



Hello again, SMCC History Buffs....amid all the celebration of the college's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, we shouldn't forget that our Guadalupe and Ahwatukee Centers are both celebrating anniversaries as well....10 years for Ahwatukee, and 20 years in existence---(and 10 years in their current building )---for Guadalupe. Here's a look back at the groundbreaking of the Guadalupe Center's current digs, from both the Republic and Tribune, October 1999.

## Guadalupe cheers ground-breaking for complex

BY NIKKI RIORDAN  
THE TRIBUNE

Guadalupe officials and residents on Thursday celebrated the ground-breaking of the most promising construction project in the town's 24-year history.

Construction has begun on a 10-acre, \$5 million complex at Avenida del Yaqui and Guadalupe Road that will serve everyone from children to older residents in three separate buildings.

The aim is to centralize government services, said Town Manager Luis Gonzales.

"This is the biggest development project to date we've undertaken," he said. "It will have the impact of having the government go to people instead of people going to government."



Included in the complex:

■ **Guadalupe Multipurpose Center** — A 16,000-square-foot, \$2 million building combining the town's administration offices, courts and police station, the Maricopa County Library's Guadalupe branch, and a town-themed museum. It will be ready for occupancy in August, Gonzales said.

■ **Boys and Girls Club of the East Valley** — The new, 24,000-square-foot Guadalupe branch will replace the current site at Frank Elementary School.

Its \$2.4 million cost is to be paid entirely through donations from corporations and private foundations, said Kristen Bruskas, director of marketing and communications.

The club will have new features, such as a computer lab and a teen center.

"The need is here. The kids are here," Bruskas said. "We've known for the last 10 years what a role we've played in the development of hundreds of kids' lives and we know that, with the addition of this permanent facility, we can continue to enrich lives."

■ **South Mountain Community College** — A new,

5,000-square-foot Guadalupe branch of the college will be built for \$600,000. The money is a small part of the general obligation bonds approved by county voters in 1994 for building new Maricopa County Community College District facilities. It will accommodate up to 500 students. A much smaller site with 150 students is now at the Mercado in downtown Phoenix.

## Buildings may be new 'heart' of Guadalupe

By Betty Beard  
The Arizona Republic

GUADALUPE — Construction is about to start on two buildings in Guadalupe that Mayor Frances Osuna hopes will become the "heart of the community."

They are a town multipurpose building and a branch of South Mountain College. Joining them someday will be a branch of the Boys & Girls Club of the East Valley.

The Guadalupe Town Council awarded a \$1.73 million contract Tuesday to Brycon Corp., based

in Rio Rancho, N.M., for the multipurpose building.

"It's an exciting time. It's something the community has lacked for a long time. It's going to give the town a lot of prestige," Osuna said.

Included in the 16,500-square-foot building will be town offices, a hearing room to be used as a courtroom and council chambers, the town library, a small museum off the lobby to tell the town's history, and two holding cells and offices for sheriff's deputies.

Initially, the council planned to include a day-care center but had to drop that and other features to stay within budget. The town has sold bonds to finance the project.

The three buildings will be southeast of Guadalupe Road and Avenida del Yaqui, next to El Tianguis, a retail center that is slowly being spruced up. It has a new jewelry store, a dollar store and Youthbuild offices and classrooms.

South Mountain Community College has awarded a \$470,930 contract to Norquay Construction

Inc. of Tempe to build a 5,000-square-foot branch. Funds are still being raised for the Boys & Girls Club. Construction is supposed to start in early 2000 and end about 10 months later.

A groundbreaking ceremony will be scheduled in late October for the town and college buildings. The college is expected to open in late May and the Guadalupe building in mid-June.

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