

BILTMORE *Lifestyles*

A Community Service Publication

From Tee Time To Twilight: A Day At Arizona Biltmore Golf Club

Special feature pages 12-13



ARIZONA
BILTMORE
GOLF CLUB

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From the Publisher...



As the Sonoran Desert shifts toward cooler evenings and the golden hues of fall touch our landscapes, November invites us to pause to reflect, reconnect, and give thanks. Thanksgiving has always been about more than a meal; it's a moment to recognize the beauty in our connections, our community, and the everyday blessings that color our lives in Phoenix.

Gratitude in 2025 carries new meaning. It's about celebrating the relationships that sustain us, the neighbor who waves every morning, the local farmers and chefs who bring flavor to our tables, and the friends who remind us that life's richest gifts aren't found in things, but in moments. It's also about stewardship: honoring our desert home by supporting sustainability, giving back to causes that matter, and nurturing the spirit of community that defines the Biltmore and beyond.

Personally, I'm thankful for this vibrant Biltmore community. Every story shared, every small business spotlighted, every photograph in these pages reflects the energy and heart of people who make this place extraordinary. From the artisans creating magic in Midtown to the families hosting Friendsgiving under stars that never quite cool, our city shines with gratitude.

From our *Biltmore Lifestyles* family to yours, may your November be full of grace, gratitude, and the quiet kind of abundance that lasts well beyond the holiday.

Until next month, *Susan*

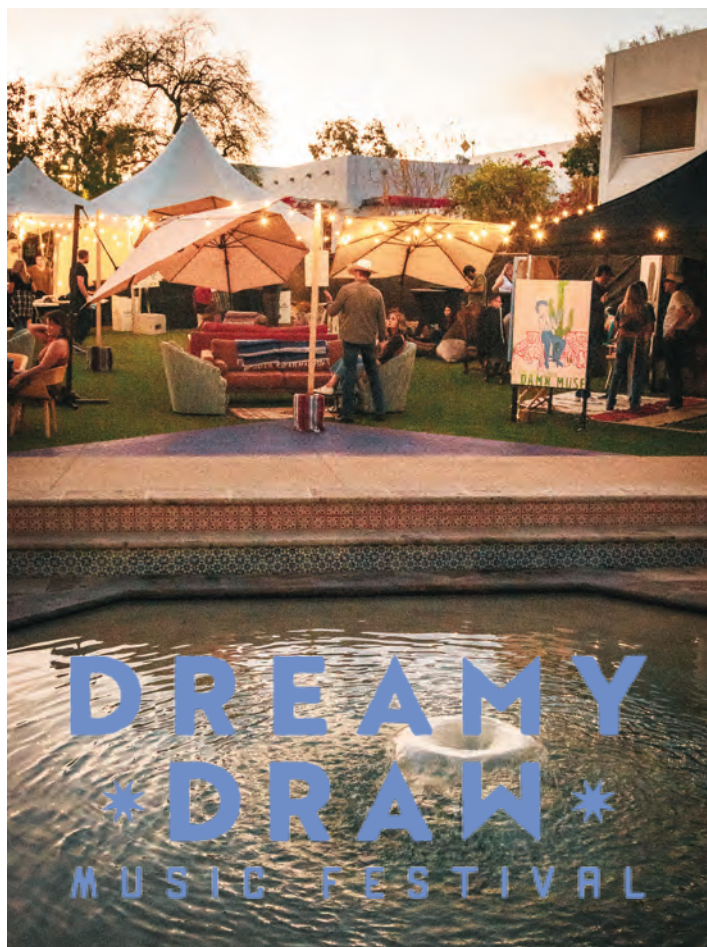
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Publisher
Editor

Susan Aavang
Julie Nicholson



Dreamy Draw Music Festival

November 7th through the 8th

There's no better way to celebrate fall in Arizona than with live music under the desert sky. The Dreamy Draw Music Festival returns to the Scottsdale Civic Center on November 7th and 8th, 2025, marking its third and biggest year yet. The two-day, three-stage festival will feature an incredible lineup of indie and Americana favorites, including The Lumineers, Vampire Weekend, Father John Misty, Marcus King Band, Saint Motel, Houndmouth, Thee Sacred Souls, and Local Natives, along with a strong showing of emerging acts and Arizona talent.

As the temperatures cool, festivalgoers can wander expanded grounds filled with immersive art installations, artisan markets, and a Southwest-inspired food and beverage program that highlights the region's flavors and creativity. With its mix of world-class performances, local culture, and that unmistakable desert magic, Dreamy Draw 2025 is set to be the must-attend event of the season.

Tickets are on sale now at dreamydrawfest.com.





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Save the Date! Cheers to 70 Festive Years with Uptown Plaza's Holiday Event!

Get into the holiday spirit with a festive day for the whole family at Uptown Plaza on Sunday, December 14th, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.!

This year's celebration is extra special as Phoenix's very first shopping center celebrates Uptown Plaza's 70th Anniversary, a neighborhood favorite for seven decades.

Bring the family and enjoy the chance to meet and snap photos with Santa, complete with a professional portrait sent straight to your phone, plus live performances by The Jingle Belles, whose vintage harmonies will fill the Plaza with cheer.

Kids can get creative at the holiday craft station, making Pony Bead Candy Canes and Holiday Bead Key Rings to take home.

In honor of the special milestone year, guests who are among the first to arrive will also receive a limited-edition 70th Anniversary holiday ornament (while supplies last).

Celebrate the season with joy, music, and a little Uptown magic!



November 2025 | Biltmore Estates

The Brokery Residential Real Estate Brokerage Acquires Kenneth James Realty

The Brokery, a locally owned residential real estate brokerage, has announced the acquisition of the Arizona division of Kenneth James Realty, effective November 1st. Co-founders Tucker Blalock and Oleg Bortman of The Brokery will retain ownership of the company, while Kenneth James Realty founder Karl Freund transitions into a new role as Director of Agent Development at The Brokery.

Following the acquisition of Kenneth James Realty, a brokerage that has achieved over \$1 Billion in sales and over 2,300 transactions, The Brokery will grow from a team of 110 to 160 agents, and the combined brokerages will have an annual sales volume of approximately \$650 million. The Brokery will retain its five local offices in the Arcadia, Biltmore, Scottsdale, and North Central Phoenix neighborhoods, absorbing Kenneth James' Phoenix office which will close in November.

"We have been looking to grow," said Blalock, "but it has been an intentional process to find a brokerage that shares our culture and core values. When a mutual friend introduced us to Karl, we quickly recognized the synergies between Kenneth James Realty and The Brokery. This move is a major step toward solidifying our position as the go-to local independent brokerage in the Valley."

Freund, who founded Kenneth James Realty in 2014, brings more than 25 years of experience in the real estate industry and a passion for building strong teams through education and training. "I'm excited to join The Brokery and implement our proven training program," said Freund. "I've seen how this experiential



Oleg Bortman, Karl Freund and Tucker Blalock

approach builds the skills and confidence agents need to achieve long-term success."

At a time when many independent brokerages are selling to large national firms, Blalock and Bortman say they remain committed to offering a true local experience, where agents know that brokerage owners are invested in their success, and clients know they're being served by professionals who live, work, and play in the same communities they represent.

"In addition to enhancing The Brokery with best-in-class training, our expanded team will bring our Relentlessly Local™ service to a wider geographic area, particularly in the thriving East Valley," said Bortman. "We're excited about the synergy, the momentum, and the opportunity to welcome new agents who want to grow with us. We see ourselves as a bold alternative to corporate, tech-driven brokerages -- offering instead a highly personal, relationship-focused approach."

About The Brokery

The Brokery is a local, boutique residential real estate brokerage that is relentlessly focused on serving residents in neighborhoods across the greater Phoenix metropolitan area. Founded in 2012, by co-founders Tucker Blalock and Oleg Bortman, the company's number one goal is to provide unparalleled service and extensive market insight to the residents of their local community. Unlike many brokerages tucked away in corporate centers, The Brokery has neighborhood-centered offices that offer high visibility for their clients' properties in state-of-the-art showcases and allows for neighbors to engage one-on-one with local real estate experts. More information available at www.thebrokery.com. ❖

30 Military and Active Duty Moms to Enjoy a Delicious Lunch and Festive USO Baby Shower at Ocean 44

The Valley's most-loved family of steakhouses and seafood, Ocean 44 is pleased to partner once again with the USO in Arizona to welcome and host a baby shower for 30 expecting military moms. The moms-to-be are either active-duty National Guard, or Reserves members, or related to active-duty members.

The expecting moms will be treated to a one-of-a-kind baby shower and complimentary lunch on Saturday, November 15th at 11:30 am at Ocean 44 in Scottsdale.

James Beard Nominees and Brothers Jeff Mastro and Mike Mastro have teamed up with the USO in Arizona to host complimentary and memorable dining experiences since 2019. The event has been held twice at Dominick's Steakhouse, and this will be the fourth time it is held at Ocean 44.

"We are looking forward to treating 30 special military moms-to-be to an amazing afternoon at Ocean 44, and we are so proud to be hosting this special USO Baby Shower for the sixth year," said Jeff Mastro, co-founder and co-owner of Ocean 44. "As a family-owned restaurant we are committed to supporting the men and women who work hard to support our country, and it is our privilege to pamper these expecting moms again this year."

Arrangements for the fun and festive baby shower were provided in conjunction with USO Arizona, which partnered with Ocean 44 to identify the expecting moms who will be part of the extraordinary baby shower experience. Aimee Randazzo, USO Senior Area Operations Manager, said the USO hosts baby showers around the state each year for expectant moms in Phoenix, Yuma, Tucson, and Fort Huachuca.

As Randazzo noted, the timing for the baby shower is perfect, as resources are stretched thin for many families. In addition, the upcoming shower is especially meaningful because many expecting mothers who are active duty or spouses of active service members are located out-of-state or overseas, which means they are often unable to have a traditional baby shower with their friends and family.

"We are so grateful to Ocean 44 and Jeff and Mike Mastro's ongoing support of USO Arizona. Thanks to their partnership, USO Arizona can continue to fulfill its mission and offer more services and support to the military community that serves us each and every day," Randazzo said.

During the baby shower, the expecting moms will also participate in some fun and traditional baby shower games, with great prizes for mom and baby.

For over 84 years, the USO Mission's is to strengthen the well-being of the people serving in America's military and their families. Since 1941, the USO has been the nation's leading organization to serve the men and women in the U.S. military, and their families, throughout their time in uniform. For more information on the USO please visit www.uso.org.

For more information or to make a reservation at Ocean 44 please call (480) 867-0044 or visit www.ocean44.com. ❖



A Timeless Treasure ~ Crystal Point

Discover the difference at Crystal Point in Midtown Phoenix. Truly a one of a kind Highrise of unparalleled, unobstructed views of Downtown Phoenix, Camelback Mountain, and The Phoenix Mountain Preserve. Amazing amenities with a ground level Olympic sized lap pool, gym, gas outlets on the balconies and guest suites for family and friends. Several units are for sale ranging from 1,980 sq ft to 3,000+ sq ft on the second floor all the way up to the 18th floor. Call, text, message or email for a private showing!

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Sam Fox's Society Swan Debuts in Scottsdale Fashion Square

Society Swan, the latest restaurant from Sam Fox and Fox Restaurant Concepts, is now open at Scottsdale Fashion Square and we've got your look inside!

Part timeless American brasserie, part French daydream and all about proving there's always a reason to stay for just one more, this two-level space offers East Coast poise with Parisian charm and a spirited take on everyday dining where elegance, mischief and mood converge. Inspired by New York City's Swans of the 1960s and '70s and Paris' Swan Island, the restaurant celebrates the enduring connection between American and French traditions.

The layered menu includes a frites section (because everything tastes better with fries) dedicated to the perfect pairing, think juicy Wagyu skirt steak frites and a crisp, coastal take on fish and chips. A raw bar selection adds a touch of indulgence, featuring highlights like the sweet, meaty stone crab claw. Rounding out the offerings is the Waldorf Grain Bowl, a fresh, modern nod to the storied history that inspires Society Swan.

The bar program is as carefully calibrated as the culinary lineup. The CIAO Brooklyn, bonded rye whiskey, a vermouth trio, toasted pecan and house bitters, anchors a collection of classic

and contemporary cocktails. An approachable \$10 happy hour martini menu applies the same attention to craft, with balanced builds, quality spirits and precise technique delivering polished drinks at exceptional value.

Society Swan (7014 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 559) serves lunch Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Dinner is available Monday through Thursday and on Sunday from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m., and on Friday and Saturday from 5:00 to 11:00 p.m. Happy hour is offered Monday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. ❖



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Call Linda Jeffries for All Your Real Estate Needs 602-531-8333



Camelot Homes Announces Transition to Employee Ownership

Scottsdale-based home builder Camelot Homes has announced that the company is now 100% employee-owned through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). Owners Julie and Mark Hancock surprised the team at a recent company meeting, revealing that there would be an ownership transition of the 56-year-old company, and that more details were waiting inside envelopes placed at each table.

After a moment of suspense, employees saw their stock certificates in the envelopes and learned that they were now all owners of Camelot Homes through the company ESOP, a qualified retirement plan that allows employees to gain ownership in their company through a trust that holds the company's stock.

"I've always encouraged you to have an ownership mentality," Julie shared with the team, "and now you actually are the owners. Congratulations! There is no group of people more deserving. Every time we asked you to step up and achieve a major goal, you did it. I'm excited to see where you will take this!"

The announcement formalizes Camelot Homes' long-standing commitment to its employees, empowering them to directly share in the company's future growth and success. While the ownership structure has changed, the company will continue to operate under its existing management, including Mark and Julie Hancock, ensuring a seamless transition and continuity for its customers, partners, and suppliers.

"Our employees have always been the foundation of our company's success," said Mark Hancock. "Establishing an ESOP is the ultimate way to reward their dedication and ensure that the legacy of quality, craftsmanship, and customer service that our family started continues for generations to come. This transition is a celebration of our team, and we are thrilled to officially welcome them all as owners."

As employee-owners, Camelot Homes team members will be able to build retirement wealth based on the company's performance, providing a valuable long-term benefit. This new chapter reflects the company's core values and its commitment to nurturing a collaborative and rewarding culture.

Following an informational presentation about the ESOP from the company's trustee, Aegis Trust Company, the Camelot team celebrated with mini pies topped with toothpick flags that read "A Piece of the Pie" — a sweet representation of a new era of shared ownership.

photo credit: Camelot Homes ❖





Ava's Treehouse Gala at The Phoenician Resort

This December, the sixth annual Ava's Treehouse Gala benefitting the Arizona Cancer Foundation for Children (ACFC) returns to Scottsdale. This special evening event helps the local organization provide vital social, emotional, and financial support to families managing pediatric cancer. The gala will be held Friday, December 5th at The Phoenician at 6:00 p.m.

The Gala will include a hosted cocktail hour sponsored by Lincoln Heritage, an exquisite dinner, live and silent auctions, and more. Limited seating and sponsorships are still available. The gala Co-Chairs are Caroline and Matt London

and Ashley and Justin Upton.

Ava's Treehouse Gala serves as a cornerstone event, allowing ACFC to raise vital funds and awareness to support children battling cancer and their families. Funds raised help ACFC to continue to provide critical financial support, along with necessary emotional and social support through various programs. Since 2014, ACFC has directly provided assistance to over 10,000 children and families.

For more information, visit www.azcancerfoundation.org/event/6th-annual-avas-treehouse-gala.



Anna Aja of Anna Aja Auctions



Emcee Tram Mai with ACFC Cancer Survivor Isa and Lucas



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HOA Doctor® — Born in the Heart of the Biltmore

How one Phoenix movement is giving homeowners their voice back — and changing HOA and COA life across America.

BACKGROUND:

WHERE THE STORY BEGINS

In the heart of Phoenix's Biltmore Estates, Bill McKay, a reform advocate serving on the ABEVA master board, saw a pattern he couldn't ignore — a growing gap between boards, management companies, and homeowners. What people wanted wasn't radical — it was fairness, transparency, and a voice that counts.

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION:

A HIDDEN CRISIS

Homeowners everywhere shared the same story — unanswered questions, surprise assessments, and decisions made behind closed doors. In focus groups held across several states, McKay heard the same refrain: *"We pay our dues. We deserve answers."*

FROM FOCUS GROUPS TO VISION

McKay turned those conversations into action. Drawing on his experience, he built HOA Doctor® — a platform to measure what matters most: trust, transparency, and community health. It became the first of its kind to give homeowners a verified voice and boards a clear path to improvement.

A DIGITAL PLATFORM BUILT FOR TRUST

HOA Doctor® lets homeowners rate and review their communities like they would a hotel stay or doctor visit — but verified. Each homeowner's identity is confirmed through a four-step process and secured in the HOA Doctor Vault™, a private system protecting privacy while ensuring reviews are real. Homeowners can share feedback anonymously or with their name displayed. Each verified review carries weight. Boards gain feedback they can trust, and homeowners know their information is safe.

THE COMMUNITY TRUST INDEX™

Every verified review contributes to the Community Trust Index™ (CTI), setting a new national standard for HOA and COA performance. Each community is rated across five key areas:

- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Maintenance
- ✓ Governance
- ✓ Financial Stewardship
- ✓ Emotional Trust

...and includes one essential question:

"Would you recommend your board or property management company to a friend?" HOA Doctor® makes it possible to see verified community data alongside MLS listings — bringing transparency to real estate for the first time.

**Verified Voices.
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EACH REVIEW GOES THROUGH FOUR STEPS:

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4. Property ownership match through DataTree®

That small \$1.50 verification proves every review is real.

"Transparency with dignity. Honesty without fear." — Bill McKay

WHEN TRUST BECOMES VALUE

When a board or management company claims its HOA Doctor® page, they unlock tools to improve communication, track performance, and generate new revenue:

- Homeowner feedback and performance tools
- Optional billboard and sponsorship revenue to offset community costs

Verified trust builds value — in homes, leadership, and reputation.



A MOVEMENT THAT STARTED IN THE BILTMORE

What began as one homeowner's frustration has become a national movement. HOA Doctor® now connects 77 million residents who pay over \$100 billion in annual dues and manage more than \$11 trillion in property value — giving them a verified voice for the first time.

Every homeowner deserves clarity, accountability, and a community they're confident to call home.

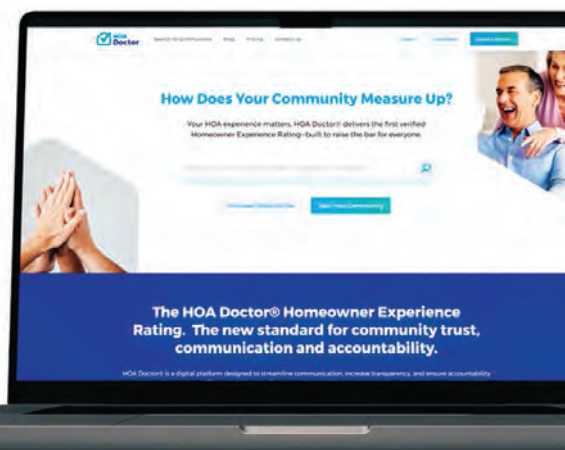
Rate and review your community today — then tell a neighbor, a friend, and the world about HOA Doctor®. Together, we're celebrating great communities, strengthening trust, and improving value — one verified voice at a time.

HOA Doctor® — Setting the National Standard for Verified Community Trust.

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AS SEEN ON





From Tee Time To Twilight: A Day At Arizona Biltmore Golf Club

There are few places in the Valley where the passage of a day feels perfectly choreographed. At Arizona Biltmore Golf Club, mornings are marked by the soft rhythm of drives down pristine fairways. Afternoons unfold over leisurely meals and golden-hour views. Evenings end with music, gatherings, quiet conversation and the glow of fire pits under the stars. Alongside the reimagined Adobe Bar & Grille, this historic destination blends a century of Arizona tradition with fresh energy, creating a place where every hour is worth savoring.

Morning: Tee Off on Legendary Fairways

The day begins on the greens. Established in 1928, Arizona Biltmore Golf Club has welcomed generations of players to its two premier courses: the revitalized Estates Course, known for its lush fairways and sweeping views, and the legendary Links Course, beloved for its playability and natural desert beauty. Overseeding keeps the grounds vibrant for winter and spring play, and at least one course always remains open during the seasonal refresh.



Golfers enjoy ample tee time availability, with weekday options perfect for a quick escape or a slower-paced round. Members have the added benefit of 60-day advanced booking, allowing them to plan their weeks around their optimal tee times. Whether you're a seasoned player or weekend warrior, these courses offer an approachable and memorable experience that begins the moment you hit the grass.

Midday: Gather in Style

As afternoon approaches, the focus shifts from the greens to gathering. Arizona Biltmore Golf Club and Adobe Bar & Grille provide a warm and welcoming backdrop for every kind of event, especially during the holiday season. From intimate celebrations in the Legacy Room or on the rooftop balcony to large-scale corporate events and social soirées in the Clubhouse Ballroom and Lawn, there's a space to match every occasion.

Each venue is designed to make every gathering feel personal and memorable, with sweeping fairway views, flexible layouts and the kind of thoughtful hospitality that has defined this property for nearly a century. Whether you're planning a family holiday dinner, a company celebration or a milestone event, the setting is as remarkable as the memories you'll make.

Afternoon: Savor the Flavors and Ambiance

The heart of the property comes alive as the afternoon light turns golden. At Adobe Bar & Grille, the patio is the place to be during Sunset Hour, when guests sink into lounge chairs or gather by the fire pits with signature cocktails and shareable bites in hand. It's a daily ritual from 3 to 6 p.m., and one that perfectly captures the laid-back Arizona lifestyle. The season also brings live music Friday through Sunday, with talented local artists creating the perfect soundtrack for evenings on the patio.

On Sundays starting November 9th through May, the energy rises with Sunday Smokeouts, a weekly tradition that transforms the patio into a backyard barbecue paradise complete with smoky bites from the grill, bourbon cocktails and live music as the sun dips below the horizon. Find your new Sunday ritual either in-person for a laid-back hangout or grabbing takeout for your gameday gathering.

With Fall's arrival at the restaurant, a fresh seasonal menu comes with it. Thoughtfully crafted with crisp evenings and golden sunsets in mind, the lineup features seasonal flavors, elevated comfort dishes and refreshing sips that pair perfectly with patio views. Whether you're cozying up by the fire pit or catching up over dinner with friends, the new menu makes every visit feel like a little celebration of the season.

Anytime: Sip Something Unique

No day at Arizona Biltmore Golf Club is complete without raising a glass, and this season brings a brand-new reason to toast. The club has partnered with local favorite The Shop Beer Co. to craft Ball Washer Blonde Lager, a custom brew designed to capture the lighthearted sophistication of Biltmore golf. Light, crisp and refreshingly easy to drink, it's the perfect companion for a round of golf or an afternoon on the patio. Guests can find it on tap at Adobe Bar & Grille or from the beverage cart on the course, making it a fitting way to mark a great day on the greens.

Plan Your Perfect Day

From the first swing of the morning to the last sip under the stars, a day at Arizona Biltmore Golf Club and Adobe Bar & Grille is about more than just golf or dining. It is about the moments that unfold between tee time and twilight. Whether you're playing a round with friends, gathering with loved ones for a special celebration, or simply soaking in the sunset with a glass in hand, this iconic destination offers an experience as timeless as its nearly 100-year legacy.

Plan your visit, reserve your tee time or learn more about hosting your next event at www.azbiltmoregc.com or www.adobebarandgrille.com.





New Fall Menu & Redesigned Interiors Bring Spirited Energy to TheAmericano

Following a stunning design transformation, TheAmericano, North Scottsdale's upscale Italian-inspired steakhouse, has reopened its doors with a revitalized atmosphere and renewed energy, setting the stage for a fall menu from Chef Beau MacMillan and Chef Peter McQuaid that mirrors the restaurant's lighter, more playful and inviting approach.

The redesign, led by interior design firm House of Form and LGE Design Build, brings a warm, sophisticated energy to TheAmericano. Centered around two lushly framed banquettes, the refreshed space features new greenery, rich jewel-toned accents, brass and marble details and tailored plaid and houndstooth textures that elevate both comfort and style. A striking banquette now anchors the dining room beneath a hand-painted mural by local artist Timothy Brennan of Great, Not Good Co., a bold, story-driven centerpiece designed to spark conversation, much like the restaurant's new culinary showpieces.

The new seasonal menu strikes a thoughtful balance between familiarity and surprise. Signature favorites remain, joined by a selection of fall-inspired dishes that showcase refined technique and bold flavor. The expanded wood-

fired grill section features standout entrées such as Atlantic Swordfish (\$48) with pickled Swiss chard, blistered tomatoes, aged balsamic, and horseradish 'nduja butter, and the Long Bone Duroc Pork Chop (\$52) with whole roasted garlic and porchetta spice. Additional highlights include Wagyu Beef Cheek Tortellini (\$38) with horseradish agliata, crispy shallot, black truffle jus, and chive; Bluefin Tuna (\$32) with Asian pear, stracciatella, Calabrian chili crisp, and pistachio gremolata; and Colorado Lamb Shank (\$48) with coffee-roasted carrots, porcini-braised lentils, sage salsa verde, and crispy garlic.

Complementing the savory dishes is an indulgent dessert program featuring rich fall flavors. Guests can enjoy Tableside Tiramisu (\$21), beautifully presented with whipped mascarpone, espresso-soaked ladyfingers, coffee liqueur and cocoa; The Giant Red Velvet Cake (\$26) with six layers of cream cheese frosting and standing nearly a foot tall; and Milk Chocolate and Passionfruit Bomba (\$18) with dark chocolate brownie cake and caramelized cashew crisps.

The menu is paired with an updated, vibrant cocktail program that highlights colorful elegance and smooth finishes. Seasonal selections include Midnight Runner (\$22) with Mount Gay

Black Barrel, coffee, infused Meletti, Don Zolio Oloroso sherry, banana, lemon and nutmeg; Broken Compass (\$22) with Maker's 46, lemon, Campari and spiced pineapple cordial; and Silk Road (\$20) with Zephyr gin, Campari, Bordiga Rosso vermouth, pandan, and passionfruit.

"TheAmericano has always been about creating a setting where food, design and energy come together," said Peter McQuaid, TheAmericano's executive chef. "The new dining room feels more modern, inviting and full of life, qualities that carry through in our seasonal menu with lighter flavors, fresh local ingredients and whimsical touches."

TheAmericano is open daily from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and offers happy hour from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Delivering an exceptional midweek prix fixe menu Sunday through Wednesday, guests can also enjoy a curated dinner, showcasing seasonal flavors and chef-driven dishes that reflect TheAmericano's modern Italian cuisine, with an optional custom wine pairing crafted by the in-house sommelier.

TheAmericano is located at 17797 N. Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale. For more on TheAmericano and to book a reservation, visit www.TheAmericanoRestaurant.com. ❖



Pet Therapy Dogs Bring Comfort and Smiles Back to Abrazo Arrowhead Campus

Who let the dogs out? We did! The beloved Pet Therapy Program has returned to Abrazo Arrowhead Campus, bringing wagging tails, wet noses and heartwarming moments back to patients, visitors, and staff.



After a pause during the COVID-19 pandemic, the program is once again growing, with more volunteer teams joining to share the healing power of human-animal connection.

Among them is Raymond Mushier and his 3-year-old rescue Standard Poodle, Cowboy, who recently completed orientation and made their first hospital rounds.

"Cowboy is such a unique looking dog for a Standard Poodle – he turns heads everywhere we go," says Mushier, who has years of experience in pet therapy. His previous therapy dog served alongside him at Abrazo West Campus in Goodyear before he relocated to Glendale.

"My dogs have served at Sky Harbor Airport and other hospitals. They just love being around people, and the joy they bring to patients is incredible. It really is a win-win for both the dogs and the patients."

Mushier and Cowboy are so popular and talented, they now help mentor and train new pet therapy teams at Abrazo Arrowhead.

The program accepts volunteer therapy pets certified through The Alliance of Therapy Dogs and/or Pet Partners, both of which require extensive training, testing, and certification.

"The dogs must be at least a year old, fully vaccinated, and pass a strict behavior evaluation. Handlers also undergo background checks," said Sherry Roueche, CVA, Abrazo Arrowhead Campus.

"Therapy dogs like Cowboy provide so much comfort and companionship in a way that humans alone can't. The smiles and expressions of joy they bring to our patients is truly remarkable," she says.

Abrazo Arrowhead Campus looks forward to welcoming more therapy teams as the program continues to grow, creating moments of comfort and connection throughout the hospital. ❖

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~ Real Estate Update ~

How to Get Your Home Ready for the Holidays



By Debbie Frazelle, Coldwell Banker Realty

Don't put off your holiday home prep; plan ahead for a smooth and stress-free season.

The holidays are a wonderful time to gather and celebrate with friends and family. While decorating, cooking, and get-togethers are often joyous experiences, this season can also bring unnecessary stress.

Many homeowners tend to wait until the last minute to prepare for the busy holiday season, but with a little prep work now, you can greatly reduce future hassles.

1. Declutter and Organize

One of the most helpful things to do before the holidays is to take note of your belongings, declutter and organize. Start preparing the high-traffic areas or the area where you are going to receive guests most.

Clearing out old items will make room for seasonal decorations. Make sure you have ample room for the size tree you want and new items you may obtain. Get some boxes and label them "donate" or "sell." Put them in high-traffic areas so the family can go through their things and add them to the appropriate boxes. Once the box fills up, take it to a donation center or sell the belongings.

This will not just declutter your living space but also keep you from overbuying. People often accidentally rebuy things like wrapping paper or gifts because they forget they bought a present back in March or already had wrapping paper. I do this all the time!

2. Deep Clean

Once you've decluttered and organized your space, it's time to get cleaning. Spring cleaning is a great refresh after the winter months, but you don't want to leave this for once a year. Wipe down cabinets and clean rugs, floors and windows. Strip linens and towels and thoroughly clean appliances like your refrigerator, oven, dishwasher and washing machine.

3. Be Ready for Guests

Guest rooms tend to become a catchall for home clutter throughout the year. If you plan to have guests over the holidays, get your guest room in tip-top shape. Start by clearing any clutter from the room using the tips above. Then, make it feel homey.

Try to make it look like a hotel suite, with extra linens, towels and toiletries to offer them. You can fold the towels nicely on the bed before guests arrival or add a local treat, like toiletry or candy, on top.

If you have more guests than room, think about repurposing other rooms temporarily, such as a home office or game room.

4. Do Your Annual Fire Safety Checks

Your fireplace should be professionally cleaned to remove creosote buildup, a chemical released when wood is burned.

This is also a good time to check your fire alarm batteries and carbon monoxide sensors. While these usually alert you when the battery is low, it's always a good opportunity to test that they are operating properly.

5. Spruce up Your Space

Your home's exterior sets the tone. You want to create a warm and inviting space during the holidays, so start by improving your curb appeal. Even if the festivities are largely indoors, first impressions matter and will foster holiday spirit.

Hang cafe lights or have a fireplace outdoors to create a warm gathering space.

The walkway to the home should be clean of debris and well-lit. Don't have a bunch of pots with dead plants lying around. Replant them or clean them up if they will regrow next year.

If you have an outside firepit or gas fireplace, check that the propane is full for the firepit. If you prepare your holiday feast on a grill or smoker, make sure those fuel sources are also stocked.

6. Address Needed Improvements

It's easy to put off minor work you find throughout the year. Whatever the project, now is a great time to address it. Not only will it make your home look better before holiday get-togethers, but it will make your space feel more complete as you welcome a new year. If you are considering selling your home in the Spring, then it will be in tip top shape!

7. Stock Up on Essentials

Aim to have a well-stocked pantry. Grocery and big box stores are incredibly busy leading up to a holiday.

A little bit of prep work in the weeks before the holidays kick off can save you a lot of stress down the line.

If you or anyone one of your visitors looking to buy or sell a home please give them my name, Debbie Frazelle with Coldwell Banker Debbie@DebbieFrazelle.com or (602) 399-8540. ❖

Statistics from September 15th to October 14th, 2025

Homes for Sale	38	Homes Sold/Closed	8
Home Sales Pending	7	Rentals Furnished	7
Rentals Unfurnished	4		

For Sale

Biltmore Villa	1	\$2,650,000
Cloisters	2	\$359,900-\$399,000
Colony	3	\$1,179,000-\$1,400,000
Courts	1	\$735,000
Estates	2	\$2,850,000-\$3,994,000
Fairway Lodge	2	\$1,475,000-\$1,600,000
Gates	1	\$1,650,000
Greens	5	\$1,395,000-\$3,050,000
Heights	2	\$739,900-\$869,000
Meridian	3	\$275,000-\$417,000
Shores	1	\$1,699,000
Taliverde	2	\$1,830,000-\$2,000,000
Terraces	12	\$270,000-\$950,000
2 Biltmore Estate	1	\$5,499,000

Pending Sales

Biltmore Mountain Villas	1	Cloisters	1
Colony	1	Meridian	1
Terrace	2	Two Biltmore Estates	1

Closed Sales

Biltmore Mountain Estates	1	Fairway Lodge	1
Cloisters	1	Hillside Villas	1
Terrace	3	Meridian	1

~ Golf Tip ~

Let's talk about putting speed!



By Tina Tombs, The Arizona Biltmore Golf Club



Here are my Top 3 Tips!

Tip #1: Keep Consistent Grip:

Pressure: Keeping steady pressure throughout your putting stroke is key to having a reliable stroke and controlling distance. Increasing grip pressure or softening it through the stroke affects how you impact the ball and messes with your short game.

Tip #2: Hit vs. Stroke:

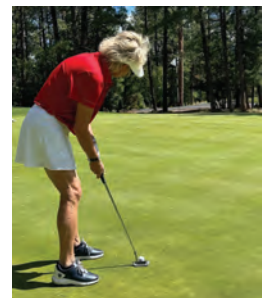
Hit versus stroke comes down to the type of putter that you are! You might be someone who has a more aggressive short putting stroke with quite a bit of hit, or you might be someone with a more fluid stroke. If you look at different PGA tour golfers, you'll see more stroke versus hit.

However, there are people who do have successful hitting strokes. So it really comes down to what works best! You do you!

Tip #3: Trust your Training:

Trust your training, trust your methods, stay consistent, and get out there and practice! Which tip will you implement first?

To schedule your next golf lesson, clinic, purchase a gift card or find out more information on all programs offered, you can contact Tina and her staff by downloading the app TinaTombsGolf on the app store or google app store. ❖





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AZ Barrels, Bottles & Brews *Saturday, November 15th at Salt River Fields*

The highly anticipated AZ Barrels, Bottles & Brews festival is back for its seventh year on Saturday, November 15th, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick. This is the ultimate event for fans of Arizona's craft beer, spirits, meads, and ciders, offering an exciting opportunity to sample the best the state has to offer while enjoying stunning views of the McDowell Mountains and the fields at Salt River Fields.

More than 25 local vendors will be showcasing their award-winning creations, including favorites like 8-Bit Aleworks, Carefree Distillery, Cider Corps, Huss Brewing, Grand

Canyon Brewing and Distillery, and many more. Whether you're a fan of smooth ciders, bold beers, or finely crafted spirits, there will be something to satisfy every taste. Guests can stroll the concourse, sip their way through the variety of beverages on offer, and enjoy lawn games for an extra dose of fun.

Along with the fantastic selection of local drinks, the event will feature an array of food trucks serving up delicious bites to complement your drinks. It's a perfect way to spend the afternoon, sampling, discovering new favorites, and celebrating Arizona's thriving craft beverage scene. AZ Barrels, Bottles & Brews is more than

just a tasting event; it's a celebration of everything that makes Arizona's craft culture unique. With breathtaking views, fantastic drinks, and a laid-back atmosphere, it's an event you won't want to miss.

For more information, visit the website at www.azbottlesandbrews.com. ❖



Uchi Scottsdale

Launches First-Ever Weekend Lunch Menu

Uchi Scottsdale debuted a new lunch service this fall, bringing the brand's signature balance of tradition and innovation to midday dining in the heart of Old Town Scottsdale. Available Friday through Sunday only, the menu offers a curated mix of Uchi classics and new dishes designed specifically for lunch.

Guests can enjoy a three-course Lunch Prix Fixe (\$25) with starters like Uchi's Gem Salad, Sake Crudo, or Brussels Sprouts, followed by mains such as all new gruyere Burger, Crispy Rice, or the signature Walu Walu, with seasonal sorbet to finish. Expanded selections include the Uchi Lunch set with chef's choice nigiri and temaki, as well as a Sushi Omakase (\$45) featuring both nigiri and sashimi highlights.

Menu standouts include hot and cool tastings like the fan-favorite Hama Chili with yellowtail,

ponzu, and Thai chili; Pork Katsu made with Berkshire pork chop, truffle sauce, miso apple puree, and indulgent favorites such as the Hot Rock, and Uchi's iconic Fried Milk dessert. Weekend lunch is not complete without a beverage, guests can select from specialty cocktails, sake, wine and beer offerings and zero proof options.

"Lunch at Uchi is about giving our guests the same refined, unexpected flavors we're known for, in a format that's approachable, quick, and perfect for the middle of the day," says Uchi Scottsdale Chef de Cuisine Blake Luecke.

Lunch service will be offered Friday through Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Uchi Scottsdale is Hai Hospitality's seventh Uchi location, which opened in February 2023. Chef Tyson Cole created the original Uchi location in a refurbished South Austin bungalow in

2003 with the simple vision of bringing the intimacy of the sushi bar experience to every table in the restaurant. Chef Cole's innovative take on sushi and signature dishes have been delighting guests from across the country and around the world ever since, with a variety of hot and cool tastings, sushi and sashimi, makimono, yakimono, tempura, and an ever-changing omakase (or chef's choice menu) based on seasonal items. Uchi Scottsdale is open Sunday through Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. with lunch service Friday through Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Happy Hour is daily from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. To learn more about Uchi Scottsdale, or to make a reservation, visit www.uchirestaurants.com. Uchi Scottsdale is located at 3821 N. Scottsdale Road. ❖



Pratt Brothers Christmas Returns to Rawhide Western Town November 28th – December 28th, 2025

Opening November 28th, 2025 and running through December 28th, 2025, the state's biggest Christmas celebration just got even bigger. Pratt Brothers Christmas will be returning for its 10th anniversary and third year at Rawhide Western Town (5700 W. North Loop Road in Chandler) for a month-long celebration of the holiday season that will feature over 7 million lights across 20 acres. Dazzling new attractions for this year's festivities include an immersive Gingerbread House Light Show with special effects and pyrotechnics, a brand-new Christmas Parade Float, new scenes added to the popular Holiday Express Train Ride and an action-packed "Battle for Christmas" stunt show, alongside all of the returning favorites from years past.

Open daily (excluding December 1st and 2nd, December 8th and 9th and Christmas Eve) from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., there will be free parking for all guests and tickets are on sale now at www.PrattBrothersChristmas.com, starting at \$30 for General Admission and \$70 for VIP.

New this year, are the following attractions:

"Dare To Dream" Gingerbread House Light Show

This is the Pratt Brothers most spectacular and immersive light show to date. Featuring brand new special effects, music, and pyrotechnics.

The Very Merry Christmas Parade

See a brand-new nightly parade float that will make its way down Main Street through Rawhide Western Town.

Holiday Express Train Ride with BRAND NEW Scenes

The Pratt Brothers most popular ride, the Holiday Express Train Ride, will feature new and updated scenes along its route.

The Battle for Christmas Stunt Show

Christmas spirit has run low in a sleepy old town, and two brothers are determined to bring it back, by whatever means! Catch live action stunts and brawls from the Arizona Roughriders in this action-packed holiday show.

Returning attractions from years past include meet-and-greets with Santa, s'more making, holiday shopping, the snow show, town characters, cookie decorating, the Pratt Family Miniature Village, a scavenger hunt, letters to Santa, Christmas movies, kids coloring, festive food and drinks, and a VIP lounge.

Pratt Brothers Christmas will also be giving back to the community through the entire holiday season by partnering with a variety of local non-profits, including St. Vincent DePaul, Phoenix Children's Hospital, The Foster Alliance - AZ Helping Hands and many others.

For more information, and to purchase tickets, visit www.prattbrotherschristmas.com. ❖



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Scottsdale Fashion Square Puts Sonoran Touch On Trees For Hope Charity Art Exhibit

Following last year's successful launch of Trees for Hope, Scottsdale Fashion Square is infusing some desert flair in this vibrant holiday initiative that combines creativity, community and philanthropy. This year the beloved holiday tradition is getting a reboot. Instead of Christmas trees, the 2025 exhibit, dubbed "Trees for Hope: Cactus Collection Edition," will feature uniquely designed saguaro cacti and festive holiday wreaths.

In partnership with Modern Luxury Scottsdale, this five-week silent auction will be hosted in the West Luxury Wing at Scottsdale Fashion Square from Wednesday, November 5th, to Wednesday, December 10th. The one-of-a-kind creations will be on display and open for bidding throughout the bustling holiday season, with proceeds benefiting the Hope Fund for Phoenix Children's.

Artists were challenged to create a design plan that embodies Arizona, whether an interpretation of an Arizona sunset, shimmering holiday lights, desert motifs, whimsical touches or other expressions, all representing the 48th State.

The resulting captivating collection, spanning 10 cacti and 15 wreaths, showcases the best of elegant seasonal décor using pre-made saguaro cacti and pine wreaths as the canvas. Each cactus is a display of its own with 360 degrees of thoughtfully curated décor, including toppers, ornaments, skirting, ribbons, garland, fabrics and fillers to create a complete holiday vignette. Although on a more modest scale, the wreaths lend a comparable level of seasonal style suitable for smaller spaces.

"Each holiday season, Scottsdale Fashion Square exudes a special energy as shoppers know they can count on finding the perfect gifts for everyone on their list, as well as stylish accessories for home décor and entertaining," said Melanie Sutton, Senior Marketing Manager. "The community also counts on the shopping center and its creative efforts to support seasonal giving. This impressive collection lends to the festive ambiance while engaging guests in the spirit of giving as we support Phoenix Children's."

Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges in two classes (cacti and wreaths) across several criteria, with Best in Show and People's Choice awards announced at the exhibit unveiling during a Jingle & Mingle: Festival of Fashion Reception on Thursday, November 13th.

Then, shoppers will be able to view and bid on these stylish saguaros and regal wreaths throughout the West and South Luxury Wings until Wednesday, December 10th. Winning bidders will be able to pick up their cacti and wreaths after the exhibit concludes.

Designed by accomplished local retailers, artists, florists and interior decorators, the exhibit intertwines joy, creativity and philanthropy. Proceeds from the event will support the Hope Fund at Phoenix Children's, a fund dedicated to helping to provide critical new programs, purchase essential equipment, conduct cutting-edge research and ensure that every child who needs treatment receives it.

"Trees for Hope brings the magic of the holidays to life in a way that's both heartwarming and impactful," said Tim Harrison, Vice President of Corporate Partnerships, Special Events & Grant Philanthropy at Phoenix Children's. "As guests explore this stunning showcase of holiday artistry, they're invited to embrace the true spirit of the season, giving back. Each tree is a celebration of creativity and compassion, and every bid helps support the Hope Fund and the countless families it serves. We're proud to continue our joyful partnership with Scottsdale Fashion Square and Modern Luxury Scottsdale to make this meaningful tradition shine even brighter."

Trees for Hope is part of the Haute Holiday Collective, a series of festive events planned for the shopping center this holiday season. Other special holiday events include the annual Sounds of the Season with Sam & Stone of Get Ready Entertainment, Santa Photos and other returning favorites, including the beloved Angel Tree program in partnership with Salvation Army and an array of seasonal live music performances. ❖



Saguaro Nights Entertainment Group to Launch Pablo's, in Downtown Phoenix

Early next year, Saguaro Nights Entertainment Group, the desert-inspired hospitality collective, will make its Arizona debut with Pablo's, an immersive nightlife destination in the heart of downtown Phoenix.

Located at the northwest corner of McKinley Street and First Avenue next to the recently opened Saiya luxury apartment community, Pablo's breathes new life into a 9,000-square-foot historic building originally constructed in 1952 as a medical office. Husband-and-wife founders Cary Prewitt and Melissa Levick are transforming the Spanish-style structure into a multi-layered nightlife venue designed to surprise and connect guests at every turn.

To anchor Pablo's cocktail program, Saguaro Nights tapped Barter & Shake Creative Hospitality, the award-winning team behind Century Grand, Platform 18 and Undertow, where industry veteran Mat Snapp helps guide their innovative approach. Together, they are crafting a beverage experience as imaginative as the venue itself. Crater leads the interior design, the hospitality division of Arkham Projects, a Mexico-based firm known for avant-garde, boundary-pushing spaces. Construction is being overseen by LGE Design Build, bringing the historic property into its next chapter.

"Melissa and I moved to Phoenix last year and quickly fell in love with the culture, the people and the incredible energy here," said Prewitt. "Bringing our first concept to Arizona felt like the natural next step, and downtown was the perfect place to begin. With Pablo's, we want to add to the city's momentum by creating something fun, unexpected and a little bit magical, the kind of destination people never want to leave and always want to come back to."

Set inside a storied historic building, Pablo's is the house party that hums with kinetic energy, curiosity and charm. Each room reveals a new mood: three high-spirited bars, the Den, Pablo's Living Room, the Billiards Room, a central courtyard, a lively front patio and Night Tiger, a pulse-quickenning nightclub built for dancing until the lights come on.

"We wanted Pablo's to feel authentic to its historic space while celebrating the artistry of Mexican design," said Levick. "From the architecture to the furnishings, every detail was chosen to spark curiosity and create an environment where people feel transported the moment they walk through the door."

Every space offers its own personality, from bustling bars to intimate lounges, inviting guests to connect, flirt, play, or simply soak it all in. Serving mezcal and mischief in equal measure, Pablo's tempts exploration at every turn. Rumor has it there's even a hidden mezcal room, but its entrance isn't listed; it's earned.

"Great nightlife is about harmony, when the music, the design and the drinks all move together," said Mat Snapp, executive vice president of Barter & Shake. "Our cocktail program at Pablo's is built with that in mind: a curated collection of inventive drinks, full of surprises, and ready to match every mood of the night. Barter & Shake is pleased to contribute to Pablo's, bringing cocktails that unite the energy in the room so the party feels complete the moment the glass is raised."

Construction began in October, with an opening slated for early 2026. To register to be among the first to learn about Pablo's, visit www.PablosPhoenix.com. ❖

Local First Celebrates Arizona's Diverse Culture and Thriving Economy with Annual Fall Festival

It may still be hot outside, but Local First Arizona is already planning for cooler temperatures with their annual Arizona Fall Festival, presented by Arizona Financial. On Saturday, November 8th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Margaret T. Hance Park in Downtown Phoenix will be buzzing with more than 250 local vendors, featuring crafts, activities, games and flavors from 70+ local restaurants, breweries and distilleries in the expanded food court and beverage garden.

"Thousands of people from across the state look forward to Arizona Fall Fest every year because you are guaranteed to find something new to enjoy," said Kimber Lanning, CEO and Founder of Local First Arizona. "Locals come out with their dogs, kids, family and friends to take part in the community and some of the best locally owned businesses Arizona has to offer."

Held each November, the Arizona Fall Festival is the ultimate gathering of locals and businesses from across the state, making it the largest certified local event around. This free, family-friendly and dog-friendly festival showcases everything that makes Arizona home. The food, drinks, entertainment and energy are unmatched.

This year will have an expanded area with extra food trucks, a larger Beverage Garden and new activities in the Kid Zone. In addition, Arizona Fall Fest will include:

- Arizona Fall Fest will be hosting a group of wineries coming from Sonoma who will be representing Southern Arizona's unique wine region at the event's Beverage Garden.
- Local First will also be featuring a local-crafted beer in partnership with O.H.S.O. Brewery + Distillery that you can only get at Arizona Fall Fest.
- Cahokia, voted *Phoenix Magazine's* "Best Place to Find Emerging Artists" will be coordinating a series of performances that will be featuring Indigenous culture. The lineup includes more established artists as well as talented newcomers working across all mediums.
- Live music will be performed by Citrus Clouds, Medio Pinto and Jason P. Woodbury. Back by popular demand are the alluring Lost in the Sun and the crowd-moving Prime Society.

Attendees will also be able to purchase delicious bites and sips from more vendors than ever before, including 45+ local restaurants/food trucks and 25+ local craft brewers, wineries and distillers, such as:

- Arizona Sunrises Gymnastics & Dance
- Brick Road Coffee
- Bundle x Joy
- Cultura Mía
- Danzeisen Dairy
- Dayeli's Mexican Grill
- Del Sol Furniture
- Famous Chicago Dogs
- Hot Sauce & Pepper
- Hubbard Family Swim School
- Iconic Cocktail Co.
- Laura's Gourmet
- Milkweed Arts
- Paint on Me
- Pet Friendly Fun
- Pure Life Jewelry
- Ray Ray's Sonoran Spirits
- Shop Refugee
- Sunshine Sunflower Studio
- The Shop Beer Co.
- The Spaghetti Shack
- Timbertote
- Tucson Chocolate Factory
- Verde Canyon Railroad
- Village Yoga Sedona



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For more information about the Arizona Fall Festival, visit the website at www.localfirstaz.com/fall-fest. ❖

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