

# Oct. 13 PCFYI: Getting youths into trades, helping at-risk people and pups, and Presidio Plaza fountain flows again

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*Friday, October 13, 2023 — Vol. 8, No. 19*



## First students set to graduate from new Pima County trades program

Seven students are about to become the first graduates of Pima County's new trades program, which is designed to prepare students for an apprenticeship — and ultimately a career — with a local union trade hall. The six-week program, based out of [Pima County's Las Artes Arts & Education Program](#), is the first of its kind in Arizona.

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## El Presidio Plaza enters new era with Pima County as caretaker



For the first time in years, waters are again cascading from the large fountain at the center of El Presidio Plaza, the public park situated between Pima County's Historic Courthouse and Tucson's City Hall. The fountain's restoration, recently completed by the city, was part of an [intergovernmental agreement](#) between Tucson and Pima County approved last week by the Board of

Supervisors. Under the new agreement, Pima County will assume responsibility for operating and maintaining the park, although the city will retain responsibility for the fountain.

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## 'My Happy Place:' PACC volunteer uses art to raise funds for at-risk dogs

Sarah Hegmann is a longtime PACC volunteer who paints portraits of some of the shelter's most at-risk and longest-stay dogs. The goal, she said, is to raise money for staffing and programs for PACC dogs facing shelter distress and other behavioral issues.

She also hopes to raise awareness about the importance of fostering and adopting those dogs. Her dog portraits are sold on everything from T-shirts to puzzles to skateboards.

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## Learn about Pima County services, resources at Tucson Meet Yourself



Are you heading out to [Tucson Meet Yourself](#) this weekend? While the food vendors; arts and crafts demonstrations; and musical acts are the main draw, many Pima County departments will be present as well with information about a number of different county programs. County departments in attendance will include the [Assessor's Office](#), the [Kino Sports & Entertainment](#)

[Complex](#), the [Health Department](#), [Natural Resources Parks & Recreation](#) and [Community & Workforce Development](#), among others. The departments will have tables inside the courtyard of the Pima County Historic Courthouse from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday through Sunday. So, come on over and learn more about the wide variety of services and resources the County has to offer.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

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## Green Geek considers candy wrappers, computer printers and cardboard boxes

Is there a sustainable way to eat Halloween candy? Is it possible to recycle an old computer printer? Can a cardboard container go in the blue bin even after it's been used to store food?

The Green Geek is here to answer your questions about all things green! You'll find this column in Pima County FYI on the second Friday of each month. If you have a question about anything green-related, send it to [fyinewsletter@pima.gov](mailto:fyinewsletter@pima.gov).



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## PACC, Health Department, UA team up for clinic serving people and their pets



People and their pets were able to get their shots — and plenty of other health-care services — at the same time at a first-time event hosted by the Pima Animal Care Center, the Pima County Health Department and the University of Arizona Colleges of Veterinary Medicine and Public Health. Another treat: Pet owners at the One Health Clinic could also take blankets, toys, food and other goodies for their animals. If you missed this one, don't worry. Plans are in the works for another.

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## Free tax-prep program offers rewarding volunteer opportunities

Pima County's [Community & Workforce Development Department](#) has partnered with the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona since 2016 on a free tax-preparation service fueled by a legion of volunteers. This is where you might come in. Multiple roles are available with the [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\)](#) program at various



levels of expertise, including as an IRS-certified tax preparer. The United Way provides all the necessary training and certification.

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## Find fun fall festivities for the family



Are you looking for fun activities for the entire family? Take a look at the community events calendar near the bottom of the [main Pima County webpage](#). Here you will find plenty of things to do, including many free offerings. For example, did you know the Sheriff's Department is having a free Trunk or Treat event on Oct. 28? And while it's not free, the Halloween-themed Nightfall event is taking place at Old Tucson through Oct. 29. So, pack the family into the car and get out there for some fun.

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## If you need some scary thrills and chills, Pima County Public Library has you covered

Just in time for Halloween season, the Pima County Public Library is sharing Kanopy's annual Fright Fest collection, a beastly batch of cursed ... er, curated ... films that are sure to make you scream. If you don't have a Kanopy account, you'll need your library card number to access the collection. But don't run away. It's free.



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## For some, there's nothing scarier than dirty air; go electric with your gardening equipment



This Halloween, while reaching for candy, be sure to reach for your electric lawn equipment as well. Pima County's Department of Environmental Quality has a [program that offers discounts](#) toward new electrical equipment. See the department's frightfully entertaining public-service announcement by clicking the button below.

WATCH VIDEO

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*Next issue: Friday, Oct. 27, 2023*

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