miscellaneous



Pittman & Davis

FREE SHIPPING

King Comice Pears

CALL 1-888-254-0535 PITTMANDAVIS.COM/P7YF35

Mention Code P7YF35 for your savings on items #PE1X or #PR9X.

*Good while supplies last. Some restrictions may apply. Limit 7 per customer.

IC: P7YF35

Plumbing

PLUMBING BY JEFF GILL LLC

FULL SERVICE PLUMBING

Local Resident

Licensed, Bonded & Insured

602-715-4768

gilljeff10@gmail.com

Highly referred on Nextdoor

Shredding

ABCO Shredding Services

...more than just paper shredding

- Paper
- All shredded paper is recycled
- Hard Drives in/out of Laptop/Computer
- iPads, Tablets, Cell Phones, Etc.
- Witness the shredding 9am-2:00pm M-F or drop off 9am-2:30pm
- A Certificate of Destruction is included on the receipt.
- Pickup Service Available

602-374-4408

www.abcoshredding.com

2640 E Rose Garden Lane
Suite 4, Phoenix, AZ 85050

Miscellaneous



Remodeling

TRU Builders

AZ ROC Licenses
275722 & 361072

DESIGN, BUILD, REMODEL



(623) 546-8681

trubuildersaz.com

Roofing

ONE CALL DOES IT ALL

THE LEAK STOPS HERE

Senior & Military Discounts

Josh THE ROOF GUY

ALL TYPES OF ROOF REPAIR

Shingles · Tiles · Flat Roofs
Rubber Roof Coatings/All Rubber Roofing
Emergency Patch and Repair

SAME DAY SERVICE

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

FREE ESTIMATES

623-456-5788

GARAGE SALE



Discover Valuable Treasures

NEW Garage Sale Listings Daily

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS CLASSIFIEDS

SEE MORE VALLEYWIDE Garage Sale Listings Online at

iniusa.org/classifieds

To advertise, call:

888-665-3848

Painting



Pet Services



One Love PET PARLOR

At One Love Pet Parlor we think that love, patience and education are the keys to your pet's happiness. Every pet is treated as an individual as they have different needs and personalities.

3375 E Shea Blvd., Suite L
Phoenix, AZ 85028

480-590-1324

www.onelovepetparlor.com

Free Facial* ($5.00 value)
3375 E Shea Blvd., Suite L, Phoenix
480-590-1324
*Only valid with a bath and/or haircut

Free Toothbrushing* ($5.00 value)
3375 E Shea Blvd., Suite L, Phoenix
480-590-1324
*Only valid with a bath and/or haircut

Sun Screens



'Tis The Season ...TO ADVERTISE!

888-665-3848

iniusa.org/classifieds



Roofing

FLASH GORON ROOFING & REPAIR LLC

QUALITY WORKMANSHIP, DONE IN A FLASH!

602.327.8369

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED • ROC190012

FREE ESTIMATES!

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. Offer not valid in all regions. Expires 12/31/26.

SPECIAL FINANCING
FOR **18** MONTHS!
With approved credit. Call or ask your Designer for details. Not available in all areas.

2024 © All Rights Reserved. Closets by Design, Inc.





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®