



W

inside willo

JANUARY 2013

PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY HOME TOUR ♦ MEET THE SIBISKI'S ♦ VOLUNTEERING ENRICHES YOU AND OUR COMMUNITY ♦ WELCOME COUNCILMAN SIMPLOT ♦ NEW DOWNTOWN BIKE CLUB ♦ WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THOMAS & 5TH AVENUE?



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Countdown to the 2013 Willo Home Tour

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope your holidays, traditions and festivities were great. It's a new year! Since you're reading this we seemed to have survived the "end of the world" and proven the Mayans just didn't have the energy to go any further...

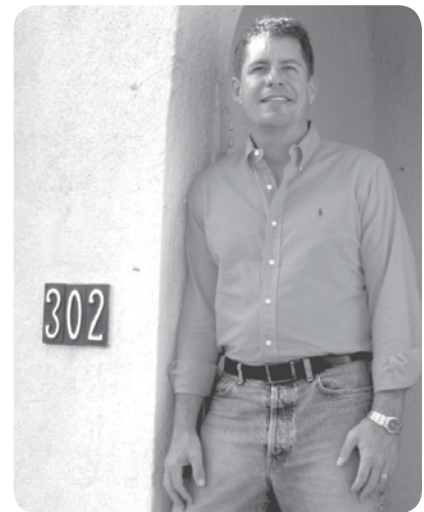
It's hard to believe but by this time next month – the home tour will be upon us! All of the preparations that have been meticulously put together over the last year will be underway as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Willo Home Tour. It's so exciting to see how far this tour has come in the last eight that I've been involved. It's hard to imagine how the first looked, but I'm looking forward to discussions with long term Willo neighbors about that over the next two months.

As we prepare our tour, it's also a great time to prepare our neighborhood so that it shines as 4000 people show up to see Willo at its finest. This is a great oppor-

tunity to take a look at our properties and make them shine making Willo a showcase of Phoenix. A great way to do this is to walk around your house, see if any paint needs to be touched up, trees (especially palms) need to be trimmed, if any vegetation is impeding the sidewalks or just needs grooming. Weeding, edging the lawn or curbs, picking up fallen fruit – all simple things that may be overlooked on a day to day basis, but make our homes look great. Thank you in advance for all that you do, to make Willo one of the finest neighborhoods in the city.

A fine welcome goes out to our new city councilman, Tom Simplot and a thank you for many years of support to Michael Nowakowski. The redistricting map took effect January 1, 2013 and we are now in District 4, leaving District 7. I will miss the great help Mr. Nowakowski's office provided to Willo since 2008, and look forward to a great relationship with Mr. Simplot.

Resolutions, hopes and prayers for the New Year are abundant in January every year – I hope all of yours come to fruition. Till next time, see you 'round the 'hood. **W**



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Happy New Year, Willo

Happy New Year, Willo! As many of you know, the new City Council District boundaries took effect on January 1, 2013, and Willo joins Windsor Square, Medlock Place, Woodlea-Melrose, Encanto-Palmcroft and many other historic neighborhoods in District 4. I am thrilled to represent the residents of Willo on the City Council, and I look forward to continuing the great work we have started. A longtime central Phoenix resident and former Willo resident (Coronado Rd), I understand the issues, concerns and potential of this area, and I am ready to go to work for you on Day One. Like my predecessor, Councilman Michael Nowakowski, I will be an advocate for historic preservation and community building here in the heart of the City.

Willo residents are known for community engagement, and this neighborhood has shown great leadership when it comes to getting involved. Whether it's through city government, nonprofit organizations, schools, churches or block watches, Willo residents are aware of what's happening in the community, and have consistently demonstrated a willingness to roll up your sleeves and participate. The Margaret T. Hance Park master planning process is a great example—Willo neighbors have been at the table since the beginning, and soon we will be celebrating a new dog park in Hance at 3rd Avenue and Culver as a result.

The City is lucky to have such an active and engaged neighborhood, and it is my honor to represent you. I am committed to working closely with you, to listen to your concerns and ideas and to find collaborative and innovative solutions. I encourage you to sign up for my e-newsletter, follow me on Twitter and "Like" my Facebook page to stay up to date on City news and events and to stay in touch with me. If you have questions, please feel free to contact my office at 602.262.7447 any time to speak with my Chief of Staff, Megan Schmitz, Policy Advisor, Alec Thomson or with me directly. You can also email me at Tom.Simplot@phoenix.gov.

We have so much to look forward to in 2013! I hope to see all of you at the Home Tour on Sunday, February 10, but until then have a safe, happy and healthy new year! 



COUNCILMAN TOM SIMPLOT
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LESLIE STACKPOLE (TREASURER)	<i>leslie.stackpole@mcgladrey.com</i>	623-693-1497
GREG CORNS	<i>cornsgreg@gmail.com</i>	602-524-8000
PHIL FLEMMING	<i>flemming@ypklaw.com</i>	602-501-2492
ANDREA MEURY	<i>andrea@betzoldmeury.com</i>	602-692-0518
GENE NANCE	<i>Genenance1@yahoo.com</i>	602-252-5397
MARILYN RENDON	<i>flower8686@aol.com</i>	602-430-0107
BOB THOMAS	<i>rwthomas123@aol.com</i>	623-363-8147
PATRICE WAPPEL	<i>iwilliam@cox.net</i>	602-248-0408
JON WHITCOMB	<i>jonwhitcomb@cox.net</i>	602-475-5900
TONY WIER	<i>twier@cox.net</i>	602--253-0987

COMMITTEES

HISTORICAL REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL

GENE NANCE	<i>genenance1@yahoo.com</i>	602-252-5397
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TRAFFIC MITIGATION

TRACY GROMER	<i>tagromer@msn.com</i>	602-340-0706
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NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

HAYDEE SAINZ & JEFF PIUREK	<i>haydeesainz@gmail.com</i>	
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BLOCK WATCH

JON WHITCOMB	<i>willoblockwatch@yahoo.com</i>	602-620-3900
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KLEANSTREETS

PATRICE WAPPEL	<i>iwilliam@cox.net</i>	602-248-0408
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2013 HOME TOUR CHAIRS

ANDREA MEURY	<i>andrea@betzoldmeury.com</i>	602-692-0518
LISA BLISS	<i>Lisa@WilloTour.com</i>	

INSIDE WILLO NEWSLETTER

ANDREA MEURY (BOARD LIAISON)	<i>andrea@betzoldmeury.com</i>	602-692-0518
ANDREA KATSENES (EDITOR)	<i>willonews@willohistoricdistrict.com</i>	602-694-1275

MEGAN DESMOND (AD SALES MANAGER)

	<i>megan@desmondsgdesign.com</i>	602-799-4295
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RALPH GROOM (GRAPHIC DESIGNER)

	<i>ralphgroom@earthlink.net</i>	718-704-7244
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COMMUNITY ACTION OFFICER

OFFICER BEN HARRIS	<i>benjamin.harris@phoenix.gov</i>	602-361-4501
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GAIN EVENT

DON VALLEJO (CHAIR)	<i>dval549770@aol.com</i>	602-301-1041
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STATUTORY AGENT

PHIL FLEMMING	<i>flemming@ypklaw.com</i>	602-501-2492
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Willo Website

Join the Willo email list to receive important neighborhood notifications and updates. To subscribe, send an email to: WilloTalk-join@WilloHistoricDistrict.com. The Willo website, www.willohistoricdistrict.com, contains information on neighborhood activities, committee and board meetings. Webmaster Eric Eggert can be contacted at webmaster@willohistoricdistrict.com.

Willo Historic Neighborhood Association Board

The Willo Historic Neighborhood Association Board was established in the early 1980s. The members are volunteers and are elected every two years in March. The association does not collect dues and does not act like a Home Owners' Association (HOA). Rather, its function is to serve the collective well being of the neighborhood. Meetings are typically held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Fairfield Inn and Suites Hotel. All residents of Willo are invited to attend. Agendas are available online prior to the meeting at www.willohistoricdistrict.com.

Inside Willo newsletter

This free newsletter is published monthly (excluding July & August) by a committee headed by Willo volunteers. Willo neighbors are encouraged to submit neighborhood news, tidbits, photos and articles (between 250-350 words) by the 10th of each month. We reserve the right to: edit as needed, attribute to the submitting neighbor (with the street they live on where appropriate), determine which issue the information may be printed and use content on our website and in neighborhood promotional materials. The Willo Neighborhood Association is not responsible for nor endorses the editorial content in *Inside Willo*. A copy of *Inside Willo* is also posted to the Willo website each month.

City Preservation

historic@phoenix.gov 602-261-8699
Walk-in hours are 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, Mondays through Fridays at the main office, located at 200 W. Washington Street, 17th Floor. The field office is The Ellis-Shackelford House at 1242 N. Central Avenue (by appointment only)

Exterior Rehabilitation Program

<http://phoenix.gov/HISTORIC/hprehab.html>

Historic Designation

<http://phoenix.gov/HISTORIC/faqs.html>

City Neighborhood Services

General Information	602-262-6011
Fight Back Program	602-495-3738
Graffiti Busters Hotline	602-495-7014
KEEP IT CLEAN!	602-534-4444
Landlord/Tenant Counseling	602-262-7210
Property Maintenance Violations	602-262-7844
Grants Administration	602-262-7158

Phoenix Police (also to report speeding)

Officer Ben Harris/Willo Representative	<i>benjamin.harris@phoenix.gov</i>	602-361-4501
Crimestop		602-262-6151

City Councilmember/District 7

Hon. Michael Nowakowski	602-262-7492
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310 W. Lewis — \$259,000



341 W. Wilshire — \$330,000



511 W. Windsor — \$335,000



514 W. Granada — \$410,000



76 W. Virginia — \$475,000



Vicki really knows Willo.



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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you are new to the neighborhood, have a new baby (human or pet), or have any news you want to share, please contact the Inside Willo staff at willonews@willohistoricdistrict.com




PLEASE NOTE THERE HAVE been recent reports of three large coyotes at the Encanto golf course. In prior years, there have been single coyotes, and occasional pairs, but this is the largest grouping one Encanto neighbor could recall in his twelve years in the area. Dog owners who use the golf course should take special care to control their pets. Steele Indian School Park has also had recent coyote sightings. 

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racks, picture frames all available for purchase at www.BuyTheY.com or order by phone at (602) 404-9622. We also hear that an inventory of raw wooden planks is also available for any home floor projects. 



(continued on page 11)

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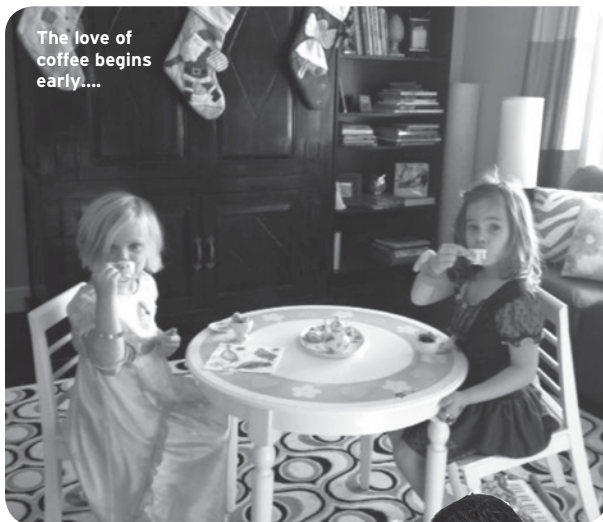
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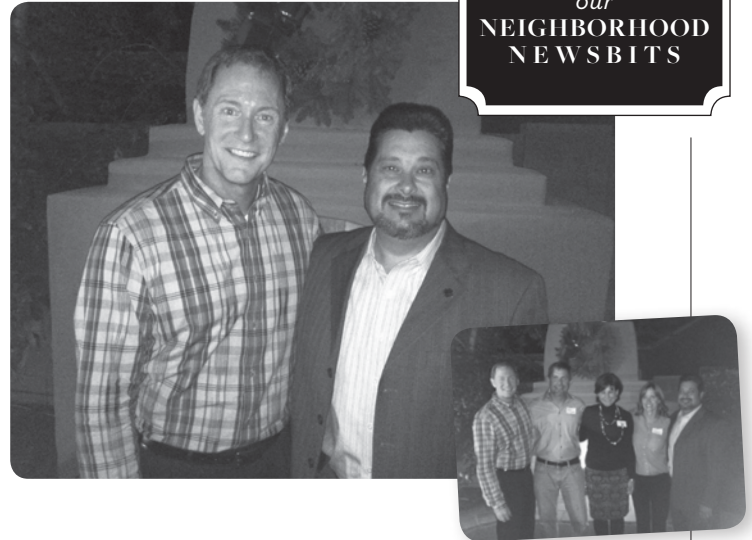


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STARTING ON JANUARY 13TH, Shine Coffee (Vernon Avenue) will open for regular Sunday hours! 8am-1pm. Bring your NYT/WSJ/ dogs, friends, family, own mug. Using Kickstarter, Shine Coffee will be financing a pocket park on their property for seating/shade/urban nature enjoyment. **W**



THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY HOME TOUR T-SHIRTS will be available to purchase by pre-order this year. In order to keep our costs down we will only be ordering shirts for the Home Tour Committee, Homeowners and volunteers and will not making these shirts available to purchase on Tour Day. If you would like to purchase a shirt for yourself or someone else, please visit www.willotour.com The Willo Home Tour shirt will be blue with the Willo logo printed in silver on the front and back and will sell for \$15.00 each. Orders must be received by January 15. **W**



HELLO TO OUR NEW COUNCILMAN

As you know, with redistricting taking effect this year, Councilman Tom Simplot and his chief of staff, Megan Schmitz were anxious to meeting Willo neighbors and hear concerns. More than twenty five neighbors gathered to say a fond farewell to our "official" representative for the past four years, Councilman Michael Nowakowski who was a regular face in Willo- at home tours, at GAIN breakfasts, during our major storm clean up, you name it, Councilman Nowakowski was there for us. Now with great excitement we welcome Tom Simplot to Willo. A welcome is not really appropriate since Councilman Simplot has been a regular guest at our home tour and Willo events. And in fact, many years ago he too lived in Willo!

Neighbors had a fun night getting together to visit with our city representatives. Thanks to Tom Vigil (Coronado), Brad Brauer (Monte Vista), Vicki Vanderhoff (Monte Vista) and Andrea Katsenes (Vernon) for hosting the evening. And thanks to Chris Blok, owner of Shine Coffee (on Vernon & Central) for whipping up made to order coffees and teas for the guests! **W**

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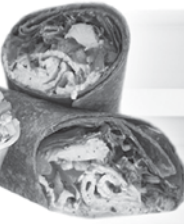
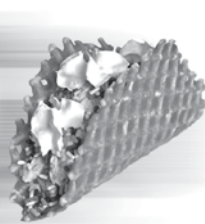


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What's Happening on Thomas at 5th Avenue?

Updates to the project on 535 W. Thomas Road

Marilyn Esteves Rendon (Cypress)


In March of this year, a project renewal request with minor interior changes was made to the City of Phoenix for the Metropolitan Lofts at 535 W. Thomas Road. You may remember that the building was originally a nursing home and was next intended to be an assisted living facility.

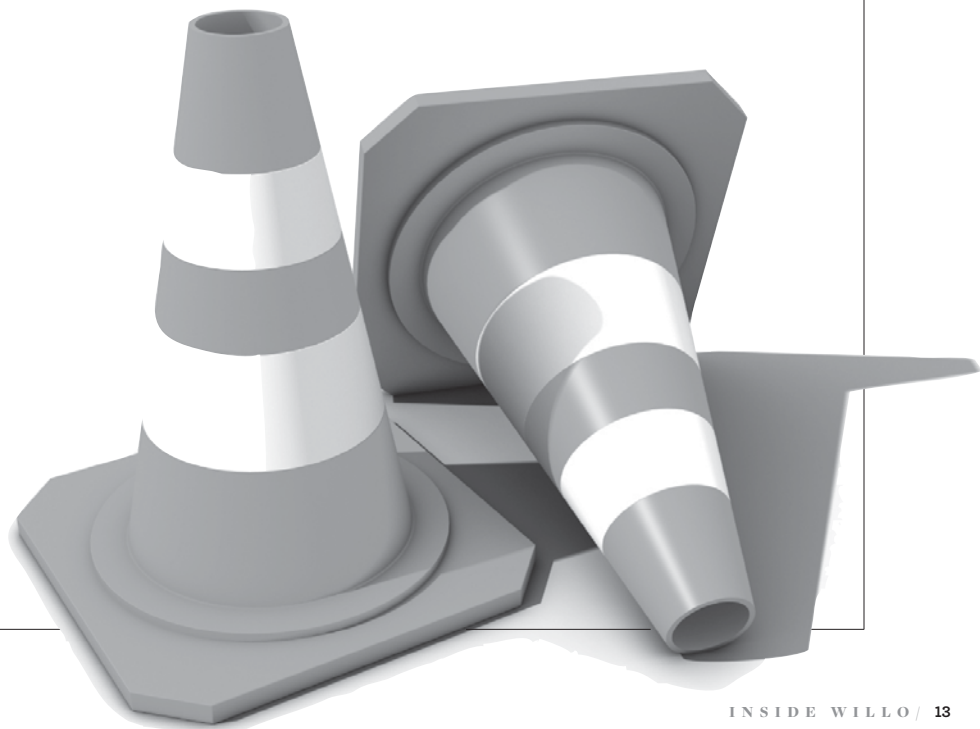
We are now told that 54 micro apartment living units with 3000 square feet of retail on the ground floor and amenities including a swimming pool are the plan.

This is a five-story building that appears to have driveways on either side of the building onto Thomas Road and alley access. It appears to have 60 to 70 parking spaces in the rear and 6 in the front.

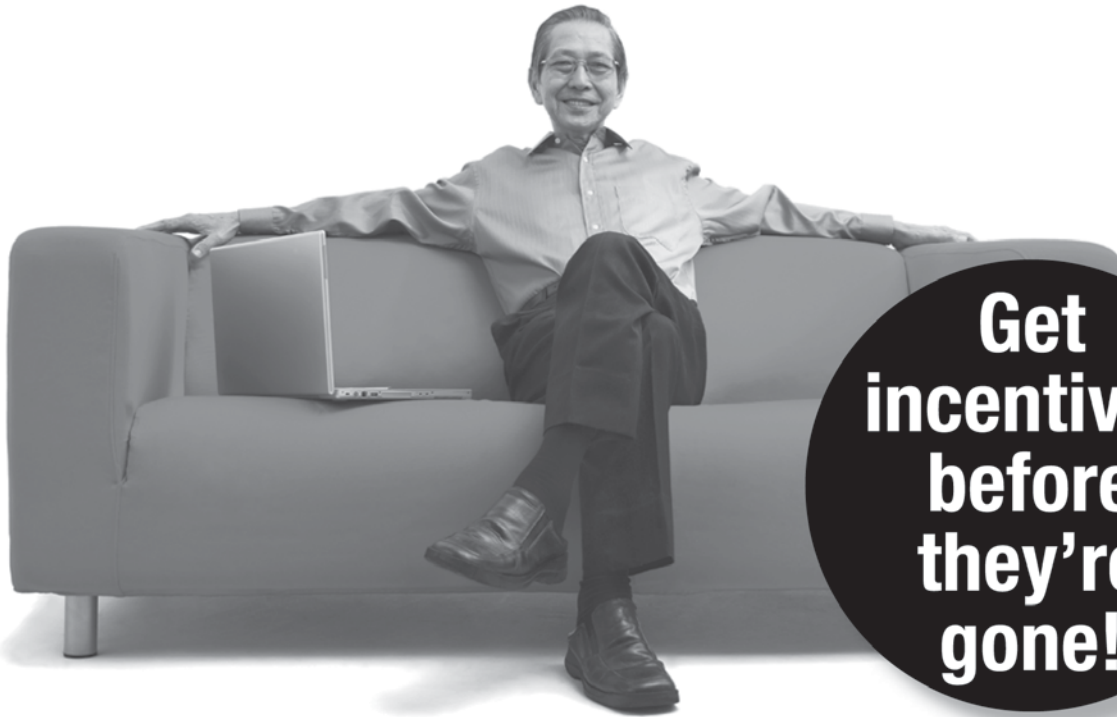
We are also told that they should be ready to rent/lease in January. As of this writing, there is not yet signage stating this.

Members of your Willo board are currently researching zoning issues and are in contact with the Mayor and City Council Offices to ensure that the impact on our neighborhood is minimal.

If this issue is of interest to you, please contact bethany.samaddar@phoenix.gov 



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Your New Year Check List



1 Check to make sure your **PET** has an **IDENTIFICATION TAG** with your current contact information. If you don't like tags rattling, order a personalized collar with your phone number at www.orvis.com, go to collars & leads.

2 Schedule your annual **PHYSICAL** and **DENTAL** check up.

3 Clean out your closet and **DONATE YOUR LEFT OVERS**. You can drop off your donations at 34 w. Vernon Avenue and get a tax donation form, while helping to raise money for homeless animals in the Valley.

4 **CHANGE** out the **FILTERS** in your air vents.

5 Make a list of **BOOKS** you want to read in 2013.

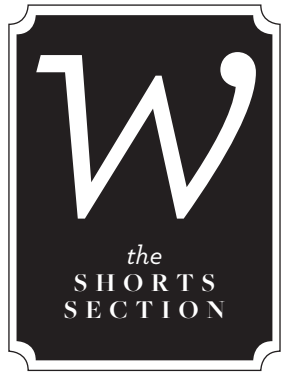
6 Plan your **DREAM VACATION** (for July or August of course).

7 Get your **TAX** information organized by the end of January - you will be WAY ahead of the game.

8 Call one **OLD FRIEND** to wish them a happy new year.

9 **EXERCISE!** You know "getting healthy" is on your resolution list.


10 **FERTILIZE** your trees in January & February. 



2013 TWILIGHT TOUR

Willo Twilight Tour

The 3rd Annual Willo Twilight Tour will take place on Saturday February 9, 2013 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. The Twilight Tour give us a chance to share our wonderful homes with Willo neighbors, friends and family before we open our doors to the public on Sunday. Tickets for this event are available for pre-sale at www.willotwilighttour.eventbrite.com and will be capped at 500 in order to maintain the intimacy of this popular event. Please be sure to purchase your tickets online as we cannot guarantee that tickets will be available at the door. We expect this to be a SOLD OUT event!

After the Twilight Tour we invite you and your family to join us for a fun night of food at music on the 500 Block of Lewis as we celebrate 25 Years of Willo. 





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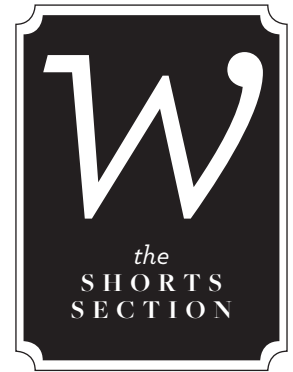
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Thanks for Volunteering!!!

These kind neighbors stopped their holiday "fa la la" to help light up our streets. The many visitors walking the streets of Willo, neighbors on each street THANK YOU for stepping forward to volunteer your time to make our neighborhood beautiful during the holidays.

Luminary Committee

Don Vallejo, Robert Cannon & Marilyn Rendon

Block Leaders

EDGEMOUNT Magaly Golly, Tom McCoid, Julie Hoffeins & Jennifer Friedrichs

WINDSOR: Susan Rumble, Ann Rosselle & Jane Kotter

CAMBRIDGE: Beth Wallen, Xandon Keating, & Brad Libey

VIRGINIA: Marilyn & Mac McGrath

WILSHIRE: Cindy Moore, Mary Bayless & Jennifer Dokes

LEWIS: Bobbi Ryals & Tiffany Kucifer

VERNON: Candy Zackowski, John Crummey & Julie Gieringer-Reeve

ENCANTO: Linda Vachata & Alison Kirk.

CYPRESS: David Miranda & Daryl Collins.

MONTE VISTA: Brad Brauer & Andrea Meury.

HOLLY: Jack Howell, Jack McDonald, Jane & Kurt Davis and Monica Olson.

PALM: Gene Nance, Denise Campbell & Kathy Moore.

GRANADA: Rebekah Cancino & Patti Moore and Bitsy

CORONADO: Biby Carbonneau & Darren Leek

ALMERIA: Mike Oleskow & Becky and Dave Shaw. 



Central Park Square Athletic Club

WILLO RESIDENTS

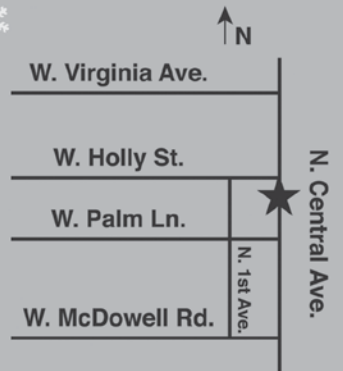
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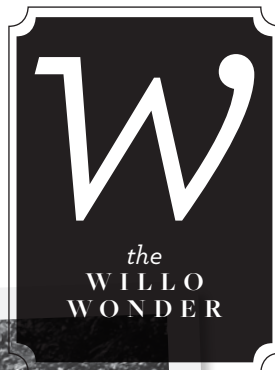
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AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

My Favorite Yard in Willo



Beth Lewallen (Cambridge)

Most Willo residents have a favorite front yard in their neighborhood, that one spot they enjoy driving by on the way to work each day because it looks great and they're not responsible for maintaining it. For me, that house is at 333 W. Palm Lane. Dan and Jane Kuni have lived here since 2003, and their front yard has everything I love in landscaping: clean lines, grass so green that it looks fake, comfortable seating and perfectly-maintained plants that thrive in both hot summers and cold winters.

The Kunis have lived all over the United States and frequently performed the yard

work and maintenance themselves, but in Willo they've brought in a little help to make it perfect. A landscape designer resigned their yard five years ago, and they have a great lawn maintenance team that helps out a couple of times a month. But the details are still up to the homeowners, who add seasonal flowers and extra touches to ensure they still get to spend some relaxing time in their front yard. The changes recommended by the landscape designer provided a new walkway and retaining walls that add the structural designs to make their yard unique. But it was Mother Nature that made the real changes necessary: their landscape changes began at the same time a storm brought down trees across the neighborhood. The beautiful carob tree that had anchored the Kunis' front yard was knocked

over, and a whole new look was required. While they didn't try to replace that tree, they have recently planted palm trees that mirror both their street name and the historical trees that line many of Willo's sidewalks.

Their daughters Annie and Ellen are grown and pursuing college degrees, but the Kunis remain anchored to their Willo home. After fixing up older homes in numerous states, they're proud of the changes they've made and the life they've built in Phoenix. And everyone who takes time to appreciate their lovely front yard is grateful they're here to stay! **W**

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A Love that Never Dies

Beth Lewallen (Cambridge)

We love to meet new Willo residents but our long-time neighbors prove that the love for this neighborhood never dies. Catherine Sibiski has lived at 57 W. Edgemont for eight years. It's the perfect home for she and her husband Justin to raise their daughters Olivia and Ruby, and their pets Rascal and Scout love it too.

found my current home for sale. I purchased it that weekend!

What is your favorite part of Willo and the surrounding community?

I really love the neighborhood. While common back east, I feel that a real neighborhood, like the kind that I grew up in, are far and few between in Phoenix. I really enjoy the tree-lined streets, the welcoming front yards, and the variety of architecture. I also

like the lack of garages—I feel that we get to connect with our neighbors more often than not. And I love being centrally located to the museums, library, the airport and the access to the major freeways.

How has Willo changed since you moved here?

I have seen a lot of changes both personally and in the neighborhood! I purchased my house a single woman and acquired a yellow lab, a husband and two additional dogs, and had two beautiful girls! We're all packed into a house that wasn't intended for such, but I love the neighborhood so much that I am determined to make it work. I miss my Sunday walks to My Florist for poached eggs, antiquing at the Antique Mall, and Willo Market, but am happy to see the addition of some new restaurants and glad to see the Grande Dame, Durant's, still standing strong. I have seen a lot of people move on from the neighborhood, mostly from the economic downturn a few years ago, but am glad to see the recent resurgence and the abundance of families! **W**

Why did you become interested in moving to Willo?

In 2004, I was living and working in the Northeast when we decided to open a Phoenix branch to better support our operations with the City of Phoenix. Interested in moving closer to Southern California, where I was prior to Connecticut, I jumped at the opportunity to run the branch—and enjoy warmer weather. My father, the owner of the company, had scouted out the historic neighborhoods on a business trip and gave me several brochures from the Historic Preservation Department for reference. While out on a scouting trip for a business location, I strolled through Willo and



Catherine is pictured with her daughters; husband Justin is the designated photographer.



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A Sneak Peek of a Home on Tour

Diana Herman (Monte Vista)

A charming Craftsman Bungalow build in 1935 and Amy Edmonds fell in love at first sight. Amy and her sister were looking for a home in central Phoenix with a realtor. Amy saw her dream home at 2017 3rd. Ave in Willo while she was driving around. Amy's sister excitedly called her to say she had found the perfect home!! Meanwhile, the realtor brought the two sisters to see what he said was the ideal home for them. Guess what?? All three had picked the same house!!


Amy and her sister were scheduled to tour the home in April 2009 but were disappointed to find out that the home was already under contract. Sadly, she began her search all over again. By May 2009, Amy still hadn't found her dream home, but amazingly enough, 2017 was on the market again. After a quick look of the inside of the home, Amy immediately signed a contract to purchase the home she had been dreaming about.

And the rest is history.....

The bungalow is 2 bedroom, 1 bath and 1400 square feet of charm. Upon entering, friends can enjoy a beautifully decorated living room. Amy's motto is hanging above the comfortable white couch--Live, Love, Laugh. Green

accent colors and dark wood furniture add to the room's relaxed feel.

Amy loves cooking in her galley kitchen and entertaining in her cozy dining room. She says, though, that the best part is the back yard. The oversized yard features several areas filled with casual seating for dining or just relaxing. Large beautiful trees keep the yard cool, even in the summer. Vino, the dog, has his very own retreat in the back yard--a cute dog house with his name above the door.

Amy, a Social Worker at Phoenix Children's Hospital loves living in Willo and cannot think of a better place to live. She is thrilled to be on the 2013 Home Tour. 



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Join the New Downtown Bicycle Action Group on Their First Ride

The goal of the DBAG is to promote a safe and fun bike culture in Phoenix

Finding parking in Downtown Phoenix can be expensive and time consuming. The area around City Hall is full of parking meters that charge \$1.50 per hour requiring change and the parking garages charging far more. To relieve this pressure the city has encouraged alternate transportation with light rail stops near Chase Stadium, ASU downtown and City Hall. There are also programs to help pay for employee bus passes and promote carpooling. Mass transit and carpooling are effective at reducing the need for parking and the level of pollution created somewhat. However, this does little to encourage humans to improve their health. One local group, Downtown Bicycle Action Group, has formed around the idea of solutions that would reduce pollution even more, promote exercise and take far less space than a vehicle by suggesting the city promote biking around downtown.

Currently the City of Phoenix Bike Subcommittee has a budget of roughly \$50,000 a year mainly for use to create and maintain bike lanes. The budget is far below many smaller cities. With the City of Phoenix having expanded education, arts and sport opportuni-

ties downtown many feel it should invest in bikes next. The rapid growth Phoenix has seen in recent decades suggests a need for cheap transport and compact parking. To make this happen the city might need to expand the number of bike racks, and increase security for bikes near locks and bike storage. One suggestion that has been proposed is to establish a bike rental program like what has been established in cities such as Boston and Denver. The idea is that one would use a credit card to rent a bike at designated places throughout downtown Phoenix.

Bike repairs are often inexpensive, no pollution is created and bike riding encourages exercise. As the population keeps growing, obesity rates have increased and medical expenses are on the rise the city must find ways to promote a healthy and sustainable lifestyle for it's citizens.


Pushing for increased bike funding in Phoenix several locals formed the Downtown Bicycle Action Group.

They had their first meeting Sunday, December 2nd to try to figure out the best ways to address expanding the cities current programs.

"The purpose behind our group is to raise awareness of our presence on the road and within the community. Many potential riders in Phoenix choose not to ride

for fear of accidents with motorists. So instead of adding more cars to the road, we want to bring more awareness to the community that cyclists are here. D.B.A.G. hopes to do this in many ways. Ultimately we'd like to see more and better maintained bike lanes, and bike racks. More group rides and bike festivals throughout the community. As well as increased education. Our meetings are for bringing these ideas together, and for taking action." Said Willo neighbor and DBAG member, John Kinser (Granada).

The Downtown Bicycle Action Group has discussed becoming a formal group for change with a mission statement, legal name and a board of directors. They plan to continue meeting the first Sunday of each month at different downtown locations and build teamwork thru group rides. One of the ways D.B.A.G would like to promote their mission is by participating in local bicycle events like the upcoming San Tan Wheelie Jam next March.

D.B.A.G. will host its first group ride on Sunday, Jan. 6 at 4:30 p.m., and is inviting members of the community to attend. The group will meet under the bridge at Margaret T. Hance Park at 4:30 p.m. and will depart at 5 p.m. The ride will end at The Duce for D.B.A.G.'s second official meeting at 6 p.m. 

If you have any additional questions, please contact John Kinser (Granada) at (602) 803-7227 jmkinser@gmail.com



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Home Tours of Days Past

Marilyn Esteves Rendon (Cypress)

It is remarkable that the Willo neighborhood will be celebrating a quarter-century of historic home tours on Sunday, February 10, 2013. In a city where land use and values have taken precedence over historic treasures, our neighborhood has seen a number of homes reach the century mark. It is for this reason that many of our home tour visitors return year after year to see our latest offerings.

Our home tour grows bigger every year due to the hard work of our Home Tour Committees. This year the event is co-chaired by Lisa Bliss (Coronado) and Andrea Meury (Monte Vista). We started with a few hundred visitors 25 years ago and have grown to more than 3,000 visitors last year.

Some highlights: On our sixth tour, 650 attended. On our seventh, we sold 1400 tickets at \$5.00 each. Our eighth tour was almost cancelled because only three homes were committed to the tour. It went from worst to best though due to the dogged determination of then Chair Dy-Ann Markey. She asked that one person from each home attend in order to


guarantee that the 1996 tour would be the biggest in history... and it was! 1,200 visitors! This was also the year that Sue Doerfler from the Arizona Republic voted the



Willo Home Tour the "Best of Phoenix" home tour. Talk about rags-to-riches! Our 10th annual in 1998 had 13 homes with a \$10.00 admission. A dollar discount was given for a canned food donation. 900 people attended in spite of the rain. Rain overtook us again three years ago but the committee has things down

to a science. Special matting was secured and homes remained in pristine condition at the end of the day. By the 11th tour 2100 people attended. The 12th tour saw 2650 in attendance and at this point we had over 40 vendors. By 2001, Tracy Gromer had chaired three years-in-a-row. We sold 2000 tickets that year. A home tour visitor took an unexpected dip in a pool! We have since added a beautiful classic car show to the mix.

In addition to the Home Tour Committee, which is our largest, we have numerous other committees that also work very hard to continue to cause Willo to be a premier destination. Since we are so well established, these committees bring us together with our neighbors with a wonderful result of tight friendships and cooperation that used to be a given in days past. Our many visitors sense when they enter Willo that they are someplace special and that there is much more to discover in addition to our beautiful historic treasures.

See you at Walton Park on Sunday February 10, 2013. Don't forget to purchase your discounted pre-sell tickets at www.WilloTour.com 

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Here are six reasons why you should:

- **MENTAL HEALTH** – volunteering is great for your mental health and has been shown to help with depression. Taking time out from your own stresses and problems to help others can really lift your mood.
- **WORK EXPERIENCE** – nowadays having relevant work experience on your resume is becoming more and more important for getting a job. Volunteering is great work experience. If you're in school, looking for work or just looking to change jobs then it's the way to go. Most employers count volunteering as practical work experience.
- **NEW SKILLS** – volunteering enables you to learn new skills, put those you have already learnt into practice and get great references too. You also get the added bonus of having heaps of demonstrated experience to talk about when you finally do get that interview.
- **MEET NEW PEOPLE** – one of the best ways to make new friends and future contacts for work is volunteering. Through volunteering you get to meet and participate in fun activities with like-minded people.
- **POSITIVE CHANGE** – volunteering al-

lows you to help make change in something you are passionate about while connecting with your community and making it a better place. That sense of satisfaction you get when you know you are part of something that's making a difference is priceless.

• **IT MAKES YOU HAPPY** – helping others makes you happier. True story. In a poll by the National Volunteering Network, 98% of respondents said volunteering has made them happier people.


So, no more excuses! Think about what you are passionate about and then contact the organization to offer your time.

Read to a child., Discover a special school called Phoenix Day. Located in South Phoenix, you can volunteer to read to kids, work in the office or even be the grandparent figure that they don't have at home. The majority of the kids at Phoenix Day come from working poor families, many of whom are on government assistance. This special school, located on Tonto Street, just south of Washington and Central Avenue, prepares children for Kindergarten. This special school has an interesting history, it is the oldest, continuously operating early education and youth development center in the State of Arizona. Since 1915, this school has provided high quality education to children from a range of socio-economic backgrounds. Founded more than 90 years ago, Phoenix Day provides childcare for mothers who entered the workforce to support the war effort during World War I. Today, this special school cares for and educates children ages

6-weeks to 5 years old. They also provide after school programs for neighborhood school-aged children, as well as a number of preventative health programs throughout the Valley. Visit www.PhoenixDay.org to learn more and volunteer!

Get some exercise; spread some love, all while walking homeless shelter dogs! The Maricopa County Animal shelter is the nation's second largest shelter. Sadly, they take in over 150 homeless animals every day! Volunteers provide care for homeless animals from walking dogs to matching a family with their new kitten. It's easy to become a volunteer just go to www.Maricopa.gov/pets you can help at the Westside shelter location – close to Willo, or volunteer at an adoption day at different PetSmart locations. You will licks and love from all you meet. Or to help raise funds for the homeless animals, you can join a team of “people friendly” volunteers that work at the Friends of Animal Care & Control thrift store. They offer flexible shifts, weekdays or weekends and their team of volunteers, many that have worked at the store for many years, share camaraderie and a desire to help the animals. Call the store at (602) 923-6914.

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309 W. Coronado	SOLD	\$412,000
114 W. Windsor	PENDING	\$240,000
51 W. Cambridge	PENDING	\$254,000
310 W. Lewis	PENDING	\$259,000
525 W. Cambridge	PENDING	\$295,000
325 W. Edgemont	PENDING	\$297,900
511 W. Windsor	PENDING	\$335,000
41 W. Vernon	PENDING	\$399,000
522 W. Wilshire	PENDING	\$415,000


For Sale in Willo	Status	Price
337 W. Wilshire	ACTIVE	\$298,000
74 W. Wilshire	ACTIVE	\$319,000
509 W. Palm	ACTIVE	\$329,000
77 W. Windsor	ACTIVE	\$384,900
514 W. Granada	ACTIVE	\$410,000
76 W. Virginia	ACTIVE	\$475,000
38 W. Vernon	ACTIVE	\$567,500

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