Wednesday, May 1, 2019

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Bridge name celebrates veterans



Congresswoman Debbie Lesko, upper left, shares a moment with veteran Dan Reilly, upper right, during dedication ceremonies for the new Veterans Bridge on April 26. Mr. Reilly was the person who originally pushed for the idea for the bridge name to honor local veterans. Governor Doug Ducey, far right, unveils a rendering of the planned signage to be displayed on the bridge. [Jason Stone/Independent Newsmedia]

Governor helps unveil new title for Bell, Grand's main crossing

By Jason Stone

It's not everyday Gov. Doug Ducey finds his way to Surprise.

So, when he's here, there has to be a good reason.

"I've got everyone saying, 'Thanks for coming to Surprise," Mr. Ducey told a crowd of about 300 people who came to see him dedicate the Bell/Grand bridge as Veterans Bridge on April 26. "Hey, listen, anything to get out of the State Capitol."

All jokes aside, the governor and other top elected officials from the area were on hand for a big reason, despite the first 100-degree day of the year.

The main thoroughfare

» See Bridge on page 10



APS incident watched worldwide

Energy experts focusing on **Surprise mishap**

By Jason Stone & **Matt Roy**

The investigation into the lithium-ion battery explosion at an APS station in Surprise is getting worldwide attention for more reasons than

Investigators are trying to figure out how the battery that stores solar energy for nighttime use exploded at the McMicken Energy Storage facility near Grand Avenue and Deer Valley Road on April 19.

But energy technology experts are also awaiting the results of the investigations to see what it means for the lithium-ion battery's future in general.

The explosion that injured four Peoria and four Surprise firefighters was reported around the world. Just days after the incident, Bloomberg reported 21 fires have been counted at battery projects in South Korea, but the Surprise fire was the first time one happened in America.

The investigations are critical as lithium-ion batteries have proven to be the top

» See APS on page 3

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APS

» From page 1

mainstream battery storage option for devices such as cell phones, hearing aids, MP3 players, thermometers, car remote locks and other common devices.

Ravi Manghani, an analyst at Wood Mackenzie Power & Renewables, told Bloomberg, "If these fires continue to occur, it doesn't bode well for the industry in the short term and the storage market will almost certainly slow down."

Until the fire, most Surprise residents probably didn't even know the storage unit was even in their city.

APS has used Surprise as one of three locations for the storage facilities - the others are in Buckeye and near Payson – and the company is still planning on expanding the program across the state to eventually have the capacity to provide electricity to 600,000 homes.

Smoke then fire

The first reports of smoke from the facility forced Surprise first responders to call in a hazmat unit from the Peoria Fire-Medical Department to assist.



Danger signs are posted outside the APS McMicken Energy Storage facility near Grand Avenue and Deer Valley Road. [Jason Stone/Independent Newsmedia]

Following what numerous reports described as a loud explosion, the Peoria firefighters – Captain Hunter Clare, engineer Justin Lopez, firefighter Matt Cottini and firefighter Jake Ciulla were transported to trauma centers.

More than two weeks after the explosion, APS officials still haven't said what happened.

"At this point in the inves-

» See APS on page 11

EE ESTIMATE



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community news

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News items and photos can be submitted to the by emailing **WVnews@newszap.com**

In brief:

Boyd picked as interim director for Community Development

Surprise named Assistant Community Development Director Chris Boyd as the interim director of the department until the city formalizes plans to find a permanent replacement.

Boyd stepped in for former director Eric Fitzer, who left last week for a similar job in Glendale.

Spokeswoman Diane Arthur said the city does "not have a timeline" on when the position will officially open for a replacement for Mr. Fitzer.

Boyd has been with the city for the last ten years.

CHANGES

Comm. Services votes for change to Parks & Rec

The Community and Recreation Services Department's Advisory Board voted April 22 to change its name to the more-standard Parks and Recreation Department.

City officials say the next step is likely City Council approval since the Council created the Advisory Board.

Ms. Arthur said City Manager Mike Frazier requested the name change to one that is more recognizable to residents.

Duffy hosting monthly meetup at Jim's Burger

District 3 Councilmember Patrick Duffy is hosting one of his regular monthly district meetings at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 4 at Jim's Burger and Eggs, 17019 W. Greenway Road #1805.

Mr. Duffy hosts the meetings for residents in his district on the first Saturday of every month.

» See News on page 5



A Surprise family has fired a wrongful death lawsuit against the City of Surprise and the State of Arizona over a power box attached to a roadway sign in the 14100 block of West Bell Road. The family of Timothy Carroll contens the hox that juts out about six inches into the sidewalk is unsafe and led to Mr. Carroll's death when hit slammed into it on his bicycle in February 2018. [Jason Stone/ Independent

City faces wrongful death lawsuit

Suit stems from bike crash into power box that killed man

By Jason Stone

The City of Surprise and the State of Arizona are joint co-defendants in a wrongful death suit filed by a Surprise family in February.

According to the complaint filed in Maricopa Su-

perior Court on Feb. 6, the family of Timothy Carroll is suing for an unspecified amount resulting from his death in February 2018.

Police records show Mr. Carroll and his son were riding their bikes eastbound on the north side of Bell Road across from the Red Robin Restaurant when Mr. Carroll slammed into a power box that's attached to a traffic control sign that hangs over Bell.

According to court records and a police report,

Mr. Carroll struck the box with his right shoulder and head and fell off the bike and onto the ground between the sidewalk and a wall to a home just a couple feet away.

After initially surviving the crash, records show Mr. Carroll later died at a hospital.

His family contends Surprise was negligent in allowing the power box to jut out about six inches into the sidewalk. The family also holds the state responsi-

ble because the state was involved in the monitoring and testing the sign and box.

The complaint asks for compensation for the family's injuries, including legal costs. While no specified amount was listed, the case is listed as "Tier 3" under the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure. That means damages are in excess of \$300,000.

Neither the City of Surprise, nor Surprise police

 $\!\!\!\!>$ See Death on page 5

Gas line upgrades affect Litchfield

Work is underway for upgrades to a Southwest Gas main on Litchfield Road, between Greenway and Waddell roads.

Restrictions are expected to be in place through August, starting with the north end of the project

at Greenway, then moving south along Litchfield towards Waddell.

Officials say daytime work is planned for each Monday through Saturday with traffic control remaining in place even during non-work hours to help protect the work zone.

Roadways in the project area will remain open for travel

However, residents should expect lane and left-turn restrictions near the work zone.

Southwest Gas customers are not expected to experience any service disruptions during the work.

For information or questions about the project, contact the Southwest Gas Project Hotline at 602-532-6100.

Public Meetings

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

When: 6 p.m. Thursday, May 2 Where: Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza.

DISTRICT 3 COMMUNITY MEETINGCouncilmember Patrick Duffy hosts

Councilmember Patrick Duffy hosts an open meeting for residents in District 3, which is in the southwest portion of Surprise. **When:** 10 a.m. Saturday, May 4. **Where:** Jim's Burger and Eggs, 17019 W. Greenway Road, #1805

ARTS & CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

When: 6 p.m. Monday, May 6 **Where:** Surprise City Hall,

16000 N. Civic Center Plaza

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION When: 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 7

When: 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 7 Where: Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING Includes public hearing on proposed

fiscal year 2020 budget. **When:** 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 7 **Where:** Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza

* Agendas available 48 hours in advance for all meetings at SurpriseAZ.gov.

7 in 7

HERE ARE THE BEST 7 THINGS TO DO OVER THE NEXT 7 DAYS

MAY THE FORTH BE WITH YOU What: Celebrate all things "geeky"

on this Star Wars-themed day of family fun at the library. **When:** 3 p.m. Saturday, May 4 **Where:** Northwest Regional Library City of Surprise Room, 16089 N. Bullard Ave.

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET HEARING

What: Sound off in a public hearing on the FY2020 Surprise city budget.

When: 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 7 Where: Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza Cost: Free

AIA 3A BASEBALL STATE TOURNAMENT

What: The first two rounds of the 3A state baseball tournament, with 16 teams playing 12 games over two days.

When: Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4

Where: Surprise Stadium, 15930 N. Bullard Ave. Cost: \$10 adults; \$5 students, children 6-13, seniors 62 and older, active military.

SURPRISE AREA INTERFAITH & GOLDEN RULE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

What: City, faith, business and non-profit leaders will be part of Surprise's celebration as a "Golden Rule Community." When: 7 a.m., Wednesday, May 1. Where: The Salvation Army, 17420 N. Avenue of the Arts

OUAZ BASEBALL FINAL SERIES

Cost: Free.

What: The Spirt baseball team wraps up the 2019 season with a two-game series against Cetys Universidad, a school out of Mexico.

When: 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 30 and Wednesday, May 1 Where: Surprise Stadium, 15930 N. Bullard Ave. Cost: Free

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATIONS

What: Celebrate the day by supporting one of Surprise's numerous restaurants and bars offering Cinco de Mayo deals. When: Sunday, May 5 Where: All across Surprise. Cost: Depends on how thirsty

WILLS VS. TRUST CLASS

vou are

Cost: Free

What: Bob Mariner from Generation Living Trusts presents interactive seminar that covers options for wills, trusts and more. When: 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 7 Where: Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza.

Death

» From page 4

are commenting on the case because its ongoing litigation. Likewise, attempts to reach Allen Bucknell, the attorney for the Carrolls, by phone or email have been un-

The Surprise City Council on April 2 authorized City Attorney Robert Mungo to handle all the legal actions in the case. There has been no indication of any settlement in the case.

In February, "The Surprise Today" reported the city paid out more than \$1.3 million in claims settlements over the past five years.

Public records showed the city averages about 32 claims annually, averaging \$8,439 each and \$260,774 per year. Editor's note: Jason Stone can be reached at 623-445-2805, on email at jstone@newszap.com or on Twitter at @thestonecave.



Caution barriers now encircle the power box into which Surprise resident Timothy Carroll rode his bike, killing him in Febrary 2018. [Jason Stone/ Independent Newsmedia]

Pair sentenced to life in 2016 Surprise murders

3 people found quilty in Feb. for killings in **Sun City Grand**

More than three years since the death of two women in the Sun City Grand area of Surprise, all three suspects in the case have now been sentenced to life

Judge Danielle Viola sentenced Montez Wright and Tichina Shephard Friday to life in prison for the murders of Barbara Leslie, 70, of Surprise and Ruth Schwed, 75, of New Mexico.



Tichina Shephard





Ruth Schwed

The murders happened in February 2016 at the home of Ms. Leslie. Ms. Schwed had been visiting from out of town.

Police responded to the home after Ms. Schwed's family reported not having heard from her in a while. When police entered the home, they found the two women dead from apparent gunshot wounds.

Surprise police led the investigation, ultimately arresting Andrew Lauro, of Goodyear, and Mr. Wright within a few weeks of the

Authorities also identified Ms. Shephard as a possible suspect and officially arrested her in 2017 after months of hiding from arrest.

Mr. Lauro was sentenced to life in prison in 2017.

News

» From page 4

FINANCES

Council to host public hearing on 2020 budget

The Surprise City Council is hosting a public hearing on the fiscal year 2020 budget at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 6 at City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza.

The Council will be debating the \$414 million budget City Manager Mike Fraizer that presented last month.

A work session meeting is also scheduled for 4 p.m. that day.

Two other government meetings this week include the Planning and Zoning Commission (6 p.m. Thursday, May 2) and the Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission (6 p.m. Monday, May 6).

Agendas for all Surprise public meetings are available online at SurpriseAZ.

By law, they are posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

DETOURS

Litchfield work forces overnight shutdowns

Overnight motorists in Surprise will need to avoid ongoing roadwork on southbound Litchfield Road from Cactus to Desert Cove roads.

The stretch is closed nightly from 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. to install a new wa-

It is expected to reopen at night on Wednesday, May 8.

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business

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We want your news!

Business news can be submitted by emailing **WVnews@newszap.com**

In brief:

Summer hours take effect at Tennis Complex starting May 1

Summer hours begin Wednesday, May 1 at the Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex, 14469 W. Paradise Lane.

Weekday hours will be broken into two sessions -6:30 to 11 a.m. and 4:30 to 9 p.m. – to avoid the summer heat.

Saturday and Sunday hours will only be held in the morning from 6:30 to 11 a.m.

Call 623-222-2400 for information.

CHANGES

Saturday library hours set earlier at Hollyhock

Saturday hours are getting earlier at the Hollyhock Library branch, 15844 N. Hollyhock St.

The city's Community and Recreation Services Commission voted last week to set its Saturday hours from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., instead of 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Director Donna Miller said the change was made for earlier hours to better serve the community.

Commissioner Ray Grimm said he wants to discuss Hollyhock's weekly operating hours at a future meeting.

Mr. Grimm said opening for only 18 hours a week over three days is not enough for the community.

SEMINARS

Estate planning classes continue through Sept.

Free classes on estate planning are available on multiple dates through September at City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza.

Ted Meyer with the Arizona chapter of The Society of Financial Awareness will teach classes on the following dates: Wednes-

» See Business on page 15



Employees from Title Alliance Professionals in Surprise pack care packages for Homeless Engagement Lift Partnership during the company's "T.A. Gives Back Week" event in early April. [Submitted photo]

Surprise title agency helping the homeless

Employees donate time for annual 'Gives Back Week'

Title Alliance, a family of full-service title insurance and escrow agencies, reported another successful "T.A. Gives Back Week."

Starting on April 8, each employee in the company -- spanning 10 states and 54 offices - volunteered in the community, with each office choosing their favorite cause or local initiative.

In Surprise, the team from Title Alliance Professionals, a Title Alliance affiliate, decided to pack care packages for Homeless Engagement Lift Partnership.

"'T.A. Gives Back' is an important way that we can share our culture with partners," Chief Strategy Officer Lindsay Smith said.

"It is motivating to be able to contribute to the lives of other people in our area. In each of our joint ventures, we hire local and we support local communities with this program. We have a deep and genuine interest in both our employees and communities, which is highlighted in concrete ways across our footprint throughout the week."

Title Alliance gave each employee half a day to volunteer for the local office's chosen opportunity.

By helping the homeless,

the Surprise team not only worked closely with neighbors, but also strengthened the connections within the team.'

This is in keeping with the Title Alliance mission to "create opportunities for personal and professional growth – one alliance at a time".

"All our dedicated and enthusiastic employees were thrilled at the chance to help the homeless," Regional Operations Manager Jason Bryant said. "They were excited to play a role in overcoming this specific challenge in our local environment. Not only did they get to work together while

» See Title on page 15

Dental assistant school hosting grand opening

Unity staging official event for Surprise

Unity Dental Assisting has announced a June 6 grand opening date in Surprise.

The 13-week dental assistant school is located at 15331 W. Bell Road #204.

Strategically around creating a student-first environment, focus is placed on the learnings and successes of each student as they grow to become a dental assistant through hands-on training.

Unity Dental Assisting was conceptualized out of necessity to bridge the impossibly large gap between those who desperately need basic oral health care and those who can provide it.

"Our aim is to create a relationship through Unity [Dental Assisting] between students and the local community," said Dr. Whitney Sebree, president and CEO of Unity Dental Assisting.

"By focusing the school around teaching hands-on skills and serving others, we believe all students of UDA will learn the value and importance of giving back. At the most basic level, this is the backbone of creating a strong community and an invaluable aspect of what we stand for at Unity Dental Assisting."

Unity understands the power of learning through a hands-on approach and has designed the curriculum to meet the needs of

> the everchanging landscape of dentistry.

Unity students will be given the opportunity to assist in live-patient clinics where they'll learn technical skills, com-

munication, empathy and compassion.

These live-patients will be referred to Unity through a network of partnerships with local non-profit organizations and healthcare institutes.

Referred patients will receive free basic dental care by Unity Dental Assisting at their facilities in the Surprise Professional Center.

"We are proud to partner with Unity Dental Assisting as we work together to create a network of support and opportuni-

» See Unity on page 15

Chamber to host water solutions discussion

OUAZ site for talk on state drought issues

Central Arizona Project Board President Lisa Atkins and water policy expert Rory Van Pouke will be the featured guests at a Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce speaking event later this month. Ms. Atkins and Mr. Van Pouke will speak from 7 to 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 28 at Ottawa University Arizona, address 15950 N Civic Center Plaza.

The talk will center on the impact the new Drought Contingency Plan would have for the near future.

The speakers will also highlight how the drought is impacting business operations and financial per-



formance. Attendees will also learn how companies are leveraging technologies, partnerships, and innovation to reduce impacts, mitigate risks and protect freshwater in Arizona.

Ms. Atkins was appointed in 2015 to lead the Arizona State Land Department as its commissioner by Gov. Doug Ducey and is the former vice president of government affairs for the Greater Phoenix Leadership.

Mr. Van Pouke is the general manager at Apache Sun

» See Chamber on page 15





JOIN THE CELEBRATION



Grand Opening Ceremony and Ribbon Cutting

Assisted Living and Memory Support at The Colonnade

Thursday, May 2 — 1:30 — 6:00 p.m. 19116 N. Colonnade Way, Surprise, AZ 85374

2:00 p.m. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with Special Guest, Surprise Mayor, Skip Hall

The Colonnade is pleased to announce the grand opening of new Assisted Living residences and Memory Support suites. Guests of this special event are invited to mix and mingle, tour new spaces and model residences, and receive information on the new care offerings to be added to our community.

For more information on the grand opening ceremony and ribbon cutting, or to schedule a time to visit with one of our knowledgeable care experts,

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JOIN THE DISCUSSION

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WVnews@newszap.com.

Our Purpose

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- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
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Opinions

Join the discussion: Email your opinions to WVnews@newszap.com.



Read more West Valley news online

GUEST COMMENTARY

May hints at a summer full of memories

t's May. Spring is here and summer is just around

This is such a great time to enjoy the outdoors and appreciate how lucky we are to live in Surprise. I don't know how many people remember celebrating May Day or dancing around a Maypole.

As someone who grew up in Brooklyn, New York in the 1950s, these things bring back happy memories.

This time of year also means our snowbirds are returning to their other homes, people are getting ready for Memorial Day celebrations, the school year is drawing to a close, graduation parties are being planned, and, of course, the most special day: May 12, when we honor our mothers.

Maybe you're looking

for a place to host a special party? Do you always

scramble for just the right gift? Arts HQ is the perfect place for both of these. Our gallery is available to rent, and our retail area is the best place in town for a shopping

We have already held a wedding and a baby shower here and both were absolutely memorable occasions. How about doing something new this

year-forego the candy and flowers. For anyone who hasn't been to see us, I invite you to come check out the amazing retail area and beautiful gallery space.

I can't begin to describe all of the unique handmade pieces we have on display.

> Whether you love jewelry, pottery, photography, oil paintings, wearable art or a myriad of other works of art, I know we will have something for you.

The gallery is open from 10

a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. There's never an admission charge and you're welcome to sit, relax, and enjoy the exhibits. Parking is available

Merrill Edelstein

with handicapped accessibility.

As part of our goal to present art from the amazing cadre of talented people here in the west valley, we are hosting an opening night reception for the Arizona Artists Guild. Mark your calendars for 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, May 10. This event is free and open to the public.

With summer vacations coming up, think of what a treat it would be to bring your out of town guests to see more than just the typical tourist attractions. Arts HQ is a welcoming spot for children and adults alike.

We're located just in front of Surprise City Hall at 16126 N. Civic Center

Plaza. If you have questions, you can call us at 623-584-2626.

Please like us on Facebook: West Valley Arts Council, or check out WestValleyArts.org.

During our special events you will find me greeting guests and helping them select a gift for someone special or simply something to enjoy them-

I look forward to meeting all of you, and I'd like to share a slogan my brother created for his record store in New Orleans over 20 years ago –

"TELL ME I SENT YOU."

Editor's note: Merrill Edelstein is a volunteer at the West Valley Arts Council.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

High prices one reason spring attendance lags in Surprise

Jason Stone's article about the status of spring training attendance in Surprise Stadium this year ("Surprise hurt by early start to spring," April 17) seemed to miss one important point: Prices.

I re-read the article and found that Sports and Tourism Director Kendra Pettis completely ignored the economics. Thirteen-dollar hot dogs and \$11 beers are too much, especially when the tickets prices have gone up.

I've been going to the games for 10 years, and it seems that the prices have gone up a lot in the last few.

Also, comfort is a factor. Sitting the Arizona sun for an interminable baseball game is not really pleasant for most people.

There should be accommodation for fans to get up, walk around and get under some shade, especially where you have to stand in line for the pricey food.

Bruce Pestell

Dillon's welcome back anytime in

In response the letter from Ann Fener ("Surprise Retail Survey" choices are just plain disappointing," April 17), who lives in Sun City Grand.

Sun City Grand

I do have to agree she is living in the wrong place. Most residents I have spo-

Letters

We welcome all opinions. Please include a name, address and phone number so we can contact you for clarification or confirmation. Because of limited space in print, we reserve the right to condense or edit opinions as needed. Submissions should be about 300 words. To submit opinions: Email to WVnews@newszap.com ormailto 17220 N. Boswell Blvd., Ste. 101, Sun City, AZ 85373

ken to, including myself, were much saddened when Dillon's was ousted by the SCG board. Dillon's was a great restaurant for our community and for Surprise. It was always packed

cocktail-hour specials. I understand Dillon's is going to close its location at Thunderbird Road and

and had great dinners and

» See Letters on page 9

LOCAL VOICES

This is your public forum. We welcome your opinions, which can be emailed to wvnews@newszap.com or posted online under stories at YourValley.net.

Never, ever keep your dogs locked in hot cars

I had to yell at some lady today because she left her dog in the car with no AC or water when it is a 100 degrees out. Please remeber your pets with it is this hot out. Thank you!

-Tv Steven on nextdoor.com

BEWARNED

Friendly warning to my neighbors: If I see a dog locked in a car with no air or water and cannot find you quickly, I will smash your window out!.

-Jane Fisher

What is wrong with people? I just don't

understand! These people don't deserve animals at all.

-Karen Durham

I had a big argument with the lady about the same problem. She said she only left the dog for a minute. I was standing out there by her car for 10 minutes. I asked her how she would like it if someone locked her in a car at 100 degrees or more.'

She drove away. That was my answer.

-Helaine Cesaro

STAY AWAY

Mind your own business.

-Tom Paque

That's awful I'd never leave my dog in a hot car heck I wont even leave my lizard in the car and they like the heat

I'd recommend calling the police as well otherwise you'll probably end up paying for a window.

-Tabatha Sweeney

welcome to respond with a letter to the editor or a guest commentary by

offer a "right of reply" to the people about whom we write. Readers who disagree with a news story or the way it was handled or edited are email at wvnews@newszap.com.

Corrections & Clarifications

24), we incorrectly identified SafeWise.com in one reference.

In a story on the Census 2020 count ("Surprise staging year-long effort to

advertising. It should have read \$43,000 is the amount of money Surprise

will owe as part of the Regional Census ad buy MAG is conducting for the

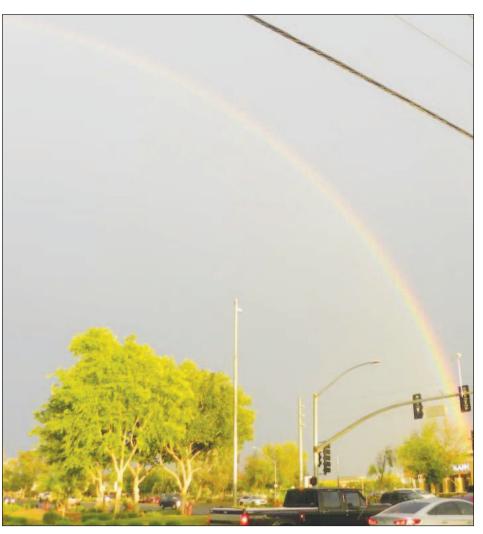
In a story on Surprise safety rankings ("Surprise still in 'safety' zone," April

reach residents," April 17), we incorrectly wrote that the City of Surprise received \$43,000 from the Maricopa Association of Governments for

Surprise Today strives for accuracy and is pledged to bring errors that

have appeared in our newspaper to the attention of our readers. We

SNAPSHOT



Surprise rainbow sighting

David C. Sitzman submitted this photo. Send scenic pictures to wvnews@newszap.com. Include name and city. [Submitted photo]

Letters

Loop 101 ("Dillon's to close Thunderbird location," April 24). Many residents wish the board would welcome Dillon's back to our community and Surprise with open arms.

Jerry Bowers

Editor's note: Dillon's closed its location in Sun City Grand in late 2011.

Local firefighter recognized for work in Payson

My son, Chris Krohn, is a firefighter and lives here in Surprise. However, he is a firefighter up in Payson.

He drives to Payson for his duties as a firefighter every four days and has been with the department for just over a year. He received the Firefighter of the Year last month for Payson.

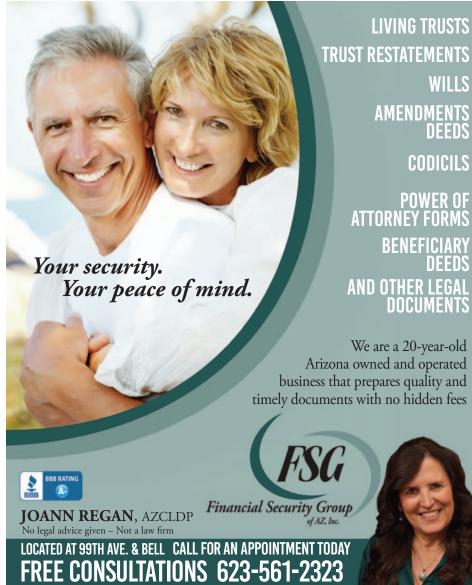
He has never missed a shift nor been late for his shift. I just was thinking it would be nice to see this reported as he is a local resident of Surprise and he drives to serve up north. He is very dedicated to his job and the community he serves.

I just wanted to give him local recognition.

Peggy Krohn SURPRISE







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From left, Gov. Doug Ducey, Surprise Mayor Skip Hall and State Senate Majority Leader Rick Gray share a lighthearted moment on April 26 during the dedication ceremonies for Veterans Bridge on Bell Road over Grand Avenue. [Jason Stone/Independent Newsmedia]

Bridge

» From page 1

through Surprise now has its own name with some signage already in place and a big display of the name visible to Grand Avenue traffic coming in the next few months

"This is about so much more than a single bridge in a single city," Mr. Ducey said. "As we know, our veterans have fought, bled and sacrificed to keep our freedom. And we are forever grateful to them."

Mr. Ducey was on hand for the dedication of the bridge's name with Congresswoman Debbie Lesko and State Senate Majority Leader Rick Gray, two people who helped push the name change through a couple of state agencies.

"I am a believer that one person can make a difference," Ms. Lesko said. "Dan Reilly, you have made a difference.

Ms. Lesko was referring to the veteran who initially suggested the name and pushed the last 2-1/2 years to see it through.

"One man came up with an idea and many working together got it done," Ms. Lesko said.

» See Bridge on page 11



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A crowd heavy with veterans joined West Valley and state dignitaries to brave the 100-degree heat on April 26 at the Veterans Bridge dedication ceremony near Chick-Fil-A at Bell Road and Grand Avenue. [Jason Stone/ Independent Newsmedia]

Bridge

» From page 10

Mayor Skip Hall recognized Mr. Reilly during the ceremony before Mr. Reilly posed for photos next to renderings of the bridge that Mr. Ducey and Mr. Hall officially unveiled at the end of the 25-minute ceremony.

Road well-travelled

The bridge is the most travelled road in Surprise. It tops an intersection that was once deemed the most dangerous in Maricopa County before the bridge became operational in late 2016.

Mr. Hall said the bridge never intended to have a name, but now that it does, he thinks it's perfect.

"It's a very fitting tribute with the number of veterans we have here," Mr. Hall said.

And the number of veterans in the crowd. When Ms. Lesko asked for hand raises for the veterans, a good three-fourths of those there threw a hand up.

APS

tigation it is not clear exact-

ly," said Annie DeGraw, who

until last week was a spokes-

woman for APS before leav-

ing to take a similar job in

Phoenix Mayor Kate Gal-

lego's office. "I know a lot

of people are saying there

was an explosion and that

it blew up, but at this point

we cannot even verify if that

"We know there was a

failure and something hap-

» From page 3

occurred."

"I think it's absolutely wonderful that they didn't name it after one person," said Billee Culin, a Vietnam veteran who served from 1969 and 1971 and was the secretary for Gen. William Westmoreland at the Pentagon for a time. "They named it for all of us who served and fought for our country."

Political positioning

Mr. Ducey touched on veterans' issues during his speech to the crowd, including rising suicide rates among those who have served.

"It's a tragic epidemic," Mr. Ducey said.

In 2017, Arizona launched the "Be Connected" program, which is focused on reducing suicides for Arizona's military and veterans.

Mr. Ducey said the state has set aside \$1 million in funding for the program this year, "so that our state can provide more veterans the life-saving support they deserve."

Information for that pro-

gram is available at BeConnectedAZ.org.

Mr. Ducey also touted the state's recent passage of universal recognition of military spouses with operational licenses from other states now accepted in Arizona.

"We are the first state in the nation to recognize licenses universally for everyone who's moving to the state of Arizona," Mr. Ducey said. "It was really military spouses who helped us make the case."

Ms. Lesko reminded veterans to keep sharing their stories because she never learned about her World War II veteran dad until his funeral.

"We need to know your bravery," Ms. Lesko said. "It's good for all of us to know, and our children, and our children's children."

The city celebrated the event by giving out commemorative keychains.

Editor's note: Jason Stone can be reached at 623-445-2805, on email at jstone@newszap.com or on Twitter at @thestonecave. Visit www.yourvalley.net.

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sure what machinery caused that and what were the steps leading up to that actually taking place."

pened, but we aren't exactly

APS took the other two power facilities in the state offline after the explosion.

"This is a typical step for someone who's as safety-fo-cused as APS," Ms. DeGraw

Surprise spokeswoman Diane Arthur said the city was aware the lithium-ion battery storage was there, but the city doesn't have the authority to regulate APS installations within the community.

"We were notified by APS regarding the location of the energy storage system approximately in the spring of 2016," Ms. Arthur said. "As for permitting, the 2012 International Building Code exempts Public Service Agencies."

Surprise The Code105.2.3 Public Service Agencies reads: "A permit shall not be required for the installation, alteration

» See APS on page 14



education

FOR MORE SCHOOL NEWS, VISIT YOURVALLEY.NET

Send us your School News

Calendar items and photos for Education News can be submitted by emailing WVnews@newszap.com

In brief:

Sunset Hills students to partake in Spirit Week

Sunset Hills Elementary School, 17825 W. Sierra Montana Loop, will conduct its Spirit Week May 6 through 10.

The theme for Monday, May 6 is Skittles day. Pre-K and kindergarten students will wear blue, first-and second-grade students will wear green, third- and fourth-grade students will wear yellow, fifth- and sixth-grade students will wear red and seventh- and eighth-grade students will wear white.

The theme for Tuesday, May 7 is Career Day, where students will dress up with the attire of a possible future career.

The theme for Wednesday, May 8 is Patriotic Day, where students will wear red, white and blue.

The theme for Thursday, May 9 is "Wear Your Favorite Shirt" Day, where students will wear their favorite shirt. Keep in mind dress code will be enforced.

The theme for Friday, May 10 is Bobcat Spirit Day, where students will wear their school colors.

college DAY Shadow Ridge seniors to visit EMCC

Some seniors at Shadow Ridge High School, 10909 N. Perryville Road, will visit Estrella Mountain Community College, 3000 N. Dysart Road, Avondale, on Friday, May 3. Students attending EMCC after graduation are invited to this all-day event that includes placement testing, lunch, priority advising workshop and group registration.

BAND Cimarron Springs holds band meeting

The Cimarron Springs Elementary School Band PSI CHI.

Psi Chi startup

Dr. Leslie Sherlin, left, of Ottawa University Arizona installs one of 21 students into the school's newly formed Psi Chi chapter at a ceremony April 8. Psi Chi is an international honor society in psychology, whose purpose is to encourage, stimulate and maintain excellence in scholarship, and to advance the science of psychology. OUAZ joined more than 1,200 chapters at colleges and universities throughout the U.S., Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Barbados, Egypt, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Turkey, Guatemala, Russia and Puerto Rico. [Submitted photo]



More than 50 Dysart Hero Awards were presented to certified, support staff, administrators, and volunteers at the annual program April 18. The awards were handed out to those who have made positive contributions to the Dysart Unified School District. [Courtesy of DUSD]

50 honored at Dysart Hero Awards Dinner

As a culmination of the annual Dysart Heroes program to honor outstanding employees, the Dysart Unified School District hosted a Hero Awards Dinner and Silent Auction on April 18.

More than 300 guests were in attendance at the Sun City Grand Kiva Ballroom to watch more than 50 certified, classified, and administrative staff members -- as well as a district volunteer -- were selected from peer nominations to receive the honor of being named a Dysart Hero.

A Hero Squad, made up of district administrators

and Governing Board members, surprised recipients over the course of several days in March with the award in front of students and co-workers.

The gifts included certificates, balloons and tickets to the Awards Dinner.

At the dinner, Hero recipients were honored with thoughtful quotes from nomination letters.

They were also presented with a commemorative plaque donated by the Dysart Education Foundation.

To see the full list of the Dysart Hero Recipients, visit the district's website at www.dysart.org.

Fire department displays horrors of distracted, impared driving during Shadow Ridge mock crash

The Surprise Fire-Medical Department conducted an impaired and distracted driving mock crash April 23 for students at Shadow Ridge High School, 10909 N. Perryville Road.

The event involved public safety vehicles and included a medical helicopter flying into the "emergency" scene.

The mock crash was designed to educate young adults about the dangers and life-changing consequences of impaired and distracted driving before the school's prom. Shadow

Ridge theater students performed as the drivers and passengers in wrecked vehicles with City of Surprise Police and Fire responding to the crash.

The program is funded through a grant from the Fire Department and was awarded by the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety to enhance community awareness about impaired and distracted driving during prom season.

Visit www.dysart.org to watch the full video of the mock crash.



In a screenshot of a video by the Dysart Unified School District, the City of Surprise Fire-Medical Department helps a student from a "fatal" crash due to impaired driving during a mock crash on April 23 at Shadow Ridge High School. [Courtesy of DUSD]

» See Education on page 13

Dysart to host annual Math Challenge for elementary students

Dysart Unified School District will host its district-wide Math Challenge on Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4 in the cafeteria of Kingswood Elementary School, 15150 W. Mondell Road.

On May 3, the first- and second-grade competition begins at 4:30 p.m., while the seventh- and eighthgrade competition begins at 6 p.m.

On May 4, third- and fourth-grade competition begins at 8 a.m., with the fifth- and sixth-grade competition beginning at 10:30 a m

Dysart Unified School District hosts a Math Challenge each year to get students excited about math. All 19 of DUSD's elementary schools are invited to participate, with each school al-



Students from across the district participated in the 2018 annual Math Challenge at Kingswood Elementary School. [Courtesy of Dysart Unified]

lowed to send three teams of six students for each grade level.

There are three timed rounds of competition. The first round is for speed, with quick answer questions. The second and

third rounds focus on problem-solving and get more intense as they progress.

The teams must work together and strategize to complete the problems to the best of their ability within the time allowed.



Dysart club aims at father involvement

Dads and their children construct birdhouses out of wood during the after-school Difference Makers Club on April 24. The Difference Makers club aims at fathers to spend time with their children to make a difference in their lives. ISubmitted Photol

Education

» From page 1

will hold its recruiting meeting 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 7 in the school cafeteria, 17032 W. Surprise Farms Loop S.

The meeting is an opportunity for students who are interested in taking band to come and learn what it is all about.

Mr. Mea will be the facilitator for the meeting.

AWARD NIGHT

Seniors, athletes to be honored at Shadow Ridge

Shadow Ridge is holding an Athlete of the Year Banquet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 6 in the school's cafeteria.

The school is also hosting its Senior Awards
Night the following day at
6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 7.
Seniors with a weighted

ds Seniors need to be at the day at gym at 5:45 p.m. to sign in.

attend.

es and

Doors will open up at 6:15 p.m. for family and friends.

grade point average of a 3.0

or higher, those who have completed and passed the

state exam for CTE cours-

students who have enlist-

been verified by the re-

Seniors, family and

friends are welcome to

ed in the military and have

cruiter will be recognized.

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APS

» From page 11

or repair of generation, transmission, distribution or metering or other related equipment that is under the ownership and control of public service agencies by established right."

Other municipalities, like the City of Phoenix, adhere to similar exemptions because, according to commentary provided in their code: "Utilities that supply electricity, gas, water, telephone, television cable, etc., do not require permits for work involving the transmission lines and metering equipment that they own and control ... Utilities are typically regulated by other laws that give them specific rights and authority in this area."

While installation of a fence surrounding the battery unit in Surprise – which is roughly the size of a shipping container – did require a permit approval from city officials, the battery itself did not, Ms. Arthur confirmed.

The apparently faulty unit is located across Grand from Asante Community Park and the Dysart Learning Center, less than a quar-



The APS McMicken Energy Storage facility near Grand Avenue and Deer Valley Road was the site of a lithium-ion battery explosion on April 19. The incident injured eight firefighters, including four from Surprise, and a Surprise police officer. The incident is still under investigation. [Jason Stone/Independent Newsmedia]

ter-mile from home sites.

Erin Jordan, a spokeswoman for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, said her agency does not regulate battery storage facilities, since that technology is not known to emit pollutants into the atmosphere. She was unsure under whose jurisdiction electric power storage facilities might fall, Ms. Jordan said.

Asked which agencies are responsible for regulating lithium-ion battery installations, the APS spokeswoman also could not confirm but

said she would look into the matter.

Editor's note: This story appeared in the April 26 edition of the Daily News-Sun, Independent Newsmedia's six-days-a-week subscription-based newspaper, which includes timely coverage of

local, Valley, state, national and world news. To find out more about our print and e-subscriptions, contact Rosemary at 623-876-2524 or email Rwee@newszap.com. Visit www.yourvalley.net.

Editor's note: Part of this story appeared in the April 26

edition of the Daily News-Sun, Independent Newsmedia's six-days-a-week subscription-based newspaper, which includes timely coverage of local, Valley, state, national and world news. To find out more about our print and e-subscriptions, contact Rosemary at 623-876-2524 or email Rwee@newszap. com. Visit www.yourvalley.net.

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An amenities center is among the perks of Homestead at Marley Park, which is expected to open in September. Meritage Homes previewed their 500-home development at an official grand opening on April 26. [Submitted

Business

» From page 6

days, May 8 and 22; Thursdays, June 6 and 20; Thursday, July 11; Tuesdays, August 13 and 27; and Thursdays, September 12 and 26.

The classes will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on those days.

For information or

to register, please contact Ruby Sitea at 623.222.3242, or ruby. sitea@surpriseaz.gov.

OPENINGS

Homestead at Marley Park is eveing fall open

Homestead at Marley Park celebrated its grand opening on April 26.

Meritage Homes is bringing more than 500 single-family homes to the neighborhood with a planned September open-

Homes will be priced from the low \$200,000s. They feature 12 floorplans between 1,300 and 3,300 square feet.

Meritage Homes is the nation's seventh-largest homebuilder.

Unity

» From page 6

ty for those who truly need and deserve basic dental care," said Connie Kinnee, senior manager of training and development at Adelante Healthcare.

"Unity has created an extremely valuable and unique approach to teaching dental assisting through hands-on learning.

13-week program is perfect for those students who wish to pursue a career through post-secondary education but do not want to make the financial or time-intensive commitment to a twoor four-year degree. We're very excited for all the potential collaborative opportunities between Adelante Healthcare and Unity Den- live music. tal Assisting.

The official grand opening Adsded Kinnee: "Their ceremony is set from 4 to 6 da.com.

p.m. on Thursday, June 6 at the headquarters at the Surprise Professional Center in Surprise, AZ.

Members of the community, as well as current and future students and their families and friends are encouraged to attend this event. Hors d'oeuvre will be served in a happy hour setting with

Information about the program can be found at unity-

Title

» From page 6

volunteering, bringing the team closer together, but they also found inspiration working so closely with the community."

Over the course of the "T.A. Gives Back" week, the company combined to

volunteer more than 1,000 hours.

This is the second year Title Alliance has facilitated this fulfilling week of community service.

Chamber

» From page 6

Golf Club in San Tan Valley and the president of the Cactus and Pine Golf Course Superintendent Association.

The Golf Course Super-

intendents Association of America recognized him with the Excellence in Government Affairs Award in

The cost is \$15 for Chamber members and \$45 for non-members.

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In Brief:

Shadow Ridge, Willow Canyon face softball showdowns

State softball tournament play in Arizona's three largest divisions began Tuesday night and Shadow Ridge and Willow Canyon found themselves in th 8-vs-9 games.

Results of both games were not available at press time.

No. 8 Shadow Ridge played host to No. 9 Scottsdale Chaparral in a 6A first round game. Visit West Valley Preps at yourvalley.net/yourvalley/valley-preps for Richard Smith's recap of the game.

No. 9 Willow Canyon headed south to face No. 8 Vail Cienega, the twotime defending 5A state champion.

Willow Canyon defeated No. 24 Kellis 15-5 in six innings on April 24 in a play-in game to advance

Both teams needed to win this game to continue their seasons and advance to the double-elimination portion of the bracket.

If Shadow Ridge won, it will playthe winner of No. 16 Tolleson and No. 1 Phoenix Pinnacle at 4 p.m. Thursday either at Pinnacle or at Shadow Ridge if Tolleson wins.

Likewise if Willow Canyon won, it will play at 4 p.m. Thursday, either at No. 1 Sunrise Mountain or hosting No. 16 Phoenix Sunnyslope.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL Schools finish first season

All four Dysart Unified School District high schools finished their first season of boys volleyball play this week.

In 6A, Shadow Ridge entered the final game of the season against Valley Vista on Tuesday with a 4-12 record. Valley Vista

» See Sports on page 27



Valley Vista's 4x800 relay team is, from left, Justin Tharp, Matthew Vazquez, Jamari Vanorsby and Tommy Thompson pose for a photograph on April 22 at Valley Vista High School in Surprise" [Jacob Stanek/Independent Newsmedia]

Monsoon boys relays make push into state

By Richard Smith

A Division I school fielding contending teams in all three boys relays is not all that unusual — so long as that school is an East Valley behemoth like Chandler, Phoenix Desert Vista or maybe Chandler Hamilton.

This year Valley Vista is poised to crash the party. In 2018, the Monsoon placed sixth in the 4x800-meter relay, 16th and last among finishing teams in the 4x100 and did not even qualify in the 4x400.

Entering the state meet, which begins today, the 2019 Valley Vista relay teams' best times ranked fifth in the 4x100, sixth in the 4x400 and fifth in the 4x800.

"It seems like every year they're breaking the last year's record. Historically, over the last three or four years, we've been one of the top sprint schools with regards to relays," Valley Vista track coach Willie Walker said.

While times suggest Valley Vista might get on the podium, head-to-head results hint at even more.

The Monsoon defeated Division I foes like Phoenix

» See Relay on page 30

Schedule:

2019 ARIZONA STATE TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TODAY (May 1)

9:45 a,m.: Team entrance open 11 a,m.: Javelin D1 Boys/D2 Boys/ D2 Girls

11:30 a,m.: High Jump D1 Boys/D2 Boys/D1 Girls; Pole Vault D2 Boys/ D2 Girls/D1 Boys; Triple Jump D2 Girls/D1 Girls

1 p.m.: Long Jump D2 Boys/D1 Boys

2 p.m.: Discus (northeast ring) D1 Girls/D2 Girls; Shot put D2 Boys/ D1 Boys

1 pm Coaches Meeting Following evnts: Girls D2 followed

2:30 p.m. 4X800m Relay Boys 3 p.m.: 110m Hurdles Boys 3:24 p.m.: 100H Hurdles Girls 3:48 p.m.: 100m Dash Boys 4:06 p.m.: 100m Dash Girls 4:30 p.m.: 1600m Run Girls 4:46 p.m.: 4X100 Relay Boys 5:02 p.m.: 4X100 Relay Girls 5:16 p.m.: 400m Dash Boys 5:39 p.m. 400m Dash Girls 6:05 p.m. 300m Hurdles Boys 6:35 p.m. 300m Hurdles Girls 7 p.m. 800m Run Girls 7:25 p.m. 200m Dash Boys 7:49 p.m. 200m Dash Girls 8:05 p.m. 3200m Run Boys 8:35 p.m. 4X400 Relay Boys

FRIDAY (May 3)

9:45 a.m.: Team entrance open 11 a.m.: Javelin D3 Boys/D3 Girls/ D4 Boys

9:05 p.m. 4X400 Relay Girls

12:30 p.m. Triple Jump D4 Girls/

D3 Boys/D4 Girls;High Jump D3 Boys/D4 Girls; Pole Vault D4 Boy / D3 Girls; Long Jump D3 Boys/D3 Girls/D4 Boys

2 p.m. Discus (northeast ring) D3 Boys/D4 Boys; Shot Put D4 Girls/ D3 Girls

1 p.m.: Coaches Meeting

2:30 p.m.: 4X800m Relay Girls

3 p.m.: 110m Hurdles Boys 3:24 p.m.: 100H Hurdles Girls 3:48 p.m.: 100m Dash Boys 4:06 p.m.: 100m Dash Girls 4:30 p.m.: 1600m Run Boys 4:46 p.m.: 4X100 Relay Boys 5:02 p.m.: 4X100 Relay Girls 5:16 p.m.: 400m Dash Boys 5:39 p.m.: 400m Dash Girls 6:05 p.m.: 300m Hurdles Boys 6:35 p.m.: 300m Hurdles Girls

6:35 p.m.: 300m Hurdles Girls 7 p.m.: 800m Run Boys 7:25 p.m.: 200m Dash Boys 7:49 p.m.: 200m Dash Girls 8:05 p.m.: 3200m Run Girls 8:35 p.m.:4X400 Relay Boys 9:05 p.m.: 4X400 Relay Girls

SATURDAY (May 4)

9:45 a.m.: Team entrance open 10:45 a.m.: Javelin (main field) D4 Girls/D1 Girls
11:30 a.m.: Shot Put D3 Boys/ D4
Boys/ D2 Girls/D1 Girls; Discus D2
Boys/ D1 Boys/ D3 Girls/D4 Girls; Pole Vault D1 Girls/ D4 Girls/ D3
Boys, Long Jump D4 Girls/ D1
Girls/ D2 Girls, Triple Jump D2
Boys/ D3 Girls/ D1 Boys
Noon: High Jump D4 Boys/D3
Girls/D2 Girls

1:45 p.m.: 4X800 Relay Div. IV

Boys/ Div. III Boys/ Div. II Girls/

» See Schedule on page 27

Paradise Honors banks on pitching for playoff push

By Richard Smith

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Despite entering the postseason with two straight upset losses, Paradise Honors baseball coach Charles Summers has confidence in the squad's ability to pitch itself through the 3A playoffs.

The key for the No. 13 Panthers was to take care of business in the Tuesday night home play-in game against No. 20 Chinle. Results were not available at press time.

If they win that, Summers said his team can be a factor in the main, 16-team 3A bracket thanks to its pitching depth and the



» See Baseball on page 27 Paradise Honors junior Hayden King delivers a pitch during an Aprill 22 home game against Phoenix Horizon Honors in Surprise. [Courtesy Mako Photography]

Woman Dentist...Tender Touch

For Surprise residents, Surprise Dental Care is a friendly, professional dental office, that offers quick and easy dental treatment. Dr. Jenny Wang is an experienced woman dentist specializing in helping baby boomers chew better and live a healthier lifestyle!



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Restrictions may apply. Limited time offer.

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entertainment

Send us your events!

News and photos can be submitted to the newspaper by emailing WVnews@newszap.com

Calendar

5/1 WEDNESDAY

TRIVIA: Team Trivia takes place 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday and Sunday at Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, #104, Surprise. Call 623-214-1004.

KARAOKE: Every Wednesday 8-11 p.m. at Rumors Sports Bar, 16846 W. Bell Road, Suite 100, Peoria. Call 623-584-8250.

ART EXHIBIT: Arizona Broadway Theatre, in cooperation with West Valley Art Museum, will host in its lobby at 7701 W. Paradise Lane, Peoria, a collection of fine print from artists across the country. The works are available for display 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sundays through June 28. **OPEN MIC:** Acoustically Speaking hosts Open Mic Night 6-8 p.m. at CheezHeads, 20283 N. Lake Pleasant

Road, #110, Peoria. Call 623-566-6770. **CONCERT:** The GCC Percussion Ensemble, Other Music Gamelan @ GCC, GCC African Drum Ensemble and Philippine Kulitang Music present "Drums Along the Pacific for the New Millennium" 7:30 p.m. at Glendale Community College, 6000 W. Olive Ave., Glendale. Call 623-845-3000.

CARS: Hot Rod Night goes 5-9 p.m. at WaterDance Plaza inside Westgate's Entertainment District, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd, Glendale. Classic cars and hot rods on display the first Wednesday of the month through June. Live music and more. All cars welcome. 80s & older park in WaterDance Plaza. 90s & newer park on Westgate Boulevard near Fountain Park. Parking opens 4 p.m. Visit westgateaz.com/hotrod or call 623-385-7502

COMEDY: Open Mic night starts 7 p.m. at Stir Crazy Comedy Club, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd., Suite E-206, Glendale. Limited spots available. Email info @stircrazycomedyclub.com or call

MUSIC: SCW Talent Spotlight continues with the Spicy Ukers 11 a.m. at the Kuentz Recreation Center, 1 4401 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Call 623-544-6580.

COLLEGE: The U-of-A Transfer Specialist will be visiting the Estrella Mountain Community College campus, 3000 N. Dysart Road, Avondale, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. to inform students about transfer opportunities to their college. Email tabithav@email.arizona. edu or visit arizona.edu/future-

5/2 THURSDAY

KARAOKE: Take the mic 9:30 p.m. every Thursday at Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, No. 104, Surprise. Call 623-214-

OPEN MIC: Try your hand 9 p.m.midnight every Thursday hosted by Chris Yak at Fuzzy's Southwest Sports Grill, 18795 N. Reems Road, #109, Surprise. Call 623-556-0664.

MUSIC: Kate & The Dream Band performs every Thursday 6 p.m. at Desert Rose Pizza & Gastro Pub, 6729 N. 57th Drive, Glendale. Call 623-937-3004.

MUSIC: Ricky Harris plays 7 p.m. at Fountain Park inside Westgate's Entertainment District, 6751 N. Sunset

Blvd., Glendale, Call 623-385-7502. » See Calendar on page 19



Kathryn Katsikis and Nicholas Hambruch will star in "Bright Star" at Stage Left Productions. [Submitted photo]

Stage Left to open new theater with 'Bright Star'

Surprise company takes on Martin, **Brickell work**

On the verge of moving into its new space, Stage Left Productions will open "Bright Star" to inaugurate its new Surprise stage.

"Bright Star" opens its six-show run 7 p.m. Friday, May 10. The musical - set in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains in the mid-40s with flashbacks to 1923 – was written by actor/comedian Steve Martin and musician Edie Brickell before making its stage premiere in 2014.

The production runs through May 19.

"Bright Star' is the story of one woman at two different points in her life: the first, when she is a wild young thing growing up barefoot and carefree in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina; the second, when she is a well-to-do magazine editor in Asheville, 22 years later," the theatre states. "Her story is inevitably woven with that of an idealistic young man named Bil-

IF YOU GO

What: "Bright Star" **Who:** Stage Left Productions When: 7 p.m. Friday, May 10 (Show runs through May 19) Where: Stage Left Theatre, 11340 W. Bell Road, Suite 105A, Surprise

Information: Email tickets@ stageleftaz.com, visit stageleftaz.com or call 623-463-7147

ly, with whom she shares a mysterious connection."

Stage Left performed its first show in 2016 with a staging of "Exit Laugh-

» See Theatre on page 19



Spring in

Ask a Master Gardener series features Maricopa County Master Gardeners answering questions regarding plant selection, fertilization, irrigation guidelines and best pruning practices 9:30 a.m. to noon at Northwest Regional Library, 16089 N. Bullard Ave. Free admission. Call 602-652-3000. [Metro Creative Graphics]

In brief:

Cinco de Mavo painting night on upcoming **WHAM** slate

"WHAM Rocks" takes place 6 p.m. Friday, May 3 at the WHAM Gallery at the Community Art Čenter, 16560 N. Dysart Road.

Come enjoy a family evening or date night painting rocks and learning from a professional artists on the first Friday of every month at WHAM.

This weekend's theme will be "Let's Rock Cinco De Mayo." Guests will create a garden pot of beautiful rock cacti. It's a project perfect to display in a garden or patio. We will also be painting ma-

» See Entertain on page 19



Dave Freytag, left, Bryan Fasulo and Radio X play the Wolfhound in Surprise on Friday, May 3. [Submitted photo]

Radio X tunes in classic rock hits at the Wolfound

Phoenix-based 5-piece band to make stop in Surprise

Classic rock cover band Radio X will be all over the West Valley this summer, with a Surprise gig up next.

Radio X performs 9 p.m. Friday, May 3 at Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, #104.

The Phoenix-based band features Dave Freytag (guitars), Rob Agaciewski (guitars), Jeff Wagner (bass), Bryan Fasulo (lead vocals) and Paul Bartal (drums, percussion).

Among the band's influences are AC/DC, Poison, Def Leppard, Bon Jovi,

IF YOU GO Who: Radio X

When: 9 p.m. Friday, May 3 Where: Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, #104 Information: Follow the band

on Facebook, or call 623-256-

Guns N' Roses, Maroon 5, The Cars, The Knack, The Outfield, Dio, Cheap Trick, and more. They play a broad mix from 70s to current music. including hard rock, alternative, pop and classic rock.

The band's West Valley run is only beginning.

Look for Radio X at Starlite Lounge in Glendale (Saturday, May 25), Kimmyz on Greenway in Glendale (Saturday, June 15) and will return to the Wolfhound in Surprise on Saturday, June 29.



The cast runs through a scene during rehearsals for "Bright Star" in Surprise. [Submitted photo]

Theatre

» From page 18

ing" at the Ventana Lakes Yacht Club, 20015 N. 108th Ave., Sun City.

They are in the midst of completing their move to the theatre's new home at 11340 W. Bell Road, #105A, where "Bright Star" will perform.

"(We) had the opportunity to move and we took it," Stage Left artistic director Cody Dull said. "Thanks to some very gracious people we will have this beautiful theatre for people from across the Valley to enjoy."

Mr. Dull is a two-time ari-Zoni nominated director, and he earned both nods in the same year (2016). He is also

directing "Bright Star."

"Bright Star' is a story of courage, love, family, and of not losing hope when it seems lost." he said.

The work was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Musical in 2016 and earned a Grammy nod for Best Musical Theater Album in 2017.

Tickets are \$30.

Visit stageleftaz.com.

Entertain

» From page 18

racas to celebrate Cinco De Mayo.

All supplies provided for a \$15 donation for adults and \$5 for kids. Proceeds benefit WHAM's children's art programs.

Register online at whamart.org under the classes tab. Or email sheree. ochoa@wham-art.org, or call 602-989-3825.

WHAM also has hidden rocks in various locations in Surprise.

Find one and bring it to an event to be entered to win a prize.

Calendar

» From page 18

COMEDY: Zoltan Kaszas opens his weekend set 7 p.m. at Stir Crazy Comedy Club, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd., Suite E-206, Glendale. He also performs 7 & 9:30 p.m. Friday, May 3 and 7 & 9:30 p.m. Saturday, May 4. Email info@stircrazycomedyclub.com or call 623-565-8667.

MEETING: American Legion Mary Ellen Piotrowski Post 94 membership meeting starts 10 a.m. at the Sun City West Foundation, 14465 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Call 623-975-4300

MOVIE: "On The Basis Of Sex" shows 7 p.m. at the Stardust Theatre, 14401 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Recommended donation of \$2 per person Hearing-assisted devices available for use. No food or drink in the theater. Call 623-544-6130.

LIVE MUSIC: Enjoy the sounds 6-10 p.m. at The Wigwam Resort, 300 Wigwam Blvd., Litchfield Park.

Call 623-935-9040.

5/3 FRIDAY

CINCO DE MAYO: A Cinco de Mayo celebration goes 1-4 p.m. at the Village Center, 19793 N. Remington Drive, Surprise. Celebrate with live entertainment, music, cash bar and drink specials.

LIVE MUSIC: Western Fusion starts 9 p.m. at The Brookside II Sports Bar and Grille, 15170 W. Bell Road, #115, Surprise. Call 623-556-1000.

LIVE MUSIC: RadioX performs 9 p.m. at Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, #104, Surprise. Call 623-214-1004.

ART: "WHAM Rocks" takes place 6 p.m. at the WHAM Gallery at the WHAM Community Art Center, 16560 N. Dysart Road, Surprise. Register online at wham-art.org under the classes tab. Or email sheree.ochoa@wham-art.org or call

THEATRE: "Beauty and the Beast"

opens 7 p.m. inside Gyder Theater at Theater Works, 10580 N. 83rd Drive, Peoria. The production runs through May 19. Tickets \$18. Email boxoffice@ theaterworks.org or call 623-815-

THEATER: "Guys and Dolls" opens 5:30 p.m. at Arizona Broadway Theatre, 7701 W. Paradise Lane, Peoria, and plays through March 26. Call 623-776-8400.

THEATRE: "The Miracle Worker" plays 7 p.m. at Spotlight Youth Theatre, 10620 N. 43rd Ave., Glendale. The show also plays 2 & 7 p.m. Saturday, May 4 and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 5. Call 602-843-8318.

CONCERT: Performances by the GCC Piano Studio directed by Dr. Christina Eide 7:30 p.m. inside the Performing Arts Center at Glendale Community College, 6000 W. Olive Ave., Glendale. Free and open to the public. Call 6 23-845-3000.

MUSIC: Youz Guys performs every Friday 4 p.m. at Desert Rose Pizza

» See Calendar on page 23

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neighbors

Send us vour Neighbors News

News and photos for Neighbors can be submitted by emailing **WVnews@newszap.com**

□In brief:

Surprise to host free seminar to improve job interview skills

The City of Surprise is offering a free workshop to improve your job interview skills at 9 a.m. every third Tuesday of the month at the Surprise Resource Center, 12425 W. Bell Road #124.

Residents will learn the frame work of an interview take control of the success of an interview, learn the importance of proper attire and strategies to have a successful interview.

Call Andrew Witzel at 623-222-1630, or email at andrew.witzel@maricopa. gov to register for the sem-

GIFTING

Benevilla holding baby shower for expectant moms

Benevilla is holding a free community baby shower, as part of a partnership with Surprise Resource Center, for expectant moms and mom with babied six months and younger 9 a.m. Friday, May 3 at the Glendale/Peoria YMCA, 14711 N. 59th Ave., Glendale.

Moms may bring one guest, excluding the baby. There will be food and drinks as well as gifts and prizes.

WHAM Art workshop, gallery tour part of Kids First Sat.

WHAM is hosting a Kids First Saturday Art Workshop and Gallery Tour at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 4 at WHAM Art Association, 16560 N. Dysart Road.

Students will have a guided mini tour of the WHAM Gallery, review and briefly study the local artists artworks.

The art students will recreate their own art masterpiece, inspired by the gallery artworks currently on



Police Officers Jason Buntin, Anna Weaver, and their K-9 partners Hades and Shield hold up their first place trophy after winning the narcotic detection competition during the 2019 Desert Dog Police K-9 Trials April 6-7. [Submitted

Surprise K-9 unit takes trophy at police trials

Surprise police officers Jason Buntin and Anna Weaver, plus their K-9 partners Hades and Shield, took home some hardware at the 2019 Desert Dog Police K-9 Trials.

This annual competition brought police and military K-9 teams from across Arizona and Mexico together April 6 and 7 to compete in a variety of exercises.

Some of the events included handler protection, narcotics and explosives searches, area searches, building searches and an agility course.

Despite strong competition from many highly professional teams, Ms. Weaver, Mr. Buntin and their two helpers took first place in narcotic detection.

City offering free seminar that tackles wills vs. trusts

A free class to learn about wills and trusts is available at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7 at Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, in the Council Overflow Room.

The course will cover options that will help provide families with healthcare and financial directives to give them peace of mind.

Most American adults do not have a living trust, a will or any estate plan in place. For many who do, they can fall out of date for various reasons

This class is intended for residents to make sure their financial and health-

care wishes are fully honored and protect their loved ones from the real delays and costs of probate on your estate.

This interactive seminar taught by Bob Mariner from Generation Living Trusts

» See Class on page 29

Meet Your Neighbor

Name: Jeremy St.Germain Town/Neighborhood: Surprise

What is your title/occupation? Principal

What school or department do you work/volunteer at? Kingswood Elementary School,

Mascot: Knights.

What do you like most about your job? I love that I have the opportunity

and privilege to serve the Kingswood community. I am able to support teachers and work with families and high five kids when they accomplish amazing things. We have built a culture of #WeAreKingswood where we all are working together and celebrating one another. I love coming to work because it doesn't feel like work. I get to have fun every day.

What are you excited about on your campus/in your department and why?

I am always so excited to share the hard work our teachers and students do every day here at Kingswood. They work so hard to make our school a warm and welcoming place where the focus is on learning and teaching to the whole child. #WeAreKingswood is our go-to phrase, and it encompasses so much. Just ask any student. They'll tell you.

What do you like most about living here?

Arizona has the most amazing weather. It just provides so many opportunities to get outside and be active 365 days a year.

What changes would you like to see in this area?

I am always interested in learning about more opportunities to get our kiddos involved in positive and productive before and after school programs. Let's keep these kids so busy, they don't know what to do with themselves.

Favorite community cause and



Jeremy St.Germain

My passion will always be with kids, and right now, the kids of Kingswood. I will always strive to do what's right by kids and find ways to support them in each and every way possible. Our students do amazing things. Just come by, they'll be happy to show you.

When and why you moved here? I moved to Surprise in June 2003 because back home in Michigan there were not many teaching opportunities, and we were looking to start our careers. It was only supposed to be for a year to gain some experience, but 16

Where you lived prior to moving? Grand Rapids, Michigan.

years later, here we still are.

Who is in your family? My wife, Meghan; and three kids, Sebastian, 13; Kathleen, 12; and Tristan, 12.

If you could pick another occupation, what would it be? My dream job would to be one of Lady Gaga's backup dancers, of

What are your interests and hobbies?

My family loves to watch and play sports. All three of my kids are involved in some sport at their school here in Dysart Unified. My wife and I both play soccer together on a co-ed team in FI Mirage on Saturday nights. We're big fans of the Arizona Cardinals and are excited to celebrate and watch Larry Fitzgerald for at least

» See Meet on page 29

Recreation swim teams holding tryouts for new swimmers

Tryouts for the City of Surprise's recreational swim teams begin 5 p.m. Saturday, May 6 at the Surprise Aquatic Center, 15831 N. Bullard Ave.

A special Saturday tryout will be held 2 p.m. on May 4. Swimmers must be able to swim 25 yards, freestyle and backstroke continuously and demonstrate all four competitive strokes.

Divers must be comfortable enough to swim across the pool and be comfortable going off the diving board.

Surprise offers two recreational swim teams that compete in the West Valley Swim League, which consists of teams from the Surprise and Peoria. Practices start Tuesday, May 28 and continue every Monday through Thursday with meets and special events on Fridays and Saturdays.

Swim team registration is available for an eight-andunder practice or a nineand-older practice. Practices will be divided by age and skill, and swim meets will be separated by age groups and gender. Age is determined by June 1.

The city holds several classes for swimmers looking to hone their skill:

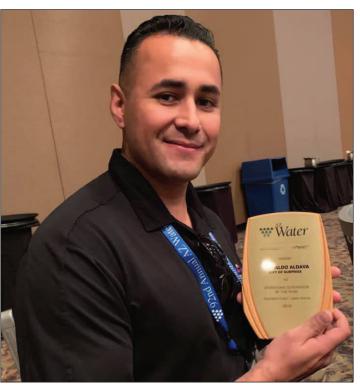
The Swordfish & Tsunami Beginning Dive class is for participants new to diving or may have one year of experience but cannot perform a back dive for competition.

The Swordfish & Tsunami Intermediate Dive class is for participants who may have one or two years experience and can perform one back dive for competition.

The Swordfish & Tsunami Advanced Dive class is for participants who may have two or more years experience, a full diving schedule, or high school diving experience

Registration for returning swimmers is now open. Swimmers will register at the CRS Office. Registration must be in person to verify past participation.

» See Neighbors on page 21



Surprise Water Resources **Department supervisor** named **Supervisor** of the Year

Surprise Water Resources Department Supervisor Reynaldo Aldava was recently named Supervisor of the Year by the AZ Water Association at the association's annual conference April 16 through 18. The City of Surprise recently participated in a nationwide campaign promoting water conservation. [Submitted photo]

Local water professionals compete at state competition

Water professionals Water Conservation Specialist Amy Peterson, left, and Water Operator Jaclyn Alm of Surprise competed in Hydrant Hysteria. The competition sponsored by the Arizona Water Association and M&H/Kennedy Valve pits teams from around the state against each other to see who can assemble a fire hydrant the fastest. [Submitted photo]

Neighbors

» From page 20

display.

There will be painting with a different media each month, consisting of either watercolors, mixed media, pastels or acrylic paints.

All supplies are provided. Each workshop a child will have a piece of art to bring home. The cost is \$15 per student.

El Mirage 'Cares' event aims to keep kids safe

The El Mirage Fire Department is holding a El Mirage Cares Event at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 2 at Northwest Valley YMCA, 12450 W. Cinnabar Ave.

The theme of the event is "Keeping our kids safe, in life and online."

Staffed resource information tables will be present, and there will be a community forum on sexual abuse and sex trafficking. Free refreshments and food is available to attend-

Free child care will be provided for children three months to 10 years old

For information, contact Amber Wakeman at 623-876-2962, or awakeman@ elmirageaz.gov.

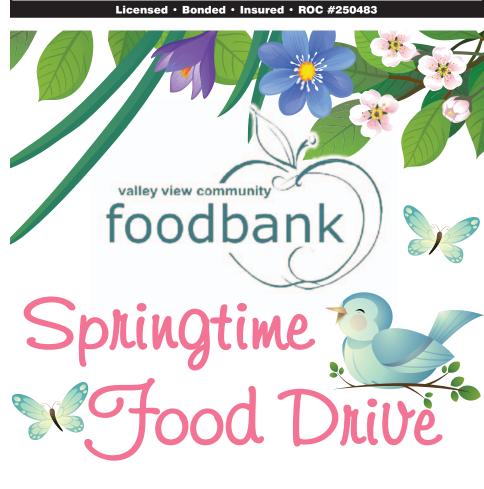




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CLUB LISTINGS

Note: The deadline for calendar items is 5 p.m. Wednesday prior to the next Wednesday's publication. All notices and changes must be submitted in writing. Unless otherwise noted, area codes are 623.

Animals **BEST FRIENDS DOG CLUB:**

Meetings third Tuesday of the month except for December. Visit bestfriendsdogclub.org.

Career Groups GATHERING OF FORMER NUNS, PRIESTS AND BROTHERS: Meets

third Tuesdays of the month at various venues. Group has been meeting monthly for more than 20 years to exchange ideas of mutual interests. Call 584-1824.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED AND VETERAN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES: Meets 11 a.m. Thursday May 2 at the Royal Café, 10793 W. Grand Avenue, Sun City. Guest speaker discusses senior living facilities

NURSES BREAKFAST CLUB: Meets 9 a.m. second Tuesday September through May at The Links Neighbor Grill in the Vistas Golf Club. 18823 N. Country Club Parkway in Peoria. Each month there is a medical or social presentation. A breakfast buffet is served. To make a reservation or for further information call 503-522-2171. Reservations are required.

RETIRED NURSES CLUB: New location: local nurses club meets 9 a.m. the second Tuesday of every month (except June-August) at The Links Neighborhood Grill at the Vistas Golf Course, 18823 N. Country Club Parkway. Meetings are a breakfast social or a medial presentation by a guest speaker. Membership dues are \$5 for the year and \$9 for the breakfast each meeting. Call Judy 503-522-2171.

VALLEY ENGINEERING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CLUB: Luncheon and technical presentation 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 3 at the Briarwood Country Club, 20800 N. 135th Ave., Sun City West. Program entitled "The ASU Space Technology and Science (NewSpace) Initiative" by Scott Smas, program manager. NewSpace is one of the strategic initiatives at Arizona State University that focuses on the growing ASU legacy of discovery in space sciences and technologies and showcases this to the emerging commercial space industry. Cost is \$22 and reservations are required. Call 544-0942 at least three days

prior to the meeting. Visit www. engineersaz.com.

WEST VALLEY NURSES CLUB:

Luncheon meeting 11:30 a.m. on the following dates at the Briarwood Country Club, 20800 N. 135th Ave. Sun City West: May 17 - Daniel Hewson. audiologist from Ascent Audiology will present a program "Is it hearing loss or is it memory?" All retired and working nurses are invited to attend the meetings. Reservations required. Call 546-6645.

Crafts & Hobbies

ANCIENT MARINERS WOODEN SHIP MODELING CLUB: Participate in discussion on tips and techniques, tools, materials, nautical news and discuss models displayed, both in progress and newly completed, learning the finer points and problem-solving on each. Meetings are 9-11:30 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month, varying between Surprise and Sun City, depending on time of year. Call 623-826-3187.

Games & Sports SURPRISE PICKLEBALL

ASSOCIATION: Promotes the fastest growing sport in the U.S. by seeking members dedicated to having fun and join the quest to expand the number of pickleball courts in Surprise. To join visit surprisepickleball.org or pick up a membership form at the courts in Dream Catcher Park, 14534 W. Tierra Buena Lane, Learn to play for free by dropping in 6 p.m. the second Monday of every month at the Surprise courts; equipment will be provided. Business sponsorships are welcome to benefit the growth pickleball in Surprise-contact . Marlene Berwald at mberwald04@ gmail.com.

Health **BOSOM BUDDIES OF ARIZONA:**

West Valley branch meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. first Thursdays at La Quinta Inn and Suites, 16321 N. 83rd Ave. Call 872-8135 or 935-6293. Banner Boswell -Sun City branch meets 6-8 p.m. third Tuesday at Banner Boswell Medical Center, Memorial Hall West, 13180 N. 103rd Drive. Call 328-5494.

Music & Performing Arts **DESERT AIRES BARBERSHOP**

CHORUS: 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Shepherd of the Hills United



The League of Women Voters of Northwest Maricopa County announced its outgoing and incoming officers and board members. In front are Pherne Lewis, outgoing president Bonnie Saunders, Jim Dobbins, incoming president Judy Moor, and Lynne Leonard. In back are Joye Kohl, Barbara Knutson, Judy Dreskin, Jacquie Rose, Martha Thompson, Carol Mattoon, Kathy Long, Darnell Kirksey, Becky Sayler and John Kohl. Not pictured are Linda Napier, Betty Mulcahy, Susan Penner, Diane Smith. Visit nwmc.az.lwvnet.org. [Submitted photo]

Methodist Church, Sun City West. Call 691-9167 or 566-4715.

Politics

ARROWHEAD REPUBLICAN WOMEN: Wednesday, May 8 meeting

is a patriotic celebration of the upcoming holidays V-E Day May 8, Memorial Day May 30, Flag Day June 14, and Independence Day July 4. Author Nancy Kay Arnold will be signing her patriotic books written for children, Priscilla Posev, Arizona Federation of Republican Women Americanism Chairman, will be a special quest, Ms. Posev will share some of her "moments in history." Meeting is at the Briarwood Country Club, 20800 N. 135th Ave., Sun City West, Registration begins at 11:15 a.m., meeting starts at noon. A reservation is required. Cost is \$25. Register by 5 p.m. Thursday, May 2. Any reservations received after May 2 will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if a cancellation is received prior to the meeting. Reservations are payable at the door and include a luncheon, program, and meeting which often includes local politicians sharing current news. Reservations are required and may be made at www.arrowheadrw.weebly.com or by calling 602-354-5224

NORTHWEST VALLEY DEMOCRATS:

General meeting is at 6 p.m. for coffee and conversation with the speaker starting at 6:30 p.m. May 8 at the Quail room in the Foundation Building, at 14465 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. The speakers are Sandra Kennedy from the Arizona Corporation Commission and Heather Macre from the water board. Visit northwestvalleydemocrat.com.

SUN CITY GRAND REPUBLICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP: Hear

from state senators, legislators, Arizona GOP headquarters, state/ national elected officials, and outside guest on topics of interest to all. Information on speakers, dates, time and room locations can be found at grandgop.com. Guest are welcome. Refreshments are provided.

SUN CITY WEST REPUBLICAN CLUB: Meeting Saturday, May 4 in

the Grand Canyon Room of the Sun City West Foundation, 14465 W. R.H. Johnson Blvd. There is social time before the meeting with coffee and donuts available. A \$2 donation helps defray the cost of the room rental. The subject of the meeting is the Central Arizona Project (CAP), which is Arizona's single largest resource for renewable water supplies. It is designed to bring about 1.5 millionacre feet of Colorado River to central and southern Arizona, Deanna Ikeya, the senior policy analyst for the Colorado River program, will be the speaker. All Republicans and Independents from the Sun Cities and surrounding areas are welcome to attend. Call 623-214-8010 or visit www.scwrepublicans.com.

Social Groups AARP HISTORIC CHAPTER 1: The

first AARP Chapter in the world, incorporated in 1969. Open to all AARP national members or those looking to join. Meet the first Friday of every month in the Youngtown Town Council Chambers at 12033 N. Clubhouse Square, Youngtown. Meetings start at 5:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner and always include a presentation on matters pertaining to senior population, AARP Historic Chapter No. 1 is a non-profit, nonpolitical service organization dedicated to leading positive social change and delivering value to older people through information, advocacy and support. Annual dues are \$5 per year. Call 734-5438, email jaypatfan@hotmail.com or visit facebook.com/AARPChapter#1

ALTRUSA OF THE WEST VALLEY: Meets 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Corte Bella Country Club (Bacara room) in Sun City West. The group's mission is to support communities with a focus on literacy and service projects, reading to students, donating books, providing scholarships to GED and STEM students. Call 561-8233

AMERICAN LEGION, JOHN H HARRIES POST 101: Meets 2 p.m. third Fridays, Sept.-May at Menke's Sun City Room, 10307 W. Coggins Drive. Call 209-938-7528

AMERICAN ROSIE THE RIVETER: Rosie meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at Royal Cafe. Social time 11-11:30 a.m.; meeting 11:30-noon lunch noon-12:30 p.m.; program 12:30 p.m. Any woman or her daughter who worked in a defense plant during World War II or helped in any way in the defense of the United States is eligible to become a Rosie. Call 876-

ARIZONA AGUA FRIA UNIT OF THE ARIZONA STATE ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS: 9:30 a.m.

8714 or 933-0741.

second Wednesdays, AmTrust Bank, 14543 W, Grand Ave., September through May. Call 444-8256 or e-mail ebaellis3@cox.net.

ARIZONA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: The

Sons of the American Revolution is the leading male lineage society that perpetuates the ideals of the War for Independence. Anyone with an ancestor who supported the cause of American Independence during the years 1774-1783 are invited to join the SAR. The Saguaro Chapter meets the fourth Saturday of each month October-May. Call 975-4805.

ARROWHEAD REPUBLICAN **WOMEN:** Arrowhead Republican Women is open to Republican women registered to vote in Arizona - Republican men may join as associate members.

AZ NATIONAL SOCIETY OF DAUGHTERS OF FOUNDERS & PATRIOTS OF AMERICA: Meet at noon for luncheon meetings Saturdays in January, May and October at Birt's Bistro, 16752 N.

Greasewood St. Meet new cousins and make new friends while documenting ancestors' services to America, Call 937-8238. BETA SIGMA PHI: Looking for

women not currently in a local chanter Call 480-299-3316 to meet **BILLEE CULIN WEST VALLEY**

CHAPTER 1043 OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA: Meets every second Monday of the month, with the exception of July and August, 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 62, 9847 W. Desert Cove, Peoria. Mission is to serve all veterans in need. Open to all who

vva1043.org or call 252-8077. **CHI OMEGA FRATERNITY** ALUMNAE: Meetings 11:30 a.m. for lunch on the first Monday of the month. Call 253-230-5043.

served 1964 through 1975. Visit

» See Listings on page 24

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Calendar

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& Gastro Pub, 6729 N. 57th Drive, Glendale. Call 623-937-3004. MUSIC: Frosty & The Silver Tones plays 7 p.m. at Fountain Park inside Westgate's Entertainment District, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd., Glendale. Call 623-385-7502

BLUEGRASS: A Bluegrass Jam goes 1-3 p.m. at the Foothills Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave., Glendale. Bring an acoustic instrument and play bluegrass, country, folk, gospel, and more round-robin style. All levels of players welcome. Audience and singers also encouraged to attend. Also takes place 1-3 p.m. Friday, May 17. Call 623-930-3831.

COFFEE: Coffee and Cosmic Conversation takes place 10-11:30 a.m. at The Place of Spiritual Wisdom, 12630 N. 103rd Ave., Suite 244, Sun City. BINGO: Friday night PORA Bingo is open to the public and provides funds for many local charities at 6:15 p.m. at the R.H. Johnson Social Hall, 19803 N. R.H. Johnson Bivd., Sun City West. Doors open at 3. Cost for 15 games is \$10.

GOLF: The Maverick Golf Tournament tees off 1:15 p.m. at The Wigwam Resort, 300 E. Wigwam Blvd. , Litchfield Park.

THEATER: "Wizard of Oz" opens 7 p.m. at Acting Zone at Montessori in the Park's youth theater, at 1832 N. Litchfield Road, Goodyear. The theater is open to actors ages 8 to 19. The show also plays 7 p.m. May 4, 10 and 11. Email ActingZone@ mipschool.org.

5/4 SATURDAY

GARDENER CLINIC: Ask a Master Gardener series features Maricopa County Master Gardeners answering questions regarding plant selection, fertilization, irrigation guidelines & best pruning practices 9:30 a.m.-noon at Northwest Regional Library, 16089 N. Bullard Ave., Surprise. Free admission. Call 602-652-3000.

LIVE MUSIC: The Jaty Edwards Band performs 9 p.m. at Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, No. 104, Surprise. Call 623-214-1004.

MUSIC: Grand Cabaret at Sonoran Plaza Showtune Productions presents "Legendary Ladies of Soul," a trio singing hits from the '40s to the '70s at 7 p.m. at Sonoran Plaza, 19793 N. Remington Drive, Surprise. Cost \$20. Doors open at 6. Cash bar available.

LIVE MUSIC: Wine tastings presents live music from Nicki Park 5 p.m. at Winery 101, 9299 W. Olive Ave., Suite 101, Peoria. Call 623-242-0340.

LIVE MUSIC: The John Leo Group performs 6:30 p.m. at Sunset Bistro at The Lakes, 19260 N. Westbrook Parkway, Peoria.

FARMERS MARKET: The Peoria Farmers Market, hosted by Momma's Organic Market, is open 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 9744 W. Northern Ave. Email mommasorganicmarket@gmail.com for more information.

COMICS: Free Comic Book Day goes 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Drawn to Comics, 5801 W. Glendale Ave. & Samurai Comics, 6808 N. Dysart Road, Suite 148, Glendale. Visit drawntocomics. com or samuraicomics.com.

LIVE MUSIC: Hard rock and metal bands While She Waits, Until The Sun, Devil Lies Down and Some F-ing Band take turns on the stage starting 7 p.m. at Starlite Lounge, 4346 W. Olive Ave., Glendale. No cover. 21+ show. Call 623-934-1913.

MUSIC: Jim "Jimfab" Helms plays 7 p.m. at Fountain Park inside Westgate's Entertainment District, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd., Glendale. Call 623-385-7502.

FOLKLORIC DANCERS: Performing traditional Folklorico dance celebrating Cinco De Mayo 6 p.m. at The Episcopal church of St John the Baptist, 4102 W. Union Hills Drive, Glendale. Free admission, and open to the public.

MOVIE: Free for RCSC cardholders and their escorted guests every Saturday at 2 and 7 p.m. at Mountain View Recreation Center, 9749 N. 107th Ave., Sun City. All movie locations now have FM transmission. Bring a device and tune to 99.1 FM. Always free popcorn. Call 623-876-3042.

DANCING: The Hillcrest Dance & Social Club presents dancing 6:15-9:30 p.m. every Saturday at the R.H. Johnson Social Hall,

19803 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Cost is \$4 for members, \$6 for non-members. Call 623-302-0249. **MEDITATION:** A Weekly Insight Meditation Group meets every Saturday 2 p.m. at Unity Church of Surprise, 14495 W. R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Call 623-521-2242.

FIESTA: Avondale Fiesta goes 6-10 p.m. in Historic Downtown Avondale, Western Avenue between 6th Street and 3rd Street, Avondale. Call 602-418-5771.

5/5 SUNDAY

LIVE MUSIC: Copper Sunrise performs 3 p.m. at Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, No. 104, Surprise. Call 623-214-1004.

CINCO DE MAYO: Wine-o-Ritas, chips & salsa and live music noon-7 p.m. at Winery 101, 9299 W. Olive Ave., Suite 101, Peoria. \$5 by the glass or \$25 for a pitcher. Call 623-242-0340.

COMEDY: Clean Comedy Night starts 7 p.m. at Stir Crazy Comedy Club, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd., Suite E-206, Glendale. Email info@ stircrazycomedyclub.com or call 623-565-8667.

JAM SESSION: The Sunday Sun City Jam Session takes place the first Sunday of each month 4-7 p.m. at The Sun City Country Club, 9433 N 107th Ave., Sun City. Call 623-933-1353.

PRESENTATION: Mickey Ollson, director and founder of the World Wildlife Zoo, will speak about how the zoo got its start and blossomed into the largest collection of exotic animals in Arizona 3 p.m. at La Loma Village Atrium, 14154 Denny Blvd., Litchfield Park. In partnership with Sun Health. Email office@LPHSmuseum.org or call 623-535-4414.

5/6 MONDAY

CHAT: Fireside Chat goes 4-6 p.m. at Palm Center, 19726 N. Remington Drive, Surprise Residents are invited to the Palm Center lobby to visit with board members, ask questions and learn what's going on in the community.

CONCERT: Performances by the GCC Concert Bands and Symphonic Winds, directed by Bill Humbert, start 7:30 p.m. inside the Performing Arts Center at Glendale Community College, 6000 W. Olive Ave., Glendale. Free and open to the public. Call 623-845-3000

TRIVIA: Team Trivia every Monday 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Ground Control, 4860 N. Litchfield Road, Litchfield Park. Email info@groundxcontrol.com or call 623-535-9066.

5/7 TUESDAY

LIVE MUSIC: Jaty Edwards performs 5 p.m. at Irish Wolfhound Restaurant and Pub, 16811 Litchfield Road, #104, Surprise. Call 623-214-1004.

TRÍVIA: Team Trivia starts 6:30 p.m. at The Brookside II Sports Bar and Grille, 15170 W. Bell Road, Suite 115, Surprise. Call 623-556-1000.

TRÍVIA: DJ Trivia goes 7-8:30 p.m. at Lakeside Bar & Grill, 9980 W. Happy Valley Road, Peoria. Call 623-566-1470. KARAOKE: Every Tuesday 7 p.m. at

KARAOKE: Every Tuesday 7 p.m. at the Desert Rose Pizza & Gastro Pub, 6729 N. 57th Drive, Glendale. Call 623-937-3004.

FITNESS: Fitness in the District goes 6:30-7:45 p.m. every Tuesday at WaterDance Plaza,inside Westgate's Entertainment District, 6751 N. Sunset Blvd., Glendale. Free classes blend the latest workout trends with traditional formats, including Fire Up GX, Zumba, Zumba Strong, EDM BodyFitness, MixxedFit, Bang and more. Dress up to different themed workouts and win giveaways each week. Family friendly. All ages welcome. Please bring your own mat. Refreshments provided. Visit westgateaz.com/fitness or call 623-385-7502.

KARAOKE: Cowboy Ken is the host at 6:30 p.m. at The Speakeasy, 10745 Grand Ave., Sun City. Call 623-977-0662.

WINE: Wine tastings every Tuesday 6-9 p.m. at Ground Control, 4860 N. Litchfield Road, Litchfield Park. \$8 for a flight of four wines. Email info@groundxcontrol.com or call 623-535-9066.

5/8 WEDNESDAY

KARAOKE: Take the mic 8:30 p.m. every Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday at The Brookside II Sports Bar and Grille, 15170 W. Bell Road, #115, Surprise. Call 623-556-1000.

THEATER: "Guys and Dolls" shows 5:30 p.m. at Arizona Broadway Theatre, 7701 W. Paradise Lane, Peoria, and plays through March 26. Call 623-776-8400.

OPEN MIC: Acoustically Speaking hosts Open Mic Night 6-8 p.m. at CheezHeads, 20283 N. Lake Pleasant Road, Suite 110, Peoria. Call 623-566-6770

WRITERS: "Ready, Set, Publish!"

workshop is presented by Writer in Residence Katrina Shawver, who will be on-site to write and provide instruction to aspiring authors 6-8 p.m. at Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. To make an appointment email sherlache@ glendaleaz.com or call 623-930-3844. **MEETING:** Women of Wisdom in the Northwest Valley will meet 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Place of Spiritual Wisdom, 12630 N. 103rd Ave., Suite 244, Sun City. Women of Wisdom is for mature women aged 50 years or older. Cost is \$3. Call 518-637-2675. **MOVIE:** Free for RCSC cardholders

MOVIE: Free for RCSC cardholder and their escorted guests every Wednesday at 2 and 7 p.m. at Marinette Recreation Center, 9860 W. Union Hills Drive, Sun City. All movie locations now have FM transmission. Bring a device and tune to 99.1 FM. Always free popcorn.

MUSIC: SCW Talent Spotlight continues with the season finale 11 a.m. at the Kuentz Recreation Center, 14401 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Call 623-544-6580. CHAMBER MEETING: The

CHAMBER MEETING: THE Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce board meeting starts 7:30 a.m. at Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce, 289 N. Litchfield Road, Goodyear.



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Listings

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CHI OMEGA SORORITY: Monthly luncheon 11:30 a.m. first Monday of each month at Birt's Bistro, Surprise. Call 253-230-5043

COLONIAL DAMES SONORA CHAPTER: Meets 11 a.m. for luncheon meetings the fourth Wednesday of January, March, April and October at The Colonnade, 19116 Colonnade Way. Email sonoracd@

DELTA DELTA DELTA SORORITY: Meets first Thursday of the month for lunch at various restaurants. Call 566-4753

DELTA DELTA DELTA WEST VALLEY ALUMNAE: 11:30 a.m. lunch and bridge first Thursdays. Call 546-

DELTA GAMMA FRATERNITY ALUMNAE: 11:30 a.m. fourth Wednesdays, Freedom Plaza dining room. Call 214-5296.

ESTRELLA CHAPTER: DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN **REVOLUTION:** Chapter meets the second Thursday of the month, October through May. Luncheon and social hour starts at noon and the official meeting begins at 1 p.m. at the Palm Room in the Sun City West Foundation Building, 14465 W. R.H. johnson Blvd. A service organization with emphasis on historical events and local veterans activities as well as other civic events. Club is looking for new members who have ancestors who participated in the Revolutionary War. Call 825-6730.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES: International non-profit organization uniting fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice, and equality,

to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope. Hours of operation are 4-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to close Saturday and Sunday. Located at 12425 W. Bell Road, #D100, Surprise. Call 584-1660, visit foe4534.org, or email tina.demonaco@foe4534.org.

GRANDMOTHER AND FRIENDS CLUB: Meets 9 a.m. Mondays at the Oakmont center. Workshops every Monday. The second Monday of the month is a noon social meeting. February was the annual high tea where members and guests were welcomed. Member uses her finest china and the tables are decorated. Club accepts donations of used greeting cards, which members transform into works of art. During the year members make favors and more for various charitable organizations and work on their crafts for the annual arts and crafts festival held the two days after Thanksgiving. Call 876-2016.

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE

AMARANTH, NEW HORIZON COURT: 7:30 p.m. second Monday, Masonic Fellowship Center.

KAPPA ALPHA THETA ALUMNAE **OF THE WEST VALLEY:** Meets

11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of each month for lunch and a short meeting. Venues change; call 546-6651 for this month's meeting place.

KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA ALUMNAE **OF THE WEST VALLEY:** Meets 11:30 a.m. the third Monday of each month for lunch and program. Locations vary each month. Call 935-0671 or 208⁻371-6213.

KIWANIS CLUB OF SUN CITY-AGUA FRIA: 8 a.m. Tuesdays at Faith Presbyterian Church for a continental breakfast and program. Call 974-3483.

Meetings are open to the public. KIWANIS CLUB OF SUN CITY KACHINA: Meets 5:45 p.m. second and fourth Tuesdays at the 5 and Diner Deluxe, 11340 W. Bell Road, Surprise. Call 602-527-0990.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS PHOENIX

LODGE 2: Meetings are 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The Knights of Pythias is an international fraternity founded in Washington, DC, Feb. 19, 1864, by Justus H. Rathbone, and embraces more than 2,000 subordinate lodges in the United States and Canada. The primary object of the organization is to promote friendship among men and to relieve suffering. The distinguishing principles are "Friendship, Charity and Benevolence". Call 214-1300 or 255-6066.

LAURETA IOTA OF BETA SIGMA PHI: Past members can reconnect. Meets 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, Call 406-939-2499

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR

WOMEN: (NOW) SC/WV Chapter will meet 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 1 at UU Church, 17540 N. Avenue of the Arts, Surprise. Speaker is Rebecca Rodriguez, who will speak on hospice family care. Everyone welcome. Call 972-6273 or visit aznow-scwv.org.

NORTHWEST WOMEN'S CLUB: Monthly luncheon on the first Wednesday of each month. Call 236

PI BETA PHI: Arrowhead West-Phoenix Alumnae Club meets on the third Saturday of each month. Day time meetings vary with programs and/or luncheon itineraries. Venues change each month. Call 917-609-5918 or 307-760-4593 or visit arrowheadwestac@pibetaphi.org. **PLANT-BASED DINING CLUB:**

Open to all West Valley residents. Includes other events as well. A group of like-minded couples and singles from all ages and backgrounds who have improved their health and wellbeing through a plant based lifestyle. Visit Meetup. com/vegan-dining-club-west-side, and click on the "About Us" tab on the left margin to learn more.

RED HAT QUEENS: Events features door prizes, raffles, entertainment and food. Members encouraged to dress up and wear appropriate costumes (not mandatory). The Queen's Council meets quarterly throughout the Valley to plan and exchange ideas. Must be a registered Queen, preferably with supporting members. If not, receive information on how to register and the benefits of being an official Red Hat Society Chapter. Call 975-4577 or email elvse23@cox.net

ROTARY CLUB OF SURPRISE **SUNSET:** New Rotary club meets at the Colonnade facility in Surprise on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month: 4:30 p.m. social; 5-6 p.m. meeting. As part of Rotary International, these individuals support the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" through serving the community through volunteerism, supporting local non-profit agencies and working on the international projects Rotary International supports. Call 408-781-0142.

SURPRISE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES NO. 4534: A charitable membership club located at 12425 W. Bell Road, #D100. Weekly events to raise money for national and local charities. Consisting of all volunteers. There are dinners and live music every Saturday night for \$8. Karaoke every Friday night with hamburgers

and hot dogs available. 50/50 raffles Fridays and Saturdays. Sports events televised every day on four large flat screen TVs, especially football on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays. Bar open 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call 584-1660. Ladies Auxiliary, call 360-628-4790

SURPRISE LIONS: All are invited to the luncheon meetings held at 11:30 a.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Bistro at the Colonnade. The local group has several charitable and service activities. Contact Phyllis Hall at 623-556-1558 or phyhalhall@msn.com.

SURPRISE ROTARY: Philanthropic and community support organization meets 5:30 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at different restaurant venues in the Surprise area. The Rotary Club of Surprise is part of Rotary International. Motto is "Service Above Self." Mission is to develop life-long friendships and have fun serving the community through volunteerism, supporting local charities, worthwhile causes and international initiatives. The Surprise Rotary Club hosts the annual "The Taste of Surprise" event in April and supports the city of Surprise annual Veterans Day parade with a yearly float. Visit clubrunner. ca/surprise or call 623-734-5438 for details and membership information. WEST VALLEY KAPPA ALPHA

THETA ALUMNAE: Meet third Thursday of every month for lunch and a short meeting. Call 546-6651 **WEST VALLEY SHRINE CLUB:** Meets 5 p.m. the third Wednesday each month (except May through September) at the Briarwood Country

Club, 20800 N. 135th Ave. Dinner

starts at 6 p.m. All Valley Shriners,

or visiting Shriners, and their ladies, regardless of Temple affiliation, are invited to join for food, fun, fellowship and entertainment. Call 584-2371 or email robtcarhart@hotmail.com.

WEST VALLEY TOASTMASTERS:

6 p.m. Tuesday at Surprise Ford, 16825 W. Waddell Road. Call 606-2024 West Valley Toastmasters meet to help each other improve their skills and confidence in the area of public speaking. The topics selected are imaginative and the Toastmasters club projects/books support development of communication and leadership skills within the group.

WEST VALLEY UNION RETIRED MEMBERS CLUB: Meets the third Wednesday of the month year round at the Menke Funeral Home's Sun City meeting room, 12420 N. 103 Ave. Coffee and donuts at 9 a.m.; meeting starts at 9:30 a.m.

WIDOWED PERSON SERVICE CLUB OF THE WEST VALLEY:

Support for all widowed persons. Meets 3 p.m. Wednesdays at JB's Restaurant, 9889 W. Bell Road, Sun City. Short meeting followed by dinner and light card games for those that wish to stay. Not a grieving group; offering support to move forward. Call 594-9697.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE CHAPTER 1642: 7 p.m. first and third Wednesdays, Moose Lodge No. 2243, 9550 W. Peoria Ave. Call 877-

State & International

ILLINOIS STATE CLUB: May 6 celebrate Cinco de Mayo 5-9 p.m. with

» See Listings on page 25



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Listings

» From page 24

Mexican fiesta dinner with games at the Palm Ridge center Summit Hall A. Cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for guests. BYOB. Call 760-844-2705. Monthly breakfasts continue during the summer. Next one s 8:30 a.m. May 13 at Betty's Rooste in Sun City West. Although everyone pays for their own meal, reservations must be made. Call 217-415-4456. Visit Illinoisclubofscw.com

IOWA CLUB OF THE WEST VALLEY: Lunch 11 a.m. every second Monday of each month all summer at the Golden Corral at Grand Avenue and Litchfield. Cost is \$11 per person. Reservation required. Next lunch is Monday, May 13. Lunch meetings feature Iowa quizzes, stories, introductions and guest speakers. Club membership is open all year at \$10 per person to anyone with an interest in or an affinity for Iowa. Call 218-6532.

VASA ORDER OF AMERICAN SOLSTAD LODGE 709: The VASA Order welcomes men and women. of Scandinavian roots (Swedish. Norwegian, Danish, Finnish or Icelandic) and their spouses who would like to rediscover the traditions of their forefathers as well as those without the Nordic ancestry. The club meets 11:30 a.m. the first Thursday of the month November through April. Call 546-9524

WASHINGTON STATE CLUB: May 1 is and end of season potluck 4 p.m. at Beardsley, Ramada 7. Reservations or questions, call 360-220-1222 or email denny62000@yahoo.com. Club will have plates, utensils, water; bring something to share **WISCONŚIN INTEREST GROUP:**

Monthly breakfasts at the Golden Coral, weekly Sheepshead games, and other activities such as bus trips, tailgates and more. Visit www. wigaxinfo.weebly.com. Membership is \$10 per year.

Veterans

AMERICAN LEGION POST 96: Meets 7 p.m. every third Thursday (social hour starts at 6 p.m.) at Arizona Traditions Neighborhood Center, 17221 N. Citrus Road. Call 910-1503. Military breakfast 10 a.m. every third Sunday at Fuzzy's Sports Grill, 8795 N. Reems Road, 109. All veterans, family and friends are invited.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS STAR CHAPTER 24: Meets 10 a.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month in the basement of AM Trust Bank, 14543 W. Grand Ave. Call 505-301-0540. HASSAYAMPA LOCALE VOITURE 1154, OF LA SOCIETE DE **QUARANTE HOMMES ET HUIT** CHEVAUX: (The Society of 40 Men or Eight Horses) the Honor Society of the American Legion meets 10 a.m. the first Saturday of the month at American Legion Post 12, 176 N. Frontier St., Wickenburg. Serving pulled pork luncheon 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. , Open to the public. Call 602-510-4509. AMERICAN LEGION: Mary Ellen Piotrowski Post 94 Sun City West holds monthly meetings 10 a.m. with doors open and refreshments at 9:30 a.m. in the Quail Room of the Sun City West Foundation, 14465 R.H. Johnson Blvd. Meetings are every first Thursday of the month, September-May for all eligible veterans. Veterans who wish to transfer into the post can visit during a meeting or contact

the adjutant. Interested veterans can

email azlegion94@gmail.com or call

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF

AMERICA ISLAND X5 ARIZONA: Meets on the fourth Saturday of each month at the 5 & Diner Delux, 11340 W. Bell Road. All SEABEES and veterans associated with the SEABEES are welcome. Breakfast at 8 a.m. and the meeting is at 9 a.m.

Email samiamelbe@gmail.com or call 513-608-5483. **NORTH WEST VALLEY VETERANS** ASSOCIATION: Meets 9 a.m. the third Saturday of the month at Sunland Memorial Park, 15826 N. Del Webb Blvd. This is an association of 16 veteran's organizations. Call 547-

SURPRISE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES NO. 4534: Charitable membership club located at 12425 W. Bell Road, #D100, Weekly events raise money for national and local charities. Consisting of all volunteers. Home-cooked style dinners Saturday nights. Dinners will be \$10, \$12 for special event dinners. Karaoke every Friday night with hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, chicken strips. 50/50 raffles Fridays and Saturdays; Queen of Hearts game-Monday night and trivia game on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Discount drinks every night. Open daily 4 p.m. Call 584-1660 or Ladies Aux, 360-628-4790.

SURPRISE VETERAN JOB CLUB: Meet 6 p.m. the first Thursdays at the Surprise Resource Center, at AZ TechCelerator, 12425 W. Bell Road, No. 124. No RSVP needed. A full-volunteer, non-funded club created by the city of Surprise where veterans provide other veterans, active military, their spouses and family members with industry and career pathway knowledge to help them gain the

skills they need to land a new job or pursue a new career. This group includes employment assistance, guest speakers and networking. Visit surpriseaz.gov/3589/Veteran-Job-Club. To register, email april.irish@ surpriseaz.gov or call 222-1600

VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL, INC.. Board of directors meeting 9 a.m. the first Tuesday of the month at Surprise Ford, 16825 W. Waddell Road. Call 360-410-7708

VFW POST 10695: Recruiting veterans in Sun City, Sun City West and Sun City Grand to help post in its mission of "veterans helping veterans." Anyone who served in World War IÍ, Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Grenada or Gulf War I, and was awarded a Campaign Medal, can call Bill 480-235-3335. Post meets 1 p.m. third Tuesday of each month at Solana at the Park, 14581 W. Parkwood Drive, Surprise.

VFW POST 285 & AUXILIARY:

Meetings are 7 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at Chaparral Winds, 16623 N. West Point Parkway. The Auxiliary meets at the same time and place. Call 952-220-3570.

WEST VALLEY CHAPTER, KOREAN WAR VETERANS: Meets 2 p.m. the second Friday of the month, Peoria Community Center, 6335 W. Jefferson St. All those who have served in Korea are eligible for

membership. Call 977-2589. WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN **DETACHMENT-1246 OF THE SURPRISE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE:**

Meets 3:30 p.m. for dinner and social gathering, 5:30 p.m. for the business meeting, every second Thursday monthly, with the exception of July and August, at Sun Village Community Center, 17300 N. Sun Village Parkway. Call 623-810-0019.

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health

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In Brief:

May is Better **Hearing and Speech Month**

The Hearing Loss Association of America's (HLAA) mission is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.

An informational meeting takes place 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 14 at First Presbyterian Church, 12225 N. 103rd Ave.

Better Hearing and Speech Month was initiated by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association years ago to foster increased awareness for communication needs and tips on how to be

» See Health on page 31



Ground was broken April 25 for the new Banner Rehabilitation Hospital - West campus in Peoria. The 56-bed medical rehab hospital is scheduled to open next year.. [Philip Haldiman/Independent Newsmedia]

New rehab hospital breaks ground in Peoria

56-bed facility scheduled to open next year

By Philip Haldiman

Construction is about to begin on a new three-story,

56-bed medical rehabilitation hospital in Peoria.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held for Banner Rehabilitation Hospital-West, 12740 N. Plaza Del Rio Blvd., April 25.

The 65,870 square-foot facility on 6.8 acres will serve

patients requiring care resulting from stroke, spinal cord injury, brain injury, amputation and neurological disorders, among other conditions.

The facility is expected to

» See Banner on page 31

HEALTH NEWS MAY 2-8

PARKINSON'S CAREGIVER **SUPPORT GROUP: 11**

a.m.-noon. Thursday, May 2. Banner Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W. Santa Fe Drive, Sun City. This group is for care partners of someone with Parkinson's disease. Join us to share your story and learn from each other in a supportive atmosphere.

HEALTHY MEAL PREP FOR CANCER:

10-11 a.m. Friday, May 3. The Colonnade, 19116 N. Colonnade Way, Surprise. Join for demonstrations of Healthy Mexican Food and Creative

Smoothies.

COFFEE TALK FOR PEOPLE WITH PARKINSON'S & **CARE PARTNERS:**

10-11 a.m. Friday, May 3. Banner Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W. Santa Fe Drive, Sun City. This is a group designed to provide camaraderie, socialization and support to people affected by Parkinson's disease.

EARLY MEMORY LOSS AND CARE PARTNER SUPPORT **GROUP:** Noon-1 p.m. Friday, May 3.

Banner Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W. Santa Fe Drive, Sun City. Early stage memory loss can

» See News on page 31

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he Ottawa University Arizona beach volleyball team, coaches and school officials pose with their championship trophy after winning the AVCA/NAIA Small College Beach Volleyball Championships April 20 in Tavares, Florida. [Courtesy OUAZ

Sports

» From page 16

was 0-16

The Stallions defeated all three district rivals and added a victory over Phoenix North.

In 5A, Dysart and Willow Canyon entered their final matches of the season on April 30 with 4-11 records. Dysart won the head-tohead meeting and also defeated Valley Vista.

The Demons also knocked off Phoenix Camelback and Phoenix Central. Willow Canyon beat Camelback, Central, Phoenix South Mountain and Valley Vista.

OUAZ ATHLETICS Beach volleyball wins small college title

The Ottawa University Arizona beach volleyball team capped its inaugural season by winning the championship of the AVCA/NAIA Small College Beach Volleyball Championships on Åpril 20 at Ĥickory Point Beach in Tavares,

Schedule

2:35 p.m.: 110/100m Hurdles

3:50 p.m.: 1600m Run Div. IV Girls/

Div. III Girls/ Div. II Boys/Div. I Boys

6:30 p.m.: 800m Run Div. IV Girls/ Div.

7:40 p.m.: 3200m Run Div. IV Boys/

Div. III Boys/ Div. II Girls/Div. I Girls

3:10 p.m.: 100m Dash

4:35 p.m.: 4X100 Relay

5:05 p.m.: 400m Dash

7:05 p.m.: 200m Dash

8:40 n.m.: 4X400 Relay

5:50 p.m.: 300m Hurdles

III Girls/ Div. II Boys/Div. I Boys

Div. I Girls

The Spirit added two wins on April 20 including a 4-1 win over Vanguard in the title bout.

OUAZ - the tournament's No. 1-seed - earned its trip to the championship dual with a 4-1 win over No. 3-seed Webber International earlier that morning.

Against No. 2-seed Vanguard, the Spirit scored the first two points of the dual behind wins by Valerie Rodgers and Mikelle Taylor (21-9, 21-9) in the No. 3 match and then by Ashleigh Atsaros and Alyssa Dincoff (21-13, 21-14) in the No. 3 pair.

Vanguard got one point back with a 21-12, 21-18 win in the No. 4 match.

The deciding win came from the No. 1 pair of Andrea Gonzalez and Viri Serrano as they claimed a 21-19, 21-18 win to clinch the championship. OUAZ then brought the championship debut season to a close when Jessica Youngberg and Mariah Clausen won the No. 5 match, 17-21, 21-18, 15-10.

OUAZ finished the weekend in Florida with a 5-0 record to end its inaugural season at 23-4. All four losses came against NCAA Division I teams, including two ranked teams.

On April 19, the Spirit began the national tournament action with a 5-0 win over Southeastern with the No. 4 pair of Gianna Kioa and Emily Morris clinching the victory with a 21-8, 21-15 win. Ashleigh Atsaros and Alyssa Dincoff scored the team's first point with a 21-12, 21-9 win in the No. 3 match.

The second match of the day saw OUAZ take little time in sweeping William Carey, 3-0. The top three pairs are won their duals, including Gonzalez and Serrano taking the No. 1 match, 21-16, 21-8. After Atsaros and Dincoff added their second win of the day, Rodgers and Taylor took the No. 2 match 21-9, 21-8 to clinch the victory. Once the match was clinched the remaining duals were halted.

OUAZ then closed the day with a 3-0 win over Missouri Baptist to win Pool A. Atsaros and Dincoff again clinched the match with a No. 3 pair win. The Spirit also got a win from the No. 1 pair and the No. 5 duo of Youngberg and Clau-

Baseball

» From page 16

single elimination format on consecutive Fridays and Saturdays.

Sophomore Joey Collier, junior Hayden King, junior James Hamill and junior Sam a 5-4 lead and falling 5-4. Nickels have all been effective pitchers in spots.

pitching and you get into bat, the team mustered only two days in a row at the state tournament, it benefits the

teams with good pitching depth. We have four pretty good pitchers," Summers said.

Paradise Honors (8-10-1 overall, 8-9 regular season) lost to eventual No. 24 seed Phoenix Horizon Honors (11-11, 8-10) on April 22. giving up

Summers' offensive concerns proved prophetic "We have a lot of solid as in their final three turns at

» See Baseball on page 28



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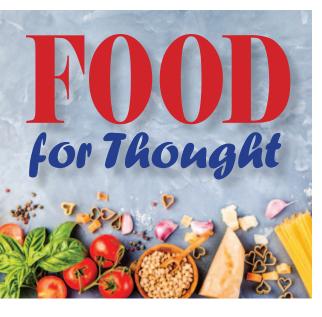


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Till Next Year

Paradise Honors sophomore Cassidy Martyn (17) is greeted at home plate by teammates after hitting a three-run home run against Sahuarita during the second inning of their 3A state softball playoff game on April 27 at Rose Mofford Sports Complex in Phoenix. The Panthers lost 4-3. Paradise Honors moved from 2A to 3A this season and won its first region title. And with with seven sophomores and two freshmen on the roster, this group will be back for more. "I love this team and to be so young and capture our first region title, tells me we are going to be a thorn in other teams' side here for years to come," Coach Paul Hatcher said after the game. "These kids are better people then they are players and they are amazing players so that really says a lot." [Ralph Freso/For Independent Newsmedia]

said. "I really didn't think

we faced an overpowering

pitcher and we still couldn't

muster more than four runs.

We put two good swings on

Baseball

» From page 27

Collier's single.

"We've pitched very well all season and one of the things we haven't done consistently is hit," Summers

balls, obviously, but not much outside of that." Then rival and No. 16 seed Buckeye Odyssey Instituate beat Paradise Honors 8-4 in their Wednesday finale.

Still, the Panthers coach does not remain frustrated at this team for long. In part, that is because he was not the Panthers coach when the season started.

The Surprise charter school parted ways with former coach Demian Welker on Feb. 13. Summers came on board Feb. 22, three days before the Panthers season opener.

"I'm very proud of them. If you look at our opponents ratings, until (April 22) every loss we had was to a teams that was ranked ninth in the state of higher," Summers said. "When you look at that, we've played one of the toughest schedules in the state, if not the toughest."

That tough schedule had Paradise Honors ranked No. 10 in 3A entering the final week of the season.

The play-in game will be the program's first postseason game since 2015.

While this Panthers baseball team boasts plentiful pitching, it has battled through one of those "only in small school baseball" situations.

Paradise Honors literally has one catcher.

"Our catcher, Thomas Spiegelmire, has just been a rock. He's caught every inning of every game because we don't have a backup," Summers said. "He wish he was hitting a hair better, he certainly has been solid for us. Our other catcher is a freshman who isn't quite ready for varsity."

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Meet

» From page 20

one more season

Describe one of the happiest moments in your life:

The birth of my children will go down as the top moment in my life to this point and will probably stay at the top for long time.

What is your best and worst

My best habit is my desire to get those 10.000 steps daily. I'll do just about anything, including vacuuming the house at 10 p.m. if that's what it takes. My worst habit is chewing my nails. It drives everyone crazy, but I save a fortune on nail

What traits do you admire in others?

The biggest trait I look for in others is respect. The "Golden Rule" is so important, and if I meet someone new, for me, it's do you respect me and others in a way that is meaningful for a future relationship?

"Be Respectful" is the first schoolwide expectation here at Kingswood for a reason. It's so important to value each other and show one another respect.

Who is a person that inspires you and why?

The person who inspires me the most is my Dad. He modeled for me a strong work ethic and what it means to be a father and role model for my own kids. I work every day to be just

What is your guiding philosophy? Be better tomorrow than you were

What is your advice for today's vouth?

The careers of tomorrow have yet to be defined, so the possibilities of what opportunities lie ahead are endless. No one was going to school to become the next Instagram Coder ten years ago, so who knows what the future may bring. I can't stress enough to our students to work hard.

Be a good person, and you'll be able to put yourself in a position where anything is possible.

Note: Mr. St. Germain was recently recognized with the 2018-2019 Dysart Hero Administrator award.

Class

From page 20

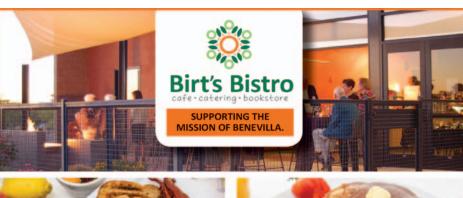
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for Thought





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TIME: 9:00 - 10:00 am

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Valley Vista's 4x100 team is, from left, Jace Valdez, Obi Eleazar, Aiden Cunningham and Sydney-Michael Thomas, not pictured, pose for a photograph on April 22 at Valley Vista High School in Surprise. [Jacob Stanek/Independent

Relay

» From page 16

Desert Vista and Mesa Red Mountain to win the seeded 4x800 race at the 79th Nike Chandler Rotary Invitational in March.

"There were a whole bunch of teams at the Chandler Rotary and a lot of competition. We ended up taking first so that was our biggest moment," junior Tommy Thompson said. "We actually had a tremendous gap to make up so us overcoming that and then still winning was big for us."

Thompson is the team's top 800-meter runner with the third-best time in Division I — while senior Jamari Vanorsby edges him in the 400. This duo forms the heart of the 4x400 and 4x800 relays.

Junior Justin Tharp also is on both relay teams. Junior Matt Vazquez came on to the 4x800 after playing baseball last year. Sophomore Jace Valdez Crowley can run all three but focuses on the 4x100 and 4x400.

"They don't like to lose and they've been working hard. They've got great chemistry," Walker said.
"Jamari Vanorsby and
Tommy Thompson are probably our top two guys but they pull everyone with them."

Walker said sometimes the last legs of the relay had to catch people and did.

The prime example is the injury.

Rattler Boost meet March 16 at North Canyon High School in Phoenix. Valley Vista's 4x100 team broke school record with a 42.64 and edged Chandler by a hundredth of a second

"We hit 42 and thought, 'That's actually pretty quick.' I think that motivated us to start practicing handoffs more — not that we ever didn't take it seriously but it," junior Aiden Cunningham and stay in control," Vanorsby said.

Cunningham said he and his relay mates seniors Obinna Elezar and Sidney-Michael Thomas and Crowley — had their smoothest exchanges at the April 6 Sun Angel Classic, lowering the school record longer relays too. at 42.51 finishing second to Scottsdale Saguaro.

Chandler will be tougher to catch the second time around, having posted a season-best of 41.59 in the 4x100 on April 12. Valley Vista is comfortable with its order after experimenting with it last year.

"Last year we were came to be that I should be starter and then Jace would be second. Donovan was in the third leg but this year it's anchor. It's stayed like that," Elezar said.

Thomas' return this season after sitting out track in 2018 has been a godsend following sophomore Donovan

"Sidney Thomas came in for his senior year and he's proven to be a real asset to the team," Cunningham said. "We want to break 42 seconds. That's the goal for this year."

"We have Justin start because he wants to get off really quickly and maintains his position well. He gives to Matt, whose job also is to maintain. When i get it, we were working harder at I make sure I run my race said. "When I'll get it I'll see if I'm in first and if not I'll move up there so Tony will have an easier time."

> While exchanges are not nearly as crucial in the 4x400 and 4x800, the Monsoon has a comfortable order in the

> "We've turned the 800 meter runners into sprinters. They understand that the 800 is a sprint and we do a hybrid workout so we can either go long or go short," Walker said.

Chandler, Desert Vista and Hamilton top the performance lists in the 4x400. Desert Vista. switching around and it Phoenix Pinnacle and Gilbert Highland pace the 4x800.

With only three seniors between the three teams, Walker said he thinks the Sidney. And Aiden would be relays will be even better next season.

But why wait?

"They're respected by their peer group and vice versa. They think they can win it and I think they can win it Greathouse's season-ending too if they all do what they're supposed to do," Walker said.



This is a rendering of the new Banner Rehabilitation Hospital - West [Submitted rendering]

Banner

» From page 26

serve its first patient at the end of summer 2020.

Lvnn Rosenbach, vice president of post-acute services at Banner, said the project is a joint venture with Select Medical, which has expertise and a national reputation in providing physical rehab for individuals who have suffered significant injury or illness or who have sustained physical trauma.

She said the Peoria location was chosen because, among other things, it is easily and conveniently accessible from Loop 101 and is close to three large Banner hospitals, one of which is a Level 1 trauma center.

"We are excited about Banner's investment in this site. We are excited about our partnership with Select Medical, and we are excit-

the Peoria community," Ms. at capacity, so we wanted a Rosenbach said.

The physicians and staff at the rehabilitation hospital will assist in restoring physical function to patients so they can safely return home.

Two smaller inpatient rehabilitation programs exist within Banner Del E. Webb and Banner Boswell medical centers which provide the same services as Banner Rehabilitation Hospital - West. However, the new facility will offer all private rooms.

Ms. Rosenbach said postacute care is the fastest growing section of health care in the country.

It includes skilled nursing, home health, hospice and palliative care and acute rehab, which will be provided at the new hospital.

Ms. Rosenbach said new facility will fill an important need.

"We have acute rehab ed to bring this facility to units and often those are

newer designated space to expand this service line and meet additional demand," she said.

In January 2018, Banner Health and Select Medical announced a joint venture partnership which would combine operations of more than 38 physical therapy centers in Arizona and four acute inpatient rehabilitation hospitals located in Phoenix. The partnership agreement also includes the construction of three new acute inpatient rehabilitation hospitals, including Banner Rehabilitation Hospital - West, and locations in Phoenix and Mesa.

Select Medical currently owns or manages 28 other inpatient rehabilitation hospitals across the country.

Philip Haldiman can be reached at $62\overline{3}$ -876-3697 or phaldiman@ newszap.com. Follow him on Twitter @philiphaldiman.

News

» From page 26

present challenges and also opportunities to live more effectively with a chronic condition. This group will help people stay connected with others while continuing to incorporate good self-care to live successfully with memory loss.

OB TOUR: 9:30-11 a.m. Saturday, May 4. Banner Del Webb Medical Center, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd; Sun City West. Maternity Tour- This is a one and a half hour tour of the private birthing suites, couplet-care suites, respite care and special care nurseries. Please register each individual who will be attending.

OB SIBLING ADJUSTMENT

CLASS: 10-11 a.m. Saturday, May 4. Banner Thunderbird Medical Center, 5555

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W. Thunderbird Road, Glendale. This class is for children ages 3-9. It covers adjusting to a new baby in the family, interacting with the baby, feelings, holding the baby and a trip to the nursery. An adult must attend with the child and the child receives a t-shirt that is included in the cost of the class. Cost is \$20

OB BABY CARE PRENATAL CLASS:

7-9:30 p.m. Monday, May 6. Banner Thunderbird Medical Center, 5555 W. Thunderbird Road, Glendale. This class is for mothers and their support person who want information on parenting skills, baby care and home safety. Topics include feeding, diapering, bathing and comforting the baby. You will also learn baby safety, development, growth and symptoms of illness. Cost is \$25

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Health

» From page 26

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The Hearing Loss Association of America is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss.

The West Valley Chapter is a local chapter to provide education, information, support and advocacy for people with hearing loss.

Visit hearingloss.org. All meetings are amplified and the room has an induction loop system. Communication Access Real time Translation is also provided so the speaker's presentation can be read, if needed.

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Abrazo West Campus lauds volunteer ambassadors

Abrazo West Campus honored its volunteer ambassadors April 10 during its annual recognition luncheon at Pebble Creek Country Club, 16262 Clubhouse Drive, Goodyear.

Topping the list of awardees was Duane Hauser, receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award for more than 10,000 hours of volunteer service. Mr. Hauser has been with Abrazo West since the hospital opened in 2003, and his wife Gloria Hauser also was recognized for her 6,500 hours of service.

More than 100 attended the awards luncheon, which marked the hospital's observance of National Volunteer Week.

Volunteer"National Week, and our Ambassador Awards luncheon, is an opportunity to celebrate the vital role that volunteers play in providing service to our patients and their families," said Abrazo West Campus CEO Christina Oh. "Whether it's a friendly face at the information desk, surgery waiting, or one of the many other areas where they provide service, our Ambassadors are an important part of our 'Community Built on Care.' They make a difference and positively impact everyone they encounter. We are grateful for our volunteers and the time they give so willingly to support Abrazo West.

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and is an opportunity to honor those who serve their communities and inspire others to make a difference and improve the world.

The following volunteer Ambassadors from Abrazo West Campus were recognized with pins noting total hours of service provided through Dec. 31, 2018.

* 100-Hour Pin — Diana Accomazzo, Hope Cutino, Kathleen Erickson, Judy Hart, Brianne Hawthorne, Christine Jensen, Gisela Johnson, Candy Johnston, Normi Klinger, Barbara MacFarlane, Pat Moy, P.J. Sadowski, Eleanor Santarina, Carl Smith, Susan Smith, Karen Stanley, Donna Swagger, Roy Swagger and Penny Trier.

* 300-Hour Pin — Hope Cutino, Marilyn Cabral, Anita Drake, Roy Fazzi, Brianne Hawthorne, Peggy Jaros, Carole Maslyn, Marielle Ramsey, Carl Smith and Pat Treanor.

* 500-Hour Pin — Joey Arnold, Glenn Grube, Brianne Hawthorne, Marsha Kornegay, Laura Measles, Linda Schmillen, Carl Smith and Beverly Vawter.

* 750-Hour Pin —Jerry Drake, Brianne Hawthorne and Carl Smith.

*1,000-Hour Pin — Jerry Drake, Janis Korba and Tom Meek.

* 1,250-Hour Pin — John Conklin and Tom Meek.

* 1,500-Hour Pin — Mary Jo Oldham.

*2,000-Hour Pin — Betty Davison.

2,500-Hour Pin — Jo Fouse and Mel Gielau.

3,000-Hour Pin Helene Fazzi, Mel Gielau, Jo Strain and Rose Willsev.

* 3,500-Hour Pin — Roni Tortorici.

6,500-Hour Pin — Gloria Hauser.

* Lifetime Achievement — Duane Hauser.

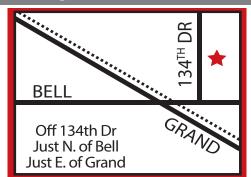
Abrazo Community Health Network includes five acute-care hospitals — Abrazo Arizona Heart Hospital, 1930 E. Thomas Road, Phoenix; Abrazo Arrowhead Campus, 18701 N. 67th Ave., Glendale; Abrazo Central Campus, 2000 W. Bethany Home Road, Phoenix; Abrazo Scottsdale Campus, 3929 E. Bell Road, Phoenix; and Abrazo West Campus, 13677 W. McDowell Road, Goodyear — along with freestanding emergency centers, urgent care centers, primary care and specialty physician practices. Abrazo Mesa Hospital will open in Spring

Visit www.AbrazoHealth.



Gloria and Duane Hauser are volunteer ambassadors at Abrazo West Campus. Duane received the Lifetime Achievement Award for more than 10.000 hours of service, while Gloria was recognized for more than 6,500 hours of service.





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LIBRARY EVENTS

Northwest Regional -16089 N. Bullard Ave., Surprise,

PRESCHOOL STORY-**TIME:** 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Thursday, May 2. Help children get ready for school by joining for engaging and entertaining stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts. Recommended for children ages 4 to 5.

PINS AND NEEDLES: 1 p.m. Thursday, May 2.

Stop by and knit, crochet or loom with guests.

TOYBRARY: 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 3. Join for an awesome stay and play group for children age 5 and under.

Kids are invited to bring a grown-up and stay and play with super cool toys from Taking Turns Toybrary.

MASTER GARDENER **Q&A SESSION:** 9:30

a.m. Saturday, May 4. Volunteers will be available to answer desert gardening questions, including but not limited to plant selection, irrigation, fertilization, pruning techniques, pest management and more.

TABLETOP KINGDOM:

11 a.m. Saturday, May 4. Play Magic-The Gathering or other card games like MTG, Boss Monster, Moustache Game, or Superfight.

POKÉMON CLUB: 1

p.m. Saturday, May 4. Join to play the Pokémon trading card game. Feel free to bring own cards and battle fellow trainers.

MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU: 3 p.m. Saturday, May 4. Join to

celebrate May 4th and all things geeky. Complete crafts and activities at each of our training stations in order to level up and unlock a special achievement.

YU-GI-OH: 1 p.m.

Sunday, May 5. Bring own cards and join for a casual tournament on the first and second Sunday of each month.

CRUCIAL CONVERSA-TIONS: 2 p.m. Sunday,

May 5. Get your point across clearly and effectively when having conversations at home or

TALES FOR TOD-

DLERS: 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 7. Ages 18 months to 3years old (with parent or caregiver). Share stories, rhymes and songs that are just right for a growing toddler. No registration needed.

ONE-ON-ONE: 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 30.

Learn how to access the library's digital collection on a mobile device or eReader or get help with internet research, webbased email and more.

BABY STORYTIME FOR CRAWLERS: 9:30

a.m. Wednesday, May 8. Baby story time introduces baby to language, music, and movement. This program is best suited for babies who are not yet walking. Ages 0 to walking.

BABY STORYTIME FOR WALKERS: 10:30

a.m. Wednesday, May 8. Ages walking up to 24 months. Join this fun, interactive group learning experience for babies and caregiver. This program is best suited to babies who are beginning to

ONE-ON-ONE: 11 a.m.

Wednesday, May 8. Learn how to access the library's digital collection on a mobile device or eReader or get help with internet research, webbased email and more.

LEGO CLUB: 4 p.m.

Wednesday, May 1. Join for a random Lego challenge or bring own creativity to make your own Lego creation.

PJ STORYTIME: 6:30

p.m. Wednesday, May 8. Wear PJs and bring a stuffed animal friend to our nighttime story time and share engaging stories, songs and rhymes together. All ages are welcome with a caregiver.

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Underage smoking citations have increased nearly 10-fold since 2016 and nearly doubled since 2017, according to the Arrowhead Justice Court, which has jurisdiction over Sun City, central and northern Peoria and northern Glendale.

Citations for underage vaping rise more than 900% in NW Valley

900

By Philip Haldiman

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

On a recent Tuesday, a Maricopa County justice court in Surprise was comfortably packed with more than a dozen people, many of them minors accepting responsibility for violations such as curfew, underage drinking and tobacco possession.

It is the latter offense that has been seeing some serious traffic within the regional courtroom turns out, more West Valley children are being cited for underage tobacco due to the to rise in the popularity of vaping devices and e-cigarettes.

The American Cancer Society and Food and Drug

Administration have stated underage vaping is an "epidemic" and it is cropping up in Peoria.

Use of e-cigarettes, also known as vaping, by high school students has jumped 78% since 2017, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And it has jumped 48% among middle schoolers.

Since 2016, the Arrowhead Justice Court, which covers Sun City, central and northern Peoria and northern Glendale, has seen 176 cases of underage tobacco possession, largely in the form of an electronic smoking device.

Citations have increased nearly 10-fold since 2016 and nearly doubled since

This is an increase of more than 890% since 2016 and nearly 190% since 2017.

Arrowhead Justice of the Peace Craig Wismer said he was unpleasantly surprised when he discovered these statistics.

Mr. Wismer conducts most of the juvenile advisory hearings at the Arrowhead Justice Court and, therefore, sees most of the complaints filed involving juvenile defendants.

He said appearing in court to answer to criminal charges, including possession of a vaping device or tobacco product, probably constitutes a significant, negative event in anyone's life, and should probably take on an added degree of importance for someone who is under the age of 18 and has their parents in-tow.

"I'm not confident that kids are aware of the fact that possession of a vap-

UNDERAGE VAPING CITATIONS

Since 2016, the Arrowhead Justice Court, which covers Sun City, central and northern Peoria and northern Glendale, has seen 176 cases of underage tobacco possession, largely in the form of a smoking device. Citations have increased nearly 10-fold since 2016 and nearly doubled since 2017. This is an increase of nearly 900% since 2016 and 188% since 2017.

2016:12 **2017:** 57

ing device or tobacco product constitutes a violation of criminal statutes in Arizona. Or, if somehow they were aware of this, that it resonated with them or entered into their thought process when they chose to engage in the activity that led to the issuance of a criminal citation," he said. "I suspect most kids think of criminal charges applying to adults, not them or members of their teenage peer group."

Vaping reality

Last month, the FDA released a new policy restricting e-cigarette sales

» See Vaping on page 35

LOW PRICES, BRAND NAMES, BIG SELECTIONS, CUSTOMER SATISFACTION, CARING SERVICE

Vaping

» From page 34

on the many fruity flavors the organization says is "firmly and directly" related to the teen use "epidemic"

Aside from flavor, hip and appealing smoking devices have also become increasingly popular with youths, according to a 2018 study from the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

The FDA has taken a hard-line approach on addressing the rising trend of youth nicotine use through smoking devices after long-term declines in traditional cigarette use among minors.

Dr. Frank LoVeccho said underage vaping is certainly an important issue, so much so that the FDA is increasing regulations. He said one of the difficulties in medicine is understanding how drugs and toxins affect children and young adults.

E-cigarettes, or vapor cigarettes, do not burn tobacco, but have cartridges filled with nicotine and other chemicals that are heated into a vapor and inhaled.

Mr. LoVeccho said nicotine is very addictive and can slow brain development in teens and affect memory, concentration, learning, self-control, and attention.

He said it also can affect mood, which can increase the risk of other types of addiction later in life or lead to a long-term nicotine addiction.

The long-term affects of vaping have yet to be known, he said.

"When cigarettes started, doctors recommended them for asthma and to assist in breathing. It took a few generations to see all the cancers and associated problems," he said. "We need to wait and see if vaping is associated with cancer and lung disease."

Up-side

Public Health England, an agency of the United Kingdom's government states vaping is 95% less harmful than tobacco, not as harmful as smoking, and a good way to quit.

Gregory Conley, presi-

dent of the American Vaping Association, said despite increases in use, misinformation about vaping products is prevalent in youth.

He said his nonprofit advocates for sensible regulation of vaping products and does not represent the industry or serve as spokespeople for the industry.

Mr. Conley said vaping products are attractive to some youth for many of the same reasons adult smokers use them to quit — the products deliver nicotine without the tar, smell, and bad taste associated with cigarettes.

Flavors are very important in helping adult smokers disconnect from the taste of tobacco, although some flavor names and packaging are undoubtedly irresponsible, which is something the FDA has been actively policing, he said.

"Many of the same teens who are willing to experiment with vaping products are the same risk-seeking teens who will also try marijuana, alcohol, or even cigarettes. Since nicotine is a mild stimulant, the nicotine 'hit' can be particu-

larly attractive among students with depression," he said. "In a perfect world, no teen would smoke, vape, use marijuana, or drink alcohol. But we do not live in a perfect world. The fact that we have seen an unprecedented decline in teen smoking of 50% since 2011, which is when teens really began to experiment with vaping products, will have far greater public health benefits in the future than any negatives associated with vaping."

On the ground-level

Peoria law enforcement and school district officials say they are experiencing an increase in underage vaping throughout the community.

It is illegal if a person knowingly sells, gives or furnishes an e-cigarette or vaping device, according to Arizona state law.

The fine for a minor in possession of a tobacco vapor product is not less than \$100 or not less than 30 hours of community service.

Brandon Sheffert, a spokesman for the Peoria Police Department, said minors obtain devices illegally through a variety of means — adults, parents or friends purchasing them for them, others giving them away, purchase using a fake ID, purchase through online retailers that do not require an ID to purchase, or other ways.

He also said it varies how a minor may come to be cited — usage at school, during an investigation of another crime, or other ways.

"It truly varies," he said.
"We are however targeting our education efforts on educating students and parents of the dangers."

If a Peoria Unified School District student is caught with an e-cigarette or vaping device, consequences could include a three-day suspension for the first offense, five-day suspension for the second offense and nine-day suspension for the third offense.

PUSD spokeswoman Danielle Airey said the district is seeing an uptick at Sunrise Mountain and Liberty high schools, and are proactively taking measures to reduce the use among students, particularly in partnership with the district's school resource officers (SRO), sworn police officers tasked with policing district schools.

Ms. Airey said it is hard to determine when students are vaping because the smoke is odorless.

She said the district is committed to protecting the safety and well-being of all students and want to make sure students are aware of the dangers of vaping or using any other substances that could be harmful.

The district recently hosted a parent forum where an SRO spoke about underage vaping with parent representatives from almost all district schools.

"It's important that we stay ahead of the curve and that's where we rely heavily on the partnership we have with our SRO's. With one on every campus, they provide support to staff in identifying trends and providing insight on what to look for in students who may be vaping," Ms. Airey said

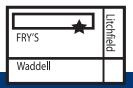
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EPCOR USA earns numerous safety awards

By Rebecca Stenholm SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT

NEWSMEDIA

The AZ Water Association honored EPCOR USA with 25 awards during the annual AZ Water Conference.

The awards were given in the categories of safety and operational excellence, bringing EPCOR's total number of awards from the AZ Water Association to 132.

The awards recognized EPCOR's water and wastewater operations in 11 individual Arizona communities.

"We are honored to receive recognition once again from the AZ Water Association for our commitment to delivering safe, reliable and high-quality water to our customers," said Joe Gysel, EPCOR USA president.

"There's nothing we value more than safety and excellence in operations, and we're proud of the hardworking employees across our territories in Arizona who live that commitment every day."

EPCOR's 25 awards this year were in categories that span all of the company's Arizona operations water distribution system management, water treatment, wastewater collection system management and wastewater treatment.

Awards for the Sun Cities area included wastewater treatment at the Northwest Valley Water Reclamation Facility; wastewater collection system, Sun City and Sun City West; water treatment, Sun City and Sun City West; water distribution system, Sun City and Sun City

Awards in other areas included Bullhead City, water distribution system, wastewater treatment and water treatment; Tubac, water treatment and water distribution system; Paradise Valley, water treatment and water distribution system; Lake Havasu, water distribution system; Fountain Hills, water treatment and water distribution system: Anthem, wastewater collection system, water treatment and water distribution system; Verrado Water Reclamation Facility, wastewater treatment; and



EPCOR Water crews test a fire hydrant in Sun City. [Submitted photo]

Agua Fria, wastewater collection system, water treatment and water distribution

The AZ Water Association is an educational, nonprofit organization with a membership of more than 2,200 Arizona water and wastewater industry professionals.

The organization was founded in 1928 with the mission of preserving and enhancing Arizona's water environment.

The association's awards evaluate operations, experience, adherence to regulatory standards and other criteria.

Headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona, EPCOR USA's wholly owned subsidiaries build, own and operate water and wastewater and natural gas facilities and infrastructure in the south-

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Northwest Valley city officials and council members gather to celebrate the launch of a new bus route in Peoria, April 22. The new free circulator, dubbed Peoria on the Go or POGO, is in full effect. The route, consisting of 18 miles each way, runs bi-directionally – clockwise and counter-clockwise – at 30-minute intervals for 12 hours per day, from about 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Major roads of service are: 83rd Avenue, Happy Valley Road, Lake Pleasant Parkway and 91st Avenue. Officials say the route is expected to reach 8,000 jobs within one-quarter mile of the proposed stops. The circulator is expected to serve about 18,000 residents, 16% of whom are older than 65 and 25 percent of whom are under 18, officials said. [Jacob Stanek/Independent Newsmedia]



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Auto accidents abound across Sun Cities

Groups looking for solutions

By Rusty Bradshaw

Traffic accidents are a way of life in most communities, and the Sun Cities are no exception.

With regularity, law enforcement and emergency medical personnel are dispatched to locations throughout the age-restricted active adult retirement communities to deal with accidents of varying severity. In both communities, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office and the respective fire and medical services make frequent visits to specific locations.

According to accident statistics for 2018 obtained from MCSO, there is one location in each community that sees more accidents than others. Based on accidents within two blocks of the intersection, Bell Road and 99th Avenue was the most dangerous intersection in Sun City. There were 11 non-injury accidents there and one crash involving injuries.



Bell Rd. and 99th Avenue has the most intersection crashes in Sun City. [Jacob Stanek/Independent Newsmedia]

According to the MCSO stats and Independent's twoblock criteria, the intersections of 107th and Grand avenues and 107th and Peoria avenues were the next most dangerous, with eight non-injury accidents each and no injury crashes. Third on the Sun City list was Del Webb Boulevard and Bell Road with four non-injury and one injury accidents

In Sun City West, Camino del Sol and R.H. Johnson Boulevard topped the list with 15 non-injury and two injury accidents. The next intersection with the most frequent accidents was the area of Meeker Boulevard and Grand Avenue with six non-injury and three injury accidents, and the next was Meeker Boulevard and Camino del Sol with four non-injury accidents.

This accident pattern involves the most traveled roadways in each community. The accidents reported were spread evenly throughout the year with high spikes in January and December in Sun City with significantly lower accidents in May and October: In Sun City West, the high month was February and the low month was August.

Residents believe a large

factor in accident frequency in the communities is due to a lack of traffic enforcement.

"Do we want traffic enforcement, or just have them come for traffic accidents?" Jim Powell, former Sun City Home Owners Association Roads and Safety Committee chairman, asked, referring to Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, during an April 2018 meeting.

Mr. Powell, who is a former law enforcement officer, believes MCSO is hampered by not having a dedicated traffic enforcement unit. He also believes MCSO would be better able to enforce traffic if they had motorcycle patrolmen.

"It is not easy to enforce traffic laws in a patrol car, it is much easier with motors," he said, during several committee meetings last year. "Cities around us have motors, but MCSO does not."

Mr. Powell believes one answer to traffic enforcement is red light and speed cameras. But he recognizes that would not be a popular option with most residents. El Mirage officials have camera enforcement in their community, and had a camera at Primerose Street at the intersection with Grand Avenue. So many people complained about that location that West Valley legislators were able to pass a bill banning camera enforcement on state highways.

Sun City resident Jim Stark spoke out against photo en-

» See Accidents on page 40

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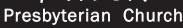
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Accidents

» From page 24

forcement in the April committee meeting as it has been practiced by some municipal-

"Local politicians think they are an unending revenue source and set up what used to be called speed traps,"

Mr. Stark has no problem with photo enforcement for red light running.

"Red light running is pretty cut and dried," he said. "But speeding is subjective, especially in cases like speed being reduced drastically within feet of a camera."

Sun City resident Ed Van Ness said in the April meeting a study showed photo enforcement increased the number of rear-end collisions because drivers did not want to get tagged by a camera and stopped suddenly for yellow

MCSO District 3 covers about 1,600 square miles and includes two other age-restricted active adult communities, according to Capt. Paul Chagolla, former District 3 commander.

There is one deputy assigned to each of three phases in Sun City and one deputy assigned to Sun City West. Mr. Chagolla told Sun City West residents during a January PORA Traffic and Safety Committee meeting that MCSO calls must be prioritized according to their order of importance and are prioritized for staff responses and calls involving issues of personal endangerment. However, in the latter part of February, when the Sun City West Posse was shut down, MCSO increased traffic enforcement in Sun City West and 30 traffic stops were made and 28 citations issues, according to MCSO Lt. Matt Summers.

He also indicated a fulltime deputy will be assigned to handle traffic duties in the district in the very near fu-

"We are not a city, we are a community of 30,000 residents. We don't have our own police force, we rely on the sheriff's office," he said. "One deputy can only do so much."

Mr. Woods also told the group he read an archived PORA newsletter from the 1990s that quoted residents as saying speeding on R.H. Johnson Boulevard was a problem.

"So this is not a new issue,"

John Merkel, Sheriff's Posse of Sun City West member; said he was the primary radar operator for the Posse, and he would meet with concerned residents and set up his patrol car with a visible radar gun. The Posse has no enforcement powers, but he said the patrol car has an

"I can assure you that once people see the marked car with the radar unit, they immediately hit the brakes and go down from 45 to about 30," he said.

The Sun City Posse used to operate two radar trailers that showed drivers' speeds. Those trailers were set up at specific locations, mostly upon request from residents. However, when the Sun City Posse deaffiliated from MCSO in 2017, they were no longer able to operate the trailers.

SCHOA Roads and Safety Committee members during their Dec. 19 meeting agreed they have a lot of work ahead of them to provide safe driving education to drivers in Sun City. They also agreed it was a task they could not do alone. Committee members said they would need to work together with MCSO, Maricopa County Department of Transportation and Recreation Centers of Sun City officials. They will also depend on community residents providing input.

"These kinds of meetings are good because we will hear a lot of ideas," said Greg Eisert, a new committee member who formerly served as SCHOA's Governmental Affairs Committee chairman. "That will help us when we work with the county and the legislature."

The committee meets the third Wednesday monthly, with the next meeting scheduled 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 15 in the meeting room at the SCHOA office, 10401 W. Coggins Drive.

Mr. Powell argued during the Dec. 19 meeting that while some believe golf cars are prohibited from traveling on roadways with speed limits of 35 or greater, there is no provision in the Arizona Revised Statute to that effect. While he is correct, the Federal Highway Safety Guidelines do state that ban. It is conflicts such as these committee members hope to address with county and state

"People come from all over (to Sun City) and may have different rules in their communities," Mr. Powell said.

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Three types of fire apparatus used both in urban areas and at wildfire sites. Typical fire engine, left, with special drive capabilities; All Terrain Vehicle, used mostly for medical work; and a brush truck. When an engine is dispatched to a wildland fire a reserve engine is used to cover the community service area. These vehicles are dispatched from AFMA Station 104, 24930 N.119th Ave. [Roger Ball/Independent Newsmedia]

Wildfire season has arrived

Firefighters prepare for blazes near, far

By Roger Ball and Rusty Bradshaw

Wildfires used to be considered events that happened in remote areas.

But as urbanization has sprawled and climates changed, wildfires have become an expanding and serious problem for homeowners everywhere.

In 2018, wildfires in California destroyed 11,000 homes in just 11 days. Most

of these were in suburban residential areas

Brush in washes and river beds and undeveloped open spaces near urbanized areas, such as in the Sun Cities, have caused local fire districts to obtain special equipment to fight those

Many new fire engines are equipped with wildland urban interface in mind.

Many of the most serious blazes begin in remote areas. The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management is responsible for providing fire protection to 22-million acres of State Trust and private lands.

Because many wildfires involve large areas, various terrains and are generally seasonal, it is not feasible for state and federal agencies to have all needed staff and equipment available and standing by.

The solution is to have local departments respond with equipment and staff for a limited period of time.

Tiffany Davilla of the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management said 157 local fire departments and districts have Cooperative Fire Rate Agreements with them.

That agreement reimburses the local departments for firefighter salaries, equipment use and other expenses.

The Sun City Fire and Medical Department has one type-six brush truck that can be used in the community or elsewhere in the state. Firefighters participating in wildland fires undergo special additional training and certification.

Ron Deadman, SCFMD chief, said his department will participate in fire assignments within Arizona, but requests for out of state responses will be handled on a case-by-case basis. That

» See Prep on page 42



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Captain Steve Ruehs, AFMA wildland coordinator, displays the typical clothing and gear used while combatting wildfires. [Roger Ball/Independent Newsmedia]

Prep

» From page 41

department has 12 wildfire certified firefighters, as well as their brush truck.

"The reimbursement issue is predominantly associated with wildland deployments out-of-state," Mr. Deadman

Capt. Steve Ruehs, Arizona Fire and Medical Authority wildland coordinator, said California's slow repayment has been a "sticking point" in the past, but his agency will respond there if able.

AFMA has 25 crew members ready to serve at wildfires, along with three vehicles. Wildfire crew member shifts are covered by other firefighters and backup vehicles are used in the community for local response.

"The equipment, training and experience can be beneficial to the local departments as well," said Eric Kri-



AFMA Firefighter John Shiffer demonstrates the red bag all wildfire team members have ready for deployment. The bag contains a 14-day supply of clothing and other items that might be needed at a wildfire scene. Crew members sleep in their own tents at the fire camps. [Roger Ball/Independent Newsmedia]

» See Prep on page 44

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GLYPH WALK: 8-10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 4. Join park volunteer Joe Weber on this easy, 1 ½ mile walk to view ancient petroglyphs. The walk will discuss early native peoples of the area and the possible meaning of the rock art they left behind.

SUNRISE HIKE: 5:15-7 a.m. Tuesday, May 7. Join for a sunrise hike along the Black Rock Long Loop Trail (1 1/2 miles). We will watch the sunrise from a viewpoint, experience the Sonoran Desert as it awakens, and also have the opportunity to see ancient petroglyphs along the trail.



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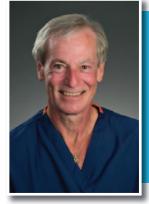
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Planting of PRIDES trees memorialize fallen members

11 placed in ground as part of Arbor Day

By Art Huseonica SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT

The Sun City PRIDES were busy on Arbor Day planting trees in remembrance of PRIDES volunteers and community members.

Volunteers planted three drought-tolerant trees in memory of two PRIDES members and one Sun City resident.

Eleven trees were also planted to symbolize the number of years the PRIDES have been recognizing Arbor Day.

Organized by Ronn Enzweiler, the event featured a number of special guests. Most were family members representing individuals for whom trees were being planted.

Trees were planted to help remember Ann Reich, Kevin Johnson and Tom Sullivan.

Varieties of trees planted include the Red Push Pistache and Chinese elm.

Each tree planting is in support of the Sun City PRIDES' desert canopy project designed to replace the high-maintenance ornamental orange trees first planted when Sun City was being built out.

National Arbor Day is usually celebrated on the last Friday of April, but because of Arizona's climate, the PRIDES recognize it in late March or early April.

Planting a tree symbolizes a special recognition for people and the role that trees play in our lives and environment.

Visit www.suncityprides.

Editor's Note: Mr. Huseonica is a PRIDES member and provides publicity for the organization.



Members of Ann Reich's family prepare to plant a tree in her memory. From left, Lisa Reich Conway, Morgan Conway, Scott Conway, Austin Conway and Denise Schlafer. [Art Huseonica/submitted photo]

Prep

» From page 42

wer, AFMA deputy chief and fire marshal.

Assignments to fire scene usually are for 14 consecutive days, and 12-16-hour shifts. Crew members have their own tents and sleeping bags and carry a bag with all the clothing and other supplies they will need for the two-week deployment.

All of the vehicles sent to a wildfire also have local uses during most of the year. The brush truck and engine are dispatched routinely to fires in the area.

The ATV, that is equipped with a stretcher and seats for up to four persons. It can be used to provide medical assistance at large special events locally, but is also available, due to its ability to go anywhere, to provide the same service at wildland fires.

Local departments are not required to respond to remote wildfire sites if that will hinder service in their communities.

Roger Ball can be contacted at 623-876-2523 or rball@newszap. com. Rusty Bradshaw can be contacted at 623-445-2725 or rbradshaw@newszap.com.

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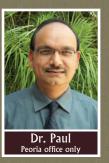
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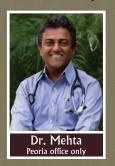
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10 a.m. – Bingo 12:45 p.m. – Hand and

SENIOR CENTER

Foot 12 p.m. - Lunch and Learn 12:45 p.m. – Bridge 12:45 p.m. - Pinochle 1 p.m. - Stretch Flex and Tone Exercise 1:30 p.m. - Kings in the Corner Lunch: Turkey Scalop-

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. - Open Game Time 9:30 a.m. - Cinco de Mayo Celebration 9:30 a.m. - Cornhole Tournament 11 a.m. - Silversneakers 11 a.m. - Pinochle 1 p.m. - Open Game Time 1 p.m. - Teach me How to Circuit Lunch: Beef Enchiladas / Cheese Enchiladas

MONDAY

8:30 a.m. - Puzzle and Color Social 9 a.m. - Creative Crafts 10 a.m. - Morning Stretch 10:15 a.m. - String Me Along 11 a.m. – Fitzi with Mitzi Exercise 1 p.m. - Creative Crafts 1:30 p.m. - Poker Showdown Lunch: Country Chicken

8:30 a.m. - Open Game

TUESDAY

Time 10 a.m. - Morning Stretch 10:15 a.m. - Pokeno 11 a.m. - Pinochle 11 a.m. - Silversneakers 1 p.m. - Open Game Time 1 p.m. - Art Class 1:30 p.m. – Quilting Club Lunch: Egg Plant Par-

WEDNESDAY

mesan

9 a.m. – Puzzle & Color Social 10 a.m. - Chair Yoga Video Instruction 10 a.m. - BUNCO 10:15 a.m. - String Me Along 11 a.m. - Fitzi with Mitzi Exercise 12:45 p.m. – Mah-Jongg

12:45 p.m. - Bridge 12:45 p.m. – Mah-Jongg 1:30 p.m. - Needlecraft Social Lunch: Roast Turkey

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Do You Really Need To Have Your Teeth Extracted?

"You need to have all your teeth taken out," may be one of the most devastating statements that a patient can hear from a dentist. The consequences of that decision may be dentures or dental implants, but whatever the treatment, it is bound to change your lifestyle or make a dent in your wallet. However, I can tell you as a periodontist, as one who is responsible for determining the predictability of your dental treatment plan, that some people who are told they need to have their teeth extracted may actually be able to save them.

Sometimes, your dentist makes assumptions about periodontal disease that seem logical to him or her, but may not be correct. There are countless examples in my practice of patients who were told to have their teeth removed because of periodontal disease and who still have their teeth today.

You might think that all treatment plans are the same, that if one dentist comes to a conclusion, that must be the only option. But you also know that there is the magic of the second opinion. The second opinion, whether in dentistry or medicine, sometimes finds a way that wasn't considered the first time.

As an example, a patient was seen in my office with bad breath, some loosening teeth, and many deep periodontal pockets. The patient had been told that the disease was so severe that the teeth needed to come out. In my office, we initiated the "infection control phase" of periodontal treatment, and within days, the bad breath was gone and the teeth started to tighten. We then treated the disease by cleaning the roots of the teeth, they continued to improve, and in a matter of months were back to normal again.

If you are told that you have periodontal disease that will result in the extraction of your teeth, the first thing that you should do is to get a second opinion with a periodontal specialist. Periodontists, who specialize in treatment of the structures that support your teeth, have diagnostic and treatment tools that will in many cases help you to reverse the disease. And if that is not possible, the periodontist is the final judge on tooth longevity. You'll have peace of mind knowing that you saw a specialist before making a life-changing decision.

> Dr. Leslie I. Davis BDS, DDS 13802 W. Camino Del Sol, STE 103 Sun City West, AZ 85375 623-584-0664





103 years young

Happy birthday to the eldest resident of El Dorado of Sun City, 10330 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Kate Harris, who just turned 103. [Submitted photo]

Sun City resident, partner training for Yukon 2020

By Karen Huseonica
SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT
NEWSMEDIA

Although Art "Karts" Huseonica's Yukon 2020 expedition is 14 months away, he and his teammate, Lauren Sherwood, 24, are deep into their training program.

In addition to working out in the gym and hiking, their primary focus is using canoes and kayaks to train.

Upper body strength will be crucial to successfully canoeing 2,000 miles down the Yukon River.

Because Ms. Sherwood is from Prescott, they will frequently train on Lake Watson.

Part of their training will include tipping the canoe in the cold lake water to simulate conditions they will face in the glacial run-off waters of the Yukon River.

Visit www.arizonianexplorerwordpress.com.

Editor's Note: Ms. Huseonica is Art Huseonica's wife and adventure manager.



Lauren Sherwood, Sun City resident Art Huseonica's Yukon adventure partner, kayaking on Lake Pleasant. [Art Huseonica/submitted photo]



May is OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Communities that encourage the contributions of older adults are stronger! By engaging and supporting all community members, we recognize that older adults play a key role in the vitality of our neighborhoods, networks, and lives.









CAN hosts tax volunteer luncheon

By Lynn Rode
SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Sun City Community Assistance Network hosted April 18 a volunteer appreciation luncheon to honor the AARP tax volunteers for 2019.

Jim Graff, AARP Tax Aide District 14 coordinator, shared statistics with the group of about 110 attendees. There are nine locations for tax preparation, with a total volunteer count of approximately 200. The total number of returns prepared for 2018 taxes was 7,972. The average federal and state refund was \$1,019.

The volunteers train the entire month of January in order to pass IRS testing.

Taxes are prepared at the nine locations from Feb. 1 to April 15. Each location maintains its' own schedule.

Local office coordinators were given certificates from the IRS, and Mr. Graff handed out awards for service at the five-, 10-, 15-, 20- and 30-year level.

The lunch was provided by Hospice Promise, LLC, who provided a menu of chicken salad, rolls, desserts. The Hospice Promise, LLC, staff donated the food and their time to prepare and serve the wonderful luncheon.

Sun City clubs donated more than 30 prizes which were raffled off to the attendees.

Editor's Note: Ms. Rode is Sun City CAN executive director.



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Garage/ Yard Sales

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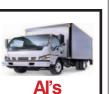
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CITY OF SURPRISE CITIZEN REVIEW MEETING

Take notice that at the date, time, and place listed below, there will be a Citizen Review meeting to discuss the below-referenced project. At this meeting, any of the public may appear and be heard relative to this project. The City of Surprise Community Development Department may be contacted prior to the scheduled meeting for additional information.

City of Surprise Planner: Hobart Wingard, 623-222-3156, hobart.wingard@surpriseaz.gov

CITIZEN REVIEW MEETING DETAILS

DATE: Monday, May 13, 2019

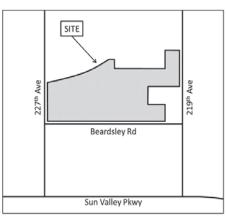
TIME: 6:00 PM

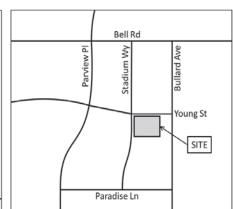
LOCATION: Hilton Garden Inn

16601 N. Stadium Way Surprise, Arizona 85374

Project Location

Meeting Location





PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Zone Change of approximately 105.2 acres from Planned Area Development (PAD R1-5) to Residential Low Density (RL-5) with a PUD Overlay, Residential Medium Density (RM-6) with a PUD Overlay, and Open Space (OS) with a PUD Overlay. Planning Case FS18-617

Publish:Daily News-Sun,April 26, Surprise Today, May 1, 2019/333858

CITY OF SURPRISE CITIZEN REVIEW MEETING

Take notice that at the date, time, and place listed below, there will be a Citizen Review meeting to discuss the below-referenced project. At this meeting, any of the public may appear and be heard relative to this project. The City of Surprise Community Development Department may be contacted prior to the scheduled meeting for additional information.

Sergio Angulo 623-222-3155 City of Surprise Planner:

sergio.angulo@surpriseaz.gov

CITIZEN REVIEW MEETING DETAILS

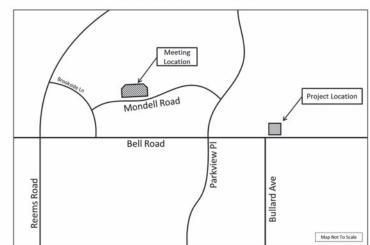
DATE: Wednesday, May 8, 2019

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Kingswood Elementary School - Media Center

15150 W. Mondell Rd. Surprise, AZ. 85374

Meeting & Project Location Map



PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit (case FS19-281) to allow for a new addition to an existing mini-storage facility located on the northeast corner of Bullard Avenue and Bell Road.

Publish: Daily News-Sun, April 22, Surprise Today, May 1, 2019/332695

Surprise







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