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Phoenix news briefs

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Author will appear at Phoenix College

PHOENIX - Spend an evening with best-selling author Victor Villaseñor from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday at the Phoenix College Bulpitt Auditorium.

The event includes a book signing, a presentation from the author and performances by Mariachi Viva.

An evening raffle will feature quilts from Mexico with proceeds going to one of the college's mentoring programs.

Villaseñor, who wrote the books *Rain of Gold* and *Macho!*, was born and raised in California.

The cost is \$25 and includes a signed book. For more information, call (602) 344-5989.

Raceway will host NASCAR racing team

PHOENIX - Phoenix International Raceway is hosting the Alta Dena Dairy Racing team Thursday through Saturday for a weekend of NASCAR night races.

Eric Hardin, a NASCAR grand national west series driver, will race on Thursday.

Practice lasts from 9 to 11 a.m., qualifying begins at 3 p.m., and the race begins at 8:15 p.m.

More information: www.phoenixinttraceway.com and www.altadenadairy.com.

University open house offers incentives

PHOENIX - Grand Canyon University is hosting a free open house for prospective students 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Attendees will be able to meet the facility, tour the campus and participate in games. Prizes include a new laptop computer, Nintendo Wii and Razor scooter.

The university is located at 3300 W. Camelback Road.

To RSVP, call (602) 639-6679 or visit www.gcu.edu/discover no later than Wednesday.

Workshop encourages Latina mentoring

PHOENIX - Luminarias, a free workshop that encourages Latinas to mentor one another, will take place 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Wells Fargo Conference Center.

Participants will use a series of activities to boost leadership skills and personal growth.

The conference center is located at 100 W. Washington St. For more information, call (602) 248-8101, Ext. 686.