## Want adventure? Consider a 'daycation' in Gilbert

## MY TURN

ummer is here, and with it comes longer days and a yearning for adventure. The perfect solution to summer's call for fun is a "daycation" in Gilbert's Heritage Dis-

trict.

» Make a stop at the Gilbert Historical Museum, where you can view a scale model of what downtown Gilbert used to be. Recognizing where Gilbert has been helps us appreciate how far we



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have come. From a train depot and the "Hav Capital of the World" to a vibrant and healthy community, Gilbert has become a premier place in the East Valley.

July 6 marks Gilbert's 90th birthday. The Heritage District is where Gilbert's story began, and a stop at the museum can take you back in time.



DAVID WALLACE/THE REPUBLIC

Kids can splash around at Water Tower Plaza in downtown Gilbert.

bert. A little farther north on Gilbert Road, it is impossible to not notice the energy and atmosphere that emits from a group of dedicated business owners and loval customers.

» Take in a show at Hale Centre Theat-» Take a stroll through downtown Gil-re, stop at one of our unique and popular

restaurants, visit the shops and galleries and find a place to rest at one of our parks, complete with soothing water features.

» Kids and adventurous adults are drawn to Water Tower Plaza, where they can rush through spurts of blue-lit water underneath the historic water tower.

» Walk, run or bike downtown via the Western Powerline Trail conveniently located on the north edge of the Heritage District.

» The new "comfort station" is now open next to our park and ride. As a mom of three, this is a necessary addition. Like the rest of downtown, there was great attention to detail, and the facility was designed with a '50s theme.

No direction is needed to find its location. Simply look for the large neon sign popping out of the trees. It simply says,

» The residential areas of downtown Gilbert have had a functional face-lift with the addition and repair of sidewalks

creating a great walkable neighborhood. This project also pays tribute to our history with signs recalling historic neighborhood names.

» Downtown Gilbert is full of character and charm and is surely worth the trip. If you find joy in photography, find unique backgrounds and detail that will spark the creative genius in your work.

The business owners and merchants downtown take great pride in the history of Gilbert and put effort into making the area a special place to create memories.

If a "daycation" is in your future with someone special, a group of friends or with your children, take the time to get to know downtown Gilbert.

Get to know the business owners and their employees who love what downtown Gilbert represents to the community. Downtown has become quite a destination, so "GO" downtown Gilbert!

Jenn Daniels is a Gilbert Town Council member.