



MACHINE HELPS MOMS ON THE GO

SanTan Village is the site of a new vending concept for mothers in a lurch. The Nanny Caddy vending machine offers parents easy, convenient access to all the baby essentials they may have forgotten: diapers, formula, pacifiers, sun block, wipes, and bottles. The concept, designed by an East Valley mom, is slated to pop up in locations throughout Arizona. You can find it next to the family restrooms in the SanTan Village food court.

HIGLEY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW SCHOOL

Work is under way on Higley's new Centennial Elementary School. The district broke ground on the school Sept. 9. Located at Ranch House and Fenceline parkways, Centennial School will open in August of 2009 in time to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Higley school district. The school was designed by Gilleland Brubaker Architects. It is a new two story school design for the district and will accommodate 1,250 students. DL Withers Construction is the contractor for the new school.



GET A JUMP START ON HOLIDAY GIVING

It's never too early to start thinking about the holidays, which is why Banner Gateway Medical Center has a call out for donations and volunteers for this year's Festival of Trees event, held Dec. 3 - 6. Donations needed are trees, wreaths, and other holiday items and for volunteers or groups to decorate them for display and sale. Funds this year will support childhood injury prevention programs and services at Banner Gateway Medical Center. (602) 747-4654.

TEDDY BEARS ON PARADE

Val Vista Lakes Elementary kindergartners were greeted with overwhelming applause by parents and students alike along their Teddy Bear parade route on Sep. 12. The parade is an annual kindergarten tradition at VVL Elementary. The September curriculum introduces and identifies letters, sounds, and sight words, improves penmanship, works on sorting and patterning, and features Teddy Bears as one of the recurring themes.



Go Gilbert! magazine suggests five places to enjoy the outdoors

Time to head outside

WRITTEN BY EMILY SEPULVEDA

Cooler weather means it's time to ditch the air conditioning and head outside. Here are five Gilbert spots to revel in the cooler temperatures.

Discovery Park

2214 E. Pecos Rd.
ci.gilbert.az.us

Spend a Saturday at Gilbert's award winning Discovery Park, where you can barbeque, play sand volleyball, or basketball on the lighted courts, or just lay in the thick grass near the double-tiered lake. With a playground area and special "tot-lot" for the kids, Discovery Park has all the amenities for a fantastic weekend outing.

The Riparian Institute

2757 E. Guadalupe Rd.
riparianinstitute.org

Gilbert's own Riparian Institute brings out the ornithologist in everyone. Visit the 110-acre water ranch and search out rare species of birds, or sign up for a guided tour provided by Friends of Audubon Az. Also located at the Riparian Institute is the Gilbert Rotary Centennial Observatory, which invites individuals to come after dark and explore the night skies.

Cosmo Dog Park

2502 E. Ray Rd.
ci.gilbert.az.us

There's no where a dog's happier than at Cosmo Dog Park. Let man's best friend enjoy the dropping temperatures, too, and take him for a romp with his fellow canines in the facility's four-plus fenced acres. With basketball courts and a kid's play area, the whole family can have a great outing at Cosmo's, Rover included.

Joe's Farm Grill

3000 E. Ray Rd.
joesfarmgrill.com

Nothing makes a meal like dining al fresco, and Joe's Farm Grill provides outdoor dining at its finest. Enjoy common food done uncommonly well under the shade of citrus trees heavy with fruit, or on the patio with a view of the Agritopia farm.

SanTan Village Mall

Williams Field and Loop 202
shopsantanvillage.com

Would you like some fresh air with your shopping? SanTan Village mall's the place to get it. This open air mall has everything the devoted consumer could wish for, and a wide variety of dining options. Spend those cool weekend evenings enjoying live music at the Gathering Courtyard, and take advantage of the bi-weekly farmer's market.

LADIES STEP OUT FOR NIGHT OF BEAUTY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRUCE CULVER

Sonoma Oral & Facial Surgery treated Valley women to a slew of beautifying treatments on Sept. 9. Dr. Peter Spanganberg was on hand during Sonoma's "Women's Night Out" extravaganza to describe various skin treatments. Meanwhile, women nibbled on appetizers while waiting their turn to experience a variety of mini-procedures performed gratis.



Microdermabrasion treatment given by technician Misty Young



Winner of a prize



People attending event



Facial given by technician Samantha Hurtado



Guest



Dr. Peter Spanganberg, Heather Spanganberg, Lynn Northern, Britney Stapley, Samantha Hurtado, Misty Young, Tiffanye Nichols