

WINTER 2012

Desert Ridge

The Official Community Magazine of the Desert Ridge Community Association

Lifestyles[®]



Kenny Holland

The Rising
Star Next Door

See page 16



DEPARTMENTS

- Association News
- School News
- Our Resources
- Our Community
- Culture & Arts
- District News
- Dining Guide

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MANAGEMENT TEAM AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Manager



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Residential
Community
Manager



VALERIE OLIVER
Design Review
Manager



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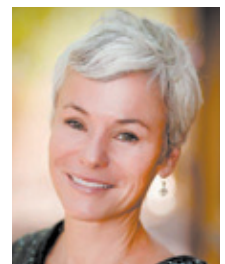
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Committee



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Nominating
Committee

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CASHMAN PARK UPGRADE PLANNED

Cashman Park is a neighborhood park within Desert Ridge that is owned and operated by the City of Phoenix. Located where 44th Street and Pathfinder meet, just south of Desert Trails Elementary, this park gives the City and surrounding Desert Ridge community acres of open fields and traditional park equipment.

Cashman Park was built years ago, when the Desert Ridge Community was first constructed. Although well kept, the Park is showing its age. Unlike, for example, Aviano and Fireside Parks, Cashman is not within a formal sub-association area and depends 100% on City of Phoenix taxpayer money for its upkeep. The City has not had the funds available to make many upgrades to the Park system and Cashman Park hasn't had a true upgrade in 16 years.

Please refer to page 6 for the Cashman Park Spring Picnic announcement.

The Desert Ridge Community Association views Cashman Park as an incredible resource available to all residents of Desert Ridge, and has researched the possibility of enhancing the Park through the City of Phoenix's "Adopt-a-Park" program. With the help of the Desert Ridge Parents Group, local developers, and members of the community at large, the Board created a Cashman Park Exploratory Committee. This Committee oversaw communication with The McGough Group, a landscape architect, to draw preliminary plans of what the park can look like with creative vision.









The Committee worked to get input from various constituencies within the community to design a park that has features for multiple groups and interests. The preliminary designs show upgraded ramadas, a multipurpose amphitheater, new playground structures, exercise stations, a walking trail and a splash pad fun park. In addition, practical features such as xeriscape and landscaping to control water runoff and additional parking make this a responsible park for the community.

Members of the Desert Ridge Board met with the City of Phoenix Parks Board on January 26th to share the initial plans and ask permission to enter into formal negotiation with the City on this public/private partnership. The Parks Board approved this critical first step and now we want to ensure that upgrading this central Desert Ridge

Park is done correctly. A project of this size and breadth has never been done before between the City of Phoenix and a Community Association.

We feel that an upgrade to Cashman Park will increase the value of homes in Desert Ridge and will improve the Desert Ridge lifestyle with an amazing amenity. Between approvals, construction time and Community Association budget, it may take a couple of years to phase in a completed project. Please note that the goal is to fund Park renovation with Reserve Funds and not through any increase in resident assessments.

In this initial development phase, abundant community input is critical. We have discussed the designs at the November 15th Evening Coffee Club, at Desert Ridge Board meetings and we're setting up a meeting in late March to review the designs in Cashman Park itself. However, we understand that some of us aren't able to attend these meetings. We're looking for feedback, and want you involved in this community commitment. Please feel free to contact the Board through our Community Association office at 480-551-4553, or at desertridge@rossmar.com.

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From the President

NEW & EXCITING CHANGES



DOUG DICKSON

Have you seen our new website at www.desertridgelifestyles.com? If not, we hope you'll check it out soon and give us your feedback on what you'd like to see online.

Our community's website is only in its very first phase and will continue to grow, connecting our community and providing members of the Desert Ridge Community Association with information and the opportunity to easily provide input.

The website is only one of many changes we've made this past year, here are some others you may have noticed:

- Off duty police patrol throughout Desert Ridge
- Holiday lighting at the intersection of Deer Valley Rd. and Tatum Blvd.
- Evening Coffee Club with councilman Jim Waring
- Expanded sponsorship of the 4th of July fireworks
- Proposed improvements to Cashman Park

The one thing that hasn't changed is our Board's commitment to living within our budget and avoiding any increase in Association fees. We accomplished our goal again in 2011 and look forward to repeating our success in 2012.

On behalf of our entire Board, we're thankful for your support and glad we can call you "neighbor."

Doug Dickson
President and Treasurer
Desert Ridge Community Association

Cashman Park Spring Picnic

The Desert Ridge Community Association Board of Directors would like to invite you to join them for a picnic in the park.

When

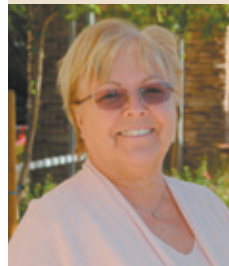
SATURDAY ■ MARCH 24, 2012 ■ 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Where

CASHMAN PARK
22222 N. 44th St., Phoenix, AZ 85050 (44th St. & Pathfinder Dr.)

The Board is planning to provide food and refreshments, family entertainment, and information regarding the Cashman Park upgrade project. Please feel free to contact the Community Association office at 480-551-4553, or at desertridge@rossmar.com.

Letter from the COMMUNICATION CHAIR



KATHY CRAWFORD

Wow – did you know we have a star in our midst? Well, we were thrilled to find Kenny Holland who is at Pinnacle High School and has already embarked on a music career. Read the interview we did with him and find out about his life around Desert Ridge in this issue of Desert Ridge Lifestyles.

A lot has been going since our last issue. We have attended a City of Phoenix Parks Board meeting and presented the conceptual upgrade plan for Cashman Park. We have received approval from the Parks Board to continue the development of the Cashman Park improvements in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Department. The Cashman Park Exploratory Committee is working with the architect to develop costs for the upgrades. The conceptual upgrade plan will be presented to residents for discussion and comments in future Desert Ridge events and meetings.

The City of Phoenix has also been conducting meetings regarding the Black Mountain Blvd., extension of the SR51. Our District 2 Councilman Jim Waring is attending these meetings as well. Many questions have been raised and there are several issues for the City to research. There are several websites to give you answers: www.blackmountainblvd.com as well as Councilman Waring's email address which is council.district.2@phoenix.gov. You can also reach him at 602-262-7445. He wants to hear from us so please don't be shy!!!

With mixed feelings, we would like to report that Mona Brown is leaving our team for a new career opportunity. Mona, who has been part of our team for nearly four years, will be missed. Please join us in thanking Mona for her contributions to Desert Ridge and wishing her the best in her new endeavor. We are pleased to announce that Alyssia Saxton, a current member of our team, will be assuming this role as the new Lifestyles Coordinator at Desert Ridge. We would like to congratulate Alyssia on her promotion to this new position.

Kathy Crawford
Communication Chairperson
Desert Ridge Community Association

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DESIGN REVIEW

Be sure to submit your Architectural Request:

Are you painting, planting, installing/improving or just replacing something outside of your home?

Remember to submit an Architectural Request Form for all exterior changes made to your lot prior to beginning construction. This includes simply painting or repainting the exterior of your home even if using the same colors, enhancing your landscape with new plants, replacing existing plants, laying down pavers, adding a gazebo, etc.



Did you know?

There are specific paint palettes for each neighborhood in Desert Ridge as well as specific plant lists for the front yard, private rear yard and visible rear yards. Certain requests require certain setbacks from property lines for your lot. Be sure that you are making approved changes and/or renovations.



All forms can be submitted to the on-site Desert Ridge Community Association office. Please refer to your Architectural & Community Guidelines booklet for forms, approved plant lists and setback requirements. If a form, plant list or exterior paint colors are needed, please contact Valerie Oliver at 480-551-4559 or voliver@rossmar.com.

PET OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

This is a reminder to pet owners who walk their pets in the common areas of our community; please pick up after your pet.

- Keep them on a leash so you can maintain control of your pet while using the common areas.
- Carry plastic bags or use waste stations strategically located throughout the community and clean up your pet's waste.
- Don't allow pets to run loose in the community.

We enjoy many amenities in our community, nice walkways, sidewalks and green areas. It becomes very difficult to truly enjoy these if they are littered with pet waste and unpleasant odors.

Please do your part and pick up after your pet.

Help keep Desert Ridge a great place to live.



For the neighborhood pet owners who follow the pet handling rules; thank you for your consideration, common sense and diligence in setting a good example for others.

COFFEE CLUB SCHEDULE

There will be NO coffee club on Tuesday, March 13, 2012.

The next coffee club event will be announced soon!



ASSOCIATION NEWS

ATV'S AND STATE TRUST LANDS

By Officer Tim Mitten
Community Action Officer
Phoenix Police Department
Black Mountain Precinct

As an Arizona native, I had many opportunities to go out and enjoy the many recreational activities of the Arizona desert and the natural resources that are in abundance. The City of Phoenix has integrated the responsible preservation and use of these lands in many mountain preserves, hiking trails, recreational and city parks and has helped many neighborhoods and master planned communities have recreational land access built into them. The City of Phoenix Parks Department is responsible for managing hiking trails and parks that are owned and operated by the City of Phoenix.

The trails and parks owned and operated by the City of Phoenix are separate from State Trust Land and have different rules. Hiking trails in the City of Phoenix are for pedestrians, bicycles and horses. There are no motorized vehicles allowed on any trails in city parks and dogs are required to be on a leash. Users are also required to stay on the trails and not go off into the open areas around the trails. Most trails and parks have these and any other specific uses posted at the entrances or in the parking lots if there is one. Please



review them prior to using the trail system. It is also very important to observe some basic safety rules like always tell someone where you went hiking, bring plenty of water, a cell phone, wear appropriate clothes, hats, sun block and shoes for hiking and know your limitations. For more information on using the City of Phoenix Parks go to www.phoenix.gov/parks.

Many master planned communities or neighborhoods have a trail system through their neighborhoods that are privately owned. Most have similar rules as to the hiking trails and do not allow motorized vehicles of any kind on them so a rider of a motorized vehicle on a private trail could be cited for trespassing, even if they are a resident of that community. ATV and other off road vehicle riders need to be aware of the laws that govern their use to avoid any criminal charges. There are many open areas that these riders can go to so they can fully enjoy the ATV. For more information on places to ride go to www.azstateparks.com/ohv.

Much of the open land in and surrounding the City of Phoenix is State Trust Land managed by the State of Arizona State Land Department. It is important to know that Arizona Trust Land is not public land. A recreational permit is required to be on State Trust land that is designated as open for recreation and not all State Trust land is open for recreational purposes. The recreational permit allows you to hike, bike, horseback ride, bicycling, picnic, photography, bird watching, sightseeing, and camping (up to 14 days per year). It does not allow you to target shoot, paintball, air soft,



recreational flying (ultra lights), fireworks, sand railing, rock hopping or off road driving. There is limited bird hunting allowed on State Trust lands. There are many historic cultural or prehistoric ruins and archaeological sites in our State Trust lands which are not to be disturbed as well as removing rocks, cacti, saguaro or cholla skeletons, plants or firewood. For more information on obtaining a permit or the use of State Trust lands, go to www.land.state.az.us.

Proper use of our beautiful open spaces, desert environment and its resources is every Arizonans' responsibility. We should all be able to enjoy these lands, both public and private property trails and parks together, without disturbance by those who wish to be irresponsible, act in a criminal manner and destroy our land or property. The West is this country's last bastion of openness in the lower 48 and it is our responsibility to protect and preserve it as best as possible while allowing all citizens access to use it. I encourage everyone to remind themselves, their children and others of the proper use of trails, private property and open land.

If anything of a criminal or suspicious nature is observed that you call the Phoenix Police Department at 602-262-6151 or 911 in an emergency.

Contact me at 602-495-5238 or at tim.mitten@phoenix.gov for questions regarding this or any other issue.

DESERT RIDGE OFF DUTY POLICE PATROLS

This program was started on December 1, 2011 with the main focus to deter burglaries, thefts and stolen vehicles while also being a visible presence in the Desert Ridge community.

Your Garage Door

Officers working in the community have noticed numerous open garages. We see anywhere from 12 to 15 open garages a day. We do stop and make contact with residents and inform them of the open garage. Most were unaware that the garage door was open but some knew it was open. It only takes a thief less than a minute to walk up the driveway and into your open garage, taking bikes, golf clubs or any other valuable items left in the garage or in the car in the garage, such as purses, wallets, jewelry, checks, etc., or even worse, enter your house if the door is unlocked. There were even a couple instances of unoccupied vehicles running while the resident was inside.

Please make sure that garage doors are kept closed.

This will show any potential thieves who may come into the area, that there are not any easy targets.



Neighborhood Crime

There is very good news to relay directly related to the work of the off duty patrol officers and the open communication

from the established Block Watches. It is known to many Desert Ridge residents that there has been several burglaries occurring since the late summer or early fall. In response to this, several neighborhoods have gotten active and started a Block Watch or reinvigorated an old one and also started communicating with each other and also with me.

As a result of this communication, a vehicle that had been seen in the area of numerous burglaries but had left before we could arrive was seen by a watchful neighbor. Due to this communication and some luck, the information on the vehicle and its last known location was instrumental in the Phoenix Police Department apprehending the burglar in the act, including some assistance from the off duty officer from Desert Ridge.

This person is being investigated for several burglaries and as of today has been charged with at least four more in addition to the charges from the arrest of that day. All burglaries from the area are being thoroughly investigated but unless the evidence can connect this person to a particular burglary that case might never be cleared or the property recovered. We are doing everything we can to ensure this person is charged, convicted and ultimately sentenced to the maximum for these charges. We will not be releasing any names or photos since that might jeopardize any current investigations.

Vacation Watches

If you are going to be away from your home for vacation or any other extended period of time or you are a winter visitor, officers can check your house on a random basis to see if it is secure. Please call the Black Mountain



Precinct at 602-495-5002 and request a "vacation watch". If you call after hours, please leave your name and contact number for the desk aide to return your call and to get the required information.

We will check your home on a random basis; log when we were there and if we find something unusual, unsecured or broken, we will contact you or whomever you designate as a contact.

In Conclusion

Keep in mind that more than likely, there is more than just one burglar working in the Desert Ridge area. While we are glad that we caught one there are many more out there, so we all must continue to be watchful of what is occurring in our neighborhoods. I will continue to update all the residents of the Desert Ridge community on all aspects of this new program in addition to the regular communication on other events or programs in the area. I look forward to continuing to improve the City of Phoenix's neighborhoods so that we all may enjoy a great quality of life.

If anyone wishes to contact me on this program, start a Block Watch or on any other issue, please feel free to contact me at tim.mitten@phoenix.gov or at 602-495-5238.

Please 911 for emergencies or Crime Stop at 602-262-6151, for non-emergency assistance, to have officers dispatched out to their residence.

Thank you!

ASSOCIATION NEWS

**NEW DATES
AND LOCATION
UPCOMING BOARD
MEETINGS**

BOARD MEETINGS ARE
NOW HELD ON THE
4TH WEDNESDAY OF
EACH MONTH AND
IN A NEW LOCATION
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■
Wednesday, February 22, 2012

Wednesday, March 28, 2012
■

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6:00 p.m.

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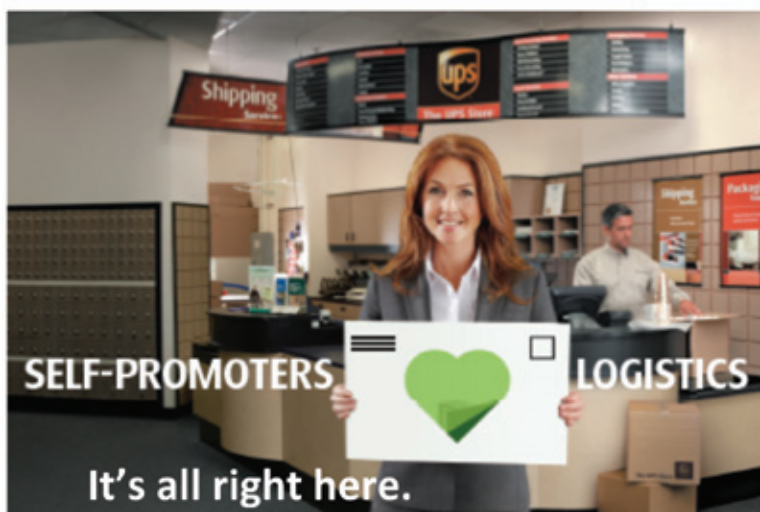
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GET INVOLVED! SERVE ON THE Desert Ridge Community Association BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Desert Ridge Community Association Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the 2012 election for four (4) open seats on the Board of Directors. The election results will be announced during the Association's Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2012. However, there are several steps and events that will take place between now and then. Here are a few key dates in 2012, to keep in mind:

- **MARCH 9** – Board Candidate application forms due to the Association's office.
- **MARCH 18** – Candidate Meet & Greet at the Market on High Street (Farmer's Market) 10 am to noon.
- **APRIL 12** – Mail-in ballots for election of Board of Directors due from all members to the Association office.
- **APRIL 19** – 7:00 pm, Annual Meeting and announcement of election results will be held at the JW Marriott.

BOARD CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

The qualifications established by the Desert Ridge Community Association's ("Association") Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Easements for Desert Ridge as recorded and amended (CC and



R's) and the Association's Nominating Committee per Section 3.8 of the Association's Bylaws for being nominated to serve on the Board are listed below. Please review each item closely before submitting your Candidate Form for consideration.

ALL CANDIDATES MUST BE:

As required per the CC and R's, all items must be complied with through the election at the Annual Meeting:

- A confirmed owner of record in the Association or a representative of a confirmed owner of record in the Association. If you are a representative of a confirmed owner of record you must provide a signed, notarized letter from the owner of record, appointing you as its' representative.
- A member in good standing, with all assessments current (no more than 30 days delinquent) and no outstanding violation of the CC and R's.
- Not have member rights suspended

by the Board of Directors for any violations of the Association's governing documents.

- Not be involved in current litigation regarding compliance or dispute with Association's governing documents.
- Commit to attend regularly scheduled board meetings (at least once a month), as well as the additional time that may be required in order to participate at the committee level.

Additional Qualifications Established by the Association's Nominating Committee:

- Strongly recommend attending the Candidate Meet & Greet at the Market on High Street (Farmer's Market), Sunday, March 18, 10am to noon.
- Must attend the Annual Meeting – 7:00p.m., Thursday, April 19, 2012.
- Must attend the Organizational Meeting scheduled within 5 business days of the Annual Meeting.
- Must attend Board Member training, scheduled within 10 business days of the Annual Meeting.
- Attendance at a Board of Directors Meeting, prior to the election, is strongly suggested. Next meeting dates are Wednesday, February 22nd and Wednesday, March 28th.

Please contact Alyssia Saxton, Lifestyles Coordinator, at the Desert Ridge Community Association office at 480-551-4553 or by email to asaxton@rossmar.com for more information.

Thank you for your valued interest and participation in our community!

Board Candidate FAQ's

What does the Nominating Committee do?

The Nominating Committee's primary function is to ensure that the community has well qualified candidates nominated from the Desert Ridge community to serve as Members of the Community Association Board of Directors.

What does the Nominating Committee have planned for this year?

A Board candidate announcement was included in the Holiday 2011 issue of this Magazine. This issue contains the board candidate qualifications and email address for the application forms. A "Meet the Candidate" event at the CityNorth Market on High Street is scheduled for Sunday, March 18th so that members of the community can meet prospective Board Members.

How many positions are available this year and how long will my term be?

Out of the seven member seats on the Board of Directors, there are four seats on the Board of Directors that are available for election in 2012. Directors are elected to serve two year terms. This year, one of the available seats is a result of a Director resignation in 2011; this position will be elected for a one year term to complete the original unexpired two year term. The remaining three positions will serve two year terms.

What is the process for running for a position on the Board?

Contact the Association office at: 480-551-4553 or email to: desertridge@rossmar.com or stop by the Association office (20860 N. Tatum

Blvd, Suite 360, Phoenix 85050) to pick up the application.

Return all application forms to the Association office no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, March 9th.

In addition, candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the "Meet the Candidate" event on Sunday, March 18th. Candidates must attend the Desert Ridge Community Association Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, April 19th.

It is recommended to attend a Board meeting; Wednesdays, February 22nd and March 28th.


What are the Directors' responsibilities?

The Desert Ridge Community Association is an Arizona-chartered, nonprofit organization. Directors are responsible for operating and maintaining the "common area" property of the community, reviewing and approving all site plans and improvements within the community, and providing coordination and oversight of the Subsidiary Associations. Luckily, we have a management company that handles most of the day-to-day operations.



What is the time commitment needed while serving on the Board?

The Board typically holds one Open Session and one Executive Session per

continued on page 26



KATHY CRAWFORD
Phoenix/Scottsdale
Real Estate Consultant

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DISTRICT SPELLING BEE RESULTS

The PVschools District Spelling Bee was held Friday, Jan. 20. The district winner was Ben Jackman from Grayhawk Elementary, correctly spelling the word mechanistic. The runner up was Supriya Weiss from Sonoran Sky Elementary. Congratulations to these top eight spellers who will move on to the Region II Spelling Bee at Deer Valley School District on Thursday, Feb. 17:

- Ben Jackman**, Grayhawk, grade 6
- Supriya Weiss**, Sonoran Sky, grade 5
- Michael Vedder**, Vista Verde Middle, grade 8

- Samantha Sokol**, Desert Trails, grade 6
- Catie Morensoni**, Boulder Creek, grade 6
- Derek Scott**, Cactus View, grade 6
- Prgna Karlapudi**, Desert Cove, grade 4
- Josh Colten**, Sandpiper, grade 5

**ARIZONA SCITECH FESTIVAL
JAN. 25 - MAR. 14**

The Arizona Scitech Festival showcases Arizona as a national leader in science, technology and innovation through a series of events taking place during the month of February 2012.

Spearheaded by the Arizona Technology Council Foun-

ation, in partnership with Arizona State University and Arizona Science Center, the Arizona SciTech Festival is a grass roots collaboration of over 200 organizations in industry, academia, arts, community and K-12, geared to excite and inform Arizonans ages three to 103 about how science, technology and innovation will drive our state for the next 100 years. For event details, visit azscitechfest.org

THANK YOU TAX CREDIT DONORS

Our first year of online tax credit donation acceptance was a success, with a marked increase of donations through the convenient online site providing for credit card acceptance and up-to-the-deadline availability. Your donations will be used to enrich education for PVschools students by funding programs and activities such as sports, visual and performing arts, field trips, character education and clubs. Remember to claim this credit when you complete your 2011 state tax forms.

pvONLINE

2012 summer school is free for PVschools students

Registration for pvONLINE summer school is March 5 – May 10 through Infinite Campus. The session begins June 4 and ends July 13.

Students must be able to take in-person final exam July 9 - July 13 or July 16 and must log at least 112.5 hours per semester course.

For course selection, verify with transcripts in Infinite Campus and consult guidance counselor as needed.

Registration is on a first come, first served basis with limited class sizes.

Traditional in-class summer school will also be held, with registration through the Community Education department.

- SESSION 1:**
June 4 – June 21
- SESSION 2:**
June 25 – July 13
7:30 a.m. to 12 noon
Mon. - Fri.
The fee is \$199.

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OUR RESOURCES

The Internet Strikes Back

I first became interested in Internet security when I found out my eleven-year-old had a MySpace account and an email address. I knew he was too young to understand the inherent issues of the Internet, but I did my best to explain it to him. I realized I had to take a deep

Tube video, and an article from the Huffington Post. She posts the content. What Jane doesn't realize, however, is that one of the people in the discussion is a member of some political group, who decides to forward the post to her own private website, in Madrid. Since

of Facebook, Twitter, or Google should always understand the site's security policy and configuration before using any of its products. This is especially true of policies concerning content sharing (i.e., text, voice, pictures, and video). While moderation is used as a minimum standard to assuage accidental public exposure, other content is made for public consumption.

Publicly available information may include real estate, business financials, legal judgments, age, phone numbers, and email. Several websites including 123people, Spokeo, and Jigsaw collect your public information and sell it to anyone with access to a computer. Have you ever Googled yourself? Try it. The information you might find has always been there; but unlike today, you had to either hire a detective, or know how to get it for yourself. The good news is that most of these sites have an opt-out policy, or you can hire a service to minimize your public exposure. Obviously federal, state and local government policy is outside the scope of this article, but the information is out there if you care to investigate.

While the benefits of the Internet and social networking are well known; the consumer is not sure how to protect him or herself from it. We did cover a lot but there is much more to understand. I encourage everyone to ask questions, and to demand more user-friendly products.

What would you like to talk about? Please post your comments or questions here www.facebook.com/itcloudlink, or email me jcr@itcloudlink.com

Facebook Security How-to: <http://bit.ly/wQfH1F>

dive into Internet security if I was going to explain to him what the issues were. That was two-and-a half years ago.

The complexities of social networks

Although still in its infancy, the Internet has come a long way since the days of AOL and text-only chat rooms. Now there is Facebook, Google, YouTube, and Twitter. These social and indexing networks function as a part of a larger global network to create more value for the consumer (think of these network systems as a type of ecosystem). It is precisely here, in the cross pollination of content and disparate security standards where the consumer loses control over his or her privacy. It is confusing I know, so here is a hypothetical example: Jane logs into Facebook and join a discussion already in progress. She doesn't know everyone in the discussion, but she knows most of them, so Jane jumps in. She quickly adds her own content including a link to a You

Tube video, and an article from the Huffington Post. She posts the content. What Jane doesn't realize, however, is that one of the people in the discussion is a member of some political group, who decides to forward the post to her own private website, in Madrid. Since Madrid may not have many laws against doing this Jane can't do much about it. Now every time someone Google's Jane, there is her content – apparently the most Facebook-savvy member of "Group X." Although this example may seem extreme; it does well to underscore the complexities of social networks and the need to educate ourselves and our children. While most Americans understand the need for security; product design and ongoing policy shift make it difficult for consumers to protect themselves.

Moderation should be the standard

The first and most important step towards protecting yourself and family is to always avoid posting objectionable content. In this case, moderation should be the standard for content and the key to managing any online event. Some experts go so far as to suggest moderation when discussing religious or political views online. Consumers



KENNY HOLLAND INTERVIEW

Desert Ridge has found a rising star in our community. He is Kenny Holland, a 4 year Desert Ridge resident, self-described Pop-Rock singer. Kenny has just released a debut single entitled "SO WHAT", that is available on iTunes and his Facebook page. We contacted his parents and his agent (yes, he has an agent!!!!) and arranged the following interview about his journey to stardom while growing up in Desert Ridge.

DRL: We know that you go to Pinnacle High School, tell us about school.

KH: Spanish is my best subject. I just have a knack for it. The toughest subject is Pre-Calc Honors; math is tough. I have a full load of classes, 7 periods.

DRL: Do you perform in lots of school events and what have they been?

KH: I always participate in the Talent Show, Mr. Pinnacle Pageant, half-time shows. I've sung the National Anthem at a couple of assemblies. I take every opportunity to sing or perform, that I can.

DRL: How old were you when you started your musical career and what made you realize you could go "all the way"?

KH: I started playing the piano at 8 years old. The whole family sings together (5 girls/ 1 boy, 2 parents) in my family. I began to seriously think about singing in my freshman year. I practice every day, playing and singing for about an hour. (His father reiterated that Kenny is always playing and singing at home)

Singing is a huge passion of mine, (with a broad smile) and I am willing to do what it takes to make it! I sing with friends sometimes, too. He says he once sang to his sisters at a Mr. Pinnacle Pageant and that the crowd reaction was pretty good. The crowd really liked the song.

DRL: So tell us about the fun stuff...your favorite place to eat in Desert Ridge?

KH: Islands Burger in Desert Ridge MarketPlace. I really like the, "Big Wave Burger with cheese and Endless Fries. It is a massive cheeseburger. I get it well done.

DRL: What reality show would you want to be on and why?

COVER STORY

KH: American Idol. The reason is self-explanatory and it will broaden my horizons. Maybe I can meet J-Lo, too. (yet another big smile from Kenny)

DRL: I need a good meal. What can you cook for me?

KH: I just learned how to make steak on the grill. (when pressed for some kind of side dish Kenny says) I can also slice up some strawberries, oh and grilled green beans; I can do that, too! (yeah, Kenny knows how to work the crowd. DRL had to smile this time...)

DRL: Favorite cartoon?

KH: Fresh Prince of Bel-Air is my favorite TV show but Tom & Jerry, old school cartoon is a favorite.

DRL: Cool downtown apartment, beach house, cottage by the sea, house in the hills; which do you prefer and why?

KH: Beach house! I love the beach. It

is a favorite vacation spot. I went to Mission Beach and it was one of the “funnest” weeks of my life. It was during Spring Break. There were friends and we had long boards (skateboards, not surfboards).

DRL: Favorite book?

KH: Not much of a reader but I enjoyed reading, A Child Called It, a biography. It was inspirational. You never know what others have gone through; you can’t judge them for how they look or how they act, he says.

DRL: Favorite hero?

KH: My Uncle Kyle. He is 5 years older than me but he has taught me a lot. We hang out, play basketball together and he is always there for me.

DRL: One final question, what super-power would you want to have?

KH: Food at the snap of my fingers –

yeah, instant appearing food! (rubs his tummy and smiles again) I like eating!

Kenny says he is neither a morning nor a night person; but likes to sleep. When asked about where he would hide a giraffe, he commented that his closet has lots of room and a giraffe could not be found in there. He has chores to do at home; like vacuuming. Playing basketball is his favorite sport. He is currently working on an album that is expected to be out around the end of April or maybe in May, in time for his birthday.

Kenny flashes another big smile as he and his dad leave. Kenny is very polite, well grounded, has a great attitude and is enjoying being 16. Fame has not gone to his head.

So, what!



Now Is the Time To Join A Play Group!

The weather is one of the reasons we live – and so many people visit – the Phoenix area in the spring. There’s baseball, golf, swimming pools, plus fabulous shopping and restaurants. So many of us enjoy, or even gloat to snowbound family members, that we are able to take our children outdoors to play in February. There’s no need to bundle them up with scarves, mittens, boots, hats and coats, only to return after 10 minutes frozen to the bone. It’s easy and fun here.

Connecting

It’s even more fun when you belong to a Desert Ridge Parents Group (DRPG) Play Group. You meet families who have children the same age that you have; who have a great deal in common with you and who your child(ren) will most likely end up going to the same school or preschool. As your children bond, you are more than likely bonding with another parent who is agonizing over potty training for the first time, or thumb sucking or toe walking or any number of trials or tribulations that parents go through.

There is a wide variety of Play Groups that meet weekly, including infant play groups (Mommy bonding time) that are held in parents’ homes on a rotating basis; toddler and preschooler playgroups meet at various parks or occasionally at the local library for Story Time. If there’s not a playgroup that fits your child’s time or day requirements, many parents have started their own play group and others join in. Just post your preference on the group website and soon, people start joining in. Before you know it, your child will be invited to birthday parties and you’ll

be talking to the other parents about how you were able to get your child to bed without a fuss.

Join Up

If you’re interested in meeting a group of parents with children who live in your area, check out DRPGonline to join. It’s only \$30 a year for the entire family. In addition to play groups, there are Mom’s and Dad’s Night Out, other family events (like a trip to a



dairy farm, the children’s museum or even learn how to make a pizza at a local restaurant), crafts for the kids, the Fall Festival and Spring Fling (big events for all the families that belong to DRPG at Cashman Park), clothing and toy swaps, and the list goes on and on.

THE MENTAL GAME



Gladys Lee LPGA
Head Coach
EMCC

No matter what level or handicap a golfer may have we all find ourselves in some type of trouble on the golf course.

By getting out of our own way,

we could lower our scores by using our heads. The key to any situation on the golf course is what we think and the preparation we take.

There are 3 priorities we should think of as an example when we find ourselves faced with a course situation.

For example; we tee off, miss the fairway and land in a fairway bunker.

The priorities should be in this sequential order.

- #1. Getting Out
- #2. Getting On
- #3. Getting Close

Key to preparation

#1. (Getting out) tune into the process
#2. (Getting on) picking a club that is comfortable and visualizes the ball is on a smooth surface allowing the body to feel confident in making the swing.

#3. (Getting close) choose the right club.

We make the mistake by not knowing what club to use to get it close.

Know your equipment, know your weakness, and know your strengths.

Thank you,

Gladys M. Lee LPGA
Head Coach Women’s Golf
Estrella Mountain Community
College



OUR COMMUNITY

ABOUT CYCLE FOR SURVIVAL

What Cycle Is

In 2007, rare cancer patient, Jennifer Goodman Linn, held a small cycling event with a few friends at an Equinox club in New York City, hoping to raise \$10,000 for research into rare cancers at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSK). Having been diagnosed with sarcoma, a soft tissue cancer a few

years earlier, Jen and her husband, Dave, were surprised to learn that research into rare cancers is often underfunded, leaving patients with limited treatment options – even though they account for more than half of all cancer diagnoses and are well-recognized by name. In fact, leukemia, lymphoma, brain, pancreatic, ovarian and all pediatric cancers are considered rare forms of the disease.

What Cycle Does

What started out as a small event among friends quickly grew into a national movement called Cycle for Survival. In just five years, Cycle for Survival has raised more than

\$9 million to fund more than 25 clinical trials and research studies led by MSK. What sets Cycle apart is that within six months of the events, every dollar raised is allocated to research projects led by MSK. This means patients quickly see the benefits of donations in the form of new clinical trials and investigational treatment options.



HOW TO DONATE

ONLINE

www.cyclearizona.org/teamlinnspinners
www.cyclearizona.org
www.cycleforsurvival.org

BY PHONE

888-72-CYCLE
 or
 646-227-2746
 Monday - Friday
 9 a.m to 5 p.m.
 (Eastern Standard Time)

BY FAX

646-227-3535

BY MAIL

Cycle for Survival
 Memorial Sloan-Kettering
 Cancer Center
 633 Third Avenue
 28th Floor
 New York, NY 10017

2012 Event

This year, Cycle for Survival will be held at Equinox clubs, the event's Founding Sponsor, in six cities nationwide – New York City, Long Island, Washington DC, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Teams register to ride for a four hour shift, with a maximum of 8 riders per bike. Teams may register multiple bikes. The event also features complimentary yoga classes, massage therapy and children's activities.

The Phoenix event will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2012 at Mountainside Fitness, 3345 South Val Vista Drive, Gilbert, AZ 85296.

RESOURCE NUMBERS

ASSOCIATION

Desert Ridge Community
 Association 480.551.4300
 After Hours Emergency 602.336.2700

PUBLIC SERVICES

Phoenix Water Department
 M-F 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 602.262.6251
 Weekends, Holidays, after 5 p.m. 602.261.8000

Phoenix Police Department
 Non-Emergency Crime Stop..... 602.262.6151

Phoenix Public Works
 Trash/Recycling 602.262.7251

Parks Forestry Department
 Downed Trees in Right of Way .. 602.262.9440

Malfunctioning Traffic Signals . 602.262.6021
 Streets/Street Sweeping 602.262.6441

Southwest Gas
 Customer Service 602.861.1999

APS
 24 hour line 602.371.7171
 (Includes Street Light Outtage)

Cox Communications 623.594.1000

Qwest Communications 800.244.1111

Green Pools..... 602.506.6616
 Maricopa County

SCHOOLS

Wildfire Elementary 602.449.4300
 Principal, Dr. Troy Bales
 tbales@pvschools.net

Desert Trails Elementary..... 602.449.4100
 Principal, Mrs. Kristin Lee
 klee@pbschools.net

Explorer Middle School 602.449.4200
 Principal, Mrs. Marianne Bursi
 mbursi@pvschools.net

Pinnacle High School 602.449.4000
 Principal, Mr. Jason Reynolds
 jreynolds@pvschools.net

Attendance Line
 602.449.4001
 Health Center
 602.449.4003



From East Pathfinder to Marriott Drive A story of teamwork

“Those of you who drive that stretch of the road will soon see a change of name to Marriott Drive.”

Those who have driven the short strip of road from Tatum to Deer Valley Road have maybe wondered how confusing it must be for those not familiar with the area to see that Pathfinder turns into Marriott Drive. In early 2010 some members of the Glen Eagle Board of Desert Ridge had an idea

that a possible name change could benefit all involved - visitors, locals, and the JW Marriott. A team approach was discussed as the possible solution to the problem. The JW Marriott was approached on what their reaction would be and it was positive. After the JW Marriott was on board with

Glen Eagle the next group was the Desert Ridge Community Association which passed a resolution stating their support for the change. We then contacted our Councilman who became involved and provided his support. So when brought to the Phoenix City Council there was absolutely no

opposition. Those of you who drive that stretch of the road will soon see a change of name to Marriott Drive. Steve Hart, JW Marriott General Manager, has said that we would soon see additional enhancements added to that area.

Thomas Rosella
President Glen Eagle HOA

Annual Holiday Lighting Contest Winners of 2011



Photos courtesy of Tina Dickson

OUR COMMUNITY

ONGOING CONSTRUCTION IN DESERT RIDGE - UPDATE



As you have all noticed, currently there are homes being built in the Desert Ridge Community.

Here is an update on this construction from Pulte, the builder of the Fireside Community:

We recently paved the last remaining subdivision in Fireside located at the southeast corner of Deer Valley Road and Black Mountain Parkway! We released these home-sites for sale in late

January while we work to complete the landscape and wall improvements. This community continues to be a top performer for the Division and Company by selling and closing nearly 10 homes per month. We currently have nearly 700 rooftops and look forward to building

out the community in the near future.

Fireside Elementary School is being built in the Fireside Community. The Paradise Valley Unified School District school is at the intersection of Mayo Boulevard and Lone Cactus. The school, will open in fall 2012.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE DESERT RIDGE LIFESTYLES MAGAZINE.

To reserve your placement in the next issue, call 480-551-4553.

CLASSIFIED AD

Visually impaired, elderly gentleman, residing in Glen Eagle area of Desert Ridge, needs help reading mail and for personal and office tasks. Prefer a high school student. Will work 3 hours, one or two times per week at my home, year round. \$25 for each 3 hour session.

Please call 480-473-7373

THE MARKET ON HIGH STREET

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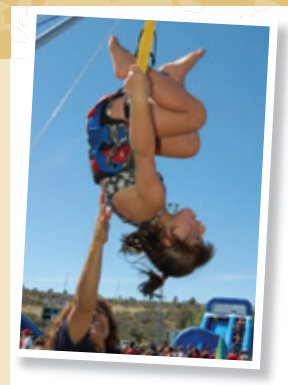
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THE MARKET ON HIGH STREET

Sunday,
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- Zip Line, rock climbing wall and bungee trampolines
- Horse rides and horseback lesson information
- FREE face painting, balloon animals and crafts for kids
- Fresh local fruits, vegetables, wines, pastries, breads, olive oils, herbs and flowers
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The American Heart Association will be onsite to provide **FREE** education and blood pressure screenings.



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MIM 2012 THEATER CONCERT SCHEDULE

Season Highlights



Purchase tickets online at www.theMIM.org, in person at MIM, or by calling the MIM Ticket Office at 480.478.6000. For the most updated event information, please visit our website at www.theMIM.org. Musical Instrument Museum Music Theater, 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85050

New York Voices

Sat., Feb. 18 | 7 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 18 | 9 p.m.

Tickets: \$40-\$45

This GRAMMY-winning vocal ensemble is renowned for over two decades of excellence in jazz and the art of group singing. Like the great groups that have come before, such as Manhattan Transfer and Lambert, Hendricks and Ross, they have learned from the best and taken the art form to new levels. Rooted in jazz, they also infuse Brazilian, R & B, classical, and pop music with equal creativity and authenticity.

Hiroimi

Sun., Feb. 19 | 6:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$30-\$35

Mesmerizing, audacious, and bedazzling are terms used to describe this dynamo of a performer. Her stunning dexterity, power, and command of the piano have made her a major jazz star in Europe and Japan. Ahmad Jamal calls her "the most impressive young pianist I've heard in twenty years."

Anubis Quartet

Frid., Feb. 24 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$25-\$30

Formed in 2007, the Anubis Quartet is a bold next-generation saxophone ensemble committed to the creation, progression, and performance of new music. The group has quickly gained regard as one of North America's major contemporary saxophone ensembles, and they regularly commission and premiere works by living composers.

Amy Hanaiali'i and Jeff Peterson

Sat., Feb. 25 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$32-\$36

Don't miss this rare and intimate duo performance featuring GRAMMY winners Amy Hanaiali'i, Hawaii's top-selling female vocalist, and Jeff Peterson, master of the slack-key guitar.

MIM Musical Interludes, featuring Arizona State University School of Music: ASU Jazz Combos

Wed., Feb. 29 | 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tickets: Free (no museum admission required)

Come along with the ASU Jazz Combos as they travel the world with music from New Orleans, Greenwich Village, Cuba, and points beyond.

Seating is limited and offered on a first-come, first-seated basis.

Paquito D'Rivera with the Brasil Guitar Duo

Fri., March 9 | 7 p.m. | 9 p.m.

Tickets: \$40-\$45

Latin jazz legend, composer, and nine-time GRAMMY winner Paquito D'Rivera teams up with outstanding young guitar sensations Joao Luiz and Douglas Lora for a special night of musical fireworks.

Coyote Jump: A Canyon Records 60th Anniversary Concert

Sat., March 10 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$25-\$30

Consisting of composer and multi-instrumentalist

Colin Farish, Native American flutist John-Carlos Perea, violinist Savannah Lack, and percussionist Will Clipman, Coyote Jump sculpts a musical tribute to Native America with the sound of the cedar flute at its core. Inspired by traditions of indigenous knowledge, their music is unfathomably mysterious, ever changing, and heartbreakingly beautiful.

MIM Musical Interludes, featuring University of Arizona School of Music: "Heavy Metal Music" - Kelly Thomas, tuba and euphonium

Mon., March 12 | 1 p.m.

Tickets: Free (no museum admission required)

Thomas delivers a program of "heavy metal" works for tuba and euphonium that celebrates the historical, the contemporary, the interpretive, and the downright jazzy. Seating is limited and offered on a first-come, first-seated basis.

John Doyle, Karan Casey, & John Williams

Sat., March 17 | 2:30 p.m. | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$32-\$36

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with three superstars of Irish music! John Doyle (guitar), Karan Casey (vocals), and John Williams (accordion/concertina), all founding members of the legendary group Solas, will come together for one special weekend engagement.

Toots Thielemans

Thurs., March 22 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$40-\$45

Belgian-born jazz master Toots Thielemans has performed with musical giants ranging from Ella Fitzgerald to Paul Simon. His signature harmonica sound and innovative covers of pop and jazz standards delight audiences with their artistry and beauty. Quincy Jones calls him "one of the greatest musicians of our time." Thielemans will be accompanied by GRAMMY-nominated pianist Kenny Werner.

Suzy Bogguss

Fri., March 23 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$35-\$45

GRAMMY-winner Suzy Bogguss is no stranger to the top echelons of country music. She has cracked the Top 5 list eight times, with ingenuity and integrity as the hallmarks of a musical career that spans two decades, thirteen studio albums, and countless miles on the road.

Amelia Piano Trio

Sat., March 24 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$32-\$36

Known for their charismatic and extroverted performances, the Amelia Piano Trio has become known as one of the great young chamber ensembles. The program will include works by Rachmaninov, Shostakovich and Dvořák.

MIM Musical Interludes, featuring Arizona State University School of Music: German Music for Winds and Piano

Wed., March 28 | 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tickets: Free (no museum admission required)

ASU's Wind and Collaborative Piano Studios will perform duo and chamber repertoire. Seating is limited and offered on a first-come, first-seated basis.

Alpin Hong

Fri., March 30 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$30-\$35

Pianist Alpin Hong's combination of stunning technique, emotional range, and rare humor continues to bring audiences young and old to their feet. Called "a pianistic firebrand" (New York Times), Hong blends virtuosity with a hip youth-culture sensibility for a truly inspiring concert experience.

Nakai, Eaton, and Clipman: A Canyon Records 60th Anniversary Concert

Sat., March 31 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$35-\$40

Native American flutist R. Carlos Nakai is joined by guitarist William Eaton and percussionist William Clipman, as well as other longtime musical friends, in this celebration of Nakai's and Canyon Records' thirty-year partnership.

Arizona Chamber Orchestra Season Finale

Sat., April 14 | 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$30

The Arizona Chamber Orchestra rounds out its second season with the lush Serenade for Strings by Tchaikovsky and the Holberg Suite by Grieg in a program showcasing some of the finest string musicians in the region.

MIM Musical Interludes, featuring University of Arizona School of Music: CrossTalk and the World Music Gang

Mon., April 16 | 1 p.m.

Tickets: Free (no museum admission required)

These two groups combine ancient and modern drumming to create an innovative force of nature. Seating is limited and offered on a first-come, first-seated basis.

MIM Presents: 35th Annual Paradise Valley Jazz Party

Sat., April 21 | Noon-11 p.m.

Sun., April 22 | Noon-7 p.m.

Tickets: \$195 (All-Weekend Pass);

single-session tickets priced separately at theMIM.org. With more than twenty top artists sharing the stage over two days at MIM, this "jam session" extravaganza is the hottest ticket in town.

MIM Musical Interludes, featuring Arizona State University School of Music: ASU Contemporary Percussion Ensemble

Wed., April 25 | 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tickets: Free (no museum admission required)

Presenting a program of works written by American innovator and provocateur John Cage. Seating is limited and offered on a first-come, first-seated basis.

MIM Musical Interludes, featuring Arizona State University School of Music: "Picture Rachmaninoff" - Stephen Cook, piano

Mon., April 30 | 1 p.m.

Tickets: Free (no museum admission required)

Paul Harvey Jr.'s new play combines the thrilling piano music of Sergei Rachmaninoff with beautiful paintings and evocative poetry.

Seating is limited and offered on a first-come, first-seated basis.

CULTURE & ARTS

HEARD MUSEUM • PHOENIX, ARIZONA
2012 Season Highlights

For more information about the Heard exhibits, events and retail venues, visit heard.org or call 602.248.8848.

MEDIA CONTACTS: Alan DiPerna, 602.251.0283, adiperna@heard.org
Debra Krol, 602.251.0218, dkrol@heard.org

This season, the Heard Museum of Native Cultures and Art will turn the spotlight on an American icon. Geronimo, the famed Apache leader, will be the subject of a groundbreaking new exhibit that will explore the man and the mythology that has grown around him. Beyond Geronimo: The Apache Experience opens February 11, 2012, just in time for the Arizona Centennial, and is sure to be a much-discussed exhibit.

Also, learn more about Arizona's official neckwear, the bolo tie, in the exhibit Native American Bolo Ties: Vintage and Contemporary Artistry. Also known as the bola tie, the distinctive alternative to the traditional tie has become a mainstay of the American Indian jewelry genre. The bolo tie is growing again in popularity, and students of both popular culture and Western Americana will enjoy seeing the collection and bringing home the companion book. Bolo Ties opens November 19, 2011, and will be on display through September 3, 2012.

Two exhibits opening in spring 2012 feature more traditional Indian artists and art. Namingha Family Paintings and Sculpture, opening February 25, 2012, showcases the generational art of three Hopi men: father Dan Namingha and sons Arlo and Michael Namingha. Elegance from Earth: Hopi Pottery explores how Hopi pottery families keep alive their culture and artistic expressions over time. This exhibit opens March 24, 2012.

Don't miss several continuing exhibits featuring everything from Navajo textiles and artists' expressions of their traditional tribal ceremonies to a one-woman sculpture show. And one of the Heard's most popular and evocative exhibits, Remembering Our Indian School Days: The Boarding School Experience, is entering its final year at the Heard. This exhibit details the tragic era when Indian children as young as 4 were removed from their homes and forced into faraway boarding schools in order to "kill the Indian and save the man." Many who tour this exhibit come away in tears, while others are shocked to learn about this disgraceful practice.

The Heard is also known for its festivals, and this season is no different. Specialized marketplaces give collectors a chance to indulge in their favorite artists, while the Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair & Market, the second-largest Indian market in the U.S., continues building upon more than 50 years of success. And of course, February brings one of Indian Country's most unique sporting events, the Heard Museum World Championship Hoop Dance Contest.

The Heard Museum Shop is also debuting a new show, Indigenous Visions. Come on the third Saturday of each month from October 2011 through April 2012 to meet and discuss art with some of Indian Country's most acclaimed artists, including Navajo artists Jesse Monongye, Oreland Joe and Johnson Yazzie .



About the Heard

Since 1929, the Heard Museum, a private non-profit organization, has enchanted visitors from around the world with the art, culture and history of American Indians, with an emphasis on tribes of the Southwest.

2011-2012 Season

With more than 40,000 fine artworks and cultural artifacts in its permanent collection, 11 long-term and changing exhibit galleries, an education center, an award-winning Shop, the Books & More boutique bookstore, Coffee Cantina and Courtyard Café, the Heard Museum is a place of learning, discovery and unforgettable experiences. In addition to its flagship Phoenix location, the Heard Museum also operates a community museum in North Scottsdale. These and many more exhibits and events are in store for visitors at the Heard this season.

For more information about the Heard exhibits, events and retail venues, visit heard.org or call 602.248.8848.

Black Mountain Boulevard

SR 51 / Loop 101 Interchange to Cave Creek Road

The City of Phoenix would like to thank the community for their input and interest in the effort to study a transportation connection between the SR 51 / Loop 101 interchange and Cave Creek Road. This study will evaluate engineering and environmental aspects of a proposed transportation corridor connecting SR 51 to Cave Creek Road.

The Regional Transportation Plan Arterial Streets Life Cycle Program

includes funding for the portion of Black Mountain Boulevard from SR 51 to Deer Valley



After managing through a more than \$330

million deficit over the last two years, Phoenix officials are projecting no deficit for the upcoming fiscal year.

“Revenues are improving and the city is successfully managing its expenses,” said Mayor Greg Stanton. “Our city is not projecting a deficit for 2012-13, and I am cautiously optimistic about this budget outlook,” he said.

Over the past two years, the city overcame a \$277 million deficit in fiscal year 2010-11 and a \$59 million deficit in 2011-12.

Many factors have contributed to the city’s financial stability, including:

- Innovation and Efficiency savings of more than \$40 million by streamlining the organization and reducing

Road. The portion of Black Mountain Boulevard from Deer Valley Road to Cave Creek Road is unfunded and is expected to be built by development as it occurs in the future.

Currently, we have met with five homeowner’s associations including Desert Ridge Community Association, Aviano, Wildcat Ridge, Fireside and Tatum Highlands. In addition, we have met with the Desert View Village Planning Committee, local agencies, and a stakeholders group. Finally, we have held two formal public meetings as a part of the federal funding requirements. We have received and continue to receive valuable input to help guide the project team towards developing alternatives to

bring back to the public in late March 2012. At the March public workshops, we will summarize the study data collected and present various preliminary alternative alignments for consideration. We will look for additional input based on the alternative alignments to help refine the concepts and ultimately move ahead with one preferred alignment or a no-build option later this fall.

Please visit the project website at www.blackmountainblvd.com to provide your input, review the information from past meetings, and watch for the upcoming March workshop schedule. You may also call the project hotline at (602) 297-5203. Thank you again for your interest in this project.

CITY OF PHOENIX REPORT

CONTACT

Joyce Valdez

602-262-6213 ■ joyce.valdez@phoenix.gov

the workforce by 2,500 positions, resulting in the smallest number of employees per capita in 40 years (10.3 employees per 1,000 residents).

- Maintaining the city’s AAA bond rating despite the economic downturn, allowing the city to use its good credit to refinance debt, saving more than \$44 million in General Fund debt service payments.
- Increasing the contingency, or rainy day fund, to the highest level in the city’s history, with nearly \$36 million, or 3.4% of the city’s General Fund operating budget.

- Maintaining the property tax rate at \$1.82, resulting in a savings for Phoenix residents of \$121 million over three years.
- Consolidating departments and functions of the city, such as combining the Planning, Development Services and Historic Preservation departments into one department – the Planning and Development Department.
- Reducing management layers and increasing the span of control ratio from 1 manager for every 5.3 employees to 1 for every 8 employees.

Residents will be able to provide input on the budget during one of the 15 public meetings that will be conducted throughout the city in April. Visit phoenix.gov/budget for more details.

Want to get the latest city news? Like us at [facebook.com/cityofphoenix](https://www.facebook.com/cityofphoenix).

NEW OPENINGS

ALMOND TREE WEDDING BOUTIQUE NOW OPEN

Leslie Himley, Marketing Director, CityCenter of CityNorth, (480) 319-8700, LHimley@RedDevelopment.com

CityCenter of CityNorth is pleased to announce the opening of Almond Tree Wedding Boutique at High Street on February 1. The shop features a tremendous selection of new and consigned designer wedding gowns, jewelry and accessories.

Almond Tree Wedding Boutique will occupy more than 6,000 square feet as the largest retail tenant on High Street. The boutique, which is relocating from a warehouse storefront location at Cave Creek and the Loop

101, will triple in size to meet the demands of its growing clientele. Brides will enjoy shopping from more than 600 exquisite gowns that are stunning, yet affordable, at the new High Street location.

“We are delighted that Almond Tree Wedding Boutique chose to expand into this beautiful new location on High Street,” said Leslie Himley, Marketing Director for CityCenter of CityNorth. “Its quality and quantity of inventory, caliber of service and affordability will greatly benefit North Valley brides.”

The boutique has experienced 65 percent growth year-over-year since it opened in January 2010. With a larger space on High Street, Almond Tree will serve up to five brides at once, with personal one-on-one service. The boutique will continue to offer on-site alterations, gown customization services and accessories such as veils and jewelry to its growing clientele.

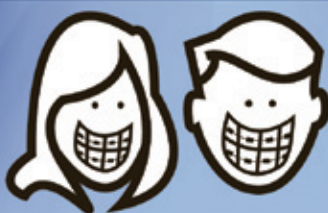
“We are thrilled to be part of CityCenter of CityNorth and love the North Central Phoenix location,” said Pam Hardy, Fashion Director and co-owner of Almond Tree Wedding Boutique. “Our luxurious, expanded showroom will allow even more brides to find their perfect dress among hundreds of wedding gowns at half off regular retail pricing.”

“Our growth has been astounding since we opened in 2010,” added Hardy. “Given

the economic environment, it is understandable that our business model fits with today’s budget-minded brides, eager to find the perfect dress for their special day.”

Shop hours at the new location at CityCenter of CityNorth will be Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fittings and alterations are by appointment only to ensure the highest level of personal service. For more information or to make an appointment with a wedding gown professional, visit www.almondtreeweddings.com or call 602-606-9565 today.

“Almond Tree Wedding Boutique’s afternoon and evening hours will allow clients to enjoy our popular restaurants before and after appointments and turn gown shopping on High Street into an event the entire bridal party will cherish,” Himley added.



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RESTAURANT REVIEW

The Café at MIM

★★★★☆ 4 1/2 OUT OF 5 STARS
4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85050
(480) 478-6000

When thinking about great restaurants in Desert Ridge, you might overlook the small Café located within the Musical Instrument Museum or “MIM”. One visit to this Bon Appétit Management Company operated facility and we think you’ll change your mind.

Located in a light-filled space overlooking the museum’s entry courtyard and signature sculpture, the Café at MIM serves an inventive menu of great-tasting foods prepared from scratch, using fresh local ingredients. The Café at MIM offers a menu that changes daily.

Daily food selections can be viewed online at www.cafebonappetit.com where you will also find information about nutrition, food choices and sustainability.

Stations feature global cuisine, local and regional dishes, hand-tossed pizzas, grilled specialties, freshly made soups and salads, and delicious desserts. The casual self-serve environment provides a unique museum dining experience, boasting dishes alive with flavor and nutrition. The Café also offers vegetarian, vegan, international, and kid-friendly options, appealing to a wide variety of tastes.

Taking its role in the community seriously, Bon Appétit makes socially responsible purchasing decisions and uses local, organic produce whenever possible. In an extension of the world-view exhibited throughout the museum’s

galleries, the Café at MIM takes a comprehensive

view of wellness, believing that environment, community, and a creative menu can work together to support each other and contribute to the well-being and enjoyment of their guests.

If you’re looking for healthy food and an easy way to support sustainability, the Café at the MIM is a sure bet.

MIM Café and Coffee Shop hours

Daily 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

For those seeking a quick pick-me-up, the Coffee Shop at MIM is open during all regular museum hours. It is located within the Café, and features coffee and daily pastry selections.



Board Candidate FAQ's

continued from page 13

month, which takes approximately 3 hours, combined. Sometimes there are ad-hoc meetings called, but that is more the exception than the rule. Depending on which committee you would like to be involved with, an additional 1-2 hours per week may be required. Typically, the time commitment averages about 8 hours a month.

When and where are the Board of Directors Meetings?

The meeting schedule is actually created by the Board of Directors. Our current meeting schedule is the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at CityCenter of CityNorth, 5350 E. High Street, Suite 109, Phoenix 85054.

Do you incur personal liability by serving on the Board?

Generally, as long as a Director acts in good faith with the best interests of the community first, doesn’t break any laws, or have any personal benefit, the Association indemnifies the Directors. The Association’s Articles of Incorporation provide the most comprehensive explanation of liability. Please read and understand them fully for yourself. The Articles of Incorporation can be found on RossmarConnect, the community information website, or the CD mailed to all Owners in August 2011.

How does the election actually work?

There is a one vote per lot for each available position on the board. A qualified Owner will be able to cast one vote for up to 4 candidates.

Do developers and commercial entities get to vote?

Yes, qualified developers and commercial entities get to vote. The Desert Ridge Board is not a Homeowners Association, it is a Community Association. One of the great things about Desert Ridge is that it is still a relatively young development, and only about 30% of the total lots have homes built on them. Since the voting is determined per lot, there is still significant involvement by private and commercial developers and the Master Developer. The Master Developer actually casts votes for all land held by the Arizona State Land Dept.

Tips for people who are running:

Get out there and talk to your neighbors - ask them what their concerns are for the community. Let them know you’re running. Candidates may speak with developers as well as the commercial interests. And thank you for getting involved!

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

DINING GUIDE

DESERT RIDGE MARKETPLACE

BJ'S RESTAURANT AND BREWHOUSE480.538.0555

Serving Chicago-style pizza with generously portioned salads, sandwiches, soups, entrées & desserts.

CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN480.473.3336

Hearth-baked pizzas, made-to-order pasta, creative salads & delicious desserts.

COLD STONE CREAMERY480.585.7952

Select your favorite ice cream flavors & mix-ins to be prepared right before your eyes.

DAVE AND BUSTER'S.....480.538.8956

The ultimate group entertainment destination with the best games, food, drinks, billiards, bowling, music, & video all under one roof!

EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS480.585.3920

Muffins, desserts, sandwiches, fresh salads & of course, great bagels.

FATBURGER480.419.1822

World famous high quality made-to-order burgers, fries, shakes, chili & more.

IN-N-OUT BURGER480.563.9021

Quality you can taste - classic made burgers, hand-diced french fries & creamy shakes.

ISLANDS FINE BURGERS & DRINKS.....480.513.7231

Gourmet burgers, Island fries, chicken sandwiches & fresh salads served in a casual, tropical atmosphere.

THE KEG STEAKHOUSE & BAR.....480.419.7772

Sumptuous steaks served in a friendly, casual atmosphere. A great spot to meet friends for a drink.

KEVA JUICE.....480.342.8804

Nutritious, delicious smoothies featuring the finest fruits & juices. Taste the Blendsation!

MACARONI GRILL480.538.8755

More than 35 Italian specialties prepared in an exhibition kitchen. Recipes are made with the finest ingredients such as imported artisan pastas, vine-ripened tomatoes, colorful vegetables, extra virgin olive oil, fresh lemons, select seafood, grilled meats and fresh, fragrant Italian herbs. Life is delicious.

MIMI'S CAFÉ.....480.419.5006

Classic, made-from-scratch American dishes served in a friendly, French New Orleans-atmosphere.

PANDA EXPRESS.....480.502.8399

High-quality Chinese food at a very reasonable price.

PARADISE BAKERY & CAFÉ.....480.538.8406

Freshly-baked cookies & muffins, soups & made-to-order gourmet sandwiches.

PORT OF SUBS/ SMOOTHIE KING480.502.7962

Made-to-order subs & refreshing smoothies.

ROCK BOTTOM BREWERY480.513.9125

A casual dining experience featuring handcrafted beers brewed on premise & an innovative menu. Good Friends, Great Food, Great Beer.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHOCOLATE FACTORY480.342.9993

Hand-dipped chocolates & assorted candies. Packaged coffees, cocoas & more.

RUBIO'S FRESH MEXICAN GRILL480.473.9225

The original fish taco plus grilled steak, charbroiled chicken, sauteed shrimp, carnitas & more.

SANDBAR MEXICAN GRILL.....480.585.5900

Known for its spicy Mexican menu and array of tropical drinks and ice cold cervezas.

SAN FELIPES CANTINA.....480.515.BEER

Coastal Mexican food with an attitude served up alongside a nightlife atmosphere that provides customers a "Local Spring Break" with every visit.

SLICES.....480.513.1861

Choose from a selection of pizzas already prepared with a crispy crust and any number of topping combinations, at affordable prices.

STARBUCKS COFFEE.....480.502.4761

High quality roasted whole bean coffees & fresh, rich, Italian-style espresso beverages.

SWEET TOMATOES480.473.3233

Offering an all you care to eat dining experience featuring fresh cut produce, specially prepared salads, hearty made from scratch soups, original recipe hot pasta dishes and more.

T.G.I. FRIDAY'S.....480.538.1945

Home of American favorites like loaded potato skins, buffalo wings, burgers, salads & more.

WOLFLEY'S480.515.2424

Wolfley's Neighborhood Grill is a place you can count on for quality food, value pricing and personalized service.

YARD HOUSE.....480.563.9273

Great food, Classic Rock and the World's Largest Selection of Draft Beer.

CITYCENTER OF CITYNORTH

BLUE MARTINI LOUNGE

480.638.BLUE | bluemartinilounge.com

Upscale, casual martini lounge featuring 25 superior martinis, tapas and live entertainment nightly.



KONA GRILL..... 480.289.5707
konagrill.com

Casual elegance and an eclectic menu of dishes ranging from pasta and pizza to sushi.

MOJO YOGURT 480.585.0339
mojoyogurt.com

Unites hip and frozen yogurt culture with an unpretentious, left-coast style of the self-serve variety.

OCEAN PRIME..... 480.347.1313
ocean-prime.com

A Cameron Mitchell Restaurant featuring prime seafood, hand-crafted cocktails, world-class wines and live music every night.

PRESS COFFEE FOOD WINE 480.419.6221
presscoffeefoodwine.com

Colorful and inviting-a great place to enjoy coffee, sandwiches, salad, smoothies and wine.

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ENTREES TO GO..... 480.620.7260
www.entreestogo.com

Cook like the chefs on TV. Prepare 12 entrees in under 2 hours. 16 new entrees every month. Assembly & delivery service available.

HUMBLE PIE 480.502.2121

Featuring a medley of starters, salads, pastas, sandwiches, and pizzas with fresh ingredients and a crust to crave.

PITA JUNGLE480-473-2321
www.pitajungle.com

An eclectic blend of fresh ingredients, creative energy, and good times. Take your family or meet your friends and discover the art of eating healthy.

Tryst Café480-585-7978
www.trystcafe.com

Breakfast and lunch featuring natural, organic or locally grown produce and meat. Full bar, serving organic spirits, all in a contemporary, relaxed environment. Dine in, carry out, or grab n go.

THE MIM

THE MIM CAFÉ & COFFEE SHOP

The Musical Instrument Museum Cafe & Coffee Shop is open to non-museum patrons. Hours: Cafe, 11-2; Coffee Shop, Normal Museum Hours.

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