



TOTAL NEWS

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History of Surprise

The official history starts in 1938, when Flora Mae Statler bought some land northwest of Phoenix, to build inexpensive homes for agricultural workers. She chose the name, because she would be surprised if it ever amounted to much. Other sources state that the city was named by Flora Mae's husband, Harold Ludden, after his hometown of Surprise, Nebraska. Either way, recent documents show that Flora Mae bought the land before she met Harold, a developer and state legislator; you decide.

Original inhabitants would have been the Ho Ho Kam native Americans, but they abandoned the area in the 1400's, so whatever name they might have had is lost in history. The square mile had a few houses and a gas station, not much else. It might have remained a sleepy little farming community of irrigated orchards and fields, producing lots of cotton, except for Grand Avenue and the railroad.

The 100 foot wide Grand Avenue was built in 1888, connecting Phoenix to Glendale, Peoria, and eventually provided a major artery to Las Vegas, passing directly by where Surprise would later arise. The railroad came through in 1895, running parallel to Grand Avenue, and running through to Prescott. Now the West Valley moved from agriculture only to an industrial/agricultural economy, and Surprise developed along those lines.

Sun City Grand, a very large retirement community, was built in Surprise, just up the road from Sun City and Sun City West. The Texas Rangers and Kansas City Royals hold Spring Training at Surprise Stadium. Surprise is the home of AZTechCelerator, a 4 building campus to provide affordable facilities for business start ups through late stage innovation companies. As of 2010, it is the 10th largest city in Arizona. Flora Mae would indeed be surprised.



It may be laid down as a primary position, and the basis of our system, that every Citizen who enjoys the protection of a Free Government, owes not only a proportion of his property, but even of his personal services to the defense of it.

I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them but to inform their discretion.

I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, and stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.

The man who loves other countries as much as his own stands on a level with the man who loves other women as much as he loves his own wife.

Words from our forefathers

Upcoming Events

DATE	VENUE	EVENT
Sept 3	Ashley Furniture Pavilion	Def Leppard
Sept 8	Comerica Theatre	Alejandro Fernandez
Sept 10	Tempe Beach Park	Healing Fields Event (PM)
Sept 10	Paseo Highlands Park	Patriot Day Celebration
Sept 11	Tempe Beach Park	Healing Fields Service (AM & PM)
Sept 14	Comerica Theatre	Ray LaMontagne & The Pariah Dogs
Sept 15	Comerica Theatre	Bon Iver & Fleet Foxes
Sept 18	Ashley Furniture Pavilion	Santana
Sept 20	Comerica Theatre	Kesha
Sept 30	Tempe Beach Park	Fall Frenzy
Sept 30	Comerica Theatre	ZZ Top

10th Anniversary of September 11, 2001

In last month's article, I briefly mentioned 2 events going on this September to honor the victims of the tragic events that occurred 10 years ago on September 11th. It was a day that none of us will ever forget. I'm sure all of you remember exactly where you were and how surreal it felt when you turned on the TV to see the burning twin towers. I know I kept wondering how this could happen to us in America...where I've always felt so SAFE.



Please come out to one (or both) of these events to support their cause. They are held every year because there are people out there that want to recognize our first responders and all of the victims so that they are forever remembered and that we never forget what can happen. We are not invincible as a nation and that day proved it. We will be stronger as a nation if we come together and support each other. September 11, 2001 did bring us together as a nation and we hope these events can bring us all together for a good cause.

At Tempe Beach Park, the Healing Fields Memorial will be set up on Friday with nearly 3,000 flags representing the fallen victims and first responders. It is free for anyone to attend. Saturday there will be an evening service and Sunday there will be a morning service where the names of every victim and first responder will be read, along with an evening candlelight vigil. There will be a blood drive as well if you want to contribute in that capacity. [Please visit the website](#) to read more.

At Paseo Highlands Park, the Patriot Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, September 10th. The entry fee is \$9.11 for advanced tickets and \$10 the day of the event. Active duty can get in free with their ID. Proceeds benefit the 100 Club, ThanksUSA, and Fighter Country Foundation. They will also be taking new or gently used blankets for Afghan refugees. I will be out there volunteering so hopefully I will see some of you there! Here's [the website](#).

Help Yourself

...by helping others. Let's face it—it's easy to do everything for yourself and make sure your own life is going well. It takes more of an effort to help other people, but it also feels great when you can light up the life of another person. [Read here](#) about 10 ways to help your community in 30 minutes or less.

Helping your community is a great start, but there are other ways we can show others (even those people outside of our own community) that we care. A simple smile and hello goes a long way when you pass someone in the store. We tend to get so lost in our own little bubble that the rest of the world is a blur (including myself). Let's open our eyes a little bit more—here are [25 ways](#) to help a fellow human today.

First responders put their lives on the line to help other people every day. This September 11, Sweet Republic is honoring first responders by giving them free ice cream if they visit their store and show ID. There is also a place on their website to print out a card that you can personalize and hand to any 1st responders that you wish. [Go here](#) to see what it's all about!



We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone - Ronald Reagan

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