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December 2018

BUSINESS

Apex members' expectations

GOVERNMENT

Fees may change at Copper Sky

THINGS TO DO

Masik Tas brings good times

Winter Visitor

Maricopa Santa invites kids to South Pole Vacation Home

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Victor Moreno

LEADING OFF

Editor's Letter Page 4 Contributors Page 4

PEOPLE.

A photo gallery captures events around town. **Page 6**

History photo of iconic basketweaver. Page 7

Pima Butte Elementary teachers offer insight on A rating. Page 8

Ak-Chin Indian Community celebrates Masik Tas. Page 10

Maricopa Santa brings Christmas home. Page 12

FAMILY

A gallery of family activities. Page 14

Bernadette Russoniello takes a college road trip. **Page 16**

Be Awesome youth evaluate 'Beautiful Boy.'

Murray Siegel has ideas for getting students off out-of-town buses. Page 19

GOVERNMENT

Winners, losers react to General Election. Page 20

City of Maricopa is weighing fee changes for Copper Sky. Page 22



BUSINESS

Business briefs include new companies, expansions and moving. Page 25

Apex groundbreaking comes with high expectations. Page 28

Directory **Page 32**

Business licenses may be replaced with registry. Page 33

HOME

Master gardener Scott Oliver talks about pomegranates. Page 34

HomeSmart Success Realtor Dayv Morgan has tips for selling in winter. Page 35

Most expensive home sold has lakefront views. **Page 36**

New home permits. Page 37

SENIOR LIVING

Joan Koczor brings up holiday memories.

Bob Marsh says senior needs are beyond fun and games. Page 39

THINGS TO DO

Maricopa Music Circle, MHS bands and more have December concerts. Page 44

Check the calendar for Maricopa events. Page 42

Two churches partner for unique Nativity experience. Page 46

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ON THE COVER: Rich Huggins invites children to visit with Maricopa Santa at his Desert Cedars home. Photo by Kyle Norby

Seasons greetings

Maricopa, with holidays that make us take stock of the past year while preparing for the future. In this issue, we touch on some seasonal themes as well as peek at what's new.

Rich Huggins is our cover subject as the self-proclaimed Maricopa Santa. Besides his appearances at the usual Santa hang-outs like Merry Copa and Shop with a Cop, he and Mrs. Claus visit with children at the Huggins homestead in Desert Cedars every weekend this month until Christmas. The homey event has gained sponsors over the years, and Rich and Linda Huggins use it as a benefit for F.O.R. Maricopa's Christmas project, but the little ones just

If anyone knows how to celebrate like Santa, it's the Ak-Chin Indian Community. Their annual birthday bash, Masik Tas, is more than two weeks of fun, sports, cultural events and more. And everyone is invited. Check the schedule in this issue.

want to present their wish lists to the Big Man.

Two nativity traditions are coming together for one evening as neighboring churches display living and stationary versions of the Biblical story. Also in the seasonal mood, Joan Koczor waxes nostalgic in the Senior Living section by tracing some Christmas traditions. On the other hand, Realtor Dayv Morgan points out how the holidays can be a problem when

ecember brings a lot of activity to trying to sell your house in wintertime.

The faculty at Pima Butte Elementary School has solved a lot of problems in their time, and they were rewarded this year with another A rating. Some of them sat down to talk about how the school is

> consistently a top performer. Murray Siegel looks at ways to keep Maricopa kids in Maricopa for their school years. Bernadette Russoniello takes us on a virtual college road trip around the state to see the benefits of Arizona's various institutions as graduating seniors figure out their futures.

The future is in the minds of several folks. Apex Motor Club just broke ground, and its officers are watching their plans for a racetrack finally come together. The City of Maricopa is looking forward to a new fee schedule at Copper Sky while also creating a voluntary business registry to do away with business licensing. And the U.S. Department of Health has a new set of guidelines to make your daily physical regimen more effective.

That may come in handy after a busy holiday

Have a joyous one.

Contributors



BOB MARSH

The Microsoft retiree drives a Smart Car. lost a Flood Control District election by three votes and came close to forcing a runoff in this year's city council election. This month he's talking about senior services.



As a social worker, Behnke started bringing youth together to find alternatives to underage drug and alcohol abuse. Now heading the Be Awesome Youth Coalition, she always has tips for - and from - kids and parents.



SCOTT OLIVER A six-year resident of Maricopa, he brings his experience to the Maricopa Master Gardeners' demonstration garden as well as his sense of humor.



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CITY OF MARICOR the City Address. Raquel Hendrickson

A DeLorean turned up at City Hall Nov. 14 as **Mayor Christian Price** played the part of a taller-than-usual Marty McFly and City Manager **Rick Horst was Doc** Brown for a Back-to-the-**Future-themed State of**



Joe Daily, a resident of Province for 12 years, was all decked out to vote in the General Election Nov. 6. Dennis McCormac



The Silent Heroes Golf Tournament raised around \$4,000 for the Maricopa Police Department's canine and the Maricopa Fire/ Medical Department's restoration of its vintage 1940s fire truck. Raquel Hendrickson







Maricopa's Relay for Life, an annual fundraiser for cancer patients, had a sunny day for a long walk Nov. 3 at Copper Sky. Raquel Hendrickson





Armida Mattia, basketweaver



Maricopa Historical Society

Born in 1946 in Ak-Chin, Armida Mattia learned the art of O'odham basketweaving from her grandmother. Her baskets have been presented to governors, senators and presidents. In 2004, the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian purchased one of Armida's baskets for its collection.

Iconic Oo'dham basketweaver Armida Mattia created a basket for Harry and Patricia Brock.

Last year, her baskets were among those donated to the Maricopa Historical Society by local historian Patricia Brock. Ak-Chin's Oral History division of the museum set up a meeting between Armida Mattia and the MHS Collections Committee.

Armida identified many of the baskets as hers by the stitch that was made and stated she used mainly yucca, black devil's claw, bear grass and cat tails when weaving the baskets. A two-part owl basket and a large basket made especially for Harry and Patricia Brock are among the many baskets she wove

Patricia gifted several baskets to the Maricopa Historical Society for safe keeping for the people of Maricopa.



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Pima Butte Elementary School faculty was celebrated by MUSD Nov. 7 for its return to an A rating.

Pima Butte teachers put the 'A' in academics

Story and photos by Raquel Hendrickson

hey don't just teach students.

Maricopa's A-rated elementary schools can teach other educators how to

Butterfield Elementary had the most dramatic improvement, moving from a C to an A. It is the first A-rating for the Maricopa Unified School District school. Butterfield was not a "bad" school a year ago. Superintendent Tracey Lopeman pointed out its C rating was just five points away from a B.

Similarly, other elementary schools in the district were only a few percentage points from the next grade up this year.

Maricopa Elementary was 0.5 from an A. Santa Rosa Elementary 0.89 away from an A. Santa Cruz Elementary was 1.88 away from an A. Saddleback Elementary was less than 3 points from a B.

"I think the district as a whole is really doing well," said Betty Graham, who teaches

fourth grade at Pima Butte Elementary. "They're working wonders, going up and up and up."

Pima Butte, like the high-achieving charter school Legacy Traditional, is more old-hat at receiving A ratings, but it had to rise above a B last year after missing an A by just 4 percentage points through the more demanding AzMerit test. With ratings reliant on results of AzMerit, there was a

lot of pressure on third, fourth and fifth grade students and their teachers.

"That A rating didn't come easy," PBES Principal Randy Lazar said. "It was a lot of hard work on behalf of our teaching team as well as the assistants with our students and also the support of our parents. It was a collective effort by our entire team."

"We prepare with our rigorous curriculum each and every day in preparation for the big event," said fifth-grade teacher Jessica Ansley.

Lazar said a brand new language arts curriculum and a relatively new math curriculum have helped create a very comprehensive academic experience and prepare the students for AzMerit or any other test

Butterfield Elementary focused on student growth to jump from a C to an A in one year.

Pima Butte was an A-rated school before there was an A rating. The state's first rating system gauged schools on whether they met or exceeded the standard. PBES was an "excelling" school. When the grade ratings began, eyes lit up on campus.

"We were going to get an A, I remember that," Graham said. "That's what was on our minds, the kids' minds, everybody's mind. We were going to do it. They had an A; we were going to get it."

Ansley called it teaching vigorously bell to

At Pima Butte that means "lots of repetition," third-grade teacher Denise Palmer said. "There's no down-time, really. Coming from second to third grade is a big transition for these kids, so from the first day in, we're hitting the ground running."

The students do hit the books, but they also experiment with what they've learned in the classroom through hands-on activities. Positive reinforcement works wonders in galvanizing students to achieve.

Lazar said his main advice for other Arizona elementary schools trying to rise to a higher grade is to focus on student growth.

"We get our test results from the spring and then look to see how did each student perform," he said. "If we have students that scored minimally proficient, that's the group you want to put a lot of attention on the next school year. The way the state calculates the letter grade is when you have kids grow. It's a growth model as far as earning the points."

Meanwhile, he said, it is also important to maintain kids who are already at proficient or highly proficient.

A voter-approved override helped fund carts of technology in Netbooks and Chromebooks. The new equipment allowed the students to get more practice in the basic use of a computer. Lazar said that is key when taking the online-based AzMerit.

"Our whole focus last school year was just doing the best we could to prepare our third, fourth and fifth graders for AzMerit," Lazar said. "Also what helped — AIMS Science, which is given in fourth grade, we were able to earn points for that, so that was factored in."

There is also a lot of communication between teachers at different grade levels, Palmer said. Teachers share ideas that worked or didn't work, School Letter Grade:

Butter ald Elementary School



Members of Pima
Butte's leadership
(from left) Jessica
Ansley, Denise
Palmer, Betty
Graham and
Principal Randy
Lazar explained
how teamwork
between grades
keeps the school
focused on success.

How did they do that?

Butterfield Elementary's successful strategy to rise from a C to an A school:

- · Revamp the master schedule
- Use data results to set grade-level and school-wide goals
- Use results-based funding to equip third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students with 1-to-1 laptops
- Reconfigure classes to better prepare students

Learn more about Butterfield's turnaround in the next issue of InMaricopa.

they share information on the best approach for certain students, and they share ideas among campuses within the district.

Graham said she goes back to her students' third-grade teachers to compare notes as a way to measure how students are progressing.

"And we're very competitive, in a good way," Graham said.

Pima Butte has approximately 465 students enrolled, about 100 of whom live outside the school's boundaries. Because the override allowed the creation of new teaching positions, every classroom is in use.

MUSD Board Member Joshua Judd, a teacher in another district, said Pima Butte is the reason his children attend MUSD and are involved in Maricopa. "Pima Butte pulled my children into the city," he said.

"We do what we need to do, and we do it in a fun and engaging way," Ansley said.

There is no time for "filler." Coloring days, extra recesses, non-curriculum videos — not at Pima Rutte

"My kids know," Palmer said. "They will tell you, 'Gotta do the work before we can have the fun.' That's the way it is. That's how life is, isn't it?"



Carnival, parade, Gin Blossoms keep Masik Tas rockin'

By Michelle Chance

ecember marks a yearly celebration for the Ak-Chin Indian Community, where Maricopa's longtime neighbors welcome the public to partake in various free events

The Masik Tas celebration, now in its 11th year, is known for its headlining concert acts, the crowd-drawing carnival, electric light parade, cultural dances and rodeos.





Top: Masik Tas, Ak-Chin Indian Community's annual birthday bash, draws a crowd to its featured concert, which will be Gin Blossoms this year.

Above: There will be a carnival with games and rides for three days during Masik Tas.

Left: Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel was right in the middle of last year's Light Parade, a popular new feature of Masik Tas.

The events celebrate the formal recognition of the Ak-Chin Indian Community and its government.

"This is our early birthday present and Christmas gift to the public, so come out and participate with us and have some fun," said Robert Miguel, chairman of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

Cultural entertainment, sporting events and a parade return to Masik Tas with a lineup that spans a weekend filled with music, dance and fair ride thrills.

Maricopa resident Elena Reinhardt looks forward every year to hearing Ak-Chin's announcement of their next musical act.

"Gin Blossoms is one of my favorites, so I will definitely be there," Reinhardt said.

Vertical Horizon will open the free Gin Blossoms show Dec. 14 at Ak-Chin Circle, and it will conclude with fireworks.

The end-of-year celebration is boasted by the community's chairman as one with a welcoming, family atmosphere. "You're a part of our family that weekend," Miguel said. "Our house is your house."

MasikTas.ak-chin.nsn.us



IF YOU GO

10 p.m. fireworks

Nov. 30-Dec. 2. All-Indian Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament

Dec. 1, 1 to 3 p.m. Miss and Junior Miss Ak-Chin Pageant at St. Francis Feast House

Elder Chair Volleyball

Dec. 9 Toka/Songivu'l Traditional Games

Dec. 10, 10 a.m. Masik Tas Golf Tournament at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Dec. 8, 7 p.m. Masik Tas Celebration Light Parade on Farrell Road (To participate, visit MasikTas.ak-chin.nsn.us.)

Dec. 14, 6 p.m. gates open, Gin Blossoms headline free concert at Ak-Chin Circle

Free, family-friendly carnival with fun zone and Dec. 14-16

petting zoo at Ak-Chin Circle

Dec. 15-16 from Traditional performances and cultural demonstrations

noon to 5 p.m. performed at Ak-Chin Field

Dec. 15, 6 p.m. Vaila Dance

Dec. 15. 9 a.m. Junior Rodeo, riding events and roping events, including a

bull bash and wild horse race



Victor Moreno

Maricopa Santa heralds in 13 Christmas seasons

By Raquel Hendrickson

very year, Santa and Mrs. Claus appear for a month or two at the Desert Cedars home of Rich and Linda Huggins. Usually for four weekends (this year it's five), they welcome young visitors, listen to

their Christmas wishes and send them off with a candy cane. It has come to be known as Santa's South Pole vacation home as he prepares for the big night.

Starting the week after Thanksgiving and continuing through the weekend before Christmas, Santa and Mrs. Claus are available Friday and Saturday 6-9 p.m. and Sunday 6-8 p.m. at 44267 W. Cypress Lane.

"Normally, we call it the 12 days of Christmas, but this year it's 15 days because of

how the calendar falls," Linda Huggins said.

Since moving to Maricopa in 2005, the Hugginses have presented the Claus couple. Several families have told them they are the real beginning of Maricopa's Christmas season.

"We had 75 kids the first year," said Linda Huggins, who chairs the City's Planning &

Linda and Rich Huggins bring Christmas into their home along with Santa and Mrs. Claus every year.

Courtesy Random Shots

Zoning Commission. "Last year, we had 885. We keep track by the number of candy canes

When it was time for Santa to get a new outfit last year, they turned to local Amanda McVay of Amanda Sews. This year, it was Mrs. Claus' turn to get a new ensemble from Amanda Sews after dramatic weight loss over

Happily taking the title of "Maricopa Santa," they are also seen at public events such as the City Hall tree lighting, Merry Copa and Shop with a Cop. But sitting down with children and even having their picture taken with them is the heart of what they do.

"We take time with every child," said Rich Huggins, who owns Maricopa Pool & Spa.

Maricopa Santa has a website operated by Linda's son Ken Bobertz and a Facebook page, even getting "reviewed" by visitors.

Like Beth Mundell, who shared, "They are the best and benefit the community," and whose cheer team members from Rockstar Arizona led the parade for Santa's arrival Nov. 23.

The event involves three houses on Cypress Lane. The Hugginses said they always register their home for the City's Holiday Homes on Parade, not to win but to be on the map.

"We have close to 100,000 lights," Linda

There is no charge to visit with Santa, but the Hugginses are asking visitors to bring unwrapped toys to benefit F.O.R. Maricopa's annual Christmas project. Anyone who brings a toy will receive a raffle ticket. The Hugginses also sponsor a family for Christmas.

Rich and Linda said it is their way of giving back.

Linda Huggins said she was on the welfare roles 35 years ago. She and her children were fortunate enough to be sponsored for Christmas by Catholic Charities, receiving dinner and presents.

"I promised God I was going to give back," she said.

"We have memories that will last a lifetime," Rich Huggins said.

MaricopaSanta.com



Home

Q&A with Santa & Mrs. Claus

Some people leave out cookies and cocoa for Santa. What treat would you really like?

SANTA: Tacos! We don't have tacos at the North Pole, and Santa loves tacos.

How do you decide who gets on the Naughty list?

SANTA: I leave that to Mrs. Claus.

How long does it take you to get dressed for your Christmas

Eve iournev?

SANTA: About 20 minutes. I have two elves to help.

What part of your outfit takes the longest?

MRS. CLAUS: The belt. It's very heavy and very authentic.

What do the reindeer like to snack on while they are waiting for Santa? SANTA: Apples and carrots.

What is your favorite song of the

SANTA: "White Christmas." I like all of them.

How do you stay organized and keep track of so many children? SANTA: Mrs. Claus keeps the books,

and Santa checks the books.

How do you choose your elves? MRS. CLAUS: It's a very popular thing to be an elf. We have to rotate every week.

Does Santa really give naughty children coal for Christmas? SANTA: Mrs. Claus does.

What does Santa do after Christmas? MRS. CLAUS: We're going on a cruise!



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"Peter Pan" cast members (from left) Simon Ty, Taya Johnson, Genevieve **Burno and Taryn** Story were uplifted at Maricopa High School Nov. 8. Members of the company later earned the top rating of superior in the Arizona Thespian Festival.

Raquel Hendrickson



Sequoia Pathway **Pumas finished** second in their **CAA** playoff bracket.

Raguel Hendrickson



Kids and adults built mini-catapults as part of the Nov. 8 STEAM Day presented by Maricopa Ak-Chin STEAM Foundation on the lawn at UltraStar Multitainment Center. Raquel Hendrickson



Maricopa High School volleyball was happy for a rare win in a difficult season that ended with a 2-20 record. Raquel Hendrickson



Delayed by rain, the second part of Maricopa Mud Run was completed Nov. 3 on a sunny day. Around 700 people registered for the two-day event.

Raquel Hendrickson



The Sequoia Pathway volleyball team had a perfect regular season and reached the CAA semifinals for a 16-1 record. Top row: Coach Holley, Emma Berg, Alexis Powell, Volunteer Assistant Jodi Kalulu; middle row: Cydnee Byrd, Lynniece Andrews, Lexi Trimmer, Mikayla Gallon and Lani Kalulu; bottom row: Taylor Yon, Mercedes Garcia, Jasmin Nafarrate and Jameshia Hughes. File



at Sequoia Pathway Academy takes a bow after its performance

Nov. 2. Raquel Hendrickson

student at Leading Edge Academy, showed off her third-place certificate for the Middle **School Division of** an art contest for the Central Arizona **College Veterans Day** Commemoration.

Chloe Adams, a

Raquel Hendrickson



Logan Taylor (42), Jake Meyer (75) and Mister Chavis (4) celebrate during a season that took Maricopa High School football to the 5A playoffs. Raquel Hendrickson



Arizona college road trip: Fit vs. match

By Bernadette Russoniello

olleges and universities frequently use the terms "fit" and "match" to help students determine their best educational options. Match

reflects a student's eligibility and academic performance required for admissions; fit reflects the community and culture the school provides.

Arizona offers many respectable and desirable options for higher education. Take a trip with me across a few of our Arizona options.

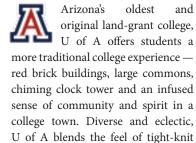
Arizona State University

 America's largest public university and ranked No. 1 in Innovation by Forbes magazine, ASU offers students a diverse array of competitive, Research-I opportunities at four campuses around the Valley in a cosmopolitan urban setting. ASU also offers

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the most generous financial aid packages for lower-income families.

University of Arizona



community at a large-size, Research-I school.

Northern Arizona University



Bernadette

Russoniello

The smallest of the three publics, NAU offers programs including dental, physical

therapy and forestry. Bonus: four seasons, skiing, pine trees and hiking! NAU also offers the most generous academic scholarships requiring minimal test scores and grades for scholarship test scores. A 3.0 earns \$4,000 per year, a 3.5 awards \$8,000 and full tuition for students earning all A's and B's.

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



ERAU offers a private, toptier experience in aviation, aeronautics, engineering,

software, cybersecurity and global intelligence near Prescott. During my campus tour, I was with three families who flew in from out of state. ROTC programs abound for students seeking a competitive degree in these fields. Small class sizes, simulators and one of the country's largest planetariums are features at this niche school.

Grand Canyon University



GCU is a private Christian college recently returning to its nonprofit status. GCU offers an

intimate, student-centered experience focused on academics, work opportunities, and faithbased gatherings and events. Free concerts and athletic events for all students and a contagious sense of belonging infuse this campus.

Yavapai Community College

Vavapai COLLEGE community Yavapai hosts tremendous CTE and vocational programs ranging from service dog and airtraffic controlling to radiology and viticulture (winemaking and agriculture) while offering dorms and a community performing arts center.

Coconino Community College



CCC offers apartments on the NAU campus and provides students with transfer support to

Advice when considering college options: Be aware of accreditation. Regional accreditation means other schools and universities will accept and transfer credit; national accreditation only works within that school system. Also, if your school is not on the FAFSA list for receiving financial aid, you may want to be cautious in further considerations.

Bernadette Russoniello is the Career and College coordinator at Maricopa High School. She can be reached at BRussoniello@MUSD20.org.



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- · Butterfield Elementary School
- · Maricopa Elementary School
- · Pima Butte Elementary School
- · Saddleback Elementary School
- Santa Cruz Elementary School
- · Santa Rosa Elementary School
- Desert Wind Middle School
- · Maricopa Wells Middle School
- Maricopa High School

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Ouestions? Contact Lisa Baker: (520) 568-5100 ext. 1027, or LBaker@musd20.org



Addiction **Schools**

Youth respond to teen drug addiction film Beautiful Boy

By Priscilla Behnke

am hypercritical of Hollywood's portrayal of teen substance abuse. It tends to be glamorized or downplayed. Teen comedies show parties where the worst that happens is vomiting in front of the heart throb or suffering a hangover.

Recently Be Awesome took its youth leaders to the movie Beautiful Boy. It's a film based on the true story of a father and his son's battle with addiction. It is an honest look at the pain and destruction addiction has on individuals and their families. It is hard to watch, raw, real, and they pull no punches with the pain it

causes. After the film we all spoke and here are some of the takeaways we had after watching:

Danjaan Nelson, eighth grader: "First, don't even start with all the drugs and

alcohol because it will end up really bad. out there who want to help you."

Matea Bernales, freshman: "Parents need to pay attention to their kid's behavior and don't ignore what's wrong

> even if you really want to. Seek the or family member."

was struck by how hopeless the son felt, and was glad he kept trying after he gave up and almost died: "Don't give up. There is always hope even when you don't

Lesley Gonzales, freshman, shared that she was affected by how "he rejected life for more information and resources. help and wouldn't take it when it was offered because his father kept trying."

Tatyna Ware, a mentor and local Council.

college student, wanted to encourage parents with a child facing addiction to find as many resources and options as

Brandi Homan, Be Awesome cofounder: "The road to recovery is hard and long and one that the individual with the problem has to face. I can't imagine And don't give up hope; there are people having to tell one of my children they can't come home."

My takeaway stemmed from a scene where the father and son smoke pot together. It's not unusual to hear from parents that they have used with their help you need even if it's a friend kids in an effort to make sure they are safe when they used. The research shows **Deanna Nelson**, sixth grader, an opposite effect — teens who use with their parents are more likely to use when their parents aren't around.

> For more information on drug prevention or our youth leadership program and how to get involved visit us at www.beaweomeyouth.life. You can contact us at pbehnke@beawesomeyouth.

Priscilla Behnke is director of Be Awesome Youth

Can MUSD earn back students busing to Kyrene, Tempe?

By Murray Siegel

ach school-day morning, a bevy of yellow school buses head north on State Route 347.

These are not Maricopa district (MUSD) buses taking students on field trips or to competitions. These buses are

taking more than 1,000 Maricopa children to schools in Phoenix and Tempe. Each child represents a loss of \$4,199 per year from the state, and since these students live in homes where education is important, it is reasonable to assume their attendance at MUSD schools would raise test scores.

The time devoted to travel could be used for more productive activities than sitting on a school bus. Given the distance from school to home, are

these students restricted in the after-school activities in which they can participate? Why would parents subject their children to these limitations? When asked, parents mention special programs available at the Kyrene and Tempe schools, programs funded by the many

> overrides passed by voters in these districts, unlike most of the recent override attempts in Maricopa.

I personally have observed at a number of MUSD schools and have seen exceptional classroom teachers. The award-winning middle school blended-learning program and the investigation of rocketry at Butterfield Elementary School

have been highlighted. Did folks take notice of the improvements occurring in our schools? InMaricopa, online and in print, has covered recognition received by MUSD schools and personnel. Do the citizens of our city (including the parents of the bused students) read these articles and see all the significant accomplishments of MUSD schools?

I would ask you, the reader, to take one of two actions. If you are a parent whose child rides the bus to Kyrene or Tempe, please contact me at siegel.educ@gmail.com and answer two questions: Why do you send your child on the bus to Kyrene or Tempe? Also, what should MUSD do to allow you to consider having your child attend school here?

If you are a parent of an MUSD child or are a volunteer in an MUSD school, write and tell me what you have observed that makes you believe there are some excellent personnel in MUSD schools and that MUSD students are receiving an exceptional education. The results will appear in a future column. 📮

Murray Siegel, Ph.D., has 44 years of experience teaching mathematics. He is in his fourth year as a volunteer at Butterfield E.S.





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GENERAL ELECTION 2018

Unofficial results (Nov. 18, 2018)

U.S. SENATE

Kyrsten Sinema (D) 49.9% ✓ Martha McSally (R) 47.7% Angela Green (G) 2.4%

U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 1 Tom O'Halleran (D) 53.8% ✓

Wendy Rogers (R) 46.2%

GOVERNOR

Doug Ducey (R) 56.0% ✓ David Garcia (D) 41.8%

SECRETARY OF STATE

Katie Hobbs (D) 50.4% ✓ Steve Gaynor (R) 49.6%

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Mark Brnovich (R) 51.8% ✓ January Contreras (D) 48.2%

TREASURER

Kimberly Yee (R) 54.3% ✓ Mark Manoil (D) 45.7%

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Kathy Hoffman (D) 51.5% ✓ Frank Riggs (R) 48.5%



VINCE LEACH "I think our whole team — Bret [Roberts] and I and Mark [Finchem] — were very pleased with our support

that we got, sending Mark and I back to the Legislature and with Bret coming on board to go into the House of Representatives. I've always been thrilled about going over to the Senate. I started as an activist and campaign developer for a senator back in 2009."



RALPH ATCHUE "While we were unsuccessful in winning a state Senate seat in LD11. we have got to be proud of the fantastic gain we made

compared to the 2016 results. In an overwhelmingly red district, those gains are monumental and must be celebrated."

InMaricopa.com | December 2018

MINE INSPECTOR

Joe Hart (R) 51.8% ✓ Bill Pierce (D) 48.2%

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION (2 SEATS)

Sandra Kennedy (D) 25.7% ✓ Justin Olson (R) 25.2% ✓ Rodney Glassman (R) 25% Kiana Maria Sears (D) 24%

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 11

Vince Leach (R) 54.6% ✓ Ralph Atchue (D) 44.3%

STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES **DISTRICT 11 (2 SEATS)**

Bret Roberts (R) 28.2% ✓ Mark Finchem (R) 28.2% ✓ Hollace Lyon (D) 22% Marcela Quiroz (D) 21.6%

PINAL COUNTY DISTRICT 4 CONSTABLE

Glenn Morrison (R) 52% ✓ Andre LaFond (D) 47.8%

PROP 125 (PENSION FUNDING)

Yes 51.7% ✓ No 48.3%

KYRSTEN SINEMA

"Arizonans had a choice between two very different ways forward. One focused on fear and

party politics, and one focused on Arizona and the issues that matter to every-day families. Arizona rejected what has become far too common in our country — name-calling, petty, personal attacks, and doing and saying whatever it takes just to get elected."



BRET ROBERTS "It's been a long year and a half, and the most important lesson is to stay on task. Those days that you get tired and

sometimes you don't necessarily want to leave your house, you just have to keep going. Get out there and talk to people and talk to as many people as you can."

AK-CHIN TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION **RESULTS NOV. 17 (3 SEATS)**

Candidates: Alvin Antone (incumbent) Ann Marie Antone (incumbent), Delia Carlyle (incumbent), Lisa Garcia, Octavio Machado, Yolanda Miranda, Lemuel Vincent

> Winners: Delia Carlyle, Lisa Garcia, Octavio Machado

PROP 126 (SERVICE TAXES)

Yes 64% ✓

No 35.9%

PROP 127 (RENEWABLE ENERGY)

No 68.6% ✓ Yes 31.4%

PROP 305 (SCHOOL VOUCHER EXPANSION)

No 64.7% ✓ Yes 35.2%

PROP 306 (CLEAN ELECTIONS CHANGE)

Yes 56.2% ✓ No 43.8%



GLENN MORRISON

"The positive and the negative go along with it. It was wonderful meeting so many people here in Maricopa

and the support that I've received through the entire process has been fantastic. I wish that overall the process was less negative, and I've done my very best to stay positive through the whole thing."



TOM O'HALLERAN

"The voters of Arizona's First District were clear that hyper-partisan rhetoric and gridlock have no

place in our government. In the next two years, I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to get results for families in the District and across America. I am humbled and grateful for the outpouring of support my



campaign has received from Democrats, Republicans and Independents alike."



DOUG DUCEY "Thank you, Arizona. For a guy that came to Arizona 36 years ago with nothing but a beat-up old Datsun,

 $\star\star\star$

your support means everything."



KATHY HOFFMAN "This victory is not just about me... It's about the students who enter our classrooms with their unique experiences,

needs, hopes and dreams. It's about our office staff who work tirelessly so that our schools can function every single day. It's about our aides and paraprofessionals who go the extra mile to ensure that all children have the opportunity to succeed."



FRANK RIGGS "I have a "thing" for close elections, I guess. You know what happened in the Primary, but I bet you don't know

that I first won election to Congress in 1990 by about 2,000 votes, defeating a four-term incumbent in a congressional district that was 2-to-1 Democratic to Republican in registration. That's when I first earned the nickname 'Landslide."



KIMBERLY YEE "I am honored to be the first Chinese-American Republican woman elected to a statewide office in our

country's history and first Asian American elected to statewide office in Arizona."



JUSTIN OLSON "With a successful conclusion to a year-long campaign, I can't help but be overwhelmed as I consider the countless

hours that volunteers and supporters contributed to this effort. It has been so much fun traveling the entire state and speaking with voters all across Arizona."



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Copper Sky fee changes proposed

By Raquel Hendrickson

s Copper Sky looks for more revenue streams, a proposal to change rates and fees is before the public. Maricopa City Council approved the policy in November and is scheduled to vote on the fee changes Jan. 15.

Community Services Director Nathan Ullyot called them "significant changes."

The shifts in the proposal are meant to herd members toward an annual membership, which will be less expensive, especially for couples. The proposal does not include monthly rates but increases the six-month membership fees for couples and families and increases for daily punch passes.

"We're really looking to add value to your Copper Sky membership," Ullyot said.

A point of contention has been the change for senior citizens. Under the current rates, single seniors and senior couples pay 40 percent less than the adult fees. But senior rates are excluded in the proposal. The new fee schedule puts them level with military veterans, which is a 10-percent discount.

City Councilmember Nancy Smith, expressing concern for retirees on limited incomes during the November meeting, encouraged seniors to offer feedback about the proposal. Joan Koczor of the Age-Friendly Maricopa Advisory Committee also reached out to constituents on her senior-activity newsletter urging seniors to get involved.

Proposed Discounts

Veterans/Seniors Youth/Students Group 1-10% 1-50% Corporate

However, unlike the current schedule, a department proposal would allow scholarships for membership fees. The scholarship is based on federal income guidelines. Those who provide proof of income at 100 percent the poverty level (one person \$12,140) could get another 30-percent discount along with the standard senior discount of 10 percent. Those at 200 percent the poverty level can receive 15 percent off.

According to city numbers, more than 1,400 of the 1,800 senior memberships are paid for through programs like Silver Sneakers,





Copper Sky Resident Memberships

Monthly			
	1 Adult	2 Adults	Family
Current	\$35	\$55	\$65
Proposed			

Six months			
	1 Adult	2 Adults	Family
Current	\$180	\$280	\$420
Proposed	\$210	\$336	\$420
	(\$35/mo)	(\$56/mo)	(\$70/mo)

Yearly			
	1 Adult	2 Adults	Family
Current	\$338	\$540	\$676
Proposed	\$336	\$504	\$672
	(\$28/mo)	(\$42/mo)	(\$56/mo)

Punch Passes and Daily Rates

Optum and Silver and Fit. Some insurance 20 punches companies are changing their funding of those programs or even switching programs.

Ullyot will discuss some of the proposed solutions for senior memberships with the Age-Friendly Committee at its Dec. 17

The proposed fee schedule was post Oct. 31, and residents are asked to respond within 60 days of that date.

	Adult	Youth	Senior
Current	\$50	\$38	\$40
Proposed	\$150	\$75	\$120

Day Pass			
	Adult	Youth	Senior
Current	\$5	\$3	\$4
Proposed	\$10	\$5	\$8





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Fast & Friendly preparing for 2nd location in Maricopa

ast & Friendly Car Wash opened its Maricopa location on John Wayne Parkway at Hathaway Avenue in 2015 and became the company's fastest-growing location.

"We are in a position to grow with Maricopa. We have already purchased property on Maricopa-Casa Grande Highway (in front of Walmart) for another car wash," co-owner Matt Dadam said. "We want to offer maximum convenience with two excellent locations in town."

Robert Floyd has managed the location since opening day. Floyd and the rest of the team always go the extra mile to ensure a great customer experience.

"We feel the more jobs we can create locally for those who wish to live, work, and play in the city of Maricopa the better," Dadam said.

Maricopa's great customers, he said, help the company improve.

"Our Maricopa wash has, hands down, the best customers," Dadam said. "People there take the time to give us open and honest feedback, and that helps us to get better at what we do."

Fast & Friendly is family-owned and family-operated by the Dadams. Jeff and Matt (brothers) and Jack and Barbara live in Maricopa County. They jointly make business decisions and operate our business as a team effort. They currently own and operate six car wash locations in Arizona and one in Utah. As owners and operators, they are on site at wash facilities almost every day.

They are also committed to the Maricopa community.

"We are proud to have participated in many fundraising events to support the community," Matt Dadam said. "This is something we are committed to continuing and are always interested in hearing from the community on ways we can give back." Car wash technology is advancing, and Fast & Friendly likes to stay at the leading edge. Keep an eye out for upgrades as they work to improve both wash equipment and chemistry to achieve the most clean, shiny and protected car possible.

"The way to success in our industry is to re-invest," Dadam said. "Being relatively small and family-owned allows us to continuously invest in our facilities, people, and communities. I think that's what really makes Fast & Friendly Car Wash stand out from the rest."

FastAndFriendlyCarWash.com



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Companies coming to Maricopa, expanding

Justin Pierce received a new commercial permit Oct. 24 for a **Circle K** convenience store at 41433 W. Honeycutt Road at Porter Road. The store is set to be 5,301 square feet with seven fuel pumps under a 2,464-square-foot canopy. It is valued at \$863,714. The site also received the OK for a lot split and on-site improvement.

Cross Fit Maricopa is taking over the space vacated by Cross Fit Stand & Battle at 21576 N. John Wayne Parkway, Suite 102, with new owner Scott Bradley receiving a final inspection Nov. 1.

Apex Motor Club received an at-risk grading permit and permission for a temporary construction trailer as it begins construction at 22408 N. Ralston Road.

Meritage Homes in Province received an administrative design review permit for Parcel 8 as it develops parcels 8 and 10. Province also received a permit in Parcel 15 for grading to fix erosion at Honeycutt Road and the Santa Rosa Wash.

Brakes Plus, to be constructed at 44510 W. Edison Road east of IHOP, has received approval for 123 linear feet of underground fireline.

Maricopa Auto Outlet, 19864 N. John Wayne Parkway, had its zoning request approved for an expansion Nov. 7.

Sacate Pellet Mill, 38743 W. Cowtown Road, received a permit for a lot line adjustment from 46 to 50 acres. The company also received approval for electricity for a temporary construction trailer. At the same address, Red River Cattle received a zoning text amendment to be allowed by exceed the maximum building height.

Maricopa Renovations is dividing office space as a commercial alteration for Maricopa Bookkeeping at 20800 N. John Wayne Parkway.

Leeanne Richmond has a temporary use permit to operate the monthly Second Saturday Farmers Market from Sequoia Pathway Academy, 19265 N. Porter Road.

Great Escape Maricopa, an escape room business, received a new tenant final

inspection Nov. 7 as Carl Diedrich converts the former Camino Montessori space at 44301 W. Maricopa-Casa Grande Hwy.

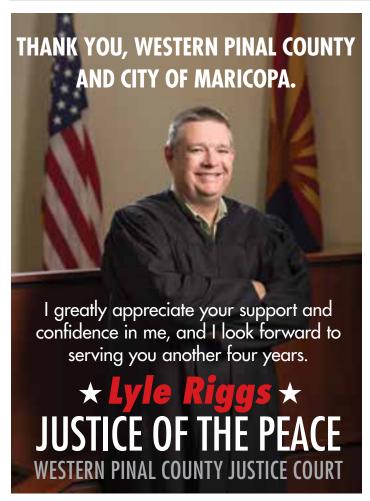
CleanChoice Services is the primary contractor for an office remodel for Arizona Storage Company, 40675 W. Honeycutt Road.

Chris Cahall received a permit for a \$1,000 wall sign at American Family Insurance, 19756 N. John Wayne Parkway.

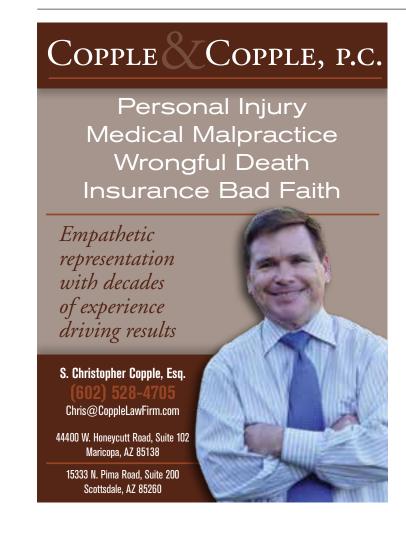
Wynn Hair and Nails, 20555 N. John Wayne Parkway, was approved for comingsoon and grand-opening banners as well as a foot massage banner, all as temporary signage.

Two commercial shade structures received permits at **Leading Edge Academy**, 1 8700 N. Porter Road.

Tortosa Homeowners Association is installing a new well pump for an existing community well on the northeast corner of Honeycutt Road and Costa del Sol Boulevard at a cost of \$35,000. It received a permit of major electrical work.









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ED3 lowers rates, introduces CEO

Shortly after announcing it would be lowering its rates next year, Electrical District No. 3 introduced its next chief executive officer.

Outgoing CEO William Stacy, who also serves as general manager, said rates would go down an average of 2 percent effective Jan. 1. It is the fourth straight year of rate decreases. ED3's rates are now an average of 10 percent lower than those of Arizona Public Service.



Brett Benedict

Stacy is retiring from ED3 at the end of the year.

Starting Jan. 1, Brett Benedict will replace him as CEO and general manager. Benedict currently serves as chief financial officer and assistant general manager. He is also the CFO for Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation and Drainage District.

ED3 is a not-for-profit entity formed in 1926. It oversees 26,000 meter connections and 12 distribution-level substations. According to the announcement from the elected board of directors, Benedict has been an integral part of assisting the company's many improvements the last 13 years.

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ED30nline.org

2019 RATE DECREASE

industrial, large industrial, and agriculture.

to its customers effective January 1, 2019.

Health inspections

4 food establishments score excellent with health inspectors

Only four Maricopa establishments received a food inspection from the county's Public Health Department from Oct. 16 to Nov. 15 and all received an excellent rating.

EXCELLENT [No violations found]

- · F.O.R. Maricopa
- · Helen's at Copper Sky
- · Helen's at Pacana Park
- · Jersey Mike's Subs

SATISFACTORY [Violations corrected during inspection] None

NEEDS IMPROVEMENT [Critical items noted during inspection cannot be corrected immediately requiring follow-up inspection]

UNACCEPTABLE [Gross, unsanitary conditions necessitating the discontinuation of service]

NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

Commercial: Great Escape Maricopa, Holistic Mental Health, Phoenix Sky Gear, WingStop

Home-based: Almentia KG LLC. Buddy's Pet Care, Elaine Glasgow, Jaded Ivy, La Vie Group Home, Las Tostaditas, LaydeePink Photography, Little 6 Industries, Manila Bakery, Raven Photography Services, The Sharp

Out of town: Academy Mortgage, Advanced Contract Flooring, Aeos Energy, Arizona Outdoor Recreation, AZ ATM Expert, Clear Brite Headlight Restoration, Fire Sure Protection, G Squared Building, Lakeside Pools, Modern Paving Seamless Flooring, Thistle Door, Waite Arizona LLC Nonprofit: Against Abuse Inc., Blue Star Mothers of Maricopa, Winged Hope Family Advocacy Foundation



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DID YOU KNOW?

On average, ED3's standard residential rates

This is the fourth year in a row ED3 will provide a rate decrease

As Apex breaks ground, membership has specific expectations

By Raquel Hendrickson



Kyle Norhy

hree years ago, Jason Plotke and Matt Williams came to Maricopa to look at land for a potential private racetrack. Nov. 8, they broke ground on the \$33 million project.

"We stood out here three years ago and saw some farmland, and here we are today building a racetrack," Plotke said. "That's pretty darn cool if you ask me."

Two years ago, as Private Motorsports Group, they publicly announced their plans to build Apex Motor Club on 278 acres they purchased as Enterprise 238 LLC. On the northwest corner of State Route 238 and Ralston Road, the property was envisioned as a racetrack, clubhouse, garage condominium and karting complex at a cost of \$33 million.

Joe Rueda of Scottsdale drives a BMW M3 as a dedicated racecar and a Porsche as his street car. He has been involved with Apex since Plotke, Williams and Jim Beatty first started talking about the idea. Rueda became a member as soon as the club officially formed three years ago.

"We would drive on other racetracks, and it was so much fun but it was so far away," he said. The site in Maricopa, he said, was perfect.

"I thought the location was perfect," Rueda said. "You can't drop a racetrack in the middle of a residential area, so the land in Maricopa was perfect and the size was perfect." There are three fundamentals club members will expect from Apex, said Rueda, whose car enthusiasm began with his childhood Matchbox collection. One is visceral connection. He bought his first car two years before he could legally drive it and learned how to maintain and fix it. The experience of driving a car, tinkering with it to improve its handling and then driving it again to see if the tinkering helped is an integral part of a private track.

Drivers also want a course designed for car people by car people. Apex is expected to be a place where they interact with their cars in a way they cannot on the street. Rueda said today's sports cars far exceed what drivers can do with them on a public road. With so much automatic response now, he said, the automotive industry is taking away the driving experience in day-to-day life.

The most important aspect of a car club, he said, is the camaraderie with other enthusiasts and being able to compare experiences. Many of the friends he has made over the years have come through the car culture.

A year ago, Private Motorsports Group had a city use permit but was also battling two anti-Apex entities in the courts. One lawsuit reached the state Supreme Court, where it was denied. The second has had a petition pending before the Supreme Court since August.



Kylo Norby

Matt Williams, Jim Beatty and Jason Plotke, officers in Private Motorsports Group, broke ground on Apex Motor Club in Maricopa Nov. 8 in a ceremony that included city officials.

The legal battle took a toll and was something "we weren't sure we'd ever recover from," Plotke said. "We weren't sure if we'd be standing here."

He and Williams were pleasantly surprised by the positive response they received from City Hall for the project from its conception.

"I think it was three years ago Jason and Matt came and sat down with me," Mayor Christian Price said. "They said, 'We have this idea and we want to talk to you about it. What do you think?' And I kind of remember the cringing look on their faces as though they were going to get this, 'I don't think we want you here.' I don't know if I surprised them or not, but I said, "That's a great idea. When are you starting? We can do that tomorrow.' I think they laughed at me."

Rueda said the positive response the project received from City Hall and from the residents was fortifying when the legal opposition arose. "It made it easier to plow through," he said. "If [the City] had waffled a little, I don't know if we would have had the confidence to keep on going."

Plotke, who is president of Private Motorsports Group, said the plan is to open Apex "early next year."

"We're not developers that are going to move on to the next city and sell this," Plotke said. "We want to have our kids and their kids work here and have something that a lot of people can enjoy for a long period of time."

Plotke said Apex intends to be involved in the community and involve the community in the facility, such as police training. Even beyond that, Rueda said philanthropy is important to all the members of the club. He expects that to become evident in Maricopa.



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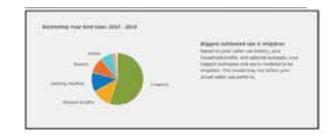
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Casa Grande 520-381-6300 BannerHealth.com/CasaGrande

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520-404-6672

1-800-227-2345 RelayForLife.org/MaricopaAZ

Veterans of Foreign Wars 44240 W. Maricopa-Casa

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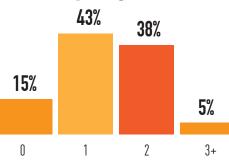


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<mark>leal:</mark> Crawfish boil — extra spicy.

bsite: MaricopaNewHomes.Net

90% how you react to it." – Unknown

uote: "Life is 10% what happens to you and

Words to live by: Doing the "right thing" is not always the easiest, but it is the only option.

amily: Wife Suzanne, daughter Haley

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UltraStarAZ.com

WINDOW TREATMENT



City to eliminate business licenses, request voluntary registry

Bv Raquel Hendrickson

t the State of the City event in October, Mayor Christian Price announced changes in the business license process for the City of Maricopa.

That amounts to eliminating business licensing and creating instead a business

Nov. 6, staff detailed how a registry would work. The process is set to go into effect Jan. 1.

"We believe that good, business-friendly regulations, while ensuring public safety and strong customer protections, just make good business sense," Price said.

Economic Development Director Denyse Airheart said the state's transaction privilege tax process now makes city licensing redundant. The registry, she said will allow City Hall to track the types of businesses in town.

"This is a voluntary program," she said.

The Business Registry Program will be an online process. Instead of \$50 for a business license, companies can register for \$10 annually. The BRP will not eliminate the necessity of permits and zoning.

Information asked on the one-page, online **Business Registry Program:**

- New or existing business
- VA or Nonprofit
- · Full name of business owner/ representative
- · Primary phone
- Primary email address
- Business name/DBA
- Physical address of business
- · Business sector
- Description of business
- Transaction Privilege Tax identification
- Acknowledge legal disclaimer

"The goal is to make conducting business in the City of Maricopa as easy and simple as possible," Airheart said. "So the businesses and entrepreneurs of the community drive innovation, and we want to make sure their experience here is a positive experience."

The current system captures "a ton of data," she said. "It's very deceiving but it's multiple pages with multiple attachments, and it could be a little bit frustrating for individuals."

The hope is that the new BRP will make the process as simple as possible for the business owner while still capturing key information

Price called it, "User-friendly, less expensive and much faster."

Nonprofits and veteran-owned business are exempted from the \$10 annual fee.

When questioned about the verification process for businesses claiming to be veteranowned or nonprofit, City Manager Rick Horst said, "We'll take them at their word... Frankly, if they're not honest, it's going to catch up with them sooner or later."

In December, the City will notify active and inactive business license holders about the change. It will also be notifying chambers of commerce and business-resource groups.

"One of the biggest things we've heard from the local businesses is 'Marketing, marketing, marketing. How can people find out about me?" Airheart said. "This is going to be a great way. If we know about you, we can be a great tool to get your information out to the public because this is going to be accessible to everyone."

While business licensing is no longer deemed necessary, it did provide information the city still needs, such as "accurate revenue projections for budget preparation," Price said. The registry is expected to provide that kind of information.

He said the City should expect speed bumps with any new process and has asked staff to report back a year after launch to discuss what does and does not work.







Pomegranates a juicy addition to desert garden

By Scott Oliver

Maricopa Master Gardeners are developing a new demonstration orchard at the Maricopa Agricultural Center.

Irrigation has been installed; citrus trees are in the ground. Our purpose is to demonstrate, using "backyard orchard culture" techniques to successfully grow a variety of fruit in a small space. In the spring, we will plant stone and seed fruit trees. We also plan to trial several varieties of pomegranates.

Pomegranates are easy to grow, have beautiful flowers and are well-suited to our desert environment. They are native to southeastern Europe and Asia and have been cultivated in ancient Egypt, Babylonia, India and Iran. The Spanish brought them to Mexico, California and Arizona in the 16th century.

Although pomegranates have not attained the popularity of other fruits in the United States, they are worthy of a place in your backyard

Pomegranates (Punica granatum) grow as woody plants that more closely resemble shrubs than trees. Mature plants are usually 6-12 feet tall and can easily be trained to a tree form or espaliered against a wall



or fence. Pomegranate plants are deciduous, have small oval leaves and are somewhat thorny. They require full sun and tolerate our alkaline soils, summer heat and winter lows to 10 degrees F. They are somewhat drought-tolerant but should be irrigated like other fruit trees for optimum fruit quality.

Mature fruits are 2-5 inches in diameter and have purple to reddish skin (some varieties are pink). The fruits resemble apples but are actually berries and ripen in August and September. Inside the tough outer skin are hundreds of seeds, each surrounded by a membrane that encloses a juicy pulp. This is the edible portion of the plant.

Plants are available from nurseries and garden centers usually in five-gallon containers. "Wonderful" is the best fruiting variety

To propagate from cuttings, remove shoots 6-8 inches long that are the diameter of a pencil or larger. Cuttings should be taken in February or March and placed vertically in soil with the top, dormant bud exposed. Dusting with rooting hormone on the cut end will enhance root formation.

Pomegranates are shrubby because they produce many suckers from the root and crown area. To encourage a tree-

like form, select one trunk and remove suckers on a regular basis. Once established, applying a balanced fertilizer can enhance fruit quality and plant vigor. Young trees should receive about two pounds of 10-10-10 or similar in November and March. Mature trees can use twice this amount applied at the same times. •

Scott Oliver

Independently owned and operated

Scott Oliver is retired from Pacific Bell Telephone Company and a member of Maricopa Master Gardeners.

5 tips for selling your home in winter By Dayv Morgan

Benefits of selling your Maricopa home during the winter are the cooler temperatures and presence of many part-time (snowbird) residents. But it does have its challenges, especially if you are listing around the

Christmas season.

Here are some tips for showing your home at its best in wintertime.

 → Have your house photos taken **⊥** before you do any decorating for the holidays so that the Christmas decorations are not in the pictures. If your house doesn't sell in December

then buyers will still be viewing pictures of your Christmas tree in January and February, reminding them that it's been on the market for a long time.

• If you are decking the halls for your last Christmas in your home, keep it very

minimal. You want potential buyers to see the floor plan when they visit, but holiday décor can hide that. It can also take up space and make the house look small and cluttered.

> Scents of Christmas, however, like cinnamon can be a good addition.

of If someone is coming to see your home, light is especially important in wintertime. It gets dark early, so remember to keep your exterior lights on and make sure the bulbs inside are working when lateafternoon or early-evening visitors come to look over your house.

Spruce up your landscaping and outdoor telements. If weather permits you should overseed your lawn. They also sell a special grass paint to make dormant Bermuda grass look lush and green. Use a portable fire pit to Sponsored content

create a picture of warmth. If you have a pool, take off the cover and turn on the lights when potential buyers are coming over. Even if they are buying in winter, they want a good idea of what the year-round experience in your house

Take your house off the market for a few weeks. While those buying in winter often have an urgency to do so — they have a new job or are making a sudden move — the overall demand is lower than the rest of the year. You can place your listing temporarily off the market until after New Year's, and the "days on market" will not increase during

If you must sell your home in winter, you can still make it look its best and spark the imaginations of potential buyers seeing the space for the first time.

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

480-251-4231

DayvMorgan@gmail.com















The least expensive home sold in Maricopa Oct. 16-Nov. 15 was a two-story with a history that tells the story of the recession in Maricopa. First listed eight years ago for \$65,000, it initially sold seven years ago for \$850 and again nine months later for \$800 and finally went for an all-time low of \$775.

Sold: Oct. 27 Purchase price: \$160,000 Square footage: 2,630 Price per square foot: \$98.15 Days on market: 21 **Builder:** K Hovnanian Year built: 2005 **Bedrooms: 3**

Bathrooms: 3 Community: Alterra Features: 2-car garage, basic appliances, full master bedroom Listing Agent: Dayv Morgan, HomeSmart Success Selling Agent: Dale Dressel, HomeSmart Success

2. 19337 N. Ibiza Lane, Tortosa	\$163,000
3. 21415 N. Scott Drive, Rancho El Dorado	\$168,500
1. 35985 W. Prado St., Tortosa	\$170,000
5. 36143 W. Vera Cruz Drive, Tortosa	\$170,000

A one-owner, single-story home in Province was the most expensive home sold in Maricopa Oct. 16-Nov. 15. Sellers took \$6,000 off the asking price to sell in less than two months. The lakeside property includes a three-car garage, beautiful courtyard and covered back patio with built-in barbecue and a fire pit.

Sold: Oct. 19 Purchase price: \$389,000 Square footage: 2,044 Price per square foot: \$190.31 Days on market: 41 **Builder:** Meritage Year built: 2015 Bedrooms: 3 Bathrooms: 2

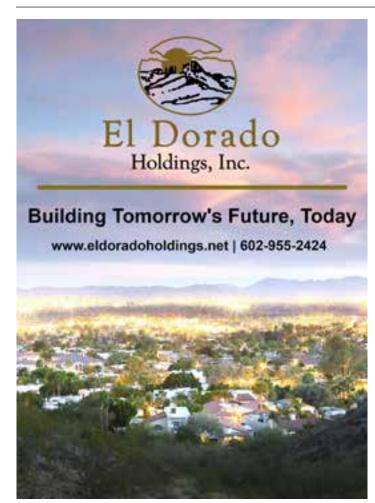
Community: Province Features: Lakefront, updated landscaping, large kitchen, huge master bedroom with bay windows, 55+ gated community **Listing Agent: Jesse** Kibler, HomeSmart Selling Agent: Terry Sperry, Coldwell Banker

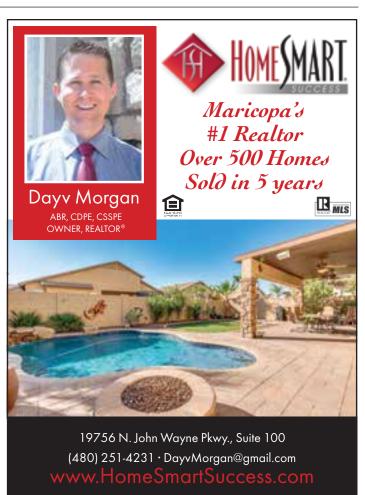
2. 41059 W. Robbins Drive, Homestead	\$315,000
3. 41635 W. Snow Bird Lane, Province	\$299,000
4. 43597 W. Snow Drive, The Villages	
at Rancho El Dorado	\$291,500
5. 21919 N. Balboa Drive, Rancho El Dorado	\$285,000



Single-Family Residence Building Permits 2016 111 2017 100 2018 74 73 36 23 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec *Nov. 1-19 Source: City of Maricopa







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Traditions Services

Remember when: A look back at Christmas traditions

By Joan Koczor

Christmas is a holiday celebrated around the world by more than 400 million diverse people in many different ways.

Americans have their own unique Christmas feasts.

- New England has lumberjack pie (mashed potato crust, meats and cinnamon).
- Pennsylvania Dutch serve sand tarts (thin, crisp sugar cookies).
- North Carolina features Moravian lovefeast buns (sweet bread of flour and mashed potatoes).
- · Baltimore serves sauerkraut with the
- Virginia gives us oyster and ham pie.
- Southern states have hominy grits soufflé and whiskey cake (with one cup of 100-proof whiskey).
- Louisiana's treat is Creole gumbo with ham, veal, chicken, shrimp, ovsters and crabmeat.
- New Mexico has empanaditas (little beef pies with applesauce, pine nuts and raisins).
- Hawaii serves turkey teriyaki marinated and cooked over an outdoor pit.

WorldHolidayTraditions.com recipes for many of these dishes

A few of the more popular Christmas traditions uniquely American are:

Movies. Americans tend to watch nostalgic movies and holiday-themed program like It's a Wonderful Life, A Christmas Story, Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Frosty the Snowman





and Miracle on 34th Street. Getting the family together to watch these programs provides

a chance to de-stress and get in the holiday mood.

The Christmas tree is usually one of the first signs that the holiday season has arrived. Whether natural or artificial, they are decorated with lights, tinsel, garland and ornaments.

Candy canes date as far back

the as 1670 in Cologne, Germany, where the cathedral choirmaster wanted to quiet the children during their yearly Living Crèche tradition on Christmas Eve. He asked a local

> candy maker to create what he called sweet sticks for the children. He requested they should have a crook at the top of each stick as a reminder of the shepherds who visited the baby Jesus. He further stated the color white be used to teach the children about Christianity and remind them of Jesus' sinless life.

Joan Koczor

The candy cane's peppermint recipe was first published in 1844. The earliest patent for a candy cane machine was filed by the Bunte Brothers of Chicago in 1920.



Gift giving goes back to the original Christmas when the Magi brought gifts of frankincense, gold and myrrh to the Christ child for his security and in good will.



Christmas cards are the top-selling holiday card of the year. This tradition

began about 1822 in America prompting the Superintendent of Mails to state he would hire an additional 16 mailmen to handle the delivery of the handmade greeting cards.

Treasure the memories you and your family make this holiday season and will remember long after the gifts are opened.

Joan Koczor is a senior advocate and a member of the Age-Friendly Maricopa Advisory Committee.

Senior services available in and around Maricopa

Bob Marsh

By Bob Marsh

I repeatedly see Facebook posts asking, "What services are available to seniors in Maricopa?" The

question is coming from seniors who want to retire here, from homeowners who want to relocate their parents here, from retirees who are learning what it's like to live on a fixed income, and from seniors who need help or are looking to enhance their lifestyle and get the most out of their senior

While the City of Maricopa and the Maricopa Unified School District have done a good job of providing a temporary replacement for the demolished Copa Center in the form of classrooms where seniors can gather to play cards, and while City Council has supported a monthly game night at Copper Sky, the senior years aren't all fun and games. Our civilization has created an extensive set of resources and services to enhance

The Maricopa Multi-Cultural Consortium (MMCC) is working to pull together an inventory of all the federal, state, regional, county and local resources and services available to seniors, their families and their caregivers.

our seniors' lives and to provide a

safety net when needed.

To start this off, MMCC, in cahoots with Joan Koczor and Arnold Jackson from the City's Age-Friendly Maricopa Advisory Committee, hosted a presentation by the Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens at the Copper Sky Police Substation in October. The presentation covered a timely summary of Medicarebased resources. (Medicare Open

Enrollment is Oct. 15-Dec.7.) The presenter also provided information covering a long list of

> senior resources available through the Pinal-Gila Council and the Arizona Department of Economic Security, including categories like:

- Adult Protective Services
- Addiction and Drug Management
- · Aging, Disability and Caregiver Resources · Benefits, Entitlements, and
- Advocacy
- Financial and Legal Planning
- Food and Nutrition Assistance
- · Health, Medical, and Long-Term Care
- · Housing and Utilities Assistance

• Independent Living Services We'll be working to add to this list and fill in the many resources available in each category along with information on how to access these resources.

Some key resources:

- PGCSC.org, info@pgcsc. org, 800-293-9393
- ElderCare.gov
- AZDAARS.GetCare.com/ Consumer, 800-677-1116

Most of these senior services are available online, by phone through administrators and volunteers at Pinal and Gila counties' Senior Centers in Apache Junction, Coolidge, Florence, Casa Grande, Eloy, Globe, Hayden, Miami, Payson and Superior.

Bob Marsh is a member of the MMCC board.







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Exercise

Start healthy routine at the imperfect time - now

By Aaron Gilbert

What to do next:

Are you waiting for the "perfect time" to start eating better, exercising or finally getting in shape? Are you putting off that dream trip, new project or that skill you've been meaning to learn?

Human beings are always "waiting for the perfect time." But why? For many, it's a great distraction and justification. It helps us avoid the real — and risky — work of doing. For others, perfectionism and avoidance serve as strong armor against potential embarrassment, criticism

"I could ___ but ___" keeps us safe from pain. Unfortunately, it's also what keeps us from growing, thriving and being who we know we have the potential to be. That's why all-or-nothing thinking — If I don't do this perfectly then it's worthless — rarely gets us "all." It usually gets us "nothing."



Aaron Gilbert

1. Revise your expectations. Recognize there is no perfect time and there never will be. There is only now.

2. Carve out time, even if it's imperfect. Nobody will give that time to you. You'll need to take it. Give yourself permission to make yourself — and your fitness and health goals — a priority. Find the time you need

Don't have time for an hour-long workout? No problem. How much time do you have? Twenty minutes? Ten minutes? Work with what you've got.

Don't expect things to go perfectly smoothly. Instead, anticipate and strategize. Instead of waiting for things to slow down, start making something happen right now, in the middle of the mess.

3. Just start. If you feel stuck, just do something. Anything. Find the smallest possible thing you can do right now, in the next five minutes, and do it. Now you've started!

At my personal training studio, we concentrate on finding "fiveminute actions." Instead of coming up with the biggest, grandest scheme, think about what you could do in just five minutes to help move yourself — even just a tiny bit — in the direction of your goals. Then, go do it.

4. Expect resistance. It's normal. Push through it. Resistance doesn't mean this won't work. It just means you've started.

You only have to get through this moment. This moment of starting will be the hardest. Luckily, it won't last long.

5. Get support. Let go of the concept of the lone hero. Instead, start building your support systems. Whether it's a friend or family member, workout buddy or a coach, find someone to fire up your booster rockets until you can fly on your own.

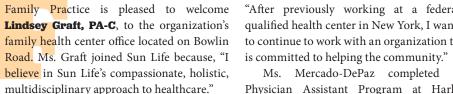
Aaron Gilbert, CSCS, is founder/owner of Longevity Athletics.

520-261-4661 Aaron@Longevityathletics.com

Sun Life welcomes new members to Family Practice and Women's Health Centers

By Maria Villalobos, Community Relations Coordinator, Sun Life Family Health Center





Ms. Graft earned her Bachelor of Exercise Science degree from the University of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Alabama, in 2009. In 2014, she earned her Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies degree from Indiana State University, Terre Haute,

Born in Indiana, Ms. Graft is a new resident of Arizona. She enjoys spending time with her shi tzu named Tucker. She enjoys hiking, running, biking (anything outdoors and adventurous) and spending time with her friends and family. She is excited to help and work with new patients in the Maricopa community.

We also welcome Disnilda Mercado-**DePAz, RPA-C**, to the organization's family health center office located on Bowlin Road. Ms. Mercado-DePaz joined Sun Life because,



"After previously working at a federally qualified health center in New York, I wanted to continue to work with an organization that

Ms. Mercado-DePaz completed her Physician Assistant Program at Harlem Hospital and received her certification from the City University of New York, New York City, New York in 2012. She is certified by the National Commission of Certification of Physician Assistants, the only certifying organization for physician assistants in the United States.

Born in New York, Ms. Mercado-DePaz is a new resident of Arizona.

She and her husband of seven years have two sons. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends. She is bilingual in Spanish and excited to help and work with new patients in the Maricopa community.

We are also pleased to welcome Kyle McDevitt. DNP-WHCNP-BC, to the organization's Center for Women offices located in Chandler and Apache Junction. Mrs. McDevitt joined Sun Life because, "She



enjoys serving the community."

Mrs. McDevitt completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2009 from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona. She earned her Master in Women's Health Nurse Practitioner in 2016 from Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona, Mrs. McDevitt is a member of the American Nurses Association, the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Born in Emmetsburg, Iowa, Mrs. McDevitt is a new resident of Arizona. She and her husband of 16 years have two children and a dog. She enjoys traveling and photography.



Sponsored Content

Top 10 tips from new edition of 'Physical Activity Guidelines'

Released Nov. 12, U.S. Department of Health released an updated version of its "Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans." It reflects the extensive amount of new knowledge gained since the first edition, released in 2008. Here are 10 areas of knowledge covered in the guidelines:



Preschool-aged children (ages 3-5 years) should be physically active 3 hours throughout the day to enhance growth and development.

Children and adolescents ages 6 through 17 years should do 1 hour or more of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity daily: Aerobic, muscle-training or bone-strengthening.



Adults should move more and sit less throughout the day. Some physical activity is better than none. Adults who sit less and do any amount of moderateto-vigorous physical activity gain some health benefits.

Adults should do at least 2.5 to 5 hours a week of moderate-intensity, or 1.25 to 2.5 a week of vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity, or an equivalent combination of moderate- and vigorous-intensity aerobic activity. Preferably, aerobic activity should be spread throughout the week.

Older adults should determine their level of effort for physical activity relative to their level of fitness.

Older adults with chronic conditions should understand whether and how their conditions affect their ability to do regular physical activity safely.



Additional health benefits are gained by engaging in physical activity beyond the equivalent of 300 minutes (5 hours) of moderate-intensity physical activity a week.

Adults should also do musclestrengthening activities of moderate or greater intensity and that involve all major muscle groups on 2 or more days a week, as these activities provide additional health benefits.

As part of their weekly physical activity, older adults should do multicomponent physical activity that includes balance training as well as aerobic and muscle-strengthening activities.



U.S. Health Department

When older adults cannot do 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity a week because of chronic conditions, they should be as physically active as their abilities and conditions allow.

 $^{\prime}\ddot{\cup}$ bit.ly/USHealthGuidelines

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Parade thanks Maricopa



Maricopa Music Circle performs its Grand Winter Holiday Concert

Music to ring out in December

December is a musical month for Maricopa. Student performers and veteran musicians alike are tuning up for holiday programs.

Dec. 1

Maricopa High School band members will be heard at Copper Sky for the Santa Run Dec. 1 at around 7:30 a.m.

Dec. 4

MHS bands will present their annual "Pass in Review" concert highlighting symphonic band, marching band, percussion and intermediate band. "Pass in Review" is at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Admission is free.

Catch up with the MHS Marching Rams again at 7 p.m. when they perform in the Light Parade for Ak-Chin's Masik Tas on Farrell Road.

Also that night, Maricopa Music Circle will be joined by soloists from ONYX Dancers and Maricopa Chorus for the "Grand Winter Holiday Concert." The concert will be at the University of Arizona's Maricopa Agricultural Center at 7:30 p.m.

Bizet's cathedral bells ring in the evening, followed by Berlin's "White Christmas," Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, "I'll be home for Christmas," "Hark! The herald angels sing," "The Christmas Song," "Jingle Bells" in ragtime and, of course, several movements from Handel's monumental "Messiah." The concert will close with a sing-along to the Hallelujah Chorus — so bring your music and be ready to join in.

Central Arizona College's Handbell Choir has made its concert in Maricopa a winter tradition. "Let Them Ring" starts at 4 p.m. in Building A, Room 101. The rich harmonies of handbells perform a lineup of beautiful music. Admission is free, but seating is limited, and tickets disappear quickly.

EventsAtCAC.com

Dec. 14

Gin Blossoms headline a free concert at Ak-Chin Circle for Masik Tas. Gates open at 6 p.m. Vertical Horizon opens the show.

Thinas to Do

DECEMBER

Joy to the Herd

9 a.m.-3 p.m., Shamrock Farms 40034 W. Clayton, Stanfield

Santa Run & Ugly Sweater Run

7-10 a.m., Copper Sky Regional Park 44345 W. Martin Luther Kina Jr. Blvd.

Merry Copa Holiday Festival

3-8 p.m., Copper Sky Regional Park 44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Maricopa Historical Society: The Apache Wars

5:30 p.m., Maricopa Public Library 41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

City Hall Tree Lighting & **Council Swearing In**

5:30 p.m., Maricopa City Hall 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

Pass in Review with Maricopa **High School Music Department**

7 p.m., Maricopa Performing Arts Center 45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

8-Bits Video Gaming

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

2nd Saturday Maricopa Market

8-11 a.m., Sequoia Pathway Academy 19265 N. Porter Road

MFMD Ride for Toys

10 a.m.-1 p.m., Copper Sky 44345 W. Martin Luther Kina Jr. Blvd.

Sugar Plum Tea

2-5 p.m., Maricopa Performing Arts Center 45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Living Nativity Maricopa

5-8 p.m., Community of Hope Church 45295 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Creche (Nativity) Festival

5-8 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 45235 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Masik Tas Light Parade

7 p.m., Ak-Chin Indian Community Farrell Road

Grand Winter Holiday Concert

7:30 p.m., Maricopa Agricultural Center 37860 W. Smith-Enke Road

9-18

Holiday Homes on Parade

6-8 p.m., various locations

Handbell Choir

4 p.m., Central Arizona College 17945 N. Regent Drive

Masik Tas Golf Tournament

10 a.m., Ak-Chin Southern Dunes 48456 W. State Route 238

MUSD Governing Board Meeting

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

Chamber of Commerce Breakfast

7 a.m., Central Arizona College 17945 N. Regent Drive

For details on these and other local events — and to list

your own — visit InMaricopa.com/Calendar.

Masik Tas Carnival

4-10:30 p.m., Ak-Chin Circle 16000 N. Maricopa Road

Thinas to Do

Gin Blossoms

6 p.m., Ak-Chin Circle 16000 N. Maricopa Road

Masik Tas Carnival

10 a.m.-10:30 p.m., Ak-Chin Circle 16000 N. Maricopa Road

Junior Rodeo & Bull Bash

9 a.m., Ak-Chin Rodeo Arena Narcia Street

Two Rivers

10 p.m., Luxe Lounge 16000 N. Maricopa Road

Masik Tas Carnival

Noon-7 p.m., Ak-Chin Circle 16000 N. Maricopa Road

18

City Council Work Session

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

City Council Regular Session

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

8-Bits Video Gaming

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

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 Multitainment Center 16000 N. Maricopa Road

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Maricopa Community Church

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL)

7 p.m., Maricopa Behavioral Health Services 21300 N. John Wavne

TUESDAYS

5 p.m., Maricopa Community Church

WEDNESDAYS

Babytime

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

15406 N. Maricopa Road

S.M.A.R.T. Kids

41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Maricopa Police Explorer Post Meeting

45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Narcotics Anonymous

Al-Anon Meeting

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

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21164 N. John Wayne Parkway, Maricopa Kitchen Open: 11am-11pm; Lounge: 11am-2am 520-568-6077 NativeGrillAndWings.com



For details on these and other local events — and to list your own — visit InMaricopa.com/Calendar.

44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

Parkway, Suite 103

Celebrate Recovery

Coffee & Karaoke

44977 W. Hathaway Ave.

Harrah's Club 777 Toastmasters 3 p.m., Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino

3:30 p.m., Maricopa Public Library

5 p.m., Maricopa High School

THURSDAYS

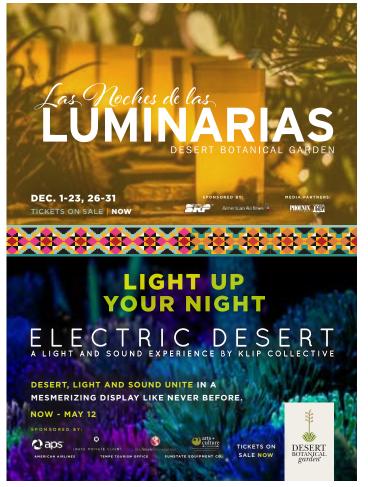
Family Story Time

4 p.m., Maricopa Public Library

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

FRIDAYS

Hope Church





Things to do





Community of Hope (above) presents its Living Nativity Dec. 8 while the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints hosts a Nativity Festival (left).

Nativity programs partner for special Christmas display

By Raquel Hendrickson

For 13 years, Community of Hope has presented its Living Nativity program, even as the church changed locations to 45295 W. Honeycutt Ave. Three years ago, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints next door began a traditional Creche display of scores of nativity sets from around the world.

This year, the two are joining forces to present a unique and spiritual reflection on the beginnings of Christianity. Both churches will have their programs Dec. 8 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Community of Hope Pastor Rusty Akers said both are comeand-go events, with his 14th annual living nativity cycling through several performances during the evening. Church members perform the roles in an outdoor set with narration from the New Testament.

"It's become a Christmas tradition for many people," Akers said. "If you've never been, we'd love to invite you out."

Bishop Brian Hoffman said the Creche Festival had more than 100 nativity sets on display last year and he expects even more this year. Besides the United States, the sets come from Mexico, Israel, Europe, South America and elsewhere. The tour is self-guided and at your own pace.

"These are depictions from the life of Christ," Hoffman said. "So, sit back and remember the purpose of the Christmas season."

Both churches are on Honeycutt Avenue across from Maricopa High School. After visitors enjoy one program, they are invited to walk next door to experience the other. Both will have refreshments and children's activities.







11th Annual Ak-Chin Masik Tas Celebration

Ak-Chin Circle 16000 N. Maricopa Road



LIGHT PARADE

Saturday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m. along Farrell Rd.

RODEO EVENTS

Dec. 15-16 Ak-Chin Circle Arena

FREE Gin Blossoms concert, Friday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., Ak-Chin Circle Field
FREE Carnival, Dec. 14-16, Ak-Chin Circle

For more info-call (520) 568-1045 or visit our website: http://ak-chin.nsn.us/_masiktas/

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ADVERTISER INDEX

Ace Hardware	21
Ace Home Services	IBC
Ak-Chin Indian Community	47
Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club	48
Banner Casa Grande Medical Center	19
Brutinel Plumbing & Electrical	37
Caliche Senior Living	33
Central Arizona College	16
Comfort Keepers	40
Copple & Copple, P.C	25
Desert Botanical Garden	46
El Dorado Holdings, Inc	37
Electrical District No. 3	26
Express Flooring	23
Fast & Friendly Express Car Wash	24
FitLife Med Spa	33
Global Water Resources	29
Harrah's Ak-Chin	1
The Hearing Centers of Arizona	5
HomeSmart Success / Brian French	26
HomeSmart Success / Dayv Morgan	35, 37
nMaricopa	31
nMaricopa.com	43
J. Warren Funeral Services	27
James A Chaston CPA	27
Lizard Heights Glass	13
Longevity Athletics	40
Maricopa Eye Care	7
Maricopa Foot and Ankle	39
Maricopa Unified School District	17
McLaughlin Air	IFC
Mr. Appliance of Maricopa	34
Mr. Electric	35
Native Grill & Wings	45
Orbitel Communications	3
Outside the Box Marketing	13
Petersen Physical Therapy	25
Prestige Landscaping	35
Riggs for Justice of the Peace	24
Smiley Dental	18
Sun Life Family Health Center	41
The Suites at Maricopa Business Center	24
UltraStar Multi-tainment Center	ВС
Vekol Market	11
Victor Morono Photography	16



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