



WINDSOR SQUARE NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WINDSOR SQUARE SPECIAL PLANNING DISTRICT

Annual Meeting Draws 50

Despite the wintry change in the weather, about 50 people attended the annual meeting of the Windsor Square Special Planning District. The evening's agenda included adoption of the budget for fiscal year 2010-2011, election of new Board members, and presentations by guest speakers.

Speaking at the meeting were Community Action Officer Julie Smith, Black Watch Chair Suzanne Dohrer, Arizona Dist. 11 Rep. Eric Meyer and Lorenzo Perez, representing Central Market, the group that plans to open a restaurant this year at the strip mall on the SE corner of Oregon and Central avenues.

Leaving the Board this year were Members at Large Mike Mackey and Pat Doerschlag. Elected to replace them were Melanie Baca and Vicki Hersh. Melanie will also serve as Secretary, replacing Brett Hunt, who will remain on the Board as a Member at Large.

Suzanne Dohrer spoke about Block Watch and potential uses for your Block Watch donations. She also asked for volunteers for such things as graffiti control and replacement of old Black Watch signage. If you'd like to vol-

unteer, please email dwlaw@prodigy.net.

Officer Smith addressed the issues of crime, solicitors, the need to report suspicious characters to the police and efforts to resolve the ongoing parking problems at Postino Central.

Rep. Meyer spoke about the state's economic crisis, proposals to eliminate the budget deficit, and political gridlock at the state capitol. He painted a gloomy picture of the potential impact of budget cuts on health care and public education in Arizona.

Based on conversations held and overheard before the meeting, most of the audience was there to hear more about "The Windsor," as the new restaurant at Central and Oregon will be named. Lorenzo Perez, one of the partners in the company that purchased the site, and Craig DeMarco, owner of Postino Central, across the street, talked about their vision for the site and their desire to work with the neighborhood to ensure a smooth transition and avoid problems such as noise, cut-through traffic and parking congestion. Perez also announced, for the first time, plans to include an ice-cream store, "Churn," at the site.

Block Watch Report: Identifying Census Workers

This is a year the Federal Government conducts the Census. Federal law requires participation in the 2010 Census and it is a vital part of determining political representation and funding. Federal law protects the privacy of Census information. According to www.2010.census.gov, it takes about 10 minutes to complete the Census form that is mailed to you in March. A sample form can be found on the website. Return the form in the postage-paid envelope. The Census Bureau also is authorized to conduct American Community surveys, which are sent to about 1 of every 480 households. The website has information about the purpose of the Census, the Survey and ways for identifying Census takers.

A Census worker may visit your residence

if you have not returned the completed Census form or if your residence is selected for follow-up. All Census workers undergo an FBI name and fingerprint check. Each worker will carry a government badge marked with his or her name. You also may ask for a picture ID from another source. In addition, some workers might carry a U.S. Census Workers bag.

Neighbors should be aware that Census workers may be in the area from April through July. We support the work of the Census Bureau, and ask you to cooperate and not mistake a Census worker for a scam solicitor. If you are uncertain about the identity of someone claiming to be a Census worker, call the Regional Census Office at 720-475-3640 or call our local Crime Stop at 602-262-6151 to ask the police to confirm that legitimate Census workers are in the neighborhood.

United States
Census
2010



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

One of my favorite times in our neighborhood is the Home and Garden Tour, when many of our gracious neighbors open their homes to the public. It is a point of pride for all of us, even if our home is not on the tour. This year's tour promises to be great (and may be over when you read this). Susan Myers and the Home Tour Committee have been working very hard to create a fantastic event and we owe them our thanks. I hope everyone can come out on March 7 and enjoy the day with your neighbors and I encourage everyone to invite your friends and family to the event to show off our beautiful neighborhood!

While it's been a quiet winter, a few topics are worthy of note. The Walgreens at 7th St. and Camelback applied for a Series 10 Liquor License in January to sell wine and beer. With so many businesses in the area selling liquor, including the new superstore at 16th St. and Camelback, the board believed yet another store selling liquor was not needed and it voted to oppose Walgreens' application. As it turns out, the application was denied based on the store's proximity to Faith Lutheran Church across the street.

Another issue that arose was the introduction of SB 1166 in the state senate by Sen. Linda Gray (R-Glendale). This Bill would repeal the State Historic Property Tax Reclassification (SPT) program and would wipe out the property tax benefits for those owning historic properties. While not everyone takes advantage of this benefit in our neighborhood, it can be an added savings for some and continues to encourage others to purchase historic properties and properly care for them. On Jan. 28, the Senate Finance Committee tabled the Bill because of the issues

and concerns raised by the significant public opposition. Gray intends to re-tool the language, however, so there continues to be the possibility of this bill passing. I encourage everyone to express their views on this bill to our state legislators. Their contact information can be found online at www.azleg.gov/alisStaticPages/HowToContactMember.asp and on the back page of this newsletter.

As reported in the last newsletter, the historic strip mall at Central and Oregon is under new ownership and renovations are under way. The owner, Central Market, LLC, plans to bring some exciting changes to that property, but the process will not be without challenges that will clearly affect our neighborhood, including increased traffic and parking issues. The members of Central Market have reached out to our neighborhood to open dialogue with us, and I have asked them to participate in some of our events, such as the annual meeting and submitting articles to the newsletter. I believe it is important to keep all neighbors informed about Central Market's progress and to give everyone plenty of opportunities to make their voices heard. Now is our chance to let the owner know what we expect from them and I encourage everyone to speak up. If you prefer to let the board know instead of contacting the owner directly, please feel free to send me an e-mail.

I hope everyone has a wonderful spring and enjoys the beautiful weather!

Jennifer Delgado

Wanted: Rosson House Volunteers

Rosson House Museum at 6th and Monroe streets in downtown Phoenix is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to serve in a variety of capacities. Become a docent and lead tours of the 1895 museum, the jewel of Heritage Square, or become an actor in the Step Back in Time group. Or learn late 19th century hands-on activities to share with the visiting public at events or in the Hands-On Heritage House on Heritage Square. Office help also is needed. Please call 602-261-8063 today!

The *Windsor Square News* is published four times a year, in March, June, September and December. Residents and local businesses are invited to contribute news, opinions and information to the editor. Unsigned submissions will not be used. Deadlines are the first Saturday of the month prior to publication. For ad rates, see www.windsorsquarephoenix.org/pdfs/2010adrates.pdf.

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The Birds of Windsor Square, part 3

Ken Furtado

In the previous parts of this series I have talked about Orange-Crowned Warblers, Peach-Faced Lovebirds, Ravens, lethal Mockingbirds, Roadrunners and the bird we all love to hate: Pigeons.

The best bird story since then is one about a Great Blue Heron. These enormous birds are usually seen near bodies of water because their diet consists exclusively of fish, so why have there been sightings of Great Blue Herons flying low over Pasadena Avenue, in a southeasterly direction? It turns out, the herons (or at least one heron)



have discovered the Koi Pond at the Valley Commerce Center on 7th Street just south of Camelback. There, with the expenditure of little effort, they can have a meal fit for a king, costing the Commerce Center about \$100 per inch of fish consumed.

Speaking of kings and fishes, you might see an ungainly bird on a wire above the Grand Canal. It appears to have a head as large as its body and a beak the size of a harpoon. It's a Kingfisher, and it's looking for dinner in the canal. This bird is an anomaly among most others of its class because the female is more brightly colored than the male. Mr. Kingfisher is all slate blue and white but the Mrs. has a bright chestnut belly band.

A pair of Western Screech Owls and progeny have made themselves at home in the alley between Pasadena and Medlock. They hide and sleep during the day, coming out to feed at dusk, so you are more likely to hear them than you are to see them. Their favorites foods are lizards, crickets, geckos and large bugs, like the big sewer roaches that we hate to be surprised by when lifting the lid off the hot tub or stepping into the shower. Due to their diminutive size, Screech Owls do not hunt warm-blooded critters such as field mice or baby roof rats.

It's been a great season for migratory birds, and my back yard has been filled with many species I normally see only once or twice a year, including Orange-Crowned

Warblers, Wilson's Warblers, Yellow-Rumped Warblers and flocks of Lesser Goldfinches. Experienced birders say that if you see a warbler after mid-November, it will be around all winter.

The common House Sparrow, formerly called the English Sparrow, is not a native species but it has become so ubiquitous since being introduced to North America that many native species have suffered on its account. Ironically, in its homeland in England, a strange disease is wiping out large populations. Wouldn't it be nice if we could "return" our sparrows to their homeland. There *are* other kinds of sparrows — dozens of them. One that's very likely to show up in your yard is the White-Crowned Sparrow. This handsome bird is unmistakable, with vivid black and white alternating stripes running from front-to-back along its head, beginning and ending with a black stripe through both eyes.

Seen fewer pigeons in your yard lately? It may be because a peregrine falcon has "adopted" the parking lot at AJ's. Look up at the M&I Bank building at daybreak and you'll see this deadly hunter perched on the northwest corner of the roof making its selection from the breakfast menu below.



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Dues Collections Lagged in 2009

Dues donations for Windsor Square for fiscal year 2009-2010 fell by about \$700 from the previous year, with a total collected of \$3754. Solicitation notices and updated resident information forms were delivered to homes last Fall. Dues are voluntary, and the suggested amount is \$25 per adult household.

It costs about \$7,000 per year to "run" Windsor Square. This includes printing and distributing the quarterly newsletter, expenses for the website and NewsBlasts, liability insurance, the Block Party, maintaining the park on Medlock and the traffic diverter on Oregon, and more. Approximately 32 percent of residents contributed. The breakdown by street is:

Missouri : 14%
 Georgia: 20%
 6th Street: 25%
 Colter: 29%
 2nd Street: 33%
 Oregon: 35%
 Pasadena: 45%
 Orange: 48%
 Medlock: 52%

Thank-you to

Mimi Allen
 Kristin Anderson
 Tony & Highty Ashton
 TF & Bess Basham
 Randi Bates
 Kathleen & Jim Beettie
 Bob Beukema & Ken Mosesian
 Lori Bieler & Christopher Bates
 Cindy Butler
 George & Rosemary Cooney
 Amber & Andrew Croll
 Sean & Tammy Cunningham
 Jennifer Delgado
 Kelly Dudley & Kathy Roberts
 Rick & Dawn Erickson
 Jamie Faith & Jennifer Urlaub
 Lori Feagler
 Victoria & Elizabeth Fimea
 Tom & Julia Fitsimones
 Norma Fitzgerald
 Stephen Frerichs & Laura A. Corbin
 Tyler Gerdes & Harald Spohr
 David & Michele Goldstein
 Seth & Darla Goodman
 Beth Gosnell
 Dominick Grillas & Anne Samyn
 Katharine Halpin & Bonnie Meyer
 Jim & Fran Herdrich
 Dorothy W. Jorgensen
 Lois Kinneberg
 Burton S. Kruglick
 Paul Lepore
 Ross D. & Catherine Luther

Kathy Mabry
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 Doug & Kristen Magnuson
 Dave & Nancy Mata
 Nancy & Leo Maxwell
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 Bob McGennis
 Marlana & Peter Mertz
 Catherine & Negatu Molla
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 Robin Spencer
 Jerome & Sally Stefferud
 Greg Swartz & Mitra Khazai
 Liz Therrien
 Lyn Tinker
 Tim Turner
 Serena Unrein & Chris Brown
 Sreeram Vadlamudi & Geetha Kolli
 Barbara J. Whitlow
 Chris & Lisa Womack
 Kenneth & Joyce Wright

Oleander Removal Efforts Under Way

Sean Cunningham

In response to residents' requests, the Board has contacted several companies regarding competitive pricing for removal of infected Oleanders in the neighborhood. We have reviewed and met with different companies to educate ourselves on the process of the removal of the diseased oleanders. We now have a better understanding of the variables involved to determine the cost of removal and would like to share this with the neighborhood.

When we met with the companies it became apparent that the removal process is very involved and is not realistic to determine a cost simply based on length and width, or cubic feet. Some of the key factors in determining price are accessibility to the oleanders, age of the oleanders, whether a lot is irrigated (ground tends to be softer) or whether the oleanders abut walls and fencing. Other considerations were the proximity of underground utility, irrigation or sewer lines, as these need to be marked and considered prior to digging. All or some of these conditions may de-

termine whether the companies can use heavy equipment in the removal or whether the oleanders will need to be removed by hand.

Due to these complexities, we decided it would be best to only review those companies who were licensed, bonded and insured. Furthermore, we felt they needed to have the personnel and equipment necessary to take on this type of task. The removal of the diseased and dying oleanders, as many of you may have already observed, is messy, time consuming and very labor intensive. Given that, we are recommending three separate companies for oleander removal.

Clean Cut Lawn Care, 480-444-9689

Owner: Alfonso Torres

Star Demolition, 602-628-2933

Owner: Jorge Ruiz

Troy Bankord Design, 602-526-1330

Manager: Mark Banderet

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Central Market Project Update No. 2



Above: View from Central Avenue looking east
Below: View from Oregon Avenue looking south



The new year proceeds and we are well into the planning and permitting process for the Central Market project, working positively with City of Phoenix Planning and Development Services on project details. Neighbor notification letters went out in December and January to residents within 600 feet of the site and all neighborhood associations within one mile of the site, announcing our intention to clean the existing zoning and renovate the property to accommodate our plans to create a quaint neighborhood dining/retail experience. The general response has been very positive and we are grateful for the support we have received from residents and city staff for our efforts to sensitively create an enduring neighborhood amenity.

On the restaurant front, Craig DeMarco and partners are busy developing and designing their dining and retail concept for the neighborhood restaurant, having recently traveled to New York and LA on project-specific inspiration tours. We are all excited to see what they come up with. The name of the restaurant has been made public and in a nod to the neighborhood, will be called The Windsor.

As for the property improvements, we are planning to proceed with as many as possible that do not require building permits or the zoning clearance. Unfortunately, the bulk of the project improvements are limited until we work through the city zoning & permitting process which at this time is projected to run through early April.

We also want to thank everyone who took time to attend our Feb. 13 Open House at Postino Central to share feedback, ask questions and offer support. It was nice to

meet our neighbors. As we progress through the city process, you will continue to be notified and invited to upcoming meetings. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at lorenzo@venueprojects.com or on cell at 602-689-0194.

On behalf of Central Market, LLC,
 Lorenzo G. Perez

<<Oleander, p. 4

To get the best possible price, and/or company that best meets individual requirements, we recommend you get competing bids from each. We explained to the companies that we would recommend homeowners request multiple bids and to bid competitively. We are also passing along names of a few companies that do masonry and fencing, as many of you have oleander 'walls' and may need this work. The references below have been provided by neighbors:

Manuel Collantes, 623-340-0451

Fences, Brick, Block, Stucco and concrete

Juan Gama, 602-349-7003

Gates—Iron and Wood, Welding, Custom Fencing

Frontier Iron Work, 602-340-8278

Custom Iron Work

Ortega Masonry, 602-751-5044

General Masonry

If you would like to discuss the recommended companies or details related to oleander removal you can contact me at sean.cunningham@aps.com or 602.212.1121.

Buying Local Can Save Our Economy

Russ Baurichter

Supporting local businesses has become more important than ever. Faceless big-box chain stores are moving onto every other corner, selling food and goods shipped over thousands of miles. The harmful effects of giving our hard-earned money to large, national corporations are being felt all over the country. While there is not usually one clear answer to economic stability and growth, there is in fact one model that has worked out pretty darn well since the earliest days of man: buying and trading with your neighbors.

When goods circulate around a community, it is beneficial to all. When an outside party funnels those commodities elsewhere, the community becomes weaker. Unfortunately, many cities choose to bring in outside parties for short-term gains without realizing the long-term negative effects. If you were to spend \$100 at a national chain, \$87 of that amount would leave the state to pay the out-of-state shareholders, corporate office employees, taxes to that company's state, etc., leaving only \$13 in the community. If you spent that same \$100 at a locally-owned business, \$45 would remain in the community, available for the community.

Buying locally gets even better when you factor in the "local multiplier." This is when you spend your dollar at the local toy store, and then the toy store spends it with a local toy manufacturer, who then spends it with a local contractor, and so on. That one dollar can circulate around, in effect multiplying its worth within the community. It's important to seek out local foods at local grocery stores and local products at local retailers ... your dollar can go a long way to support others around you and in turn strengthen Arizona's economy.

Of course, money is not the only reason to support local businesses. Each individual business adds its own take on how business should be done, what kinds of goods to sell or services to provide, and they bring their own personalities to the game, creating a range of options to choose from. It's always exciting to stumble upon that per-



fect place for the first time, where it seems like every item was handpicked for you! You will not find that at national chain stores whose goal is to please the most people with the least effort. Unfortunately as these chains displace small local businesses, the unique flavor those businesses contribute is lost, leading to the eventual homogenization of the culture.

When a person decides to open a business, he or she has made the decision to invest in the community. If the local economy takes a dive, the business owner is directly affected and the business suffers. That's why local businesses are more likely to support local charities, concern themselves with the state of their environment, immerse themselves in community activities, and otherwise become involved in the lives of those around them. They are in it for the long haul and these actions are the best insurance. There are innumerable stories of a failing business brought back by the rallying of the community, but I can't think of any similar stories relating to the national chains.

This brings up another misconception about chains: that they bring jobs to the community. This is only true in the short term. Once you factor in all of the toes that are stepped on in the form of local shops boarding up their doors, losing their business to the perceived "convenience" of the chains, three jobs are lost on average for every two gained. Once the chains have garnered the customers and shut down the competition, they are then free to raise prices. There are plenty of studies and articles that address these issues that can be easily found with an Internet search.

Sometimes it may seem that these obstacles are permanent, that our voices have been divided and overwhelmed by corporate powers. This is actually far from the truth! Data from a 2005 study by the Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration shows that small business represents 99.7% of all businesses, employing 57.4 million people, or 50.6% of the workforce (and that's not including farmers, whose numbers have recently skyrocketed due to the demand for locally-grown foods). That sounds like a clear majority, but where is our unifying voice?

That's where organizations like Local First Arizona come in. We are one of the largest coalitions of local businesses in the nation, with the goal of educating citizens,

An advertisement for URBANSCAPES. It features a black and white photograph of a young girl wearing a black baseball cap with the URBANSCAPES logo, looking thoughtful with her hand to her chin. A speech bubble above her says "We Need Help With Our Landscape." Below the photo, the text reads "URBANSCAPES The Total Landscape Solution.®", the phone number "602-999-7883", and the services "Landscape Maintenance | Irrigation | Construction | Supply".

stakeholders, business leaders, and legislators about the significant environmental, economic, and cultural benefits of strong local economies. By providing an online, searchable directory of over 1,800 locally-owned businesses, we strive to make it as easy as possible to find a local solution for Arizona's needs. With our relationships with business and political leaders, we are able to speak up for local business on issues that affect our communities. We've successfully convinced the city of Phoenix to buy more from local businesses, worked on streamlining the process for the adaptive reuse of existing buildings, and brought state and national media attention to some of these issues as well as directly to the businesses. Our weekly newsletters (monthly in Tucson and southern Arizona) keep the community informed of our progress on these issues as well as highlighting local events, workshops, and numerous opportunities to get involved. And by providing our members with monthly mixers, we enabled them to establish connections with other business members in their communities.

With "local" popularity on the heels of the equally deserving "organic food" trends, we feel as though Local First Arizona is perfectly situated to speak up for the small businesses and to help educate Arizonans on the incredible importance of supporting our local businesses. For more information, please visit www.localfirstaz.com.

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HP EXTERIOR REHAB GRANT DEADLINE CHANGED

The Historic Preservation Office has changed the Exterior Rehabilitation Grant application deadline. This deadline was previously March 3; it has moved to Oct. 6, 2010. This is the city's matching 50-50 rehabilitation grant program. Information is available online, at phoenix.gov/HISTORIC/financial.html.

BULK TRASH-HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Bulk trash areas have changed. Windsor Square is now in area 11. Set out dates for 2010 are May 8, Aug. 7 and Nov. 6; collection begins nine days after the set-out date. It is a violation of city ordinance to place bulk trash out before the set-out date.

The next hazardous waste collection in our area is April 15-17 at North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Ave. Hours are 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. If you have hazardous wastes to dispose of, you must bring the waste to a collection event. For more information, call 602-262-7251 or visit phoenix.gov/publicworks.

YOU DESERVE A (JAW)BREAK(ER) TODAY

Smeeks, a new candy store at Central and Camelback, has caught the attention of *Sunset* magazine, which writes, "Sweet taffy, gumballs, and irreverent oddities, from gummy bacon to yodeling pickles are a few of the goodies Even if you don't have a sweet tooth, its retro phone booth will put a smile on your face." Visit Smeeks at 14 W. Camelback or www.smeeks.net.

NEW WEBSITE FOR WS

A big thanks to Kathy Sacks, who took charge of the task of dragging the Windsor Square Web site into the 21st century. There's still more content to be added, but the new site has a lot of functionality that the old site lacked, such as the ability to sell tickets to the Home & Garden Tour.

SIGN UP FOR NEWSBLASTS

The quarterly *Windsor Square News* does not always provide a timely way to keep neighbors informed of issues and developments affecting Windsor Square. Filling that gap are our electronic NewsBlasts. A NewsBlast is an emailed newsletter that typically contains two to four short items. There's no schedule; they are emailed as necessary. In keeping with anti-spamming laws, to get the NewsBlast you must request it. To subscribe, email a request to newsblast@windsorsquarephoenix.org.

OLEANDER REMOVAL WARNING

Windsor Square's irrigation infrastructure is old and close to the surface, and therefore vulnerable to damage during oleander removal. Damages, besides being costly, can disrupt water delivery to the homes that pay for irrigation. The Irrigation District secretary has a large color map of the location of the irrigation lines in Windsor Square. He will be happy to give a copy of the map to your contractor. **Please note:** We have learned from past unfortunate experiences that Arizona Blue Stake may not have accurate information on the location of irrigation lines. Due to the cost of reproduction, it is not feasible to give copies of the map to every homeowner. For maps, call Ken Furtado at 602-222-9796 or email newsblast@windsorsquarephoenix.org.

Resources (all area codes are 602)

Windsor Square Board of Directors

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Member at Large	Vicki Hersh	vicki_hersh@yahoo.com	264-0971
Member at Large	Brett Hunt	hunt.brett@gmail.com	463-2991

District 11 Elected Officials

Sen. Barbara Leff (R)	926-4486	bleff@azleg.gov
Rep. Eric Meyer (D)	926-3037	emeyer@azleg.gov
Rep. Adam Driggs (R)	926-3016	adriggs@azleg.gov
Mayor Phil Gordon	262-7111	mayor.gordon@phoenix.gov
Councilman Tom Simplot	262-7447	council.district.4@phoenix.gov

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Home Tour Acknowledgements and Appreciation

Susan Myers, Home Tour Committee Chair

After over ten months of planning and hard work by the Home Tour Committee, the 8th biennial Windsor Square Home & Garden Tour has finally happened. As Chair of the Home Tour Committee, I hope you will join with me in recognizing the tremendous hard work put in by the following committee members. Their efforts helped make this Home Tour a success!

Leslie Baxter	Steph DePascal
Liz Eells	Andrea Evans
Bob Falk	Kathy Hansen
Becky Hughes	Michelle Manson
Lindsey Rousseau-Hunt	Kathy Sacks
Rebecca Shea	

Many other neighbors volunteered to help at the Home Tour, and we thank them for their help. Two deserve special recognition: Tim Turner, for his hospitality at the homeowner's appreciation dinner, and Tom Evans for crafting a beautiful Home Tour brochure.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the support of the many Windsor Square residents and nearby businesses who advertised in the Home Tour brochure. The advertising revenue makes the Home Tour possible. I encourage everyone to show their appreciation. The next time you shop at one of these businesses or eat at one of the restaurants, let them know you saw their advertisement in the Home Tour brochure and that we all appreciate their support.

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