

# Wrangler News

July 1-14, 2017 | Vol. 28, No. 13 • Tempe & West Chandler: The place we call home.

## WET, WILD AND WONDERFUL



Photographer Billy Hardiman used his creative skills—and some incredible camera lenses—to capture the spirit of kids, water and summertime at West Chandler's Nozomi pool. More photos on Page 9.

## Dive in for summer fun at neighborhood pools in Tempe, West Chandler

**T**empe and West Chandler's scorching-hot temperatures this time of year are all the more reason to plunge into the cooling waters at area pools like those you'll find at Nozomi Aquatic Center or Kiwanis Wave Pool.

Chandler's Nozomi features a zero-depth entry

pool, a water playground, an expansive, eight-lane pool with a high dive plus a 112-foot, figure-eight water slide.

Over in Tempe, you can dodge three-foot waves at the Kiwanis Wave Pool or hit the double-spiral water slide.

Raft and tube rentals are available. Both Nozomi and Kiwanis Wave Pool are open July 4th but will close at 6 p.m., just in time to grab a bite then head out to the fireworks displays that light up the sky in celebration of our nation's Independence Day.

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PHYSICIAN'S CHOICE MASSAGE

# TIRED OF JOINT PAIN?

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# Going to the mat for their country

By Jonathan Coronel

As summer inches its way toward an eventual finale, most recent high school graduates look eagerly forward to their first taste of freedom: life away from home at their new college or university.

For many, college is the first time they're away from their parents for a significant length of time, and the lack of structure differs greatly from high school, which can serve to be either a bane or a boon, depending on how each one takes the reins of newfound independence.

For a few recent Corona del Sol graduates, getting away from home represents quite different expectations: life that's more rigorous, more structured and more—much more—demanding than the one they're leaving behind.

These are the academic, athletic and future-oriented elite, those preparing to attend one of this country's prestigious United States Service Academies.

## Introducing three high achievers

Here's a rundown on those newest members of Corona's distinguished ranks of high achievers:

After winning a state championship on the Corona wrestling team their senior year, teammates Brandon Konecny and Vincent Dolce are preparing for their next challenge: five years of arduous military schooling, at the end of which they will be commissioned as 2nd lieutenants in the Air Force.

Located near Colorado Springs, the United States Air Force Academy is one of the most prestigious universities in the country, admitting only around 1,000 students per year from a pool of 12,000 applicants.

Before attending the academy, Konecny and Dolce will both spend a year at the Air Force Academy prep school.

While the rigors of attending a military academy are well known, both students indeed seem well prepared for the challenge.

"Wrestling really prepared me mentally and physically for this. The hardest part is just going to be living away from my family and not being able to see them every day," Dolce explains.

"The majority of my week is already planned, based on (wrestling) practice, so that prepared me for the structure there. Also, I went to Seton Catholic for several years, so I feel like that prepared me well academically," Konecny says.

Acknowledging the contrast with their peers, whose coming college experiences will allow them much more free time than the rigidity of military school, both Konecny and Dolce saw it as a positive.

"One big draw for me was the lifestyle up there. They have routines, everything is put together for you. I've been used to that for a while with wrestling.

"So it's a good transition for me going into college. Also the team feels like a family; the coaches want you to be successful in wrestling but also in life," says Dolce.

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— CONTINUED on facing page

Konecny agreed, adding that the small class sizes at Air Force (maximum of 25 cadets per class) are enticing because of the opportunity for more attention from the professor.

While Konecny and Dolce prepare to leave for Colorado for basic training in mid-July, their good friend and teammate Hunter Carmona is preparing for a similar journey on the other side of the country. Carmona, whose father Louis serves as assistant coach on the Corona wrestling team, expressed pride in his son, as well as in Konecny and Dolce.

“I can’t begin to tell you what this means for me as a coach and parent to see three of our wrestlers go on to the academies.”

For his part, Hunter Carmona will be attending prep school in Rhode Island before going to the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn., the following year.

After putting in four years of hard work, Carmona will graduate as a Coast Guard ensign. Like his

teammates, Carmona will also have a four-year active-duty service obligation upon graduating.

Carmona credits former Corona wrestlers Ethan Tursini and Bridger Barker for planting the idea of going to an academy in his head, adding, “When Brandon and Vinny decided they were going to a service academy, it sort of convinced me I should go for it too.”

Like his teammates Carmona is unsure what job he would like to perform after graduating, and has his eyes potentially set on grad school before beginning his service commitment.

While the curriculum and training at America’s service academies is well known for its rigor, all three young men seem aptly prepared thanks to years of hard work they put in on the wrestling mat, as well as the support of their coaches and families.

For Carmona, Dolce and Konecny, this next challenge is just another match.



Wrestling teammates who graduated this year from Corona were selected to attend prestigious U.S. military academies. They include, from left, Vincent Dolce, Hunter Carmona and Brandon Konecny.

— Photo courtesy Louis Carmona

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## Kyrene schools chief takes a breath, views the future

*Editor's note: Over the past year, Wrangler News correspondent Diana Whittle has developed an ongoing, productive connection with Kyrene schools superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely.*

*The relationship has produced an opportunity not only to report on the progress that has been made since Vesely's arrival but to better understand the opportunities—and challenges—that lie ahead for the district.*

*We encourage this kind of working dialog among our writers and the community leaders who are faced with making decisions that will affect all of us.*

*The following is Whittle's report on Vesely's first year on the job, coupled with a reaffirmation of our longstanding pledge to keep our readers knowledgeable about the direction in which those leaders are taking us.*

**By Diana Whittle**

It's been a fast-paced year since my first meeting last July with Kyrene's then-newly appointed Superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely.

After arriving from Tucson, she hit the ground running and hasn't stopped since; so, during our most recent interview in late June, she had a chance both to catch her breath and to reflect over the past school year.

Ironically, our meeting took place on her birthday, so in the midst of well-wishes from colleagues, she spoke about a year of transition—from responding to the district's first comprehensive audit, sponsoring a Visioning Day to gather input from many stakeholders in the community; and then implementing a re-organization designed to return resources to the classroom.

All were steps leading to the next big task at hand, which is to weave together all the data and analysis into a new strategic plan to guide the district into the future.

#### A focus on students

First and foremost, it's evident, as Vesely recalls the accomplishments of the past school year, her top priority is setting an atmosphere of academic achievement for the students in the district.

"We've set a brisk pace for our progress, but we have no choice,

because when it comes to improving the quality of education we provide to our students, I am motivated by a strong sense of urgency," said Vesely.

"We only have them in our care for what seems like a heartbeat, and we have a responsibility to give them the best we can offer."

Vesely believes there remains a lot of work to be done, but it's mainly because of the high achievement bar she has set.

"My team and I are dedicated to a process of continuous improvement, reviewing and assessing the outcomes of the steps we have taken to address the findings of the audit, with a constant focus on teaching and learning.

As evidence of their dedication, Vesely explains that the staff of each school in the Kyrene District collaborated to develop 90-day action plans to articulate their individual goals and strategies.

"When I arrived here, one year ago on July 1, I knew that Kyrene was a high performing District. And it didn't take me long to know that the pillars of strength of its schools were the exceptional and dedicated staff and the highly engaged and supportive community."

While the end result is to improve teaching and learning, Vesely determined that the root cause of achievement gaps needed to be determined along with stabilizing and increasing enrollment.

To summarize, Vesely outlines the following initiatives that the district staff were collectively able to implement:

- Redesign of our middle school program. "Our middle school principals worked very hard on identifying the elements characteristic of a highly effective middle school, and crafting a model for Kyrene that includes an emphasis on academic excellence, responsive instruction and support and student agency."

- Expansion of our early learning programs.

"Kyrene now has a full complement of early education options that includes the Early Learning Academy, Montessori, Bienvenidos Spanish immersion, Reggio Emilia programs as well as ten preschools across the District. We are adding to these options, with preschools at Mariposa,

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- Click on “Building Better Readers Together - Using Lexiles”

### Literacy Tips

- Set aside family time to read everyday during the summer. Allow your children to choose books on a variety of topics.
- While reading a book ask your child questions: Who or what is the book about? When and where does the story take place?
- Turn reading into a game. Create a Bingo board with different types of text (i.e. book, news article, magazine, recipe, mail, street sign) in each square. Once your child has all areas checked off, they win!



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# Chandler's July 4th fireworks spectacular returns with a party in the park

**R**ed. White. Boom. Chandler's signature Independence Day celebration, the July 4th Fireworks Spectacular, returns to Tumbleweed Park, on Tuesday, July 4, with free family fun.

The party reigns across Tumbleweed Park from 5-10:30 p.m. with a high energy celebration, complete with live music, food vendors and Kidtopia activities, all leading up to Chandler's largest sky-illuminating fireworks display kicking off at 9 p.m., presented by Cold Beers and Cheeseburgers.

Admission to the park is free and onsite parking is available for \$5 per vehicle.

No party is complete, say planners, without live tunes to keep crowds grooving, and the stage is offering five hours of non-stop musical entertainment celebrating the sounds of America.

Keep an ear out for lively music by People Who Can Fly, Blaine Long and local DJs. The complete concert schedule is available online at [chandleraz.gov](http://chandleraz.gov).

[gov/4thofjuly](http://chandleraz.gov/4thofjuly).

Eats and sips from local food trucks and street fare vendors also are on tap for the party in the park, featuring what's been described as the ever-developing flavors of the East Valley. An array of food vendors will be available for a delectable afternoon of dining and drinking.

The 21-and-over crowd is invited to savor, sip and stroll as they enjoy rhythm and brews in the beer garden. All food and drinks are pay-as-you-go.

Families should head to Kidtopia for a full afternoon of interactive activities like face painting, balloon creations, inflatable car wash and more.

Kids and adults also can catch a ride on the Lego Trackless Train touring the park.

But the party doesn't stop there.

Tumbleweed Park hosts Playtopia, sand volleyball, horseshoes and corn hole. Partygoers are encouraged to bring their own outside activities – kites, Frisbees, bikes, bubbles and more, as well as blankets and chairs. Personal fireworks and sparklers are prohibited in the park.

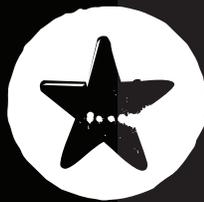
For a complete list of permitted and prohibited



items and more event information, visit [chandleraz.gov/4thofjuly](http://chandleraz.gov/4thofjuly). Tumbleweed Park is located at 2250 S. McQueen Road, on the southwest corner of McQueen and Germann roads.

Vehicles can enter the park from Germann Road at Hamilton Street or from McQueen Road at Celebration Way.

The July 4th Fireworks Spectacular is presented by the city of Chandler in partnership with R Entertainment, Rivera Broadcasting, The CW6, Cold Beers & Cheeseburgers and Aqua Hydrate.



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## In the swim

Slather on the sunscreen and pack up the kids. Nozomi Aquatic Center, Kiwanis Wave Pool and other summertime watering holes are in full swing and the place to be any time the temperatures soar into triple digits.

Don't forget the goggles and towels!

— Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News



# Wrangler NEWS



‘Every small town deserves a paper this good,  
and so does every big city.’

**I**t was a pronouncement that, in addition to taking us quite by surprise, captured a philosophy we ourselves could not have so eloquently expressed.

The occasion was the arrival of Phoenix magazine’s annual ‘Best Of’ edition, which listed its own and its readers’ views of many of the Valley’s businesses, both large and small.

To retrace some of the history that we believe justified that ‘Best Of’ selection, our idea back in the paper’s early days was to share positive stories about the lives of the neighbors and business owners who made up our community, and their successes along the way.

Since then, by unwaveringly following that approach to newspapering, we’ve managed to survive the myriad challenges that have been thrown our way for the nearly 30 years we’ve been in business. We make no claim of doing everything right or of showing special acumen in the conduct of newspaper publishing.

However, we do believe that by telling stories in a way that emphasizes our community’s strengths over its weaknesses, we have become an inte-

gral part of what holds our neighborhoods—and our neighbors—together.

Can you help us tell these stories? You can, and here’s how: By encouraging your friends, family and neighbors to read their Wrangler News when it arrives in their driveway every other week. By letting them know that our stories, photos and, yes, our ads are a way to stay acquainted with what’s happening in the community around us.

By reminding the businesses that you have confidence in to consider Wrangler News as part of their targeted marketing efforts. Our rates are affordable, and our No. 1 goal is to help them be successful.

We want to keep on deserving the accolade we received from Phoenix magazine, and to make sure that our next 30 years will provide a communications medium that you’ll continue to count on as a vital link to your neighborhood and your neighbors.

As always, call us any time 9 to 5 Monday through Friday to share your thoughts or ideas. **And keep on reading!**

**PHOENIX**  
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# Kyrene

From Page 6

Niños and Waggoner.

We also announced our participation in the City of Tempe's PRE—Preschool Resource Expansion program, which is free preschool for qualifying families of children ages 3 and 4 at Ninos and Mariposa.”

- International Baccalaureate program at Kyrene Middle School.

“We recently received word that our application for candidacy, the prerequisite for an IB Middle Years Programme at KMS, has been approved. IB offers students with an opportunity to work within a global context with an emphasis on high quality, challenging instruction.

It includes a strong world language component, which provides our dual language students with an option to continue that focus in middle school. Enrollment of new students at KMS for the 2017-18 school year is higher than it has been in recent years.”

- Expansion of the Kyrene Traditional Academy to PreK-8.

“For years, parents have expressed an interest in having their children continue with the traditional approach to education offered at KTA beyond elementary school. We will be adding a 6th grade class at KTA in the fall of 2017, and are reviewing plans to expand the school to allow instruction through 8th grade.”



Dr. Jan Vesely

Vision for the future

One of the key findings of the audit was the need for the development of a multi-year strategic plan and identification of a vision and goals for the district that will guide the alignment of district decisions, actions, and improvement initiatives to close the gaps in student achievement.

“We have already started the process of developing that plan, beginning with visioning work done in collaboration with Dell EMC/Worldwide Education in which nearly 40 key stakeholders, including principals, teachers, parents, community members and most importantly, students, began to explore the question: What will learning look like in Kyrene in the future?”

Vesely created the Kyrene Business Alliance to provide community business partners with an opportunity to engage in the work of the district, and she also resurrected the Kyrene Student/Superintendent Council.

“The Student Council was instrumental in providing feedback on our middle school redesign, and at the end of the year, they offered their insight into what makes them want to come to school each day,” said Vesely.

“The Governing Board also offered their thoughts on defining the mission and vision of the district during their recent retreat. Over the coming months, we will bring together all of these perspectives and come to a shared mission and vision for the future of Kyrene.

Vesely concluded the conversation by saying: “We still have important work that needs to be completed, but as I enter my second year I am excited by the challenges that lie ahead.

“Kyrene is strong and its future is bright.”



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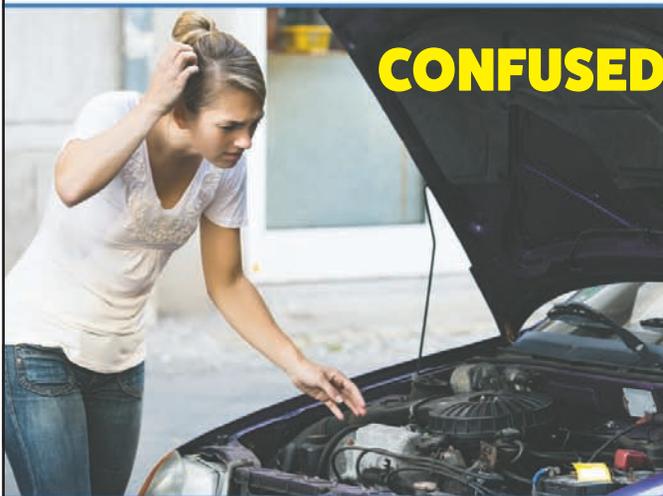
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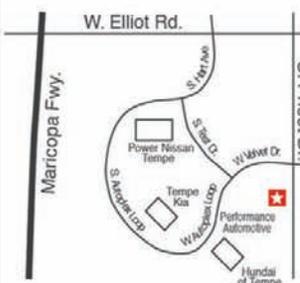
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# Preventing deaths, injury from Valley heatwave, one gulp at a time

By Deborah Hilcove

**I**t's HOT. Weeks of triple digit temperatures—with record-breaking highs of 115-120 degrees—mean air-conditioning units are cranking out coolness accompanied by expensive summertime power bills.

Families are stocking up on cases of water and bags of ice. Swimming pools, ice rinks and chilly theaters beckon.

During Arizona's extreme heat, the sidewalks are scorching, validation perhaps to that old joke about frying an egg on the sidewalk.

The asphalt becomes sticky-hot, even causing Sky Harbor to cancel flights. Inconvenient? For sure. But for those unfortunates living on our streets, the concrete and asphalt become deadly.

During the summer of 2016, in Maricopa County alone, extreme temperatures caused 130 heat-related deaths.

Thus far in 2017, June temperatures have broken records, but the Maricopa Association of Governments notes that "July is typically the most deadly month in Arizona when it comes to heat-caused deaths. The excessive daytime temperatures, coupled with high nighttime levels, make this time of year very dangerous. The high night temperatures do not allow for the body to cool down and can result in

more people being at risk."

Several associations aim to help.

MAG works with city governments to coordinate Heat Relief Network, an organization of faith-based groups, service providers, municipalities, nonprofits, businesses and residents. The agencies, such as Tempe Community Council, have set up hydration and refuge sites where anyone without shelter can rest in the shade and receive free bottles of chilled water. There's no qualifying and no paperwork.

Says Chandler Vice Mayor Kevin Hartke:

"The goal of the [Heat Relief] network is to provide resources for vulnerable people and help prevent heat-related deaths."

Hartke, who co-chairs MAG's Continuum of Care Board, notes that the Phoenix area averages 110 days of heat above 100 degrees. According to the Arizona Department of Health Services, nearly 2,000 individuals annually receive treatment for such heat-related illnesses as dehydration and heat stroke.

The city of Tempe is an active MAG participant. Kris Baxter-Ging, public information officer, notes that the city's home page, [www.Tempe.gov](http://www.Tempe.gov), lists relief sites and shows whether the station is for shade only, water only or a combination of assistance.

"We have sent PDFs [printed documents] of this information to our staff members who are most likely to encounter people who need help, such as code compliance officers, public works drivers and the like," she says. "We want to help as many people as possible."

Nikki Ripley, Tempe's communication and media relations director, emphasizes the city's concern for residents with its Homeless Outreach Program Effort.

The program, based at Tempe Public Library, hosts a heat relief and hydration station. Ripley reports that the HOPE team also is passing out water

to the homeless.

The city of Chandler is involved with MAG, too.

Chandler Vice Mayor Hartke supervises the city's involvement, with stations giving out chilled water and providing shady rest areas. At the June 22 City Council meeting, Hartke noted that these stations, or "hot spots," are located across the city, including fire and police stations. He encouraged residents to join the city's summer water drive.

Hartke, who also serves as pastor of Trinity Christian Fellowship, is committed to community service and coordinates food arrangements with Resurrection Street Ministries. He said that, with this sweltering heat, a recent challenge has been making sure that people waiting to receive food boxes could stay cool and hydrated.

The Salvation Army of Tempe and Chandler also participates in MAG and has activated its Red Shield Survival Squad, manning heat relief stations. Besides shade, the stations offer cool water, sunscreen, lip balm, hats, cooling towels and bandannas.

In addition to the MAG coordination of heat relief, Tempe Community Action Agency—the city's largest nonprofit social service agency—coordinates the East Valley iHELP Coalition. The Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program partners with Tempe, Mesa and Chandler organizations to provide emergency shelter, meals and skills training.

Although each city partner functions independently, they work together to provide inter-community help. Many faith congregations work with iHELP, opening their facilities so homeless "guests" can sleep on their property. Individuals are fed, helped with laundry and provided shelter and the opportunity to shower.

—HEAT, Page 31



## ASU Prep Compadre High School

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## Cure for kids' wrinkly fingers: a good summer read

Kids got prune-y fingers and toes after lolling in the pool? Maybe it's time to dive into the summer reading program offered at West Chandler's Sunset branch library.

The "Build a Better World!" program for kids, teens and adults will focus on how participants can build a better world throughout their own lives and in their own surroundings.

Teachers and parents have long known that a summer break that doesn't include daily reading can lead to a loss of valuable comprehension and other reading skills gained in the previous school year.

By participating in Chandler's summer reading program, children develop positive attitudes about reading, books, and the library.

When the entire family participates in the program, older siblings alongside Mom and Dad can model good reading behavior for the younger kids.

The focus of the summer reading program, for all ages, will be to read 20 minutes a day and track their progress online through Maricopa County Library District's website. Tracking forms will be available for children so that they will be able to easily monitor their reading time themselves, which can be then logged later by an adult or teen volunteer at the Sunset Library. Teens and adults will be able to enter for raffle prizes, including a Kindle Fire.

Information: [chandlerlibrary.org](http://chandlerlibrary.org) or 480-782-2800.

## July 4th recycle, trash schedules announced

Recycling and trash collection schedules for Chandler residents will be affected the week of July 3-8 due to the Independence Day holiday; no collection will occur Tuesday, July 4.

Regular collection will take place on Monday, July 3. Residents with Monday collection should place their can at the curb prior to 6 a.m.

Since there is no collection on Tuesday, July 4, residents with collection days Tuesday through Friday are asked to place their receptacles at the curb by 6 a.m. the day after their regular collection day.

For example, if your regular collection day is Tuesday, cans should be placed at the curb on Wednesday, July 5.

Wednesday collection moves to Thursday, all the way through Saturday, July 8. Collection returns to the regular schedule the following Monday.

The 4th of July is one of only four holidays that the city of Chandler does not collect recycling and trash. The others are Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. The city provides collection on all other holidays.

For more information, call 480-782-3510 or visit [chandleraz.gov/recycle](http://chandleraz.gov/recycle) and download the city's "My Waste" app for reminders on pick-up, recycling and bulk collection schedules.



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# Sports

With Alex Zener

## As football season nears, eyes turn to expectations

**W**ith football a little over two months away, football fans at both Corona del Sol and Marcos de Niza are most likely starting to think about football and how their teams will play this season, since both teams will have new quarterbacks while the Aztecs have a new head coach.

The Padres lost their three-year starting quarterback **Nazareth Greer** to graduation.

Greer—who was instrumental in helping the Padres not only reach the Division II state playoffs all three years he was the starting quarterback but make it to the 2015 Championship game against Saguaro in 2015—will be playing at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania this fall.

Greer, at 6-foot-2 and 215 pounds, had a stellar

career at Marcos, passing for 3,530 yards with 24 touchdowns his senior season, will be hard to replace. All combined, Greer passed for 9,953 yards and 87 touchdowns during his three years as the starting quarterback for the Padres.

Allegheny, a Division III NCAA school, which cannot offer athletic scholarships, gave Greer, an excellent student who plans on majoring in neuroscience, an academic scholarship.

### Corona's new head coach

Corona's new head coach, **Jon Beckett**, was hired Dec. 15 to take over the position from interim head coach **Richard Mettlach**.

Mettlach, an assistant coach under then-head coach **Cory Nenaber**, took over for just one year after Nenaber became Corona's athletic director last summer following **Dan Nero's** decision to retire.

The Aztec football program, after a steady 23 years under **Gary Ventura**, who retired after the 2009-10 season, hired Beckett to be the team's fifth coach in eight years.

Zane Zamenski took over in 2010 after Ventura, ending up with a 1-10 season record before the team, under Tom Joseph, went 5-5 in 2011 and 4-6 in 2012.

In 2013, the Aztecs lost their first six games before Joseph left. The season ended on a positive



Corona coach Jon Beckett

— Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News

— Continued on the facing page



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note when the team won three of its last four games under interim head coach **Tim Kelly**.

Nenaber, a former Aztec player and assistant coach, returned as the designated head coach in 2014 after a stint as head coach at Maricopa High School. His goal at Corona was to improve the culture and get the team back on track.

After going 1-9 his first season as head coach, the Aztecs went 7-4 in 2015 under Nenaber.

Mettlach's goal, when he agreed to take over for one year, was to maintain continuity with the same culture and program developed by Nenaber.

He also hoped to further develop the defensive side of the game, which was more of his specialty as the former defensive coordinator under Nenaber. Unfortunately, the offensive aspect never took off last season.

Becktold, who coached at Washington High School in Glendale for 25 years, with 10 as head coach before taking over the head coaching position at Greenway in 2016, is hoping to get the Aztecs' offensive game back on track.

It may be a challenge since Corona will once again be playing in the highly competitive 6A Central region against Mountain Pointe, Desert Vista, Gilbert, Highland and Desert Ridge.

Although Becktold, who has only previously coached in Arizona's 3A and 4A divisions and may initially find the game at the 6A level a bit more challenging, still has a lot of experience coaching football. Plus, he has been recognized for his coaching ability before.

He was twice named the Black Canyon Region Coach of the Year (2007, 2010); Division 3 Section 6 Coach of the Year (2013); Arizona Cardinals Coach of the Week (2008); and 4A Assistant Coach of the Year (2003).

To aid in the transition for the players, the assistant coaches, most who started at the same time as Nenaber in 2014, were slated to remain with the program.

Becktold, who has a secondary education degree in math from Arizona

State University, will teach math at Corona.

Corona's football team recently had two players who will be seniors this fall recognized as top football recruits for 2018 by the Republic.

## Top football recruits for 2018

**Kobee Marion** and **Trey Bussler** were recently named by the AZ Republic among the top football recruits for 2018.

Marion, the Aztecs' defensive back and wide receiver, is noted for his speed, athleticism and ability to intercept the ball.

Last season, his second year on varsity, he led the team in interceptions. On one interception he returned 60 yards to score a touchdown.

In addition, Marion recorded 23 solo and four assisted tackles on defense.

Marion started all 10 games in the 2016-17 season, when he had 11 pass receptions for 152 yards or 13.8 yards per game on offense scoring two touchdowns.

He was also one of the team's punt and kick-off return specialists on special teams.

Bussler, on the other hand, at 6-foot-4 and 230 pounds, plays a bigger position as a defensive linebacker.

Bussler recorded 29 tackles, one sack and one interception as a junior last season, starting in all 10 games. He is noted for his ability to not only rush the passer but at the same time be quick enough to drop back and cover receivers.

Playing on the other side of the ball, he is a versatile athlete with the ability to catch passes or block for other rushers playing the tight end position.

Speaking of defensive linemen, **Cassius Peat**, the former two-sport Corona athlete has resurfaced and is once again on the move.

Peat, who originally committed to UCLA but then changed his mind in 2015 after visiting Michigan State, was

set to return to Michigan this summer after leaving the team last year for personal reasons.

That was before he got word on June 10, four days before he was to return to East Lansing, not to return.

Peat redshirted his freshman season in 2015 at Michigan State but left the team to attend Pima College last year, where he worked with a personal trainer but did not play football.

In the interim, he once again committed to UCLA but then changed his mind for Michigan State midyear.

Peat, who is scheduled to receive an associate arts degree this summer, should be eligible to play football this fall. The only question is where.

**Avery Moss**, another two-sport athlete who graduated from Corona in 2012, was recently selected during the fifth round of the NFL draft by the New York Giants.

Moss was a member of the Aztecs' basketball team when they won the first of three consecutive state championships at the end of the 2011-12 season.

Andrus Peat and Moss were the big guys in the paint on that first team.

Moss originally went to Nebraska on a football scholarship, playing defensive end but ended up at Youngstown State in Pittsburgh, a Division I-AA school, after one year.

He recorded 11 sacks last year on the Penguins team and was selected to play in the East West Shrine game.

## Corona tennis state playoffs

Both the boys and girls tennis teams at Corona qualified for the Division I state playoffs this season in singles, doubles and the team event.

The boys team, with coach **Andra Niederkorn**, entered the playoffs at the No. 8 seed where they defeated the No. 9 seed, Buena, 5-0 before facing the No. 1 team Brophy Prep in the second round.

The Aztecs played their hearts out, winning three matches before suffering

a heartbreaking loss to Brophy 5-3.

Brophy went on to win the championship.

The boys team qualified two players in the singles bracket. **Sachinda Edirisooriya** qualified as the No. 8 seed and **Ariz Chang** qualified as the No. 7 seed in the Division I State Championship playoffs.

Edirisooriya had a bye in the first round, defeated Nelson from Red Mountain 6-0, 6-0 in the second round but lost to Postillion from Brophy, 6-3, 6-2 in the third round.

Chang had better luck, defeating Rodriguez from Valley Vista, 6-0, 7-5 in the first round, Santamaria of Chaparral in the second round, 6-0, 6-0 before losing to Krimball from Desert Mountain in the quarterfinals 6-1, 6-1.

**Liu and Pattalachinti** qualified as an unseeded doubles team from Corona for the state tournament where they defeated a doubles team from Camelback, 7-5, 6-3 in the first round before losing in the second round, 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 to a doubles team from Marana

The girls team, coached by **Carol Sandvig**, qualified in the team portion and also in the singles and doubles tournament.

As a team, the Aztecs qualified as the No. 11 seed but lost in the first round to Desert Mountain, 1-5.

**Elisa Magtoto** qualified as the No. 8 seed in the singles tournament where she defeated Gold from Desert Mountain, 6-3, 6-1 in the first round, Simakuvar of Chaparral, 7-5, 6-1 in the second round, Rosales of Willow Canyon, 6-0, 6-1 in the third round. She eventually lost in the quarterfinals, 6-1, 6-0, to Horizon's Isayer, who eventually won the championship.

**Joycelyn Zhu** and **Maria Manaog** qualified for the doubles tournament where they defeated a doubles team from Desert Ridge, 6-0, 6-1 in the first round, defeated a Mesa Mountain View doubles team 5-7, 6-1, 6-3 in the second round but ended up losing to Corley and Miramelli from Xavier Prep in the third round 6-2, 6-0.



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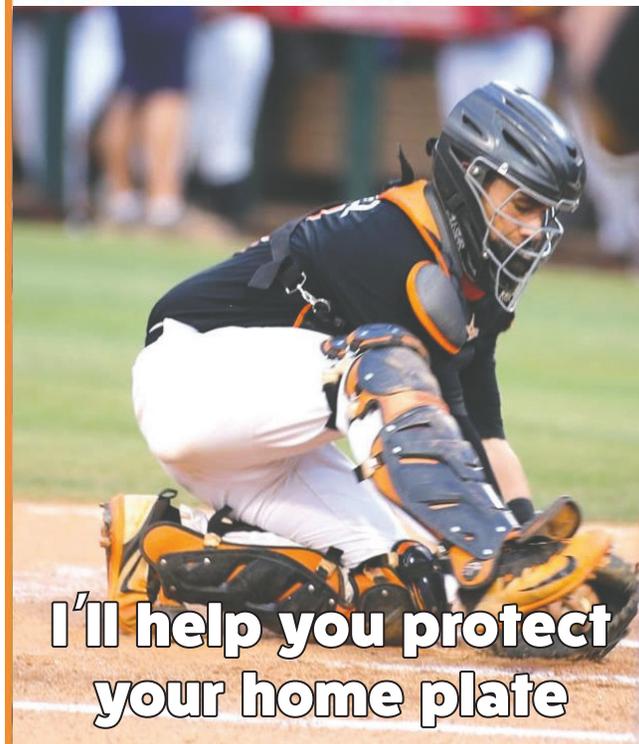


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# For area schoolkids, a closeup look at courage

*Editor's Note: Although readers have told us they eagerly await the contributions of our correspondent M.V. Moorhead, his fulltime pursuit for many years has been as curator of the Valley's (and the nation's) revered Hall of Flame museum, a repository of fire trucks and firefighting memorabilia from around the world. In his role at the museum, Mark has hosted literally thousands of wide-eyed young visitors, including many from the Kyrene and Tempe Elementary school districts. The newest arrival to the museum's exhibition hall is one of the two vehicles that were used to transport the 19 hotshot firefighters from Prescott who tragically met their death four years ago last month. For as long as one of the two vehicles remains on loan at the museum, it will serve as an inspiration to future generations of the sacrifice made by these 19 departed heroes.*

By M.V. Moorhead

Had they lived, most of them would still be young men. Several of them would not yet be 30. And yet we observe in recent weeks the four-year anniversary of the deaths of 19 members of the Granite Mountain Hot Shots wildland firefighting crew in the Yarnell Hill Fire near Prescott on June 30, 2013.

This year, following an event commemorating the tragedy on Friday, June 30, two of the transport vehicles that carried the crew on that day were due to leave Prescott to begin a new chapter of their careers as museum exhibits.

One of the two crew transport "buggies" will take up residence at the County of Los Angeles Fire Museum

in Bellflower, Calif. The other is scheduled to go on display at the Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting, longtime destination for so many Valley field trips, including many from the Kyrene and Tempe school systems.

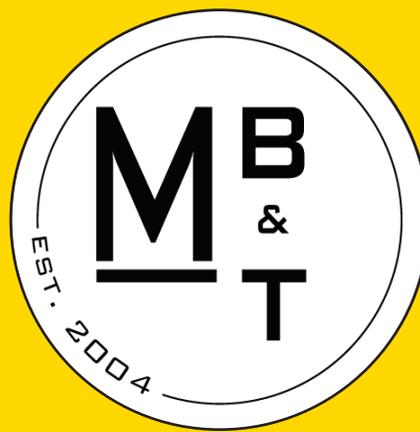
Started by a lightning strike on June 28, 2013 and fed by winds and dry conditions, the Yarnell Hill Fire had spread over thousands of acres by June 30. Late that afternoon it trapped all but one member of the Granite Mountain crew, which was attached to the Prescott Fire Department.

Fueled by manzanita and other desert brush, the fire was too intense for the emergency shelters the crew carried to be of any use; 19 of them were overwhelmed by the flames and died (the 20th man was some distance away, having been designated as a lookout). It was the worst loss of life in a wildland fire since the 1930s, with a death toll even higher than that of such disasters as the Mann Gulch Fire in Montana in 1949 or Colorado's South Canyon Fire of 1994.

The two buggies, large white vehicles stocked with equipment and supplies and prepared to transport the crews around the country at short notice, were owned by the city of Prescott. The city declared them surplus property and put them up for sale, and the County of Los Angeles Fire Museum's bid of \$25,000 for both rigs—the only offer submitted—was accepted.

One of the buggies is to become part of the L.A. Museum's permanent collection. The other is slated for exhibit on long-term loan to the Hall of Flame, the world's largest historical firefighting museum, located near the Phoenix Zoo, until such time as a memorial display facility is constructed in Prescott that can accommodate it. It would then be returned to that

— TRIBUTE, Page 27



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## Longtime Tempe Elementary staffers call it quits after a century-plus of service

Story and photos by Amy Garza

In this day and age of fast-paced living and instant gratification, you don't often find people staying in the same job for more than five years anymore. With ever-evolving modern technology, jobs seem to change along with the times. With new jobs come new people to fill them – a revolving door of positions and employees. This is not the case for two Tempe Elementary employees, who finally decided to call it quits after a combined service of 104 years.

Meet Dottie and Ernie.

Dottie Clothier just celebrated her 90th birthday, but meeting her you wouldn't guess she was even in her seventies. She is a spunky, bubbly, sweet, happy-go-lucky lady, who is always smiling or giggling. Her co-workers who know her best describe her as "spunky, funny, generous, loyal, energetic, and amazing."

Clothier started working for Tempe Elementary as a third-grade teacher in 1956. She began her career at the long-since closed Ritter School, one of the first three in the Tempe Elementary district.

After two-and-a-half years at Ritter, Clothier then

taught for 24 years at Thew Elementary.

She left teaching in 1982 (after 26 years). But she couldn't stay away for long. Like the Energizer bunny, she just keeps going. Two years later, she returned to the Tempe district first substituting as an instructional aide and then to her current job as a clerk in the payroll department, where she has worked for 32 years. That's a total of 58 years of service to Tempe Elementary!

Even though she is years older than anyone else in the District, "Miss Dottie," as her co-workers call her, has energy that won't quit and is always willing to lend a helping hand. She is that employee who always gives 110 percent and pitches in wherever she is needed. Watching her work, you would never guess she is 90 years old. She stands for hours at a time, tirelessly working, moving files and boxes like people far less than half her age.

"Dottie is a very special lady who always has great ideas, and her upbeat personality just puts you in a good mood," says Accounts Payable Account Technician Senior Erica Valenzuela. "She's definitely one of a kind."

Applications Support Analyst Michelle Long has worked with Clothier for about 17 years. When asked what makes her so special, Long explains, "Dottie is amazing because she comes to work in a good mood, gets all of her work done, asks everyone else if they need help before she leaves, and stays positive all the time. It's really incredible."

Interestingly, but not surprisingly, Clothier's

daughter, who was also a teacher and a librarian, retired two years ago.

Clothier's husband was also a teacher, a professor at ASU, after he retired from the military and served in World War II. They were married for 62 years, but he passed away nine years ago.

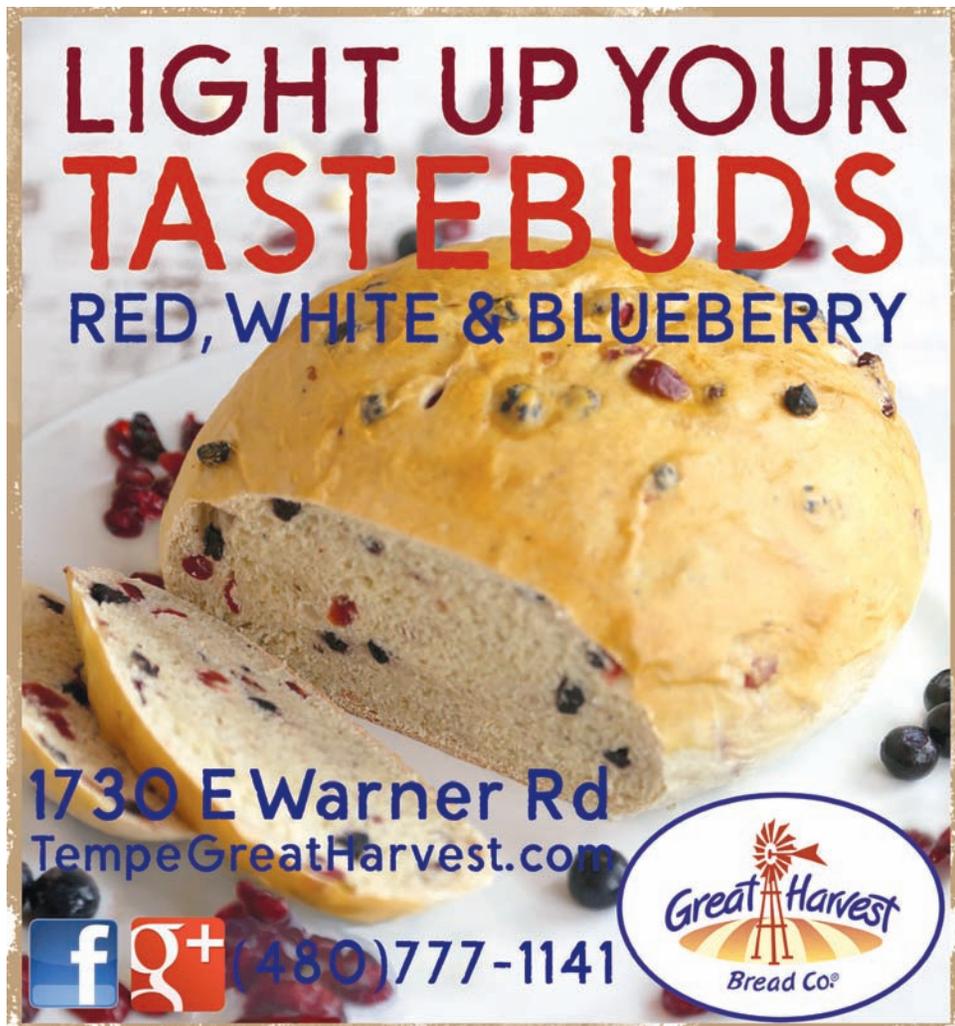
What made Dottie finally decide to retire? "I feel like it's time," said Clothier, who talked about all the ever-changing technology that's all around us now, making her feel like her role is not as needed anymore. Plus she wants to travel and spend more time with her family. "It's like I'm closing a chapter and starting a new one...on a new page!" said Clothier.

Clothier still drives and for her first trip, she plans on heading to Payson to visit her daughter and her family.

Payroll Specialist Rozana Meyer has worked with Clothier for more than 10 years and describes her as feisty and always smiling. "She always wants to take on new things," said Meyer. "She's amazing, always thinking of others and how she can help. She brings so much joy and positivity to the department." With a tear in her eye, she added, "She reminds me of my mom. She's a mom to everyone here. Her leaving is like saying goodbye to my mom."

When asked why she worked for Tempe Elementary for so long, Clothier replied, "I enjoy what I do and I love the people I work with. I never

— RETIREES, Page 20



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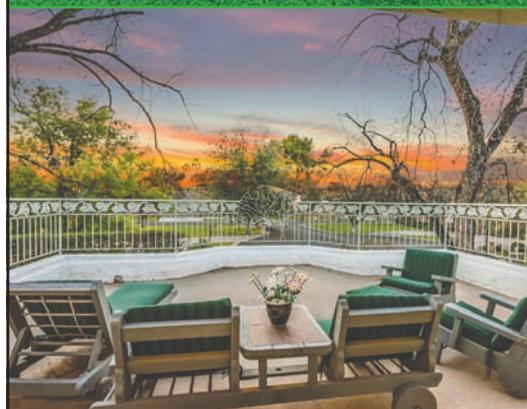
  
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Ernie Sanchez, right, photo at top, who along with his siblings has served Tempe Elementary for decades, is retiring after 46 years. The Sanchez family has served a collective 200 years for the district. Above, Dottie Clothier, who just celebrated her 90th birthday, is retiring from the Tempe district after a whopping 58 years of service.



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## Retirees

From Page 18

thought about working anywhere else!”

The Finance Department has named their long-time Lektriever filing system “The Dottie” after Clothier, who maintains the files in it. Once she retires, they plan on hanging a photo above it to always remember their beloved “Miss Dottie.”

Last year we created a video for Dottie’s 89th birthday.

And now Ernie. For Ernie Sanchez, not just education, but serving the students and staff of the Tempe Elementary School District is in the family.

Ernie is one of nine kids, and all but one worked in Tempe Elementary. His sister Refugia “Cuca” Romero was a social worker in the District for 13 years. Another sister Patricia “Patsy” Sanchez taught at four schools in the District for 30 years, retiring as a technology teacher at Gililand Middle School in 2012.

His brother Abel was a custodian for 33 years and his other brother Joe was a painter for 36 years.

The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree. Their father, Ronaldo “Leonard” Sanchez, also worked for Tempe Elementary, beginning in 1948 as a custodian at Guadalupe School, now known as Frank Elementary, then worked as a district plumber, and finally was promoted to grounds foreman, for a total of 44 years until he retired.

That sounds like a long time, but Ernie worked even longer. He just retired after 46 years. Two of Ernie’s sisters still work as ELL Instructional Assistants at Frank Elementary School, Irma Yucupicio and Elena Ambris.

One of his sisters, Renee, and a brother, Ronaldo, have passed away. Collectively, the Sanchez family has had more than 200 years of service to the District.

In 1971, after retiring from the Army as a Vietnam War veteran, Sanchez started his long Tempe Elementary career as a custodian at Broadmor Elementary.

He worked his way up to head custodian for

a total of 20 years, until he decided to go back to school to learn audiovisual equipment repair, which earned himself a job in the IT department.

His job, over the years, evolved from making mechanical repairs like broken filmstrip projectors and changing and repairing projector lamps, VHS recorders, and chick incubators to computer and printer equipment troubleshooting and repair.

Sanchez is a quiet, quick-witted man who always has a twinkle in his eye and a smile on his face or a clever thing to say.

“He was always willing to help and never complained about anything,” described Jeanne Wdowin, assessment specialist.

“You could always count on him to fix what needed to be fixed, quietly and dependably.”

“I enjoyed the work, and that’s why I stayed so long,” explained Sanchez.

Sanchez credits his father, Ronaldo “Leonard” Sanchez, for his strong work ethic.

“My dad was very hard working.” Leonard started working for Tempe Elementary in 1948 and retired after 44 years at the age of 65.

Sanchez has seen many co-workers come and go over the years, but his coworker Mitch Sierra has worked with him for 21 years.

Sierra describes Sanchez as “the great wise one” who never actually told you what to do when you asked for advice but helped you figure it out for yourself.

“I’m going to miss that about him,” said Sierra.

What is one thing Sanchez wants people to remember about him after he retires?

“That I tried to do the best I could while I was there and work hard like my dad always did,” he explains.

Sanchez summed up his work ethic by quoting Confucius, “When you do what you love, you never have to work a day in your life.”

“He was a great asset to our department – a mentor and a good listener,” said Sierra. “He will be missed.”

You might say Tempe Elementary is a family. Whether your family works here or your coworkers are like “family,” maybe that’s why the ones who stay so long do.

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# Newly named chief financial officer faces a shrinking pipeline of schools funding

By Diana Whittle

Sometimes, it has been said, the challenge facing school budgets is more like an out-of-control rollercoaster ride than a paper-and-pencil exercise—at least that analogy can be applied to the upcoming budget cycle for the Kyrene district.

After surviving a dip in home values nearly a decade ago, which led to reductions in property taxes, recovery in real estate has led to steadier footing. Now, the financial culprit on the horizon is declining enrollment resulting from recent trends in demographics.

With fewer students entering kindergarten, more families with grown children who are aging in place and others who choose private or charter schools, Kyrene officials predict that for the 2017-18 year enrollment will be two percent behind the current year,

which translates into a dip in revenue of \$1.3 million.

If the pipeline of available students continues to shrink, the following fiscal year, 2018-19, is also projected to be down about one percent, which when combined with rate of inflation, represents about \$1.9 million in reduced revenue.

As a result, the district used reserves to cover current expenses this fiscal year and likely will tap into them again in upcoming years.

“The reality is that we are overspending,” said John King, the current Governing Board president, “and if we continue to borrow from ourselves, our reserves will be depleted in several years.”

The good news is that Kyrene, along with the Chandler district, retains an AA bond rating, which is the highest in the state, according to standards set by agencies such as Moody’s and Standard & Poor.

“We also remain a very high-performing district,” added Dr. Jan Vesely, Kyrene superintendent, “because we still offer choices for families with more pre-kindergarten programs, art, music and dual-language options.”

Another positive that may contribute to boosting Kyrene’s enrollment is the fact that Arizona is an open enrollment state.

“A premier district like Kyrene will always attract students from beyond its boundaries,” said Nancy Dudenhofer, Kyrene marketing and communications manager.

“While the Kyrene district does not specifically market to parents outside the district’s boundaries, its reputation draws out-of-district parents to enroll,” said Dudenhofer.

“It is our job, as a district, to help students grow intellectually, emotionally and socially while

instilling in them the habits of mind and mastery of skills they’ll need to be successful in life,” said Dudenhofer.

“Dr. Vesely and the members of the Governing Board are committed to fostering a rigorous teaching and learning environment in our classrooms that provides every one of our students with a sense of belonging.”

Former Governing Board President Bernadette Coggins noted that extra efforts to spread the word about the strengths of the Kyrene district must

be working well in some neighborhoods, as the number of students appears to have grown in at least one school.

“I was at a recent promotion ceremony at Kyrene Middle School and there were more sixth graders than eighth graders in attendance.”

If enrollment

numbers do remain stable and the state legislature allocates more funding to public education, the budget deficit might be minimal. The final budget must be adopted by June 30.

At the helm, to steer the budget process, will be a new Chief Financial Officer, following the Governing Board’s acceptance of a recommendation to hire Chris Hermann, effective June 15.

An Ahwatukee resident and parent of two Kyrene-schooled children, Hermann brings 22 years of professional experience to the position. He holds a Bachelor’s degree from Indiana University and earned an MBA from the University of Phoenix.

In addition to new financial leadership internally, Superintendent Vesely recently spearheaded a budget committee whose volunteer members agreed that the district must request voter approval of a bond to finance several projects and on continuation of the existing M&O and Capital overrides.

The current voter-approved overrides for Maintenance and Operations (M&O) and for capital funding will expire soon; and, based on the recommendation from a citizens committee, the Governing Board approved three measures for the Nov. 7 election.

The measures support continuation of the current M&O budget override; call for continuation of the current Capital Outlay budget override; and extend the current bond authorization.

The public is invited to submit their arguments “for and against” each ballot measure. The deadline to submit statements is 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11.

Information on how to submit your statement, along with an explanation of the overrides and bond measures, can be found at [www.kyrene.org](http://www.kyrene.org)





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# City of Tempe Page



## Learn more about Tempe PRE at July 13 community meeting

In partnership with the Tempe Elementary School District and the Kyrene School District, the City of Tempe is offering a free preschool program for qualifying Tempe 3- and 4-year-olds beginning in August.

To provide more information about Tempe PRE, the city will host a community meeting on Thursday, July 13, at 5:30 p.m. at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. City and district staff will provide information and answer questions from any community member, including families who have applied for or are interested in applying for Tempe PRE.

Applications have been taken since early June at [www.tempe.gov/tempepre](http://www.tempe.gov/tempepre). Qualifying families will be selected by random drawing.

For more information, visit the webpage, call 480-858-PreK (7735) or email [pre-k@tempe.gov](mailto:pre-k@tempe.gov).



## Teen resource centers need donations, volunteers

Tempe Community Council is seeking volunteers who can give a few hours of their time weekly to assist students and operate the Threadz teen resource centers located on the Marcos de Niza and Tempe High School campuses. The

Threadz centers are open a few days each week during the school year providing middle and high school students with the items they need to attend and stay in school. Donations of new or gently used teen clothing, shoes, personal hygiene

items, backpacks and school supplies are always needed. Cash donations help purchase socks and underwear and miscellaneous supplies. To volunteer or donate, contact Tempe Community Council, 480-858-2300, or visit [www.tempecommunitycouncil.org](http://www.tempecommunitycouncil.org).

## Tempe considers mail-only city elections

The City Council is considering holding Tempe's March and May 2018 elections as vote-by-mail elections, and they want your input. Voting by mail is increasingly popular among Tempe voters. In the March 2016 city election, nearly 97 percent of voters cast an early ballot by mail.

Moving to an all-mail election is estimated to save \$55,000 per election, for a total of \$110,000 for the spring 2018 elections. If the Council decides to move to all-mail elections, there would be no early voting locations or polling places; however, there would be a ballot center open the weekend prior to each election and from 6 a.m. to

7 p.m. on Election Day in case voters misplace their ballots, need new ballots or don't mail them in time. Every registered voter would automatically be mailed a ballot, beginning 27 days prior to the election.

Tempe Forum, which is Tempe's online feedback portal, will collect feedback on this issue throughout July and August; visit [www.tempe.gov/tempeforum](http://www.tempe.gov/tempeforum).

In addition, two public forums will be held in August; when scheduled, those dates will be announced widely and listed at [www.tempe.gov/election](http://www.tempe.gov/election). The Council is scheduled to review the input and discuss the issue on Sept. 18 at its public Work Study Session.

## Download the NEW Tempe 311 app

Tempe 311's new-and-improved mobile app is your one-stop-shop for city services and information.

You'll need to delete the old app, download the new app from the iTunes app store or Google Play and create a new account.

In the app store, search Tempe311.

Improvements include:

- Automatic fill-in of addresses
- Better search function
- Easier reporting of code violations

Tempe 311 is also accessible at [www.tempe.gov/311](http://www.tempe.gov/311) and at 480-350-4311.

## Tempe Center for the Arts closed July 23 through Aug. 11

The artist-designed lobby carpeting at Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA), 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, is being replaced after 10 years of heavy use.

As a result, TCA will be closed July 23 through Aug. 11.

The Gallery at TCA

will be open during this time period – visitors must enter through the east breezeway on the east



side of TCA.

EDGE Happy Hour will resume Aug. 12.

Stay tuned for more information about an exciting celebration of TCA's 10th anniversary, which happens in September!

For more

information about TCA, visit [www.tempe.gov/TCA](http://www.tempe.gov/TCA).

# Tempe transit choices spark easy access

## Here's a handy guide to getting around city on July 4th

Tempe and Valley Metro make it easy for residents to get to the July 4th Tempe Town Lake Festival, with more light rail vehicles, more buses and extended service hours.

To help people get to and from the festival conveniently, Valley Metro Rail will operate a Sunday schedule with enhanced service starting at 5 p.m., and Tempe bus service will be extended with many routes running every 15 minutes until midnight.

Safety note: For people driving on Loop 202 or other freeways, pay attention and DO NOT stop vehicles to watch fireworks.

### Valley Metro Rail Service

Park for free at one of the designated Valley Metro Rail park-and-ride locations and ride the train for \$2 per trip, per person.

Passengers are encouraged to purchase an all-day pass for \$4 at the start of the trip to avoid having to use busy fare vending machines in the downtown area at the end of the event. (Reduced All-Day passes are available

for \$2 for youth, people age 65 and older and people with disabilities.) Rail service will be enhanced beginning at 5 p.m.

Check [www.valleymetro.org](http://www.valleymetro.org) or call 602-253-5000 for hours and frequencies. Park-and-ride locations include:

- Apache Boulevard and Price Road
- Apache Boulevard and McClintock Drive
- Apache Boulevard and Dorsey Lane
- Enhanced Bus & Orbit Service

On July 4, Tempe buses will run according to Sunday schedules until 5 p.m. After 5 p.m., most Tempe bus routes will run every 15 minutes northbound to downtown Tempe until 9 p.m. with return service until midnight on most southbound routes. The cost of the ride is \$2 per trip, per person, for regular bus routes – and Orbit is free.

Many downtown Tempe bus and Orbit routes will drop off and pick up at the Tempe Transportation Center on the northeast corner of Fifth Street and Forest Avenue. Due to street restrictions, several downtown Tempe routes will be detoured to connect with light rail and will not serve their normal stops.

The following bus routes will operate every 15 minutes in the direction noted from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.:

- 48 – 48th St/Rio Salado Pkwy. Northbound from Priest & Baseline to Tempe Transportation Center
- 62 – Hardy/Guadalupe Northbound from Price and Guadalupe roads to Tempe Transportation Center
- 65 – Mill/Kyrene Northbound from IKEA to Tempe Transportation Center
- 66 – Mill/Kyrene Northbound from Kyrene and Warner roads to Tempe Transportation Center
- 72 – Scottsdale/Rural Northbound from Ray Road to Tempe Transportation Center
- Orbit Earth Westbound from Tempe Marketplace to Tempe Transportation Center
- Orbit Jupiter Northbound from McClintock High School to Tempe Transportation Center
- Orbit Mars Northbound from Southern Avenue and Evergreen Road to Tempe Transportation Center
- Orbit Mercury Westbound from Escalante Center to Tempe Transportation Center
- Orbit Venus Forward & Back

After 10 p.m., the bus routes listed below will depart as needed until midnight:

- Orbit Earth, Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, and Venus
- 48 – 48th St/Rio Salado Pkwy. Southbound to Baseline Road
- 62 – Hardy/Guadalupe – Southbound to Guadalupe and Price roads
- 65 – Mill/Kyrene Southbound to Warner Road
- 66 – Mill/Kyrene Southbound to Warner Road
- 72 – Scottsdale/Rural Southbound to Ray Road

Street Closures  
Mill Avenue between Curry Road/Washington Street and Rio Salado Parkway closed in both directions from 7 a.m. July 4 until 5 a.m. July 5.

Mill Avenue between Rio Salado Parkway and 5th Street closed in both directions from noon July 4 until 2 a.m. July 5.

Mill Avenue between 5th Street and University Drive closed in both directions from approximately 4 p.m. July 4 until 2 a.m. July 5.

Northbound Ash Avenue north of 3rd Street closed from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. July 4.

Rio Salado Parkway between Hardy Drive and the access to Hayden Ferry Parking garage (just east of Mill Avenue) closed in both directions from 11 a.m. July 4 until 2 a.m. July 5. Access to the Tempe Center for the Arts provided via Priest Drive to Rio Salado Parkway. Access to the Hayden's Ferry developments provided via Scottsdale Road to Rio Salado Parkway. 5th Street between Ash Avenue and Forest Avenue closed in both directions from 9 a.m. until 11 p.m. July 4. Local access maintained from Ash Avenue and Forest Avenue. Eastbound Rio Salado Parkway between Priest and Hardy drives closed from 8:30 to 11 p.m. July 4.

Veterans Way/5th Street closed in both directions between College Avenue and University Drive from 8:30 to 11 p.m. July 4.

5th Street closed in both directions between Forest and College avenues from 8:30 to 11 p.m. July 4.

Access to Center Pkwy via the Loop 202 eastbound on-ramp at Priest will be closed, all traffic will be diverted onto Loop 202 from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM July 4.

The Loop 202 eastbound and westbound on-ramps at Center Pkwy will be closed from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM July 4.

The Loop 202 eastbound and westbound off-ramps at Scottsdale Rd will be closed from 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM.

Bus detours effective at beginning of the service day to the end of the service day July 4.

48 Northbound – Regular route east on Rio Salado Pkwy. to Priest Dr.; south on Priest Dr. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center.; east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to Rural Rd.; North on Rural Rd. to Rio Salado Pkwy.; East on Rio Salado Pkwy. To resume regular route.

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Tempe's Orbit buses will be available free on July 4th.

— Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News

**48 Southbound** – Regular route west on Rio Salado Pkwy. to Rural Rd.; south on Rural Rd. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center; depart east on 5th St.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to Priest Dr.; north on Priest Dr. to Rio Salado Pkwy.; west on Rio Salado Pkwy. to resume regular route.

**62 Northbound** – Regular route south on Ash Ave. to 5th St.; continue south on Ash Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center to resume regular route.

**62 Southbound** – Regular route to Tempe Transportation Center; depart east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to Ash Ave.; north on Ash Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to resume regular route.

**65 Northbound** – Regular route north on Mill Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center.

**65 Southbound** – Depart Tempe Transportation Center east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to Mill Ave.; south on Mill Ave. to resume regular route.

**66 Northbound** – Regular route north on Mill Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center.

**66 Southbound** – Depart Tempe Transportation Center east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to Mill Ave.; south on Mill Ave. to resume regular route.

**Earth Eastbound** – Depart Tempe Transportation Center east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to Rural Rd.; north on Rural Rd./Scottsdale Rd. to resume regular route at Weber Dr.

**Earth Westbound** – Regular route south on Scottsdale Rd. to Weber Dr.;

continue south on Scottsdale Rd./Rural Rd. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center.

**Mercury Eastbound** – From Tempe Transportation Center, depart east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to resume regular route.

**Jupiter Northbound** – Regular route to Mill Ave. and University Dr.; east on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center.

**Jupiter Southbound** – From Tempe Transportation Center, south on College Ave. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to Mill Ave.; south on Mill Ave. to resume regular route.

**Venus Forward** – Regular route to 5th St. & Ash Ave.; south on Ash Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to College Ave.; north on College Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to Tempe Transportation Center to resume regular route.

**Venus Back** – Regular route to Tempe Transportation Center, depart east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; west on University Dr. to Ash Ave.; north on Ash Ave. to 5th St.; west on 5th St. to resume regular route.

Bus detours effective 8:30 PM until the end of the service day July 4.

**72 Northbound** – Regular route to Tempe Transportation Center, depart east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to Rural Rd.; north on Rural Rd. to resume regular route.

**72 Southbound** – Regular route to Tempe Transportation Center, depart east on 5th St. to College Ave.; south on College Ave. to University Dr.; east on University Dr. to McAllister Ave.; south on McAllister Ave. to resume regular route.

There will be no bus service to cities outside of Tempe after the event. Service to and from other cities will operate according to Sunday schedules.

For information, call 602-253-5000 or visit [valleymetro.org](http://valleymetro.org).

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the unique tables and live music are waiting for you. This is a very affordable little spot. The flavorful salsa, the delicious margaritas, the extraordinary and well-priced food

will definitely keep you coming back.

Check out La Casa De Juana at 1805 E Elliot Rd, Tempe AZ 85284



# Flags fly in a year-round display of patriotism

Story & photo by Joyce Coronel

The flash of fireworks, the aroma of family barbecues, joyful echoes of splashing in the pool and, of course, strains of the Star Spangled Banner.

These are just some of the colorful signs that America's July 4th Independence Day celebrations are underway across the nation. It's the day we celebrate the birth of our nation, and what could be more emblematic than the American flag hoisted briskly and snapping in the breeze?

Drive the streets of neighborhoods in Tempe and West Chandler over the Fourth of July weekend and you're sure to see many an American flag proudly displayed.

Then there are those for whom Old Glory flies proudly all year

long.

Rene Delgado lives on a quiet street in South Tempe where many neighbors have flags posted on the corners of roofs.

Others have miniature versions standing at attention in flower pots. Delgado's husband and father built the sprawling ranch-style home with one of the focal points being a flagpole out front. The family, she said, has always had a flag atop the pole.

"My husband and my dad built our house brick-by-brick 36 years ago," Delgado said. Both men served in the military with Delgado's father having fought in the Philippines during World War II. He was awarded a Bronze Star for his heroic service in a combat zone.

Delgado gets choked up when

asked what the flag means to her. "I love this country," she said quietly, brushing back tears. Her family on both sides, she said, has been here since Arizona became a state. "It's our home and there are many things to love about being an American. We're so happy to be Americans."

Her parents came from very humble beginnings, she said, but went on to achieve great things. She's thankful for the opportunities for advancement in the U.S. "I'm proud to be an American."

Just down the street from the Delgados stands Cass Olmstead's home that sports an enormous, brightly colored American flag hanging from the front porch. The flag is on display all year long and is lit up during the night. "We

replace it every six months to keep it looking fresh,” Olmstead said.

So why such a large flag?

“We have a big house, so a little flag wouldn’t look appropriate,” Olmstead explained. “My husband is a veteran so we’re very patriotic. We love our country.”

Of course, no one has a bigger flag than the one you’ll see above area car dealerships like Freeway Chevrolet. The Stars and Stripes that hang above car dealers are generally a whopping 60 feet by 30 feet and cost north of \$1,400. That’s a lot of red, white and blue.

If you’re new to displaying the American flag, be aware that there is an etiquette governing how it’s to be done. There are also a few curious and little-known rules such as those you’ll find at [usflag.org](http://usflag.org):

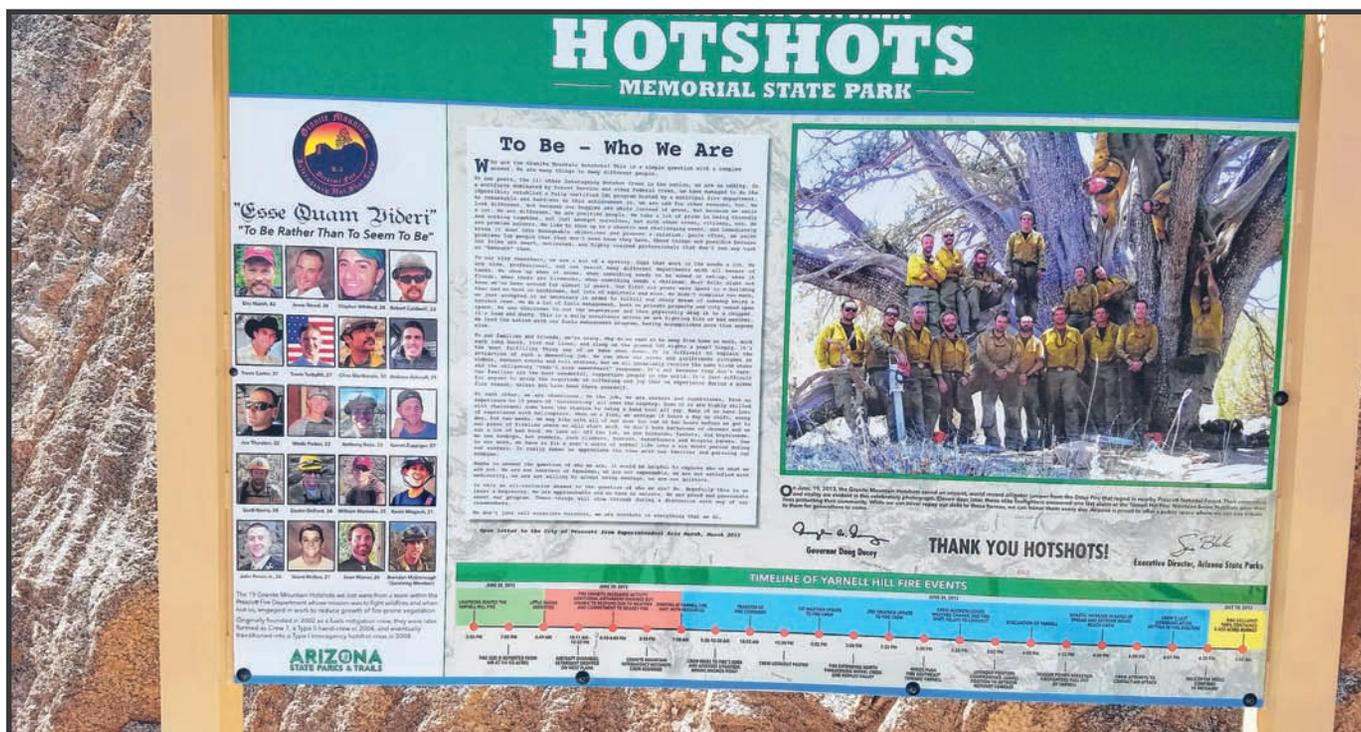
When the flag is displayed from a staff projecting from a window, balcony, or a building, the union should be at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff.

When it is displayed from the same flagpole with another flag - of a state, community, society or Scout unit - the flag of the United States must always be at the top except that the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for Navy personnel when conducted by a Naval chaplain on a ship at sea.

When the flag is displayed over a street, it should be hung vertically, with the union to the north or east. If the flag is suspended over a sidewalk, the flag’s union should be farthest from the building.

When flown with flags of states, communities, or societies on separate flag poles which are of the same height and in a straight line, the flag of the United States is always placed in the position of honor—to its own right. The other flags may be smaller but none may be larger. No other flag ever should be placed above it. The flag of the United States is always the first flag raised and the last to be lowered.

Flags that become torn or damaged need to be respectfully retired. The American Legion conducts flag-burning ceremonies, usually on or around June 14, Flag Day.



A memorial display just outside Yarnell, where 19 firefighting hotshots died in 2013

— Wrangler News photo

## Tribute

From Page 17

community.

In the meantime, the buggy could hardly have a more appropriate home than the Hall of Flame. The museum is home to the National Firefighting Hall of Heroes, honoring American firefighters who have died in the line of duty, as well as those who have been decorated for valor. There’s already a small memorial to the Granite Mountain Hotshots, dedicated in 2014, in the bricks at the north end of this gallery.

The Hall of Flame Museum also has a gallery devoted to wildland firefighting, complete with historic

brush trucks, exhibits of firefighting tools, a lookout tower, Smokey the Bear and models of wildland firefighting aircraft. The current plan is to situate the Granite Mountain buggy near the entrance to this wildland gallery.

“The living,” wrote Czeslaw Milosz, “owe it to those who can no longer speak to tell their story for them.” Echoing this sentiment, County of Los Angeles Fire Museum President Paul Schnieder notes that “...the fire apparatus we preserve are backdrops for the stories of the people that gave them purpose.

“The men of the Granite Mountain Hotshots must never be forgotten. The crew trucks in which they rode into battle so many times, including their last, must be preserved and made available for firefighters, future firefighters, and the public.”

## Agency names new president, board for 2017

A local agency that assists more than 30,000 adults and children in receiving adequate food and shelter has announced its new board of directors for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

With the help of the community it serves, Tempe Community Action Agency operates a food pantry, three senior centers and two community gardens.

The programs and services it provides help individuals and families that are struggling for greater economic stability and self-sufficiency.

Among those TCAA serves are seniors and the disabled. The agency strives to assist them in achieving the highest level of independence possible.

Ed Baker, the senior online communications strategist for Salt River Project, is president of the new board of directors for TCAA.

“It’s my goal that we strengthen TCAA’s ability to be sustainable and reliable for the next 50 years by

diversifying revenue streams so that current and future clients can trust we’ll be there to assist when they need us,” Baker said.

“I also aim to get more people involved in the organization. Our volunteers are the cornerstone of the agency; and there are countless opportunities for them to get involved and assist others in our community.”

The other members of the new board of directors are:

*Vice President*, Barbara Lloyd, CCIM, Senior Vice President, NAI Horizon;

*Secretary*, Nick Bastian, Realty Executives, The Nick Bastian Team;

*Treasurer*, Jason Mattina, CPA, Wallace Plese + Dreher;

*Past President*, Margaret Hunnicutt, President/CEO, Landings Credit Union.

Info: [www.tempeaction.org](http://www.tempeaction.org).

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# The Big Questions

• • •

Got a story to share? Would you like to contribute to our Wrangler News team? Curious about something going on in our community? Got any hot news tips for us?

Let us do your sleuthing for you!

Contact us:  
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Our next issue is Saturday, July 15. For advertising space reservations be sure to let us know by 3 p.m. Friday, June 23. For story or photo ideas, call 480-966-0845 or email [editor@wranglernews.com](mailto:editor@wranglernews.com) by 5 p.m. Monday, June 19. You're also welcome to drop by our office at 2145 E. Warner Road, just across the street from GoDaddy, any time 9-5 M-F. We're always glad to see you.



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# Heat

From Page 12

Operating in Tempe every night of the year, teams of volunteers provide 35-40 homeless individuals with dinner and safe shelter. The program assists 43,000 individuals annually—that is one in every four Tempe residents. iHELP says that nearly 22 percent of Tempe residents live in poverty.

Meanwhile, the city of Chandler reported in 2015 that 11.4% of its residents lived below the poverty level. The nonprofit AZCEND, directed by CEO Trinity Donovan, offers help, and during 2016 served over 17,375 people.

Part of the East Valley iHELP Coalition, the social service organization, formerly known as Chandler Christian Community Center, coordinates the facilities of 18 churches and businesses in the city, providing 365 nights of safety to 25 to 30 adults.

During the sweltering summertime heat, this means sleeping in an air-conditioned room, with dinner and access to showers and laundry facilities.

Acknowledging the agency's efforts, Donovan says:

"I'm grateful our community can come together to help an issue that's right here in our back yard."

Homeless people are especially vulnerable to heat-related illnesses during the Valley's periods of blistering heat, but prolonged heat exposure and dehydration can affect anyone, however healthy they might be.

Outdoor workers—including firefighters, landscapers and roofers—are especially at risk.

Some precautions to help avoid heat-related illnesses include staying hydrated; wearing sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and light clothing; limiting outdoor activity between midmorning and early evening; and resting frequently in shady areas to cool the body's internal temperature.

It's also important to check on elderly neighbors living alone to make sure they're safe and the air conditioning is working. Remember, too, that infants, children and pets should *never* be left inside a parked vehicle, even for a few minutes.

Will Humble, former director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, has said that excessive heat in desert climates climbs to the top of public health priorities every summer.

"We want to make sure people continue being active, but they have to be smart about it."

Doing so demands community collaboration, however, he added.

"We all share a community responsibility to help those in need stay cool. One way is to donate water or hold a water drive at your work. The donated water helps people who go to cooling shelters in the extreme heat."

Many businesses and churches collect water for hydration stations.

For more locations, visit [www.maricopa.gov/2461/cooling-stations-water-donation](http://www.maricopa.gov/2461/cooling-stations-water-donation).



Record heat in Tempe and West Chandler saw outreach by Tempe's Hope Team, the Salvation Army and AZCend as well as local churches that opened their doors for shelter and the distribution of water bottles in a bid to reduce heat-related illnesses and fatalities.

— Wrangler News photos by Joyce Coronel



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