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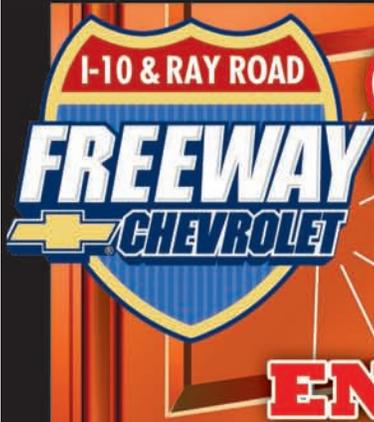


Oct. 5 - 18, 2013 • Vol. 24, No. 15

Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

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Alcohol blamed for 71% of sexual assaults Tempe gets tough in battle vs. overindulging

Excessive consumption of alcohol continues to plague the Tempe Police Department's efforts to reduce sexual assaults.

Since Sept. 13, officers have responded to two reports of sexual assault and one of sexual abuse that occurred in apartment complexes in what is being referred to as the Loud Party Corridor—Rural Road to Price Road and Broadway Road to University Drive.

An in-depth review, covering 24 assaults between January and May, was conducted as a result of the high concentration of crimes in the target corridor area. The results showed that:

- 25% (6) were party-related;
- 71% (17) involved alcohol or drugs (voluntary or involuntary); and
- 50% (12) occurred in the

Loud Party Corridor.

Recent Tempe police operations such as Safe and Sober have been conducted with the goal of reducing excessive alcohol consumption, underage alcohol consumption and the serious and violent crimes associated with alcohol abuse, investigators said.

"These events underscore the importance of the Safe and Sober Operation," said Police Chief Tom Ryff.

"As chief, I remain steadfast in my pursuit to reduce alcohol-related crimes and violence in our community."

Ryff also emphasized the need for community awareness.

"Arm yourself with support—information, friends and good sense commitments to stick together with each other before going out," he said.



Tempe Police Chief Tom Ryff

Tips that can help avoid becoming a victim:

- Stay alert to your environment – alcohol dulls your instincts.
- Acquaintance rapes account for a majority of rapes; alcohol is involved in a majority of cases.
- While the majority of victims are female, males are also the victims of sexual assault.
- Decision-making ability is impaired as soon as any alcohol hits the system.
- Travel in groups—avoid isolated areas or going with someone you do not know.
- Let friends know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Have a buddy system before you go out—and stick together with your buddy.
- Don't ever remain in a "negative" situation.
- Be aware of the space and people around you.
- It's up to you – before you go out – to make the determination not to let substances or peer pressure influence safe decision making
- Date rape is sexual assault. Don't be ashamed to report. Don't delay in reporting.

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\$14 million in expenses as Kyrene scrambles to repair aging infrastructure District faces serious challenges maintaining 25 schools

By Diana Whittle

Between owning a car and a home, maintenance issues can seem endless—even to the best do-it-yourselfer.

But, imagine trading places with Eric Nethercutt, who oversees Kyrene's 25 schools and the administrative building, and ensures all is kept in working order.

Nethercutt is the director of transportation and facilities for the Kyrene district. Some days, his checklist can be overwhelming. Fortunately, he also heads up a team who all work together to watch over the roofs, air conditioners, electrical systems and more in the district's facilities, which serve 18,000 students and 2,000 employees.

He explained some of his responsibilities to the Kyrene Governing Board, during a recent study session, and also reviewed the priorities of the three-year Capital Improvement Plan. (The plan can be viewed on-line at <http://www.kyrene.org/cip>).

This plan outlines the more than \$14 million in expenses in each of the next three fiscal years for maintenance of schools.

Many of the planned repairs had to be delayed due to limited bond money.

The state legislature approved an increase in the bond limit on Sept. 12, which authorizes the district

to sell new bonds, explained Jeremy Calles, chief financial officer for the district.

"Immediately following the legislature's decision, staff created a resolution and brought it to the governing board to authorize the sale of \$40 million in bonds. This funding will pay for the CIP over the next three years."

Like Calles and his constant oversight of the district's finances, Nethercutt says that his staff is pro-active in monitoring the schools, hoping to avoid as much emergency intervention as possible.

"Our goal is to find issues and fix them before they become major repairs," said Nethercutt.

"We conduct preventative maintenance inspections on our systems, as directed by the Arizona School Facility Board, and follow the manufacturers' guidelines on equipment upkeep."

His crew maintains the outside of the buildings, including between 30 to 40 acres of parking lots, and also the interiors, including the kitchens that supply an estimated 1.5 million meals each year.

Roofs are consistently troublesome, and the district has 19 schools with flat roofs, which tend to retain rainwater and create leaks. Some roofs in the district are at least 18 years old.

Staff prioritizes the patching and keeps "leak logs" to track the location and frequency of the leak. A serious leak or flood may require taking a classroom

out of service for the meantime and checking for mold.

Nethercutt says that the leaks don't always show up exactly under the drip spot.

"Sometimes the leak spreads across the interior of the roof and more damage occurs."

Next summer there are plans to replace the roofs on four schools, but as for the short-term repairs, insurance money can be used.

"Every time it rains, I automatically start filling out a claim form because I know there will be a leak at some school," Calles said with a knowing smile.

"The district has a \$1,000 co-pay before the insurance kicks in, and that is only to receive a like-priced piece of equipment, which is most likely outdated.

To replace a water-damaged computer, Kyrene must make the purchase using capital funds.

Even though the Kyrene schools are aging and most receive heavy use, the sale of the bonds will help the maintenance staff to extend the life of the buildings.

"As a district, we are fiscally responsible in maintaining our assets," said Calles, "as well as our credit rating, so that when we do sell bonds, we are able to receive the best possible interest rate."

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Tempe library staffers Kim Garza, left, and Anna Marie O'Brien are among those on hand now to assist residents with questions about the Affordable Care Act.

— Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

Library gears up to help applicants grasp workings of new health plan

Related story on Page 5

Affordable Care Act health insurance enrollment is now under way, and staff at the Tempe Public Library is hoping to make the process easier.

“This is a completely new concept and program for everyone,” said Barbara Roberts, library and cultural services director, “and we know that people will likely need access to information about the program as well as assistance completing the enrollment process.”

“Our library staff is prepared and ready to provide that service for the public.”

The Tempe Public Library has resources for those hoping to sign up for coverage.

- Extended Saturday computer lab hours for people who need to research and enroll in AHC insurance programs. Additionally, staff will be available to assist those who may need help with basic computer skills in order to

complete the online enrollment forms.

- Affordable Care Act navigators will offer basic informational classes and help with enrollments. Times for this help will be posted on the city of Tempe event calendar.

- The Tempe Public Library will have official Affordable Care Act informational materials available. The library’s website will provide links to official ACA website information.

- Tim Miles of Arizona Insurance Connection will host a class in Room B at the Tempe Public Library at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14, to provide information about the plan and some of the options.

There is no registration required for the free class.

Roberts adds that it’s important to be aware that library staff won’t offer advice or plan analysis for patrons. These decisions must be made by each person.

Both Tempe Community Council and Tempe Community Action Agency will offer assistance to residents.



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Cover Story

Elegant Marcello's grows its fanbase with musical stylizing, a renown chef

By M.V. Moorhead

There are plenty of reasons you might want to drop in some evening at Marcello's Pasta Grill. The most obvious, of course, is a big plate of lasagna or chicken cardinale or gnocchi vodka or any of the other signature examples of Old World culinary genius that have given the place landmark status for more than two decades.

Great Italian cuisine, of course, is what has made Marcello's memorable. Now, though, there is yet more motivation for a first visit or revisit: piano stylings by some of the Valley's keyboard notables and the arrival of a new chef, Lorenzo Bianchi, formerly of Tomaso's at 32nd Street and Camelback Road in Phoenix.

Either one is reason enough.

On Fridays and Saturdays the eatery features the stylings of such local performers as classical guitarist Chris Dorsey.

On Thursdays, Marcello's has become the weekly home of distinguished pianist and vocalist Danny Long.

For many years a fixture at Remington's, Long brings with him not only his encyclopedic, human-jukebox arsenal of standards—he also brings his audience. On a recent Thursday at Marcello's, I visited with a few of Long's loyal fans who have become friends, and who like to follow him from gig to gig.

"His knowledge, his repertoire, and mostly his touch on the keyboard," are the reasons John Capulli cites for being a fan.

"You can tell the great piano players from their touch—who's just banging versus those with a light touch."

Capulli also notes Long's accomplished career in show business.

"He was discovered by Bobby Darin in Chicago in '61, '62," he says. "He and Trini Lopez were the house band at P.J.'s in L.A. in the '60s."

Sitting with Capulli are Ken and Jeri Reed. "We've been seeing [Danny] for years," says Jeri. "You can't stump him with a song."

At another nearby table sit Deana Mintz and her husband Mel. "He

always does 'Skylark' for me. And he does 'What a Wonderful World' for Mel."

A few minutes later, Long does indeed serve up a light, jazzy version of "What a Wonderful World."

A little later he glides expertly through Capulli's favorite, "If You Go Away." These are just two of a dizzying playlist which included—just from the time I was there—"Our Love Is Here to Stay," "Just the Way You Look Tonight," "Night and Day," "I've Got You Under My Skin," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "Bye Bye Blackbird," "The Pink Panther Theme," "The Girl From Ipanema," "Georgia," "Ain't Misbehavin'" and a Sinatra medley.

You get the idea. It's the classic American songbook of the 20th Century, sung in Long's low, pleasant voice and played in his lively, sprightly style—even "When I Was 17" gets a pretty upbeat treatment.

I decided it was time to request one of my own favorites. I stepped up to the piano, dropped a bill in the tip glass, and asked Long, "How's your 'Summer Wind?'"

"My 'Summer Wind' is very good," he assured me, and went on to prove that he wasn't being immodest.

"There isn't any place else around here doing this," says Marcello's proprietor Tony Romano of these musical evenings. "I think there may be some Baby Boomers who still want it."

Agreed. And you can count me among their ranks. But you'll also find me among those who appreciate fine cuisine. Lorenzo Bianchi, Tomaso's-on-Camelback's expatriate chef now appearing regularly at Marcello's, brings his brand of culinary magic to the place as well.

So here's the lineup:

Live keyboard and instrumental melodies from some of the Valley's best artists. An atmosphere that blends Old World charm with an elegant dining experience. A culinary master whose name represents the crème de la crème among distinguished Valley chefs.

Who could ask for more?

Information: Marcello's, 1701 E. Warner Road, southwest corner of Warner & McClintock, Tempe.

Phone: 480-831-0800.

Call-ahead system helps minimize wait when Urgent Care centers, ERs are busy Timeline sets goal for non-emergency patients to be seen

By Alison Stanton

Thanks to an innovative system called InQuicker, patients with non-emergency health issues who need to visit the emergency room at Chandler Regional Medical Center or one of Dignity Health's four Urgent Care centers no longer have to sit in what can be frustratingly crowded waiting rooms.

Dignity Health launched its InQuicker service back in July, said Janet Shepard, director of the Emergency Department at CRMC.

Mercy Gilbert Medical Center and St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center also feature the service, she added.

With the InQuicker service, Shepard said, a patient can check in online for a projected treatment time. When he or she arrives at the facility at the designated time, the patient will be seen promptly by a health care professional.

While it is not an appointment or reservation service, Shepard said the staff makes a concerted effort to see the patient within 15 minutes. If there is going to be a delay in treatment time, InQuicker users may be sent notifications via phone call and email so they can continue waiting at home, she said.

Shepard said Dignity Health was inspired to start the InQuicker service as a way to increase patients'

satisfaction, as well as their overall Emergency Room or Urgent Care experience.

"So much is online these days, and we wanted to make it easier for the public to access our Emergency Rooms and Urgent Care Centers without hassle or waiting," Shepard said.

"The Urgent Care Centers come up as an option on all the ER pages too, so someone may want to pick an Urgent Care with a shorter wait time over coming to the ER if they feel their illness isn't as acute as an ER visit."

Shepard stressed that InQuicker is designed for patients who have non-urgent or "fast track" care issues, similar to what would be seen in a doctor's office or Urgent Care facility. The system screens patients to make sure they don't need immediate attention and, if they do, Shepard said the system will not let them make an appointment.

"When patients sign up for the program, they sign in with their chief complaint," she said, adding that two people review each sign-in request to be sure the patient might not require more immediate help.

"If we feel we need to see the patient earlier, we will call them back within two or three minutes and say that we need to see them right now, or that they might want to go to their closest Emergency Department or call 911.

"We have had to call a few people right away and ask them to come in due to what they put on their InQuicker appointment. They have been very grateful for the phone call and thoroughness."

InQuicker is already catching on. In July, 28 patients used the service, a number that jumped to 42 in August and 57 in September.

"We initially launched it without doing much promotion so we could make sure we were prepared on our end to follow-up with every patient that submitted a request," Shepard said.

"Most of the patients that have used it have been very happy with the service and love that they can see a doctor within 15 minutes of their appointment time."

Patient feedback in follow-up surveys has been overwhelmingly positive about the InQuicker system, Shepard said.

"What a great appointment booking system," wrote a patient in a recent survey.

"I would highly recommend it to others. Upon arrival we were taken in immediately with no wait time.

"Overall, including X-ray time etc., we were in and out within 2½ hours, which is excellent. If we would have gone the regular method—through emergency—we would have been [there] 8 hours."



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U.K. rockers Leogun join Zia for opening of its new Tempe location at Mill & Southern.

— Photo courtesy Yamaha Entertainment Group of America

New Zia Records location to host Brit rocker Leogun

By Chase Kamp

Though the music industry has been embattled by illegal downloading and rapidly changing tastes, Tempe-born music haven Zia Records has been riding high for more than three decades.

A brand new Zia location is slated to open Oct. 11 at Mill and Southern avenues, and it represents a full-circle arrival for the local company.

The first humble Zia location opened in 1980 at Mill Avenue and Seventh Street, right in the heart of the Mill Avenue commercial district. Zia spokeswoman Mary Pappenhausen said late company founder Brad Singer initially stocked the shop with his personal record collection.

"That started the whole thing," she laughed. "A lot of people know the legacy of Brad."

The chain, which quickly became a mecca for new and used music and movies, will return to Mill Avenue in welcoming its fifth Valley location. Pappenhausen said the store has earned longevity by becoming a one-stop entertainment shop.

"Music and movies are our bread and butter," she said, "but we are very flexible and are able to change quickly."

Located at 3201 S. Mill Ave., the new, 10,000-plus-square-foot space will stock records and movies alongside toys, vintage and modern video games and a full book section. Vinyl records have resurged, becoming en vogue for serious collectors and music lovers

unsatisfied with the quality of digital music files, and Zia has responded by upping its offerings.

The store also exchanges used media for cash or store credit, creating a constant flow of new-to-you items. "It keeps things stimulated," she said.

Zia vice president and general manager Brian Faber echoed this in a recent press release for the new store. "We pride ourselves on not only being the place you go to get exactly what you want, but also the place to find something great you didn't know you wanted," he noted.

The stores also play host to plenty of new acts on the rise. Among the first events at the new location will be an acoustic in-store performance by frenetic British rock outfit Leogun on Oct. 15, where the band will also sign copies of its new album, *By the Reigns*.

Leogun's blues-heavy riffs are catnip for classic rock lovers, but they're committed to bringing rock's archetypal energy to the sometimes tepid contemporary rock landscape.

The trio is managed by Rocket Music (co-founded by Elton John) and is fresh off a tour with classic-rock gods KISS, yet they also landed an opening slot for art rock outfit Queens of the Stone Age, whose new album debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart earlier this year.

Certain styles and sounds always move in and out of fashion, singer-guitarist Tommy Smith told Wrangler News, but Leogun focuses

Zia

From Page 8

on exemplifying rock's primal core.

"You want people to feel like they're at the best rock show they could possibly be at on that night in that town," he said.

Or the best show at sea: Leogun has been welcomed back to perform on this year's official KISS Cruise, a rock 'n roll-themed jaunt where Smith said most people aboard the ship end their nights of partying at 8 a.m.

Zia and Leogun are proof the music world might never be the same, yet some things never change.

Longtime Wrangler News and Phoenix New Times contributor Chase Kamp moved recently to the San Francisco Bay area, where he continues to focus on the local music scene.

Tempe Union H.S. district merit semi-finalists listed

Thirty-six students at Tempe Union high schools are among semifinalists who will compete for the 2014 National Merit Scholarships to be offered next spring.

TUHSD holds the state's largest number of NMS winners.

Semifinalists are:

Corona del Sol High School: Evan W. Anderson; Omar M. Arafa; Rohit R. Badia; Patric T. Cao; Nicholas J. Creasman; Sapna S. Daryanani; Daniel A. D'Souza; Domenic X. Redmond; Jasmine Y. Xi.

McClintock High School: Jonathan E. Amold; Allyson M. Atkinson; Meghan D. Foe; Jacob R. Hayton; Sourmya C. Kambhampati; Jake A. Merdich; Anjali N. Nair.

Mountain Pointe High School: Nina K. Desai; Arjun M. Karpur; Nora C. Mencinger.

Desert Vista High School: Saheba Bhatnagar; Joseph Chen; Matthew D. Cohen; Hailey Dickson; Gina Han; Bomi A. Johnson; Joann J. Nam; Adam C. Ortega; Varsha Parthasarathy; Rajeev K. Parvathala; Jay P. Raju; Jessica A. Tueller; Jonathan J. Wu; Joyce Yang; Jooeun Yoo; Zhihan Zhang; Sarah Zhou.

TUHSD Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Baca hailed the academic achievement of those selected.

"I am proud of what our students have accomplished. Continuing to lead the state in the number of NMS semifinalists is a result of dedicated teachers, intelligent students, loving parents and a community that supports a strong public school system."

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Noshin' it up

The gang at Wrangler News hosted advertisers, supporters and a dozen or more just plain folks at the paper's second bash in an ongoing series of informal happy hours. The scene this time was Nosh, an intimate bistro known for its home-born delicacies—perfect for meeting and greeting. Among guests were, above, Dave Waltzer, center, who joined State Farm agent Mary Contreras and husband Gary for some after-hours cheer. Nosh owner and chef Stacey Carson and spouse Mark (right rear) were also on hand to ensure a perfect evening. Shamrock Roofing owner James DeVore and wife Tamela (below, right) sampled some of the evening's fare for the first time — and vowed they'd be back for another visit.

— Wrangler News photos by Chelsea Martin



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The poster features a dark blue background with a starry night sky. In the foreground, there are several wine bottles and a chef in a white coat cooking in a pan. The text is in various fonts, including a large, elegant script for 'First Crush' and bold sans-serif for the event details.

36th Annual Family Halloween Carnival
CITY OF TEMPE ARIZONA
CITY OF TEMPE ARIZONA

The poster has a dark blue background with a glowing jack-o'-lantern in the top left. A green witch with a black hat and broom is flying across the center, surrounded by colorful candies. The City of Tempe logo is visible in the top right.

Trick or Treat

Saturday, Oct. 26th

5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Kiwanis Park

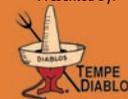
(Guadalupe & All-America Way)

Your family will have a bewitching good time at Tempe's 36th Annual Family Halloween Carnival. The event features carnival games, live entertainment, face painting, food booths, train rides, inflatables, "Tot Town" a toddler friendly play area and more!

Be sure to dress up and participate in the annual Halloween costume contest for your chance of winning fabulous prizes.

Admission to the Family Halloween Carnival is free. The food and game booths are operated by local civic organizations as a fundraiser. Most activities require 3 to 4 tickets. Tickets can be purchased for 25 cents apiece.

Presented by:



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www.tempe.gov/halloween

'Mini-vacations' for kids during fall break

Fall break for students in the Kyrene district begins Monday, Oct. 7, and extends through Friday, Oct. 11.

During this week-long mini-vacation, parents can find activities for their children organized by district planners who note that their programs are both educational and entertaining.

"We know that in many families parents work outside the home and struggle with babysitting options during school breaks," explained Nancy Dudenhofer, manager of community relations for the district.

The Kyrene programs, she said, are designed to give parents a choice that is both safe and reliable, but also provides activities that can be enriching experiences outside the classroom.

The Kyrene Community Education Division offers field trips, camps, sports, art and on-site events for elementary and middle school students. Options for all ages include Fall Break Academy (K-5), Kids Club Camp (K-5), ELC (3 to 5 yrs olds) and After Hours Camp (5-8).

The district office will remain open for regular business hours during the week of Fall Break.

• Fall Break Academy, for kindergarten through fifth grade, is 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, Oct. 7-11, at Kyrene de la Colina Elementary, 13612 S. 36th St. in Ahwatukee. It includes art, sports, technology and science to keep kids engaged and challenged.

There is a 30-minute bag-lunch break at noon. Each one-hour class is \$20. Information on-line, select Fall Break Academy, at: www.kyrene.org

• The Kids Club School Closure Camp, for kindergarten through fifth grade, is 6:30 a.m.- 6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, Oct. 7-11, at Kyrene de la Esperanza Elementary, 14841 S. 41st Place in Ahwatukee, and at Kyrene del la Mirada Elementary, 5500 W. Galveston St. in Chandler. Staff Development Day, Monday, Oct. 14, also is available.

Activities include a school-age field trip to Schnepf Farms. Price is \$45 per day.

• The After Hours Camp, for Grades 5-8, is 7 a.m.- 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, Oct. 7-11, at Aprende Middle School, 777 N. Desert Breeze Blvd. in Chandler, and at Centennial Middle School, 13808 S. 36th St. in Ahwatukee. Activities include daily field trips. Price is \$40 per day.

Information on-line at: www.kyrene.org

• Another important date in October to note: No school on Monday, Oct. 14, as the Kyrene District will host Staff Development Day.

• Early release dates— call to confirm times with individual schools

Wednesday, Oct. 23 – normal early release day.

Thursday, Oct. 24 – extra early release day for Parent/Teacher Conferences.

'Operation Welcome Home' will salute returning veterans

Chandler is asking its residents to join in saluting local veterans and those preparing to leave for active duty by participating in Operation Welcome Home, an initiative to formally honor military men and women.

Nominations are being accepted for honorees who are residents of Chandler and have been on active duty within the last three years or will be leaving soon.

Residents or businesses can participate through sponsorship or in-kind donations for the program. Operation Welcome Home Chandler will include a small ceremony hosted by the Arizona Patriot Guard, followed by an escorted procession to Chandler City Council Chambers where councilmembers will recognize and thank each individual at a formal council meeting.

After the public event, the honorees and their family will be treated to dinner at a local restaurant.

"It's important for our Chandler veterans to know that their service is appreciated by their hometown," said Councilmember Nora Ellen, who proposed the program.

"They are patriots, and should be recognized and honored as such." Information: www.chandleraz.gov/patriotism.

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Sources: Scarborough Research 2012, R2 (Multimedia); FriendsOfSaguaro.org

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Diversions

With M.V. Moorhead

Weekend filmfare: What's new, what's not

Opening this weekend . . .

Gravity — Sandra Bullock is a scientist from the Space Shuttle. She's spacewalking when a collision with some debris sends both her and hotshot astronaut George Clooney spinning untethered through the cosmos.

The two of them struggle to get back to the wrecked Shuttle, and from there to the International Space Station. At some point they get separated, and Bullock must make a third extravehicular sojourn, this time to a Chinese space station with working escape pods.

Clooney has fun fitting his own persona into the archetypical squared-jawed, calm in the face disaster astronaut, cracking dumb jokes and flirting with the terrified Bullock, partly to keep her spirits up, and partly just because he's a flirt.

But it's really Bullock's movie, and she's uncommonly touching as this melancholic woman with a dreadful tragedy in her past who still keeps fighting to survive.

The director, the excellent Alfonso Cuaron, keeps the tension pulse-poundingly high, and the otherworldly atmosphere beautiful yet hostile. The dramatic irony of sailing through the boundlessness

of space and at the same time being oppressively trapped is not lost on him.

Gravity is so exciting, so close to a home run, that it seems ungrateful to nitpick, but there's no way around it—the picture gets away from Cuaron in the end. The movie begins with a frightening sense of plausibility and realism, but as the story progresses its action also grows steadily more comic-book corny and improbable. It's still entertaining, but it moves more into the realm of Hollywood hokum. Then, in the final minutes, as Cuaron piles more and more peril and obstacles onto poor Bullock's overloaded plate, her plight began to seem a little funny.

Parkland —The title refers to Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, to which John F. Kennedy was taken after his motorcade passed Dealey Plaza in November 1963.

It was already too late by the time he got to the emergency room, and that's the oddity of this film, directed by Peter Landesman—it's all aftermath.

The main characters are the likes of ER resident Jim Carrico (Zac Efron), or Abraham Zapruder (Paul Giamatti), who was shooting home movies when the motorcade passed, or FBI man James Hosty (Ron Livingston), who had gotten a threatening note from Lee Harvey Oswald weeks before the shooting, or Forrest Sorrels (Billy Bob Thornton) of the Dallas branch of the Secret Service—ordinary people remembered for their proximity to an iconic historical shocker.

We also get a look at the Oswald family—maybe the two best of the film's many strong performances are those of James Badge Dale as Lee Harvey's brother Robert, and Jacki Weaver as their nutty mother.

While the movie is adapted from a book by Vincent Bugliosi that reportedly espouses the Oswald-acted-alone viewpoint, the movie takes no obvious position pro or con on the matter of a conspiracy. It sticks to what is more or less undisputed in the record. The characters scramble around recklessly, and while the movie seems to suggest that they're honestly doing their best, they're too stunned to get it right.

A coroner sees ghoulish when he demands that the president's body be left behind for an autopsy, and the Secret Service agents seem goodhearted when they ignore his demand, but the result is that no autopsy was performed in the highest-profile murder case in U.S. history. Whatever your view of that strange and indelible historical episode, nothing in Parkland is likely to change it.

But I found the film absorbing from start to finish.

Now in theaters . . .

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 — It turns out, in this sequel to the 2009 animated comedy, that the invention of Flint Lockwood, which made food fall from the sky, is still operating in the ruins of Swallow Falls.

Now it's creating "dangerous food monsters"—our hero Flint (voiced by Bill Hader) and his pals are sent in to retrieve it, and encounter cheeseburgers with French fry legs, bipedal bananas, pickles with a fondness for angling and predatory "tacodiles," amid other food fauna based on everything from meatloaf to eggplant. The film is frenetic and funny and imaginative, with a good action-packed finale.

It's stolen, however, by a cheerful little strawberry who attaches himself to the group, appropriately named "Barry."

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WELCOME HOME

Homecoming: It's one of the most longstanding, anticipated traditions of high school football. This year's pride at the Aztecs' annual homecoming game was a ribbon-ripping success. The moment you entered the stadium your eyes were swallowed in a sea of orange and gold, Aztec fans young and old, just daring that their high-energy cheering be matched. Despite a disappointing game loss, the excitement flourished with the crowning of the homecoming king, Evan Anderson, and the homecoming queen, Justice Onwordi.

Wrangler News photos by Billy Hardiman



Briefs

Help for Affordable Care Act applicants

West Chandler's Sunset branch is joining other Chandler libraries offering public computers where customers can access Affordable Care Act information and even complete applications online.

Reference librarians are available to help direct patrons to online resources; however individuals are responsible for making their own decisions about which insurance plan to sign up for.

The service is available during regular business hours.

A valid library card and PIN number are required to use Chandler library computers, which are available on a first come, first served basis.

Library cards are available in person at each of the four Chandler Public Libraries serving the community.

Tempe Tardeada to celebrate Hispanic roots

Hispanic Heritage Month is under way nationwide, and Tempe has invited the public to attend its 15th annual Tempe Tardeada Festival from noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6, to celebrate and recognize the city's Hispanic roots.

The vibrant afternoon festival and social dance will pay tribute to Tempe's Hispanic culture and community history. The event, which features entertainment, music, dance, art, food and exhibits, takes place at the Tempe Community Complex, 3500 S. Rural Road on the southwest corner of Southern Avenue and Rural Road.

Food vendors will have a variety of foods for sale at family-friendly prices. In addition, a tortilla-making demonstration will be offered at 1 p.m., with free recipe cards available.

Information: 350-8979 or www.tempe.gov/tardeada. For Spanish call 480-350-5515.

Custom-car show coming to Kyrene Lanes

Not only does the fall season provide temporary relief from the scorching desert heat, it brings an abundance of unique and exciting events that you won't want to miss. A particular upcoming event in the is the inaugural "Kustom

Karz for K-9'z and Katz Kar Show," and it's seeking volunteers, sponsors and donations.

The volunteers will be needed from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 2 The show will be held at the Kyrene Bowling Lanes at Chandler Boulevard and Kyrene. Proceeds will benefit the Lost our Home Pet Foundation, a 501(c) (3) organization. Information:Ralph Guaiglio with AZRC Realty, 480-241-7622 or email kokonuto@cox.net

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Sports Notebook . . . with Alex Zener

Cross country runners finish first in prestigious state race

Corona's boys cross country team is not only making school history but has three of the top four best times in the 5,000 meter cross-country run in Arizona this season.

Nate Rodriguez and **Ryan Normand** have the top two times this season while teammate **Marcus Wheeler** has the 4th fastest time.

All three runners have not only crossed the finish line in one of the top five spots in every cross-country meet in 2013, they have helped lead their team to a first place finish in every race. This past weekend they helped win, for the first time in school history, what most consider one of the most competitive invitational cross country meets in Arizona.

Corona's boys team won the Doug Conley Invitational cross country meet for the first time in the meet's 41-year history on Sept. 28 at Tempe's Rolling Hills golf course.

In addition to Rodriguez coming in first, junior teammate Wheeler was second and fellow senior Normand came in fourth. Seniors **Blake Fischer** and **Patrick Cullings** came in 19th and 35th respectively to compile a team score of 61 points beating out the next

closest team, Tuba City, by 62 points. **Andrew Truswell** finished 35th and **Nicholas Creasman** was 40th for the Aztecs out of 173 runners who participated.

"Winning the Doug Conley Invitational for the first time in school history was a big deal for our program," said coach **Pat Smith**. "We had a strategy that everyone followed but we also has tremendous performances by our runners."

"Blake Fischer had an outstanding second loop to finish 19th and then Ryan Normand was sick and did not even come to practice on Friday," said Smith. "We were not even sure he would make it but he came on Saturday feeling a little better to help his team and it was unbelievable that he managed to finish 4th."

All season long, Normand had been finishing 1-2 with Rodriguez but was not quite himself on Saturday.

"I was really nervous before the race but followed our plan to stay with the pack the first loop and then break away the second," said Normand. "I felt pretty good the first loop but was not as strong in the second. I was a little disappointed in my performance but the main goal was for the team to win which we did."

With Normand not feeling well, Wheeler stepped up and kept Corona's 1-2 finish intact.

"Marcus finishing second wasn't too big of a surprise," said Smith. "I believe he is one of the top guys in the state and he showed that Saturday."

Rodriguez, who had his personal best time of 15:27 during Corona's first place showing at the Ojo Rojo Invitational held at Chandler's Tumbleweed Park on Sept. 21, is focusing on the team going undefeated.

"Our goal for an undefeated season is still alive," said Nate Rodriguez. "We worked really hard to prepare for the Doug Conley Invite, were very focused in our race plans and were smart during the actual race. It was great to come away with the first win in Corona history."

Corona's girls team's goal of finishing in the top three at state is still alive as well with a third place finish at both the Ojo Rojo and the Doug Conley Invites.

"Taking third at the Doug Conley Invite was a huge accomplishment for our girls team especially because there were so many good schools competing," said coach **Ari**

— NOTEBOOK, Page 19

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Notebook

From Page 18

Rodriguez. "It was the second year in a row we were able to take home the third place trophy so we could not have been happier for our girls team."

Kelly Naumann, who finished 7th at the Ojo Rojo, rose to the occasion and set a personal best for the season at the Doug Conley crossing the finish line in 4th place.

"Kelly ran a really smart race. She started in the middle of the pack and slowly moved up to 4th place," said Rodriguez. "She really worked hard the last six months and it is showing."

Rounding out Corona's top five runners at the Doug Conley was senior **Sammi Moore** (14th), sophomore **Mason Swenson** (23rd), senior **Grace Ashu** (37th) and **Kristina Nedelkova** (66th). **MacKenzie Harder** finished 68th and **Sidney Bussler** was 74th for the Aztecs.

"We are so happy Sammi decided to run cross country and track along with playing basketball at Corona," said Rodriguez. "She is an amazing runner who continues to improve every race."

The team also welcomed the return of Swenson who has been out with an injury most of the season.

The next to the last regular meet of the season is the Desert Twilight XC Festival held Oct. 4 at Queen Creek High school which has notoriously been where the fastest times are run each season.

"We are not sure how we'll do at the Desert Twilight because there will be lots of school from out of state," said Rodriguez. "but I do know we're going to give it our all and hope for the best."

Corona will be competing at the City Meet, Oct. 26 and then compete in sectionals Nov. 1 before their push for a state championship for the boys team Nov. 9 at the state



Corona's boys cross country team remained undefeated after winning the Doug Conley Invitational for the first time in school history. Team includes, from left, Blake Fisher, Nick Creasman, Andrew Truswell, Ryan Normand, Nate Rodriguez, Marcus Wheeler, Patrick Cullings.

— Photo courtesy Chris Huch

— NOTEBOOK, Page 20

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Notebook

From Page 19

meet.

"Our biggest challenge is always to stay healthy throughout the season," said Smith. "We are a deep team, though, so we have guys who can step up if needed."

Corona girls golf

It's definitely a new season for Corona's girls golf team that failed to make the state team playoffs the past couple of years.

"We are 14-1 in our regular matches with our only loss going to Xavier," said coach **Pat Reed**. "Plus we qualified as a team for state in our first five matches."

Having a great season on the links for Corona is senior **Halie Carpenter**.

"Halie shot 68 or a four under at the Aguila Tournament and tied for first place," said Reed. "I can't wait to see how she plays out the last three matches before the state tournament."

Corona's other golfers who also helped the team qualify to play in the team portion of the state tournament are two freshman, **Mikaela Hatfield** and **Emma Lower** and three seniors, **Katy Consoer**, **Kelly Robb** and **Heather Harry**.

The Lady Aztecs were scheduled to play at Hamilton

with Casa Grande and then at Mountain Point with Marcos de Niza Oct. 2 before the City Tournament scheduled Oct. 14-18.

Corona football

Corona's football program took another blow when two-year head coach Tom Joseph was let go a day before the Mesquite game. Everyone, including the players, seemed to be shocked.

A letter was sent home to the players' parents by Corona's principal, Brent Brown, announcing the change but no specific reason was given.

Corona alumni and long-time assistant coach Tim Kelly, who is also the track and field coach for Corona, was named interim coach for the rest of the 2013 season.

Corona, which has not won a game all season and is 0-5, was scheduled to play at Brophy Oct. 4.

The Aztecs have struggled to win games despite the new AIA scheduling format that allows schools to schedule some of their own opponents. With five games left on the schedule, there are plenty of games left to go down fighting.

The Aztecs have three of their last four games at home which may offer them a bit more of an opportunity to win at least two games before the season is over.

On Oct. 11 they will play Dobson at home. Then Oct. 18 the Aztecs will need to face off against state-playoff bound Mountain Pointe before playing Desert Vista Oct. 24 and Notre Dame Nov. 1, both home games.

Good news for Chandler Chamber forum reveals dynamic economic growth

By Chelsea Martin

There was plenty of good news to share among the round, white-linen-covered tables and eager Chandler supporters at Fleming's steak house when the Chandler Chamber of Commerce convened late last month for an economic update forum and luncheon.

The event hosted enthusiastic and informative speakers, including Christina Lanoue, senior property manager at the Chandler Fashion Center; Christine Mackay, Chandler's director of economic development; and James Smith, a development specialist for the city.

— ECONOMY, Page 21



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Mayor Jay Tibshraeny and the Chandler City Council



Economy

From Page 20

Retail discussion was the forum's main focus.

Lanoue set a hopeful mood, reminding the group of the center's dynamic and successful recent years.

"If it's not broken, you have to keep reinventing yourself," Lanoue said. Approaching its 12th anniversary this month, Chandler Fashion Center has proven to be the economic engine in Chandler, Lanoue said.

"We have done a really good job over the past two years," she said. "We have successfully moved 59 stores, over 350,000 square feet of retail."

It's hard not to notice the drastic changes taking place when it happens to be one of the East Valley's premier shopping destinations. Victoria Secret's 12,800-square-foot expansion and Kona Grill's recent remodeling are two of a number of recent improvements for the retailers.

A few of the latest additions include Lululemon Athletica, Vera Bradley and Francesca's. Crazy 8 and

'We have done a really good job over the past two years. We have successfully moved 59 stores, over 350,000 square feet of retail.'

— Christina Lanoue, Chandler Fashion Center

Boston Pepper are two of the thriving stores due to arrive sometime in the fall.

Lanoue also spoke of future renovations to the Outdoor Village, adding a theater and children's splash pad, for additional entertainment.

With Thanksgiving quickly approaching, Black Friday is an event to mark on the calendar. Several anchor stores will be opening at 8 p.m. on Thursday.

"Black Friday is a national holiday in my book," Lanoue joked.

In addition, development analyst Smith contributed to the good news, reporting that in the past six months, the vacancy rate has dropped from 14.1 percent down to 12 percent.

"It's a real accomplishment," Smith said. "It has finally sunk in how much progress we have made."

Chandler's office vacancy is currently at four percent compared to others sitting as

high as 40 percent. Mackay noted in the last five years that Chandler has added 22 percent more jobs in the market. There were 101,000 jobs in 2008 compared to 122,000 today.

"It's very exciting to hear," Mackay said.

Although Chandler's economy once suffered drastically, it is showing positive signs of recovery and growth. Outstanding expansions in the Chandler area include Wells Fargo's 400,000-square-foot expansion, which is expected to create 900 new jobs in Chandler.

Origami Owl is thriving out of west Chandler in an 80,000-square-foot building, and Garmin has provided 200 new jobs with its 60,000-square-foot Chandler expansion.

A few of the notable changes Smith mentioned were the long-vacant Red Fish is finally demolished and will transform into Cheddars family restaurant; the Bashas' at Kyrene and Chandler Boulevard is now a Wal-Mart; the former Gullies is now the restaurant Naber's and Kokopelli winery will now be the Chop Shop Co.

Overall, it was an upbeat session with a positive, determined outlook on the future retail economy of Chandler.

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The Tempe Coalition has five simple tips for adults to use in order to help kids reach their full potential without the use of alcohol. **Remember, it's "21 or Too Young!"**

1. Lock up your liquor
2. Do not serve alcohol to anyone under 21
3. Send a clear message to your youth that alcohol use is not acceptable
4. Help your youth practice refusing alcohol
5. Be a role model

Tempe Coalition
to reduce underage drinking and drug use

The Tempe Coalition, a partnership between the City of Tempe and Tempe Community Council, works to reduce underage drinking and youth drug use in Tempe. For more information, please visit www.tempecoalition.org.



Have a 'spook-tacular' good time at Tempe's Halloween Carnival

Tempe's 36th Annual Family Halloween Carnival will be held on Sat., Oct. 26, from 5-9 p.m. at the Kiwanis Park soccer fields, located on the northeast corner of Guadalupe Road and All-America Way.

The event features carnival

games, live entertainment, face painting, food booths, train rides, inflatables, a toddler play area and more!

Tickets for attractions can be purchased for 25 cents. Booths are operated by local civic groups as a fundraiser.

Most activities require 3-4 tickets. Be sure to dress up for the Halloween costume contest and you might win a prize! The carnival is sponsored by the Tempe Diablos.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/halloween or call 480-350-5200.

Family Halloween Carnival

Sat, Oct. 26th
5 pm - 9 pm
at
Kiwanis Park

tempe.gov/halloween



Fall Arts & Crafts Boutique

Start your holiday shopping early at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center's Annual Fall Arts & Crafts Boutique!

This annual event features handmade items and gifts from more than 50 artists and crafters of all ages, as well as prizes, food and entertainment.

Shop Friday, Oct. 25, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/pyle or call 480-350-5211.

Residents have options for bulk waste disposal

Most of us have material throughout the year that is just too bulky to fit in our regular trash or recycling bins – material such as yard waste, furniture and old appliances.

Tempe used to pick up this material on a monthly basis.

Recently the city made changes that will increase our efficiency and sustainability – and help keep rates as low as possible for customers.

Tempe now collects bulk waste six times per year, with four collections dedicated to green waste only and two for mixed waste (bulk trash and green waste). For residents whose bulk waste needs exceed the scope of Tempe's collection schedule, here are some options:

Public dump – Residents can dispose of bulk

materials twice per month per residence, up to 2,000 pounds, for no charge at two convenient transfer stations (utility bill and driver's license with Tempe address required for proof of residency):

- Sky Harbor Regional Transfer Station
2425 S. 40th Street, Phoenix
602-454-2050
Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
Sat. 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Lone Butte Transfer Station
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520-796-0036
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Extra bin – Residents can order a free, extra blue recycling bin or an extra black trash bin for \$7.56 per month. Call 480-350-4311 to order.

On-call collection – Tempe offers on-call

collection services starting at \$31. Call 480-350-4311 to schedule a free estimate.

Appliance pick-up – Visit www.tempe.gov/recycling or call 480-350-4311 for appliance pick-up options.

Household Products Collection Center – Residents can deliver household hazardous waste (including motor oil, paint, cleaning products, lawn and pool chemicals) to Tempe's HPCC, 1320 E. University Drive. Open Friday from 7 a.m. to noon and Saturday 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Zero Waste Events – Tempe holds multi-purpose recycling events twice each year, in April and November, where residents can bring many materials for recycling and safe disposal. Visit www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash for more information.

Tempe Mayor's State of the City will be Nov. 21

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the City of Tempe is pleased to present Mayor Mark Mitchell's State of the City Address from 7:30 to 9 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 21, at the Tempe

Mission Palms Hotel, 60 E. Fifth St. All are invited to attend the presentation, which aims to inform and engage community members in Tempe's present and future.

The mayor will be sharing his thoughts on the local social and

economic climate, along with his vision for the growth and future of Tempe and Arizona.

Registration is at 7:30 a.m.; the breakfast and program start at 8 a.m. Register at www.tempechamber.org or by calling 480-967-7891.



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Available through Nov. 28, the treats combine pumpkin pie mix and flavorful pie chips blended with vanilla soft serve, according to franchise owner Bill Sladek.

Pumpkin pie mix also is added to DQ Royal Shakes and the Blizzard in a Waffle Cone to give them a seasonal sparkle.

All three are crowned with whipped topping and nutmeg.

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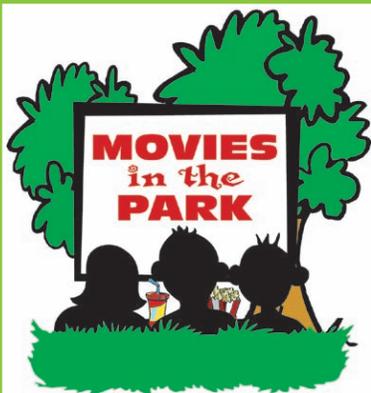
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Kirtis Baxter, left, has opened a new gallery/framing studio, **Affordable Framing**, which features original and gallery works by local artists. A specialty, says Baxter, is a series of classes focusing on a wide variety of modalities, including oils, watercolor, shadowboxing. Also available are in-home design services. The shop is at 1628 E. Southern Ave., Tempe. Phone: 480-656-0226.

— Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

Childsplay seeking young playwrights

Tempe-based Childsplay is partnering with Rising Youth Theatre to participate in Young Playwrights for Change, a nationwide playwrighting competition sponsored by The American Alliance for Theatre and Education and Theatre for Young Audiences USA.

The project is designed to harness the creativity of young playwrights to produce meaningful conversations about the topic of bullying throughout classrooms, schools and communities across the country.

The regional playwrighting competition for 6th- through 8th-grade students involves writing 10-minute plays about bullying. One will be selected to be submitted to the national competition.

The winning playwright of the national search—to be chosen March 15—will have his or her play presented in a staged reading by up to four professional actors and a director at The Kennedy Center.

Playwrighting workshops for students looking to submit to the competition are available at no charge. Locations include 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, and Saturday, Nov. 2, at Childsplay's Campus for Imagination and Wonder, 900 S. Mitchell Drive, Tempe. Participants should plan to attend both workshops.

Submissions for the Regional Competition are being accepted through Dec. 18.

Information: Samantha Johnstone, Childsplay Marketing & Media Manager, 480-921-5703 or sjohnstone@childsplayaz.org.

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Wrangler

VIEWS

The Last Word

Worried about the cost of schools overrides? The cash in your couch cushions will cover it

By Dick Foreman

This column by community volunteer and education advocate Dick Foreman is the first in our new series "The Last Word." We invite others to call or email us with their ideas for topics they'd like to explore as part of our ongoing "Wrangler Views" series. We ask that submissions be thoughtfully researched and plausibly articulated. We'd like this to become a forum for intelligent thought, discussion and, if necessary, rational argument, either pro or con. So let us know your ideas. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

— The Editors

If I had a nickel for every vote that ultimately defeated last November's Maintenance and Operation budget override request for the Tempe Union High School District, I still wouldn't have enough money to buy my wife and daughter a ticket to the movies, popcorn and drinks.

That campaign lost in 2012 by 811 votes. Other Southeast Valley school districts had similar fates. Chandler Unified lost; Higley lost. And Gilbert didn't just lose, they were crushed. In fact, half of all schools throughout Arizona lost in their request to budget the legislatively approved, authorized rate. But in the SE Valley, we outdid the state average. We managed a 100 percent failure rate. Couple these losses

with multiple years of state budget cuts to school funding and the reality is stark, humbling and demoralizing for most educators.

So where are we now? Many taxpayers believe we need a plan for our schools that doesn't raise taxes at all. Many education advocates are now simply seeking to maintain current spending without any increases in tax rates, too.

And here's the good news for both sides: It can be done!

Recently, I joined a representative group of Tempe Union parents, civic leaders and concerned taxpayers to review the M & O Override, the 10 or 15 percent options, and what we'd recommend to the Governing Board.

For the typical taxpayer, the difference is only about a buck and a half a month between the two options—a couple of nickels a day. The same is true, more or less, throughout the SE Valley.

In Tempe, community leaders such as Angie Taylor Thornton supported a 15 percent override. So did Mel Hannah from Tempe Union's Desert Vista High School site council.

But Rosalie Hirano, whose passion for education takes second place to nobody's, joined me in urging a Tempe Union Citizen Finance Committee recommendation of 10 percent. While our citizens committee was about equally split between a 10 percent and 15 percent override recommendation, the Governing Board chose the lower amount.

Message to taxpayers:

"We heard you and we're holding the line on spending. Will you support us now?"

In Tempe, failure to support a continuation of the current 10 percent override would cut nearly \$6.5 million per year from existing budgets—85 percent of which will come out of the classroom. I do believe taxpayers want schools to tighten their belts and not ask for an increase. I do not believe Tempe, Ahwatukee/Foothills, west Chandler or Guadalupe taxpayers wish to lay off teachers, increase class sizes or put our children literally in the streets as we scale back or eliminate many after school programs to enable further, massive cuts.

My message here is simple. Your yes vote will NOT increase your current tax rate on any proposed Maintenance and Operation Override if the school district is asking for a "continuation." It will simply maintain it exactly where it is. Not one penny more.

So when Tempe Union (which, remember, includes Mountain Pointe and Desert Vista in the Ahwatukee/Foothills community) asks for our permission to continue an existing override, they are respecting the taxpayers' wishes to hold the line on spending.

They are NOT proposing an increase in taxes. And if we're still short a few nickels a day, may I suggest checking the creases in the couch before we cut classroom spending again?

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- Numbness
- Cold legs and feet
- Heaviness



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