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Back to school: still lots of questions

We wanted to update you on school reopenings, but plans remain fluid. Here's a perspective from educator, neighbor and AONA board member **Janelle Lowey** on schools, reopenings and coping.

Navigating the challenges

Getting back to school is on everyone's mind these days, and as an educator, I can tell you emphatically that we miss our students. Keeping students, parents, and educators safe is the top priority of any school. Every district, charter school and private school has its own plan for online and on-site learning. Navigating through all the different options can be challenging for families.

Parents, and in some cases, grandparents are being asked to step into roles for which they often have had no training, while trying to manage their own jobs as well. It is a tough position to be in for many families.

Districts across the state are eager to reopen but there are strict COVID-19 guidelines that govern their ability to open up. These include the number of cases per

100,000 people, percent positivity rate, and percent of COVID-like illness in local hospitals. School leaders report these numbers to their communities regularly.

Everyone's focus: student success

I meet with teachers every day who are as frustrated as families are, and they want to help every one of their students succeed. This is why it is so important that we

support the efforts of our community schools so they can provide high quality online learning and prepare for the safe return of students to their campus.

AONA is dedicated to partnering with local schools and keeping the community informed. Together, we will get through this difficult time.

For more info about school reopening guidelines in Maricopa County www.bit.ly/MCmetrics



Virtual Block Watch

Learn about a citywide program that started right here in our Arcadia Osborn neighborhood and how it can help you and your neighbors stay safe.

Video surveillance helps prevent crime

Community partnerships with our police are a proven deterrent to crime. We are the eyes and ears of our neighborhood.

Across AONA, outdoor home video surveillance units provide homeowners with 24/7 peace of mind. Our video surveillance can also aid police in an area like ours where property crimes can occur when people are away.

Register your camera with PPD

Registering your camera not only helps deter crime, but assists the Phoenix Police in its overall crime prevention strategy.

3 steps: register, verify, connect

Sign-up is simple and takes about 10 minutes to complete. Once registered, PPD will follow up with you to verify your enrollment. Then, if and when there is a crime in the area, PPD officers may contact you and ask to review a recording captured by your camera which may assist in the investigation of a crime.

Learn more about Virtual Block Watch

Go to the Phoenix Police Department website to view a video on the program. There's also a quick and easy form to get you registered and on your way.

For PPD's Virtual Block Watch program, use this link: bit.ly/PhxVirBlkWatch

How about a little help with dinner?

Our neighborhood has become a destination for diners throughout the Valley. With the pandemic improving but lingering, area restaurants and the employees that make them go have had a big economic setback.

Here's how you can help out. (And eat good food!)

- **Plan your take-out/delivery meals**

Restaurants aren't busy every day and night, but you and your family are. Think about when to schedule a weekday meal that destresses your day and helps out a business. Try takeout or in-house delivery directly from the restaurant to maximize your financial impact.

- **Spread the joy; share the wealth**

We all have our favorites and now we can support them. It's also a time to branch out to other restaurants that you've wanted to check out, but somehow never gotten around to it.

- **Tip up the tip**

Waitstaff are having a tough time. If people aren't in the restaurants, they're not earning money. Consider tipping more generously than usual, even on takout & in-house delivery.

- **Tell 'em that you're a neighbor**

Together, we are a powerful economic engine. Tell restaurant owners and staff that we're partners.

Arcadia News restaurant listings

Our friends at Arcadia News have a great list of area restaurants here: bit.ly/AONAAreaRestaurants

Oh, Captain, My Captain!*



Mike Brannan is a Captain with the Phoenix Fire Department and has worked for the department for the past 14 years. He is currently assigned to our neighborhood fire station, Station 13, one of the busiest and oldest in the city.

Mike is an AONA resident. He and his family have lived in the neighborhood for the past 20 years.

**With apologies to Walt Whitman. 😊*

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tinyurl.com/AONAsignup

Visit AONA at our website:
www.arcadiaosbornphx.com

And:
facebook.com/arcadiaosborn
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We would love to hear from you!

Interested in building a safer and more connected community? We are looking for volunteers to help with social media & fundraising. Let us know.

AONA Boundaries



Best Bargain in the City

Movies. E-books. Music. Tools for e-learning. And it's *ALL MINE!*

Well, it can be yours, too, with your **Phoenix Public Library card**.

All you have to do is register and you'll have 24/7 access to the Phoenix Public Library online. If you haven't checked it out, we think you'll be amazed at your options.

Libraries closed, curbside open

Even though the libraries are temporarily closed during the pandemic, library staff are available to provide curbside service so that you can reserve and pickup your favorite David Baldacci thriller.

For more info, follow these links:

Library phoenixpubliclibrary.org
Curbside bit.ly/PhxCurbsidePickup
Ecard registration bit.ly/PhxEcard



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