



February 10 - 23, 2018 □ Vol 29, No 3

TEMPE & WEST CHANDLER

# WRANGLER NEWS

THE PLACE WE CALL HOME

## Message to Tempe's homeless: You count! Volunteers canvass for the forgotten

Story & photo by Susie Steckner

As the sun rose over Tempe on a recent Tuesday, Kevin Brown took to the streets with a singular mission: help count the number of homeless men and women who had spent the night outside. The temperature registered a brisk 46 degrees and Brown bundled up in a jacket and black ski hat, prepared for several hours that would be spent ducking under

bridges, peering into makeshift homes and walking through thick brush to find people not always seen.

It was his second year taking part in the Point in Time Homeless Count, a Valleywide

— HOMELESS, Page 16

## McClintock bike lane work to begin (again) on Feb. 15

Story by Chelsea Flood  
Online video by Kody Acevedo

*Editor's note: In our ongoing efforts to widen the accessibility of Wrangler News coverage, we're now providing online videos in addition to what appears on our printed pages. To view our latest postings, visit [wranglernews.com](http://wranglernews.com) and our Facebook page.*

The familiar adage "if you don't succeed, try and try again" can be applied to Tempe's ongoing mission to transform the city into a bike-friendly community while maintaining the continuous flow of traffic.

Major changes, no matter what, tend to invite a few bumps and bruises along the way.

In response to Tempe's initial bike-lane venture, the city has absorbed the sometimes loud voices in the community in order to proactively respond with improvements.

So what's the lingering problem? Finding the right balance of keeping both drivers and cyclists happy, which has not been an easy feat thus far.

The updated solution: revive a driving lane.

Tempe is moving forward with plans to restore a third southbound traffic lane while maintaining bicycle lanes along a three-mile stretch of McClintock Drive.

Initial work to restripe the roadway between Del

— MCCLINTOCK, Page 7



Kevin Brown, other volunteers, talk with a 25-year-old homeless man living in the brush under Loop 202.

## Teen's success story debunks homeschool myth

By Chelsea Flood

Noah Kutz starts his day just like any other, with the helping of a delicious breakfast to motivate him up and out of bed and fresh duds to conquer the day.

His mom starts the car and they cruise in the direction of Noah's school.

The next step is where things start to differ from the rest.

Noah's mom is dropping him off at a co-op home school.

This is the moment in the story when most people draw their own conclusions as to Noah's educational experience.

But wait a minute: Fast forward to a successful and active ASU student, Naval ROTC member and personable—in fact, downright magnetic—employee of Tempe's popular Great Harvest Bakery. If you have preconceived ideas about home-schooled kids, Noah has his own steadfast opinions on the matter.

"One thing I should make clear is that homeschooling, as a whole, is not the same as how most people see it," Noah said.

I didn't wake up every morning and sit down at the table and eat breakfast while my mom taught me every subject in school, and then spend the rest of my day whittling sticks and making paper airplanes with my siblings. It seems that this is the general idea that many people

— HOMESCHOOL, Page 26



Kevin Jones navigates what he calls his favorite bikeway.

— Wrangler News photo by Kody Acevedo

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# Unity Walk helps strengthen Tempe's push for diversity

By Brendon Kleen

At Tempe's Regional Unity Walk and Diversity Festival, Vivian Nwoha saw the world open up. Looking toward the sun setting over Tempe Town Lake, surrounded by swaths of people from seven valley cities wearing different colored shirts to represent their homes, Nwoha was moved.

The magnitude of a lively event with such an earnest purpose was not lost on her.

The Regional Unity Walk brings together people from across Arizona to promote understanding in the face of the differences that inherently exist between different communities. Today, it is organized by the governments of the seven cities involved, but began more quietly in 1998, when the people of Tempe started walking for unity.

"The walk shows that we can come together for a common purpose," Nwoha, a 46-year-old Scottsdale resident, said. "Though we don't think alike, we don't look alike, we may not marry the same types of people, it's important to come together."

Nwoha moved from Cincinnati in early 2017, and Saturday's walk was her first. She was inspired by the potential of a community that can bring people together from across such a large city for a common



People from across the state came together for the 20th annual Unity Walk held at Tempe Beach Park. The yearly event celebrates diversity and calls attention to the need to find common ground and build community.

— Photo by Brandon Kleen

purpose.

"The best thing about [the walk] is it gives a venue for people to come together," said Carl Hermanns, a member of the Tempe Human Relations Commission and an organizer for the event. "It is a symbol for other people to see. A statement of unity and what we believe as a community."

Hermanns' commission works as a liaison between the community and the local government to find solutions for violations of human rights in Tempe. The commission was responsible for

the 'Tempe Welcomes All' initiative that in 2017 culminated with the posting of signs throughout the city and its government buildings that carry the slogan. The signs greeted walkers as they entered the city.

On the 20th anniversary of the Unity Walk, Tempe Beach Park was filled with families from each of the different cities, distinguished by their shirt color but together for the night to dance, eat and

— DIVERSITY, Page 6

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## Sunset library to host forum on city's past

Though Chandler is now a bustling city where businesses thrive and nearly a quarter of a million people live, in the not-so-distant past it was largely an agricultural community.

A free presentation on Saturday, Feb. 17 at West Chandler's Sunset Library, 4930 W. Ray Road, will explore how the city originated and grew. The event is part of the Our Stories Speaker Series presented by the Chandler Museum, Chandler Public Library and Friends of the Chandler Public Library.

"So much of Arizona's history comes from the land," says Chandler Museum Administrator Jody Crago.

"The Seeds that Grew Chandler and the East Valley" will examine how the City of Chandler's roots grew from the seeds of the Michigan-based Ferry Seed Company's quest to cultivate drought-resistant alfalfa in Arizona. In 1887, Dr. Alexander John (A.J.) Chandler arrived in Arizona with the purpose of acquiring land for the company to grow these seeds.

This presentation by the Chandler Museum's Curator of Collections, Nate Meyer, will be held in conjunction with the Sunset Library's annual Spring Seed Swap.

## Hiking-trail veteran due at arts venue

As weather heats up and the warmer days of spring remind residents of West Chandler that they live in the desert, the Chandler Center for the Arts Gallery in Downtown Chandler presents Martin Gatrost: Pacific Crest Trail now through Feb. 23, 2018.

Photographer, avid hiker and nature lover Martin Gatrost takes viewers on his journey on the Pacific Crest Trail, which spans 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon and Washington. Visitors to the exhibition will relive his adventure through photographs of the three states, seven national parks and 28 national forests he traversed.

"The landscapes in Martin's exhibition are ones people may not often get the chance to see," says Peter Bugg, visual arts coordinator at the gallery. "There is a limited number of Pacific Crest Trail passes granted to hikers each year.

It's quite a feat to not just hike the trail, but also stop and take stunning photographs of the adventure along the way."

Chandler Center for the Arts Gallery is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.

Information: [chandlercenter.org](http://chandlercenter.org).

After the exhibition concludes at the Center for the Arts Gallery, it will be on display at the City's Environmental Education Center from March 2 through April 1.

Gatrost will give another talk about his Pacific Crest Trail experience at the EEC from 10-11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 10.

EEC is at Veterans Oasis Park, 4050 E. Chandler Heights Road.



It was all smiles at Rover Elementary as parents and families toured the campus and perused the colorful displays of student projects. — Photo by Gabrielle Olson

## Teachers stay in background as kids take a deserved bow

By Gabrielle Olson

The school parking lot had completely filled as the sun went down at Rover Elementary.

Parents and children were walking in, welcome banners were posted on the wall, and classroom doors were wide open awaiting visitors.

So far, this sounds like a good old-fashioned Open House Night, right?

Actually, it was an Exhibition Night where Rover students from kindergarten through fifth-grade had prepared to present their unique and thought-provoking projects to their community.

Rover Elementary hosted its second annual, school-wide Project Based Learning Showcase of Learning Night to exhibit their students' initiatives in researching and creating projects.

Differing from a traditional open house model, the event let teachers take a back seat while students were actively at the center and ready to teach their audience something new.

Many students chose projects that offer solutions to some of the world's most pressing issues, such as environmental protection and energy security.

From original inventions to dioramas, projects ranged from group to individual work in each of Rover's classrooms.

Second-grade Teacher Marisol Canchola structured her classroom

project on addressing water conservation, and students chose their own unique way of demonstrating their ideas.

Second-grader Izekial Franco addressed his solution through a spinning "water tip" wheel. He asked event attendees to spin the wheel to learn a new fact on how to conserve water at home.

"If you didn't finish your glass of water, just give it to your plants," Franco said after giving the wheel a spin. "Most people don't think of that, but it really does help."

"Our students shine in different ways, and our PBL project gave them the opportunity to create a project that is meaningful to them," said Canchola. "I'm so proud of our school for hosting an event that invites our entire community to support and appreciate our students' ideas and hard work."

Fourth-Graders Kylie Clinton and Cherish de Silva presented their invention of a television powered completely through wind energy.

Their diorama of a modern day living room was made complete with a miniature fan blowing two colorful pinwheels, depicting wind turbines that power their big screen T.V.

"We came up with this idea because we wanted to help the environment by using more renewable energy," said Clinton.

"Plus, we really love to watch T.V.!"

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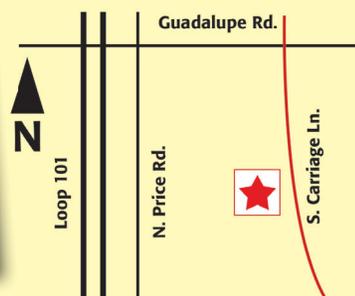
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Trains like this one were once a far more common sight in Chandler. Lovers of history will have an opportunity to climb aboard historic railcars and learn about the glory days of the railroad system.

— Photo courtesy Chandler Railway Museum

## How to relive some of railroading's 'Glory Days' — all fun, no charge

Train lovers, history buffs and people of all ages will have the opportunity to climb aboard and explore a piece of America's railway history from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 24., during Arizona Railway Day in Chandler.

The free public event is hosted each year by the volunteers of the Arizona Railway Museum, located at 330 E. Ryan Road in the southwest corner of Chandler's Tumbleweed Park.

Arizona Railway Day will include displays of artifacts and memorabilia, and tours of vintage railcars, including several pieces of railroad equipment acquired in the past year.

Visitors will learn about the importance of railroads from museum volunteers who will explain the type of work that is required to restore and refurbish these railcars to keep them "alive" as a testament to the glory days of rail passenger travel.

Several cars feature interior displays of the typical accommodations for the travelling public, including seating, sleeping arrangements, dining facilities, complete with custom-made railroad dining car china.

The museum's diesel locomotive will be open, affording visitors the opportunity to blow the horn, and

Chandler's historic #2562 steam locomotive also will be on display.

Outdoor displays include a wide variety of railroad signs, signals and mining equipment.

The display building houses many examples of smaller railroad artifacts, a gift shop and restrooms.

The museum's curator will be holding a large sale of railroad books, magazines and timetables at very affordable prices.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

The museum's standard entrance fee is waived for Arizona Railway Day, however donations from the public and local businesses are appreciated.

Visitors should access the event on Ryan Road from Arizona Avenue or McQueen Road.

Parking is free.

Although the display building and restrooms are ADA Compliant, due to the historic nature of the equipment, access to the railroad cars does not meet ADA requirements.

Arizona Railway Museum is normally open from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, September through May. It is closed during the summer. Information: [azrymuseum.org](http://azrymuseum.org) or 480-821-1108.

## Diversity

From Page 3

come together to celebrate their unique perspectives. The notes of a five-piece band filled the air until the walk began.

Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell, who has been involved with the walk since its inception early in his career as member of the City Council, spoke to begin the walk.

"Our region has been ahead of the curve when it comes to working together to be inclusive and understanding one another in all aspects of life," he said.

He was followed by city councilmembers from around the valley, who took turns at the podium to express what diversity means to their city and the larger Phoenix community.

Chandler Councilman Kevin Hartke, who is also a Chandler mayoral candidate this year, called Chandler the most diverse city of those represented at the event. He said striving for diversity means "standing for people's basic rights and for people's pursuit of happiness and prosperity."

"The more diverse we are, the more viewpoints and expertise we bring to our community," Hartke said.

# McClintock

From Page 1

Rio and Oxford drives will occur in 1-mile segments Feb. 15 to 23.

“We have received both positive and negative feedback from the McClintock bike lane project. It definitely hasn’t been without controversy,” Julian Desang, city of Tempe Traffic Engineer said.

“We identified the evening peak-hour rush is too congested and is a problem we had to fix. The direction we got from the city council is to preserve the bike lane but also improve traffic conditions.”

Kevin Jones, an avid cyclist and Tempe resident, is quite familiar with the bike-lane changes because McClintock Drive is his usual travel route.

“I actively chose McClintock because of the bike lane and I use it every single day,” Jones said.

Jones was pleasantly surprised when he heard the news that the city will be implementing change in favor of cyclists.

“I’ve always thought that they needed a bike lane,” Jones said.

“But, when they finally put it in, they went a little overboard. The bike lane is oversized.”

The initial work will consist of removing the current striping and restriping to a new configuration. The process will not include moving curbs or landscaping in this section of the corridor, according to a city-issued press release.

Once finished, McClintock will have bike lanes on each side: two northbound travel lanes and three southbound lanes, with a turn lane between them.

“Our first phase will be to obliterate the existing striping, restripe to add the additional driving lane, and micro-sealing the old lines to ensure the safety of drivers,” Desang said.

The original estimate for the project was \$529,000. Actual cost is \$296,000, according to TaiAnna Yee, one of Tempe Transportation's public information officers.

Phase two of the project poses a more challenging fix and will require extensive construction between Southern and Apache due to the narrow nature of the roadway, according to Desang.

Construction will include moving curbs and reworking the landscape. Although the second step is still in the preliminary design phase, Desang said the estimated completion time will be

between nine to 12 months.

The next phase is estimated to cost \$3 million, Yee says.

Despite cycling being Jones’ main mode of transportation, he supports the city’s decision to add a third lane southbound to ease the flow of traffic.

A couple of weeks ago, Jones was hit by a vehicle that quickly drove off, pulling out of one of the business centers at Southern and McClintock.

“If this area was a major artery with a ton of bikers, it’d be a different story,” Jones said.

“But the change has created a dangerous situation with bottle-nosed traffic.”

Just as Desang mentioned earlier, the public is both in support and against the initial McClintock bike lane change.

Moving forward, some community members still have reservations about the future of this ongoing traffic project.

Peggy McClain, a Tempe resident, leans toward the skeptical side.

“As far as adding the lane back, it remains to be seen how much this will help,” McClain said.

“There is quite a bit of northbound traffic heading to ASU and Scottsdale in the mornings, and it appears this has not been addressed.

“Council says traffic has declined on McClintock. Of course, who wants to use it when it is backed up?”

McClain added:

“It’s funny; I drive on McClintock a minimum of four times a day, often more, since I’m in outside sales. Never once have I seen any of our council members on their bikes on their beloved McClintock bike lanes.”

During the striping portion of the project, traffic will be restricted to one northbound and one southbound lane from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Tempe City Council approved the changes at a Sept. 7 issue-review session.

Jones is optimistic about Tempe’s plan, hoping to see the cycling-friendly initiatives make their way to other parts of the city.

“I hope the additional traffic lane will ease some of the congestion, making things less dangerous,” he said.

“The next road to fix should be Southern, fingers crossed.”

*For more information about McClintock Drive, call 480-350-4311 or visit [www.tempe.gov/mcclintockdrive](http://www.tempe.gov/mcclintockdrive).*



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Commentary . . . By Don Kirkland

# Where is my tough first editor when we need him?

In my early days of newspapering, roughly around the start of the 1960s, there literally were hundreds of large, mid-sized and small dailies scattered around the L.A. area that would have been a worthy starting point for any aspiring journalist.

I was particularly lucky, being recruited while I was still in college by the great (and now, sadly, late) Lyn Nofziger, who was at the time managing editor of the Burbank Daily Review.

Lyn was not only the toughest newsman I would ever work under but perhaps the best editor a young reporter could possibly have hoped for.

Nofziger, who went on to serve two terms as communications director for then-Gov. Ronald Reagan and later as a respected strategist

and PR man for Nixon and the Republican National Committee, gets much of the credit for the fact that I remain eternally optimistic about the future of newspapering and continue to do my (actually, our) little part to keep it alive.

If you follow the news as I do, or if you do nothing more than keep your eyes open as you walk through your neighborhood, it comes as no surprise that optimism isn't easy to come by these days.

Even in the environs of L.A.'s sprawling megalopolis, where newspapers not only reported the day's events but whose publishers exerted a powerful grip on virtually every aspect of our lives, fewer and fewer of those proliferate as they once did.

That, of course, includes the venerable Los Angeles Times, part of the massive Times-Mirror juggernaut, where I also spent time as a reporter. It was, we all knew



Nofziger during his Reagan tenure

in those days, a journalist's premier job, partially because of the prestige factor, partially due to the generous salaries that always exceeded those offered at union shops under the aegis of The Newspaper Guild. Not to mention knowing that we were part of a highly dedicated news staff with perhaps the highest morale of any newspaper in the state.

That was then. In recent

months The Times has seemingly unraveled in many ways: circulation, influence, management and morale, followed most recently by unionization of the newsroom.

Is these turns of fortune, then, the newest recipe for a major newspaper's decline? Whether the same path to demise can occur elsewhere—most notably in our own community—is no more predictable here than anywhere else.

While we don't see a similar scenario unfolding in the Phoenix metro area, it is obvious that newspaper publishing today is altogether different than it was in my early days. I worry that if we were to see a diminishing role of our oldest and best known purveyor of news, a void of colossal proportion would be left in our ability to know what is going on around us.

I understand, of course, having been here 40 or so

years, that not everyone likes how some of our local media outlets present the news.

I'm sure those sentiments were alive and festering even during the 1960s and thereafter, in my time as an upstart reporter. But we cannot survive as a free society without a skilled body of journalists who, despite their sometimes human frailties, constitute the only way we have to be informed about the vital issues of our day.

The small staffs inherent in publications like ours can't do it. Neither can the slew of bloggers, Tweeters or those with no motive other than to sow dissent.

*Moral to this column:*

If you're not subscribing to a major daily newspaper—do I have to offer a suggestion?—do it now.

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## 'All professionals' gather to show off their artistry Passionate about their work . . . and willing to share

By M.V. Moorhead

**W**ell, football season is officially over. And what do Americans turn to for weekend fulfillment in the void that follows the Super Bowl?

Why not ceramics?

On Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 24 and 25, ASU Art Museum sponsors the 17th annual self-guided Ceramic Research Center Studio Tour, a Valley-wide exhibition and demonstration by more than 40 of the area's most distinguished clay artists.

Instead of the potters bringing their work to a single gallery, art hounds come to them. It's free to attend, and one stop on the tour is right here in our neighborhood: the home studio of Sandy Blain, at 491 W. Courtney Lane in Tempe.

"Often people will go to half the studios on one day and half on the other," says Blain, who will be working with several of her colleagues,

including Michael Ceschiat, Esmeralda DeLaney, Sandra Luehrsen and Jane Kelsey-Mapel, all of whom will be creating new work as well as showing how it's done.

"We all do 40-minute demonstrations each day," she says. "We're all professionals, teaching at community colleges and so forth. I'm at Mesa Arts Center on Mondays. I'm teaching two handbuilding classes, and they're very full."

Handbuilding, she explains, "means you don't use a potter's wheel to build the form. It's my preferred method. I'm also more of a functional, decorative potter," meaning that she creates items like cups and vases. "Some of the others are more into sculpture."

Art and art education in general, and ceramics in particular, have been lifelong passions for Blain.

"I loved my art classes in elementary and high school," says the Chicago native, who went on to get her

— CERAMICS, Page 16



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# Sports . . .

## Soccer heats up

The state playoff races are heating up for some of the area high school teams, including those from both Tempe and McClintock high schools who have an opportunity to go far in the championship playoffs.

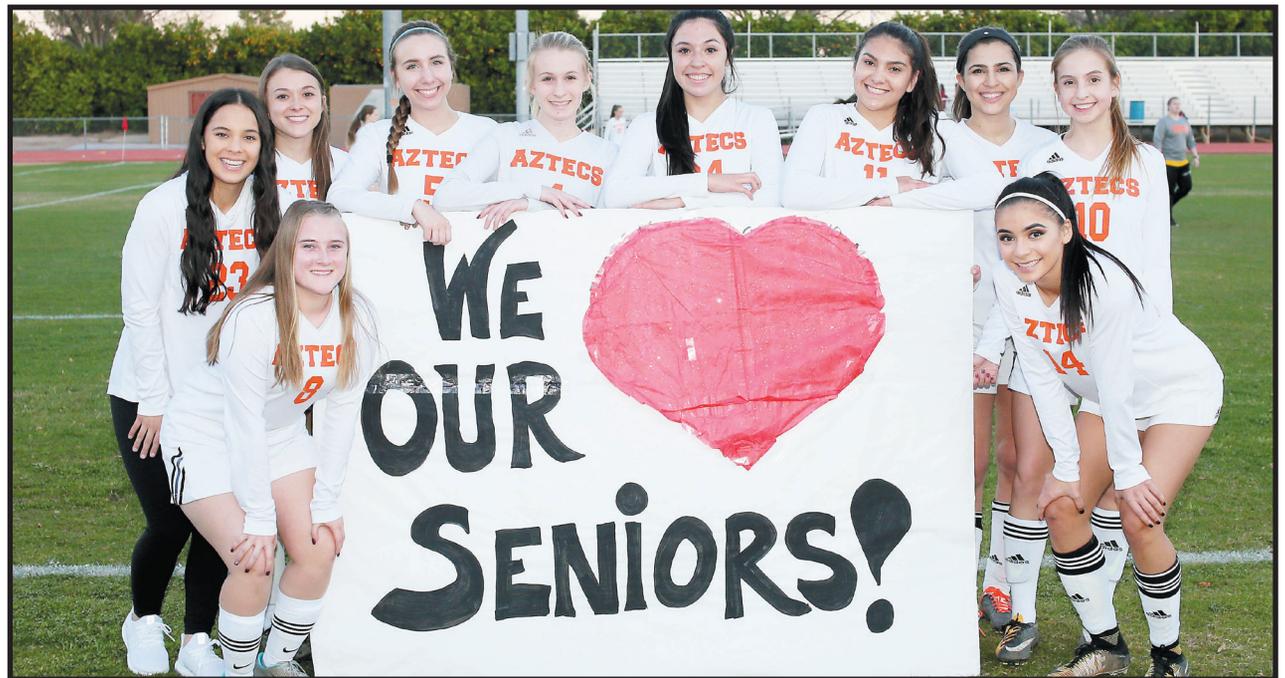
Corona's boys soccer team is currently still in the hunt.

### Tempe Boys Soccer

Tempe's boys soccer team entered the 4A state championship playoffs as the No. 1 seed after going undefeated with a 12-0 record. The Buffaloes defeated No. 16 Shadow Mountain 7-0 in the first round Jan. 31 and No. 8 Washington 3-1 on Feb. 3 in the quarterfinals.

Senior **Andres Hernandez** scored three of the Buffaloes seven goals against Shadow Mountain and is credited with six points. The other four goals were spread out with each of the following players: seniors **Jonathan Dominguez** and juniors **Angel Valadez, Mariano Leon** and **Rigo Zamundio**.

In the Buffaloes 3-1 win against Washington, Hernandez scored two goals and Zamundio one.



Corona's girls soccer team honored its senior players at the last home game on Jan. 19. Team includes Lauren Hollar, next to sign on left; Olivia Nguyen, Skylar Byrnes, Natalie Swanstrom, Jenessa Lewis, Marissa Simental, Mallory Gornall, Jordan Alperin, Juliana Ley and Destiny Romero is next to sign on right.  
— Photo courtesy Kris Cartwright

After 14 games, Zamundio leads the team in goals and points with 16 goals or 1.6 goals a game with 37 points and five assists.

Hernandez was second with 11 goals or one goal a game, 29 points and seven assists. Other goal leaders include seniors **Hector Govea** with nine goals in seven games and **Bravo Johnny** with six goals in

only four games. The No. 8 Arizona ranked Buffaloes only have two potential matches left in their 4A state championship playoff run.

They are scheduled to play No. 5 Gila Ridge who defeated No. 4 Douglas in the quarterfinals 2-1 on Feb. 7 at Williams Field High School at 5 p.m.

— Continued on facing page



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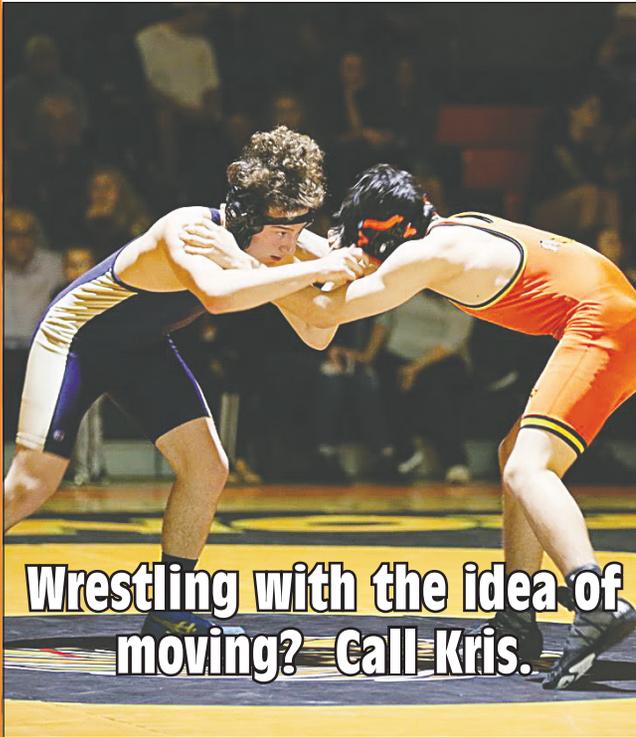


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If the Buffaloes defeat Gila Ridge, they will play in the finals Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. at Williams Field High School. This match will also be broadcast live on NFHS Network.

## Corona Boys Soccer

Corona's boys soccer team was scheduled to play the No. 1 seed Brophy in the semifinals on Feb. 7 after initially entering the 6A State Championship Tournament as the No. 13 seed.

The Aztecs, with a 6-4-2 regular season record, entering the post season not ranked as one of the top eight 6A teams, needed to defeat No. 20 Copper Canyon on Jan. 25 in the 6A Conference Play-In Tournament in order to move up to the state championship playoffs.

Getting to the semi-finals was not easy for the Aztecs. In the first round, Corona defeated No. 4 Rincon University in overtime 3-2 on Jan. 31. That win moved the Aztecs into the quarterfinals against No. 5 Pinnacle on Feb. 3.

The Aztecs played Pinnacle to a 2-2 tie that they eventually won 5-2 in penalty kicks leading to a match-up against Brophy at Campo Verde High School on Feb. 7 at 5 p.m. This matchup will be aired on the NFSH Network.

## Corona Girls Soccer

Corona was ranked No. 21 at the end of the regular season with a 4-7-1 record which required the Aztecs to play in the 6A Conference Play-In Tournament against No. 12 Tucson on Jan 25 at Palo Verde High Magnet School.

The Aztecs tied Tucson 1-1 but ended up winning 4-2 in penalty kicks to advance to the 6A State Championship Tournament. As the No. 15 seeded team, they played against Perry, the No. 2 seeded team, on Jan. 30.

Perry ended Corona's playoff hopes by defeating the Aztecs 3-0, but it did not diminish the season especially for the seniors who were honored at the last home match on Jan. 19 against Mountain Pointe.

Corona played the Pride into two overtime periods before the game was called a tie at 1-1.

Honored at this last home game were seniors **Skylar Brynes, Jenessa Lewis, Destiny Romero and Abby Robertson, Jordan Alperin, Natalie Swanstrom, Lauren Hollar, Juliana Lay, Mallory Gornall and Marissa Simental.**

Brynes played in all 21 soccer matches scoring six goals with nine assists and is leading her team with 21 points.

"Skylar Brynes is one of the toughest competitors I have ever coached," said long-time head coach **Matt Smith.** "She gave her heart and soul to the Aztec soccer program over the past four years."

Robertson was only able to play in 12 matches but scored six goals and 14 points while Romero played in 17 games scoring one goal and four points along with two assists.

"Abby Robinson is one of the all-time Aztec greats," said Smith. "Her injury really caused a big hole in our lineup. I will always remember her PK in the Tucson game."

"Destiny Romero is a gritty player who really blossomed as a senior," said Smith. "There was never a let down from Destiny. She was going to fight every game as hard as she could."

Lewis, playing defense in 20 matches, scored one goal and three points.

"Jenessa Lewis was a consistent player who was a favorite of her teammates because of her slightly sarcastic fun-loving personality," said Smith.

Swanstrom and Alperin played strikers for the Aztecs while Hollar, Lay, Gornall and Simental played midfielders between the back defenders and the strikers.

"Natalie Swanstrom is a hard-working player who played a fantastic game down in Tucson and helped us advance to the state tournament," said Smith.

"Jordan Alperin was one of those kids who showed up every day and gave her best effort, regardless of the individual rewards."

"Lauren Hollar is a positive player and person who always was an example of how to give of yourself for your team while Juliana Lay was always prepared to play wherever and whenever you wanted her to go," said Smith. "She demonstrated a great mentality for anyone playing a team sport."

"Marissa Simental, even though she only started playing soccer later in her high school career, was another one of those kids who really enjoyed being part of a team and had a positive influence on the rest of the group," said Smith.

"Mallory Gornall, who transferred to Corona from Seton, gave us a boost late in the season," said Smith. "I'm glad that she was able to play with us this year."

## Tempe Boys Basketball

Tempe's boys basketball team, before its last regular season game scheduled at home against Saguaro on Feb. 6, was the No. 16 ranked 4A team and no doubt will be playing in the 4A Conference Play-In Tournament scheduled for Feb. 9 at the higher seed.

The game will start at 6:30 p.m.

Scheduled to be honored at this last regular season home game on Feb. 6 were seniors **Detroit Campbell, Naseem Vigil, Abdul Vaughn, Saveon Carter and Elias Dorris.**

Campbell has played in all 24 games at the forward position shooting 38% of his shots behind the three-point line, pulling in 29 rebounds and dishing out 11 assists.

Vigil is the leading scorer on the team playing in 22 games amassing 436 points making 53 percent of his two-point attempts and 29 percent of his three-point attempts.

He grabbed 63 rebounds over the season and handed out 43 assists.

Vaughn, playing in only 16 games, scored 109 points and pulled down 77 rebounds with 13 assists while Carter scored an average of close to two points a game while averaging 1.2 rebounds and Dorris scored 71 points with 37 rebounds and 17 assists seeing minutes in 13 games.

The Buffaloes will be counting on Vigil and the next two leading scorers on the team, juniors **Jalen Gant and Kameron Spivey-Johnson,** to help the team win their play-in tournament game in order to move into the 4A state championships.

Gant, besides being the second leading scorer with 320 points, hitting 59 percent of his attempts, is the leading rebounder with 208 rebounds in 24 games. He also is credited with 38 assists.

# Top Corona soccer player packs his bags for 2-year stint in Japan league

**F**or Ryan Flood, an Aztec '17 graduate and top varsity soccer player, kicking a ball around on the field has always come easy.

Almost too easy.

His natural athletic ability, combined with his passion and determination from a young age to succeed in the sport, has led him to his current status: professional athlete.

The reality hasn't fully set in yet, Flood says.

It's not every day that a high school athlete goes pro.

But with an unmatched drive on the field and years of continuous training, his reality is no longer a far-off day dream.

Flood is less than a couple weeks shy of joining fellow soccer athletes on the field overseas in Niigata, Japan.

You heard right, Japan.

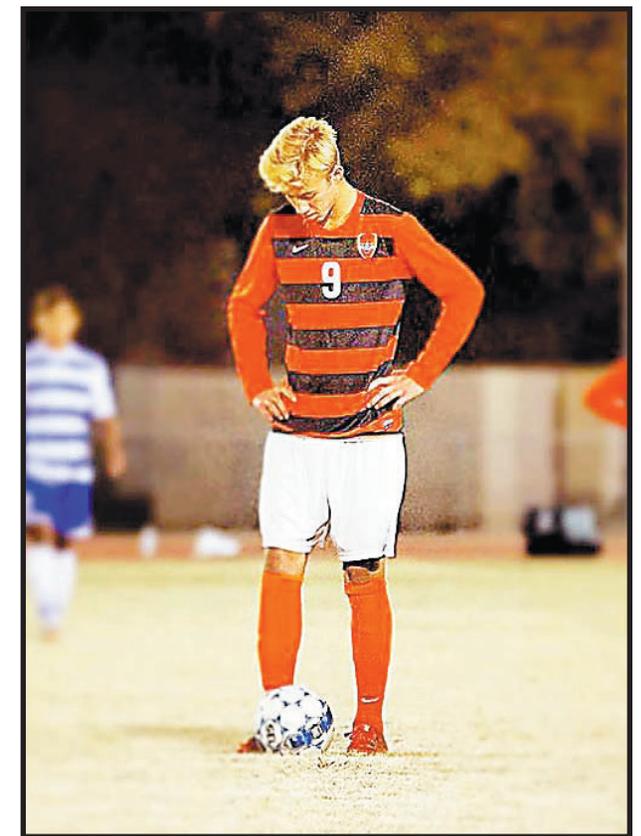
That's 5,838 miles away from home to be exact.

He will be playing for a second division team called Albirex, a team that he met the year prior during his travels to Japan for potential tryouts alongside his agent, Ima Toki.

The Albirex coaches, Toki and Flood have determined this will be a challenging yet worthwhile fit for all parties involved, Flood says.

With his bags all packed and ready to begin his

— SOCCER, Page 23



Corona grad and former varsity soccer player Ryan Flood will soon depart for a two-year stint playing professional soccer in Japan.

CHER JUSTIN BIEBER KATY PERRY ED SHEERAN SHAWN MENDES  
 MARIAH CAREY MICHAEL JACKSON PRINCE BELL BIV DEVOE 2PAC  
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# Briefly . . .

## Pollack Chabad Center's invites youth

West Chandler's Chabad Jewish community center will team up with local youth groups and the Aleph Art Room project to give Jews of all ages an opportunity to participate in a hands-on workshop to build their own Gragger. Graggers are a type of noisemaker often used during the observance of Purim.

Participants will receive necessary materials necessary and be given a chance to meet and play "Esther the Queen," as well as to enjoy some edible delicacies and receive other surprises. Parents accompany their children; all are welcome. While the program is free, RSVPs are recommended.

Esther Ades, who said she is looking forward to attending, said she sees the event as a way to help her children get to better know their faith's customs and traditions.

"I want my kids to grow up with pride in their Jewish heritage and a feeling of equality and self-confidence as an American. Chabad of the East Valley's Chanukah programs are arguably one of the most important developments ever to help my child's education. I wish they had this where I grew up."

The local event, presented by Pollack Chabad Center of the East Valley at 875 N. McClintock Drive in West Chandler, will be held at Basha Public Library, 5990 S. Val Vista Drive, starting at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Information: 480-855-4333 or info@chabadcenter.com

## Feb. 13 set for Chandler State of City

Chandler Mayor Jay Tibshraeny will deliver his annual State of the City address on Tuesday, Feb. 13, in the City Council Chambers, 88 E. Chicago St.

The event begins at 6 p.m. with a light reception in the Chambers' foyer, followed by the mayor's remarks at approximately 6:45 p.m.

The theme of the address will be Chandler's beginning, highlighting the city's strong foundation and successes throughout the years, eventually transforming itself from a small agricultural city to today's Innovation and Technology Hub of the Southwest.

Tibshraeny also will discuss the city's fiscal position, new capital projects, neighborhoods, public safety and more.

The event is free and open to the public. During the reception, a Waymo vehicle will be parked outside the Council Chambers for residents to inspect.

Free parking always is available in the public garage located at Washington Street, between Frye Road and Chicago Street.

No reservations are required.

## Tempe firefighter killed in shooting

A 21-year-old man has been arrested in the death of a Tempe fire captain, who police say was shot while riding in a golf cart in downtown Scottsdale last weekend.

Hezron Michri Parks faces second-degree murder charges in the death of 34-year-old Kyle Brayer, who Tempe Chief Greg Ruiz described as "an exceptional young man."

Parks' bond on the second-degree murder charge was set at \$300,00.

Brayer was said to have been riding in the back of a golf cart when a man driving a red coupe began driving behind the cart and bumping it. Brayer was shot in the head with a .40-caliber handgun after the approached the car's driver, who later was identified as Parks.

Brayer got off the cart and approached the Scion driver, later identified as Parks, Hoster said. On Sunday, co-workers issued a statement saying Brayer's death was a "horrible tragedy."

## MCC to end its longstanding football program

Mesa Community College will drop its football program, which has attracted hundreds of Tempe/Chandler players over its many-year history. Watch for an inside look at the decision in our next issue.

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Jennifer understands streets, water utilities, budget management and how to motivate employees to work as teams and has worked with numerous City Managers and City Councils. Jennifer capped off a 29 year career with the City of Tempe as Facilities Maintenance Manager, where she managed a \$7.5 million operating budget, up to \$5 million of construction projects each year and nearly 60 employees.

### Budget Should Be Priority #1

The current Council lists Budget as its fifth priority: It should be number one. The city needs to develop a robust Strategic Plan, rather than just a list of priorities with measurable outcomes. How Tempe looks in 10 years begins with our decisions today.

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# Vote Jennifer Adams for Tempe City Council

For more information visit [AdamsforTempe.com](http://AdamsforTempe.com)

# Homeless

From Page 1

homelessness during a set window of time. The count is vital for cities, as the totals help determine how much federal funding they receive to serve people who are homeless.

In Tempe's case, that funding helps drive an ambitious goal to end homelessness. Since 2016, Tempe has been engaged in an intensified effort to make measurable progress in ending what is a pervasive, complicated, national issue in a compassionate way.

Ending homelessness does not mean there will never be another homeless person in Tempe. It refers to a state known as "functional zero," meaning that the efficiency and availability of assistance services locally and regionally will be built up to enable future incidences of homelessness to be reduced, non-recurring and brief.

In this state of functional zero, the availability of services exceeds the need.

The Human Services Department, Tempe Police, Tempe Fire Medical Rescue, the Public Works Department and Tempe Municipal Court are coordinating the city effort.

They have researched the size, scope and scale of homelessness in Tempe, and they have devised and are executing measurable solutions. They work regionally as much as possible, because homelessness knows no borders.

The Tempe City Council has directed additional funding to the effort and is pursuing policy-related

solutions such as a Housing First approach to homelessness. Because the council also believes that all residents have a right to clean, safe parks, an important component of the effort has been park-cleanup measures, especially in the Papago Park region, where encampments continue to occur.

## Regional count is piece of puzzle

The Point in Time count on its latest mission, coordinated by the Maricopa Association of Governments, drew hundreds of volunteers who scoured their communities to create a snapshot of the homeless population.

Tempe recruited 73 volunteers to walk the streets. The city worked to get donations of food and toiletries, partnering with Tempe Community Action Agency for some items. The city also used grant money from the Gila River Indian Community to purchase bus passes that could be handed out. Behind-the-scenes volunteers sewed backpacks to hold snacks and informational cards about community services.

Volunteers on the street spent roughly five hours assessing and counting as many people as they could. Last year, volunteers counted 202 homeless people. Preliminary results from this year show approximately 250 people counted.

## Giving back to the community

On Tuesday, Brown and three other volunteers on Team #2 set out about 7:30 a.m. in search of encampments near Loop 202 and McClintock Drive.

The volunteers came from very different walks of life – a parks department retiree turned chaplain, a new mom working in the nonprofit arena, an outreach coordinator for Tempe's library, and Brown, 69, semi-retired from his IT career.

But their common thread – compassion – was easy to see on that day. Shaking hands with strangers. Offering granola bars to ease hunger. Listening patiently.

And, in a few lighter moments, sharing a laugh.

Having volunteered for the 2017 PIT count, Brown was the veteran of the group. It wasn't a role he expected to have.

Brown and his wife have lived in north Tempe's Hudson Manor for more than two decades, and have seen homeless people in their neighborhood park over the years. He considered them a nuisance as he walked his dog in the park each day and suspected that children would avoid the area because of their presence. He often called the police and wrote letters to the City Council.

"Ever since I've lived here, I've complained about it," Brown said.

But when he learned about the PIT count last year, he decided it was time to do more than complain. He signed up to help. "It was pretty eye opening," Brown said.

"I guess I have the same prejudices that other people have who haven't been homeless."

"The impression you get is they don't want to work (but) everybody we talked to had a health or mental health issue or drug and alcohol problem, or just bad luck like losing a job," he said.

— Continued on facing page

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# Ceramics

From Page 9

undergraduate degree in Art Education from Northern Illinois University, and her MFA in Ceramics from University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee.

"My first job was as a high school art teacher in Racine, Wisc.," she recalls. "I went on to teach at the University of Tennessee for 33 years."

And why the focus on ceramics?

Says Blain:

"As a visual arts medium, I just like the tactile quality of working with the clay, and the three dimensional quality."

And how did Blain come to land here in the Valley?

"When I retired I had many friends out here," she says. "I was an administrator for Arrowmont School for Arts and Crafts [in Gatlinburg, Tenn.]. I hired many of the faculty from ASU."

So the area became a logical



Warner Ranch resident Sandy Blaine, an accomplished ceramicist, demonstrates her skill at last year's studio tour.

retirement destination for Blain, who has lived here since 2004. How does she like it?

"I like it at this time of year," she says promptly.

Go to [sandyblain.com](http://sandyblain.com) for additional information about the artist. For further information about this year's Ceramic Research Center Studio Tour, go to [asuartmuseum.asu.edu/studiotour](http://asuartmuseum.asu.edu/studiotour).

# Homeless

From Page 16

## Hidden spaces

Brown carried those experiences with him this time as he and his new teammates followed Tempe Police Officer Brian Ornelas down a dirt embankment toward a bridge under the Loop 202. Rush hour traffic roared overhead and the wind whipped up.

Ornelas, assigned to cover Tempe parks, momentarily disappeared under a low bridge to scan an encampment for occupants. The volunteers joined him, absorbing what they saw. The space held a collection of broken bicycles, coolers, clothing, discarded furniture, buckets and trash. A dog barked somewhere in the darkness.

"You drive by this all the time and you don't realize," said volunteer Nicholas Escalante, senior library community outreach coordinator for the city of Tempe.

Ornelas coaxed two people out into the open for the survey. Just-awakened and lightly clothed, they answered Brown's list of questions and accepted bus passes, backpacks filled with snacks, and information about human services programs.

Adrian, 29, has called the space home for about two months. Brown asked him what could help him most right now.

The answer: safe housing.

"If I had a place to go it would be a lot easier for me to get out of this situation," he said.

## Life stories

The team of volunteers moved on. There was Andrew, a tall 25-year-old in a red jacket, living among the bushes. There was a 40-year-old veteran on a bicycle, carrying a large trash bag and saddled with a traumatic brain injury. And 22-year-old Paige, wearing a mostly clean college hoodie.

When the volunteers came across a military veteran, they took their work a step further and offered to call an outreach team for immediate assistance.

Brown, a Vietnam veteran who at 19 landed in country during the Tet Offensive, gently tried to convince a Marine nicknamed "Griz" to take the help. The man, chatty and weathered, bristled at the suggestion.

In all, the volunteers counted 15 homeless men and women in their assigned area. That's about double the number that Brown said he helped count the previous year.

The two experiences, Brown said, have made him more sympathetic. His world view is less "NIMBY" – Not in My Backyard – and more "What can I do?"

"We gotta bite the bullet and provide services," he said.

For more information about Tempe's efforts to end homelessness visit [tempe.gov/city-hall/human-services/housing-services/ending-homelessness/homeless-resources](http://tempe.gov/city-hall/human-services/housing-services/ending-homelessness/homeless-resources).

*Susie Steckner is a veteran journalist who contributes to the city of Tempe's information outreach.*



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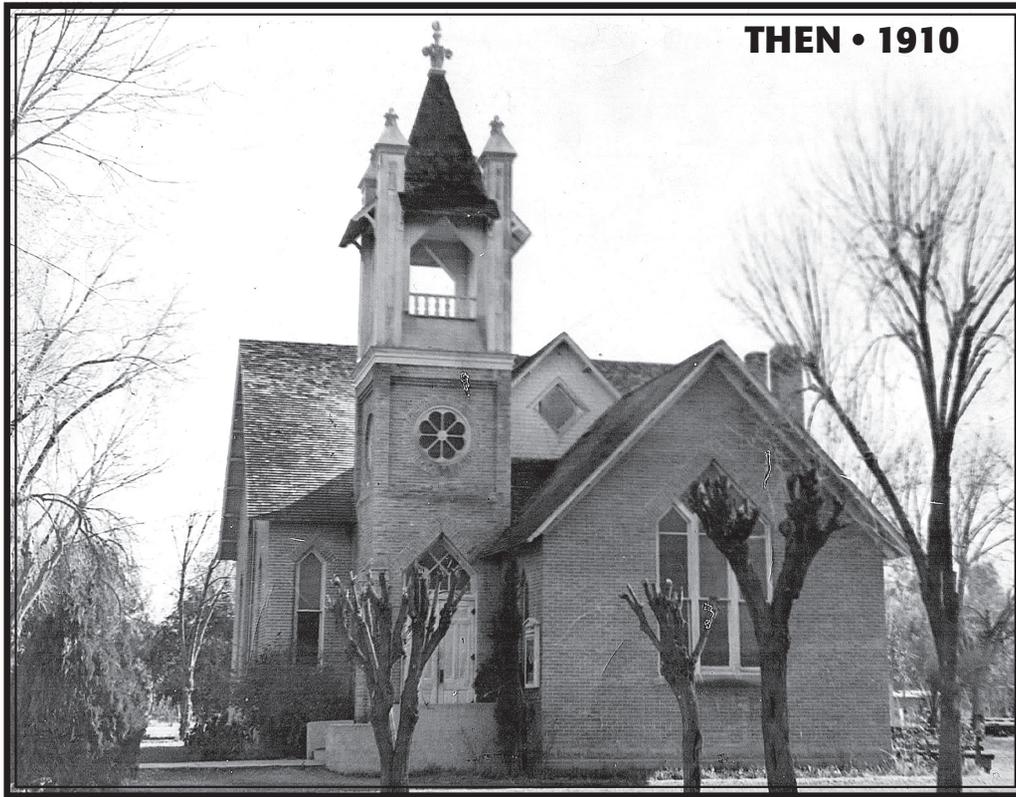
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## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN ARE WELCOME

In an age that questions the values of previous generations, First Baptist Church of Tempe is an example of the rare institution that has withstood the ebb and flow of social opinion. It was founded on "Love God - Love People" which has continued over its 130-year history.

First conceptualized when Dr. Uriah Gregory and T.A. Harmon were resting under a cottonwood tree near Mill Avenue and the Rio Salado in 1886. FBC-Tempe was officially organized on February 14, 1987. Over the next 13 years the first church building was completed, then the parsonage, and in 1900 the electric lights were installed.

Rapid growth and outreach created larger facilities located at 805 Myrtle Av and 8th St. Tempe. In 1917 it baptized its first Hispanic member and later several members of the Pima Indian Community joined as well. Outreach to all people was particularly important as the city of Tempe has a long history of having a diverse ethnic population.

Love God - Love People attracted outstanding leadership. Such as in 1925 Rev. T. M. Pyle came to FBC-Tempe from Wyoming along with his youngest son, John Howard Pyle, who eventually became the ninth governor of Arizona.

Honoring people also meant a strong focus on children. In the 1930's the church hosted its first children's program called Vacation Bible School. A legacy of character and faith can only be created over time and with intention.

Continual growth required more space so in 1973 the church moved to its current location at 4525 S. McClintock Drive, in Tempe (just south of the US 60 on McClintock). That was 45 years ago and buildings get old—and the need today calls for safe and secure facilities, sound systems, lighting, and better air conditioning.



**FBC-Tempe offers life changing wisdom for all ages such as:**

1. Advice to real life challenges for men, women and youth.
2. Kid City offers children Sunday classes, camps and AWANA teaching core values such as trust, empathy and respect. Since it is not enough to merely affirm the rights of children with disabilities, they are integral and vital in this church.
3. Children, youth and adult choirs with energy and community value.
4. Teens are thoughtfully loved and challenged to follow Jesus. Students who get involved are more likely to stay involved.
5. Celebrate Recover helps with hurts, habits and hang-ups by displaying the loving power of Jesus Christ.
6. Substance abuse. Parents of addicted loved ones (known as PAL) meets each Monday night.
7. HIV AIDS. Compassion in Action offers kindness to those impacted by HIV AIDS.

# CHURCH OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TEMPE



## CHURCH OF TEMPE: CHILDREN GROW IN FAITH

- 8. Cultural diversity. You will find diverse people loving each other such as Black, Chinese, Native American, Korean, Hispanic, Filipino, Persian, Indian, Vietnamese, Salvadoran, African, Jamaican, Burmese and Anglo.
- 9. The Center for Islamic Research and Awareness, (known as CIRA International) is led by Al Fadi, a former Muslim from Saudi Arabia seeking to outreach to Muslim immigrants, refugees, and students.
- 10. Mentoring and training the next generation of leaders is embedded in this church.
- 11. Grief-Share shows how to "continue on" in spite of the loss and pain.
- 12. Practical, heartfelt sermons from the Bible.

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Led by prayer, many discussions and meetings in 2014 the people of First said "God—lead us to know how we can better present the Gospel message to the younger generation and the adults making their way through today's complexities". The people gave \$6.2 million in donations along with a \$2 million loan from National Bank of Arizona to build a modernize Kid City, Music Center and Worship Center to help Love God - Love People from Wisdom from the Ages.

Kid City enjoys 17,000 sq. ft. with one access to "lock-down if necessary" the many classrooms for children birth to sixth grade. Parents enjoy the quick I-Pad check-in-and-out with instant name tags. This focus on safety extended to levels of detail such as the doors to the classroom are outfitted with specially designed door hinges so that young fingers can't get pinched. The state of the art fire alarm system includes a guided public sound system.

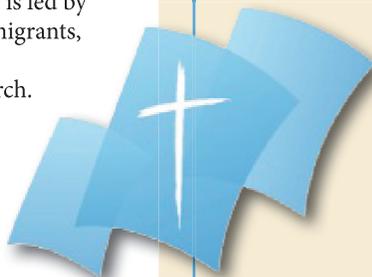
The 17,000 sq. ft. worship center allows the congregation to clearly hear—and see—and feel the Message with HD videos and slides. The wrap around seating layout allows the 'back row' to feel close to the front.

The 5,000 sq. ft. music center allows for quality drama, bands, choir and orchestra to practice and lead people to worship.

— Kim Blum, Dee Griebel and Pastor Roger Ball

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Though jiu jitsu was once a male-dominated sport, more and more women are joining the fray and learning self-defense skills plus gaining confidence. Jay Page's Jiu Jitsu and MMA in West Chandler offers an all-women's plus coed courses.

— Wrangler News photos by Alex J. Walker



# Jiu-jitsu: mastering the art of 'human chess'

*Women discovering value in popular self-defense method*

By Jonathan Coronel

Now more than ever, women are being encouraged to learn self-defense so that if they ever face a life-threatening situation, they'll have the tools to survive. While even a generation ago martial arts were almost totally male-dominated domains, more and more women are taking up the pursuit as a means of self-defense.

Located in West Chandler, Jay Page's Jiu Jitsu and MMA is a Brazilian jiu-jitsu gym run by black belt Jay Pages and his wife Lisa, a brown belt. According to Lisa, jiu-jitsu spreads mainly by word of mouth as more and more women are convinced by their friends or significant others to give it a try.

"When women see other women doing it, they become intrigued and think 'If they can do it, why can't I?' The best part is you can, and you should! It is, in my opinion, the best self defense martial-art out there and all women should do it!"

For Lisa, the self-defense aspect of jiu-jitsu is key, and it's just one of the reasons why, in addition to regular co-ed sessions, she also coaches a class exclusively for women at the gym.

"Most women start with me so they are comfortable, and then once they feel like it, they can venture out

to the co-ed classes. But they still keep coming to my classes because we have lots of fun and it's bonding time for us too."

When most people first hear the term jiu-jitsu, they typically picture cheesy moves straight out of The Karate Kid or a Bruce Lee flick. However, Brazilian jiu-jitsu is actually a martial art that focuses on grappling, particularly on the ground.

Technique and strategy are key, and using those disciplines often trumps brute force. Because of its focus on defensive and offensive tactics once a fight reaches the ground, where the average person doesn't have a clue what to do, many experts agree jiu-jitsu is ideal for self defense for men and women alike.

In jiu-jitsu, the goal is to make your opponent "tap out" through techniques like chokes and joint locks. One major advantage jiu-jitsu has over other combat sports is that athletes can spar multiple times a week without taking a toll on their bodies in the way a sport like boxing does.

Star Moreno, a purple belt whose boyfriend got her into jiu-jitsu, particularly enjoys the mental aspect of what has been called human chess.

"Whether you're big or small, fast or slow, in jiu-jitsu, technique conquers all."

While many find jiu-jitsu enjoyable, Lisa admits it undoubtedly can be an intimidating experience when one steps on the mats and faces an experienced opponent.

"Even though it seems intimidating, it really isn't. If you find a good school they are so supportive and amazingly helpful. They want you to learn. So the hardest part about it is walking through the academy's door. After that it's fun because you're learning a great martial-art."

Regardless of one's motivations for training, it's important to note that the first several weeks or months especially can consist of lots of failure while getting familiar with the various positions and moves the sport entails, making resiliency key, according to Lisa.

"Don't quit. You are not going to learn jiu-jitsu overnight, and it can seem very overwhelming. It took me about six months to finally understand what in the world I was doing.

"But after that it becomes very addictive. Stick it out and you won't be sorry."

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## Needleweilders weave fellowship, philanthropy

**L**aughter is the first thing you notice when you step into a Needleweilders gathering at Tempe's Pyle Adult Recreation Center. You feel instantly at home.

Started by the city of Tempe in 1974, Needleweilders is now more than 80 members strong. The group of ladies (and one man) meets twice a week to socialize while quilting, crocheting or knitting. The members range in age from 50 to 97. Most have been part of the group for years.

"I come for therapy," said member and crocheter Marilyn Clever. "It's wonderful to come here every week and leave smiling."

Added retired Air Force veteran Kate Kuchay: "I popped in one day and found this group. It's an opportunity to get to know people better. I love it."

But fellowship is only part of Needleweilders' draw and charm. This is also a group of philanthropists, using their talents and skills to help those in need.

"This is the most unselfish group I've ever met in my life," said the group's current president, Mary Lou Delvecchio. "We contribute to over 30 organizations in Tempe and surrounding areas."

Needleweilders members make premie hats, blankets and stuffed animals for kids in hospitals and Head Start schools. They make blankets, quilts and afghans for adults and children and have designed an ingenious fidget bib for people with Alzheimer's. They make helmet liners for members of the armed forces and toys and

pads for pets. And they donate it all. They even sent an array of sewing and quilting items to a Houston Quilters Guild that lost everything in the hurricane.

"We can use our gifts and skills to produce something to benefit others," said Lichuam (Roxanne) Beasley, an immigrant and missionary from Taiwan. "It makes us feel useful and it's very joyful."

All the materials the group uses to create its masterpieces, including tools, equipment, fabric and yarn, are donated by community members. It's all done by word-of-mouth.

Every October the group participates in the Pyle Arts and Crafts Boutique with the proceeds going to local charities chosen by a group vote.

"The annual craft boutique is an incredible display of this group's talent," said Tempe employee and Needleweilders liaison Christy Summers. "You'll find handmade items ranging from microwave bowls to quilts, afghans and baby layettes, holiday items to pet and baby toys. It's the perfect way to shop for a good cause."

The group will present the cash donations this month.

I don't know what I'd do if I didn't have the Needleweilders to come to," said quilter and self-proclaimed talker Martha Kasapis. "Everyone pitches in when there is a need."

Information: [www.tempe.gov/pyle](http://www.tempe.gov/pyle).

—Melissa Quillard



Martha Kasapis, left, of Tempe's Needleweilders group, with city liaison Christy Summers. — Photo courtesy Tempe Public Information Office

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# Soccer

From Page 11

new athletic adventure, Flood is currently waiting for his pending visa to clear in order to travel.

Flood will be under a two-year contract, living in Japan rent-free with a monthly allowance.

Despite the obvious language barrier and vast cultural differences, Flood says he is extremely optimistic and pleased with his final decision to play for Albirex.

“The hardest part is definitely learning the language. Especially when I’m on the field during a game, it’s important to know exactly what my teammates are trying to say,” Flood said.

“But it will be very exciting to experience a new culture.”

Flood will spend majority of his days training with the team, playing roughly 37 games a year. The season will span from March to September.

It’s easy to conclude that (potential) big things lie ahead for this young, confident athlete.

“I am thrilled for this opportunity and I can’t wait

to start my professional career. I’ve waited so long for this moment and now it’s finally here.”

*This commentary is authored by Chelsea Flood,*

*the former Chelsea Martin, who is now married to Ryan’s brother Nathan, also a Corona del Sol graduate. Chelsea writes regularly for Wrangler News.*



Flood, showing off his form

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# VOTE FOR LAUREN KUBY

## Tempe City Council

As a Tempe Council member, Lauren has led efforts for equal pay, environmental protection, earned sick days, government transparency, and campaign-finance reform. She champions cities as hubs of innovation in Arizona and defends local democracy at every turn.



- Putting Tempe first
- Champion for equal pay
- Fights for Tempe's working families
- Focused on sustainability and innovation

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BEFORE TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018**

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# VOTE FOR GENEVIEVE VEGA

## Tempe City Council

For over a decade, Genevieve has been a champion of progressive values, serving in various leadership positions in her community and volunteering for causes related to school funding, voting rights, and human services. Genevieve is in her second board term on the Tempe Community Council, where she has co-chaired the Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards Dinner, raising tens of thousands of dollars for Tempeans in need. Genevieve also is on the Phoenix Suns Charities 88 Board of Directors.

- Tempe small business owner
- Understands Tempe working families
- Fighting for Tempe's underserved populations
- Advocate for local businesses
- Committed to building a better Tempe



**VOTE IN THE ALL-MAIL ELECTION  
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# Homeschool

From Page 1

have of homeschooling, and it's not always true. I will concede, there are certainly some people who experienced, to some extent, that kind of home-school environment while growing up, but many times those people turn out to become smart, successful individuals.

"However, there certainly are some people who experience that kind of environment and end up becoming, for lack of a better term, odd."

Noah adds: "People tend to have a skewed position on homeschooling because they've met a few of those children who give off an odd kind of personality or seem like they've lived under a rock their whole life; I have a news flash for those people:

"Many children who have attended public schools for their whole lives turn out the same way, yet nobody blames the system," Noah said.

"The point is, there are so many more factors that determine the causation of someone becoming odd than just the type of school they attended."

The long-heated debate of public versus home school will always be present, for everyone has their own perspective on the subject.

For Noah, he can easily identify the advantages and disadvantages homeschooling.

"The greatest advantage to homeschooling is that there is freedom to accomplish so much more than simply an education with a few extracurricular activities," Noah said. "Homeschooling gives parents the chance to educate their children in a way that

doesn't conform to other people's belief systems (i.e. the argument against/for macro-evolution), as well as a chance to give them independence to accomplish more with the time they're given, rather than sit in a classroom from 8-3 p.m. every day.

"That being said, the greatest advantage to homeschooling is also its own disadvantage. The freedom for parents to educate their children in the way they prefer can sometimes lead to things such as sheltering, and then the children experience culture shock once they graduate high school."

Noah firmly believes that the product of homeschooling primarily relies on the power and ability of the parents, and the character of the children.

"The outcome of a home-schooler is determined primarily by the amount of effort a parent puts into their education, which is why some parents are good at homeschooling, and some simply aren't," Noah said. "I have many friends whose family went with the traditional style of homeschooling (at home, every day, primarily taught by mom), and all of them went on to different colleges and careers and became very successful."

Noah has a somewhat unique experience, because he spent a period of time in private schooling as well.

He was first home-schooled during his younger years, kindergarten to second grade, and then all throughout high school. In between those years Noah experienced a couple private Christian schools as well as a charter school. From the ages of 10 to 16 he lived in Maryland. Once it came time to enter high school, he began homeschooling once again. During his sophomore year his family decided to return to Peoria, where they lived prior to moving.

Then the co-op experience came along.

"In my personal experience with homeschooling, I went to a co-op where there were several teachers, (many of whom were subject-matter experts and homeschooling parents), who taught several different classes each day and provided an education program for home schooling," Noah said. "It was an alternate form of home-school education where parents could select which classes they'd like their children to take from other teachers, and which classes they'd prefer to teach on their own. Both co-ops I attended (in Maryland and Arizona) were Christian-based organizations."

Noah seems extremely motivated to make his way in this world, and he gives credit for this unmatched drive to his parents, as well as for his character and his educational experience.

"During my time homeschooling in high school I was able to do many different extracurricular activities. I played soccer and golf and ran track and cross country—all varsity teams from nearby schools, one in Maryland, one school in Arizona," Noah said. "I played piano and guitar throughout high school, and continue to play to this day. At the home-school co-op, I became a student government officer and volunteered in many different service opportunities that were provided through that program."

"At age 14, I started an inter-neighborhood fall-clean-up service which generated \$1,000 profit over the course of two months for the remaining fall seasons I lived in Maryland (unfortunately the leaf cleaning business isn't too big in Phoenix)."

During his time with Great Harvest Bakery, Noah has become what the owners agree is the most successful farmers markets rep ever,



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### General Registration begins Feb. 26

### Classes begin in March

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## PLAY LEARN LIVE GROW

sociable attitude and the endless home-school extracurricular opportunities from his experience.

“At the farmers markets I’ve been able to see success by interacting well with customers and ensuring they have a pleasant experience at my booth,” Noah said. “I have plenty of regular customers who buy bread from me weekly so asking for their name and remembering it the next time they stop by is always a good way to build a great reputation and establish trust with them.”

Looking forward, Noah hopes to graduate from ASU with a Bachelor in International Trade and Global Logistics Management with a minor in French, then a commission into the Marine Corps. Last year he received a Marine Corps option Naval ROTC full-ride scholarship, where he was given stipends and other benefits, including active military training during the summer months.

“The purpose of the scholarship is to go to school and earn a degree, and also train to become an officer in the USMC,” Noah said. “The four years at college is followed by a minimum active duty service of four years.”

Noah recommends homeschooling, as long as one can handle it.

Remember, it’s more subject-based learning and less stick whittling.

“Homeschooling can be a very good thing, and so can public schools,” Noah said. “The difference is that parents have a larger say in how they want to influence their children in their education. Some kids strive for success, others don’t; some parents are rock stars, others aren’t; some people can handle homeschooling, others can’t. The wonderful part of it all is that it gives the power for children and parents to strive for a better environment, better education and better community.

“But with great power comes great responsibility, because it can turn out to be a success just as much as it can become a failure, and that’s just the beauty of life.”



Noah Kutz, who grew up being homeschooled, defies the stereotypical view held by many about students educated at home. He represents Great Harvest Bakery at a local farmers’ market.

— Wrangler News photo



# Sarah Kader

Tempe City Council  
KaderForTempe.com

Civil Rights Attorney † Tempe Native † Family Champion

## Vote For Tempe Families this March 13th

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# Feedback

We welcome your comments and opinions via email to [editor@wranglernews.com](mailto:editor@wranglernews.com) or on our Facebook page. Commentary may be edited for length, clarity or suitability. Opinions expressed are those of the contributor.

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Our current city council campaign is turning out to be another experience in collaborative campaigning and outside money. Two candidates don't seem to be able to run a single, unified effort: Lauren Kuby and Genevieve Vega have teamed up, it seems, merely to help each other with placing their yard signage and messaging in tandem.

A canvassing tour has become an event for both candidates. Each of our council candidates should be individually canvassing as many of our Tempe neighborhoods as they can. They should take that opportunity to express their platform and listen to citizen concerns.

In addition to their inability to voice independent messages, the campaigns are receiving PAC monies from sources outside of Tempe. Lauren Kuby has received the limit of \$10,000 in PAC money. Kuby has said that the PAC money comes from hard-working members of the Tempe community.

The City Clerk's record would contradict that. Lauren Kuby's money has come from five Firefighter Locals outside of Tempe. The latest is a \$500 contribution from the Tucson Firefighter Local.

Both Kuby and Vega have accepted large PAC donations from the UFCW Local 99 in Phoenix. This PAC money comes from a wide range of workers from many areas outside of Tempe. These worker-union donations are gathered by the Union with leadership determining where the money will go. While both Kuby and Vega claim they don't take contractor money, both have received money from the Arizona Pipe Trades.

This election has many fine people running but the election is being overshadowed by the PAC money influence. A council campaign should be limited to individual contribution only.

The next council seated should take steps to change the contribution criteria. As citizens of Tempe I would urge you to follow the money. It's easy, go to <https://campaignfinance.tempe.gov/search/contribution>.

Good government starts at the local level, help make sure we have the best candidates in office. When you receive your ballot in the mail, be sure to vote. It's your right and your responsibility.

— Jon Mulford

Lies. Half-truths and innuendo. Nope, I'm not referring to the mess in our nation's capital. I'm talking about a smear campaign right here in our backyard. An incumbent City Council candidate and her self-described "best friend," whom she's been squiring around town, are busy spreading disinformation to confuse our well-educated electorate in South Tempe.

In 2014, this same candidate, then a newcomer, conducted an aggressive grassroots door-to-door campaign, discrediting her opponents with lies and innuendo. Her goal was to unseat one or more sitting councilmembers up for re-election. Then as now, she was also campaigning for her partisan pal, handing out his literature, and placing his signs alongside her own. And it worked!

When candidates aren't polling well, things can get nasty. South Tempe resident Jennifer Adams is surging in the polls with her own strong resume and canvassing.

Here are the facts: Jennifer Adams spent 29 years at the City of Tempe. While in Public Works she conducted extensive research, handed it off to Council staff and, following Council approval, the 311 Program was born. In her last position in Facilities Management, Adams saved the City \$200K annually through phasing in LED lighting throughout the City.

By moving housekeeping from night-shift to day shift, she saved Tempe taxpayers \$40K annually just by turning out the lights! Jennifer introduced several sustainability measures, including the internal recycling program. Adams began and ended her professional career at the City of Tempe, where in 2004 she received the

City's Diversity Award. In 2016 she was chosen as "Most Motivating Supervisor" in the City. This is a strong record of achievement and experience.

As for the dirty-tricks duo, their partisan stronghold on City Council is at risk. The best way to deal with them is by electing Jennifer Adams for Tempe City Council.

— Doreen Garlid

I want to express my support for Robin Arredondo-Savage, whom I consider to be the best candidate for Tempe City Council.

Robin has a proven record of service to all of Tempe, and represents a balanced approach to addressing the unique needs of our community.

She is committed to a vibrant vision for the future of our city, and demonstrates an understanding that in order for us to maintain the quality of life many of us have come to expect, we need to have a strong local economy.

Her approach to responsible budgeting of resources with a mind toward long-term economic sustainability is what we need to preserve valuable social services and public safety and to support strong neighborhoods and parks.

As someone who has been involved in education advocacy locally, I can speak to her unwavering commitment to our schools.

Whether it is responding to a call for support of local school district bonds and overrides or to meet with students to share her own personal story of her path to higher education, Robin is quick to answer the call.

The results of this election will influence the course of our city for the next few years. There are a lot of choices on the ballot, but I feel strongly that we need to return Robin to the Council. She certainly has earned my vote.

— Rosalie Hirano

I noticed that Wrangler News was present at the South Tempe city council debate on January 23 and think we're fortunate to have a local newspaper that cares about us! Jennifer Adams stood out at the debate as a person of substance who has a good understanding of the issues. And, she's a south Tempe resident!

My husband and I are casting our vote for Adams.

## Tempe not alone in worries about recent spread of short-term rentals

Being able to rent out your home on a short term basis is one thing, but converting a residence into a small hotel is another problem. It destroys the character of an R1 (residential zoned area). Particularly when it can be done with out complying to building, city and fire safety codes for a similar commercial property.

I would contend that they cost jobs as they have in New York where occupancy rates have dropped over 20% in hotels and hotels have had to layoff employees. When (as we have had in our Estate La Colina area) truck drivers drive their big rigs into our neighbor hood to stay in a short term rental (small hotel) and block neighbors driveways it is not a positive situation.

It has resulted in long standing neighbors selling their home at a significant loss. That is not an economic benefit. We are getting realtors calling and sending letters wanting to know if we want to sell our home.

This is not good for Tempe!

— Dennis Lemon

## Neighbors rally vs proliferation of short-term rentals

A classic Arizona State Government response... take the ability for the cities to govern away from the cities. First the Ban on Banning Plastic Bags and now this... there must be some slumlords in the Legislature making a quick buck.

— Brian Logsdon



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# Spring training tickets now on sale at Diablo Stadium



admission to practice games, and plenty of opportunities to grab an autograph or two from players.

The Angels will take on the Milwaukee Brewers starting at 1:10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24.

Ticket prices, including MVP seating for premium location, concession and other options are:

Home plate MVP, \$50-\$100; Field MVP, \$40-\$75; Field Box, \$25-\$55; Grandstand, \$20-\$50; Lawn, \$15-\$45; and Upper Pavilion (all inclusive), \$53.

Tickets are available at the stadium beginning Feb. 10.

Online purchase at [www.angels.com](http://www.angels.com). Group tickets: 888-796-4256. Parking: \$5 per car, \$25 per RV.

Tempe Diablo Stadium is at 2200 W. Alameda Drive.

Baseball is back, and Tempe Diablo Stadium will host the Los Angeles Angels for another season of spring training.

This season boasts matchups against the D-backs, Cubs, Dodgers and Padres, among others.

Tickets are on sale at [www.angels.com](http://www.angels.com) and are available for purchase at the stadium as of Saturday, Feb. 10.

The Angels landed MLB's No. 1 prospect for 2018, Shohei Ohtani, and fans can show their love of the game by welcoming the team to its first practice on Wednesday, Feb. 14.

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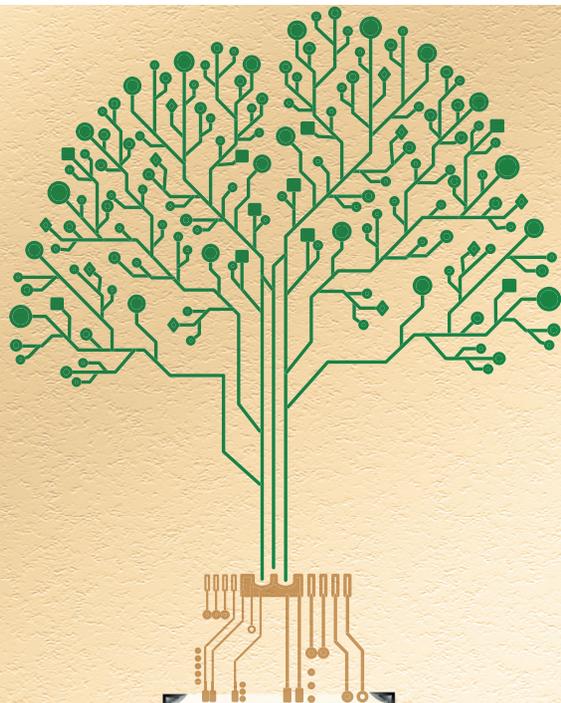
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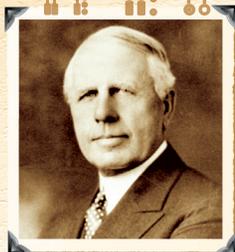
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Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018

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175 S. Arizona Ave.



Dr. A.J. Chandler

A Light Reception begins at 6 p.m. with Remarks at 6:45 p.m.



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## Diversions . . . with M.V. Moorhead

# Newly constituted 'Peter Rabbit' combines happy mix of music and warmth

Could Beatrix Potter have imagined a movie adaptation of her *Tale of Peter Rabbit* with Eminem on the soundtrack?

No, I suppose she couldn't have. She died in 1943, after all, so she probably would have had a hard time imagining Eminem at all.

The question was rhetorical, anyway. That's what we've got, a new *Peter Rabbit* with CGI bunnies and other cute little creatures interacting with live-action human actors, engaging in broad slapstick and bickering family dynamics and slyly "meta" and "fourth wall" gags, all driven along by popular songs.

Even so, it's a little surprising how much of Potter's 1902 tale survives in this modern-dress version.

Peter's siblings and cousin, the encouraging sparrows, Mr. McGregor (Sam Neill), the sieve, the flower pots in the shed, the blue jacket used as a scarecrow, even the grim backstory of Peter's father—

these and other elements trace back to Potter's brief but effective heist thriller and juvenile delinquency drama.

But this story line can only take the movie so far.

After that, director Will Gluck, who previously helmed the recent modern version of *Annie*, and his co-writer Rob Lieber concoct a *deus ex machina* for old man McGregor, then bring in his nephew (Domhnall Gleeson) and heir from London, a control-freak Harrod's employee.

This guy goes to war with Peter and his pals as well, but must keep it secret from his neighbor Bea (Rose Byrne), a sweet painter who adores the rabbits.

Some of the battles which follow seem to owe almost as much to the Loony Tunes, if not to Peckinpah's *Straw Dogs*, as to Potter, and while at times they become a bit tediously repetitive, overall the film is visually deft and light-footed and

enjoyably anarchic.

Even so, some of the funniest passages are verbal rather than visual, throwaway gags like a store clerk's explanation of the human urge to anthropomorphize animals.

The voice cast, led by James Corden as Peter—who also sings a pretty song over the end credits—includes Daisy Ridley, Margot Robbie, Elizabeth Debicki, Matt Lucas and Sia.

The kids in the audience with whom I saw this film seemed to find it hilarious, and on the whole I was pretty amused myself.

I thought it struck a nice balance between edgy mischief and just the right degree of non-sappy warmth.

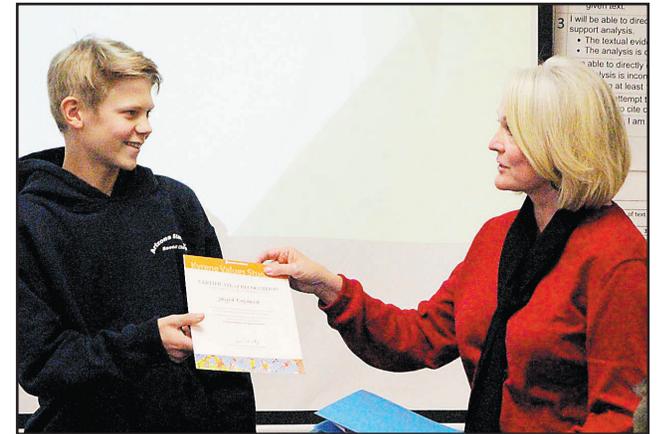
If you remain unmoved by the sight of the rabbits apologizing by inclining their foreheads together, you're tougher than I am.



Mariposa teacher Patricia Gale, from left to right: John Kloc, Superintendent Dr. Vesely, teacher Patricia Gale, Principal Spencer Fallgatter, Assistant Principal Carolyn Payne.



Ninos teacher Peg Griffin, from left to right: John Kloc, Principal Tonja Yalung, teacher Peg Griffin, Superintendent Dr. Vesely.



Pueblo student Jaryd Exparza receives recognition from Dr. Vesely.

## Pay inequity unresolved, but teachers get next best: A sincere thanks

By Diana Whittle

A simple thank-you goes a long way in letting someone know you appreciate their work.

That's the concept behind a new Kyrene Values Teachers recognition program, which celebrates the contributions of one teacher, every quarter, from each of the district's 25 schools.

The program celebrates the top teachers in the district by honoring those who display remarkable traits in their individual and classroom efforts, according to Dr. Jan Vesely, superintendent of the Kyrene district.

"Recent polling suggests that the majority of Arizonans recognize the importance of education," said Vesely.

Although the program doesn't help solve the problem of pay inequity, Vesely said it at least recognizes the teachers' hard work.

"While Kyrene will continue our long-term commitment to address teacher compensation within the limits of the funding we receive from the state, a program like this acknowledges, in some small way, that we appreciate all that our teachers do each and every day."

This quarter, school leaders submitted nominations for teachers who demonstrate commitment to student success

in areas of academics, advocacy and leadership.

The district received support of several business partners in their recognition efforts, including John Kloc, corporate real estate benefits director from HomeBenefitIQ, and, Dale Fedewa of Urban Air Adventure Park.

Vesely and Kloc visited teachers in their classrooms to celebrate their success and present them with \$25 gift cards.

Dan Crawford, a Language Arts teacher at Kyrene Middle School, was pleasantly surprised by the recognition, and was quick to offer kudos to fellow teachers who have helped him along the way.

"I am relatively new to teaching and have been mentored by several of the finest teachers and people I could ask for," said Crawford.

"These individuals have spent their time in developing my skills to the point that I have been effective for my students.

"After a life in another career, I try to bring a practical approach to the students," said Crawford.

They need to understand the value of the skills we are trying to impart. If they believe we are trying to prepare them for a better future, I believe we get more buy-in and

effort. Each of these students deserves our best effort, and I see a group of teachers and administrators doing just that."

Peg Griffin, a fifth-grade teacher at Kyrene de los Niños, also said she was pleased to be recognized.

"(This) is a tremendous honor, and also an incredible opportunity for me to represent teachers and draw positive attention to public education."

Patricia Gale, a first-grade teacher at Kyrene de la Mariposa, shared similar sentiments.

"Teaching is an honor in itself—to be part of shaping and making a difference in a child's life is so rewarding. Working with students and seeing their growth and progress is a joy.

But to be recognized for this role by the district is both encouraging and rewarding. It is wonderful to be valued by my school district."

This quarter, two students from each of the 25 schools also were recognized for working hard to meet individual goals and move up in their academic achievements, Vesely noted.

Fedewa, from Urban Air Adventure Park, donated 50 "jump" passes for students, which will provide a year's worth of one-hour jump time per week at the site.



February 2018

## Tempe to host Feb. 12 public meeting about ballot propositions

The City of Tempe is hosting an informational session to answer questions from residents about the three propositions that have been referred to the ballot for the March 13 General/Special Election.

Of the three ballot propositions, two would amend the City Charter.

The meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12, in Program Room A, in the lower level of the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

### Proposition 402: Papago Park Preserve

The city is asking residents whether they want to amend the City Charter to declare Tempe's 300-acre portion of Papago Park as a preserve. A companion

City Code change, which may be considered by the City Council, would regulate hours of operation and permitted activities in the preserve. If the Charter amendment is approved, the area would be protected from development and its preserve status could not be changed without another Charter amendment.

### Proposition 403: Campaign finance reform

This proposed Charter amendment would require the disclosure of the origins of major contributions used to influence local city elections. The accompanying ordinance would require any person or entity (not a candidate committee or a political action committee) making an expenditure of more than \$1,000 during a city election cycle to disclose the original and intermediary sources, so that the information is transparent to Tempe residents. Any contribution of \$1,000 or more would be defined as a major contribution.

An entity would include a

corporation, limited liability company, labor organization, partnership, trust, association, joint venture and other organized groups of more than one individual. The action would apply to independent expenditures. Donors contributing less than \$1,000 during an election cycle would not have to be disclosed.

### Proposition 404: Permanent base expenditure adjustment

A strong economy has grown Tempe's revenues over the last several years, but a state-imposed ceiling puts a cap on the amount municipalities can spend on their services, facilities and amenities. For the third time since the Arizona Legislature put the ceiling in place in 1980, Tempe must ask voters to raise the limit so the city can spend the revenue it brings in. Base adjustments do not raise sales or property tax rates. All annual expenditures still go through a public process and City Council approval.

The General/Special Election is March

13. This is the first Tempe election that will be Ballot by Mail, which means that every registered voter will get a ballot in the mail. Ballots will be mailed Feb. 14. Voters who need a replacement ballot can request one through the Maricopa County Recorder's Office until March 5; after March 5, replacement ballots are available at either of the two ballot centers in Tempe or at the Recorder's Office. Voters can also drop off their voted ballots or vote at a ballot center. Ballots must be received by the Maricopa County Recorder's Office or dropped off at a ballot center by 7 p.m. March 13. Maricopa County recommends that ballots be placed in the mail on or before March 7. Additional information is at [www.tempe.gov/BalotbyMail](http://www.tempe.gov/BalotbyMail).

Any information about the election, from voter registration to finding the results, can be found at [www.tempe.gov/election](http://www.tempe.gov/election) or by calling 480-350-4311.

Background information about Ballot by Mail is at [www.tempe.gov/BalotbyMail](http://www.tempe.gov/BalotbyMail).

## Construction begins on Kiwanis Park Splash Playground

Construction of the Kiwanis Park Splash Playground is now underway.

The \$1.7 million playground is being built near the north soccer field within Kiwanis Park, which is located between Baseline and Guadalupe roads at Mill Avenue.

All park amenities will remain open during construction except for ramadas in the construction area.

The splash playground is expected to open in summer 2018 and will be the city's largest water amenity.

The City Council approved design and construction of the playground in February 2017.

Residents offered input on the design.

For details, visit [www.tempe.gov/KiwanisSplashPlayground](http://www.tempe.gov/KiwanisSplashPlayground).

## Apply now for fall Tempe PRE classes

It's not too early to start thinking about your preschooler's education. Tempe PRE, the city's free, pilot preschool program, has openings in its all-day, high-quality preschool classes in fall 2018.

Income-qualified Tempe families with children ages 3 or 4 as of July 31 can apply now for the chance to attend.

The application is at [www.tempe.gov/TempePRE](http://www.tempe.gov/TempePRE).

For more information, contact Tempe PRE staff at [pre-k@tempe.gov](mailto:pre-k@tempe.gov) or 480-858-PreK (7735).

Tempe PRE stands for Preschool Resource Expansion. It is a two-year pilot program approved by the Tempe City Council that began in fall 2017.

Tempe PRE's students are taught by



certified teachers using child-centered curriculum.

The program's 20 classrooms are housed in 13 local elementary schools through partnerships with the Tempe Elementary School District and the Kyrene School District.

One of the objectives of Tempe PRE is to improve kindergarten readiness and long-term school success.

High-quality preschool in Tempe is a complement to the city's Roadmap for Education plan, which aims to ensure that all Tempe children: live in stable and nurturing families; are mentally and physically healthy; are ready to succeed in school; live in safe and supportive neighborhoods; and make

successful transitions to adulthood. For more about Tempe's education efforts, visit [www.tempe.gov/education](http://www.tempe.gov/education).

Sign up to get information about Tempe PRE via email at [www.tempe.gov/TempePreNews](http://www.tempe.gov/TempePreNews).

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# Sports

From Page 11

Spivey-Johnson is the assist leader on the team dishing out 139 assists along with his 276 points in 23 games. He is also the second leading rebounder with 114 rebounds.

Juniors **Bryant Jzathavyon** and **Emmanuel Gore** and sophomores **Forrest Swope** and **Michel Milambu** have all played most of the first 24 regular season games.

Swope has scored 118 points, grabbed 80 rebounds and passed well enough to get 21 assists while Milambu has 60 points, 53 rebounds and 45 assists.

Gore has played in 22 games and is credited with 74 points 69 rebounds and 11 assists on the stat sheet.

Although Jzathavyon has only seen action in 17 games, he is the fourth leading scorer on the team with 133 points, 56 rebounds and 26 assists.

Other member of Tempe's boys basketball team contributing to the success of the team on and off the court include juniors **Montell Keaton**, **Eduardo Urbina** and **Isaiah Koppen**.

## McClintock Boys Basketball

The Chargers, with only one regular season game remaining, are ranked No. 7 with a 12-5 regular season record. They have a good chance to be one of the top eight teams who automatically qualify for the 5A State Championship Tournament.

McClintock was scheduled to play at Vista Grande in Casa Grande on Feb. 5. The Chargers should defeat the Spartans who are ranked 39 in the 5A Division with a 6-18 record.

The Chargers are led by junior **Josh Baker** who has played in all 25 games averaging 20.8 points, 5.4 rebounds and 2.6 steals a game. He has hit 68 three-pointers shooting close to 40 percent.

Over the regular season Baker has scored 521 of the teams 1592 points or approximately one-third of the points.

The second leading scorer on the team is sophomore **Armani Williams** followed by junior **Mekhi Rodgers**. Williams has scored 265 points while Rodgers is credited with 240 points.

Along with Baker, Williams and Rodgers, junior **Jordan Martin** has been credited with 25 treys hitting 38 percent of his 65 attempts. Martin has scored 122 points playing in all 25 games.

Junior **Jalen Calvert** may not score as many points

as some of the other players but under the basket his is a defensive nightmare for opponents with his blocking ability. He has amassing an incredible 68 blocks in 25 games far outdistancing any other player on his team.

Calvert also has 113 rebounds, 12 assists and 29 steals to his credit.

Senior **Lawrence Charles** has played in all 25 games and is credited with 118 points, 54 rebounds, 32 steals, and 27 assists while fellow senior **Andre Thurman** has seen action in 22 games grabbing the same number of rebounds as Calvert, 113, to be the second leading rebounder on the team.

Thurman is also credited with 155 points, 25 assists and 14 steals.

Junior **Donavan Williams** has seen minutes in all 25 games scoring 94 points with 47 rebounds, 47 assists and 26 steals.

Other members of this highly successful team include senior **Gatwech Loroa**, juniors **Will Roberts** and **Rook Wood**, sophomore **Aiden Penry** and two freshman players, **Khashmier Saxton** and **Darius Ward**.

The 5A State Championship Tournament first round starts Feb. 13 at the higher seed. The quarterfinals are scheduled for Feb. 16, once again at the higher seed. The Semifinals will be Feb. 20 at Wells Fargo Area. The championship finals will be Feb. 27 once again at Wells Fargo Arena.



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*Final Word . . . By Sean Bowie*

# Corona suicide spurs legislation to slow mounting crisis

*In response to the 10 deaths by suicide among East Valley students since the start of the academic year, State Senator Sean Bowie has introduced legislation that will require two hours of suicide-prevention training for educators and counselors who work with students in grades 6-12. The following is his commentary.*

Like many people in our community, I have viewed the alarming increase in teen suicides over the years with increasing concern.

I've attended community forums, spoken to parents and administrators, and researched what other states are doing to address this crisis.

But I wanted to do more.

As I visited each of the 45 schools throughout my district last year, I kept asking our principals and teachers about this epidemic, and about the kind of training they receive to help spot warning signs and ways they can help.

A broader look at the state overall shows that while some districts have taken the lead in training their teachers, others still have a way to go.

There is broad consensus that something needs to be done to address this epidemic, but little in the way of actual public policy implemented at the state

or local level.

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide is the second leading cause of death for young people ages 10-34 in Arizona.

After meeting with local parents, some of whom lost their own children to teen suicide, I knew there was more we could do at the state capitol to help our teachers and educators better help and support our students.



Arizona Sen. Sean Bowie

It's why I introduced Senate Bill 1391, a bill currently making its way through the legislature. It would require, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, two hours of in-person, evidence based training per year for teachers, guidance counselors, and principals who work with students in grades 6 through 12.

We named the bill the Mitch Warnock Act, after a young man we lost in 2016 who attended Corona Del Sol High School.

Mitch represents just one of the several lives our

community has lost in recent years to suicide.

Over 25 states have passed laws requiring suicide prevention training for teachers.

If signed into law, this training will help teachers and administrators identify warning signs and develop intervention measures before it's too late. More training and support will undoubtedly save lives, and create a culture of support and inclusion at each school.

The legislative process is unpredictable, so even if SB 1391 does not move forward this year, it is still critically important that we bring awareness to what has turned into an epidemic, not just locally, but nationally as well.

As your state senator, I will continue to help lead the fight to increase that awareness and work with our local school districts to craft policies that provide the training that our teachers and educators need. Our young people are counting on us to keep moving forward.

*Sean Bowie represents Legislative District 18, which includes Ahwatukee, south Tempe, west Chandler and southwest Mesa. He can be reached at 602-926-3004 or sbowie@azleg.gov.*



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## Kyrene Corridor Market Snapshot

Subdivision	Address	Square feet	Beds/Baths	Sold Price
Alisanos	8124 S Stephanie Ln	2,308	3 / 2	\$420,000
Continental	1880 E La Donna	2,301	4 / 2	\$356,000
Corona Del Sol Estates	9255 S Poplar St	3,117	4 / 3	\$546,000
D'arcyRanch	783 N	2,546	4 / 3	\$341,000
Estate La Colina	1841 E Calle De Caballos	2,630	5/ 3	\$460,000
Hearthstone	3841 W Elgin St	1,264	3 / 2	\$265,000
Oasis at Anozira	1916 E McNair	3,649	5/ 3	\$559,900
Twelve Oaks	5139 Boston Way	1,378	3/.5	\$264,000
WarnerRanch	76 W Stacey Ln	2,616	4 / 2	\$415,900



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