PHOENIX FILES Mixed Media



Ad Hawk

ALLEY RESALE SHOP MY SISTER'S CLOSET is generally known for two things: used Blahniks and cheeky billboard copy. You've seen the ad slogans in question: "Wanted: One Night Stand" (with a picture of a nightstand) and "Make a Booty Call" (with a boot). Fun stuff, right? Harmless. Good for a chuckle.

The City of Phoenix evidently disagrees. In late April, the city terminated a \$60,000 contract with My Sister's Closet parent company Eco-Chic Consignments to display the ads on Valley Metro light rail cars – deeming them "sexually offensive," according to company owner Ann Siner. "We have been running these same ads on City of Phoenix buses, bus shelters and on billboards throughout the Valley since 2008," the miffed clothier said in a statement. "Why is it okay to see our ads on city buses, and not on a light rail train?"

We're not sure the issue warrants First Amendment scrutiny, as implied by Siner's high-profile publicist, Jason Rose. But it certainly speaks to an overdeveloped sensitivity reflex at the city. We'd remind Phoenix officials their predicament could be a whole, whole lot worse – as amply illustrated in New York City, where a U.S. District Court judge recently forced the city's transit authority to restore wildly provocative bus advertisements funded by a nonprofit anti-Islamist organization. See how one of the those babies looks Photoshopped on a light rail car, Phoenix officials, and count your booty-call blessings.

All Vine, All the Time

THE LATEST HOT FOOD-AND-BEVERAGE TREND IN THE VALLEY? Putting "vine" in the name of your new restaurant or bar. Seriously. The damn things are everywhere. So unless you know your Urban Vine from your Stone & Vine, consult this definitive guide.

Vine Tavern & Eatery

The "original" vine restaurant. Ignore the high-toned name, it's a dive. Decent wings, though.

Urban Vine

Fine-dining Joint on Seventh Street that launched the current mania for all things 'vine." Former Kai maestro Michael O'Dowd runs the place. He likes cooking things in bags. urbanvinephx.com

Oven + Vine

Now it gets tricky. Set in an old carriage house off Central Avenue, this nosh spot specializes in pizza and reasonably-priced wine. They have cornhole, too. They should have called it Oven + Cornhole.

ovenandvine.com

Stone & Vine

The latest entry, located off the Shea corridor in Scottsdale. Know it by the massive Sophia Loren mural near the bar. Very distinctive. The name, not so much.

stoneandvine.com

HOT MIC

be contacting citizens who have interactions with police officers who are wearing cameras and we will be asking them about that interaction. 99

 ASU professor Michael White to KJZZ 91.5 news radio on April 22.
 White is leading a study at ASU to evaluate the efficacy and implications of body cameras on police.

NIL AVENUE?

MESA OFFICIALS HAVE BURNED many a brain cell over the years trying to "sexy up" the city's signature thoroughfare, Main Street. The latest gambit: Harken back to Mesa's mid-century heyday as an interstate conduit, when four coast-to-coast highways merged through Main Street. City transportation workers recently installed vintage signs honoring the bygone highways along the street. Brewpubs would be better, but it's a start.

