## New venues populate our Heritage District

**By Marc Barlow** 

SPECIAL FOR THE REPUIBLIC

Gilbert's Heritage District continues to grow and evolve with the addition of many new venues.

The Water Tower Park, on Page Avenue across from the Hale Centre Theatre, was completed in 2009. The new Western Powerline Trail Park, just north of Oregano's Pizza Bistro, opened last summer. Both parks are a great place to visit.

In addition to the new parks, several new businesses also have entered the downtown:

» Tees & More specializes in custom embroidered polos, shirts, jackets and hats. Their showroom is at 313 N. Gilbert Road. The company has been in business for 17 years and moved into the Heritage District in late 2008. Customers can visit the company Web site at www.

tees-and-more.com.

» Bergie's Coffee Roast House opened in January 2009. The company offers fine roasted coffees, smoothies and baked goods that can be enjoyed inside or on the patio. Employees roast their own coffee beans. Bergie's is at 309 N. Gilbert Road. It's open every day.

» Gallery 225 just opened in November and is the newest addition to the Heritage District. The building exterior and interior have been remodeled. Gallery 225 offers contemporary artisan crafts such as jewelry, glass, ceramics and wood. This establishment is at 225 N. Gilbert Road. Gallery 225 is open daily. The Web site is

www.gallery225az.com. » Old Town Antiques opened in August. The store features an interesting collection of antiques and contemporary home-decor items. This store is at 215 N. Gilbert Road.

» Funktional Fitness opened in late



Barlow

2008. This personal training studio offers training, nutrition orientation, power yoga and complete body assessment. Memberships aren't required. It is at 213 N. Gilbert Road, just north of the Heritage Court. Information:

www.funkfitness.com.

» 5th Estate Tattoo is on the street level floor of the Heritage Court in Suite 113. It opened for business recently. They specialize in unique tattoos. Appointments aren't necessary.

» Liberty Market opened in the latter part of 2008. This 1935 vintage grocery store was renovated into a restaurant offering market-style dining. The menu offers wood-fired pizza, salads, grilled sandwiches, scratch bakery items, full espresso bar, craft beer and wine. There is also a specialty food retail area. Breakfast, lunch and dinner served. Information: www.libertymarket.com.

Free parking is ample and is just east and west of Gilbert Road. The town continues to have an active interest in Heritage District redevelopment. More new

projects are coming online.

The council recently approved a revised development agreement for Heritage Marketplace, a mixed-use development that will be between 70,000-90,000 square feet when built out. A four-story parking structure will be adjacent to the project and will be north of Oregano's.

Good things are happening in the Heritage District. Stop by and check it out. It will be a great start to the new year!

Marc Barlow is the new chairman of the Gilbert Redevelopment Commission.



Good things are happening in the Heritage District. Stop by and check it out. It will be a great start to the new year!"

New chairman of the Gilbert Redevelopment Commission