

Wrangler NEWS

Kyrene Corridor Edition

June 26 - July 17, 2010

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'The Valley's Best Community Newspaper'

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PULL →

Worm's-eye view

Life is full of creepy, crawly critters, and Maribel Kaminski got to see one of Mother Nature's most intriguing little miracles unwind in her very own hands during a summer vacation program at west Chandler's Sunset Library. Kids spent the morning digging through buckets of earthworms and exploring other treasures that they uncovered while discovering another new pastime: Reading books.

Story, Page 5

— Wrangler News photo by Mark Crudup



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Tempe-Chandler route advances as light-rail use marks upswing

By Mark Crudup

The future looks promising for west Chandler and south Tempe residents who feel out-of-the-loop when it comes to public-transportation opportunities.

With light rail ridership up 40 percent over projected numbers, less costly alternatives to extending light rail through Tempe to Chandler will soon be in on the table, resulting from a two-year Valley Metro Rail study of the Tempe area.

“We really want to provide a connection to the light rail starter line in downtown Tempe,” Wulf Grote, director of project development for Valley Metro Rail, said. “We’re trying to wrap things up to put some recommendations on the table.”

A two-year study lent insight into possible transit options being evaluated for south Tempe residents. The study was conducted on the Tempe commute corridor, an area covering streets in between the 202 freeway and Kyrene Road to Loop 101.

“One was the high capacity transit corridor (the 2.5-mile area), and the other was the bus rapid transit project that was supposed to go all the way to north Scottsdale, through Tempe and

into Chandler,” Grote said.

Chandler and Tempe residents caught a glimpse of the alternative transit routes during a High Capacity Transit meeting at the community room of Chandler Fashion Center.

Board members revealed evaluations of a two-year study, researching the development of Metro Light Rail services in the Tempe and Chandler area.

Many residents who attended the meeting were enthusiastic about future projects.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the benefits of a modern streetcar system,” Tempe resident Ben Suber said.

“I think it would be very beneficial to the Tempe and Chandler communities.”

Kent Dibble, an engineer in Tempe, said the bus rapid-transit system is attractive because it has the potential to be implemented much sooner than a modern streetcar project.

Funding is now under way for the streetcar system, providing quicker access to the light rail than city busses currently provide. Funding for phase 1 of the projected streetcar extension is complete, Grote said.

— LIGHT RAIL, Page 6

Newest technology park adds momentum to Corridor growth

By Mark Crudup

Planners are envisioning 8,000 to 12,000 future jobs at Continuum, a 153-acre, master planned science and technology park being developed along west Chandler’s Price Corridor by Capital Commercial Investments of Austin, Texas.

City economic-development officials say that Continuum will advance the vision of the corridor as a “super technology” region, which they hope will reinforce Chandler’s efforts to remain competitive on an international scale.

At build-out, the Continuum complex is expected to generate \$250 million to \$300 million a year in primary economic impacts.

Located on the site of a onetime Motorola property on Price Road just north of Queen Creek Road, Continuum will provide headquarters for a University of Arizona learning center to conduct programs, classes and research, as well as other high-end

tenants now being recruited.

The 10,000-square-foot space will be provided to U of A at no cost by developer CCI, an agreement that is predicted to represent a saving to the university of more than \$2 million over a 10-year period.

Continuum will be the second high-tech research and development facility in west Chandler, joining the new Innovations incubator opened in April.

“With the critical component of a leading research university and the draw of well-paid, sustainable jobs, we see this (Continuum) partnership advancing the city’s emergence from the recession,” Chandler Mayor Boyd Dunn said.

“And as a significant anchor to the robust Price Corridor, Continuum will further diversify Chandler’s already solid employment base.”

U of A, the first tenant recruited for the complex for far, will meet the

— TECHNOLOGY, Page 9

Sport Clips - One of Nation's Top Franchises Opens in Tempe

Top Guy's Hair-care Business Continues to Grow – Benefits Local Economy

Sport Clips, the nation's leading men's and boys' hair-care franchise opened its 697th store in Tempe on June 19. This is the newest addition to the franchise's sixteen Phoenix locations. Sport Clips in Tempe, is located at 815 East Baseline Road, and is Team Leader (franchisee) Eric Ainley's first store.

"Everyone needs a haircut, and we've been true to our mission of creating a championship haircut experience for men and boys in an exciting sports environment. That's why the Sport Clips concept continues to grow here in Phoenix and across the country," said Eric. "We're hassle-free, family friendly, and provide a quality service," he said. Sport Clips currently has more than 690 store locations in the United States, with plans to hit 700 in July.

Ainley's store is one of the first in the country to implement Sport Clips' new store design, which includes a 52" flat-screen television in the reception area mounted on a truck bed graphic, allowing clients to "tailgate" if there is a wait. Other new features include anti-fatigue wood-grain flooring, large-scale ball park-themed wall graphics, and 32" flat-screen televisions at each cutting station. "Guys seem to like the fact that you don't need an appointment to get a great haircut, steamed towel treatment and neck massage – what we call the "MVP" And, Moms and Dads enjoy bringing their sons, because it makes getting a haircut more fun," said Eric.

Before becoming a Sport Clips franchisee, Ainley, a Phoenix native, worked for Motorola from 1987 to 2008 in both Tempe and Mesa. After being laid off, he pursued franchising as an alternative to a corporate career. "I was ready to take on a new challenge and own my own business," said Ainley. "I researched many franchise opportunities before deciding to go with Sport Clips. They have a proven system and fun concept – it was the right choice for me."

Headquartered in Georgetown, Texas, Sport Clips is ranked by Entrepreneur magazine's January 2009 issue in the top 100 franchises in America and in the top 50 fastest-growing franchises. Sport Clips ranked 21st overall in Dun & Bradstreet's (D&B) AllBusiness.com "2009 AllBusiness AllStars," as well as a "Top 10 Franchise for Veterans."


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Team Leader (franchisee) Eric Ainley outside his Tempe Sport Clips location.

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Kindergarten classes in both English, Spanish due this year at Niños

Story and photo by Mark Crudup

This fall, parents with kindergarten students enrolled at Kyrene de los Niños Elementary School will have the option of placing their children in a first-time dual language program, where classes will be taught in both English and Spanish.

"Our program here at Niños is known as a College Bound Dual Language Academy," said Niños Principal Ana Gomez del Castillo, Ed.D, who learned English as a second language.

Niños is one of four schools in Arizona recognized as a "No Excuses University," with an overall goal to create a culture of universal achievement. Gomez del Castillo said the school utilizes powerful symbolism to encourage the belief that any child can aspire to a college education.

"Our whole goal is that our kids are ready for college," she said. "Learning a second language also begins at an early age, so the dual language program seemed like a natural thing for Niños."

Throughout the elementary school's hallways, university flags drape over classroom doorways in recognition of colleges throughout the United States.

"Each classroom has adopted a university," Gomez del Castillo said.

"We have made a commitment to talk about college readiness as soon as children enter elementary school."

This fall's kindergarten dual language program will offer a 50/50 English and Spanish dual language model. Students will receive instruction in both languages for equal amounts of time. The same textbooks will be used, but in two languages instead of one.

"We have two teachers, Lori Burger and Patricia Fernandez, who will be teaching the program," Gomez del Castillo said. Lori will be providing the instruction in English, and Patricia will be the Spanish teacher.

Each teacher will begin the day with a full class of 18 to 22 students, Gomez del Castillo said. After lunch, the students will move to the other teacher's classroom and spend the remaining school day with instruction in the other language.

"It's a great experience," Fernandez said. "It's an intense program, but the kids benefit greatly by absorbing another language."

Fernandez was born in Peru, where she received her education degree. She also taught a dual language program at Keller Elementary in Mesa.

Only one partnership class will be offered this fall in the dual language program; so far, 11 of those



Kyrene de los Niños principal Ana Gomez del Castillo, center, is joined by dual-language teachers Lori Burger, left, and Patricia Fernandez. Classes get under way this fall.

openings have been filled.

"We are going to be sending out postcards to all families who have enrolled in kindergarten here to provide information on the program," Gomez del Castillo said.

Parents attending a public meeting with school staff earlier this month were enthusiastic about the new program. Some who do not speak Spanish were concerned over the amount of support they will be able to offer their child.

— KINDERGARTEN, Page 20

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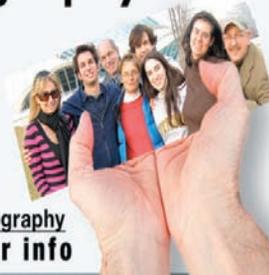
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Sunset library's summer attractions reveal 'a whole new world'

By Mark Crudup

Every week, local children gather around the reading area of Chandler Sunset Library for hands-on crafts, story time and

educational entertainment.

On June 18, more than a dozen kids ages seven and up, along with their parents, passed around buckets of earthworms during an event called

Worm Drive the Musical, where children spent the time learning about the biology and impact of earthworms.

"The kids have so much fun with our presentation," said Ron Wright, the event's creator. "They learn a lot with the hands-on aspect."

Multiple events like this take place every week at the Sunset branch library, in addition to a variety of other adult and teen reading programs, Administrative Librarian Sue Hoffman

said. Story times for kids are offered in the morning, afternoon and evening on Tuesdays.

"The summers are usually crazy," she said. "We have reading programs, and we also do art mural story times."

A "read-your-way-to-the-ballpark" reading program, sponsored by *The Arizona Republic*, is offered for both kids and teens until July 31, during which kids can earn weekly prizes for reading a certain number of minutes. The final,

bonus prize is a baseball ticket voucher to a Diamondbacks game.

Lillie Molnar, a south Tempe 17-year-old volunteering to help with the program, said she is busy handing out prizes all day long.

"They get motivated to read, and that's really important," she said. "I always encourage kids to read, because reading opens up a whole new world."

— LIBRARY, Page 16



Herpetologist Gavan Wieser shares his knowledge with kids participating in Chandler Sunset Library's summer reading and learning program.

— Wrangler News photo by Mark Crudup



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Light rail

From Page 2

The modern streetcar option would travel on Mill or Ash avenues from the existing light rail starter line and potentially end at Southern Avenue.

Ash Avenue north of University has recently been added as a possible alignment option for the streetcar project as a result of public inquiry.

The bus rapid transit project consists of a bus line running down Rural Road to parts of Chandler, with stops approximately every mile.

"Bus rapid transit is basically using buses that don't stop as frequently and have special stations," Grote said.

"They may have different street signs than residential traffic."

Although council members are moving forward on these alternative transportation modes, Grote said paths in the Tempe corridor are still subject to change.

"Things are not yet final," he said.



Wulf Grote, center, director of project development for Valley Metro, discusses proposed routes for Tempe-Chandler light rail connection.

— Wrangler News photo by Mark Crudup

Fireworks spectacular at Tempe Beach Park

Tempe will celebrate Independence Day in grand fashion this year by hosting the largest fireworks display in Arizona on Sunday, July 4, at Tempe Beach Park.

Gates open at 4 p.m. All ages can celebrate the holiday with live local entertainment, a splash zone, kids' activities and games, rock climbing walls and face painters. The 59th annual spectacular begins at dusk.

Children 12 and under and current military with military ID card receive free admission. Tickets can now be purchased at:

- City of Tempe offices: Advance general admission tickets are available for \$5 until July 3. Visit www.tempe4th.com for locations.

- Fry's and Fry's Marketplace: Advance general admission tickets \$6 at all Valley Fry's stores.

- ProTix at www.ProTixonline.com or 1-866-9ProTix: Advance general admission tickets \$6 each, plus applicable service charge. SKYE VIP Garden tickets are also available. Day-of at Gate: Adult tickets \$8 each, two for \$15. Tickets will be sold at the gate until park reaches capacity. Pre-sale tickets will be honored all night.

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Making the most of your kids' summer vacation

Educators share ideas for keeping young minds sharp

Editor's note: Educators whose programs regularly serve Kyrene Corridor children share some ideas on how to keep kids from losing momentum in their learning capabilities during the summer break.

Lexis Preparatory School

After a long school year, students look forward to the summer months so they can recharge their batteries.

Unfortunately, during the summer break, children often forget much of the information they have learned the previous year.

Research shows that teachers spend up to six weeks re-teaching lessons from the previous school year. To prevent summer learning loss, students must remain engaged in activities critical to learning.

Fortunately, preventing summer learning loss is easy. Educators at Lexis Preparatory School Scottsdale, a K-8th grade college-prep private school providing a customized learning experience for Kyrene Corridor and other area children with dyslexia, ADHD, anxiety and other learning differences, offer a few simple tips for parents of children across all levels to consider this summer:

Keep a daily schedule to provide structure and limits. Take your child to the local library often and encourage good reading habits.

Practice math every day – let your child help with the measurements when you are cooking, add up the products you put in your grocery cart, help you plan a trip (directions, miles, how many gallons of gas, research the

location).

Enjoy the outdoors. Minimize television viewing and video-game playing. Encourage participation in intense physical activity and exercise, which positively affect academic achievement.

Talk to your child's teacher and ask what concepts the child has been struggling with and how you can help over the summer.

Another way to keep children's minds working during the summer, so that they are ready to hit the books when the new school year begins, is to send them to summer camp.

Not only will children have fun and make new friends, but studies show that summer camp assists in personal development.

Camp allows children to build self-esteem by trying new things in a low-stress environment, independence, responsibility and leadership skills.

Parents can find information on local summer camps

online at www.mysummercamps.com.

Huntington Learning Center

School's out for summer, but that doesn't mean that learning has to stop altogether. In fact, summer is the perfect time for children to hit the books—for fun, says Maria Montenegro, director of Huntington Learning Center in west Chandler.

During the school year, most children have very little time to read for the pure enjoyment of it. The freedom of summer break creates a great opportunity for children to explore interests, expand their horizons and entertain themselves through reading.

How can parents help their child develop a reading habit this summer? Here are some suggestions:

Visit the library. During the summer months, many libraries, including the Sunset branch library in west

— SUMMER, Page 16

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Diversions

A guide to what's entertaining
in and around the Kyrene Corridor

'Knight and Day' Cruise super-spy tale more a super-snoozer

Commentary by M.V. Moorhead

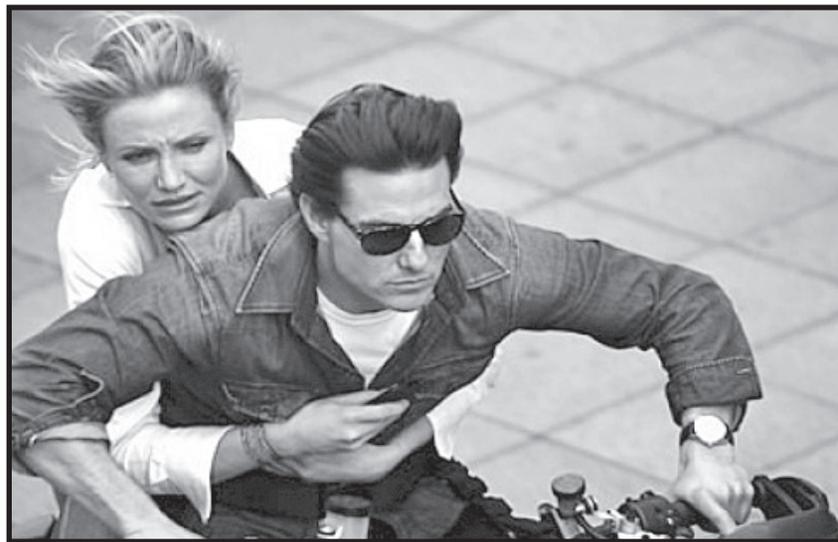
Several times in the course of *Knight and Day*, hero Tom Cruise drugs heroine Cameron Diaz or otherwise causes her to lose consciousness.

This happens when the two of them are in a crisis, with the bad guys closing in and the chances of escape unpromising. Then Cameron will black out, and wake to find herself tucked comfortably in her own bed, or maybe in a hammock on a tropical island, Tom having gotten them out of the jam while she was out cold.

How I wished, watching *Knight and Day*, that somebody would have performed this service for me, just slipped something into my Dr. Pepper to conk me out, and let me wake up refreshed with the end credits of this tedious picture rolling.

I would have been perfectly prepared to believe, sight unseen, that Tom and Cameron somehow successfully eluded all the peril and ended up living happily ever after.

Diaz plays June, who meets a fellow called Roy (Cruise) on a flight from Wichita to Boston. She's attracted to him, but soon realizes that he's some sort of super-spy government assassin type, that other super-spies are trying to kill him because he has possession of a valuable MacGuffin, and that she's been caught up in the deadly intrigue.



Cameron Diaz and Tom Cruise star in spy story 'Knight and Day'

Wild chases and shootouts through Beantown ensue, followed by wild chases and shootouts in other, more exotic locales. The guiding joke of the action is that while he's dealing effortlessly with all sorts of violent chaos, Roy keeps calmly dispensing encouragement, reassurance and compliments to June the whole time.

Presumably the theory behind this film (and perhaps also the current *Killers*, a similarly premised picture featuring another high-powered Hollywood blond, Katherine Heigl) is that equal parts action thriller and romantic comedy stand to command both the chick-flick and the testosterone audience.

It's not a bad notion, either, but for it to work it would require that it be funny, romantic and exciting. The director, James Mangold, has made some strong pictures in the past, notably *Cop Land*, but his work here is generic. The abundant and interminable action sequences have neither slapstick panache nor any convincing sense of threat.

For me, there was no romance, either. Since there is scarcely a scene in *Knight and Day* that doesn't feel derived from such earlier and better movies as *North by Northwest* and *Foul Play*, and since the supporting cast, which features the likes of Peter Sarsgaard, Viola Davis, Marc Blucas and Paul Dano, gets

almost nothing to do, the whole project inevitably depends on, to resort to a miserably overused word, chemistry between Diaz and Cruise. But I didn't care whether the two of them ended up together, nor did I feel any strong sense that *they* cared.

Let me be clear: I'm not what the kids would call a "hater." It seems clear from his public antics in recent years that Cruise is a wackjob of some sort. But I don't see how this takes away from the very enjoyable performances he's given, in *Rain Man*, *A Few Good Men*, *Jerry Maguire* and *War of the Worlds*, anything that lets him play manic and out of his depth. I've never found anything particularly objectionable about Diaz, either.

Neither star shines individually here, though. June is supposed to be a frightened-yet-plucky heroine à la Goldie Hawn in *Foul Play*, but Diaz compares unfavorably to Hawn.

As for Cruise, his super-competent, unflappable persona here seems to be intended as a comic version of his action hero role in the *Mission Impossible* movies. But there are those of us who found the idea of dweeby little Tom Cruise as an action star a laugh riot to begin with.

The joke gets no funnier when it's intentional.

Knight and Day is rated PG-13 and shows at AMC Ahwatukee, Harkins Tempe Marketplace and other theaters Valleywide.

Tempe actor's burgeoning career gets a boost at Cannes filmfest

By Mark Moorhead

ASU film student Adam Rini hasn't completed his degree yet, and he's already had a film in the Cannes Film Festival. But that's not all — he has already *made* a film at the prestigious, star-studded competition.

Rini co-wrote and starred in director Dani Lyman's student short *This Just In*, which may be found on YouTube by searching "This Just In ASU." The film landed in the top 16 out of more than 17,000 entries to the Campus Movie Fest.

As a result, Rini traveled to the legendary film festival in the south of France, where he participated in the Creative Minds in Cannes program.

"I worked with filmmakers from Tennessee and Atlanta and all over," says the longtime Tempe resident and Marcos de Niza High School graduate, who went on to get an Associate's Degree in film from Scottsdale

Community College and is now working toward his B.A. at ASU.

The resulting four-and-a-half minute short film, *Blind Date*, won first place in the Creative Minds competition.

"So far, the majority of things I've had success with have been comedy," says Rini, who is also part of the sketch-comedy troupe Bully Mammoth, which performs monthly at Space 55 in downtown Phoenix.

Blind Date is no exception.

Set outside a beautiful Cannes café, the film, which centers on a young man (Rini) waiting for a date he's never met in a red scarf, is essentially a single, clever, slightly nasty joke, acted out.

It can be found on YouTube, too, by searching "Blind Date Cannes."

As for his long-term plan for the future, Rini is unambiguous:

"It's definitely in film. I don't really have a Plan B."



Marcos de Niza graduate Adam Rini scored a major hit at Cannes Film Festival.

Technology

From Page 2

educational needs of Chandler's high-tech workforce by offering programs and research, as well as recruiting other educational institutions, said Dunn.

Mike Proctor, dean of U of A's Outreach College, said, "We're really proud to be a part of this profound development and to have a chance to make an impact on this part of the state. The U of A has been connected to the people of Chandler for many years, from its early days as an agricultural community to its present day as a leading high technology center in the state and region."

To further encourage the location of signature companies and high-wage jobs, the city of Chandler is participating in the building of public roadways and public infrastructure in an amount not to exceed \$10 million.

This will help create public roads and sidewalks, water features, landscaping and public gathering spaces to create a sense of place, say officials.

CCI plans to use about 30 acres to create these enhancements that



Chandler Mayor Boyd Dunn, left, and CCI managing director Karl James survey site for new technology center along the Price Corridor.

will serve as amenities for employees and presumably make Continuum more attractive to businesses. The investment firm, based in Austin, Texas, owns almost 50 large commercial and industrial complexes throughout the Southwest.

In west Chandler, Continuum will join notable employers in the key industries of aerospace, life

sciences, high technology, research and development, manufacturing and advanced business services.

The Science and Technology Park will focus on technology, innovation and corporate headquarters.

History

Price Corridor is credited for developing the high-tech

manufacturing industry across the state and key to the location and continued expansion of Intel as Air Products invested in an ultra-pure nitrogen pipeline through the corridor.

Continued investment by the city of Chandler and others in infrastructure, including high capacity wet utilities, power and telecom and industrial power infrastructure, are said to make the Price Corridor competitive on an international plain.

The area extends six miles along the western portion of Chandler. Its commercial real estate mix includes Class A office, executive office suites, light industrial parks, mixed-use projects and corporate and technology campus settings.

Average household income within the area is \$92,215, and the current population is 56,095, with expected build-out population rising to 64,326.

A portion of Chandler's Enterprise Zone is located within the corridor.

Key employers include Amkor Technology, Bank of America, Freescale, Hanjin Shipping, Intel, Isagenix, Isola, Microchip Technologies, Orbital Sciences, Rogers Corporation and Wells Fargo.

— Wrangler News photo by Mark Crudup

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Sports Notebook . . . with Alex Zener

First round of AIA changes due this year

Corona del Sol's athletic teams playing such "individual" sports as golf, swimming and tennis will fall under recent AIA regional and state tournament changes this season.

The rest of the teams will not be affected until a year later.

Aztec athletic teams that did not finish as state champions or runners-up in 2009-10 gained valuable experience that should help them be competitive during the 2010-11 season regardless of the new configuration.



Alex Zener

Football — The Aztec football program bid its farewell to **Gary Venturo**, who retired this year after 22 seasons as head coach. **Zane Zamenski** takes the reins starting in August.

The Aztecs, 4-6, had some high points in a relatively lackluster season, coming off one of their best performances in school history in 2008 with a 9-3 record and a spot in the second round of the state tournament.

Season highlights included \$20,000 raised

to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project and the recognition of those who lost their lives on 9/11. The team wore commemorative camouflage jerseys in their home game Sept. 11 against Desert Ridge.

Several players were recognized in the post-season, including leading rusher **Michael Lange**, named to both the offensive and defensive teams in the All-5A-I Central Region Football Team. Lange was named as running back on offense and in the secondary on defense.

Also named to the defense secondary team was **Sione Letio**. **Todd Peat** was selected for the team's defensive line. **Kyle Benson** was named as a defensive linebacker.

In the offensive category, **Billy Johnson** was named as a receiver while **Kyle Homewood** won a spot on the offensive line team and **Chase Cartwright** was picked as quarterback. Honorable mention went to **Tre Chambers** and **Grant Shidawara**. Named to the special teams were kicker **Dylan Harris**, returner Billy Johnson and long-snapper **Allen Stitt**.

Two Corona players played in the 4A/5A All-Star Football game June 19 at Glendale Community College. Playing on the North team, which won 30-14, were Cartwright, who scored one touchdown, and defensive linebacker **Zach Jubie**.

Seniors accepting athletic scholarships from Corona's football team included three-year starting quarterback **Cartwright**, who committed to Northern Arizona University; 6-3 **Benson**, who chose the University of Arizona after being recruited by Colorado, Oregon, Utah and Brigham Young; and **Jubie**, who committed to play defensive linebacker at Western New Mexico. **Lange** is still undecided.

Two players creating quite a recruiting buzz are brothers **Todd** and **Andrus Peat**, sons of former NFL player Todd Peat. Todd Jr., a senior, has received numerous Division I scholarship offers from colleges including ASU and Nebraska.

Andrus, only a junior, has numerous college coaches waiting to formally give him written offers when NCAA rules allow it in September.

The Varsity and JV football program will begin Aug. 2, with the first game scheduled Aug. 27 at Desert Mountain.

Badminton — Corona's badminton program (8-6) experienced a rebuilding year after winning the state 5A-I championship in 2008 but still made it into the state tournament as the No. 10 seed before losing to Mesa Red Mountain in the first round.

Senior **Brittany Messer** was the only returning player from the championship team of 2008 but did

— Continued on next page

Loss doesn't dampen ex-Corona wrestler's determination to win

By Jake Novy

Fighting. Clawing. Scratching tooth and nail to get free. Gasping for air. Blurry vision. Eyes popping out of your head. The lights upstairs start to fade.

These are the symptoms middleweight Ultimate fighter Jesse Forbes experienced right before he was forced to tap out to Ryan Jensen at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas for UFC 114.

Sixty-six seconds was all it took for 12 weeks of blood, sweat and tears to turn into disappointment and regret.

Rewind one minute and six seconds:

The fighters get their instructions, touch gloves, and the opening bell rings.

The fighters check each other out for about 20 seconds before Corona del Sol graduate Forbes sets up and lands a nasty straight left that floors Jensen.

Forbes rushes his grounded opponent and secures a dominant position, looking to do some damage. Jensen rolls over and Forbes tries to sink in a rear-naked choke, but misses.

A scramble occurs, and while Forbes shoots in for a takedown, Jensen catches him with a guillotine

choke. The rest, as they say, is history.

"I made a big mistake," Forbes says over lunch a week later. "I put my hand between his legs rather than on the outside to pass him, and he locked it up (for the guillotine). I should have gotten out of it—I mean, we do that stuff every day in practices; been there a thousand times. It's no secret how to get out but, yeah, I tried to fight it, and there was no way around. He had it, and I was going to go night-night, so I tapped out."

For his victory, Jensen won a hefty \$65,000 "Submission of the Night" bonus. But Forbes didn't go away empty handed: He walked off with an impressive \$8,000, according to the Nevada State Athletic Commission.

It was the second installment of Forbes' five-fight Ultimate Fighting Championship contract, and although his chances looked good at the opening, the outcome added up to a second consecutive setback; he was released about a week after the contest.

"The only thing I can relate it to is having a relationship really go bad," Forbes says of the loss and release.

"Putting all your heart and soul into something, you know—you put all that work in and to come up short when



Jesse Forbes: Loss hasn't diminished his resolve.

— Wrangler News photo by Jake Novy

you know in your mind you know 100 percent you never should have (lost)—it's tough.

"You gotta deal with it and you gotta move on though."

Forbes, who was picked up by the UFC after being discovered on the

SPIKE TV reality series "The Ultimate Fighter," will take his efforts back to the drawing board, having been told to get a couple of wins under his belt in smaller shows.

Once that happens, Forbes says, he

— Please turn to Page 12

a great job of leading underclassman players **Rikki Gurule, Christine Tang, Alexis Emerson, Rachel Gur-Arie** and **Nicole Schwalbe** into the state tournament.

Expect Corona's team to be more experienced this fall with five returning varsity players.

Swim and Dive Team — Corona's swim team had 10 girls and nine boys compete in the 5A-I state championship meet.

The girls team finished 10th, the boys sixth.

Heading up the girls team was **Taylor Thorn** with a fifth-place finish in the 100 Yard Backstroke and as part of the Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay that took seventh place with teammates **Emily Lewandowski, Julie Van de Berg** and **Elizabeth Stuart**.

Junior Lewandowski was also eighth in the 100 Yard Breaststroke.

Corona's team of **Heidi Liou, Thorn, Amy Foster** and Van de Berg finished 10th in the 400 Yard Freestyle Relay. **Caroline Kennedy, Aubry Stitt, Brittany White** and **Elizabeth Stuart** finished 14th in the 200 Yard Freestyle Relay.

The boys team was lead by **Bryan Liu**, who finished third at the state meet in the 100 Yard Backstroke and

fourth in the 100 Yard Butterfly, and **Ryan Telep**, who took fourth place in the 200 Yard IM and seventh in the 100 Yard Backstroke.

Lui and Telep joined **Gavin Haws** and **Matthew Hayhurst** to come in fifth in the Boys 200 Yard Medley Relay race at state.

The 200 Yard Medley Relay team of Liu, Telep, Haws and Hayhurst came in fifth while of **Preston Long, Connor Rawls**, Telep and Liu finished 10th in the 400 Yard Freestyle Relay.

Haws, **Scott Kvavle**, Long and Hayhurst were 13th in the 200 Yard Freestyle Relay.

Girls Golf — Corona's girls golf team expected to have a rebuilding year after taking third place in 2008 state tournament and having Coach **Pat Reed** named Central Region Coach of the Year.

Instead the team rallied around returning golfers **Dana Finkelstein** and **Alex Haun** to end the season with a 12-8 record.

The team, also represented by **Marlee Johnson, Mary Spiel** and **Victoria Haun**, took first place at the City Tournament and the Super Regionals and came in fifth at the 5A-I state tournament.

Girls Cross Country — Corona's girls cross country team had one of the school's best seasons in 2009 as evidenced by their fourth place finish at the State 5A-I meet, a second place finish in the Central region meet and a second place finish at the Tempe City Cross Country Championship meet.

The team was led by seniors **Danica Ganje, Sydney Buck, Christina Freeman, Katie Huch** and **Tori Papp** complimented by junior **Ellen Dunn** and sophomore **Dani Lemieux**.

The bad news for the 2010 team may be the loss of head coach **Jon Drury** to budget cuts. The good news is that the team should return experienced runners Dunn and Lemieux and promising runners **Hallie Swenson, Kate Halligan, Cyndia Yu, Hanna Snyder, Kristin Stroble, Hanna Lewis, Alyssa Ramsland, Allison Mundine, Tyler Foggatt, Christy Garrison**, and **Kierstynn Wile**

Boys Basketball — Corona's boys basketball team finished the season under seven-year head coach **Sammie Duane** with a 19-10 record making it into the second round of the state 5A-I tournament by defeating Mesquite and then losing to eventual state champions

North.

"Probably our best win all season was defeating Mesquite 66-49 in the first round of state after losing to Mesquite twice in the regular season," said Duane.

The team lost seniors **David Whitmore**, first team all region, **Kyle Noon**, second team, and **Marcel Towns**, honorable mention. Duane is optimistic about next season's team with the return of starters **Calaen Robinson** and **Avery Moss** and **Nick Siefker** who gave the team significant minutes off the bench last season.

"These three players will need to provide good leadership for our young guys on the varsity team," said Duane.

"But I think once the young guys learn and understand what it takes to compete in our region, we will be very competitive and have a solid team."

Girl's Basketball — Corona's girls basketball team was in a rebuilding year but had one standout senior, **Sydney Vanda**, who led the team in scoring and rebounding. Vanda was recognized at the Tempe All-City Association Winter Banquet for girls basketball and selected to give the invocation.

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Wrestler

From Page 10

was told that another opportunity would surely arise for him in mixed martial arts equivalent to the major leagues.

"I think they like me," he says. "I think they know I have talent; they know I'm a skilled fighter—things just haven't been going my way.

"They told my management, go get three or four fights, get on a winning streak, and you're welcome back. It's a long process, I've been around for a while now, but I'm still only 25, so I just gotta keep on truckin'."

Losses and disappointments are tough for everyone, let alone a fighter in an individual sport, and Forbes is no different.

He trained twice a day for 12 weeks straight, made sacrifices, ate right, didn't do the things normal 25-year-olds do, like drink, party, stay up late at night—but that won't change the outcome of his May 29 bout.

How do you put a loss like this one behind you? Get back to training? Take a vacation? Forget about it? Look at the positives from the fight?

"Whatever helps you sleep at night," Forbes jokes. "A loss is a loss. I put all that hard work in and I

really shouldn't have lost anywhere, but I got caught. You gotta regroup, gotta stay strong and get back on that horse and ride. When you lose like that you can't lose heart, you gotta get back up and keep going. Fall down seven times, get back up eight."

Getting right back into the cage also helps heal the pain of losing, especially since Forbes came out of UFC 114 completely healthy with no injuries to account for—"as soon as possible," he says without hesitation.

"Get back on the winning side of things, you know, pick yourself back up. I'm going to try fight every month and get three fights and then go right back to it, so we'll see what happens."

The All-American wrestler's never-quit attitude is exactly what got him to this point, and despite back-to-back losses, he still holds an impressive mark of 13-and-5 overall.

Forbes plans on fighting in July, August and September to get back in action—and pad his resume with the hopes of getting back into UFC.

While getting in shape has been his primary goal in recent months, Forbes finds time to volunteer with the Tempe Fire Department, which garnered him Tempe's 2010 Volunteer of the Year award.

"You know, if the Fire Department offers me a job, that will be my life for a while. and fighting will go on hold, or I'll be done. I'll cross that bridge when I get there, but right now I need to focus on fighting

and getting back to the UFC."

His determination notwithstanding, Forbes' future remains uncertain right now. Going forward the CdS alum faces lots of adversity that will have to be overcome. But one thing is set in stone: He made it to "the show."

He had the heart and guts and talent to put on those four-ounce gloves, walk that route to the octagon, and go *mano-a-mano* with another human being like a true warrior. No one can take that from him.

"It was cool; I just wish I would have won," Forbes says about the experience.

"I put a lot of hard work into it and I have all the skill. The UFC fans haven't been able to see what I can do, and that bothers me. So I gotta get back there, keep going, not lose heart on this.

"The experience was awesome. It's the biggest stage in the world for what I do, and that's where you wanna be—where I wanna be—so I'm gonna get back there."

If all goes as planned, Forbes could be back in shape for the UFC before the end of the year or early 2011.

As for the main event at UFC 114, "Suga" Rashad Evans won a unanimous decision over Quentin "Rampage" Jackson, who stars in the recently released movie the "A-Team" as B.A. Baracus.

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Doing good . . .

Scout's project brings garden to grade school

Thanks to James Hutchins, an eighth grader at Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School and a newly recognized Eagle Scout, kindergartners at an elementary school in Phoenix have a new garden and lots of reward items.

The longtime scout officially passed his Eagle review board, which considered his career and participation in the organization, along with his completion of an Eagle Scout service project.

Hutchins, son of David and Heidi Hutchins, is a member of Troop 697 at St. James Episcopal Church, led by Scoutmaster Mark Moorehead.

In completing their project, Eagle candidates demonstrate the skills and resources they have learned through their participation in scouting.

Hutchins' project resulted in the transformation of a portion of the kindergarten playground into a garden, which the teachers will use to teach ecology and children will actively plant and care for a variety of plants, flowers and vegetables.



James Hutchins with Asst. Scoutmaster David Pendleton

The second area of his project was organizing a toy- and school-supplies drive to stock and provide shelving storage for a children's reward store. These items will be used as incentives and are awarded to children for behavior, grades, time management and other positive actions.

To store the large amount of donations he received, he directed the installation of a shelving unit and the organization of the items.

To accomplish his project, Hutchins developed partnerships with community organizations and local businesses to help spread the word, provide locations for donation booths and access to their customers. Hutchins raised money outside Aspire Kids Sports Center in Chandler, exchanging fruit picked from his back yard for donations to the project.

Hutchins also wrote letters and made personal visits to various businesses asking for support, and used Facebook as a way to request donations for his project.

Overall, Hutchins raised more than \$500 and directed 26 volunteers who contributed 196 service hours, in addition to 86 hours of his own.

"It really means a lot to me to become an Eagle Scout," James said. "Only five percent of scouts make it this far."

Hutchins began as a Tiger Cub in the first grade and progressed through the ranks for seven years, reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. Throughout the years, he was active in his troop, has earned 25 merit badges, hiked more than 85 miles, spent 43 nights camping and donated 218 service hours.

This summer he plans on continuing his scouting career as a staff member at Cub Scout Camp R-C in Payson. He will also participate with Troop 697 in a Boundary Waters Expedition, and attend Camp Cherry Valley on Santa Catalina Island in California.

"Every parent feels like their kid is special. You want a school that is going to feel that way, too... and that's going to happen for you in the **Tempe Elementary Schools Kindergarten Program.**"

—Shawna Borst, parent



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If you feel your 4-year-old is truly ready to start in a **free, full-day kindergarten program** this August, we invite you to take a look at the Tempe Elementary Kindergarten Program.

We welcome children from outside our district boundaries!

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Please note, schools will be closed June 1 – July 16.

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Tempe Elementary District Office
3205 S. Rural Rd. in Tempe [NE corner of Rural and Southern]
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To enroll, you will need to bring:

1. Your child's certified birth certificate
2. Your child's documented immunization record
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So. Tempe ideas sought for downtown

Do you have a favorite tree? Think you know what kinds of shade structures would look best lining the streets of Tempe downtown's shopping district?

Even if you're a south Tempe resident and don't often visit the Mill Avenue area, you're being invited to voice your opinion.

The city of Tempe will host an open house to seek input from residents, businesses and property owners regarding downtown streetscape from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 28.

The meeting will be held at Tempe Transportation Center, 200 E. Fifth St.

At the event, city staff will share information regarding current conditions, challenges and opportunities. There will be a short presentation at 5:30 p.m., with input taken throughout the evening.

The meeting will be devoted to gathering information from the public about landscape

and hardscape elements located along the streets throughout the downtown area. Items of discussion may include tree types, planters, landscape materials, shade, benches, brick walkways and seating.

The ideas generated at this meeting and the preferences expressed will be considered by staff to help develop draft guidelines for Mill Avenue and the entire downtown area.

Once the draft guidelines have been prepared, a second public meeting will be held in the fall to present the guidelines and obtain additional comments and feedback. The final design guidelines will help guide streetscape improvements in the downtown.

More information:

Online at www.tempe.gov/streetscapes or contact Mark Vinson at 480-350-8367 or by email to mark_vinson@tempe.gov.

Chandler Regional's environmental efforts garner national honors

For the second consecutive year, Chandler Regional Medical Center has received the prestigious Partner for Change Award, a recognition paying tribute to outstanding environmental achievements in the health care sector.

The award, from Practice Greenhealth, recognizes healthcare facilities that continuously improve and expand upon their mercury elimination, waste reduction and pollution-prevention programs. Practice Greenhealth is a national membership organization for health care facilities committed to environmentally responsible operations.

At a minimum, facilities applying for the award must be recycling 10 percent of their total waste, have a mercury elimination program in place with a plan for total elimination, and have developed other successful pollution prevention programs.

Although honored for its efforts as an award recipient in 2009, the hospital further improved its environmental footprint this year through facility and process changes, as well as other in-house programs.

Among Chandler Regional's achievements noted in the 2010 recognition:

- Reducing medical waste by 10 percent;
- Replacing 30 percent of toilets with the 1.6 gallons per flush model; and
- Evaluating and replacing at least two cleaning products with green products.

Patty White, president and CEO of CRMC, said that the medical center remains committed to reducing its environmental impact.

"We're continually monitoring our progress to improve our performance. Receiving this award is confirmation that we are on the right track."



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Tempe scores a 'first' with triple AAA bond ratings from top scoring agencies

Tempe's efforts to recover from the impacts of unprecedented national and state financial decline have earned the city glowing reviews for being credit-worthy from the three major national bond rating agencies.

Moody's Investors Service upgraded its rating of Tempe from Aa1 to Aaa, its highest rating for municipal governments. Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor's have decided to continue their AAA ratings of city of Tempe bonds.

This is the first time Tempe has secured three AAA ratings.

Investors who buy municipal general obligation bonds rely on these ratings as a demonstration of the credit-worthiness of cities and the value of the investments.

After getting permission from voters through bond elections, cities sell bonds in order to pay for capital projects such as roads, community centers, fire trucks and equipment. The higher a city's bond ratings, the lower interest it ultimately pays to finance projects.

"Despite the daunting economic challenges faced by every city, Tempe

continues to demonstrate fiscal prudence that sets the bar," said Mayor Hugh Hallman.

"We thank the rating agencies for recognizing the priority Tempe places on being a true steward of our residents' taxes."

City Council members and city staff have been working since fall 2009 to find ways to balance a projected \$33.7 million deficit in Tempe's 2010-11 General Fund budget. They also have begun discussions about how to address the city's reduced capacity to pay for capital projects because of lower property values across the state and in Tempe.

In explaining its rating, Standard & Poor analysts cited Tempe's strong economic base, financial practices and fund balances, along with its moderate and manageable debt. Tempe first achieved the AAA rating from Standard & Poor's in 2006.

"The stable outlook reflects our expectation of a continued deep and diverse local economy, especially given the presence of ASU, the largest university in the country," they wrote.

Tempe will sell its next round of

municipal bonds to investors this month for capital projects that voters authorized in 2006 and 2008 elections.

The funds will be used for water and wastewater system improvements, public safety projects, park improvements and street projects.

"Tempe provides exceptional value to our residents and constantly asks how we can do things better and more

efficiently," said Vice Mayor Shana Ellis.

"These ratings are an important piece of our work to recover from financial challenges and emerge a stronger city."

For more information about Tempe's efforts to balance its 2010-11 budget, visit www.tempe.gov/budgetplan.

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So. Tempe DQ marks Blizzard's 25th birthday

Tempe's Kyrene Corridor Dairy Queen continues the celebration of the 25th birthday of its iconic Blizzard Treat with the launch of Operation Happy Birthday, an online video promotion running now through Aug. 1.

Through the celebration, anyone 18 years or older with a camera, camcorder or mobile device can record and submit a video clip that's no longer than one minute with an original, creative or funny version of an individual alone, with family, friends or a pet singing, rapping, rhyming, dancing or playing an instrument to the tune of "Happy Birthday" to the Blizzard Treat.

No purchase is necessary, however the local store, at

the northwest corner of Elliot and Rural roads, has been celebrating with a 25-cent Blizzard (with the purchase of another one at regular price) for the past several months.

Videos will be judged on creativity, originality, adherence to theme and the 60-second time limit, and the amount of page views generated after the video is posted to YouTube.com. An entry form, rules and regulations are available at <http://blog.dairyqueen.com/blizzard/operationhappybirthday>.

Dairy Queen's "Blizzardmobile" is on a 25-city tour and is expected to visit Tempe sometime in the next several weeks.

Summer

From Page 7

Chandler, put on summer reading programs for kids of all ages, providing reading logs, awarding prizes to participants and hosting a variety of fun events to get the whole family involved.

Make it a family activity. When a child is young, bedtime reading may be part of the nightly routine, but as he or she progresses through school, evenings are often filled with extracurricular activities, homework and dinner.

This summer, designate a time each day when every member of the family can unwind with a good book. Just 20 minutes of daily reading will improve your child's language, writing, spelling and of course, reading skills.

Check out online summer reading programs. A little recognition and reward can provide excellent motivation for a child.

Information: (480) 726-9100.

Library

From Page 5

Hoffman said kids are encouraged to read daily for prizes, including stickers for the younger adolescents and larger prizes for the teens, such as an Apple iPad.

Adult book clubs also meet regularly at the branch.

"The goal of our programs is really just to get people reading," Hoffman said.

A glance around the library's entryway gives patrons a quick look at the large area dedicated to computers with high-speed Internet access. Members can use computers at any time, provided the work stations aren't already occupied.

A mix of middle school students and adults frequently use the computers for school and work purposes, says Hoffman. With a large number of companies requiring employees to apply online, the Sunset Library staff helps many residents with online applications.

"Right now, we have a lot of people job-hunting," Hoffman said. "We're always helping people with their resumes."

Whether patrons are using computers or checking out books, there is always a community of support at the Sunset branch.

"All of our patrons are awesome," Hoffman said. "The community is very supportive of the library, and people are generally pretty happy."

For more information on upcoming events, go to www.chandlerlibrary.org.

Chandler Sunset Library is located on the northeast side of Rural and Ray roads, and is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

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Kyrene Foundation's Employee-of-Year awards honor 2 from area schools

A middle-school principal and an elementary-school secretary have been named employees of the year by the Kyrene Foundation, a non-profit group that supports efforts to fill a funding gap in local classrooms.

The foundation and the Tempe Schools Credit Union sponsored the program.

Classified-staff Employee of the Year is Chantelle Miller, school secretary at Kyrene del Cielo Elementary School, 1350 N. Lakeshore Drive, Chandler. Classified employees fill non-teaching positions



Miller's nomination noted that she leads by example in treating others with courtesy and respect and that, through her technical talents, has made changes that have improved communications with the school community.

"A school secretary sets the mood, and Chantelle Miller has used her quiet and graceful manner to maintain the dignity and trust her school has exemplified for 20 years," according to her nomination.

Jama Nacke, who completed her first year as principal at Kyrene Pueblo Middle School, 360 S. Twelve Oaks Blvd., Chandler, was named this year's Administrator of the Year.



According to her staff, Nacke during the year was confronted with broken air conditioners, injured staff members, lockdowns and the death of a faculty member. Despite these and other challenges, each has been met with calmness and confidence, according to her nomination.

Nacke takes time each week to honor her staff and let them know they are valued, trusted and respected, nominators said. "She always has a smile on her face and a word of encouragement for others."

Foundation officials said Nacke's competence in the job is a reflection of the years of training she's had in Kyrene.

Educator (teacher) of the Year is Jon Hutman, who teaches science at Centennial Middle School in Ahwatukee.

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Mark Pentz retires as Chandler city manager

Mark Pentz, who has served as Chandler's city manager since January 2004, has retired effective June 25.

Pentz was formerly city manager of Rockville, Md., a city of 50,000, where he served for approximately five years. Prior to that he was



city manager of Leavenworth, Kansas, and Mexico, Missouri. He has served in city government since 1976.

In February, Pentz was awarded the John J. DeBolske

professional excellence award from the Arizona City/County Management Assn.

He holds master's degrees in Public Administration and American History and a bachelor's degree in History from the University of Kansas. He attended the Senior Executive Institute at the University of Virginia in 2001.

Pentz was president of the Maryland City/County Management Association and has served on a number of city management-related boards and commissions throughout his career.

Pentz says he plans to simply relax for a few months before making long-term retirement plans.



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Tempe District program Summer courses offer students a jump start on fall classes

Summer is under way, and a number of high school students aren't using the time to relax around the house. Instead, they've opted to spend their days taking summer courses offered at Corona del Sol and Tempe high schools.

"We have seen a huge increase in the number of students in our summer school programs," Sean McDonald, director of special programs and principal of Compadre High School, said. "The online summer school has increased exponentially."

McDonald said more students are choosing to attend summer school classes in order to get ahead of the game, in terms of credits for graduation. Now, seniors must have completed 22 credits in order to graduate.

Two sessions are offered during the summer at both Corona and Tempe high schools, each lasting three weeks.

"One morning is like one week of school," said Marylee Fischer, principal of Corona's summer school site.

"After 14 days, they accomplish a full half credit."

Most of the summer school courses are "core" classes, giving students one more step toward graduation, McDonald said. Classes run from 7:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

"We've got health classes – everything ranging from math and science to government," Fischer said. Three sections of algebra are available, as well as classes in Spanish.

A biology class offered at Corona is blended to include an online aspect, as well as direct teacher instruction while in class. The course is taught by Stephanie Skeels, who has been teaching biology for five years.

"When you're doing online at home, you have to be very self-disciplined," she said. "When I can do it here, I can meet everybody's needs."

Skeels said she enjoys the blended curriculum, because it allows her to manipulate class content easily by updating the Web site. Students taking the course get one-on-one time with Skeels, while also moving through the online course independently.

"It's great because you get to go at your own pace," Mackenzie Giblin, a senior taking Skeels's biology class, said. "It pushes you, but it's a nice way to get ahead."

Many of the students who will be seniors this fall were fulfilling half credits so they could get out of school early during the school year. Although the courses can be more fast-paced, some students said they liked the summer school classes because they only lasted three weeks.

Skeels said she sees a huge amount of success incorporating her direct instruction, while students go at their own pace through the online lesson.

"It's absolutely beneficial for the students," Skeels said. "They seem to enjoy it a lot."

A government class taught by Miguel Marrero was

full of students excited for the next day's final exam, marking the end of the first summer school session.

Almost all were seniors taking the class to keep make their senior year less stressful by chopping down their number of classes.

"My students are doing well," Marrero said. "They

seem to enjoy taking the summer school classes to get ahead."

Corona del Sol's first summer session ended June 18. The second session runs June 21 to July 9.

— Mark Crudup

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Kindergarten

From Page 4

Referring to dual language programs in other districts, Gomez del Castillo said they plan to develop a network of parents as a support center for parents with children in the program.

Tatiana Ward, a second grade teacher at Brisas Elementary School and a social worker at Niños, said:

"I'm hoping to get my own kids into this program; it's such a great opportunity to become bilingual and have that motivation to achieve a college education."

Kids who complete the program will be able to continue first and subsequent grades with the same regimen, Gomez del Castillo said.

"The program could end up becoming school-wide, but at this point we don't know what tomorrow will bring," she said. "We are staying open to what that vision could be."



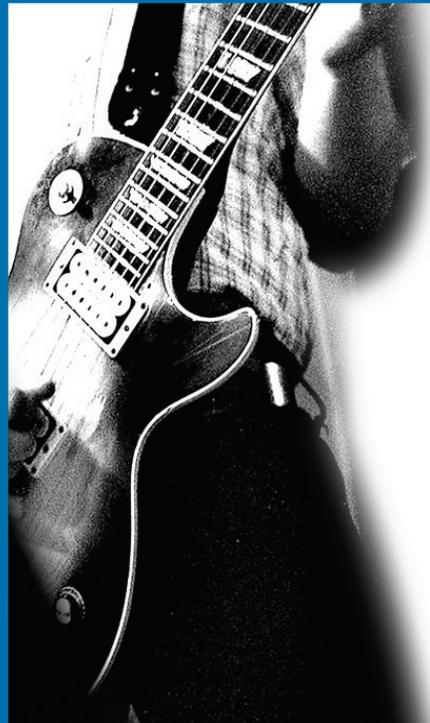
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Women's indoor golf clinic scheduled July 8 at center

CrossWoods Indoor Golf Center will offer a free indoor golf clinic from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 8.

The clinic is open to women 21 and older and to all levels of golfers. Participants are encouraged to bring their own golf clubs if they have them, however loaners will also be available. The class is limited to 12 women.

Discounts on appetizers, domestic and import draft beers and wines. All participants will receive a gift and a door prize will be given away at 8p.m.

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W. Chandler branch of credit union is recipient of lender-advocacy award

The west Chandler office of a Valley credit union is celebrating its receipt of a 2009 Arizona Lender Advocacy Award from the Arizona Small Business Association.

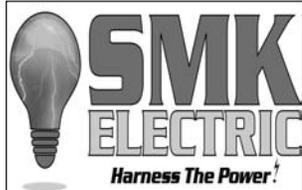
The recipient, First Credit Union, received the award for its efforts in aiding,

counseling, assisting or otherwise acting as a small business advocate through its lending programs and voice of support for Arizona small business.

The efforts were part of the federal government's Volunteer Income Assistance Program, or VITA, programs.

First Credit Union's office at 475 N. Gila Springs Blvd. has hosted a VITA site since 2006.

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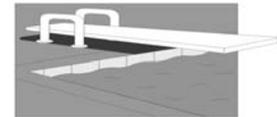
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Handyman — Dave's Handyman Service. 602-295-3991. "Ask us if we can do it." Electrical, plumbing, doors & windows, drywall, painting, home remodeling. Lic. #169409ROC. See our ad in *Guide to Neighborhood Services*.

Handyman — Honey-Do Handyman – General Repair and Maintenance. Electrical, home entertainment hookups, plumbing, install ceiling fans, fixtures, phone jacks and most repair jobs. Clean, neat and dependable. 25 years experience. Not a licensed contractor - Make your list and call Ron 480-233-1834 or 480-736-1599. See our ad in *Guide to Neighborhood Services*.

Handyman — Mi-Son Handyman home repair/remodeling. Specializing in kitchens/bath remodeling, electrical/ceiling fans, carpentry, plumbing, flooring, paint and roofing. We do it all, including trash removal, hauling, lock change, specializing in landlord, property management and Realtor needs. No job too large or small. 480-707-1221 or 602-330-5445. Call Mike or Sonia for estimates. Not a licensed contractor. 8/28/10

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Wayward sandpipers join a diverse collection of animals that inhabit the Calle de Caballos neighborhood Feathery friends become regular visitors at home of So. Tempe pair

Story and photo by Mark Crudup

Stanley and Jan Nicpon, former owners of Tempe's Pizzeria Uno,



Jan and Stanley Nicpon at their So. Tempe home



Killdeer of the type that visits Nicpons' home.

have a 10-year friendship with feathery friends who return to nest every spring in their home's small horse arena in the Calle de Caballos neighborhood.

Killdeers, a type of sandpiper about as big as a fist, have continued to nest in the rocky area just outside the arena, laying eggs that look almost identical to the gray river rocks.

"(This year) they were here for at least three weeks," Jan Nicpon said. "It was so amazing to watch them."

Until one morning in May, the sandpipers attracted curious onlookers at the Nicpons' recent yard sales. After an unsuccessful search for the birds that morning, Stanley Nicpon said he was sure a coyote made a late-night snack of the two sandpiper parents and eggs.

"Last night, Casey (their golden retriever) was just so upset, and I'm afraid we might have a coyote again," Jan Nicpon said, looking for traces of egg shells around the nest.

Stanley walked in disbelief around the nesting area, which he had previously roped off to prevent cars from driving down the path.

A softball-sized hole dented the ground where the eggs used to be.

"The coyotes would eat the whole nest – all the eggs and the parents. It's very likely that's what happened," Stanley said.

"We've had a coyote kill one of our cats before."

The Nicpons said they frequently see coyotes running along horse trails in their neighborhood, a horse-loving community with many resident animals.

"We usually see the eggs start to hatch when it gets over 90 degrees outside," Stanley said. "I was hoping to see them hatch soon."

Killdeers are common to Arizona, but differ from most sandpipers because they nest outside of water, Emily Morris, teacher naturalist of the Arizona Audubon Society, said. Arizona killdeers, in particular, remain in the state year-round.

"They nest right on the ground," Morris said. "And they don't really add anything to their nest, like other bird nests more people are accustomed to."

Killdeer get its name from its call, which sounds like a repeating 'killdeer,' 'killdeer,' 'killdeer,' she said. They are frequently seen near irrigation sites and local lakes.

Killdeer also can be recognized by their distinct defense mechanisms.

"Killdeer are interesting because if the

mother feels threatened, she will coax away predators from the nest by acting like her wing is injured," Morris said.

Morris agreed with Stanley that the killdeer nesting near the Nicpons' house probably were eaten by a coyote. It could also be the case the mother abandoned her nest and moved to another location, which occurs commonly in that species, she said.

"It's a big birder area here," Stanley said. "We've had a lot of hawks that fly through here, too."

The Calle de Caballos community is home to a diverse collection of animals. Many neighbors raise champion horses and take in rescue animals, including Hector, a 2,000-pound bull that lives across the street from the Nicpons.

"We're all animal people, so we're very respectful to all of them," Jan Nicpon said.

"It's kind of like a mini zoo now – neighbors bring their kids before it gets dark, all of them in their pajamas, watching and feeding the animals."

Although the killdeer are gone for now, Stanley and Jan Nicpon look forward to seeing the birds return.

"It's just so sad they're not here any more," Jan said. "Hopefully, we will see more next year."



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Tempe celebrates renovated library

Tempe Public Library renovations are now complete – just in time for the new school year!

Join us for a free celebration on Saturday, Aug. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the library, 3500 S. Rural Road. The event will feature entertainment, tours and activities throughout the library for all ages.

Did you know that Tempe is home to the largest children's library in the United States? The new 18,800-square-foot youth library has edged out the Thomas Hughes Children's Library in Chicago. It features a giant cactus, a flowing stream of books, a family computing area, two toy areas and more.

Other cool spots in the renovated library include a new Teen Center, an improved Computer Commons and areas for quiet study.

In May 2006, Tempe voters authorized the sale of bonds for the \$8 million renovation.

Tempe's Capital Improvement Program budget is separate from the city's General Fund operating budget; bonds are repaid through secondary property taxes.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/library or call 480-350-5500.



Aviation Commission sets up e-mail distribution

Members of the City Council-appointed Tempe Aviation Commission (TAVCO) have established an e-mail distribution list, or listserv, for any community members interested in receiving aviation news.

As neighbors to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, Tempe residents have long been interested in aviation issues affecting neighborhood quality of life.

TAVCO members and city staff will post occasional e-mail updates such as FAA reports, commission vacancies, holiday air traffic information, directions for reporting noise complaints and details about public meetings concerning the airport. To sign up for the service, visit www.tempe.gov/lists, provide your name and e-mail address, and click on the box titled "Tempe Aviation Updates."

Tempe details impacts of budget reductions and furloughs

Community members will see impacts to some city service levels as a result of budget reductions and employee furloughs needed to balance an expected \$33.7 million deficit in Tempe's 2010-11 General Fund budget.

Effective July 1, which is the start of the fiscal year, Tempe will implement \$16 million in cuts and revenue-generating measures approved by the City Council this spring. The changes include reducing hours at the Tempe Public Library, adjusting hours at two community centers, reducing some Police services and implementing new or increased fees for some services.

Tempe voters passed Proposition 401 during the May 18 General Election, allowing for a four-year, two-tenths of a cent sales tax increase that enables the city to preserve essential services such as public safety and recreation programs. Effective July 1, Tempe's sales tax will go from 1.8 percent to 2 percent, which amounts to about \$60 a year for the average household.

Before the General Election, the Tempe City Council divided the \$33.7 million budget challenge into three groups. The three categories of items are detailed in a color-coded chart available at www.tempe.gov/budgetplan under the "Current 2010-11 Budget Process" tab. Then click on the "City Council Budget Priorities" tab.

Many of the staff and budget reductions will result generally in increased workloads, longer wait times and reduced customer service across the city; however, those impacts will be relatively minimally felt by community members. Other changes will result in greater direct impacts to the community.

Those more visible changes are listed at www.tempe.gov/budgetplan.

Kiwanis Fitness Center announces summer Dollar Days savings

Kiwanis Recreation Center, 6111 S. All-America Way, provides residents looking to stay active with irresistible savings this summer.

Dollar Days allow users to keep their bodies and wallets fit with \$1 fitness center admission on Saturdays and Sundays in June, July and August.

Fitness center users can save 75 percent off of the regular daily fee of \$4.

The fitness center is open: 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays; 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturdays; and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

The center features cardiovascular and strength equipment, free weights, stability balls, tubing and bands.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/fitness or call 480-350-5201 or 480-350-5050 TTY.

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