



JUNE 22 - JULY 6, 2019 □ VOL 30, NO 12

TEMPE & WEST CHANDLER

# WRANGLER NEWS

THE PLACE WE CALL HOME



## Special Report

### Tempe boosts care for homeless by \$1 million

By Susie Steckner

Tempe is making steady progress toward housing chronically homeless people, and successfully keeping them housed. Focusing on this population is vitally important, say city officials, because, in addition to humanitarian concerns, people who are chronically homeless are the most frequent users of public safety and other services.

The city also is successfully connecting the broader homeless population with social and other related services.

According to figures provided by Nikki Ripley, Tempe's communication and media relations manager, the city has allocated an additional \$1.03 million to the last fiscal year's \$1.25 million to assist the homeless, a 56 percent increase over last year. The added funds include a \$75,000 expansion of the Tempe Works program and adding city employees to work directly with people who are homeless as well as expanding park maintenance to enhance city parks.

The City Council OK'd the allocations as part of its June 6 approval of the 2019-20 fiscal year budget. The new fiscal year begins July 1.

Significant investments in recent years have

— HOMELESS, Page 22



### Scooter-mania: Love 'em or hate 'em? Share your views

Those happily convenient—or pesky (depending on your point of view)—electric bikes and scooters that have become such a ubiquitous part of the Valley's transportation mix have caught the eye of Chandler officials.

From now through mid-July, the city is conducting a pair of surveys to gauge opinion on the e-scooter and bike sharing



services operating locally and in other cities across the country.

One study asks residents and the public for feedback; the other

seeks input from the business community.

Links to both surveys are available by the clicking the "Take Our Survey" box at [chandleraz.gov/transportation](http://chandleraz.gov/transportation).

According to city spokesman Craig Younger, the survey's results will help guide policy decisions that could affect

— SCOOTERS, Page 27



Children found a welcome and wet respite from the sun's scorching rays at The Cloud, a splash pad at Kiwanis Park.

More photos on Pgs. 14-15.

— Photo by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News

### Kyrene Middle School gains international distinction

By Sammie Ann Wicks

It's no surprise that anything employing the word baccalaureate and its built-in suggestion of academic excellence usually catches an admiring glance. But add "international" to that and our minds soar to what must be the Mt. Everest of academia.

Apparently surviving the thin air of educational high pursuit, Kyrene Middle School has planted its own flag of super-achievement

in the form of the prestigious International Baccalaureate program, meaning that students promoted there can be recognized worldwide at any school they attend.

It is the only school in the Kyrene district to hold that distinction.

Incoming principal Scott Maxwell explained that KMS's IB certification represents an offshoot of the 51-year-old international

organization's mission to maximize multidisciplinary student learning within a global context, which emphasizes cross-cultural influences.

That perspective, says Maxwell, fits the school's regional identity perfectly. Maxwell, who takes his new job starting July 1 following former principal Julio Martinez, says achieving such prestigious

— KMS, Page 8

### Chandler Regional adds option for home care

Dignity Chandler Regional Medical Center has confirmed that it will be the site of a new hospital-level home care option for patients. The initiative is designed to bring the essential elements of hospital care to the comfort of the home, allowing many patients to avoid a hospital admission.

The Chandler Regional collaboration will be in partnership with CommonSpirit Health and Contessa, a leading operator of home recovery care.

— HOMECARE, Page 16

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# Animal magnetism

## *Pet-sitting opens doors to couple's world's eye view*

By Sammie Wicks

A young Tempe financial analyst, who says her day job represents her “practical side,” claims a new parttime vocation has helped her integrate creativity into her life—with the help of animal intelligence.

“I thoroughly love animals of almost all shapes and sizes,” says Angelina Allsop, a newly signed-on participant in the popular owner-sitter clearinghouse trustedhousesitters.net. Born in Germany and enjoying an international worldview, Allsop says she eagerly awaits opportunities to explore every corner of the globe.

“When my husband and I were trying to follow our dream of seeing the world—hopefully cheaply—I got signed up with that organization, and it had the added benefit of providing not only house-sitting assignments, but animal companionship along with it.”

It's not just companionship Allsop receives from the animals she cares for, though; it's a whole other stream of consciousness.

“When you're having, you know, ‘conversations’ with an animal, there's something there that we have to call ‘PSI.’ It's not language, it's not all these strings of human words, but I believe with the animals,

there's so much more pure connection.

“Really, we have to acknowledge that, even among communicating humans, only a small percentage of what we're trying to say is in language.”

But what about that practical side, the world of science, rules, logic, probabilities?

“Well, one thing I learned reading Einstein was his idea that there are different KINDS of intelligence,” Allsop reasons, “and among those is the important area of emotional intelligence. I sometimes think animals have this kind of understanding far beyond that of humans.”

Allsop, a published writer, credits her father's strong influence during her formative years for her current career path.

“I had this huge ambition of being a creative writer when I was young, and my dad kept saying ‘Lawyer, Lawyer! That gives you security. And lawyers can also write books,’” Allsop remembers, laughing. She says his counsel reaffirmed that her father wanted the best for her.

“I guess my dad's admonitions made me pursue the practical line of work that I'm in,” Allsop admits. “And, there's no denying money can be useful, so here I am, looking at data.”

Still, for those who understand this,



Angelina Allsop may spend her day crunching numbers as a Tempe financial analyst, but she's an animal lover at heart and participates in a pet-sitting service along with her husband.

— Photo courtesy Angelina Allsop

creativity keeps intruding on our mundane lives until we listen. When Allsop is awakened by her non-logical side, the magic of animals, and their supreme importance in her life, speaks.

“When I was a three-year-old kid, the neighborhood folks would all just shake their heads and say, ‘Here comes that little girl with the parakeet on her head.’ As a child, Allsop loved the bird to distraction, and was hardly to be seen without it, in her room or on daily jaunts through her neighborhood.

“She died when I was in high school,” says Allsop, “but I had my cat, and related to her at a very high level—she was oh so

— PETSITTERS, Page 27



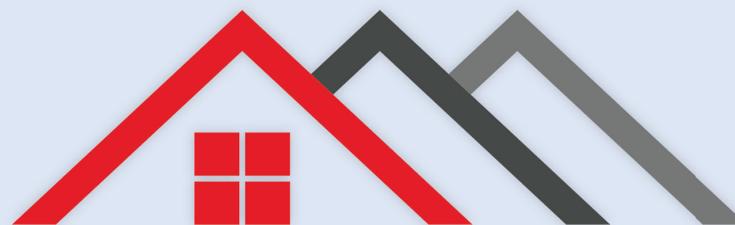
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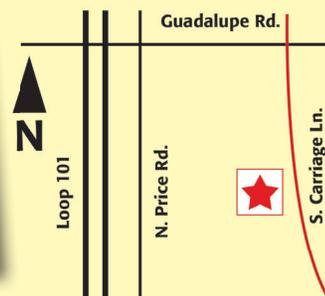
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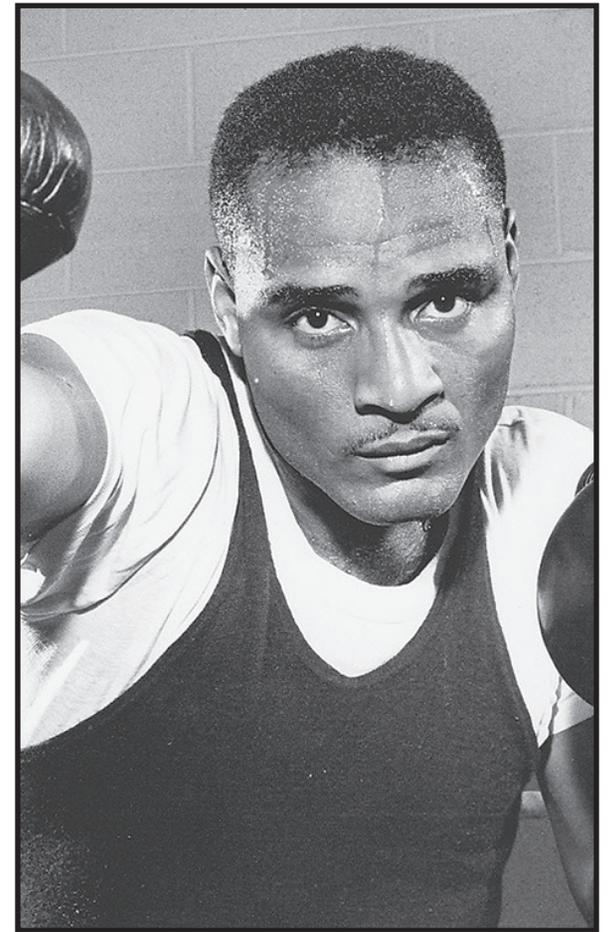
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## Museum revisits the glory days of a revered Chandler boxing champ



Zora Folley

— Photo courtesy Chandler Museum

It was March 22, 1967. Two men faced off in the boxing ring at Madison Square Garden, where the title of Heavyweight Champion of the World dangled before them. In the blue corner was the champ, Muhammad Ali. In the red corner stood the challenger, Zora Folley, a hometown hero to the people of Chandler, a man whose career as a gentleman boxer had earned him respect.

The bout that ensued was an event at the crossroads of race, religion, sport and the politics of the 1960s.

Chandler's next Our Stories speaker program takes a look at these two boxers and the circumstances that weighed heavily on each man when they faced each other in a fight that was to become a turning point in both of their careers.

The speaker series' newest presentation, "Bigger than Boxing: Muhammad Ali vs. Zora Folley," is scheduled 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 29, at the Chandler Museum, 300 S. Chandler Village Drive, in West Chandler.

When Folley fought Ali for the Heavyweight title, the two men were very different people.

Both African American, Folley's reputation was held in high regard; Ali, who had just changed his name from Cassius Clay and refused induction into

the military, was often painted by the media as a villain. Many viewed him as controversial because he vocalized his religious and political views through his popularity as a sports figure.

For the coming program, Museum Director Jody Crago will lead the presentation to examine the culture of the time through the combatants' seven-round fight. "This talk allows us to review a defining moment in American history through the local lens of a Chandler resident," Crago said.

"The same issues these men faced continue to inspire discussion amongst sports fans today." This program provides a special sneak peek at the Chandler Museum's exhibition on the same topic, which will open in the exhibit hall next summer.

The Our Stories initiative presents diverse speakers who share unique Arizona and local history topics to a general audience. It is produced throughout the year by the Chandler Museum, Chandler Public Library, Chandler Historical Society and Friends of the Chandler Public Library.

Editor's note: In July, West Chandler's Sunset branch library will host the next program in the series, "Arizona Goes to the Moon," with Kevin Schindler, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing on the moon.

## All aboard

Bus driver's book giveaway opens door to a new world for schoolkids



A child from Holdeman Elementary in Tempe is one of hundreds who boarded a school bus on the last day of class in order to receive books donated by a former Tempe Elementary school bus driver and her coworkers at Valley Metro.

Story by Gabrielle Dunton  
Photo by Robyn Martinez

With the long, hot days of summer underway, employees from Valley Metro are making an effort to ensure that Holdeman Elementary students have access to books to page through when it's too hot to play outside.

The Driving for Books initiative is led by Valley Metro bus operator Jermaine Bethea; this is the third year the donation drive has helped support a school in the Tempe Elementary district.

"I think being able to bring physical books into students' hands is a great thing," said Bethea. "We want to promote summer reading as much as possible so that nothing is lost while they're not in school."

Before getting behind the wheel for Valley Metro, Bethea drove a school bus for the Tempe Elementary district. As a way to give back to students, Bethea started collecting books with the intention of donating them to kids in need.

This year, the Tempe resident has helped collect a record 8,000 donated books for youth in Tempe, Mesa and Phoenix.

"I live in Tempe and my kids go to school in the Tempe Elementary

district. I get so much from this community, so I am just trying to give a little bit back to it," said Bethea.

Before school ended in May, 500 Holdeman students in kindergarten through fifth grade lined up to climb aboard a colorful Valley Metro bus and receive a new book, smiling and laughing all the while. Some began reading right away while waiting for the rest of their classmates to make their way through the line, one by one.

"When we read, I like to know that the author took courage to write for us," said third-grade student Jizae Henry.

"Mostly, I like to unlock the adventures in the book."

Throughout the year, employees of Valley Metro and bus-service provider First Transit donated books to support education and local students through the Driving for Books initiative. The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office and Tempe police and Tempe departments were among the additional community partners who helped donate books this year.

"I think getting books is cool because when we read more books, we get more knowledge, and when we get more knowledge, we have more things to share," said fourth-grader Valencia Dixon.

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## A compilation of thoughts from our young staff . . .

*Editor's note: At age 19, our youngest intern, Noah Kutz, is on a weeks-long French language immersion trip until his ASU classes resume in August. In his absence, Nicholas Johnsen, 21, a senior at Creighton University in Omaha, is filling in. We thought you'd enjoy reading their accounts of differing, but nonetheless wide-eyed, summer experiences.*

### By Nicholas Johnsen

As much as we normally hate to admit it, times are changing. Modern technology has led us to an age in which convenience and accessibility are at an all time high, thanks to those magical devices with touchscreens we carry in our pockets. The possibilities of how to use this technology are endless—and that's what we're methodically pursuing out here at the Wrangler.

Before I get too far ahead, let me introduce myself. I'm Nicholas Johnsen (Nick, Nicholas, Nicky—you choose). I'm a 21-year-old college student at the distant campus of Creighton University, found right in the heart of Omaha, Nebraska, studying English and Communications.

If you're wondering what got me here, writing this article, or what got me there, halfway across the country, it was a healthy dose of leaving my comfort zone with a hint of right-place-right-time.

I was born and raised here, in the Valley—North Central Phoenix to be precise. I went to high school at Brophy College Prep and somehow found myself throwing my name into Creighton's always overflowing box of applicants during that senior year. Shortly after Creighton began I met Don Kirkland, and shortly afterward started writing for Wrangler News. As a matter of fact, you may recognize me from a story or two I've written these last few months. This summer, however, while on break til the start of my senior year, I'm doing a bit of a different job for the editor.

Like I said earlier, the digital age is now. With that ubiquitous cellphone in your pocket, you can receive at the touch of a button the same hometown news you would normally wait to get in your driveway. And, just as we would with anything, Wrangler News is committed to adapting to this. That's where I come in.

For the duration of my summer break, I'll be working here to help

bring you news as simply and quickly as I can.

This doesn't mean changing our "print presence" in any way; the same stories are still delivered to your driveway, every other Saturday throughout the year, in the form of our long-familiar printed edition. It does mean, though, that you can find those stories on your very own magical, touch-screen device with a follow on Twitter or Instagram (@WranglerNews) or a free subscription to our weekly emails.

In short, we're focused on making sure we're up to date with all of the digital perks that you (and we) increasingly rely on for current news.

And, speaking of news, connectivity is key—especially for a truly local paper like ours. Fortunately, the 21st century has given us an opportunity to push this connection even further. What you'll find whenever you scan your email inbox or scroll by a post on any of your social media feeds may look like an update, but it may also be an invitation to be better informed about what's going on in your very own neighborhood.

So now that you've met the mind behind the screen, let's get reading, shall we?

### By Noah Kutz

Delicious food, marvelous wine, strong coffee and artistic mastery are written on an endless list of French stereotypes – along with rudeness, excessive smoking and body odor.

Some things hold true while others stand to be corrected. After just two weeks in France, I've learned a few lessons that you may find surprising and even useful for day-to-day interactions back home.

On the second day of my journey I noted in my journal, "The wine - fantastic. The people - Not entirely welcoming. Parisians walking around with baguettes and rapidly speaking French? Yes."

My first impressions of the country were nothing more than expected as I seemed to be living out of my French culture textbook.

Something I learned quickly is that tourists have their own stereotypes (particularly the Americans). We are extremely loud everywhere we go and tend to disrupt anything peaceful in every setting.

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# KMS

From Page 1

recognition was no cakewalk.

“Getting this designation was a demanding two-year process that involved every aspect of what we do at the school,” says Maxwell, noting that the school will operate under the auspices of IB’s Middle Years Programme.

“Leading up to the final designation, IB personnel came onsite to visit classrooms, meet with parents and students, talk to teachers and take a look at our course offerings, to confirm we were ‘IB ready,’” Maxwell said.

“The actual certification also required a major reconfiguration of our curriculum.”

“In all my years in education, I don’t know that I’ve ever encountered a school and area that’s so unique,” Maxwell declared.

“We have kids from the Guadalupe neighborhoods, the African-American, Asian, and Native American communities, and others from fairly affluent areas, all learning together under the globally defined umbrella that IB provides.”

Fluent in Mandarin Chinese, Maxwell grew up in Boston, studied in Beijing, taught in China and South Africa, and went on to earn a Master’s Degree in International Studies and Special Education from Middlebury Institute of International studies in Monterey, Calif.

His international background in education makes Maxwell particularly enthusiastic to oversee the



— Wrangler News photo

implementation of the IB program at the school.

“I’m so glad we were able to bring Mandarin into our language offerings, which now also include American Sign Language and Spanish,” Maxwell says, adding the IB system’s international perspective makes it unique in the world of education.

“What I’ve been delighted to learn about IB is that it’s universal,” Maxwell notes.

“You can take it anywhere, in any local context, and succeed with it.”

Founded in 1968 in Geneva, Switzerland, the program now operates in 3,460 schools across 143 countries at 1,370 public and private schools, and emphasizes creative and critical thinking as its educational core.

The organization’s Middle Years Programme was first offered in 1994, and by 1999 was operating in 51 countries.

Instituting the IB program at KMS is part of what Kyrene Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely calls a “redesign” of the district’s schools

and curricula, aimed at enhancing enrollment.

That new curricular perspective, Maxwell notes, is not narrowly conceptual, but encourages students to find real-world applications for their classroom discoveries.

“Students in the program must complete what we call ‘Service Learning’ projects,” he explains—projects that take them out of the school and into the community.

“Participants take the skills they’ve learned in the classroom and apply them to a project. So you might see kids helping clean up a neighborhood, raising money for a community need, or helping out at an area that needs work—things like that.” Even routine classroom skills, within the IB concept, Maxwell insists have a practical application.

“Consider something like note-taking: the IB curriculum has units on even that—you know, what’s the most effective way to do that—but the most important, the unique thing IB does is apply that lesson in a practical way. It teaches how to utilize the notes you’ve taken, such as writing a paper.”

The new principal declares the school’s success in achieving the IB certification lies squarely with the years-long work put in by the teachers and administrators involved.

“This program couldn’t have happened without the teachers and committed administrators like Kathie Cigich and Sheryl Houston, (who helped lay the program’s foundations.)

They were tireless. These people, with so many others, did all the heavy lifting, and I’m excited to follow their strong lead. Now our final step is bringing it into our classrooms and community.”

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## Mayor Hartke adds a splash of color to Crayola opening

Chandler Mayor Kevin Hartke definitely is aware of his city's colorful past.

Now a new dash of color has come to town, and Hartke didn't let its arrival go unnoticed.

Hartke joined celebrants at the opening ceremonies for a Crayola Experience, said to be only the fifth of its kind in the U.S.

"Chandler has always been a family friendly community. We welcome with open arms this fun-filled destination at an existing popular shopping center that residents and visitors will enjoy for years to come."

The crayon-wrapper ribbon cutting was held at the entrance of the roughly 20,000-square-foot attraction featuring 19 hands-on creative activities, conveniently next door to The Crayola Store, a 4,000 square-foot retail space featuring Crayola products and

souvenirs.

The exterior wall features a two-story, bright yellow mural adorned with Crayola characters in various states of mischief.

At the opening, dignitaries spoke of how the brand will be a dynamic and colorful draw to Chandler mall, where it is located.

With a count of eight—in honor of the iconic Crayola crayon box of eight—the "Red Orange" crayon-label ribbon was cut and Crayola Experience Chandler opened to the public.

Crayola Experience Chandler is open every day of the year—Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Crayola Store is open until 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 6 p.m. Sunday. General admission is \$14.99 at the door and \$13.99 online.

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# Summer

From Page 6

On a boat tour on the Seine, my classmates and I saw a graffiti marking on a wall that read “Refugees welcome. Tourists go home.”

On the same tour, a local Parisian waved from the shore, so we greeted him and his comrades with enthusiastic waving and shouts of “Bonjour!” Moments later he turned around and dropped his pants to give us a rather unwelcome—yet mildly hilarious (some agreed) — farewell.

Rude as they may seem, Parisians cannot necessarily be blamed.

Paris is a major city, much like New York and D.C., that host millions of tourists every year, so it’s entirely understandable that you’d find the people to be a little more curt in their interactions with foreigners.

Additionally, most French people don’t live by the same boisterous standards that many Americans seem to.

When visiting a different country, we’re advised to be mindful of the standards those people hold and how their viewpoints might conflict with our own (believe me, I’ve been “that” tourist a few times already).

Along with this, saying “hello” to people could be the difference between a nice espresso and someone spitting in your drink.

If I walk into a French café and abruptly order my coffee with a brief “please” and “thanks,” I shouldn’t expect to have any reciprocated respect from the server.

However, a simple “Bonjour” before my order would carry me across every cultural and lingual divide, and would stand as the precursor to an often delightful, memorable encounter.

Though it seems that kindness can be anticipated in our home community, perhaps we can take this cultural example as a lesson to be courteous in every instance, and to never forget to greet one another.

To address any other stereotypes you may believe about France, I saw a man pick up a half-smoked cigarette from an ash tray outside a café and attempt to smoke the rest of it.

As for the general fragrances emanating from close-quarter encounters, I’ve come to the conclusion that deodorant is definitely more popular in the United States.

So far I’ve ridden electric scooters through Paris (see the cover story in this issue of Wrangler News for yet another angle to the scooter issue), climbed onto a small island in the Mediterranean in Marseille and played Sweet Home Alabama at a music bar with a few Frenchmen in Grenoble – not to mention countless other memories along the way.

Despite my adventures, Arizona will forever be my home. Be proud of your local communities, dear reader, and never take for granted the people and things you see every day.

And whenever you get the chance, give someone a polite greeting and ask how they’re doing – your coffee might taste a little better after all.



Wrangler staffer Noah Kutz’s summer in France included a visit to the iconic Arc de Triomphe which honors those who fought in France’s Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars.

— Photo courtesy Noah Kutz

## 28 from Tempe to join Sister Cities 2019 delegation

Over the next few weeks, 28 outstanding high school students from Tempe will be embarking on international adventures of a lifetime as part of the Tempe Sister Cities Summer Exchange Program.

These students successfully made it through a rigorous application process that began last fall, which included a series of interviews with questions about local and world events and knowledge of Tempe’s international sister cities: Regensburg, Germany; Skopje, Macedonia; Lower Hutt, New Zealand; Zhenjiang, China; Beaulieu sur Mer, France; Carlow, Ireland; Cuenca, Ecuador; Cusco, Peru; Agra City, India; Timbuktu, Mali; and Trollhattan, Sweden.

The Tempe delegates were matched with an international delegate and will spend five weeks living with the host family in their respective countries.

In early July, the Tempe delegates will return home and the international students will arrive in Tempe to spend 5 weeks participating in a variety of cultural activities including a trip to the Grand Canyon and Disneyland.

Host families will entertain the international students with visits to local museums, an Arizona Diamondbacks baseball game, volunteering at Feed My Starving Children, and pool parties to help keep cool.

Corona del Sol High School — Rowan Alper, Ireland; Kate Alperin, Germany; Cecilla Bradley, France; Elena Bustamonte, Germany; Hayden Eastwood, North Macedonia; Olivia Hirano, Sweden; Jeffrey Jacobs, China; Natalie Marschel, Ecuador; Meghan McCain, China; Sophia Montoya, Ireland; Ann Ross, Germany; Cynthia Saxton, New Zealand; Suzanna Scheuerer, France; Skylar Schineller, New Zealand; Sarah Stellburg, Ireland.

Marcos de Niza High School — Alex Norrish, Germany  
McClintock High School — Tasi Harrington, Sweden;  
Julie Myers, France; Declan Rhodes, China; Isabel Warriner, North Macedonia.

New School for the Arts — Tori Cord, Germany  
Basis Ahwatukee — Vivian Lee, Peru.  
Tempe Prep — Stella Lovely, China; Jacqueline Risch, Ecuador

Tempe High School — Ann Shick, Peru  
Veritas Prep — Aerin Searle, North Macedonia  
Xavier College Prep — Carmen Villalva, France.

Chandler Preparatory Academy — Christian LeClaire, Lower Hutt New Zealand.

### Pollack Chabad to host casino event on June 23

**P**ollack Chabad Center for Jewish Life in West Chandler will be transformed into a lively casino, featuring professional-style casino games and dealers, on Sunday, June 23.

The event is open to the public, regardless of religious affiliation.

One VIP ticket covers a kosher meal and \$1,000 worth of casino chips for use throughout the evening. Registration information can be found at [chandlereruv.com](http://chandlereruv.com).

Volunteers from Chabad of the East Valley, a Sabbath-observant Jewish community, are organizing the event to raise money for the Chandler Eruv Project.

Tickets, at \$35, are available at [chandlereruv.com](http://chandlereruv.com). Reservations required. Pollack Chabad Center is at 875 N. McClintock Drive, Chandler.

## Arts Center joins long list of prez-hopefuls' Tempe visits

**Tempe Center for the Arts** has joined the list of destinations picked by presidents and presidential candidates for whistle-stop visits during the past 100-plus years. This time it was Democrat Julian Castro, who was the youngest member of President Obama's cabinet and who served as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from 2014 to 2017.

He also served as the mayor of his native San Antonio, Texas from 2009 until he joined Obama's cabinet in 2014.

Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell made note of Castro's visit, anticipating that others likely could drop by as the 2020 presidential campaign gets into high gear. "Tempe is an important destination for candidates from across the political spectrum," said Mitchell.

"With the vibrancy of our community and the innovation of Arizona State University...I am hopeful that many candidates will come to our community to share their platforms and engage our residents about how they envision the future of our country."

Here is a list of others who have spent a few hours in the city to

promote their campaigns:

- U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt spoke from the steps of ASU's Old Main in 1911 while on route to dedicate Roosevelt Dam. He had left office two years earlier. Arizona was still a territory and would not become a state until the following year.

- Then-actor Ronald Reagan visited ASU's Memorial Union in 1957, a decade before he would become governor of California and nearly 25 years before he would become our country's president.

- U.S. Rep Gerald Ford debated Sen. Al Gore Sr. in 1968. Ford became vice president and then America's president in 1974, after the resignations of Vice President Spiro Agnew and President Richard Nixon.

- Bill Clinton was the first president to host a rally in Tempe. On Oct. 31, 1996, he gave a presidential campaign speech on the lawn at ASU Gammage. Watch a video of the speech. He has returned several times to Tempe, including in 2012 to stump for Senate candidate Rich Carmona.

- Sen. John McCain took a quick trip from his Phoenix home over to Tempe on Nov. 21, 1999, as part of his campaign for the 2000 presidential elections. He was back again April 28, 2007, for his 2008 run.

- President George W. Bush and candidate John Kerry squared off at the 2004 presidential debate at ASU Gammage Auditorium on Oct. 13, 2004. Kerry hosted a rally at Tempe Beach Park after the debate. Then-Mayor Neil Giuliano co-chaired the planning of the debate that attracted 2,500 journalists from around the world.

- Sen. Barack Obama was here on Nov. 12, 2005, to stump for U.S. Senate candidate Jim Pederson. He came back as a presidential candidate on Oct. 19, 2007.

- Former Vice President Al Gore visited Tempe on April 3, 2007, to discuss climate change, just months before winning the Nobel Prize for his work on the issue.

- On April 12, 2012, presidential hopeful Mitt Romney was the main event at a Republican rally featuring Sen. John McCain, Rep. Jeff Flake, who was running for U.S. Senate, and Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman.

- More recently, former Secretary of State and presidential candidate Hillary Clinton hosted a rally at ASU that attracted more than 12,000 people on Nov. 2, 2016, less than a week before the election.



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# Lifelong satisfaction: One of the joys money can't buy

By Lee Shappell

*A remarkable couple shares the story of how their upbringing prepared them for what many might call unlikely success — and the certainty their lives have been blessed.*

Traci Estenson among the thousands of prom gowns at Cinderella Affair, housed in a building she and her husband Tim own. High school girls may choose gowns sizes 0 to 30 and receive shoes, a purse and two pieces of jewelry; members of the Estenson flat-track racing team in their signature jackets; a few of the bicycles from Tim's collection.

*Photos by Lee Shappell and Estenson family*

He's a hands-on, motorcycle-racing team owner. She's the brains behind a prom-dress giveaway. Dirt under the nails versus polished nails. A seeming mismatch but no argument on one point: they're both doers, and they're both passionate about sharing their improbable success through philanthropy.



With little fanfare, South Tempe residents Tim and Traci Estenson have made their mark in the Southeast Valley through acts like the 100 Suns tickets they buy each year to give away to families and the suite they got for a Carrie Underwood concert this spring that Traci filled with foster kids.

"It just gives you goosebumps," Traci said of their good fortune. "We're pretty spiritual. We believe in a higher power. God made us stewards of this abundance. He really trusts us."

"It's not just monetarily," Tim added. "It's what you can do for your community and what you can do to help other people."

Consider who they are and where they've been. Tim, 61, dropped out of high school in Fargo,

N.D., to go motorcycle racing. He'd been on minibikes since he was 5.

"I was not college material," he said.

By 19, his body was beat up from racing. What would he do in the real world? Was he employable? Distraught, he made poor choices, turning to drugs and alcohol.

"In September of 1976, I finally realized that I was making life worse," he said. "I quit everything. I haven't had a sip of alcohol since, or used any type of substances.

"I talk to groups, to kids going down the wrong road. I went down the same path. It's important to me to reach them. You have to be careful with the people you choose to be with. It takes some willpower but I found a new way to live. I'm proud of that."

His troubles weren't over. He moved to the Valley and attempted to start a trucking firm, although he'd never driven a semi. At the time, he didn't even own one; he was into sales and management.

On the verge on bankruptcy, he got his first client. Then another. "I

formed the company in 1999, Estenson Logistics," he said. "I sold the company in 2017. At that time, we were operating in 38 states with 122 locations and 3,000 employees. We went from no revenue to \$350 million our last year.

"It's just crazy. It's the American dream. It can be done if you're true to people."

Traci's story revolves no less around life's transitions. She grew up near Pittsburgh, graduated from Robert Morris University.

"I was the youngest of five," Traci said. "We were taught about giving to people. That's the way I grew up, although we didn't have much money. My sister gave me money for my prom dress."

She says she never has been on a motorcycle. That's fair: Tim never has worn a prom dress.

“But I did jump out of a plane,” Traci said.

They met in Las Vegas. She was organizing a golf outing at a trade show. Tim was there to network. They hit it off quickly.

Needing a hobby after selling his business, Tim started a motorcycle-memorabilia museum in his Chandler shop. He also collects motorcycles. He has more than 200.

“Each bike has a significant story and life to it,” he said. “It’s a passion for me.”

Predictably, he has found his way back to motorcycle racing, this time as a team owner. Estenson Racing is based in Chandler. This season, he has five flat-track drivers, and his neophyte group is beating factory teams.

“I have an overwhelming desire to win and an overwhelming desire to be the best,” Estenson said. “Beating the factory teams is very satisfying.”

So was helping Charlie Roberts, organizer of Rookies of ‘79 and Friends, the official charity of American Flat Track Racing. Roberts said the organization could not help injured riders and their families with medical bills and other expenses without the financial support of the Estensons.

“Tim made a major investment,” Roberts said. “He initially paid me a six-month salary as my only job to take on the charity. He funded the operation expenses. He helped us get a 10-by-20-foot booth that we take to 18 professional flat-track events around the country.”

Tim and Traci now require their team riders, most of them late-teens to early 20s, who left school to race, to get at least a high school diploma or GED. They encourage them to do philanthropy in the community: clinics, teaching kids how to discipline themselves, and to exercise and eat properly.

“Sometimes people drop out and they don’t think they’re good enough or smart enough to finish something,” Traci said. “They sometimes

just need confidence and encouragement. Everybody is special in their own way.”

Just as Traci is involved with Estenson Racing, Tim rolls up his sleeves at Cinderella Affair, which makes prom dreams come true for girls who need a dress.



“When you see their faces, it’s unbelievable,” he said. “I do this because I love it. It’s so fulfilling for me. I might be there just to fix a plugged toilet, but it hits me once I’m there.”

Tim’s museum and racing team originally were in a building on North McKemy Avenue in Chandler. He figured he’d never outgrow it.

He was wrong.

“He said, ‘I’ll give you the upstairs because my bikes are gonna be downstairs,’ but I thought to myself that someday I will get this whole building,” Traci said.

She was right.

When Tim moved from McKemy into his massive current quarters at Stellar Airpark, they kept the old building for Traci’s charitable work. The exterior resembles a castle. The ground floor now houses offices of the East Valley Women’s League, in which Traci is materially

involved, and for Cinderella Affair, which Traci has headed for six years.

Belying any hint of palatial trappings, Traci says, “It’s a factory.”

Upstairs are prom dresses of every style and color imaginable, organized in rooms by sizes, 0-30. Six thousand of them. There also are rooms for shoes, for jewelry and for accessories.

“I want every girl to know that her voice can change the world,” Traci said. “We put things around them so they aren’t afraid to sparkle.”

Each girl receives a dress, a pair of shoes, two pieces of jewelry and a purse. It’s all free to high school juniors and seniors with a valid student ID. They’re not required to return any of the items they receive.

Some do, though. Some even have come back years later as volunteers to give back.

In its first year, Cinderella Affair donated 122 dresses. Seventeen years later, the number has reached 16,000. A line of as many as 300 girls wraps around the building waiting to get in during prom season.

Traci says she wants to expand to include tuxedos for boys. She’s also leaning on Tim for a truck to create a mobile Cinderella Affair that goes around to schools.

Nor does the local geography limit her notion of largesse. Traci already has shipped 15 wardrobe boxes of prom dresses to Hawaii, where the couple has a home, with the intention of finding space this summer to start a Cinderella Affair branch on the Big Island. The idea began when a girl there needed a dress, saw Cinderella Affair online, sent an email—and Traci sent her a dress.

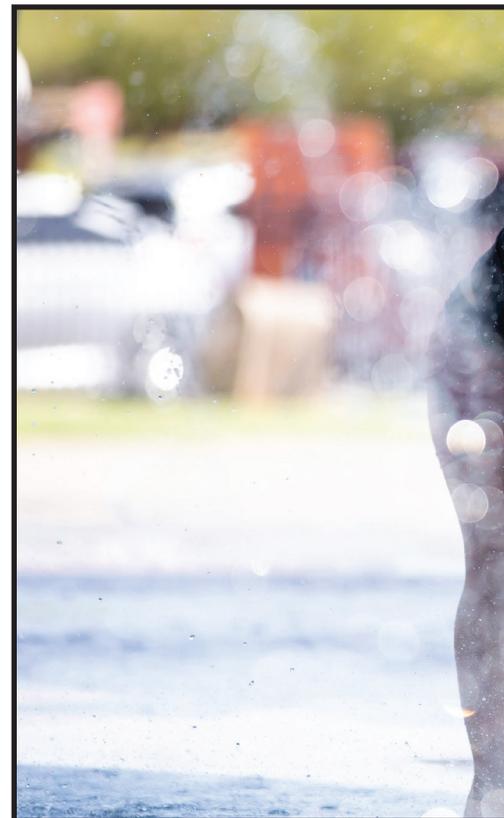
“God has truly blessed us,” she said. “I can’t even believe that this is my life. It’s crazy, isn’t it?”

*Learn more at [estensonracing.com](http://estensonracing.com), [rookies79.com](http://rookies79.com), [cinderellaaffair.org](http://cinderellaaffair.org) or [evwl.org](http://evwl.org)*

# SPLISH, SPLASH

Soaring temperatures sent these Tempe kids to The Cloud at Kiwanis Park for a respite from the summer heat. The city's splash pad spouts welcome streams of water at children of all ages who clamor for a fun and safe way to cool off as parents sit in the shade nearby.

— Photos by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News





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## Homecare

From Page 1

A press release announcing the collaboration said it represents CommonSpirit Health's latest effort to leverage emerging technology to deliver convenient, consumer-centered health care to its patients. The goal is to expand across Common Spirit's full system.

Said Dr. Yagnesh Patel, vice president of medical affairs for Dignity Health Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers:

"This program allows us to provide enhanced medical care at home for specific condition. When a patient comes into our Chandler Regional Emergency Department with a condition that requires continued inpatient hospital care, in some situations we can now provide the patient with the same level of medical care at home instead of in the hospital.

"This includes remote monitoring, routine visits by nursing and daily telemedicine visits by physicians.

"This service brings all the essential elements of hospital care to the comfort of the home, allowing many patients to avoid a hospital admission."

Although the hospital-at-home model has been around for a long time, it hasn't been widespread, in part due to barriers for reimbursement and an expectation for receiving care in a clinical setting, said a spokeswoman.

Advances in technology and evolving patient preferences are now making care at home more realistic for health systems, as evidenced by Contessa's 92 percent acceptance rate among eligible patients.

"CommonSpirit Health envisions a future for health care with more access points so patients can receive care on their terms," said Rich Roth, who leads strategic innovation for CommonSpirit Health.

"Our work with Contessa will bring recommended intensive outpatient care into the comfort of one's home so that we can improve health outcomes and help enhance the overall health of our communities.

"Finding ways to provide high-quality access to care in low cost settings is an essential component of how we must deliver care for the future."

Officials noted that Contessa has found with one of its provider partners that Home Recovery Care's complex outpatient care management drives better health outcomes, increasing patient satisfaction by 22 percent, reducing readmission rates by 44 percent, and decreasing the mean length of a hospital stay by 35 percent.

Reducing the need for hospital admissions, this patient-centered approach to treatment empowers people to take control of their health – in the home setting that is familiar and less stressful.

CommonSpirit Health's investment in this value-based solution increases patients' access to care in the home as a result of Contessa's established relationships with national payors.

Home Recovery Care will initially be offered to selected Medicare Advantage patients, with the goal of expanding to commercial and Medicaid patients over time.

# Sports

with Alex Zener

## VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Tribute to 10 seniors at team's final home game

Corona's 10 seniors—who played in 65 percent of the 966 sets, recorded 76 percent of the 1,068 kills and served 74% of the 238 aces during the Aztecs' 2019 boys volleyball season—were honored at Corona's last regular season home game before playing in the 6A Arizona State Boys Volleyball Championship playoffs the following week.

Honored were **Yuki Yamada**, defensive specialist; **Uday Mohanty**, opposite hitter; **Santiago Connolly**, outside hitter; **Finn Boyle**, middle blocker; **Niko Zeiner**, setter, **James Watson**, middle blocker; **Zach Lobeck**, outside hitter, **Goran Swansiger**, opposite hitter; **Milt Hatzidakis**, middle blocker; and **Carson Bryan**, middle blocker.

Watson, who played in 106 of the 113 sets, led the team in kills with 331 or 3.1 kills a game and was third on the team in blocks with 12 solo and 34 assisted blocks for a total of 46 blocks.

Lobeck, who played in 111 sets, was the leading blocker on the team with 26 solo and 33 assisted blocks for a total of 59 blocks. He also served 29 aces, slammed 194 kills and dug 130 balls.

Zeiner, Corona's setter, not only was credited with 85% of the assists playing in 109 sets, he led the team in service aces. He served 68 aces and was also credited with 72 kills and 33 blocks.

Swansiger, playing in 101 of the possible 113 sets, was credited with a variety of stats including 111 digs, 116

kills, 27 aces and 22 blocks.

Connolly dug the ball up 105 times in 71 sets and put in 20 service aces while Hatzidakis played in 46 sets recording 31 blocks and 10 digs.

Yamada put in nine service aces while Bryan attacked the ball 29 times recording 11 kills and Yamada, behind the service line, served up nine aces.

Mohanty and Boyle played in 24 sets recording 10 blocks and 17 kills while Mohanty was involved in 17 sets contributing to Corona's wins on and off the court.

The Aztecs defeated Mt. Pointe 3-0 in their last regular season match giving them the momentum they needed before the 6A Conference Play-In Tournament on May 2 as the No. 13 seed against No. 20 Basha.

Corona defeated the Bears in the 6A state playoff match 3-0 winning the first two sets easily 25-20 and 25-11 before struggling in the third set. Either the momentum switched or the Bears decided to play more competitively, but it was touch and go until the Aztecs were finally able to put together two points in a row to win the third set, 30-28, and the overall match.

It was obvious that Zeiner was not ready to have his senior season end in the Aztec's match against Basha. He came out focused and never let up. In

addition to 28 assists in the three sets or 9.3 assists a set, Zeiner had four aces, five block assists and seven digs.

Lobeck must have caught the same sense of urgency because he also played outstanding against Basha. He led the team in kills with 12 kills for an average of 4.0 kills a set, much higher than his season average of 1.7 kills a set. He also played superb defense against the Bears tying freshman **Connor O'Brien**, the libero, in digs, at 13 each.

O'Brien was the overall season leader in digs where he dug 364 balls while playing in all 113 sets for an average of 9.3 digs per match or 3.2 digs a set.

Junior **Sebastian Burgos**, third on the team in kills over the season with a total of 132 kills in 106 sets, had seven kills against Basha while sophomore **Tyler Lai** had four kills playing in just one set. Hatzidakis also scored three kills in one set.

Corona moved on to play No. 4 seeded Mesa Mountain View on May 4 at the higher seed where they won the first set 25-20, were close in the second set before losing 22-25 but could not get the momentum back and lost the last two sets, 11-25 and 20-25 and the

— SPORTS, Page 18



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match 1-3.

The match against Mountain View was Lai's turn in shine on offense when both Watson and Lobeck had a hard time getting the ball to go down against the Toro's blocking and digging schemes.

Watson and Lobeck ended up with nine kills each on 22 and 40 attempts respectively but Lai, who played in all four sets, led the team with 11 kills hitting .280.

Mountain View did a good job keeping the ball away from O'Brien, who only had nine digs in four sets but Swansiger picked up the slack by getting a team high 12 digs against the Toros. He also led the team in service aces against Mountain View with three aces.

Corona finished the season ranked No. 14 out of 29 teams in the 6A division with a 16-22-1 record.

Members of the team who contributed to the Aztec's 2019 season success on and off the court also included back-up setter junior **Micah Lloyd** who played in 60 sets during the 2019 season, defensive specialist sophomore **Owen Vullo** and middle blocker junior **Ahmet Wali**.

### Marco de Niza Baseball

The Padres finished the 2019 season ranked as the No. 13 team out of 48 teams in Division 4A with a 12-12 season record.

After defeating Flagstaff in their last regular season home game of the season, 15-5, where they honored eight seniors, the No. 17 ranked Padres had a chance to play in the 4A state tournament.

The eight seniors honored in the last regular

season game were outfielder **Tyler Murphy**, outfielder **Tanner Caballes**, infielder **Reilly McDonnell**, catcher **Marcus Dominguez**, pitcher and outfielder **Elias Martinez**, first baseman and pitcher **Sam Wynne**, pitcher and infielder **Matt Bergevin** and pitcher **AJ Montiel**

There is not doubt that Bergevin was the top batter on the Padres team hitting .458 while scoring 19 runs on 27 hits with 21 RBI's. He led in the team in home runs over the season with four home runs in addition to 10 doubles out of 59 times at bat.

Bergevin led the team with a 1.445 on-base plus slugging percentage. The only Padre player close to Bergevin's percentage was Montiel who had a 1.096 percentage.

Martinez had a .319 batting average scoring 20 runs on 23 hits with nine RBI's playing in 22 games while Caballes played in 19 games hitting .298 while scoring 13 runs and 2 RBI's on 17 hits.

Caballes led the team in stolen bases with a record of six stolen bases on seven attempts.

McDonnell played in 18 games at bat 44 times hitting .205 where he scored 10 runs with 8 RBI's.

The Padres had a deep pitching staff in 2019 with 10 players pitching at least one inning. Four of the 10 were seniors.

Bergevin and Montiel both pitched over 43 innings while Martinez pitched 14 and Wynne over one inning.

Montiel was the starting pitcher in nine games where he was credited with winning six of the nine. He faced a total of 223 batters, striking out 42 while allowing 51 hits and 52 runs. He had a 6.19 ERA.

Bergevin started seven out of his nine appearances winning four and losing three games.

He had a 2.91 ERA striking out 52 batters allowing only 39 hits and 25 runs while facing 198 batters

Martinez pitched in 14 innings allowing 13 hits, three doubles, a triple and a home run, and 16 runs while striking out 16 of the 72 batters he faced.

Murphy and Dominguez both played in 10 games each.

Marcos ended up losing in the Play-In 4A tournament to No. 16 Pueblo Magnet in Tucson, 6-1, but should have next season 11 players who gained valuable state playoff experience.

Those players include juniors **Ethan Galetti**, who played in 22 games scoring 13 runs on 22 hits with 15 RBI's hitting .333 and **Nate Meyers** who played in 23 games scoring 17 runs on 22 hits, including one homerun, with 15 RBI's.

Sophomores **Alex Denham** who played in 21 games hitting .345 with 20 hits to score 19 runs and nine RBI's and **Rafael Armenta** who scored 16 runs on 19 hits, including a double, triple and home run, with 12 RBI's hitting .317 playing in all 23 games.

**Zachery Paiz**, also a sophomore, played in 19 of the 23 games hitting .341 with 14 hits, eight runs and five RBI's.

**Daniel Rodriguez** played in 19 games where he was the starting pitcher in one game and made appearances on the pitching mound in 20 innings. He struck out 23 batters allowing only 17 hits, 12 runs and six earned runs giving him an ERA of 2.10

Other members of the team who gained valuable experience playing in 10 or more games the 2019 season include sophomores **Gage Olson** and **Jacob Irick**.



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# Diversions

## Tempe arts center June 22 event a cool way to beat the heat

**B**eat the heat this summer and join in the fun at the second annual Draw-A-Thon in the Gallery at TCA, Saturday, June 22, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The free, interactive, all-day festival celebrates the arts and sciences of drawing, is open to all ages and is sponsored by SRP.

Draw-A-Thon is designed for participants of all ages and any skill level. Visitors can come and go at any time, can and participate in any of the interactive activities featured

throughout the day, including the Crayola Experience Chandler booth, printmaking, floating ink painting, topography map drawing, fashion and costume design, virtual reality drawing, animation, a fantasy dedicated to dinosaurs, unicorns and more.

Family-focus events run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Teen-focus events, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., include virtual reality drawing, portfolio reviews, animation, costume design, fashion design and open studio sessions with a live model and artist Matt Dickson.

Adult focus, with live music and happy hour, runs 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Information:  
tempecenterforthearts.com/  
drawathon or 480-350-2867.

## Potent performance in chilling Octavia Spencer melodrama

By M.V. Moorhead

**O**ctavia Spencer seems like a game sort. She even came back to reprise her small role from *Bad Santa* in *Bad Santa 2*, though she'd won the Oscar for *The Help* between the two films. It suggests a lack of pretentiousness worthy of a British actor.

Now Spencer stars as the title character in *Ma*, the latest from the admirable Blumhouse factory, still chugging along profitably at the box office a few weeks after release.

She plays the heck out of Sue Anne, a small-town veterinary nurse who gets confronted with a classic adult moral quandary: teenage kids ask her to buy them alcohol outside a liquor store. She refuses at first, but then, charmed by their pleas and flirtations, gives in.

She later offers the kids the use of her basement, on the theory that they're safer partying there than outside somewhere. They dub her "Ma" and before long her basement is a popular party spot for the area teens. Her young guests are forbidden, however, from going upstairs. Other disturbing signs arise from this creepy but somehow distressingly plausible social scenario.

Though the product varies in success from movie to movie, I admire the commitment of Blumhouse Productions to provide their young audience with good value on a modest budget. *Ma* is one of the company's most interesting efforts to date; a horror movie based on character

development and queasy inappropriateness rather than shocks. Spencer is emotionally naked here without hamming; using only shifts of expression on her sad-clown face and in her voice, she makes Sue Anne's motivations so painfully obvious that we don't really need the explanatory flashbacks to explain her psychology.

The director is the Mississippian Tate Taylor, who also directed Spencer in *The Help*. Working from a script by Scotty Landes, Taylor maintains a good balance between genuine pathos and macabre comedy, and he gets strong performances out of the youngsters, especially Diana Silvers as the good-girl heroine. There are amusing turns by vets like Juliette Lewis, Luke Evans and Missi Pyle, among others.

The violence doesn't really start until the last quarter or so of the movie, but once it does, *Ma* turns into a wild melodramatic bloodbath. This gory homestretch is entertaining enough, in a twisted sort of way—it even includes a gruesome outrage that Lionel Atwill committed in *Murders in the Zoo* back in pre-code 1933.

This lurid stuff probably lessens the impact of the subtle, uneasy chills that precedes it, but not enough to dismiss the commanding potency of Spencer's performance.

Be forewarned, however: *Ma* isn't a very comforting movie for parents of teenagers.

*Ma* is rated R and plays at Harkins Chandler Fashion 20, Tempe Marketplace, Arizona Mills and other multiplexes Valleywide.

## Corona flutists selected as part of new MCC orchestra

Outstanding high school flutists from throughout Arizona, including two from Corona del Sol High School, have been selected by audition to form a unique flute orchestra created by Mesa Community College and Desert Echoes Flute Project.

Organizers say this provides a unique opportunity for musicians to play with other talented musicians and work with four outstanding directors, Christina Steffen, Jenn Bock, Andrea TenBarge and Kehokule'alani O'Daniell, in the flute orchestra setting.

"We are excited about the All-Arizona Flute Choir and the opportunity being offered to these high school students," said Christina Steffen, MCC professor and DEF

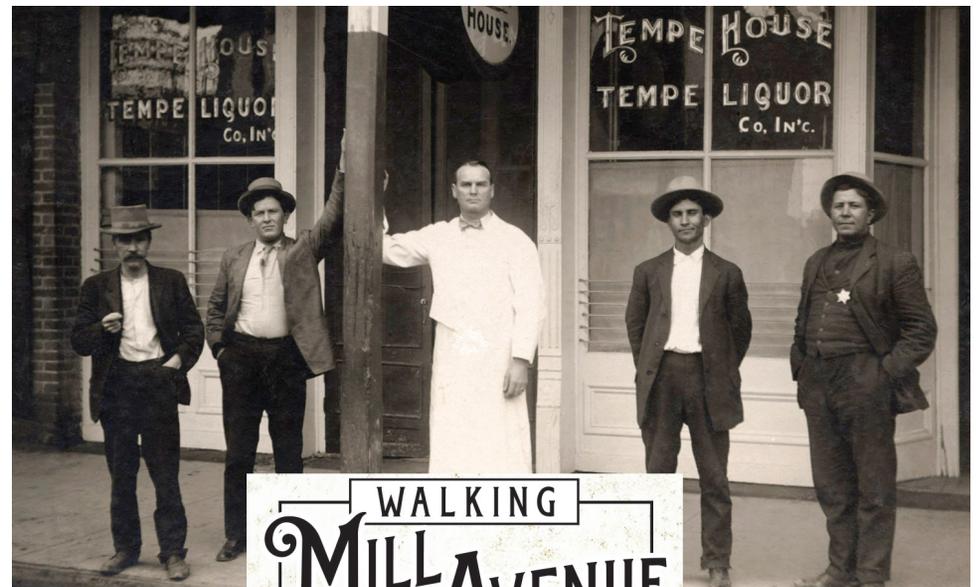
project director.

"I look forward to the collaboration and the merging of talents."

A week-long Summer Flute Project conducted earlier at MCC featured classes and workshops on a variety of flute topics and master classes with renowned flute artists Dr. April Clayton, BYU flute professor; Viviana Cumplido Wilson, principal flutist with The Phoenix Symphony; and Brian Gordon, associate principal with The Phoenix Symphony.

The week-long project welcomed college, high school and adult flutists, and included ensemble participation in the mornings, lunchtime concerts and flute classes and master classes with guest artists and artist faculty in the afternoon.

Information: [www.mesacc.edu/departments/music/instrumental-music/music-camp/summer-flute-camp](http://www.mesacc.edu/departments/music/instrumental-music/music-camp/summer-flute-camp) or email [christina.steffen@mesacc.edu](mailto:christina.steffen@mesacc.edu).



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Tempe South Rotary club hosted a luncheon at Embassy Suites that brought together more than a hundred representatives of the city's various service organizations. Among the presenters was 'Abe Lincoln' portrayed by Glynn Gilcrease. — Photo courtesy Abe Feder

## Tempe South Rotary pays tribute to service

A long tradition of service to others helps build stronger communities. Members of Tempe South Rotary club held a luncheon last month to shine a spotlight on these organizations plus their benefactors and beneficiaries.

With over 125 individuals in attendance, numerous service organizations were represented. In addition to Tempe South Rotary Club, the event drew members of Friendship Village Kiwanis, Tempe Exchange Club, Arizona State University Rotaract, Kyrene Rotary Club, Sister Cities of Tempe, Tempe Diablos, Tempe Needlewielders, Rebuilding Together and Tempe Kiwanis.

Brief presentations were made by Rotary District Governor Jim Erickson; Kiwanis District Governor, Don Levine; and Lions District Governor Doug Harris, as well as Arizona Sister Cities State President Richard Neuheisel, with a keynote address by Tempe South's Raven Arora.

All of this was highlighted by a surprise visit of President Abraham Lincoln (portrayed by Glynn Gilcrease) who inspired attendees with his concepts of leadership in enterprise.

A session on "How can we work together for the benefit of Tempe?" was emceed by John Ore, with comments from the audience.

The luncheon concluded with Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell presenting organizers of the event with the first ever Tempe City Service Club Recognition Day Proclamation.

The proclamation reads in part: "Tempe service clubs and their members exemplify the values that all Tempeans hold dear—showing kindness and compassion for those in need, respecting the opinions of others, living with integrity and honesty, promoting diversity in our community and creatively seeking to address issues through problem solving."

## Marcos Key Club seniors earn \$6k in scholarships

Three scholarships totaling \$6,000 have been awarded to graduating Key Club seniors at Marcos de Niza High School.

The recipients were Eric Waters, Abdurrehman (Abdi) Khokher and Mateo Uribe.

Each was selected on the basis of having exhibited proven leadership skills, academic excellence and hours of documented service to the school and to the community.

While members at Marcos' Key Club, the students organized a community blood drive, gaining recognition with Hero Cord awards worn at commencement; helped provide packets of sundries and cosmetics for the homeless; supported a Feed My Starving Children program; and grew a successful community garden.

All were among the top 4 percent academically of their

graduating class. All intend to matriculate at Arizona State University, Waters majoring in computer science, Khokher in accounting/business and Uribe in global journalism.

Waters and Uribe will be attending ASU's Barrett Honor College; Khokher will attend the WP Carey School of Business.



All three say they plan to continue serving the community.

Key Club is an international high school leadership activity sponsored by and mentored by Kiwanis International.

Faculty adviser for the Marcos club is Dr. Stephanie Attridge. Kiwanis Club liaisons and mentors were George Krebs and Sue Goodman.

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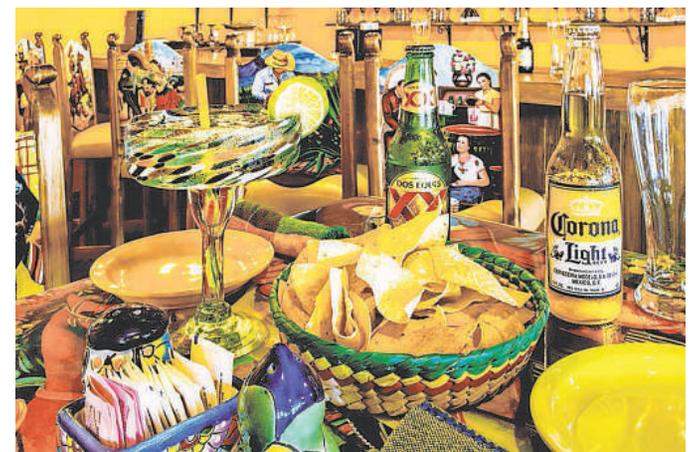
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# Chandler • Arizona NEWS+ Events

[chandleraz.gov/news-center](http://chandleraz.gov/news-center)

**Solid Waste Services 480-782-3510 [chandleraz.gov/recycle](http://chandleraz.gov/recycle)**

**4<sup>th</sup> of JULY WEEK**  
**Recycling & Trash Collection Schedule**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE  
 TRASH & RECYCLING  
 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE  
 Week of July 4**

@chandlerrecycle

No collection on Thursday, July 4  
 Place your can at the curb by 6 AM on the day below

No changes to collection  
 Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday  
 THURSDAY, July 4 → FRIDAY, July 5  
 FRIDAY, July 5 → SATURDAY, July 6

**Recycling-Solid Waste Collection Center**  
 OPEN - Thursday through Monday  
 CLOSED - Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & City Observed Holidays



## July 4th Fireworks Spectacular at Tumbleweed Park



Chandler's Tumbleweed Park will once again host a fantastic Independence Day celebration and fireworks display on Thursday, July 4.

Tumbleweed Park is on the southwest corner of McQueen and Germann roads. Gates open at 6:30 p.m., with a 20-minute fireworks show starting at 9 p.m. Admission is free and on-site event parking is \$5 per vehicle. For more information, call the City's special events hotline at 782-2735, or go to [chandleraz.gov/4thofjuly](http://chandleraz.gov/4thofjuly).

## Fireworks: Know the rules!



Chandler Fire Department reminds residents that while some types of fireworks are legal to sell and purchase at local businesses, the use and misuse of fireworks can lead to personal injury, injury to others, harm to pets, property damage and destruction of the environment. Under Arizona law, the use of permissible consumer fireworks is allowed June 24 through July 6. Chandler prohibits the use of permissible consumer fireworks in any public park within Chandler City limits. More rules and safety tips at [chandleraz.gov/fireworks](http://chandleraz.gov/fireworks).

## City seeks feedback on electric scooter and bike sharing services



Chandler is conducting two surveys to gauge opinions on the electric scooter ("e-scooter") and bike sharing services operating in the Valley. One survey asks the general public for feedback, while another seeks input from the business community. Survey results will help inform policy discussions with the City Council. These rideshare programs have proven to be popular – and in some cases, controversial – where they currently operate. Survey links are online through July 15 at [chandleraz.gov/transportation](http://chandleraz.gov/transportation).

## Get news and information about what is happening in Chandler from the City of Chandler

One thing you can do to ensure that important news and information from the City reaches your inbox is to follow the City on social media like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and subscribe to Chandler's official YouTube channel – [youtube.com/cityofchandler](http://youtube.com/cityofchandler). Chandler's YouTube channel has hundreds of shows on a variety of subjects, and new programs are being added to the channel almost every day. The channel content also is broken down into video playlists to help people quickly find what they are interested in viewing. We encourage you to explore the various Chandler YouTube playlists to find the topics most appealing to you.

## EVENTS

### JUNE

- 24 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 27 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180

### JULY

- 4 City of Chandler offices closed for the Independence Day holiday
- 4 Chandler July 4th Fireworks Spectacular, Tumbleweed Park, 782-2735
- 8 City Council Meeting and Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 11 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180

### AUGUST

- 13 Melissa Etheridge, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 17 Family Night at the TRC – Emoji Extravaganza, Tumbleweed Recreation Center, 782-2900
- 2 Free Summer Concert Series – Caro Pierotto, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 3 Verano Sano – Safe Summer, Arrowhead Pool, 782-2630
- 5 City Council Meeting and Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 7 Family Night at the TRC – Marvel Mania Superhero Universal, Tumbleweed Recreation Center, 782-2900
- 8 Homeschool Days at the EEC – Matter and Energy, Environmental Education Center, 782-2890
- 8 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180

- 9 Free Summer Concert Series – Wynchester, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 16 Free Summer Concert Series – Elektric Voodoo, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 21 Family Night at the TRC – Cool Creations Ice Cream Social, Tumbleweed Recreation Center, 782-2900
- 23 Free Summer Concert Series – Jácome Flamenco presents SOL y LUNA, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 24 Strangelove – The Depeche Mode Experience, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 25 Live Conversation with John Cusack, Center for the Arts, 782-2680

For event details, visit [chandleraz.gov](http://chandleraz.gov) or call the Chandler Special Events Hotline at 782-2735.

Mayor Kevin Hartke & City Council

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Individuals experiencing homelessness wait inside the downtown Tempe Salvation Army center, sipping water on a scorching summer day in this file photo from 2017. The city of Tempe is spending 56 percent more during the 2019-20 fiscal year to assist the homeless. — Wrangler News photo by Joyce Coronel

## Homeless

From Page 1

been crucial to the city's ability to serve people in need, according to Ripley, who noted that Mayor Mark Mitchell has expressed pride in the city's progress and belief that investments are slowly showing progress.

"Tempe is a compassionate community. Our residents have a right to clean, safe neighborhoods and parks – at the same time, they care about helping homeless people and families," Mitchell said.

The new investments approved by the City Council for homeless-related efforts will support:

- An additional police officer to boost patrols in city parks
- A CARE 7 social service coordinator to enhance crisis response
- Two additional homeless outreach specialists to extend coverage and focus deployment
- Funding for the City Attorney's office to assist in Tempe Mental Health Court, which serves people experiencing homelessness
- Funding to expand private security patrols in city parks, increasing the number of parks and coverage hours with enhanced security
- Funding for park and vegetation cleanups to address homeless encampments

### Complex, national issue

A progress report to the City Council at a May work study session laid out a wide-range of work being done to meet Tempe's goal of ending homelessness, highlighting efforts by multiple city departments and regional partnerships.

Tempe, like other cities across the nation, according to studies, is seeing an increase in the number of people who are experiencing homelessness. A lack of affordable housing, increasing rental costs and high eviction rates make it more difficult for people to remain housed.

Tempe's vision of providing additional resources is aimed at making homelessness a rare, brief and one-time experience in the community, said Ripley. That means that homelessness does not happen often; that people who become homeless are connected to shelter and housing as soon as possible; and that those who are housed do not return to homelessness.

In January, Tempe staff and volunteers counted 373 people experiencing homelessness, up from 276 the previous year, during the county-wide annual Point-in-Time Homeless Street Count.

The one-day effort is designed to provide a snapshot of the homeless population in the region. Maricopa County as a whole showed 6,614 people experiencing homelessness, an increase of 316 from 2018. That overall number has been climbing for six consecutive years. In Tempe, statistics show a year-over-year increase in the number of people

experiencing homelessness, starting in 2016. The city attributes those increases to improvements in how the street count is conducted as well as the growth of the region.

### Growing investments

Dedicating more resources has been key to Tempe's work serving people in need, according to officials. During fiscal 2018-19, the city invested nearly \$1.25 million in homeless-related programs and services. That number has grown each fiscal year since 2015-2016, when the city allocated approximately \$266,000.

These totals, however, do not include grant dollars or programs such as Housing Choice vouchers that are funded through other government sources. In addition to those dedicated resources, city departments such as Tempe Police and Tempe Fire Medical Rescue provide services through their normal operations to assist with homelessness.

While Tempe has steadily been advancing the goal to end homelessness, city staff emphasized that the pace of progress can feel slow. Tempe continues to build on a foundation laid roughly 20 years ago with the first formal efforts to address homelessness, staff members say.

"The city of Tempe has a long history of conscientious program development to address homelessness," said Nichole Stevens, the city's homeless solutions supervisor. "We rely on

# CHANDLER CHAMBER

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The Chandler Chamber honored local businesses, individuals and educators for their outstanding contributions to the community, at the 32nd Annual Chandler Chamber Community Awards. Congratulations to all the winners as we appreciate your efforts for making Chandler a great place to live, work and play. Thank you to all our sponsors who make this event possible.



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Ricque Pekara  
CTA Freedom Elementary



School Support Staff Award  
Diana Perez



School Admin of the Year  
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Knox Gifted Academy



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Photos by Everardo Keeme Photography

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# Homeless

From Page 22

an infrastructure that includes multiple city departments, as well as local, state and federal governments, nonprofits, service providers and the faith community.”

“Today, Tempe is considered an innovator in creating successful strategies for assisting people out of homelessness,” she said.



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## Successful approaches

The upcoming additional investments are designed to enhance and expand the work being done throughout the city and region.

**HOPE team.** The city's homeless outreach team—HOPE—plays a vital role in engaging people and connecting them with housing and social services. HOPE is said to use best national practices, and team members' expertise is sought out by regional partners. Among the team's successes:

- Last fiscal year, the HOPE team alone served more than half—or 624—of the 1,117 unduplicated homeless individuals in the region reporting Tempe as their last known address through navigation and case management.

Of those 624, the team engaged 201 chronically homeless people and housed 55 of them.

- Overall, the HOPE team found permanent housing for 103 people in the broader homeless population.

- Team members have been able to house a person in an average of 35 days—from voucher issuance to leasing an apartment—and 95 percent of those clients remained housed. Regional providers average 41 days from voucher issuance to leasing an apartment and 85 percent of those clients remained housed.

- Through the efforts of the HOPE team and regional partners, nearly 240 Tempeans experiencing homelessness were housed last fiscal year.

**Multi-department approach.** Successful outcomes like these rely on the work of many city departments, including Human Services, Tempe Police, Tempe Fire Medical Rescue, Tempe Municipal Court, Municipal Utilities, the City Attorney's Office and Community Services, officials say.

For instance, the Police Department and the park maintenance team within Community Services work together to address encampments in Tempe parks by engaging people in need and ensuring that parks are safe and welcoming for all users. CARE 7's crisis response team and Tempe Fire Medical Rescue partner to reduce the chronic use of public safety systems by high-cost and high-need users, many of whom are homeless.

Housing Services has expanded housing options with more than 130 specialty vouchers for vulnerable populations such as people with serious mental illnesses and victims of domestic violence.

The housing team also offers three emergency shelter units.

The HOPE and CARE 7 teams identify individuals and families experiencing homelessness who are eligible for this housing.

**Regional partnerships.** A key part of Tempe's approach is establishing partnerships with external stakeholder groups such as the East Valley Access to Housing Group and Tempe Homeless Coalition. In 2017, Tempe City Manager Andrew Ching convened the East Valley City Managers' Work Group to tackle issues related to homelessness as a region.

Tempe has gained a positive reputation in the Valley for its work.

“The city of Tempe continues to innovate and experience successes with a multi-pronged approach to its goal of ending homelessness, from daily street outreach to innovative work programs to leadership at the regional level,” said Bruce Liggett, director of the Maricopa County Human Services Department.

“This comprehensive approach is crucial to addressing the challenging and complex issue of homelessness.”

For more information about Tempe's efforts to end homelessness: [tempe.gov/EndingHomelessness](http://tempe.gov/EndingHomelessness).

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## Petsitters

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bright.”

The higher levels of thought and cognitive understanding she explores in the company of animals Allsop asserts is the provenance of her creative process as a writer.

“Talking about the more abstruse areas of consciousness makes me realize that there are things in play in the process of writing that are hard to explain. Like with my characters. Say, the image, or the ‘presence,’ is one of a butterfly. And the butterfly lands on my shoulder, and it’s almost like the butterfly is telling me, ‘You’re the one who’s going to take care of me now.’ And it then becomes a ‘thing,’ its own existence. In a sense, ‘they’ choose FOR me, and communicate that to my higher self.”

Just so. But for now, there remain youth, and wanderlust, and animals and their human servants in far off places to watch over.

“My husband and I are relishing being nomadic, meeting all these wonderful and interesting people and animals all over world,” Allsop dreams, imagining the myriad unknown lands stretched out ahead her.

“People everywhere have gardens that need tending and animals that need minding, and I can’t wait to be the one to give that.”

## Scooters

From Page 1

future of these and other individual-transportation modes.

Recognizing that a number of innovative transportation modes have grown in popularity here and elsewhere, scooter-sharing companies charge a user fee to provide a fast and convenient form of short-distance transportation in urban areas.

Scooter users download an app to locate and unlock the motorized devices and then rent them by the minute.

To end a trip, users simply park the rented scooter or bike.

At the end of each day, scooter companies collect their equipment to recharge and redistribute it for use on the following day.

Of the two surveys, the one developed for public use asks respondents whether they have used a scooter or bike-sharing service, where that occurred and for what purpose, in addition to other age and other statistical information.

It asks also what is most appealing and most worrisome about the scooters and bikes.

In addition, Chandler officials want to know whether the public thinks the city should develop a program to manage and possibly limit scooter- and bike-share operations in the city.

The business survey is similar, but also asks whether the presence of shared scooters and bikes in Chandler would attract more customers or have a detrimental effect on business.

## Chandler Chamber Community Awards

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce has honored the city’s businesses, educators, public servants and community members at its 32nd annual Community Awards event at Gila River Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino.

“It is wonderful to have such remarkable people and organizations here in Chandler,” said Terri Kimble, chamber president/CEO. *Winners are:*

**Large Business of the Year:** Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Chandler

**Medium Business of the Year:** Optima Tax Relief

**Small Business of the Year:** Sibley’s West – The Chandler and Arizona Gift Shop

**Micro Business of the Year:** Chandler Lifestyle Magazine

**Community Cup:** Michael A. Pollack, Michael A. Pollack Real Estate Investments

The Chamber awards its Community Cup to an organization or individuals to show appreciation for outstanding volunteerism and/or other commitments to the community.

**Chamber Cup:** Quantum Helicopters

The Chamber awards its Chamber Cup to a member to show appreciation for outstanding effort and support on behalf of the organization.

**Chamber Cup:** Northrop Grumman

**James R. Snedigar Public Service Award:** Commander W. David Ramer, Chandler Police Department. This award honors its namesake, Officer James R. Snedigar, with the recipient working in the public sector and making significant differences in the quality of life for an individual or group in Chandler.

**Business Diversity Award:** Intel Corporation

**Ambassador of the Year:** Ray Rodriguez Jr., OneTen Entertainment

**Educator of the Year:** Ricque Pekara, CTA Freedom Elementary

**School Administrator of the Year:** Lynn Weed, Knox Gifted Academy

**School Support Staff of the Year:** Diana Perez, Weinberg Elementary

**Red Apple Award:** Dan Kuiper, Valley Christian

## Wrangler News wants you

If you’re a high school or college student with social media savvy, and hopefully an interest in community journalism, we’d love to hear from you. We’re expanding our footprint into all things digital (including video), so are looking to add to our existing parttime staff. Call 480-966-0837 9-5 M-F or email editor@wranglernews.com.

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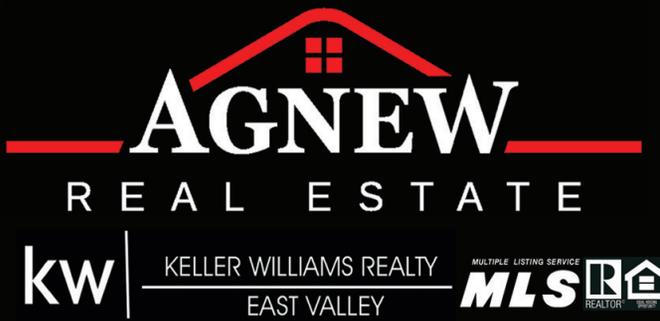
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