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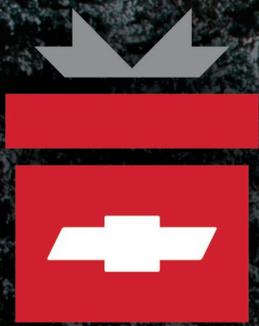
ALL AGLOW

Tempe's Fantasy of Lights Parade drew a crowd, including these little girls decked out in their holiday chef's hats, to brighten the season in style.

— Tamara Long Garcia for Wrangler News . . . More photos Pgs. 16-17



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VOTED THE VALLEY'S BEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Shining light on a darkly pervasive worldwide secret



So. Tempe forum unveils how 40 million are entrapped as slaves of human trafficking

By Noah Kutz

“There’s just no way to fully heal from that.” It was the sobering message imprinted indelibly in the minds of those attending a presentation at Arizona Community Church regarding the tragedy of human trafficking.

Global Connections International, founded in 2000 and focused on educating the public about one of the world’s most appalling issues, has dispatched Julia Weber, the organization’s communications and marketing director, on a mission to help spread the message that human sex trafficking within local communities is one that needs residents’ utmost—and immediate—attention.

According to GCI, more than 40 million people around the world are victims of sex-trafficking.

Prevention is No. 1 goal

The industry generates over \$152 billion annually, making it the fastest growing illegal enterprise and the second-largest criminal industry across the globe.

For several months, Weber and the GCI team have traveled the United States with a mission to educate communities on the terrors of human sex trafficking, with an ultimate goal of preventing more children from becoming victims.

“We’ve committed to helping protect America’s youth,” Weber stated, referring to the singularity of their efforts.

Over the course of 19,500 miles and 38 states, the Colorado-based organization has utilized a state-of-the-art truck and trailer with TV monitors, billboards and interactive learning materials to help people better understand the process of sex-trafficking.

Portraying life as a sex-trafficking victim

Walking through the exhibit, visitors are quick to learn ways to identify the signs of a child being lured by a “buyer,” as well as how to avoid getting caught in these situations themselves.

Then, video interviews with teenagers are played, describing life within a sex-trafficking ring and the devastating consequences that come thereafter.

A multi-media display brought attention to the plight of human trafficking victims and demonstrated how the crimes against them are perpetrated.

— Wrangler News photo by Noah Kutz

Schools become ex-cop’s new fulltime beat



Noah Johnson : Campuses his new beat

By Joyce Coronel

Noah Johnson spent 26 years with the Tempe Police Department. Now, he’s making sure students, staff and volunteers are safe while they’re at Kyrene schools.

Johnson began his work last March when the district developed a new staff position to further ensure safety at its more than two dozen sites.

Districts around the country have also begun to hire former law enforcement and public safety officials to enhance security.

“Responding to a crisis is more than a bullet-pointed process,” Johnson said. “It’s how to manage a crisis and how to

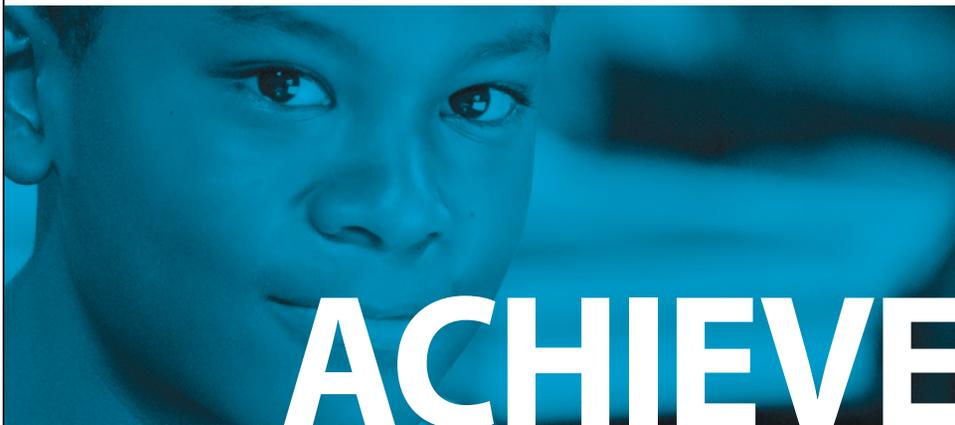
respond appropriately and give out information as circumstances are presented.”

Kyrene’s safety and security coordinator is a retired police commander who brings wide-ranging experience to his role. “I served in every department in the agency, from patrol, to traffic, to K-9 to SWAT. I did a lot of things,” Johnson told *Wrangler News*.

“When I left, it was as commander of the metro division where I did a lot of emergency management, large-scale events and large-scale incidents like protests and things of that nature.”

Now, when it comes to safety,

— SAFETY, Page 24



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Hospital offers tips for safely decking the halls

Each year, thousands of Americans are injured, many of them seriously, in holiday decorating accidents.

Dignity Health Chandler Regional Medical Center's Level I trauma team is urging Tempe/West Chandler residents to be cautious while decorating their homes this holiday season.

Here's a list of safety tips people should practice when climbing to string holiday lights.

- Don't climb alone. Never climb a ladder to string lights or hang ornaments without someone to watch or help. Be sure there's only one person at a time on a ladder unless the ladder is specifically designed for two people.

- Don't drink and decorate.
- Be firm. Set up the ladder so that it's on a firm, secure and level foundation. Avoid slippery surfaces. Space the base of the ladder one foot away from the wall for every four feet

Arizona Grand hosts fundraiser for pet rescue

Champagne, brunch and a selection of auctions designed to provide pre-holiday appeal to pet lovers will help raise funds for the work of Lost Our Home Pet Rescue when the group stages its 9th annual holiday event Sunday, Dec. 8.

The event, at Arizona Grand Resort and Spa, will feature appearances by TV personality Jan D'Atri and comedian Steven Franklin, who will emcee of the event.

Letitia Frye will host a live auction, and Lost Our Home Pet Rescue will present its Pet Champion Excellence Award to the Banfield Foundation, recognizing a person, organization or company that has made an exceptional contribution to pets in Arizona.

The brunch is the rescue organization's major annual event, presented by Arizona's Vision, Fred and Jami Pryor Foundation and Tito's Vodka.

"We have lots to celebrate at this year's brunch," said Jodi Polanski, the no-kill organization's founder and executive director.

of ladder height. Check that the ladder is in good working condition, with no loose or missing parts.

- Take your time. Never rush while hanging holiday lights and decorations. The faster you decorate, the more likely you are to overlook simple safety rules that can prevent a serious injury.

- Be afraid of heights. Don't stand above the fourth rung from the top of an extension ladder or three rungs from the top of a step-ladder.

- Be aware of children. Keep kids away from ladders.

- Don't slip. Wear shoes with non-slip soles. Running shoes are a good choice. Keep the steps and rungs of the ladder free of water and slippery materials.

- Avoid furniture. Avoid standing on chairs, couches or other furniture when hanging holiday decorations. Always use the proper step stool or ladder.

- Lock it open. Always open a stepladder completely and make sure the spreader is locked open before using the ladder.

- Practice the 3-point rule. Always have three points of contact while on the ladder (two hands, one foot or two feet, one hand). Grip the rungs to climb – not the side rails.



"For the last 11 years, we've been helping people and saving pets. Our shelter renovation will be complete this fall, with improved safety and sanitation features throughout, increased capacity so we can help more pets, enhanced overall quality and comfort for the dogs, cats and people who enter the shelter and much more."

Brunch tickets are \$95; tables, \$950. Sponsorships range from \$1,000-\$10,000.

To purchase tickets online and pre-register for the silent auction visit lostourhome.org.

For additional questions, call 602-445-7387 or email brunch@lostourhome.org.

The Dec. 8 event runs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Arizona Grand Resort is at 8000 Arizona Grand Parkway.

Safeway \$1,500 grants target schools

By Diana Whittle

Money is always a welcome gift, especially as the holidays approach.

School districts also take delight at an infusion of cash—particularly when it comes with no strings attached.

Four Kyrene schools, as well as two local high schools, received \$1,500 each in grants to spend

as they choose, thanks to the Safeway Foundation, said Nancy Keane, director of public affairs and government relations for Albertsons Safeway.

Receiving the stipends were Kyrene Middle School, Kyrene de los Niños, Kyrene del Norte and CI Waggoner—along with Corona del Sol and Marcos de Niza high schools in the Tempe Union High School District.

Albertsons Safeway has supported Kyrene schools in the past with donations of gift cards, products and grants. However, this is the largest Safeway Foundation grant given to Kyrene schools.

The schools were selected, explained Keane, because they are in close proximity to the Safeway store at McClintock Drive and Elliott Road in Tempe.

“Recently that Safeway location was remodeled,” said Keane.

“To help celebrate this beautiful, newly remodeled store, we held a ribbon cutting event and invited nearby schools to apply for grants.

“Both Corona del Sol High School and Marcos de Niza High School, along with four schools in the Kyrene district, submitted applications and all received a \$1,500 grants...”

Programs that benefit local schools are one of the priorities of the Safeway Foundation, which gave \$44 million last year to better the lives of people in our neighborhoods, says Keane.

“We take pride in ensuring that the vast majority of the funds we raise stay in local communities and reflects what is important to our customers and employees.”

While Keane isn’t certain how the funds will be used at the Chandler and Tempe schools, she knows from experience that the schools’ staff really value having the discretion to determine how to spend the grant money.

“Each school district is very different in their needs,” said Keane, “but, we’re certain that the money will be well spent.”



Four Kyrene schools were the recipients of \$1,500 unrestricted grants from the Safeway Foundation during ceremonies at the Safeway store at McClintock Drive and Elliott Road. The schools were represented by, from left, Principals Scott Maxwell, Kyrene Middle School; Lisa Connor, Kyrene de los Niños; and Marcie Romero, C.I. Waggoner Elementary. Not pictured was Principal Jamie Soto, Kyrene del Norte Elementary. Other recipients included Marcos de Niza and Corona del Sol high schools.

23rd annual craft sale will benefit furry friends

Longtime Tempe animal-rescue advocate Eva Vichules is planning her 23rd annual craft sale, with proceeds earmarked for three nonprofits.

The event will be held 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 15 W. Balboa Drive.

Proceeds will go to Island Dog, a non-profit organization providing and promoting animal welfare in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Caribbean Islands; Aussie and friends

rehoming services for Australian shepherds in need; and Happy Tails Rescue, caring for displaced, abandoned and unwanted dogs in Arizona.

For sale at the event will be varieties of plants and hand-crafted pottery created by Vichules; works by several other ceramic artists will be for sale as well.

Specialty items include piggy banks, one-of-a-kind planters, animal magnet and various types of cups, as well as animal-inspired pieces for the wall or patio.

Only cash or checks accepted for payment.

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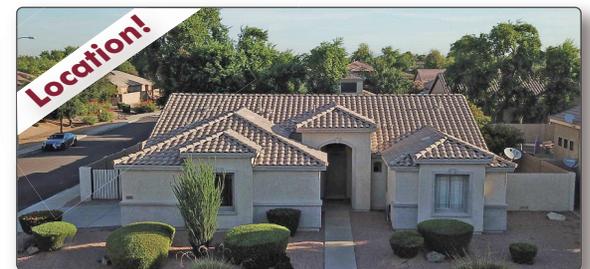
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At Westchester, memories abound

Photo and story by Janie Magruder

If you're like most Tempeans, you've driven by the place dozens, maybe hundreds, of times. It's that understated development on the west side of Rural Road, north of Guadalupe Road—Westchester Senior Living.

Perhaps your son's Cub Scout den sang Christmas carols and played games with residents there, or you've dropped by to inquire about residency for an older family member, a friend—even for yourself.

"Many people have a story about Westchester, and I hear it a lot. 'I've lived in Tempe all my life, and I've always thought I'd end up here,'" said marketing manager Kathleen Fanning of the 40-year-old campus.

"We have second and third generations coming in, and they say, 'My mom was here, my grandma was here; my mom's moving in; save a space for me.'"

The 55-plus community has nearly 200 residents in various life stages and with varying needs. Owned and operated by Volunteers of America, a nonprofit, faith-based organization, Westchester, at 6100 S. Rural Road, offers independent living, assisted living, short-term rehabilitation, memory care and skilled nursing services.

Because VOA runs senior living communities across the country, many Arizona snowbirds are familiar with its reputation and services, Fanning said.

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, the public is invited to see Westchester up close. A free senior fair and

blood drive is planned from 2-7 p.m. in the Fiesta Room. A speaker from the Area Agency on Aging will give a talk, "Successful Aging," at 4 p.m., and representatives of Jackson White Law, Arizona Medicare, Covenant Home Health, The Doctor Is In, Aviant Hospice, AZ MediQuip and Bayada Home Health Care, among others, will be on hand.

Admission is free, and although walk-ins are welcome, appointments are encouraged. Pre-register at redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor keyword "Westchester" or call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Blood drive

According to a National Institutes of Health study reported in October, there is a critical shortage of blood at hospitals in developing countries around the world. Blood drives are always needed, Fanning noted.

"This is one thing so many people can do that costs them nothing but an hour of time, and look how many people it benefits—not just in disaster relief, but right here, right now," she said.

The senior fair was planned, Fanning said, because with the aging of the Baby Boomers, more people are searching for available resources in their communities. Westchester's experts can answer questions about estate planning, veteran benefits, the Arizona Long Term Care System (Arizona Medicaid), home health and caregiving services, end-of-life



Lottie Hofstetter, who has lived at Westchester for nearly nine years, provides a welcoming presence to new residents.

— MEMORIES, Page 9

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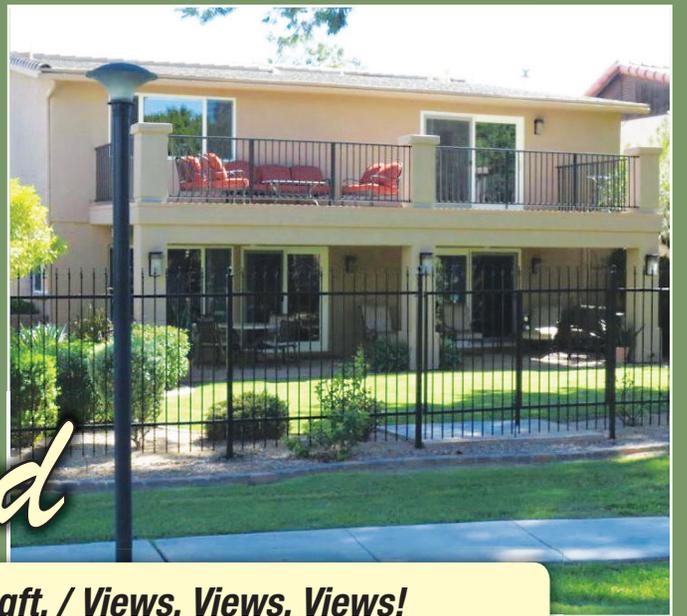
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Seeking the neediest to spread holiday cheer

Local congregations employ creative ideas to advance season's giving



Parishioners at St. Andrew the Apostle organize and load a massive pile of donations from the annual Thanksgiving food drive aimed at alleviating hunger. — Photo courtesy St. Andrew's

By Joyce Coronel

It's that magical time of year again when families and friends gather for holiday cheer, exchanging gifts, savoring meals and enjoying the comforts of hearth and home.

Not everyone, however, is similarly situated, a fact that doesn't escape the members of Tempe and West Chandler churches.

At Dayspring United Methodist Church, the congregation gathered on the Sunday before Thanksgiving to bake pies for more than 400 foster children who reside in group homes in Tempe. Volunteers working with other churches, the Mesa police and retired Cardinals players helped set up, serve and clean up the dinner the next day.

Carolyn Blaney-Arndt helps coordinate the meal every year and also serves as a court appointed special advocate for foster kids. About

14,000 children are in Arizona's foster care system and of those, about 40 percent, particularly teenagers, live in group homes, she said.

"So they're going into group homes where there are paid employees that are working around the clock, not a typical style mother-father parental role," Blaney-Arndt said. "We're trying to share a little bit more family-oriented things for the holidays."

On Christmas Eve the church will share home-baked goods with foster children in some of Tempe's bigger group homes.

"We want to make sure that those kids are getting a...taste of what our own families will be having at Christmas time," Blaney-Arndt said. "It's just a drop in the bucket but we're trying to do what we can to share that bit."

— NEEDED, Page 11

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Memories

From Page 6

yoga, bridge club, Spanish class, cello performances, movie nights, bingo, tai chi, afternoon walks, poker and trivia happy hour, to name a few.

Residents gathered on a recent Friday afternoon to converse, compete in a timed Thanksgiving craft and enjoy shrimp cocktail, mozzarella sticks, wine and soda. Oh, and there was white zinfandel, a special request of resident Pat Royce-West.

Fanning, who joined the team six months ago, has led an interesting life in places around the country, working in corporate advertising and as a licensed paramedic, as well as an investment broker, licensed masseuse and personal trainer.

As her interest in and involvement with older people grew, she said, she decided to pursue a degree in human and adult development and gerontology.

Fanning's office door, painted a bright blue, welcomes residents and visitors alike. There's Lottie Hofstetter, a 9-year resident whose pleasant manner is an anchor for new people, and Royce-West, whose sense of humor is always on display.

Responding to a visitor's question, Royce-West polls the other women at her happy hour table: "I don't make friends easily, do I?"

And they just chuckle.

options and more.

"We want people to learn about the best quality of life for whatever their situation is," Fanning said. "They need to understand every component to make good decisions."

Nearly a year ago, Westchester had a change in administration, ushering in a model of servant leadership that challenges staff to find ways to "say yes" to residents' requests, said executive director Milissa Watkins.

"We want everyone who resides here to lead purposeful lives, and to age in place as long as it is physically and mentally possible," Watkins said. "We want our residents to be proud of their homes, and their children and loved ones to sleep well at night, knowing they made the right choice."

To that end, Westchester has converted a former two-bedroom apartment into a fitness center, and is installing an Americans with Disabilities Act-approved lift at the community's swimming pool—both suggestions from residents.

On any given week, guest coordinator Yvette Harris organizes dozens of enrichment activities: chair



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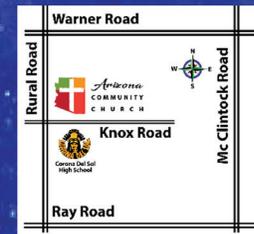
 

 
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Needy

From Page 8

Steve Lappen, who belongs to Arizona Community Church, has a similar personal mission to serve the poor and has been doing so for years. At first, his efforts were concentrated on downtown Phoenix where he found the homeless, immigrants, refugees and others who needed a helping hand. Revitalization of the downtown area caused him to seek out the needy on Native American reservations.

"We're going to the Hopi reservation on Dec. 14 and then on the 15th to the White Mountain Apache reservation," Lappen said. His van and trailer will haul donated toys, gifts and food to bring a bit of holiday cheer to Native populations. Accompanying Lappen on the journey will be a team of volunteers from Teen Challenge of Arizona.

The volunteers, who are in the midst of a substance abuse recovery program, will be "going into these very difficult places to help kids and help communities that are at risk. It brings purpose and healing, enhancing the recovery process," Lappen said.

He calls his work among the poor a divine calling and is hoping to get more support for his organization, Crossroads Youth Intervention.

"We are recipients of the Arizona tax credit that

helps us get kids to camp in the summertime and underwrites some of the costs of the Christmas outreach," Lappen said.

"I want to challenge people to be selfless, that their time is limited on this earth and it's better to give than to receive."

At St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, a Thanksgiving food drive helped feed hundreds of families in Chandler, South Phoenix and at St. Peter's Indian Mission in Bapchule, south of Chandler.

An annual foster family Christmas party at the church serves as a culmination event for its holiday outreach to families in need. The evening includes dinner, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, craft tables, face painting, music and more.

Brightly lit Christmas trees adorn the inside the church, each decorated with tags that indicate a name and a gift suggestion. St. Andrew's Giving Tree program provides a happy Christmas to families in the parish and others who are having difficulties making ends meet. Every family that St. Andrew's sponsors through its Giving Tree program receives two gifts per child under 18 years, a family gift, a gift card to either a grocery store, Target or Walmart, a bag of personal toiletries for the entire family, and a laundry basket filled with laundry supplies.

All three faith communities, alongside many others, are helping transform lives through generosity and service.

Blaney-Arndt of Dayspring, said that volunteering has fueled the inspiration to assist foster kids and has also made her more thankful.

"The very first year I ever did anything related to foster kids I went home with a sense of gratitude for my own situation in life and having my own family and inspiration that I needed to do more."

It's a sentiment echoed by Rev. Robert Aliunzi, pastor of St. Andrew's:

"The most important thing for us to realize is that we are blessed so abundantly and because of that, we have an inherent obligation as a church to share that blessing with those who are not fortunate, which is what Jesus himself did. He came as a poor person so as to experience poverty in order to be able to transform that poverty into richness."



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Commentary: 3 reasons why cities should lower speed limits

By Lauren Kuby

The City of Tempe prides itself on being first in the state to advance effective public policy. Last year, we became Arizona's first Vision Zero city, pledging to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injury crashes to zero.

To walk the talk on Vision Zero, Tempe is now considering using a "Safe Systems" approach to setting speed limits. Rather than expecting perfect behavior from drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists, this approach recognizes that people will make mistakes, and systems will fail. The goal should be set speed limits so that when someone errs, the penalty is not death.

Our community suffers from a traffic fatality crisis. In the past five years, 60 lives have been lost on Tempe streets. The single biggest danger to Tempeans involved in car crashes is vehicular speed—1 in 5 high-severity crashes are speed-related. There are three main reasons why Tempe should slow down:

Lowering speed limits saves lives

If a driver crashes into a pedestrian at 50 mph—an all-too-common speed on our arterial roads, the person hit has a 75 percent chance of dying. At 30 mph, the risk of death falls to 20 percent.

Here's what we know: driving at higher speeds increases the stopping distance (the time to react

plus the time to brake), resulting in more crashes. At high speeds, crashes are also more severe, as the energy involved in stopping increases as speed rises. Once cars travel over 20 mph, they rapidly become more deadly.

Lower speed limits will reduce crash fatality rates for everyone, but especially for seniors, who have the highest risk of death and injury on our roads. At 40 mph, 45 percent of people will die if they are struck, but 70 percent of those over 70 will die.

Lowering speed limits can increase traffic efficiency

You might assume that lowering speed limits would increase congestion and travel time. Have you heard the phrase "hurry up and wait?" It's the phenomenon of drivers speeding through traffic, only to be stopped at the next red light.

Most of the day, cars aren't traveling the speed limit, due to traffic congestion. Speed comes into play more in the early morning and late at night—when people are harder to see, drivers are more distracted or impaired, and when the roads are wide open.

Lower speed limits are more efficient and convenient. Lights are timed to the posted speed limit, so lower speed limits mean more green time for both the street and the crossing street. Fewer crashes result, which helps to reduce congestion.

Lowering speed limits creates road equity and fosters healthier communities

We are seeing an increase in alternative modes of transportation across our multi-modal city.

By lowering speed limits, we commit to creating safer roads for everyone, encouraging people to get out and walk or bike more, which reduces carbon emissions by taking vehicles off the road.

Our roads are changing because *we* are changing. If we want safer streets for all, we need to manage that change.

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Join our information sessions on Nov. 21, Dec. 11 or Dec. 14. Learn more at tempe.gov/VisionZero.

Lauren Kuby is a member of the Tempe City Council

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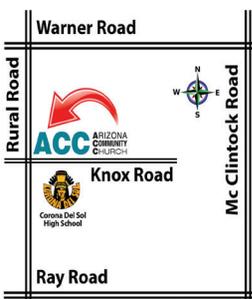
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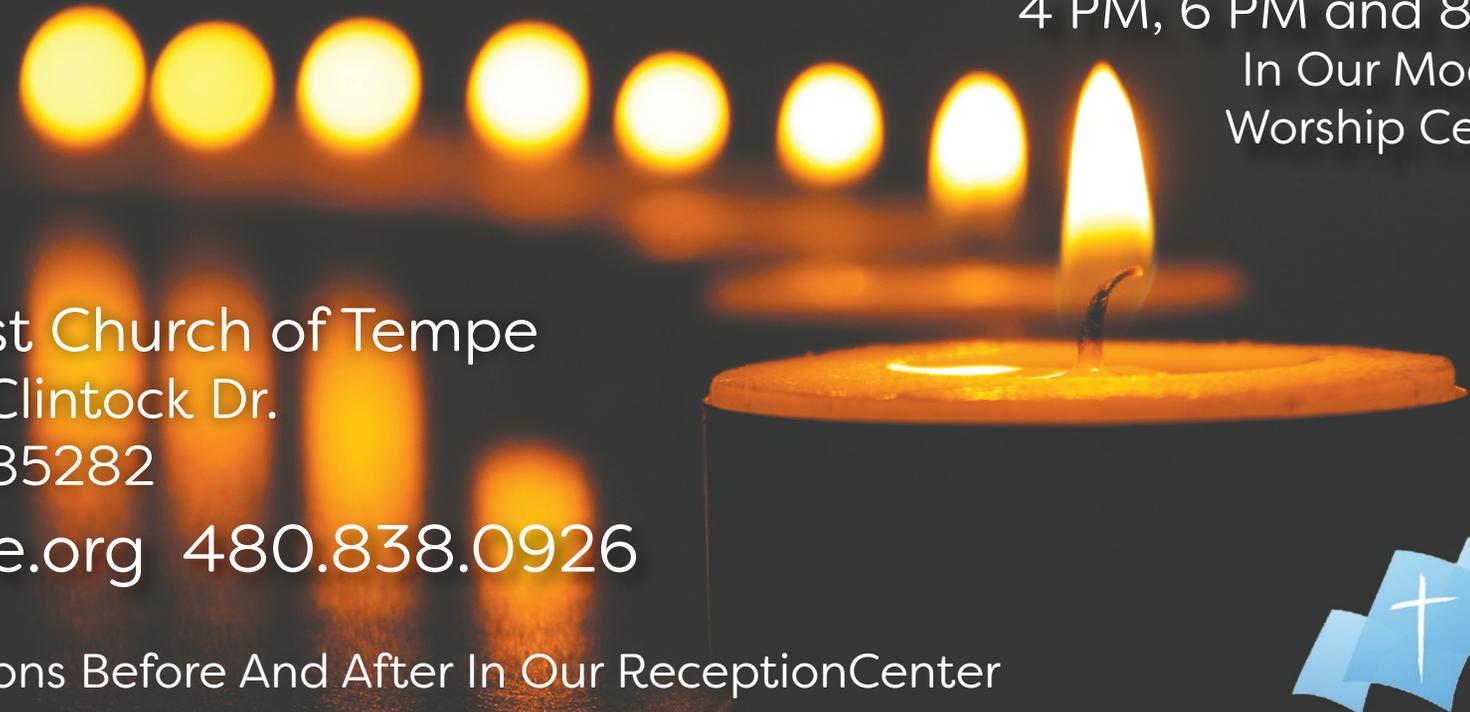
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— Billy Hardiman
for Wrangler News



A FANTASY OF HOLIDAY NIGHTS

Tempe's annual Fantasy of Lights Parade blazes down Mill Avenue, much to the delight of onlookers who bundled up, taking in the glittering affair in all its glory.

Mexican folkloric dancers in their colorful attire lit up the night and parade-goers lined up for the chance to take a selfie with jolly old St. Nick.

Even the Tempe Fire Department got into the fun, one of its shiny red engines rolling down the parade path.

Michael Pollack's Corporate Affair band lent a melodic note of flair to the evening.

*Tamara Long Garcia
for Wrangler News*





SPORTS

With Alex Zener

Aztecs prevail at AIA D1 track sectionals

After finishing in sixth place as a team in the Division I, Section III, AIA Sectionals at Crossroads Park on Nov. 8, Corona's boys team took 13th place in the AIA Division I State Championship meet on Nov. 16 at Cave Creek Golf Course.

Senior Zachary Johnson led the way in both races for the Aztecs taking fourth place at the sectionals with a time of 16:21.53 and 17th place in the state meet with a time of 16:20.8.

At the state meet, freshman Tyler Tisinger was Corona's second runner to cross the finish line, in 76th place, followed by senior Conner Zook, freshman Diego Frausto, senior Dominic Arrellano, sophomore Callum Rohrer and sophomore Diego Diaz.

Corona's girls team also took sixth place at the sectionals and 17th at the state meet.

The top runner for Corona at the state meet was sophomore Ashlinn Aguayo who shaved 5.4 seconds off her sectional meet time of 21:49.03 to finish the state race with a time of 21:43.9.

Senior Emily Rugg finished both the sectionals and state meet as Corona's second runner to cross the finish line while sophomore Sachiko Devine improved her sectional time of 23:12.60 to her state meet time 22:42.3, or almost 30 seconds faster, to be the Aztecs third runner to finish the 5,000 meter race.

Junior Peyton Burnside was

Corona's fourth runner followed by junior Teadora Zawilak and sophomore Leah Gunter.

Tempe and McClintock boys teams both competed in the Division II, Section IV Sectional meet on Nov. 8 at Crossroads Park where Tempe finished in 10th place and McClintock was 11th.

The Buffaloes had seven runners from the boys team finish the race at the sectionals with junior David Wambali as their top runner. He finished in 28th place with a time of 18:05.66.

Wambali was followed by senior Jaxen Davis, junior Mikhael Borja, junior Ulises Diaz, senior Ivan Felty, senior Jacob Bojorquez and junior Derek Cobos.

The Buffaloes had seven runners from the girls team, placing 10th overall, finish the sectional race with senior Jasmine Neal as the top finisher crossing the finish line in 35th place with a time of 23:04.03.

Neal was followed closely by fellow senior Maria Garcia Munoz in 37th place with a time of 23:06.79. Next was junior Dayanara Gomez, senior Daniela Chavira, freshman Rhonda Kent, sophomore Ximena Daniel and junior Karolina Rojas.

Tempe did not have anyone from the boys or girls team run at the Division II state meet.

McClintock's top runner in the sectionals from the boys team was freshman Taven Sanders who finished with a time of 17:32.07 in 15th place. He was followed by senior Aiden Penry, freshman Andrew Rodriguez, junior Miguel Oujada Inzunza and senior Christopher Pacheco.

Sanders was the only runner for the Chargers to compete at the Division II state meet held Nov. 16 at Cave Creek Golf Course where he crossed the finish line in 43rd place with a time of 17:24.3 or 7.77 seconds faster than he ran in the sectionals.

The Chargers had seven runners from the girls team finish the 5,000-meter sectional race where the team took first place.

The top runner was junior Ella Zeiders who took sixth place with a time of 21:20.89.

Zeiders was followed by sophomore Alexandra Lamond in 10th place, junior Selema Ortiz in 12th place, senior Mariska Bogaard in 18th place, senior Amelie Land in 22nd place, junior Olivia Fisher in 34th place and junior Alexia Moreno.

McClintock's girls team took eighth place out of 28 teams competing at the Division II state meet where Zeiders was once again the Charger's top finisher.

Zeiders crossed the finish line

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in 29th place with a time of 21:02.2 or almost 20 seconds faster than her time at the sectionals.

Lamond was the second runner, placing 32nd followed by Bogaard, Land, Ortiz, Fisher and junior Rachael Pabst.

Marcos de Niza had eight runners from the boys team compete in the Division III, Section II Sectionals held Nov. 8 at Crossroads Park where the team finished in 10th place.

The Padres first runner to cross the finish line was freshman Luke Sieveking who finished in 25th place with a time of 19:08.72.

Sieveking was followed by junior Ahmad Alawi in 43rd place, junior Justin Malpica in 48th, sophomore Benito Cervantes, senior Alexander Robles, junior Braeden Mattson and junior Marco Guillen.

The Padres did not have anyone run at the Division III state meet.

Corona Badminton

Corona's senior Eileen Li qualified as the No. 3 seed in the Division I Singles Badminton tournament held at Independence High School on Oct. 25.

"Our coaching staff all felt that heading into this year that Eileen had a great shot at winning state," said coach Darren Ridge. "Last year, she and her doubles partner Katie Carrol finished third overall at state in the doubles tournament."

Li, who finished the regular season with a 10-1 singles record after missing two weeks early on due to an ankle injury, defeated a Westwood player, 21-3, 21-2, in the first round of the singles tournament and a Mountain Pointe player in the second round, 21-7, 21-9, before running into some trouble in the third

round or quarter finals.

After losing the first set, 16-21, Li won the next two sets, 24-22, 21-16, in her quarterfinals match against Neha Shakir of Hamilton to set up her semifinal match against Alexis Davies of Liberty.

"Eileen won her semifinal match against Davies from Liberty 21-9, 21-14," said Ridge. "She went on to play Rujuta Sane, another player from Hamilton, in the finals for the state championship. She lost 21-18, 21-16, so she finished her senior year second overall or runner-up in the singles state championship."

Corona's badminton team entered the 2019 Division I State Team Championship as the No. 11 seed and lost in the first round, held Oct. 28, at Hamilton High School, to the No. 6 seed Chaparral 5-4.

"Although we were disappointed about our loss, we were proud of the fact that we were able to qualify for the state meet," said Coach Ridge.

"Eileen Li, Merilyn Li and Megan Kirchhardt all won their singles matches and our doubles team of Eileen Li and Merilyn Li won their doubles match," said Ridge.

Marcos de Niza Girls Volleyball

The Marcos de Niza girls volleyball team closed out the regular season ranked No. 20 with an opportunity to play in the 4A State Championship tournament if they could pull out a win at the 4A Conference Play-In Tournament against No. 13 ranked Canyon Del Oro on Oct. 31.

The Padres put up a good fight losing the first set, 25-21 but taking the next two sets, 25-19 and 25-23 to go up 2-1 in the best of five sets.

Unfortunately, the Dorados were able to gain some momentum after the break and rallied to beat the Padres in a back-and-forth fourth set, 27-25, sending the match into a fifth and deciding set.

Canyon Del Oro won the fifth set, 15-13 and the match 3-2 to move on to the 4A State Championship tournament eliminating the Padres.

The Padres finished the season with a 11-17 record ranked No. 18 out of 48 teams in the 4A Conference with high expectations for next year.

Although the team will graduate five seniors, Jasmin Jurado, Nina Marshall, Seriah Catania, Alynna Cruz and Ydania Garces, Marcos Head Coach Melissa Yee expects to return the three players who led the team in all six statistical categories this season.

Leading the team in kills and blocks was junior middle blocker Hailey White. Playing in 44 sets, White amassed a total of 173 kills or an average of 3.9 kills a set and led the team in blocks with 14 solo blocks.

Following White in kills was outside hitter Marshall with 50 kills in 49 sets followed by outside hitter Jurado with 40 kills in 41 sets and opposite hitter Catania who had 38 kills in 47 sets. In the blocking category, Jurado and middle blocker Cruz both had eight solo blocks.

Another junior, setter Olivia Craig, led the Padres in assists with 321 but also led her team in service aces with an amazing 71 aces. In addition, Craig was credited with six solo and five assisted blocks for a total of 11 blocks and with 22 kills.

Marshall and Mayer followed Craig in service aces

— SPORTS, Page 23

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Public invited to Kiwanis Park planning sessions Dec. 7, 9

A Kiwanis Park management plan designed to provide guidelines for the facility's future programming, amenities, facilities and operational needs will be unveiled at a pair of public sessions, both aimed at generating resident feedback.

At both sessions, city of Tempe staff will present the plan, provide a project update and answer questions.

Sessions are scheduled 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, with presentations at noon and 1 p.m., and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, with presentations at 6 and 7.

Both meetings will be held at Kiwanis Recreation Center, 6111 S. All-America Way.

A public input process, including a survey and focus groups, was held last summer. City officials say that information was used to help guide

the draft management plan to ensure it reflects the needs and desires of the community.

The management planning process includes research and analysis into how Kiwanis Park and the recreation center are used today, as well as an inventory of existing assets and an assessment of current programming.

A consultant was hired to conduct the research and develop the plan, the latter of which is said to be underway at the same time as a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. That part of the initiative has been undertaken to identify a long-term vision for Tempe's parks and recreation programs.

The Kiwanis Park plan will complement the larger, citywide parks vision, said a city spokeswoman.

Information: tempe.gov/parks.

Streetcar trackwork will delay arrival times at city locations

Construction continues to progress on Tempe Streetcar as the 2021 opening date moves closer.

Crews have begun work on what planners say is a technically challenging part of the project: installing special trackwork that allows streetcars to cross over the existing light rail tracks.

From Dec. 21 through Jan. 5, due to this part of construction, light rail trains are estimated to arrive at platforms every 24 minutes during the entire service day.

Typically, light rail service operates every 12 minutes on weekdays during peak hours, so riders will need to plan

ahead to ensure timely arrival at their destinations.

The schedule that will be in effect during the two-week period can be followed at valleymetro.org/pardonourprogress.

The work will occur at two locations along the streetcar route: Third Street/Mill Avenue and Third Street/Ash Avenue.

To safely complete this phase of the project, both eastbound and westbound trains will "single-track," that is, alternate using one of the two tracks between the 50th Street/Washington and Veterans Way/College Avenue stations.

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'Heads Up with Arlene' conversation series begins Dec. 17

City Councilmember Arlene Chin will give you a quick rundown on the issues and events she thinks you should know about at her first-ever conversation event, "Heads Up with Arlene."

It's happening on Tuesday, Dec. 17, from 6 to 7 p.m., at Escalante Community Center, 2150 E. Orange St., near the Loop 101 Freeway, north of Apache Boulevard.



Chin said that even though "Heads Up" is geared toward providing an informal, inside look at what's coming up, she is always available for everyday issues and feedback that residents want to

provide. Concerns about city services, input on policy matters and new ideas are all up for discussion in this casual chat.

Chin was appointed by the City Council in May 2019 to fill a vacant Councilmember office. Her term will expire in July 2020. She has committed to serve the interim term and not to seek office in March 2020. More information about Chin is available at tempe.gov/chin.

Join Jennifer in 85284

Each quarter, Councilmember Jennifer Adams hosts a conversation event in one of Tempe's four zip codes.



Anyone from anywhere in Tempe is welcome but topics for the winter meetup will focus on 85284.

Join Jennifer is at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 9, at Arizona Community Church, 9325 S. Rural Road.

For more information on Adams' service in Tempe, visit tempe.gov/adams.

For questions about the event, reach out to Alex Chin at alex_chin@tempe.gov or 480-350-8545.

Candidates certified for March 10 election

City Clerk Carla Reece has certified that two Mayoral candidates and five City Council candidates will be on the March 10, 2020 election ballot.

As of the Nov. 11 filing deadline, certified candidates for Mayor are Mark Mitchell and Corey Woods. Certified candidates for City Councilmember (three seats) are Casey Clowes, Doreen Garlid, Randy Keating, Joel Navarro and Marc Norman.

Elected candidates will be sworn in to four-year terms in July 2020.

Prospective candidates were required to submit nomination paperwork and petitions containing between 763 and 1,524 valid signatures. Nomination petitions and paperwork are subject to legal challenge.

This will be Tempe's second Ballot by Mail election, which means that every registered voter will automatically get a ballot. Voters can drop off their voted ballots or get replacement ballots at to-be-announced ballot centers in Tempe or at the Maricopa County Recorder's Office.

Register to vote by Feb. 10 for the March 10 election. Ballots will be mailed starting Feb. 12 for the March 10 election. Register to vote through the Maricopa County Elections Department at 602-506-1511 or at www.maricopa.vote.

According to the Tempe City Charter, Section 7.01, the Primary Election is held to nominate or elect candidates. If there are no more than two candidates for each vacancy, the Primary Election is eliminated and the General Election is held on that date. In the case of the 2020 elections, the General Election will take place March 10. Information about the election can be found at tempe.gov/election.

Voters also can call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311 or email clerk@tempe.gov.



Let's talk trash . . .

Solid waste pickup days are changing

Your trash and recycling pickup day is changing the week of Feb. 3, 2020.

Schedules are changing for all city residential customers. Information on all of the changes is available at tempe.gov/SMART or by calling Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311.

Holiday solid waste collection schedule tempe.gov/SMART

If your normal pickup day falls on Wednesday, Dec. 25, or Wednesday, Jan. 1, that will not change – there will be no alternate days.

All other collection days this

holiday season will remain the same. You can always call Tempe 311 (480-350-4311) if you have questions or visit tempe.gov/SMART.

Recycle your holiday tree

Give your Christmas tree the gift of new life this year by keeping it out of the landfill. The city offers two locations where trees can be dropped off for free 24 hours a day, seven days a week through Jan. 30:

- Compost Yard, 1001 N. Rio Road, at the intersection of Rio Salado Parkway and Hardy Drive
- Kiwanis Park Recreation Center, 6111 W. All-America Way (parking lot on west side)

Before dropping off any Christmas trees, remove tree stands and nails, ornaments, lights, garland and tinsel. The trees will be chipped and recycled into compost that will be returned to Tempe parks and gardens.

For more information, call 480-350-4311, or visit tempe.gov/SMART.

Diversions

Motor-head ennui no matter: Our film guy was revved on this one

By M.V. Moorhead

Despite its promising stars and director, I admit that I dragged my feet a little when it came to seeing *Ford v Ferrari*.

This wasn't because of the film's formidable 2½-hour running time. Nor was it because of my lifelong lack of interest in auto racing, and in movies about auto racing.

My reluctance where *Ford v Ferrari* was concerned was more parochial than that. In the rural America where I grew up, a partisan alignment with one automotive company over the others—and in opposition to them—was regarded, at times, more like a political affiliation or even a religious denomination than mere brand loyalty.

And I grew up in a Chevy household. My father, far less

fanatical than many of his neighbors on such matters, was known in his later years to wear a cap reading "I'D RATHER PUSH A CHEVY THAN DRIVE A FORD."

Even though I was largely indifferent to cars and car culture, my eventual understanding of Henry Ford—his notorious antisemitism, Hitler's shout-out to him in *Mein Kampf*—and of his company: the Pinto scandal of the '70s and other safety and environmental shortcuts in the years since—gave me no reason to question my Dad's wisdom in this matter.

And the title suggested that I would be asked to root for Ford.

The movie dramatizes the efforts, in the mid-'60s, by sports car designer Carroll Shelby (Matt Damon) and race driver and



mechanic Ken Miles (Christian Bale) to develop the Ford GT40, with the hope of defeating Ferrari in the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

This was a marketing strategy by the young Lee Iacocca (John Bernthal) to jazz up the flagging Ford's staid middle-American image with younger customers.

But it became, at least according to the film, a vengeful mission after Enzo Ferrari (Remo Girone) insults Ford during an abortive attempt to

acquire the Italian company.

I needn't have worried. The film makes Ford look bad. Henry Ford II is amusingly played by Tracy Letts as a thin-skinned, blustering, blubbing buffoon, perennially in his father's shadow.

And one of his executives, Leo Beebe (Josh Lucas), is presented here as a toadying, conniving weasel. The company is depicted as at least as much the antagonists to Shelby and Miles as their Ferrari

Dreams of Winter

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rivals are.

As to the degree to which any of this is accurate or fair, your guess is as good as mine and quite possibly better, but since it didn't ask me to cheer on Ford, my lifelong conditioning was satisfied.

Beyond that, *Ford v Ferrari* is a well-acted, well-executed racing drama. This is a genre for which I've never been able to work up much enthusiasm. Having admitted that, I can also say that the long-underrated director

James Mangold got fine performances from, along with the caricatured Ford execs, Damon, as the unflappably diplomatic Texan Shelby; Bale as the barking, explosive Brit Miles; Caitriona Balfe as the patient Mrs. Miles; and Noah Jupe as his adoring son.

Did the picture really need to be quite so long? I'd say maybe not, but there are probably motor-heads in the audience who wouldn't want a single gearshift or tire-squeal omitted, and even non-car

buffs can enjoy the rich '60s period detail and atmosphere.

And when we finally get to the Mad-Max-like mayhem of Le Mans, there's no denying that Mangold's direction makes it an exciting ride.

Ford v Ferrari is rated PG-13 and plays at Harkins Tempe Marketplace, Harkins Chandler Fashion 20, Harkins Arizona Mills and other multiplexes Valleywide.

Sports

From Page 19

with 19 aces each but Marshall was credited with earning 102 points off her serves just behind Craig with 155 points.

The third player expected to return next season is junior libero Audrey Mayer who was credited with digging the ball 244 times or almost twice as many times as anyone else on her team plus she

led the team in serve receptions with 291.

Jurado was next with 132 digs while White had 102 digs.

Defensive specialist Garces not only dug up the volleyball 61 times playing in 49 sets but had the third most serve receptions on the team with 139. Jurado was second with 149.

Junior outside hitter Kelsi Dewaard was limited to only nine sets but was credited with 16 kills or 1.8 kills a set hitting .333 and

earned six points off her serve including one service ace.

Junior outside hitter and defensive specialist Sara Hambleton played in 14 sets and was credited with two solo blocks, 12 digs and 10 kills while two sophomores, opposite hitter Kaitlyn Brakefield and outside hitter Emma Orndorf, saw limited court time but gained valuable experience for next season.



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Safety

From Page 3

watching over Kyrene is a bit like managing the security of a small city. With 16,500 students plus about 2,100 staff members in 25 schools, it's no small task.

"I have a lot of primary responsibilities," Johnson noted.

"One is to update and manage the emergency operations plans for the district. I update the emergency response procedures for teachers and staff, lock-downs, evacuations and things like that."

He also instructs principals, staff and teachers in those areas.

In the event of a crisis or an incident at a Kyrene school, Johnson is the point man, integrating with local law enforcement. That was the case recently when police advised Kyrene about a suspect on the loose in West Chandler in the vicinity of Pueblo Middle School and Paloma Elementary School.

"It was a domestic violence situation where the suspect was armed and had been seen jumping from neighborhood to neighborhood fence," Johnson said. "It was contained but not completely, and that's why they

had us issue the lockdown."

Due to the nature of the incident, Johnson and Kyrene officials didn't want to send students walking into the neighborhood or getting dropped off from buses. "We had a methodical release to assure students' safety," Johnson said. "It was probably about 5 p.m. by the time we got all the students where they needed to go."

Of course, every parent's darkest nightmare is that a child would fall victim to a school shooting.

According to the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School, there were 15 school shootings in 2010. In 2018, that number had spiked to 110. So far this year, according to the same source, there have been 64. Those numbers apply to schools for students in kindergarten through grade 12.

"Of course we must always be prepared to mitigate and prevent and put policy processes in place to stop a potential school shooter," Johnson said, but the reality is more along the lines of the recent lockdowns at Pueblo and Paloma.

Overseeing the safety and security of Kyrene students involves so much more than hypervigilance to ensure a shooting never takes place.

"Kids get sick, they get hurt, they fall off playground equipment or

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whatever it might be—fights, threats, a power failure in August—even something simple as a water main break, and now we don't have water in the school," Johnson said. "Are we going to move students or keep them there? All of those kinds of things can happen and they need a system in place to assure students' safety."

Many times, things take place off campus that have a direct impact on students at school.

"Kids can get online at 2 a.m. and circulate things, and the next day at school it's all over. And the emotion and the anger and all those things that occurred at 2 a.m. online—now we are dealing with it at lunch unfortunately," Johnson said.

"We know very well as parents nowadays we to have to be very interactive with our children and be aware of what they are doing online because they now are exposed to that evil world very quickly and very easily with a small box in their pocket. And we need to be hyper-vigilant with that."

When it comes to cyber-bullying, the district is working to help students, "but a lot of those situations turn into a threat and that's where I get involved to work with the schools," Johnson said.

Erin Helm, communications and

marketing director for the Kyrene school district, said the district is committed to the safety of all students and staff and that Johnson's broad experience in law enforcement provides expert help.

"As a former police commander, he has expertise in emergency preparedness, crisis response, and best practices for school safety and security. He is a highly valued member of Team Kyrene," Helm said.

Tempe City Council candidate forum Dec. 13

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce and *The Arizona Republic* will host a Tempe City Council and Mayoral Candidates Forum at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, in the community room of Tempe History Museum. Members of the public are invited to attend.

Candidates will get a chance to share their positions on issues of importance to the community. Invited to attend are:

Tempe City Council incumbents Randy Keating and Joel Navarro; council candidates Casey Clowes, Doreen Garlid and Marc Norman; Mayor Mark Mitchell and mayoral candidate Corey Woods.

Tempe History Museum is at 809 E. Southern Ave.

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Free series for parents

Tempe is offering a series of free classes designed specifically for parents of children with diagnosed disabilities.

The Stepping Stones Triple P family intervention program, for children ages 12 and younger, aims to help parents develop effective management strategies for dealing with a variety of childhood behavior problems and developmental issues.

First class in the series, positive parenting for children with a disability, has already been held.

Remaining are:

- Helping children reach their potential—Feb. 6;
- Changing problem behavior into positive behavior—March 26.

Classes are held 5-7 p.m. at Getz School, 625 W. Cornell Drive. Childcare is available. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Registration for classes and childcare is required at tempe.gov/triplep.

"We know parenting can be difficult at times for all families," said Marie Raymond, human services manager with the city.

The Triple P program is designed to support families by teaching parents how to encourage their child's social and communication skills, emotional self-regulation, independence and problem-solving skills.

Trafficking

From Page 3

Arizona Community Church, with a longtime South Tempe congregation near Corona del Sol High School, hosted the GCI team and prompted church attendees to take a tour through the trailer in hopes of raising awareness of a problem that is said to be so prevalent even in the local community.

"One victim we came into contact with in Colorado was being sold in her gated community," Julia said.

"She was living at home, going to school every day, playing tennis, and would be visited during the week by her friends' fathers. She would walk through the halls of her church on the weekends and see men who visited her during the week."

Unfortunately, according to Weber and the rest of GCI's research, the prevalence of human trafficking today has become much more privatized as social media and other internet tools can be used to communicate, lure and move people around.

"It used to be that the buyers had to put themselves out there to get what they wanted. Now it has become so much easier for them to be more private," she says.

Social media applications such as Snapchat, WhatsApp, TikTok and Bumble are among a number of popular methods for secretly sending or storing illegal transactions and media files.

Technology enables predators

With modern technology in the sex trafficking industry, buyers can actually "place their order" online by selecting the specific type of sex slave (boy, girl, younger, older, race) and then set up a meeting location and time.

Weber and the team from GCI are seeking to help expose these criminals and protect the innocent children who are targeted.

At the founding of GCI in 2000, Weber and her parents originally worked in the realm of preventing sex-trafficking worldwide, focusing their efforts on developing countries whose populations are more susceptible to criminal activity due to war and gang violence.

In Cambodia, for example they helped establish a safe house for victims of sex-trafficking, believed to be the first of its kind in that country.

In 2018, the GCI team made the decision to move their operations to the United States where they saw a need for educating families and communities about the harm that can be inflicted on their own children without proper knowledge on these issues.

Global Connections International also works with local chambers of commerce, police departments and schools in order to better understand how each community is working to set affected children free from the bonds of sex slavery.

"We knew all about it because we hear about it all the time," says one teenager who had the opportunity to walk through the trailer at Arizona Community Church.

"But nobody ever put in the effort to show us the results of it and how to prevent it."

Information: gciworld.org

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Tempe Chamber to Host Candidate Forum

On Friday, December 13th, the Tempe Chamber of Commerce and the Arizona Republic will host a Candidate Forum at the Tempe History Museum. The Council Candidate Forum will start at 6pm followed by the Mayoral Candidate Forum. This event provides candidates a chance to share their positions on issues of importance to the community. The forum is free and open to the public. Seating is limited.

Shortly following the candidate forum, the Tempe Chamber will announce its endorsements for mayor and city council. Prior to the endorsements candidates are interviewed on a variety of topics directly related to the chamber's public policy. Recommendations are discussed by the chamber's Good Government Committee with the final determination of endorsements being made by the Tempe Chamber Board of Directors.

On February 19th, the Tempe Chamber will host a special Emerging Issues Forum: Meet the Candidates where you'll learn more about the candidates who have earned our endorsement in the upcoming local election. Registration is now open at www.tempechamber.org.

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Jodi Low

Friday, January 31, 2020
8:00 - 9:30 am
Olenka Cullinan

Friday, February 7, 2020
8:00 - 9:30 am
Joan Jakel

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Help Tempe recycle right . . . even during the holidays

By Jennifer Adams

Recycling is important to the City of Tempe. Your City Council recently reaffirmed its commitment to recycling, in spite of changes in global recycling markets that are making it harder for communities like ours to sustain robust programs that divert trash from landfills.

There is increasing pressure on U.S. cities to keep recycling bins free of things that should not be recycled. Contaminated recycling must be sent to the landfill, which costs the city four times more in disposal fees.

That is why Tempe is increasing efforts to let residents know how to recycle right, and we are doing quick checks of curbside recycling bins to remove larger contaminants like electronics and leave behind educational notices.

This is especially important during the holiday season, when all of us generate 25 percent more trash than normal. But we have easy ways for you to minimize waste and do the right thing for the environment and your community. Here are my Top 10 holiday recycling reminders:

1. Reuse tissue paper and gift bags. You can recycle most wrapping paper (except foil paper) and cardboard tubes.
2. Recycle all boxes from online shopping. Please break them down before putting them in your blue bin.
3. Items that are definitely not recyclable: ribbon, bows, twine, light

strings, and turkey and ham mesh wrappers.

4. Rinse out your recyclable aluminum cans and bottles. If there is food residue in them, they are contaminated.

5. Recycle your real Christmas tree. Tempe offers Christmas tree recycling through Jan. 31 at the Compost Yard or Kiwanis Recreation Center. Or put it on your green organics pile for collection. Donate your unwanted artificial Christmas tree.

6. Donate old bikes to Tempe's Recycle-a-Bicycle program at Gililand Middle School. For details, visit tempe.gov/RecycleaBicycle.

7. Donate old items that you no longer want after Christmas, rather than throwing them away.

8. Make sure you recycle all those empty bottles and cans from holiday entertaining. Glass and aluminum can be recycled again and again.

9. Holiday cooking can create significant grease. Residents can drop off used grease through early January at four Tempe locations. Visit tempe.gov/fog for more information.

10. Never use your blue recycling bin as an extra trash bin. If you have extra trash, call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311 for an additional trash pickup.

Check out more details at tempe.gov/RecycleRight.



Tempe City Councilmember Jennifer Adams wants city residents to know about changes to the recycling program. — Wrangler News photo

Jennifer Adams is a member of the Tempe City Council.

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