

Subject: Oct newsletter, Local First
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Sent: 9/30/2025 2:58:53 PM
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From: Local First Arizona <info@localfirstaz.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 10:24 AM
To: akosathome@hotmail.com <akosathome@hotmail.com>
Subject: September's Rural Business Insider



BUSINESS COALITION SPOTLIGHT

**Meet Ed Harvey, The Man Helping Tribal Farmers
Reclaim Their Land**



Ed Harvey, founder of Plan Conservation, is on a mission to bring Navajo farmlands back to life. Drawing on his background in satellite mapping and years with the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture, Harvey helps families cut through red tape to secure agricultural land use permits and conservation plans. To date, he's supported nearly 140 farmers and ranchers — and he's not stopping, even after federal funding cuts. His work is about more than paperwork: it's about protecting heritage, revitalizing fields and ensuring Navajo communities can grow food for generations to come.

[Read His Story](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Your time is valuable — and so is your membership. That's why this month's calendar is packed with high-impact events that deliver real value.



Yuma + Miami Business Activations: Building Resilient Local Economies

Arizona's local businesses are the backbone of our communities — but they face higher stakes than ever. That's why Local First Arizona is bringing the **Business Activation Series** to Yuma and Miami. Join fellow business owners to discuss approachable ways to drive meaningful, community-driven impacts as a local business.

[Yuma Business Community Activation](#)

Wednesday, October 22

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. | The Best Taquito

[Miami Business Community Activation](#)

Monday, October 27

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. | Miami Flats

[Learn More](#)



Applications Open Oct 1: We Rise Black Business Accelerator

Local First Arizona's We Rise accelerator is a no-fee, six-month program designed to equip Black entrepreneurs with the tools to thrive.

Participants meet bi-weekly for remote classes led by experienced Black business owners, gaining practical skills, mentorship and community support. Whether you're starting out or ready to grow, We Rise helps you build the fundamentals for lasting success in Arizona's economy.

Apply before applications close on November 1!

[Learn More](#)

Mark Your Calendars:

- Oct 22: [The Big Bill Act: How It Impacts Your Business](#) (virtual workshop)
- Oct 22: [October's Virtual New Member Orientation](#)
- Nov 6: [Build It to Keep It: How to Create a Business That's Meant to Last](#) (San Luis)
- Nov 8: [Oak Creek Collaborative Cleanup](#) (Sedona)

WELCOME TO OUR NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Every month, we spotlight businesses that are helping shape Arizona's future — one plate, one podcast, one customer at a time.

Meet our New and Renewing Members



[Backwoods Bar & Grill](#)

Payson

Nestled in the pines, [Backwoods](#) blends casual charm with family-friendly energy. From hearty burgers to indulgent desserts, it's a local gathering spot where everyone — even four-legged friends — feels at home.



[Skyhaven Wines](#)

Willcox

[Skyhaven Wines](#) blends sustainability, artistry and a touch of medieval magic. Owners Chris and Bridget craft wines by hand and welcome visitors to an immersive tasting experience rooted in Arizona's terroir.



[Infinity Builders](#) Phoenix

With 20+ years of experience, [Infinity Builders](#) transforms kitchens, bathrooms, casitas and custom homes. Known for integrity, upfront pricing and on-time delivery, they make every remodel seamless and stress-free.

Together, we're building a stronger local economy — one member at a time.

Member Kudos



Cheers to **Martha Ulloa**, graduate of our first Fuerza Local cohort in San Luis, on the summer opening of her new business, [Maximus Gym](#)!

Did You Know?

**Local First can show you how to cut costs, boost efficiency
and shrink your environmental footprint**

Local First Arizona's award-winning **Green Business Boot Camp** is back with in-person sessions in Verde Valley. Over seven weeks, you'll learn from experts, connect with peers and walk away with a practical plan to save money and reduce impact.

The next cohort runs **Oct. 1 – Nov. 12, 2025** (Wednesdays, 5 – 6 p.m.).

[Learn More + Apply](#)

Unleash Your Membership Power

Local Business Owners: Take 12 minutes to Shape the Future

The Federal Reserve's 2025 Small Business Credit Survey is open — and **your voice matters**. Share your experiences with financing and business conditions in this quick 12-minute survey. Your input helps inform the Fed, policymakers

and resource providers, creating data that strengthens independent businesses here in Arizona and beyond.

Take the Survey Now



Local First Arizona is fiercely dedicated to driving inclusive community and economic development throughout Arizona. Our work shapes the future of Arizona by advocating that every individual and community deserves the opportunity to thrive, and that entrepreneurship is at the core of any lasting economy. In rural, tribal, suburban and urban communities across our great state, Local First is delivering resources to ensure a future focused on economic opportunity for all.

Local First Arizona, 407 E. Roosevelt Street, Phoenix, AZ 85004, United States, 602-956-0909

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