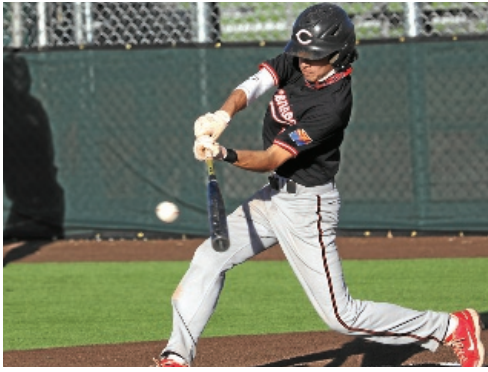


Area closure

Peaks Crag temporarily off-limits to protect peregrine falcons LOCAL, A3

NAU Athletics

Mike Marlow honored as AD of the year in the FCS SPORTS, B1



Swinging into spring

Despite challenges, CHS baseball starts season in right direction SPORTS, B1



MOSTLY SUNNY, COOL 50 • 22 FORECAST, A2 | **THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022** | azdailysun.com

Lake Powell hits historic low

FELICIA FONSECA AND SAM METZ Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — A massive reservoir known as a boating mecca dipped below a critical threshold on Tuesday, raising new concerns about a source of power that millions of people in the U.S. West rely on for electricity.

Lake Powell's fall to below 3,525 feet puts it at its lowest level since

the lake filled after the federal government dammed the Colorado River at Glen Canyon more than a half century ago — a record marking yet another sobering realization of the impacts of climate change and megadrought.

It comes as hotter temperatures and less precipitation leave a smaller amount flowing through the over-tapped Colorado River.

Though water scarcity is hardly new in the region, hydropower concerns at Glen Canyon Dam in Arizona reflect that a future western states assumed was years away is approaching — and fast.

"We clearly weren't sufficiently prepared for the need to move this quickly," said John Fleck, director of the University of New Mexico's Water Resources Program.

Federal officials are confident water levels will rise in the coming months once snow melts in the Rockies. But they warn that more may need to be done to ensure Glen Canyon Dam can keep producing hydropower in the years ahead.

"Spring runoff will resolve the deficit in the short term," said Wayne Pullan, regional director

for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which manages water and power in more than a dozen states. "However, our work is not done."

Though both Lake Powell and its downstream counterpart, Lake Mead, are dropping faster than expected, much of the region's focus has been on how to deal

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BREE BURKITT, ARIZONA DAILY SUN

The Barnes & Noble on Route 66 and Milton Road officially closed in March after the landlord opted not to renew the chain bookstore's lease. A third Goodwill location is expected to move in later this year.

Closing of a chapter for Barnes & Noble

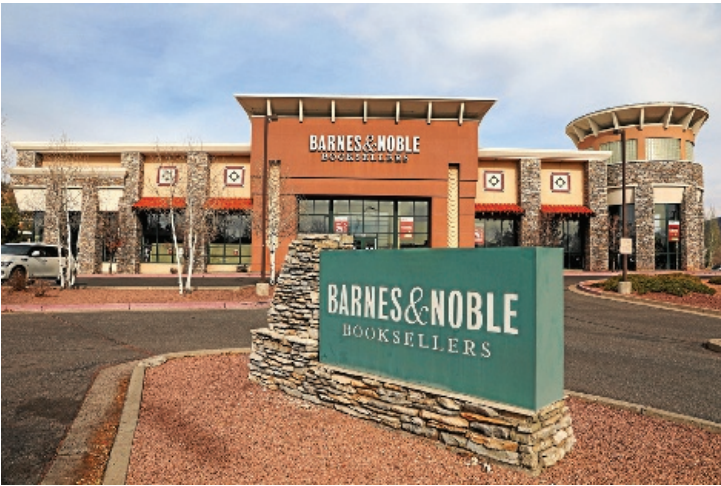
Bookstore officially out as Goodwill prepares for move-in

BREE BURKITT Sun Staff Reporter

Barnes & Noble is officially out.

The Route 66 and Milton Road bookstore closed earlier this month after the landlord opted not to renew the lease, making way for a new Goodwill location to move in later this year.

The chain bookstore was completely empty Wednesday, along with the parking lot, after months of sales as their closing date loomed. The front door was tied with yellow caution tape and multiple signs taped to the windows reminded hopeful patrons that they're closed — permanently.



JAKE BACON, ARIZONA DAILY SUN

The Barnes & Noble on Milton Road is shown in this November 2021 file photo. The bookstore, which announced it's officially closing, is now set to become a Goodwill location.

"We have truly enjoyed serving our customers in Flagstaff for the past 23 years and would have loved to continue for many more," a sign announcing the closure said.

Please see BOOKSTORE, Page A6

Battles and talks reach new marks

Russia, Ukraine project negotiating optimism as onslaught rages

ANDREA ROSA Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian forces destroyed a theater in Mariupol where hundreds of people were sheltering Wednesday and rained fire on other cities, Ukrainian authorities said, even as the two sides projected optimism over efforts to negotiate an end to the fighting.

The airstrike ripped apart the center of the once-elegant building, where hundreds of civilians had been living since their homes had been destroyed in the fighting, Ukraine's foreign ministry said in a statement.

Many people were buried in the rubble, officials said, though there was no immediate word on how many had been killed or injured. Satellite imagery from Monday showed the word

"children" written in large white letters in Russian in front of and behind the building, the Maxar space technology company said.

"Another horrendous war crime in Mariupol," Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said on Twitter, calling the bombing a "massive Russian attack."

The Russian defense ministry denied bombing the theater or anywhere else in Mariupol on Wednesday.

In Kyiv, residents huddled in homes and shelters amid a citywide curfew that runs until Thursday morning, as Russian troops shelled areas in and around the city, including a residential neighborhood 1 1/2 miles from the presidential palace. A 12-story apartment building in central Kyiv erupted in flames after being hit by shrapnel.

And 10 people were killed while standing in line for bread in the northern city of Chernihiv,

Please see TALKS, Page A6

City launches bond survey

DAILY SUN STAFF

The City of Flagstaff is conducting a Community Bond Survey to gather feedback from Flagstaff residents on which potential bond packages are most important to them for the 2022 election. The survey will be available online from March 17 through March 31. If members of the public need help accessing the internet to complete the online survey, they can visit the Flagstaff City-Coconino County Public Library Downtown location (300 West Aspen Ave.) or East Flagstaff Community Library (3000 N 4th Street, Ste 5). Paper copies are available at City

Hall and both libraries. The survey is available at <https://s.alchemer.com/s3/FlagstaffBondSurvey>

The issuing of bonds is a common investment tool used by many local governments. Bond monies may be used to pay for things like infrastructure improvements or to fund community priorities. In this survey, citizens can expect to answer questions about the public infrastructure bond projects, which includes wastewater and stormwater projects, public safety equipment such as fire engines,

Please see SURVEY, Page A6



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