



Maricopa

May 2016

PEOPLE

Pickleballers
courting city

FÚTBOL

MARICOPA MAKES PLAY FOR
INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

HOME

Creative
garden beds

GOVERNMENT

Council decides on
concealed weapons

DEALS

Money-saving
coupons

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Agnes Gabica of Desert Plant Collection enjoyed a great blooming of cactus in April.

Submitted

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We want to hear from you!

InMaricopa's mission is to inform our readers/viewers and enrich our advertisers. To help ensure we are providing the information you want in the time and format you want it, please give us your feedback. We really want to know your thoughts – good, bad or indifferent – and how we can best serve the Maricopa community and you.

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Other: _____

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Other: _____

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A growing wish list in Maricopa

Much of this issue of InMaricopa is wrapped up in wish lists – things people are anticipating or asking for or working hard to bring about.

On the cover, Peter Cockle is working to use his professional soccer connections to bring a top-flight Costa Rican team to train in Maricopa for three summers. He got the attention of Mayor Christian Price, a soccer buff who also loves outside-the-box ideas for economic development. This wish is a work in progress with Grande Sports World and will involve Maricopa Unified School District.


The pickleball players of Maricopa are convinced their growing sport is a key to economic development, too. The big item on their wish list is an eight-court (or larger) complex at Copper Sky Regional Park so they no longer have to play on re-lined basketball courts inside or tennis courts outside. It's a wish with a price tag but a lot of enthusiastic promoters.

The school district is focusing its own wish list on money. May brings a Special Election with two ballot issues, one of them pertaining to school funding. Proposition 123 could bring \$2 million to MUSD over the next two years. It is also controversial among Arizona voters. It has divided Republican from Republican, Democrat from Democrat and education supporter from education supporter.



The ballot question is the result of the Legislature trying to settle a billion-dollar lawsuit brought by the Arizona School Board Association and others for not adjusting its education funding for inflation over several years. Is the settlement the best deal the schools can get in a timely manner, or should they continue to sue for everything the courts have ordered, or is the funding formula in Prop. 123 too unstable for its purpose? Voters must decide on May 17.

The owner of Desert Plant Collection has several wishes for her blooming business, and she's working very, very hard to make them reality. Some Maricopans had their wish to carry concealed weapons into City Hall granted by a divided city council. The city council is wishing it didn't have to deal with a 1-percent property tax cap. And many people are wishing to get elected to several open seats this election cycle.

Read about these and other hopeful endeavors inside. And follow InMaricopa.com to see which wishes come true. 

Raquel Hendrickson

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in Maricopa
MARICOPA. DELIVERED.

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History

1913 Maricopa Depot

Trains have always been a part of Maricopa and are the reason the town exists where it does. The first "trains" were horse and mule trains bringing in supplies for miners up north or for parts west of Maricopa Wells (the community's first location in 1857). In 1931, fire destroyed the Maricopa Depot and Wells Fargo & Express building. *Photo courtesy of Maricopa Historical Society*

JOIN 



About the floodplain in the Heritage District:

Olga Bustos
I know how you feel about the floodplain because I have a rental across the street from you. And I pay way too much for flood insurance.

About a detached-garage option:

Jason Weltch
... And this is why nobody should complain about my shed being higher than the fence.

About a "kill list" found at a charter school:

Crystal Harris
Such a shame and a tragedy for all the parties involved. I know what being bullied feels like, it's horrible and although I've never

reached these extremes, this kid doesn't seem completely at fault. He needs some therapy. I mean how many 10 year olds completely understand the consequences of their action? I'm sure the kid is in hot water with his parents, is that not enough?



About the necessity of refacing of City Hall:

John Blackwell
Solid workmanship? Eh.

About a "kill list" found at a charter school:

JasonR_Martin
I'm starting to have second thoughts about sending my grandkids to this school this year. This matters in today's world.

InMaricopa's recent followers on ...



Cassandra Bustos Jason Mulligan Linda Smith Redge Reupena Shari Payne



Andrea Allen Chad Darr Lisa Durst Marsha Overholtzer Jose Santa



Combust_the Band Kaye Dickson David Horn Juliana Marie James Tanner

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More than 8 out
of 10 AZ families
choose local
public schools

Calendar



MAY
7
Mother &
Son Dance

Submitted

May 1-7

1
Narcotics Anonymous
7 p.m., Maricopa Chamber of
Commerce
44480 W. Honeycutt Road,
Suite 106

2
Skill Drills for Pickleball
10:30 a.m.—noon, Copper Sky
Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

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

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

3
**Coffee with Friends of the
Maricopa Library**
1:30-3 p.m., Maricopa Public
Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

**Maricopa Children's Theatre:
Beauty Is a Beast**
6 p.m., Copper Sky
Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

4
Little Cookers
5 p.m., Copper Sky
Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

5
MUSD Spring Art Walk
4:30-6:30 p.m., Maricopa Unified
School District
44150 W. Maricopa-Casa Grande
Highway

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

7
Basic Water Rescue
8 a.m.—noon, Copper Sky Aquatic
Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

**Cupcake Decorating: Mother's
Day theme**
9:30-10:30 a.m., Copper Sky
Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mother & Son Dance
4-7 p.m., Maricopa Wells Middle
School
45725 W. Honeycutt Ave.

**Movies Under the Stars:
Inside Out**
6:30 p.m., UltraStar Multi-tainment
Center
16000 N. Maricopa Road



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



MAY
14
Fossil Creek
Backpacking

Submitted

May 8-14

8
Narcotics Anonymous
7 p.m., Maricopa Chamber of
Commerce
44480 W. Honeycutt Road,
Suite 106

9
Skill Drills for Pickleball
10:30 a.m.—noon, Copper Sky
Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.
Blvd.

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

10
**Coffee with Friends of the
Maricopa Library**
1:30-3 p.m., Maricopa Public
Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

**Leading Edge Academy
Enrollment Open House &
Registration**
6 p.m., Leading Edge Academy
18700 N. Porter Road

11
Little Cookers
5 p.m., Copper Sky
Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

12
Maricopa Chamber Breakfast
7 a.m., Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino
15406 N. Maricopa Road



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MAY 19
MHS
Graduation

William Lange

16

Santa Rosa Water Day
9 a.m.-3 p.m., Santa Rosa Elementary School
21400 N. Santa Rosa Drive

Skill Drills for Pickleball
10:30 a.m.—noon, Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

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

17

Coffee with Friends of the Maricopa Library
1:30-3 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

Saddleback Preschool Promotion
5:30 p.m., Saddleback Elementary School
18600 N. Porter Road

Middle School 8th Grade Unification Celebration
7 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

18

Little Cookers
5 p.m., Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

Saddleback 6th Grade Promotion
5:30 p.m., Saddleback Elementary School
18600 N. Porter Road

19

Saddleback Kindergarten Promotion
9 a.m., Saddleback Elementary School
18600 N. Porter Road

Friends of the Library Go to Him-Dak Eco Museum
9:30 a.m., Ak-Chin Him-Dak EcoMuseum & Archives
47685 N. EcoMuseum Road

Essential Oils Make-and-Take
10:30 a.m., Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

Water Safety Day
5-7 p.m., Copper Sky Aquatic Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

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

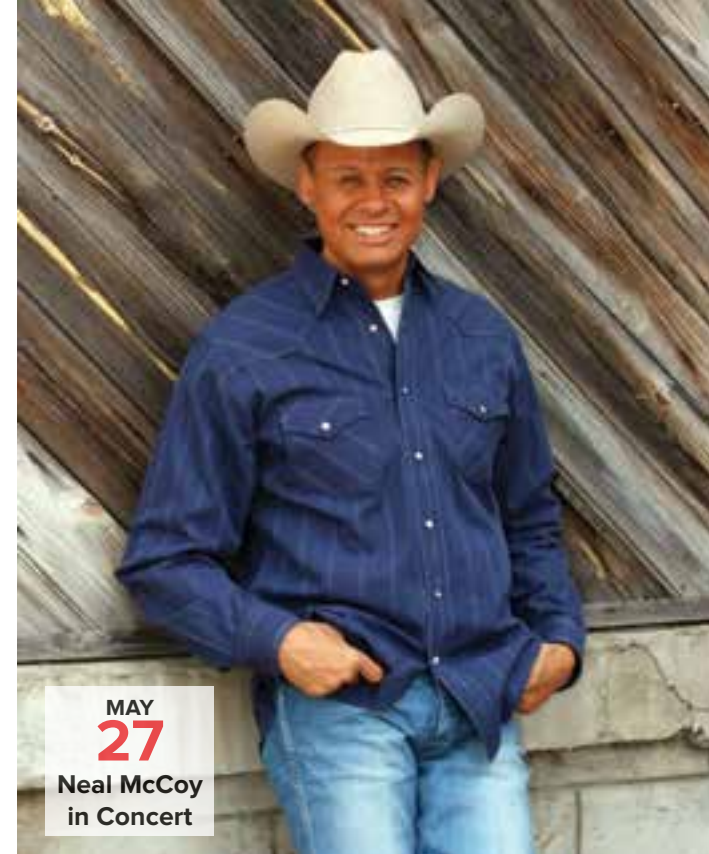
Maricopa High School Graduation
7:30 p.m., Maricopa High School
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

20

Flagstaff Extreme Camping and Caving
6 p.m., Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

21

Movies Under the Stars: Pan
6:30 p.m., UltraStar Multi-tainment Center
16000 N. Maricopa Road



MAY 27
Neal McCoy
in Concert

Submitted

May 22-27

22

Narcotics Anonymous
7 p.m., Maricopa Chamber of Commerce
44480 W. Honeycutt Road, Suite 106

23

Skill Drills for Pickleball
10:30 a.m.—noon, Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

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

24

Coffee with Friends of the Maricopa Library
1:30-3 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

25

Sequoia Pathway Kindergarten Graduation
8:30 a.m., Sequoia Pathway Academy
19287 N. Porter Road

Little Cookers

5 p.m., Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

Sequoia Pathway 8th Grade Promotion
7 p.m., Sequoia Pathway Academy
19287 N. Porter Road

26

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

Sequoia Pathway High School Graduation
7 p.m., Sequoia Pathway Academy
19287 N. Porter Road

27

Raft the Upper Salt River
6 p.m., Copper Sky Multigenerational Center
44345 W. Martin Luther King Jr.

Neal McCoy in Concert
8 p.m., Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino
15406 N. Maricopa Road

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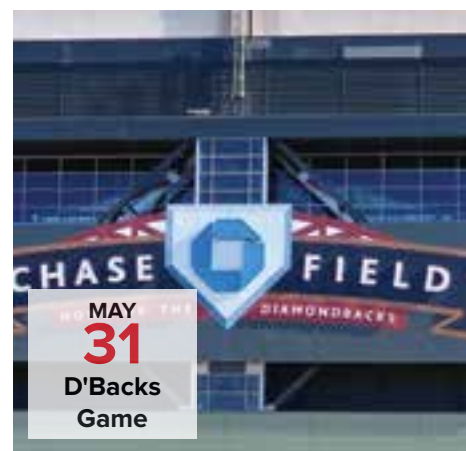
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Submitted

May 29-June 4

29

Narcotics Anonymous

7 p.m., Maricopa Chamber of Commerce
44480 W. Honeycutt Road, Suite 106

30

Narcotics Anonymous

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

31

Maricopa Goes to Diamondbacks Game

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

Coffee with Friends of the Maricopa Library

1:30-3 p.m., Maricopa Public Library
41600 W. Smith-Enke Road

June 2

Narcotics Anonymous

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

June 4

Indoor Skydiving

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

Movies Under the Stars: Hotel Transylvania 2

6:30 p.m., UltraStar Multi-tainment Center
16000 N. Maricopa Road



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events — and to list your own — visit
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Question most often asked: Why is my pool green?

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WATER SAFETY TIPS

1. Make Water Safety Your Priority
2. Prevent Unsupervised Access to the Water
3. Maintain Constant Supervision
4. Know What to Do in an Emergency

Source: American Red Cross

Visit **MaricopaAce.com**
for water safety resources.

May 19
Water Safety Day
@ Copper Sky
Aquatics Center
Details at InMaricopa.com/Calendar





1. Volunteers were honored for their work by the Maricopa City Council at a meeting March 5. *Photo by Raquel Hendrickson*
2. Thanks to energetic online voting from residents, Maricopa won its third and final Battle of the Burbs trophy, and Mix 96.9 hosted a party and concert at Copper Sky Regional Park April 8. *Photo by William Lange*
3. Fyrestorm Cheer was part of the entertainment at the Battle of the Burbs party April 8. *Photo by William Lange*

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Dr. Alexandru Tanase has been practicing Pediatrics more than 20 years and is the recipient of Patients Choice Award and Compassionate Doctor Recognition.



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THE MAGAZINE



Deportivo Saprissa fans are an enthusiastic lot, and Saprissa is accustomed to playing in front of 23,000 of them. Public domain photo

Maricopans make pitch for international soccer

By Raquel Hendrickson

Bringing a top-drawer Costa Rican soccer team to Maricopa is just as complicated as it sounds. Smooth fields in a warm climate are a big enticement for Deportivo Saprissa. But the team has needs to be met. That involves individuals, the city, the school district and businesses.

The football field at Maricopa High School must get a new look. Thousands more seats are necessary. And promoters need to sell 4,000 tickets to make it all worthwhile.

Almost everyone involved in getting the team to town, however, sees the positives of the proposed training sessions in Maricopa and Casa Grande.

“From a sporting aspect, we are excited to be able to play on flat, level fields,” Galliano Luconi, financial manager for Deportivo Saprissa, said from his office in San Jose, Costa Rica. “We flew in a couple of months ago and looked at Casa Grande, too. (Grande Sports Academy) is an incredible project. It was a very positive impression.”

The team will train at Grande Sports and play at least two games, June 26 and June 29,

and possibly three at Ram Stadium at MHS.

From a marketing perspective, the Saprissa club wants to spread recognition of its brand overseas. Latching onto growing popularity of the pro game in the United States is one way to do that.

“We want to be involved in that explosion,” Luconi said.

The key local figure in bringing Saprissa to Maricopa is Peter Cockle, who owns SHIPFR8 and is a soccer scout. He is mustering his Valley resources and his sporting relationship with TaylorMade’s Dana Taylor, a college and Premier Development League (PDL) coach, to nail down the specifics of Saprissa having its preseason in Arizona for three years.

“This is a very small starting point,” Cockle said. “It could also balloon up into something

Mayor Christian Price played soccer growing up and has supported Peter Cockle’s effort to bring Saprissa’s preseason training to Maricopa.



William Lange

major. Hopefully, it will encourage businesses and everyone’s going to hear about Maricopa.”

That’s the hope of Mayor Christian Price, who also sees both the sports and marketing angles of the enterprise.

“I think this is an excellent showcase for what it means to come up with creative ideas on how to make the city a place that’s recognizable, that draws people here and ultimately has another level of success in a way that perhaps you wouldn’t think of right off the bat,” Price said. “It’s another way of growing our city, from residents to businesses to entertainment.”

El Monstruo Morado, “The Purple Monster” as the team is nicknamed for its purple jerseys, needs to see community support to center its Arizona commitment on Maricopa. The team has an option to take its preseason to the Prescott area.

The organization that has perhaps the most complicated task associated with the Saprissa visit is excited about the venture.

“We’re happy to be part of it,” said Aron Rausch, business manager for Maricopa Unified School District. “I think it’s going to be great for the community.”

Rausch is the administrator working on an agreement with TaylorMade for use of the MHS field. He said MUSD is requested to temporarily paint over the gridiron markings of high school football, remove the goal posts and generally fit the field for pure soccer. After Saprissa’s visit, the field will be restored.

Rausch said TaylorMade will add 2,000 temporary seats on the visitor side of the field to increase capacity to 6,000 fans. (Saprissa’s home stadium holds 23,000.)

From MUSD’s point of view, the district has to recover its costs, and that is part of the contract negotiations. The school

district rents its facilities, but it’s not often an organization wants to lease the football field. The standard fee to a for-profit organization is \$940 per day. If lights are used, that is an additional \$27 per hour.

Saprissa also wants to rent the locker rooms, an even rarer request. Rausch said MUSD will probably hire an outside firm to paint over and restore the football markings.

The preseason visit from Saprissa involves clinics for players and coaches, some meet-and-great events and a donation to the high school soccer program. As nice as monetary help is, the potential for his players to mingle with professional, international soccer players really intrigues the Rams’ boys’ soccer coach.

“I’m pretty ecstatic,” Cortney Kelleners said. “I’ve been trying to build the sport within the community, so to have professional soccer right in front of our kids’ eyes would be amazing.”

No matter what his past accomplishments, Kelleners knows it doesn’t command the attention of his team like a current pro player.

“Once you become a coach, what you’ve done in your past doesn’t matter,” he said. “The guys that are playing now professionally, the

DEPORTIVO SAPRISSA
FAST FACTS

Founded: 1935
League: Costa Rican Primera División
Stadium: Estadio Ricardo Saprissa Ayma
Colors: Purple and white

kids tend to listen to them just a little bit more.”

Luconi said Saprissa has six players on the Costa Rica national team. Fifteen now play in Europe and the United States. Three others are in Vancouver. He said Maricopa can expect to see “top-quality coaches, world-class coaches.” He described the players as “very young and very enthusiastic.”

While he said preseason is a relaxed environment, it is also a time for the team to find its rhythm and start the season on the right foot.

“They are intense and very professional and very involving,” Luconi said. “They’re going to see top soccer.”

The team usually trains in Mexico. To train in Arizona and prepare for Confederation of North,

Central American and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) competition, they are starting a month earlier than normal. Luconi said coaches have been looking at the expected summer temperatures and humidity in Arizona.

“It’s definitely a concern, but there are other precautions we take like playing at night,” he said.

Luconi said Saprissa’s No. 1 goal this season is to win 50 percent of the national championship matches it competes in. For the past two seasons, they have won 75 percent.

Saprissa has 32 national championship titles and won the CONCACAF cup in 1993, 1995 and 2005.

When Kelleners said, “This has huge potential to have a giant impact on our program,” he was not just talking about Saprissa. Cockle said if the first training sessions turn out well, a PDL soccer team could be based out of Maricopa starting next year.

“It will potentially become something great,” Mayor Price said.

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Pickleball players plea for courts in Maricopa

Story and photos
by Raquel Hendrickson

For a couple of years now, a passion for pickleball has been apparent in Maricopa. It has now reached the point that aficionados are asking the City of Maricopa for courts of their own.

The pickleballers' estimated cost of eight dedicated pickleball courts is \$22,000.

Pickleball ambassador and advocate Rocky Myers is convinced having a bigger pickleball presence will be a boost to the Maricopa economy.

"It will bring in more retirees, and pretty soon retirees will make up one in five of the population," Myers said.

He said he knew families that moved out of Sun Lakes because there were not enough pickleball courts.



A retired real estate agent, Myers is afraid the same could happen in Maricopa.

"Right now pickleball is really growing but there is no place to play," he said. "There's plenty of room there at Copper Sky. If they build courts, people will come."

Maricopan pickleballers have three

mornings a week to use half of the gymnasium at Copper Sky, with pickleball lines interspersed with markings from other sports and a surface they do not consider ideal. Outside, they try to play on the tennis courts, which have a net that is too high.

"It's hard on the tennis players, too," said Robert Matysiak, 68. "They try to accommodate us, but it's their court."

Two years ago, the city added pickleball markings to its tennis courts at Pacana Park.

Pickleball has rules similar to tennis, badminton and ping pong. It was created in the 1960s in Washington.

Matysiak said one of the reasons he enjoys pickleball is the close proximity of the opponents.

"We can talk to each other and joke across the net," he said. "In tennis, you have to yell across the court."



Pickleball players in Maricopa number in the hundreds now. They complain about the wait times to play on courts that are temporarily converted from other sports like basketball and tennis.



It is also not as demanding on the body as tennis while still providing exercise and health benefits. In Maricopa, pickleball first scored in the 55+ community of Province, which was where Myers was introduced to it.

Locally, that has given pickleball the reputation of being a retirees' game, but

Margo Malouf wants to see younger players in Maricopa.

Malouf is also an ambassador, an official title with the USA Pickleball Association.

"When you go around the country, you see a lot of young adults and kids playing," she said.

In communities with dedicated pickleball

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Leisure

courts, children and grandparents alike are playing. “It makes the game more fun,” she said.

For many years, Myers was a competitor in marathon and Ironman events, and he loved playing tennis in college. He thought physical activity of any account was over when he had his knees replaced in 2009.

He discovered pickleball in Province in 2013 and fell in love with it. But he is not a resident of Province. To get his pickleball fix, he would travel to Sun Lakes. He has also played in Ahwatukee, Surprise, Palm Creek and Robson Ranch.

When Copper Sky offered pickleball classes, public interest began to grow. Myers estimated about 300 people play in Maricopa.

“This year, we have noticed more and more people picking up the sport and we find it is harder to get on any court to play,” Glennwilde resident Marilyn Cory said. “We have often driven to each tennis court only to find they are all in use and there are others waiting to play.”

Jeff Whipple, 55, a self-described snowbird from Alberta, Canada, started coming to Maricopa two years ago.

“I came looking for something to do,” he said. “I never heard of pickleball until last year. Now I’m addicted.”



Rocky Myers (standing second from right) is an official pickleball ambassador organizing a growing number of players.

He was one of several players who wrote to Maricopa City Council asking for dedicated courts like the nine in Province.


“Sitting, waiting for courts is very frustrating,” he said. “We completely understand that play falls off after the snowbirds go home, but we believe it is a big drawing card for the city to have public courts.”

He said the eight courts Myers asked city council to consider would be just a start.

“If we had eight courts, we could start having tournaments,” he said.

It is just that idea Myers wants to sell to councilmembers to persuade them pickleball has economic benefits to Maricopa.

“I don’t see any big industry relocating here,” he said. “But I’m convinced people will move here to play pickleball. And some won’t move here because there is really no place to play.”

Pickleball courts are not in the city’s budget. 

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“The biggest challenge most businesses face today is the lack of available building space to move into,” said Economic Development Director, Denyse Airheart. “Most businesses have outgrown their current space and have either limited or no options for relocating in Maricopa. Timing could not be better, its time for these business to explore their options at the Estrella Gin Business Park.” The development of the Estrella Gin Business Park relied heavily on the extension of Edison Road, construction will begin in June and is said to be completed by October. The new space at the Estrella Gin will allow business growing businesses to expand and will allow the City to better compete for future projects.

Approximately 40 acres is available for commercial development, anticipated to include a mix of industrial, office and flex space. The first phase of development is planned to be an approximately 36,000 square foot building with suites for multiple tenants. The Boyer Company, the project developer, is currently seeking prospective users for the business park.

To learn more about the development plans, lease and build to suit opportunities contact the Economic Development Department at **520-316-6990** or economicdevelopment@maricopa-az.gov



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Trending at
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Raquel Hendrickson

- Fifth-grade 'kill list' alarms Legacy parents
- New home design features detached garage



Brittany Paige Anslow

- Les Miserables: MHS troupe to perform renowned musical
- MHS baseball Senior Night to be Nate Ford Community Night
- Taxes, taxes, taxes and the MUSD override measure
- Property owners in path of overpass anxious for action

- Legacy issues statement at parents press charges against 10-year-old
- Chief Stahl maintains tough work ethic at MPD after four years
- Maricopa parties with 3rd Battle of the Burbs trophy



William Lange

📱 **For these stories and more news every day, visit InMaricopa.com.**

Concealed weapons OK in some city buildings

By Raquel Hendrickson

No, you may not carry a concealed weapon into Maricopa's municipal court. Or the police station. Or a fire station.

But the Maricopa City Council approved on a split vote an ordinance that will allow concealed-weapons permit-holders to carry their weapons in most public buildings.

Mayor Christian Price ended up being the deciding vote that went 4-2-1 in favor of the ordinance. Councilmembers Peggy Chapados and Henry Wade voted against it. Vice Mayor Marvin Brown abstained from the vote, saying it is likely upcoming state legislation will make any city decision moot anyway.

Senate Bill 1257 "prevents public entities



The city council thoroughly debated the concealed weapons issue before the split vote, with Peggy Chapados on the opposite side of Mayor Christian Price and Bridger Kimball.

from prohibiting individuals with Concealed Carry Weapons (CCW) permits from carrying firearms on their premises except when certain security measures are taken. The entity may ban firearms if it provides security personnel at its entrance along with a screening device."

Though Price said there is a "false assumption" people with a CCW permit have additional training (no longer required under state law), he said the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution "allows this to take place."

"How do we legislate personal responsibility?" he asked. He said he agreed



Raquel Hendrickson

with Brown that state lawmakers will soon remove the power for municipalities to make those decisions for themselves.

Councilmember Vincent Manfredi gave impassioned speeches in favor of the ordinance. He said most CCW holders just want to protect themselves and their families. He said making them handle their guns in public by removing them and putting them in a safe is more dangerous.

Councilmember Nancy Smith wanted the wording of the ordinance to clarify the weapon must be on the person and not just in a bag or a purse. 📱

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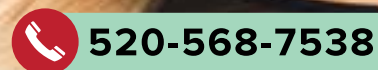
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Shifting messages from ADOT in prep for overpass

By Raquel Hendrickson

In March, when officials with the Arizona Department of Transportation started calling Maricopans who own land that is possibly in the path of the upcoming overpass, the message was different than it had been in previous contacts.

“They told me I had 12 months to be out of here,” said Tena Dugan, owner of NAPA Auto Parts on the corner of John Wayne Parkway and Maricopa-Casa Grande Highway.

She said the earlier understanding was that she would have 18-months’ warning. However, a sense of expediency became part of the project when it landed a federal TIGER grant of \$15 million.

“The TIGER grant is the only funding with a deadline attached,” Public Works Director Bill Fay said. He clarified the deadline attached to the grant pertains to signing a construction contract, not completion of the project.

Fay said while ADOT is basing its ongoing design work off Alternative H, there are engineering modifications being considered that could lower the cost, which is estimated at almost \$50 million. On top of that, designers



ADOT

ADOT workers prepare to construct an overpass on Bell Road at Grand Avenue (U.S. 60) in Surprise, a project that has some similarities to plans for an overpass in Maricopa.

are also trying to avoid as many homes and businesses as possible — even NAPA, which has always been the one business discussed as irretrievably in the way of the overpass.

“They are working to try to get people back out of that situation,” Fay said.

But Dugan’s message from ADOT was to find a new location for the business by April 1, 2017. With luck, she could get a 30-day extension.

“I told them 12 months is not doable in this town,” Dugan said. Because Maricopa is so young, “there is not another building to go into.”

ADOT is only at 15 percent design but is working on a concept that would also avoid the First Baptist Church, which Alternative H would destroy, though the new plan would impact its access. And the Amtrak station, which caused much of the overpass discussion in the first place, may not have to be moved at all.

“They are making a major effort not to relocate Amtrak,” Fay said. “It’s theoretically possible not to have to move it. For the sake of this project, I don’t think there’s a reason to move it.”

ADOT plans public meetings about the overpass in August and April to gather feedback on the most current concept for the overpass, according to ADOT spokesman Steve Elliott.

“Local input can help shape the project’s final design,” he said. After the final design is developed, ADOT will determine any right-of-way needs. That process is expected to be complete by June 30, 2017.

“The project is currently scheduled to be advertised for bid in fall 2017,” Elliott said. “Right now, construction is scheduled to begin by late 2017 and end by late 2019.”

However, Fay’s estimate for completion is 2021 or 2022.

Maricopans wanting to see how a similar project is handled can look to an overpass ADOT is currently constructing on Bell Road over Grand Avenue and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks in Surprise. That project includes a full closure of the road for six to eight months. Road closure is not part of the plan in Maricopa. Elliott said the project team must still finalize a plan for accommodating traffic.

“As we have for Bell/Grand and other projects, ADOT will work with business owners to maintain access,” he said.

The Bell/Grand project has had its share of discontent among affected businesses, and there was even a late effort from some community members to stop it altogether.

That is not on Dugan’s mind, but she said she has hired an attorney. “I’m not trying to stop it or make a bunch of money off of it,” she said. “We’ve known since the beginning we were in the middle of it.”

She said she wants to be sure of her rights as an owner. “It would be good to have some peace of mind,” Dugan said.

In the Running

Candidates are lining up to run for office at the city, county, school and federal level.

CITY

Completed nomination packets to run for mayor and city council must be turned in between May 2 and June 1.

Only incumbent Christian Price has pulled a packet to run for mayor.

Those who have pulled packets to run for three available seats on city council are:

- Marvin Brown, incumbent
- Bridger Kimball, incumbent
- Nancy Smith, incumbent
- Joshua Babb
- Dan Frank
- Julia Gusse
- Leon Potter
- Nicholas Sheppard

Visit InMaricopa.com/ Government to view the final list of interested candidates.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Maricopa Unified School District will have three vacancies. Board members with terms ending this year are Torri Anderson, AnnaMarie Knorr and Rhonda Melvin.

The Central Arizona Valley Institute of Technology Governing Board has the terms of two members ending, including the Maricopa seat, which is held by Alma Farrell.

Central Arizona College Board of Governors will have one seat on the ballot, that of District 4, which includes Maricopa and twice fell vacant this year.

COUNTY

Statements of organization must be turned in before signatures can be collected. Nomination

packets must be turned in between May 2 and June 1.

Board of Supervisors, District 4:

Incumbent Anthony Smith (R) of Maricopa is challenged by Rich Vitiello (R) of Maricopa



Anthony Smith

Sheriff: Kaye Dickson (D), Steve Henry (R), Mark Lamb (R) and Kevin Taylor (D).

Attorney: Incumbent Lando Voyles (R) is challenged by Kent Volkmer (R).



Lando Voyles

Treasurer: Incumbent Doug Wolf (R) is challenged by Michael McCord (R).



Doug Wolf

Superintendent of Schools:

Incumbent Jill Broussard (R) is challenged by Patrick Thompson of Maricopa.



Jill Broussard

Recorder: Incumbent Virginia Ross is so far unchallenged.

FEDERAL

Declared candidates for **U.S. Senate:**

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Lennie Clark
Ann Kirkpatrick

Republicans

John McCain, incumbent
Scott McBean
Alex Meluskey
David Pizer
Clair Van Steenwyk
Kelli Ward

Independents

Joanne Lopez-Cervantez
J.L. Mealer
Pat Quinn

Declared candidates for

U.S. House of Representatives, AZ-District 1

Democrats

James Maloney
Tom O’Halloran
Miguel Olivas
Levi Tappan

Republicans

Paul Babeu
Carlyle Begay
Ken Bennett
David Gowan
Gary Kiehne
Shawn Redd
Wendy Rogers

Independent

Brian Malnes

IMPORTANT DATES

May 2

First day to file candidate nomination petitions

May 17

SPECIAL ELECTION

June 1

Last day to file candidate nomination petitions



July 7

Last day to file constitution and initiative petitions

July 13

Last day to file arguments for or against ballot measures

July 21

Last day to file as a write-in candidate for Primary Election

Aug. 1

Last day to register to vote in Primary Election

Aug. 3

Early voting begins for Primary Election

Aug. 30

PRIMARY ELECTION

Sept. 29

Last day to file as a write-in candidate for General Election

Oct. 10

Last day to register to vote in General Election

Oct. 12

Early voting begins for General Election

Nov. 8

GENERAL ELECTION



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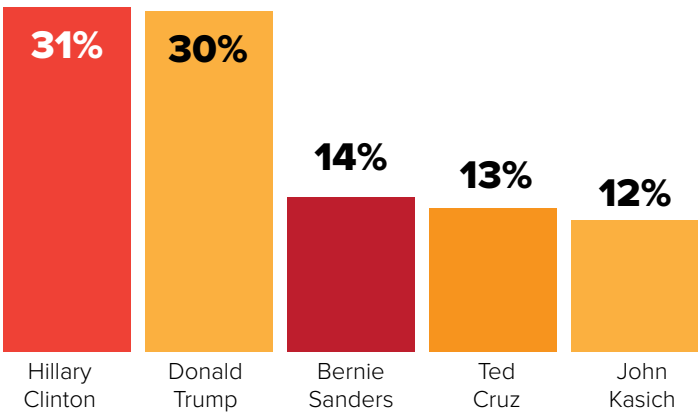
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INMARICOPA.COM POLL

If the General Election were held today, which presidential hopeful would you be most likely to vote for?

Source: InMaricopa.com, March 21-April 5 Total votes: 744





Proposition 123
EDUCATION FUNDING

THE BASICS
Prop. 123 amends the Arizona Constitution to increase the annual distributions from the state land trust permanent funds to schools, universities and other public institutions from 2.5 percent of the average market values of the funds to 6.9 percent for the next 10 fiscal years.

BACKGROUND
The state land trust was established when Arizona became a U.S. territory in 1863, setting aside parcels to benefit schools. The state Constitution requires distributions from the state trust lands to public schools to be 2.5 percent of the market values of the funds through Fiscal Year 2020-21.

In 2000, Arizona voters approved Prop. 301, which includes a requirement the Legislature adjusts education spending for inflation. In 2010, the Arizona Education Association and other parties sued the state and state treasurer (Doug Ducey at the time), claiming lawmakers did not adjust education funding for inflation during the recession years.

In 2013, the Arizona Supreme Court ruled the Legislature had violated the Voter Protection Act and owed schools about \$1.3 billion. In 2014, a Superior Court judge ordered the state to reset the base level of its K-12 funding and pay \$331 million more per year to schools as compensation. The Legislature appealed and agreed to settle with the plaintiffs. That settlement is Prop. 123. If passed by voters, the proposition would provide \$298 million to schools in June and \$300 million next fiscal year. If the proposition fails, the lawsuit continues.

Proposition 124
PUBLIC RETIREMENT

THE BASICS
Prop. 124 amends the Arizona Constitution to create an exception in the public retirement system to allow adjustments to the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System in approved Senate Bill 1428.

BACKGROUND
Gov. Doug Ducey signed SB 1428 on Feb. 16, creating a new retirement benefit structure for public safety personnel hired on or before July 1, 2017, without a significant raise in taxes. It included a new mechanism to create a cost-of-living adjustment. The Arizona Supreme Court determined Article 29, Section 1 of the state Constitution prohibits adjusting down a future permanent benefit. If approved, Prop. 124 would replace the permanent benefit increases for retired members and their survivors with a compounding cost-of-living adjustment.

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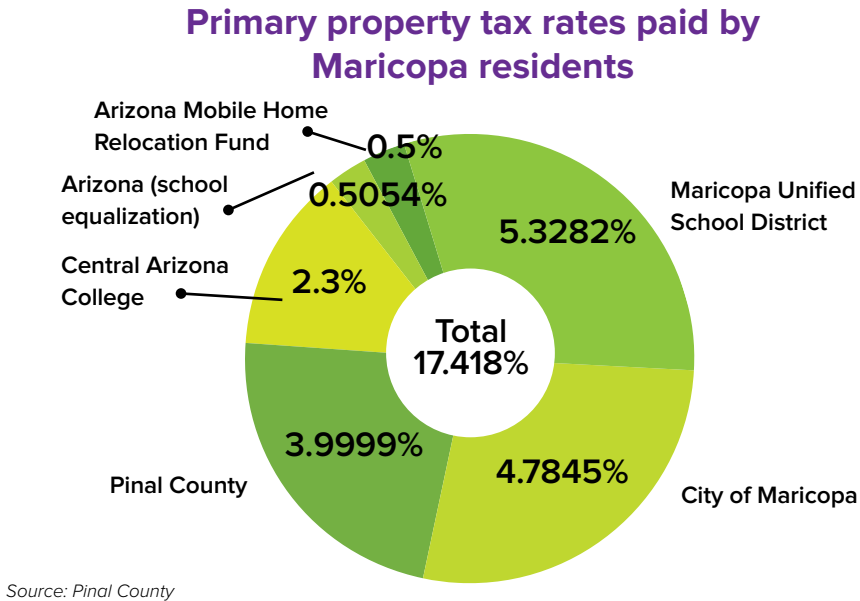
State decision ‘huge hit’
to Maricopa budget

City appeals \$1.3 million shift

By Raquel Hendrickson

The City of Maricopa owes Maricopa Unified School District nearly \$1.3 million — at least according to the state.
The city has appealed that decision of the Property Tax Oversight Commission.
A year ago, Mayor Christian Price warned budget reductions and program cuts would not be enough and Maricopa would have to “pay the piper” to meet the demands of state law.
In any county that exceeds the 1-percent cap plus \$1 million, the taxing jurisdictions within the county must pay proportionally.
Price’s explanation of the law: “If all the taxing authorities in a jurisdiction ... exceed a certain percentage, they are to be punished.”
According to City Manager Gregory Rose, the city is just starting to see the ramifications of the 1-percent cap. He said the legislation targeted a Pima County jurisdiction and has had unintended consequences.

On a \$17,000 contract amendment, the city council hired the financial services firm Piper Jaffrey to analyze the state’s calculations and support Maricopa’s appeals process. Interim Finance Director Brenda Hasler told the council Piper Jaffrey will also analyze “the effects that the increase in population will have on the city’s statewide shared revenues going forward.”
Price said it is “an incredibly complex issue.”
One of the major frustrations, he said, was the “moving scales” the state uses, creating a Catch-22. Given a set limit of tax percentage in each county, one taxing authority like a school district could lower its tax rate, and another taxing authority like a municipality could take advantage and raise its taxes to fill in that taxing capacity.
Maricopa’s primary property tax rate of 4.78 was voted on by residents. The Pinal County Board of Supervisors and Central Arizona College Governing Board raised their tax rates last year.
“Our primary property tax is a voter-approved primary property tax, and so it should contain sway at the Legislature that apparently it does not,” Price said. “That means



the city of Maricopa’s punishment is that we are to backfill what the state no longer wants to pay to the school district.”
The mayor’s view is that is the state’s responsibility, not the city’s.
Price said Maricopa is being penalized after dropping its tax rate.
“There are no other similar cities.”
— Gregory Rose, city manager

“It’s really frustrating because we actually lowered our taxes this year, as we promised we would, and other jurisdictions are raising that, and its hurting us for lowering our taxes,” the mayor said.
MUSD does not get involved in that debate; it just knows what it’s due.
“MUSD does not have any influence concerning this issue,” Superintendent Steve Chestnut said. “The Property Tax Oversight Commission from the Arizona Department of Revenue determined that the city’s share of our Revenue Control Limit is \$1,268,419,

as a result of the state legislature shifting the responsibility to pay for Additional State Aid for Education from the state to county jurisdictions.”
By law, the MUSD Governing Board establishes the Revenue Control Limit when it adopts the annual budget. Chestnut said the board will adopt the budget in June or July.
The Property Tax Oversight Commission was established “to further the public confidence in property tax limitations.” It uses statewide average property tax rates to determine which jurisdictions will be impacted. The question is whether Maricopa is “average.”
“There are no other similar cities,” Rose said.
The state should consider infrastructure and not just population, he said. Maricopa is 12 years old and still paying for infrastructure.
“We are not aware of any other city going through this,” Rose said.
The city would not only lose the nearly \$1.3 million to MUSD’s RCL, but it would also be unable to collect more than \$700,000 if its appeal is not successful.
“This really does create a huge hit to us,” Price said.

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BY THE NUMBERS

Maricopa Police Department
Part I Crimes (violent and property)
January-March

Incident	2016	2015	2014
Homicide	1	1	0
Rape	2	2	2
Robbery	2	4	1
Aggravated assault	19	14	25
Commercial burglary	8	7	7
Residential burglary	10	18	37
Theft	102	105	148
Vehicle Burglary	12	15	24
Stolen Vehicle	14	9	8
Totals	170	174	252

Maricopa Fire Department Response Time
March 1-31, 2016

MINUTES	INCIDENTS
0-5	229 70%
5-10	90 27%
10-15	3 1%
15+	3 1%
Unknown	4 1%

Source: MFD

BusinessWatch steps up public safety

Maricopa Police Department is urging business owners to sign up for its BusinessWatch program, a cooperative initiative between MPD and the Maricopa Chamber of Commerce.

Registration for the free program will add patrols from MPD volunteers to keep an eye on businesses, whether storefront or home-based. Volunteers will check businesses while owners are away.

Those who register will also receive tips from the Chamber and information from MPD. It is not necessary to be a Chamber member to register.

 MaricopaChamber.org

Maricopa streamlining business licenses

The City of Maricopa is updating its business license application process to make it easier and to allow online renewals. A committee has been formed from various city departments to improve to process.

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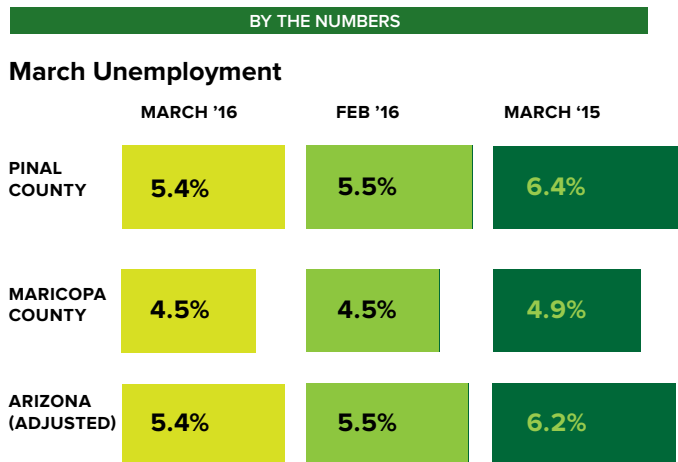
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PMA3213A21211



Source: Arizona Department of Administration

Business license applications received in the past month:

Storefront: Beem Biologics, HRB Tax Group, Joseph Painting Company, JPCI Services, Precision Concrete Cutting, Tillers Equipment

Home-based: A to Z Guitar & Ampworks, Alto Software, Barn Management, Joie DeVivre Consulting, Keith's Affordable Construction, Meraki Fire, Mr. Investment, New Conversations, Pros for America's Youth, Thomas Danler, William Kleespie, Wilwood Distribution

Out of town: Bio Art Face and Body Painting, Blue Haven Gifts, Burns & McDonnell Engineering, Diamondback Plumbing Services, Flash Cleaning, G&V Commercial Cleaning Equipment Repair, Rentokil North America, Silver Lining Comics, US Tower Services

Plaza Bonita, MES correct heath department violations

While three eating establishments received excellent scores from April's Pinal County food inspections, two others were rated satisfactory.

Firehouse Subs, Maricopa Wells Middle

School and Maricopa High School all received E's for excellent after their inspections.

One of the S scores went to Plaza Bonita, which was marked down for its cold-holding temperatures, date marking, lack of paper towels at a hand-washing sink and lack of food manager and food handler cards. The other went to Maricopa Elementary School, which had to correct a food-separation issue to prevent cross-contamination and supply written procedures.

Excellent [No violations found]

Firehouse Subs
Maricopa Wells Middle School
Maricopa High School

Satisfactory [Violations corrected during inspection]

Maricopa Elementary School
Plaza Bonita

Needs Improvement

None

Unacceptable

None 



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Entrepreneur works to make Desert Plant Collection grow

Story and photos by Raquel Hendrickson

Agnes Gabica has always been a hard worker.

When she was 6 years old in the Philippines, the future owner of Desert Plant Collection started cleaning her first-grade teacher's home for 30 cents and soon turned it into a business.

She was raised by her grandparents on a farm near Manila after her family members started moving to the United States. Growing things came naturally, but it was not something she considered for a career.

She eventually moved to the States as well, landing in Oregon. She worked for a year and paid cash for her first house. That was before she learned about establishing credit. And she kept on working.

"I worked for four years, seven days a week, all the time," she said.

Life eventually led her to Maricopa in 2003 to work at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino. There, going back to school earned her a promotion. On the side she helped a co-worker in a landscaping business. That was how she met her husband Troy, who has been in the landscaping supply business since 1985.

They married and moved to Phoenix. Though successful flipping houses, Gabica was drawn back to botanicals.

"I said, 'I think I love plants better,'" she said.

They went into the plant business and became almost too busy for their location. They found a rent-to-own parcel in the Thunderbird Farms area and moved back to Maricopa in 2013.

On the lot at 10910 N. Brewer Road, they established Desert Plant Collection and Nursery, where Gabica puts to use her lifetime collection of plant knowledge and business savvy.

"The business is about getting to know plants and really telling the customer how to take care of everything they buy," she said.

It is a retail and wholesale business, and they deliver. It is also a true nursery where customers can see how they start and raise a variety of cacti and other desert plants. They won't sell a cactus until it's rooted, she said. What they don't grow, like fruit trees, they



AGNES GABICA

HOMETOWN: Manila, Philippines
AGE: 48
RESIDENCE: Thunderbird Farms
EDUCATION: Gilbert Community College
FAMILY: Husband Troy and three daughters
PETS: Two dogs, fluid number of cats and ducks
VEHICLE: Toyota Tundra
LANGUAGES: Filipino, English, some Spanish and little French (for her Canadian customers)
FIRST JOB: House cleaning
FAVORITE JOB: Line server in a restaurant
GREATEST CHALLENGE: Financing
BEST BUSINESS ADVICE RECEIVED: Put your money back in the business

Agnes Gabica sells a wide variety of dry-climate botanicals at Desert Plant Collection in Thunderbird Farms.

bring in from other areas of Arizona.

She has made a point of putting 75 percent of the money they earn back into the business, something that has taken great discipline, she said.

Gabica is constantly learning — about plants, business and people. She is surrounded by prickly plants and has dealt with her share of prickly people over the years. That has made her philosophical about personal growth.


"When I get negativity from someone, I



Cacti flowered dramatically this spring at Desert Plant Collection, which was established in Maricopa in 2013.

don't want to give that back and I don't want it to have power over me," she said. "I use that negative to improve myself.


"I may be a businesswoman, but I have a really soft side."

Over the next five years, Gabica wants to grow Desert Plant Collection to the point she can hire a full-time helper and get away for some recreational time with Troy. And maybe not even work for a day. 

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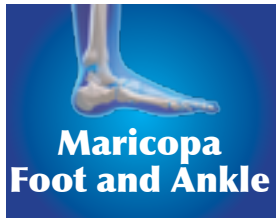
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Maricopa Economic Development highlights

The City of Maricopa moving forward on plans to extend Edison Road in connecting Roosevelt Avenue with State Route 238 for the planned Estrella Gin Business Park. City staff is negotiating the services contract and expects construction to begin this summer. The Edison Road expansion is expected to take seven months. Staff attended the Phoenix Metro Development Summit in April to market the Estrella Gin Business Park to potential tenants. Maricopa has plans from Circle K (Couche-Tard) for the new store anticipated at Honeycutt and Porter roads, and staff has requested more detailed plans for the project.

Culver's has also been busily submitted plans for its restaurant to be built on John Wayne Parkway at Edison Road. Leading Edge Academy, in the process of building an expansion for its charter school on Porter Road, is preparing the pad and revising plans for widening its driveway. City staff approved a traffic impact analysis. To see how Maricopa would like to grow, participate in upcoming city council work sessions on the General Plan. Those work sessions are planned for 6 p.m. on May 3 and May 17. The council will then present the General Plan Update in a public hearing in its regular session at 7 p.m. on May 17. See Maricopa-AZ.gov/web/General-Plan.



1. Maricopa Chamber of Commerce members filled the ballroom at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino April 14 for the monthly breakfast.
2. The Heritage District Advisory Committee looked over plans for a Culver's restaurant on John Wayne Parkway at Edison Road.
3. Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel addressed the Chamber of Commerce April 14 about some upcoming projects.
4. One of those projects is the expansion of the hotel at Harrah's Ak-Chin, adding floors to the existing building. All photos by Raquel Hendrickson

“ We had a great response to our job fair, interviewing 60 candidates — one-third of them well-qualified — in just four hours, and the marketing we did with InMaricopa was key to our success. ”

Mat Reese
Leading Edge Academy

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The Big Problem with Calorie Counting – Part 1: Calories In

By Aaron Gilbert

Yes! I've hit my physical activity goal of 1,000 calories expended today. That means, by the end of the week I should be down two pounds and just 10 away from my goal weight. Right, FitnessPal? Well, maybe not so much...

Let's explore three reasons why the supposed tried and true method of calorie counting for weight management is a flawed approach and not an exact science like many want you to believe.

1 Calorie counts are not precise.

Food companies use any of the five different methods available to estimate the calories you see on nutritional labels. These methods are derived from research done over 100 years

ago. Current research has shown that the true calorie content is often significantly higher or lower.



Aaron Gilbert

For example: One medium apple can be anywhere from 83 calories to 116, and one large sweet potato ranges from 231 calories to 705.

The FDA permits up to 20 percent of inaccuracy due to the variation between the methods used for calculating. This translates to 150 calories looking more like 130-180.

All factors considered. Expect error to be as much as 50 percent.

2 Our bodies don't absorb all the calories we consume.

You've probably heard before not all the food you eat is absorbed. Some calories pass through us undigested, and this varies as

“The whole is more than the sum of its parts.” — Aristotle

much as there are different things to eat.

Scientists created the formula we use to evaluate food absorption decades ago. The problem with this formula is that it doesn't tell the whole story. For example, it doesn't work for nuts and seeds because we absorb fewer calories from them than calculated. With almonds only 68 percent of the calories are absorbed and pecans 79 percent. This formula also is wrong about fiber-rich foods, from which we are consuming an average of 17 percent more calories than reported.

Expect a margin of error around 10 percent due to food absorption variability.

3 Food preparation affects calorie load.

Cooking your food generally makes more calories available for absorption. Additionally, chopping and blending your food increases the calories absorbed as well.

For example, grilling your fist-sized steak takes it from just about 200 calories to almost 250. Parboiling your eggs adds almost 30 calories to each.

Calorie counting is not as perfect and linear as individuals/companies would like you to believe. Count on up to 25 percent margin of error when counting your calorie intake. Yes, it is a method that can be helpful in creating structure and organization when incorporating behavior-focused goals. Yes, it can assist with accountability and goal attainment as many of my clients can attest to. What it is not, is an exacting, precise and singular means of sustainable weight management. Think of it as a tool to use in your arsenal along with your hand for portion control.

Aaron Gilbert, CSCS, is the owner of Longevity Athletics.

520-262-4661
Aaron@LongevityAthletics.com

Eat yourself happy

By Claire Bullivant

We've all tried it — and it always seems like a good idea at the time — but ultimately that chocolate bar (or hamburger, or whatever takes you're craving) usually ends up as a “wish I hadn't done that!” feeling.

Here are a few foods to boost mood and energy without the unhealthy side effects. Try swapping them out for those automatic unhealthy go-tos.

Quinoa

Why is quinoa having its moment now? Apart from being a great substitute for white rice and breads, which can cause blood-sugar crashes, quinoa contains a flavonoid (quercetin), which has anti-depressant effects. Try substituting quinoa for flour in gluten free pancakes or toss it into a mixed green salad with walnuts and apples like the superfood salad pictured.

Walnuts

Serotonin is a chemical in the brain that elevates mood and stops you feeling depressed. Some studies claim eating serotonin-rich foods increases serotonin levels in the body. Bananas contain serotonin, but walnuts are one of the richest dietary sources of serotonin.



Crysty Fiorello Photography

Probiotics

Research demonstrates there is a link between gut microbiome and mood. Probiotics, found in products like kefir, live yogurt and miso paste (aka the soup found in Japanese restaurants), add beneficial microorganisms to your digestive tract. Try adding probiotics

surreptitiously to your (family's) diet. Miso is the hidden flavor in my potato salad. Not only is it a probiotic, but it also contains the 'fifth element of taste' that gives your taste buds that lick-your-plate-clean feeling. You can add miso to soups, salad dressings and

Try tossing quinoa into a mixed green salad with walnuts and apples like this superfood salad.

spaghetti sauces. For a probiotic feel-good smoothie, blend blueberries and bananas with kefir or live yogurt.

Dark Chocolate

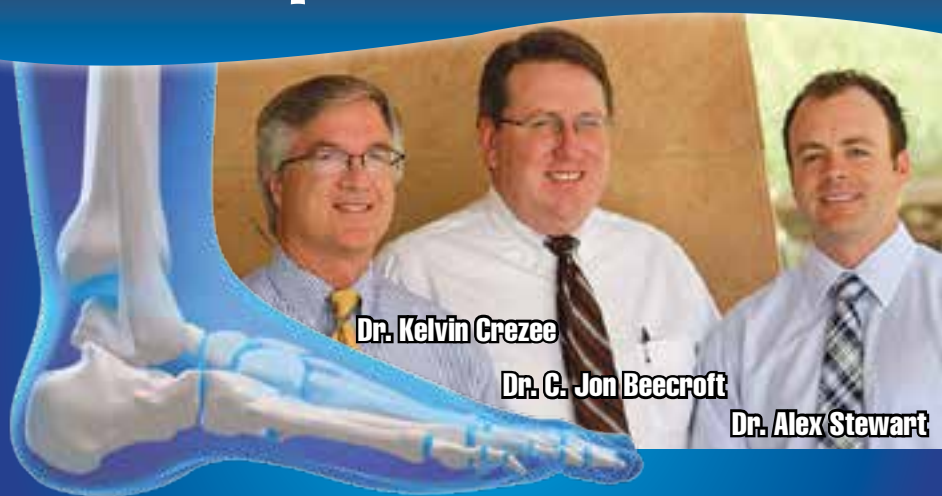
Last but not least, eating about an ounce of dark chocolate a day reduces levels of stress hormones. That's a double-happy right there!

Claire Bullivant is the owner of Bead and Berry Coffee House.



Claire Bullivant

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Dehydration and the Elderly

As we approach summer in Arizona, one thing we must all pay special attention to is our hydration. This is especially important for caregivers of the elderly to be more aware of ways to prevent dehydration, recognize its signs, and treat it promptly.

Sudden shifts in the body's water balance can frequently result in dehydration, and the physical changes associated with aging expose the elderly in particular to the risks of dehydration. The danger is that they may not know about their dehydrated condition, which could lead to more serious consequences.

Those caring for elderly persons should watch for these signs of dehydration.

Mild signs of dehydration are dryness of mouth, dry tongue with thick saliva, inability to urinate or pass only small amounts of urine; dark or deep yellow urine, cramping in limbs, headaches, crying but with few or no tears, weakness, general feeling of being

unwell and also, sleepiness or irritability.

More serious signs of dehydration are low blood pressure, convulsions, severe cramping and muscle contractions in limbs, back and stomach, bloated stomach, rapid but weak pulse, dry and sunken eyes with few or no tears, wrinkled skin; no elasticity and breathing faster than normal.

Everyone knows—but many people seem to forget—that water is what sustains life. Here are just two of the benefits of being hydrated:

Older people who get enough water tend to suffer less constipation, use less laxatives, have fewer falls and, for men, may have a lower risk of bladder cancer. Less constipation may reduce the risk of colorectal cancer.

Drinking at least five 8-ounce glasses of water daily reduces the risk of fatal coronary heart disease among older adults.

Other tips to consider:

- If the elder's current intake is below the required amount, have them increase the amount they drink gradually.
- Encourage your loved one not to wait until thirsty to start drinking water: At that point dehydration has already started.
- One sign of proper hydration is the color of the urine—it should be clear or a pale yellow.
- Alcohol should be avoided. Minimize the number of beverages with caffeine because of its diuretic effect, causing the kidneys to excrete more water.
- When you see early signs of dehydration, offer a sports drink to enable quick replenishment of water and electrolytes needed by the body.
- Remember, severe dehydration requires medical attention; if you see any signs or even just suspect it, call the doctor.



Maricopa resident Rev. Sherielyn Curry operates companies specializing in senior services: Non-medical in-home care (Comfort Keepers), education and awareness (Covenant Family Services), and transitional housing for seniors (Solace Place). For more information, to schedule a free home visit, or to ask her a question, contact her at MaricopaAZ@ComfortKeepers.com or 480-659-9201.



Barbara Frey
Family Nurse
Practitioner



Benjamin Harding
Licensed Clinical
Social Worker



Janna Roberts
Board Certified Family
Nurse Practitioner



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Women’s Health Week perfect time to assess health, lifestyle

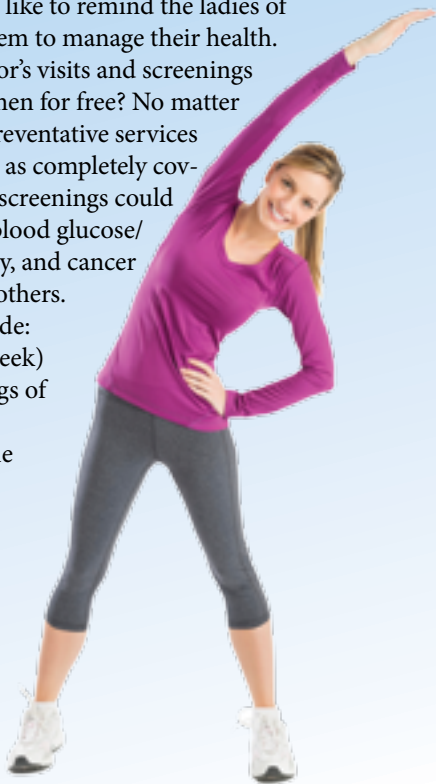
For National Women’s Health Week May 8-14, we’d like to remind the ladies of Maricopa about what resources are available to them to manage their health. For instance, did you know that there are doctor’s visits and screenings the Affordable Care Act (ACA) provides American women for free? No matter what insurance you have, ACA has stipulated specific preventative services such as screenings and annual well-women or checkups as completely covered with no extra cost to you. Depending on your age, screenings could measure blood pressure, cholesterol/blood lipid levels, blood glucose/sugar levels (diabetes assessments), bone mineral density, and cancer screenings for breast, colorectal, cervical, among many others.

Other steps you can take for a healthy lifestyle include:

- Exercise regularly (at least a half hour 3-4 days a week)
- Eat healthy (3-5 servings of veggies and 2-4 servings of fruit each day)
- Limit your alcohol consumption (no more than one alcoholic drink a day)
- Don’t smoke
- Get enough sleep each night
- Reduce stress

Find out what tests or screenings are recommended for you by following these links, decide on the health goals you want to accomplish and schedule a well-Sun Life Family Health practitioner today.

 [Healthcare.gov/preventive-care-benefits/women](https://www.healthcare.gov/preventive-care-benefits/women)
 [WomensHealth.gov/screening-tests-and-vaccines/screening-tests-for-women/#tests](https://www.womenshealth.gov/screening-tests-and-vaccines/screening-tests-for-women/#tests)



PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT

Danielle Jennings

Education: Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing, (University of Washington School of Nursing 1993), Masters of Science in Nursing (University of Cincinnati 2014)

Hometown: Seattle

Reside in: Casa Grande

Family: Husband of 17 years, 2 children ages 8 and 12

Hobbies: Camping, fishing, riding ATVs, reading

Pet peeve: Mean people

Pets: 3 dogs, 16 chickens, 6 ducks and a hamster named Auggie

Dream vacation: A tossup between Ireland and Australia.

Like most about Maricopa: The small-town feel and friendliness of the community

Like least about Maricopa: Whenever there is an accident on the Maricopa-Casa Grande Highway, it is really hard to get to work or home.



FAVORITE ...

Charity: My Sister’s Place, which supports women starting new lives and getting away from domestic violence

Book: The Hunger Games

Movie: The Sound of Music

Actor: Melissa McCarthy

Musician: Adam Levine

Team: Seattle Seahawks

Athlete: Michael Jordan

Food: Ribeye steak with

cheesy potatoes

Drink: Mojito

Restaurant: Ray’s Boathouse (Ballard, Washington)

Getaway: North, anywhere cool

Website: Amazon, of course

Quote: “Want in one hand and spit in the other, and see which one fills up first” – My grandpa
Words to live by: Remember, you never know what someone else is struggling with when you look at them.



SUN LIFE FAMILY HEALTH CENTER

Screening tests for women

The Office for Women’s Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends the following screening tests for women through their lifespan. For the complete chart, visit www.womenshealth.gov/screening-tests-and-vaccines/screening-tests-for-women

Screening tests	Ages 18–39	Ages 40–49	Ages 50–64	Ages 65 and older
Chlamydia test	Get tested for chlamydia yearly through age 24 if you are sexually active or pregnant. Age 25 and older, get tested for chlamydia if you are at <u>increased risk</u> , pregnant or not pregnant.	Get tested for chlamydia if you are sexually active and at <u>increased risk</u> , pregnant or not pregnant.	Get tested for chlamydia if you are sexually active and at <u>increased risk</u> .	Get tested for chlamydia if you are sexually active and at <u>increased risk</u> .
Cholesterol test	Starting at age 20, get a cholesterol test regularly if you are at <u>increased risk for heart disease</u> . Ask your doctor or nurse how often you need your cholesterol tested.	Get a cholesterol test regularly if you are at <u>increased risk for heart disease</u> . Ask your doctor or nurse how often you need your cholesterol tested.	Get a cholesterol test regularly if you are at <u>increased risk for heart disease</u> . Ask your doctor or nurse how often you need your cholesterol tested.	Get a cholesterol test regularly if you are at <u>increased risk for heart disease</u> . Ask your doctor or nurse how often you need your cholesterol tested.
Colorectal cancer screening (using fecal occult blood testing, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy)			Starting at age 50, get screened for colorectal cancer. Talk to your doctor or nurse about which screening test is best for you and how often you need it.	Get screened for colorectal cancer through age 75. Talk to your doctor or nurse about which screening test is best for you and how often you need it.
Diabetes screening	Get screened for diabetes if your blood pressure is higher than 135/80 or if you take medicine for high blood pressure.	Get screened for diabetes if your blood pressure is higher than 135/80 or if you take medicine for high blood pressure.	Get screened for diabetes if your blood pressure is higher than 135/80 or if you take medicine for high blood pressure.	Get screened for diabetes if your blood pressure is higher than 135/80 or if you take medicine for high blood pressure.
Gonorrhea test	Get tested for gonorrhea if you are sexually active and at <u>increased risk</u> , pregnant or not pregnant.	Get tested for gonorrhea if you are sexually active and at <u>increased risk</u> , pregnant or not pregnant.	Get tested for gonorrhea if you are sexually active and at <u>increased risk</u> .	Get tested for gonorrhea if you are sexually active and at <u>increased risk</u> .
HIV test	Get tested for HIV at least once. Discuss your risk with your doctor or nurse because you may need more frequent tests. All pregnant women need to be tested for HIV.	Get tested for HIV at least once. Discuss your risk with your doctor or nurse because you may need more frequent tests. All pregnant women need to be tested for HIV.	Get tested for HIV at least once. Discuss your risk with your doctor or nurse because you may need more frequent tests.	Get tested for HIV at least once if you are age 65 and have never been tested. Get tested if you are at <u>increased risk for HIV</u> . Discuss your risk with your doctor or nurse.
Syphilis test	Get tested for syphilis if you are at <u>increased risk</u> or pregnant.	Get tested for syphilis if you are at <u>increased risk</u> or pregnant.	Get tested for syphilis if you are at <u>increased risk</u> .	Get tested for syphilis if you are at <u>increased risk</u> .



Dr. Joseph Edwards
Medical Doctor



Danielle Jennings
Board Certified
Women’s Health
Nurse Practitioner



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Creativity can top tough soil

By Betty Beeman

Many new residents are moving into Maricopa and are used to growing in home states where you just plant something and it grows. They often find Arizona, with its hard-packed and deficient soil, a challenge to grow healthy plants. But once you figure out the rules for Arizona soil, weather and water, you can begin to enjoy growing trees and plants.

Many people begin their garden experience with a raised bed or containers. There is a lot of information on the Internet on how to construct a raised bed. Google “How to build a raised bed,” and many ideas will come up.

One of our Master Gardeners grows herbs in old wheel barrows her husband salvages



Submitted

Imaginative raised beds can be successful in wash bins, bathtubs, stock tanks and wheelbarrows.

from his work site. She drills holes in the bottom, puts in planting soil, sets up a drip system and is successful with mint, basil, rosemary, oregano and chives.

She also grows in discarded stock tanks and even has an old bathtub she grows tomatoes in.

Next month, I will cover what it takes to have good soil for healthy plants. If you have questions, call the Master Gardener office at 520-374-6263 or email MACMasterGardener@gmail.com.

The Master Gardener Office is at the Maricopa Agricultural Center (MAC), 37860 W. Smith-Enke Road.



Betty Beeman

Betty Beeman is a resident of Maricopa and a Pinal County Master Gardener.



Submitted

Master Gardener 101

By Betty Beeman

The state of Washington was the first to start a Master Gardener volunteer program in the early 1970s. It was so successful other states began to establish programs of their own through state colleges and universities. The University of Arizona cooperative Extension established a Master Gardener program in Pinal County in 1982.

Rick Gibson, U of A agricultural extension agent and the director of the cooperative extension program, is responsible for all of Pinal County. As part of his many duties he oversees six Master Gardener programs while teaching many of the classes in the MG program. He also advises and works closely with local farmers on various issues.

To be a Master Gardener, you must complete a 15-week training program (three hours once a week) and pass the certifying exam (multiple-choice questions). You are required 50 hours of volunteer service during the first year and then 25 hours every year after, plus six hours of educational credits to maintain your MG status.

We welcome you to join our beginning class in September. We never stop learning, whether it is sharing knowledge with someone or educating ourselves.



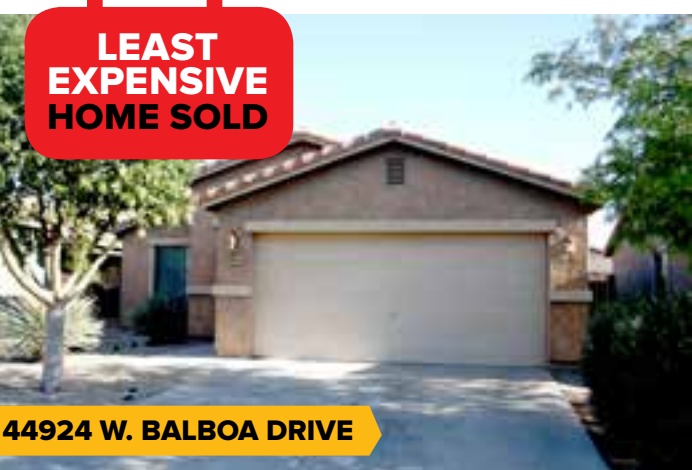
20877 N. ENCHANTMENT PASS

This waterfront property in Province sold for exactly the same price as it garnered two years ago – \$380,000 – down from the asking price of \$399,900. Started as a model home in 2003, it has a private pool on a cul-de-sac lot and professionally-selected furnishings and artwork.

Date sold: April 15
Purchase price: \$380,000
Square feet: 2,635
Price per square foot: \$144.21
Days on market: 20
Builder: Engle
Built: 2003
Bedrooms: 2
Bathrooms: 2.5

Community: Province
Features: Heated pool, professionally decorated interior, patio, two-car garage, multiple ovens, two master baths, gas appliances
Seller's agent: Steve Murray, The Maricopa Real Estate Company
Buyer's agent: Kathryn Williams, United Brokers Group

Dick Barkley



44924 W. BALBOA DRIVE

The least expensive home sold in the city in the last month was in Acacia Crossings. The two-bedroom home went for the asking price of \$104,900. It last sold during the recession in 2008 for \$80,000 after being on the market for nearly a year. This time around, it was for sale just five days.

Date sold: April 16
Purchase price: \$104,900
Square feet: 981
Price per square foot: \$106.93
Days on market: 5
Builder: Unknown
Built: 2004
Bedrooms: 2
Bathrooms: 2
Community: Acacia Crossings

Features: Big back yard with watering system, two-car garage, all appliances including washer/dryer, two houses from a common area
Seller's agent: Dayv Morgan, HomeSmart Success
Buyer's agent: Richard M. Borden, Keller Williams Arizona Realty

Raquel Hendrickson

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Homes sales

Median sales price: \$169,000 Median price per square foot: \$87.97 Median square feet: 2,012 Median days on market: 39

Maricopa home sales March 16 - April 15, 2016. Source: Arizona Regional Multiple Listing Service

Subdivision	COE*	List Price	Sold Price	Price/Sqft	Address	Approx Sqft	Beds	Baths	Pool	DOM*
Acacia Crossings	4/11/16	165,000	165,000	100.97	44712 W Paitilla Ln	1634	3	2	Private	27
Acacia Crossings	3/30/16	128,500	126,500	98.82	44807 W Gavilan Dr	1280	3	2	None	50
Acacia Crossings	4/15/16	104,900	104,900	106.93	44924 W Balboa Dr	981	2	2	None	5
Acacia Crossings	4/13/16	139,900	139,900	99.01	45054 W Paitilla Ln	1413	3	2	None	10
Acacia Crossings	3/16/16	179,000	179,000	81.43	45105 W Paraiso Ln	2198	3	2.5	Private	29
Alterra	4/8/16	165,000	151,000	71.46	17345 N Costa Brava Ave	2113	4	3	None	120
Alterra	3/23/16	183,599	175,000	77.16	44918 W Buckhorn Trl	2268	3	2	Private	61
Alterra	3/18/16	149,900	151,000	104.43	44998 W Zion Rd	1446	3	2	Private	11
Alterra	4/13/16	192,600	180,000	70.06	45237 W Rhea Rd	2569	4	3	None	35
Alterra	3/23/16	141,900	138,000	66.76	45284 W Sage Brush Dr	2067	3	2.5	None	59
Alterra	4/1/16	179,900	175,000	72.11	45373 W Woody Dr	2427	5	3	Private	107
Cobblestone Farms	3/25/16	217,500	217,500	112.17	43901 W Adobe Cir	1939	3	2	Both	3
Cobblestone Farms	3/28/16	162,000	164,500	107.51	44078 W Venture Ln	1530	3	2	Community	51
Cobblestone Farms	3/31/16	182,900	180,000	106.51	44099 W Venture Ln	1690	3	2	Both	37
Cobblestone Farms	3/29/16	179,900	178,000	105.39	44215 W Granite Dr	1689	3	2	Both	39
Cobblestone Farms	3/31/16	158,000	154,000	99.35	44237 W Rhinestone Rd	1550	3	2	Community	62
Cobblestone Farms	4/15/16	179,900	172,900	77.32	44305 W Rhinestone Rd	2236	4	2.5	Both	109
Cobblestone Farms	3/17/16	319,999	305,000	75.88	44567 W Granite Dr	4019	6	3.5	Both	7
Desert Cedars	3/16/16	165,000	162,500	77.82	44213 W Mescal St	2088	3	3	None	3
Desert Cedars	4/6/16	218,900	215,000	68.99	44286 W Yucca Ln	3116	4	2.5	Private	36
Desert Passage	4/14/16	289,990	274,140	107.04	40494 W Art Pl	2561	4	2	Community	113
Desert Passage	4/11/16	184,990	184,990	70.28	40975 W Mary Lou Dr	2632	4	3.5	None	61
Glennwilde	4/7/16	154,000	157,000	68.40	18161 N Cook	2295	3	3	None	95
Glennwilde	4/12/16	249,900	249,900	109.26	19138 N Stonegate Rd	2287	3	2	Community	2
Glennwilde	3/30/16	162,900	160,000	92.21	19503 N Sandalwood Dr	1735	4	2	Community	46
Glennwilde	3/31/16	193,900	191,000	93.03	41278 W Lucera Ln	2053	4	2.5	Community	120
Glennwilde	4/8/16	174,900	170,000	80.79	41332 W Barcelona Dr	2104	4	2.5	Community	23
Glennwilde	3/23/16	152,900	145,000	71.81	41358 W Cielo Ln	2019	3	2	Community	73
Glennwilde	3/29/16	124,900	126,500	57.47	41430 W Capistrano Dr	2201	3	2.5	Community	2
Glennwilde	3/31/16	173,800	172,500	117.74	41550 W Cheyenne Ct	1465	3	2	Both	6
Glennwilde	4/15/16	154,900	157,000	85.51	41629 W Avella Dr	1836	4	3	Community	44
Glennwilde	3/31/16	175,000	175,000	91.76	42397 W Sussex Rd	1907	4	2	Community	2
Glennwilde	4/11/16	235,000	235,000	84.86	42448 W Avella Dr	2769	4	2.5	Both	159
Glennwilde	3/28/16	209,750	202,500	89.92	42457 W Chimayo Dr	2252	4	2	Community	34
Glennwilde	3/31/16	149,900	148,000	101.72	42485 W Centennial Ct	1455	3	2	Community	7
Glennwilde	3/17/16	189,900	180,000	64.98	42582 W Corvalis Ln	2770	4	2.5	Community	68
Glennwilde	4/15/16	167,900	165,000	94.99	42614 W Almira Dr	1737	4	2	Private	2
Homestead	3/18/16	198,900	198,900	96.88	20326 N Mac Neil St	2053	4	2.5	None	103
Homestead	4/14/16	169,900	170,500	80.88	20418 N Tammy St	2108	4	2.5	None	142
Homestead	4/15/16	176,900	176,900	113.98	20481 N Grantham Rd	1552	3	2	None	40
Homestead	3/23/16	169,900	173,800	70.02	21038 N Dries Rd	2482	4	2.5	None	74
Homestead	4/15/16	183,900	183,900	100.05	39921 W Walker Way	1838	3	2	None	30
Homestead	3/29/16	182,900	179,000	97.39	39956 W Walker Way	1838	3	2	None	16
Homestead	4/8/16	165,900	163,000	117.35	39975 W Walker Way	1389	3	2	None	42
Homestead	3/25/16	162,900	162,900	117.28	39992 W Walker Way	1389	3	2	None	151
Homestead	3/25/16	181,900	181,900	98.91	39993 W Walker Way	1839	3	2	None	19
Homestead	3/31/16	182,900	179,500	97.66	40010 W Walker Way	1838	3	2	None	133
Homestead	4/11/16	163,900	163,000	117.35	40011 W Walker Way	1389	3	2	None	120
Homestead	3/30/16	140,000	144,000	65.60	40092 W Hayden Dr	2195	3	3	None	13
Homestead	4/15/16	139,900	135,000	88.41	40414 W Thornberry Ln	1527	3	2	None	54
Homestead	3/27/16	239,000	237,500	103.84	40772 W Pryor Ln	2287	4	2	Private	16
Homestead	3/25/16	162,900	164,500	72.24	40782 W Thornberry Ln	2277	4	2.5	None	113
Homestead	4/14/16	139,930	136,000	89.06	40882 W Hayden Dr	1527	3	2	None	116
Homestead	3/31/16	288,000	283,500	93.07	40934 W Robbins Dr	3046	4	2.5	Private	67
Homestead	4/14/16	145,000	148,500	88.55	41329 W Hayden Dr	1677	3	2	None	76
Homestead	3/31/16	159,000	161,000	64.89	41342 W Pryor --	2481	4	2.5	None	39
Homestead	3/18/16	154,900	160,000	55.57	41356 W Hayden Dr	2879	4	3	None	124
The Lakes at Rancho El Dorado	3/28/16	199,900	197,000	91.62	41175 W Anne Ln	2150	4	2.5	Private	13
The Lakes at Rancho El Dorado	3/30/16	178,995	178,955	100.09	41214 W Elm Dr	1788	3	2	None	101
Maricopa Meadows	4/7/16	195,000	190,500	64.22	18317 N Madison Rd	2966	4	2.5	Private	15
Maricopa Meadows	3/29/16	169,500	160,500	106.72	18911 N Miller Way	1504	3	2	Private	11
Maricopa Meadows	3/18/16	209,900	205,000	54.79	19249 N Miller Way	3741	4	3.5	Private	142
Maricopa Meadows	3/24/16	149,900	149,900	81.86	19305 N Madison Rd	1831	4	2	None	35
Maricopa Meadows	3/30/16	144,900	140,000	73.26	45467 W Dirk St	1911	4	2	None	111
Maricopa Meadows	4/6/16	145,000	141,000	85.61	45487 W Rainbow Dr	1647	4	2	None	8
Maricopa Meadows	3/31/16	149,900	146,000	64.03	45543 W Barbara Ln	2280	3	2.5	None	18
Maricopa Meadows	3/22/16	159,900	159,000	63.85	45557 W Barbara Ln	2490	4	2.5	None	9
Maricopa Meadows	3/18/16	153,000	145,000	67.29	45613 W Mountain View Rd	2155	4	2	None	8
Maricopa Meadows	3/22/16	144,900	142,000	85.13	45722 W Rainbow Dr	1668	3	2	None	9
Maricopa Meadows	4/15/16	169,500	169,000	55.05	45743 W Morning View Ln	3070	4	2.5	None	23
Maricopa Meadows	4/11/16	169,000	167,000	74.52	46041 W Rainbow Dr	2241	4	2	None	70
Maricopa Meadows	3/25/16	139,900	139,900	96.61	46115 W Long Way	1448	4	2	Private	48
Maricopa Meadows	4/8/16	133,700	123,000	100.90	46143 W Long Way	1219	3	2	None	16
Maricopa Meadows	4/13/16	129,900	131,900	91.15	46180 W Sheridan Rd	1447	4	2	None	18
Palo Brea	4/8/16	159,900	159,900	61.45	43981 W Palo Teca Rd	2602	4	3	None	47
Province	4/11/16	179,800	175,000	110.75	20115 N Brook Ln	1580	2	2	Community	198
Province	4/8/16	258,000	246,000	141.05	20194 N Oxbow Ln	1744	2	2	Community	116
Province	3/31/16	204,900	199,000	112.93	20305 N Riverbank Rd	1762	2	2	Community	90
Province	3/24/16	249,900	243,650	139.62	20641 N Wishing Well Ln	1745	3	2	Community	18
Province	4/15/16	399,900	380,000	144.21	20877 N Enchantment Pass	2635	2	2.5	Both	20
Province	3/24/16	275,464	265,000	117.10	41786 W Cribbage Rd	2263	3	2	Community	87
Province	3/31/16	199,900	195,000	140.48	41960 W Ellington Ln	1388	2	2	Community	70
Province	4/4/16	256,150	253,130	125.81	42204 W Cribbage Rd	2012	3	2	Community	97
Province	4/14/16	195,000	189,000	91.70	42504 W Abbey Rd	2061	2	2	Community	348
Province	4/4/16	158,900	153,000	115.55	42514 W Candyland Pl	1324	2	2	Community	525
Province	4/11/16	199,900	203,000	98.97	42914 W Whimsical Dr	2051	2	2	Community	122
Rancho El Dorado	3/28/16	175,000	175,000	81.21	21308 N Van Loo Dr	2155	4	2.5	Private	23
Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	244,900	238,000	69.27	21325 N Klock Ct	3436	5	4	Private	80
Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	124,900	125,900	111.51	21354 N Howell Ln	1129	3	2	None	20
Rancho El Dorado	3/24/16	128,500	129,500	98.93	21425 N Goles Dr	1309	3	2	None	48
Rancho El Dorado	3/17/16	165,000	165,000	102.61	21517 N Greenway Dr	1608	3	2	None	132
Rancho El Dorado	3/30/16	249,900	240,000	125.00	21694 N Backus Dr	1920	4	2	Private	82
Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	299,800	295,000	84.28	21728 N Bradford Dr	3500	4	3.5	Private	23
Rancho El Dorado	4/6/16	224,900	224,000	74.25	22049 N Van Loo Dr	3017	5	3	None	74

Subdivision	COE*	List Price	Sold Price	Price/Sqft	Address		Approx Sqft	Beds	Baths	Pool	DOM*	
Rancho El Dorado	4/12/16	225,000	190,000	82.39	22178	N Caven	Dr	2306	3	2.5	Private	102
Rancho El Dorado	3/25/16	199,900	199,900	86.61	22197	N Kingston	Dr	2308	4	3.5	Private	7
Rancho El Dorado	3/29/16	180,000	170,000	79.81	22490	N Van Der Veen	Way	2130	4	2	None	54
Rancho El Dorado	4/13/16	159,900	152,500	102.90	22670	N Kennedy	Dr	1482	3	2	Private	102
Rancho El Dorado	3/17/16	135,000	131,900	89.06	22767	N Davis	Way	1481	3	2	None	50
Rancho El Dorado	4/1/16	259,900	250,000	138.66	40502	W Park Hill	Dr	1803	3	2	Private	18
Rancho El Dorado	4/8/16	249,900	244,900	111.82	40768	W Chambers	Dr	2190	3	2	Private	26
Rancho El Dorado	3/25/16	147,000	147,000	75.38	41158	W Park Hill	Dr	1950	4	2.5	None	66
Rancho El Dorado	3/28/16	119,000	119,000	53.84	41616	W Hillman	Dr	2210	3	2.5	None	122
Rancho El Dorado	4/5/16	151,900	151,000	81.27	41624	W Warren	Ln	1858	4	2.5	None	6
Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	174,900	174,900	69.43	41663	W Warren	Ln	2519	4	3	None	39
Rancho El Dorado	3/28/16	265,000	253,000	103.22	41808	W Bravo	Ct	2451	4	2	Private	57
Rancho El Dorado	3/18/16	150,000	144,000	57.16	41860	W Sunland	Dr	2519	4	3	None	151
Rancho El Dorado	3/24/16	159,900	159,900	98.94	42451	W Chisholm	Dr	1616	3	2	None	38
Rancho El Dorado	3/18/16	138,000	132,000	78.33	42458	W Sparks	Dr	1685	3	2	None	30
Rancho El Dorado	4/12/16	156,000	156,000	79.71	42463	W Desert Fairways	Dr	1957	4	2	None	29
Rancho El Dorado	4/1/16	134,900	133,000	92.68	42479	W Hillman	Dr	1435	3	2	None	27
Rancho El Dorado	3/25/16	131,900	133,200	101.83	42525	W Michaels	Dr	1308	3	2	None	48
Rancho El Dorado	4/5/16	144,000	145,000	96.66	42731	W Sunland	Dr	1500	3	2	Private	116
Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	179,000	175,000	109.51	43217	W Chisholm	Dr	1598	3	2	Private	48
Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	179,900	175,000	75.69	43463	W Sunland	Dr	2312	4	2	None	66
Rancho El Dorado	3/24/16	179,500	170,000	87.72	43608	W Courtney	Dr	1938	4	2	None	6
Rancho Mirage	3/18/16	164,900	170,250	88.26	19413	N Pratt	Rd	1929	3	2	None	5
Rancho Mirage	4/15/16	171,500	171,500	85.62	37859	W Olivo	St	2003	4	2	None	10
Santa Rosa Springs	4/5/16	154,900	155,000	90.48	42420	W Posada	Dr	1713	4	2	None	68
Senita	3/23/16	135,000	135,000	88.01	42756	W Estrada	St	1534	4	2	None	3
Senita	4/15/16	164,900	159,900	88.05	42824	W Martie Lynn	Rd	1816	3	2	None	30
Senita	4/8/16	129,900	119,000	52.33	43328	W Elizabeth	Ave	2274	4	2.5	None	2
Senita	4/5/16	152,900	152,900	68.84	43341	W Kristal	Ln	2221	5	3	None	15
Senita	3/31/16	162,900	152,000	83.89	43411	W Elizabeth	Ave	1812	3	2	None	27
Senita	3/31/16	149,900	145,000	96.09	43549	W Maricopa	Ave	1509	3	2	None	12
Senita	4/8/16	229,000	226,000	67.80	43987	W Maricopa	Ave	3333	4	3	Private	4
Senita	3/24/16	130,000	130,000	84.80	44030	W Magnolia	Rd	1533	4	2	None	118
Smith Farms	4/1/16	182,000	180,000	87.97	40345	W Peggy	Ct	2046	3	2.5	Both	50
Sorrento	4/8/16	134,000	130,000	94.82	37113	W Bello	Ln	1371	3	2	None	39
Tortosa	3/28/16	179,900	179,900	74.95	20052	N Toledo	Ave	2400	4	2	None	31
Tortosa	4/13/16	174,900	173,000	60.92	35845	W Marin	Ave	2840	5	3	None	63
Tortosa	4/14/16	139,900	139,000	73.38	36071	W Velazquez	Dr	1894	4	2.5	None	24
Tortosa	4/8/16	129,000	128,000	96.89	36187	W Vera Cruz	Dr	1321	3	2	None	172
Tortosa	3/23/16	174,900	169,000	98.37	36287	W Vera Cruz	Dr	1718	3	2	Private	53
Tortosa	4/4/16	149,900	149,900	93.68	36408	W El Greco	St	1600	4	2	Private	28
Tortosa	3/17/16	137,000	137,000	68.09	36535	W Padilla	St	2012	4	2.5	None	18
Tortosa	3/28/16	139,500	139,500	90.87	36605	W Nina	St	1535	4	2	Private	44
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/22/16	194,900	188,000	85.57	19696	N Bustos	Ct	2197	4	2.5	None	14
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	189,900	187,900	76.20	19706	N Pepka	Ct	2466	5	2.5	Both	45
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/31/16	119,000	122,900	49.84	19788	N Pepka	Ct	2466	4	2.5	None	28
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/29/16	205,000	203,000	76.98	20413	N Santa Cruz	Dr	2637	4	3	Community	53
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	4/6/16	249,900	245,000	76.99	20531	N Ryans	Tri	3182	6	3	Both	89
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	4/4/16	200,000	195,000	84.74	20808	N Jocelyn	Cir	2301	4	2.5	Both	8
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	4/14/16	205,000	205,000	68.40	43477	W Oster	Dr	2997	5	2.5	Both	10
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/30/16	225,000	225,000	85.13	43892	W Roth	Rd	2643	3	3	Community	42
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	4/8/16	249,900	243,000	76.36	43909	W Knauss	Dr	3182	4	3	Both	38
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/28/16	219,900	180,000	76.40	43942	W Roth	Rd	2356	4	2.5	Community	9
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	4/11/16	154,900	154,900	62.81	44152	W Mccord	Dr	2466	4	2.5	Community	89
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/18/16	179,500	175,000	92.73	44272	W Eddie	Way	1887	3	2	Community	6
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/28/16	159,900	159,900	71.28	44351	W Knauss	Dr	2243	3	2.5	Community	14
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	3/25/16	139,900	139,900	110.86	44374	W Neely	Dr	1262	3	2	Both	18
The Villages at Rancho El Dorado	4/15/16	169,500	168,000	74.89	44391	W Caven	Dr	2243	3	2.5	Community	69

Maricopa High School

The following stories were reported by Maricopa High School journalism students.



Maricopa Wells Middle School
and Desert Wind Middle School
Eighth Grade Unification
Celebration

May 17, 7 p.m.
Ram Stadium
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Maricopa High School
Graduation Commencement
Exercises

May 19, 7:30 p.m.
Ram Stadium
45012 W. Honeycutt Ave.

Sequoia Pathway High School
Graduation Commencement
Exercises

May 26, 7 p.m.
Sequoia Pathway Academy
Gymnasium
19287 N. Porter Road

Submitted

MHS junior makes his tuba shine

By Hayley Bates

Junior tubist Chance Ackerson represented Maricopa High School at the Arizona Music Educators Association’s annual Central Region Band, Orchestra and Choir Concert at Mountain View High in Mesa in February.

“Chance did a tremendous job as did the rest of the band! It was a great weekend with a great clinician, tuba virtuoso Pat Sheridan,” MHS Music Director and Fine Art Chair Ivan Pour said.

Introduced to music at age 4 by his mom Cat, Chance decided to pursue playing when he was 9. His mom, a musician and music teacher, was adamant about him playing, so he started with the trombone and switched to tuba a year later.

He also plays baritone, piano, flute and organ among other instruments. His plate may be full, but that doesn’t stop him. Chance is

currently learning to play the cello. Being in band for seven years, he said he wanted to play the tuba for MHS since that was an instrument they didn’t already have. His favorite part of being in band is leading sectionals. Not only did he get “Best Band Student of the Year” in middle school, but he also recently had a chance to audition for the All-State Band. Chance also plays tuba for Maricopa Music Circle.

All that hard work is paying off. Though he did not make the All-State Band, when asked if he would do it again, Chance said, “Playing with the regional band was quite the learning experience. It was really fun, so I would definitely like to try again next year.”

With all of his experience, Chance wants to pursue a career in music. Being most proficient in tuba or string bass, those would be what he would like to play. Not only does he play an abundance of instruments, but he also wants to work in Cyber Security.

Arizona’s graduation requirements have seen multiple changes in the past few years. With the class of 2013, the 22-credit total for the state was established. To graduate, seniors must have four English credits, four math credits, three science credits, three social studies credits, one CTE or fine arts credit, and seven elective credits.

Since February 2015, passing AIMS is no longer a graduation requirement, as the state transitioned to AZMerit.

Seniors reflect on graduation, what it took to get there

By Shelby Hanks

Maricopa High School also requires a total of 22 credits to graduate. However, MHS has made a slight change to the requirements. Students are required to take a half credit of physical education — a credit not specified in the state’s graduation requirements — and only need six and a half elective credits as

opposed to the state’s seven elective credits.

Graduation is quickly approaching for the class of 2016. Seniors are finally seeing payoff for their four years of hard work in math, English, science and history. This was the class that saw the transition from AIMS to AZMerit, only for neither to count toward their graduation.

Maricopa High School has built its curriculum and required courses around the state’s graduation standards. Every year when class registration comes around, students must sign up for an English class, a math class, a science class, and a history class, as well as choose electives.

Senior Ashley Lynn felt school counselors had been “helpful” in making sure she was on track, but “could have done more.” Counselors have to meet with a variety of students and, unfortunately, cannot make extra time for each individual student.

However, most students don’t meet with their counselors regarding credits unless there’s an issue with their credits that needs to be addressed.

One senior said she “made sure to take two Spanish classes to keep [her] college options open.” Foreign language credits are the one discrepancy between state graduation requirements and university entrance requirements. Arizona does not require students to take a foreign language class to graduate, but many universities require two years of a foreign language for admission.

Many graduating seniors are frustrated over the standardized testing. Seniors had to take AIMS their freshman and sophomore year, but when all that testing was done, the state had abolished AIMS as a graduation requirement. With the implementation of AZMerit, many seniors had to take the test in their English and math classes, despite the fact they already paid their testing dues. Even the seniors who don’t test find themselves suffering through block schedule while the rest of the school does AZMerit testing.

Maricopa High School graduates more than 300 students a year.



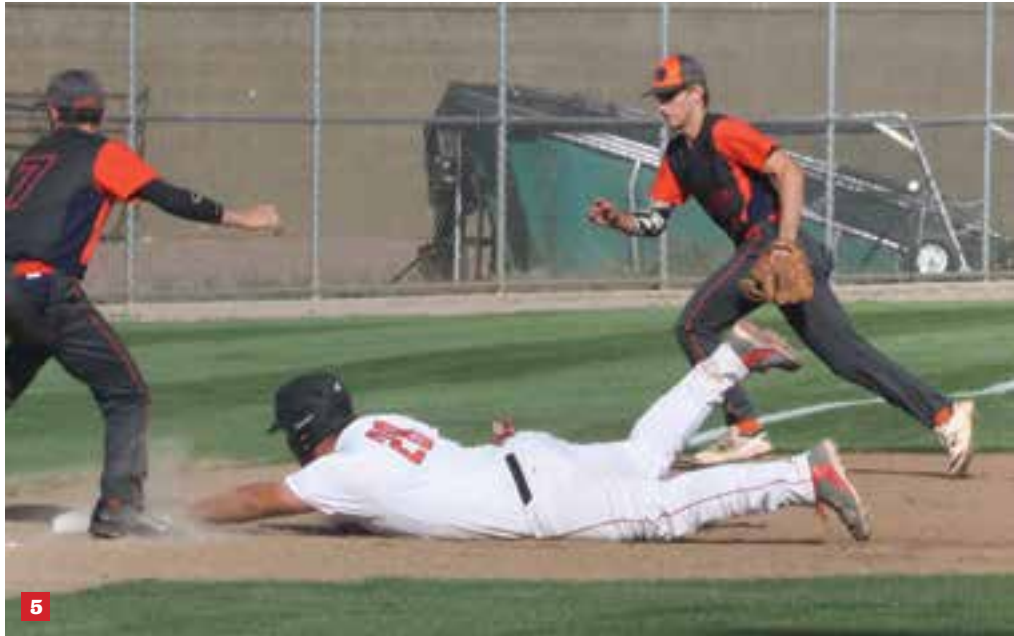
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1. About 150 girls and their fathers attended the DSPA Gems' annual Daddy Daughter Dance at Maricopa Wells Middle School March 26.
2. Talyssa Hoffman, 8, was one of the lucky Maricopans during the annual Fishing Derby at Copper Sky lake April 16.
3. Faculty sponsor Bernadette Russoniello recognizes her award-winning DECA students at a meeting of the Maricopa Unified School District Governing Board April 13.
4. Maricopa High School track and field team hosted Maricopa Twilight Meet April 9. The girls finished third, the boys seventh.
5. Senior Chad Nachtweh slides into third for the MHS Rams, who lingered around .500 most of the season.
6. Sequoia Pathway Academy's junior high and high school music students hosted a spring concert March 31.
7. Rocket Challenge award winners from Maricopa Wells Middle School were recognized at a city council meeting April 5.

Photos by Raquel Hendrickson

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Students' education not primary purpose of universities

By Murray Siegel

Politicians are talking about making a college education more affordable, yet do we know what a university actually does?

Most Americans, if asked what the primary purpose of a university is, will say the education of undergraduates, who make up the vast majority of the student body. Examination of most university policies will reveal a different answer: the primary purpose is the education of faculty.

The important faculty at any university are the tenured professors or those seeking tenure. The university administration might proclaim teaching excellence is of primary value but their tenure-granting and promotional criteria belie that statement. A professor's scholarship is what is most valued. Scholarship means the professor's research and writing.



Murray Siegel

To provide sufficient time for tenured or tenure-track professors to do research, they are given fewer classes. To make up for this loss of teaching time, the university allows classes such as first-year calculus and introductory chemistry to be taught in large sections, with as many as 400 students in one class.

To teach these large lectures, especially in mathematics and the sciences, the faculty assigned might speak English as a second or third language. Does this give you a warm feeling about the university's concern for undergraduate learning? Many classes are taught by contract faculty (instructors, lecturers, etc.) who are not tenured and who are hired to teach, often without guarantee of having a permanent job.

Allow me to provide two examples from my university education. As an

undergraduate engineering physics major, I had a renowned professor for advanced electricity and magnetism. During the entire semester, we had one test, a mid-term, the problems on which had absolutely nothing to do with the course subject matter. The tests were returned a month later with grades of ?, X or √, and the professor refused to explain the meaning of these grades. Instead, he continued his dysfunctional lectures.

In my graduate program in mathematics education, I had a marvelous professor who was also at the frontier of mathematical research. When he came up for promotion, his application included a list of published articles. Actually, a few of these had not been published but were under consideration. A few other math faculty, who were envious of this professor, informed the administration of this "fraud" and the professor was forced to resign, despite being the most exceptional mathematics teacher I had ever had.

Yes, faculty research might involve a cure for cancer or a means of increasing cotton yield, but it most likely involves topics such as finding the next prime number, or identifying a species of bat by its mating call, or deciding if Shakespeare really wrote a particular sonnet, or if Abraham Lincoln suffered from depression.

Is this more important than quality teaching? Can anything be done to sustain proper research and increase the actual teaching accomplished on a university campus? Look for an answer in a future column. ☞

Murray Siegel is a Maricopa resident. He has a PhD in Math Ed and 42 years of teaching experience. He and his wife Sharon volunteer at Maricopa schools.

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