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ARIZONA REPUBLIC

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Greasewood Flat is latest Western icon to ride off into the sunset

BETH DUCKETT THE REPUBLIC • AZCENTRAL.COM

Greasewood Flat, one of the few remaining Western haunts in Scottsdale, will close its doors on Tuesday after a 40-year run. The loss of one of Scottsdale's most iconic Western landmarks has reverberated through the community, which critics say has shifted from the self-described "West's Most Western Town" to the West's most upscale and hip suburb. The clash between the Old West and New West continues to play out across Arizona, and Scottsdale in particular. The city has bid farewell to Western-themed businesses while welcoming houses, shopping centers and golf courses that play up its image as a high-end suburb and a playground for the wealthy.

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Patrons pack Greasewood Flat's restaurant and bar as longtime employee Luis Pena greets patrons, and kids dance to the band Bourbon Tree. The Scottsdale landmark will close Tuesday. The owners will be paid to developers to pay off an estate tax and other expenses. [PHOTO BY BETH DUCKETT](#)



PIPELINE OF CHILDREN

McCain, Flake push to deport faster

Senators: Plan will discourage immigration

BOB ORTEGA AND DAN ROWICKI

Shortly before the U.S. Senate passed its budget resolution for next fiscal year, Sen. John McCain and Jeff Flake of Arizona attached an amendment to speed the removal of children and other Central American migrants who cross the U.S.-Mexico border illegally. "We are pleased the Senate supports our intention to fund the expeditious removal of children who illegally cross over the U.S.-Mexico border," the two Arizona Republicans said in a statement released by their offices. The two said children trying to travel north are at the mercy of human smugglers and can fall victim to violence and exploitation. They said sending these children and families back quickly would be the most

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Officials: Co-pilot in Alps crash hid illness

Evidence emerged Friday that the co-pilot blamed for deliberately crashing a jetliner into the French Alps had concealed an illness from his employer.

A search of Andreas Lubitz's home in Düsseldorf, Germany, turned up notes from his doctor telling him to go on medical leave the day of the crash that killed 150, officials said. The type of illness wasn't disclosed. Lubitz, 27, completed some of his training at Phoenix Goodyear Airport.

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As road to Page reopens, detoured lives get back on track

SHAUN MCKINNON THE REPUBLIC • AZCENTRAL.COM

DIYOTER SPRINGS — At the top of the hill, just before the cut in the rock where U.S. 89 begins its descent outside Page, a white Arizona Department of Transportation truck and a lone Navajo police vehicle blocked the three travel lanes. The concrete barriers and padlocked

fences had been hauled away. The "Keep Off" signs had been taken down. And a mile or so down the hill, little evidence remained of a landslide that, for more than two years, sent tourists on wild detours through the saguaro and junipers and isolated an already isolated corner of the Navajo Reservation. ADOT was ready to reopen a 23-mile section of U.S. 89 — 23 of the most

Video

See how the U.S. 89 closure affected lives. [www.azcentral.com/local/best-roads](#)

important makes to people in this part of Arizona. The highway closed Feb. 30, 2013, after the side of the cliff wall gave way and a stretch of the road buckled, forcing traffic onto a series of fee-fung detours while the main road north to Page was rebuilt.

On Friday, the long-awaited day of See **ROAD**, Page 16A



The season ends in heartbreaking fashion for ASU's Peaches Arroyasamara and her team, who fall 66-65 to Florida State in the Sweet 16. **1C**

ALSO

Workers' comp bill
The Arizona Legislature considers legislation backed by the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry that limits the amounts injured workers can receive in settlements and prevents them from taking their dispute before a jury. **6A**

Navajo officer rebuffs
As the Navajo Nation prepares to honor Officer Alan Young, 42, killed this month in a shootout with a suspect, the tribe's leader calls for more funding for public safety. **23A**

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From the Front Page

Icon

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"Greenwood closing is just one of many things causing Scottsdale to lose its Western roots," said Howard Myers, a resident and president of the Desert Property Owners Association in north Scottsdale. "The biggest loss is losing Rancho."

 Rancho Western Town spent more than three decades in Scottsdale before relocating to the Gila River Reservation near Chandler.

 In a 2013 Arizona Republic column, Bob Dezel, publisher of *True West* magazine, wrote that Scottsdale should give up the "West Meets Western Town" motto, which "may have been somewhat true at one time." He has referred to Scottsdale as "The West's Most Midwestern Town."

Greenwood is the latest spot to be squeezed by suburban sprawl. For decades, the highway bar and restaurant drew bikers, cowboys, locals and tourists to the beach house-turned-saloon, east of Pinnacle Peak. The family that owns Greenwood was forced to sell the property to pay estate taxes and other expenses left after the original founder, George "Doc" Cavalliere, died in 2009.

In 2012, Taylor Morrison Homes purchased the property where Greenwood sits, near Alma School Parkway and Pinnacle Vista Drive, with plans to build 80 houses. The 4-acre property, once considered remote, is surrounded by luxury houses and a Four Seasons resort in the area.

Greenwood will be missed, but Scottsdale must move forward, Mayor Jim Lane said. "Scottsdale isn't the same city it was in the 1950s," he said. "Undoubtedly, things do change. Frankly, our history is in our walls and in our pictures and in our minds of what we remember, so it's one of those things that you can stay in history, but we have to move forward."

Scottsdale still has worked to remove and retain its Wild West image. The Scottsdale Museum of the West opened this year, paying homage to the art, history and stories of the American West. WestWorld, a city-run venue, announced a multimillion-dollar renovation to better accommodate events, including the annual Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show.

The Parado (de)Sol, featuring dozens of horse-drawn carriages and riders on horseback, still takes place every winter. The Rusty Spur Saloon, housed in a downtown building circa 1920, hosts itself as "Scottsdale's best rest/cowboy saloon."

Megan Boyle, community-affairs manager for the Scottsdale Convention and Visitors Bureau, said it is "important for our destination to embrace our Western culture while also working together to move Scottsdale forward."

In addition to the museum and the saloon, she cited the Old Town district and the dozens of equestrian events that "continue to showcase the Western history to visitors who are interested in learning about that part of our culture."

Myers said the loss isn't just about Greenwood but the "whole Western connection that brought tourists here."

"Golf and good weather aren't the main draws, experiencing the West and Scottsdale's preserve are the real draws that differentiate us from our major competitors in the tourism 'ballgame,'" he said. Myers said the city's bars, apartments and other modern buildings "destroy the Western connection and feel that way."

Cavalliere, purportedly Scottsdale's eldest native-born resident before his death, opened Greenwood in the 1970s. With his picnic tables, laid-back attitude and

rustic wares, it became a popular hangout for bikers, tourists, cowboys and families to kick up their boots and relax, warmed by the glow of outdoor fire pits and fireplaces. The in-door saloon boasts collections of rusty old Western relics and dollar bills hanging from its inside wooden ceilings.

On April 11, Greenwood will auction off its extensive collection of rustic furnishings, equipment, decorations and ranch-yard-style memorabilia. Surplus Asset Management is handling the auction, which will take place at Greenwood and on the Internet. Details are available at surplusasset.com.

Community historian Joan Padala said she is sad to see Greenwood and its neighbor, Rusta Place, ride off into the sunset. Rusta Place, a steakhouse that closed on the property in 2010, shortly after Cavalliere's death.

Padala interviewed Cavalliere as well as his late sister, Dorothy Cavalliere Kiteham Roberts.

She said Cavalliere came up for the idea for Greenwood as a U.S. Army Air Corps aircraft mechanic in World War II. During time spent in Alpierra, Cavalliere and other airman "visited often in the desert," she said.

"He was impressed with the open-air gathering spots where strangers become friends and enjoyed food, drink and swapping stories."

The bar's name comes from a common chant on the property and the fact that the location was flat.

A proposal to move the bar near Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve was withdrawn last year after facing opposition.



The small interior bar and restaurant portion of Greenwood flat in north Scottsdale is lined with dollar bills and Old West relics. The laid-back atmosphere of it and the outside bar (below) has been drawing cowboys, residents, bikers and cowboys for decades.



Greenwood still could open elsewhere, said Hoyt Johnson, who represents his area, three of the Cavalliere heirs. He said the owners are "absolutely still talking to people and still looking around."

"Right now we're going to lose Greenwood," but the boys and I still own the company, still own the name, still own the liquor license," Johnson said.

Nearby, Pinnacle Peak is in searching for a home after selling the property to a developer planning 50 luxury townhomes. Pata spokesman Lane Coy said the townhome steakhouse does not have a closing date yet.

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