

Wrangler NEW

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.....

Weight up!

High school football is just around the corner, and Aztec junior Jackson Ridge joins other teammates at the Corona del Sol gym for an early morning workout.

More photos and Alex Zener's interview with Coach Cory Nenaber Pgs. 12-14.

Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

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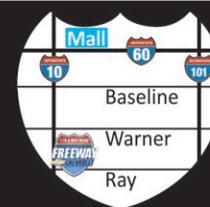
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New security measures to be in place when Kyrene students go back to school Aug. 4

By Diana Whittle

Newly remodeled lobbies in seven Kyrene District schools will be ready when classes resume Monday, Aug. 4. This according to Eric Nethercutt, director of transportation and facilities.

The schools include Brisas, Manitas, Mirada, Niños, Norte, Lomas and Akimel A-al, according to Nethercutt, who has served on the district's Safety and Security Team over the last several years.

But, he emphasized, the changes were made to improve safety and security of school campuses, not to create an imposing environment.

Additionally, a new procedure will be in place when school starts which involves buzzing visitors through the lobby door into the school. This is just one of the safety modifications that were put in place as the result of recommendations by law enforcement and Homeland Security experts, Nethercutt said.

In addition, visitors will be separated from staff by a large countertop of about 20 feet and a wall with five panels of glass. There will be top- and bottom- openings to allow for deliveries, the passage of packages or backpacks.

Students will enter through a separate lobby door, which will allow them direct access to the principal and

secretary, and to the health office.

In 2005, voters approved capital bonds that provided the funding to develop a plan for student safety and security, including the following:

- Portable buildings were removed from all schools;
- Corridors were built so all classrooms that opened to the outside now open into a corridor;
- Fencing at some schools was changed; and
- An integrated security system has been installed to include intrusion alarms, access control and video surveillance cameras.

The remaining 18 schools and the district office should be completed by the end of Summer 2015, Nethercutt said.

The Safety and Security Team is working with the principal and office staff of each school to customize it for individual needs, as much as possible, while staying within the district standards.

Another improvement is a new roof for the adjacent Waggoner Elementary and Kyrene Middle schools, expected to be completed by November.

Date for teacher meet & greet announced — Families will be able

— KYRENE, Page 5

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PIER 54

Kyrene

From Page 4

to meet their child's teacher for the upcoming year on the following days:

Middle School: Wednesday, July 30 from 5-7 p.m.; **Elementary: Thursday, July 31** from 5:30-7 p.m.

This is also the evening when families can purchase PTO items, place money in the child's lunch account, drop off school supplies, etc.

Community Education information will be on display concerning new and existing programs for before and after-school times.

Kyrene Foundation needs donations for opening day on July 24 — For most families, back-to-school time means shopping for new clothes, shoes and school supplies.

However, some families in the Kyrene district need a helping

hand to get necessary items for their students and turn to the Kyrene Family Resource Center, 1330 W. Dava Drive.

The opening date of the KFRC is Thursday, July 24, between 2 and 6 p.m., and staff is asking residents who can donate to please bring the following items to the center on Tuesday, July 22, and Thursday, July 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.:

New school supplies; gently used clothing, shoes and socks; staple food items, including peanut butter and jelly, pasta and sauce, dried beans and rice.

In addition, the resource center also distributes hygiene kits that include personal items such as soap, shampoo and conditioner, diapers and baby wipes.

There is an on-going need for these items as they are distributed all year long.

Information: www.kyrenefoundation.org

Blood drive adds a bonus

There's an added bonus for those willing to help United Blood Services meet the summer demand:

All who donate through Aug. 31 automatically will be entered to win a 2014 Passat S provided by Valley Volkswagen dealers.

Ten donors will be drawn as finalists to participate in the Sept. 19 grand prize drawing.

According to Red Cross spokeswoman Sue Thew, all blood types are needed, however type O-negative is in greatest demand.

Tempe locations include:

Friday 7/18—2 to 6:30 p.m. Walmart, 1380 W. Elliot Road; **Sunday 8/3**—7:30 to 11:30 a.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 715 W. Southern Ave. and 8:30 a.m.

to 12:30 p.m., Church of the Epiphany Episcopal, 2222 S. Price Road; **Monday 8/4** — 8 a.m. to noon, Rio Salado College, 2323 W. 14th St.; **Tuesday 8/5**, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., State Farm at Papago Buttes, 1500 N. Priest Drive; **Thursday 8/7**, 1 to 5 p.m., Creative Testing Solutions/Blood Systems Laboratories, 2424 W. Erie; **Sunday 8/10**— 9 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Margaret Roman Catholic Parish, 2435 E. McArthur Drive; **Thursday 8/14**, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Telgian, 2615 S. Industrial Park Ave.; and **Sunday 8/17**—7:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., King of Glory Lutheran Church, 2085 E. Southern Ave.

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Calling all 'Lucky Dogs'

Throughout July, "lucky dog" is the call to action at Lucky Break.

Owners of the popular restaurant and brew house at McClintock and Baseline in Tempe will donate proceeds from the sale of Lagunitas Brewing Co. craft beer, as well as from hot dog purchases, to Lucky Dog Rescue, an all-volunteer, non profit animal-rescue organization dedicated to saving the lives of homeless animals and educating the community on responsible pet ownership.

With July being National Hot Dog Month, "It's the perfect time to stop by to enjoy a Lagunitas IPA beer and one of our specialty hot dogs for a great cause," manager Jared Fenix said.

In addition to contributing proceeds from beer and hot dog sales, the staff will also be accepting donations of new and gently used pet items, as well as cash contributions, 100 percent of which will go directly to Lucky Dog Rescue.

On Saturday, July 26, the observance will feature a visit by staffers from the Lucky Dog organization, joined by some of the group's cutest, cuddliest dogs hoping for a new home, according to Fenix.

A silent auction will feature an assortment of prizes, with proceeds also going to Lucky Dog. Information: Jared Fenix at jared@luckybreakaz.com or www.luckydogrescue.org.

Website: www.luckybreakaz.com.

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Always on a quest for creative ways to capture his community's sights and sounds, our Wrangler News photographer hiked into the low-lying hills near LoPiano Park in hopes of finding new perspectives on the familiar Tempe Town Lake July 4th fireworks extravaganza. His resulting photos appear on the facing page, along with a remotely timed self-portrait that offered his own patriotic salute to the occasion.

— Wrangler News photos by Billy Hardiman



One heck of a storm Cleanup under way in Tempe, W. Chandler neighborhoods



His lucky day — West Chandler resident Michael Allen Ortiz considered himself the most fortunate guy in town this week after surveying the storm damage in his neighborhood. His truck was perfectly positioned and thus damage-free by being tucked cozily between two trees that succumbed to high winds accompanying the July 13 monsoon microburst that went on a rampage through the area.

— Photo by Michael Allen Ortiz

Only a few hours passed before city of Tempe crews began the herculean task of cleaning up after a damaging monsoon-season storm knocked down trees, damaged homes and vehicles, and made driving treacherous.

The accompanying microburst cut a swath through many parts of Tempe and west Chandler, resulting in widespread damage.

Tempe officials say crews are continuing their efforts to clean up in the aftermath of the July 13 weather phenomenon, which brought heavy rains and powerful winds.

Tempe is collecting the fallen vegetation outside of its regular bulk and green-waste collection schedule – and including it in its green-organics-to-compost program.

City crews began the clean-up process the evening of the storm, clearing trees, limbs and debris from streets.

“We’re turning an unexpected challenge into a positive by composting as much of the storm debris as we can,” said Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell.

— **STORM, Page 3 I**

TCA Tempe Center for the Arts be part of the scene

finally FRIDAY

Fine Art. Fine food. Fabulous view.

Free appetizers ~5 to 7 p.m.

Entertainment from the Songwriters' Showcase

July 18: Bob McCarroll
July 25: Cottonwood Stone
Aug. 1: Chloe Tang
Aug. 8: Peter Roberts
Aug. 15: Bob McCarroll
Aug. 22: Gary Marsh
Aug. 29: Tom and Priscilla Bertling



Weekends at TCA
Shows at 7:30 p.m.

Please check www.tempe.gov/tcacomedy for additional shows to be announced. Recommended for ages 18+

July 18: Kirsten Alberts Dirty Hippies and Young Punks

July 25: Mark Cordes

Aug. 8: Jas Clay

Aug. 15: Men vs. Women: a Comedic Town Hall Debate

Aug. 22: Latino Comedy Fest with Guillermo Robles



In the Gallery
Summer of Love: Family, Friendship and Devotion

This exhibition features colorful and endearing artworks about love created by local and national artists.

Exhibition open through Sept. 20

Special Events



July 25

Art After Work: Van Gogh in Mexico
We provide the instructor, art supplies and a food and beverage voucher.

July 26

Summer of Love Walk-in Family Workshop:
Create small hand-sewn sketch books from yarn, thread, paper and scratchboard.



August 1

Class Clowns Comedy
See this long-running stand-up show that has taken comics from their first stage experience to national prominence.



August 2

Arizona Pro Arte: European Vacation

From Schumann to Mozart, the sounds of Europe are brought to you this summer.

August 2

Summer of Love Walk-in Family Workshop:
Spend time in the Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts making a free steampunk art project with your family.

August 9

Summer of Love Walk-in Family Workshop:
Make an artistic bouquet of Victorian-style flowers with your family under the guidance of TCA staff. Free

August 15

Art After Work: Monet's Water Lilies:
We provide the instructor, art supplies and a food and beverage voucher.



August 16

Bully Mammoth

Sketch comedy about topics of the day.

August 22

Tempe Center for the Arts Annual Arts Preview
Enjoy free performances by the resident companies of Tempe Center for the Arts.



August 23

Tempe Rocks: Live, Local, Legendary
Sponsored by College Times. Banana Gun, Old Jack City, the Pistoleros and Tenia and the Maybees perform.

A \$1 service fee will be applied to each ticket sold over the telephone or at the box office window and a \$3 service fee applied to each ticket purchased online.



Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/tempecenterforthearts



Dog days of summer — A good monsoon soaking might have seemed a nuisance to some of the humans caught in the storm's aftermath, but to Abby, an Australian cattle dog mix in the Carver Terrace neighborhood of Tempe, splashing around on the west side of Waggoner Park was pure doggy pleasure.

— Wrangler News photo

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- \$3 Three Olives

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- \$3 House Wine
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Sunday Funday

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- \$3 Malibu
- \$3 Jack

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- Friday: 11:30am - 12am

- Saturday: 10am - 12am
- Sunday: 10am - 10pm

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Chandler makes 'Best Cities' list

What makes people happy as children? Depending on who we are, it could be many things: reading a favorite book, engaging in a sport with friends, watching a favorite TV show or playing catch with Dad.

MyLife, an online social media site, used such a template to select Chandler among 10 cities as best in the U.S. to ensure a quality childhood and provide peace of mind for the parents raising them.

Also influencing the choice was Chandler's position as a technology goldmine, hosting satellite offices for such companies as Intel and Orbital Sciences Corporation, and its appeal to companies like Microchip and Motorola.

The city ranked 14th in crime rate and 15th in average income, showing that safety and the availability of tech jobs help ensure that families can afford an enjoyable lifestyle.

The selection process started with a list of the 100 most populous cities in the U.S. and ranked them from one to 100 in each of the following categories:

Crime rate – A child's safety is something that is always on a parent's mind. It doesn't matter if he

or she is five or 50, parents hope they are staying safe. So crime rate was examined as an important criterion.

Public school ranking – Education is important as well. Parents want their child to be able to survive a college classroom, and that's where being prepared comes in.

Public parks per capita – Children getting exercise is of big significance. It keeps them healthy, and it helps the parents stay happy. Public parks are an excellent—and free—way to do that.

Average family salary – Being able to afford a couple of luxuries, like a television or a new baseball bat and glove, can really help the “fun” factor that goes along with growing up. This is the average salary based on a family household.

Cost of living – In order to balance out annual salary, the cost of living in each city was taken into account as well.

After establishing a ranking for each of those categories, a score was assigned to each city for those categories as well. Once those were added up, the totals were divided into an average; the lower that average was the better.

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Sequel to father-son bonding story ready for release Author tells how he reconstructed a broken relationship

By Chelsea Martin

Photo courtesy of Preston Long

What defines a true bond? How does one achieve a genuine connection with another, specifically one's own kin? Tempe resident and author Dr. Preston H. Long taps into the workings of his own discovery and success of bonding through his first book, *Hunting with Father*.

Now a sequel, *Hunting with Father 2*, is about to be released.

The stories describe the revelation of Preston's disturbed, off-tilt relationship with his only son, Alexander, and the urgency the onetime chiropractic physician felt to correct the shambles of the relationship. "It was depressing as a father," Preston said. "(Alexander) was my only son."

The solution: camping and hunting.

"My father and I did not get along right from the start," Alexander said. "At the age of five my dad had already nicknamed me 'M and M', meaning Master Manipulator.

"We did not enjoy each other's company, and to be able to realize that at such a young age was very strange. At the age of eight my mom could no longer stand us butting heads and sent us to counseling.

"There the counselor suggested camping and hunting, an activity my father and his engaged in."

After their first camping and fishing trip together, the bonding experience happened like spontaneous combustion.

"It was the first time that we had ever gotten along, actually bonded. We wanted to go back immediately because there was nothing that the city could offer us—all we wanted was nature," Alexander said.

"It went from being such a negative thing with not a glimmer of hope to all we were drawn to. We got along in great fashion and we (hungered) for it."

Preston Long describes the transformation in his relationship with his son in *Hunting with Father* through the course of endless camping and hunting adventures, far and wide.

"One event changed the course of history," Preston said.

"It started a fire."

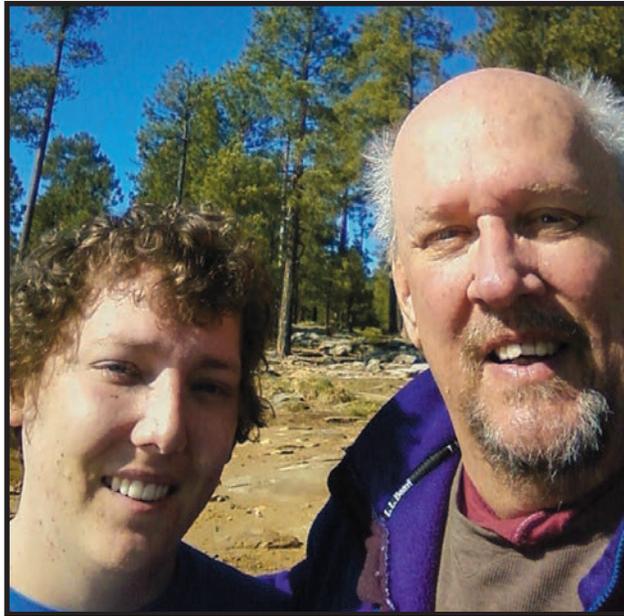
The book lets the reader get inside the father's mind and explains how the road trips across the United States with his son to hunt and camp were critical, satisfying and an experience unlike any other.

"You can bond over a lot of activities," Alexander said. "But the thing you take away from hunting and camping specifically is the one-on-one consistent intimacy. We go out for five or six days and he's the only one I can talk to.

"How many people can say they've done that with either of their parents?"

Added Preston:

"We've been to nearly every inch of the country



hunting together. The book reveals that it's less about the hunting and much more about father and son bonding together."

Hunting with Father 2 continues to narrate the loyalty and bond between the two and how the strength of the tradition proceeds.

"The second book was written to explain that

it's now six years later, I'm in college and no longer a child, so where are we now?" Alexander said.

"And yet how, even now, with the thing that created the bond gone, that bond is still there and remains just as strong."

Through the tales in this book, the reader is able to understand how the bond was formed through survival, tracking, skilled hunting, gratitude, feeding, patience, perseverance, truths and raw trust.

"The reason we wrote the first book was to show that experience and it was far more selfish," Preston Long said.

"The second book emphasizes and is based on the idea that if you're having an issue with one of your kids, read this. It doesn't have to be hunting or camping, but find something in which that person has 100 percent of your attention for an extended period of time.

"Genuine time alone with your kid is what it's all about. They don't want your money, they crave your attention, and unfortunately that's lacking in a lot of children's lives."

"I can proudly say Alexander is my best friend." *Hunting with Father 2* will be available on Amazon at the end of July.

For the last eight years I have had the honor of serving on the Tempe City Council.

I am proud of my years of service to our city and respect the diversity of our needs as a community. I am an objective team player who listens and works towards Tempe's best interests.

We need leaders who have just one agenda: doing what's best for our community.

If you have any questions about my campaign, please feel to contact me at shana@shanaellis.com. I ask for your vote on or before August 26th.

Shana

Shana Ellis
for
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Sports Notebook . . .

with Alex Zener

Coach Nenaber's return to Corona signals new optimism

Corona's new head football coach **Cory Nenaber** has been on the job a little over six months and there are signs that the Aztec football program already may be on the right track after a string of disappointing seasons.

Besides winning only 13 games in the past four years, participation was at an all-time low, with less than 40 players on the varsity team last season.

Numbers don't lie. The hiring of former Corona alum and former Corona assistant football coach Nenaber seems by all appearances to have more than doubled the number of athletes interested in football.

"We consistently had between 100 and 115 kids come out to spring football, and the numbers did not drop off for our summer program," said Nenaber.

What has Nenaber, only the fifth head football coach in the school's history, done differently to increase the numbers?

To begin, Nenaber, an assistant Corona football coach for 10 years and popular teacher at the school, fits into Corona's longstanding tradition of coaches belonging to and being part of not only the school but its stable community.

We tend to like our own, so to speak, and Corona has been around long enough now that former students are often sought after as teachers and coaches.

Tradition and longevity are important at Corona, as well.

For instance, **Gary Ventura** took over after **Larry Hughes**,

who was Corona's first head football coach and the only one to win a state football championship (1980 Division IV) changed sports after eight years to win several girls basketball state championships for the Lady Aztecs. Ventura was the head coach for 23 years before retiring at the end of the 2009 season.

Another example is **Sam Duane Sr.**, Corona's first basketball coach, who was at the helm for 18 years before retiring. Assistant coach **Joe Maisel** took over for six years before Sam Duane Jr., Corona alumnus and former assistant coach, returned for his dream job after gaining experience as Mesquite's head coach.

Three straight state championships and 11 years later he is not going anywhere soon.

"Being able to come back to Corona has been like a dream to me," said Nenaber. "I missed Corona's tradition, its tight-knit community. How they stick together. How they love their orange and yellow."

Second, Nenaber, along with another longtime assistant coach and Corona alumnus, **Tim Kelly**, were both popular choices to take over for Ventura when he retired but were passed over for Zane Zamenski in 2010.

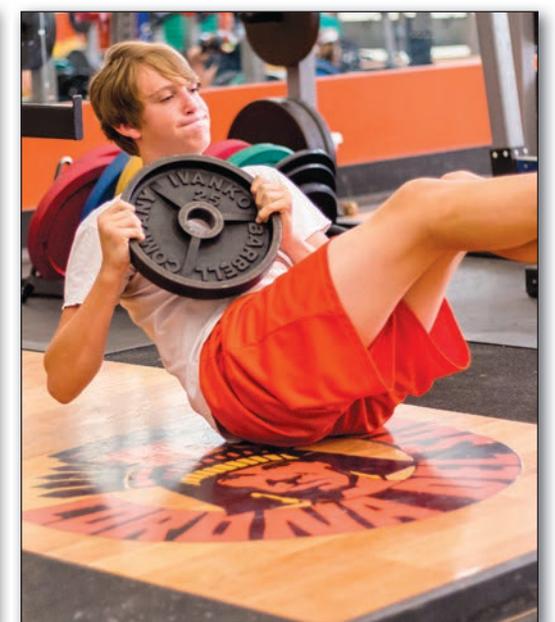
Parents were not happy about the choice and let the athletic department and principal know. It would have been hard for anyone from the outside to fill Ventura's shoes, but Zamenski definitely did not come close, which was only heightened when the team won only one game and lost 10 that 2010 season.

In hindsight, it may have been a good decision because Nenaber left Corona for Maricopa, where he not only gained valuable experience as a head coach but proved he could



With a new head football coach at the helm of the Corona Aztecs, team members are already hard at work in anticipation of the start of the coming season. The boys convene at the school gym as early as 6:30 a.m. each weekday to get in shape. While Coach Cory Nenaber says 'No one really likes to go to practice. It's a hard, hot, tough game,' he insists that his challenge is to change the culture of the football program so kids want to play—and to do that, he says, 'we are going to try to make it fun.'

— Wrangler News photos by Billy Hardiman



Coach

From Page 12

revive a program that had not had consecutive winning seasons in 20 years.

While Corona's football program was falling apart, Nenaber helped Maricopa to a 19-22 record over four years, making the playoffs in 2012. He was awarded Division III coach of the year in 2012.

It was his other job, as the Rams' athletic director, that may help him the most in his job as Corona's head football coach.

"What I learned from being an athletic director at Maricopa has helped me tremendously in other aspects of my football coaching career," said Nenaber. "I learned about situations such as how to deal with parents, how to handle conflict, how to get organized. All sorts of skills that have made me better at my coaching job."

Thirdly, Nenaber entered the job with mostly positive parent and community support, which may have initially given him a boost over the last two coaches who followed Venturo.

Nenaber feels good about the support he has received so far but is adamant that he and his assistant coaches are not going to change their philosophy just to keep that support.

"Word of mouth and parental support are important to us, of course," said Nenaber. "But we are not going to sacrifice our beliefs just to get the support of the parents."

"We are going to treat their kids the right way, and we believe that parents will understand and give us their support."

What exactly is treating kids the right way? Nenaber and his assistant coaches care about winning but not at the sacrifice of their players.

"I want to give my players a similar experience to what I had in the 1990s at Corona with Coach Venturo," said Nenaber.

"Venturo cared about you as a person. He cared about your development into a quality person as much as he cared about winning."

"It's not that he did not care about winning. He cared about the person just as much."

Caring about each player does not mean discipline will go by the wayside. Nenaber's first goal has been to change the negative culture that has surrounded the program the past four years.

"We are going to have discipline but it's going to be in a very positive atmosphere," said Nenaber. "I'm a positive disciplinarian. I tell parents, 'I'm going to treat your kids like I treat mine.'"

Another goal is to make kids want to become part of the football program.

"No one really likes to go to practice. It's a hard, hot, tough game," said Nenaber. "The biggest thing we have to do is to change the culture of the program so kids want to play football, and to do that we are going to try to make it fun."

"Don't get me wrong, we are going to work really hard so that we can enjoy Friday nights, but at the same time we are trying to make Corona football an experience they will remember and be proud they were part of long after they have graduated and moved on."

Changing the culture and making it a program that high school kids will remember is exactly what Tim Kelly did when he took over Corona's fading

track program four years ago. Not only did he triple the number of athletes who came out for his program, but the boys team won the Division I state championship this past spring.

Change does not happen overnight, and it's been a busy six months for Nenaber.

"The transition from being hired in December to now has been crazy but good. We've had spring ball and summer workouts where I've gotten to know the kids better," said Nenaber.

"(Soon) we will head off to football camp where we will continue to work on improving the culture as well as the football skills."

Nenaber's number-one goal is not only to resurrect the football program for the school but to rebuild what lately has been lacking.

"We believe we can restore pride back into the program. We can make Corona football something the kids and community can be really proud of again," said Nenaber.

"If we can create a positive culture where kids are proud to be an Aztec, proud to wear their orange colors again, then I think the numbers will take care of themselves."

What numbers are targeted by the coaching staff?

"We want to be competitive, have winning seasons and consistently make the playoffs," said Nenaber.

"There is no reason we should not make the playoffs every year and be part of the post season conversation."

The Aztecs leave for football camp to be held at Blue Ridge High School in Pinetop on July 21. Aug. 4 is the first day of practice for the fall season.



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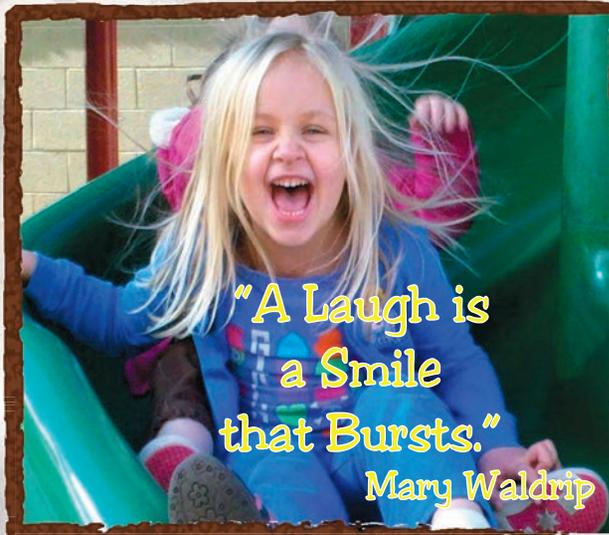
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Free online courses now available at Sunset library branch

Chandler's network of public libraries, including the Sunset branch on the city's west side, have attached a new name to their free online offerings for adults: Gale Courses.

Previously known as Learn4Life, the Gale Courses program provides patrons who hold a valid library card access to hundreds of instructor-led online courses on a variety of topics related to career education, college readiness and personal development.

Library Director Brenda Brown says the courses offer well-crafted lessons, expert online instruction and interaction with fellow students that are accessible anywhere online, 24/7.

Other benefits, she says, include:

- They're free for patrons interested in any discipline
- They're easy to use; you use your library account to sign up and log in.
- With six-week courses, you can join programs year-round.

Said Brown:

"Part of our mission is to inspire and engage lifelong learning in our community. With Gale Courses, our customers will be able to enroll in courses covering all types of topics and subjects.

"Whether someone is considering going back to school and wants to explore different fields or just interested in digital photography, the course catalog offers something for everyone."

Users can gain valuable knowledge that they can immediately apply to life or on the job. There's definitely something for everyone:

Career & Professional Development

— Many courses are tied to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' fastest-growing occupations. Examples include Accounting, Resume Writing, Business and Management, Grant Writing and Nonprofit, Real Estate, Healthcare and Sales and Marketing

Computers & Technology — Courses cover skill levels from beginner to advanced, even focusing on specific software applications. Examples include Introduction to the Microsoft Office Suite, Database Management, Graphic and Multimedia Design, and The Internet

Personal Enrichment — A wide array of courses offers the opportunity to transform lives, whether related to hobbies, education, or life resources. Examples include Children, Parents & Family; Digital Photography; Health & Wellness; and Test Prep.

Patrons can enroll at no cost. Courses run for six weeks, with two new lessons released weekly (for a total of 12), and new sessions beginning every month.

The courses are entirely web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. A dedicated professional instructor coordinates every course by pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback and facilitating discussions.

Additionally, through July 26, participants can earn a badge, as well as 25 points, for registering for a class through Gale Courses, and providing proof of registration to a staff member.

Information: 480-782-2800.

Recruitment for Citizens Police Academy now open in Chandler

The Chandler Police Department is accepting applications for its next 12-week Citizens Police Academy, which begins Aug. 13 and continues through Oct. 29.

Classes are held on Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. at the police department's main station at 250 E. Chicago St.

Applicants, who must pass a basic background check, must be at least 18 years of age and either work, live or attend school in Chandler.

According to department spokesman Det. Seth Tyler, the program gives participants a look inside the day-to-day operations of the

department, as well as the guidelines within which officers function.

Students will be introduced to such topics as media and the law, firearms training, gang awareness, patrol functions, K-9 functions, criminal investigations, school violence, traffic law and use of force.

Instruction in police procedures and theory is combined with practical, hands-on scenarios from officers in their fields, said Tyler.

Applications are available at chandlerpd.com/community/citizens-academy or by contacting Crime Prevention Specialist Blanca Quezada at 480-782-4960.

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Wrangler News is celebrating its 23rd year of publishing, and it's been a fascinating journey. Happily, the growth which has accompanied us during that nearly quarter of a century illustrates that news *by* local people *about* local people remains a powerful incentive for those of us who disagree with the claim that 'print doesn't work.' Based on nationally accepted formulas, Wrangler News reaches 46,500 prospective readers every time it's printed — quite a change from the meager 5,000 papers we delivered to homes back in 1991. We're looking forward to continuing our reign as this community's favorite newspaper, and we hope you'll join us in what we think is a deserved celebration.

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In Tempe, a Detroit favorite is reborn

Funky strip mall beckons an approving throng of ex-Michiganders

By M.V. Moorhead

Look around at the adjoining tables at Detroit Coney Grill, and you can see it on the faces—the scrappy look of people from in and around the Motor City, enjoying a taste of home.

The clean, cheery, Tiger-orange walls of the year-old restaurant, situated in a strip mall east of Priest on Broadway in Tempe, are decorated with pictures of Detroit's notables; locally iconic brands like Better Made Potato Chips and Faygo orange,

cream soda and Redpop are for sale behind the counter.

It need hardly be said that founder-owner-manager David Najor is from Detroit himself.

"We all are," he says, gesturing to the orange-clad staff toiling happily to crank out the Michigander fare.

"I still own a supermarket back in Detroit [a former Farmer Jack], and I still have my own house in Detroit. That's how we're able to get the product out

here."

After a career running supermarkets in Michigan, Najor came to the Valley from southwest Detroit a couple of years ago. With a comfort-food menu and a Cheers style that pervades the everybody-knows-your-name atmosphere, Najor previously made a success of the pre-existing Windy City Café near Elliot & McClintock in Tempe.

Through all this, Najor's dream concept was an

— DETROIT, Page 19

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Detroit

From Page 18

eatery offering the familiar specialties, not of Chicago but of his beloved hometown, in particular the “coney”—a hot dog with chili, onions and mustard, a signature dish at the “Coney Island” diners popular throughout the Great Lakes region, and especially around industrial Michigan.

It’s clear that Najor’s Cheers-style cultivation of his former Windy City Café crowd has paid off, too. During my visit, at least two customers who followed him from the earlier business stopped by his table to chat. These Windy City Café faithful who have followed Najor to his slightly grittier new strip mall location, on Broadway east of Priest, must now compete for parking with patrons of such neighboring destinations as a car audio store, dog grooming, a Cricket cellular outlet and Dr. Reefer, a medical marijuana clinic.

I’m not from Detroit myself, but I’m from close enough to feel at home in the place.

My hometown of Erie, Pa., had more than one “Coney Island Lunch,” and Faygo was a signature beverage there.

By sheer chance, the day my kid and I first visited Detroit Coney Grill I was wearing an Erie Seawolves t-shirt—the Seawolves being the AA affiliate of the Detroit Tigers. The guy behind the counter recognized it at once.

Detroit Coney Grill serves a fine specimen of the noble hotdog for which it’s named, as well as the almost equally famous “loose burger”—ground beef on a bun with coney fixings.



Owner David Najors, behind, shares a Redpop with a Detroit expatriate.

— Wrangler News photo

On a more recent visit, I indulged in the best of both worlds, the “Detroit Coney Combo,” with both the wiener and the loose burger meat on a hot dog bun.

Rust Belt bliss.

“I knew there was a need for something between fast food and casual dining,” explains Najor. “You can get a hearty meal here for under 10 bucks.”

This is true. On yet another visit, I tried Detroit Coney Grill’s tribute to another great city, Philadelphia—the Philly Cheese-Steak pita: sliced steak with sautéed onions and mushrooms on grilled pita.

My daughter had a chicken gyro, piled with grilled cubes of fine breast. Both were, indeed, a serious step up from what could be had for the same \$5 at a fast-food joint.

The same can be said for the Chili Cheese Fries, the Spiral Fries and other regional favorites sure to salve the hearts of homesick Motown expats. There’s also a selection of salads, for those interested in seeing their 60th birthday.

“We grind our own meat and hand-cut our fries,” says Najor proudly. “We source everything from Back East.”

This commitment to authenticity is suggestive of Najor’s devotion to his home city. For Detroit’s much-publicized financial troubles, he blames corruption in high office. In human capital, he insists, the city is still rich.

“The city of Detroit is NOT bankrupt,” he says. “The people are wonderful.”

Details: 930 W. Broadway Road, Tempe. Phone: 480-219-7430. Hours: 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Closed Sunday.

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Love of the game, love of winning Ex-pro makes a publishing 'Rebound'

By M.V. Moorhead

To rebound, in basketball, is to regain possession after a missed shot. So, intentionally or not, the term may carry a hint of symbolic meaning as the title of a magazine for retired basketball players.

In a sense that goes beyond the court, *Rebound* is about getting the ball back in your hands.

Now in its third year, *Rebound* is, in the words of founder Matt Fish, "the NBA-approved official magazine of the National Basketball Retired Players Association."

A quarterly, it's intended, says Fish, "as a resource for the members of the Association, just to show what resources are available to them, and to help them transition from the days of playing to the days after playing."

It's a transition with which Fish is quite familiar. He was a professional basketball player for 10 years, logging stints with the L.A. Clippers, the Denver Nuggets, the New York Knicks, the Washington Bullets and the Miami Heat, as well as teams in Canada, France, Poland, Portugal and Argentina.

"I was the guy who came off the bench, who backed up the backup for the Miami Heat when we made the conference finals," Fish recalls.

"On the other hand, I was a starter for the Clippers in '94, when we couldn't win a game to save our lives.

"So I don't know...I love to play, but I love being successful, so it's tough."

The years after were tough, too. Not only did he have to adjust to retirement himself, he's also seen its impact on other players:

"These guys make millions, and they're bankrupt in four years."

Against this sort of unhappy outcome, *Rebound* is intended to serve as a source of information regarding business opportunities, jobs, community service possibilities, coaching

positions and so forth.

It also offers encouragement and celebration of the post-playing accomplishments of the NBRPA's membership.

One might reasonably wonder, however, if that narrow demographic, by itself, constitutes a large enough readership to support a magazine.

"There's only about 1,500 former NBA players in existence," concedes Fish, a Valley resident whose stepson Justin Kelley played basketball at Corona del Sol High School.

"So we've opened it up to former WNBA players, Harlem Globetrotters players and players from the old ABA [American Basketball Association; 1967-1976]."

One hopes that *Rebound* would also welcome the readership of former Washington Generals, perennial losers to the Globetrotters. Those guys could use some cheering up.

But even with all of these players included, that would still amount to a circulation significantly smaller than that of, say, *Wrangler News*.

Fish, of course, would like *Rebound* to appeal to fan readership as well—he refers to it as a publication "By a Player, About The Players, For The Players and Fans."

"It's a human interest magazine, showing Where Are They Now," he says, with features like *We Made This Game* and *Conversations With Fish*.

"People can say, 'Oh yeah, I remember when he was playing. I wonder what he's doing now?'"

Even so, Fish admits that his magazine is "really costly to print," and he wants to move it increasingly into the digital age—and also to the video screen; he's currently working on a TV version.

He'd also be interested in developing the same idea for the other major sports, although he notes that "I don't necessarily know the verbiage of the other sports like I know my own. But I know we [retired players] all suffer from the same issues."



Matt Fish with his 'Rebound' magazine for not-so-retiring former players.
— Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

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Addressing the impact of fewer students Budget challenges loom for 2015-16

**A conversation with
Jeremy I. Calles, chief
financial officer of the
Kyrene School District**

By Diana Whittle

On July 8, the Kyrene district hosted a public hearing and Governing Board meeting relating to the 2014-15, which was adopted that evening and marked the beginning of a new fiscal year for the school district. (The meeting can be reviewed on-line at www.youtube.com/user/kyrenedistrict).

Since the outlook on school finances can change throughout the year for a variety of reasons, now seemed to be an opportune time to have a discussion with the district's CFO, who has the responsibility for effectively managing the fiscal resources to ensure the success of Kyrene students.

Do you think the positive trend in the budget will continue for FY 14-15?

"In the 2014-15 year, we will plan out the 2015-16 budget. I typically release my projection in late September, but I'll give you the early sneak peek. We are currently on pace to have 150 - 200 less students in 2014-15, which will hurt our 2015-16 budget.

Our investment plan for 2014-15 was mostly for items that will be ongoing expenditures. We are going to get an update on the Prop. 301 lawsuit very soon, but it will be appealed and dragged out. So we are still unsure of if and when we will actually see a settlement.

The bottom line—FY 2015-16 will mostly be focused on finding efficiencies and maintaining quality. I wouldn't expect any major changes from this year."

Last FY, you ended with a larger reserve of unrestricted funds than in previous years. What do you attribute this to?

"Overall, reserves have grown due to conservative planning. We are typically more comfortable with under-spending a dollar instead of overspending a nickel. When you have so many budgets for each school and department, the under-spend can add up, which is a good thing since we wouldn't want anyone to purchase anything unless they really need it.

Also, the state eliminated soft capital, which is considered as one of our restricted reserve funds. And they allowed us to place the remaining funding in either Maintenance and Operations or Unrestricted Capital. That created an opportunity to move funding from restricted reserves to unrestricted reserves."

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What will be your top fiscal priority for the next FY?

“While I can’t speak for the board or the rest of the administration—their direction will be given to me over the next few months—I can give you my personal opinion.

“Obviously, we are student-centered, and for that reason I believe a primary focus should be to take care of the basic needs of those who are making a difference in the lives of our students. You can’t give 100 percent at work if you are constantly worried about how you are going to maintain your lifestyle.

“So, for me, a cost-of-living increase is the basic need that should be addressed every year. We have done so every year that I have been CFO and I would still like to be able to make that statement 20 years from now.

“It will be a challenge for the 2015-16 year due to the current decline in enrollment.”

Small household risks can create big danger

Your home has well-lit stairways, household cleaners in an upper cabinet and smoke detectors with fresh batteries. So it’s safe, right?

Tempe-based State Farm agent Mary Contreras lists some potential household dangers you may not have considered:

Electronic appliances — The advanced features on today’s high-tech appliances make them easy to use. But electronics can short circuit and lead to kitchen fires. From burner ignitions that turn on “by themselves” to refrigerator light bulbs that stay on and overheat, watch for warning signals. (Display panels often flash unusual messages if there’s a problem).

Powered-up treadmill — The rotating belt can cause friction rashes, broken bones and snagged clothing in an instant. Keep the treadmill in a closed room, turn off the power switch (or unplug it) and store the safety key away from the machine so that children can’t accidentally turn it on.

Refrigerator magnets and coin/button batteries — Though convenient, small magnets are potentially dangerous for your children. Keep the magnets high and out of reach. Beyond a choking hazard, if swallowed, they can harm kids’ stomachs

and digestive tracts. The same is true for coin lithium “button” batteries. Tape shut battery doors on items powered by coin batteries so kids can’t access them.

Malfunctioning garage door — Regularly test your garage door to make sure it operates smoothly and retracts when an object is in its path. If not, it could injure anyone walking or standing underneath. Call a professional if the garage door, spring, or sensors need repair — you shouldn’t tackle this job yourself. They can ensure the correct installation necessary for your safety. *Editor’s note: Garage door pros can be found regularly in the Classified and Service Directory pages of Wrangler News.*

Plastic packages — Trying to open rigid “clamshell” packages with knives or scissors can cause cuts and puncture wounds. Plus the sharp plastic can gouge skin. Instead, use tin snips, a manual can opener or scissors specially designed for this purpose.

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Film Fare . . . with M.V. Moorhead

Planes: Fire and Rescue; Ivory Tower Toy cars endow Disney's 4th animated feature

Newly arrived

Planes: Fire and Rescue—This is Disney's fourth animated feature, after *Cars* (2006), *Cars 2* (2011) and *Planes* (2013), to be set in that strange alternate reality in which there seemingly are no people, but the vehicles are sentient and anthropomorphic.

The conceit leads back, presumably, through *Knight Rider* and *The Love Bug* and *My Mother, The Car* through the early Hollywood cartoons with their rampant anthropomorphism to the habit of children—boys especially—to endow their toy cars and trucks and planes with personalities.

This time the hero of *Planes*, cropduster-turned-racer Dusty (voiced by Dane Cook) learns that he needs a replacement part that's no longer in

production, without which he can no longer safely race.

He ends up, like many other planes, finding a second career in wildland firefighting in the forests of northern California. There he gradually earns the respect of his fellow aircraft, a motley band of retardant-carrying and transport planes and helicopters voiced by the likes of Ed Harris, Julie Bowen and Wes Studi.

The fearless smokejumpers which they drop into battle against huge forest fires are ATVs, and the members of ground crew are forklifts.

Despite a respectful tone toward firefighting, a lot of wit goes speeding by in the rapid-fire dialogue ("She left me for a hybrid. I didn't hear it coming") and the aerial action scenes have a sense of soaring grandeur.

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you're a under 10, but adults may find themselves wondering about practical matters—like exactly who, for instance, the corn is being grown for, unless perhaps it's for ethanol subsidies.

Still showing

Ivory Tower — According to this highly persuasive documentary by Andrew Rossi, college is becoming one of the worst buys in America.

A sheepskin is insanely overpriced for whatever career benefits it may offer; the institutions are bloated and inefficient, and students, especially in liberal arts, aren't coming out with much knowledge or skill, assuming they finish at all.

Produced by CNN Films, this movie is another of the ilk of *Inequality for All* or *Electoral Dysfunction*—fast-moving, upbeat, graphically lively presentations of infuriating subjects.

Along with powerful strands on the Cooper Union student occupation and California State's

experimentation with MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), Rossi, of 2011's *Page One: Inside the New York Times*, gives us a wide variety of talking heads who certainly seem to know what they're talking about, but who don't quite seem to know what to do about these problems.

We're shown some experiments with non-institutional learning, and they're interesting, but none of them can claim to carry the currency in prestige that college still does, whether it should or not.

The movie suggests, however, that this currency is weakening, and that it probably deserves to. *Ivory Tower* offers no particular solution to this, which makes it an honorable film and a depressing one.

Planes: Fire and Rescue is rated PG and plays at Harkins Arizona Mills, Tempe Marketplace and Chandler Fashion 20, and multiplexes Valleywide. *Ivory Tower* is rated PG-13 and plays at Harkins Camelview.

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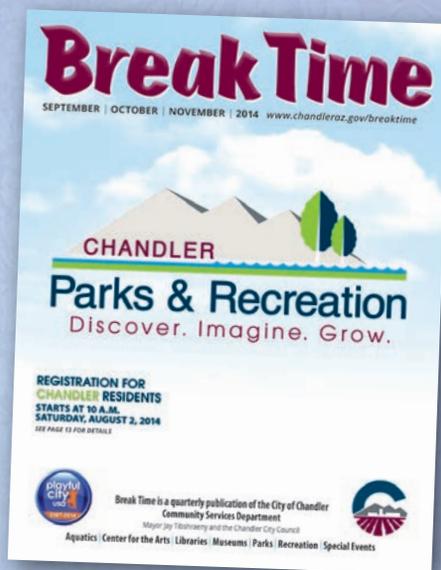
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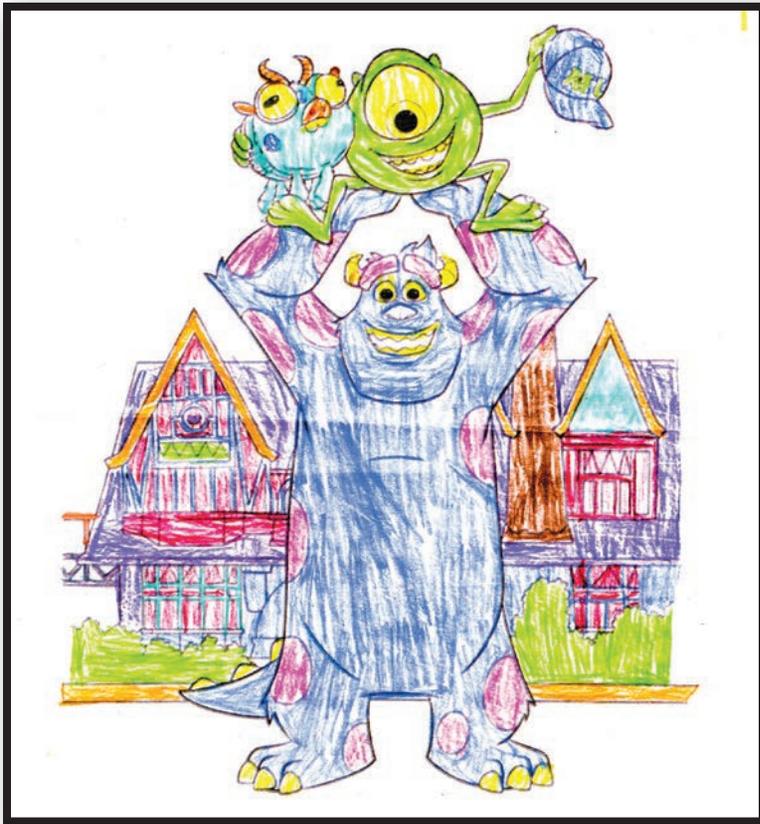
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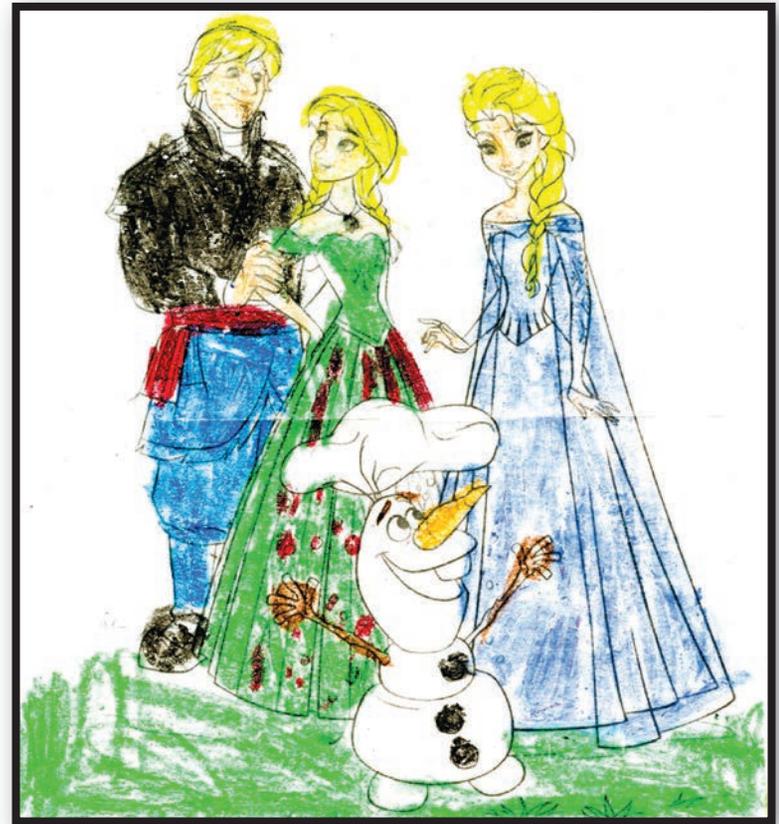
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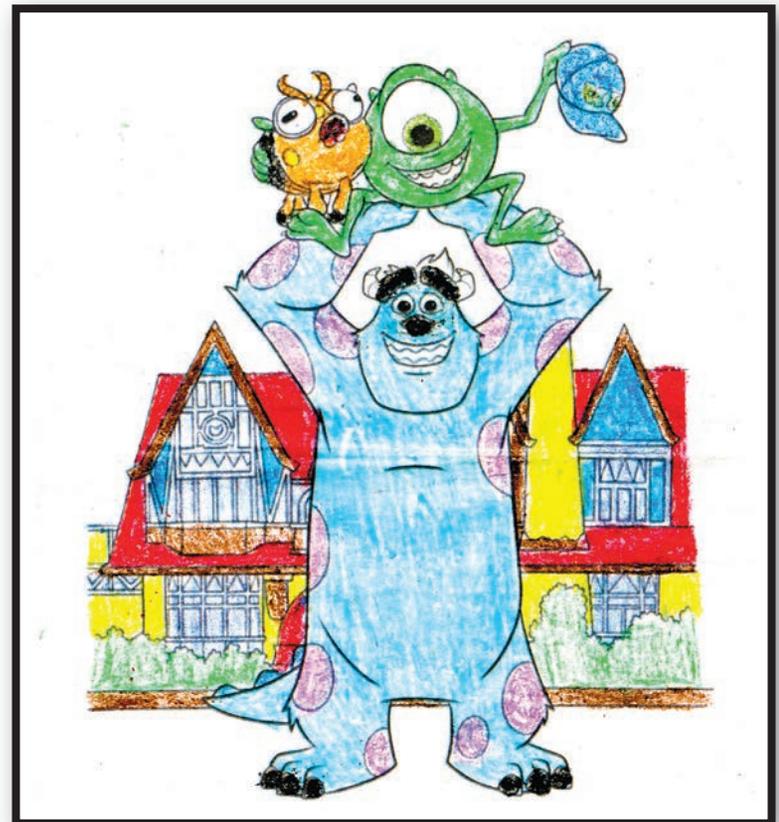
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Service Directory

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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.

Painting — DZ Paint, Drywall & Wall Covering – A painting company with quality painters and affordable prices. Whether it's your home or your office, you name it, we'll paint it. Accent walls, garage floors, interior and exterior, commercial and residential. Give us a call for a free estimate. Licensed and Bonded. ROC #240852. Daniel 480-326-0851.

Painting — Burden Painting Inc. Interior and exterior painting, power washing, drywall repair, wallpaper removal, texturing, and epoxy garage floor coatings. Free estimates, multiple room discount. Call Darrell Burden at 480-892-1190, or www.burdenpainting.com.

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Plumbing — City-wide Plumbing & Service Co. Slab leak repairs, electronic leak detection, water heaters, RO systems & water softeners. Free estimates. 480-966-8795. www.citywideplumbing.us. Contractor's lic. #C-37 064 954 & L-37 086 764.

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Professional Tile Installation— Install new or replace tile on floors, countertops, showers and more. Local Tempe resident with over 25 yrs. experience. Licensed, Bonded & Insured. ROC# 116117 Call Jim Garner for a quote 602-316-9862.

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Remodeling — English Building Company, LLC, General Contractor, Your Neighborhood Contractor, Remodeling, Additions, Kitchens, Bathrooms, See Project Pictures and Customer references online at www.englishbuilding.net, Tempe Native, Licensed, Bonded, Insured ROC 189470 Call today for a free estimate 480-603-8813

Remodeling — Custom Remodeling Specialist. Whole house remodels, kitchens, baths, bedrooms, counters & cabinets, tile & carpet, garages, offices, patios, room additions and much more. John C. Erickson – owner. Over 20 years experience. Licensed (/ROC#171687), bonded & insured. JCE Company, LLC. 480-200-9037.

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Roofing — Harper's Roofing Inc. Full service roofing contractor. Family owned and operated. Leak repairs are our specialty! Licensed Bonded Insured ROC #186824 & 186825. **CALL TODAY!** 480-963-2796 - <http://harpersroofing.com/>

Roofing — Shamrock Roofing Services. Specializing in residential reroofing and repair. Shingles, tile, shakes, foam and flat roofs. 24 years experience. shamrockroofing@live.com. #ROC244568 C-42 Bonded and Insured. 480-888-6648.

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Storm

From Page 8

The city is using several collection methods, including placing roll-off dumpsters in neighborhoods for green organic collection.

Residents are asked to cut yard material into sections no longer than six feet and place it adjacent to their property (without blocking the sidewalk or the street) or in a city roll-off dumpster, if one is available.

Tempe hoped to have most of the storm-related material collected by July 18.

Call 480-350-4311 for more information or to request collection.

Damage from a late afternoon microburst was evident on Knight Lane just south of Elliot, top, and Rural Road south of Carver, where police diverted traffic past the giant fallen limbs. A parking structure in the shopping center on the southwest corner of McClintock and Warner Road sagged and collapsed from the brunt of the storm.

— Wrangler News photos

Taken by storm

Folks said they couldn't recall anything similar in recent years, and were glad when it ended. It didn't take long, though, for neighbors and city crews to spring into action.





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South Tempe Horse Property



Rare 1 acre horse property located in south Tempe. Gorgeous country-styled home has over \$300k in upgrades. Professionally decorated & designed with a customized kitchen to die for. 2 master bedrooms, 2 additional bedrooms and library in this split floorplan. Horse property with 3 stalls, arena, wash rack, hitching post, and tack room. RV parking long enough for RV, toys and horse trailer. Irrigated lot with pool, BBQ pit, regulation volleyball court, fruit trees and grassy play area. No HOA, blocks from A+ Corona High School. Priced in low \$800,000's.

Waterfront Home in Tempe

Beautiful inside and out, this bright and airy home features picture windows that allow for lots of natural light, soaring ceilings, neutral color palette including carpet and tile flooring and a cozy rock fireplace in the family room. Clean crisp kitchen features stainless steel appliances, white cabinets w/ pantry, granite on counters and island. Grand staircase leads to spacious bedrooms. Serene backyard with amazing lake views. \$365,000



No HOA in Tempe



Immaculate home located in the heart of Tempe. Home boasts 5 oversized bedrooms, 3 baths, formal living, dining & family room. Full bedroom and bath downstairs and each bedroom has a walk-in closet. Master suite features luxurious bath with garden tub, shower and large walk-in closet. Kitchen was remodeled in 2003 with new cabinets and granite. Large laundry room with sink and room for a freezer. 3-car garage and sparkling play pool all located in the Kyrene school district. \$374,900

Tempe Remodel

No expense spared in this beautiful remodel. New roof, new pool, new kitchen, new paint, inside and out, new flooring, new bathrooms. Open floorplan is perfect for entertaining. Kitchen features maple cabinets, white quartz countertops, brand new stainless steel appliances. Wood tile flooring throughout living areas, new carpet in all bedrooms. Hall bath features tiled shower and quartz countertops. New patio in backyard overlooking the newly replastered pool. Close to ASU. Low \$300,000's



The Lakes



This gorgeous home is just 2 homes away from lake access! Features include 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 car garage, granite countertops, upgraded cabinets, tile flooring, new tile roof, remodeled fireplaces, new garage doors and openers. New upstairs air handler and new water heater. This home is move-in ready! Located in one of Tempe's finest communities with private parks, lakes, community center, heated pool and spa, tennis volleyball and basketball courts, workout facility and more!

Tempe Shortsale

Unique character and charm in this highly upgraded home. This home features a lovely front porch with a weeping brick facade and dormers facing a quiet cul-de-sac. The completely remodeled kitchen with granite counters, full tile backsplash and stainless steel oven hood over the flat range. Rustic yellow plank pine flooring and tile add warmth to the home along with the satiole tile fireplace. Separate laundry room with built-in storage Light and bright Arizona room w/ sliding glass door to huge backyard and diving pool. \$189,000



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