



District 5 Residents and Friends

February is almost over already, and there has been so much activity in our district. Community events are starting to pick up again with the beautiful weather. Read this edition to learn more about:

- Update on City Council Safe Medical Care in Parks Ordinance
- Villa de Paz G.A.I.N. Neighborhood Event - Feb. 27th
- Lifeguard Job Training
- Myrtle Ave. Walking Path Ribbon Cutting - March 6th
- Monthly Maryvale Mercado - March 7th
- Park Rangers 24/7 Hotline Feedback Survey
- Solid Waste Rate Proposed Increase Information
- Graffiti Free PHX Details
- Police and Fire Career Experience - March 7th

Safe Medical Care in Parks Ordinance Update



Earlier this month, we hosted a community meeting with residents, students, and neighborhood leaders to learn about and discuss the new "**Safe Medical Care in Parks**" ordinance that was approved (with a required community outreach period) on December 17th by the City Council. [Click here to see: The SAFE MEDICAL CARE IN PARKS \(SEC. 24-25 25-2602 - Attachment A - Draft Ordinance.pdf.](#)

This ordinance would essentially **prohibit** anyone promoting or conducting the sale of or exchange of syringes and needles or conducting or organizing a needle exchange program , AND essentially **require** medical providers to obtain a permit to provide other **permitted** services on park property.

City staff informed our residents about this new ordinance and also listened to comments and concerns from them. After all the meetings with residents and stakeholders, City Council will discuss this ordinance for any potential amendments at an upcoming council meeting, but **the date has yet to be determined.** Our office will keep you all up to date on this process, because your comments are important to us. My objective has always been and will always be to maintain city parks as safe and clean spaces for the entire community to enjoy.

Villa de Paz Neighborhood Event

**BLOCK
WATCH**

Villa de Paz G.A.I.N. EVENT

(GETTING ARIZONA INVOLVED IN NEIGHBORHOODS)



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

**PENDERGAST COMMUNITY CENTER FIELD
10550 W MARIPOSA STREET**

G.A.I.N. is a day for Arizona to join forces and promote awareness, safety, and neighborhood unity. Let's come together and make our community a safer, better place to live.



**JOIN US FOR SOME FAMILY FUN, FOOD
VENDORS, GAMES, INFORMATION, &
COMMUNITY RESOURCES!**

Sponsored By:



**BLOCK
WATCH**

The Villa De Paz Block Watch is pleased to invite the entire community to join the upcoming G.A.I.N (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) event. Our neighborhood is a strong, engaged community dedicated to revitalization, empowerment, and creating positive connections for residents. It is a free community event with kids' activities, entertainment, and food trucks.

- **Friday, February 27, 2026**
 - **Pendergast Community Center Field—10550 W. Mariposa St.**
 - **5:00 P.M to 7:00 P.M.**
-

New Myrtle Ave. Walking Path Celebration



Let's Celebrate!

MYRTLE AVE BEAUTIFICATION

Join us as community leaders and our residents gather for a ribbon cutting ceremony to honor the hard work that brings new life and beauty to our neighborhood!

Friday - March 6, 2026 | 6 PM

Myrtle Ave - Between 31st Ave and 32nd Ave



JOIN US FOR:

- Community leadership guests
- Music
- Complimentary food
- Great company



Betty Guardado (City Council) | Streets Dept | Neighborhood Services

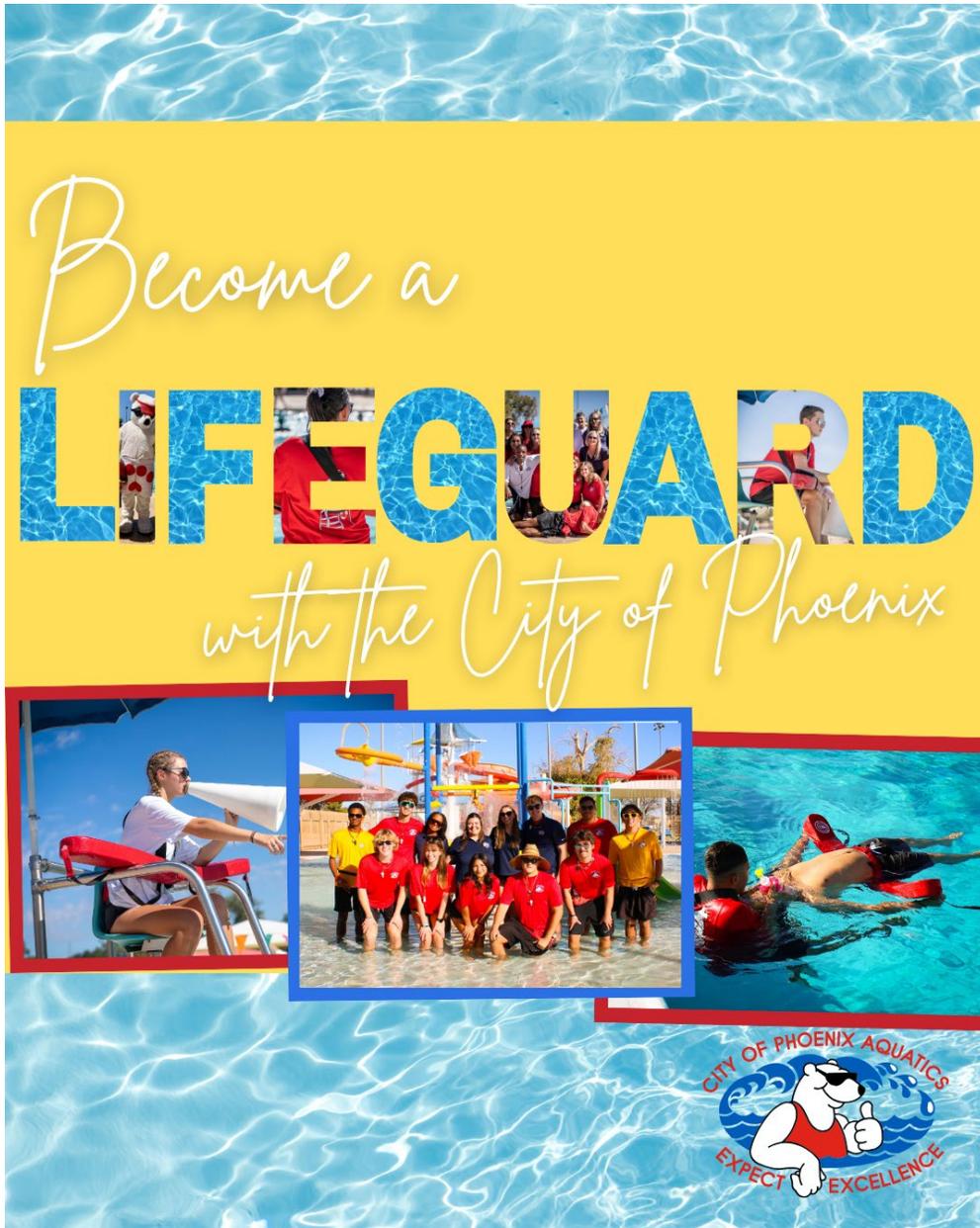
For More Information : northglensquare@gmail.com

After six years of neighborhood discussion, community outreach, and multiple community cleanups, we are excited to celebrate the official opening of the Myrtle Ave. Walking Path on **Friday, March 6th at 6pm**. We are excited to support the North Glen Square Neighborhood Association and host their monthly Front Yard Friday, which is a monthly neighborhood social with food and drinks.

Join the celebration of the improvement of Myrtle Ave. with community leaders and our neighbors. This vacant land between 31st Ave. and 32nd Ave, has been a site

of illegal dumping, trespassing, and loitering for many years, and most of the residents have asked us to help develop the area. We co-hosted, with the neighborhood group and Street Transportation and Neighborhood Services Departments, multiple community cleanups, with the first one in November 2019, and then the following multiple years. Please join us to mark this important step in the beautification of an already vibrant neighborhood. To learn more, [click here to visit the neighborhood webpage here](#).

Lifeguard Job Training Opportunities



The City of Phoenix is looking for motivated individuals to join our Aquatics team for the upcoming summer season. If you are looking for a rewarding way to serve the community, build professional skills, and stay active, becoming a lifeguard is the perfect opportunity.

- Get Certified: Register for a mandatory lifeguard certification class.
- Apply Online: Visit phoenix.gov/jobs and search for the "Lifeguard" position to submit your application.

- Interview: Keep an eye on your email! Interview invitations will be sent out this March.
 - Ready to get started? Visit phoenix.gov/lifeguard for full details, certification class schedules, and apply!
-

Maryvale Mercado - Sat. March 7th

MARYVALE MERCADO
Betty Guardado

Saturday, March 7th
12:00PM- 4:00PM

Maryvale Community Center
4420 N. 51st Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85031

Kid Activities
Jump Houses
Carter Farms
Petting Zoo 20+ Animals
along w/ a hand led pony
for the little one

Live Entertainment
Live Banda Music
La Pitiiguena Techno- Banda
Baile folklorico -
Petting Zoo
Live Camel

Free Family Event
Culture · Community · Tradition
Community Resources · Community Vendors

arts+ culture CITY OF PHOENIX
PHOENIX POLICE ARIZONA
PHOENIX FIRE DEPARTMENT
FAITHLAND RECOVERY CENTER INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

WWW.MaryvaleMercado.com

It's that time of the month again! Join us next Saturday, March 7th for the next Maryvale Mercado! Our monthly vibrant, family-friendly community event that brings people together to celebrate culture, support local businesses, enjoy live entertainment, and children's activities.

Whether you're looking for delicious food, unique vendors, or engaging activities, we have something for everyone! Best of all, it's completely FREE to attend at the

Maryvale Community Center (4420 N. 51st Ave.) Learn more at MaryvaleMercado.com.

Park Rangers 24/7 Hotline Survey

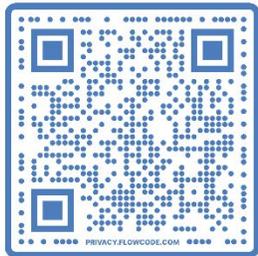
24/7 Code of Conduct Answering Line

Your voice matters

We're upgrading our **24/7 Code of Conduct Answering Line** to better serve you—and we'd love your input.

Whether you've used the line before or not, we invite you complete a short survey and share what features matter most to you.

Thank you for helping us make our parks safe, clean and accessible for everyone!



Scan to take the survey at:
www.bit.ly/2026NRDSurvey



We are upgrading our 24/7 Code of Conduct Answering Line to better serve our parks and community, and we need your help to ensure residents have a voice in this process. Respond to our short survey to gather feedback on what features matter most. Whether someone has used the line before or not, their input is essential to making this resource effective and accessible.

Please take a few moments to complete this survey. Parks is looking to enhance the current answering system for the public to report Code of Conduct issues in City parks. Because there are a limited number of park rangers to cover all the City parks,

the City is counting on us to be their eyes and ears and to report issues that we observe in the parks. When you do observe any violations, please report to the 24/7 hotline, (602)534-9919.

Share the survey with your networks. Your responses will help the City to improve the current system. [Click here for the English survey.](#) The survey is open through March 31.

Proposed Solid Waste Rate Increase



The Public Works Department has recommended an adjustment to the monthly residential solid waste rate in order to keep up with solid waste expenses. If approved, your rate would increase each of the next three years, starting on July 1,

2026. There will be in-person and online community meetings for residents to learn more or to give feedback. For more details visit phoenix.gov/swrate2026.

Your monthly solid waste fee pays for more than you might realize:

- Weekly residential garbage and recycling collection
- Monthly drop-offs (up to 1 ton) at transfer stations
- 4 Bulk trash collections per year per household
- Illegal dumping and CARES clean-up support
- Household Hazardous Waste home collection (1/year) and drop-off events
- Dead animal collection
- Processing of recyclables and landfilling trash
- Christmas tree drop off (seasonal)

To learn more about the proposed solid waste rate adjustment, which would keep these services in place, visit phoenix.gov/swrate2026.

Police & Fire Career Experience



CITY OF PHOENIX

POLICE & FIRE



CAREER EXPERIENCE

WHAT TO EXPECT:



Simulated Scenarios: Realistic simulations of police and fire operations.

Equipment Demonstrations: Get up close with cutting-edge police and fire equipment.



Meet & Greet: Talk directly with current Phoenix Police Officers and Firefighters.

Physical Agility Challenges: Test your strength and endurance in simulated drills.



Career Information Sessions: Learn about all career opportunities within both departments.

Q&A with Recruiters: Get your hiring questions answered.

9 AM - 12 PM

7

MARCH

**PHOENIX FIRE
TRAINING ACADEMY**

**2425 W LOWER BUCKEYE RD
PHOENIX, AZ 85009**

The Phoenix Police and Fire Departments will host their second annual Police and Fire Career Experience on **March 7th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Phoenix Fire Academy.**

Last year's event was a tremendous success, and we're excited for this year's turnout. The event is free and open to the public and welcomes anyone interested in pursuing a career as a first responder. Both Police and Fire will feature displays, recruiting booths, and hands-on activities for those exploring PD/Fire career paths, whether sworn or professional staff.

Attendees will also have the chance to speak directly with recruiters and background investigators to get their questions answered and will be able to apply on site. Last year, we welcomed approximately 500 community members, interested applicants, and families. Learn more at joinphxpd.com/events.

Graffiti Free PHX Month



The graphic features a white brick wall background. In the top left is the NSD logo (Neighborhood Services Department, Neighborhood Administration Division). In the top right is the 'Graffiti Free PHOENIX' logo. Two inset photos show a building before and after graffiti removal. The 'BEFORE' photo shows a building with extensive graffiti, while the 'AFTER' photo shows the same building clean. At the bottom, the text 'SEE GRAFFITI?' is written in purple graffiti-style font, and a purple banner contains the text 'REPORT IT! PHOENIX.GOV/GRAFFITI' in white.

This February marks the City of Phoenix's 12th annual Graffiti-Free Phoenix Month, which highlights efforts to keep neighborhoods across the city clean and welcoming. Graffiti vandalism impacts neighborhood pride, creates safety concerns, and hurts businesses. Through the Graffiti Free Phoenix program, the City partners with residents and businesses to remove graffiti quickly and prevent future vandalism.

In 2025 alone, the City's Graffiti Busters cleaned graffiti at more than 46,000 sites, at no cost to residents or businesses. Quick removal is one of the most effective ways to stop graffiti from coming back.

Help keep your neighborhood clean! If you see graffiti, report it through one of three easy methods:

- **Call 602-534-4444**
- **Email blight@phoenix.gov**
- **Report online at [Phoenix.gov/myPHX311](https://phoenix.gov/myPHX311)**
- **If you catch graffiti happening, call 911.**

For graffiti on private property, a signed permission slip from the property owner is required. Residents can also request color-matched paint and supplies for community clean-ups.

Learn more at phoenix.gov/graffiti. Together, we can keep Phoenix graffiti-free!

Thank you for reading and sharing the February Neighborhood News with family, friends, and neighbors. As always, please contact our office for your comments, questions, and concerns, at (602) 262-7446 or council.district.5@phoenix.gov. For regular updates, follow us on our social media accounts by clicking on the icons below.



[Visit the City of Phoenix City Council District 5 Website](#)

[Forward to a friend](#)