

Wrangler NEWS

So. Tempe Edition

Jan. 22 - Feb. 4 • Vol. 22, No. 2

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A taste of tradition, a promise for tomorrow

He'd been on the job only a matter of days, but Tom Joseph already was beginning to get a taste of the look, feel and 30-plus years of Corona del Sol's athletics tradition. Joseph will coach the Aztec football team, starting now with an off-season training regimen that he says will mean hard work with a focus on getting 'stronger and quicker.' — *Story, Page 4*

Wrangler News photo by Mark Crudup

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Commentary

All-day kindergarten: Why it is vital for our schools

By Dr. David Schauer

Superintendent, Kyrene School District

Related story, Page 5

It’s Not Your Dad’s Kindergarten — School districts in Arizona have recently had to make difficult choices due to funding reductions from the state legislature.

In the early 2000s, Arizona committed to a phased-in program for a full day kindergarten program and began providing additional funding to make this happen.

In 2007, the first year of complete full day funding for all school districts was implemented.

The rationale for this was based on the fact that curriculum standards and expectations for learning have increased significantly in recent years.

It was felt that, in order to give students the foundation they need to experience success in school, a full day program should be a priority.

As the economy worsened and Arizona’s budget deficit grew, the state understandably had to make some tough decisions in order to balance the budget.

Since full day kindergarten was one of the most recent additions to educational funding, it became an easy target. The perception of some people is that the funding of this program is “optional” and that young children do not necessarily need to have the



Dr. Schauer

— SCHAUER, Page 13

Holocaust museum aims at preventing a recurrence of destruction, genocide

By Mark Crudup

Understanding the elements of such a violent past as the Holocaust is not an easy assignment, but it is a task that children—and all, for the matter—should undertake, simply to help prevent future destruction and genocide.

Kyrene Corridor residents will soon have a permanent remembrance of the devastating impact of the Holocaust.

Steve Tepper, executive director of the East Valley Jewish Community Center, is preparing for the introduction of a “Tolerance and Holocaust Museum,” dedicated to spreading awareness of the violence and hatred created by the Holocaust and showing how genocide affects millions around the world.

The museum will be built in Chandler, off Ray and Alma School roads.

To help fund the project EVJCC is holding a series of fundraisers to help offset construction costs of approximately \$20 million.

Helen Handler, one of the few Holocaust survivors still living, said the impact of the museum

— HOLOCAUST, Page 14

An early-warning system for mental-health problems

Teachers' training can alert parents, professionals before crisis occurs

By Mark Crudup

In the wake of the tragic events that lately have hit Arizona, the talk among major media outlets has focused on mental health concerns, particularly as they may affect students in our public education system.

As experience suggests, mental illness can remain undetected for many years until it erupts in a burst of tragic outbursts.

Teachers and psychologists in the Kyrene School District are aware of this, and say they do their best to maintain an early warning system.

Even with such procedures in place, however, district administrator Kelly Alexander emphasizes that "the lens through which teachers pursue their goals is education," not diagnosing future psychiatric problems unless they affect what goes on in the classroom.

Gina Taylor, assistant superintendent of instructional services for the district, said the district has a support team of behavioral intervention teachers and psychologists who help identify and assess students with emotional disabilities, with a main focus on providing the best environment for the students to achieve prescribed learning goals.

"The support system for the schools is really to help the kids access education," Taylor said. "We're not a clinical setting – we don't work with

the psychological needs, except as they support the student's learning in school."

Although it's uncommon, there are times when students are identified as having behavioral issues that may result from an emotional disability, she said.

"We start with how it presents itself in school," she said. "If a child (appears to be) withdrawn, that might be an indication. Or a child might be acting out."



Gina Taylor

Immediately, the student's parents are notified and the teacher meets with them to discuss what behavior has been witnessed that led to the concern, Taylor said.

"If (such interventions) don't seem to be helping that child, that might be when the school psychologist would come in," she said.

Behavior intervention teachers work with the student's regular teacher to

assess the child's behavior and challenges in the classroom.

"They do a behavioral assessment, trying to find out what proceeds a child's outbursts," Taylor said.

"Maybe there's something we can change to help the child be more successful."

"If it is something that has medical roots, or might be psychiatric in nature, then we work with the parents to inform them of options they might consider for their child," she said.

In some cases, a student with an emotional disability will be placed in a home-based setting, or with a smaller number of students in the classroom, Taylor said.

In some cases, there are students with mental disabilities who have outside psychiatric help and perform well in school, with no evident behavioral issues.

"It may be a child who has an emotional disability functions just fine in school," Taylor said. "The school is aware of the child's needs and monitors them, but maybe it doesn't present itself as an issue when the child is in school."

If behavior problems do arise, teachers and staff work together to provide the best strategy to help the student perform well in classes.

"Maybe a child needs a behavior plan," Taylor said.

"For example, a child who frustrates easily might need their work in smaller doses.

"But, there's a plan and the teachers are aware of it."

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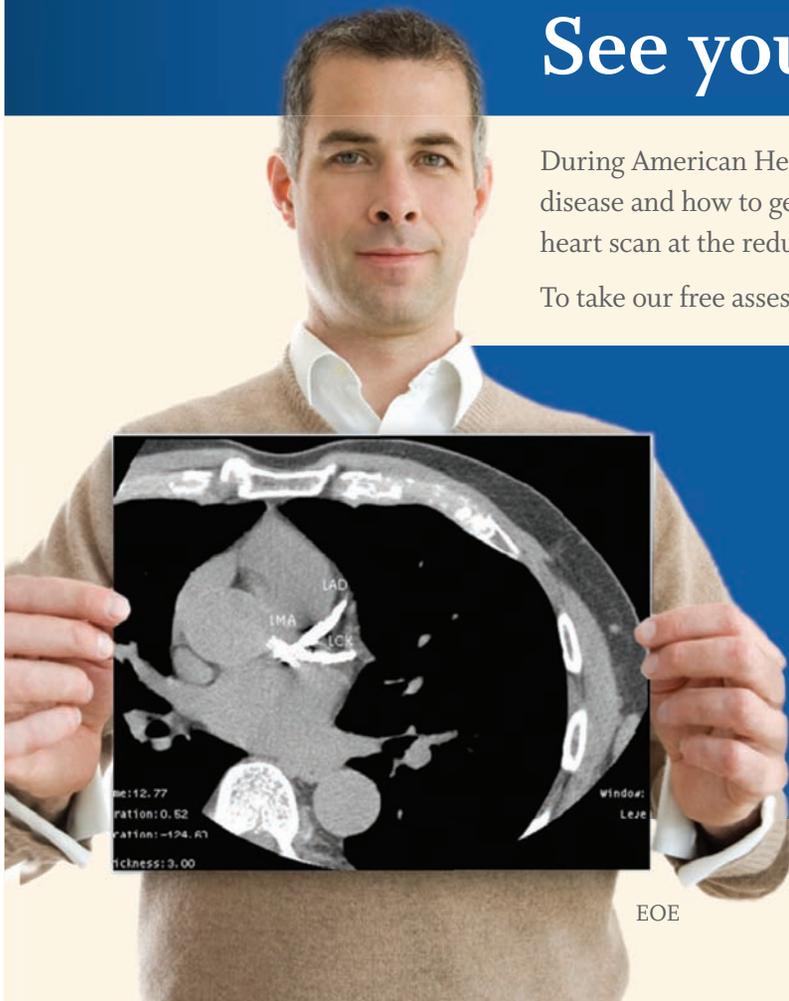
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A new coach, a new vision

'Character' key to Joseph's selection at Corona del Sol

By Jeremy Banks

Corona del Sol football players got a chance to meet their new coach when Tom Joseph was introduced to his players and parents at an introductory meeting.

In the meet-and-greet, Joseph, who accumulated a 92-23 record during nine years as coach at Mesa Mountain View High School, laid out his plans and expectations.

Hard work and attention to detail have always been high priorities, he said. His message to his players was to expect hard work but to look forward to great rewards.

"This is going to be the most mentally and physically trying time of your life, as well as one of the most rewarding experiences of your life," he told his players. "Expect to be challenged in everything you do."

'Be ready to work hard. That's my philosophy. I'm moving. The train's going. Get on board. I'm a doer. I don't have much to say. Let's get working.' — Tom Joseph

Joseph said he's excited about his new job as the Aztecs' football coach. His enthusiasm was obvious as he made his way around the room, shaking everyone's hand after the meeting. He took the time to personally speak with all of his players who showed up for the session.

He outlined his expectations and gave the players a chance to ask him questions, as well.

A few characteristics that stood out in favor of Joseph's hiring, said Corona Athletic Director

— COACH, Page 16

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Free, all-day kindergarten survives 3-2 vote

Board authorizes \$2.5 million to replace legislature's funding cuts

By Mark Crudup

The Kyrene School District governing board has voted to fund free all-day kindergarten in all 19 of its schools at a cost of approximately \$2.5 million this year.

With major cuts to the education system still in place, the state legislature is not expected to reinstate \$34 million it removed from the budget for full-day kindergarten last year.

However, at a meeting Jan. 11, school administrators, parents and community members addressed the district board, most recommending that all-day kindergarten be funded to provide the best education to local students.

The board voted 3-2 to accept that recommendation.

"We are having this discussion because the legislature made the decision to eliminate funding for full-day kindergarten. That was an economic decision, but it wasn't really an educational decision," said Gina Taylor, an assistant superintendent for the district.

In all-day kindergarten, students get 1,032 hours of instruction versus 489 hours with half-day kindergarten, Taylor noted.

Currently, 99 percent of students enrolled in kindergarten are in all-day kindergarten; however the

district also offers half-day kindergarten.

Local parent Jennifer Bowen, who recently moved back to the district so her kids could attend Kyrene schools, pleaded with the board to fund all-day kindergarten.

"I would like my daughter to be in full-day kindergarten," Bowen said. "I don't want her just sitting in Kids Club for half the day."

Some, however, asked the board to delay its vote until the state releases official budget plans for education.

"Funding all-day kindergarten could prohibit Kyrene from implementing other programs, and could have additional ramifications on class size and teacher pay," a local parent said.

"I ask that you delay your vote, until we actually know what kind of money we are working with."

Karin Smith, chief financial and operations officer for Kyrene, presented financial predictions to the board, including a "potential enrollment impact survey" that asked parents what they would do if Kyrene did not provide all-day kindergarten.

Smith recommended that Kyrene fund all-day kindergarten in order to remain competitive with other surrounding districts and maintain enrollment

rates. "We do know that our neighboring districts are offering free all-day kindergarten," she said.

"Because we are in the beginning of the registration cycle, we are asking you to consider this (free all-day kindergarten) this evening."

Registration began Jan. 3 for Kyrene, and Smith said parents had already questioned whether the district would provide all-day kindergarten.

Even if they missed scheduled orientation sessions on Jan. 20, parents can contact their local school for the dates of any future orientations or to arrange for individual tours.

Kyrene board members Bernadette Coggins and Beth Brizel voted against funding, though each expressed the importance of kindergarten to students. Brizel said she was concerned with the impact of additional funding on other programs, teacher salaries and arts education.

A statement released after the Jan. 11 meeting by Dr. David Schauer, the district's superintendent, supported the board's vote.

"Full day kindergarten must be a top priority and funding needs to be provided while we advocate that the state legislature reinstate this funding as soon as possible," Schauer said.

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Early experiences smile on young man's orthodontics future

Story & photo by Mark Crudup

Chris Woolaver knew he wanted to be an orthodontist even before he was a teenager. Born with a cleft palette, he got his first orthodontic appliance when he was just three months old. It wouldn't be until he was 30 that he would get his last set of braces taken off.

Now with Woolaver Clear Smiles at Ray Road and 44th Street, the orthodontics specialist seems to be attracting as many new patients from the east side of the I-10 as he does the west side.

Woolaver made his decision to pursue dentistry when he was just 11. "I had a really cool orthodontist, and it looked like he was having fun," Woolaver said. "It totally changed my life, so I decided to be an orthodontist."

Lots of technologies have changed, however, since those early days. Those who've had braces can forget about the mouthful of wires and cranking pressure that used to accompany them. The science of braces has improved dramatically, reducing the amount of time and pain involved, Woolaver said.

And although some orthodontists in the area still use older methods, Woolaver utilizes more recent technology, he said.

"I try to make the orthodontics experience quicker and easier for the patient – more comfortable than what I had to go through," Woolaver said. "I would say that at least 75 percent of my patients are definitely done within a year and a half."

Woolaver has been an orthodontist for 10 years; he opened his office 2½ years ago. At the time of his

opening, another local orthodontist practice had gone out of business, leaving already-paid patients without any professional help.

All of those found a new friend in Woolaver, who welcomed them at no charge.

"I took in a couple hundred of his patients; I had to hire new staff, I had to buy new materials – I had to buy those 1985 materials, because the (previous) orthodontist was still using older methods," he said.

Even though the instant influx of patients didn't result in a boost to the fledgling practice, it was something about which Woolaver says he felt good. "We thought it would be a great thing to do for the community."

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out. "All of our braces are transparent," he said. "And, we also use Invisalign products on many patients."

Invisalign, the most recent alternative to braces, has less impact on the patients' lives, Woolaver said.

"I am an elite, premium provider, which means I'm in the top 1 percent of Invisalign providers around the world," he said. "I love it, and I think it's the future of orthodontics, but at the same time I still have more patients in braces."

Invisalign is a clear aligner that slips over the teeth, similar to a mouth guard, and uses less pressure to adjust their position. About 35 percent of his patients use Invisalign, he said.

"Besides the fact that it looks and feels better, (Invisalign products) just affect your lifestyle less," he said. "You take them out, so you eat what you want. With braces, you have to be much more careful."

And Invisalign is extremely precise in regard to their shape, because the molds are made from digital

computer scans of patients' mouths, instead of the older method of taking impressions.

Woolaver said he also uses "self-ligating braces," which orthodontists don't have to "crank" to tighten.

"So, now we put way less pressure on the teeth, and yet at the same time the teeth move faster," he said. "It's healthier, it's more biological process – the body can adapt to it better."

When it comes to orthodontic appliances, Woolaver has personal experience with them all.

"There's nothing I have put in my patients' mouths that I have not had in my own mouth," he said.

"I've had expanders, braces, head-gear and retainers."

Just two months after opening, Woolaver Clear Smiles was voted "Ahwatukee's Best New Business," and last year the practice was named "Best Orthodontist," Woolaver said.

In all, just one more piece of evidence that some of the challenges people face when they're kids can provide the foundation for success in later years.

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Dr. Chris Woolaver: Speaking from experience

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'Green Hornet': A few super moments but mainly a super disappointment

One of the signs that you're a true movie star may be when you get cast in a classic role for which you seem completely wrong.

Not many actors strike me as less obviously appropriate for the title role in *The Green Hornet* than Seth Rogen, the nerdy, laid-back, highly un-glamorous star of *Knocked Up*. But then, casting Michael Keaton as Batman seemed crazy back in 1989, and he proved a revelation in the part.

Besides, I like Rogen. Also, I like the GH character. So I went to *The Green Hornet* with an open mind. The gangbuster, who, with his pal Kato, is known to the police and the general public as a criminal himself, has always been sort of a cool, low-profile superhero.

Created originally for radio in 1936, the masked, Fedora-lidded avenger was never a really major presence in the comics.

Diversions

A guide to what's entertaining in and around the Kyrene Corridor

With M.V. Moorhead

He's most remembered now for his short-lived but elegant incarnation as a TV series of 1966, which ran for just one 26-episode season.

Produced by William Dozier of the '60s *Batman* series, it starred the ridiculously handsome Van Williams (about as different from Rogen as you could get) in the title role, and Bruce Lee, pre-stardom, as his sidekick Kato.

All this is by way of saying that I wish I could report more enthusiastically on the new *Green Hornet* movie, which was tops at the box office last week. Alas, it's not the left-field success I was hoping for. It isn't a total disaster; it has a promising approach to the material and some very funny stretches. But it's uneven and unsatisfying.

The approach of the script, by Rogen and Evan Goldberg, is that the GH's alter-ego, newspaper heir Britt Reid, is a spoiled, strutting, hard-partying playboy with daddy issues whose personality swings constantly between likeably exuberant and intolerably obnoxious.

Kato, played here by the Taiwanese pop singer Jay Chou, is secretly both the brains and the brawn of the outfit, the mechanical genius behind their tricked-out ride the Black Beauty, and also a martial artist of nearly supernatural prowess. He even thinks up the

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Green Hornet moniker.

Essentially, this turns the material into a buddy comedy, almost in the Hope/Crosby vein, and there's no reason this couldn't have worked. Without mugging or pushing, Rogen and Chou show a solid onscreen rapport.

Even more strikingly, both Britt and Kato take a shine to the same love interest (Cameron Diaz). The idea of a woman caught in a love triangle with a superhero and his sidekick had possibilities, but this is one of several strands that are set up and then neglected in favor of lengthy, tedious car-crash sequences.

Rogen wins genuine laughs early on, but his performance is unvaried and pushy; he doesn't show enough of his *Knocked Up* sweetness, and he starts to grate by the second half. The movie isn't any more generous to its curiously thin-skinned gangster villain, Christoph Waltz. Despite a few ripely-written scenes, he doesn't really get to let it rip.

Perhaps Rogen, Goldberg and director Michel Gondry let this Green Hornet get too conceptually convoluted. It is, after all, about a guy faking it as a superhero who is, in turn, faking it as a criminal. Even so,



the movie didn't lose me until a scene about midpoint when Britt and Kato quarrel, and then have a long, idiotic, pointless brawl.

Aside from the brawl's implausibility under the terms of the movie, it was also queasily similar to the equally ugly fight scene last year between Robert Downey Jr. and Don Cheadle in the otherwise enjoyable *Iron Man 2*.

It made me wonder if the superhero genre was belching up some unsavory resentment on the part of rich Hollywood nerds, over the reluctance of attractive nonwhites to play the sidekicks any more.

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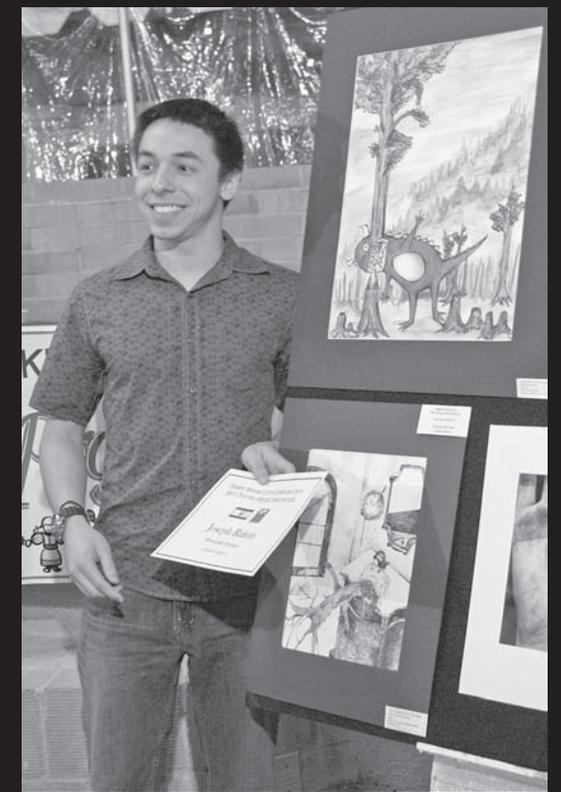


Tempe Sister City Corp. President Dick Neuheisel (above) and crowd of enthusiastic onlookers viewed the creative talents of local students during the annual Tempe Sister Cities Young Artist event.

Winners included Devon Jones (left), of Marcos de Niza High School, who took first place in the art category, and Joseph Raiton, also from Marcos, who received honorable mention. Jones' next stop will be international competition in Washington, D.C.

Story, Page 12

— Mark Crudup/Wrangler News



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Corona, Marcos artists vie for spots in world finals

By Mark Crudup
Photos, Page 10

Local teens displayed their artwork and photography at this year's Sister Cities Young Artist Program at Tempe's Hackett House.

Robin Sprague, the event's organizer, presented awards to first-, second- and third-place winners, as well as an assortment of honorable mentions.

"Students compete all over the world," said Dolores Salhuana, Hackett House Director.

"This is Tempe's event, and winners will go on to Washington, D.C., for the International Young Artist competition."

Every year, Sister City Corp. invites students from Tempe schools to participate in the event. Tempe Sister Cities also invites all eight Sister City counterparts from around the world to participate in the competition.

This year's theme was "Shaping Your Community for a Greener Future," via which the young artists and photographers were asked to incorporate elements of sustainability and recycling into their work in the forms of mixed media, oils, watercolors and everyday objects—even such unlikely *objets de art* as soda cans.

Cristina Fischer, a Corona del Sol High School senior who received honorable mention, said she was excited to a part of the competition.

"I love art," she said. "I've been doing art since I was young, and won my first competition in the fifth grade."

Fischer said she is in an honors art course taught by Corona teacher Lisa Henschen, who attended the awards presentation.

Joseph Raiton, a Marcos de Niza High School senior who also won an honorable mention, said he wanted to participate in the competition as soon as his teacher mentioned the young artist program.

"It's really exciting," he said. "I've taken three years of art and enjoy everything I've learned — this was a great experience for me."

The first-place winner in the art category was Devon Jones for his piece, "Urban Willow," a painting that includes a tree mosaic made from cut-out pieces of a soda cans. "I'm excited to go to Washington, D.C.," he said.

"I was shocked that I had won first place."

During the presentation of students' artwork, Dick Neuheisel, president of Sister City Corp., offered words of wisdom to the participating students, urging them to continue with their life passions.

"You are all young heroes, and keep up the great work," said Neuheisel.

"(If) you didn't win tonight, don't stop participating — follow your dreams."



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Schauer

From Page 2

kindergarten experience for a full day.

Those on the flip side, however, feel that without this type of preparation, many students will not have the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in the primary grades.

What is the real truth?

Just as with any difference of opinion, one can find evidence to support a preferred point of view. I would suspect that there is no definitive answer to this, but we do know that students who learn to read and are at grade level in the primary grades are more likely to be successful in school.

It seems logical that a full day of kindergarten would help increase the likelihood of this happening. However, a new law, HB 2732, calls for retention of

third-grade students who fall far below in reading.

At the same time, significant state support has been withdrawn, requiring school districts to make decisions on how to provide the dollars needed to replace those that have been eliminated.

This is particularly difficult during challenging budgetary times, but if we truly believe that we make decisions based on what is best for children, the answer is obvious.

Full day kindergarten must be a top priority. Funding needs to be provided while we advocate that the state legislature reevaluate its position as soon as possible.

So. Tempe purchasing chief recognized

South Tempe resident Corry A. Slama is among 62 government purchasing directors nationwide to have achieved recognition as a certified public purchasing officer, or CPPO, the highest level of professional achievement recognized by the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council.

Slama is chief procurement officer for the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs.

In all, 187 purchasing administrators around the U.S. passed examinations in various achievement levels following nationwide testing in October.



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Holocaust

From Page 2

will add awareness to our violent past.

"In a matter of a very short time, all of the survivors are slowly walking away into the sunset; after all, it happened close to 70 years ago," she said.

"I feel like it's important for me to talk about it, especially in schools, because this is probably the last generation who can hear a survivor."

Handler was only 15 when she was sent to the Auschwitz concentration camp. She was the only one in her family who survived.

"One minute I was surrounded by all the love of my family, including grandparents, and the next thing I know I'm in the middle of Auschwitz," she said. "The only strength that I could get was from believing in God; it was my life jacket."

Handler commented on her experience during a media event at the Chandler City Hall that unveiled initial plans for Chandler's museum.

"There is no language in the whole world that can describe the situation in the Holocaust, and yet in spite of that, I'm sharing this..." she said. "This (building of the tolerance museum) is a necessary thing."

Handler was one of the 30 prisoners out of 800 who survived the death march.

"I couldn't believe in goodness, because it didn't surround me; I couldn't believe in laws because they didn't protect me; I couldn't believe in the compassion of all of human beings because the whole world closed the door to us," she said.

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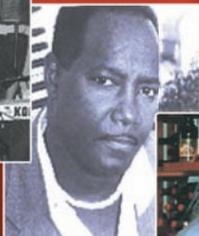
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Farmers Insurance agent Joe Schmoker, left, presented Tempe YMCA director Lance Gray with a check for \$1,000 for the Y's Strong Kids campaign. Half of the donation came from Schmoker's agency, the other half in matching funds from Farmers Insurance Group. Schmoker, a Tempe Y board member, also serves on the Y's training team for the PF Chang's Rock 'N Roll marathon.



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Coach

From Page 4

Dan Nero, were his experience, history of winning, character and communication skills. Character, said Nero, was the No. 1 reason he was hired. "We're really excited to have Tom on board. He's

got a lot of experience in high school football," he said. "So far the parents I've talked to have been very positive and supportive...very pleased with our choice. I think that when they see Tom in action with their young men, they're going to see a guy who really has the kids at heart.

Joseph said working toward rebuilding a football team that finished 1-10 this season begins right now. He doesn't want to waste any time. The Aztecs began weight training Jan. 20. Joseph said the team has to prepare physically for the season right now.

"We've got to get better feet. We've got to get stronger and we've got to get faster and quicker," he said. "That would be key.

"We've just got to get to work."

As of now, Joseph said, he's ready to do just that. He's working on putting together a staff, learning his personnel and installing new offensive and defensive schemes.

"I just want to get going on stuff," he said.

Joseph said hard work and preparation will be the keys to a successful season at Corona. He said working hard has always been his calling card. He is expecting his football team to adopt his approach, as well.

"Be ready to work hard. That's my philosophy. I'm moving. The train's going. Get on board. I'm a doer. I don't have much to say. Let's get working," he said.

"Be ready to work hard. I don't know any other way to do things. It'll be exciting."



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Waggoner's O'Neil wins Teacher of Week acclaim

Waggoner Elementary School teacher Erin O'Neil is a recipient of the KNIX and Fulton Homes "Teacher of the Week" honors.

Students were surprised to meet Carolyn Coffey of KNIX as she presented O'Neil with \$300, a gift bag and a classroom clock.

"I was very surprised – It was neat because it was obviously all put together behind my back," said O'Neil, who has taught the fifth grade for eight years at Waggoner. "It's really exciting, and the kids also enjoyed it."



Coffey said KNIX presents the award every Friday to teachers who have been nominated by school administrators.

"We solicit on the air for people to nominate teachers," Coffey

said, "We contact the person who sent in the nomination, contact the principal and come out to the school to present an award to the teacher."

To listen to a broadcast of the event, listen to KNIX from 6:20 to 7:20 a.m. Jan. 28.

— Mark Crudup

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Sports Notebook . . . with Alex Zener

Lady Aztecs already improved at season's half-way mark

Photo, Page 27

Led in scoring by three seniors, an incredible sophomore guard and two freshmen, the Lady Aztecs (8-9, 2-2 region) have already won more games halfway through the season than they did all of last season.

The team started the season losing by only one point 46-47 to Glendale Kellis in the Scorpion Shootout at Desert Edge but went on to win the next three. Corona was 2-2 in the Scottsdale Holiday Invitational and recently won three

out of the last five games.

Presently playing Central region's highly-competitive teams, the Lady Aztecs could easily come out with a 4-4 or better conference record. They defeated both Gilbert and Basha earlier but lost to conference leaders Mesa Mountain View and Dobson.

Corona were expected to do well against Mesquite Jan 21, and may have been able to defeat Highland Jan. 18, but will be challenged to pull out a win against Mesa Mountain View on Jan. 25. Corona lost by 31 points to Mountain

View early in the season, 23-54.

"We knew we would have games that challenged us, like against Mountain View," said senior guard **Karalee Keith-Coker**, "but we are determined, as a team, to improve our overall record this season and still have a good time on the court."

Forward **Allison Gordon**, center **Sara Rueckle** and Keith-Coker, all seniors, improved the Lady Aztecs' record by consistent defense and scoring on more than 35 percent of their shots.

Gordon averages close to 10 points a game, 2 steals and 8½ rebounds, while Rueckle averages more than 6.6 rebounds a game and leads the team in blocked shots, one of the goals she set for her senior season.

"I really like blocking everyone's shots," said Rueckle. "My goal this season is to block as many of our opponents' shots as possible."

Leading in several categories, though, is the sophomore sensation, 5 foot 5 guard **Alexa Hogberg**. Hogberg averages more than 17 points a game, has close to 100 assists or 6½ per game and leads the team in steals at more than two per game. She has made 37 percent of her three-point shots at 35-out-of-95. Hogberg has scored, to date, 256 of the team's 784 points.

"My goal coming into the season was to improve as a basketball player in all phases of my game to help our team have a successful year," said Hogberg. "Coach **Strom** has pushed us to be better defensively and to work at a higher intensity level this season, which has helped us improve overall as a team."

Add to the mix, two freshman, 5 foot 1 guard **Sammi Moore** and 5 foot 8 guard **Kaelin Shaffer**, who are both contributing four points a game. Sophomore forward **Lauren Lucky** has also grabbed close to six rebounds a game and contributed 4½ points a game, while juniors **Erin Miller** and **Liann Kline** have contributed off the bench.

Miller seeing action in 13 games is averaging two rebounds a game, while Kline is averaging 2.6 rebounds a game.

Also coming off the bench and adding to the team success are seniors **Sina Christie** and **Kaylyn McGowan** and freshman **Erica Schyberg**.

The Lady Aztecs were scheduled to play at Mesquite Jan. 21, at home against Mesa Mountain View, Jan. 25, and then at Jan. 28 before a non-region game at home against Fairfax on Feb. 1.

Girls Soccer — Members of Corona's girls soccer team have had their ups and downs this season, just like last, but Coach **Matt Smith** is confident the team can go far in the state tournament if they continue to work hard.

"We have been playing strong defensively, led by **MyKaylin Rosenquist**, **Olivia Montoya** and **Kelsey Cartwright**," said Smith. "We have also been very strong in the goal, rotating four players through there in **Colby Bounds**, **Kate Halligan**, **Taylor Rohme** and **Lexi Bounds**. Through 13 games we have only given up 6 goals, with 9 shutouts."

Although the Lady Aztecs have been strong defensively,



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Help Wanted

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Kid artists at Brisas, Cielo among top winners in Valley Metro contest

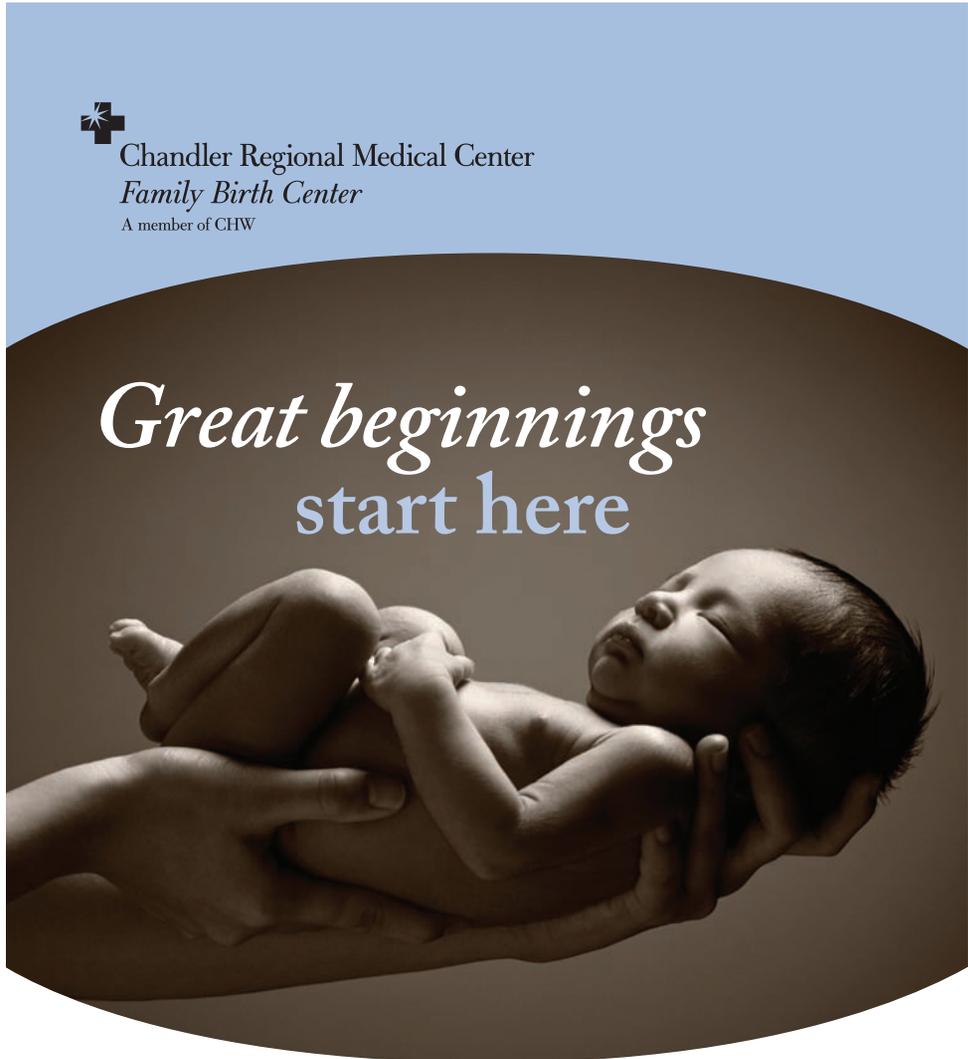
Maya Peat, from Kyrene de las Brisas Elementary, and Alex Vrbas, from Kyrene del Cielo Elementary, were among the top 12 winners in a Cool Bus Stuff art contest for third graders sponsored by Valley Metro.

Both have their art featured in Valley Metro's 2011 community calendar. More than 500 entries were

submitted.

Maya created a digital computer drawing during Kristal Hoeh's art class. Maureen Sousae is Alex's art teacher; his entry was created with markers.

Both won a prize package with gift cards and an art box filled with supplies to continue making their masterpieces.



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Notebook

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they have not done as well offensively by scoring goals.
 “We have to keep working on scoring to have success the rest of the season,” said Smith. “When we have scored, we have done it in bunches. The girls have been working really hard, and I think we will see some progress over the next couple of weeks.”
 Corona has had to replace the void left when **Sammie Weber** went out with a knee injury.

“**Micah Jones** and **Cara Ridley** have both played in the holding-midfielder position where Sammie would have likely played,” said Smith.
 “In addition, **Dallas Johnson** has really stepped up as a centerback for us. She adds some nice pace to the back and has done a great job.”

Although Weber has been contributing from the bench, it's hard to not have more leaders on the field.
 “Micah Jones has done a great job as captain, Sammie Weber has really contributed from the bench, and I recently named Emily Tucker as a captain based on what she has done so far this season,” said Smith.

The Lady Aztecs have a tough schedule the rest of the season and will need to be on their toes to make it out of the Central region and get a good seed for the newly formatted state tournament.

Smith is expecting Central region goes Gilbert and Highland to be tough and Basha much improved. Corona already lost once to a Mesquite team 1-0 coach by former Corona assistant and Smith's brother Scott.

It was a close competitive game against Mesquite, one that was decided by a couple of inches, according to Smith.
 “We had one bounce off the pole against us and Mesquite's keeper had a great save,” said Smith.

With three regular games left in the season, the Lady Aztecs will have only a few chances to score goals and win games before the state tournament.

They were due to play at home Jan. 21 against Basha, then at Dobson on Jan. 25 before their final home game and senior day Jan. 27 against Highland.

Boys basketball — Corona (14-2) moved up to No. 2 in the 5A Division I boys basketball rankings, right behind the only team they have lost to in the regular season, Mesa Mountain View.

Corona's only other loss so far in the season was to Mesa in the finals of the Mesa Jackrabbit Tournament over

4,700 students on free or reduced lunch - over 100 homeless families this year in Ahwatukee - 300 hygiene kits assembled and distributed in one day

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* The term “Golda's Balcony” refers to the nickname given to an observation area inside the secretive Dimona nuclear weapons facility.




Dancing On Ice



Rita Coolidge

JANUARY 2011
 23 Golda's Balcony 3pm

FEBRUARY 2011
 12 Dancing On Ice 7:30pm
 13 Dancing On Ice 3pm
 19 Rita Coolidge 7:30pm

MARCH 2011
 4 AXIS Dance Company 8pm
 5 The Lennon Sisters 7:30pm
 13 Riders In The Sky 3pm
 19 Frank Sinatra Jr. 7:30pm
 26 Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder 7:30pm

APRIL 2011
 2 Steve Wariner 8pm
 8 Street Beat 8pm
 16 HOTEL CALIFORNIA Salute to the Eagles 8pm
 17 SPENCERS Theatre of Illusion 3pm
 30 Sierra Leone's REFUGEE ALL STARS 8pm

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Notebook

From Page 26

the Thanksgiving holidays.

Although Corona is ranked No. 2, they're No. 6 in power rankings behind Buena, Hamilton, North, Desert Vista and Mesa. Mountain View is No. 13.

With nine regular season games remaining, Corona has a good chance to move up in the power rankings and earn a great seed heading into the state tournament.

Former Corona athlete Coggins makes headlines — Former Corona basketball player **Nicole Coggins** is making headlines at Denison University in Granville, Ohio. She scored a career-high 23 points in Denison's 73-61 win over the College of Wooster on Jan. 15.

Coggins, who replaced injured point guard Serafina Nuzzo, made 3 out of 4 from the 3-point range, was 8-for-12 from the field and led the team with six assists in 38 minutes of action.

The win improved the Denison Big Red's record to 16-5 and 5-0 in the North Coast Athletic Conference.



Corona's girls basketball team has been playing at a higher level this season, already surpassing the win total they had all of last season. Team includes, bottom row: Alexa Hogberg, Sammi Moore, Kaelin Shaffer, Karalee Keith-Coker. Top: Erin Miller, Liann Kline, Kaylyn McGowan, Sarah Rueckle, Lauren Lucky, Allison Gordon. Not pictured: Sina Christie, Erica Schyberg.

— Wrangler News photo by Alex Zener

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City of Tempe

January - February 2011

Page



Take me out to the ball game

Are you ready to take off that sweater and put on a baseball cap?

It's almost time for Cactus League Spring Training! Hear the crack of a bat and smell the fresh-cut grass while watching America's favorite pastime as the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim return to their spring home in Tempe.

The Angels will host the Los Angeles Dodgers at Tempe Diablo Stadium for their spring training home opener on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 1:05 p.m.

The season will run through March 24 at Diablo Stadium, when the Angels play the

Milwaukee Brewers.

Spring training tickets are on sale in January at www.ticketmaster.com or you can purchase them at the Tempe Diablo box office starting mid-February.

There will be 16 home games this year and fans will be able to enjoy them even more, thanks to a new sound system that has been installed.

Tempe Diablo Stadium is located at 2200 W. Alameda Drive.

Visit www.tempe.gov/diablo for information on games, tickets, stadium hours, directions and parking.



Transit service changes to be detailed at public meetings

Tempe residents are encouraged to attend public meetings to learn more about potential changes to the Tempe transit system.

The purpose of these meetings is to get input from passengers on potential changes that may occur in July.

These meetings will aid in developing the service changes necessary to help address a forecasted budget deficit due to the economy.

The Tempe transit system is funded primarily by a half-cent sales tax, which has dramatically decreased causing Tempe

to re-evaluate the transit system in order to reduce costs.

Transit service proposals will be available for comment from Feb. 7 through Feb. 28 at www.tempe.gov/tim.

Meetings will occur:

Wednesday,

Feb. 9, at 6 p.m. — Tempe Transportation Center, Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E. Fifth St.

Saturday,

Feb. 12, at 10:30 a.m. — Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.

Join in 2011 Unity Walk



Get your walking shoes ready in celebration of cultural diversity at the Regional Unity Walk and Diversity Festival on Saturday, Feb. 5.

Join the participating cities of Tempe, Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Phoenix and Scottsdale, as well as Arizona State University, as they "Walk for Unity in our Community."

The walk and festival are free, and registration is not required.

Families, community organizations, scout groups, school clubs and faith groups are encouraged to participate.

Walkers should arrive at their assembly points by 10 a.m. and the walk will begin at 10:30 a.m. Participants from Chandler, Phoenix and Scottsdale will meet at the Tempe Lake Marina; those from Tempe, Mesa and ASU will meet at ASU Lot 59.

Both walking routes are about one mile to the Tempe Art Park, adjacent to the Tempe Center for the Arts, which is the culmination point.

Walkers are encouraged to carry flags, signs or banners announcing their group's identity and promoting diversity.

Each walker will receive a free T-shirt corresponding

to their city. ASU walkers are encouraged to wear gold Sun Devil T-shirts.

The festival, which will begin as walkers arrive, will feature a welcome by dignitaries, entertainment, jump houses for the kids and food. The festival will end at noon.

Transportation will be provided to bring walkers back to their assembly points.

For more information, call 480-350-8979.

Visit www.tempe.gov/diversity/regionalunitywalk for the map to the assembly points.

Neighborhood Day at the Arizona State Legislature

Tempe residents are invited to join the Mayor and City Council at the State Capitol, 1700 W. Washington St., on Monday, Jan. 31, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., to meet their legislators, learn about the city's legislative program and tour the Arizona House of Representatives and State Senate.

Residents are encouraged to share the stories of their neighborhoods and find out how the legislature will impact the future of our community.

If you plan to attend, contact the Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234 or neighborhoods@tempe.gov.

To take public transportation to the event, visit www.valleymetro.org for bus, light-rail and park and ride information.

For more information on the Arizona State Legislature, visit <http://www.azleg.gov/>.