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## **Hello District 5 Residents and Friends!**

February flew by with many community events and outreach programs. Check out this month's newsletter for details on free tree planting programs, a neighborhood cleanup, Maryvale Mercado, the Villa de Paz G.A.I.N. event, Graffiti Free Phoenix Month, and the Financial Incentive to Remove Grass program.

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## Free Neighborhood Tree Plantings



This month, our office supported two free neighborhood tree plantings with the Office of Heat Response and Mitigation. The City launched two tree planting grant programs funded by federal grants in the fall. The Community Canopy grant program supports residents in low tree equity neighborhoods and the Canopy for Kids program supports planting trees in Phoenix schools. This project is funded through the Community Canopy grant program.

In the Camelback Community Neighborhood on Feb. 3rd, 20 more trees were planted on Campbell Ave. in addition to the 200 trees that were planted as part of the Cool Corridor along 55th Ave. from Camelback Rd. to Indian School Rd. This now provides community members a shaded sidewalk to walk and cycle.

In the North Glen Square Neighborhood on Feb. 17th, over 100 trees were planted at 52 different homes including another dozen trees recently planted in Mariposa Park. [Click here to learn more about the program.](#)



# Maryvale Community Cleanup with Estrella Supermoms Block Watch



We were happy to support the annual neighborhood clean-up hosted by the Estrella Supermoms PNP block watch on Saturday, February 24th. We focused on the two alley segments at 73rd Ave. and Indian School Rd. that have been long-time problematic areas.

Special thanks to our amazing partners Estrella Super Moms Block Watch/PNP, Neighborhood Services Department, Street Transportation Department, Public Works Department, the Phoenix Police Department, and of course, to the volunteers from Trevor G. Browne High and Franklin High Schools.

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# Villa De Paz G.A.I.N. Event this Friday

Pendergast GAIN Event

**FRIDAY**  
MARCH 1, 2024  
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
Pendergast  
Community Center  
Field  
10550 W Mariposa  
Street

G.A.I.N. (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) is a day for Arizona to join forces and promote awareness, safety, and neighborhood unity. The G.A.I.N event invites neighborhoods to come together and make their community a safer, better place to live.

Family Fun, Food Vendors, Games, Information, and Community Resources

Call or email For Information  
Abraham Gonzalez  
agonzalez@pesd92.org  
623-772-2490

**BLOCK WATCH** **Villa de Paz** 

**G.A.I.N. EVENT**

Sponsored by your Neighborhood Block Watch



 **Betty Guardado**  
COUNCILWOMAN 1 DISTRICT 5

 **VILLA DE PAZ**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

 **Pendergast**  
Elementary School District

Join our annual GAIN event for Villa de Paz Block Watch and the Laurelwood Homes Block Watch in partnership with Villa De Paz Elementary this Friday, March 1st from 5pm until 7pm at the Pendergast Community Center (10550 W Mariposa St.). This is a free community event with family fun, food vendors, games, information, and community resources. Our office will be present, so stop by to spin the prize wheel and get helpful information.

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## March Maryvale Mercado next Sunday



The poster for the Maryvale Mercado event is set against a blue background with colorful paper lanterns at the top. It features the name 'Maryvale Mercado' in large, white, stylized letters. Below the title, it says 'ESTAS INVITADO A PASAR UN DIA EN FAMILIA' in green, followed by the dates 'MAR/MAR 3', 'APR 7', and 'MAY/MAYO 5' in pink. Two small photos show people dancing and shopping. The event time is '12:00 - 4:00 PM' and the location is '55TH AVENUE BETWEEN WEST CAMPBELL & WEST GLENROSA AVE'. The bottom section contains contact information and logos for various partners.

**Betty Guardado**  
COUNCILWOMAN | DISTRICT 5

# Maryvale Mercado

ESTAS INVITADO A PASAR UN DIA EN FAMILIA  
MAR/MAR 3  
APR 7  
MAY/MAYO 5 ¡DOMINGO!

12:00 - 4:00 PM  
55TH AVENUE BETWEEN WEST CAMPBELL & WEST GLENROSA AVE  
COMIDA, ENTRETENIMIENTO Y MUCHO MÁS

CALL: (602) 956-0909 EXT 17  
MONICA@LOCALFIRSTAZ.COM

arts+ culture  
NETWORK CAMPESINA  
LOCAL FIRST ARIZONA FUERZA LOCAL  
PHOENIX IS HOT  
Phoenix

Join us for the next Maryvale Mercado along the linear park on 55th Ave. from Campbell Ave. to Glenrosa Ave. Explore local small businesses, savor food vendors, and shop at unique stalls. Enjoy the live cultural performances and music. This is a free monthly outdoor event in partnership with Local First Arizona and Cartwright School District! Come by and visit us.

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## Graffiti Free Phoenix 10th Anniversary



February 2024 marks the 10th anniversary of Graffiti-Free Phoenix Awareness Month. While anti-graffiti education occurs year-round, the City of Phoenix highlights the issue in February to raise awareness about the negative effects of graffiti. We are committed to creating a safe, clean, and beautiful environment for residents and encourage them to report graffiti in their neighborhoods.

In most cases, the City will remove graffiti for free? In 2023, the Neighborhood Services Department's Graffiti Busters used over 10,000 gallons of paint and cleaned up more than 51,000 graffiti sites in Phoenix. Each day, they can

efficiently cover or eliminate as many as 200 graffiti sites, without charging any fees to residents or businesses.

Reporting graffiti is an important step to keeping Phoenix graffiti-free. Don't forget, graffiti is a crime. If you see it in action, call 911. If you notice graffiti, report it using one of three simple methods:

- Call: 602-534-4444
- Email: [blight@phoenix.gov](mailto:blight@phoenix.gov)
- Online: myPHX311 [Phoenix.gov/myPHX311](http://Phoenix.gov/myPHX311)

For more information on how to get involved and resources to make Phoenix graffiti-free, visit [Phoenix.gov/Graffiti](http://Phoenix.gov/Graffiti).

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## Non-Residential Financial Incentives to Remove Non-Functional Grass





The Phoenix Water Services Department is launching new financial incentives to help non-residential customers conserve water and save money by removing non-functional grass and converting to desert landscaping.

Key Highlights of the Incentive Program:

- Non-residential customers can receive \$2 per square foot of grass removed, up to a project total of \$250,000 per site, by converting to low water use, desert-adapted landscapes.
- A minimum of 1,000 square feet of grass must be removed to qualify for the incentive.
- The removed grass area must be replaced with a minimum of 50% live plant coverage at maturity per City of Phoenix Planning & Development (PDD) requirements.
- The final irrigation system must be drip-automatic.
- Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis while funding lasts.
- Qualified applicants will receive their incentive in the form of a check, mailed to the address on file for their City Services Bill. Please allow up to 60 days to receive the check.
- The City will roll out the next phase of this financial incentive for residential customers as early as January 2025.

Non-residential customers can begin the application process by [visiting the Non-Residential Grass Removal Program webpage here.](#)

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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](tel:6022627446) or [council.district.5@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.5@phoenix.gov). For regular updates, follow us on our social media accounts by clicking on the icons below.



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