

# These stories & more inside



**Cool getaway** in the Colorado mountains offers a refuge from the heat. **Page 29**



**Healing beckons** at upcoming Alamo Drafthouse event where victims of trafficking and sexual abuse will discuss how they have moved on. **Page 8**



**Construction begins** on oil change shop in spite of neighbors' complaints. **Page 3**



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July 10 - 23, 2021 • Volume 31, Number 13

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Crews give Tempe streetcar a thorough safety check as scheduled service draws near. Update and details starting on Page 15.

— Photo by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News

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## Hopes drained for wine bar on site of former service station

### Pinot Grigio out, 10W30 in, as threatened lawsuit prevails



Bulldozers move large piles of dirt as construction gets underway on a Take 5 oil change shop at McClintock and Warner in South Tempe. — *Wrangler News* photo by Lee Shappell

By Lee Shappell  
wranglernews.com

**T**here will be liquid flowing at the south-eastern corner of McClintock Drive and Warner Road at Alta Mira Plaza, but it won't be on the patio of a wine bar/bistro, as many neighbors once hoped.

Instead of selecting a varietal of wine, their choice will be the desired weight of motor oil. That might not pair

nically with their angst.

After a lengthy stretch of full-bodied opposition, work began June 28 on an oil-change facility, after all, when a crew with earth movers began excavation on the South Tempe vacant lot at 8805 S. McClintock Drive.

Kris Baxter, a public information officer for the city, confirmed on June 29 that Diversified Partners and owner Walt Brown

received their building permits in May for a Take 5 Oil Change business.

Attempts to reach Brown of Diversified Partners for comment have been unsuccessful.

Tempe City Council on Nov. 7, 2019 had denied Brown's appeal of a Sept. 24, 2019 city Development Review Commission's denial of Brown's use permit and development plan review.

After the council's slap-down, Brown filed a notice of claim against the city for \$2.1 million plus legal fees, followed by a lawsuit in Maricopa County Superior Court.

A negotiated settlement in May 2020 granted Brown and Diversified a use permit and development plan review that allows an oil-change shop to be built on the property.

— OIL CHANGE, Page 20

## New Tempe El schools chief Driscoll strives to inspire excellence

*New Tempe Elementary Schools Superintendent Dr. James Driscoll discusses his vision for the district in this question-and-answer exchange with Gabrielle Dunton, the district's strategic communications coordinator. Dunton provided additional commentary with the continuation of the interview on Page 21.*

**Question:** You have been the assistant superintendent at Mesa Unified School District for nearly four years. What other career experiences have prepared you for your new role as a first-time superintendent?

**Answer:** I would say the biggest experience that I have had to prepare me for this role comes from the classroom and being able to see the

power that teachers have to shape the lives of our students. This comes from my experience as a classroom teacher as well as being a student and having my own personal experiences with educators who have helped me get to where I am today.

**Q:** What drew you to Tempe and what are your major goals moving forward for the Tempe Elementary School District?

**A:** I was very selective in the school districts I would apply to be superintendent. I was looking



for school districts that held the same core values and beliefs, and had the infrastructure and personnel to be able to do great things for kids, and the Tempe Elementary School District was that district for me. I believe in TD3's mission statement – that we have to inspire excellence in every child, every adult, every day. And it has to be "every," not just a select group. As superintendent, I want all of our students to be able to achieve their dreams and I want to be able to give them the tools to reach them.

My first major goal moving forward is to listen and learn about the Tempe Elementary School District from all stakeholders. That includes teachers, students, parents, classified employees,

— SCHOOLS, Page 21

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## Lottery's generosity offsets costs after agency burglary



Victor, a client at Tempe's Center for Habilitation, refills his water bottle at a newly installed fountain paid for by a grant from the Arizona Lottery. The grant helped provide four water refill stations as well as security equipment at TCH which suffered losses at the hands of thieves last fall. — Photo courtesy Tempe Center for Habilitation.

By Joyce Coronel

When it comes to tugging on heartstrings, it's tough to imagine a more notable example.

Last fall, when the community and world at large were still in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic, thieves targeted Tempe Center for Habilitation, an organization that serves more than 100 developmentally disabled adults through its day program.

The burglars broke into TCH's maintenance truck as well as a storage shed and managed to steal the 12 catalytic converters from vans used to transport the disabled. They also made off with a surrey bike and the organization's tricycles.

Dawn Hocking, director of development for TCH, said the theft took place about a week before those served by the organization were to return to the facility.

"And of course it was during the fall when we're outside riding bikes," Hocking said. "There were several non-profits that were hit. We happened to be one of them."

The damage to the vans was particularly distressing.

"If we had an emergency and we had to utilize one of those vehicles, we weren't able to until it was repaired," Hocking said.

Community support and grant

funding helped replace the stolen and damaged items, but Hocking knew there was more to do. She wanted to prevent another such loss to TCH.

"Arizona Lottery saw the story and they reached out and said, 'we want to support you guys. This is not OK. What do you need?'"

Hocking had a list.

"We realized there were some gaps where these people had stolen the equipment from that didn't have really good security cameras," Hocking said. A \$25,000 gift from the Arizona Lottery's Give Back sponsorship program helped make upgrades to TCH's property, including security lighting and better surveillance cameras.

The funds also helped purchase four reusable water fountain fillers, a big boost since drinking fountains at TCH were closed due to the pandemic and the need to mitigate the spread of the virus.

The remainder of funding from the Arizona Lottery was used to purchase a smaller machine to sanitize vehicles.

"There is this synergy. We are on the same team and when we see a teammate that suffers, we want to step in and help because we are all pulling together to move all of us forward," said Arizona Lottery spokesperson John Gilliland.

Information: tch-az.com

Technology opens door to 3D method of homebuilding

## Tempe neighborhood first to benefit from new design strategy



A rendering of a Tempe Habitat for Humanity home now being built that combines 3D printing and traditional construction to create an affordable housing option. — Photo courtesy city of Tempe

By Susie Steckner

Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona is building its first 3D-printed home in Tempe, seeking to transform affordable housing opportunities.

The custom, single-story home, currently under construction on a lot originally purchased by the city of Tempe for reasonably priced housing, combines 3D printing and traditional construction to create an innovative model for the future.

The hoped-for result: a scalable, cost-effective homeownership solution to address the housing crisis facing low- and modest-income residents of communities nationwide.

“This is really a moonshot opportunity for Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona,” said Jason Barlow, president and CEO of Habitat Central Arizona.

“When we consider the housing issues facing Arizona, the need for...

homeownership solutions becomes clear. If we can deliver decent, affordable, more energy-efficient homes at less cost, in less time and with less waste, we think that could be a real game-changer.

“Just think of the implications.”

The new 3D-guided project involves a single-family home with three bedrooms and two baths. The livable space is 1,738 square feet, with a total encompassing 2,433 square feet. Approximately 70 percent of the home is 3D printed, including internal and external walls. The remainder is a traditional build.

It is expected to be completed in early fall and could be occupied as early as October.

According to those involved in developing the project, Habitat’s mission to build its first home of its

HABITAT, Page 19



**Randy Goff**  
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# Cities' 21st century needs are focus of Woods' address to U.S. Senate

Tempe Mayor Corey Woods testified June 15 before the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs regarding the city's infrastructure strategies, including innovative affordable housing and public-transit initiatives.

The hearing, *21st Century Communities: Local Leaders on the Infrastructure Needs Facing America's States, Cities, and Towns*, included elected officials from across the country. Woods was introduced by Arizona Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, who spotlighted Tempe's streetcar project as an example of "taking good locally driven ideas and bringing them to life."

Woods' wide-ranging testimony touched on the city's need for affordable housing, efforts to address homelessness, public-transit initiatives, sustainable growth strategies and vital public-private partnerships. Woods also noted the city's proactive financial response to the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery plans.

In addition, Woods spoke to the critical need for Congress to send more of Tempe's federal tax



## TEXT OF MAYOR WOODS' ADDRESS TO THE U.S. SENATE

Thank you for inviting me to be here today to speak with you about the housing and transportation infrastructure needs of America's cities.

I am the Mayor of Tempe, Arizona. You may not have heard as much about our city as our neighbors in the Maricopa County urban area, such as Phoenix and Scottsdale, but we are a thriving and innovative city. The 2020 Census will likely

dollars back to the city.

"We need continued and increased federal dollars to supplement our local investments in affordable housing, public transit, infrastructure and programs to provide relief to the homeless, those at risk of eviction and other at-risk groups as our economy recovers and local revenues get back on track," Woods said.

say that about 200,000 residents live within our borders. However, due to many businesses that call Tempe home, including the main campus of Arizona State University, we have a daytime population that is 70 percent greater than our Census population. We are a land-locked community, so we only have the option to build up

— MAYOR, Page 22

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# Screening of woman's assault memories can amplify voices of victims

By Janie Magruder

Until last spring, Amanda Schneider could count on four fingers the greatest moments of her life: her wedding day and the birth of her three sons.

Schneider added a fifth best day when on a Scottsdale theater stage she revealed the raw details of being drugged and raped at a work conference in 2016. And, most importantly, after years of shame, fear, self-doubt and anger, of being healed and transformed.

"It sounds odd to say, but I had never stepped into my power in that way," the Tempe woman said. "In a sexual assault, you lose all of your power. But in that moment in March, I was standing in my power."

Schneider was among seven women who delivered their messages at "Triumph Over Trafficking: Survivors of Sex Trafficking and Sexual Abuse."

It was presented by Amplify Voices, a nonprofit founded by Tempe resident Deb Shapiro, and New York City-based Akhilanda Women's Foundation.

The program was recorded and will be screened at Alamo Drafthouse, 1140 E. Baseline Road, Tempe, on Tuesday, July 20. Doors open at 5:30, and the screening is at 6 p.m. Tickets: [bit.ly/amplifyatalamo](http://bit.ly/amplifyatalamo).

The survivors will participate in a panel discussion following the screening. Their experiences are shocking, sad and unimaginable, Schneider acknowledged. But because these crimes still are shrouded in secrecy, they must be shared so that healing and change can happen.

"Yes, it will be uncomfortable, it will be emotional. And unfortunately, it is a reality for far more people that we even know about," she said. "But even if just one person receives permission to acknowledge and feel what they experienced, or if one person is compelled through discomfort or anger to get involved or be more aware, it's worth it."

In 2017, Shapiro created a speaker development experience called DEBx to help emerging speakers use their voices. About a year ago, the painful story of a friend who was sexually trafficked and never talked about it prompted Shapiro to develop a program for victims. She founded Amplify Voices last year to discover and

spread messages of those who historically are silenced, misunderstood or oppressed.

Shapiro immediately heard from women around the country, and seven of them started a 90-day virtual training to learn to process and write their stories in a safe, positive atmosphere. The program has been shown in watch parties on social media, and "people are in awe of these women for their courage and their transformation," she said.

One of the goals of Amplify Voices is to show that sex trafficking and sexual assault don't occur only in other countries or in someone else's families.

In 2020, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children received more than 17,000 reports of possible child sex trafficking. Reports have been logged from all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico, and in every type of community.

More than 1 in 3 women experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetime, reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. One in 3 female rape victims experienced it for the first time between ages 11 and 17; 1 in 8 said it occurred before age 10, the CDC reports.

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## Tech college will double up on graduation with 2 for 1 sendoff

For college students who missed out on last year's graduation ceremonies because of pandemic concerns, the University of Advancing Technology has come up with a creative answer: two years' worth of sendoffs in one.

The tech-focused, Tempe-based institution is planning in-person commencement at Mesa Arts Center on Friday, Oct. 22.

The ceremony will include both years' grads, as well as those who completed requirements in 2019 but had planned to commence in 2020.

Families are invited to attend, but reservations are required for all attendees.

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## Noted lawyer, jurist selected as Chandler's new city magistrate

For Alicia Skupin, Chandler's now formally selected presiding city magistrate, anyone who knows her might have suggested that her first day on the job would require no obligatory stint in the get-acquainted trenches of jurisprudence. After all, Skupin's familiarity with courtrooms



and the law likely could be called by some as almost legendary.

Prior to her two-year approval for the municipal court job by the Chandler City Council, which became effective July 1, Skupin had built a long and noteworthy history within her chosen profession.

Working as a city court magistrate since October 2014 and, most recently, in the presiding role since last December, she also served over a two-year span as a judge pro tempore in the municipal courts of Mesa, Scottsdale and Surprise.

Before that, she was a partner in Skupin Law Group, a contracted

public defender and attorney who represented clients charged with misdemeanor offenses in municipal courts. She also worked for the Arizona Court of Appeals as a judicial law clerk for one year.

Skupin received a bachelor's degree in English/Education, and ultimately her law degree, from Arizona State University.

She has been a member of the State Bar of Arizona in good standing since 2002. During her career, Skupin has participated in such organizations as the Commission on Minorities in the Judiciary, as well as committees of the State Bar of Arizona Hispanic Bar Association, Arizona Magistrates Association and Arizona Attorneys for Criminal Justice.

She also has served as a faculty member and editor for the Judicial College of Arizona, which provides training to judicial officers in the Arizona Court System. She is fluent in both English and Spanish.

Chandler Mayor Kevin Hartke lauded Skupin's selection and said he looks forward to working with her, adding that she "brings a wealth of judicial experience and true passion for Chandler" to the position.

### Aug. 4 deadline to submit Chandler bond comments

Chandler voters have until Aug. 4 to submit arguments regarding the issuance and sale of \$2.7 million in general obligation bonds to fund multiple projects, including neighborhood parks and street improvements, improve public safety services and equipment as well as upgrade city facilities.

The public may submit an argument in favor of or in opposition of the bond election, which has five questions for the following areas:

- Parks and Recreation Improvements/ Community Services bonds
  - Public Safety/Fire bonds
  - Public Safety/Police bonds
  - Public Works/Street and Transit Improvements bonds
  - Municipal facilities bonds
- The deadline to submit arguments

is 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 4. The cost to file an argument is \$150 and arguments are limited to 300 words. The fee must be paid when the argument is submitted, and may be paid by personal check, credit or debit card, money order, or cash. Completed arguments may be delivered in person to Chandler City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 175 S. Arizona Ave., first floor, or sent by mail to Chandler City Hall, Mail Stop 606, P.O. Box 4008, Chandler, AZ 85244-4008.

Each argument filed should also be submitted in electronic format to the City Clerk's Office at [dana.delong@chandleraz.gov](mailto:dana.delong@chandleraz.gov).

Info: 480-782-2181, email [dana.delong@chandleraz.gov](mailto:dana.delong@chandleraz.gov), or visit [chandleraz.gov/SpecialElections](http://chandleraz.gov/SpecialElections).

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# SPORTS With Alex Zener

## Quick season turnaround no problem for Aztecs



Alex Zener

The Corona del Sol girls tennis team, after having their season cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 and then starting their 2021 season later than normal, still managed to play 14 regular season matches before the state tournament rankings or seeding for the team portion was announced in April.

Corona, with a 9-5 record, was named the No. 10 seed for the team portion of the 2021 AIA Girls Tennis Division I Team Championship.

Singles players for Corona in order of ranking were juniors **Taylor Wasson** and **Lauren Sprowls**, freshman **Lia Taylor**, senior **Noelle Hamon**, freshman **Madison Wasson** and junior **Frida Flores**.

Doubles in order of ranking are the team of Hamon and Taylor Wasson, Sprowls and Taylor and Flores and Madison Wasson.

The Aztecs, as the No. 10 seed, played against the No. 7 seeded Perry High School team in the first round on April 27 where they lost 2-5.

Additional members of Corona's girls tennis team include sophomore **Sophia Carroll**, freshman **Solana Frazier**, freshman **Deven Kirsher**, junior **Olivia Koeller**, senior **Andy Soto**, junior **Milana Strong** and sophomore **Ariana VanDerGeest**.

**Taylor Wasson** qualified for and played in the Division I Singles Tournament held April 30 at the Gene Autry Sports Complex. She defeated Chock from Mesa Mountain View 4-6, 6-1, 6-0 in the

first round but lost in the second round, 6-0. 6-0 to the No. 4 seeded player from Hamilton.

Sprowls and Taylor qualified to play in the AIA Doubles Championship losing in the first round 6-1, 6-3, to a team from Mesa Mountain View.

**Austin Glogowski**, from Corona's boys tennis team, qualified for and played in the AIA Division I Tennis Championships. He lost in the first round 6-1, 6-1, to a player from Desert Mountain.

Seniors **Shivom Khare** and **Connor Kippes** qualified for and played in the AIA Division I Doubles Tennis Championships before losing in the first round, 6-2, 6-2, to a team from Chaparral.

Playing singles in order of ranking include Kippes, Khare, Glogowski, **Zachary**

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Tempe Coalition is a grant-funded project of  a 501(C)3 nonprofit

This publication was made possible by grant number H79T1083320 from SAMHSA and AHCCCS, in partnership with the Arizona Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family. The views, opinions and content of this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions or policies of SAMHSA or HHS.

## Stephenson, Conner Trostle and Luke Vigil.

Additional members of the boys team include **Mohsen Amjad, Greg Arciniaga, Brandon Chaloupka, Tray Daniels, Andrian Garcia, Anthony Guadanino, Felipe Jue, Andres Lopez, Colin Mahaffey, Ian Stark** and **Valin Verma**.

### Section 7 Basketball Tournament

The boys basketball teams from Corona del Sol and McClintock participated in the Section 7 basketball tournament held June 18-20 at the State Farm Stadium in Glendale along with 160 teams from 12 western states.

This affair was considered to be the largest high school basketball event ever planned and carried out in one place for high schools teams in the offseason.

Section 7 was a unique basketball event, outside the normal high school timeframe, in that it was organized by the Arizona Basketball Coaches Association and then sanctioned by the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA).

The reason this event, held in Arizona, is called Section 7 is because the AIA is in the

seventh section of the eight geographic locations of the National Federation of State High School Associations in the United States.

Section 7, presented by the Legacy Foundation, is an event where players can show off their skills and gain the attention of college coaches and recruiters which has become especially important because COVID-19 restricted the usual scouting and recruiting practices last year.

Some players who would like to play at the next level have not been able to showcase their talents for close to two years because not only was the regular high school season cancelled, so were most of the club team and college camp events.

It was stated on the Section 7 website that 350 coaches attended the three-day event to watch student athletes compete in over 300 games.

In order to showcase these players from 12 Western states, the floor at State Farm Stadium was set up with 12 basketball courts going at the same time all three days.

Corona's team played four games during the three-day event and McClintock's team played the same number.

The Aztecs started off on Friday playing a California team, Del Norte High School, where they lost 57-47.

On Saturday, the Aztecs lost, 66-55, to another California team, Arcata, and then again in their second game to a local team, Moon Valley, 69-55.

On Sunday, Corona defeated Central High School, 67-40.

McClintock started off on Friday defeating Mountain Vista from San Tan Valley, 59-44.

On Saturday, the Chargers played a tight game with a team out of St. George, Utah, called Snow Canyon Fastbreak, finally winning 66-63.

The Chargers were not quite as lucky their second game on Saturday when they lost to Paradise Honors from Surprise in another tight game, 59-57.

On Sunday, McClintock had another close game, this time against Lone Peak High School out of Highland, UT. The Chargers were defeated 69-66.

McClintock also played in the Section 7 finals held at Brophy on June 26, defeating Horizon, 48-47 and Highland, 75-70, in their second game.

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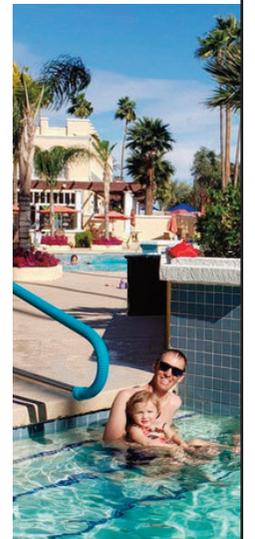
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# Tempe streetcar rolls into latest phase of testing as startup nears

By Lee Shappell  
wranglernews.com

**H**eads up, Tempe. The Green Machine is upon us. Crews from Valley Metro, which have been “burning in” Tempe’s new lime-green streetcar vehicles on the light-rail tracks overnight since April, now have begun testing them on the 3-mile streetcar loop through the Rio Salado and downtown areas.

One obvious difference motorists will notice from light rail is that the streetcar shares lanes with general traffic. Also, modern streetcars are quieter than buses and light-rail trains.

“Obviously, it’s a new mode of transit for Valley residents, and the fact that it shares traffic lanes with cars is a new thing,” Valley Metro’s Madeline Phipps said. “We’re really glad to get the message out that they’ll see the streetcar out there for the next of couple of months in testing.

**“Our first priority is operating a safe and reliable system. It’s not quite time to get onboard, but we want the public to be aware that they will observe and travel near the streetcars more frequently in the coming weeks.”**

— Adrian Ruiz,  
Valley Metro director  
of safety, security  
and quality assurance

“It’s safe to drive in the same lane, for the most part, but drivers should follow the signage and keep back a safe distance. Treat it like any other vehicle. The streetcar will obey the same traffic signals as all traffic. The operator will stop at red lights. It will do the same things that cars do.”

The streetcar system is Tempe’s latest step in its quest to develop a multi-modal transit system that gets as many cars as possible off the downtown streets, where high-rise, high-density development exacerbates congestion.

“We are really excited about the streetcar

coming into play in the city of Tempe, particularly to add to our regional infrastructure along with light rail and bus rapid transit,” said Tempe Mayor Corey Woods. “We are looking forward to doing everything we can to make sure our residents and visitors can get anywhere around the Valley without a car, if they choose to.”

Tempe received some good news on June 11, when the Federal Transit Administration announced a \$17.4 million funding allocation for the streetcar from the American Rescue Plan. The money is in addition to \$75 million in Capital Investment Grants the city received for the project in September 2019.

“Public transit opens new opportunities for people, and delivers environmental and economic benefits to communities,” said Pete Buttigieg, U.S. Transportation Secretary. “We are delighted to provide support for these projects, which will help communities recover from the pandemic and bring public transit to more people in the months and years to come.”

Tempe’s nearly \$200 million system, more than a decade in the making, took a giant step forward on June 28 when the streetcar began test runs along the entire route in traffic in broad daylight. On June 8, crews conducted the initial test of the vehicle overnight on the route at a snail’s pace, with workers walking alongside, paying particular attention to how it negotiates the curves.

“Our first priority is operating a safe and reliable system,” said Adrian Ruiz, Valley Metro director of safety, security and quality assurance. “It’s not quite time to get onboard, but we want the public to be aware that they will observe and travel near the streetcars more frequently in the coming weeks.”

Valley Metro still has not set a rollout date for the service nor its fare schedule, according to Phipps, but it is expected to begin service before the end of this calendar year, she said.

Phipps said this round of testing is as much about the system and its infrastructure as it is of the streetcar vehicles, which already have run hundreds of miles in overnight testing, known as “burn in,” on the light-rail tracks.

“Now we’re looking at how the vehicle works with the actual system,” she said. “They’ll be out there sporadically along the route in traffic for the next few months.

“They’ll be looking at all kinds of things. They’re making sure that the platforms are level with the streetcar for level boarding, how it

interacts with the overhead wiring system, how it interacts and integrates with the existing traffic signals – those sorts of things.”

They’re also looking at how the vehicle transitions from overhead power to the segments of the route where it operates under its own power.

Valley Metro advises those who ride bikes and scooters not to ride between the rails because it is difficult to maneuver in the tight space and their tires could get stuck in the grooves along the track.

It also emphasizes that pedestrians should cross streetcar tracks only at designated crosswalks. The streetcars are quiet – much quieter than the light rail – so pedestrians must be aware of surroundings and the signals.

Two of the line’s six streetcar vehicles have been delivered. The next one is due this summer. Each has 40 seats. With standing room, a streetcar can transport roughly 120 people along the short-hop line. The cars are not linked like light-rail cars are. Each operates independently. The 72-foot long streetcar’s two hinges allow for tight turns and give the appearance of being three cars.

Also, streetcar stops are more like bus stops in that they are more frequent than light-rail stops. Tempe’s streetcar system has 14 stops, two of which connect to Valley Metro Light Rail. Existing street parking did not need to be removed except for the equivalent of three parking spaces at each stop and to clear adequate turning radius in some locations.

The first of the six streetcar vehicles, the Liberty NXT, was delivered in March from Pennsylvania-based Brookville Equipment Corp. Valley Metro purchased the six vehicles from Brookville, the only maker of streetcars designed and manufactured exclusively in the U.S., on a \$33 million contract awarded in 2017.

There were challenges designing a system to operate on streets shared with congested vehicular and pedestrian traffic while powered by hybrid technology.

Unlike light rail, the streetcar is powered by overhead wires along most of the route but switches to reserve power stored in its lithium-ion battery along some stretches. This feature was particularly attractive to Tempe, which did not want to uproot trees and destroy landscaping along Mill Avenue in order to install overhead wires.

Stantec Consulting Services, which designed other streetcar projects in the U.S., designed this project.

# Streetcar

From Page 15

Four vehicles will be on the system at a time, running at 12- to 15-minute intervals, according to Phipps. With its frequent stops, the streetcar is more like a bus than like light rail.

Tempe's is the first modern streetcar line in the Valley, connecting riders to the city's historic neighborhoods, businesses, and arts and cultural destinations.

Planners envision the streetcar attracting new riders, increasing mobility, strengthening existing neighborhoods and creating sustainable development. It could positively impact housing values near the line as it not only connects to downtown attractions but also to Valley Metro Light Rail to downtown Phoenix and downtown Mesa.

The route starts on Rio Salado Parkway at the massive Marina Heights development that houses State Farm, and then heads west to Ash Avenue, south on Ash to University Drive, east to Mill Avenue, continuing south on Mill to Apache Blvd., then turning east to the Dorsey/Apache Light Rail Station. On its return trip to Marina Heights, the route goes north on Mill Avenue to Rio Salado Parkway.

"We anticipate all kinds of people using this," Phipps said. "Students at ASU, employees at Marina Heights, people coming to Tempe from other parts of the Valley for arts or cultural events, people traveling from Sky Harbor can use light rail and then connect to the streetcar in Tempe."

"Certainly, it is designed for those shorter trips within the city because it has more-frequent stops. It's more of a connector between our different transit systems in the Valley."

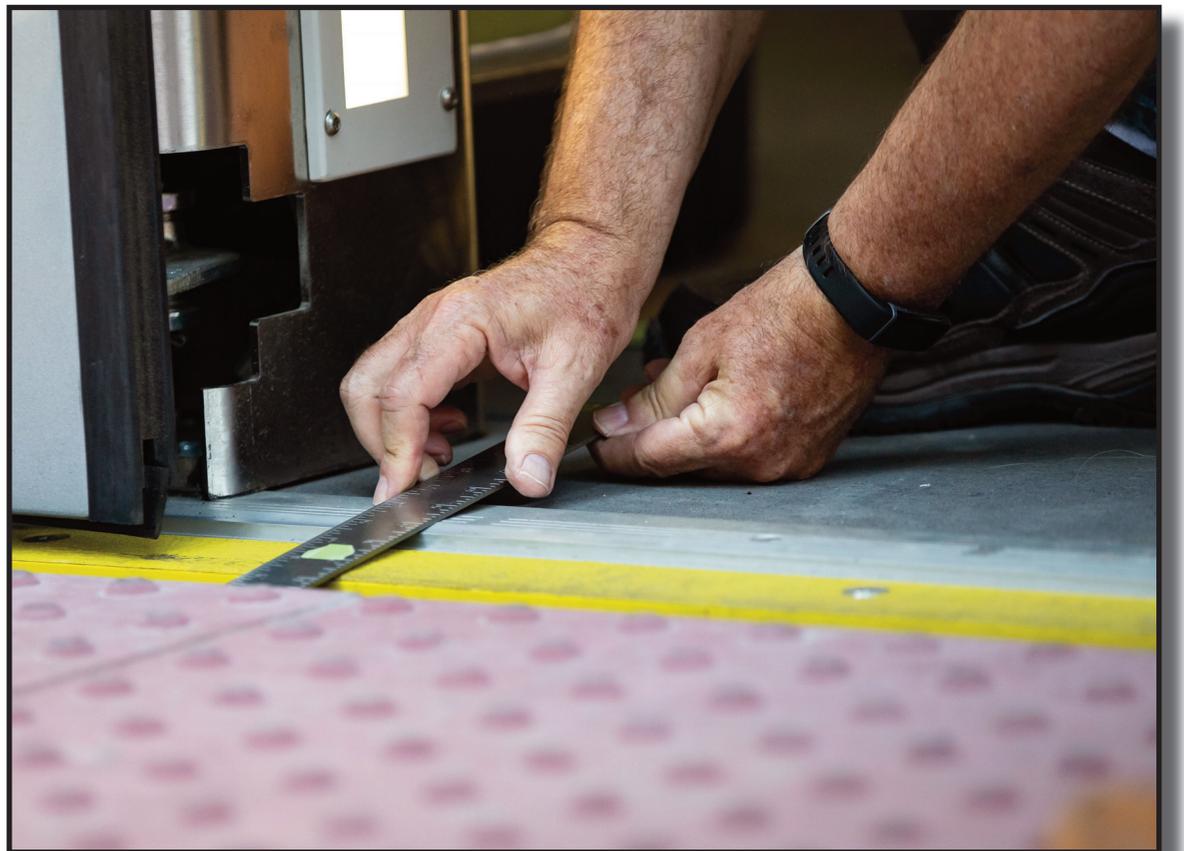
Anticipated weekday ridership is 2,250 to 2,750, according to Phipps.

The cost, to be paid with a mix of federal, regional and local funds, has been controversial from the start. Tempe will pay the estimated annual operating and maintenance cost of \$3.1 million. Some critics suggested that it would be less expensive to add buses that run on compressed natural gas.

"Roadways downtown are pretty much near capacity," Phipps said. "The streetcar can transport more people more efficiently. Knowing we have traffic as an issue, efficiency is consideration. Adding in more buses wouldn't necessarily solve the problem. We need to move more people more quickly. Thinking toward the future, as Tempe continues to grow and there is still-more travel demand, it's really about serving the community there and anticipating what the future's going to bring."

"This system gets cars off the street, at least that's certainly what we anticipate."

Information: [valleymetro.org/project/tempe-streetcar](http://valleymetro.org/project/tempe-streetcar)



Photos by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News



**Tempe Streetcar stations** The Tempe Streetcar will have 14 stops: • Marina Heights/Rio Salado Parkway (route's northern terminus) • Hayden Ferry/Rio Salado Parkway • Tempe Beach Park/Rio Salado Parkway • 3rd Street/Mill Avenue (connection to Valley Metro Light Rail) • 3rd Street/Ash Avenue • 5th Street/Mill Avenue • 6th Street/Mill Avenue • University Drive/Ash Avenue • 9th Street/Mill Avenue • 11th Street/Mill Avenue • College Avenue/Apache Boulevard • Paseo del Saber/Apache Boulevard • Rural Road/Apache Boulevard • Dorsey Boulevard/Apache Boulevard (route's southern terminus, connection to Valley Metro Light Rail, park-and-ride garage)

## New electric fleet vehicle charging stations now available at Tempe library

With plenty to choose from at the Tempe Public Library, most visitors are no doubt likely to boast of some electrifying experiences during their visits. Nothing quite as jolting, though, as news that the city of Tempe, through a partnership with Salt River Project, has installed seven new electric vehicle charging stations at popular attractions, nearly doubling the previous number.

With the help of SRP's business EV charging rebate, officials say the city was able expand the available stations that can charge both city fleet vehicles and public electric cars. Best of all, they're available now.

Part of the Tempe City Council's goal to achieve community and municipal carbon neutrality, the

installations were made possible due to an incentive rebate program from SRP, currently \$1,500 per certain networked EV charging port.

This, they say, is among incentives to commercial customers in SRP's service territory across the Valley, providing rebates that pay a portion of the \$42,000 cost for the new stations.

The stations, made by ChargePoint, can be easily located by EV drivers using a ChargePoint app that maps out a nationwide charging network. People wishing to charge their vehicle with the ChargePoint station use an app to pay for the electricity.

Said Tempe Mayor Corey Woods: "Electric vehicles are a critical

part of our clean-energy future and a key element in Tempe's Climate Action Plan. Tempe is committed to increasing the use of electric vehicles and will triple the number of public charging stations by 2025."

Here are key elements of the library installation:

- Three dual-port ChargePoint stations now replace the previous single-port Blink EV chargers in front of the library;

- One single port Blink EV charger near the entry-drive book drop was converted to a single port ChargePoint EV charging station, making seven total charging ports available at the facility.

- The charging stations have Level 2 charging ports which deliver

208/240 volts of electricity to the car battery. Each hour of charge time will provide eight to 20 miles of driving range.

- New EV chargers are dual-purpose and can charge fleet vehicles and public vehicles.

- Completing the project brings the total number of EV charging stations in Tempe to 28 for fleet and 10 for public charging. An additional eight fleet charging stations are planned for construction this fall.

"We are thrilled Tempe was able to take advantage of...the rebate and successfully install EV charging stations accessible to the public," said Brian Bednar, SRP senior strategic account manager for the utility's Government Sector.

## Wrangler News website by the numbers

### On the road to 1 million

Since June 2017, we've been tracking the growth of our online readership and analyzing this data to better serve our advertisers. As depicted in the graph below, our monthly page views have seen exciting growth over the last four years, with numbers reaching over 33,000 in October last year (compared to the 3,000 in June, 2017). Having surpassed the 600,000 benchmark for total page views since tracking, we ask one favor: keep doing what you're doing, visit the website if you haven't already. And help us reach 1 million.

OCT 2020:  
34,582 VISITS

SEPT 2019:  
17,117 VISITS

JUNE 2017:  
3,093 VISITS



## Habitat

From Page 5

kind in the nation started with a printer from Germany and ended on a vacant lot in Tempe.

Habitat president Barlow praised all who were involved in the development process.

“This kind of innovation does not happen without amazing partners and we are extremely grateful to all of them,” Barlow said. “Bringing people together is central to our mission and in this case, we’re bringing together new partners in the form of engineers, architects, developers and others looking for a breakthrough in the affordable housing space.”

Habitat Central Arizona and the city of Tempe have been partners for more than 30 years. Current work includes building the 3D-printed home, at 677 W. 19th St., and building 15 traditional homes on four city lots.

“Tempe is known for innovation, and this groundbreaking project aligns perfectly with our goal to identify new solutions that accelerate the growth of affordable and workforce housing in our city,” said Tempe Mayor Corey Woods.

“Working with valued partners, we want to

ensure that everyone who wants to live in Tempe can do so. Beyond our city borders, this project can serve as a model for other communities as we all work to meet the critical needs of families who truly are the faces of this growing housing affordability crisis.”

Germany-based PERI shipped its 3D printer to the U.S. in March. It was then transported to Arizona in April and printing began in Tempe in May.

“Our...team is incredibly proud to print this home in Tempe for Habitat for Humanity,” said Thomas Imbacher, managing director innovation and marketing of the PERI Group.

He noted that, since 2016, PERI has been working intensively on the development of 3D construction printing solutions for residential construction. In 2020, PERI realized the first ever 3D-printed house in Germany with a BOD2 printer, followed shortly afterward by the largest 3D-printed apartment building in Europe to date.

The 3D-printing project in Tempe is now continuing this success story in the USA, Imbacher added.

According to those familiar with the PERI process, it utilizes a gantry type of configuration and is said to be the only second-generation construction printer on the market. The gantry

system is configured from multiple 2.5m modules in length, width and height.

For those interested in the technical aspects of this novel approach, the BOD2 works in three dimensions: The print head moves right and left along the X-axis; the X-axis moves forward and backward along the Y-axis; and the entire XY group moves up and down along the Z-columns.

Thanks to this gantry principle, the printer can move to any position within the structure, pulling up both inner and outer walls layer by layer.

The 3D construction device is certified to allow workers to remain in the print area during the printing process. This means manual work, such as laying empty conduits and connections, can be easily integrated into the printing process. A control unit allows workers to operate the BOD2 either via a web interface or touchscreen.

Once the walls of a building are printed, the ceilings can be integrated. These are then built in the traditional way.

In addition to co-Presenting sponsors Cox and Lowe’s, other partners came together to make the project possible, including Habitat for Humanity International; the city of Tempe; PERI; 3D Construction; Candelaria Design; and The Ramsey Social Justice Foundation.

Information: [habitatcaz.org/3D](http://habitatcaz.org/3D)

# LA CASA DE JUANA



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Construction begins on an oil change shop that will soon inhabit the vacant lot at the southeast corner of Warner and McClintock. Walt Brown, right, owner of the property, addresses the Tempe City Council regarding the development. — *Wrangler News photos*

## Oil change

From Page 3

Brown claimed that his proposal met every city requirement, yet the City Council rejected it unanimously, due largely to the scope and passion of neighbors' opposition.

The settlement, however, did not include a building permit. That took some time.

The site is zoned for an oil-lube shop.

Property enhancements that had been recommended by city staff that Brown and Diversified originally declined to incorporate, such as setback service bays and improved paving near walkways, were agreed upon in the settlement.

The city will not pay out any money as a result of the settlement.

"It's important to note that Arizona has some of the strongest property-rights laws in the country," Baxter wrote in an email to *Wrangler News*. "Rather than fighting a lawsuit that the city would be unlikely to win, we are working to be good stewards of tax dollars for all our residents and have the best possible business of its type in that location.

"During the process, we heard questions from residents about the validity and use of the Character Area Plan."

The city and residents produced a Character Area Study for the area several years ago and that

plan was consulted for this project.

"While these documents are consulted by staff and elected officials, they are guidelines and can never be used in place of Tempe's Zoning and Development Code, City Charter, Arizona State law or federal law," Baxter wrote.

She added that no additional public hearings on the development are scheduled.

How this settlement plays with neighbors remains to be seen. Matt Smith, who headed opposition to the project two years ago, said in an email to *Wrangler News* that he is not yet prepared to comment.

The lot once was home to a gas station before it was demolished.

Neighbors were up in arms when it became known that Brown then planned a Valvoline oil-change operation on the site. They spoke out passionately in large numbers against it. Of 772 respondents to the Development Review Commission, representing 11 south Tempe neighborhoods in the 85283 and 85284 ZIP codes, 96.9 percent opposed the plan.

Diversified Partners proposed a single-story building with three drive-through service bays. The initial proposal called for a brick-architecture building, with heavily landscaped perimeter that includes trees that somewhat block the view of the building from the intersection, upgraded paving for pedestrian connections and a bus shelter.

Neighbors wanted a restaurant with patio

dining on the site, similar to those at the Rural/Warner intersection a mile away that revitalized a former convenience-store space.

Even Smith, the neighborhood activist, acknowledged at the time that Diversified's appeal "is reasonable," but he and other opponents said their concern was less about the immediate impact of any business on the corner than it was about the area's future. The General Plan, after all, is the vision through 2040. Smith pointed out how passionately the neighbors had spoken out in person and via social media.

Brown acknowledged the neighbors' views on the evening when the City Council torpedoed his appeal.

"There is a lot of passion in this room," Brown said. "I've invested in this corner because I like south Tempe. We're very passionate about the site. We want to do the right thing.

"It's amazing to me that the (Tempe) planner isn't here tonight for some reason, so there is some stuff that I think we need to talk about regarding the facts. I can tell you we worked our butts off and tried to do the right thing. We're here hat in hand to try convey that."

In denying the appeal, City Council members had said they were moved by the overwhelming opposition of the neighborhood before they agreed to settle Brown's subsequent lawsuit on their decision.

## Schools

From Page 3

and administrators. Moving forward, my goal is to ultimately change the trajectory of all our students so that when they leave us at TD3 they will have all the skills they need to move forward and be successful in their lives.

**Q: What drew you to education for a career? What about administration?**

A: The greatest influence I have had in my life is my grandmother. My grandmother always instilled in me that education opens doors and changes your life. I was the first person in my immediate family to graduate from college. My initial plan was to become a medical doctor, but as I moved forward in college I realized I loved working with kids and changed my degree to Elementary Education in my senior year. I loved it and knew I wanted to continue in the education field to impact students' lives, and I wanted to help them get the same opportunities I had. As a teacher, I had great leaders and administrators who took a liking to me and pushed me into pursuing administration. I was happy to step into the administrative role, because it allowed me to create an impact on a larger scale.

**Q: Aside from the pandemic, what do you feel is the biggest challenge educators face today and how do you think it can be resolved?**

A: One of the greatest challenges for our educators is the feeling of inadequacy that what they do is not enough, as well as the pressure that society puts on them with limited resources. I want to share with them that what they do really does change lives, and what they do is more powerful than they may even know.

To overcome this we have to change the narrative. We need to share all of the great stories and highlight all of the students who have been positively impacted by us. We need to highlight and sing praises of those who support our kids. We need to share these stories because we are changing lives, and that means something.

**Q: What is something important that you learned as a child that you have carried into your adult life?**

A: Hard work and the value of your word. My grandparents taught me this early on. My grandmother taught me that you can dream to be anything you want to be, but it's not going to happen without hard work. And my grandfather would always say, "I'm not giving you much in this

world, but I'm giving you a good name." He taught me that if you say you're going to do something, you've got to follow through. And similarly, if it means something to you, you put in the time and effort to make it work.

**Q: Do you come from a family of educators?**

A: No. Most of the people in my family have high school degrees, if that, and work blue collar jobs. My wife and her side of the family are all educators. As a family, we are teaching and exposing our girls to different life experiences. My oldest currently wants to be a marine biologist, and my youngest wants to be a principal like her grandma, or a babysitter.

**Q: What is your favorite sport to watch or play? Do you have a favorite team?**

A: My favorite sport to watch is basketball. My favorite sports teams are the LA Lakers and the Detroit Pistons. I played basketball in college and I just love it.

**Q: What's the most interesting thing about you that is not on your resume?**

A: Something interesting about me is that I dropped out of college. In my first semester of college pursuing a Pre-Medical degree, the registrar informed me that they hadn't received the entire payment for that year so I had to leave. My mom came and picked me up from the dorm, and I went home and thought that was it. I started looking for jobs.

Then, my grandmother got sick, and before she passed away she asked me to promise her I would get my degree. I promised her, and when I make a promise, I stick to it. So, I went to junior college and played basketball and eventually got an academic scholarship to continue my undergraduate degree. I found the drive to continue and complete that goal for my grandmother. I think if she hadn't told me that before she passed away, I don't think I would have gone back to college.

**Q: What gives you the greatest joy as an educator?**

A: Seeing my former students grow up to be who they wanted to be. We still live in the area where I originally started out as a teacher, and my wife and I always see former students at the grocery store or out and about.

Seeing these students be successful in their lives brings me joy. That's all you really want as an educator – you want your students to do what they want to do, and hope you had a part in helping them get there.

## More about Dr. Driscoll

On December 9, 2020, the Tempe Elementary School District Governing Board approved Dr. James Driscoll as the next superintendent, beginning July 1, 2021.

As the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources in Mesa Unified School District for nearly four years, Dr. Driscoll's success included recruitment and retention of personnel, developing equitable and challenging learning experiences for all students, and identifying strengths and weaknesses in collaborative learning communities.

Prior to becoming an assistant superintendent, Dr. Driscoll has held teaching experiences in a variety of grade-levels in suburban and urban settings as well as served as a faculty associate professor at Arizona State University.

Dr. Driscoll's administrative experience includes being the Assistant Superintendent of East Area K-8 schools, Executive Director of HR, Dean of Students, Assistant Principal, Principal, Director of Special Education, and a District Hearing Officer.

Dr. Driscoll holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, a Master's degree in Educational Leadership, a Master's degree in Human Relations, a Master's degree in Special Education, a Master's degree in Business and Administration and a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership.

Dr. Driscoll and his wife, a fellow educator, have two children. Their youngest daughter will be in pre-K, and their oldest daughter will be in first-grade this upcoming school year.

As Dr. Driscoll begins this new chapter in his career, he spoke with the District's Strategic Partnerships and Communication Department to give the community a little more insight into who he is and his goals for TD3 moving forward.

# Mayor

From Page 6

as we continue to grow in size. With our focus on sustainable development, density and public transportation are central to our city's long-term planning.

The median income of Tempe residents is about \$58,000, a bit lower than the national average of \$62,800. But the average cost of a home is more than \$270,000, nearly 25 higher than the national average. In Tempe, this disparity between income and housing costs results in 42 percent of renters and 24 percent of homeowners being considered cost-burdened, which HUD defines as when a household pays more than 30 percent of their annual gross income on housing expenses.

In addition to a dire need for more-affordable housing for middle-income workers, we also have struggled with addressing the housing needs of individuals experiencing homelessness. From 2015 to 2020, Tempe experienced an increase of over 900 percent in our unsheltered population.

Federal programs, such as Community Development Block Grants, HOME Investment Partnership Programs and Emergency Solutions Grant funding, have become essential components in delivering housing options to our most-vulnerable populations.

In 2016, Valor on Eighth, a 50-unit affordable-housing development that serves veterans and their families, opened to our community. This project used CDBG to acquire the land and HOME funds assisted with the construction of the facility. Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) were utilized to finance the development while Project Based Vouchers in the facility allows for long-term affordability to be financially viable for its residents.

Just last week, I was at the construction site of the nation's first 3D printed home. The City of Tempe transferred the property, originally purchased through CDBG funds, to Habitat for Humanity for construction of a total of 16 homes. This 3D-printed home offers an innovative model for the future of homeownership with a scalable, cost-effective solution and the federal government has a part in this success story.

Our city has invested heavily in affordable-housing initiatives. Through our Hometown for All initiative, we negotiate voluntary contributions from developers to our affordable-housing fund and we dedicate an amount equal to half of all permitting fees to these efforts. Since January of this year, this program has raised nearly \$4.5 million.

Our City Council recently approved investing \$1.2 million for the purposes of conducting environmental and archaeological assessments on city-owned land for the eventual development of 325 affordable rental-housing units and 50 affordable homeownership units. We are currently waiting for the developer to receive approval for Low Income Housing Tax Credits in order to get the project started.

Unfortunately, even with the city's own investments, private partnerships and creative use of federal programs, we do not come close to meeting the needs of our cost-burdened residents nor addressing our extraordinary increase in unsheltered individuals. Tempe has benefited greatly from a 55 percent increase in allocations of CDBG, HOME and ESG over the last five years, and this upward trajectory of federal support is critical for us to continue our collaboration with our

**“ We simply cannot begin to meet the housing needs of our residents without increased federal support in the coming weeks. — Tempe Mayor Corey Woods**

private and non-profit partners.

We simply cannot begin to meet the housing needs of our residents without increased federal support.

Public transportation is the other key to our sustainable-growth strategy. Many of Tempe's future affordable-housing projects will be strategically located along the existing, metro-area light-rail system.

This regional train creates a travel corridor between central Phoenix and Mesa, the third-largest city in the state, with downtown Tempe and the ASU campus at the center of the regional light-rail system.

We have been fortunate to have broad support from our business community for a proposed expansion of this system, known as the Tempe Streetcar program. Businesses located along the streetcar corridor have instituted voluntary self-assessments to contribute to the project's funding needs. Recently, the federal government, through the Federal Transit Administration, approved additional funding for the streetcar project and we are grateful for that investment.

Mesa, our neighboring municipality, and home to the Chicago Cubs spring-training facility, has partnered with us to explore the feasibility in expanding the streetcar from downtown Tempe into the city of Mesa. This expansion would span the public-transportation corridor through downtown Tempe, ASU's upcoming 355-acre innovation corridor, and a 1.3-million-square-foot

open-air shopping development to the Cubs' stadium, all the while linking industrial zones and creating opportunity for future affordable-housing development.

Just Friday, our City Council held a joint meeting with the boards of the Tempe Chamber of Commerce, Tempe Tourism Office and other local business leaders. We work very closely with our private-sector partners to plan Tempe's future through thoughtful development that includes affordable housing and public transportation to ensure financial stability and access to economic opportunity for Tempe residents.

We invest a significant amount of Tempe tax dollars into these efforts and are committed to expanding these community resources. We are hopeful for an increased investment from the federal government so they can become an even bigger partner in the process of planning for Tempe's future.

I would be remiss if I didn't note that the city itself is managing through challenging financial times.

The city's hotel transaction privilege tax revenues are down over 50 percent January 2021 as compared to January 2020, reflecting the steep decline in travel and tourism to our region. Similarly, tax revenue derived from restaurants/bars and amusements is down over 20 and 60 percent, respectively, over the same time period.

The loss of special events, ASU attendance, workers coming into the high rises downtown, conferences and spring training has meant that the city has fewer resources to provide services while our residents and businesses are experiencing more needs.

To that end, we have been proactive in enacting cost-cutting measures for the city, and federal aid has played an important part in helping to maintain services while offering relief programs for our residents and businesses. Increased investments in infrastructure would provide the city with an important tool to address the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 and continue to develop our community with a sustainable and smart approach.

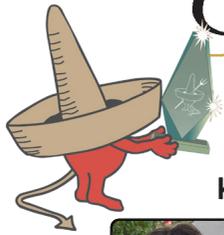
We need continued and increased federal dollars to supplement our local investments in affordable housing, public transit, infrastructure and programs to provide relief to the homeless, those at risk of eviction and other at-risk groups as our economy recovers and local revenues get back on track.

I am so grateful for the time you have allowed me to speak to you about Tempe's perspective. I feel fortunate to do what I do every day. I look forward to answering any questions you might have.

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# Excellence in Education Awards

Congratulations to our Winners!



## Kyrene School District



**Teacher of the Year**  
**Michele Ferber**  
*Kyrene del Pueblo  
Middle School*



**Lifetime Achievement**  
**Nancy Branch**  
*Kyrene de la Mirada  
Elementary School*



**Leadership**  
**Spencer Fallgatter**  
*Kyrene de la Mariposa  
Elementary School*



**High Impact**  
**Patti Kuluris**  
*Kyrene Monte Vista  
Elementary School*



**Inspiration**  
**Katie Miceli**  
*Akimel A-al  
Middle School*



**Rising Star**  
**Abby Greb**  
*Kyrene del Cielo  
Elementary School*



**Class Act**  
**Loira Guerra Talmon**  
*Kyrene de los Lomas  
Elementary School*



**Transformational**  
**Amy Russo**  
*Kyrene Monte Vista  
Elementary School*

## Tempe Elementary School District



**Teacher of the Year**  
**Nicole Mercurio**  
*Gililand  
Middle School*



**Lifetime Achievement**  
**Amy Garza**  
*District Office*



**Leadership**  
**Carrie Fox**  
*Arredondo  
Elementary School*



**High Impact**  
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*Carminati  
Elementary School*



**Inspiration**  
**Emily Parrillo**  
*Arredondo  
Elementary School*



**Rising Star**  
**Nia Lewis**  
*Aguilar  
Elementary School*



**Class Act**  
**Elvia Jaime**  
*Laird  
Elementary School*



**Transformational**  
**Andrea Peterson**  
*Arredondo  
Elementary School*

## Tempe Union School District



**Teacher of the Year**  
**Karen Crane**  
*McClintock  
High School*



**Lifetime Achievement**  
**Justine Centanni**  
*Corona del Sol  
High School*



**Leadership**  
**Steve Threadgill**  
*Corona del Sol  
High School*



**High Impact**  
**Micah Kriston**  
*McClintock  
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**Inspiration**  
**Valerie Molina**  
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# Nonprofit FABRIC Tempe looks to the future as a capital of fashion industry innovation

Wrangler News staff report

Opportunity to launch a career in the fashion industry now is as close as a historic building on a side street in downtown Tempe.

Everything a beginning designer/apparel entrepreneur could need — from concept, to small-batch manufacturing, to marketing, to delivering creations to customers — is now available under one roof at FABRIC (Fashion and Business Resource Innovation Center) Tempe, a nonprofit with sights set on making Arizona a go-to source for fashion-industry entrepreneurs.

The fashion incubator, business accelerator, design studio, academy and manufacturer rolled into one is housed in the former Tempe Performing Arts Center at 132 E. 6th St.

“The whole point here is that we can make everything under one roof,” Angela Johnson, FABRIC Tempe co-founder, said. “Launching a clothing line is difficult. It’s extraordinarily expensive. The odds truly are stacked against you. You can get help here.”

Heretofore, FABRIC’s biggest claim to fame was manufacturing more than a half-million FDA-approved Level 2 and 3 reusable isolation gowns early this year for medical professionals during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. About 100 sewing machines were on the floor of the main headquarters. The gowns can be worn and washed 100 times.

“The reusable gowns have kept 60,000,000 disposable gowns out of landfills,” Sherri Barry, co-founder of the nonprofit said. “The gowns have also helped keep costs down for health-care providers of all sizes, with a price-per-wash that is lower than a disposable gown.”

It drew a visit and recognition from President Biden and Vice President Harris.

FABRIC Tempe provides training, guidance, innovative industry resources and access to no-minimum manufacturing in order to build sustainable fashion businesses with the goal of establishing Arizona as a modern fashion-industry

capital by creating a tech-based, sustainable, closed-loop ecosystem that attracts and supports direct-to-consumer apparel brands.

And now, the 501(c)3 nonprofit is extending its reach to every corner of Arizona and beyond with its recent launch of a subscription website, fabricincubator.com, available anywhere at any time, and loaded with classes and resources. The website brings to fashion-industry career hopefuls the one thing that the best fashion schools don’t offer: how to be their own production manager.

But now, Johnson and Barry say the unique new website likely will become its new signature identity by delivering knowledge that doesn’t exist in fashion schools.

“They don’t teach you the real-life stuff you need to know to get a product from idea to development,” Barry said.

Johnson added that design schools are focused more on theory and art.

“We have how-to videos and classes,” Johnson said. “Nobody has this. It’s like a brand new thing, and it’s the future of the industry. The digital roadmap will make a huge difference for those starting out. It really demystifies the steps needed to produce your designs. Access to our program is like having your own virtual production manager, quality controller, technical designer, branding/marketing expert and business coach guiding you through each step.

“We are just different than the big fashion schools. They certainly have their place, and we love to partner with them. We are teaching more real-life skills that you wouldn’t learn in those schools and that you’d normally learn on the job as a production manager. So it’s information that not very many people get the opportunity to learn upfront.”

## Less costly than other options

While fabricincubator.com is a subscription service, it remains significantly less expensive than a big-name fashion school, according to Barry and Johnson, and scholarships already have been awarded to hundreds of minority and underserved entrepreneurs to access the site.

“We believe that FABRIC Tempe’s efforts will take a huge step toward establishing Arizona as a modern fashion-industry capital for boutique brands and apparel entrepreneurs,” Johnson said.

The online component complements the array of resources housed in the FABRIC Tempe headquarters for those who live close enough to access the downtown Tempe facility:

- A main-floor events space, including a runway for fashion shows. All new audio-visual, lighting and virtual-event equipment have been installed. An

industrial-grade projector hangs from the ceiling. The building can be rented out for fashion shows, concerts or dinners. A runway and round tables are available for setup.

- A sewing room for small-batch manufacturing, which doubles as a catering area for events. There is plenty of room for portable ovens and freezers to be wheeled in.

- Co-working studios with access to cutting tables, sewing machines and other resources.

- A design center, with pattern maker in house, a free resource library and no minimum on small-batch manufacturing material.

- A full hair salon and makeup room.

- An in-house photography studio, photographer and sound-recording studio, where voice-overs can be done.

- Classrooms/meeting rooms that can be rented.

Everything from yoga pants to wedding dresses have been manufactured in the building.

## Longing for a unique look

Barry, an identical twin, became interested in fashion design because her parents dressed her and her sister identically when they were young. They hated it.

“We were constantly ripping our clothes apart and doing things to them to make them different,” she said.

Eventually, Barry would win an international design competition that launched her career.

Johnson’s passion was creating a space for small brands that make niche products in small quantities.

“Every so often, one of the designers will get my attention and say, ‘I just want you to know that because of FABRIC I am able to run a business here in Arizona,’” Johnson said.

“That’s the kind of stuff that brings up emotions and makes me teary-eyed. When a designer tells you something like that, their life has changed. All of that work every day, when we’re doing stuff like plunging a toilet, that’s the kind of stuff we’ve got to think about.”

Barry added that FABRIC Tempe is getting calls from all over the country now.

“It used to be just Arizona,” she said. “Because we live it every day, we know what’s going on here and how special it is. What I’m most grateful for is that others are starting to recognize it.

“It’s craziness and it’s just fueled by fashion and gumption and no sleep.”

*To donate to FABRIC Tempe:  
fabricincubator.com/shop/donate-to-fabric.*

## International firm's move to Chandler area opens opportunities for job seekers

Proximity to upcoming employment opportunities will be welcomed by West Chandler job-seekers when Bestway, which manufactures inflatable above-ground pools, air mattresses, camping equipment and inflatable water-sports equipment, locates in south Chandler, with plans to move its U.S. headquarters into it this fall.

Bestway is expected to employ approximately 150 within three years and house the company's headquarters, showroom and warehousing.

The move into the 129,680 square-foot newly constructed building will allow Bestway, which has had a presence in the Valley since 2010 and selected among the top 100 companies to work for in Arizona, to expand office space to 27,000 square feet, a showroom to 11,000 square feet along with the warehouse.

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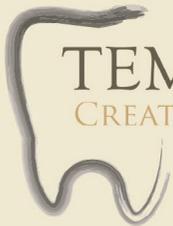
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# Does Aunt Jane want to see her favorite grandkid in Wrangler News? Here's where to find an extra copy . . .

These stories & more inside



**Yearning to ride:** Students at Scales Technology Academy use two-wheelers, minus pedals. **Page 29**



**New digs for Lakeshore Music:** After a dozen seasons at Tempe Center for the Arts, a new beginning awaits in Scottsdale. **Page 24**



**Tempe Diablos Stadium** is getting a facelift but no word yet whether the Diablos will be involved. **Page 3**



Hover with your smartphone camera and click the prompt to see these stories & others at our Wrangler News website.

JUNE 19 - JULY 9, 2021 • VOLUME 31, NUMBER 12



## A note to our neighborhood businesses . . .

Would you like to add your location to the places where people can conveniently pick up extra copies of Wrangler News? We provide small, countertop-sized racks for easy placement anywhere that works best for you. It's a way to show your support for the community AND bring in visitors who may not have been there before. Just email [editor@wranglernews.com](mailto:editor@wranglernews.com) and we'll add you to our dropoff schedule AND to our newspaper listing in every issue. Just one more way to get your business in the eyes of even more people and show your support for our hometown paper.

Here's a partial list of the public places and community-minded merchants and where you can pick up a current issue. If it's a Tempe or West Chandler business, take a moment to look around, say hello and tell them thanks for being part of our efforts to bring neighbors — and neighborhoods — closer together. Thanks! **CALL 480-966-0845, option 1. for a full, updated listing**

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Tempe City Hall, lobby,  
downtown Tempe

Mill Avenue rack, east  
side, just north of Rula Bula,  
Tempe

Tempe Elementary School  
District, Rural north of  
Southern, Lobby

Tempe Public Library,  
Connections Cafe, Rural  
south of Southern, Tempe

Pier 54/The Lakes, On the  
Water, 5394 S. Lakeshore  
Drive, Tempe

Marcos de Niza HS,  
Main Office, Guadalupe &  
Lakeshore

Bogeys Sports Bar &  
Grill, rack near front door,  
Guadalupe & Rural, Tempe

Tempe Smile Design,  
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area, Guadalupe &  
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Ray, Rural & Ray, Chandler

Arizona Central Credit  
Union, rack at front  
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Chandler Blvd., Chandler

Chandler City Hall, lobby,  
175 S. Arizona Ave.

Chandler Chamber of  
Commerce, 2nd Floor, 25  
S. Arizona Pl., Chandler

Corona del Sol HS, Main  
Office, 1001 E. Knox  
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Arizona Community  
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**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. 7/21

**House Cleaning** — PERSONAL TOUCH CLEANING - Serving the Valley for Over 25 Years. Affordable Service with Quality and Reliability. All Supplies Furnished. Excellent references. 480-838-4066 or 602-481-7000 1/22

**House Cleaning** — JENNIFER'S HOUSE CLEANING – Not enough time in a day?? We provide quality professional cleaning! Super dependable. Weekly, Bi-weekly, Monthly. Call for a free phone quote. References avail. 20 years' experience Bonded – AG0601, insured-46871. It's a CLEAR choice!!! CALL 480-833-1027. 8/21

**Landscaping** — Tree cutting, tree removal, reseeding, brush removal, irrigation, clean-ups, pavers, weeding, garden designing 602-900-0667; wshomemaintenance.com 8/21

**Painting** — Village Painting – Interior/Exterior painting, drywall repair with texture matching, custom faux finishes, and cabinets. Small jobs also welcome. (ROC#069679) CALL (480) 814-1588. 7/21

**Pool Equipment repair/replacement**—Weekly Service, GREEN pool Clean-ups, the only company where the owner has a degree in hydrology! Insured, Certified Pool Operator, Arizona Oasis Pool Service & Repair, 480-694-1158. 9/21

**Pools** — Extreme Media Blasting; we clean pool tile, fountains & water features by removing calcium build-up, restoring surfaces to like-

new; 480-233-6561 9/21

**Remodeling** — JAK Construction Inc. – Specializing in all phases of construction. Rain gutters, Downspouts, Aluminum and Vinyl siding, AZ rooms, replacement windows & doors, overhang trims/eaves. We love small jobs! Call (480) 820-8711. Licensed, bonded and insured. ROC #112275. 8/21

**Sprinklers** — Aqua Masters—Specializing in System Check-Ups, Valves, Heads, Timers, Leak Detection, Wire Locating & Troubleshooting, Brown Spots & Low Pressure Problems; 30+Years' Experience Quality Service 480-478-0073 www.AquamastersAz.com 9/21

## TEMPE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Seeking the Public's Assistance



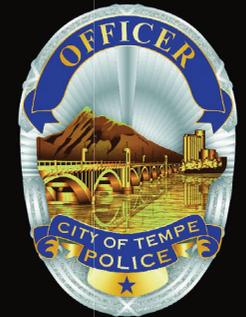
### Recognize him?

Between March and June above pictured suspect entered the backyards of residential homes with swimming pools and removed pool vacuums

#### Suspect Description:

White male, early 20's, average build, brown hair, facial hair, black clothing. Suspect has a large noticeable tattoo on his right forearm.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Tempe Police Department at 480-350-8311.



Date:  
July 6,  
2021

TEMPE  
POLICE

480-350-8311

tempe.gov/police  
Click on "Submit a Crime Tip"



When Wrangler News staffer Noah Kutz and a group of friends set off for a mid-summer backpacking adventure to the mountains near Aspen, Colo., they knew the 12,000-foot elevation would offer a cool respite from the Valley's heat. What they didn't expect was the spectacular views of a remote paradise, and a chance to capture photo memories of some of Mother Nature's best — which, he added, the group was surprised to find without the necessity of taking a trip to the Swiss Alps.





# Your Business Advantage

*We serve as the voice of business, a catalyst for economic growth, and a champion for a strong community.*



## Tempe Chamber Announces 2021-22 Board of Directors

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the appointment of five new members to its Board of Directors that begin their terms on July 1, 2021.

The Tempe Chamber welcomes:

- **Nick Bastian**, Owner, The Nick Bastian Team at Realty Executives
- **Mike Bradley**, CEO and Principle, ECD Systems
- **Laura Briscoe**, Owner, Laura's Gourmet Granola, LLC
- **Lisa Cavasos**, Commercial SMB Manager, Cox Business
- **Bobby Zavala**, Senior Director of Admission, University of Dubuque

The Tempe Chamber would also like to introduce this year's Incoming Board Chair, **Raveen Arora**. Arora is the CEO and Founder of Think Human-Global Initiative and The Dhaba India Plaza.

"We are grateful to have such a dedicated and community-focused group of individuals join the Tempe Chamber team," said Anne Gill, President & CEO. "I look forward to working with our incoming and current Board of Directors as we work to rebuild our economy post pandemic."

## Congratulations, 2021 Award Recipients!

The Tempe Chamber celebrated its 113th anniversary on Friday, June 25, during the annual State of the Chamber presented by Southwest Airlines held via live broadcast at Video West. During the event, we recognized our milestone members, committee and board volunteers as well as several individuals and businesses that have demonstrated a high level of community involvement and leadership.

Congratulations to our 2021 award recipients:

- **Becton Dickinson**, Business Excellence Award - Large Business Category
- **TerrainHopper**, Business Excellence Award - Small Business Category
- **Bobby Zavala**, Volunteer of the Year
- **Raveen Arora**, Spirit of Tempe

Thank you to everyone that tuned in online!

State of the Chamber is Sponsored by **Southwest**



**Save the Date!**  
**Friday, August 27\*, 2021**

*\*Subject to change*

Kick-off the 2021 season with an exciting celebration just above home field!

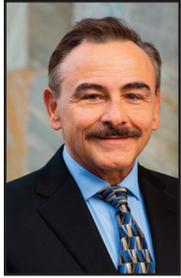
Commentary . . . by Matt Orlando

## Preparing our workforce for tomorrow

**C**handler is a city that embraces global technologies, implements sustainable solutions and pilots innovative ideas.

This practice has dubbed the city as the Technology and Innovation Hub of the Southwest and attracts companies and residents from all over the world to call Chandler home.

As a Councilmember, I recognize the importance of providing infrastructure and services that will support current and future companies and technologies, and this includes a prepared and educated workforce.



The City of Chandler is committed to preparing the workforce of tomorrow through a variety of partnerships and programs.

From early literacy initiatives to regional workforce coalitions, we aim to provide workforce development at every level. I'm personally involved in this, which is a collaborative literacy project made up of community organizations and businesses committed to ensuring that pre-school children obtain the necessary literacy skills for

school readiness.

Here are just a few of our successes from our partnership with ReadOn Chandler and several of our non-profit organization:

- In January ReadOn was given 1,500 books as a donation from the Molina Family Foundation. The books ranged from adult to children and were given out at all four Chandler Public Libraries. The largest portion was put into Grab and Go bags for children ages 0-5. Working with some of our local nonprofit organizations, we distributed 150 Grab and Go bags to our high risk population kids.

- We hosted virtual story time with a planned activity for at risk kids and their families for a total of 7 weeks.

- We completed two Ready, Set, Kindergarten sessions at one of our non-profit organizations. Ready, Set, Kindergarten is a 7-week school readiness program for 4 and 5 year olds preparing to enter Kindergarten.

- Additional Ready, Set, Kindergarten sessions are planned for later this year, as well we are working with ReadOn AZ on a new initiative to expand Ready, Set, Kindergarten sessions at three of our elementary schools.

Also, the funding from the American Rescue

Plan Act allowed our city to distribute an additional \$335K to numerous early childhood learning and educational programs to non-profits like AZCEND, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley, Chandler Cultural Foundation, East Valley Jewish Community Center, ICAN, Junior Achievement of Arizona, The Salvation Army, Si Se Puede Foundation and the Chandler Family YMCA.

I am a firm believer that early education has a positive long-term effect.

I am proud that the city supports programs like this and I will continue to work with city staff to expand our early reading and education programs this fall by contacting other community organizations and schools to participate in this critical step in a child's development.

Chandler is the premier location for cutting-edge technologies.

The City Council and I are dedicated to providing resources and leveraging partnerships to create a workforce to support our future growth and quality of life.

*Matt Orlando is a member of the Chandler City Council.*



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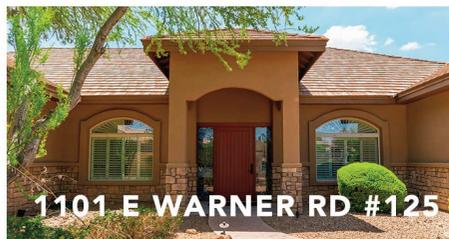
## Get the Highest Price for Your Home - Guaranteed

Are you thinking of putting your Tempe home on the market? There are many things to consider when that thought turns into reality. What do I do to get my home ready, should I have my property inspected before putting it on the market, what about getting it appraised? The most important question you may ask is **which Real Estate Agent will put the most money in my pocket, guaranteed!**

These are all important questions, and I will answer each of them. To get your home ready, consult with an experienced Realtor, who works in your area and who has a proven track record of getting homes sold like Carol Royse. I will advise you on what to do and what not to do. As far as an inspection, many times it is beneficial to have your roof and air conditioning units checked. These are the major factors in buyers cancelling a contract. An appraisal can help if you are unsure about the accurate square footage of your home, or if it is a very high-end home. The most important question, **which agent will put the most money in my pocket!**

There is a difference in agents and agent selection matters. Especially in this fast-moving market. To maximize your equity and proceeds from your sale, it is critical to use the very best agent who consistently gets home sellers the highest price. At the Carol Royse Team, we have sold hundreds of homes in Tempe and consistently get our sellers the most money. My guarantee to home sellers is, I guarantee the sale of your home at your price GUARANTEED! We have an exclusive data base of ready to buy buyers who are ready today. We will advise you every step of the way, from beginning of the process to the very end when your proceeds check is delivered. You never have to worry about making the right decision when you select the Carol Royse Team. We are here to get you the highest price in the least amount of time GUARANTEED.

### JUST LISTED



1101 E WARNER RD #125

**\$1,250,000**

1441 E LOS ARBOLES



**\$1,100,000**

### JUST SOLD

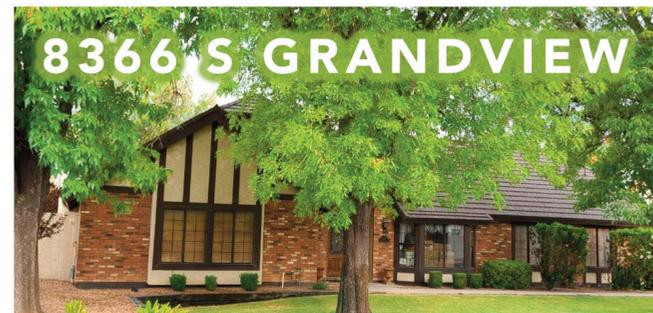


1356 E PALOMINO

**\$1,860,000**

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### COMING SOON...



8366 S GRANDVIEW

Tune in Every Sunday from 2 to 3 pm  
on 550 KFYY to hear the

"Carol Royse Radio Show" or go to

[CarolHasTheBuyers.com](http://CarolHasTheBuyers.com) to listen to our Podcast

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