

URBAN AFFAIRS

Holiday Home Show

Toll Brothers is getting into the holiday spirit by presenting luxury homes decorated to the hilt by top interior designers at Windgate Ranch Scottsdale. From November 16 to December 16, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, guests can tour six homes marked with a wreath on the front door and enjoy indoor and outdoor holiday-themed décor, from Southwest rustic charm to modern winter chic. Featured designers include Est Est of Scottsdale, Parisi Portfolio of San Diego and Creative Design Consultants of Orange County. In addition, guests will also have an opportunity to bid on each home's holiday decorations in a silent auction to benefit local nonprofit organizations. Call 480-596-7300 for more information.

Align With Art Alliance

Over 100 fine artists from a plethora of Arizona art organizations will have their work on exhibit and for sale at the Glendale Civic Center Annex on Friday, November 30 through Sunday, December 2. The Arizona Art Alliance, a nonprofit organization committed to the promotion and appreciation of fine art and community enrichment through art, is bringing together artists who will be on hand to chat with art collectors while wine, hors d'oeuvres and entertainment are served up for everyone's pleasure. Admission is free. Proceeds will benefit charities helping Arizona seniors and youth at risk. The Glendale Civic Center Annex is at 5750 West Glenn Drive in Glendale. For details, go to www.azartalliance.com.

Inc. Magazine Ranks Stoker Ostler

Stoker Ostler Wealth Advisors, headquartered in Scottsdale, has been nationally ranked by *Inc.* magazine as one of the *Inc. 5,000 – Fastest Growing Companies*, and was the only wealth advisory firm in the top 50 fastest growing companies in the metro Phoenix area. This was the first year the magazine expanded this list from 500 to 5,000, giving us the most comprehensive view of the entrepreneurial force behind the U.S. economy. The *Inc. 5,000* make it to the list based on percentage revenue

growth for four full calendar years of sales, ranging from 2003 to 2006. Qualified companies must have earned revenue of \$200,000 in 2003 and at least \$2 million in 2006. They also had to be U.S. based, privately held, and independently owned and operated as of December 31, 2006. Philip Stoker and Creg Ostler have more than 50 years of combined experience in wealth management, and also have an office in Utah. For more information, call 480-890-8088 or visit www.stokerostler.com.

AZ's First LEED Remodeled Home

LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certifies homes that use less water, energy, natural resources and create less waste. This voluntary rating system promotes the design and construction of high-performance "green" homes. Recently featured in the Valley of the Sun Solar Tour, Arizona's first remodeled home seeking LEED certification has been declared—a 1960 ranch-style home in the Biltmore Park neighborhood, the first single-family home west of the Mississippi to go through the LEED for homes pilot program. Philip Beere of Green Street Development is behind the renovation. When completed, the home will feature non-formaldehyde bamboo floors, countertops made from recycled paper, a charging station for electric cars and more. For more information on Green Street Development, visit www.greenstreetdev.com, or call 602-466-7444.

Passion For Preservation

A new luxury community was recently unveiled along Oak Creek in Sedona called LaMerra, and is comprised of 38 homesites on 111 acres. The developers claim its founding principles are based on a passion for the environment and a dedication to its preservation, and hope buyers will stand behind these principles. Homesites range from 1.13 acres to more than 6.39 acres and are priced from \$1.4 million to \$3.8 million. More than 80 percent of the land at LaMerra is preserved in its natural state, protecting many of the ecosystems within LaMerra. Among the amenities for homebuyers

is a three-mile hiking trail along Oak Creek, a three-acre lake being constructed within the community, and a bridge featuring a pedestrian walkway is also being constructed over Oak Creek. Sales are being handled by RH Nathan and Company. For more information, call 480-629-8191 or go to www.lamerrasedona.com.

Tour Around Tovrea

Phoenix Parks and Recreation and the Historic Preservation Office will be offering tours of the newly renovated Carraro Cactus Garden surrounding the Tovrea Castle. Although the tour of the cactus garden does not include access to the castle as it is also under rehabilitation and renovation, visitors will get to see the west side of the garden, outbuildings, the machine shop, cactus propagation beds and exterior castle views. The parks staff has been using period photos to return the garden to its original state when the castle and cactus gardens were newly completed in the early 1930s, getting the help of a cactus specialist to restore and rejuvenate many of the cacti on site. Guided 90-minute tours started in September and run through mid April, 2008, on select weekends and cost \$15 per person. Proceeds will help fund the castle and garden improvements. For details, call 602-256-3220.

Exotic Racecars Support Wellness

Attention all racecar enthusiasts! View a bevy of beautiful, vintage racecars on a Sunday afternoon and support a worthy cause at the same time. Fifty years of international racing will be represented at the inaugural Wheels of Wellness, including a 1958 Lister Jaguar, 1968 Lola T70 Mark III Spyder, 1964 Brabham BT-8, and a Roger Penske surprise. Entry tickets are \$125 and include a copy of the photography book *Ultimate Carages II*, with proceeds benefiting The Wellness Community cancer support and education programs. Enjoy European hors d'oeuvres, sip imported beer, socialize and covet a collection of historic racecars on the gorgeous grounds of The Wellness Community, 360 East Palm Lane on November 18 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Right To Print

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Mark Klett

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museum of
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Organized by the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art. Sponsored by Eric Jungermann and Family; Alice and David Olson; and the SMOCA Salon.