

# Wrangler News

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**May 19  
- June 1,  
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Vol. 23,  
No. 8**  
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smaller.*

**Meagan Bonitatibus, left, joined other NAU grads in their long-awaited walk May 11. Starting in August, she'll join the faculty at Tempe's Compadre High School, where she will take on a full-fledged teaching assignment in the English Department. Related story about high-school graduates in our own community, Page 5.**

— Wrangler News photo

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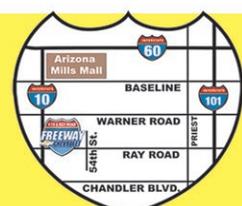
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# Four-year outlook Riding the rail to 2016



By Clayton Klapper

**T**here's no doubt that if you live in the Valley you've heard that light rail construction will begin at the end of May to extend the route farther east on Main Street, eventually stretching to Gilbert Road.

The existing light rail route goes as far east as Dobson Road, with the new section due for completion by 2016.

The light rail will certainly help everyone who uses public transportation on a daily basis, but one far too common misconception is that for those who don't live along the route, or who don't use it to get to work during your week, it isn't doing much for you.

On the contrary, say planners, light rail affects everyone, from the average business owner to the average consumer who drives to work, anywhere from Phoenix to the southeast Valley.

"Transit, particularly rail transit, brings economic development, attracting new companies, and new residents to this community," said Hillary Foose, public information officer for Valley Metro Rail.

"It will also help to continue to create downtown Mesa as a destination with interesting local businesses and attractions for residents across the region to visit and explore."

In fact, alternative means for transportation have done so well across the Valley that Valley Metro Rail has gotten the green light to start planning a streetcar route which will travel up and down Mill Avenue in Tempe, from Southern Avenue, north to Rio Salado

Parkway.

The streetcar will create a loop down Apache to University, and end up back at Mill. Modern streetcars operate on tracks, usually mixed in with traffic. They're powered by overhead power lines and are typically much cheaper to build and operate than a light rail system, say planners.

The streetcar is meant to help decongest an area that has grown extensively over the past few years, particularly with students living on campus at Tempe's Arizona State University. It will give students, and people who travel in the downtown area the opportunity to leave their car at home, at the same time not having to walk or bike to their destination.

Beginning stages of the streetcar construction are expected to take place in late 2013, starting with utility relocation, which means moving any power lines, water lines or other utilities underground that are located on the eventual route. Crews have already begun to measure utilities underground, to mark spots where moves will need to be made.

Foose says that having a wide variety of choices when it comes to mobility is vital to the Valley, as it keeps us competitive with other states, and promotes environmentally friendly transportation.

The light rail construction, specifically, will affect businesses along the eventual route, and Valley Metro Rail has set up many programs to help companies deal with the construction period, where it will be difficult for

# High school grads amass \$58 million in scholarships

## Cover story

**W**ith tuition at what the experts say are record highs, scholarships can provide an important offset to the debt college-bound students face now and potentially for years to come.

That's what makes especially good news the announcement that \$58 million in recognition awards will be going to graduating seniors at seven Tempe Union high schools this year.

Scholarships will be officially presented at commencement ceremonies at Corona del Sol, Marcos de Niza, Tempe, McClintock and other Tempe Union high schools, all at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, at each of the schools. Compadre Academy's graduation will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 24.

Totals going to students, by school, include \$19 million to Desert Vista; \$15.8 million to Corona del Sol; \$12.6 million to Mountain Pointe; \$6.2 million to Marcos de Niza; \$3.6 million to McClintock; \$1.2 million to Tempe High; and \$10,600 to Compadre.

In total number of graduates, Desert Vista High School leads, with 720 scheduled to receive diplomas. Others are Mountain Pointe, 590; Corona del Sol, 530; Marcos de Niza, 440; McClintock, 360; and Tempe High, 290.

Compadre will hand out diplomas to 252 graduating students.

Valedictorian at Tempe High will be **Trevor Wood**. Others include **Isabelle Chea**, Marcos de Niza; **Lillian Giang**, McClintock; **Madison Armer**, Peggy Payne Academy; **Jean Juang**, **Cyndia Yu**, **Nitin Gupta**, **Thaminda Edirisooriya**, **Brianna Duong** and **Michael Kim**, Corona del Sol; **Ajay Karpur**, Mountain Pointe; **Brandon Djaja**, **Huangang "Kevin" Zheng**, **Anes Sung** and **Jennifer Wu**, Desert Vista.

The district's Outstanding Student Achievement recognition will go to **Kalila Gourche** at Compadre Academy.

Salutatorians include **Lizette Garcia**, Tempe High; **Serena Kaplan**, **Kristopher Koller**, McClintock; **Anna Weiss**, Peggy Payne Academy; **Brittany Irwin**, Marcos; **Collin Xa**, **Simona Kovatchera**, **Andrea Carpenter**, Corona; and **Thomas Bello**, Mountain Pointe.

Presidential Scholars include, by school: **Brianna B. Duong**, **Jean M. Juang**, **Simona Kovatcheva**

and **Cyndia B. Yu**, Corona del Sol; **Ajay R. Karpur**, **Yucheng Zhang**, Mountain Pointe; **Ankur M. Razdan** and **Jeeyung "Anes" Sung**, Desert Vista.

Flinn Scholars are **Thomas Bello** and **Ajay Karpur**, Mountain Pointe; **Anna Weiss**, McClintock/Peggy Payne Academy; and **Cyndia Yu**, Corona del Sol.

National Merit Scholarship finalists, by school, are **Madison Armer** and **Anna Weiss**, McClintock; **Brianna Duong**, **Thaminda Edirisooriya**, **Nitin Gupta**, **Jean Juang**, **Michael Kim**, **Simona Kovatcheva**, **Christian Normand**, **Helena Olmstead**, **Nicole Schwalbe**, **Collin Xa** and **Cyndia Yu**, Corona del Sol; **Joshua Anolick**, **Tommy Bello**, **Ryan Hofmann**, **Ajay Karpur**, **Alex (Alexandrea) Martinez**, **Sean Sannier** and **Frank Zhang**, Mountain Pointe; **Saumya Bollam**, **Brandon Djaja**, **Katie Giel**, **Brenna Goodwin**, **Ali Icenogle**, **Joseph Kim**, **Stephen Marcucci**, **Jay Min**, **Rohitha Moudgal**, **Anoosha Murella**, **Daniel Niv**, **Carolyn Rath**, **Seung Jae Son**, **Anes Sung**, **Susan Tu**, **Peter Tueller**, **Maggie Wong**, **Andrew Wu**, **Jennifer Wu**, **Kevin Zheng** and **Jenny Zou**, Desert Vista.

As to the post-high school futures being reported by students, the majority will be college bound, based on these returns from questionnaires:

**McClintock**: 40 percent 4-year university; 32 percent community college; 2 percent vocational; 1 percent military.

**Marcos de Niza** – 45 percent university; 52 percent community college.

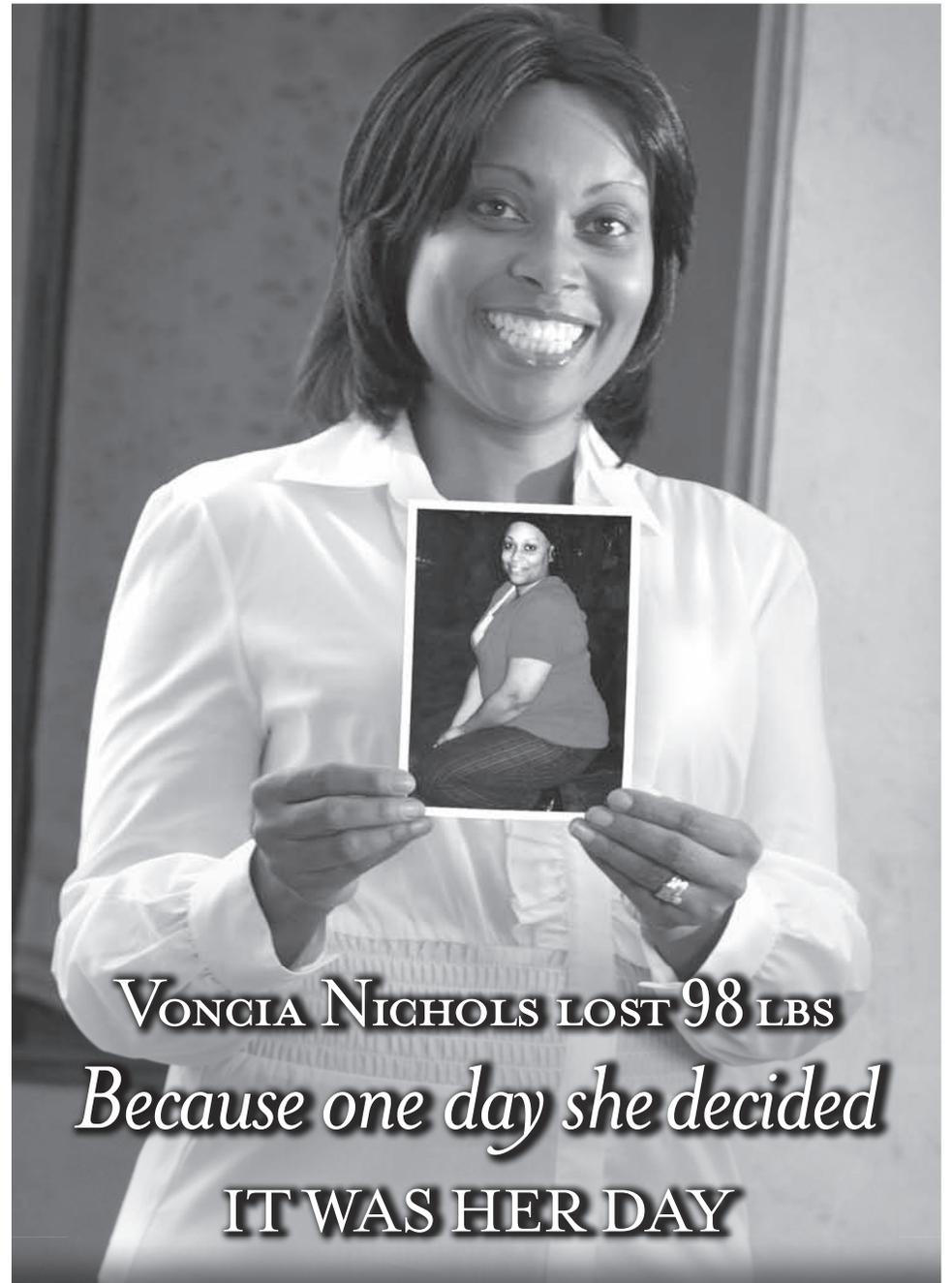
**Compadre Academy** – 85 percent college; 5 percent military; 5 percent careers; 5 percent undecided.

**Corona del Sol** – 95 percent university; 5 percent community college.

**Mountain Pointe** - 91 percent university/colleges; 9 percent military/vocational/careers.

**Desert Vista** – 68 percent four-year college/university; 27 percent two-year college; 2 percent technical/vocational school; 2 percent military; 1 percent careers.

Other recognition is scheduled for **Robert Choueiri**, Corona del Sol, and **Julia Thatcher**, Desert Vista, ASU Leadership Scholarship. **Jennifer Wu** and **Huangang "Kevin" Zheng** will receive the Siemens Award.



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# Middle-school sports: who gets to play?

## Commentary

In elementary school, athletics are meant to teach kids how to be part of a team, how to be a good sport. The pursuit of a sport also is supposed to teach the three F's to kids: fun, fitness and fundamentals. Everyone gets to play, no matter each one's skill level, no matter the score.

In high school, things are a bit different. Kids won't play (and often won't make the team) if they're not judged to have the skill level.

Coaches are supposed to put together a winning squad, and as long as they follow the right guidelines that's often all that matters. If they don't, they probably won't be coming back to the job next season.

But where should the transition between the two take place? In the Kyrene School District, this seems to be a hot topic.

At the start of the 2011-12 school year the Kyrene Athletic Department made a guideline change that would allow sixth graders to try out for what used to be the eighth and seventh grade teams.

According to district Athletic Director Amanda Hamm, this change represented an effort to help out schools that have trouble filling rosters for two teams in sports that may not have been as popular.

With the new guidelines, schools can have a varsity and a junior varsity team for each of the sports, which in turn creates more games and more playing opportunities for everyone in the league.

Sounds like a good thing, right?

For the most part, people across the district accepted the new approach without much thought. But at Kyrene Middle School, where the baseball team had 50 or so kids try out before the change was made, it created an abundance of young athletes trying out for two teams.

It also brought up the question: at what age

should a child be allowed to play sports at a competitive level? The guidelines left 11-year-olds playing on the same team as 14-year-olds, something with which many parents felt uncomfortable. It also left a number of seventh grade students who were just barely going to make the team before, now watching from the stands.

Gail Ewen, who is the mother of a student who tried out for the baseball team, says that it brought the sport to a competition level that excluded some students.

"There are always a lot of kids who try out for any of the teams (at KMS), and now we're putting a whole 'nother class in," said Ewen. "That leaves less spots for everyone."

At some point in life, 99.9 percent of athletes are faced with the reality that they're not good enough to play at a professional level. However, youth sports is not supposed to be that place. It's a concept that's meant to include everyone in an effort to translate valuable life lessons from the game into everyday life.

Michelle Hirsch, governing board president for the Kyrene district, says that the message being sent out isn't clear.

"Decide what we are doing, why we're doing it, and be consistent."

Everyone involved has one goal: to allow as many students as possible the opportunity to participate in youth sports, while ensuring the safety of those involved.

By opening tryouts to sixth graders, middle schools like Aprende and Pueblo can have two teams for each sport, offering all of the schools involved more games and a longer season. At schools with an abundance of students, however, it leaves some even earlier than before facing the reality that at some point, when you're not good enough, you won't get a chance to play.

The athletic department for the district is emailing a survey to parents of middle-school students asking for input on the subject. It asks

parents' opinions on whether the current program model is in the best interest of the students. There's also an open-comment section to offer ideas on how to help the program.

Parents, coaches, athletic department staff and board members interviewed for this report say there are many ideas that would help to improve the current situation.

One option that has been explored would be to allow only sixth graders to try out at the schools that need the extra players.

"People I've talked to have wondered why we didn't stick with the idea that, if you don't have enough kids try out, then you invite the sixth graders," says Ewen.

If the district is trying to avoid upsetting parents, however, letting sixth graders play at some schools but not others may not be the best resolution.

Another choice may be to offer an intramural league like the ACAC program that the Tempe School District uses. ACAC is a program developed for students who weren't good enough to make the school team or for whatever reason could not try out that season.

The league could offer teams for each grade level, at schools which have more kids than roster sports and would offer practices and games for many sports including volleyball, flag football and basketball. Due to limitations in funds, however, it has yet to be determined whether or not that's an option for Kyrene.

At this point, all those involved simply want to have their opinion heard.

That will happen, say observers, if those with an opinion don't remain on the sidelines, attend board meetings and make sure their thoughts are known about this or any other matter they feel will result in the betterment of all Kyrene students.

— Clayton Klapper

# For Little Leaguers, a dream come true

Story & photo by Clayton Klapper

Most kids, no matter how tall, short, big or small, have dreamed at least once in their lives about making it to the big leagues. For most, this dream goes unrealized and it passes as adulthood comes closer into view.

What if you were to learn that, for just one day—and as a kid for that matter, while that dream is still alive—you could have the chance to experience the big leagues?

One group of local Little League players has gotten that chance, thanks to a very special partnership with the city of Tempe.

Every season teams from Tempe South Little League and others from the surrounding area get the chance to play at Tempe Diablo Stadium, the spring training home of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

The Tempe Bees and Chandler Angels, both juniors teams (ages 13-14), met at Diablo on April 27 for one of both teams' many scheduled matchups at

the big league park.

"Just standing up in the dugout is amazing," said Nick Tupy, who pitches for the Chandler Angels. "You feel like a pro leaning over the fence in the dugout like you see on TV."

Covering home for the Angels, Dillon Sherrill said that it's a proud feeling to get to catch from the same plate as some of the Major League's best. "You feel like you're in the pros, behind the plate and looking at such a big field. It's amazing," said Dillon.

Both players are midway through their first season with the Chandler Nationals Little League team and plan to attend Hamilton High School—but still want to play with the Angels.

There's something extraordinary about baseball that has helped it stand the test of time. Perhaps the greatest reason is that it's a game of everyday men. It's not a game of abnormally tall people, who weigh close to 300 pounds or could run through brick walls. It's a game that, from the outside, tricks you into thinking that just maybe you could do it yourself.

You can realize just by watching an NBA game that most people couldn't jump over a 6-foot-5 guy and put a basketball through a 10-foot hoop at the same time.

A 3-6-3 double play, however, seems like a realistic feat. So does finding that perfect sweet spot on a bat, and hearing it crack; lots of us have done it at least once. It's a game made for everyone. And playing in a big league park is an experience one would be lucky to achieve.

"It's an awesome experience," said Tempe Bees outfielder Ryan Capeloto.

"You get to play on a great field, and get to have the lights all on you. It feels like the whole stadium is watching."

League Coordinator Mark Gordon knows just how special the opportunity is. "You're close to great players here. Albert Pujols was running around here just months ago," Gordon said. "That's so much fun.

Continued on facing page

It brings you closer to baseball, I think. It ties it in, so it's not so far away and just on TV all the time."

The game welcomes everyone with its seemingly simplistic play. But with a closer look, it takes a great amount of hard work and repetition to master.

"It's not just one of those sports you can walk into and say you're the best right away," Ryan said. "You have to have the natural talent to play, with good focus and concentration."

The Bees, (named after the single A Burlington Bees from Iowa) and the Angels squared off for a great matchup, one that went back and forth through the innings. The game was tied 5-5 headed into the last inning, but the Angels were able to go up 7-5. The Bees managed to load the bases with timely hitting and aggressive base running, but with a 2-2 count and 2 outs the final batter of the game struck out, giving the Angels the win.

"Obviously, we were disappointed but it was short-lived," said Bees Coach Bill Ottinger. "We enjoyed a great night of baseball with lots of fun moments inside the game, and we got to play where the pros play, inside Diablo Stadium."

What the city of Tempe and the many people involved in the leagues have done is something very special. To get to play in arguably the best spring training stadium there is, and share a field with some of the greatest the game has seen is remarkable.

In a generation filled with computers, game systems, movies and television, baseball takes you back to a simpler time.

"The team I'm on now is the best. We may not win every game, we may not play the best every game, but we have something no other team has, in a connection," said Ryan Capeloto.

"Most of our team is from one school and we know each other well. We get to joke around and have a good time."

After all, isn't that what being a kid is all about?

Those interested in signing their kids up for the next season of Little League baseball can go to <http://tempesouth.com/> or <http://www.chandlernational.com/>.



## All-City Sports Notebook . . . with Alex Zener

All Tempe high schools had athletes with outstanding results at the Division I and Division II state track meet held May 9-12 at Mesa Community College.

**Corona Track and Field** — The Aztecs got a big boost in points from their boys 4x800 relay team when they crossed the finish line first to receive the gold at the Division I state track meet. The team made up of two sophomores **Nate Rodriguez** and **Nick Creasman** plus juniors **Cody Jackson** and **Patrick Buck** bettered their seeding time of 8:15.50 by finishing the race in 7:49.80, the fourth fastest time in Arizona history.

Corona's 4x800 relay team finished second to Mesa Mountain View at last year's state track meet with the second fastest time in 2011 at 7:52:39.

"I was very proud of our 4x800 boys relay team who were able to bounce back and win state," said head coach **Tim Kelly**.

Corona's boys and girls team both finished in seventh place out of 55 teams that competed this year at the Division I state track meet with the new AIA state tournament regulations.

"We came up just four points shy of finishing in the top five which was our goal all season," said Kelly. "The state meet was tough, with lots of good competition, but our kids are young and I expect them to do better next year."

Although Corona's 4x800 relay team is not yet listed in the 2012 Arizona High School Track and Field

Continued on facing page

## Valley Christian runners bring home another title

Valley Christian High School extended its winning streak with its boys track team bringing home a state championship at Mesa Community College on May 11 and 12.

This latest victory brought the school's winning record to at least one state championship each year for 22 consecutive years.

It was a real blue-collar effort, with no individual finishing higher than third place and only one relay finishing first.

It was truly a team effort that pulled it off—everyone contributing a few points wherever they could. The 3200-meter relay—consisting of **Matt**

**Benninger, Nathan Basinger, Alec Chavez** and **Austin Weinland**—was the only event in which the team placed first.

They also broke the school record for the third consecutive meet in a row.

Qualifying for state in various events were **Austin Weinland, Nathan Basinger, Matt Benninger, Alec Chavez, Andrew Sullivan, Dustin Nelson, Trent Masselink, Jacob Moore, Spencer Richardson, Tyler St. James, Owen Feenstra, Colin Lowney, Connor Baskin** and **Jordan Murray**.

The girls team finished third, and nearly pulled

off a second-place finish.

The team scored some great individual performances, with **Chandler Fraley** winning the pole vault (she has been the best vaulter in the state this year in any division); **Sydney Tassielli** winning both the high and low hurdles.

Other girls who qualified were **Alyssa Braun, Skylar Kuzmich, Lauren Lakes, Linday Laulis, Kelsey Reade, Emily Sheih, Sydney Tassielli, Ashley Harrison, Chandler Fraley, Skylar Cavanaugh, Jessica Day** and **Taylor Robertson**.

— Contributed by Sarah Woods

Rankings, the time of 7:49.80 is faster than the top ranked mark of 7:52.61 achieved by Highland earlier this year at the SE Valley meet but it is still shy of the overall record time of 7:45.40 run by Desert Vista's team in 2008.

Three members of Corona's team, though, are ranked in the state track and field rankings 800 meter run category. Rodriguez is ranked No. 5 for his 1:54.31 achieved at the Thunder Last Chance meet while Jackson is ranked No. 15 and Creasman No. 15.

Rodriguez also finished third in the 1600 meter run with teammate **Jacob Whitney** coming in 18th. Jackson ran the 800 meter in 1:56.35 to finish seventh followed by Creasman at 10th and Rodriguez 19th.

Corona's sophomore **Tevin Mayfield**, state ranked No. 6 for his 38.81 300 meter hurdles finish at the Tempe City meet earlier this year, took third place in the 110 meter hurdles but a disappointing 16th in the 300 meter hurdles after running a 38.81 in the preliminaries. Teammate **Quinn Robertson** hung on to finish seventh in the 300.

**Drake Ridge** came in 17th in the 400 meter dash and **Jacob Whitney** 15th in the 3200 meter run.

Corona had two other boys relay teams qualify to run in the finals. The 4x400 team of Rodriguez, Ridge, Mayfield and Creasman finished sixth and the 4x100 relay team of **George Wright**, **Stephan Hill**, Mayfield and **Dylan Huch** was 14th.

Top finishes for the Aztecs in the field events included an eighth place for **Aaron Simons** with a 148-07 discus throw and Wright's 16th place in the long jump and 20th in the triple jump.

Results for the girls team included a silver medal for **Dana McKenzie** for second place with a 5-04.00 high jump. Senior McKenzie jumped the same height at the Chandler Rotary to give her a fifth place ranking in the state earlier this season.

Another senior, **Megan Benson**, ranked No. 5 in the 100 meter hurdles and No. 11 in the 300 meter hurdles, finished third at state in the 100 meter and 11th in the 300 meter hurdles.

Sophomore teammate **Grace Ashu** beat out Benson to take 10th in the 300 meter hurdles while another teammate, junior **Jackie Vogt** took 18th. Vogt was also eighth in the 100 meter hurdles.

Junior **Hallie Swenson** had a great 800 meter run finishing in fifth and setting a school record for that race. Two other school records were set at the state meet.

"Hallie broke the school record by three seconds at the state meet," said Kelly. "Then Megan Benson did the same in the 100 meter hurdles. Our girl's 4x100 relay team will also be placed in Corona's record books for breaking the school record."

Ashu, Benson, **Gabrielle Dotson** and **Justice Onwordi** made up the 4x100 relay team that took third place with a 48.56 time.

Corona's girls 4x800 relay team of **Kelly Nauman**, **Sidney Bussler**, Swenson and **Victoria Haun** took ninth place while the 4x400 relay team came in 12th. Swenson ran on this team along with Vogt, Dotson and Benson.

The Lady Aztecs had some athletes do well in the field events. **Lauren Lucky** ranked 15th in the state with her 37'5" shot put at the Tempe City meet had the same distance at the state meet to finish in 10th place. Lucky also took 17th in the discus throw.

**Liann Kline** finished tied for 15th place in the



**Tevin Mayfield** took home a third place bronze medal for his third place finish in the 110 meter hurdles at the Division I state track meet.

— Photo courtesy Chris Huch

long jump while McKenzie took 20th in the triple jump.

Look to see consistent but also improved results next year when Kelly has another off season to work with his track athletes.

"It was a collective effort. We are young and will bounce back next year," said Kelly, "Our youth this year will get better in off season."

#### **McClintock Track and Field —**

McClintock senior **Eduardo Roa** ran the 3200 meter run in 9:30.15 to take home a second place finish beating his own 2012 record of 9:36.61 achieved at the Chandler Rotary meet that had him ranked sixth in the state.

**Josh Aberle**, ranked sixth in the state by long jumping 23'2.75 at the Hohokam earlier this season, did not disappoint at the state tournament taking fifth with a 21'11" effort. Teammate **Kendall Gatlin**, ranked ninth in the state, jumped 22'07.75 to finish 12th.

Aberle was also part of the 4x400 relay team of Aberle, **Signory Mutach**, **Keegan Weinberg** and **Jalan Zambrano** that finished ninth. McClintock's 4x100 relay team of Zambrano, Gatlin, Mutach and Aberle finished 11th. Zambrano finished 11th in the 400 meter dash.

McClintock's girls team had **Aulexus Hull** high jump 4'10" to tie for 13th place with four other athletes. **Keave Davis** finished 17th in the 3200 meter run while **Scottrita Smith** was 20th in the 200 meter dash. **Tatiana Bernard** was also 20th in the 1600 meter run.

**Tempe High School Track — Diana Garcia** took fifth in the 3200 meter run (11:37.63) followed by **Leticia Shaban** at eighth (11:54.38) at the Division II state meet. Both girls also competed in the 1600 meter run where Garcia crossed the finish line in seventh place with Shaban 13th and in the 800 meter run with Shaban finishing 20th and Garcia right behind at 21st.

The girls 4x800 relay team of Garcia, **Victoria Lebario**, Shaban and **Karen Gonzalez** had a great fourth place finish with a time of 10:08.33 in the state meet.

Tempe's boys team was represented by **Gerardo Villagomez** who finished 11th in the 1600 meter run and 15th in the 3200 meter run. **Devonte Grey** took 14th in the shot put event.

**Marcos Track and Field —** Marcos de Niza's junior **Savannah Whitehead** ranked eighth in the state pole vault records clearing 11'3" at the Tempe City Meet earlier this season took home a silver medal after jumping 11'0" for a second place finish at state.

The girls 4x400 relay team of **Tleya Bailey**, **Jessey Tenorio**, **Antionette Ware** and **Kaitlyn Law** finished 12th with a 4:13.45, more than 5 seconds better than their previous seeding time. The 4x800 girls relay team of **Kelly Wolf**, Law, Tenorio and **Michelle Colbert** finished 14th.

In the field events, Marcos sophomore **Jorie Mayfield** took 14th in the triple jump while **Iris**



Kyrene Middle School's junior varsity baseball team (9-1) won the league championship by defeating Altadena 12-2 in the final game of the Kyrene district championship. Players included, from left (front): Eric Weidner, Jacob Briscoe (first row): Teddy Ladley, Kevin Dunahoo, James Broadus, Matt Novis, Alex Bookman, Christian Slater, Venkatt Narayanan, Jesse Guzman, Conner Woods, Drew Johnson, Cole Bernstein (top): Eric Oden, Coach Gary Zaharatos.

— Photo courtesy Larry Bernstein

## Notebook

From Page 8

**Fanene** was 12th in the shot put and **Curaun Thompson** was 23rd in the discus throw.

Senior **Julio Felix** from the Marcos de Niza boys team finished 11th in the 1600 meter, 11th in the 3200 and 16th in the 800 meter. **Brian Drew** came in 25th the 400 meter dash.

Drew was also part of the boys 4x800 relay team of **Robert Cubedo**, Felix, **Eric Trevino** and Drew who finished seventh with a time of 8:21.56 almost 5 seconds faster than their seeding time.

**KMS Baseball Wins District Championship** — Kyrene Middle School's junior varsity baseball team made up of sixth and seventh graders capped off their 9-1 season by defeating Altadena in the championship game of the Kyrene District tournament.

"We had a bye in the first round then had to face Aprende in the second round, the only team who beat us in the regular season," said coach **Gary Zaharatos**. "We defeated Aprende 11-1 in the playoffs."

The Scorpions continued to dominate their opposition in the finals by scoring 12 runs to Altadena's two in just five innings.

**Alex 'Attitude' Bookman** pitched five solid innings with five strikeouts allowing only four hits.

It was his best performance of the season," said Zaharatos. "He shut those guys down. It was like he was on a different planet out there on the mound. We only played five innings because of a 10-run rule."

Outstanding pitching by tournament MVP Bookman wasn't the only deciding factor in the Scorpions championship win.

**Drew Johnson** made an outstanding play from second base in the fifth inning on a ball hit by an Altadena player deep into right field," said Zaharatos. "He went out in right for the cut-off and gunned it to the plate where catcher **Cole Bernstein** made the tag on the Altadena runner trying to score a home run. It was a great defensive play from Cole, our team leader in all offensive categories."

Contributing to this championship and unforgettable season were 11 additional middle school baseball players who, as a team, ultimately accomplished 25 of the 30 team goals they set at the beginning of the season.

The Scorpions relied all season on the proficient defensive and offensive capabilities of their infield players to win games.

**Jake Briscoe**, our third baseman, was a super solid player for our team with a .653 on-base percentage," said Zaharatos. "Our leadership intangibles came from starting first baseman, **Teddy 'Hammer' Ladley**. He was always calling out situations and keeping the guys minds in the game defensively plus he was strong offensively with a .500 batting

— NOTEBOOK, Page 18



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Dr. Fine's clinically based coronary calcium scoring training program has been implemented internationally, improving outcomes for tens of thousands of patients worldwide. He has conducted numerous clinical trials and published scientific contributions related to coronary calcium scoring, subclinical cardiovascular disease identification and treatment, and the use of CT scan technology in diagnosing coronary artery disease.

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EOE

## Schools honor 3 for service

Kyrene Foundation, the school district's philanthropic arm, has honored three district staff members at its annual Employee Recognition program.

Kelly Brunner, at Kyrene de la Colina Elementary School, was recognized as administrator of the year. Kevin Anway, a staff member at Kyrene del Norte Elementary, was named educator of the year; and Geri Dempsey, from Akimel A-al Middle School, received support staff of the year recognition.

Brunner was selected for what nominators called her "compassion and professionalism." She also was recognized for her open-door policy as principal, coupled with creative leadership and creative skills.

Anway was cited for what judges called "his ability to truly understand students and treat all with the dignity and respect they need to be successful." He also was recognized as a "go to" person, both at his school and within the Kyrene district.

Dempsey made her mark with the myriad duties for which she is responsible at the school. And, the judges noted, "Whether she is working with students, parents or staff, she

does it with a sense of humor and good will."

## Diablos recognize Aprende teacher

By Mark Crudup

Amy Furman, seventh-grade language arts teacher at Kyrene de Aprende Middle School, received the designation of Teacher of the Year during the 2012 Tempe Diablos Excellence in Education Awards – an honor they compare to winning an Academy Award.

"I'm completely honored and overwhelmed," said Furman, who has been teaching at Aprende for 11 years. "

Aprende Principal Gerry Shaw secretly nominated Furman for the Teacher of the Year Award, and Furman said she was ecstatic when the Tempe Diablos emailed her, congratulating her as a semi-finalist and asking if they could film in her classroom the following day.

"The principal was the one who nominated me, and just to have that kind of support and someone who believes in you is truly amazing," Furman said.

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## Hearing expert issues warning Message to teens comes through loud and clear

By Alison Stanton

**F**or most teens, listening to music for hours through ear buds or headphones has almost become a rite of passage.

As just about any parent of a teenager knows, kids love their music, and they love it loud.

Jared Turley, owner of Zounds Hearing Center in south Tempe, understands this situation. Turley, who is also a hearing-instrument specialist, recalls spending countless hours in his youth listening to favorite tunes cranked up to ear-shattering levels.

What Turley didn't understand back then—and what he said he has since learned the hard way—is that while listening to loud music can be fun for



Hearing technologist Jared Turley.

Wrangler News photo by Patrick Bonitatibus

teens, it can also be harmful and have a definite negative impact on their hearing, even though the symptoms won't typically show up until they are older.

The challenge parents face, Turley said, is to try to convince their teenagers—who are at an age where they already feel invincible and are not that amenable to advice from mom or dad—that what they are doing now will affect their hearing in years to come.

"I really wish I could go back and tell myself 'just turn it down,'" Turley said.

"I love music, and when I was a

teenager I had a really loud stereo; I also worked in loud sound as a DJ for awhile. And now, as a result, I have started to develop a hearing issue."

Although Turley said teenagers can definitely have hearing problems, the problems are typically the result of childhood illnesses like chronic ear infections or high fevers. While the kids with the headphones on at all hours of the day and night undoubtedly are doing damage, it will probably take until they are in their early 20s or so to really notice a difference.

"Inside the cochlea there are thousands and thousands of hair cells, and they can be damaged to the point where they break off. We only have a certain number of these hair cells and they do not grow back," he said.

Music is not the only thing that can damage a teen's hearing, Turley noted. Attending NASCAR races or drag races, monster truck competitions, playing in a marching band or hunting can also cause irreversible damage to the ear.

"Normal human speech is 65 decibels, and anything 85 and over will start affecting hearing," Turley said.

"There are lots of things in day-to-day life that can cause hearing damage—even hair dryers and screaming babies are in the 100 or so decibel range that can be a problem."

So what can parents do to try to help their teens from harming their hearing? The proactive approach is a good place to start, Turley said.

"They need to say things to their teens like 'I like that song too, but I shouldn't be able to hear it when you have ear buds on, so please turn it down,'" he said.

"It's also better to encourage them to listen to music over speakers than through headphones or ear buds, where the sound is being forced directly toward the ear canal. If you do have a child who listens to music over a stereo, you should still be able to engage in normal conversational speech without the music being distracting."

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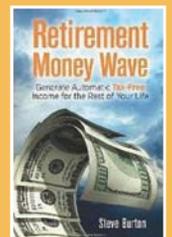
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# Diversions

## Yearly Palm Springs trek quite a treat for fanciers of film classics

By M.V. Moorhead

The weekend of May 10 through 13, I had the pleasure to hang out in one of my favorite towns in the country, Palm Springs, at the 12th annual edition of my favorite film festival in the country: The Arthur Lyons Film Noir Festival, at the Camelot Theatres on Baristo.

As usual this year's schedule included a variety of hard-to-catch crime films of the mid-20th century.

I caught 1948's *I Love Trouble*, with debonair Franchot Tone as a quipping detective caught up in a twisty intrigue, and 1954's *Shield for Murder* with Edmund O'Brien as a murderous rogue L.A. homicide detective.

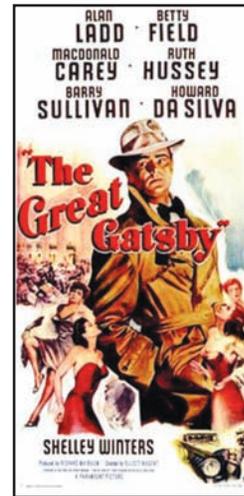
I also made it to 1960's *Key Witness* with a young Dennis Hopper, a fine turn by Frank Silvera as a detective, a terrific jazz score, and some time-capsule views of East L.A. Special guests this year included vets like Richard Erdman and Pat Crowley.

But maybe the most interesting curio on the schedule was Paramount's obscure 1949 version of Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, with Alan Ladd in the title role.

While it's a rarely shown movie, it's no lost classic. Despite a fantastic cast—Macdonald Carey as Nick, Betty Field as Daisy, Barry Sullivan as Tom, Ruth Hussey as Jordan, Shelley Winters as Myrtle, and Henry Hull, Elisha Cook Jr., Howard Da Silva and Ed Begley among the supporting players—this version is laughably pedestrian.

Based in part on a stage adaptation by Owen Davis, this *Gatsby* suffers from banal dialogue and a perplexing absence of the novel's intrigue and mystery. Good as the cast is, some of them are not well-served by the material: Betty Field, so touching in *Of Mice and Men*, is particularly excruciating here.

Terrible as the movie is, though, it's worth seeing if you ever should get the chance.



Even in this crude, clumsy retelling, the story, with its adolescent fantasy of romantic gesture blended with its blunt awareness that money trumps romance, has its appeal, and the stripping-away of Fitzgerald's graceful language throws a striking light on the illusory nature of genre divisions in general.

At first *Gatsby* struck me as a stretch for inclusion in a noir festival. But then I tried to consider the story aside from its reputation as a highbrow literary classic—infidelity and obsessive love, gangsters and bootleggers, a hit-and-run, a cover-up, a man manipulated into murder, and above all a guy brought low because he's a sucker for a dame.

How much more "noir-y" did I want it to be?

That *Gatsby* isn't seen in terms of the genre is, of course, partly because of Fitzgerald's elegant style, the opposite of the hard-boiled argot that is associated (incorrectly, for the most part) with noir writing.

But it's also because of hard-wired literary prejudice—*Gatsby* is seen (rightly) as top-notch American literature, while novels critically defined as "noir" are frequently seen, by definition, as not quite literature at all.

This attitude may be changing, but it hasn't changed yet.

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## A Memorial Day guide for film-goers Cinematic depictions prove a stark reminder of war's realities

By M.V. Moorhead



Although I never served in the military—and, like Samuel Johnson, think of myself meanly for it—I enjoy war movies of all kinds, from the jingoistic to the pacifistic, whether I agree

with their politics or not. But for Memorial Day war-movie viewing, it seems appropriate to recommend some films that emphasize the terrible human toll of war.

Here are a few suggestions:

**Revolutionary War: 1776 (1972)**

— For some reason there haven't been too many movies made about the American Revolution, and fewer still are any good. *1776* isn't a war movie: it's a musical about the drafting and signing of the Declaration of Independence.

I include it here because, about midpoint, a young soldier played by Stephen Nathan beautifully sings a heartbreaking ballad called "Momma Look Sharp" which reminds us of the cost, in young men, of what these old men were arguing about.

**Civil War: Glory (1989)** —

Directed by Edward Zwick, this story of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, a union regiment of freed slaves, has terrifying battle sequences, magnificent acting by Morgan Freeman, Denzel Washington and Matthew Broderick, among others, and a tragic ending that somehow doesn't belie the title.

**World War One: Johnny Got His Gun (1971)** — In this version of Dalton Trumbo's 1938 novel, adapted and directed by the author, Timothy Bottoms plays an American casualty who has lost his arms, legs and face in battle, but who still has all his mental faculties. It's a horrifying story, yet it's leavened, in the soldier's flashbacks and fantasies, by a lot of weird humor and some fine acting, especially by Jason Robards as the narrator's father.

**World War II: Saving Private Ryan (1998)** — Taken in its entirety, Stephen Spielberg's epic may have been slightly overrated at the time of its release; the script is bland and clichéd in stretches. Yet the first 20

minutes or so—the D-Day sequence—is as viscerally grueling a depiction of the hell of battle as any I can remember.

**Korea: Battle Circus (1953)** — This too-little-known film doesn't appear to have made it to DVD yet, but it's worth seeking out on VHS. Humphrey Bogart plays a surgeon with a M\*A\*S\*H unit who falls for nurse June Allyson. The romance plays out against a low-key depiction of the struggle to save young men from becoming Memorial Day honorees.



**Vietnam: Go Tell the Spartans (1978)** — Burt Lancaster is in top form in this tight, unsentimental drama about the very early days of the conflict. Directed by Ted Post, the film is rarely mentioned in the same breath as *Apocalypse Now* and *Platoon*, but it deserves to be.

**Grenada: Heartbreak Ridge (1986)** — OK, this one isn't very convincing or solemn, but this corny '80s rouser has an amusing performance by Clint Eastwood (who also directed) as a tough Marine sergeant.

**Gulf War: Three Kings (1991)** — David O. Russell's excellent, jaundiced tale of a gang of American soldiers hoping to steal a cache of Saddam Hussein's gold includes a superb scene in which George Clooney explains to a younger soldier what bullets actually do to human bodies. It should be required viewing, both for schoolboys and politicians.

**Afghanistan: Restrepo (2010)** — You won't soon forget this documentary, by Sebastian Junger and the late Tim Hetherington, made mostly while they were embedded with an infantry platoon in the Korengal Valley in northeastern Afghanistan. It's a powerful look inside this interminable—and for most of us in the U.S., invisible—war.

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Jevin Hodge: Vocal advocate of bill to reward students who perform community service.  
— Photo courtesy Jevin Hodge

# Veto of McClintock senior's bill is called 'disheartening'

By Daniel Rasmussen

**G**ov. Jan Brewer's veto of a bill aiming to promote community service among Valley high school students is being called "disheartening" by the bill's originator, McClintock High School senior Jevin Hodge.

Jevin serves as co-chair of the Governor's Youth Commission.

The bill, SB 1066, sought to create an award for high school students who completed more than 200 hours of community service.

Hodge says he created the bill to boost a student's chance of college acceptance.

"Colleges aren't looking for just a high GPA anymore; they're looking for student leaders," he said.

"This award would reassure colleges that a student has the qualities they are looking for."

In a letter, Brewer called the bill unnecessary, redundant and a violation of Constitutional separation of powers, meaning that the legislative branch of the government cannot tell the executive branch what it can and cannot do.

However, Hodge and his sponsor, Democratic Sen. David Schapira, are not convinced by Brewer's reasoning behind the veto.

"The only reason she vetoed this bill is because it was sponsored by a Democratic legislator and the idea originated with a student who identifies himself as a Democrat," said Sen. Schapira in a press release.

SB 1066 passed through every level of government with "overwhelming bipartisan support," according to Schapira, before it was struck down by the governor.

Added Hodge:

"It's disheartening to see that partisanship played a factor in nullifying an attempt to formally recognize students for their service and volunteerism in the community. Arizona would have been the first state to formally recognize youth for their community service...it could have possibly persuaded other states to follow suit."

Although Hodge will be graduating this month, he says he will continue to fight for the bill's passage.

"This bill wasn't for myself, it was for the future generations of Arizona," he says.

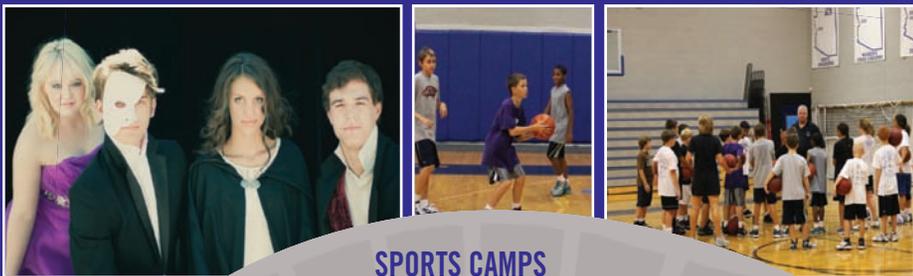
Linda Littell, director of communications for the Tempe Union High School District, says the district will "certainly look at a process for acknowledging those students" as well.

Dr. Kenneth Baca, superintendent at TUHSD, added:

"While I am very disappointed in the governor's decision, I know Jevin understands that this is a part of the democratic process.

"I hope politics did not play a role in a young person's desire to better his community so as to ensure that all young men and women are recognized for the positive contributions they make to this great nation of ours each and every day."

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# Worrisome conditions face society as world population grows, Rotarians told

By Jennifer Pillen Banks

“Over half of the people alive today on the earth are subsisting on under \$2 a day of income. And a lot of them are really hungry,” said invited speaker Richard Morrison at the Kyrene Corridor Rotary meeting last Monday.

Morrison is chairman of Arizona State University’s Morrison Institute for Public Policy Board of Advisors.

And, according to Morrison, with the world population projected to increase from 7 to 9 billion by 2050, things are only going to get worse.

“We’re going to need to feed two more Chinas by 2050 and one more China by 2030. The best minds I know—plant scientists, agribusiness specialists, and academics—say we cannot do it. The world cannot do it. We simply will not be able to meet this goal if the current constraints on technology and trade remain in effect.”

Particularly frustrating to Morrison, however, is that “this global agricultural deficit comes after a time of technological and scientific advancements—wonderments, really—that have allowed us to grow bigger and better crops more quickly, efficiently, and economically.” But these technological advances available in the U.S. are incredibly difficult to get into the countries that need them most. “Part of the answer is going to be in exporting technology, which has been much more successful than exporting food.”

Contributing to the deficit, said Morrison, “are at least three Gs—greed, geography, and governments—which are a problem, along with the four Ws—wars, weather, and our seeming wilting willingness to achieve the goal. All of these things have combined to prevent this most basic of human aspirations from becoming a global reality.”

Morrison, who has also served on the boards of

the National Advisory Council on Rural Development for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the American Agricultural Law Association, is a trustee with the Farm Foundation in Illinois, which, together with the New Harvest Initiative, released the Global Harvest 2011 GAP (Global Agricultural Productivity) Report earlier this year. Morrison shared and discussed several of the report’s observations, findings, and conclusions with the Rotarians.

“There is a gap between how we are growing and what is going to be needed to keep the world fed,” said Morrison.

Adding to the problem is increasing lack of freshwater availability, which “is identified as one of the biggest challenges to increasing food production around the world,” said Morrison.

He did offer a bit of good news. According to the GAP Report, worldwide agricultural production will have to double by 2050 to keep up with population demands. To meet this goal, output must grow annually at a rate of 1.75 percent. While in 2010 the growth rate was only 1.4 percent, in 2011, it increased to 1.74 percent, nearly reaching the goal.

“But this is a number that has to be maintained every year. We have to increase this productivity every year by that 1.75 percent in order to double output. The concern is that we don’t think that this annual rate will last unless we achieve some political breakthrough in the continuation of research and the use of technology,” said Morrison.

He acknowledged that the findings of this report are debatable.

Some believe, for example, that there will actually be food surpluses while others question the safety of certain technological agricultural advances, such as genetic modification of plant-based food.

But, to Morrison, this thinking both ignores

current international hunger problems and fails to look past local concerns to consider the larger global problem.

“More and better food has got to be our mantra,” said Morrison. “The world must try to meet rising demand without growing agriculture’s environmental footprint, and we’ve got to grow more crops without using more gallons of water in this time of climate change.”

The GAP report emphasizes five “universal essentials for feeding the world,” including supporting research and development to create science-based technologies, supporting the widespread adoption of technologies, investing in critical infrastructure to ensure food gets to market, removing trade barriers, and fostering an environment for private-sector investment in the problem.

Ultimately, Morrison’s goal is for his audience to feel the urgency and to become more aware of how US policy affects the larger, global problems. “Feed the world must become our collective call to duty, our achievable and measurable goal in real terms.”

The GAP Report will be updated every year for the next 40 years and is available to read in its entirety at [www.globalharvestinitiative.org](http://www.globalharvestinitiative.org).

*Kyrene Corridor Rotary Club meets Mondays at 12:10 PM, except holidays, at the Kobe Japanese Steak House (SW Corner of Elliot and Hardy). Upcoming speakers include Eric Iwerson, who will present on local bike paths (May 21), and Denny Barney, who is running for Maricopa County Supervisor (June 4).*



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# Minister to end half century of service

## 'Pastor Richard' a founder of Valley Christian H.S.

By Daniel Rasmussen

**R**ichard Hatfield, counseling pastor at Arizona Community Church in Tempe, will be retiring after 54 years of religious service.

Since his start in rural Missouri, Hatfield's career has taken him around the globe as a pastor, counselor, student minister and creator of renowned Christian organizations.

Hatfield, informally known as "Pastor Richard," has been a figure in the Valley since the 1980s, when he served as a co-founder of Valley Christian High School.

Hatfield and his fellow founders sought to develop one equally focused on academics, music and athletics.

The school continues more than 30 years after its conception, and he calls it "fabulous...a dream come true."

Founding the school emerged as a natural progression for Hatfield, whose love of change and new challenges led him to positions with such organizations as World Venture and Conservative Baptists of America, to name a few.

"A lot of people my age hate change," he said, "but I love it."

Among all of his accomplishments, he says his time at Arizona Community Church has been especially rewarding. There he helped establish the church's counseling ministry, and currently preaches at a senior counseling program, one that attracts up to 100 guests every Sunday.

"Joining the staff at [ACC] in 2001 has been a highlight of my career. This is by far the best staff I have ever served

on," he said.

At ACC, say those with whom he works, Hatfield has established a trust with his fellow Christians by helping them through marital and personal struggles with a combination of psychological and biblical views.

"For me, when a couple in crisis calls me and I can help them through to the other end, that is the most rewarding thing I can do," he said.

They see it the same way.

"Richard brings a lot of experience; he is extremely well liked and respected here," said fellow pastor Bill Meiter.

"He's had a huge impact on our church and his absence will leave a huge hole."

ACC members need not worry, though. Although Hatfield will be retiring, he will still be around from time to time helping out wherever he's needed.

With his retirement, Hatfield will continue to work on his book, a Christian counseling guide tentatively titled "Hope and Peace: The Two Keys Every Individual Needs to Get Through a Crisis."

"Everyone needs hope to get through a crisis, and I think my principles will be acceptable to anyone," he said.

He also hopes to continue to travel with his wife, Josie, probably venturing around the U.S., although Australia may also be an option.

A farewell reception for Pastor Richard will be held at the church on Sunday, May 20.

More information can be found on the church website, [www.azcc.org](http://www.azcc.org).



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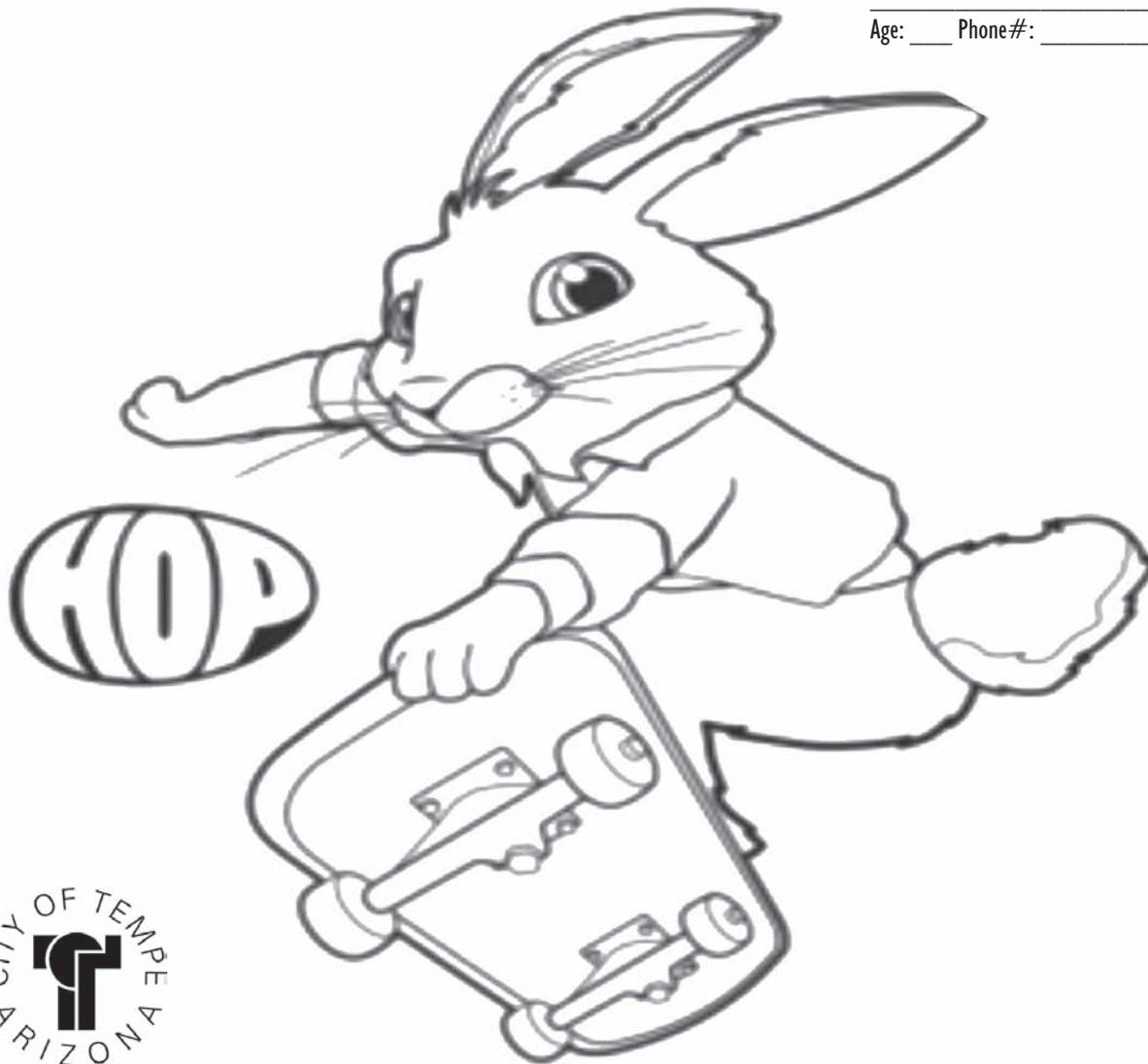
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All entries must be submitted by June 8, 2012. Entries can be dropped off at any of the following locations: Tempe Recreation Office (2nd Floor Public Library), Wrangler News, Great Harvest, Dairy Queen.

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# Notebook

From Page 9

average.”

“Our starting second baseman, **Connor Woods**, was great at getting on base, doing so 67 percent of the time,” said Zaharatos. “Then **Christian ‘Penny’ Slater**, at shortstop, was probably the best overall athlete on the team with a .541 batting average.”

“Our backup shortstop, **James Broadus**, hit a monster home run in our game against Aprende in the playoffs and **Jesse Guzman**, who fills in where needed, shortstop, second base, center field, you name it, also hit a home run against Aprende.”

“**Eric Widner** was another one of our players who played different positions such as right field, relief pitcher, third baseman, but he was probably best at base running,” said Zaharatos. “Eric stole several key bases for us late in the season and in our playoff game against Aprende.”

The Scorpions had three regular outfielders along with backup fielders.

“**Kevin Dunahoo** was our starting center fielder with a .500 batting average,” said Zaharatos. “**Mathew ‘Rocket’ Novis** started at left field, batting .608, but was also our relief pitcher, closing out several big games for us during the season.”

“**Eric ‘Flash’ Oden** was similar in that he started at right field but was also a relief pitcher as well,” said Zaharatos. “Eric was very mature, calm, and cool. He led by example how to be the composed player.”

“One last player, **Venkat Narayanan**, center fielder, broke his wrist the weekend before the first week of practice and had to miss three games,” said Zaharatos. “He’s a great kid and a solid player but found it tough to crack the lineup after being out injured.”

Expect to hear some of these baseball players’ names again next spring and the following years in high school.

**Corona Softball** — The Lady Aztecs entered the Division I state softball tournament as the No. 17 seed pitted against No. 16 Perry on April 28. Their season ended that day when they lost 4-0 in the single elimination first round.

Corona’s softball team will need to replace eight seniors lost to graduation this year.

“**Lani Redmond**, a captain, was one of our best defensive players,” said head coach **Jeep Ray**. “She played second base, was lead-off batter and as solid a softball player as can be. She will be playing at Phoenix College next year.”

“**Katie Koponen**, a hard worker and another player headed to Phoenix College, played pitcher and outfielder,” said Ray. “**Nicole Schwalbe**, a quiet leader on and off the field, is Valedictorian for Corona’s class of 2012 and plans on attending the University of Arizona.”

“**Nicole Giannonatti**, a four-year letter winner, never stopped encouraging her teammates, and will be also attending the University of Arizona,” said

Ray. “**Abby Johnson**, another University of Arizona bound senior, is fun, energetic, always smiling. She has been a complete pleasure.”

“ASU-bound **Abby Spiel**, another 4-year letter winner has been an outstanding center fielder,” said Ray.

Next year’s team will most likely return seven players, including five seniors.

**Corona Baseball** — Corona’s baseball team fought hard all season, despite being ranked at some point in the top 10 by the MaxPreps.com, to make it into the state tournament as one of the top seeds only to barely get in as the No. 24 and final seed to the Division I state tournament.

The Aztecs pulled off an upset against No. 9 Tucson in the first round with a come from behind 7-6 final score only to lose to the MaxPreps.com No. 1 ranked team, Hamilton, in the single elimination second round. The Huskies were seeded No. 8 by the AIA new power ranking system.

Regardless of the seeding and power ranking system, the Aztecs never gave up playing baseball.

“We fought until the very end and we really came together as a team in the post-season,” said head coach Dave Webb. “We gave it a great effort, but unfortunately, it just wasn’t in the cards for us this year.”

The Aztecs graduate five seniors who have had a huge impact on Corona’s baseball program over their four years at Corona.

Four-year varsity player **Kyle Jorgensen**, started all 29 games this season leading the team in almost all categories including batting average, .481, home runs, 9, runs batted in, 34, and hits, 39.

Utility player **Mike Gammon** appeared in 26 games scoring 11 runs on 19 hits while senior outfielder **Tyler Peterson** appeared in 17 games and was given credit for 7 putouts on 7 catches.

Infielder **Justin Zimmer** only played in 18 games but scored 16 runs while another infielder, **Vince Quintana**, ended the season with a .273

Continued on facing page

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batting average and 5 assists.

"This season's seniors were all hard-working, dedicated individuals who always put the team before themselves," said Webb. "Although there were only five of them, they made a huge impact on Corona's baseball program."

Coach Webb is expecting great things from his team in 2013.

"This year our team was disappointed and frustrated with our state tournament situation but I think it made everyone that much hungrier for action next year," said Webb.

"People should have a heads up in 2013 for Aztec baseball."

## 2010 Corona Lacrosse All-Stars

Senior Attack **Jeff Smith**, junior Midfield **Paul Sion** and sophomore Attack **Garret Howell** played on the South squad and represented Corona in the Arizona Lacrosse League North/South All-Star game May 11.

The South squad won the game, 7-6 in overtime.

Smith and Howell were named to the All-State Team which recognized their regular-season play. Both were named to the All-State Attack Second Team.

## High schools offering variety of summer programs

Community education classes, along with a selection of educational camps such as summer arts, STEM, math and "Hot Strings," are being offered June 4 through 29 at several Tempe district high schools.

Summer school will be held at Mountain Pointe from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday, May 29 through Friday, June 22.

An AT&T Aspire-grant-funded Summer Bridge program will be held at Tempe, McClintock and Marcos de Niza high schools, with classes extending from Wednesday, May 30, to Wednesday, June 27.

Summer-session boys and girls basketball, softball, volleyball and strength camps are scheduled at McClintock, Corona del Sol, Marcos de Niza, Mountain Pointe and Desert Vista high schools during June and July.

Corona and Marcos will hold volleyball and basketball camps under sponsorship of Kiwanis Recreation Center. Information and signups are available by calling 480-350-5201 or by visiting [www.tempe.gov/kiwanis](http://www.tempe.gov/kiwanis)

The Summer Bridge program will be held at Marcos de Niza, Tempe and McClintock high schools.

City of Tempe Parks and Recreation Department will offer a summer competitive basketball league program at Tempe High and Marcos de Niza from 4:30 to 10 p.m. May 29 through June 21. Information: [www.tempe.gov/brochure](http://www.tempe.gov/brochure)

Math Academy and a credit-recovery program will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 29-June 29 at Marcos de Niza high schools.

Camp Corona is scheduled at Corona del Sol from 8 a.m. to noon Aug. 2-3. A boot camp program will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 3 at McClintock.

## Volunteers sought for agency's home-delivery initiative

Tempe Community Action Agency's weekday home-delivered-meals program is recruiting volunteer drivers willing to serve homebound elderly and disabled residents.

TCAA delivers meals to as many as 250 residents daily. Many are alone and isolated from family members, with little social contact, according to agency director Beth Fiorenza.

"Volunteer drivers are valued by the community, not only

for delivering a hot meal but for a friendly face greeting our participants," said Fiorenza. Drivers also offer birthday wishes and look out for the individual's general well being.

TCAA asks that drivers commit to at least once a week from 9 to 11:30 a.m. for a minimum of six months in order to participate in training and become acquainted with clients. Schedules are flexible.

Volunteers use their own vehicle, and must have a valid driver's license, registration and insurance. A fingerprint clearance is also required.

The agency provides training and ongoing support.

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# University Animal Hospital Celebrating 50 years becomes a pet project for area veterinarian, staff

Story & photo by Daniel Rasmussen

**U**niversity Animal Hospital, a Tempe institution, observes half a century in business this year.

The veterinary center, located on Hardy Drive just south of Broadway, celebrated the occasion May 13 with an open house and party, featuring free tours, raffles, cake, and games for the kids.

The hospital's 11 animal doctors were also on

— CELEBRATION, Page 21



Dr. J. Thomas Gus oversees operation of University Animal Hospital, which this month celebrated its 50th year.



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## Celebration

From Page 20

hand to demonstrate ultrasound technology, X-rays, surgeries and laboratory procedures. University Animal Hospital was opened on Broadway Road in the 1950s by George Calderwell, one of the first veterinarians in Arizona. It was named after ASU, which was the only major landmark in Tempe at the time.

The hospital's current owner, Dr. J. Thomas Gus, took over in 1986, and moved the operation to its current, 15,000-square-foot location in 1996.

Gus says the hospital's commitment to quality and customer satisfaction is behind its longevity.

"It's a business of compassion, and we always treat our customers and patients with the respect they deserve," he said.

He also says convenient hours, staying open late at night and on weekends, and offering quality, affordable service has helped them build a loyal customer base.

"When we stay around longer and longer, and we continue to

do good work, people talk to their friends about it, and we appreciate that," he said.

University Animal Hospital is different from other Valley facilities because it offers a full-range of services. By offering advanced procedures such as ultrasound, laser surgery and endoscopy, the hospital represents one-stop shopping for many customers.

It has also remained "mom and pop" while other hospitals have been bought by large corporations.

"We are extremely close to our customers and we are in touch with our community," he said.

Although it may seem like Valley vets may be fighting for customers, Gus says no such rivalry exists.

"The veterinary-medicine community is small, and we are all colleagues, not competitors," he said.

So with 50 years down, what does the future hold for University Animal Hospital?

"We'll keep doing what we've been doing for the last 50 years," Gus said.

He says that there are "several great young vets" who will take the reins when he decides to retire, which he insists is not in the near future.



### Key to success

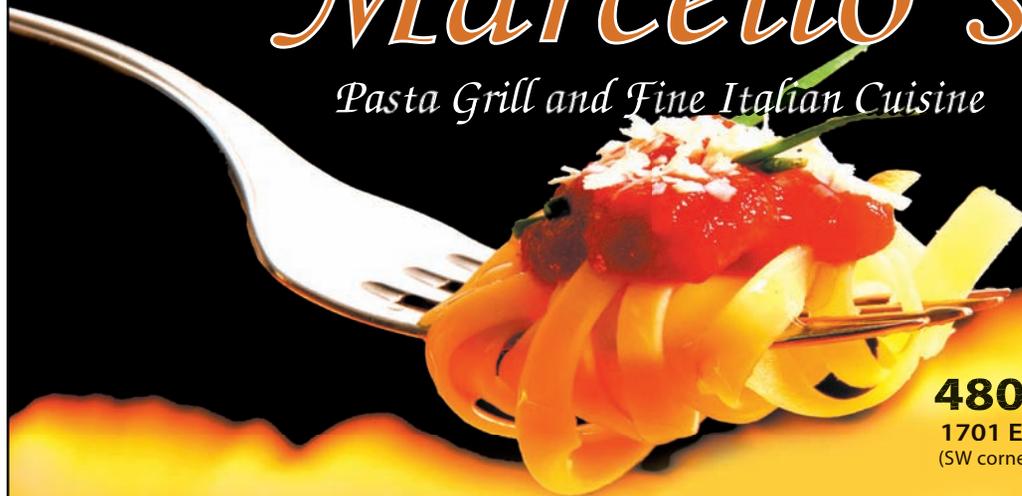
Every April, Key Clubs from three Western states, including Arizona, participate in a Southwest district convention, which includes a competition for best world-service project. Members of the Corona del Sol High School club sold leather wrist bands, handmade in Guatemala, to benefit children in that country. A second project, Ribbons for Reasons, raised \$712 for UNICEF, the United Nations' international child-emergency program. Proceeds from that project were earmarked for distribution by a Kiwanis/Key Club joint effort called ELIMINATE, a program to control neonatal tetanus in the world through vaccinations.

— Contributed by Sheryl Braun, Cds DECA sponsor

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## Ask the Doctor

# Women's Health Screenings at Each Stage of Life

It's no secret that women are often more focused on caring for their families or careers than they are in making their own health a priority.

Furthermore, there is a common misconception that women's health mostly relates to childbirth and gynecology. The truth is that women have a wide variety of unique health needs during each decade of their lives.

Jill Bish, RNC, director of Women's Services at Tempe St. Luke's Hospital, believes that one of the most important things a woman can do for herself and for her family is to take care of her health by eating a balanced diet, exercising regularly, and making time for important health screenings. Below Bish answers some important questions about screenings for each stage of a woman's life.

**Q: What screenings are suggested for women in their 20s and 30s?**

**A:** Women more than 20 years of age can use their Body Mass Index (BMI), a simple calculation of weight in relation to height, to determine whether or not their weight is within a normal, healthy range. Starting at 20 years of age, women should begin getting cholesterol screenings every five years. Women should also have their first Pap test and pelvic exam between 18 and 21 years of age, and every three years after their initial check-up. Women with a strong family history of ovarian cancer should also begin screenings for ovarian cancer.

**Q: What screenings are suggested for women in their 40s?**

**A:** As women age, the number of recommended screenings increases. Women between 40 and 64 years of age should have their blood pressure checked every two years. After 45 years of age, it's important to have a blood glucose screening. This may be recommended earlier if women have risk factors for diabetes, such as obesity, family history and hypertension. Starting at 40 years of age, women should also begin having breast exams and mammograms every one to two years for the

prevention and early detection of breast cancer.

**Q: What screenings are suggested for women in their 50s and 60s?**

**A:** After 50 years of age, women experience an increased likelihood of health conditions so a few more screenings are recommended. In addition to the exams and screenings conducted in their 40s, women should also be screened for colon cancer beginning at 50 years of age and as recommended by a physician after that. All women, but especially those older than 50 years, should notify their doctors of any skin changes, which could be indicative of skin cancer. For women age 65 years and older, or those with risk factors, bone density screenings for osteoporosis become extremely important.

**Q: What is the most important thing women should know about health screenings?**

Many of the illnesses detected by preventive screenings can be cured if detected and treated early. When women simply make the time to plan their appointments, most will follow through and get the preventive care they need and deserve.

*Jill Bish, RNC, is the director of Women's Services at Tempe St. Luke's Hospital. For important screening information or to schedule an appointment, call the Women's Care Clinic at Tempe St. Luke's at 480-257-2777.*

*This information is provided by Tempe St. Luke's Hospital as general information only and is not intended to replace the advice of a physician.*



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# Briefs

## UA campus opens in Chandler

University of Arizona's new downtown Chandler campus is now open at Chandler Community Center. More than 30 students already have signed up for summer classes.

In the first year, master's degrees and graduate certificates will be offered in Education and Management Information Systems.

The initial academic programs include a Master-IP program, which provides middle- and high-school STEM teachers with business/industry internships combined with a master's degree. Sponsors of internships for the first phase will be Salt River Project, Sundt Construction, Orbital Sciences, Piper Plastics Inc. and Freeport McMoRan.

"This collaborative partnership will assist the city as it continues to develop a highly educated workforce," said Mayor Jay Tibshraeny.

"The University of Arizona programs are going to help create invaluable relationships between Chandler businesses and the education community."

University officials say they view the Chandler program as a way to develop new and innovative pathways to provide students across the state with access to UA academic programs.

"The UA is absolutely committed to expanding access to unique higher education opportunities," said Mike Proctor, UA vice president for regional

development.

UA will utilize approximately 9,000 square feet of space at the Community Center, at 125 E. Commonwealth Ave., which will be used for classrooms and offices.

## Ballet center hosts tap event

South Tempe's longtime dance venue, Marilyn Bostic's Ballet Centre, will host a local celebration of National Tap Dance Day on Friday, May 25, observing the birthday of Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, an American tap dancer and actor of stage and film.

The event will include a free shim sham shimmy workshop from 9 to 11 a.m.

This workshop is open to ages 12 and up. The studio is at 5450 S. Lakeshore Drive, Tempe.

Information: 480-382-7737.

## Downtown survey continues

Valley Metro continues its survey of the downtown Tempe corridor to identify locations of underground utilities and investigate the soil conditions under the future streetcar line.

Metro officials say the work is necessary to help develop the project's design. Work is under way on Mill Avenue from University Drive to just south of 15th Street.

During the work, motorists are advised to expect intermittent traffic restrictions.

The work will occur during daytime hours. Information: 602-744-5552 or by email to ckahn@metrolightrail.org.

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## Rail

From Page 4

customers to access their store at times. One program, the Metro Max Rewards, focuses on drawing riders to the businesses along Main Street, and offers rewards points for shopping at the locally owned businesses.

The goals for the light rail are to increase transportation options, limit congestion on Valley streets, cut down on pollution and raise more business for local companies.

The ability to do so has put Mesa, and the Valley as a whole, on the top of the list when it comes to new and innovative designs for alternative means for public transportation.

The groundbreaking for the light rail construction is planned for the morning of May 30, and is a community wide event, open to all ages.

To learn more about the light rail, or the Tempe Streetcar, you can go to [http://www.valleymetro.org/metro\\_projects\\_planning/](http://www.valleymetro.org/metro_projects_planning/)

# Kids' mastery of math, science takes off with innovative pilot program at Summit School

By Alison Stanton

As a captain with Southwest Airlines, Rob Bych's number-one goal is to get his passengers safely from Point A to Point B.

To do this, he must know more than how the various controls in the cockpit work. Every time he flies, Bych also calls on his knowledge of math, physics, geography and other subjects.

A parent of three children attending Summit School of Ahwatukee, Bych also knows that sometimes young students question if they will ever use what they learn in school in "real life."

So, when Bych, a west Chandler resident, heard about the Adopt-A-Pilot program—a nationwide initiative that puts Southwest Airlines pilots into fifth-grade classrooms for five weeks to help teach the students about topics like math, science and career goals—he knew he had to volunteer to bring the program to his kids' school.

Four years ago, Bych became one of the 1,000 or so Southwest Airlines pilots who participates in the Adopt-A-Pilot program.

Every year since then, he has returned to the school in the spring to teach, entertain and inspire the children with his combination of engaging curriculum-based lessons woven into discussions about everyday life.

Bych recently completed this year's program with 20 fifth grade students from Lori Christianson's classroom.

Listening to Bych recall his time with the students, it's immediately clear how enthusiastic he is about the Adopt-A-Pilot program.

"I go into the classroom wearing my uniform and I start off talking about my career," he said.

"I say things like, 'You are in fifth grade now, but what will you do after high school, and after college? Everyone asks what you will do when you get older, and now is the time to start thinking about it.'"

After sharing his own story about how he became a pilot, Bych starts to teach his first lesson, which focuses on goal setting.

"I stress the importance of having a mentor—adults who are on the other side who can help them become what they want

to be," he said.

"But, as I say to them, they need to tell us what they have in mind, and then we can see if we can find someone who can help."

For example, if a student expresses an interest in becoming a physical therapist, Bych said he would try to find someone in the profession who would be willing to speak with him or her.

Next, Bych said he dives into discussions about geography, describing where he has been and asking what places the students have visited.

"We talk about rivers, cities, mountain chains, and the nicknames we have for some cities in the world like The Big Apple and The City of Lights and The Windy City. It's a very fun course."

Bych also tells the students all about weather—from the difference between a warm and cold front to why Seattle, Washington gets a lot more rain than here in the desert.

"We look at the Earth and the sun and weather patterns and the tilt of the Earth and why this causes us to have seasons,"

Continued on facing page

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he said. "Then we talk about time zones, atmospheric pressure, and temperatures."

When it comes time to discuss math with the fifth graders, Bych starts out with some simple equations like, "If it's 300 miles to Los Angeles and my plane is going 300 miles per hour, then how long will it take me to get there?"

Stressing along the way just how often he uses math in his day to day work, Bych makes the problems progressively harder; for example, asking them to calculate how much fuel a plane will use during a certain trip.

During his talk on the physics of flight, Bych explains why and how an aircraft is able to fly, why it is shaped the way it is, how propellers work, and the four forces of flight: lift, gravity, thrust and drag.

"We talk about the difference between port and starboard and airspeed versus ground speed, and why airports are laid out the way they are, and what the numbers on runways mean and why there are different colored lights on them like red, white, blue and green."

The program culminates with a trip to Sky Harbor International Airport, where Bych takes "almost as many parent chaperones as kids" as well as the students and Christianson to a maintenance hangar, where they can see a B-737 airplane up close.

"We look under the plane, and at the radar behind fiberglass, and talk about why we have two hydraulic systems and why there are only two tires, and we look inside the cargo bin."

Once inside the plane, anyone who wants to is allowed to sit inside the cockpit.

Bych said every year, one or two students express an interest in flying. If they do, Bych is ready, willing and able to help mentor them.

Regardless of what career aspirations the fifth graders might have, Bych just wants to help the students achieve their dreams.

"My passion is flying. I always wanted to fly. I love going to work every day," he said.

"My goal is to motivate them to open up and tell us



what they want to be."

Christianson said she is extremely grateful for the time that Bych devotes to her classroom every year.

"He is the reason the program is successful," she said.

"I like that it reinforces our classroom objectives, like geography, math, science and physics. And I also like the way Rob brings to each lesson the wisdom from his own life, explaining how to apply all of what he is talking about from day to day. It's his personal philosophy that he imparts that makes it extra special."

Kevin Bannon's daughter Katie is a fifth grader at Summit School. The south Tempe resident said he was

greatly impressed by how engaged and enthusiastic Bych was with the students.

"Katie seemed to thoroughly enjoy it and brought home stories about the cockpit and how much fun she had," he said.

Monique Sutilla's son Alexander found it especially fascinating to learn about the aerodynamics of flight.

"I was impressed at how much information they received about aviation, flight, airplanes, what keeps them in the air and how they fly," said Sutilla, a south Tempe resident.

"Mr. Bych made it fun and engaged the kids in hands-on activities like making the perfect paper airplane."

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## Tempe, Chandler join seat-belt campaign

In an effort to save more lives on Arizona's roadways this month, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety is partnering with the Chandler and Tempe police departments, as well as other local law enforcement agencies, to enforce Arizona's seat belt and child safety seat laws.

Although Arizona has a secondary seat belt law, the enforcement campaign is based upon high visibility traffic enforcement with a "zero-tolerance" approach towards seat belt and child safety seat usage.

As part of a the national Click It or Ticket seat belt enforcement campaign, law enforcement agencies across the state will be stepping up traffic enforcement patrols and increasing other enforcement efforts to drive home the message

Buckle Up Arizona...It's the Law!

Despite widespread efforts to educate drivers about the importance of wearing seat belts, motor vehicles collisions continue to be the leading cause of death and serious injuries to the citizens of our state. The enforcement mobilization will run from May 21 through June 3.

Regular seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. When worn correctly, seat belts have proven to reduce the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passenger car occupants by 45 percent – and by 60 percent for occupants of pickup trucks, SUVs and mini-vans.

Funding was provided by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

## Chandler Regional construction update

Phase two construction is under way at Chandler Regional Medical Center. It's an important phase, say officials, because a new main entry drive will be created for the hospital, along with a new raised helipad that will be operational this fall.

The work will result in a few impacts, including:

- The main drive off Frye Road will be closed.
- Ambulance traffic will enter off Pennington Road, north of Fairview Street.
- The access drives on Dobson Road and Fairview Street will remain open for general use.

• Work on the south parking lot continues at a rapid pace. Paving is scheduled to start the week of May 21. The area is still on track to be finished a month early and will open by June 1.

Here are some new facts about the construction:

- Last week it was learned that the concrete vaults under the south parking lot will hold approximately 2.16 million gallons of storm drain water.
- The complete storm drain system installed includes seven in-ground dry wells that have been drilled down to a depth of 80 feet.

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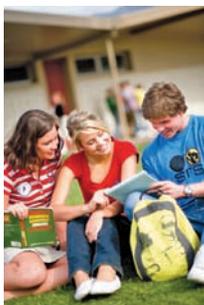
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**STS Foundation is Inviting Local Families to host Foreign Exchange Student for the upcoming school year.**



Marie is 16 and is from Germany. Her Mom is a Teacher and her Dad is a Forwarding Agent. Marie has a 12 yr old sister named Charlotte and 2 foster brothers aged 9 and 14. Her town of Bad Sooden-Allendorf is famous as a Spa destination and has a history of producing and selling salt. Marie is an active Christian and would like to attend Church with her host family. Her main hobbies are swimming, girl scouts, singing in a choir, running, books, playing the guitar and reading. Her favorite subjects in school are History and English. She sings in the school choir. Marie has been a scout for 8 years and a group leader for 2 years. Her group consists of 8 boys aged between 12 and 14. She helps set up the nativity scene at her church each year. Marie works part time at the local library. She also belongs to a swimming club where she trains younger members. She would love to join a swim team during her year in the USA. Please consider Marie to be part of your family for the 2012-2013 school year.

For more information on Marie or any other students call **Lori - 480-251-9346**. STS Foundation, a local Scottsdale Exchange Program, has been promoting Student Exchange in the Valley for over 20 years.

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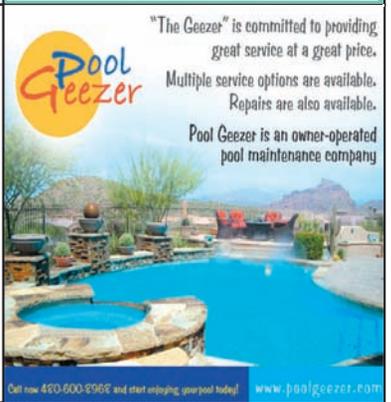
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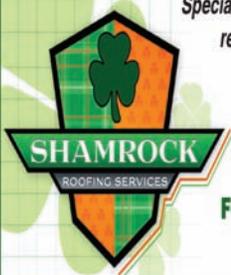
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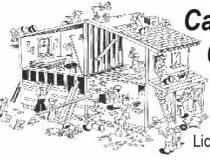
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## Wrangler NEWS

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