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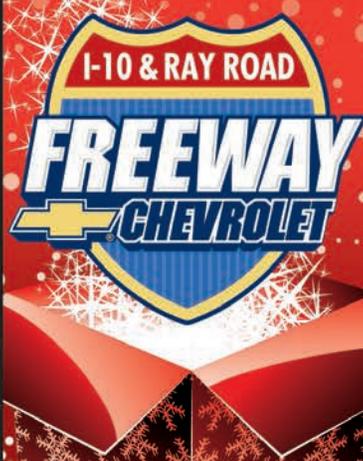
Wrangler NEWS

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Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

.....
To the Hollands of Tempe, rescuing Bull Mastiffs seemed easy — until the puppies arrived • Page 8



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Kyrene staff, parents, kids gain new perspectives from advanced use of digital technology

By Diana Whittle

The increased use of technology in the Kyrene Elementary School District continues to make teaching more effective and efficient, says a group of 15 users of new software, computers and other educational tools.

At the request of the Kyrene Governing Board, Technology Services Director Mark Share assembled the users to update board members on improvements made to the school district, which benefit teachers, students and parents.

Funding for the technology advances comes from the Capital Outlay Budget Override referendum of November 2011 that provided \$6.8 million for increased instructional technology and computer operating software at all 25 Kyrene schools.

This override election should not be confused with the \$12.2 million Maintenance and Operations override budget approved by voters last month, which allows current programs such as art, music, physical education and library to continue.

School funding restrictions can be complicated and the need for frequent overrides make it appear that the district is always seeking additional funds, says Nancy Dudenhoefer, Community Relations Program Manager.

“We want the public to realize that we use the funds responsibly, but we are obligated by law to use that money for specific purposes,” she said. “The capital override is specifically earmarked for technology and that is why we were able to make these updates for the district.”

“Our Community Relations efforts benefit from an enhanced Website and ListServe function, along with the ability to stream the governing board meetings in real time.”

For members of the public who not able to watch the meetings live, digitized versions are stored on-line for future viewing, along with the accompanying agendas and documents.

During the presentation to the board, several users complimented the software “ParentVue,” which allows parents at home to view their children’s grades, assignments, notices of special events and other announcements.

Deana DeGarmon, a parent of a student at Aprende Middle School, said access to ParentVue and teacher websites allows her to remain current on her child’s work in the classroom.

For the teacher, it streamlines attendance taking and allows a file to be built on each student with both personal and demographic information, said

Jean Hagen, a district-wide Computer Application Specialist.

As the assistant principal at Pueblo Middle School, James Martin commented that new technology allows video recording of the campus and on the school buses. He said that school administrators were able to solve the theft of several cell phones by using a video record.

Job-seekers for the district no longer submit a paper application, explained Mary Jane Rincon, assistant director of human resources as new software allows completing and submitting an e-application.

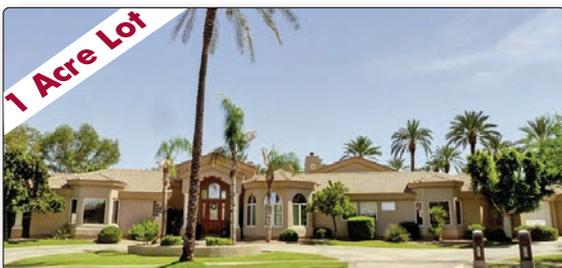
For students and parents who choose to participate in special classes or field trips, registration and payments are made on-line, said Josh Glider, assistant director of community education.

Students have access to computers during the school day and are able to use them as research tools for special projects. Each student has a personal log-on and is able to be connected to teachers for questions and feedback as needed.

For more information and access to Kyrene’s network, visit www.kyrene.org

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Sports Notebook

with Alex Zener

College bound!

Corona del Sol High School had seven athletes sign national letters of intent on Nov. 13 in a ceremony staged in front of the school's offices. The group included two basketball players, two wrestlers, a diver, a cross country/track athlete and a lacrosse player.

Casey Benson, a 6-foot-3 left-hander who averaged 20.7 points, 3.3 assists and 1.4 steals as a member of the Aztecs' two-time Division I state championship basketball team last season, signed with Oregon after being recruited by numerous colleges, including ASU, Stanford, Creighton, Nebraska, St. Mary's and New Mexico.

"Getting the opportunity to be part of one of the top 25 college basketball programs in the country was extremely intriguing to me and makes me very excited," said Benson.

"Coach Altman and the Ducks' style of play are both great fits for me, plus the players made me feel like I was a part of their family during my visit."

Benson, who has the opportunity, along with the rest of this season's No. 1 preseason-ranked Corona basketball team to three-peat at state, was the AIA Player of the Year, Arizona Gatorade Player of the Year and EV Tribune's Player of the Year last season.

Corona fans will also get to see **Connor MacDougall**, who signed a letter of intent with ASU, on the basketball court this season after his much-publicized hardship appeal was granted by the Arizona Interscholastic Association last month.

— NOTEBOOK, Page 5

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Notebook

From Page 4

The 6-foot-8, 220-pound senior MacDougall left the Phoenix Westwind Prep national basketball high school and enrolled at CdS in late January after the NCAA put a damper on the academic coursework being taught at the school.

Glenn Farina, who enters his senior season having placed at the Division I state wrestling tournament every one of his three previous high school seasons and winning state as a junior in the 132-pound weight category, committed to wrestle for California State Polytechnic University, or Cal Poly, in Pomona.

Farina, recruited by several universities including Lehigh, ASU, Bucknell and Columbia, was an all-around athlete growing up, having played baseball and football until introduced to wrestling in middle school.

"Mr. Hoddy, the wrestling coach and my middle school Spanish teacher, suggested I come out for the team," said Farina. "I stuck with it, continued to get better, so much so that I quit football my freshman year to focus on wrestling."

Selected to the Tempe All-City Team the past three years, Farina currently holds the school record for most technical falls and most two-point near-falls in a season. He is expected to be part of a handful of Corona wrestlers to place at state all four years of their high school wrestling careers, according to head coach **Jim Martinez**.

"Glenn has provided outstanding leadership, led by example, accepted responsibility for his own practice efforts and shared his knowledge with his workout partners and teammates as much as possible," said Martinez. "He is a very coachable athlete who makes my job easier because he does not need encouragement or motivation to work hard to succeed, which is the best compliment I can give one of my wrestlers."

Farina had reasons other than the wrestling program for choosing Cal Poly.

"I really like the area and Cal Poly itself, plus they have an extremely young wrestling team and a new coach that I get along well with," said Farina. "Most of all, they have one of the best Biomedical Engineering programs in the country, which is going to be my major field of study."

Ethan Tursini, another wrestler, chose the U.S. Military Academy to continue his successes on and off the mat after he graduates.

"Ethan should have great success at West Point with his work ethic and history of success at the national level," said coach Martinez. "He has the heart and desire to succeed."

Tursini defeated the defending state champion in the 160-pound weight category to win his 2013 Division I state championship.

"Ethan should have another great year his senior season," said coach Martinez. "There isn't anyone in the state who should be able to challenge him for the state title. He challenges other wrestlers on the team

and is a great role model who works to create positive team chemistry."

Two-time Division I state diving champion **Chloe Hacker** chose Columbia to continue her passion for diving and academic studies in a field related to sustainability and marine life after narrowing her choices to three Ivy League schools: Columbia, Brown and Yale.

Hacker, who has been competing at the junior and senior level in diving competitions since she was 12 years old and studying hard academically to prepare for this moment, chose Columbia because of its educational reputation, its diving program and its location.

"Columbia, located in the middle of New York City, is one of the top academic schools in the country that should provide me with endless future opportunities when I graduate," said Hacker. "Plus the coach, who has been with the program 31 years, and the divers are all incredible people that made me feel right at home and very comfortable about joining the team."

As part of Corona's dive team, besides taking home the Division I state championship individual diving trophy in 2010 and 2011, Hacker broke all existing Corona diving records for both girls and boys. She also won every dual meet she participated in and every City Champion recognition every year for four years, plus being a Scholar Athlete all four years.

Hacker also participates in club diving, where she is nationally ranked on springboard and tower and was chosen for the Talent Development program held at the National Training Center in Indianapolis.

Besides choosing Columbia for the diving and academics, Hacker wanted to make the most of her collegiate experience.

"I know I will miss my family, dogs, friends and the weather in Arizona when it's snowing and zero degrees outside, but I really want my college experience to be completely different than where I grew up," said Hacker. "This is the one time in my life I got to choose and, like my brother and sister who went out of state to school, I don't think I'll regret it for a minute."

Corona's 2013 Division I state championship cross country team had its top runner and team captain, **Nate Rodriguez**, sign a letter of intent to run both cross country and track at Iowa State.

Rodriguez, who set the City Meet course record, leading his team to an undefeated season and finishing first individually in every race, chose Iowa over several other schools partly because of its new coach.

"I chose Iowa State because of the tremendous opportunities that are possible under their new coach, who is one of the most renowned and accomplished cross country/track coaches in all of the NCAA," said Rodriguez. "I'm hoping that I can add a dynamic and strong presence that will one day help my college team reach its full potential."

Academically, Rodriguez has narrowed his interest to three potential areas: Kinesiology, Food Science (nutrition) and Premed (Orthopedics).



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How to clean up your life Husband-and-wife team discover joy of housework

By Chelsea Martin

In order to fully grasp the importance of house cleaning, try to envision your house as its own properly functioning body.

Just like the human body, if you stop maintaining appearance and regular cleaning, things tend to fall apart.

By keeping the house and yourself clean, it will organically transpire into a higher quality of living.

Although keeping up with regular cleaning in the home may appear to be more of a hassle than simply brushing your teeth, there are two times a year it's critical: summer and winter.

Ditch the sighs and grab those gloves and a bit of elbow grease because it's time for a much-needed winter cleaning.

Casey and Nora Jones are the owners of House Spouse, a local cleaning company, and the first people to admit just how important it is maintaining home cleanliness and pool care. The Jones collaborated together to build the company back in March of 2012. The Jones encourage all home owners to pay special attention during the winter months in order to ensure a safe, clean environment and to minimize/ prevent any impending repairs.

With the weather cooling off significantly, Casey the cleaning expert invites everyone to utilize and share his top cleaning tips for achieving a sparkling, energy-efficient, and happy home this winter.

1. Declutter every room and space in your house hold.

"When the seasons change, it's time to put the shorts away and take out the pants and sweaters. As your changing out your clothes, decide which ones need to permanently go," Casey said. "Best rule to follow is if you wore it this summer, keep it. If not? It goes to Goodwill. It helps you clear out some room and help someone else out during the holidays."

2. Dusting and changing your air filters.

"As it gets colder you spend more and more time inside your house which means changing your air filters and giving the house a thorough dusting will make you feel much better," Casey said. "When was the last time you dusted your door frames and ceiling fans?"

3. Cleaning all light fixtures (inside and out) and a thorough clean of the fridge and oven.

4. Changing the batteries in your smoke detector.

"This is something that should be done once every two years," Casey. "Although it's not often, people easily forget that it needs to be done."

5. Rotating and/or flipping your mattress.

"An easy way to find a better night sleep is to rotate or flip your mattress to level it out," Casey said. "Also make sure to wash all throw rugs in the washer. They can always use a quick cleaning."

Owning a pool is considered crucial for valley home owners in order to peacefully survive the scorching desert heat in the summer. In the winter a pool may only serve as an inviting décor piece in the backyard, but maintaining the pool regardless of its current usage is important. Now is a good time to clean your pool filter before it gets too cold.

"Pool filters should be cleaned ideally every 2-3 months," Casey said. "Also make sure to check for any leaks in the pool pump that you wouldn't catch otherwise because pumps usually run at night."

Next to the air conditioning unit, Casey explains, the pool pump trails a close second in electricity usage which is why it's always helpful to use these two money-saving tricks he suggests.

1. Adjusting the length of time your pool pump runs

"In the summer time, you need to run your pool filter for about five or six hours because the water is warmer and swimmer traffic is at an all-time high. Not to mention you sweat one quart every hour you swim in the pool," Casey said. "When the water temperature cools off, it doesn't get as cloudy and the lack of swimmers means less pool filter time. As a general rule of thumb you can bring your pool filter run time down to four hours, but make sure to keep an eye on it and adjust accordingly."

2. Finding a compatible time-of-use plan

"Make sure you are signed up for a time-of-use plan if you have a pool because electricity is much cheaper overnight if you're on the right plan," Casey said.

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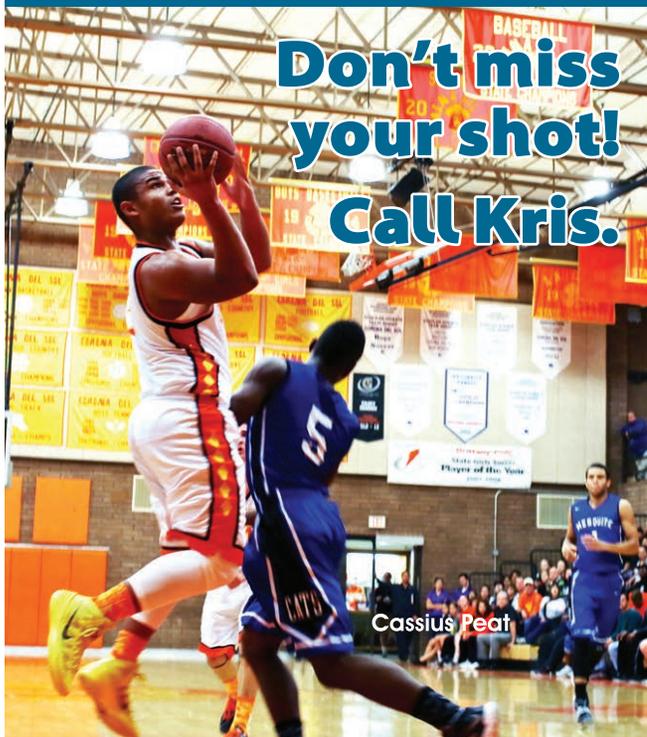


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TO THE RESCUE

Fostering mastiffs becomes a labor of love

Cover story by Chelsea Martin

Photos by Billy Hardiman

Canines are labeled “man’s best friend” because, at the end of the day, it’s a comforting truth. Many pet owners regard their dog not as just an animal but as a long-term companion and pivotal member of the family.

Dogs provide loyalty and an unconditional companionship that’s incomparable to any other animal. They benefit humans psychologically, physically and socially which, in turn, improves both species’ quality of life.

But, unfortunately, with the good can come the bad.

Despite all those happy, healthy companionships, sometimes dogs are challenged by the actions of cold, heartless individuals. The Arizona- and Southern California-based non-profit, AZ Mastiff Rescue (Canine Rescue Coalition), is an

organization sustained by a compassionate group of individuals who understand the importance of saving abused, neglected and abandoned canines.

The effort came into being in Phoenix in 2002. Not only is the organization dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating English and Neapolitan Mastiffs and other giant breeds, but to finding the canines the ideal companion and a permanent home.

The rescue encourages community involvement, which includes pet ownership-education and raising funds to support their cause. It encourages confident large-breed lovers to adopt the mastiffs, providing a simple process by which to do so.

Tempe resident Sheleen Holland has been an active AZ Mastiff Rescue volunteer for nearly two years, fostering roughly 30 of the dogs in total.

“About two years ago I lost my mastiff to bone cancer,” Holland said. “I wasn’t ready yet to adopt another dog but I was



Mom Sedona (top) with one of her new pups. Dr. Gil Holland, wife Sheleen (above): New brood has proven to be a handful of round-the-clock care — and love.

experiencing emptiness and I wanted to do something good.

“I just happened to stumble upon the mastiff rescue through a dog posted on pet finder. The dog was in need of a foster home, and I thought to myself, I could definitely do that.”

Holland found herself

devoted to the cause, easily becoming a core volunteer along with a handful of others. She balances her weekly schedule between her full-time position at the IT headquarters for Choice Hotels and the rescue.

Currently, Holland and her

— RESCUE, Page 12

Dec. 8 'Reindeer Hustle' 5K, fun run at Kiwanis Park brings gifts, joy to lives of troubled boys

Article by Georgia Swing

Photo by Billy Hardiman

The beige ranch-style house with the well-kept yard looks like any other in this Chandler residential neighborhood. Walk inside, though, and you find seven teenage boys doing homework, playing video games and shooting hoops on the backyard basketball court – under the constant supervision of at least two adult staff members.

They are about to gather with boys arriving from other New Horizon Youth Homes for a group session with clinical coordinator Gavin Dosil.

The boys are not at the licensed therapeutic group home by choice. They come from a variety of backgrounds, some referred to New Horizon by the courts, some by Child Protective Services or a tribal health authority. What they have in common is a need to learn new patterns of behavior that will allow them to return to their families, move to a foster home or graduate from high school and transition to the next stage in their lives.

“Almost every kid comes to our program without having developed the coping skills...to deal with whatever they’ve experienced,” said clinical coordinator Marlisa Rader. Their backgrounds include “a lot of trauma” – including as witnesses to or victims of violence, sexual assault and neglect. Many have used drugs, and some have been convicted of theft, burglary, assault or attempted murder.

“Some have families that are very involved,” Rader said.

“Some don’t have family at all—never had family,” Dosil added.

Promoting the feeling of a family home is one of their goals, they said. A second annual Reindeer Hustle 5K and fun run/walk on Sunday, Dec. 8, at Kiwanis Park in Tempe will raise money to pay for Christmas gifts and activities for New Horizon Youth Homes residents.

“We do what we can to make

(Christmas) as exciting as possible for them,” Dosil said, “so they feel that this is a home environment. We decorate the houses. We have competitions (between houses) of best food, best interior decorations, best outside decorations. It’s fun.”

Dosil went to several of the homes last Christmas morning, and “it’s crazy,” he said. “There’s just so much excitement. Kids were loving every gift they got. If they got skateboards, they were outside riding them; basketballs, they were outside shooting them.”

Rader, 27, and Dosil, 28, who both ran the 5K last year, described the event as an “energetic, family-friendly atmosphere.” Besides the chip-timed 5K and the separate one-mile fun run/walk there are booths with giveaways of products, music and a raffle. People bring their dogs for the one-mile walk and push babies in strollers. And many of the group-home residents take part.

“We promote being active with our kids,” Rader said. “It gives them a sense of accomplishment more so than a bake sale or car wash; it challenges them.”

The Christmas-to-New Year stretch is a tough time in the group homes.

“I think everyone here would rather be home than here, especially for the holidays,” said a 14-year-old boy who has lived at the Chandler home on Park Avenue for more than two months.

With a history of drug use and running away from home, the wiry eighth-grader will return to Bullhead City, Ariz., for several days over the holiday break to visit his mother, two sisters and a brother. Then he’ll return to Chandler to continue his therapy and a daily routine of chores and activities.

“Some kids have memories of very terrible holidays,” Rader said. “Some just can’t be with their families, or don’t have a family. The holidays are kind of like that, warm and fuzzy, and they don’t have that.”

Rader and Dosil have each worked for the Chandler-based New Horizon



Youth Homes for almost two years. Both have master’s degrees, Rader in marriage and family counseling, Dosil in social work.

The private nonprofit New Horizon Youth Homes was begun by Thomas Granado in 2001 and has grown to encompass seven locations across the Valley, each housing a maximum of seven boys, and three outpatient treatment centers serving about 200 clients.

According to the organization’s

most recent tax form filed with the IRS, the agency had revenue of \$3.4 million in 2012, expenses of \$3.3 million, and paid out \$2 million in salaries to more than 100 employees.

Ranging in age from 9 to 18, the residents are sorted by age and therapeutic needs. Their stays range from two or three months to two or three years. They are “transitioned out” when they show acceptable progress

At Pueblo, minimizing worry Preview for incoming 6th graders helps ease stress of a new school

Story by Chelsea Martin

Photos by Billy Hardiman

Transitioning to a new school can be rough and, at times, a little unnerving. This year, Kyrene del Pueblo hosted a 6th grade tour for interested 5th graders and their parents to alleviate any of those uncertainties.

The informative tour was led by a handful of teachers, students and faculty through six various classrooms during a regular school day.

The parents and 5th graders were able to experience classes such as math, science/lab, music, gym, the student media center, and a few others.

The Pueblo excursion provided ample time for parents to ask questions while gaining a better understanding of the school's structure.

One of the topics presented during the tour was Pueblo's new family mentoring program. The program involves connecting an existing Pueblo family with a new one to help make the transition



— TRANSITION, Page 11

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Transition

From Page 10

easier.

"We want to get rid of any worries that the child or parents might have," Principal Sheryl Houston said. "We are here to help kids make the most of their time in middle school."

The enthusiasm continued after the conclusion of the tour in the school gymnasium, where three Pueblo students shared their thoughts and experiences as a Pueblo Bulldog. The speakers were Jacob D. Flores, Todd Stawiecki and Zoie Strickling.

"Here at Pueblo your kids will feel right at home," Zoie said. "Each teacher is friendly and really wants you to learn. We are one big family here and we make sure to take care of each other. I know I'll never forget the memories."

Principal Houston addressed all questions and provided additional information regarding class sizes, activities, clubs, testing, faculty and many other items of interest.

The tour was deemed a success for all involved. The faculty and students' school spirit was hard to ignore.

"Our teachers come to school every day loving their job," Houston said. "We live to work with kids this age."

For more information about Kyrene del Pueblo visit the website: <http://www.kyrene.org/pue>.



At Pueblo Middle School, parents and their children—fifth graders who will be transferring next year from nearby Kyrene elementary schools—watched a slide show of news articles about the school (preceding page) plus a look at iPads that will be used in Brian Pollard's classroom and those of other teachers.



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Rescue

From Page 8

husband, Dr. Gil Holland, a family practice physician in Chandler, are fostering a mastiff mother, Sedona, and her four curious puppies.

"The puppies are Inky, Wrinkles, Atlanta and Atlantis Jr.," Gil said. One of the puppies is named after the Hollands' own mastiff, 6-year-old Atlantis, who was in rough shape at first but after a year of recovery is now a happy, healthy 160-pound canine, said Gil.

"He absolutely loves being surrounded by and interacting with people," Sheleen added.

Aside from Sheleen's round-the-clock parenting job with the puppies, she utilizes her spare time to aid in the smooth running of day-to-day operations of the rescue.

"Depending on how many dogs are in, I typically spend 5 to 10 hours a week checking in through phone calls and emails.

But for the most part I'm extremely dedicated to the puppies right now because they are very time-consuming, between feeding and overall care."

Sheleen said AZ Mastiff Rescue's top priority is offering these deserving animals the opportunity for a second chance. And connecting them with the right family is essential. As part of its efforts, the rescue stays focused on its mission, nursing the large breeds back to a healthy, stable condition

while simultaneously providing shelter, patience and unconditional love.

"Once the mastiffs are adopted they are completely healthy and hopefully adjusted," Sheleen said.

"We try to work with them the best we can. The majority of the mastiffs that come into the rescue are stable and kind. But the damaged ones are a lot more sensitive and need more work."

Thanks to Holland and the rescue team, the group is making a difference, one canine at a time. But the fostering, the unwavering affection and the care come with a price.

Said Gil Holland, no stranger to erratic hours during his medical career: "Sheleen has to be up every couple hours. She doesn't sleep."

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<p>CHRISTMAS CANTATA "CANDLES & CAROLS" At all Sanctuary Worship Services Dec 7th & 8th</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP Tuesday, December 24 10:00am Traditional Worship with Communion</p>
<p>BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Saturday, Dec 14 8:30-10:30am \$6 per child (\$20 maximum)</p>	<p>3:00pm Happy Birthday, Jesus! 4:30pm Family Worship 6:00pm & 7:30pm Traditional Worship with Candlelight</p>
<p>GERMAN CHRISTMAS Sunday, Dec 22 4:10pm</p>	<p>8:45pm & 10:00pm Traditional Caroling followed by Worship Worship with Candlelight and Communion</p>

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- Woofstock** | Nov. 16, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.
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- Tumbleweed Tree Lighting** | Dec. 7, 4:30-9 p.m.
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- Winter Intersession Youth Camps** | Dec. 23-Jan. 3



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An expert's primer on problem barkers Tips for muzzling bad behavior

By Georgia Swing

Along with the holidays come ringing doorbells and visits from family and friends, the delivery of packages, Christmas cards and baked goods from neighbors.

It can be a nightmare, if you're the owner of a problem barker.

Offensive yipping and yapping can be minimized with the correct training, says professional dog trainer Nathan Braaten.

Braaten owns A-Way to Wag Private Canine School and Learning Center in south Tempe. There, Braaten, 36, provides basic training for day clients and specialized training by appointment.

The truth is, most problem barking occurs because the dog is bored, Braaten said, and the solution is to train and stimulate your pet.

"Idle hands do the devil's work," he said. "A bored dog is going to mess up. It's going to tear up your house; it's going to bark at your neighbors. The best thing is just to be involved with your animals."

Besides boredom, other common

causes of dog barking include alerting the presence of a visitor or someone walking by; the doorbell, which stems from the dog's expectation of a need to alert; separation anxiety; rivalry with another dog; and attention-seeking.

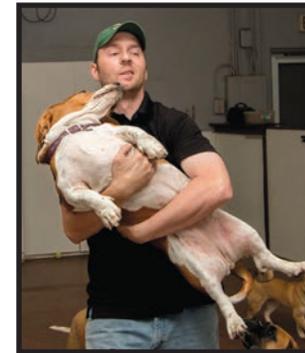
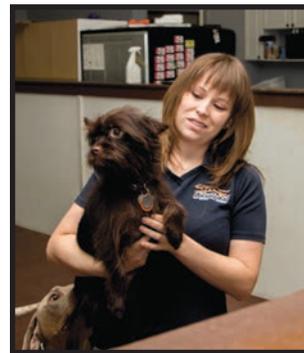
"You need to find out what the stimulus is – what's making the dog bark, number one," Braaten said.

"If it's a noise of something that we can replicate, I want to desensitize them to those noises. So let's just say it's the doorbell. I would ring that doorbell a thousand times, or 'til that dog didn't bark. And then, when it didn't bark at that doorbell, I'm going to reward it."

Such training takes patience and time. It might take a half-hour of doorbell ringing before the dog doesn't bark, he said. "The moment you ring it and he doesn't bark, give him a couple treats, love him up, and then you stop for that day."

But continued training is important, he said. "It takes three to six months for anything to go from short-term memory to long-term

— BARKING, Page 18



Aw, c'mon

Dog trainer Nathan Braaten uses a strategy of firm love to teach unruly canines to mind their manners.

— Wrangler News photos by Billy Hardiman

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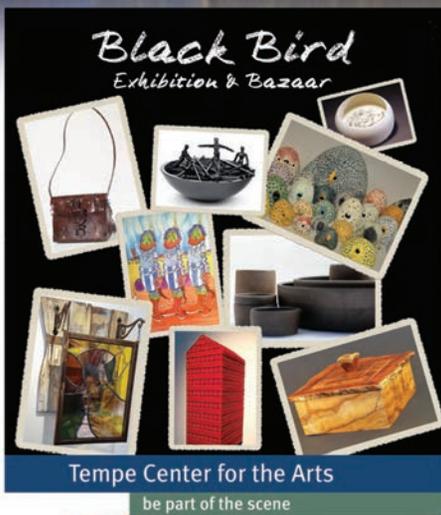
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Notebook

From Page 5

Garret Howell, a member of the Aztec lacrosse team since middle school, committed to play NCAA Division II lacrosse at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Penn., next fall.

Howell—who has been named All-State twice, led the league in scoring last year as a junior and is currently tied as the all-time leading scorer for Corona—knew once he started playing lacrosse in middle school that he was going to have to go out of state, mostly likely somewhere on the East Coast, if he wanted to play the sport, he had quickly grown to love, in college.

“There is only one Division I school, University of Denver, located in the west, and only a handful of Division II and III schools out this way, none of which are in Arizona,” said Howell. “Quite a few East Coast schools, including St. Joseph’s University, University of Richmond and West Point recruited me, but I chose Seton Hill because they have a very solid team, the coaches and players were really welcoming during my visit, and the school has a strong business program.”

Howell, who was looking for academics as well as lacrosse when he chose Seton Hill, hopes to study marketing and psychology and may become a lacrosse coach someday.

“It’s really a great accomplishment that Garret, a scholar athlete from a non-traditional lacrosse area, like Arizona, gets a chance to continue his education and play a sport he loves,” said coach **Cliff Prausa**. “He has been a great player since joining our club in middle school, and getting this opportunity is well deserved.”

Howell has unique skills he plans on honing further this season and bringing to his new team next fall.

“I play ‘X,’ or the position behind the goal. As an X man, I am able to dodge my defender and pass to my teammates with either hand,” said Howell. “Playing this position has made me pretty solid with both hands. It’s helpful, along with my ability to back down defenders using my leverage, because they never know if I’m going to go left or right to shoot or feed the ball to a teammate.”

Boys Golf Team — Corona’s boys golf team qualified for the state tournament held this season at Aguila Golf Course in Laveen, Nov. 1-2, for the first time since 2008.

“**Reed Burroughs, Bobby Byars, Conor Prindiville, Garrette Poole, Jimmy Dixon and Jakob Patterson** all contributed so we could qualify for state as a team,” said coach **Jennifer Reed**. “They were the most focused team Corona has had in quite some time and they all played exceptionally well this season.”

Dixon was voted by his teammates as the most improved player after starting the season hurt and ending up as one of the team’s top six players.

The Aztecs will have to reload next season as they will be losing three seniors to graduation from this season’s state qualifying team.

“Reed Burroughs, in our golf program for two years, is the most dedicated golfer,” said Ray. “He plans on going to college to play golf but has not yet chosen a school.”

“Conor Prindiville, one of our captains and a golf team member for three years, is a very talented person on and off the course,” said Ray. “He is vice president of the National Honor Society plus he sings and acts.”

“Garrette Poole is a standout athlete that we have been lucky enough to have on the team for the past two years,” said Ray. “Besides playing golf he is a pitcher on Corona’s baseball team and he sings and acts as well. He is one of the most well rounded kids I have ever met.”

Girl’s Golf Team — Corona’s girls golf team, sporting an 18-1 regular season record, easily qualified as a team in the first five matches after not qualifying for the state tournament last season.

The team, which finished 7th out of 15 teams, had six golfers qualify to play in the state tournament: two freshman, **Mikaela Hatfield** and **Emma Lower**; and four seniors, **Halie Carpenter, Katy Consoer, Kelly Robb** and **Heather Harry**.

Carpenter was Corona’s top individual golfer finishing 18th overall but it was a freshman, Hatfield, who also had a great round.

“Mikaela probably surprised me the most this season,” said coach **Pat Reed**. “For instance, she shot an eagle during the first round at state finishing in 26th place and was consistent with her scores all season.”

Corona del Sol Hall of Fame

Corona will introduce its first Hall of Fame inductees during halftime at the Boys basketball game against North on Dec. 6.

Those scheduled to be inducted include Corona’s first principal, **Jim Love**.

Others are coaches and athletes:

Larry Hughes (state championship coach in football and girls basketball and boys golf coach); **Sam Duane Sr.** (state championship boys basketball coach); **Debbie Moore** (state championship girls volleyball coach); and **Jennifer Helfrich Leo** (All State volleyball and basketball player).

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Barking

From Page 15

memory in a dog.”

Braaten, born in Minnesota, has lived in Tempe since he was 5. He graduated from Mountain Pointe High School and attended Mesa Community College until a medical problem led to brain surgery and a two-year rehabilitation.

During that time, he trained his Rottweiler, Daisy, to be a service dog to help him with stability and mobility. That experience led to schooling at the Texas Triple Crown Dog Academy (now Starmark Animal Behavior Center) near Austin and later to the Assistance Dog Institute (now Bergin University of Canine Studies) in Santa Rosa, Calif.

His business at 1730 E. Elliot Road employs four assistants and cares for 100-plus dogs a week. The dogs behave at his shop “because it’s my house. They are the guests at my house...I’m firm but I’m very fair,” he said. “It’s either black or it’s white; there’s no gray areas for any of the dogs. I’m very clear with what I’m asking out of these animals.”

Dogs that get overly excited or engage in too much rough-housing at his daycare go in a crate, though otherwise his operation is cage-free. “It’s not for punishment,” he said. “They settle down, they take a little break. When they’re calm, they can come out and join the pack.”

Here are some other tips from Braaten about curbing a dog’s barking, and other bits of canine wisdom:

“A lot of times if you teach your dog to speak on command, (unwanted barking) goes down. They’re getting out that vocalization. It’s the enjoyment of it. My dog knows he speaks when I do this,” he said, making a hand signal of a dog’s mouth opening and closing, “not when he hears noises or stuff like that.”

If the dog is alerting the presence of the mail carrier or other delivery people, “they get self-rewarded,” Braaten said. “Because the mailman comes up the driveway, the dog starts barking. He puts the mail in the slot and the mailman turns around and walks away. Well, the dog is going, ‘Oh my gosh, did you just see what I did? I just scared that guy.’ So the next time the mailman or UPS comes, it just escalates because they go, ‘I want to get



On the road to better behavior.

rid of this guy faster.’ So they bark meaner; they act meaner. I wouldn’t allow them to see what’s going on, number one. Block the stimulus.”

Sometimes on a walk, a dog on a leash will bark at another leashed dog approaching with its owner. If the approaching dog is displaying signs of aggressiveness, the other dog wants to show it is tougher, he said. He would turn the dog to walk behind or in front of the other dog, to avoid the confrontation.

Leaving a dog alone in a fenced yard for long periods of time leads to boredom, and boredom leads to barking.

Spend time with your dog, teaching basic commands, giving it mental stimulation. Show the dog what you expect of it. “If I can get my dog into a ‘sit’ or a ‘down,’ it’s less likely you’re going to get these bad behaviors to come out – because we’ve taught them how to act in the right situations.”

His response to attention-seeking barking? “That’s one of the ones where you want to ignore it. Because if you try to console or reprimand your dog, it’s getting the attention that it’s asking from you. You can reward the dog when it’s offering a better behavior. If my dog is sound asleep, and it’s a barker, I consider that a better behavior. I’ll go over there and (say): ‘You’re such a good boy,’ and give it a treat, even though they were sound asleep.”

Treats used as rewards should be small and soft. If you’re training with repetition, treats that require chewing take too long for the dog to swallow. Quick training exercises keep the dog and the owner interested. “It takes less than a second and a half between cause and effect with a dog.”

To correct barking, “Figure out what the stimulus is and contact a professional dog trainer. We have a pretty good grasp on their behaviors and their body language. We can usually see something that the owners haven’t seen.”

Little dogs tend to bark more than big dogs, because “people don’t correct little dogs.” They think: “It’s Grandma’s dog. I don’t want to be mean to Grandma’s dog.”

He advises dog owners not to:

Hold a barking dog’s mouth shut. “Any time you start getting physical, it starts becoming a struggle. I don’t want my dogs to think they’re going to have to struggle in their relationship with me,” he said.

Engage in prolonged scolding. “Dogs learn to ignore idle threats.”

Put your dog on your lap when it barks. The dog thinks: “I just taught that owner, when I bark at him, to pick me up.’ A lot of times they’re training us.”

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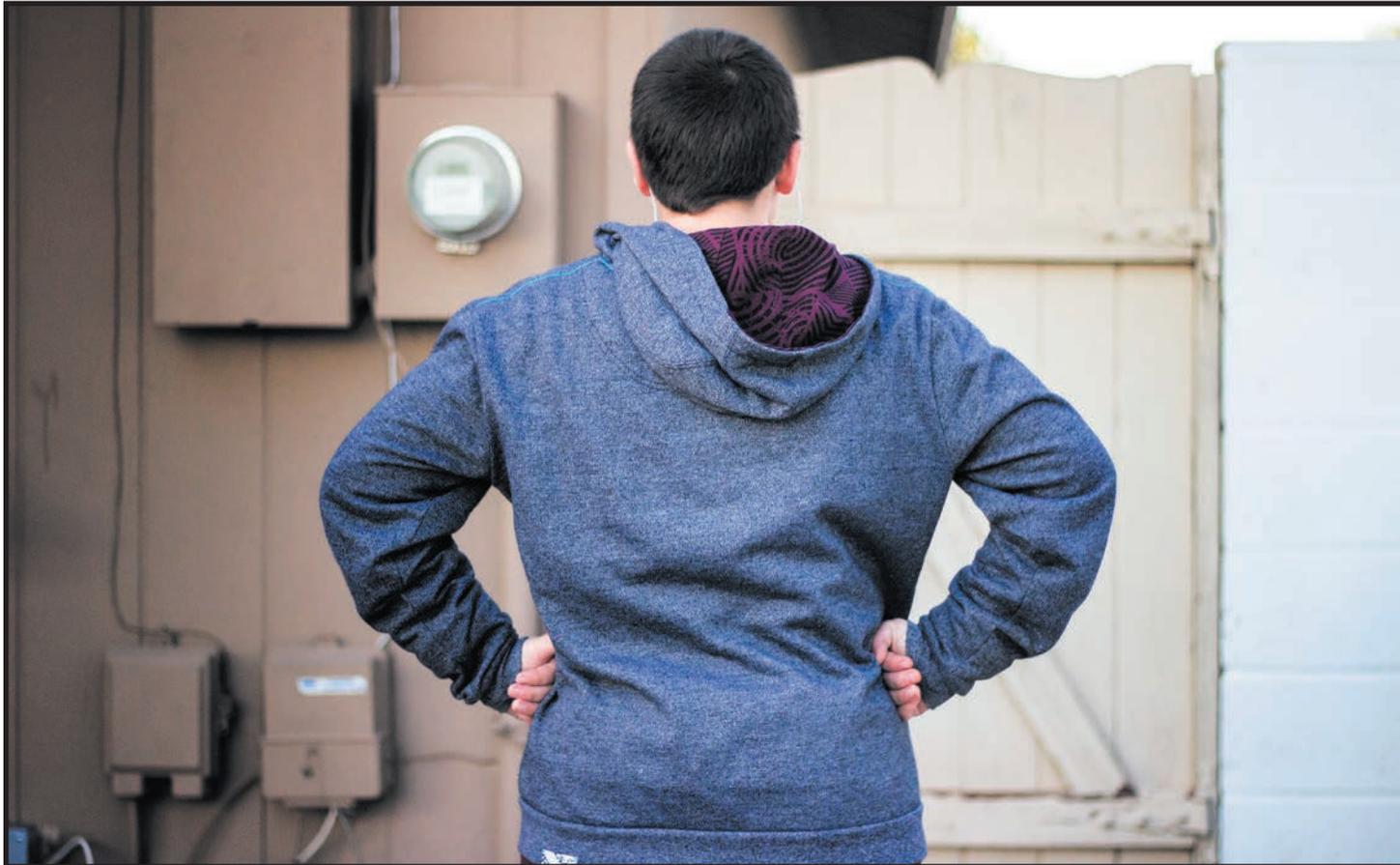
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For troubled boys, a gateway to the future.

— Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

Horizons

From Page 9

on their treatment plans, and if there is a suitable place for them to go, Dosil said.

Three “D’s” guide New Horizon’s work with its young clients: discipline, desire and development, Rader said.

Discipline is taught “through our structure, accountability, our consequences and incentives,” she said. “We teach the kids ‘no sir, yes ma’am.’ They take their hats off when they come in the house. We discipline them so they can learn to be disciplined themselves.”

As for desire, “We really try to motivate the kids. We build on their strengths, and we provide opportunities for them to do things maybe that they haven’t ever been able to do before. And help them be motivated to do well,” she said. “Some of them discover their talents, as far as music, or sports or writing. Actually, one of the things they have to do is cook in the house, (and one of the boys) is really interested in culinary school, so he talks about that a lot.”

“Development” encompasses the skills needed for coping, maintaining healthy relationships and communicating—“just developing as they reach adulthood in all aspects,” Rader said.

The 14-year-old from Bullhead City described his stay at the group home as “kind of like a getaway from home a little bit.”

At home, he said, “I was doing drugs and stuff and getting arrested and stuff like that. I would run away from home and they would arrest me and take me to the holding cell, and my mom would come pick me up.

“That was happening three or four times a week every week for the past three or four months.”

His hope for when he returns home: “I would like me and my mom to stop getting in fights and just live together and (be) happy.”

Counseling at New Horizon includes working with families, Rader said, emphasizing “communication, trust, honesty, implementing consequences and incentives that would be conducive to good behavior. Structure, rules, routine.”

“How they can translate success from our program back home,” Dosil said.

The eighth-grader at the Chandler home knows he will earn his way out of the program by doing well on his treatment goals, which he has memorized: “Maintain sobriety, which I’ve been doing pretty good at. I’ve passed all my drug tests the past four months. That’s one of my strengths,” he said. “I will demonstrate good behavior and act positive toward peers and family, which I’m getting pretty

good at.”

Finally, he said, he must “develop coping skills necessary to manage anger.”

He hopes that a year from now he’s back to doing yard work for a neighbor. “I’d want to be working with her and getting paid, save up enough money to get a new motor for my mini-bike.”

Eventually, he plans to go to college, though he’s not sure he wants to attend directly after high school.

“I can give you some alarming statistics if you don’t go to school” right away, Dosil warned him. “If you skip

your first year right out of high school, you’ll never go. Ninety percent of kids who don’t go after their first year of high school don’t go.”

Community service is part of the program, and the young people in the Park Avenue home have a regular relationship with the nearby Chandler First Assembly of God, helping with the men’s breakfast, cleaning the church and attending some of its activities.

“It makes me feel like I’m giving something to the church,” the 14-year-old said. “It feels good.”

Chandler First Assembly has had an ongoing relationship with three New Horizon group homes for about two years, Pastor Tom Rakoczy said.

The church throws each resident a birthday party, invites them to cooking classes and picnics, and raises money to buy each boy a Christmas gift, he said. Someone from the church goes into the homes each week for Bible study.

“They’re wonderful boys,” Rakoczy said. They have been taken advantage of by adults. They’ve been disappointed. They just need an opportunity. Someone to care about them, someone to speak to them, someone to give them life skills.”

Far from being daunted by their backgrounds, members of his congregation “cheer for them; they applaud them,” he said.

Also in the spirit of community service, the kids pick up trash in city parks, and they have volunteered at a homeless shelter, Dosil said.

On Sunday, many of them will be at Kiwanis Park, ready to run. The Bullhead City boy said he has prepared by adding cardio workouts to his routine at the gym. It will be his first official race.

“We like doing a lot of firsts with these kids,” Dosil said.



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Briefs

Tempe residents can voice opinions 'til Dec. 31

Residents who receive a satisfaction survey from the city of Tempe are being asked to return their input in the envelope that accompanies each mailing. Others may respond by going online by Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Each year, Tempe mails a confidential survey to 2,400 randomly selected residents to ask their input on issues including parks, recreation offerings, communication, streets, police and fire service and other city programs.

Approximately 10 minutes are needed to fill out the form.

Residents are asked to mail their responses to ETC Institute, of Olathe, Kan., the company that administers the survey for Tempe. This year's survey was scheduled to be mailed out in late November.

Residents who received surveys are provided a self-addressed, stamped envelope to return their responses. Some residents may receive a telephone call reminding them to complete the survey. Names of those who respond are not disclosed, and the city will not be informed which residents received or completed surveys.

The survey is also available online through Dec. 31 at <http://www.tempe2013survey.org/>

Online survey responses are limited to residents 18 and older. One response is allowed per household. The results will be presented to the mayor and City Council next year.

Health care options to be explored Dec. 11

The most recent changes to health insurance coverage may present a new opportunity for individuals and their families to stay healthy.

In order to learn more about the new health care options, community hospital Tempe St. Luke's will host a free presentation from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11. The event will include a presentation on the Affordable Care Act, information on new health care options, assistance with enrollment and the chance to speak with

representatives of qualified health plans and financial counselors. For information or to register, visit www.tempestlukeshospital.com or call 1-877-351-WELL (9355). Tempe St. Luke's is at 1500 S. Mill Ave.

Arizona artists on display at Tempe Arts Center

Just in time to help with your gift list, Black Bird Holiday Bazaar and Exhibition comes to the Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts, offering affordable work from 17 Arizona artists.

It's a perfect opportunity to buy local, handmade items at a venue that is well known for featuring artists from this state, say the event's planners. Of the 275 nationally and internationally known artists who have shown in the gallery, 230 of them call Arizona home.

By popular demand, the bazaar will include paintings on rather unusual canvases—pieces from the old Tempe Town Lake rubber dam. High school student artists originally created paintings on the rubber for a Green Revolution exhibition that were very popular. A new group of eclectic paintings on dam pieces will be available for purchase.

Five articulated artist-mannequins from that earlier exhibition were given to the Black Bird exhibitor, along with the challenge to make them works of art, that will now be available for sale. The results are stunning and far-ranging, some painted and drawn on the mannequins. Others have been embellished with found objects and decorative materials.

Other pieces on display include intricate wooden boxes, jewelry, clocks and glasswork. Prices range from \$20 to a little more than \$200. The exhibition also offers art that is higher in price and pieces that are not for sale.

The exhibition runs just a month, Dec. 6 through Jan. 4. There is no admission fee to visit the gallery.

The Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts is at 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe. Information: 480-350-2822 or www.tempe.gov/tca.



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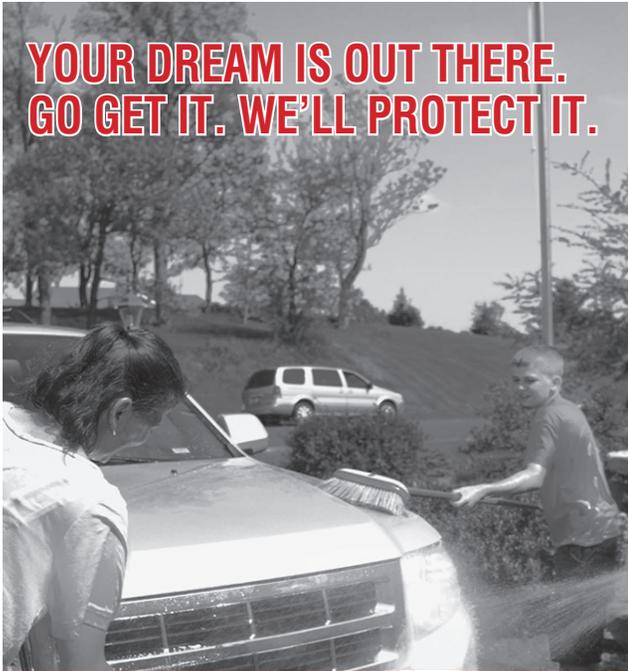
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Young pianist takes a big step toward the future, no matter where it takes him

By Diana Whittle

At this point in his young life, Eric Lin seems to have all the right pieces in place for what could be a lifelong career as a professional pianist. Whether the hard work that still lies ahead will alter his direction, no one can predict—including him.

In the meantime, without having to face such a decision just yet, the Corona del Sol High School junior will share his musical virtuosity in a piano recital at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, on the ASU campus in Katzin Concert Hall.

The talented teen earned first place honors in the 2013 Steinway Avanti Future Star Piano Competition held last spring in Scottsdale, along with winning the concert appearance and \$750. Lin competed in the senior category, for youth between 15 to 18 years old, and played two pieces of contrasting styles to showcase his abilities.

All the competitors are Arizona youth and judged by a jury of music professors and professional musicians.

In previous piano competitions sponsored by Yamaha Pianos, the Arizona Musicfest, and the James Anthony, Schimmel, and Keogh foundations, Lin also earned top prizes. He studies with local piano

teacher Hong Zhu.

While playing solo can be a bit nerve-racking, Lin says he finds live performance to be “overall a pleasant experience.”

He practices about two hours a day to keep his skills honed and looks forward to sharing his interpretation of classical music with the audience.

“The concert should last about 45 minutes,” said Lin. “It’s really an honor for me to have the chance to play in that hall.”

In addition to this performance, Lin is scheduled to play at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16 at the Central United Methodist Church in Phoenix.

He favors music by the renowned composer Frederick Chopin for its beauty. As for a living performer, he considers Swiss pianist Krystian Zimerman his current favorite for Zimerman’s skillful playing techniques.

Lin, now 16-years-old, started playing the piano at age six after watching his older brother perform at the keyboards.

“My brother is a role model for me,” said Lin. “He’s now a college student in St. Louis at Washington University. I also am fortunate to have two very loving, caring and hard-working parents.”

He jokes, “I also have one younger brother—my dog Sparky.”



Eric Lin uses the piano to generate a sense of inner harmony.

— Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

The family lives in Tempe, where Lin attended Kyrene del Cielo Elementary School and Aprende Middle School.

As for the future, Lin is uncertain if he wants to undertake the rigors of a career as a concert pianist. He thinks he may prefer a job in the

medical field. But he is certain that his love for playing the piano will continue.

“For me, playing the piano brings sort of a feeling of peace and harmony to my heart. If I am feeling sad, I can play the piano and it will help me to change my emotional outlook.”

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December 2013



City of Tempe Page



Tempe holidays: Something for everyone!

25th Annual Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl

Teams from the Big 12 and Big Ten will face each other Saturday, Dec. 28, at 8:15 p.m. at Sun Devil Stadium for the 25th Annual Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl. This is always an exciting event in Tempe, so join the fun! Tickets are available at www.fiestabowl.org.

Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade

A truly unique Tempe tradition happens Saturday, Dec. 14, when Tempe Town Lake hosts a dazzling display of lighted, decorated boats.

Get a good seat at Tempe Beach Park, at Mill Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway, for Santa's 6 p.m. arrival and the parade's launch at 7 p.m.

Bring the family for this free event and be amazed at the holiday boat displays as they float down the lake in a glittering row. Individuals, families and groups are invited to add to Tempe's holiday tradition by entering their people-powered, wind-powered or

motorized boats.

To enter a boat in the parade or for more information, visit www.downtowntempe.com and click on "Entertainment and Events."

Danish Christmas at the Petersen House

Once again, the Petersen House Museum will be filled with Danish Christmas decorations and traditions for the holiday season. This year, decorations will be based on the Danish story, Nisse, Gnomes and Elves. In Denmark, elves are known as nisse. They are thought to live in the attic, cellar or barn, and their behavior toward the residents depends on whether the family was naughty or nice that year.

The house will be open on three Saturdays (Dec. 7, 14, 21) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and three Sundays (Dec. 8, 15, 22) from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free, though donations will be accepted.

The house is located at 1414 W. Southern Ave. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/museum or call 480-350-5100.



Circle K New Year's Eve Block Party on Mill Avenue (With voucher below or from Tempe Today)

A few days after the big game, it'll be time for a big party in downtown Tempe! Join thousands of revelers at the Circle K New Year's Eve Block Party on Mill Avenue, on Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are on sale online and at all Circle K stores. Tempe residents can buy discounted tickets – see the voucher for details. For more information, visit www.blockpartyonmill.com.

Register for winter classes & programs

The winter issue of the Tempe Opportunities brochure is full of new and continuing classes and programs for all ages and interests.

Class topics include exercise and fitness, educational programming, sports leagues, music, art, dance and more. All of these quality programs are offered at convenient times and locations, at affordable prices.

The winter brochure is full of activities and classes happening from January through March. The new brochure will be available in all City of Tempe facilities and can be viewed online starting in early December.

Registration begins in December and the first classes begin the first week of January. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/brochure or call 480-350-5200.



Circle K New Year's Eve Block Party on Mill Avenue

Dec. 31, 2013 – 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Tempe residents are eligible to purchase up to four tickets per household at \$10 each for the Circle K Block Party. Please bring this voucher to the following locations to purchase your tickets starting Dec. 2.

Locations: Tempe Transportation Center; Escalante Community Center; Cahill Senior Center; Kiwanis Recreation Center; North Tempe Multi-Generational Center; Pyle Adult Recreation Center; and Tempe Parks and Recreation

Offer expires Dec. 24, 2013 at 5 p.m. (Kids 12 & under free with adult.)

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www.blockpartyonmill.com





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Tempe now offers programming for Toddlers 16 months to 5 years old, as well as sports programs for Elementary and Middle School age youth.

Tempe Resident Registration begins Dec. 9

General Registration begins Dec. 16

Classes start the week of Jan. 6

www.tempe.gov/brochure 480.350.5200

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de los Cerritos</p> | <p>7. Jacqueline Jones
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Alumni of Kyrene del Cielo,
Kyrene Centennial and
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| <p>2. Sarah Collins
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Alumni of Kyrene de las
Mariposa and Kyrene
del Pueblo</p> | <p>8. Emily Patten
Kyrene de la Paloma
5th Grade Teacher
Alumni of Kyrene de las Brisas
and Kyrene Aprende</p> |
| <p>3. Lisa Wontor
Kyrene de los Cerritos
5th Grade Teacher
Alumni of Kyrene
de la Mirada</p> | <p>6. Lilanii Figueroa
Kyrene Aprende
Music Teacher
Alumni of Kyrene del Cielo and
Kyrene del Pueblo</p> | <p>9. Jordan Beaver
Kyrene del Cielo
5th Grade Teacher
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Pictured above are nine alumni at the inaugural ALUMNIGHT employee event (from left to right).

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Cruisin' the 'hood — in style

What better way to spend a Saturday morning than tooling around the Kyrene Corridor in a '61 Cadillac with some of your dearest friends. Tempe residents Eileen Mundine, Abby Fogelson and Anne Loire journeyed to Green Table gifts boutique, the Tempe Farmers Market and the Pieces of 8 grand opening in the beautiful red classic. The ladies are firm believers in shopping local and embracing their community. So why not do it in style? — Wrangler News photo by Chelsea Martin



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8:30 a.m. ½K Fuzz Run
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Entry fee is \$25 thru Dec. 6 or \$40 on Dec. 7

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Register Online: www.TempeCopsRun.com

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- 7:30 a.m. Registration & Packet Pickup
- Run is chip timed
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**New
chief for
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Chief Duggan

An assistant police chief with the Scottsdale Police Department, Sean Duggan, has been named Chandler's new chief, replacing Sherry Kiyler who retired in June. He will begin the new job Jan. 13.

Duggan has been with Scottsdale PD since 1986, the last seven in the assistant chief post. His responsibilities included management of the 200-member Investigative Services Bureau for three years and the 400-person Uniformed Services Bureau for four years.

He also served as a SWAT commander and Special Investigations section commander, and supervised Scottsdale's Youth/Gang Intervention Unit.

Duggan is a member of the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force Executive Committee and the Arizona and International Associations of Chiefs of Police. He also was selected for the FBI's Police Executive Fellowship Program.

Duggan holds bachelor's and master's

degrees in Justice Studies from Arizona State University. He will receive a salary of \$173,000.

"Chief Duggan brings 27 years of progressive, responsible experience in all facets of police work," City Manager Rich Dlugas said.

"His record shows a commitment to community engagement and employee empowerment and he truly impressed our management team during interviews."

Register for Chandler American Little League

**December 14, 28
January 4, 10a-12pm**
Nozomi Park (Kyrene and 202)

December 21, 10a-12pm
Peter Piper (Dobson/Chandler)

ages 5 thru 16
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chandleramerican.com

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Parents and adults, did you know that underage alcohol use is the #1 substance abuse problem facing Arizona youth? The younger youth begin using alcohol, the more likely they are to face addiction or dependence later on in their lives.

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!"**

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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.

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Diversions . . . with M.V. Moorhead

Philomena—Philomena Lee was a teenager in rural and very Catholic Ireland when she got pregnant in the early '50s.

She was turned over to the nuns, where, after delivering her son Anthony, she and her fellow unmarried teen mothers were kept in the convents as, essentially, slave labor, while their kids were adopted—sold, essentially—to any Catholic who could come up with the sizable adoption fee. In 1955, Anthony was taken to America, along with another little girl from the convent, and Philomena was made to sign a document renouncing any claim on him.

Philomena later married, had other kids, and had a successful career as a nurse, but needless to say, she never forgot her first child.

She tried several times to get information about from the convent and was denied each time. Eventually a journalist named Martin Sixsmith took an interest in her case, and the two of them travelled to the U.S. where they made startling discoveries about the boy. The result was a book, *The Lost Child of Philomena Lee*.

If this story were an old-school TV soap opera, it would seem corny and overwrought, right down to its tear-jerking final twist. But *Philomena*, the movie version, isn't even a little depressing. The director, Stephen Frears, brilliantly treats this real-life tragedy as an odd couple comedy.

Judi Dench plays the gabby, cheery

Philomena, an intelligent but unpretentious woman, unfiltered but so warm that she doesn't give offense to those she chats up. Her openhearted, un-ironic manner wears a bit on Sixsmith—an educated, sophisticated but oddly unlikable cold fish played by Steve Coogan.

Dench leaves us with a sense of awe at the grandness of this woman's soul, even while she keeps on making us laugh.

After seeing her so many times as Queen Victoria and James Bond's boss and other such dour roles, it's great to see her in what can only be called a lighter vein.

Philomena is, I think, the movie I've most enjoyed so far in 2013. As cinema craft it's conventional but polished, and the leads are sublime. If you're like me, the critical cliché "You'll laugh, you'll cry" applies.

Frozen—Disney's animated musical "inspired" by Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen* is an origin story for Andersen's title character, a young sovereign under a magical curse who can freeze things with her hands.

It has an ice palace, trolls, fiords and other Norwegian motifs, but the story here concerns the tempestuous relationship between the Queen, Elsa, and her lonely, love-hungry younger sister Annie.

The filmmakers seem to be trying for a sort of junior league *Wicked*, but the score isn't as memorable as some of the other Disney musicals. But it is, at least, superbly

sung, especially by *Wicked*'s great Idina Menzel, as Elsa.

Its real crowd-pleaser, however, is its sentient snowman Olaf, voiced by Josh Gad. Olaf has the misfortune to crave "warm hugs."

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire—Jennifer Lawrence returns as heroine Katniss Everdeen in this sequel to last year's monster hit *The Hunger Games*.

The setting is a dystopian future America built around televised annual games that are basically a to-the-death version of the "reality series" *Survivor*.

In the new film's first half, Katniss and fellow survivor Peeta (Josh Hutcherson) take a PR victory tour; in the second half they're forced to compete again. As in the original, I must admit to a distaste for the premise—I don't necessarily doubt its plausibility, but I'm troubled by the

Ginger Braaten

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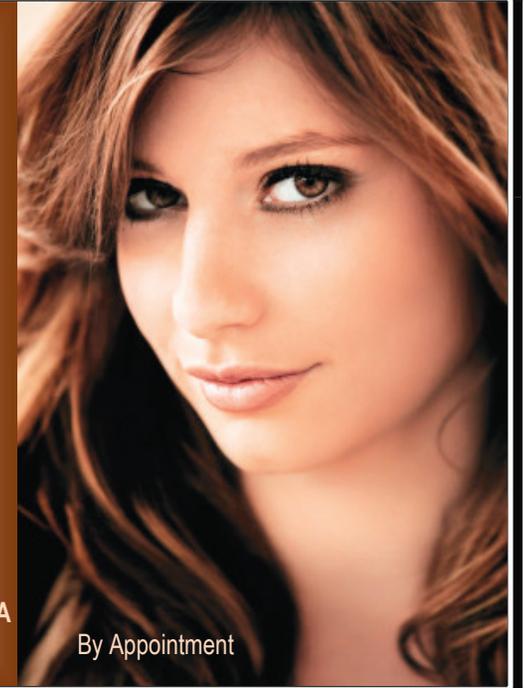
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The Last Word

Chandler's charm, allure a collaboration between large, small businesses

By Terri Kimble

I believe Chandler has a strong balance of large corporations and small, locally owned companies. Being involved in the community and within the Chandler Chamber, I believe there is a special charm about local businesses, as well as old landmark buildings that make our community so unique.



the Chandler community for over 100 years.

I believe local treasures like this one add a sense of community, identity

and allure to our city. And it's not just the older landmarks—it's also our startups and local businesses that make Chandler so special.

Being ranked number four in the country for startups per capita means we have some amazing opportunities here.

Chandler has a plethora of local restaurants, resorts and businesses that truly give Chandler its community roots.

I hear comments from our locals and visitors in Chandler that our breweries, boutiques and local shops are among the reasons they live, work or come to visit Chandler.

As community members we play a large part in helping our local

companies in their efforts to thrive. By investing in the place we live, work and play, we continue to strengthen Chandler's economic base. Our dollars spent here in Chandler help to fund city services and recreational programs, as well as parks and neighborhoods—all the things that enhance our community.

The Chandler Chamber has over 1,200 member businesses, with a balance that reflects that of the cities, small and large companies welcome. We have diverse businesses with niche skills, products, and services, which means you don't have to go far when looking for what you need.

The Chandler Chamber is proud of its support of local businesses, provided through marketing opportunities free of charge in our newsletter, announcements, social media platforms and our website. It's our way of giving back to our member businesses here in the community.

The City of Chandler also makes it easy to shop locally, with its Shop Chandler program; consumers can receive specials and local businesses can post promotions and deals they might have going on.

With so many options right here in our back yard, I encourage residents and visitors to shop locally and support our landmark businesses that help keep the balance Chandler has, with the harmonious mixture of large corporations and small, locally owned businesses.

For more information on shopping locally and for a complete list of member businesses, I recommend a visit to the Chandler Chamber website, www.chandlerchamber.com. You can also call the chamber at 480-963-4571.

More information about the city's Shop Chandler program is available at www.chandleraz.gov/shop.

Terri Kimble is President and CEO of the Chandler Chamber of Commerce.

Would you like your ideas to be heard? Wrangler News invites you to submit topics for discussion in this new forum, "The Last Word," for which we have reserved the last page in each edition.

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