

CANYON

CORRIDOR CONNECTION

LOPE COUNTRY

FALL 2015 | BRINGING NEIGHBORHOODS TOGETHER

VOL. 4 | ISSUE 3



Loving OUR Community: Our Youth. Our Schools. Our Future.

- Leadership Interview 4 Interview with Phoenix Police Chief Yahner
- Feature Article 16 To Love YOUR Neighborhood
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An estimated
5,500 GCU
community
members
received health
screenings and
supplies at the
11th Annual
Canyon Cares
and Ninos
Seguros Back
to School &
Safety Fair.

Ninos Seguros event strengthens local community ties

by Cooper Nelson

Grand Canyon University continued its strong community outreach efforts over the weekend by supporting the Canyon Cares/Arvizu Ninos Seguros Back to School Health & Safety Fair.

More than 5,500 Canyon Corridor community youth and their families were on campus Saturday for the 11th annual event in the Antelope Gym. The event prepared children to return to school by providing free backpacks, school supplies and health screenings. Those who completed the health screenings were eligible to win prizes which included 10 bikes, five laptops and five iPads from local vendors. The event also included karate demonstrations and safety presentations and families were able to interact with Phoenix City Councilman Daniel Valenzuela.

Faith Weese, GCU's chief university relations officer, who has been involved with nearly every Ninos Seguros event, said Saturday's was the biggest in its history.

"This is an amazing event and the only one of its kind in west Phoenix," Weese said. "It is the event of the year for our Canyon Corridor youth and families as they prepare for the first day of school once again. It was an exciting day and probably the most successful ever."

GCU had more than 100 volunteers on campus, among them 40 students from the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions who provided thousands of free screenings, including eye exams and basic checkups.

Connie Colbert, director of the Canyon Health and Wellness Center, volunteered at the event for

the first time and supervised the nurse volunteers. "It was an educational opportunity for nursing students to apply lessons from GCU courses and for community members to become more aware of their health needs and receive training on basic self-care," she said.

"This event is great for our students and the community. Our students were able to receive practical application of what they are being taught in class, and people in the community had the opportunity to have their vision tested or blood pressure checked and learn how to stay healthy," she said.

Forty GCU nursing students volunteered to provide thousands of health screenings.

Health screenings began at 9 am, but waiting lines to the three screening rooms were out the door as early as 8 am, said senior nursing volunteer April McKay who helped with eye exams.

McKay, who plans to graduate in December, volunteered in order to obtain community clinical hours needed to graduate. The event provided valuable experience working with community members that she hadn't received in two previous clinical rotations, McKay said.

She said she enjoyed the event and hopes to volunteer again after graduation.

"Helping as an alumni obviously won't affect my grades or help me graduate, but I enjoyed it enough that I want to do it again," McKay said. "It was just a great experience."

WELCOME FROM FAITH WEESE

Loving OUR Community: “Bringing Neighborhoods Together” Our Youth. Our Schools. Our Future.



What an amazing launch of the fall 2015 semester we've experienced here in our Canyon Corridor, together! With intensive community collaboration we've prepared all our youth for school to begin once again, while at the same time celebrating our diverse cultures and strengthening our partnerships with all our community partners – schools, business, churches, non-profits and stakeholders.

Community passion runs high and dreams even higher! We continue to work hard to enhance and revitalize our neighborhoods, together. By getting involved in our Public Safety initiatives, the

Violence Impact Project (VIP), Habitat for Humanity, Neighborhood Safety Initiative (NSI), neighborhood association clean-ups, school support activities and various other collaborative community events.

When we tap into our “heart power” (that's passion) something magical happens. Heart power is at the very core of any successful collaborative neighborhood community. Capture the heart and we've captured our community. We've worked hard building a foundation and vision to lift up our Canyon Corridor. Now we're rolling! Clearly, we continue to be in the people business – making memories, restoring hope, building community, unleashing dreams and ... heart power. YOUR love for OUR Canyon Corridor – Priceless.

Keep dreaming and remember there are no limits but the sky!

FAITH WEESE
Chief University Relations Officer
Grand Canyon University
Faith.Weese@gcu.edu | 602-639-6721

YOU ASKED — WE LISTENED

Q: Canyon Corridor Neighborhood Schools and Youth: How are we partnering to meet the needs of and support our Canyon Corridor Youth with collaborative partnerships?

A: The Canyon Corridor Connection Magazine continues to be dedicated to our youth, our schools and our community collaborations all focused on our Canyon Corridor.

Q: Education: Top priority continues to be the education of our youth. What specific Districts reside within our Canyon Corridor and how do all the boundaries fit together?

A: Four school districts are located in our Canyon Corridor – see new map on page 19 for specific details.

Q: Safety & Security: Another top priority in our community continues to be safety and security. What is the current vision of our new Phoenix Police Chief Yahner and how can we work together more closely to make an even greater impact this year? Please give us an update on the VIP/ “Violence Impact Project” and show us where the boundaries actually fit into our area?

A: See page 4-6 for Chief Yahner's vision, VIP update/map and page 14-15 for NSI impact update on our community.

ASK FAITH: Let us hear from YOU! Know a good story we should be telling? Community organization we should be highlighting? Comments and/or questions you may have? Faith.Weese@gcu.edu or 602-639-6721.



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CONTACT US

Do you have questions about the Canyon Corridor community? We encourage you to reach out and ask us! We are all working together to eliminate issues as quickly as possible to make this the best neighborhood in Phoenix.

GET IN TOUCH:

Canyon Corridor Inquiry:
602-639-8305 or CanyonCorridor@gcu.edu

CANYON CORRIDOR CONNECTION

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Community *Bringing Neighborhoods Together*

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Leadership from the TOP

An Interview with Our NEW Phoenix Police Chief Yahner

by Faith Weese



Police Chief Yahner

Phoenix.gov/police
620 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Q: Goals: What are your main goals as chief?

A: I have five main goals, which have remained constant during my time as the police chief: crime reduction, expanding the department's outreach efforts with the community, hiring more police officers, increasing the training we provided to our officers and implementing the department's new records management system.

Q: Community: What does "community" mean to you?

A: In my opinion, community means a group of people working together toward a common goal. A community has the ability to communicate effectively with all members; everyone has a voice.

Q: Officer Reduction: How can the community better work with the police department to be successful during this time of reduction in officers?

A: Over the past several years the Phoenix Police Department learned to work more effectively with the community to solve problems due to a reduction in the number of sworn officers. During this time, the department strengthened relationships with the community to create additional outreach efforts. Coffee with a Cop and local Block Watch meetings are just two examples of ways for the community to connect with the Phoenix Police Department; community involvement in these programs is vital for their success. As the department undergoes an intense recruitment effort, we will have the ability to further develop these efforts.

Q: Community Based Policing: In light of situations around the country, what is the Phoenix Police Department doing to better develop community relations?

A: The Phoenix Police Department has always understood the importance of establishing relationships with the community based on mutual respect, two-way communication and transparency. Now, more than ever, effective community relationships are paramount to the city's overall success. Recently, we were awarded with a \$3.1 million federal grant to add 25 police officers to our Community Relations Bureau. These additional positions will augment our current, robust and effective community outreach programs.

Q: Memorable: In your 30 years of PPD service, what has been your most memorable position and tour of duty?

A: When I reflect back over my career, I remember the great people I have worked with in all of my assignments. I am thankful for all of the opportunities the Phoenix Police Department afforded me, but if I had to pick one assignment, I would have to say when I served as the commander of the Maryvale Precinct. I was amazed at the quantity and quality of work performed by the men and women of the Maryvale Precinct. I was able to see the positive effect of working hand-in-hand with the residents of Maryvale; it was rewarding.

Q: VIP (Violence Impact Project): What are the goals of the VIP Program? How do we measure success toward those goals? And what do you envision will be needed to sustain those goals once reached?

A: This program is a city-wide effort to include all city departments in a collaborative effort to reduce crime and blight, increase community awareness and create a safe community. Continued communication between city departments, along with community involvement, will ensure these outstanding results are maintained. We are proud of the West Phoenix Revitalization VIP and the cooperative model we created.

Q: Refugees: How is the police department handling refugees, the language barrier and the Refugee Safety Initiative? Many community folks have asked for more outreach on this.

A: Phoenix is known as a terrific place to live, work and raise a family, which makes it a natural location to settle refugees. The Phoenix Police Department recognized the need for additional outreach to the refugee community and Detective Luis Samudio from our Community Relations Bureau immersed himself in this endeavor. Detective Samudio can often be found conducting resettlement training to new arrivals and is the first point of contact when issues arise in our vibrant refugee communities. Recently, the Community Relations Bureau created a Refugee Advisory Board to further expand our outreach and connectivity to our refugee community.

Q: Crime: How are the police, the Prosecutor's office and Neighborhood Services partnering to create long-term sustainable solutions to ongoing crime problems with prostitution, transients and/or children having access to open/vacant buildings in the VIP (Violence Impact Project) and the NSI (Neighborhood Safety Initiative)?

A: Long ago, the police department realized we needed to work collaboratively with other city departments to increase our overall effectiveness. These partnerships allow us to approach problems from multiple angles. Addressing persons who commit misdemeanor crimes with repeated arrests for the same offense in the same location is

time consuming, expensive and often unsuccessful. Working with the city Prosecutor's office, Neighborhood Services and Human Services allows us to identify the underlying issues such as housing, mental health treatment, substance abuse and job skills training. We have seen tremendous success in these collaborative relationships.

Q: Public/Private Partnerships: What value do you place on public/private partnerships working together to support community neighborhood safety and revitalization efforts?

A: I fully support private – public partnerships and believe they are a vital part of the overall safety and revitalization of our city. Each partner provides a unique set of skills and resources in order to accomplish a shared mission.

Q: Revitalization: How do you see your office involved with the community revitalization efforts and with providing tangible support for organizations and businesses?

A: The Phoenix Police Department wants to be, and must be involved in community revitalization. The department is willing to work with the community to establish block watches, increase Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol members and provide access to a wide array of city services.

Q: Community Tour: In your recent tour of GCU and the Canyon Corridor community, what stands out the most?

A: I enjoyed the recent tour of GCU and was amazed at the transformation and growth of the campus footprint, but most of all, I was impressed with the excitement that was evident. This level of excitement is contagious. Thank you for being a leader in the community.

Q: Impact: What else do you think Grand Canyon University could do to make a positive impact in the neighborhoods?

A: In short, nothing!

Q: Final Thoughts: What final thoughts would you like to share with our community neighborhoods?

A: I am proud of the Phoenix Police Department. The City of Phoenix is a great place to live and an outstanding place to work. That being said, we are looking for members of the community who would like to serve the community in the role of police officer. If you are or someone you know is interested in becoming a police officer, please consider the Phoenix Police Department.

Learn more at phoenix.gov/police/joinphxpd



Phoenix Police Chief Yahner donating blood.

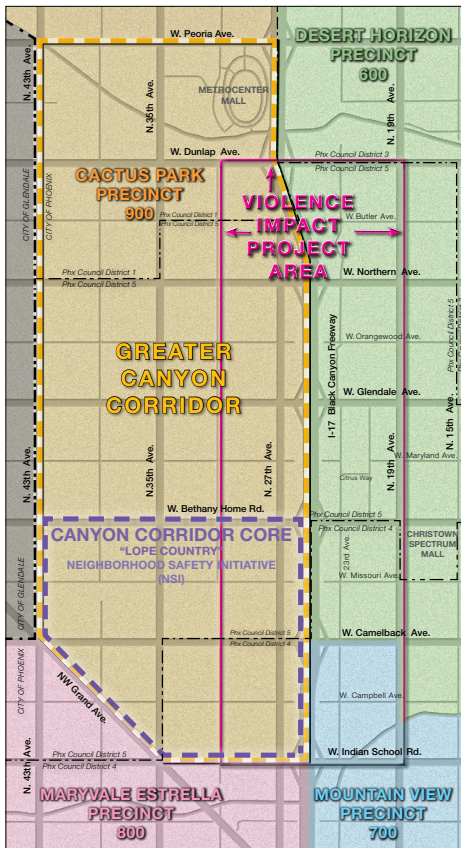


Phoenix Police Chief Yahner receiving the Distinguished Service Award.

GCU safety initiative bringing positive changes

by Laurie Merrill

Parents pushing strollers. Early morning joggers. Homeowners tending their yards. Students eager for school. These are some of the changes taking place in the west Phoenix neighborhood surrounding Grand Canyon University.



Thanks in part to GCU's three-year-old Neighborhood Safety Initiative, crime prevention in the Canyon Corridor, an area between Interstate 17 and 43rd Avenue and from Bethany Home to Indian School Roads, is gaining momentum.

Cleaning up the neighborhood, including graffiti removal, is part of the crime-reduction plan in GCU's Canyon Corridor.

Those scenes are anecdotal evidence the initiative is working. FBI crime figures offer further statistical proof. Violent crime decreased 24 percent and property crimes dipped 20 percent during the first six months of 2015 compared to last year. To put that in some context, during the same period, violent crime across Phoenix rose seven percent and property crime decreased slightly by three percent, according to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports.

The crime drop in the Canyon Corridor coincides with the launch of a collaboration between the university and the city.

"Every single crime area in our community is down . . . and some are down as much as 50 percent," said GCU President/CEO Brian Mueller. "Our campus is a very safe place for students. With this initiative, our goal is to make the surrounding community as safe as possible for our neighbors, hopefully attract new businesses to the area and restore this area to the middle-class neighborhood it had been."

The impact on crime

The Neighborhood Safety Initiative started in 2012, when GCU and the Phoenix Police Department announced a unique partnership to reduce crime and build a stronger neighborhood around the university. GCU and Phoenix each pledged to donate \$100,000 a year to the Cactus Park Precinct for five years ending in 2017, adding \$1 million to fight crime.

"That singular partnership has had more to do with the downward trend in crime than anything else," said Cmdr. Kevin Robinson of the Cactus Park Precinct.

The funding allows the precinct to assign additional police to trouble spots and to clean up dangerous areas, said Kenneth Laird, associate director of GCU's Department of Public Safety. It provides at least 58 additional hours of overtime a week so that officers in the precinct can saturate the neighborhood and remove buildings where criminals hide or live.

"We saturated this area," said Laird, a police veteran with more than 20 years of experience who previously worked in the Cactus Park Precinct. "The police are doing excellent work."

GCU also has improved safety by buying and tearing down high-crime properties while expanding the campus. Quatros Condominiums, once a haven for crime activity, used to occupy land where the university recently opened The Grove, a community of four residence halls for freshmen. The Public Safety Department is housed next door in the Grove parking garage.

A safer place for area students

Crime reports are not the only measure of success. At Alhambra High School, less than a mile west of GCU, there have been corresponding increases in graduation rates, standardized test scores, grades and the size of the student body.

"It's been a massive transformation," Alhambra Principal Claudio Coria said. "There is a level of (police) visibility that sends the message, 'This is a safe place.'"

Before the Neighborhood Safety Initiative was launched, crime was the biggest concern cited by Alhambra parents. Students reported being



Phoenix Police Cmdr. Kevin Robinson



Alhambra principal Claudio Coria

harassed, groped and robbed on their way to and from school, Coria said.

Thieves used to wait for students before arrival and after dismissal, he said. Some drove alongside students, stole their cell phones and computers, and sped away. Aggressive panhandlers demanded money. Dealers sold drugs.

But since the formation of the crime-fighting partnership, Coria has pointed police to specific corners and parking lots that he called “hot spots,” places where adults not associated with the school at times had loitered and bothered students.

“Police cleared them out,” Coria said.

Student population at Alhambra has grown from

2,640 in the 2011-12 school year to 2,883 this year, Coria said, attributing the influx not only to the initiative, but also to other partnerships with GCU, such as free tutoring, summer science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) classes and a program that enables Alhambra students to earn college credits for free.

“Our levels of learning are helped by the level of safety,” Coria said. “GCU has helped us to be a better place.”

The streets around GCU are becoming friendlier too, police noted.

“When you make a community attractive, people want to be part of that,” Robinson said. “That’s what we are seeing around GCU.”

VIP = Violence Impact Project

VIP Mission:

Bring the City of Phoenix multi-departments working together to focus on crime reduction and improve the quality of life for residents.

VIP Recap

March 1, 2015 through Aug. 12, 2015

Felony Arrests.....	139
Misdemeanor Arrests	86
Citations	112
Drug Sales Cases	25
Prostitution Related Arrests	74
Reports Authored	315
Weapons Seized.....	40
Search Warrants	16
Vehicles Towed.....	24
Seized Vehicles	5

GCU Recap

March 1, 2015 through Aug. 12, 2015

Felony Arrests.....	75
Misdemeanor Arrests	59
Citations	116
Drug Sales Cases	10
Prostitution Related Arrests	58
Reports Authored	117
Weapons Seized.....	9
Subject Stops	88
Search Warrants	8
Vehicles Towed.....	24

Community Speaks out on VIP

Homelessness is a big issue in the VIP corridor, especially along Interstate 17. When you give money to panhandlers, you don’t know if that buck is going to buy a sandwich or feed an addiction. Please give generously to those charitable organizations that provide support service to homeless people.

– Jeff Spellman
Lane Ave Block Watch

The Violence Impact Project, although officially does not cover the Alhambra Neighborhood, has made a positive impact. Two drug houses are now out of commission; there has been considerably less graffiti on our residences and burglaries are dropping. We appreciate the efforts of this special program.

– Diane Harris, President
Alhambra Neighborhood Association

VIP Accomplishments

August 2015

Order Maintenance

Met with two apartment property owners to discuss the Crime Free Multi Housing Program, current criminal activity at the property and importance of “authority to arrest.”

- Rehoboth Place Apartments
- Canyon Palms Apartments

Conducted investigations on two suspected drug locations, resulting in three arrests on numerous felony charges, seizure of 15 grams of heroin and actionable intelligence on additional locations.

Police, Human Services and Neighborhood Services encountered 12 homeless individuals offering them service and shelter; five declined assistance and five have moved on or failed to show up for appointment; two are waiting for apartment approval.

Street Prostitution

Prostitution sweeps in the VIP Area resulted in 31 prostitution arrests and six suspects arrested on drug-related charges.

Problem Locations

Opened 184 code compliance (e.g. weeds, blight and improper property maintenance) cases during this reporting period, actively resolving 150 cases and 305 cases closed since program tracking began in May.

Resolved all 873 graffiti issues for this reporting period.

Addressed 115 issues (e.g. bulk trash, container repair/replace, recycle container request, overgrown vegetation) in this reporting period.

Applications received for 111 Building Permits this month (86 issued and 25 pending).

SAVE THE DATE

We hope you can join us for our next meeting.

WHEN: Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 6 pm

WHERE: Helen Drake Senior Center
7600 N. 27th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85051

ASU survey

The top four “Very Important” issues identified as:

- Presence of drug houses 83.6%
- Visible drug dealing and activity 82.7%
- Prostitution 80.9%
- Homeless camps 76.4%

Alhambra Elementary School District

Meet the Superintendent – Dr. Mark Yslas



Mark Yslas

Welcome to the Alhambra Elementary School District. I am honored to have been selected as Alhambra's new superintendent, and I look forward to serving the students, parents and community members of this district. Alhambra has a long history of providing an outstanding education for students, and together we will enhance the opportunities provided for the

children of our district.

I grew up in the small copper mining town of Hayden, AZ, and am the son of Peter and Lupe Yslas. I am the youngest of four, and the only boy, all of whom hold college degrees. My beautiful wife Tracy is an educator in Mesa Public Schools, and I am the proud father of two boys – Marcos, who is 12 years old, and Mateo, who is 25 years old. I was taught to believe in people, to be kind and to serve. I love people, especially kids, and I believe in everyone! It is my personal mission to ensure everyone's hopes and dreams become reality.

I began my educational career 25 years ago, and I have continued to serve the children of Arizona. Throughout my years in education, I have held many positions, and I am most proud of holding principalships at every level of the education spectrum, including schools at the K-8 level, middle school level, a K-5 school and most recently as the principal of Tempe High School. In addition, I worked in the Coolidge School District as an assistant superintendent and acting superintendent. My extensive experience in both the elementary and high school levels will serve as a great resource as I guide our schools to meeting their educational goals.

Throughout the 2015-16 school year, I am excited to meet and build relationships with the Alhambra team, as well as the students, parents and community. Great organizations are built around the premise of servant, collaborative leadership, and I look forward to welcoming and embracing all of our stakeholders within the Alhambra family. The success of our students is dependent on the partnership among students, teachers, staff, administration, Governing Board, parents and our community members. We will develop schools where teamwork guides our practice and students remain at the forefront of our decisions. We will encourage our neighbors to support our schools, and in turn, we will support our neighbors. Together, we make up the Alhambra Family—a family dedicated to ensuring our students are afforded every opportunity to achieve success.

I am excited to meet you and become acquainted with this great community. I invite you to become an active partner with the Alhambra School District by visiting our schools, attending School Community Council Meetings and Governing Board Meetings, volunteering in classrooms, participating in Bring Your Community Member to School Day and Bring Your Parents To School Day, and so much more. Everyone has something to offer, and I encourage you to be a part of our exciting journey.

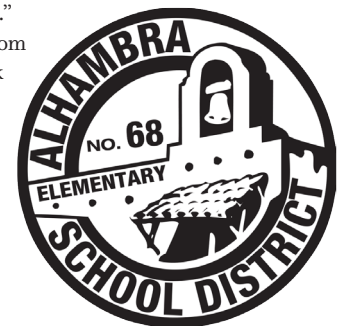
In the Alhambra School District, "Everyone Matters." We all have special talents, gifts, expertise and wisdom that contribute to this first-class organization. I look forward to continuing Alhambra School District's tradition of excellence and hope you will join me in making this the best year ever for our students.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Yslas, Superintendent
Alhambra Elementary School District

History of Alhambra

The Alhambra School District was organized on Aug. 6, 1888. Our first school was a one-room brick building on Shady Lane, now known as 33rd Avenue, between Grand Avenue and Indian School Road. Today, the Alhambra Elementary School District is no longer a small school on the west side of Phoenix. We now have 15 elementary schools and serve more than 14,200 students in preschool through eighth grade. We are proud of our history and strive to maintain our excellent educational traditions.



Alhambra's 2015 STEM Team Earns National Awards!

The Alhambra District MESA (Math, Engineering and Science Achievement) Team from Montebello School, led by MESA advisor Kelby Milgrim, earned three awards at the MESA National Challenge in Ogden, Utah, in June. The team was awarded an overall fourth place in the United States! The national challenge was to design, engineer and operate a low-cost, environmentally sustainable, easy-to-operate prosthetic arm that could perform a variety of real-life tasks, such as picking up everyday items, placing items in a box and tossing items into a bucket.

Alhambra's Montebello MESA Team earned second place in the country in the "Design Efficiency" category! Design efficiency is the

ratio of design performance to design mass. Points are awarded for different performance tasks (ball toss, object relocation). Then those numbers are divided by the mass (or weight) of the arm. Montebello's prosthetic arm out-performed and weighed almost nothing, compared to other teams' submissions from across the country.

The team also earned a third place award in the "Object Relocation" category. The purpose of the "Object Relocation" task is to demonstrate the device's ability to:

- Grab objects of varying size, shape, consistency and weight
- Lift objects vertically and move them laterally

- Place objects into and remove objects from a container as fast as possible

Finally, the team earned a third place award in the Academic Poster Presentation category. Teams presented academic posters to a panel of judges and responded to judges' questions. The posters included charts, tables, graphs, photographs, drawings and written explanations that helped explain their final design's features and quality.

In addition to earning these top awards, Alhambra's Montebello Team placed fourth in distance accuracy, fifth place in the oral presentation and eighth place in the technical paper.

WESD is an Award-Winning District Celebrating...

- The opportunity to teach **23,000+ students** at 32 amazing schools
- **1,000+ community leaders** in our WESD Business Advisory Team meeting
- Recipient of the prestigious AZ Forward Crescordia **Award for excellence** in “Environmental Education and Communication”
- Designated the first Energy Star Leader school district in Arizona, with **25 campuses** earning Energy Star recognition for at least one year since 2009
- Partnerships with community partners that collected over **150,000 pounds of food** last year to benefit St. Mary’s Food Bank
- WESD’s Business Advisory Team includes more than **1,000 representatives** of local businesses, community groups and civic organizations

According to Montebello School’s principal Nicole Durazo, “Alhambra’s Montebello team was beaming with pride, as they sported their three winning medals. In Alhambra, we have the privilege of positively impacting our students and ensuring they have every opportunity to achieve their American Dream... and our students got a glimpse of their American Dream through participating in the National MESA Competition!”

A special thanks is extended to Montebello teacher and MESA Club Sponsor, Mr. Kelby Milgrim for leading the Montebello team to national victory two years in a row.

Washington Elementary School District

A Word From Superintendent Dr. Stanton

Hello. My name is Paul Stanton, and I am the new superintendent of the Washington Elementary School District. I would like to thank the Governing Board for providing me the opportunity to serve this district of such great tradition.

I would like to share a bit about me. I grew up in the Washington Elementary School District, having attended Manzanita Elementary School. I am a former elementary school teacher and an administrator at elementary and middle schools. I have been a leader in both small and large districts. Prior to being in education, I worked in the business community.

My core values align with the district’s vision of “...achieving excellence for every child, every day, every opportunity.” I, too, am a whole-child advocate, knowing schools must meet the academic and social-emotional needs of all students.

So what can you expect my first year with Washington? I want to build my relationships with the students, parents, staffs and communities. I want to listen and learn about each school and what experiences they provide for each child. I aspire to reach out into the communities and learn about the ways our schools connect with their surroundings.

I want to continue the well-established partnerships in the district, such as the Parent Leadership Team and the Business Advisory Team, and build new ones over time.

I want to work with our state leaders to retain the great staff already in place in Washington and find ways to recruit new staff members.

Please regularly visit our district website (wedschools.org) Facebook page ([wedschools](https://www.facebook.com/wedschools)) and Twitter page ([wedschools](https://twitter.com/wedschools)). We regularly update these with success stories and opportunities to be involved.

Dr. Paul Stanton,



Superintendent
Washington Elementary School District



Paul Stanton



STEM Saturdays

Four times a year, nearly 400 students in kindergarten through eighth grade from throughout the Alhambra School district participate in a Saturday school with activities designed to enhance the science, technology, engineering and math areas.

Next year, the district plans to expand STEM opportunities by partnering with the Arizona State University Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering to provide additional STEM learning opportunities for students.

STEM Saturday Classes at Catalina Ventura School, 8 am - noon

Dec. 5, 2015

Feb. 6, 2016

April 2, 2016

For more information:
Catalina Ventura School
4510 N. 37th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85019
602-336-2920

See Page 22 and 23 -
Bridge Over Troubled
Water - the Bridge
to Success.

Glendale Union High School District

Brian Capistran to lead Glendale Union High School District



New Glendale Union High School District superintendent Brian Capistran, has spent his entire career serving the GUHSD community. After graduating from Glendale High School, Mr. Capistran attended the University of Arizona, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education. He earned his Master of Arts in Education from the University of Phoenix and is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Organizational Leadership at Grand Canyon University.

Mr. Capistran's career began as a teacher at Sunnyslope High School in Phoenix, and he later served as principal of Apollo High School in Glendale. He has held positions as assistant principal, school safety administrator, assistant superintendent of student services and, most recently, as associate superintendent of curriculum and instruction.

He has applied his professional preparation and extensive experiences as a teacher and leader to make several contributions to the success of the Glendale Union High School District.

Mr. Capistran was instrumental in working with local administration, faculty and staff to focus efforts on student success. Results of this collaborative effort were made evident when the district was awarded the Advanced Placement District of the Year award for 2013. The district beat out similar-sized school districts from across the United States to receive this prestigious honor.

Student success was also recognized in 2014 when each of the district's nine high schools received an "A" rating from the Arizona Department of Education.

Mr. Capistran currently serves on the Governor's

Classrooms First Initiative Council and the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education in addition to being a positive force within the Glendale and Phoenix communities to advocate for student achievement and success.

Brian and his wife, Marcela, have two sons, Christian and Andrew.

Brian Capistran
7650 N. 43rd Ave., Glendale, AZ 85301
Phone: 623-435-6000 • Fax: 623-435-6078



Brian Capistran

Bourgade Students Win Top Honors

Bourgade Catholic High School's Jacquelyn Hermosillo (Class of 2016) has been named a National Hispanic Merit Scholar. Not only did Jacque score in the top two percent of all students taking the PSAT last fall, she also earned one of the top grade-point averages in her class. Jacque is also involved in the varsity swimming and track programs, National Honor Society, is a school ambassador and founding member of our new Interact Club. Jacque is enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) and honors courses at Bourgade Catholic.

Cayla Roy (Class of 2015) was named an AP Scholar with Distinction. This award is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams, and scores of three or higher on at least five of these exams. Grace Castellarin, Joseph Castellarin, Hailey Habra Fink and Elisabeth Tanner, all from the Class of 2015, were named AP Scholars for scoring three or higher on three or more AP Exams. These five Bourgade Catholic High School scholars have worked diligently throughout their academic careers. They are attending Arizona State University's Barrett Honors College, Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and the University of Wyoming Honors College, respectively.

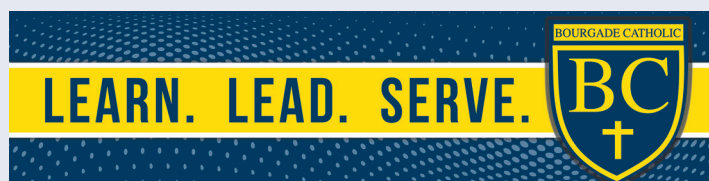
Bourgade Catholic High School's varsity girls' softball team brought home some impressive awards over the summer with six National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-American Scholar Athletes: Sophomores Alexia Flores, Rachel Hammons and Crystal Stokes; Juniors Alexianne Ramirez and Briana Soltero and Senior Marissa Heinley. Each of these Lady Eagles maintained a 3.5 or better GPA during the 2014-15 school year. Soltero and Hammons also earned AIA Division All-Section first team awards and Crystal Stokes a place on the AIA All-Division Second Team.

The one to watch is Rachel Hammons whose stand-out year included a .790 batting average to accompany 76 runs, an on-base percentage of .821 and National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-American and Max-Preps All American awards. Her 68-for-69 in stolen base attempts earned her the NFCA Golden Shoe Award in the high school division. This award is presented annually to the player determined to be the most outstanding base stealer from her division.

The Bourgade Catholic softball season begins on Feb. 25 at home against the Phoenix Christian Cougars.

Open House at Bourgade Catholic is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 22 from noon to 3 pm. This is an excellent opportunity for junior high students and their parents to tour the campus (noon to 2 pm) and speak with principal Kathy Rother and other administrators. Representatives from our finance and admissions departments, coaches, students and members of our faculty will also be available to answer your questions about the admissions process, high school readiness and our curriculum.

Bourgade Catholic High School is a co-educational college preparatory, Roman Catholic high school located on a 27-acre campus at 4602 N. 31st Avenue. Bourgade Catholic is accredited by the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges and the Western Catholic Educational Association. Visit bourgadecatholic.org or contact Joann Siebenman, advancement director, at 602-973-4000 x120 or jsiebenman@bourgade.org for additional information.



Glendale Union High School District

Washington High School: Facts & STATS



Principal Tami Strege

- Mission: "To empower all students for the choices and challenges of the 21st Century."
- Vision: Washington High School provides an educational environment where caring teachers and involved families foster academic, social, physical and emotional development for all students while preparing them for future college and career opportunities
- Washington HS serves 1,733 students from grades 9-12.
- Washington HS is part of the Glendale Union High School District.
- Washington HS is an A+ School of Excellence Winner, awarded by the AZ Educational Foundation

Washington High School
 2217 W. Glendale Ave.
 Phoenix, AZ 85021
 623-915-8400
<http://washington.guhsdaz.org>



Look for a special feature from Washington HS in the next issue of the Canyon Corridor!

Science, Technology Engineering and Math

STEM Programs in the Corridor

STEM is the study of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. During the next decade, at least 70 percent of job growth in the United States is predicted to be in the STEM fields. To provide our students an edge in the future job market, the Alhambra Elementary School District launched a STEM initiative in July 2010. We've placed a great emphasis in STEM-related activities and programs throughout our schools.

Hands-On Science

Alhambra brings science to life with a new science program called FOSS Science. Rather than learning about the wonders of science through books, children explore their world through numerous hands-on science kits covering physics of sound, levers and pulleys and even the life cycles of live insects and crayfish.

State-of-the-Art Technology

Thanks to the vote of confidence from our community and passing a capital override election, Alhambra purchased new technology for student learning. Throughout the district, we have 92 mobile carts with 32 laptop computers; 55 iPad carts with 32 iPads; and all classrooms were retrofitted with new double-touch SMART Boards: high-resolution projectors and document cameras allowing teachers to revolutionize classroom instruction and bring learning to life. All students will experience direct learning with this new technology, which is proven to increase student achievement. Teachers receive immediate feedback on students' mastery levels though the use of CPS responders and remote-

controlled hand-held devices. Students answer questions electronically and results are shared immediately with the teacher. In addition, iPods are used in first-grade classrooms to assist students with reading fluency.

STEM Clubs

Engineering is Elementary is a literature-based engineering club for students in second- and third- grades. During Engineering is Elementary, students read a multicultural story that presents a problem to be solved. Students then use the design process to engage in the engineering process as they help solve the problem presented. Students are being prepared and inspired to join a STEM career through their participation.

Design Squad is a club to motivate fourth-grade students to pursue careers in STEM fields by engaging them in engineering tasks through collaborative approaches. Club members participate in engineering tasks like designing and wiring two devices for motion, building a circuit to power an alarm, building a zip line that carries an object and drops it on a target and making a two-wheeled car powered by a rubber band.

MESA Club (Math, Engineering and Science Achievement) is an after-school club for seventh-

and eighth- graders where students work to complete engineering tasks and lessons through a collaborative, inquiry-based process. Clubs compete at a regional MESA competition at Arizona State University, and statewide competitions at either the University of Arizona or Arizona State University.

STEM Showcase

The district hosts a STEM Showcase annually to exhibit the talent of students in the STEM areas. Students from around the district enter projects for a district-wide science project competition. The Design Squads will compete in a competition where they are given a final challenge and the designs are tested to determine district champions. Finally, MESA Clubs will display their prototypes developed this school year and awards they earned at the two MESA competitions.



Two Corridor programs have been honored with “Pathways to Postsecondary Education Awards” by the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education (ACPE). This award honors successful college access programs across the state that assist students and families as they prepare and transition to or succeed in postsecondary education.

The Alhambra High School Summer “Believe and Achieve” Program

The Alhambra High School Summer “Believe and Achieve” Program is an initiative that seeks to lift up our youth with exceptional education and motivation that will inspire greatness. Our youth must believe they can succeed in this world before they can achieve it! Since June 2013, Alhambra High School has partnered with Grand Canyon University to provide 9-12th grade students with meaningful experiences and rich opportunities that inspire them to both graduate from high school and successfully transition to college or university.

Over these past three years, Alhambra’s summer school program has grown significantly and provides its learners with classes to get caught up or get ahead in their studies. Alhambra’s Believe and Achieve Summer Learning experience is now focused on graduating students from high school on time and at the same time preparing students to transition successfully to college or university. This has been done through three different experiences:

1. Providing students with classes that they previously failed or are missing to graduate on time.
2. Providing students with courses that will allow them to advance their studies if they are meeting or exceeding the standards. This includes high school students taking university courses at Grand Canyon University during the summer (dual enrollment).
3. Providing students with the “university experience.” All summer school students attend Grand Canyon University for a day to learn about the requirements and benefits of attending college or university.

Over the course of the four weeks of Believe and Achieve summer learning, teachers and staff work with our students and motivate

them to realize the importance of their dedication and success while in high school and its impact for success in college and work opportunities once they graduate.

The following outcomes have been identified:

- Since June of 2013, Alhambra’s summer school program has been the largest in the district. We average between 800 and 900 students participating each year for the past three summers. In summer of 2015, we averaged 887 students participating in Achieve and Believe.
- Alhambra’s graduation rates have steadily risen in the past 3 years. In 2015, a record 547 seniors graduated and earned their diplomas. Historically, about 400 seniors graduate annually.
- Alhambra’s honors and Advanced placement courses have grown and test scores have increased in AP exams.
- A robust 83 percent of students who were surveyed about their post high school plans now indicate that they plan on attending college/university once they graduate from high school. In the past, approximately 50 – 60 percent of students indicated that they planned to attend college after graduation.
- Greater percentage of senior students are earning college scholarships.
- 800 - 900 students have participated in our summer school program each year with nearly 3,000 total students benefiting from our Believe and Achieve Summer School learning opportunities since 2013.

Since June of 2013 Alhambra has created a rich and diverse summer learning experience for both students who are credit deficient and for those students who are current and want to exceed in college level courses. To make this program sustainable, Alhambra has hired staff to coordinate summer school

opportunities. Additionally, Alhambra’s principal and administrative staff plan and collaborate frequently with staff from Grand Canyon University to enhance our students’ college experiences. Our theme continues to be: **Our Youth. Our Schools. Our future.**

MRC – Game Changers Leadership Program

Game Changers Teen Leadership program is a four part program for teens promoting being dynamic, distinctive and diverse. Teen Captains have two mentoring dinners with business leaders to talk about their futures. The showpiece is the all day conference at Grand Canyon University, exposing them to university setting – teens from across the valley are invited. Keynote speakers open and close the event with several breakout sessions all day including preparing for postsecondary education, servant leadership and entrepreneurship, among others. The final piece is a day of volunteering on Global Youth Service Day.

The Game Changers Teen Leadership program is open to middle school and high school students from public and charter schools, as well as from group homes. Each year students have come from over 30 different schools – in 2015 from over 40 different schools!

Maryvale Revitalization Corporation (MRC) is the main host of the event with a close partnership with Grand Canyon University (GCU). The Maryvale Adolescent Providers Partnership (a program of MRC) is a collaboration of over 30 youth providers, mainly in the Maryvale community, and members of this group make up the planning committee that meets monthly from July until the events beginning in January. Corporate sponsors are secured to help defray related costs for meals, shirts, padfolios and raffle prizes. In 2015 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona covered the costs of both mentoring dinners along with breakfast and lunch at the conference. GCU provides the student union cafeteria, several classrooms, lunch field, stage and audio visual equipment at no charge to support the event. The planning committee and GCU staff meet multiple times to finalize day of conference plans and needs. MRC reaches out for the 15 business leaders and celebrities who commit to attending both the mentoring dinners. MRC has a volunteer pool that handle all the registration process at the conference. The program is a mentoring dinner in January, the conference at GCU in February, another mentoring dinner in March and Global Youth Service Day in April. Partner groups such as Phoenix Parks & Recreation, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Phoenix, Phoenix Union High School District and local community centers all help with outreach through the schools.





GCU Making STEM an Everyday Interest

by Laurie Merrill

Parents who want to switch their children's attention from video games, TV and cell phones to science, math and engineering can take free classes at GCU. The two-hour Everyday STEM Workshops began Thursday, Oct. 8, in Building 6, Room 207 at 5:30 pm. They are intended to teach parents to engage children from preschool to eighth grade in activities that are fun as well as educational. The sessions are divided by age group, and child care is provided.

Parents to learn science + math = better than electronics

Looking for ways to engage your children in science, engineering and math at home, but don't know how to begin?

Parents of preschoolers through eighth-graders can get a jump start on making these subjects fun at a series of Everyday STEM Workshops.

The next upcoming Everyday STEM Workshop

will be Thursday, Nov. 12 for parents of sixth-through eighth-graders, offered by Grand Canyon University's Strategic Educational Alliances (SEA). The free, two-hour sessions are for parents who want to provide creative experiences at home. "They are intended to provide an arsenal of stimulating alternatives to the cell phone and computer," said Amanda Hughens, GCU's K-12 STEM outreach manager.

"So many parents want their children to do things at home that are unplugged from TV and laptops, but they don't know what to do and where to go," Hughens said.

Parents will learn to engage their children in crafts, challenges and games and help them have fun with boats and bubbles, parachutes and rocket launchers, zip lines and more.

"It's all the things we used to do before there were laptops," Hughens said.

The workshops run from 5:30-7:30 pm in Building 6, Room 207. They are divided by age group and can accommodate up to 50 parents. Child care will be available and light snacks will be served.



DID YOU KNOW?

The new Grand Canyon University Hotel, at 27th Avenue and Camelback Road near Interstate 17, opened on Aug. 1, 2015. It serves two valuable purposes – it provides a clean, secure and convenient place to stay for GCU visitors and anyone else who wants a reasonably priced room, and it creates an excellent learning environment for students in the new hospitality program in the Colangelo College of Business.

Some things to know about it:

\$69



Cost of regular room, including breakfast

\$74

Cost of suites

10

Number of suites

117

Rooms available at opening

152

Total rooms

BY THE NUMBERS

Here's a look at Grand Canyon University's incoming class of students, which brings total ground enrollments this fall to a record 16,000*

• Gender: **66%** female

• Age range: 15 to 50

• Home States: 46

• From Arizona: **55%**

• Living on Campus: 70%

• Studying in STEM fields: **60%**

*Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number. Current as of Aug. 7, 2015.

GCU Department of Public Safety named 14th in country

by Laurie Merrill

Grand Canyon University's Department of Public Safety is ranked 14th in the country on the National Campus Safety Summit's "Top 25 University Departments" list.

"We worked collaboratively to achieve this level of success, and, as a department, we are pleased with being selected as one of the top departments in the nation," said Kenneth Laird, associate director of GCU Public Safety. "We are very proud of our supervisors and officers and the hard work that they do every day that made this achievement possible."

GCU Commander Kirk Fitch said Public Safety has grown into a full-service department for a campus that now has 16,000 students. Patrol has new responsibilities, including the GCU golf course, Grand Canyon University Hotel, GCU Arena and 10 new buildings on the main campus.

The University department also works closely with the Phoenix Police Department and launched a collaborative Neighborhood Safety Initiative that has helped clean up the streets around campus.

Violent crime decreased 24 percent and property crimes dropped 20 percent during the first six months of 2015. During the same period, violent crime across Phoenix rose seven percent and property crime decreased three percent, according to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports.

The University's department has grown to 163 personnel, officials said, adding that about one-quarter are armed officers and most have at least three decades of public safety experience.

Safety summit officials said they were "overwhelmed by submissions" this year.

NSI UPDATE:

Neighborhood Safety Initiative



Neighborhood Around University Gets Even Safer

GCU's Neighborhood Safety Initiative, now in its third year, has dramatically improved the crime rate in the area known as the Canyon Corridor, located between Interstate 17 and 43rd Avenue and from Bethany Home to Indian School Roads. More police patrols and fewer crime hot spots help clean up the streets, making the streets more appealing for joggers, parents pushing strollers and neighbors tending their yards, officials say.

Keeping our Students Safe Through Traffic Control

There is a new traffic device at the intersection of West Cactus Road and 35th Avenue. Photo radar will be keeping a "watch" on the intersection for traffic east and west. It will monitor speeders and red-light violators. This is in place in time for the school session and will aid in safety for those traveling to and from Moon Valley High School.

Photo Enforcement FAQ Page: phoenix.gov/policesite/Documents/070274.pdf

Payment Options: <https://pmcapps.phoenix.gov/BailCard>

VIOLATION TYPE	VIOLATION CODE	FINE AMOUNT
Red Light	28-645A3A	\$272.45
Speed in School Zone	28-797H	\$291.45
Speed (1-9 MPH over)	28-701A	\$213.45



The Community and Grand Canyon University



Grand Canyon University has a legacy of guiding students and employees to connect with their community. GCU wishes to continue its mission to help its neighbors thrive and prosper. GCU's community involvement includes several large initiatives and projects to assist the community:

Neighborhood Safety Initiative: GCU entered into a \$1 million partnership with the City of Phoenix to assist the Phoenix Police Department in its crime suppression efforts throughout the Canyon Corridor.

Learning Lounge: GCU has partnered with the Phoenix Union School District to develop a tutoring and mentoring program called the GCU Learning Lounge.

Drowning Prevention Program: GCU has partnered with the Phoenix Fire Department to ensure that Car 99 (a proactive support to ensure residential pool fences meet city code requirements) would not be cut from the city's budget.

Graffiti Free Zone: GCU has partnered with the City of Phoenix and contributed \$25,000 and student workers to make the Canyon Corridor a graffiti-free zone.

Serve the City: Twice a year, GCU floods the Canyon Corridor with hundreds of student and employee volunteers who spruce up the neighborhood through their outreach efforts.

Canyon Kids: Every Saturday morning, GCU students go to Little Canyon Park to play games, do crafts and share Bible stories with children ages 5-15 that live in the community.

Serrano Village: GCU students help residents of this apartment complex learn English as a second language and tutor grade-school children.

Phoenix Rescue Mission: Every other Wednesday night, GCU students visit the Changing Lives Center to lead worship during their chapel service and run a children's program.

12 Months of Service: GCU identifies a different project every month for employees, students and alumni to provide assistance to improve the community.

Canyon Cares Christmas and Easter: Families in the Canyon Corridor are invited onto campus to receive children's gifts, candy and food in a fun and welcoming atmosphere.

Back-to-School Health and Safety Fair: This event features free backpacks, drawings for laptops, health screenings and safety training.

ESL Classes: ESL classes are planned, designed and implemented especially for our Canyon Corridor each semester.

Canyon Corridor Connection Magazine: Our magazine is created and produced each semester with the Canyon Corridor communities in mind.



Canyon Corridor Connection Newsletter: This newsletter highlights the Canyon Corridor communities and shares information to get families involved and engaged.

Thunder Vision: Thunder Vision is a fun and engaging experience where third through eighth graders visit the GCU campus, learn about college life and gain direction for preparing to make college a reality in their future.

Habitat for Humanity: GCU is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to renovate thousands of homes in the Canyon Corridor area. GCU employees and students will volunteer their time to perform the repairs while also raising money for the project.

Other Community Outreach Efforts: Lopes for Literacy, disaster relief efforts, back-to-school drives, teacher appreciation, the Run to Fight Children's Cancer, GCU Salutes Our Troops, Backpack/Health Fair, Clothing Drive and the Salvation Army Turkey Drive.



Wisdom from the Heart: To Love Your Neighborhood

by Brian Mueller

The Arizona Republic invited Grand Canyon University President Brian Mueller to describe why his institution is working with the city of Phoenix to improve blighted neighborhoods around its west Phoenix campus. The following is the article that printed in the July 26, 2015 issue of The Arizona Republic.

“(Free enterprise) begins by emphasizing that those who benefit most from the freer markets are the have-nots: those without inherited wealth, prestigious credentials, social or class advantages — in other words, people whose only hope for a better life is a social order that will reward their hard work and enterprise.”

– Arthur Brooks, president of the American Enterprise Institute, quoted in the Wall Street Journal

“(When you understand our God-given nature,) you begin to understand we are hardwired for freedom by the same Creator who gave us our unalienable rights.”

– Adam Smith, author of the “Wealth of Nations,” as quoted in the Wall Street Journal

The two principles expressed by those economists are at the heart of Grand Canyon University’s remarkable renaissance in the past seven years.

We are hardwired for free enterprise because it is the system that led to our explosive growth.

In 2008, the university’s leadership team committed to free enterprise by taking the company public. The success of that initial public offering provided \$254 million the university invested to spark the resurgence on its campus.



Adjunct faculty Tammy Ericson demonstrates how to monitor blood pressure on student Madeline Burt during a nursing class in January 2015. (Photo: Michael Schennum/The Republic)

The team also devoted itself to the university’s longstanding core teaching of Christianity, which is to love God with your entire heart, soul and mind; and to love your neighbor as yourself.

Our neighborhood at 33rd Avenue and Camelback Road had been one of the most economically depressed and crime ridden in Arizona. We invested public market dollars to build out what is now referred to as a hybrid university. We have a residential campus of 18-to-22-year-old students as well as an online campus of working adult students.

The university has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in its residential campus, which has grown from 900 students seven years ago to nearly 15,000 this fall. The online campus has grown to 60,000 students.

To complete the story, however, we must live out the Christian directive to love our neighbor as our self. To seek not just our own prosperity but the prosperity of the city we live in, we are in the process of executing a five-part plan.

PART 1: BUILD WORKFORCE

Our goal is to build the university’s residential campus out to 25,000 students with 70 percent studying science, technology, engineering or math. We plan to help Arizona create a workforce that will encourage companies to move their operations to this state and bring thousands of jobs with them.

The ground and online campuses leveraging a single administrative infrastructure has produced incredible efficiencies. We have been able to freeze the already low private school tuition rates for seven years, allowing all social classes of Americans to have access to a private education. At the same time, our investors have received more than a reasonable return. Many would say this is an American free enterprise success story.

PART 2: GROW JOBS

In addition to the 75,000 students being served, our workforce has expanded from 1,000 to 3,500.

We want to increase faculty and staff to 5,000 while also employing hundreds of residents in our neighborhood so they can build successful lives based on their own efforts. In addition,

Grand Canyon is identifying assets on the west side with the potential to be thriving enterprises and investing in them with the goal of creating more west-side jobs.



GCU student Heather Shamburg, left, helps Alhambra High School student Sahara Abukar in 2013. (Photo: Charlie Leight/The Republic)

They include:

- A 31-acre parcel at 27th Avenue and Camelback Road that was home to prostitution, drug use and other criminal activities. Grand Canyon University purchased the land and buildings and is making a major investment in the property. In less than 18 months there will be two office complexes, a hotel and restaurant, and a conference center that will employ more than 3,000 people. Much of the enterprise will be operated by students in our Colangelo College of Business Hospitality Program.
- A 30-year agreement with the city of Phoenix to manage and renovate the rapidly deteriorating Maryvale Golf Course on 59th Ave. and Indian School Road. We envision it will become one of the premier municipal courses in America. It will create employment opportunities, give people another reason to come to the west side and be a tremendous point of pride for west Phoenix. Our golf management program will manage the \$10 million investment.

PART 3: SUPPORT SCHOOLS

We are making a major investment in the public schools in our neighborhoods, most notably at Alhambra High School. Alhambra has 2,800 students — of whom 82 percent are Latino and 90 percent live below the poverty line.

Forty different languages are spoken in its classrooms. The high school is led by a dynamic new principal and committed faculty. Two and a half years ago we started the Learning Lounge on our campus, open weekdays 3 to 8 exclusively to high school students.

More than 100 of our best students provide free tutoring and mentorship to hundreds of Alhambra students. The results have been astounding: Two years ago Alhambra was a D-rated school. This year it is 10 points from being a B school. Last year it graduated 402 students. This year, 502 students.

PART 4: ENRICH LIVES

Another goal is to enrich the lives of residents in our community. Seven months ago we entered into a contract with Habitat for Humanity — its largest such partnership in America. Our goal is to renovate 700 homes in our neighborhood in the next five years. The first 40 homes have been completed with hundreds of Grand Canyon University faculty, staff and students providing the dollars and labor.

PART 5: SECURE NEIGHBORHOODS

Grand Canyon is making its surrounding neighborhoods safer. We are in year three of a five-year \$1 million partnership with the city of Phoenix to drive crime out of our neighborhood.

The results of the partnership are remarkable: All major crime categories are down more than 30 percent.

“The neighborhood surrounding GCU used to be the highest violent crime area in the city, said Today, it is one of the lowest crime areas in the city, and it’s primarily due to GCU’s partnership with the police department and the local residents,” said Kevin Robinson, commander of the Phoenix Police Department’s Cactus Park Precinct.



Habitat For Humanity house leader Joe Genovese, left, helps reroof a home near Grand Canyon University in February 2015. (Photo: Cheryl Evans/The Republic)

Our next project is to get our students involved in a \$2.5-million Lope Kingdom Fund. GCU students who present business plans that are vetted and approved by a committee will be funded if they build the business in our neighborhood and employ its residents.

To quote Mr. Brooks again, “In the capitalist view, poor people are not liabilities to be managed by the government. They are human

beings with untapped potential.”

GCU is involved in dozens of important not-for-profit agencies in our neighborhood. For example, we supply both financial contributions and hundreds of volunteer hours in outreach projects such as the Phoenix Dream Center, Phoenix Rescue Mission, Hopefest, Neighborhood Christian Clinic, Boys and Girls Clubs and our own Serve the City days, Canyon Care events and the Run to Fight Children’s Cancer.

This is all very important work. However, ultimately it is the free enterprise system that creates companies and jobs that turn a deteriorating inner city into a once again thriving community. The motivation to be the catalyst that gets this done comes from the Christian directive to love our neighbors as ourselves.

GCU Facts

- Grand Canyon University has been around since 1949 with a growing online presence since the early 2000s. *Tom Tingle/The Republic*
- GCU’s Christian focus, along with being a publicly-traded company, makes the school unique in the United States. *Tom Tingle/The Republic*
- Grand Canyon is known for its nursing and education programs. *Michael Schennum/The Republic*

Ultimately it is the free enterprise system that creates companies and jobs that turn a deteriorating inner city into a once again thriving community. The motivation to be the catalyst that gets this done comes from the Christian directive to **love our neighbors as ourselves.**

– Brian Mueller



Bringing Neighborhoods Together: A good neighborhood starts with YOU!

GROWING NEIGHBORHOODS TOGETHER

Neighborhood associations, block watches and alliances are volunteer organizations of your neighbors working with residents, businesses, police, schools and government leaders to grow exceptional neighborhoods where residents want to live, work and play.

Consider joining a neighborhood association in your area (see special map on pg 19) and many in the Canyon Corridor are listed below. Or start your own block watch in your neighborhood or apartment community. For more information contact the Phoenix Police Department Block Watch Coordinators Officer Brian Kornegay at brian.kornegay@phoenix.gov or Officer Deb Iodice at Deborah.iodice@phoenix.gov or call 602-495-0597 to get started.

Be a part of growing your community!

Alhambra Neighborhood Association (ANA)



Diane Harris, President | calliebelle@cox.net
35th Ave. to 43rd Ave.; Indian School Rd. to Camelback Rd. | 4th Thursday in Sept., Oct., March and April at 6 pm
Alhambra Elementary School District Office
4510 N. 37th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85019



Alta Vista Neighborhood Association (AVNA)



Sherry Dudek, President | smdudek@msn.com
602-995-2163 | 27th Ave. to 35th Ave.; Northern Ave. to Dunlap Ave. | 2nd Wed. in Feb., May, Sept. and Dec. at 6:30 pm | American Banquet Hall 2713 W. Northern Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85051



Canyon Corridor Community Coalition (CCCC or 4C's)



Jak Keyser, President | jkeyser@cox.net
602-499-4224, Peoria to Indian School and 43rd Ave to I-17, Family Movie Nights and Community Development



Cactus Park Community Alliance (CPCA)



Robin Mofford, President
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 37765
Phoenix, AZ 85069 Cactus Park Police Precinct
Feb. 25, Mar. 18, April 22 and May 27
see calendar for topics | Helen Drake Senior Center
7600 N. 27th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85051



Sherry Dudek
communityinfo@cpcaaz.org | 602-980-3455
Cactus Park Police Precinct | Feb. 25, Mar. 18, April 22 and May 27; see calendar for topics
Goelet A.C. Beuf Community Center
3435 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85027



Canyon Corridor Neighborhood Alliance (CCNA)



Gwen Relf
sam.macias@rehobothphx-cdc.org
Sam Macias (not pictured) | 602-272-4133
2nd Tuesday of each month at 6 pm at Granada East Middle School (north of Campbell on 31st Ave)



Cordova Neighborhood Association (CNA)



Larry Fallis, President
LarryF.Cordova@yahoo.com | 602-999-5733
27th Ave. to 35th Ave.; Camelback Rd. to Bethany Home Rd. | 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6 pm | Cordova Middle School
5631 N. 35th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85017



Glen Canyon Vista Neighborhood Association (GCVNA)



Bill Brashears, President (not pictured)
brashea7@aol.com
Jeff Spellman, Block Watch Captain
jeff.spellman@cox.net | 602-499-2038
1-17 to 27th Ave.; Glendale Ave. to Northern Ave.
2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm
Community Room at Fire Station 30
2701 W. Belmont Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85051



Granada Neighborhood Association (GNA)



Frank Ivenz President | 602-246-0605
1-17 to 35th Ave.; Indian School Rd. to Camelback Rd. | Intermittent meetings
Contact Frank for more information
Granada Primary School
3232 W. Campbell Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85017



Manzanita Block Watch (MBW)



Veronica Brix, President
vbrix@cox.net | 35th Ave. to 43rd Ave.; Northern Ave. to Dunlap Ave. | March 26 at 6:30 pm Manzanita Elementary School,
8430 N. 39th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85051



North Glen Square Neighborhood Association (NGSNA)



Mike Simms, President | northglensquare.org
northglensquare@gmail.com
27th Ave. to 35th Ave.; Glendale Ave. to Northern Ave.
2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm
Trinity United Methodist Church
3104 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85051



Ocotillo Glen Neighborhood Association (OGNA)



Mary Obrochta, President
ocotiloglen@yahoo.com
1-17 to 35th Avenue and Bethany Home Rd. to Glendale Avenue | 3rd Wed. of month at 6:30 pm
Ocotillo Elementary School, Library
3224 W Ocotillo Rd.



Sevilla Neighborhood Association (SVA)



Jamie Johnson, President
sevillana_az@yahoo.com | 602-456-9877
35th Ave. to 43rd Ave.; Camelback Rd. to Bethany Home Rd. | 1st Thursday of each month during the school year at 7 pm
Sevilla Primary School
3801 W. Missouri Ave., Phoenix AZ 85019



Simpson Neighborhood Association (SNA)



Paul Enniss, President | 602-433-9130
Pcennnis@msn.com | 1-17 to 19th Ave.; Camelback Rd. to Bethany Home Rd.
1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm
Simpson Middle School,
5330 N 23rd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85015



United Neighbors Association (UNA)



Linda Hamilton, President
unahelplinephx@gmail.com | 602-288-6754
35th Ave. to 43rd Ave.; Glendale Ave. to Northern Ave. | September through May,
3rd Thurs. of each month at 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall of Christ's Community Church | 3710 W. Orangewood Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85051



Vecinos Unidos Siempre Block Watch (VUSBW)



Judith Órnelas, President | 602-430-7746
vecinosunidosiempre@yahoo.com Lucy Maldonado,
Co-President | 602-488-8935
maldonadomaria026@gmail.com
27th Ave. to 35th Ave.; Indian School Rd. to Camelback Rd. | 1st Tuesday of each month
at 5:30 pm | Granada East Elementary School,
Multi-purpose Room
3024 W. Campbell Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85017



Washington Park Neighborhood Association (WPNA)



Pam Fitzgerald, President | pftzt1@cox.net
602-540-0037 | 1-17 to 15th Ave.; Bethany Home Rd. to Glendale Rd. | 1st Tuesday of each month from Sept. thru June
Washington Activity Center;
2240 W. Citrus Way, Phoenix, AZ 85015



West Plaza Neighborhood Association (WPNA)



Robert Labate, President | bobboss1@cox.net
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 39511, Phoenix, AZ 85069
Day: 602-245-7035 | Alt: 602-841-096
35th Ave. to 43rd Ave.; Bethany Home Rd. to Glendale Ave. 3rd Thursday in Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., April and May. 4th | Thursday in March | Catalina Ventura Elementary School, Cafeteria | 6331 N. 39th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85019



Westwood Neighborhood Association (MNA)



Randy Roberts, President
Randyroberts@mac.com | 602-741-5400
1-17 to 19th Ave.; Indian School Rd. to Camelback Rd. | 2nd Thursday of each month
6:30 am - 7:30 pm | Marc Atkinson Recreation Center | 4535 N 23rd Ave Phoenix AZ 850157



& See contact for meeting info

* Note: Neighborhood Associations are most often one sq. mile, within major street boundaries. Block Watches can be smaller in area, with the exception of Vecinos Unidos Siempre (VUS) which has an area of approximately two sq. miles

North to Pinnacle Peak Rd.
 —see contact info for CPCA schedule at one of two meeting locations



MAP KEY

- Greater Canyon Corridor boundary
- Canyon Corridor Core boundary
- Violence Impact Project area
- Council District Boundaries
- Phoenix / Glendale Boundary
- Little Canyon Trail
- Alhambra Elementary School District
- Catalina Ventura
- Cordova Middle
- Cordova Primary
- Granada East
- Granada Primary
- Montebello
- Sevilla West Middle
- Sevilla Primary
- Washington Elementary School District
- Abraham Lincoln Traditional
- Alta Vista Elementary
- Cactus Wren Elementary
- Manzanita Elementary
- Ocotillo Elementary
- Palo Verde Middle
- Roadrunner Elementary
- Washington Elementary
- High Schools
- Alhambra H.S. (PUHS)
- Bourgade H.S.
- Cortez H.S. (GUHS)
- Washington H.S. (GUHS)
- Abrazo Central Campus Hospital
- City of Phoenix Libraries
- Fire Station 30 & Community Room
- Helen Drake Senior Center
- Imagine Schools - Cortez Park
- LifeBridge & GVAHEC
- TERROS Care Clinic 27th Ave.
- Washington Activity Center & Park

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

- ANA** Alhambra Neighborhood Association
- AVNBW** Alta Vista Neighborhood Block Watch
- CPCA** Cactus Park Community Alliance
- CCCC** Canyon Corridor Community Coalition, Inc.
- CCNA** Canyon Corridor Neighborhood Alliance
- CNA** Cordova Neighborhood Association
- GCV** Glen Canyon Vista Neighborhood Association
- GNA** Granada Neighborhood Association
- MBW** Manzanita Block Watch (northwest of map)
- NGSNA** North Glen Square Neighborhood Association
- OGNA** Ocotillo Glen Neighborhood Association
- SNA** Sevilla Neighborhood Association
- SNA** Simpson Neighborhood Association
- UNA** United Neighbors Association
- VUS** Vecinos Unidos Siempre Block Watch
- WPNA** West Plaza Neighborhood Association
- WPNA** Washington Park Neighborhood Association
- WNA** Westwood Neighborhood Association

Back to School Clothing Drive

by Michael Ferraresi

The first day of school is always an emotional affair. It's extra emotional for children whose families struggle to outfit them with new clothes and supplies for the year ahead.

There's an added anxiety that comes with feeling unprepared, teased or less than as classmates are showing off their new duds. Those anxious moments can cut into classroom productivity or a child's overall comfort with schoolwork.

The 21st annual Back to School Clothing Drive's "New Clothes, New Beginnings" summer distribution aims to solve that problem by linking underprivileged Valley children to the shirts, shoes, backpacks and other supplies their families cannot afford. More than 5,000 K-6 students from 140 schools in 40 districts are expected to benefit from this year's four-day event at the GCU Arena.

It's the third year GCU has hosted a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the education and classroom experience of Arizona kids. Children from dozens of Valley school districts and community organizations are paired with volunteers who shepherd them through various "departments" set up on the Arena floor, like having their own personal shoppers.

Each child receives a couple of shirts, a sweatshirt, shoes, a book, a backpack filled with classroom supplies and other items — and they get to select what they like independently, without mom or dad around to make any pesky suggestions about what looks cool.

Many volunteers return year after year because they enjoy being able to play that role in a child's life.

"They really pay personal and specific attention to these kids and give them that one-on-one time with a volunteer to pick out what they want," said Karl Gentles, executive director for Back to School Clothing Drive. "Everything we do at the Arena and the event is about giving kids the very best experience possible. Our volunteers help them shop for clothes, find the right sizes and pick items they will feel good about."

About 3,000 volunteers are set to help out at the event. Students each receive \$300 worth of clothes and school supplies and more than \$2 million in clothes and supplies are given out throughout the week.

Back to School Clothing Drive's initiative benefits students from Title I public elementary schools and other programs, such as domestic violence shelters and select charter schools. Most come from families that face the difficult decision of juggling material needs of children with the immediate need to pay the rent and put food on the table.

Gentles said GCU has become a valuable partner in that effort because it is good for students who sometimes don't feel comfortable in an academic setting to experience the people and atmosphere of a fast-growing university campus.

"We believe Grand Canyon is a wonderful place for kids to not only have their first experience on a college campus, but to see what higher

education looks like and showing them what continuing their education after elementary, middle and high school looks like," he said.

"New Clothes, New Beginnings" is a partnership between Back to School Clothing Drive and the BHHS Legacy Foundation Backpack Buddies Program. The partnership sends 7,000 filled backpacks to students in northern Arizona and local social service agencies.

Contact Michael Ferraresi at 602-639-7030 or michael.ferraresi@gcu.edu



Children from the Corridor enjoy shopping at the Back to School clothing drive

Home Alone

by Thalia Williams

Whether your teen is at that age where they no longer need a babysitter for the day or you plan to leave them home alone overnight, you may feel anxious about the situation. That's normal, especially when leaving your teen home without supervision or the first time. Save yourself the anxiety by clearly communicating your expectations and guidelines for their unsupervised time. When developing your guidelines and expectations, consider these tips:

- Be clear about who is allowed and not allowed at your home while you are away.
- Inform your neighbors, family and friends and ask that they check in and can be a contact for your teen while you are away.
- Lock up or remove any alcohol, tobacco products and prescription drugs that you have in your home.
- Explain the consequences to your teen should they disobey your rules.

No one knows your teen better than you do. Think about their behavior and if they can be given this responsibility. Do they turn in their homework on time? Are they completing their chores? How is their behavior around their friends? Understanding their current behavior will help indicate whether they are ready to stay at home unsupervised. This may be a good time to emphasize the idea that freedom is earned by consistently showing responsibility.

Consider this an opportunity for both you and your teen. It gives your teen the chance to prove they are responsible and can be trusted with this opportunity and it allows you the flexibility and freedom to spend time outside of the home without the need to hire a babysitter. This valuable growth experience can be positive with careful preparation and guidance.

<http://drugfreekids.org/blog/home-alone>

Serrano Mural Celebration: Cherished Memories ... forever!

by Anna Sepic

It is hard to believe it, but seven years have gone by in a flash. So it was with a bittersweet farewell that Georgia Sepic said her goodbye to Serrano Village Apartments on Aug. 11. In the final month of her stay, she gathered together the younger refugee children to work with a very talented artist, Edgar Fernandez, and his girlfriend, Aleida. Nick Fletcher, Youth Coordinator at Serrano Village, also spent diligent time rounding up the children and helping Edgar and Aleida. The connection to Edgar was made, once again, thanks to the support of Dwight Amery from Maryvale Revitalization Corporation. Edgar, Aleida, Nick and the youth spent several weeks drawing inspiration and gathering memories of the children at Serrano. The result? A beautiful mural that depicts all of the most cherished memories: a global perspective united under the American flag, family, a love of learning and of course, soccer. The bright colors, the tree of knowledge, outlines of the world and most of all the outlines of people- united together all to illustrate the sense of community that thrived in “The Village” at Serrano. It is a token to remember the wonderful years spent at Serrano. We hope you take the time to enjoy the mural as you leisurely stroll down Camelback. Cherished memories ... forever!



Georgia Sepic says goodbye to children from Serrano Village on Aug. 11. Artist Edgar Fernandez and his girlfriend Aleida provided art direction and Nick Fletcher organized the mural project.

Police Neighborhood Patrol at GCU

In conjunction with the City of Phoenix’s Violence Impact Project along 27th Avenue, the City of Phoenix Police Department offered a class to introduce 40 Spanish-speaking residents to the Phoenix Neighbors on Patrol Program Aug. 7 at Grand Canyon University. This program empowers residents



Thank you to all Block Watch participants

to patrol their neighborhoods together report crime in progress or suspicious activity directly to officers on patrol. Parents are concerned about the areas around schools in the canyon corridor because of drug sales and bullying affecting children before and after school. They plan to expand efforts that Vecinos Unidos Siempre Block Watch began around the Granada Middle School last year. Congratulations to all the participants!

NEW Community Partnership to help lift up our Canyon Corridor

Phoenix Revitalization Corporation Partnership with Grand Canyon University

Phoenix Revitalization Corporation is pleased to announce its partnership with Grand Canyon University to revitalize and beautify the Canyon Corridor Community. This partnership will support resident leadership development, small home improvements, neighborhood beautification and safety efforts that will contribute to an improved quality of life in the Canyon Corridor Community. Phoenix Revitalization Corp. is a nonprofit corporation with experience working in community capacity building. It is excited to collaborate and work with residents, businesses and community partners in the Canyon Corridor Community. Look for more details in the Spring 2016 issue. For information on the Canyon Corridor Revitalization Project please contact E. Mari Herrera-Daniels at Phoenix Revitalization Corp. at 602-253-6895 or e.mari@phxrevitalization.org.



CPCA DISTRIBUTES CPR “KITS”

The Cactus Park Precinct Community Alliance purchased, put together and distributed a collection of items all of which are dedicated to explaining and administering CPR. The bag includes: A First Aid Guide, DVD entitled “CPR Awareness & Water Safety Tips” (in English and Spanish) produced by Phoenix Fire Department in partnership with SRP; NEXTCARE magnetic CPR instruction card; a C-A-B magnetic card by American Heart Association; an I.C.E. fill out card; a compression only CPR instruction card by Sarver Heart Center and a CPR (one-way valve & barrier filter) Rescue Kit in a zippered pouch.

Robin Mofford, Chairperson of the Cactus Park Community Alliance told the group she has been trying to get this going for a long time and is glad to finally put it together. Funded by the Neighborhood Block Watch Grant and distributed to the attendees of the monthly meetings. This little bag of items could very well save your life or the life of a friend or loved one.

School Over Troubled Water: The Bridge To Success

by Beverly Konic

When Carol Patterson took over as the new principal of Palo Verde Middle School in the fall of 2011, she knew what she was walking into. The school was failing academically; student discipline issues were huge; teachers' morale was bad; parents were disengaged and the school had a bad reputation in the community. The campus itself looked old and tired.

To assist the new principal, the local neighborhood group, United Neighbors Association, brought together existing community resources to create a collaborative partnership called CLASS (Community Leaders Actively Supporting Schools). What CLASS didn't know was that later that spring a delightful, visionary and energetic blond haired woman would graciously join the group as its facilitator, help create and implement a strategic plan, recruit more partners and then perform near-miracles. That woman was Tracey Beal, currently Pastor of Community Development at Pure Heart Church. Why her commitment? She says, "Every kid deserves a good school, with people who care about them and their school."

Renamed Urban Plunge and led by Pure Heart Church, the group brings together an expanded local partnership of churches, universities, neighbors, businesses, city government and others to work together to improve urban schools. The name, Urban Plunge, represents a local version of the national Christian urban mission movement that works with churches to engage parishioners in Christ-like service to their communities.

Working closely together, both Ms. Beal and Ms. Patterson realized that the immediate and the most drastic need was to turn the school around academically. While Ms. Patterson worked with the teachers to raise morale and increase accountability for academic work, Urban Plunge supported the teachers by showing that they appreciated and valued them. One of their biggest projects was the complete remodeling of the dilapidated teachers' lounge by recruiting local businesses to donate design



The Palo Verde Teacher's Lounge after Urban Plunge had a chance to organize it.

talents and construction materials and with volunteers doing much of the work.

The teachers and administration have another important goal for these middle school students. They are partnering with Urban Plunge to change the negative student culture to one that encourages and rewards kindness and respect. Most profoundly, for the past three years Young Life College students have worked and played with the middle school students and spoke openly in their classrooms about their own difficult but successful struggles to attend college. For so many of these students it was the first time they could envision a future for themselves as college students.

Beautifying the school is a further strategy to improve morale and pride. Twice a year, spring and fall, Urban Plunge, as part of the #PHCommunityServiceDay, continues working on school improvement projects selected by the Palo Verde students, teachers and administration.

Ms. Beal says, "In partnership with the School District, all of us joined hands to raise money for plants, trees and landscaping materials. We worked our hearts out so that the outside of the school could begin to reflect what was happening on the inside." Two hundred bushes and trees were planted. Alleys were cleaned up. Weeds were pulled. Painting was done.

"The soccer field," Ms. Beal says, "is a beautiful story. The kids really wanted to play soccer." While the kids raised money for the soccer goals, she relates, the partners, helped by school faculty, kids and administration, converted an old baseball diamond into a soccer field. It was a massive undertaking. They broke up and moved concrete, removed lighting poles,

Your time has come to shine
All your dreams are on their way...
See how they shine
Oh, if you need a friend
I'm sailing right behind
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will ease your mind

Abbreviated song lyrics from *Bridge Over Troubled Water* by Simon and Garfunkel



Urban Plunge volunteers weeding outside Palo Verde Middle School.



Palo Verde Middle School is part of the Washington School District

aerated the field, repaired a sprinkler system and created a completely new soccer field.

In the three years that Urban Plunge has been working with Palo Verde Middle School, the changes have been enormous. The school that was close to failing academically is now just below a B grade and discipline problems have decreased by 62 percent. Morale has greatly improved. The campus is being physically renovated. But most importantly is how the kids now regard their school. As one student, Aurora G. says, "The kids see that people care, and they have more respect for the school and teachers." She thoughtfully adds that they learned from the college students to "Take your life in your own hands and not be sidetracked." Urban Plunge has truly been that "Bridge Over Troubled Water" for Palo Verde.

To get involved in Urban Plunge contact Tracey Beal at Tbeal@schoolconnectaz.com or 602-670-6513.



"Every kid deserves a good school," says Beal, Pastor of Community Development at Pure Heart Church

A Student's View on Urban Plunge

Urban Plunge Work Days A Great Success

by Aurora Gabow, 7th grade, Palo Verde Middle School

On Saturday, March 29, Urban Plunge returned to Palo Verde to fix up the campus once again. Volunteers* arrived at 8 am to help the effort. Water bottles and donuts were offered to these hard working helpers as well as pizza for lunch. Many of the hungry students and adults alike eagerly accepted this payment for their services.

Ms. Bringgold's and Mr. Glauser's Friends of Rachel (F.O.R.) Groups** and members of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) were among them, happy to fix up their school and make it a better place for themselves. Several of these students scraped gum from the concrete, pulled weeds and loosened the sand in the sand volleyball court. With the effort of the volunteers and the tools from the city's tool truck, these jobs were done quickly. Other students took on larger tasks. They helped organize the library's bookshelves and the Arizona State University students fixed up the field for Palo Verde's girls' softball team and cleared weeds from the alley behind the school.

At the end of Urban Plunge's visit, the school looked even happier and healthier than it had before. The small jobs done to make it look better made a big difference on the school campus. The atmosphere of pride the volunteers took in their work rubbed off on the school too. Every volunteer looks forward to the next Urban Plunge visit to work with friends, help the school and have a good time.

*Urban Plunge in Phoenix is a Christian urban ministry led by Tracey Beal of Pure Heart Church. She has created a community coalition of churches, neighbors, businesses, Phoenix Community Prosecutor's Office, etc. to work together to improve urban schools. Over a hundred volunteers turned out from this group as well as many college students, PV staff and UNA neighbors. Other jobs done included planting more trees and shrubs.

**F.O.R. groups are school based clubs to implement the vision of Rachel Scott to treat all people with compassion and sensitivity. Rachel was the first person killed in the Columbine High School massacre on April 20, 1999. Yet her life and her legacy of kindness and compassion inspired the creation of the Rachel's Challenge Foundation, one of the most life-changing school programs in America that is spreading internationally.

Urban Plunge Collaborative Palo Verde Partners

- ASU Bridges
- ASU Change Maker
- ASU Urban Plunge Advisory Board
- Build Co.
- Cary Gidley Interior Design
- Christ's Community Church
- City of Phoenix Prosecutor's Office
- Courson's Silkscreening and Sign Co.
- DW Plumbing
- Ecce Design
- Glendale Community College students
- Grand Canyon University Students After School Program
- Karl's Collision and Repair Body Shop
- Kimley-Horn
- Kiwanis
- Lifefridge
- Nu Systems (Now Ecce Design)
- Orangewood Christian Reformed Church
- Orangewood Nazarene Church
- Palo Verde Friends of Rachel groups
- Palo Verde National Junior Honor Society
- Palo Verde PTO
- Palo Verde Recreational League
- Pure Heart Christian Fellowship
- RAMM Engineering
- Trinity Mennonite Church
- 21st Century
- Washington Elementary School District (WESD)
- WESD Parent University
- WESD Social Workers
- Young Life College
- United Neighbors Association
- WIRC Center

GCU Contributions

- GCU After School Program
- GCU Students



Urban Plunge volunteers taking a quick photo break.

What you can do when you have an open or vacant property in your neighborhood

by Maria Uhing

Is there a vacant house or other building on your street that has been abandoned? Does it have broken windows, open doors, graffiti, a stagnant or unfenced pool, trash or overgrown grass and weeds? Has it been broken into? Have you seen homeless people or kids inside? Sometimes homeless people go into vacant homes to find shelter, steal the copper or appliances and/or commit other crimes. Sometimes they break into the neighbors' homes as well while they are living there. Kids are curious and may go inside to play.

However, you do not have to live with such undesirable or dangerous property affecting your family and your neighborhood. There are actions you can take to get it boarded and cleaned up or motivate the bank to sell it in order to get the property occupied.

The first thing you can do is simply call or email Neighborhood Services Department at the City of Phoenix (see below). The city takes the next step by sending a notice to the property owner asking him to take action. You should do this even if you do nothing else. Although the process can take a long time, what is important is that you get it started.

Contact Information:

NSD Code Compliance
200 W. Washington Street, 4th floor
Phoenix, AZ 85003
Phone 602-262-7844 • Fax 602-495-5567
blight@phoenix.gov
Use the smartphone app "myPHXAZ"

If the owner has truly abandoned the property and does not respond to the notice the city sends them, this process can take between two and six months to complete.

Don't stop with this step. There are things you can do as a resident or a community group to speed things up to get the property secured. Every bank or mortgage company who lends money for a home or building has a statement in their deed of trust that gives them the right to do whatever is reasonable to protect their interest in the property, including securing and/or repairing the property. You can check government websites for the information you need to start. Find out the name of the bank or mortgage company that holds the deed of trust and their contact information.

1. **Check the Maricopa.gov/assessor website** (<http://mcaassessor.maricopa.gov/property>) for property ownership.
2. **Go the Recorders office** (<http://recorder.maricopa.gov/recdocdata/>), enter the owner's name and find the last Deed of Trust for this property. Compare the address, legal



description or parcel number, such as 123-45-124, to ensure you are looking at the right deed of trust. Read the Deed of Trust to find contact information for the mortgage holder (the bank or mortgage company).

3. **Take photos** of the property, trash, open door, broken windows, stagnant pool, etc. These photos document the problems you are seeing at the property.
4. **Call the lender**, explain the situation and get an email address or mailing address for the person whom you can send more information. If the property is in foreclosure, they will tell you how to contact the trustee for the sale of the property.
5. **Write an email** telling them this is notice from the community that the property has been abandoned, is open/vacant and is causing danger to the children of the neighborhood. Write a description of transient activity or crime that may be happening at the property. Tell them how long it's been since the owner left or abandoned the property and how long it has been open, especially if there is criminal activity, transients and if kids are going inside or walking by the property on a daily basis where they could be put in danger.
6. **Ask the mortgage holder** to invoke his rights to preserve his investment before anyone gets hurt, especially the children.
7. **Ask the lender** to sign an "Authority to Arrest" and post "No Trespassing" to the property. Unless this is done, the police can't arrest anyone found inside. (<https://www.phoenix.gov/policesite/Documents/081378.pdf>)
8. **Send copies of the email to:**
 - a. Owner of Record at the address on the

original deed or where the tax bill is being sent (county assessor has a copy of bill online). Sometimes the owner does not know the property has become open and he may take action.

- b. Your community action officer. You can call 602-495-5009 to find out who that is and get his or her email address.
 - c. Your Community Prosecutor (Elizabeth. sugges@phoenix.gov or 602-256-3506).
 - d. Neighborhood Services Inspector. You can call 602-262-7844 and find out who that is and their email address.
 - e. Neighborhood association or block watch leader in your area.
 - f. If you can get the mailing address for a statutory agent for the bank or mortgage company, include them as well (Arizona Corporation Commission).
9. **Ask neighbors to send letters** as well or have them all sign the letter you write, so that the issue is seen as serious to more than just one person.
 10. **Ask your Community Action officer to call** them as well, asking for them to secure the property as quickly as possible.

This process is very effective if residents band together to fight this kind of ongoing danger in their neighborhoods.

Here are other actions that may help them feel the pressure to secure the property. You can call the media consumer advocates such as Gary Harper from "Three on Your Side" or a news organization in the Valley to have someone report a story to help residents solve issues. If they contact the lender, things move very quickly.

Navigating the Neighborhood Services Department website

Stay up-to-date on cases you have turned in to the Neighborhood Services Department for code enforcement issues

The Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) focuses on preserving and revitalizing Phoenix neighborhoods and helping residents to access city services and programs. Neighborhood Code Compliance staff is responsible for ensuring compliance with many city codes and ordinances.

The code enforcement process is generally initiated by a concerned resident reporting a possible violation. The following five steps describe how to navigate the process of issuing a complaint and tracking the outcome.



Concerned neighbors can report an abandoned home and start an investigation.

1. Navigate to <http://www.phoenix.gov/NSD>, click on Code Compliance

3. Click on "Review an open code case"

2. click on "Check status of code enforcement case"

4. Enter address as described above.



4 items found, displaying all items.

Case Number	Address	Case Status	Case Opened	Case Closed	Owner/Occupant
PE2012-33116	6824 N 27TH AVE PHOENIX 85017-1208	Ticket Issued	12/10/2012		GONZALEZ
PE2012-36387	6824 N 27TH AVE PHOENIX 85017-1208	Ticket Issued	07/30/2012		GONZALEZ GABRIEL
PE2012-24332	6824 N 27TH AVE PHOENIX 85017-1208	Closed - Duplicate Case	04/30/2014	05/01/2014	GONZALEZ GABRIEL
PE2009-23630	6824 N 27TH AVE PHOENIX 85017-1208	Closed No Violation Found	08/03/2009	11/03/2009	COFFIN RICHARD N & BARBARA J E

5. Click on the most current case number to view more details on this case. Including the phone number for the inspector and current activities.

PROTECTING COMMUNITY

EMERGENCY: 9-1-1

CRIME STOP (NON-EMERGENCY)
602-262-6151

OFFICER ROBIN GOKOOL (SPANISH SPEAKER)
Community Action Officer, South of Missouri
Voice Mail 602-534-0474
robin.gokool@phoenix.gov

OFFICER TYLER TATGE
Community Action Officer, North of Missouri
Voice Mail: 602-495-5723
tyler.tatge@phoenix.gov

CACTUS PARK PRECINCT
602-495-5009

POLICE CHIEF JOE YAHNER'S OFFICE
602-262-6747

NEIGHBORHOOD DRUG COMPLAINTS
602-275-5886

GANG HOTLINE
602-534-4264

VIOLENT CRIMES BUREAU
602-262-6141

TRAFFIC COMPLAINT HOTLINE
602-534-SPEED (7733)

POLICE INFORMATION DESK (24 HRS.)
602-262-7626

ENGAGING COMMUNITY

PHOENIX NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL (PNP)
Off. Brandon Epperson 602-534-0430

BLOCK WATCH
Off. Brian Kornegay or Off. Deb Iodice 602-495-0597

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)
Don Peyton 602-261-8038

NEIGHBORHOOD COLLEGE - NEIGHBORHOOD
SERVICES
602-534-4444

LIBRARIES

PHOENIX LIBRARY
phoenixpubliclibrary.org

PALO VERDE LIBRARY
4402 N 51st Avenue 602-262-4636

YUCCA LIBRARY
5648 N 15th Avenue 602-262-4636

PET RESOURCES

SPAY NEUTER HOTLINE
602-265-SPAY (7729)
adlaz.org/spay

ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY - SUNNYSLOPE CAMPUS
9226 N. 13th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021
602-997-7585

Arizona Humane Society EAMT™ Dispatch Center

SICK AND INJURED STRAYS
602-997-7585 Ext. 2073 from 8 am to 6 pm daily

MARICOPA COUNTY ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL
602-506-PETS (7387)

HEALING COMMUNITY

MEDICAL SERVICES

EMERGENCY: 9-1-1

ABRAZO CENTRAL CAMPUS
(formerly Baptist Hospital) 2000 W. Bethany Home
Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85015 602-249-0212

ABRAZO MARYVALE CAMPUS
(formerly Maryvale Hospital) 5102 W. Campbell
Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85031 623-848-5000

TERROS
3864 N. 27th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85017 602-685-6000

COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL (GREEN POOLS
AND MOSQUITOS)
602-506-6616

POISON CONTROL
602-253-3334

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL
602-263-8856

MARACOPA COUNTY CRISIS LINE
602-222-9444

FAMILY SERVICES

FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER
602-534-2120

HOMEWARD BOUND
602-263-7654

PARENT ASSISTANCE HOTLINE
602-452-3580

JOHN F LONG FAMILY SERVICE CENTER
602-262-6510

WOMEN SERVICES

FRESH START WOMEN'S CENTER
602-252-8494

TEEN SERVICES

TEEN LIFELINE
602-248-TEEN (8336)

TUMBLEWEED
602-841-5799

TEEN OUTREACH
877-882-2881

SENIOR SERVICES

SENIOR HELP LINE
602-264-4357

HELEN DRAKE SENIOR CENTER
602-262-4949

VETERAN SERVICES

US VETS
602-677-5902

MARICOPA COUNTY COURTS VETERAN RESOURCES
602-506-3416

REFUGEE/IMMIGRATION SERVICES

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE
602-433-2440

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS –
DEPARTAMENTO DE ASUNTOS COMUNITARIOS
602-242-4481

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-273-8255

MARICOPA COUNTY SUICIDE CRISIS HOTLINE
602-222-9444

HOMELESS SERVICES

ST VINCENT DE PAUL
602-261-6883

MARICOPA COUNTY REGIONAL HOMELESS COURT
602-372-2705

PHOENIX DREAM CENTER
602-346-8700

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ARIZONA COALITION AGAINST VIOLENCE
602-279-2900

SAF-DV
480-890-3039

ADDICTION

COMMUNITY BRIDGES
602-273-9999

TERROS
602-685-6000

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE
888-3737-888

MAINTAINING COMMUNITY

GRAFFITI BUSTERS 24-HOUR REMOVAL HOTLINE
602-495-7014 or #GONE (#4663)
or mobile phone app "myPhxAz" or
graffiti.busters.nsd@phoenix.gov

GRAFFITI VANDAL REWARD PROGRAM 602-262-7327

FREE PAINT-TOOLS-PAINT SPRAYERS
602-495-0323

PHOENIX NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
602-534-4444

NEIGHBORHOOD CODE ENFORCEMENT, PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE VIOLATIONS, BUILDING AND ZONING
VIOLATIONS, CONSTRUCTION PERMITS
602-262-7844
Blight Complaints blight@phoenix.gov

ILLEGAL SIGNS
602-534-7100

GARBAGE COLLECTION AND ILLEGAL DUMPING
602-262-7251

STREET REPAIR
602-262-6441

LEADING COMMUNITY-FEDERAL

SEN. JOHN MCCAIN
Local office 602-952-2410

SEN. JEFF FLAKE
Local office 602-840-1891

REP. RUBEN GALLEGO
Local office 602-256-0551

LEADING COMMUNITY-STATE

SEN. ROBERT MEZA
602-926-3425
rmeza@azleg.gov

REP. DEBBIE MCCUNE DAVIS
602-926-4485
dmccunedavis@azleg.gov

REP. JONATHAN LARKIN
602-926-5058
jlarkin@azleg.gov

LEADING COMMUNITY-CITY

MAYOR GREG STANTON
602-262-7111
mayor.stanton@phoenix.gov

COUNCILMAN DANIEL VALENZUELA
602-262-7446
council.district.5@phoenix.gov
phoenix.gov/district5

COUNCILWOMAN LAURA PASTOR
602-262-7447
council.district.4@phoenix.gov
phoenix.gov/district4

COUNCILWOMAN THELDA WILLIAMS
602-262-7444
council.district.1@phoenix.gov
phoenix.gov/district1



INFORMING COMMUNITY

CITY OF PHOENIX
phoenix.gov

MARICOPA COUNTY
maricopa.gov

STATE OF ARIZONA
az.gov

CANYON CORRIDOR INQUIRY
602-639-8305 or
CanyonCorridor@gcu.edu

CACTUS PARK PRECINCT NEWSLETTER AND
OTHER EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS
CPPcitizeninquires.ppd@phoenix.gov

How to Start a Block Watch

A long standing partnership between the city and citizens. This is a program of neighbors looking out for each other. It is designed to enlist the active participation of citizens to reduce crime by reporting suspicious activity to police and improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.

For more information contact the Phoenix Police Department Block Watch Coordinators Officer Brian Kornegay at brian.kornegay@phoenix.gov or Officer Deb Iodice at deborah.iodice@phoenix.gov or call 602-495-0597.

Around Town

Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol Program

Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol has long supported the notion that involved residents are the most effective crime fighters, reporting suspicious activity as it occurs. This program allows residents to become more actively involved as partners in crime prevention. They are the Phoenix Police Department's "Eyes and Ears!"

For more information contact Officer Brandon Epperson at brandon.epperson@phoenix.gov or 602-534-0430.

Bicycles, Skates and Skateboard Safety

- Obey all traffic signs
- Stop at street corners
- Watch for cars
- Be courteous
- Wear and use lights at night
- Oh yeah! Always wear a bicycle helmet!

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Programs
602-495-2462

Educational programs on bike and pedestrian safety as well as crossing guard training are offered in schools.

The Phoenix Police Explorers

Explorer Post 2906 is sponsored by the Phoenix Police Department as a community-based policing program. This successful program is designed to educate and involve young men and women in police operations and to interest them in law enforcement functions whether they enter the law enforcement field or not.

For more information contact Officer Doug Burrow 602-534-6334.

Mother's Day Crime Prevention Event a Success

Rosa Pastrano, Block Watch President, and Pily Monroy, Manager, University Commons Apartments created and hosted a Mother's Day Crime Prevention event at the University Commons. The Sheriff's office, city council members, Neighborhood Services and residents from the apartments celebrated Mother's Day with provided crime prevention strategies and resources available in the area.

Stay in Touch with the MyPhxAZ App!

MyPhxAZ places the power of city government in the palm of your hands. Easily report issues such as graffiti to the City of Phoenix along with a photo and GPS location. Your request will automatically be routed to the correct department for the fastest response possible. Opt in to receive notifications and we will let you know when your request has been completed. Download the app from Google Play or iTunes today!



Paint Phoenix Purple

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Last month alone 11 Arizonans died as a result of domestic violence. In Arizona this year alone, we have lost a total of 88 people, 11 of those being children. #DontLookAway and know how to help end domestic violence.

This article has been adapted from the website of The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence. For more information please visit azcadv.org.

Domestic violence is not physical violence alone. Domestic violence is any behavior with the purpose to gain power and control over a spouse, partner, girl/boyfriend or family member. Abuse is a learned behavior; it is not caused by anger, mental problems, drugs or alcohol or other common excuses.

When the general public thinks about domestic violence, they usually think in terms of physical assault that results in visible injuries to the victim. This is only one type of abuse. There are several categories of abusive behavior, each of which has its own devastating consequences. Lethality involved with physical abuse may place the victim at higher risk, but the long term destruction of personhood that accompanies the other forms of abuse is significant and cannot be minimized.

Types of Abuse:

- Control
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse & Intimidation
- Isolation
- Verbal Abuse: Coercion, Threats & Blame
- Using Male Privilege
- Economic Abuse

Control: Controlling behavior is a way for the batterer to maintain dominance over the victim. It is often subtle, almost always insidious and pervasive. This may include but is not limited to:

- Checking the mileage on the odometer following the victim's use of the car.
- Monitoring phone calls, using caller ID or other number monitoring devices, not allowing the victim to make or receive phone calls.

- Not allowing freedom of choice in terms of clothing styles, makeup or hairstyle. This may include forcing the victim to dress more seductively or more conservatively than he or she is comfortable.
- Calling or coming home unexpectedly to check up on him or her.. This may initially start as what appears to be a loving gesture, but becomes a sign of jealousy or possessiveness.
- Invading privacy by not allowing the victim time and space of their own.
- Forcing or encouraging dependency by making the victim believe that he or she is incapable of surviving or performing simple tasks without the batterer.
- Using the children to control the mother or father by using the children as spies, threatening to kill, hurt or kidnap the children, physical and/or sexual abuse of the children and threats to call Child Protective Services if the mother or father leaves the relationship.

Physical Abuse: According to the AMEND Workbook for Ending Violent Behavior, physical abuse is any physically aggressive behavior, withholding of physical needs, indirect physically harmful behavior or threat of physical abuse. This may include but is not limited to:

- Hitting, kicking, biting, slapping, shaking, pushing, pulling, punching, choking, beating, scratching, pinching, pulling hair, stabbing, shooting, drowning, burning, hitting with an object, threatening with a weapon or threatening to physically assault.
- Withholding of physical needs including interruption of sleep or meals, denying money, food, transportation, or help if sick or injured, locking victim into or out of the house, refusing to give or rationing necessities.

- Abusing, injuring or threatening to injure others like children, pets or special property.
- Forcible physical restraint against the victim's will, being trapped in a room or having the exit blocked, being held down.
- The batterer hitting or kicking walls, doors or other inanimate objects during an argument, throwing things in anger, destruction of property.
- Holding the victim hostage.

Sexual Abuse: Sexual abuse is using sex in an exploitative fashion or forcing sex on another person. Having consented to sexual activity in the past does not indicate current consent. Sexual abuse may involve both verbal and physical behavior. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Using force, coercion, guilt or manipulation or not considering the victim's desire to have sex. This may include making the victim have sex with others, have unwanted sexual experiences or be involuntarily involved in prostitution.
- Exploiting a victim who is unable to make an informed decision about involvement in sexual activity because of being asleep, intoxicated, drugged, disabled, too young, too old or dependent upon or afraid of the perpetrator.
- Laughing or making fun of another's sexuality or body, making offensive statements, insulting or name-calling in relation to the victim's sexual preferences/behavior.
- Making contact with the victim in any nonconsensual way, including unwanted penetration (oral, anal or vaginal) or touching (stroking, kissing, licking, sucking or using objects) on any part of the victim's body.
- Exhibiting excessive jealousy resulting in false accusations of infidelity and controlling behaviors to limit the victim's contact with the outside world.
- Having affairs with other people and using that information to taunt the victim.
- Withholding sex from the victim as a control mechanism.

Emotional Abuse & Intimidation: According to the AMEND Workbook for Ending Violent Behavior, emotional abuse is any behavior that

exploits another's vulnerability, insecurity or character. Such behaviors include continuous degradation, intimidation, manipulation, brainwashing or control of another to the detriment of the individual. This may include but is not limited to:

- Insulting or criticizing to undermine the victim's self-confidence. This includes public humiliation, as well as actual or threatened rejection.
- Threatening or accusing, either directly or indirectly, with intention to cause emotional or physical harm or loss. For instance, threatening to kill the victim or themselves, or both.
- Using reality distorting statements or behaviors that create confusion and insecurity in the victim like saying one thing and doing another, stating untrue facts as truth and neglecting to follow through on stated intentions. This can include denying the abuse

occurred and/or telling the victim they are making up the abuse. It might also include behaviors like hiding the victim's keys and berating them for losing them.

- Consistently disregarding, ignoring or neglecting the victim's requests and needs.
- Using actions, statements or gestures that attack the victim's self-esteem and self-worth with the intention to humiliate.
- Telling the victim that they are mentally unstable or incompetent.
- Forcing the victim to take drugs or alcohol.
- Not allowing the victim to practice their religious beliefs, isolating them from the religious community or using religion as an excuse for abuse.
- Using any form of coercion or manipulation which is disempowering to the victim.

Please explore the AZCADV website to learn more about how to identify domestic violence.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: #DontLookAway

- Educate yourself on the number for the National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE).
- Learn about different types of abuse at azcadv.org.
- Offer resources, give financially or volunteer at your local program or state-wide coalition.
- Raise awareness for domestic violence – wear purple awareness ribbons, add a purple ribbon to your facebook picture or attend a fundraiser or domestic violence awareness event.

GCU's ESL Program

Class Location:
Alhambra High School
3339 W. Camelback Road
Phoenix, AZ 85017

To register, please call:
Alhambra High School
Lori Nassif
602-764-6002



Students enjoying a local ESL class

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)

The City of Phoenix and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) provide free tax assistance at Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) sites for families and individuals with an income under \$53,000. For site locations and hours of operation, visit irs.gov or call 800-906-9887. Free online tax preparation is available for families and individuals with an income under \$60,000 at MyFreeTaxes.com/phoenix

What is G.A.I.N.?

G.A.I.N. stands for Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods. G.A.I.N. is Arizona's answer to National Night Out (NNO), which is held in August. Because of the soaring temperatures in August, communities statewide decided to observe NNO in October and call it G.A.I.N. October is also Crime Prevention month. G.A.I.N. is a day of celebration for the successes of crime prevention through community involvement.



For information on next year's G.A.I.N. events please visit phoenix.gov/police/neighborhood-resources/gain

Community Speaks out on VIP

Continued from page 7

Like many of my neighbors I am a 40+ year resident of Ocotillo Glen. No one knows our neighborhoods better than we do and for that reason, we KNOW when something just doesn't look right. The efforts of all the city agencies involved in the VIP rely on our experience, our expertise and more important our willingness to be vigilant when it comes to reporting those "oddities" we see. Phoenix PD cannot be all places at all times - that's where we NEED to do our part. If something looks "off", CALL IT IN! Crime in progress - call 911. Something suspicious - call Crime Stop - 602-262-6151.

– Mary Obracta, President
Ocotillo Glen Neighborhood Association

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

- 2 Ministry Forum: Why Worship with the Lord's Supper?
- 4 Destination GCU - GCU Arena
- 4 Coffee with a Cop - 8 am - Call 602-495-5009 for location
- 7 Block Watch Basics & Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol Class - 8 am - noon Mountain View Precinct's Community Room - 2075 E. Maryland Avenue
- 10 Schools Connect Summit, GCU Arena
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 12 Seed Saving for Gardeners - 5:30 - 7 pm Yucca Library 5648 N 15th Avenue - 602-262-4636
- 12-13 Az Commission for Postsecondary Education Conference with Pathway Awards Presentation - Tempe Mission Palms Hotel
- 13-15 Die Fledermaus - Ethington Theatre
- 14 Hands on Paint Sprayer Training/Graffiti Removal - 8 - 10 am 3325 W. Flower St. - Call 602-534-4444 for information
- 17 VIP - Violence Impact Program Update Meeting - Helen Drake Activity Center - 6 pm
- 18 A Celebration of Military Heroes - First Southern Baptist Church of Phoenix
- 19 Building STEM, Developing Character - GCU Arena
- 19 Fair Housing Workshop - 9 am - 251 W Washington St, 10th Floor
- 20-22 Die Flermowse - Ethington Theatre
- 21 Preview GCU - GCU Arena
- 23 School Choice Night - GCU Arena
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday
- 30 Talking Trash Workshop - 9 am - 11 am - North Gateway Transfer Station 30205 N. Black Canyon Hwy - Call 602-534-4444 for information
- 30 Alhambra HS Band Concert

DECEMBER

- 2 Destination GCU - GCU Arena
- 2 Java and Jingle Bells - Peet's Coffee
- 2 Coffee with a Cop - 8 am - Call 602-495-5009 for location
- 2 Pressure Washer Training - 8 - 10 am - NSD West Facility, 3325 W. Flower St.
- 4-5 Pacem in Terris - Winter Dance Concert - Ethington Theatre
- 5 A Grand Canyon Christmas Concert - GCU Arena
- 5 STEM Saturday Classes - Catalina Ventura School
- 5 Hands on Pressure Washing Training/Graffiti Removal - 8 - 10 am 3325 W. Flower St. - Call 602-534-4444 for information
- 5 Vice Mayor Canyon Corridor Town Hall - 9 am - noon
- 7 When Christmas Comes Tour - GCU Arena
- 13 Lutheran School Night - GCU Arena
- 13 Catholic School Night - GCU Arena
- 21-1/3 Christmas Break - Alhambra Elementary School District, Washington Elementary School District, Alhambra HS, Washington HS, Bourgade and GCU
- 25 Christmas Day

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 3 Homeschool Night - GCU Arena
- 3 Charter School Night - GCU Arena
- 4 Classes begin - Alhambra Elementary School District, Washington Elementary School District, Alhambra HS, Washington HS and Grand Canyon University
- 5 Classes begin - Bourgade
- 6 Coffee with a Cop - 8 am - Call 602-495-5009 for location
- 10 Saints & Sinners Winter Concert 2016 Tour - GCU Arena
- 13-2/10 Grand Canyon University Parent ESL Classes - Alhambra HS - Part 1
- 20 Martin Luther King Day

FEBRUARY

- 3 Coffee with a Cop - 8 am - Call 602-495-5009 for location
- 3 Game Changers Youth Conference (grades 7 - 12) - 9 am - 3 pm - GCU
- 6 STEM Saturday Classes - Catalina Ventura School
- 12-21 All My Sons - Ethington Theatre
- 15 President's Day

MARCH

- 2-4/6 Grand Canyon University Parent ESL Classes - Alhambra HS - Part 2
- 14-18 Spring Break - Alhambra Elementary School District, Washington Elementary School District, Alhambra HS, Washington HS Bourgade and Grand Canyon University
- 21-27 Spring Break - Grand Canyon University
- 28-4/1 Spring Break - Bourgade

APRIL

- 2 STEM Saturday Classes - Catalina Ventura School
- 2 Coffee with a Cop - 8 am - Call 602-495-5009 for location
- 21 Graduation - Grand Canyon University (Traditional Students)
- 22-23 Graduation - Grand Canyon University (Online Students)

MAY

- 23-24 Classes End (Campus Traditional Students) - Grand Canyon University
- 18 Classes End - Alhambra HS
- 18 Graduation - Alhambra HS
- 20 Classes End - Alhambra Elementary
- 24 Classes End - Washington Elementary School District
- 25 Classes End - Washington HS
- 25-26 Graduation - Bourgade
- 30 Memorial Day

For a complete list of GCU upcoming campus events, go to gcu.edu/events or call the Events Hotline at 602-639-7587.

GCU ARENA EVENTS

gcuarena.com or call the box office at 602-639-8999.

GCU PERFORMANCES

gcu.edu/performances or call Ethington Theatre box office at 602-639-8880.

GCU MENS BASKETBALL HOME GAME SCHEDULE

All games played at the GCU Arena, games start at 7 pm (unless listed otherwise)

NOVEMBER

- 5 New Mexico Highlands
- 13 Portland State
- 17 Black Hills State
- 19 Alcorn State
- 23 Mississippi Valley State
- 30 Hampton

JANUARY

- 3 Bethune-Cookman - 6 pm
- 7 UTRGV
- 9 New Mexico State
- 16 Utah Valley
- 28 CSU Bakersfield
- 30 Seattle

DECEMBER

- 3 Central Michigan
- 8 Southern
- 13 Omaha - 6 pm
- 15 Delaware State

FEBRUARY

- 9 Benedictine (AZ)
- 18 Missouri-Kansas City
- 20 Chicago State

ATHLETIC EVENTS

gculopes.com or call the GCU Arena box office at 602-639-8999.



Neighborhood College

Neighborhood College is a one-of-a-kind collaboration of workshops and hands-on learning experiences brought to you by multiple city departments. The intent of the program is to provide each participant with knowledge about the city's programs, services and resources; the tools to access those resources; and the skills and ideas with which to build positive, sustainable communities.

Everyone is welcome! Regardless of whether you're a seasoned community leader or a new resident just looking to get to know your new home better, Neighborhood College is flexible enough to meet the needs of all Phoenix residents! We hope to see you at one of our many free workshops - and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

There are three ways to register for a workshop: 1) register online, 2) email neighborhood.college@phoenix.gov or 3) call 602-534-4444.

Hands-on Paint Sprayer Training

During this two-hour workshop, attendees will watch a video on how to safely operate a paint sprayer and receive hands-on instruction. Once attendees are comfortable with the equipment, they will remove graffiti at a nearby location. Upon completion, participants will be able to use a paint sprayer free of charge for community clean-ups. Come learn how to help keep a "Graffiti Free Phoenix."

8 to 10 am Saturday, Nov. 14, NSD West Facility, 3325 W. Flower St.

Talking Trash Workshop

Have you ever wondered what happens to your garbage and recycling once it's picked up? It's actually a complex process managed by the hardworking Public Works staff. This workshop consists of a tour of the city's Transfer Station to experience firsthand where our garbage and recycling are sorted and processed. You'll also learn the tips to recycle more to gain a better understanding of how you can produce less garbage, which means a cleaner, more beautiful Phoenix. Please register now. 9 to 11 am Monday, Nov. 30, North Gateway Transfer Station, 30205 N. Black Canyon Hwy.

Pressure Washer Training

During the two-hour session, residents will watch a video on how to safely operate a pressure washer and receive hands-on instruction. Once attendees are comfortable with the equipment, they will remove graffiti under observation. Upon completion of the course, residents will be able to use a pressure washer free of charge for community clean-ups. As a reminder, paint and supplies for community clean-ups and blight removal are free of charge to neighborhood associations listed with Neighborhood Services. Residents must wear casual clothing to the training session and closed-toe shoes.

8 to 10 am Saturday, Dec. 2, NSD West Facility, 3325 W. Flower St.

Community Emergency Response Team

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community.

Contact Don Peyton at don.l.peyton@phoenix.gov or 602-261-8038 for more information.

Coffee with a Cop

First Wednesday of each month, 8 am

Location varies in the Cactus Park Precinct Call 602-495-5009 or email CPPcitizeninquires.ppd@phoenix.gov for the location.

To keep current on Coffee with a Cop and other community events, sign up to receive the Cactus Park Precinct Newsletter and other event announcements at CPPcitizeninquires.ppd@phoenix.gov

Phoenix Public Library Culture Pass

A Culture Pass gives a library customer FREE admission for two people at participating arts and cultural institutions. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Arizona Science Center 600 E. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85004 602-716-2000



GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY™

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Canyon Corridor Inquiry:
602-639-8305 or CanyonCorridor@gcu.edu