### CITY GOVERNMENT

**Budget forecast still good for 2022**

Sales taxes help keep outlook robust

By Jason Stone

**REVEAL PHOTO:** Mike Frazier

*Surprise Mayor Skip Hall remembers the city’s rock bottom.*

He had just joined the government as a councilman in 2008 when finances got hairy because of the Great Recession.

“We as a city did not respond quick enough,” Mr. Hall warned the six other members on the Surprise City Council at an April 16 budget retreat at City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza.

“We were looking at things going to heck in a hand basket, and we didn’t respond in cutting the budget.”

“If we have another downturn, we’ve got to respond to it.”

It’s a good thing downturns are nowhere on the city’s radar.

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Competitive
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**How can Physical Therapy help before surgery?**
- Reduce Pain & Inflammation
- Strengthen your body
- Mentally & Physically prepare for surgery
- Increase stamina
- Restore movement

**How can Physical Therapy help after surgery?**
- Heal Faster
- Minimize scar tissue & infections
- Reduce Pain/Minimize prescription use
- Increase endurance & strength
- Return to daily activities

### GALLERY

**Lucky ducks**

Organizers of the first Sterling Grove Rubber Duck Race are calling it a success. The community raised $27,600 for the Phoenix Children’s Hospital’s Hope Fund on April 17 thanks to entries in the race in the Sterling Grove community, which is west of Loop 303 and between Cactus Road and Peoria Avenue. The Hope Fund helps to pay for advances in technology, clinical trials and medical breakthroughs that directly impact a patient’s recovery as well as funding for state-of-the-art technology, innovative new clinical programs and family-centered care. Sterling Grove plans to host another duck race next spring. Smiling behind masks with the ceremonial check are, from left, Haley Chapman of the Phoenix Children’s Hospital, Renee Hall, Dan Rhea, Jessica Walls-Randall, Devin Hobbs, Charles Crawford and Hanna Atkins. [Photos courtesy of Sterling Grove]

**See Paloma on page 14**
Thank a nurse for national nurses week

The vital role nurses play in health care settings across the globe was perhaps never more apparent than in recent months. When COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization in March 2020, nurses were on the front lines in the battle against the virus, and they have remained there since.

In recognition of the sacrifices nurses and other health care workers have made to help the sick, individuals across the globe have placed signs in their yards thanking essential workers. In addition, many more have taken to social media to highlight the lengths individual nurses have gone to while helping them or their loved ones who caught the virus or fought other illnesses.

Communities can follow such individuals’ lead by making collective efforts to thank the nurses who call their towns and cities home.

- **Sponsor fundraising efforts.** Town officials can help to organize a community-wide fundraising effort or a 50-50 raffle with the ultimate goal of donating to a charitable organization chosen by local nurses. Health care facilities have been stretched incredibly thin during the pandemic, so a donation to a charitable organization that benefits health care workers can be a great way for communities to honor local nurses.

- **Encourage residents to lend a helping hand.** The work front-line medical workers have done during the pandemic has been endless and exhausting. In recognition of that, community organizers can promote volunteer programs designed to lift some burden off local health care workers’ shoulders.

Local hospitals, blood banks and health centers may need volunteers, and this is a great way for local residents to show health care workers their efforts are appreciated.

- **Celebrate holidays that honor nurses as a community.** The American Nurses Association notes that National Nurses Week begins each year May 6 and ends May 12. Though National Nurses Week is not a federal holiday, communities can still come together during the week to highlight the work local nurses do.

Local officials can encourage businesses in the community to offer special discounts to nurses during the week, while schools can take part in collective efforts to thank nurses. For example, students from all grades can work on a banner thanking nurses and then showcase the banner by the entryway to the school or passersby can see it.

- **Highlight a local nurse each week on social media.** Community leaders can ask residents to nominate a local nurse each week and then choose one nominee to highlight on social media. Students or local officials can interview the nominee, asking them about their careers, including what compelled them to become a nurse and their most interesting experiences on the job. Interviews can be posted on community social media pages so all residents can get to know the unsung heroes in their communities.

Communities can work together on a variety of collective efforts aimed at recognizing the extraordinary efforts made by local nurses every day.

A Healthy Appreciation for Our Dedicated NURSES

During National Nurses Week we are reminded of just how important nurses are. It is thanks to their skill, hard work and compassion that we are able to receive quality healthcare.

\[\text{Thank you, nurses, for your invaluable contributions to the world of healthcare.}\]
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