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Willow



NOVEMBER 22

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# We Need You!

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Please consider opening your home to visitors on February 18th and 19th. Your home does not need to be historic or perfect- we have volunteers who can help you get it Tour-ready and determine the best route around your home for the best possible experience.

**SPEAKING OF VOLUNTEERS:**

We have set up a volunteer sign-up on our website. Visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoF44ABA728A5FFCF8-2023> or contact Lisa Naccarato at [LisaNaccarato@hotmail.com](mailto:LisaNaccarato@hotmail.com)- we have many ways you can help on Tour day. While you are there, buy your tickets! <https://willophx.com/home-tour/> (see page 14 for details)

**SPEAKING OF THE WEBSITE:**

Check out the newest redesign

of willophx.com. The site has been refreshed, modernized, and streamlined for easy and quick navigation. You can find everything from a calendar of neighborhood events to a detailed timeline of the 3rd & 5th Avenue redesign and schedule of work.

**SPEAKING OF 3RD & 5TH AVENUE REDESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION:**

Please attend the next Board Meeting on Thursday, November 10th - Officials from the City of Phoenix will be in attendance to discuss the upcoming changes and answer any questions regarding the construction.

Finally, our Happy Hours have been very well attended this season. Come out and meet your neighbors. Everyone is welcome. This month's Happy Hour is Friday, November 11th. (see page 19 for details)

*Drive safely and carefully, and set an example!* ■



**ON THE COVER:**  
PHOENIX FIRE DEPARTMENT  
HISTORIC STATION #8  
541 W. ENCANTO  
BUILT 1942  
THE STATION IS PART OF HOME TOUR 2023  
PHOTO BY TIM KOVAC & LISA JOHNSTONE  
(SEE PAGE 9 FOR DETAILS)



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## WILLO WEBSITE

[WWW.WILLOPHX.COM](http://WWW.WILLOPHX.COM) is regularly updated with news, events, & past issues of Inside Willo. Home Tour tickets can be purchased online.

## WILLO HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Established in 1986, the WNA Board consists of 13 volunteer positions elected biennially by the membership. WNA is not a Homeowners' Association (HOA); It does not collect dues; Its mission is to preserve Willo's historic designation and community quality. WNA meetings are open, all Willo residents may attend. Bylaws, registration, and agendas are available on [WILLOPHX.COM](http://WILLOPHX.COM).

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## INSIDE WILLO MAGAZINE

*Inside Willo* is published monthly, free of charge, by Willo volunteers. Neighbors are encouraged to submit articles (125-250 words) by the 10th of each month. We reserve the right to edit as needed, attribute the author, and determine when to print and use the content on [WILLOPHX.COM](http://WILLOPHX.COM), social media, and promotional materials. Article and photos become the property of WNA. WNA is not responsible nor endorses the editorial content. *Inside Willo* does not accept political content or ads. *Inside Willo* is posted on [WILLOPHX.COM](http://WILLOPHX.COM). No copies may be reprinted electronically or otherwise.

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# Willo Historic Firehouse #8 on Home Tour

BY EDITORIAL TEAM

**THIS BEAUTIFUL, MISSION-** style building at 541 W Encanto Boulevard looks like any other residence in the Willo Historic District. Nevertheless, its nearly 70-year history shows its role in the expansion of the city center during the World War II era boom of the region.

*(Continued on page 11)*



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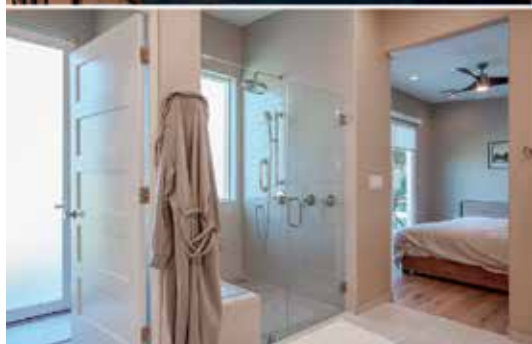
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## WILLO HISTORIC FIREHOUSE #8 ON HOME TOUR

(Continued from page 9)

Built in 1942 and renovated several times, the building has been a single-family residence, a glorified storage unit, office space, and the City of Phoenix Fire Station #8. It was perhaps the city's most unique-looking fire station, and rightly so. All the signs of Mission architecture are in plain sight: a hipped, clay tile roof with exposed rafters; stucco sheathing covering brick walls on a concrete foundation; wood

casement windows; and an offset entry featuring a multiple wood panel door.

The home was the vision of original resident E.B. Smerdon, who lived there from its completion until 1947, when the City of Phoenix converted it to Station #8.

Today the building perfectly represents the need for fire station expansion in the late 40s as the "suburbs" sprouted quickly.

Tim Kovacs is the proud steward of the Willo Historic Firehouse #8. Make sure to visit him on February 18th & 19th as he opens the doors for Home Tour visitors! ■

Source: *City of Phoenix Historical/ Architectural Survey of City-Owned Properties, August 1986*

Photo: *Tim Kovacs and Lisa Johnstone*

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# Kay Grams at Fair Trade Café

BY PHILIP TALARICO (EDGEMONT)



**LONG-TIME WILLO RESIDENT** and local artist Kay Grams has her current work, The Passport Series, on display at Fair Trade Cafe during November.

Her works deal with the sublime. Her abstract works invoke a welcoming feeling on the viewer to recognize something that is minimal, peaceful, and within us all.

Kay says, “My art is informed by my studies in Mythology and Depth Psychology and by the

understanding that it has its origins in the unconscious. My pieces often employ elements that congregate into a tale of sorts. I’m particularly interested in the innate urge to fabricate a story, an almost involuntary push to coalesce and make sense of what is not available to us. I am intrigued by how we seek to understand and find answers; in short, how we attempt to resolve ignorance.”

Meet and greet the artist on

First Friday, November 4th, at Fair Trade Cafe from 6:00 to 8:00 PM (1020 N. 1st Avenue) ■





# CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

BY LISA NACCARATO (PALM LANE) • 2023 WILLO HOME TOUR VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE CHAIR

**OUR FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH** the Willo community was the Willo Home Tour in February 2020. We'd just bought our home and had not yet moved in, but we were so excited to attend, walk through our neighborhood, and meet our new neighbors.

So many things were going on that day... live music, the street fair, people gathered around the park, the beer garden and on front porches, and the tours of the homes...there was tremendous energy, welcoming, and spirit of community.

Moreover, we learned that the entire event was planned and run by Willo neighborhood volunteers, who made the Tour a great experience. We knew that day we were home.

What helps make the Home Tour the success it's always

been? YOU! We are reaching out to our Willo friends and neighbors to volunteer and participate in the 2023 Tour.

Why volunteer? Home Tour gives us a unique opportunity to look forward as friends, neighbors, and a community. Opportunities like:

- Making new friends and meeting new neighbors
- Connecting with your Willo neighborhood and community
- Using your time, energy, and talents to make a positive impact

on the Tour and the community

- We need you! There are lots of volunteer opportunities.

### TICKET SALES AND CHECK-IN

We will have numerous booths and need three or four people for each: pre-sale check-in, cash, and card sales. We provide training on using technology to accept credit cards and will pair you up with a seasoned volunteer to ensure a fun time for all! Those not comfortable with technology or taking credit card or cash

payments can volunteer for numerous other areas.

### BEER AND WINE GARDEN

Selling drink tickets, issuing wristbands, checking IDs for entering, and ensuring guests don't leave the tent area with their beverages.

### STREET BEAUTIFICATION AND SET-UP

Help with maintaining the cleanliness of the streets/sidewalk and park during and after the Tour. Picking up trash, ensuring trash cans are emptied regularly, and checking on the porta-potty supplies.

### "ASK ME" ROVERS AND GUIDES

People come from all over the valley for the Tour; answer their questions about Willo and help orient them to everything happening. Provide guidance on navigating the neighborhood streets and locating the tour homes, nearest facilities, and Tour amenities. ■

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For those interested in volunteer opportunities or if you have any questions, please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoF444ABA728A5FFCF8-2023> or email me at [LisaNaccarato@hotmail.com](mailto:LisaNaccarato@hotmail.com). We are asking for a minimum commitment of two hours... but you can do more if you like! Won't you please join us in helping make the 2023 Home Tour a great success for our community?





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# Finding Brass on Painted Hardware

BY TRICIA AMATO (LEWIS)

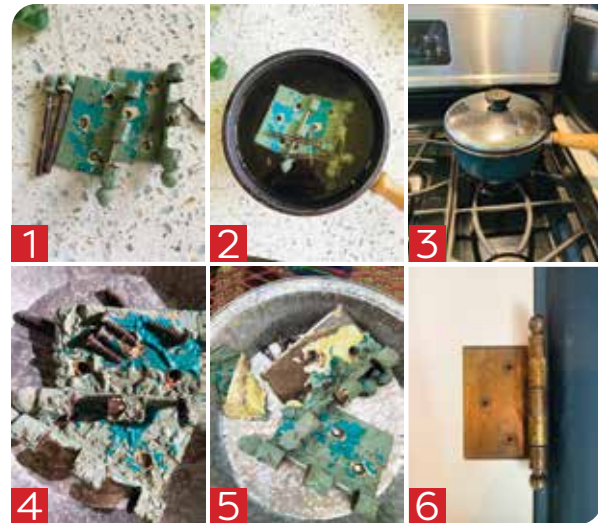
## MANY YEARS AGO, BEFORE

I ever thought about living in a historic home, I was watching an episode of *This Old House* when they demonstrated a simple method for cleaning years of paint off hardware. I stuck that little nugget in my long-term memory — just in case. Fast forward about 20 years and here I was, faced with a set of hinges with at least 8 coats of paint on them, and I decided to try the *This Old House* method. Guess what? It worked like a charm! So here is the process for you, along with photos — Enjoy.

**STEP 1:** Take the hardware off your door. This was not very easy for me since the screw heads were completely filled with paint. I had to use an X-Acto knife and an ice pick to dig the paint out so I could unscrew the hinges.

**STEP 2:** Find an old sauce pan that you don't mind ruining (something from Goodwill, maybe?) and place the hardware in the pan and cover with water.

**STEP 3:** Bring water to a low boil and let the hardware “cook” for one to two hours, depending on how much paint is on them. Keep your stove vent on to prevent fumes from filling your house. Check frequently to make sure the water hasn't boiled away, (add more as needed) and when you



1) My hinges had at least 8 coats of paint on them. 2) Hardware covered with water before cooking. 3) Cooking over medium heat. 4) Hardware is sufficiently cooked. 5) You can see how the rubbery paint slips off. 6) The finished hardware on our freshly painted door.

see the paint bubbling up on the surface of the metal, it's done.

**STEP 4:** Once cooled, the paint should slip right off the metal. If there are some stubborn areas, put the part back on the stove for additional softening of the paint.

**STEP 5:** Wipe the hardware clean and let dry. At this point the metal can be cleaned with brass polish, but keep in mind that it will likely never look new again. I liked the antique look, so I didn't attempt any further cleaning.

Important note: Keep in mind that you may be working with

lead-based paint. If you do any scraping or sanding, use the wet method so you don't create dust and paint chips. Clean all the residue up with a wet cloth so no dry dust is released into the air. Once you remove all the paint from the hinges, wrap the paint up in a plastic grocery bag and throw it away while it is still wet. ■

Tricia is a City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Commissioner. Visit [www.phoenix.gov/pdd/historic-preservation](http://www.phoenix.gov/pdd/historic-preservation) for information regarding historic guidelines and approvals. Tricia can be reached at [amatotricia@gmail.com](mailto:amatotricia@gmail.com)



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# Happy Hours in Willo

BY JONATHAN ROBERTS (GRANADA)

**FOR OUR OCTOBER HAPPY** hour, we gathered at the beautiful home of hosts Nic and Lawrence Andrews in the spirit of community and fun inspired by the State Fair. We played cornhole, darts, and other yard games under the hundreds of colorful pennants fluttering overhead. We also indulged in delightful fair foods such as miniature corn

dogs, funnel cakes, and fresh spun cotton candy. We thank our fantastic hosts for the opportunity to make wonderful memories and strengthen relationships with our Willo neighbors.

**If you missed this Happy Hour, we hope you can make it November 11th! Our theme is “Cowboy Chili Cook-Off”. Wear your ten gallon hats, rodeo belt**

**buckles, and outlaw bandanas. Bring your prize-winning chili, or something for toppings or sides such as cornbread.**

Subscribe to the Willo Social Committee’s email list and watch for more information about upcoming Happy Hours by contacting [willosocialcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:willosocialcommittee@gmail.com). ■



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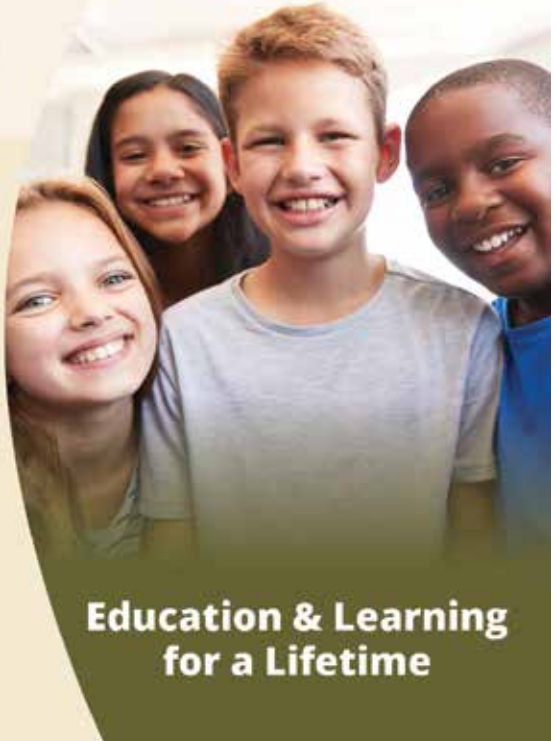
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**THURS, NOV 3RD**

Willo Home Tour Planning Meeting. Home of John & Barsha Shepherd, 6:00pm social, 6:30 meeting, 321 W. Monte Vista

**WEDS, NOV 9TH**

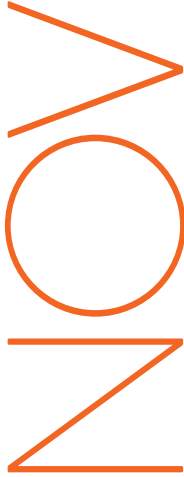
Willo Food Truck Wednesdays - 5:00pm - 8:00 pm - Return of the Brisket

**THURS, NOV 10TH**

Willo Neighborhood Association Board Meeting - 6:30pm - 8:00pm. **NEW LOCATION:** BMO Building - 1850 N Central Avenue - Sedona Room

**FRI, NOV 11TH**

Willo Happy Hour - 5:30pm - 7:30pm  
Theme: Cowboy Chili Cook-Off! Hosts: Wylie and Lauren Carhart *You are invited*



*to bring drinks and snacks to share.*

**WED, NOV 16TH**

Willo Food Truck Wednesdays - 5:00pm - 8:00 pm - Rock Star Hot Dogs, Walton Park\*  
*\*Walton Park is at Monte Vista & 3rd Avenue for more info: [streetfoodfinder.com/](http://streetfoodfinder.com/) WilloWednesdays*

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**THURS, DEC 1ST**

Home Tour Planning Meeting - 6:00 social, 6:30, meeting 326 W. Cypress - Home of Erika Gagnon

**FRI, DECEMBER 9TH**



Willo Happy Hour - 5:30pm - 7:30pm, Hosts: John and Heather Cairney. Location: 96 W Holly

**SAT, DEC 10TH**

Bulk Trash Alley Placement Ends and Collection Begins.

**THURS, DEC 18TH**

Willo Neighborhood Association Board Meeting - 6:30pm - 8:00pm. **NEW LOCATION:** BMO Building - 1850 N Central Avenue - Sedona Room

As always, please check [WILLOPHX.COM](http://WILLOPHX.COM) or **THE OFFICIAL WILLO HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD FACEBOOK PAGE** for the latest updates. ■

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**For nearly 40 years**, Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) has been the largest provider of emergency homeless shelter services in Arizona. As the homeless crisis continues to worsen, our strategic vision to end and prevent homelessness includes:

♦ **Continuous improvement of our shelter services** in order to meet the diverse needs of the unique populations we serve. Specialized services for senior citizens, who comprise 1/3 of our guests, have led us to the development of the country's first senior-only emergency shelter, to open in 2023 in North Phoenix. We are also focused on meeting the behavioral health needs of those we serve, with expansion of care and a new shelter facility to open in 2024.

♦ **Strategic expansion into high need communities outside of downtown Phoenix.** The vast array of services downtown should be easily available at other sites in our surrounding cities. Our goal is to provide regionalized and specialized services at other locations around the Valley, where services are most needed.

### You can help. You can be a part of the solution.

- ☑ **DONATE.** **Financial support is critical to our work.** The AZ Tax Credit is an easy way to help those we serve and it won't cost you a dime. Up to \$400 for individuals and \$800 for couples. More info at [www.cassaz.org/taxcredit](http://www.cassaz.org/taxcredit).
- ☑ **COME FOR A TOUR.**
- ☑ **LIKE US ON SOCIAL MEDIA.**
- ☑ **BE AN ADVOCATE.**
- ☑ **VOLUNTEER.**

Learn more about CASS and how you can get involved in changing the future of homelessness in Phoenix.

*I'd love to invite you for a tour of CASS and share more about the work we do and our vision for the future.*

*We're just a short ride away from Willo!*

*Please email me at [dgabler@cassaz.org](mailto:dgabler@cassaz.org).*

*Dayna Gabler,  
CASS Chief Development Officer  
and Willo Resident*

[www.cassaz.org](http://www.cassaz.org)  
602.417.9800



# Willo Kids Club Volunteers and Planning

BY VALERIE LANE (LEWIS)

**WE HAD A GREAT WKC AND G.A.I.N.** event on October 29th at Walton Park! We will be posting photos next month and on our WKC Facebook page.

We continually strive to have amazing events and timely communication. Getting information out so that everyone can participate is crucial, and we need your help!

**As such, we want to invite all Willo parents to attend a**

**planning meeting on January 8th at 4:00 pm at Little O's. We did not have a turnout for the initial planning meeting in August, so we would like to give parents a second chance to have input on upcoming winter events.**

If you have ideas for better communication, planning events, or philanthropy, we would like you to come and help us. Our neighborhood is only getting bigger, more families with kids

are moving in, and we need all the help we can get!

**PLEASE JOIN US ON JANUARY 8TH, 2023, AND HELP SUPPORT W.K.C.!**

**W.K.C. CHAIRS:**

- Valerie Lane: [valerielane@hotmail.com](mailto:valerielane@hotmail.com)
- Samantha Singer Keating: [samanthasinger@gmail.com](mailto:samanthasinger@gmail.com)
- Marie Hullander: [mariehullander@gmail.com](mailto:mariehullander@gmail.com)

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| 50 W Encanto   | ACTIVE  | \$725,000   |
| 542 W Palm     | ACTIVE  | \$735,000   |
| 313 W Vernon   | ACTIVE  | \$750,000   |
| 509 W Wilshire | ACTIVE  | \$795,000   |
| 524 W Lewis    | ACTIVE  | \$825,000   |
| 514 W Wilshire | ACTIVE  | \$899,892   |
| 126 W Palm     | ACTIVE  | \$1,095,000 |
| 101 W Cypress  | ACTIVE  | \$1,490,000 |
| 528 W Palm     | PENDING | \$875,000   |
| 120 W Coronado | PENDING | \$884,000   |
| 502 W Encanto  | PENDING | \$899,000   |
| 34 W Edgemont  | PENDING | \$1,090,000 |
| 102 W Almeria  | PENDING | \$1,375,000 |
| 302 W Cypress  | SOLD    | \$710,000   |

Real estate information provided by **Bradley B. Brauer**, Broker's Hub Realty. All figures as of 10/15/2022. Information provided by Arizona Regional Multiple Listing Service and is listed by individual brokers. For more information, please contact the listing agent, one of our advertising realtors or your real estate professional.

# Luminaria 2022

BY CHRIS NORTON & CARI PAYNE (LEWIS)



**HALLOWEEN IS GEARING UP**, but it's almost time for Luminaria 2022! THANK YOU to last year's volunteers! The official dates are December 23rd to 25th or 26th, 2022- they may be left out 1 additional day, and supplies are returned 1-2 days later.

Last year everyone received ONLY timer tealights (LEDs) that glow for 6 hours and switch off for 18. Please remember that just because an LED appears to be off does not mean it's actually "OFF". When it's time to return a light, the switch must be slid to the "OFF" position to be off.

Otherwise, the timer runs "till the battery drains completely. Since new batteries were distributed last year, the plan is to reuse them this year - no battery change! For 2022, new batteries will not be distributed automatically. I'll explain below how volunteers can get new batteries if needed.

**We are now seeking additional committee members to guide or assist other block captains as needed and to help with the distribution and collection of supplies** For example, we see these people helping other block captains

organize a build party, collaborate with each other, or helping blocks get a captain.

Additionally, we also need help assembling supplies for distribution and help repacking them for their return to storage. For those people who volunteer to help, we will always be available for questions and assistance. We are open to feedback and we want Luminaria to be a fun celebration...not a burden. The sign-up link will be up in the coming weeks, check with [WILLOPHX.COM](http://WILLOPHX.COM) or our FACEBOOK page for details! ■

**BRADLEY BRAUER**

Associate Broker

602.690.1400

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your home, our family.”



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