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September 2018

Oliver Anderson

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A debate over an impending tax increase was already heated at the InMaricopa.com Town Hall Aug. 4, where City Councilmember Nancy Smith and LD 11 Rep. Mark Finchem engaged in a back-and-forth, and became even more so after a critical press release was issued by the City of Maricopa.



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Victor Moreno

LEADING OFF

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Old and new connect

A combination of past and future is at the heart of this month's issue of InMaricopa. The venerable Oliver Anderson of Anderson-Palmisano Farms sat down with reporter Michelle Chance to talk about his six decades in Maricopa and why he became so involved in the community. He and his wife Hermina are among a select group of 20th century "pioneers" who have impacted the Maricopa of today.

Intent on teaching today's kids about current events in Maricopa and around the world, Sequoia Pathway's Shianne Holman is using traditional means in her social studies class like tangible publications to move their informational experience beyond the digital.

In these pages, you can look back at the power of transportation in 1900 Maricopa (three trains a day!) while looking ahead to future transportation challenges. With the funding of a regional transportation plan in the balance, Pinal County and the City continue to fight a Goldwater Institute lawsuit after a tax judge's ruling.

Taxes have been a particular theme this summer. State legislators and local electeds traded barbs over an impending increase in the secondary property tax

rate brought on by the state's education bill. We break down the controversy and what the local fallout might be.

On the bright side, Maricopa's collection of the transaction privilege tax has been up and growing all summer, showing sales are up in several categories and coinciding with this year's building and opening of more shopping venues. Current and pending development is also tracked in this issue.

Bernadette Russoniello, Murray Siegel and the Be Awesome Youth Coalition all have good advice for youth looking to the future. Joan Koczor has tips for seniors trying to deal with the Maricopa heat. Summer's not over yet.

Those stories and more are in this month's InMaricopa.

Happy reading,



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'Finest winter weather on earth' boosts 1900 economy

By Patricia Brock
Maricopa Historical Society

Three trains were in daily operation from Phoenix to Maricopa in the early 1900s, and Maricopa was quite a busy station. During a trip to Tucson in 1900, Tom Gregory, a Maricopa resident and manager of the Edwards Hotel, told the *Arizona Daily Citizen*, "For three months, we have had our hotel filled to the attic every night and the other hotel is crowded, too. The depot has its usual number of loungers, and the Pullman accommodations have been generously patronized. Maricopa has never been so busy. The crowds going to Phoenix (population in 1900 was 5,544) this winter have been greater than ever. And ... if Phoenix continues to advertise as it has in the past year, the crowds will be even greater. I believe that Maricopa (population 160) has the finest winter weather on earth and is the perfect place for invalids with its pure desert air."



Maricopa Historical Society

Contributors



MICHELLE CHANCE

The staff reporter was busy for this issue covering education and taxes, but she had the honor of an extensive interview with Oliver Anderson. Look for more of her video conversation with him at InMaricopa.com.

Page 8



BERNADETTE RUSSONIELLO

The Career and College coordinator for Maricopa High School has started a new year of getting students on track. This month she shares ideas for financial aid, saying she wants families to feel comfortable as they approach the application process in October. Page 16



JOAN KOCZOR

Known locally for her community involvement and newsletters, she likes to get as much senior-related information to the general public as possible. Those range from Social Security to, in this issue, health. Page 34



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Gallery



Ames Construction is overseeing the building of the overpass, with much of the activity next to the Amtrak station. *Raquel Hendrickson*



A dust storm swept through Maricopa Aug. 12, and resident Yvonne Seekings captured the moment before and during the storm. *Submitted*



Flooding after monsoon-type storms south of Maricopa forced the closure of Rancho El Dorado Parkway at both crossings of the Santa Rosa Wash Aug. 16. Gates were closed to motorized traffic, though some pedestrians and cyclists took their chances. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Republican and Democrat candidates for the Legislative District 11 House participated in the InMaricopa.com Primary Election Town Hall Aug. 4: (from left) Mark Finchem, Bret Roberts, Hollace Lyon, Barry McCain, Howell Jones and Marcela Quiroz. *Victor Moreno*



Rosalie Perry spoke about services special-needs residents still need in Maricopa at a joint gathering of Coffee with the Chief and Councilmember on the Corner Aug. 11. *Michelle Chance*

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Oliver Anderson

Longtime farmer's life of service mirrors history of Maricopa

By Michelle Chance

Photo by Mason Callejas

“He’s always served without fanfare, under the radar, wanting no recognition – just wanting the pure joy and knowledge that things will be better.”

Kelly Anderson



Maricopa Historical Society

Hermina and Oliver Anderson with their sons Troy, Kelly and Lynn during Stagecoach Days, which started as a fund-raising effort for the Rotary Club pool.

His story begins less than a month after Black Tuesday, America’s economic disaster that incited the Great Depression.

Oliver Anderson, 89, was born a Phoenician on his family’s farm near Southern and 19th avenues in 1929. Life for all Americans then was a challenge. But the effects of the Wall Street crash were less noticeable to those who worked the ground.

“We grew our own food, and what you didn’t grow, you traded with your neighbors,” Anderson said.

From farm to island, Anderson later spent two years in Japan on a U.S. Air Force base.

In July 1954, the young cosmopolitan moved to Maricopa in the sweltering heat to work on a farm co-owned by his father and a business partner. Anderson-Palmisano Farms, started in 1949, grew cattle, cotton, grain and alfalfa.

Services in the dusty community were primitive — there were no residential phones and roads were paved with dirt. The 25-cycle electricity pumped currents so low, utility customers were bathed in beams of blinking lightbulbs.

“Maricopa was out in the country, but if you’re working seven days a week, time goes pretty fast — very rapidly,” Anderson said.

The rural town was inhabited with working people spread far from each other by the agriculture industry that provided most of them a living.

Townpeople saw each other once a week, usually at school functions or Headquarters Café.

Newsprint didn’t cover the happenings in the town yet, either. Residents visited Postmaster Fred Cole or the barber to stay informed.

“The haircut you received depended on his mood of that day,” Anderson said. “When you went in to get a haircut, that’s where you got the scoop.”

Those who made their mark in the early days didn’t do so without challenges, according

to longtime Maricopa resident and farmer John Smith. Settling the rugged, desert land and transforming it into fertile ground was not always simple for many working in the often unforgiving agribusiness.

“Oliver has been successful out on that farm when very few people were,” Smith said. “Things got tough, but he managed to wade through -- a few of us did -- most didn’t.”

The Andersons made their contributions to the activities and culture in Maricopa, too.

Hermina, Anderson’s wife of 62 years, employed her musical prowess while directing dinner theaters at the school in the 1980s. She provided piano lessons to children and served on the school board.

With a small populace and no formal government, Maricopa pioneers, like Anderson, began a life of service to the community that would span decades.

With the Maricopa Rotary Club, Anderson helped the community in its effort to build a swimming pool. The annual Stage Coach Days celebration was launched to help fund it.

For 10 years Anderson served on the Maricopa School Board, before it became a unified district.

In the early 1980s, Anderson was asked to serve on an advisory committee to the University of Arizona dean of the burgeoning Maricopa Agricultural Center.

Anderson has served on the Pinal County Active Management Area Ground Water Users Advisory Committee for 45 years; the board of directors for the Arizona Cotton Growers Association for 35 years; the Pinal County Farm Bureau Board of Directors; the Arizona Farm Bureau Board of Directors and many more.

It’s a service to others he can’t seem to stop. “When I get on, I can’t get off,” he said, eyes glimmering.

Leadership seems to run in the Anderson family.

Anderson’s son Kelly was the first publicly elected mayor in 2004 and has himself served on many boards and committees, including a six-year appointment to the Arizona Department of Transportation’s State Transportation Board.

The eldest son of Anderson’s four children, Kelly Anderson attributes his civic success to his father.

“He’s always served without fanfare, under the radar, wanting no recognition — just wanting the pure joy and knowledge that things will be better,” Kelly said.

The quiet management style of the Anderson clan has lent well to their business.

Kelly is the third generation to manage the family farm.

The 600-acre operation on Farrell Road has evolved to specialty crops — producing dry flower products for big-name brands like Hobby Lobby, Pottery Barn and Michael’s.


Oliver and Hermina’s three other children — Troy, Lynn and Wendy — specialize in the arts, electronics and medical care.

It’s that kind of success of his own children and other Maricopa schoolchildren that routinely has Oliver steeped in pride, according to Kelly.

“A lot of (students) come back to Maricopa to have a career and do something. It’s a nice return on your time invested,” Kelly said.

Kelly’s wife, Torri Anderson, has served as president and board member of the Maricopa Unified School District for years.

Maricopa’s legacy is embedded in the souls of its people — who as Oliver Anderson said — consistently come together for the good of the community through flood, fire and fundraising.

“It’s the folks that came here initially and said, ‘Hey, by golly, regardless of if it’s dusty, regardless of if it’s hot, regardless of if it’s a long way from town, this is my home, I want to live here,’” Oliver said. 

**Watch
InMaricopa’s
interview with
Oliver Anderson at
InMaricopa.com.**



‘Real-world’ teacher keeps 4th graders tuned into school

By Michelle Chance Photos by Mason Callejas

In an age dominated by digital platforms, Shianne Holman’s fourth grade students learn hands-on, practical skills like public speaking, reading a paper map and writing checks. But it’s the teacher, with her bubbly personality and welcoming smile, that motivates students to come to social studies class at Sequoia Pathway Academy.

“She makes me feel joyful, happy and calm,” said 9-year-old James Newman. A native of Hawaii, Holman is in her second year teaching. Prior to earning her master’s degree in Elementary Education, she built her resume with wide-ranging school positions in Washington state — from security to secretary to paraprofessional. And she covers it all in class, too. With segments in government, economics

and state history, Holman’s students are exposed to real-world applications of modern-day issues. In September, they begin lessons on current events. The children study news of the day from magazines and newsprint collected by Holman from local outlets. “They need to know what’s happening,” Holman said. “They need to know what’s going on.” Technology has evolved the education

Shianne Holman brought a background in education – from security to secretary to paraprofessional – to her newest position as fourth-grade teacher.

system. Its effects are present in every school’s computer lab and digital smart screens. Holman’s students, likely navigating hand-held devices since a young age, are exposed in class to the idea that tech can — and does — fail. That’s why students receive teachings from traditional textbooks, dissect and create map legends, and use their hands to flip through the tangible pages of a news magazine. Through those lessons, Holman’s students learn to identify the structure of informational texts and gain experience with traditional media still produced today. “I hope they are able to use their experiences that they’re learning now and apply it to become better for us,” Holman said. “They’re our future. Who’s going to take care of us?” Being informed is an important key in Holman’s teaching philosophy. Every year her students compose a classroom constitution and submit votes to a handmade ballot box.



Holman guides students through the process of reading local news and using traditional media as they learn to consume information.

“I try to make everything into a real-life situation. I tell them if our parents and grandparents hadn’t gone through what they went through, we wouldn’t have the things we have now, such as technology,” Holman said. Holman’s educational nostalgia even reaches into the scripts of penmanship — with occasional worksheets on cursive handwriting. Her fourth-grade teaching colleagues say Holman’s love for educating is illustrated not just by her personality, but also her sundry lesson plans.



“Shianne brings such a passion to teaching, and it shows because her students are always excited to enter her class,” said social studies teacher Dillon Shosted. “Shianne is always looking for new ways to reach all of her students with instructional practices.” Holman has lived in Maricopa since 2014 with her husband Jonathan and their three

daughters Tiani, 11, Nara, 9, and 6-year-old Azaria. The new educator said she considers former and current students family and hopes her hands-on teachings will produce future leaders. “I feel like maybe it will inspire one of the kids,” Holman said, “and if that’s one, then that’s better than none.”








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Alex Odell heads up a Presentation of the Colors at Maricopa High School as a cadet with the Air Force Junior ROTC Aug. 17. *Raquel Hendrickson*



MHS sophomore Mister Chavis (4) runs for a touchdown with teammates in support during the football team's season-opening game Aug. 17. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Varsity cheerleaders made their season debut at Maricopa High School Aug. 17. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Roanne Gloria (center) was among Maricopa High School students selling sno cones at Ram Stadium for the start of football. *Raquel Hendrickson*



Be Awesome Youth Coalition Director Priscilla Behnke spoke briefly at the Aug. 4 InMaricopa.com Town Hall about the Coalition, who were among students helping to run the event.

Victor Moreno



MHS Marching Band performed the National Anthem in the Performing Arts Center Aug. 4 for the InMaricopa.com Town Hall.

Victor Moreno



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2 Maricopa men arrested after deadly crash on SR 143

3 Murder suspect ruled 'incompetent'

4 New business licenses include big names

5 Commercial activities include coffee shop, oil change



6 Johnson convicted of murder; Russo family 'blessed' with verdict



7 Clerk candidates battle for GOP nomination



8 What to do if caught in a dust storm

9 Man held on \$50K bond after alleged Copper Sky assault

10 Chop Block & Brew opens at Harrah's Ak-Chin

Who's playing?

Maricopa High School Fall Sports Rosters



2018 Rams



Olivia Byers



Connor Paine



Alec Kramarczyk



Shakira Gillespie

MHS BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY

Carlos Chavez, jr
Matthew Coles, so
Jovanni Fontes, so
Filippo Giacometti, fr
Aleksio Hernandez, fr
Angello Hernandez, so
Caden Klasa, fr
Alec Kramarczyk, sr
Charles Liermann, fr
Andrew Mase, fr
Michael Peters, jr
Blaine Stapleton, fr
Quinton Stapleton, jr

MHS GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY

Breeja Krella, so
Hayley Mase, sr
Taryn Meyer, fr
Zanea Ramirez, jr

MHS BOYS' GOLF

Skylar Dugan, sr
Jonathan Aguilar, sr
Connor Paine, sr
Parker Hunsaker, jr
Joseph Russoniello, fr
Treyden Hoffman, fr
Darian Long, fr
Karsen Collazo, fr
Cameron Steele, fr
Christian Pirtle, so



Elijah Rayford, so
Nathaniel Diedrich, fr

MHS GIRLS' GOLF

Hailey Bolander, fr
Scarlett Wong, fr
Hannah Skousen, so
Breanna Fitch, jr
Briley Hoffman, sr
Emily Goncalves, sr

MHS VARSITY FOOTBALL

Anton Avington,jr
Isaac Barrett, sr
Juanelle Billingsley, jr
Terrill Blunt, sr
Marcus Brown, jr
Mister Chavis, so
Anthony Clark, sr



Patrick Garcia, so
Joseph Gibson, sr
Joshua Gillies, jr
EJ Gonzalez, sr
Isaiah Hawkins, sr
Josiah Holguin, jr
Jordan Huddleston, sr
Bakari Jackson, sr
Gannon Jaeger, so
Ilijah Johnson, jr
Trey Keel, sr
Malachi Keithline, sr
Alex Luong, sr
Jake Meyer, sr
Tylek Mooney, so
Kaireem Moreira, sr
Isiaiah Narcia, sr
Stefon Nelson, sr
Keoni Pene, sr
Jacobo Porras, sr
Daxton Redfern, jr

Daniel Rojas, sr
Kenny Shelton, sr
Michael Soliz, jr
Brian Tapia, sr
Hunter Taylor, so
Logan Taylor, sr
Julian Thomas, sr
Maurtel Tuggle, sr
Juan Vazquez, jr
Ryan Wresh, jr

MHS SWIMMING

Juliannah Blakewood, fr
Olivia Byers, so
Jayden Call, so
Emma Carr, fr
Kian Carroll, jr
Mandy Carroll, fr
Kaitlyn Crean, so
Sequyai Crockett, fr
Nolan Ford, fr
Paige Hennigar, sr
Meghan Jackson, sr
Katelyn James, fr
Malia Kealoha, so
Geric Kramarczyk, so
Joseph Lambert, so
Kennerly Leonard, fr
Tyler Manley, jr
Victor Moreno, fr
Lexie Nordhoff, fr
Logan Nordhoff, sr
Abel Rodriguez, so
Salma Roman, sr



Connor Schrader, fr
Rafe Scoresby, fr
Deborah Stenzel, so
Aubree Wittemann, so
Chase Woodhouse, fr
Eva Zavala, jr

MHS VOLLEYBALL

Shayla Barry, so
Italy Brookshire, sr
Ashley Brown, so
Kianna Carman, jr
Destiny Chavez, sr
Taylor Coleman, jr
Meghann Epplen, so
Mackenzie Ford, sr
Layla Gardner, so
Shakira Gillespie, so
Megan Hahn, so
Andrea Harker, jr
Edriana Harry, jr
Guy-Lilliane Kurete, so
Paris Leffenant, so
Taniesha Miller-Gomez, so
Miquela Pino, so
Gracie Price, jr
Davina Saber, so
Megan Skoko, jr
Brooke Smith, so
Emily Thompson, so
Ashley Tuke, sr
Maria Villasenor, so
Jessie Williams, jr
Lalona Young, jr

First you hafta FAFSA

Process for post-secondary financial aid not so scary

By Bernadette Russoniello

Are you applying for post-secondary education and need Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)? The process is easier than ever.

First, visit FAFSA.gov. You must create your FSA ID. You will need to have your Social Security number (SSN), full legal name, birthdate, current address and a personal email address. It is imperative students do not use their school Gmail address as it cannot receive responses from outside the organization. The process takes 5-10 minutes. A parent must create an FSA ID for themselves to electronically sign the FAFSA.

Once you have your FSA ID, create a new application. The FAFSA application opens Oct. 1 for the 2019-20 school year. You will need your parents' SSNs and 2017 federal tax return.

The best part about the online system is that when you enter your parents' SSNs, the FAFSA automatically links to the IRS database and imports all financial information.



Bernadette Russoniello

Complicated family situation? For the FAFSA, the "parent" is the legal guardian, biological or adoptive. If a student is living with an alternate family member or friend, information must still be reported for the parent. If parents are divorced, the student should report the parent who either they live with most or provides the most financial support. A stepparent income must also be reported.

Even more complicated? The financial aid offices of your applicant schools will work with you to help sort out the complexities of

these situations. Unfortunately, for the federal government all students are considered financial dependents of their parents until the age of 24, regardless of living arrangements and reality.

What if my parent(s) are not legal residents? As long as you are a U.S. citizen, you can qualify for FAFSA. If your parents do not have an SSN, enter all zeros for the SSN.

Parents: How can you help? File your taxes on time so your child can be eligible for maximum support.

Be prepared with your applicant schools. On the FAFSA application, you can share your financial information electronically with up to 10 schools. You want to be intentional and purposeful in this selection. Once you confirm the schools have received your info, you can change your submission to 10 other schools. However, it can take the receiving institutions up to eight weeks to process your data, so be sure to prioritize.

The anticipated aid amount for the federal Pell Grant is \$6,095. Federal grants can be used for community college, trade schools and universities, public or private. Grants are renewable up to four years if you pass all your classes and maintain full-time enrollment.

Once you submit your application, you will immediately receive an email from the Department of Education. This email is not a congratulations on completing the form; it is the confirmation letter with your anticipated aid. The letter will include your expected family contribution (EFC) and your anticipated aid. The EFC indicates the amount of money you are expected to contribute toward your college education.

Maricopa High School will host a community Financial Aid night Oct. 22 for families struggling with the process or wanting additional support.

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College application process begins in elementary school

By Murray Siegel

The school year has started, and many 12th-grade students and their families are experiencing the college admission application process.

If a student waits until the senior year of high school, he or she has waited too long. The process should begin in elementary school where the student can develop a productive work ethic. Completing all homework assignments, studying for tests and starting early on assigned projects and reports will develop behaviors that will maximize grades in high school.

Once the student arrives in ninth grade, a folder should be maintained listing all activities (both in-school and off-campus — athletics, music, academic competitions and student government are prime examples), including a

description of the efforts made by the student.

A similar folder should be created for each grade level in high school. Colleges are very interested in activities as well as grades. A student who has participated in time-consuming activities and who has good grades has learned to budget time and will most likely be successful in college.

Starting in 11th grade, the student should start examining possible colleges. Some questions that should be asked about each school are:

- Is the school's location what I want? Some students may wish to be close to home while others may want to be far away.
- What size student population is desired? Will a student be happy with a campus of 1,000 students? How about 30,000 or 50,000?



Murray Siegel

- Is there an academic program that covers the student's career interests?
- If the student should change his or her mind about the major, are there diverse majors available?
- How likely is the student to receive sufficient financial aid?

There is help available, starting with the high school counselor's office. Ultimately, the student should visit the campus of each school that appears to be a good choice. Ideally, visit the campus on Friday and attend classes. Stay over to Saturday to see what type of activities exist for those residing on campus.

It is wise to invest time in seeking financial aid. There are all types of scholarships. Students who have a parent who served on a U.S. Navy submarine are eligible for a special scholarship, as are those whose parents or grandparents worked in the shoe industry. Many church-based colleges offer financial aid to students who are active members.

Financial-aid research is an important part of early preparations for college.

Murray Siegel has a PhD in MathEd and 42 years of teaching experience. He lives in Maricopa.

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Knowledge is power for Be Awesome Youth Coalition

By Chris Cahall

HBO's hit show "Game of Thrones" generates its network a billion dollars annually. One of the better scenes is in season two when Petyr Baelish faces off with Cerci Lannister. He hints at knowing a secret she didn't want divulged and proclaims, "knowledge is power." She bests him with her soldiers and shows him she can bring about his demise and tells him "power is power."

SPOILER ALERT: Baelish was right. We find out later that the whole war was orchestrated by him, he has been manipulating events to produce kingdom chaos with one goal: to take over. He only loses when another player gains knowledge of his scheme, defeating him and claiming his bannerman as her own because, knowledge is power.

Which brings me to my point. This subtle (yet game-changing) plot point is a

universal truth that has taken a niche genre and developed it into a multi-billion-dollar franchise. And it isn't lost on the players at the Be Awesome Youth Coalition. They have adopted this philosophy and will be focusing on it this fall by educating parents and community members on topics relevant to our youth. Kids and teens are facing a slew of issues, and if we don't make it a priority to educate ourselves on the realities facing them, then we run the risk of falling into the trap of false security. Here are three

ways in the month of September you can get involved with Be Awesome and increase the knowledge (aka power).

1 Swag Bags. Be Awesome is currently using fun swag for decorative bags to share with community members that also provide valuable information for parents and community members about adults. We could

use help with collecting items, putting them together, and passing them out at events. Or grab one for your-self.

2 Social Media. Like and share the Facebook Page. Be Awesome will be publishing valuable information on their page alongside of other fun and motivating posts. Take the time to like the page, read the posts, and share them.

3 Talk-O Tuesdays. Be Awesome will be providing speakers and information on tough topics relevant to the health and wellness of kids and teens over a taco dinner with the partnership of Ultra Star. After a long drive home on the 347 you don't have to decide between making dinner and participating in a workshop with valuable information. Your community has you covered. 📢



Chris Cahall

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Legal

Transportation improvements in jeopardy

County supervisors to appeal tax judge's RTA ruling

By Mason Callejas

In an expected move, the Pinal County Board of Supervisors voted in August to appeal a ruling that struck down the legality of a county-wide sales tax. The 4-1 vote by supervisors allows the case — *Harold Vangilder, et al. v. Arizona Department of Revenue, et al.* — to move to the Arizona Court of Appeals.

A statement published by the Pinal County Regional Transportation Authority indicated an appeal was anticipated no matter the board's decision. "At the end of the day, whoever won, we knew this would be appealed," said Maricopa Mayor Christian Price, an RTA board member.

The RTA's half-cent sales tax, approved by voters in November and implemented in April, would fund new roads and improvements. The 20-year transportation plan included the widening of State Route 347, an expansion of



Maricopa-Casa Grande Highway and other projects directly affecting Maricopa.

The Goldwater Institute, a Phoenix-based conservative think tank, filed suit in December arguing the tax was illegal. The Institute claimed Prop 417 exceeded county authority to create a new tax classification by taxing only items below \$10,000.

A Maricopa County Superior Court tax judge later denied Goldwater's motion to delay

the tax's implementation but ruled the county must collect the funds in escrow while the parties litigate.

Judge Christopher Whitten then ruled the tax violates state law.

Price said it's unknown what will happen with the tax going forward because the case is expected to be heard in court again. The tax would likely stop being collected, Price speculated, while the existing tax would be held in escrow.

Casa Grande resident Harold Vangilder, a plaintiff in the case, asked supervisors to accept the court's recent verdict during the Aug. 8 meeting and further requested the supervisors vote against the appeal.

"I believe, as a conservative, that any tax increase imposed by government is an admission that the government cannot figure it out — that they're going to solve whatever problem they're facing on my back," Vangilder said.

Whitten wrote in a July 18 court document that Vangilder had no standing as a plaintiff in the case, a fact which county supervisor and board Vice Chairman Pete Rios addressed during his motion to approve the appeal.

"I'm just sad that Mr. Vangilder, as passionate as he is about this issue, that he was ruled by the court as having no standing to bring the lawsuit, but your name is still on the case," Rios said.

Price said an appellate court ruling is not likely to come in 2018. "We are thinking that a decision won't be rendered until next spring."

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Local, state lawmakers spar over tax increase

By Michelle Chance

The City of Maricopa issued a statement that lashed out against state lawmakers this week, blaming the Legislature and Gov. Doug Ducey for tax increases expected to show up on the next property tax bill for Maricopa homeowners.

The raise in secondary property taxes in Maricopa will cost approximately \$45 per \$100,000 of assessed home value, according to a City Hall press release published Aug. 15.

The release was published on behalf of the City of Maricopa, Pinal County and Maricopa Unified School District, said City Manager Rick Horst.

What does the tax do?

The local tax pays for desegregation funding utilized by MUSD to hire qualified teachers, implement extra support for English Language Learners and other programming.

Eighteen Arizona school districts receive this money to aid in compliance with an order from the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights to remediate alleged or proven racial discrimination, according to statute.

MUSD has received desegregation funding since approximately the late 1990s, according to one school official.

The new law shifts the cost burden, previously assigned to taxpayers statewide, to homeowners who live in school districts that receive desegregation dollars.

It's an issue complicated by Arizona's complex tax system that mandates a 1 percent property tax cap. The state use to backfill those funds for some schools cut off by the cap.

Local pushback against the tax

The city says the shift in responsibility is unlawful because voters didn't get a say.

"The state Legislature passed a law that instituted a secondary property tax without putting it to a vote of those affected, which we believe is illegal and unconstitutional," the press release stated.

Mayor Christian Price deferred comment on the subject to Councilmember Nancy Smith.

Smith said Pinal County, the City of Maricopa and Arizona school districts, including MUSD, will analyze the possibilities of legal options to appeal the tax.

Alternative solutions include restructuring school funding and more dialogue with state legislators.

"We simply ask our state Legislature to come to the table with us to increase communication and allow us to help solve complex issues," Smith said.

Smith has been a vocal critic of the Legislature, which, she said, often balances its budget "on the backs of towns, cities, counties," and now school districts.

Smith said those decisions by the state force local governments to determine how to adapt increased costs passed down to them, often taking the form of tax increases.

"We believe it is disingenuous when we hear statements that indicate that our state budget has been passed without raising taxes,

when in truth a portion of their budget has been passed to local governments," Smith said.

State lawmakers double down on tax legality

Senate Bill 1529, signed by Ducey and passed by the Legislature in May, alleges secondary property taxes "levied pursuant to this subsection do not require voter approval."

State Rep. Mark Finchem (LD 11) maintained the tax's legality in an opinion piece sent to InMaricopa.

"This is not a new tax, it is a tax moved from one funding source to another, putting the responsibility for funding on the community that uses the school system, and not other communities that do not have a segregation compliance problem with the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Civil Rights," Finchem wrote.

Desegregation funding has long been a thorn in many state lawmakers' sides, with previous, unsuccessful efforts to alleviate the state's funding portion in the past.

"This issue was on the table long before the now very successful 20x2020 was finalized," said Rep. Vince Leach (LD 11) regarding Ducey's teacher salary-raise plan included in this year's state budget.

Leach suggested lowering local government spending and tax rates to fix the problem.

State Sen. Steve Smith (LD 11) questioned how districts spend the money and whether those funds are necessary.

Smith said a solution to the tax debacle is simple: Strike out desegregation funding.

"It's a bad tax that the local level should eliminate and get rid of it altogether," Smith said.

MUSD: Desegregation funds crucial to success for every student

District officials said the funding keeps classroom sizes manageable, provides programming that aids in closing student achievement gaps and is necessary for teaching positions that primarily serve English Language Learners.

The district receives approximately \$1.29 million annually in desegregation monies that fund the salaries of about 25 teachers throughout nine schools, according to Superintendent Tracey Lopeman.

"It would be devastating if we lost that funding," Lopeman said.

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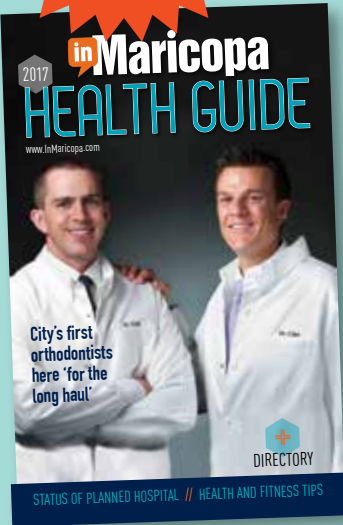
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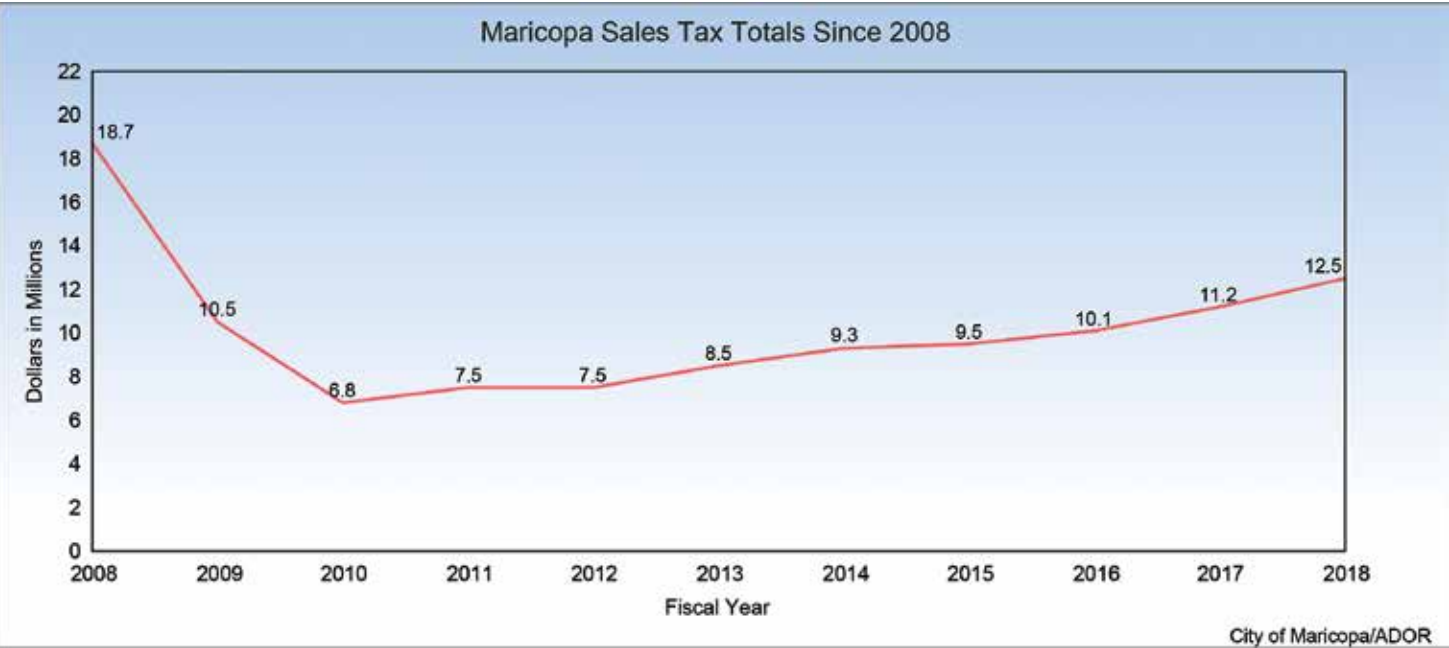
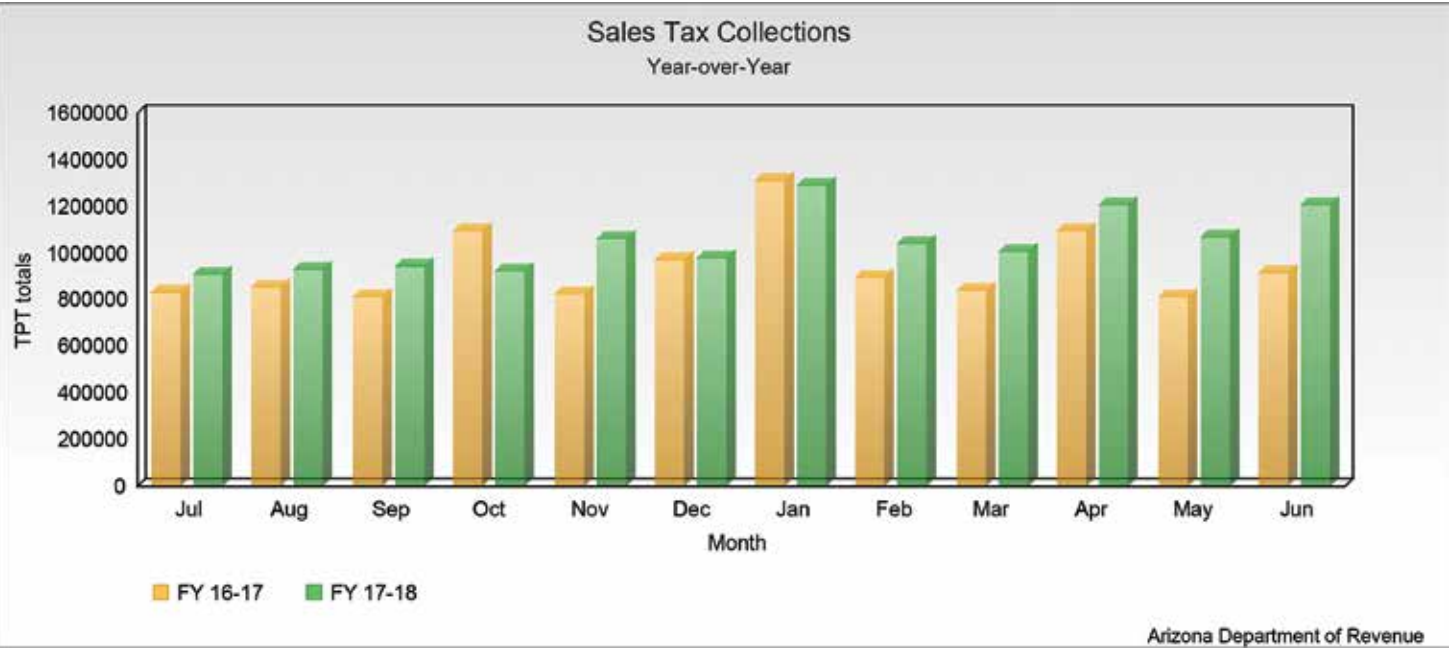


Sales tax paints picture of Maricopa growth

The last five months of the fiscal year showed steady growth in Maricopa’s business activity. The city reaped more than \$1 million each month from January through June and easily outpaced last year February through June. City Finance Director Brenda Hasler said that coincided with construction and the opening of more retail outlets. Edison Pointe, in particular, boasted new builds and six new openings to generate more sales tax for the city.

In fiscal year 2017-18 (Graph 1 in green), Maricopa took in \$12.5 million in transaction privilege tax, often called sales tax. The previous fiscal year, the total was \$11.2 million. Retail and construction continue to be the city’s highest earners.

As shown in Graph 2, the FY18 total is the highest for Maricopa since before the recession. The city has a way to go before returning to those money-generating highs. In FY08, the city collected \$18.7 million in sales tax. 



Commercial activities, in brief

DR Horton was granted an amendment to its planned area development in lots 1 and 8 in Tortosa for coverage increase.

Chop Block & Brew opened Aug. 7 at Harrah’s Ak-Chin Casino with dining and a lounge. It seats 159 and serves lunch and dinner.



In a capital-improvement project, **Fire Station 574** received a permit for installation of new evaporative system in the bay at a cost of \$100,000.

Walmart made interior alterations to replace fitting rooms and relocate an apparel fixture and added power to the fitting rooms. The project was valued at \$20,000.

Suite D8 of **Maricopa Fiesta** at 20924 N. John Wayne Parkway, a former veterinarian office, received a permit to be modified into an open white shell at a cost of \$32,000. The required demolition also received a permit.

The **overpass project** on State Route 347 at the Union Pacific Railroad tracks received a hauling permit. Ames Construction is the primary contractor.

Community of Hope Church applied to install a new fire alarm system at 45295 W. Honeycutt Ave.

True Grit received a general fire inspection for a planned bike event in September that may include a beer garden.

DRH Construction received a permit to turn a home garage into a sales office at 36878 W. Maddaloni Ave. in Sorrento.

Cobblestone Fiesta Center, Sorrento and the **City of Maricopa** all received permits for new signs. **Burger King** opened its doors at 20699 N. John Wayne Parkway. Along with **Ross Dress for Less** and **Great Clips** at The Wells received permits for temporary banners.

Verizon and **AT&T** received zoning permits to modify existing cell towers.

NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

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Briefs

2 EATERIES DINGED BY FOOD INSPECTORS

Ten of the 12 Maricopa food facilities inspected by Pinal County Environmental Health July 17-Aug. 15 received scores of excellent. Two had minor problems that were dealt with during inspection.

Dunkin' Donuts had issues with food temperature and hygiene. Egg flats, which should have been no warmer than 41 degrees F were measured at 51 degrees and had to be discarded. The inspector also noted staff with polished fingernails, which are not allowed in food-prep, a situation that was also corrected.

The Silver Spur at The Duke at Rancho El Dorado posted a satisfactory score after observed violations in food-holding temperatures and dated food. The inspector observed a prep table holding food at 52-56 degrees instead of the mandated 41, and a walk-in refrigerator holding food at 50 degrees. Several food items were reported to be seven days past their date marking. The inspector also noted freezer equipment with icicles on the ceiling, ice on the floor and no light.

EXCELLENT [No violations found]

- Arby's
- Burger King
- Culver's of Maricopa
- Domino's Pizza
- Gyro Grill
- KFC
- Papa John's Pizza
- Taco Bell
- Tacos 'N' More
- Water and Ice

SATISFACTORY [Violations corrected during inspection]

- The Duke at Rancho El Dorado
- Dunkin' Donuts

NEEDS IMPROVEMENT [Critical items noted during inspection cannot be corrected immediately requiring follow-up inspection]
None

UNACCEPTABLE [Gross, unsanitary conditions necessitating the discontinuation of service]
None

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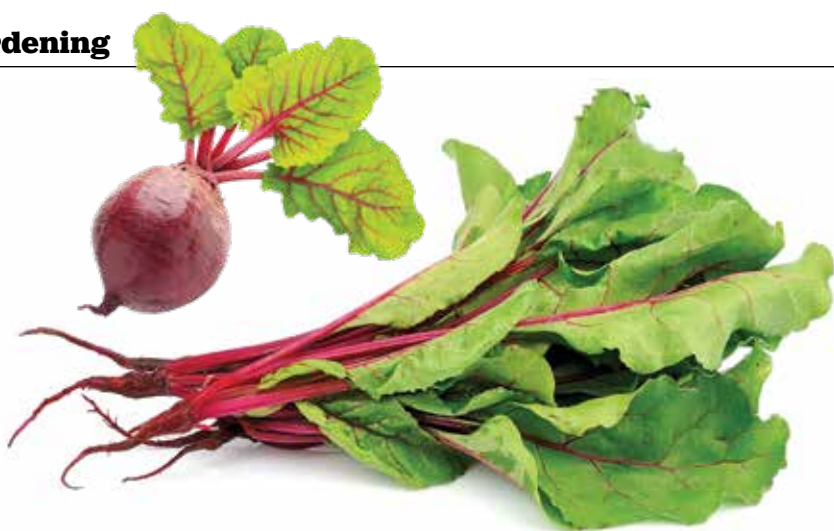
Getting to KNOW

EHREEMA J NADIR, MD
AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATES

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Occupation: Primary Care Physician
Family: Spouse and 4 kids
Pet peeve: No-show appointments
Dream vacation: Alaskan Cruise
Like most about Maricopa: Small town feel, friendly neighbors

FAVORITE ...
Food: Sushi
Joke: Did you hear the one about the germ? Never mind, I don't want to spread it around!

Learn more about Ehreema at InMaricopa.com/Getting-To-Know



Leafy produce popular in desert home gardens for autumn

By Al Brandenburg

Fall planting can be very productive as temps cool and we get ready to plant cabbage, lettuce, brussels sprouts, escarole, beets and, my favorite, swiss chard.

First things first. Remove all tomato and other plants that have died (peppers, if healthy and getting enough water, will start to produce again as temps cool). Add more humus and plant scraps to your soil and turn it over to loosen it.

Swiss chard reaches a mature height of 1-2 feet and is relatively easy to sow from seed or transplants. You can grow chard anywhere that lettuce and spinach will grow. It can be planted early in the season, as the

seedlings are tolerant to frost. Swiss chard likes organic-rich, well-drained soil and plenty of sun. Chard can be harvested while the leaves are young and tender (smaller than 4 inches)



Al Brandenburg

or after maturity. Plant swiss chard seeds 2-3 weeks after Labor Day. Sow seed 3 inches apart and thin as necessary. Continue planting seeds at 10-day intervals for a month. Once you have begun your Swiss chard harvest, the plants can be continually harvested through February.

Beets, with earthy sweetness and rich colors, are a delicious addition to your garden. They don't require much room, and they like cool weather. Plant the seeds 1-2

inches apart in the row. Cover the seeds lightly with loose soil, and then sprinkle it with water. You should see the plants sprouting in seven to 14 days. Thin to assure good bulb growth. You can plant beets in partial shade, but you want their roots to reach a depth of at least 3-6 inches, so don't plant them under a tree where they might run into tree roots.

Cabbage thrives in cool weather. In most areas, you can plant an early crop for fresh eating and a late crop — usually the more problem-free and tasty of the two — primarily for winter storage. Choose early varieties such as Primax for summer harvest; midseason and late-season cultivars for storage. Mini cabbages such as Gonzales, harvested when only 6 inches in diameter, are perfect for small gardens. Sow seeds indoors, ¼-inch deep and 2 inches apart, around mid-December. Place in a sunny spot or under lights with temperatures between 60 and 70 degrees F, and keep the soil uniformly moist. When daytime temperatures reach 50 degrees and seedlings have three leaves, plant them outdoors. Plant seedlings in the garden slightly deeper than they grew in flats. Space 6-12 inches apart in rows 1-2 feet apart. Wide spacings produce bigger heads, but young, small cabbages are tastier.

For more in-depth info on how best to choose and plant, go to mac-pinal-mastergardener.org.

So, good luck and good eating. I know I will.

Pinal County Master Gardener Al Brandenburg is a resident of Maricopa.

Buyers have financing options for no down payment, bad credit

By Dayv Morgan

Traditionally, a down payment on a home is 20 percent of the sales price. This allows a buyer to avoid paying a monthly fee for private mortgage insurance. But saving up 20 percent is often a struggle for potential homebuyers. The median sales price in Maricopa is around \$210,000, which would require \$42,000 down.

This is why down-payment assistance (DPA) programs remain in demand. In 2016, the Pathway to Purchase (P2P) program allowed Maricopans to receive a grant of 10 percent of the price, up to \$20,000, to be used towards the down payment. The P2P program returned last month for selected zip codes, including most of Casa Grande, but unfortunately Maricopa was not on that list.

There are still other DPA options for homebuyers in Maricopa.

Administered by the Arizona Industrial Development Authority, the HOME Plus Home Loan Program provides a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage combined with DPA up to 5 percent. The assistance is provided in the form of a three-year, no interest, no down payment, second mortgage, completely forgiven at the end of three years. The DPA can be used toward the down payment, closing costs or a combination. Active military and veterans can receive an additional 1 percent.

For those who do not qualify for these programs, there is still a standard 3.5-percent down FHA loan program, which is the most common in Maricopa. A 620 credit score is often thought to be the minimum to qualify for financing. Many renters don't begin to even think about looking for homes until their score



Dayv Morgan

is in the 600s. FHA actually sets a minimum score of 580, but mortgage companies often will add their own "overlays" on top of the federal guidelines, bringing it back up to a 620. Fortunately, there are some lenders with niche programs available to help potential buyers with less-than-great credit.

Carrington Mortgage Services, for example, has options for VA and FHA loans with a credit score as low as 500. The FHA loan requires a higher down payment of 10 percent, but the VA product does not require any down payment at all.

Every lender will likely have different requirements for qualifying. In addition to credit score and down payment, other factors such as debt-to-income ratios and cash reserves will come into play. Based on your personal situation, your real estate professional and lender can direct you to the best financing programs available.

Dayv Morgan is a Maricopa Realtor and owner of HomeSmart Success.

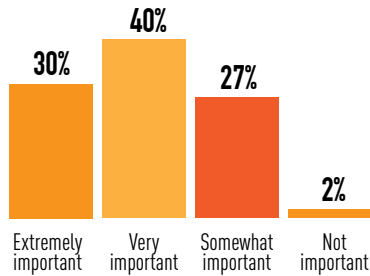
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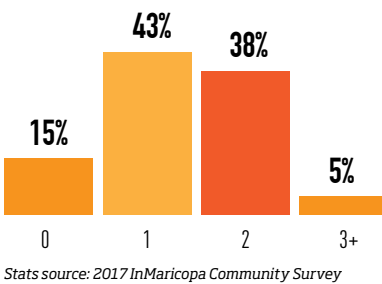
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Raquel Hendrickson

The most expensive home sold in Maricopa from July 16 to Aug. 15 was a two-story, four-bedroom house in Palo Brea. This is the third time the home has been sold since it was built in 2007. Its \$320,000 price was 16.6 percent higher than its selling price 18 months ago. All four bedrooms are built like masters, and the 4,500-square-foot home sits on a 10,000-square-foot lot that includes a pool.

Sold: Aug. 10
Purchase price: \$320,000
Square footage: 4,512
Price per square foot: \$70.92
Days on market: 133
Builder: Beazer
Year built: 2007
Bedrooms: 4
Bathroom: 3.5
Community: Palo Brea

Features: Upgraded kitchen, 10-foot ceilings, large bonus room, huge master suite, outdoor built-in BBQ, pebble tec pool
Listing agent: Dayv Morgan, HomeSmart Success
Selling agent: Roque Martinez, eXp REalty

- 2. 43612 W. Sparks Court, Rancho El Dorado \$315,000**
- 3. 40978 W. Pryor Lane, Homestead North \$295,000**
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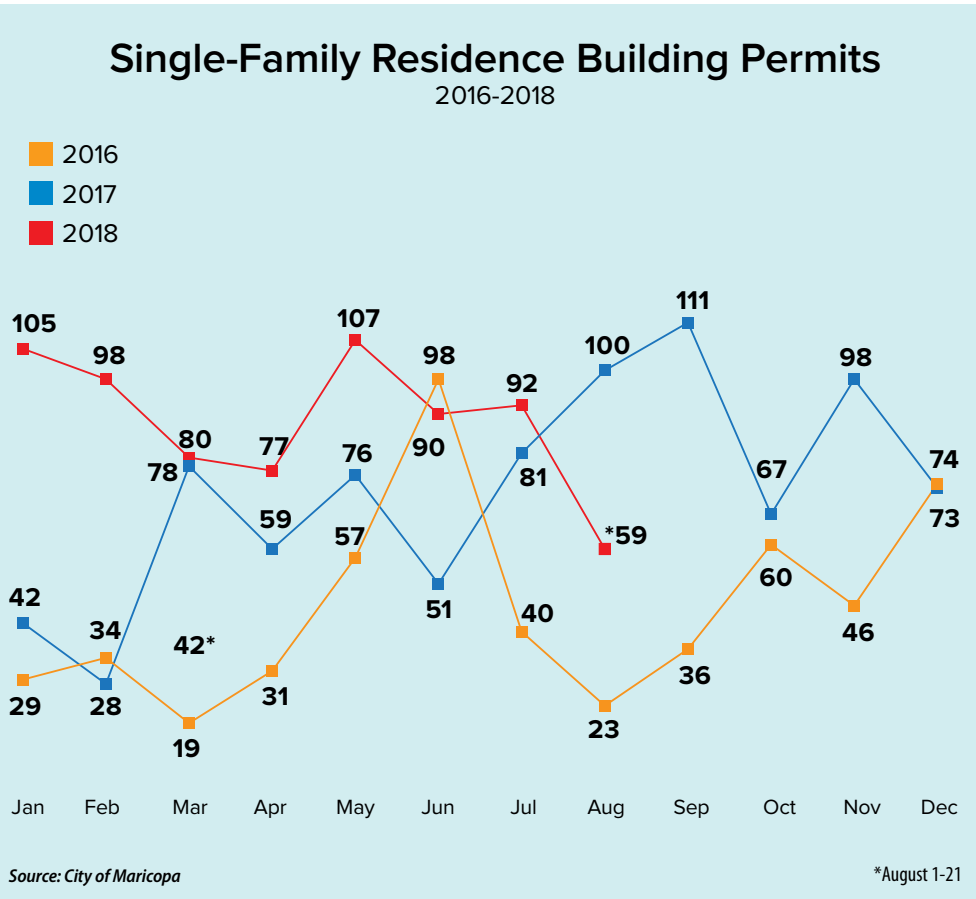
Raquel Hendrickson

The least expensive home sold in Maricopa from July 16 to Aug. 15 was on a corner lot in Tortosa. A victim of the recession (it once sold for \$750), it made a gradual comeback. It's selling price of \$158,000 is 66 percent higher than its last selling price in 2013. The standard three-bedroom home has a split floor plan and a covered patio in the backyard.

Sold: Aug. 15
Purchase price: \$158,000
Square footage: 1,370
Price per square foot: \$115.33
Days on market: 9
Builder: Unknown
Year built: 2006
Bedrooms: 3
Bathrooms: 2

Community: Tortosa
Features: Tile flooring, dual sinks in master bath, grass back yard, 5,663-square-foot lot
Listing agent: Chad Crimmins, Elite Real Estate Pros
Selling agent: Michael Colletti, Realty ONE Group

- 2. 35616 W. Costa Blanca Drive, Tortosa \$160,000**
- 3. 36997 W. Amalfi Ave., Sorrento \$164,000**
- 4. 41988 W. Colby Drive, Rancho El Dorado \$165,000**
- 5. 43549 W. Colby Drive, Rancho El Dorado \$165,000**



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For a full list of last month's Maricopa home sales, see InMaricopa.com/Real-Estate.

Older bodies take longer to adjust to heat

By Joan Koczor

Older adults need to be extra careful of overheating and heat stroke. As we age, our bodies cannot adjust to high temperatures as well.

Our sense of thirst decreases, which can cause seniors to not realize they are thirsty and face the dangers of dehydration. Common medications, such as those for blood pressure, flush water from the body. Diuretics or low-salt diets could also affect the way your body regulates temperature. Side effects from some medications can cause excessive sweating and diarrhea.

A daily intake of about six 8-ounce glasses of water is about average. Medications you are taking are also a consideration, so talk to your doctor about how much water you should be drinking each day.

A few simple steps can make a difference

in how you handle these excessive temperatures.

Schedule a checkup for your home or car air conditioner — make sure both are running properly.

Keep the shades/blinds closed during the hottest part of the day. Eat light, cold meals like salads and chicken.

Drink plenty of cool water throughout the day. A body that is hydrated feels cooler and can regulate temperatures better. Lessen your

caffeine intake. Take a cool shower. Put a cold cloth on the back of your neck. Wear loose-fitting clothing. Fans help circulate the air and can make an air-conditioned house feel cooler. Freeze plastic bottles of water, take one with you when you go outside. As the ice melts, you will have a supply of cold water.



Joan Koczor



Visit a shopping mall, library or coffee shop. Go see a movie.

Drinking enough water every day is one of the smartest, simplest ways to keep the body functioning properly. Be aware of the signs of dehydration — dry mouth/skin, lightheadedness, low blood pressure, rapid heartbeat — and use these tips to keep cool throughout the summer. And don't forget to take that water bottle wherever you go.

Remember, pets also need to be protected from dehydration and many heat-related illnesses. 🐾

Joan Koczor is a senior advocate and member of



Stay on the sunny side of life

Having a "glass half full" approach to life has long been considered important for overall wellness. But evidence suggests that there may be truth in this folk wisdom.

A 2017 survey of 2,000 people aged 60 and over found 87 percent of seniors who identify themselves as "most optimistic" reported their health as good to excellent. This is compared to 44 percent for those who said they're "least optimistic."

- 91 percent of the most optimistic respondents reported feeling confident in the past week, while only 52 percent of the least optimistic respondents did, a difference of 39 percentage points.
- 90 percent of the most optimistic respondents reported feeling happy in the past week, compared to 44 percent of the least optimistic respondents, a difference of 46 percentage points.
- 31 percent of the most optimistic respondents reported getting a restless night's sleep in the past week, while 62 percent of the least optimistic respondents did, another difference of 31 percentage points.

Having an optimistic mindset is often easier said than done.

Tips for staying on the sunny side of life

1. Take ownership and recognize that your health is your own. To achieve your best health, you need to set personal goals – just for you.
2. Engage with your doctor or other health care professional and build a trusting relationship.
3. Find a higher purpose that makes you excited to get up in the morning.
4. Remain socially engaged, not isolated, and nurture close relationships.
5. Stay active and remember that physical activity is important. Find something that's right for you and that you like to do. Almost all of the most optimistic survey respondents (97 percent) say remaining physically active is a major motivator for retaining good health.
6. Practice gratitude and make it a habit to look for and appreciate everything you're thankful for in life. 🙏

In-Home Care Services

Comfort Keepers® SPOTLIGHTS

Judy Housley



Judy is a family caregiver with Comfort Keepers for just over 10 years now although she has cared for her daughter, a Maricopa resident, Amanda Caldwell since she first fell ill in 1995. Judy and Amanda, along with their family have been through many ups and downs together and attribute Amanda's health today to their faith in God and the team approach to her health.

Judy wears several Comfort Keeper hats. She is a caregiver to Amanda and the Care Coordinator for Maricopa clients and caregivers. Judy has recently added DCW (Direct Care Worker) Trainer for Comfort Keepers to the mix. The most rewarding thing about her job is to bring joy to those she serves whether through a smile, a new accomplishment or a shared laugh.

Family: Judy and her husband, Bill just celebrated 43 years of marriage, have a son, Nathan in addition to Amanda and her husband Ryan.

Maricopan for: 10 years

Favorite color: Dark Red

Favorite food: Spaetzle with brown gravy

Favorite vacation: Germany

Favorite pastimes: In her spare time, Judy is very active in her church, loves to crochet and meet new people.



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Town Hall

Supporting Maricopa High School and Be Awesome Youth Coalition

Saturday, Oct. 6

Maricopa High School Performing Arts Center
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Sun Life – Your Hometown Pharmacy

By **Renée Louzon-Benn**
Director of Community Outreach

Sun Life opened the Family Health Center on Bowlin Road in 2015. This health center not only provides Maricopa with expanded family practice and pediatrics, but also a full-service community pharmacy, open to the public. The Sun Life Pharmacy in Maricopa is one of six community pharmacies operated by Sun Life Family Health Center in Pinal County.

While many of Sun Life's patients benefit from the convenience of a pharmacy located at their doctor's office, you do not have to be a patient to use our pharmacy. Everyone in Maricopa can use Sun Life Pharmacy. Sun Life accepts most major insurances, AHCCCS and Medicare. Sun Life offers a \$3.99 Generics Program, with many medications including amoxicillin, warfarin, pravastatin, metformin, lisinopril, fluoxetine, ibuprofen and levothyroxine. Sun Life's generics program also offers certain oral contraceptives at \$9.00. Generics are offered at a cash price to the public and no insurance is necessary.

Sun Life's hometown pharmacy recruits staff from our communities. When you use a Sun Life Pharmacy, your neighbors and friends are serving you. You might already know the Pharmacy Manager, Desiree' Tilbury, a local who has been working at other retail locations in Maricopa for several years who is part of the team at Sun Life. "Seeing your health provider and then being able to have a pharmacist review not only your prescription history but also your medical history here at Sun Life provides a more thorough continuity of care that you just can't get anywhere else," Desiree' said. "I want our customers to know that we have their health and well-being as our top priority here at Sun Life, and I'm excited to provide a great customer care experience to our local community."

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Things to do

SEPTEMBER

4

MHS Volleyball vs. Paradise Valley

6 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Maricopa City Council Work Session

6 p.m., Maricopa City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

Maricopa City Council Regular Session

7 p.m., Maricopa City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

5

MHS Girls' Golf

3 p.m., The Duke at Rancho El Dorado
42660 W. Rancho El Dorado Parkway

6

MHS Swim Meet

4 p.m., Copper Sky Aquatic Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Blvd.

7

8-Bits Video Game Club

4 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

12

Caregiver Support Group

10 a.m., Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Maricopa Small Education

Business Series Kickoff
11 a.m., Central Arizona College
17945 N. Regent Drive

MUSD Governing Board Meeting

6:30 p.m., Maricopa Unified School District Office
44150 W. Maricopa-Casa Grande Hwy.

13

MHS Volleyball vs. Campo Verde

6 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

14

MHS Homecoming Football Game vs. Central

7 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Sequoia Pathway Football vs. South Pointe

7 p.m., Pacana Park
19000 N. Porter Road

15

Kids Day Maricopa

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Maricopa Wells Middle School
45725 W. Honeycutt Ave.

18

MHS Volleyball vs. Williams Field

6 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Maricopa City Council Work Session

6 p.m., Maricopa City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

Maricopa City Council Regular Session

7 p.m., Maricopa City Hall
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

19

MHS Cross Country

2 p.m., Copper Sky Regional Park
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

20

MHS Volleyball vs. Centennial

6 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

20

Zonta Club of Maricopa

5:30 p.m., Honeycutt Coffee

44400 W. Honeycutt Road, Suite 109

MHS Volleyball vs. Higley

6 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

21

8-Bits Video Gaming Club

4 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

MHS Football vs. Higley

7 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

21-22

MHS Theatre Company Greatest Hits Showcase

7 p.m., Maricopa High School Lecture Hall
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

22

Ramón Ayala in Concert

6 p.m., UltraStar Multi-tainment Center
16000 N. Maricopa Road

Things to do

24

NCAA Parent Night

6 p.m., 7 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

25

MHS Boys' Golf

3 p.m., Ak-Chin Southern Dunes
48456 W. Highway 238

26

MUSD Governing Board Meeting

6:30 p.m., Maricopa Unified School District Office
44150 W. Maricopa-Casa Grande Hwy.

27

MHS Swim Meet

4 p.m., Copper Sky Aquatic Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Blvd.

28

Sequoia Pathway Football vs. San Tan

7 p.m., Pacana Park
19000 N. Porter Road

OCTOBER

6

InMaricopa.com General Election Town Hall

10 a.m., Maricopa High School Performing Art Center
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Bark for Life

10 a.m., Copper Sky Dog Park
44345 W. Martin Luther King Blvd.

10-13

"Cabaret"

7 p.m., Leading Edge Academy
18700 N. Porter Road

13

Maricopa Mud Run

7 a.m., Copper Sky Regional Park
44345 W. Martin Luther King Blvd.

SUNDAYS

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Maricopa Community Church
44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

MONDAYS-FRIDAYS

Senior Drop-In

8 a.m.-4 p.m., Santa Cruz Elementary School
19845 N. Costa del Sol Blvd.

MONDAYS

Senior Bowling

10 a.m., UltraStar Multi-tainment Center
16000 N. Maricopa Road

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Maricopa Community Church
44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL)

7 p.m., Maricopa Behavioral Health Services
21300 N. John Wayne Parkway, Suite 103

TUESDAYS

Celebrate Recovery

Coffee & Karaoke
5 p.m., Maricopa Community Church
44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

WEDNESDAYS

Babytime

9:30 a.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Harrah's Club 777 Toastmasters

3 p.m., Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino
15406 N. Maricopa Road

S.M.A.R.T. Kids

3:30 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Maricopa Police Explorer Post Meeting

5 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

THURSDAYS

Family Story Time

4 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Ak-Chin Social Services
48227 W. Farrell Road

FRIDAYS

Al-Anon Meeting

7 p.m., Community of Hope Church
45295 W. Honeycutt Ave.



Anita McLeod

Bernard "The Klute" Schober is slam master for the upcoming All-Maricopa Poetry Slam.

All-Maricopa Poetry Slam returns

The third annual All-Maricopa Poetry Slam is planned for Oct. 6. The Maricopa Arts Council event featuring Maricopa poets of high-school age and older is an artistic competition for performance of original poetry where poets perform their own work before an audience.

A poetry slam is like a series of high-energy, tiny one-person plays, and all types of poetry are welcome onstage, from street-wise hip-hop and narrative performance poems, to political rants and introspective confessionals. Slams can be an intense theatrical experience, and because these are adult slams they are free speech events.

To compete, poets will need three original poems, each lasting no longer than three minutes. No props, costumes nor musical accompaniment are permitted.

Only the first 14 poets who show up at 5:45 p.m. to register will have the chance to perform, and performances will be carved down in each round, from 14 to nine to the final five. The top two poets will be awarded the prize of a spot to perform at the larger All-Arizona Poetry Slam Championship, also held in Maricopa, Feb. 2.

Plus, the two finalists will earn the opportunity to present at the All-Arizona championship slam as sorbet poets, performing a single poem in intermission between the official competition rounds.

The slam master for all MAC performance poetry events is poet Bernard Schober, who writes and performs as The Klute. A veteran of the annual National Slam, author of a dozen poetry collections and recognized worldwide as a shark conservationist, he is well-known throughout the Southwest for fiery, gripping performances of his own poetry.

The All-Maricopa Poetry Slam will return to its roots at Honeycutt Coffee, 44400 W. Honeycutt Road, Suite 109. The event begins at 5:45 p.m., when participants register and audience members can purchase refreshments and mingle. The competition proper will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. During the preliminary period, audience members can enjoy a "slam prelude" — on-the-spot art created by Maricopa visual artists. There is a \$5 event entrance fee.

MACmaricopa@gmail.com; Facebook.com, search Maricopa Arts Council

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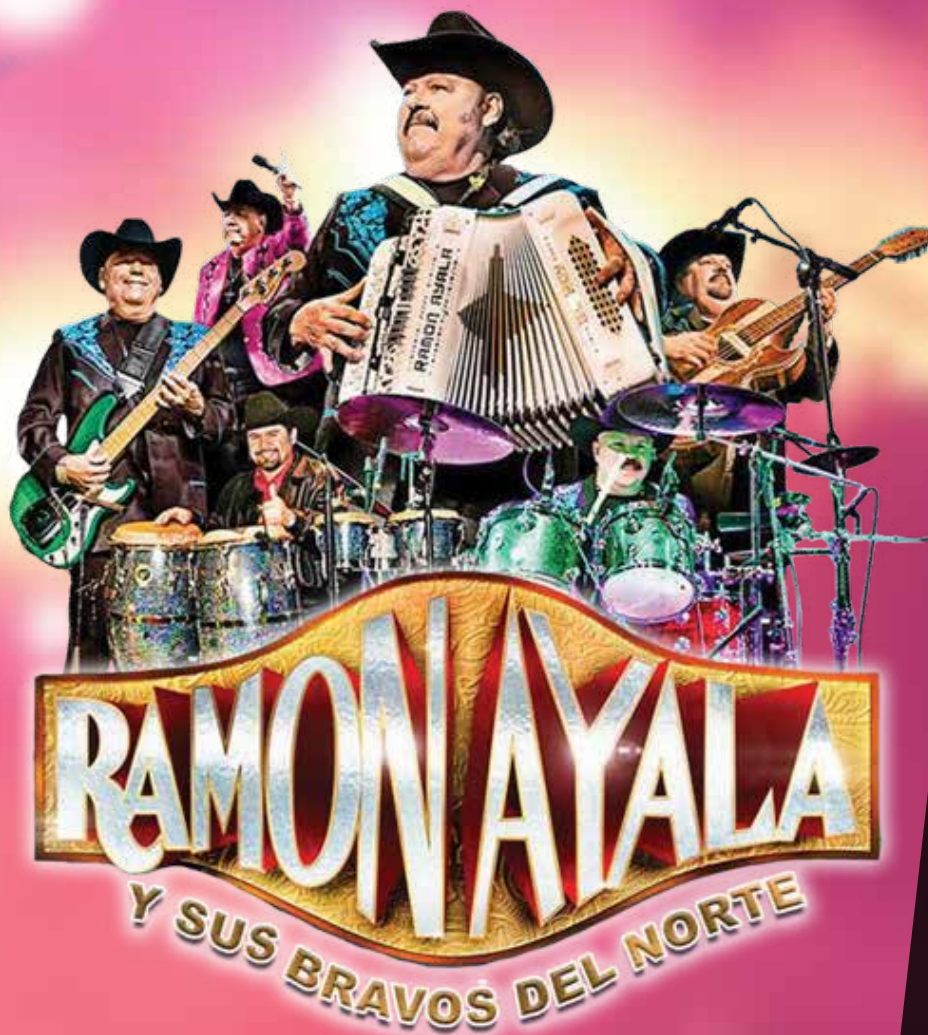
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