

BACK TO SCHOOL

August Events!
8/3 American Family Day (first Sunday)
See Events on pg. 25!

Word Search on Page **36**
Answer Key: Pg. 38

Project Blue Facts and Information

On Wednesday, July 23rd, an informational community meeting was held at Mica Mountain High School about Project Blue...a proposed data center economic development project. The general information in this article was taken directly from the city of Tucson website:
tucsonaz.gov/Government/Office-of-the-city-manager/project-blue-information

Presenters that night were:

City of Tucson
Timothy Thomure- City Manager
Scott Schladweiler- Tucson Water Deputy Director
Mike Czechowski- Senior Project Manager, Economic Initiatives

Beale Infrastructure
Keri Silvyn- Consultant- Lazurus & Silvyn
Christina Casler- Director, Water

Logan Craig- Vice President, Development
Arnaud Dusser, Director, Development

Tucson Electric Power
Ryan Anderson, Manager, Business Development

Pima County
Scott DiBiase, Director, Department of Environmental Quality

Many questions were asked of the presenters at the meeting. I have included three general questions and answers from the speakers.

- The project value is \$1.2 billion dollars in construction and \$2.4 billion in equipment. Beale Infrastructure is the project developer. They anticipate 7 to 10 years

"Project Blue"
continued on page 7



The Nature of Connection

At Rocking K, you're not just buying a home - you're joining a community inspired by nature, connection, and everyday adventure. Nestled at the base of the Rincon Mountains near Saguaro National Park, Rocking K blends the beauty of the outdoors with top-rated Vail Unified schools, fun-filled HOA events, and a true sense of neighborhood.

Explore a variety of move-in ready homes and luxury rental residences with special incentives.



Designed by Nature

Visit LiveRockingK.com

520-447-4454
8 Floor Plans

520-412-2204
6 Floor Plans

520-399-7923
12 Floor Plans

NOW OPEN
520-447-4273

844-880-4655
5 Floor Plans

623-303-0659
224 Homes to Rent

520-462-1654
10 Floor Plans

520-498-4105
6 Floor Plans

PIMA COUNTY District Update 4 The latest from Pima County District 4 Supervisor Steve Christy

No slowdown in activity for the Board of Supervisors this summer. Typically, there's a lull until after



Labor Day, but this has been a sizzling season for issues of importance to the Greater Vail area.

First, it was Project Blue, the proposed data center complex located just north of the Pima County Fairgrounds. The Board narrowly approved the required rezoning of the 290 acres and well as the almost \$21 million purchase and sale agreement last month. Now the project is before the City of Tucson Mayor and Council. I encourage you to contact your councilmember with questions, concerns, and support as the Pima County portion of the project is complete.

Our focus has now shifted to the future of Pima County's Regional Transportation Authority. My association with the RTA is intimate and long-termed, as 20 years ago; I served as a member of the original Citizens Advisory Committee.

Then a New Car Dealer, I represented the road improvement and enhancement community on the CAC (take that as "Better car travel getting from Point A to Point B") and the counter balance, those who supported more transit initiatives (supporting more public transportation such as the Modern Streetcar, buses and more bus routes, bicycle lanes sidewalks and pedestrian crossings).

The CAC met monthly for more than a year, listening to presen-

tations about all things transportation, spanning from special interests groups, neighborhood associations and community leaders to even environmental groups who advocated wildlife bridges over major thoroughfares. As our meetings progressed, the original RTA plan developed into a comprehensive and regional approach addressing countywide transportation issues. The plan delivered something for everyone involved.

One thing stood out as an integral, foundational element of the RTA - the public had no faith in government delivering such a plan. Accordingly, the State Legislature's authorization to create the RTA stated that once the voters approved the plan:

- * It could not be altered or amended, without certain restrictive conditions,
- * The State's Auditor General would certify the financials every five years,
- * An oversight committee of citizens would monitor RTA projects,
- * The mayors of the Cities of Tucson, Marana, Sahuarita, Oro Valley, South Tucson, the Nations, a member of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, and the Southern Arizona member of the State Transportation Board would all oversee the RTA implementation,
- * Each RTA Board Member would have one vote,
- * The established half-cent county-wide sales tax revenue would be solely for RTA transportation projects, with that dedicated funding mission unalterable.

For almost twenty years, the RTA has operated effectively this way. Everyone who travels throughout our region has experienced the

"Steve Christy"
continued on page 5

CITY OF TUCSON Ward Update 4 The latest from Tucson Ward 4 Councilwoman Nikki Lee

Hello neighbors,

I'm skipping the pleasant-ries this month. It's August. It's hot. Spirit



Halloween stores are popping up around town, reminding us that the heat won't last forever. But while the temperatures will cool down soon, we're jumping into a hot topic right now: Project Blue.

By now, you've probably heard about Project Blue, the proposed data center development at Site 1, which would sit on 290 acres at I-10 and Houghton.

Over the past several months, I've been doing deep due diligence on this project. I've worked to identify as many risks and potential rewards as possible, guided by the thoughtful questions and insights many of you have shared with me. While I'm still gathering information, my focus has now shifted to understanding where you stand and how you want me to vote.

At the end of the day, it's not about what I think is best. My job is to be your voice at the table, and I take that job seriously.

To help with that, I've assembled a small advisory group made up of people I know and trust. These are folks who will shoot it to me straight and help make sure I'm listening in the right places. They are not a biased group. They are a reflection of Ward 4.

Our Ward 4 community is made up mostly of Republicans and Independents, with Democrats being the minority. The truth is, a lot

of folks in this area didn't vote for me and probably never will. That's okay. My job is still to be your voice. And to do that well, I need to understand your perspectives.

This group includes longtime Ward 4 residents from across the political spectrum and is intentionally built to represent the broader community from a political standpoint. They are helping me stay grounded, challenge my thinking, and make sure I hear from everyone, not just the loudest voices in the room.

If you've been following along and have thoughts, comments, or a perspective you'd like to share, please send an email to ward4@tucsonaz.gov. Include the words "Vail Voice" in the subject line so I know you're a reader of this publication. I genuinely appreciate every message. Your input is essential to this democratic process we are part of. It can still be alive and well when we stay engaged, listen to each other, and do the hard work together.

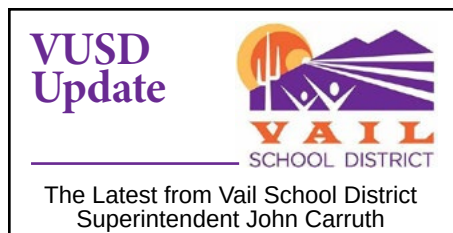
This article will likely reach you after our August 6 study session, where the Mayor and Council discussed Project Blue publicly for the first time. If the schedule stays on track, we are expecting to vote on whether to begin the annexation process on August 19. Annexation is a key step because it is what gives the project access to water. That is why this decision matters.

To review everything that has been shared so far, including video replays of community meetings, presentation slides, FAQs, the draft development agreement, and other key documents, please visit www.tucsonaz.gov/Project-Blue.

If you want to see the questions I have already been asking, along with the answers we have

"Nikki Lee"
continued on page 8

To place an ad call: 520-490-0654



The 25/26 school year is off to a great start. This year is especially exciting as we celebrated the grand opening of our brand new school, Saguaro Creek K-8, nestled in the heart of the Rocking K Community. This beautiful new campus brings to a close the bond dollars that were approved by our voters back in 2018 and stands as a powerful reminder of Vail's motto: Where Education Is a Community Effort. On July 14th, young people from the surrounding neighborhoods proudly became the first occupants of the brand new desks and classrooms, ready to learn, grow, and thrive.



Those bond dollars did so much more than build one new school. They made possible several much-needed projects for our growing community including Mica Mountain High School, now proudly recognized as an A+ School of Excellence, and the expansion of Andrada Polytechnic High School and Vail Academy and High School which both also hold the A+ distinction. They funded essential repairs and improvements to some of our oldest campuses, including our very first school, Old Vail Middle School. The bond also strengthened our district's technology infrastructure, upgrading us to fiber optic networks and ensuring we can offer one-to-one student computers down to the elementary level, giving our students a strong edge as they step into the future workforce.

Vail, unlike most communities across the state, is continuing to

thevailvoice.com

grow. The investment by our community makes our schools strong. Thanks to that investment, the children in our community attend schools they can be proud of while receiving a high quality education including rich opportunities in fine arts and physical education that are second to none.

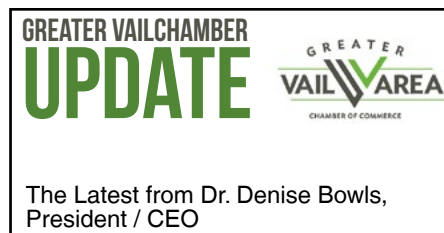
Just this past year, we saw record numbers of students excelling at the highest levels in fine arts. Nearly 50 of our students auditioned and performed in regional choir, band, or orchestra groups, with four earning coveted spots in the highly competitive All-State ensembles. This fall, seven of our talented students will march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, earning a spot through rigorous auditions last year. And, Vail's outstanding theatre students across the district earned more than 60 Superior and Excellent ratings at state competitions!

Our athletic programs continue to shine as well, bringing home four state championships and multiple top-three finishes in both team and individual events.

For many of our students, these rich opportunities — whether in fine arts, performing arts, or athletics — are the primary way that they find meaning and connection to their school.

All of these wonderful opportunities for children provide opportunities for academic and physical growth while building confidence and character. And, all of these programs are made possible by the support of a community that believes in and invests in education. Thank you for investing in a place "Where Education Is a Community Effort".

John Carruth began his service to Vail in 1995. He has held many roles since and is deeply honored to now serve as Superintendent. He and his wife live in Vail and are the proud parents of two Vail graduates.



If you have felt an extra spark in the air around Vail lately, you are not imagining it. From vibrant events to innovative new programs, our community is moving forward with purpose, creativity, and collaboration.



At the Greater Vail Chamber of Commerce, we are proud to serve as the connecting force between local businesses, nonprofits, schools, and residents. What we are seeing right now is truly inspiring. Entrepreneurs are stepping up with fresh ideas. Families are showing up in full force at community gatherings. Partnerships are growing stronger, and new opportunities are taking shape every day.

This fall, we are preparing for one of our most exciting milestones. The SouthEast Economic Engine Awards Gala will take place on September 18. It will be more than a night of celebration. (Trust us, you're going to want to be in the room!). It is a tribute to the educators, innovators, small business owners, and community leaders who drive our region's progress. It is an evening filled with stories, recognition, and connection. If you are looking for inspiration, this is the place to be.

We are also giving VailFest a new look and feel. This year's celebration will include more food trucks, a community parade, and fun experiences for all ages. Our Women in Business program continues to grow with meaningful impact. Our Thursday Thrive

sessions are helping professionals develop their skills. And we are preparing to launch a podcast that shares the stories of the people building our region's future. None of this happens without you. Every smile at a mixer, every nomination for a local leader, every "like" on a Chamber event, and every message of support adds energy to what we are building. That energy is powerful. It moves us forward. And that energy is real.

If you have been waiting for the right time to get involved, start a business, sponsor an event, or meet more people in your community, this is it. Together, we are creating a Vail that is strong, vibrant, and full of potential. And we're just getting started.

We hope to see you at the next event, walking in the parade, or enjoying dessert at the mixer or breakfast with a new neighbor. No matter where we connect, let us continue to grow and build a thriving future, together.

Dr. Denise Bowls
President/CEO
Greater Vail Area Chamber of Commerce



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Our Readers Sound Off!

Our Letters Policy

We welcome a diversity of views in The Vail Voice. To submit a Letter to the Editor, please include your full name, and try to keep letters to 400 words. Anonymous letters will not be published. We will print a maximum of two letters that writers submit on the same subject. Please send by the 15th of every month for publication in the following month's issue. - **Thank you!**

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank you for the very interesting and informative answer to my inquiry about the Hohokam farming along Cienega Creek, in your July issue! I will definitely take a hike at the Path of the Ancestors as you suggested. You even emphasized it for my attention.

May God bless and keep y'all.

Lester Stere

★★

Dear Editor,

My wife and I are 17 yr. local residents (Sycamore Canyon) and I am an avid reader of The Vail Voice. I want to congratulate you on 20+ years of being our unofficial neighborhood newspaper of record. I very much enjoy keeping up with our school district, of which you have been very supportive and we all are justly proud. I also enjoy keeping up with news about neighboring Corona de Tucson and enjoy a chuckle at our Supervisor, Steve Christy's, monthly riffs on Tucson and his fellow supervisors.

Noticeably absent from the July edition, however, was any men-

Owner and Publisher

Lucretia Free
Lucretia@TheVailVoice.com

Editor

Editor@TheVailVoice.com

Photographer

Bel Coulson
photographybybel.com

Sales

Sales@TheVailVoice.com
(520) 490-0654

This disclaimer informs readers that the views, thoughts, and opinions expressed in the text belong solely to the author, and not necessarily to the Vail Voice. No additional fact finding or research was done to confirm the accuracy of the article content.

tion of the sizable turnout at the local NO KINGS June 14th event in Vail. On that day most national news centered on President Trump's military parade in Washington D.C. and the NO KINGS protest taking place nationwide. Ironically, the previous month you had published a LTE announcing the planned protest on June 14th, here in Vail, at MAC and Colossal Cave roads.

I just wondered why the omission?

Charley Spies

Thank you for taking the time to write. If you or someone else would like to write up an article about this event please forward to me.

- Ed.

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for acknowledging my LTE! I much appreciated the clarification as to how local events are covered! You may even want to note that as an addendum to your LTE section.

That clarification explains a lot to me why I perceive a center-right political bias, based on event articles, ads etc. I don't find that a big

deal. As we know, the Star has a center-left inclination.

I wrote my query based on the supposition that you had someone covering local events, and for that I sincerely apologize. You have been, like me, a strong supporter of our school district for many years and for that alone, given the current attacks on public education, you have my gratitude.

Charley Spies

★★

Dear Editor,

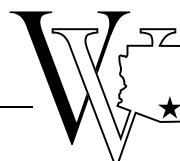
Understand land was sold in parcels, okay, build lots of homes on what once was a beautiful space. Corona De Tucson has no parks or walking paths for all the residents that live here. There are still some paved paths that I walk on as well as other people with pets & even students using the path to walk home from school. What if someone would donate a small portion of land for a park for the families instead of more crowding of homes. We don't need to be a Rancho Sahuarita or Del Lago, just our own place to enjoy and call home. Health, Happiness & Nature are crucial!!

Carla Erickson

From the Editor

Thank you to those who took the time and initiative to send in your letters and share your opinion. We at the Vail Voice believe in the importance of hearing all voices in the community.

Send your letters to:
Editor@TheVailVoice.com



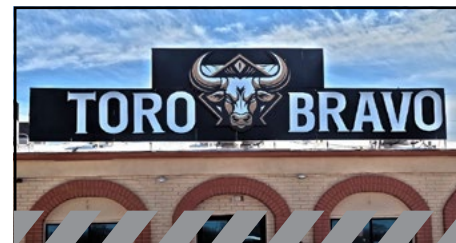
Work continues on a new branch of Chase Bank.



Extra Space Storage on Old Vail Rd. is open as of press time. Look for interview with manager Cade in our next issue.



Whataburger at Houghton Town Center building progress continues. Scheduled opening is early fall.



A new restaurant will be opening at the Old Vail Steakhouse location. The new eating spot will be called **Toro Bravo**.

...

To place an ad call: 520-490-0654

"Steve Christy"

continued from page 2

enhanced and improved regional transportation network, courtesy of the RTA implementation of the plan, voter approved in 2006. It was my honor to serve as the RTA Chair for five years as a member of the State Transportation Board representing Southern Arizona.

There's no disputing there was a major revenue challenge during the Great Recession that caused a shortfall of monies for the RTA and this has proved problematic today. A number of City of Tucson projects were pushed to the end of the 20-year RTA plan, at Tucson's request, so the City could build the Modern Streetcar system first and the funds for these deferred City projects are not there now. And therein lies the issue today.

As the RTA's potential renewal draws near, the Mayor of Tucson and certain members of the City Council have been waging a war against everything RTA; its plan, its funding, its voting methods, its charter and foundational policies, and finally, its now-former CEO, Farhad Moghimi.

Following the resignation in March of Supervisor Grijalva, my colleague Supervisor Matt Heinz, who shares much of the City of Tucson's animus towards the RTA, became the Board of Supervisors' RTA representative.

Coming in like a wrecking ball, Supervisor Heinz orchestrated the firing of the RTA CEO and the resignation of the RTA legal counsel, both having served the RTA for most of its existence. These losses created an institutional memory void that will be hard to fill. RTA business stagnated with no legal counsel and threatened a mass exodus of valuable long time employees, jeopardizing the RTA's future.

Because of this tumult, and the very real possibility that the RTA and its funding will expire next year, Supervisor Heinz has been floating the idea of instituting a "bridge funding plan" until a future RTA plan goes to the voters. His plan centers on creating a new countywide sales tax.

This new sales tax would have none of the RTA's legal guardrails

and could be changed or altered at any time by a mere majority vote by the current Board of Supervisors or future Boards of Supervisors. That means no state audits, no "sunset" to end the tax (even when a future RTA plan is voter approved), and no restrictions whatsoever as to how the tax money is spent.

The one ray of sunshine on this nonsense is that the Board of Supervisors must vote unanimously for the tax to pass. That will never happen. I will vote against it.

Given this Board majority's priorities, it is conceivable that they, or a future Board just like it, can at any time determine that the regional transportation plan really is not needed after all, and that the new sales tax revenue should fund public housing projects, battling climate change, or any number of their other irresponsible inclinations. Yes, all it would take is a simple Board majority vote.

Our Southeast Region, and the Greater Vail community, desperately needs transportation projects to meet current needs and future

growth. Urgently needed projects include the proposed Colossal Cave road improvements, the Mary Ann Cleveland safety corridor completion, and the improvement of Houghton Road south to Sahaurita Road.

We must all fight for these projects and they can't happen without the RTA. It's time for the RTA Board of Directors, and Supervisor Heinz, to get to work, develop a new plan, present it and ask the voters to pass an RTA plan for the next 20 years. We must improve (and just fix) the roads!

Pima County Supervisor Steve Christy, District 4
33 N. Stone Avenue, Floor 11
Tucson, AZ 85701
520-724-8094
district4@pima.gov



REAL

Farmers.

Food.

Artisans.

Get

REAL

at Heirloom.



Organic Produce • Farm Fresh Eggs
 Local Beef & Pork • Baked Goods
 Coffee & Tea • Honey • Soaps & Lotions
 Prepared Foods • Artisan Goods

HEIRLOOM
 FARMERS MARKETS

AZ FARMERS Backyard Green House, Desert Pearl Mushrooms,
 Green Heart Farms & Larry's Veggies

SATURDAYS 8am - 12pm

SUMMER HOURS

Rincon Valley Farmers & Artisans Market
 12500 East Old Spanish Trail, Vail, AZ
 f 520.882.2157 • HEIRLOOMFM.ORG





Integra Dance Arts
 13190 E. Colossal Cave Rd. Suite 130 Vail, AZ



Locally owned
 dance studio for
 children & adults

Featuring a positive,
 motivating, encouraging
 environment with
 amazing and caring
 faculty.

We strive to help our
 students learn, grow,
 enjoy dance, & develop
 artistry.

Fall classes begin July 28th
 ESA funds accepted

Dance styles include:
 *ballet *tap *jazz
 *contemporary
 *hip-hop *acro
 *musical theater

Open House July 26th
 Check our website to
 sign up and register






Be a part of our
 annual
 "Nutcracker" &
 Winter Spotlight
 performances.

520-526-2384
 www.integradancearts.com





Trusted in Southern Arizona for over 40 years —
 proudly serving the Vail community since 2012.

- Door-to-Door Courtesy Transportation
- Primary Care
- Pediatrics
- Women's Health
- Avita Pharmacy—mail delivery available
- Enrollment Services
- Lab Services
- Behavioral Health

Learn more about us:
uchcaz.org

UCHC at Old Vail Middle School
 13299 E. Colossal Cave Road
 520-762-5200






**Wildfire season is here,
Pima County!**



Get alerts
 and stay safe.



Sign up today! MyAlerts.pima.gov





"Project Blue"

continued from page 1

of construction jobs. Annexation by the City of Tucson is required for the project to go forward. A public hearing about the annexation will be held August 19, 2025. At that meeting, will be a request of mayor and council to initiate a one year process to collect the necessary signatures to go through the steps to bring it back to mayor and council at a subsequent meeting for final adoption. If mayor and council provide that direction, then they have to provide the translation zoning which was adopted by Pima County and the June 17 BOS meeting.

- Project Blue identified Tucson as a potential location for a data center due to its location near major markets such as Phoenix, Los Angeles and Las Vegas which makes it a prime hub for interconnectivity between major population centers. The region also features low natural disaster risks, strong availability of long-haul transport, and a strong and diversified pool of skilled labor.
- Project Blue's Primary Project site, a 290-acre parcel west of Houghton Road and north of Brekke Road (just north of the Pima County Fairgrounds), is located within the Pima County Southeast Employment and Logistics Center (SELC).
- The Initial Phase of the primary project could be operational as soon as 2027. A secondary project is under exploration within the Tucson City limits and would also utilize the reclaimed water infrastructure. Exact location is still being determined.
- Feasibility studies are under way for a third site in the metro area, but outside of Tucson city limits. Only the primary and secondary projects are contemplated in the Fact Sheet (scan QR code here)

and the Draft Development Agreement for Mayor & Council Review (scan QR code here) with the City of Tucson.



FACT SHEET



DRAFT

- Project Blue is intended to be constructed in phases. Phase 1 entails an estimated \$3.6 billion capital investment by the developer, Beale Infrastructure.

Many questions were asked of the presenters at the meeting. I have included three general questions and answers from the speakers.

Question: Does the city have an idea what they will do if Project Blue overdraws on their water promise?

Answered by Timothy Thomure
This is in the draft development agreement, and we will continue to work on it as a team. It has an allocation of water, and if they use more than that allocation of water, they pay a higher rate. It goes to a 150 percent rate. And they replace the water..and then it goes to 200 percent, and they replace the water,. So there is a financial



incentive. The project would have the possibility of incurring liquidated damages if it goes over a ten year period..which means they would have to replace the water and pay fines above the increased cost. The fine is 500 thousand dollars for the first ten years if your average is over the amount. That is what is currently in the draft agreement.

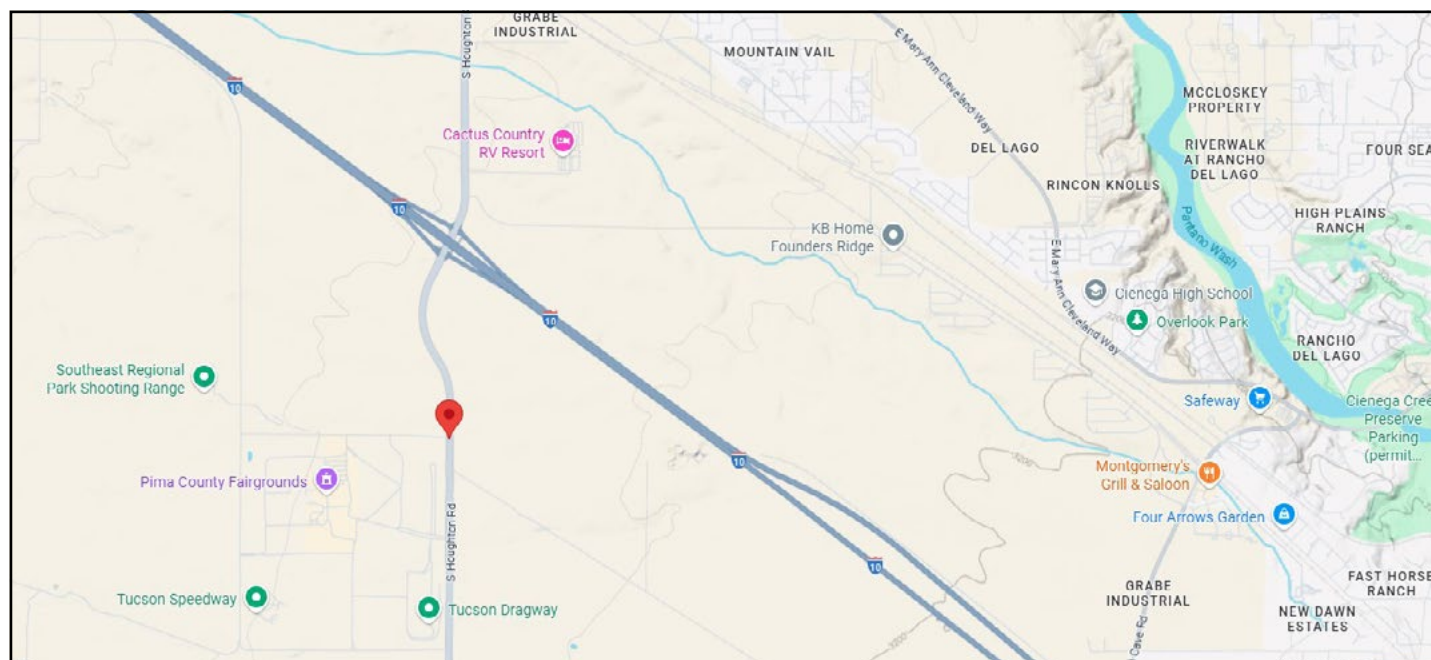
Answered by Christina Casler
If you continue to go over there is an annual fine in addition to all your excess penalties. There is also consistently a requirement to prove water positivity via the rate that will have to go through real projects that bring water into the Tucson water portfolio. However, if there is any point where the project is no longer water positive, and if we cannot meet the commitment, I would expect the project would be treated like any other customer who does not pay their rates. And if they cannot commit to a water positive continually then

I would expect like every other Tucson Water customer, who is not paying their rates, there would be a shut off.

Question from the audience:
What is Beale Infrastructure's commitment to using a local construction workforce and a local day to day workforce?

Answered by Logan Craig
We are already in discussion with the union folk, and we will be inviting all the unions to bid on this project in order to maximize the amount of locals that work of this project. It is to the benefit of the project to hire locally. There are thousands of construction jobs that are being created and we want them to be filled by the people of Tucson. We are here answering your questions and being involved and engaging with you all because we do care about the community.

Information compiled by Lucretia Free



"Nikki Lee"

continued from page 2

received so far, you can read my newsletter here: bit.ly/nikkiP-Bquestiontracker. It includes a link to my question tracker, which covers more than 100 questions related to the development agreement language, water and energy, air quality, noise and light pollution, and potential community benefits for Ward 4 and southeast Pima County if the project moves forward.

Now is the time to do your research and let me know what you think. Please email your thoughts to ward4@tucsonaz.gov and include "Vail Voice" in the subject line. I'm listening, and your voice matters.



City of Tucson Ward 4 Councilwoman Nikki Lee
 ☎ 520-791-3199
 ✉ Ward4@tucsonaz.gov
 🌐 www.tucsonaz.gov/ward4
 📘 /CouncilwomanLee
 📷 @nikkilee_az
 🐦 @CouncilwomanLee
 or: www.facebook.com/cotward4

Looking to Get Noticed?

g southeast Tucson, Corona de Tucson and Vail for over
 (520) 490-0654 • An Evening Communications, Inc. Publication

le Tucson Ponders Incorporation

any are looking to ensure these
 enquired by inequitable pricing by
 Tucson Water, local Highway User
 revenue Funds (HURF) taken
 way, and urban sprawl develop-
 ment created by a growing City of
 Tucson to our north, while wanting
 conveniences of having services
 closer to their homes.

reg Lulloff and Glenn Taylor
 residents and founders of the CdT
 futures movement, have stepped
 forward to lead and guide local
 residents in seeking information
 about the CdT movement.

Advertise Here!

Contact Sales:
Sales@TheVailVoice.com
 (520) 490-0654



THE VAIL VOICE | thevailvoice.com

CERVANTES LANDSCAPING

Miguel Cervantes OWNER

- Free Estimates • Fair Pricing
- Fast and Friendly Service

Available Services:

ONE TIME CLEANUP
 MONTHLY, WEEKLY MAINTENANCE
 TREE TRIMMING

Miguel Cervantes 520-909-9426
Michelle Cervantes 520-461-8202
Jennifer Cervantes 520-979-2481

VAIL'S LOCAL PLUMBER

Whatever your dilemma, don't hesitate to call.

We can handle anything from little drips to whole home re-pipes and even complex commercial jobs.

WWW.VAILPLUMBINGAZ.COM



OVER 75 YEARS' INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

520-207-7224
OFFICE@VAILPLUMBINGAZ.COM

Owned and operated by Allen Schwartzberg



FINANCING AVAILABLE

MEMBER GREATER VAIL AREA
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ready to retire?
 Do you have a plan in place?
 Let's talk.

Fee Only Fiduciary, I act in your best interest.

To learn more, call
 Brad Singer today
 at **480-330-4878**

Brad Singer, CFA
 480-330-4878
Brad@VailFinancialAdvisors.com
www.VailFinancialAdvisors.com



*Disclosure: Vail Financial Advisors is an investment advisory firm registered in Arizona. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Differences in account size, timing of transactions and market conditions prevailing at the time of investment may lead to different results, and clients may lose money. Clients should consult with their personal tax advisors regarding the tax consequences of investing. Yields are not guaranteed. May not be appropriate for all investors. Employs the use of option strategies and or Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) using option strategies.



CHAIRMAN, NATURAL RESOURCES
 ENERGY & WATER
 VICE CHAIRMAN, RULES
 LAND, AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS

GAIL GRIFFIN
 MEMBER, DISTRICT 19

ARIZONA
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 1700 W. WASHINGTON STREET, STE. H
 PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2844

CAPITOL: (602) 926-5895
 TOLL FREE: 1(800) 352-8404
ggriffin@azleg.gov

Greater Vail Area Chamber of Commerce

Influencing Vail's Future

"To enhance growth opportunities and advance economic development in the Greater Vail Area."

13105 E Colossal Cave Rd | Vail, AZ 85641 | 520.261.8245



**AUGUST
 BREAKFAST**
 Wednesday, August 20th
 7:00AM - 9:00AM

Get an update on VUSD
 and Project Blue

Saguaro Creek K8
 8150 S Rocking K Ranch Loop
 Tucson, AZ 85747

Members - \$30
 Non-Members - \$40

New Members

- Mind Training for Life and Sport
- Sonoran STOKe, Home of GRO Girl GRO
- Ask Doug, Douglas Rains, REALTOR
- Safety Dynamics, Inc. / The Fernandez Group

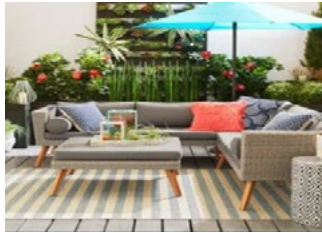
Renewing Members

- Blue Rose Legacy Home Care
- Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Arizona Hearing Specialists
- Greater Vail Community ReSources



greatervailchamber.com

August Garden Guide



Get Decorating

Decorate your patio; add new chairs, throw pillows, a rug, and beautiful potted plants, paint a feature wall. String up some lights for evening ambience and create your own oasis. Whatever you do, make the most of your outdoor space; after all we won't be shoveling snow in October!

How is your garden performing?

This year and past years have given us many challenges. The garden has seen many from soaring temperatures to extreme storms. Here are just a few areas to focus:

- **Drainage** – this is the perfect time to review your gardens drainage, always ensuring water drains away from your home.
- **Stake trees** that cannot stand tall on their own. Due to the extreme wind it may even be necessary to lighten the weight of some branches.
- **Check your entire irrigation system**, looking for leaks, broken pipes, watering schedule.
- **Check cacti, trees and shrubs** and remove soil or debris built up around the base.



Mel L. Shipley ACNP

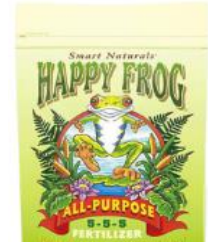
College dorm decor



What to fertilize

- Potted annuals: once this month
- Annuals that have been in the ground for more than 2 weeks
- Containerized warm-season cacti and succulents: feed lightly once this month with a low-nitrogen fertilizer
- Ornamental grasses: feed once this month with a bloom formula fertilizer
- Warm-season lawn: fertilize according to your regular schedule this month
- Palms / Citrus trees: feed at the end of the month or in the beginning of September

Fertilize Trees & Shrubs 1st week of September



What to Plant in August

- **Cacti and succulents** - indoors or out – all year long!
- Heat-loving **shrubs & trees** - Be sure to provide them with enough water to get established
- Warm-season **annuals** like from seed or starts – pick the plants that make you smile.
- **Houseplants** for the patio, home or office. (Office or dorm room plants make people and happy people are more productive.
- **Vegetables & Herbs** - When temperatures cool down below 100 F, plant beets, bok choy, broccoli, Brussel sprouts, bunching onions, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cucumber, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, leeks, mustard greens, peppers, snap beans, Swiss chard, and tomatoes – Corn & Squash. Sow seed of herbs late in the month e.g. Chives
- **Pottery** – just add soil and plants. We can plant a custom arrangement for you!



SPECIAL COUPON

\$5.00 Off over \$40.00 coupon code VV540

\$10.00 Off over \$70.00 coupon code VV1070

Cannot be combined with any other offers. One coupon per customer. Must have coupon. Not valid on prior sales. Other restrictions apply. Expires Aug 31st, 2025

**We Deliver & Plant
Big Shade Trees!**

Civano Nursery 5301 S. Houghton Road, Tucson AZ 85747 Tel: 520-546-9200

Teaching Without Television

By Chuck Colbath

Education has always been very important to our family. Among others, my grandmother, her sister, their aunt, my sister, my father and his brother, were all teachers. When my grandmother and her sister were studying to be teachers, it included 60 mile rides to the school in an open Model T Ford or a stagecoach during the harsh New Hampshire winters.

My grandmother and her sister loved their careers as teachers in the Manchester N.H. area schools. My great aunt did not wish to retire, and as hard as it is to believe nowadays, she was forced out at 65 due to age! She continued her active lifestyle, including as a state representative, and lived well into her nineties.

As a child I often wondered why my great aunt didn't have a tele-

vision set in her home. She told me she didn't like them. It was hard for me to believe that someone would not have a TV as I was brought up with one in our home. To explain why she didn't want one, she gave me an example:

One of her visits with friends included a lunch. There were children at this gathering who were in another room watching TV. My great aunt entered the room to ask what they might like to drink with their lunch. When asked, they all turned their heads to respond, but an ad for the "golden arches" came on, and all the children's heads returned to the TV. That was all she needed to see! She said it made her realize what an impression it was leaving, and in her opinion, not a good one. She was a very interesting person, and I felt very lucky to assist her in getting to church, and even traveled with her to D.C. to see President Reagan's eye doctor when her eyesight was failing.



Education remains important throughout our lives, and to that point, Babilon Salon has committed to another year of "premier" level support of the Vail School District Foundation. Helping our great schools also assists our children's chances to excel which is important for the future of all of us!

Now for a little more business - many folks are already booking appointments for 2026. We truly appreciate your patronage, and

encourage planning ahead whenever possible.

In a time when old fashioned caring service seems to be a thing of the past, you can still find it at Babilon Salon. Free unhurried consultations with the stylist of your choice is a great way to get acquainted. It is a co-operative environment in which the stylists recognize they all have different approaches, and work as a team to best satisfy clients' varying needs.

Please stop in for a look! We look forward to the opportunity to please. Our stylists' profiles, full menu with fair up-front pricing, and easy on-line booking are all at Babilonsalon.com. Or call us at (520) 762-8787 and we will be happy to assist you.

Better care, Better hair!

Better care, better hair!
For men, women, and children

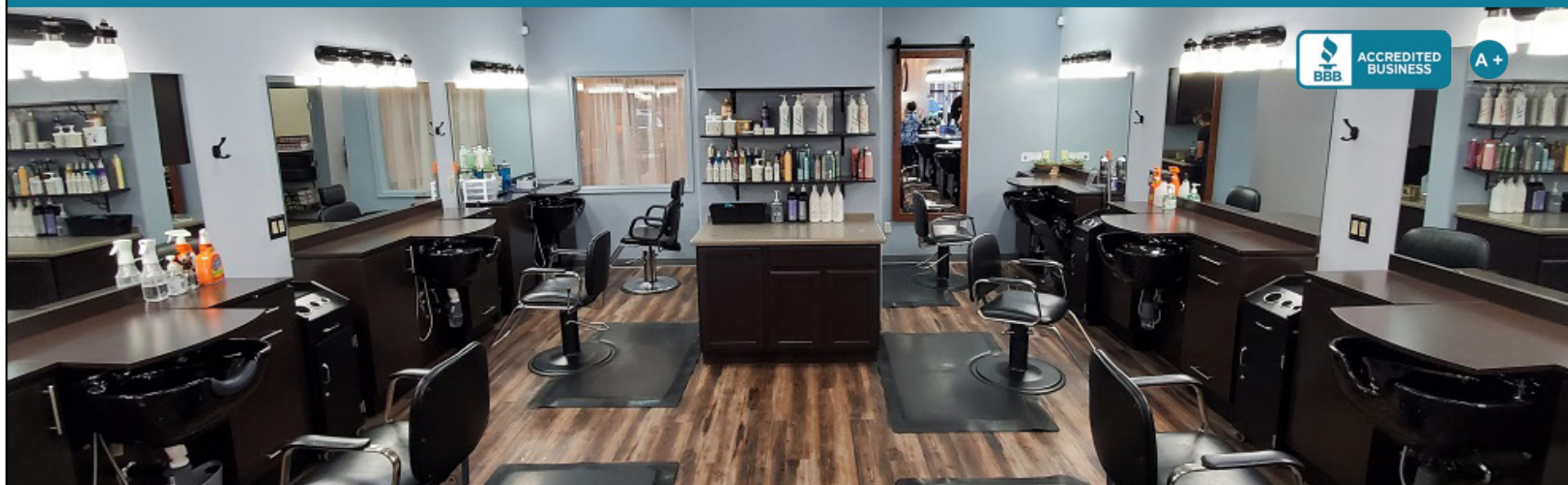
Babilon Salon

BAVILONSALON.com
13190 E Colossal Cave Rd, Ste 180
(in the Vail Post Office Plaza)

Natural and organic care

CUT and COLOR specialists

Since 2011



10% off haircuts for Educators, First Responders, Military, Veterans, and Seniors

Call us at 520-762-8787



Dominate Wrestling Club in Vail

In an exciting development for the local sports community, the Dominate Wrestling Club has officially opened its doors, providing a dedicated space for aspiring wrestlers at Cienega High School's wrestling room. The club aims to cultivate talent in Vail and the surrounding areas, ensuring that athletes have the resources and support they need to compete not only locally but also on a national stage.

Dominate Wrestling Club also makes a significant commitment to promoting girls' wrestling in Arizona, an initiative that has gained substantial momentum in recent years. As advocates for inclusivity in the sport, the club will provide equal training opportunities for female wrestlers, aiming to inspire young girls to join the wrestling community and to compete at high levels.

Practices at Cienega High School will be held multiple times a week, offering structured training sessions led by experienced coaches who are passionate about the sport. The club is open to wrestlers of all skill levels, from beginners to advanced competitors.

In addition to in-house training, plans for future workshops, nutritional guidance, and collaboration with local high schools are already underway. The club encourages community involvement and welcomes local businesses and orga-



nizations to partner in supporting Vail's young athletes.

As the Dominate Wrestling Club embarks on this mission, they invite wrestlers from the Vail area and beyond to join them in cultivating a strong foundation for success across the wrestling spectrum. With a focus on empowerment, financial assistance, and the promotion of girls' wrestling, the club is poised to make a lasting impact on the lives of many aspiring athletes in Arizona.

For more information about joining

Dominate Wrestling Club, individuals can visit their website. This new chapter in Vail's wrestling legacy promises to inspire a generation of wrestlers eager to dominate both on and off the mat.

By Ashley Rodriguez



Our Newest Location!

Houghton & Drexel
10350 E Drexel Rd Suite 230
Tucson, AZ 85747
520-202-0401

Most People Agree, the Most Precious of Their Senses is Sight!

- ✓ Our physician/surgeons (M.D. & D.O.) offer medical exams including for cataracts, glaucoma, diabetes, etc. Dr. Felix is a cornea specialist.
- ✓ Our optometrists (O.D.) offer medical and vision exams.
- ✓ We will also have a full service optical shop, Desert Eye Optical.

Please visit our website at deserteye.net for more information.

Our Providers:

Karl A. Rosen, M.D.

Carmen L. Felix Tacoronte, M.D.

Timothy E. Marra D.O.

Jack A. Aaron, M.D.

Zachary P. Pfau O.D.

Stephanie Burruel O.D.

DESERT EYE
ASSOCIATES, LTD.

Speedway & Wilmot
1110 N El Dorado Pl
Tucson, AZ 85715
520-327-5677

Green Valley
1150 S Calle de las Casitas Ste. 150
Green Valley, AZ 85614
520-625-7450



South East Area Council (SEAC) Community Meeting, July 8, 2025

July's SEAC Community meeting was held at the Rincon Valley Fire District Station #2. President Anne Gibson thanked Fire Chief Jim Tucker for the use of the facility and introduced the speakers for the meeting. At the end of the meeting SEAC Vice President Elaine Schmerbeck presented the board members and their committees and encouraged residents to get involved with SEAC.

Tom Drzazgowski, Deputy Director, Pima County Development Services (email is thomas.drzazgowski@pima.gov) presented the latest updates of projects in the southeast portion of Pima County:

Vail Crossing (Two separate development projects)

- Northern project (vicinity of Colossal Cave and Success Drive): Faces more traffic and infrastructure challenges, including issues with single-access roads and safety concerns. Developer working on necessary traffic studies and traffic improvements as the project will involve the intersection of Success Drive and Colossal Cave Road.
- Southern project (vicinity of Colossal Cave and I-10): Nearing approval with plans for 6,700 homes; active coordination on sewer and road improvements. Determining what work will need to be done to Sundown Road.

- Concerns raised by residents in the audience: drainage issues impacting historic properties, access limitations due to railroad, need for additional access roads to the new developments for traffic as well as emergency services, impact of added homes on traffic and community infrastructure.

Project Blue (proposed development of data centers near Pima County Fairgrounds)

- Recently approved rezoning and specific plans for 290 acres.
- Intended for economic development; potentially a data center.
- Plans to use reclaimed water with an 18-mile pipeline from the City of Tucson.

- Concerns raised by residents in the audience: initial use of potable water, possible strain on shared wells, TEP substation planned with possible rate increase.

Cell Tower Installation

- New tower proposed at the fire district property on Camino Loma Alta to improve emergency communication and cell service.
- Additional tower already in place disguised under Rocking K's "water tower" on Old Spanish Trail.

KB Home Development on Mary Anne Cleveland Way (across from VUSD Transportation)

- 61 homes underway, 6 feet apart.
- Site to retain natural space toward the back of the property.
- Denser mixed-use developments previously permitted.

Rocking K development northern section (by former Rocking K Stables)

- Faces significant challenges due to terrain and proximity to historic and natural sites.
- Bridge to be developed over the wash.

Corona de Tucson

- 400 lots near Camino Aurelia to be developed.
- Concerns raised by residents in the audience: the need to save



Guest speakers Captain Thomas Beckel (Santa Rita Fire District), Deputy Director Tom Drzazgowski (Pima County Development Services), Chief Jim Tucker (Rincon Valley Fire District), Chief Steve Lunde (Corona de Tucson Fire District), and Captain Asa Pallette (Rincon Valley Fire District)

petroglyphs and historic ranch houses.

Pima Prospers Comprehensive Plan

- Ten-year vision plan nearing completion.
- The top community concerns: water access and housing affordability.
- Emphasis on producing more mixed housing types (apartments, condos, duplexes and triplexes) at higher density to reduce home costs.
- Opportunities for repurposing such as Foothills Mall which is now redesigned for multi-story apartments.
- New developments are being designed with conservation in mind, featuring smaller lots and more open space.
- Working on process for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) which can be rented. Allowable at two per each property in Pima County although HOAs can regulate.
- Allowance in process for guest houses for multi-generational living. Would be no different than a garage or workshop and used only for a family member.
- More of the rural areas have the opportunities to add accessory dwelling units.

To keep updated with the latest

projects, the public is invited to the Pima County Planning and Zoning Commission meetings occurring on the last Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am in the Public Works Building/Conference Room C, 201 N. Stone Ave.

Santa Rita Fire District Captain Thomas Beckel, Rincon Valley Fire

District Chief Jim Tucker, Corona de Tucson Fire Chief Steve Lunde, and Rincon Valley Fire District Captain Asa Pallette spoke about their fire service's response to calls and the Wildfire Mitigation Plan developed by Pima County.

Local Fire Districts and their Resources

- Arizona counties aren't required to provide any fire services (only law enforcement).
- Arizona has cities with fire departments, so fire districts are established for communities outside city boundaries.
- Pima County provides no fire assistance other than its Emergency Management Team. They don't have a mechanism to provide fire districts funding.
- All three districts presented have two fire stations (RVFD has a 3rd

"SEAC"

continued on page 16

To place an ad call: 520-490-0654

Embracing the Science of Sisterhood: A Lifeline for Midlife Women

Hello there, lovely readers! I'm Dr. Arianna, welcoming you to dive into a juicy topic I'm passionate about—sisterhood and the power of female friendships, especially during midlife. While I'm writing this, I'm soaking up the sun in the Dominican Republic, embracing the warmth of both the sun and my girlfriends on our much-needed girls trip. This setting offers the perfect backdrop to discuss an aspect of our lives that enriches our souls and braces our hearts for the journey through life—our beloved sisterhood.

As a gynecologist, I've spent years understanding and advocating for women's health. During this time, I've seen how profoundly our friendships impact our well-being. Yes, we adore our partners and cherish family time, but there's something uniquely special and irreplaceable found in those heart-felt, no-holds-barred conversations with our girlfriends.

These female friendships are more than just camaraderie—they're emotional lifelines. They offer spaces where we feel seen, heard, and understood without judgment. In sisterhood, we find honesty, laughter, and sometimes the most needed reality checks. Most importantly, these bonds help us dissect life's complexities.

I've recently facilitated sister circles both at home and during this trip. Even as a professional gynecologist, I'm often reminded that no matter how much we know, there's always more to learn when women bring their experiences to the table. Our shared stories about relationships, menopause, sex, and self-image dish out doses of learning unmatched elsewhere.

Science backs what we've always felt in our hearts—connections



with our girlfriends are crucial for our mental and physical health. They decrease anxiety and depression, increase life spans, and charter us through life's ebbs and flows. Women, when united, create a robust support system, promoting not just prolonged life but a better quality of it.

For those of you who, like me, don't have siblings, building this

tribe of sisters becomes essential. Our friendships evolve, just as we do. They navigate us through hormonal shifts, career transitions, and the inevitable reality of aging. These bonds act as our emotional anchors in the tumultuous seas of life.

So ladies, put those friendships higher on your priority list, and give them the nourishment they

deserve. Whether it's a lunch date, a spa day, or getting on a catamaran and literally letting your hair down (or taking it off, as some of us might), cherish these connections. They are integral to your well-being.

Remember, it's okay to prioritize yourself and to find joy in these connections. Jettison the guilt and soak in the happiness derived from genuine camaraderie. Because as you fill your own cup with love and laughter from your girlfriends, you become better equipped to face the world, rejuvenated and whole. So, here's to our sisterhood—may we find it, treasure it, and let it fill our hearts with joy. Stay beautiful, stay brilliant, and above all, stay juicy.

By Dr. Arianna Shoals



520-710-6667
Call Today or Visit us at
CampJimmyDog.com

Your Hometown Newspaper

1/16 Page Ad Space Available

Advertise Here!

Contact Sales:
Sales@TheVailVoice.com
(520) 490-0962

THE VAIL VOICE | thevailvoice.com

Your Hometown Newspaper

Looking to Get Noticed?

southeast Tucson, Corona de Tucson and Vail for over 25 years. (520) 490-0652 • An Enphoria Communications, Inc. Publication

le Tucson Ponders Incorporation

any are looking to ensure these fragile sanctuaries are undisturbed by inequitable pricing by Tucson Water, local Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) taken away, and urban sprawl development created by a growing City of Tucson to our north, while wanting conveniences of having services closer to their homes.

often overlooked, lacking, or not in synergy with the community's requests.

CdT Futures held a public town hall meeting on May 3rd and August 16th to discuss the topic of incorporation and continues pursuing its mission to gain public awareness and support.

"There is so much potential for us here. CdT is a natural for incorporation. We seek to incorporate to have a voice for our community's destiny. We are currently at the mercy of Pima County when it comes to basic services such as roads, sidewalks, parks, and other local needs which are far beyond the need to be met."

Advertise Here!

Contact Sales:
Sales@TheVailVoice.com
(520) 490-0654



THE VAIL VOICE | thevailvoice.com



Singers Needed!

The Vail Chorale Welcomes You to the Fall 2025 Season

The Vail Chorale is excited to invite new and returning singers to join us for the upcoming Fall 2025 season!

The Vail Chorale, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the Greater Vail Area's inter-generational, non-auditioned community chorus. We welcome singers of all skill levels, ages 18 and up, who enjoy the camaraderie of blending their voices in harmony. We sing a varied repertoire, from pop standards, folk ballads, jazz arrange-

ments, Broadway and contemporary tunes, to classical styles from across the centuries. Since its founding in 2011, the Chorale has delighted Vail-area audiences with free Spring and Fall concerts each year.

The Fall 2025 season will begin on August 12th from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Cienega High School, 12775 East Mary Ann Cleveland Way, Room 218. We will hold singer registration, music distribution, and voice part placement. The first full rehearsal will be on August 19th from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. with weekly Tuesday evening rehearsals to follow till the concerts.

What will we be rehearsing? The theme for the Fall program is Just for the Fun of It! The program will include fun songs, some quirky, some amusing, some you may never have heard. Selections include "Would You Like to Swing on a Star?" "The Lobster Quadrille," "Seal Lullaby," "The Banana

Boat Song," and the PDQ Bach madrigal "My Bonnie Lass She Smelleth." The Fall 2025 concerts are scheduled for Saturday November 8th and Sunday November 9th at 3:00 p.m.

Regarding Covid vaccinations, though not required, we encourage each singer to consider receiving boosters and/or vaccinations. Note that we may require masks during the season as deemed necessary.

For registration information or for any questions, visit us online at www.thevailchorale.org or contact thevailchorale@gmail.com. We look forward to singing with you!

By Martie Maierhauser and Leslie Nitzberg

VSD Foundation

Thank you to our donors for your continued generosity and unwavering support of the Vail School District Foundation. Your ongoing contributions make a lasting difference in the lives of our students, helping to fund vital programs,

classroom innovations, and scholarships that would not be possible without your commitment. Because of donors like you, we are able to empower educators, enrich student learning experiences, and build a stronger future for our entire community. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and belief in the power of education.

THANK YOU TO OUR PREMIER SPONSORS!



Do You Love to Sing?

JOIN US!

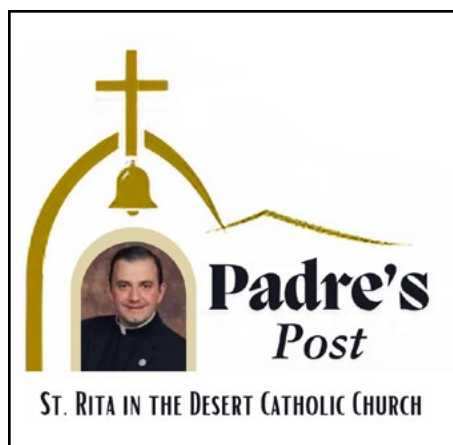


TUESDAY REHEARSALS

BEGINNING AUGUST 19, 2025
7:00–8:45 P.M. AT CIENEGA H.S.

The Vail Chorale is a non-auditioned community chorus open to anyone 18 and up

thevailchorale@gmail.com P.O. Box 144, Vail AZ 85641 [Facebook.com/thevailchorale](https://www.facebook.com/thevailchorale)



Dear Vail Community

Summer is all but gone, but we know that the Vail School District is in full swing of educating our young people for a brighter tomorrow. As parents and guardians resume the hustle and bustle of drop-ping off their children at school, a good rule of thumb is to maintain calm, courtesy, and respect for fel-low parents and their children. These simple steps can help lower blood pressure and

start the day off on a positive note despite the congestion on Vail's local streets.

As the Vail school district returns in full force, the many programs here at St. Rita's are also returning in full force. Our Religious Education program, which helps form our young children in the faith from kindergarten to high school, is experiencing an influx of enrollment. We are excited to welcome old and new families to our parish family! Additionally, we have seen an increase in adults of all ages inquiring about the Catholic faith. Our program, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), has also at-tracted interest from people from diverse backgrounds. It is a profound blessing from our Lord and the Holy Spirit, who have prompted the hearts of many adults to seek out the Christian faith here at St. Ri-ta in the Desert Roman Catholic Church.

On August 15, 2025, we will cele-

brate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Assumption recalls Mary's significant role in salvation history. Mary, the Theotokos (God-bearer), co-operated with God with her obedient yes to become the new tabernacle of His Son, Jesus Christ! Mary's yes undid the sin of Eve, and Jesus' obedience to die upon the cross also undid the sin of Ad-am. We celebrate that her role was significant, like many women in the Hebrew texts who contributed to God's plan of salvation. We believe that Jesus, at the appropriate time, came to His beloved Mother and took her body and soul into heaven. Therefore, there is hope for us who believe in Jesus Christ to be with Him for all eternity! We may even find Mary right along with all the heavenly hosts of heaven to greet us also! Peace and all good to everyone!

By Reverend Alonzo M. García



ANDY'S AMERICAN GLASS
Auto • Residential • Commercial

CALL TODAY: 520-979-3258

AndysAmericanGlass.com

Leading Glass Service Company In Tucson

Auto • Residential • Commercial
15% Discount
by mentioning this ad.

Veteran & Locally Owned.

Girlfriends Closet
The Chic Resale Boutique

We have expanded & now offer Men's Clothing/Accessory Items, Juniors, & Home Decor.

Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm
Sunday 12-5pm

60 N. Harrison Rd, Tucson 85748
(520) 207-5518

Visit us at Girlfriendscloset.shop

AZ Lantanas
Landscaping
(520) 288-1271

- Yard Maintenance
- Tree Trimming
- Initial and Monthly Service
- Rock Installation
- Weed Control
- 10% Military & Veterans Discount and Much More.....

Free Estimates!!!
Owner: Juan Gastelum

BEGINNING 10th ANNIVERSARY SEASON to boudless

NEW East Side Location
FOR GRADES 2-5

TUCSON GIRLS CHORUS

REGISTRATION & MORE INFO AT
www.tucsongirlschorus.org

WED 4:30-5:30PM (grades 2-3)
WED 5:15-6:30PM (grades 4-5)

"SEAC" continued from page 12 planned). Resources include engines, ambulances, brush trucks, water tender.

Wildfire Response Strategies

Captain Palette is a wildfire team coordinator and works with other fire departments to do preseason planning, mitigation, training and actual wildfire response. He is also the liaison with other fire departments to the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management.

- Any response needed within a fire district is the fire district's responsibility.

- Anything outside of the fire district is the responsibility of Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management, who relies on local fire departments to be the backbone of their response.

- If asked to respond outside their district, the responding fire agency will size up the conditions. If beyond what can be handled, Arizona Forestry will start adding resources from around the state, starting with closest, most appropriate.

- A cooperative agreement has been established with the Arizona Forestry. So, if a fire within the district exceeds an agency's capabilities, mutual aid partners would be requested first. If those resources get exhausted, Arizona Forestry would provide additional assistance. Through that cooperative agreement there is access to all the resources at Arizona State Forestry, which includes additional engines, twenty-person hand crews, aircraft and fire management officers as well as federal resources, including the US Forest Service and the National Park Service.

- Arizona Forestry maintains several Arizona Department of Correction crews who get the same training as firefighters. They respond along with some Department of Correction officers also trained to be firefighters.

- In Arizona, the prison crews are used for fire responses as well as mitigation in the summertime.

Pima County Mitigation Plan

- Created by the Board of Supervisors to address wildfire risk—especially important after major fires like in California.

- Main goals:

- Public education (quarterly education programs for residents)

- Prevention and mitigation (fuel load reduction, especially buffalo grass and invasive species, improved zoning and building codes for fire-safe construction)

- Response preparedness (severity patrols during peak fire seasons)

- The plan currently lacks funding and implementation mechanisms.

- Pima County is not mandated to provide fire services or funding.

- Fire chiefs emphasized the need for funding mechanisms and support from state and county legislators.

- Local fire districts are the backbone of Arizona's wildfire response, but face resource limitations.

- Advocating for impact fees, legislative changes, and county-level support to bolster fire readiness.

Statewide Resources & Website Tools

- Arizona Department of Forestry provides real-time updates on active wildfires, available engines, crews, and aircraft via their website at <https://dffm.az.gov>.

- Rincon Valley Fire Districts residents can request a wildfire home assessment where a wildfire expert will review the property and provide suggestions on mitigation techniques to become more fire safe. Request through <https://rinconvalleyfdaz.gov>.

The meeting ended with an appreciation to Gerald Lamb for continuing technical assistance and to Bobbie Humble for coordinating the meeting.

By Elaine Schmerbeck
seac@seazcouncil.org
<https://www.facebook.com/SEArizonaCouncil>



Travel Insurance: Nay or Yay?

As you get ready to travel, you might ask yourself, "Do I really need travel insurance? I've got car, health, and home insurance—so is this one necessary too?"

So honestly, it all depends on you. Here is why I say that. What if your trip gets canceled or cut short due to illness, weather, emergencies, or other covered reasons? Travel insurance can reimburse your non-refundable expenses like flights, hotels, or tours. In that instance, travel insurance is a great option, especially if you are traveling during hurricane season. I would highly recommend it!

I also would recommend it if you are traveling internationally. Travel insurance can help pay for emergency medical care or evacuation if you get sick or injured while traveling. Your personal medical insurance will not cover international costs, although you can always hope that if you pay out of pocket they will reimburse you. That is a chance you would have to take.

Something else to remember, if you are a little bit older while traveling, travel insurance can cover you for a variety of things. Many travel insurance plans offer coverage for pre-existing medical conditions if purchased soon after booking the trip—an important factor for older travelers managing

ongoing health issues. It gives both the traveler and their loved ones confidence that help is available in case of emergency, lost luggage, delays, or even travel disruptions.

Traveling with insurance means you're covered in case something goes wrong, giving you confidence to enjoy your trip without unnecessary worry.

Do you need insurance for a quick adventure to a local place? I would say no. Usually a quick staycation to a local hotel, or even a few hours from home does not call for insurance. Other reasons to possibly not get insurance would be if your flights, hotels, or tours are all fully refundable or flexible: in that case you may not need trip cancellation coverage. You should check your credit card terms: Some credit cards or personal insurance plans include travel protections, such as trip interruption, baggage loss, or rental car insurance.

Every time you book a trip, travel insurance is an option, whether through the travel provider or your agent. In the end, it's your choice. Only you know what your peace of mind is worth when you travel.

By Gigi Annunziato

Top 5 Tree Picks for Vail

If you have read any of my previous articles you know how I feel about trees, we need more of them and choosing the right trees is key to a thriving, beautiful, and water-wise yard. Here are five excellent choices that flourish in Vail's desert environment:

- 1. Palo Verde (Parkinsonia species): As Arizona's state tree, the Palo Verde is a quintessential desert dweller. Its vibrant green bark provides year-round interest, and in spring, it bursts with bright yellow flowers. Drought-tolerant once established, Palo Verdes offer welcome dappled shade and are well-suited to Vail's dry conditions. They thrive in full sun and various soil types as long as drainage is good.
- 2. Weeping Chinese Elm (Ulmus parvifolia): This graceful deciduous tree offers a beautiful, weeping



Palo Verde Tree

form and attractive mottled bark that exfoliates with age. Chinese Elms are remarkably adaptable, tolerating a range of soil types and even urban conditions. While drought-tolerant once mature, they benefit from deep irrigation during Vail's hot, dry summers to support their fast growth and dense canopy, providing excellent shade.

- 3. Fruitless Olive (Olea europaea 'Fruitless' varieties): For those seeking a Mediterranean touch without the messy fruit, the Fruitless Olive is an ideal evergreen. Its narrow, silvery-gray-green foliage provides a lovely contrast in the landscape. These slow to medium-growing trees are highly tolerant of full sun, reflected heat,

and require minimal water once established. They develop a picturesque, often twisted trunk with age, adding character to any yard.

- 4. Desert Willow (Chilopsis linearis): The Desert Willow is a stunning flowering tree native to the Southwest. It boasts delicate, fragrant trumpet-shaped flowers in shades of pink, lavender, and white from late spring through fall. This low-maintenance gem thrives in full sun and well-draining soil, tolerating extreme heat and drought. It's a magnet for hummingbirds and butterflies, adding vibrant life to your garden.

- 5. Fan-Tex Ash (Fraxinus velutina 'Fan-Tex'): If you're looking for a fast-growing shade tree that thrives in the desert, the Fan-Tex Ash is an excellent choice. This popular deciduous variety offers a dense, rounded canopy of bright green foliage that turns yellow in the fall, providing welcome seasonal color. Highly adaptable to



Fan-Tex Ash

various soil conditions and tolerant of both heat and drought once established, the Fan-Tex Ash is a reliable and attractive option for providing significant shade in your Vail landscape.

By Manuil J. Chavez
www.FourArrowsGarden.com



We'll keep this nightmare from becoming yours!

SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFO

Call Now! Schedule a FREE Inspection

\$30 Off

Pack Rat Elimination

520 529 9191

SAFE • HUMANE • EFFECTIVE • GUARANTEED

Vail High School College Prospects Make National Baseball Team

Evan Walker (LHP) is a senior at Empire High School and Cade Mason (RHP) is a Junior at Cienega High School. Evan and Cade began their formative years in the Sahuarita School District where they found their love of baseball at Copper Hills Little League playing on the same Minor AA team. Eventually, they became students within the Vail School District. Their baseball paths differed with various other little leagues, travel, club ball organizations. Sometimes they utilized the same former MLB pitching players as coaches that now reside in Tucson. Upon entering high school their baseball focus shifted towards college ball.

This July both Evan and Cade were invited to play baseball on the national level with Junior Day Athletics that took place at Globe Life Field, a Major League Baseball Stadium located in Arlington, Texas. Not only did they get to showcase their pitching skills for potential college recruiters and scouts, but they also competed with other U.S. players by playing live games led by actual college coaches representing top programs from around the country. It was a sight to see their pictures lit up on the jumbotron at Globe Life Stadium which is home to the Texas Rangers and 2023 World Series Champions. On day two of this three-day event, the boys took to the MLB field. It was Blue vs. Red. Cade and Evan each pitched one inning on Team Blue. Evan pitched his inning with three strikeouts and three walks. Cade filled his inning with two strikeouts, one walk and one hit. Their team came out on top over Red, winning the game 8-5.

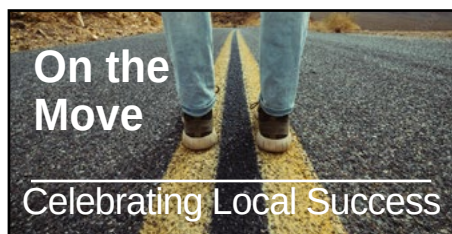
When Evan and Cade are not on the diamond or in school, they spend their free time with part-



Photo: Left: Evan Walker, Right: Cade Mason

time jobs and volunteer work. Evan volunteers his free time umpiring Rincon Little League games. Cade is involved with the Melanoma Research Foundation advocating for legislative change and cancer research. As potential college baseball prospects, we look forward to their bright futures and can't wait to see which college they commit to.

*By Candice Mason
and Heather Walker*



Dean's List

Kristy L Mace, Tucson, Local student named to Dean's Honor Roll for Spring 2025 at Wichita State University

Amanda Benzien, Vail, University of Wyoming Spring Semester Provost's Honor Roll

Gavin Peterson, Vail, the spring semester Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Health & Human Performance

Vail Teen Alison Holmes to Be Featured in National Down Syndrome Society Times Square Video

The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) has selected 14-year-old Alison Holmes of Vail, Arizona, to be featured in its iconic Times Square Video presentation in New York City this September.

Alison's photo will appear on the jumbotron in the heart of Manhattan on Saturday, September 6, 2025, as part of the annual NDSS awareness campaign that kicks off the New York City Buddy Walk in advance of Down syndrome awareness month which is October. The video highlights individuals from all across the country who are living with Down syndrome, aiming to promote inclusion, advocate for equal rights, and celebrate their abilities and unique contributions to society.

Alison, an energetic and determined young woman, is known throughout the Vail community for her bright spirit, perseverance, and love of dance. She recently completed her first ballet class and continues to inspire those around her through her courage and authenticity. Her selection for this national honor is a proud moment for the Holmes family and the entire Southern Arizona community.

"I am beyond proud," said her mother, Misty Holmes. "Alison has overcome so many challenges with a heart full of determination and joy. To see her recognized on such a grand stage reminds us how far she's come—and how far she's going to go."

The NDSS Times Square Video is a cherished tradition that draws thousands of advocates, families, and supporters each year. It's a moment to reflect on progress made and to recommit to a future where all individuals with Down syndrome have the opportunity to thrive.

Alison and her family will travel



Alison Holmes at NDSS event

to New York City to witness the moment in person and participate in the NDSS New York City Buddy Walk, an annual celebration and fundraising event that brings visibility and support to the Down syndrome community.

For more information about the NDSS Times Square Video and Buddy Walk, visit www.ndss.org.

About NDSS

Founded in 1979, the National Down Syndrome Society is the leading human rights organization for all individuals with Down syndrome. NDSS envisions a world in which all people with Down syndrome have the opportunity to enhance their quality of life, realize their life aspirations, and become valued members of welcoming communities.



Forced Arbitration, Consumer Rights, and the Role of Class Actions: Key Points to Understand

In today's marketplace, consumers often encounter contracts—be it for credit cards, cell phones, auto financing, warranty documents, or online services—that include forced arbitration clauses. These clauses require disputes to be resolved through private arbitration rather than in court. While arbitration can be efficient, forced arbitration may limit consumers' rights, particularly when it comes to participating in class action lawsuits.

Understanding Forced Arbitration

Forced arbitration clauses are typically embedded in the fine print of consumer contracts. They mandate that any disputes be settled through arbitration, often prohibiting consumers from joining class actions. This means that even if numerous consumers are affected by the same issue—such as a defective product or deceptive practice—they must pursue individual claims in arbitration.

In Arizona, the prevalence of forced arbitration has raised concerns. According to the National Consumer Law Center,

such clauses can strip Arizonans and consumers in other states of their constitutional right to a day in court, replacing it with a process that could favor corporations.

The Role of Class Actions

Class action lawsuits allow a group of individuals with similar grievances to sue a defendant collectively. This is particularly beneficial when individual claims might be too small to pursue separately but collectively represent significant harm.

For instance, in Arizona, class actions have been instrumental in holding companies accountable for deceptive practices. The Arizona Attorney General's Office has the authority to bring civil enforcement lawsuits under the Consumer Fraud Act, providing a mechanism for collective redress.

How This Affects Consumers

Limited Recourse: Forced arbitration can prevent consumers from seeking justice through the courts, even in cases of widespread harm.
Lack of Transparency: Arbitration proceedings are private, meaning outcomes are not part of the public record, potentially allowing harmful practices to continue unchecked.

Potential Bias: Arbitrators are often selected by the companies involved, raising concerns about impartiality.
Protecting Your Rights

Consumers should be vigilant when entering into contracts. Here are steps to consider:

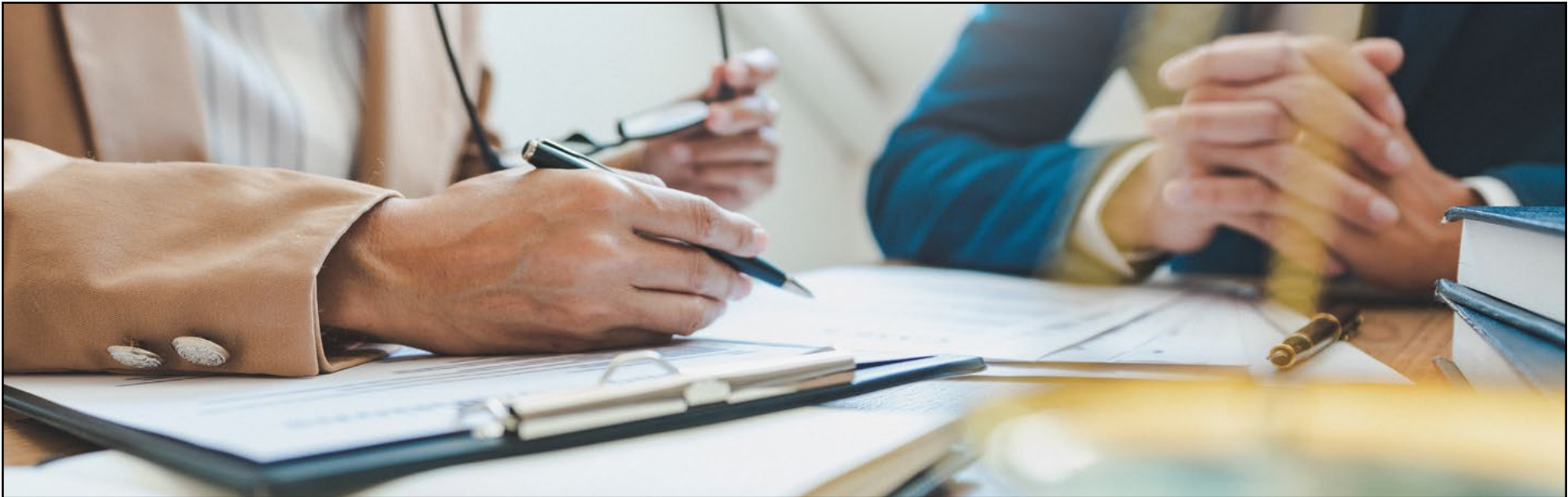
Read the Fine Print: Before signing, look for arbitration clauses and understand their implications.
Seek Legal Advice: If you're unsure about a contract's terms, consult with a legal professional.
File Complaints: If you believe a company has engaged in deceptive practices, you can file a complaint with the Arizona Attorney General's Office.
Opting Out of Arbitration: Action Required: Some contracts include an arbitration clause and a limited-time opportunity for consumers to opt out of it. However, opting out usually requires the consumer to take specific steps—such as sending a written notice to a designated address within a certain number of days after signing. Failing to act in time means the arbitration clause will remain binding.
A. Ferraris Law: Advocating for Consumer Justice

At A. Ferraris Law, we are steadfast in our commitment to protecting consumer rights. We recognize

the obstacles forced arbitration can create and are dedicated to educating the public and guiding our clients through the legal complexities these clauses present. Our mission is to ensure that Arizona consumers have access to fair, transparent, and effective remedies under the law.

The information provided does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information is for general informational purposes only. This information may not constitute the most up-to-date information. Links provided are only for the convenience of the reader, A. Ferraris Law, PLLC, and its members do not endorse the contents of the third-party references.

By Christine A. Ferraris
Copyright©2025, A. Ferraris Law, PLLC. All Rights Reserved.



Saguaro Creek K-8 Is Now Open!



After several years in the making, and thanks to voter approved bond dollars, Saguaro Creek K-8, home of the sidewinders, opened its doors to its first students and families last month with a tremendous welcome.

Planning and opening a brand new school is a tremendous undertaking, but in Vail, the process is unique. In a place, Where Education Is a Community Effort, a planning committee commenced in May 2023 consisting of parents, staff, and community members. They began to identify guiding values, to provide input for the schematic design, and to select the architect and contractor. From there, the committee determined colors, the name, and even the mascot.

The school is led by former Ocotillo Ridge Elementary School Principal, Kate Robold, and is filled with new and experienced educators who are all filled with excitement to be part of building a place where students can learn, grow, and thrive, and families and the community can rally around their students.

See how the school went from a piece of untouched desert to Vail's newest beautiful school!



VAIL
Unified School District

**"Where Education is
a Community Effort"**



vailschooldistrict.org



Congratulations Sidewinders!



VAIL
Unified School District

**"Where Education is
a Community Effort"**



vailschooldistrict.org



Welcome Home Mr. Mendivil!



Mr. Isaiah Mendivil began his teaching career in Vail last month as a 5th grade teacher at Cottonwood Elementary School. Like many new teachers to Vail, he's excited about building his life here in the Vail School District. But, Mr. Mendivil's experience as a brand new teacher is just a little different than that of his colleagues. He is teaching in the same classroom he once occupied as a 5th grade student when Ms. Michelle Jeffries, now a Desert Sky math teacher, was serving as a 5th grade teacher there.

That's right. Mr. Mendivil was a Vail kid. He attended Cottonwood Elementary, Desert Sky Middle School, and graduated from Cienega High School!

He was heavily involved in theatre at Cienega and was even one of the leads for Cienega's Thespian Society. He speaks very highly of his experiences growing up in the Vail School District.

After graduation, Mr. Mendivil earned his teaching degree at Northern Arizona University, but he always knew he wanted to return to Vail to teach. In fact, he says there was never another district he considered; Vail is home. He was inspired by the outstanding teachers he had here and loved the supportive community. He believes Vail is truly unique because it is such a tight-knit community that really supports its kids and schools. He wanted to be part of that again and make a positive difference for students!

His principal, Mrs. Rebekah Villalobos, says Mr. Mendivil is a perfect fit for Vail. His passion, purpose, and values align seamlessly with the district and community. He came in with strong foundational skills, and thanks to his natural love for kids, he easily builds connections with students and their families.

Mr. Mendivil joins a growing number of teachers and staff in Vail who grew up here. In fact, his principal also attended Vail schools and graduated from Cienega. We often share our motto: Where Education Is a Community Effort. Those words have deep meaning. These two Vail educators are living proof of the power of a strong community working together to fulfill that motto. They

VAIL
Unified School District

**"Where Education is
a Community Effort"**



vailschooldistrict.org



could have chosen to teach anywhere, but they returned home because Vail invested so deeply in them. As students, they felt it.

In a world where many places face severe teacher shortages, Vail continues to see the rewards of decades of work to embrace its schools and its youngest members. While no one could have predicted that our motto would someday bring our own kids back to serve, the Vail School District remains deeply grateful for this unique community support that welcomed these two exceptional educators home!



Arizona Brown Spider:
What You Need to Know

The Arizona Brown Spider, often mistaken for the Brown Recluse, is a desert-dwelling spider found in Southern Arizona. While not as aggressive as its cousin, it can bite if threatened.

How to Identify the Arizona Brown Spider

- Color: Light to medium brown with a violin-shaped mark
- Size: About the size of a quarter when legs are extended
- Eyes: Six eyes in pairs
- Hiding Spots: Dark, dry areas like closets, garages, and sheds

Are Bites Dangerous?

Bites are rarely life-threatening but can cause symptoms such as redness, swelling, blistering, or tissue damage. In extreme cases, fever or fatigue may occur. Most bites

heal on their own, but seek medical attention if symptoms worsen.

DIY Tips for Prevention

- Declutter storage areas
- Shake out clothing and shoes before use
- Seal gaps around doors and windows
- Wear gloves when handling yardwork or storage

Professional Control

For the best results, professional pest control services offer expert spider identification and targeted treatments. At Bill's Home Service, we've been protecting homes in Southern Arizona since 1964. Call (520) 346-4564 or visit Bill'sHomeService.com.





MOUNTAIN VIEW

ANIMAL CLINIC & PET HOTEL

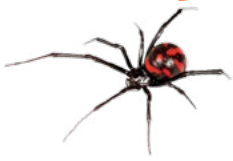
Wellness & Senior Exams
Urgent Care Radiographs Surgery / Dentistry
Laser Therapy Pet Boarding

Where your pets are family

Now offering pet boarding

(520) 762-0455
13750 E. Success Dr. Vail, AZ 85641
thevailvet.com





\$25 OFF*
Initial Pest Control Service
*Must present this ad. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 08/31/2025. VV-082025

\$50 OFF*
Initial Weed Control Service
*Must present this ad. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 08/31/2025. VV-082025

\$50 OFF*
Liquid Termite Treatment w/ 1-Year Contract
*Must present this ad. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 08/31/2025. VV-082025

\$100 OFF*
Sentricon System Installation
*Must present this ad. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 08/31/2025. VV-082025

Not So Itsy Bitsy?

Big or small, we're ready for any kind of pest. Ask us about termites, weed control, and more!

BILL'S HOME
SERVICE COMPANY
TERMITE & PEST CONTROL

(520) 346-4564
billshomeservice.com

Family-Owned. Community Trusted. Since 1964.

Pest Control • Weed Control • Termite Service • Home Inspection



Trail Boss®

Outfitters
GUNS & GEAR

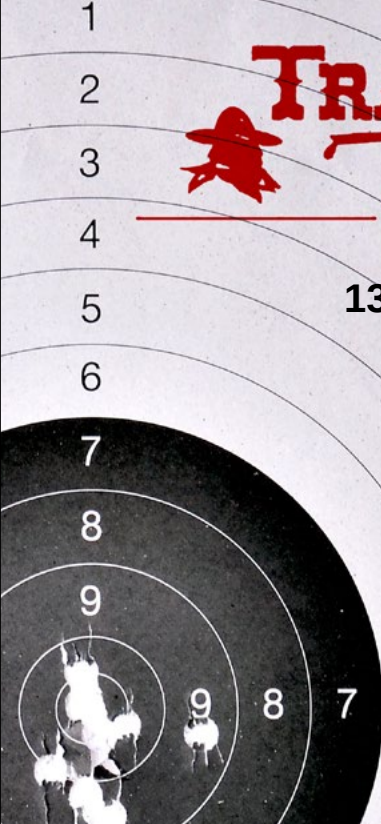
13180 Colossal Cave Rd #120
Vail, AZ 85641

NO CITY SALES TAX

WE DO SPECIAL ORDERS AT A GREAT PRICE!

Western Hospitality with Friendly Prices

520-274-7528
trailbossoutfitters.com





Events

During August the Art Wall at the Arizona Senior Academy* will continue to feature works by Academy Village residents enrolled as students in village art classes. The Art Wall, located in the ASA Building lobby, is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and during ASA events.

Friday, August 1, 11:30 a.m.

ASA* Concert: Midnight Blue returns with master harmonica player Paul Green, guitarist Frank Filipo, bassist Jack Wood, and drummer Les Merrihew.

Monday, August 4, 3 p.m.

ASA*: Lecture by Barbara Huff, Ph.D., Psychology faculty, Chandler-Gilbert Community College, "Notes from Stanford University's Longevity Projects: 7 Traits of Emotional Fitness." Dr. Huff will introduce data-driven, practical steps for developing 7 essential traits of emotional strength necessary to become the best human you can be.

Tuesday, August 5, 11:30 a.m.

ASA* Concert: Mamma Coal is Carra Stasney, in her solo show, "Women in Country Music."

Thursday, August 7, 7 p.m. (and Every Thurs.), Vail Al-Anon Family Group Meeting at St. Rita in the Desert Church, 13260 E. Colossal Cave Rd. A fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who come together for mutual help. Families, friends and observers are welcome. al-anon.org.

Tuesday, August 5, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

VPS.** August 5 Volunteer Meeting. Old Vail Post Office 13105 E Colossal Cave Rd, Vail, AZ 85641, St. Topics include the Old Vail Post Office Restoration progress and upcoming reception; Pima County Pima Prospers draft. All are welcome to attend.

Friday, August 8, 11:30 a.m.

ASA* Concert: Mamma Coal is Carra Stasney, in her solo show, "Women in Country Music."

Monday, August 11, 3 p.m.

ASA*: Lecture by Lyn Loveless, Ph. D., Professor Emerita of Biology, College of Wooster; president, Tucson chapter of Arizona Native Plant Society, "The Landscape and Plants of the Texas Canyon Nature Preserve at Amerind." She will describe the plant communities of the Texas Canyon Nature Preserve and show slides of important plants.

Tuesday August 12, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

VPS.** August 12 Volunteer Meeting. St. Rita in the Desert Church, 13260 E Colossal Cave Rd, Vail, AZ 85641, St. Teresa Room. Topics include the Old Vail Post Office Restoration progress and upcoming reception; Pima County Pima Prospers draft. All are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, August 12, 7-8 p.m.

The Vail Chorale registration for Fall 2025 season at Cienega High School, 12775 East Mary Ann Cleveland Way, Room 218. Visit www.thevailchorale.org for Registration Form and more information, or contact thevailchorale@gmail.com.

Friday, August 15 11:30 am.

ASA* Concert: Pianists Russell Ronnebaum and Brad Fritz play alternating solos by various composers: Scarlatti, Rachmaninoff, J.S. Bach, Chopin, Albeniz, and... Ronnebaum!

Monday, August 18, 3 p.m.

ASA*: Lecture by Jules Manger, M.D., Urologist at Northwest Hospital. Topic: Urology.

Tuesday, August 19, 7-8:45 p.m.

The Vail Chorale weekly rehearsal at Cienega High School, 12775 East Mary Ann Cleveland Way, Room 218. For more information, visit www.thevailchorale.org or contact thevailchorale@gmail.com.

Sunday, August 24, 3 p.m.

ASA* Concert: Folkloric trio Grupo Riken plays authentic folk music from the Caribbean and Latin America. University of Arizona faculty artist, guitarist Jose Luis Puerta, is joined by cuatro player Alexis Rivera and percussionist David Perez.

Monday, August 25, 3 p.m.

ASA*: Lecture by Deborah Goldberg, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, U of A Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, "Response of Plant Communities to Climate Change: from Deserts to Tundra."

Tuesday, August 26, 7-8:45 p.m.

The Vail Chorale weekly rehearsal at Cienega High School, 12775 East Mary Ann Cleveland Way, Room 218. For more information, visit www.thevailchorale.org or contact thevailchorale@gmail.com.

Friday, August 29, 11:30 a.m.

ASA* Concert: Skyline Flutes play "Music of Celestial Bodies – 5 flutists, 21 flutes!" Playing everything from the tiny piccolo down to the double contrabass flute, the flutists are Christine Harper, Fran Moskovitz, Sandy Schwoebel, Christopher Smith and Jerry Ervin.

Tuesday, September 2, 7-8:45 p.m.

The Vail Chorale weekly rehearsal at Cienega High School, 12775 East Mary Ann Cleveland Way, Room 218. For more information, visit www.thevailchorale.org or contact thevailchorale@gmail.com.

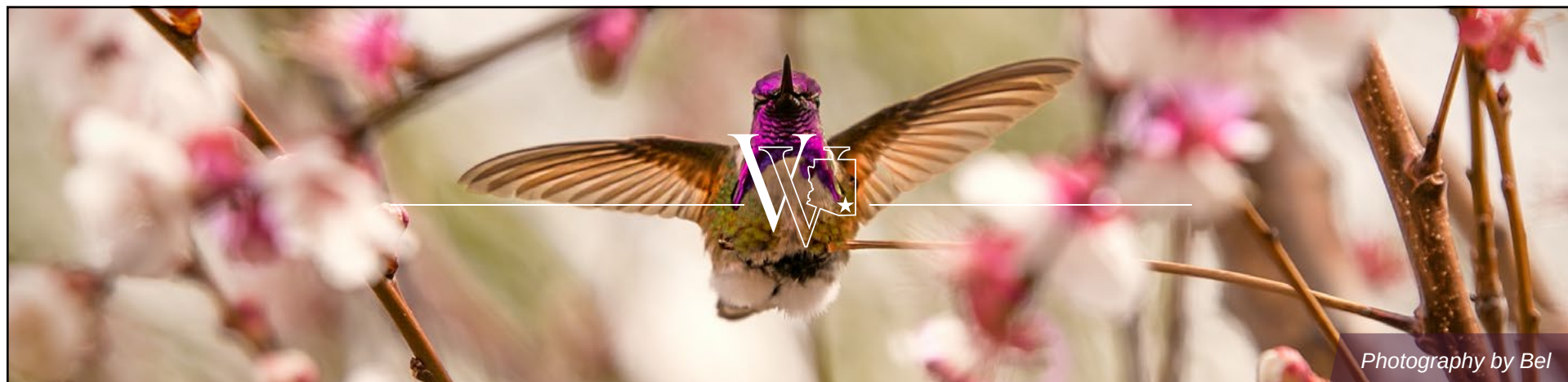
Saturday, September 20, 4-7 p.m.

Book Block Party @ Land Between the Tracks

**ASA. The Arizona Senior Academy is located at 13715 E. Langtry Lane off Old Spanish Trail. The latest ASA program information is available under "Schedule" on the academy's website: arizonaseniioracademy.org. The lectures are available via Zoom using the link at the end of detailed lecture descriptions.*

***VPS. The Vail Preservation Society has been Connecting Community in Vail through Heritage, History, and Education Since 2006. Address questions to <vailpreservationsociety@gmail.com>.*

If you have an event to submit and the event is taking place in zip code 85747 or 85641 please email to: events@thevailvoice.com



Photography by Bel

There are 2,500 species of scorpions in the world, with 43 residing in Arizona. Add in the venomous snakes, various arachnids, insects, bees and more, and it puts Arizona among the top in the United States when it comes to how many venomous animals make their home here. Scorpions can live 25 years. And since I permitted mine to survive and scamper back out among the flowers in my front yard; the truth is that if I live to be 110 years old, he may still be

lurking under my front door mat, waiting for my other bare foot to stumble into his space. And don't think about flushing one of these little guys down your toilet. They can stay submerged underwater for up to 48 hours.

A new study suggests that all humans have a "genetic phobia" of snakes, and venomous bugs which is more than just a learned response. It has roots in human evolution and psychology, and that's what makes us squirm when they slither in and out of our sheltered lives.

I've always been cautious of possible encounters with wildlife while trekking through our local desert here in Vail on my mountain bike. I have no deep fear of running into another one of the dozen or so rattle snakes I've crossed paths with since moving to Vail in 2014, but the few close encounters I've experienced has instilled in me a sense of measured caution, along with a serious respect for things that bite, sting or bug me in some way.

In my first few years here in Arizona, I was most concerned with the notorious Bark Scorpions. Using my ultra-violet flashlight that causes scorpions to glow in the dark, I could easily find a dozen every night in my back yard. And then they began to appear inside our home from time to time. Most often, one of our cats would discover one on the floor and alert me to the intruder so that I could dispose of them. I learned to shake my shoes out before lacing up. And I learned to put my glasses on before picking up what looked like leaves in the yard.

Call me crazy, but I don't like to kill living things unnecessarily. So I ceased executing scorpions in the house several years ago, and noticed that as I began to catch and release them in the desert, the incidence of them appearing, along with my fear of the little buggers, vanished. It seemed as



though my fear of them in some way caused me to find more of them.

And in fact, there is a well documented phenomenon that psychologists call “The Fear Factor”. Fear powerfully shapes our thoughts, actions, and reality and fearing something actually increases the likelihood of it happening. But we can all rest assured that the last thing one of these critters wants to be doing is pressing flesh with one of us humans.

Only about 25 scorpions out of several thousand are known to produce venom powerful enough

to pack a dangerous punch to an adult. And only one, that one that left a welt on my foot, has the power to cause serious symptoms.

So I suppose the lesson in all this, in addition to wearing your shoes outside after dark, is that all of these arachnids, insects and assorted critters of the desert are here for a reason. They're part of that lineage of life that connects each one of us, and fortunately, puts us at the top of the food chain.

By the way, my wife is a “Scorpio”, born in November. No venom in this one!

Khevin Barnes lives in the Del Webb community of Vail, along with his wife, two cats, a tortoise and an infinite number of unidentified desert critters.



...and Asserts Itself as a Sovereign Entity

By Glenn Taylor, Kreg Lullioff, Edward Buster, Elizabeth Potter, & Manuel Chavez

...is an inclusion of ...

...C&T (CdT) has officially started the exploration process to incorporate. Its residents seek to preserve their environment as they pursue the path of their own township. From its history dating as early as the 1960s, CdT became a master-planned community being big on character, charm, and historical significance with its strong sense of camaraderie.

Many are looking to ensure these transcal sanctuaries are underwritten by inequitable pricing by Tucson Water, local Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) taken away, and urban sprawl development created by a growing City of Tucson. We're not alone in our north, while wanting

Kreg Lullioff and Glenn Taylor, residents and founders of the CdT Futures movement, have stepped forward to lead and guide local residents in seeking information about the drive towards incorporation. Currently, Pima County governs CdT for its public services such as roads, sidewalks, parks, and other local needs which are

often overlooked, lacking, or not in synergy with the community's requests.

CdT Futures held a public town hall meeting on May 3rd and August 16th to discuss the topic of incorporation and to discuss

There is so much potential for us here, CdT is a natural for incorporation. We seek to incorporate to have a voice for our community's destiny. We are currently at the mercy of Pima County when it comes to basic services such as police and road repair. With almost 10,000 residents in our area, we are far beyond the need to be-

come our own entity with the best interest of CdT to pursue owning



Photo caption: Back row: Nicolas Truitt, Blaine Ham, Kevin Wilson, Mike Altamirano, Kim Stone. Middle row: Manuel Chavez. Front row: Alex Tracy, David Wilson, Tom Tracy, Elizabeth Potter, Glenn Taylor. Not present: Lisa Lawson, Kreg Lullioff, Jim Jensen, Ed Buster, Kaverlyville

"CdT Incorporation" continued on page 6

Advertise Here!

Contact Sales:
Sales@TheVailVoice.com
(520) 490-0654

Live in a master-planned community where integrating life's most precious moments comes naturally. Enjoy panoramic views at the base of the Rincon Mountains, near the Pinal National Park, and within the nationally recognized, award-winning Pinal School District.





Tour 10 Model Homes Today! [visit us at thevailvoice.com](http://www.thevailvoice.com)

THE VAIL VOICE | thevailvoice.com



BACK TO SCHOOL

GET HEALTHY AND STAY HEALTHY THIS SCHOOL YEAR

HOUGHTON & DREXEL

TMC Rincon | 24/7 emergency care

TMC Urgent Care | open 7 days a week, 8am - 8pm

TMCOne Rincon | primary care



QUALITY PREGNANCY CARE AND DELIVERY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



TMCOne Rincon OB/GYN at the
TMC Rincon Health Campus
520-420-2300



Delivering healthy
pregnancies plus childbirth
preparation, new parent,
and breastfeeding classes.

TMC HEALTH | YOU FIRST

tmcrincon.com

Keeping homes pest free since 1938

\$50^{*}.off

4 Seasons Pest Control

Call Now!
Receive a FREE inspection
and this great offer.
*Applicable to new annual service agreement.

SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFO AND DEALS





TRULY NOLEN

PEST CONTROL
TERMITES

800 • GO • TRULY

CLEANING SERVICES

2 Guys & A Sponge - Window Cleaning: Interior Exterior Window Cleaning. Screens, Tracks, Mirrors. Licensed, Insured. Prices that won't leave a streak! Ask about our Specials! Tyler 520-260-6360.

Ever So Clean Maid Service We make a clear difference and a Clean you can trust. We offer weekly, bi-weekly, and monthly service. Free Estimates. Call 520-524-9728

Let Maid 4 U Do Your Dirty Work. Residential Cleaning. Serving Vail and Tucson for over 30 years. Fully insured, bonded and provide workman's compensation. Mention this ad and receive \$10 off first cleaning. Call Kris 520-647-0929 (Vail). Call Kim 520-336-7509 (Tucson)

Two Rivers Maid Service: 45 years of uncompromising quality and service. For all your residential cleaning needs. We offer weekly, bi-weekly, monthly and move-outs. Experience the difference because our standards are above the rest. For your free estimates. Call 520-237-6025

HANDYMAN

Beck's Handyworks - 20 yrs. Experience. New & old construction. Electrical, Plumbing, Drywall & more. Reasonable, Reliable, Excellent references. Work guaranteed. Senior & Military discounts. Call Joe 520-449-9587.

Handyman No job too small. Painting exterior and interior, roofs, stucco, sheet rock, doors, woodwork, wooden shelves, hauling. Call Mike at 520-262-5258

Loren's Handyman and Painting Services.

Painting, Drywall repair, tile setting, wood laminate floor install, minor bathroom remodel, minor plumbing repairs, misc. house repairs. Call or text: 520-912-5055

Momma's Handyman You tried the rest now try the best! Block wall repair, tree /bush/weed trimming, painting, deck building, cement/tile work, electrical/rock landscaping. 25 years exp. Reasonable rates! Call 520-482-7375

HEALTH & BEAUTY

Civano Exercise Studio Stretch+Strength, Pilates & Aerobics weekday classes (in-studio & Zoom). New Yoga classes (weekday, evening & weekend). See www.tucsonstretch.com, contact Susan 520-270-4440 or tucsonstretch2@gmail.com. In Civano Center, 10501 E.Seven Generations #108.

My Menopause Doctor- As a Naturopathic Physician, specializing in Women's medicine, Perimenopause, Menopause, and beyond! 100% Telemedicine, schedule your appointment with Dr. Alicia Miller, ND at www.mymenopausedoctor.com

Protect your family from future costs. I make final expense insurance easy and affordable. No pressure, just honest help. Call/text Steven at 520-734-2711 or email stevenslifeinsurance@gmail.com for a free quote!



HOME SERVICES

Bender Information Technology Services, LLC - Computer need a fix? Better call B.I.T.S. - Bender I.T. Services. Local, friendly, and reliable. Exceptional residential and small business I.T. services. In-home or remote, 24/7. www.benderITservices.com Call 520-200-7415

Tucson Grill Cleaning: for professional BBQ grill cleaning/skilled repairs/pack-rat solutions & seamless installations. Local/award-winning/BBB accredited & 10+ years strong. Book online for \$10 off any service @ TucsonGrillCleaning.com, or call 520-245-7967 For A Clean Grill Of Health. Residential/commercial.

ROOMATE WANTED

Christian lady looking to be a live in companion in exchange for room and board. Has small dog, can cook, clean, and keep company only. 520-246-6153

STORAGE

Industrial Rental Yards East - Fenced, Gated. Onsite Security Locking Metal Shipping Containers monthly, quarterly, yearly leases Utilities, Facilities Maintained 520-271-1854 6775 East Littletown Rd - littletownenterprises@aol.com.

Classified Ad Rates: \$50 for up to 30 words. \$1 additional for each word thereafter. Business Name will be **Bolded**. Additional **Bolding** (\$1 per word) is now available. No ALL CAPS or graphics, please. Ad copy is due by the 10th of the month for publication the following month. To place a classified ad, send an email to: classifieds@TheVailVoice.com.

Weather King of Sahuarita Your local one-stop shop for Weather King Portable Buildings and storage solution including utility sheds, cabins, garages and lofted barns. Come see why these are truly the "Best Built Sheds in the Business". 16115 S Three Wells Ct. 520-730-4086.

YARD WORK

Jay's landscaping weeds, trimming, yard maintenance, Vail area 520-445-2507

Irrigation Repair Specialists Sprinkler & Drip Repair, Leak Detection, System Check-Ups, Troubleshooting and Wiring Issues, Low Pressure Problems, Valves, Heads, Timers. Call Quality Service 520-306-2900.

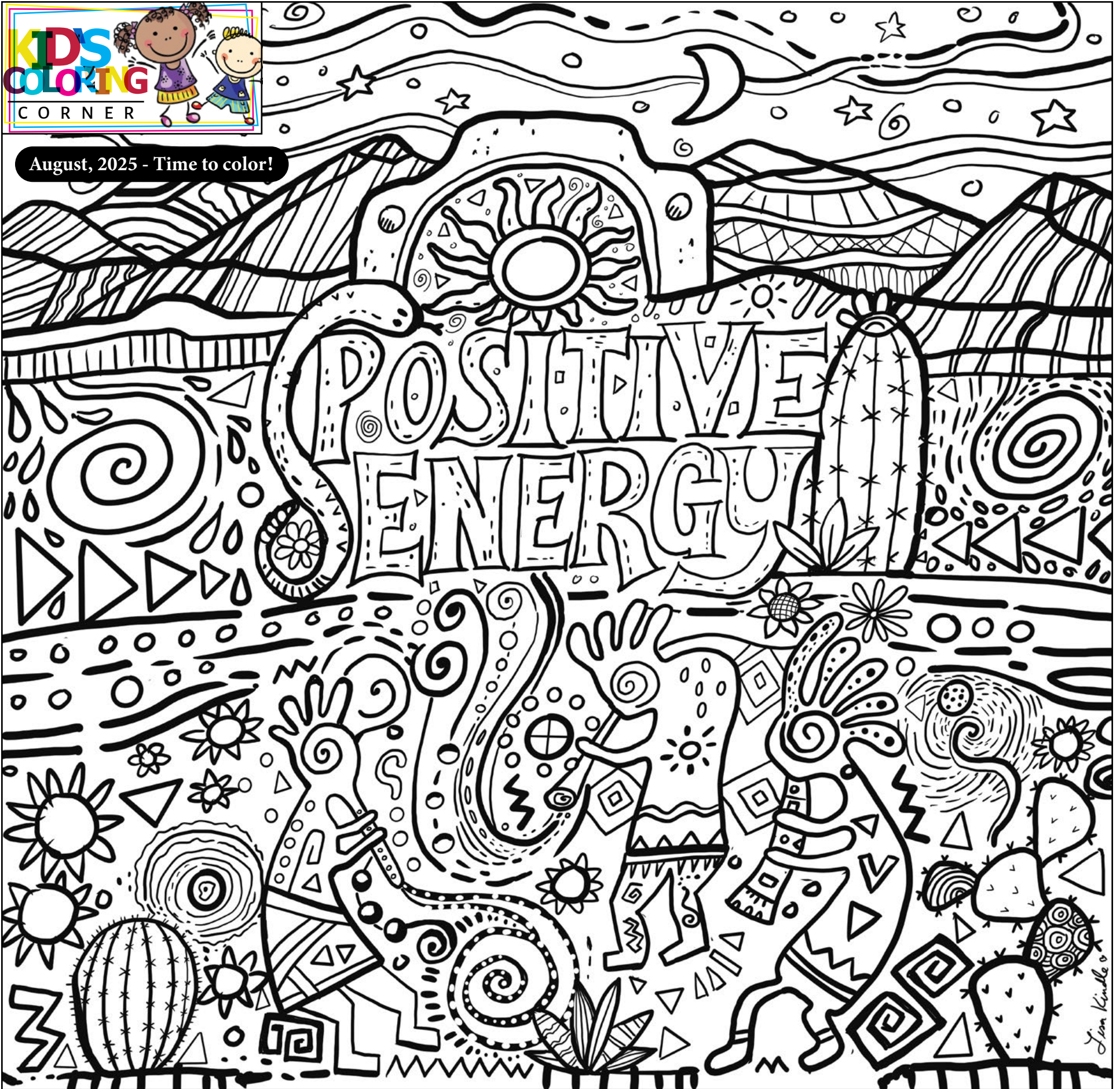
Landscaping by J & E - Quality landscaping at an affordable price. Best "contract free" maintenance plans starting at \$60 per month. Free estimates! Referrals available! Call today! 520-250-9913 Insured.

Wild Terrain Landscaping: Experienced, Reliable and Affordable. Weeding, cleaning, trimming, gravel. Junk removal/hauling, irrigation installs & service, pre and post emergent spray...and more! Call Eduardo: 520-396-8449. Free Estimates!





August, 2025 - Time to color!





Constitution Day

Celebrate Constitution Day 2025 with the Vail Community Saturday, September 13th, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Acacia Elementary School! Jeff Utsch a renown Constitutional scholar is the keynote speaker. 5th grade students will be awarded cash prizes for their First Amendment Essays and Art

Posters and the public is invited to participate in a revolutionary era costume parade! Enjoy the live authentic western music by Rena Randall and the Due West Trio while eating a free hot dog lunch and browsing a variety of interesting booths. We may even see a fly by...you never know! See you there!

By Peggy Gibson



Vail Student Attends State Leadership Seminar

The Heat Optimist Club invited Xander Woodworth, a Vail Academy and High School student to their June 19 meeting to share his experience at the HOBY Leadership Seminar in Phoenix. HOBY invites sophomore students from across Arizona to participate in seminars to cultivate personal growth and inspire action. Students leave HOBY with a passion to make a positive impact on the world around them. The Heat Optimist Club and his school co-sponsored his tuition to HOBY. Xander enjoyed the opportunity to connect with peers across Arizo-



Xander Woodworth

na and attend inspiring seminars. Xander is a member of the 1828 BoxerBots Robotic Club and Jr. Optimist Club at his school.

The Heat Optimist Club meets the third Thursday of each month at Denny's in the Houghton Town Center. Guests are welcome. Visit our website <https://heatoptimistclub.org> for more information about our organization.

By Marcia Aurand
President, Heat Optimist Club



**YOUR LOCAL
LANDSCAPE BUILDERS**



Landscape Design
Artificial Turf
Paver Patios
Hardscapes
Boulders
Drip Irrigation
Decorative Rock
Saguaro Planting

est. 1974

**CONTACT US TODAY FOR
A FREE QUOTE
(520) 308-7000**

LICENCED & INSURED ROC 108391 CR21
Vail Landscape Builders
PO Box 1019 Vail, AZ 85641
vaillandscapebuilders@gmail.com
vaillandscapebuilders.com

**Newest Self Storage
Facility in Rincon Valley**

Rincon Valley Super Storage
14150 E. Old Spanish Trail Rd.
Vail, AZ 85641 | (520) 861-3222



**RINCON
VALLEY
SUPER
STORAGE**

www.rinconvalleystorage.com





**MADERA
VETERINARY
HOSPITAL**

Serving Rita Ranch and Southeast Tucson for over 15 years!

Quality Care, Personalized Attention, Full-Service Pet Clinic

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- CO2 Laser Surgery
- Digital Radiology
- Internal Medicine
- Dentistry
- Cold Laser Therapy
- Microchipping
- Puppy & Kitten Packages

Large, private parking lot for your pet's safety

Heather Redmon, DVM

www.maderavet.com

574-3700

7681 S. Houghton Road

Excellent Care for Excellent Pets!



Congresswoman Greenway and a New Postmaster for Vail

Part 2, continued from the June 2025 issue of The Vail Voice

Caroline Beach was a visionary woman who nearly always got what she wanted. And in 1934, she wanted Mary Jane Warner to become Vail's permanent postmistress. Caroline had been the benefactor of Mary Jane's mother Dovie Woolsey and grew to admire Mary Jane after watching her take over her mother's duties as postmistress while she was ill. Dovie succumbed to her illness and in a less turbulent time, Mary Jane's appointment to Postmistress of Vail would have happened without incident, but this was 1934 and the world was in the grip of the Great Depression. Steady work was hard to find and men like George Allen were champing at the bit for that appointment which would not only come with pay, but housing in the adobe post office at the intersection of Highway 80 and the Southern Pacific Railroad Main Line.

Caroline Beach knew she had to intervene on the behalf of Mary Jane and her now orphaned siblings. In a Western Union telegram to Congresswoman Isabelle Greenway, Mrs. Beach wrote, "May I beg your favorable action on the appointment of Mary Jane Warner Democrat as Postmistress of Vail Arizona. Mrs. Warner has been assistant Postmistress during her widowed mother's long and fatal illness. Mrs. Woolsey's death has left destitute three young children. Mrs. Warner wishes to keep the home for these children holding



Postmistress Mary Jane Warner, 1930s. Davis Collection, Vail Preservation Society

them all together for 4 years. We have donated the building which holds the Home Country Store and Post Office the only store building in Vail. Mrs. Warner has given satisfaction in her work and the various members of the Vail community with whom we have discussed this are in accord with our plea. Praying a favorable action Caroline Beach."

After receiving Caroline's letter, Congresswoman Greenway became actively involved in the process of Mary Jane's appointment. Tucson's Democratic Party chair, Leslie Hardy pushed back on the idea of appointing Mary Jane, a young woman from Oklahoma, over someone like keen Tucsonan George Allen. But Congresswoman Greenway was quick to defend her residency requirement stating, "Mary Jane had been living in Vail for the past six months. It shouldn't really matter where she was from before that."

After some more curious correspondence, Mrs. Greenway sent her recommendation to the Acting First Assistant Postmaster General, V.C. Burke in May of 1934.

A few months later Mary Jane sent a hand-written note to Mrs. Greenway.



Old Vail Post Office rehabilitation. Courtesy Vail Preservation Society

"My Dear Mrs. Greenway:

Just a few lines to thank you very much for the lovely message and for both you[r] help and your sympathy. I should have written sooner but am very busy with my newly acquired family.

Have heard nothing definite yet about the Post Office but I feel sure I will get it with your kind help. I certainly hope I do my work here as it should be done and to the satisfaction of everyone concerned.

Thanks again very much.
Yours very truly,
Mary Jane Warner."

Mr. George Allen continued to hope the position would be his, but he received a letter from the Congresswoman's office dated August 31, 1934 explaining, "...I hope this clears up the matter of residence requirements which make it impossible for me to give your application the consideration I otherwise would have." In the end Mrs. Beach had her way—as she usually did.

In September of 1934, Mary Jane received official confirmation of her appointment. She lived in the three small rooms at the east end of the adobe with her brothers Bud, Ed, and sister Betty. They were visited every year by Mary Jane's other sister, Jacqueline. From the time Jacqueline was seven years old, she would be entrusted to the Southern Pacific Railroad conductor—a family friend—and ride the mail train from

San Bernardino to Vail for visits.

Mary Jane Warner stayed and became Vail's longest serving postmistress, retiring in 1973.

1934 was a busy year for Caroline Beach. At the same time she was helping get Mary Jane Warner appointed as Vail's postmistress, she funded and oversaw the construction of the beautiful Shrine of Santa Rita in the Desert. A devout Catholic, she built the Shrine, "...to benefit the Mexican families who worked on the ranches and railroad, in and around the village of Vail." It is an extraordinary circumstance that the two historic buildings that remain to us in 2025, stand across from each other between the tracks in the heart of Vail. Every other early building has been lost to time, development and the governmental policies that shape growth. The Territorial era Vail Home Store (Old Vail Post Office), and the 1935 Shrine of Santa Rita in the Desert alone are left to remind us of the national forces that converged on the last piece of flat land before the Southern Pacific Railroad line followed the old wagon road into Cienega Creek. They are all that is left to build an authentic sense of place and to remind us of our responsibility to the next generation to invest our time, influence and talents to make our community a great place to call home.

Preservation@Work
Painting the interior of the Old Vail
"Vail Preservation Society"
continued on page 34

Game Time! DIRECTIONS: Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Easy Sudoku

Solution - No cheating!

4	6	2	5	9	5	1	7	8
1	5	5	8	7	2	4	6	9
9	8	7	1	6	4	5	5	2
8	1	9	4	5	5	7	2	6
5	4	6	2	8	7	9	1	5
7	2	5	9	1	6	8	5	4
5	7	8	6	5	9	2	4	1
6	9	4	7	2	1	5	8	5
2	5	1	5	4	8	6	9	7

Medium Sudoku

Solution - No cheating!

6	8	4	5	1	5	7	2	9
1	5	9	4	2	7	5	8	6
5	7	2	9	8	6	4	1	5
5	9	6	8	5	1	2	4	7
8	4	5	7	9	2	5	6	1
2	1	7	6	5	4	8	9	5
7	5	8	1	4	9	6	5	2
9	6	5	2	7	8	1	5	4
4	2	1	5	6	5	9	7	8

Hard Sudoku

Solution - No cheating!

9	5	4	5	6	1	8	2	7
7	2	1	5	4	8	5	6	9
8	5	6	2	9	7	4	1	5
4	1	7	6	5	9	8	2	7
5	6	2	7	8	9	1	4	5
5	9	8	4	1	2	7	5	6
2	8	5	9	5	4	6	7	1
6	4	5	1	7	5	2	9	8
1	7	9	8	2	6	5	5	4



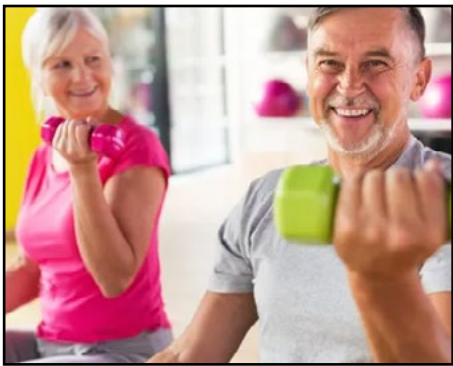
Prehab vs Rehab

Would you prefer to spend your days and money going to physical therapy to help heal your body from injury OR would you rather work on a regular basis doing exercises that help prevent an injury?

As a personal trainer I am a bit biased on this question because I choose prehab all the time. Not just for myself and my injury prone spots but I also prefer this route for my clients. Close to \$46 billion dollars annually is spent on physical therapy visits in the U.S. In comparison only a third of that amount is spent working with a personal trainer on a prehab fitness program.

If you are working out but still have injury prone areas that are not getting attention, then you may need to find a new trainer to work with or adjust your workouts to have some prehab exercise moves in the mix. For me personally I plan at least one day a week where I focus on my weaker areas, which for me are my adductors, feet, serratus, scapula, glutes..the list can go on. As you can see each person can have plenty of prehab areas to focus on depending on their daily activities and focus areas. As I love to lift weights, run and play soccer these are activities that can make my weaker areas prone to injury. I am very focused on prehab work so that I don't end up needing rehab on these areas and downtime getting in the way of my fun hobbies.

Top areas I see that require prehab and rehab work are knees, hips, shoulders and back. It's



also important to know you can be doing both prehab and rehab simultaneously. I have had clients who are doing physical therapy while also working with me so that we are working on all the surrounding muscles while healing and strengthening the recovering injury. In the end my clients work to get stronger than when they started.

Starting in a fitness program and focusing on some prehab exercises is the better route to go instead of waiting until you are in physical therapy and trying to play catch up with your body.

Reach out to me directly if you have more questions or need to start a Fitness Program. Email: Michelle@JourneytoFitness.us

By Michelle Alpiner
Owner & Master Personal Trainer
at Journey to Fitness, L.L.C.



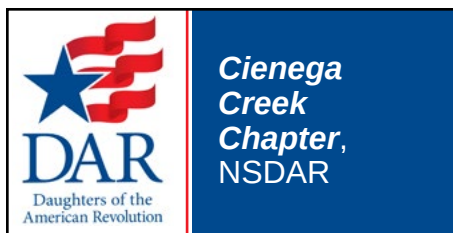
Your Hometown Newspaper

1/16 Page Ad Space Available

Advertise Here!

Contact Sales:
Sales@TheVailVoice.com
(520) 490-0654

THE VAIL VOICE | thevailvoice.com



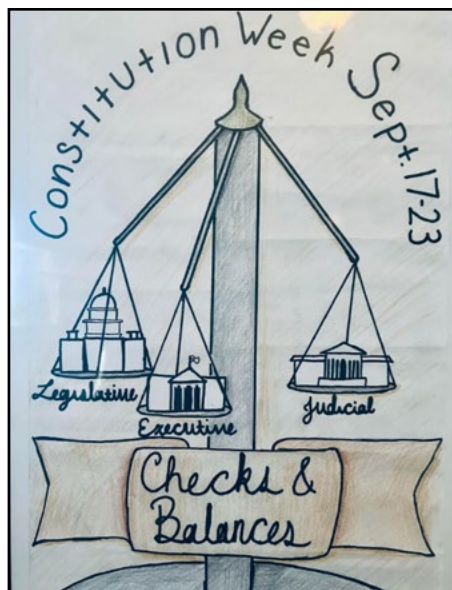
Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Poster Contest and 2024 Winners

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) is an organization with a deeply rich history while also being relevant in today's world. The NSDAR was founded in 1890 to promote three main pillars that continue to guide the organization after 135 years. The three pillars are historic preservation, education, and patriotism across the United States. Since the Society's founding, more than one million women have found purpose and passion in DAR membership. The DAR is passionate about educating America's youth and DAR members support a variety of different programs, contests, and awards to help further this goal. One of the annual activities is the Constitution Week Poster Contest.

The local Cienega Creek Chapter of the NSDAR, founded in 2023, was proud to introduce the 2024 DAR Constitution Week Poster Contest to the Vail district high schools and middle schools. The Constitution Week Poster Contest is an annual activity open to DAR and non-DAR members. The 2024 theme was Celebrate the Spirit and/or Meaning of the US Constitution. Students were encouraged to use their favorite art tools and plan their project for submission by January 1, 2025. The contest was open to individuals of all ages, but the entries were all judged using the same criteria.

The first place Cienega Creek Chapter winner was Jordan Lujan, a Cienega High School Junior

thevailvoice.com



Jordan Lujan - 1st Place Winner

and was presented a first place certificate and gift card. Jordan's poster depicts the three branches of government that provide checks and balances as governed by the Constitution of the United States (US). The three branches of government are established not by a single amendment, but by the original text of the US Constitution itself, specifically in Articles I, II, and III. These articles outline the powers and structures of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, respectively.

Jordan's winning chapter poster was submitted to the Arizona Society Daughters of the American Revolution (ASDAR) as an entry for the state level contest and won first place again! As the winning Constitution Week poster for the state of Arizona, it was submitted for the National level competition. The National winner was a poster from Michigan with a 'We the People' focus.

Our chapter was also proud to



Iris Macleod - 2nd Place Winner

recognize and present a second place certificate and gift card to Iris Macleod, a Junior at Cienega High School. Votes for women and the right to vote are tenets of the US Constitution celebrated in Iris' poster.

Women gained the right to vote in the US through the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which was completed on August 18, 1920. This amendment legally guaranteed American women the right to vote and represented a major milestone in the struggle for gender equality.

All DAR members and non-DAR members, of all ages, are invited to participate in the Constitution Week Poster Contest for 2025. All entries must be submitted by December 1, 2025, to the Cienega Creek Chapter. The poster should illustrate/celebrate the spirit or meaning of the U.S. Constitution. For more details about the 2025 Constitution Week Poster Contest, contact Jane Russ, Cienega

Creek Chapter Constitution Week Chair at JRussccdar@gmail.com

The National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) is a non-profit, non-political, worldwide service organization devoted to Historic Preservation, Education, Patriotism, and family history. If you are interested in joining or have questions and inquiries for the Regent, Kelly Hansen please email cienegacreekregent@gmail.com.

By Jane Russ,
Constitution Week Chair



August 2025

33



Fill a Meal Bag for a Child, Feed a Brighter Future

Each week, Greater Vail Community ReSources' Meals to Grow program quietly impacts lives across our community. Up to 550 children in Vail schools, who qualify for free or reduced lunch (kindergarten through 12th grade), receive a weekend meal bag filled with six meals, fruit, milk, and three healthy snacks. For many of these children, it's the difference between arriving at school hungry or ready to learn on Monday morning.

This Month, we are seeking the community's support with the Fill A Meal Bag campaign; help fill meal bags for local school children.

With grocery prices continuing to rise, families who once got by are now struggling. As noted in a recent Wall Street Journal article,

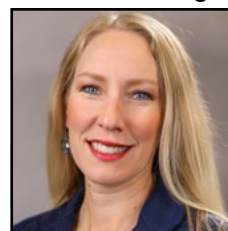
"Food banks have seen requests for assistance from households—including those with children—jump sharply over the past few years... This year, the federal government has canceled food deliveries and cut hundreds of millions of dollars in annual aid to food banks." At ReSources, we are beginning to see those reductions in food deliveries and program support. Our Pima County grant to help purchase Meals to Grow food was cut by 75%. We are counting on community support to ensure we have enough food to fill the weekend meal bags. Help us raise \$20,000!

Food insecurity doesn't just mean missing a meal—it can have lasting impacts on a child's ability to grow, learn, and succeed. Studies show that children who do not have reliable access to nutritious food are more likely to experience difficulties in school, including lower academic performance, behavioral challenges, and increased absenteeism. Weekend food insecurity can be especially harmful, as students may return to class on Monday hungry and unable to focus. By providing

meals through the Meals to Grow program, we help support not only a child's physical health but also their ability to engage and thrive in the classroom.

A donation of just \$40 feeds one child for an entire month of weekends. For \$480, you can sponsor a child for the entire year. Arizona residents may also be eligible for a state tax credit of up to \$495 for individuals or \$987 for couples—making it possible to give without it costing you a dime out of pocket. Please visit www.resourcesvail.org to learn more or to give. Together, we can ensure that no child in Vail goes hungry over the weekend. Help us fill a bag—and fuel a child's future.

Callie Tippet is the Executive Director for Greater Vail Community ReSources. She moved to Vail in 2002 and serves as a Governing Board member in VUSD. She is focused on supporting children and families in the Vail area.



"Vail Preservation Society" continued on page 31

Post Office has begun thanks to Wiese Painting Contractors! The colors match the building's original paint scheme which also happens to match vintage Southern Pacific Railroad colors. This tells us that residents and SPRR staff were working cooperatively. In fact, many of those associated with the Vail Store & Post Office were SPRR employees. As the building 'tells its stories' through the rehabilitation process it appears that the stone rubble east end of the building may be older than 1908 and have survived the 1908 fire that destroyed the wooden building that was next to it. It was likely The Roadhouse, a joint venture stage stop built with two rooms for travelers to rent and a room for dining. When rebuilding after the 1908 fire, much of the lumber that survived was reused in the truss and roof structure. Early Vail residents certainly did not waste anything. They reused and repurposed everything they could! They were living a sustainable lifestyle long before that became a modern buzzword.

J.J. Lamb is President & CEO of Vail Preservation Society. A U of A graduate, her family has lived in Vail since 1971. She was named an Arizona Culture-keeper in 2011 and an Arizona Friend of the Humanities in 2020.



Fill A Meal Bag Fundraiser

Greater Vail Community
ReSources
Vail Food Bank & Depot Thrift Store

2025 - 2026 School Year; We need your help

WEEKEND MEALS TO GROW PROGRAM

- ✓ Who: Children, Kinder - 12th Grade
- ✓ Where: Attending Vail Area Schools
- ✓ When: Year Round, including during school breaks.

WWW.RESOURCESVAIL.ORG

Scan to Donate



Happy Anniversary Corona Cares

Corona Cares celebrates 15 years of service to the Corona de Tucson area. We have been providing transportation for medical appointments, grocery shopping, pharmacy, and social events in the Corona de Tucson area; friendly phone calls; friendly visits; and caregiver relief. Transportation is the most frequent request for assistance for our rural area.

We currently have 16 volunteers providing support to 18 recipients. We are able to support most of the requests with the resources we have. After reviewing the past 15 years, we had 6 recipients stop

services, 26 moved out of the area, and 36 have passed away.

Each year we honor our volunteers with an appreciation luncheon. We do a holiday luncheon for volunteers and recipients that includes a bag of goodies. This year we received a grant from Trico that will be used to create a safety package. This will include a flashlight, nightlight, fire safety blanket, desk fan, and fire extinguisher.

Corona Cares will continue to serve the Corona de Tucson area. If you or anyone you know may be interested in volunteering or may benefit from any of the services we provide, please have them call 520-395-9327 or email CoronaCaresCdT@gmail.com.

By Ellie Abraham,
coordinator, Corona Cares

...

June 2025 Climate Report

The June 2025 climate report by John Simpson. June 2025 was warmer and wetter than average. Starting out with rainfall, as I reported last month, June was above average. I recorded 0.69" and my 15-year average is 0.44." All rain fell on June 1st, with a small amount occurring just past midnight on the 2nd. Since this occurred before June 15th, this rainfall does not count for the monsoon. The Tucson airport recorded 0.35" which is above its 30-year average of 0.23." The Vail and Sahuarita areas were the hot spot for rain in June with roughly ¾" rain amounts recorded in those areas. Much of Tucson received 1/3 to ½" rain amounts. See rainlog.org for reported rainfall in your area. Only trace to 0.01" amounts were recorded in the Tucson area for the Monsoon portion from June 15th to 30th leading to no "real" rainfall during the monsoon for June. On the temperature side, the airport had an average June high temperature of 103.1 degrees, which is 1.9 degrees above average. The average low of 73.5 degrees was 2.4 degrees above average making June 2025 the 12th warmest in Tucson history. At the time of this writing on July 15th, the first half of July has been very disappointing rainfall wise for much of the area. As always, there have been a few hot spots for rain the first ½ of July. The Tucson mall area had a storm before the July 4th holiday drop an inch plus of rain with wind damage and parts of the far NE side and along Sahuarita road West of Corona had one good storm. However, much of the area has only seen ¼" rain amounts with storms only on a few

days during the first 15 days of the month. Hopefully this changes this week as the forecast is for good rain chances the rest of this third week of July. On another note, the monsoon has been great for much of New Mexico, especially the eastern 2/3 of the state. Flooding around Roswell and the Eastern NM mountains has been prevalent during both June and July. The main reason why the monsoon has been good for NM and not so good for AZ is the position of the summer high pressure, which parked itself over Western AZ instead of being in a position further North to increase storm coverage in the Tucson area. Sierra Vista and Bisbee have not done too bad either as the first 15 days of July saw 1-2" rain amounts. For next month, I will report on July and hopefully our rainfall amounts make up for lost ground. We shall see.

John Simpson has lived in southern Arizona the past 36 years and Vail for 20 of those years. John has a bachelor's degree in



Atmospheric Science from the University of Missouri and a master's degree in Atmospheric Physics from the U of A. He loves exploring the outdoors with his family and photographing weather and the beauty of southern Arizona.

Looking to Get Noticed?

Corona de Tucson and Vail Voice

Advertise Here!

Contact Sales:
Sales@TheVailVoice.com
(520) 490-0654

Serving southeast Tucson, Corona de Tucson and Vail for over 20 years

Corona de Tucson and Vail Voice

and Asserts Itself as a Sovereign Entity

by Glenn Taylor, Kreg Luloff, Edward Buster, Elizabeth Potter, & Manuel Chavez

Incorporation is an inclusion of something as a part and whole for the people. The community of Corona de Tucson (CdT) has officially started the incorporation process.

Many are looking to escape the crowded, lacking, or not wanted with the community's... away, and urban sprawl development created by a growing... Tucson to our north, while working... of incorporation and continues... through its mission to own public... There is so much potential for us

THE VAIL VOICE | thevailvoice.com

Join Us at Your Neighborhood

Locally-Owned

Full-Service Restaurant


EL CORONADO
FAMILY RESTAURANT

Serving Brunch, Lunch & Dinner

Monday - Friday 11 am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 9pm



7385 S. Houghton Rd. #127
Tucson, AZ 85747

520.574.7776

SUN TAP
WATER SYSTEMS

"Family Owned and
Operated Since 1984"



520-573-1115

Call Now for a Free in Home Estimate

Are you tired of -

- Buying Bottled Water?
- Dry Hair & Skin?
- Hard Water Deposits?

We offer Affordable -

- Reverse Osmosis Systems
- Water Softening Systems
- Water Conditioning Systems



www.SunTapWater.com

ROC #305182

 A+ Rating



Auto Repair With Heart

OOROO Auto is proud to join the Vail community!
Locally owned and operated, OOROO provides expert
car repair and maintenance

For a limited time: Take \$25 or 10% off your next service.

(520) 394-8394 | Monday-Friday: 7:30am-5:30pm
10508 E Old Vail Rd (next to Hotrods)




AZ DAILY STAR
READERS FAVORITE


SOUTHERN ARIZONA TORCH AWARD
ETHICS & CUSTOMER EXCELLENCE

Word Search

Summer

J U N E S T S S S S Y K S E U L B M
U S M E A U Y E O U H I K I N G S A
S M W E E A N L U B N W A S E Y R E
U T W I R R S G I C A B L N A R E R
N S H V M T C C L T E A U D T V L C
T Y U G I M Y S E A D B I R S S K E
A G L C I C I R N N S L R R N D N C
N R E U L F M N A U O S E A R G I I
O E A E J E R S G H S W E A B N R C
S E D A L B R E L L O R O S R I P R
C N A O F L O G T L T B T E E T S E
H G N I H S I F F A E O A E E A H C
O R C A M P I N G T W T H B Z O C C
O A C I N C I P A W A S P S E B A O
L S F L I E S K M O S Q U I T O E S
T S U G U A S I L L A B E S A B B O
G N I N E D R A G S U N S H I N E N

ANTS
AUGUST
BARBECUE
BASEBALL
BEACH
BEES
BICYCLE
BLUE SKY
BOATING
BREEZE
CAMPING

FISHING
FLIES
FLOWERS
GARDENING
GOLF
GREEN GRASS
HAT
HIKING
HOLIDAYS
HOT
ICE CREAM

JULY
JUNE
MOSQUITOES
NO SCHOOL
PICNIC
ROLLER BLADES
SANDALS
SKATEBOARD
SOCCER
SOLSTICE
SPRINKLERS

SUNBURN
SUNGLASSES
SUNSCREEN
SUNSHINE
SUNTAN
SWEAT
SWIMMING
U V RAYS
WASPS
WATER FIGHTS
WATERMELON

CREATIVITY MEETS WELLNESS

Finding Balance Through Creative Wellness

What does a balanced life truly look like—and is it even possible?

Traditional views suggest that structure, routine, and time management equal balance. But from a creative wellness perspective, balance isn't about rigid schedules. It's about alignment—spending time on what truly brings value, harmony, and joy.

We all have obligations—work, responsibilities, tasks we may not enjoy. These can crowd out space for our passions, leading us to feel rushed or disconnected from what matters most. The real challenge isn't dividing time equally but cre-

ating a rhythm that helps us thrive.

Creative wellness encourages us to redefine balance. It's not about perfection or productivity—it's about wholeness. Even amid chaos, you can cultivate peace and fulfillment by tuning into your needs and values.

Instead of chasing society's version of balance, seek a life that feels rich and harmonious in its diversity. Balance, then, becomes personal—fluid, intentional, and deeply connected to your inner well-being.

Lisa's passion is to help people discover their soul-purpose through therapeutic art practices. Kindie is fascinated at how color serves to assist in revealing a person's life path through creative wellness mentoring. She is the queen of creativity!



The Academy of Tucson

Looking for an A-Rated, tuition free, college-prep, K-12 school for your child?

Come see about the Academy of Tucson!



Elementary School
9209 E Wrightstown Rd
(520) 886-6076



Middle School
7310 E 22nd St
(520) 749-1413



High School
10720 E 22nd St
(520) 733-0096

Tuition free public charter schools • Founded in 1986 • Chartered in 1999
Fully accredited since 1990 • Small class sizes • College-preparatory curriculum
Art, music, performing arts, PE, technology electives
Extracurricular activities including sports and clubs • 100% Graduation rate
Earn college credit while still in high school

Help a Child Thrive!

Volunteer to be a Court Appointed Special Advocate

Children in foster care who have a CASA volunteer are more likely to succeed in school, adjust to change, and they're half as likely to re-enter the foster care system. Be that caring adult to Change a Child's Story.

Get Involved Today!



CASAofPimaCounty.org

520-724-2060

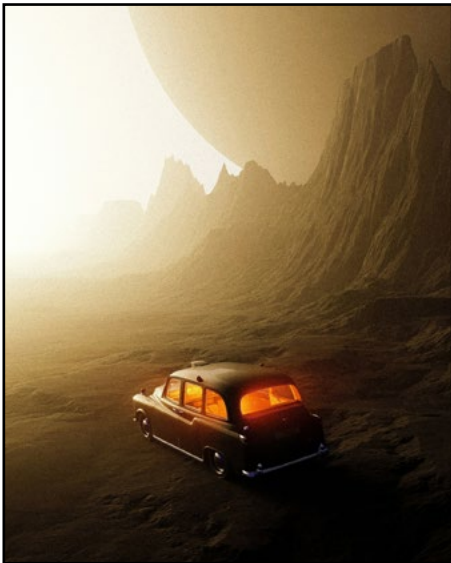
Healthy Guidance

Transforming Lives

Pioneering

What have you pioneered lately? What unknown or original task have you set yourself that was a new endeavor? What ground-breaking ideas have popped into your head recently? What fresh ideas have made their way into your world?

There are many ways to invigorate our lives and discovering ventures that entreat us to expand our views is a thrilling way to spice up life. If life feels stale, why not take a broader view of the world, literally or figuratively? Our hunter/gatherer ancestors and those that pioneered their way across the United States, including those who lead you to the place you live now, give us an example of how change can be just the right medicine.



Dare we change our circumstances? It could be as simple as talking to a stranger at work or changing careers. When we widen our perspective, allowing our eyes and hearts to open, we see how much is possible. This then in-



vites us to innovate, reinvent, and transform ourselves and thus the sphere around us.

Could you do with change? Would being in new circumstances summon courage and strength previously untapped? Maybe it's time to drop outdated stories and ways of being in order to press beyond what we've previously known. What's your spirit asking you to achieve? What's your soul longing for you to do? Find a peaceful, meditative state and place to listen for what your heart desires and pioneer a way to a joy filled future!

If you're feeling stuck, reach out to me for a private session or listen to my podcast to bring yourself more peace, joy, and clarity around your visions of the future.

Hollie Warnick is a Behavioral Kinesiologist and Reiki Master utilizing behavioral health concepts, applied kinesiology, and energy medicine to help clients love themselves and their life forward, backward, inside, and out. Join her world via podcast, personal transformation sessions, classes and more at HollieWarnick.com or call (520) 800-4383.



Beautify Your Home with

PROFESSIONAL & DEPENDABLE LANDSCAPING AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE.

Landscape installations, One time clean ups, Irrigation system installs, landscape lighting & Irrigation repairs

520.326.7209

www.sonoranscapesinc.com

Free ESTIMATES

SONORAN SCAPES LANDSCAPING INC.

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Servicing Tucson & Surrounding areas since 2000 ROC#256984

"Chief" Home Repair

Need it Fixed... "Call the Chief"

Call Mike Now For an Estimate! 520-403-1712

Doors Drywall Windows Tile & Stone Bath & Kitchens Remodel & Repair

25+ Years in Home Repair License # 3005544

Word Search

The hidden message is: SUMMER VACATION

WATERMELON	SPRINKLERS	ICE CREAM	CAMPING
WATER FIGHTS	SOLSTICE	HOT	BREEZE
WASPS	SOCCER	HOLIDAYS	BOATING
U V RAYS	SKATEBOARD	HIKING	BLUE SKY
SWIMMING	SANDALS	HAT	BICYCLE
SWEAT	ROLLER BLADES	GREEN GRASS	BEES
SUNTAN	PICNIC	GOLF	BEACH
SUNSHINE	NO SCHOOL	GARDENING	BASEBALL
SUNSCREEN	MOSQUITOES	FLOWERS	BARBECUE
SUNGLASSES	JUNE	FLIES	AUGUST
SUNBURN	JULY	FISHING	ANTS

Summer



Helping Kids Balance School, Activities & Smart Money Habits

From soccer practice and science club to band rehearsals and book reports, today's kids often find themselves juggling more than ever. While extracurricular activities offer incredible opportunities for growth, leadership, and fun, overscheduling can leave kids overwhelmed and exhausted.

So, how can you help your child find balance and build life skills along the way? Here are a few smart strategies, plus tips on how Hughes Federal Credit Union can support your family with youth savings tools designed to grow with your child.

Talk Through Priorities

The first step is a conversation. Ask your child which activities bring them joy and which ones they might be doing out of obligation. Helping them focus on what matters most teaches the importance of time management and being intentional with commitments.

Define Goals

Whether it's earning a black belt, making the varsity team, or mastering a new instrument, having clear goals adds purpose to each activity. Goal setting also creates natural points to pause and reflect on whether an activity still fits their interests.

Plan Together

A weekly planner or family calendar can help kids see the bigger picture. Scheduling schoolwork, practices, and downtime teaches time management in a tangible way. Flexibility is key, but a plan creates structure that can make each week feel more manageable.

Add in Financial Lessons

As your child learns to balance time, it's also a wonderful opportunity to introduce financial balance. With just \$5 to open and no monthly maintenance fees, our youth savings accounts are designed to help kids learn the basics of budgeting and saving. Plus, when they open an account, they'll receive a free membership to the KidCats Club, where Wildcat fans are rewarded for good saving habits. It's the perfect way to start their financial journey.

The KidCats Club is the official kids club for Wildcat fans in grades K-8 who will enjoy tickets to select Arizona home games, access to exclusive events and swag.

Protect Downtime

Kids need time to relax, recharge, and just be kids. Make sure they have space in their schedule for unstructured play, rest, or even boredom. It's essential for mental health and creativity.

Teach Boundaries

Saying "no" is a life skill. Help your child practice turning down com-



mitments that don't serve them. Whether it's skipping a weekend tournament or passing on another club, knowing their limits will serve them well in the long run.

Monitor and Adjust

Check in regularly. If your child's grades dip or they seem exhausted, it may be time to reassess their schedule. What works one semester may not the next, and that's okay.

Tip: Building smart habits early doesn't have to be hard. Hughes Federal Credit Union's Youth Savings Accounts offer real-world tools to help kids and families make confident financial choices today and in the future.

Learn more at [HughesFCU.org/Youth](https://www.hughesfcu.org/youth)





Back to School. Back to Smart Saving.

With school in session, it's the perfect time to teach smart money habits!

Open a Hughes Youth Savings Account and your child will receive a free KidCats Club membership! Includes tickets to select Arizona home games, cool swag and fun perks! Because it's never too early to make saving fun and rewarding.

HughesFCU.org/KidCats

We take you further.



Insured by NCUA. Certain restrictions apply.

Back to School To Do List:

- ☒ Open a Youth Savings Account for just \$5
- ☒ Get a Free KidCats membership
- ☒ Start their savings journey strong



**HughesFCU.org
520-794-8341**

This Page to be removed