

Kyrene Corridor Edition

Feb. 6 - 19, 2010

Vol. 21, No. 3

Serving South Tempe and  
West Chandler since 1991

# Wrangler NEWS

**For these  
young lives,  
a sole purpose**

**Clarisse Leppien, left,  
and Kailey Whitney  
were so inspired by  
local efforts to get  
shoes to earthquake  
victims in Haiti that  
they decided to  
organize their own  
campaign.**

— Story, Page 8

*Inside this issue: Kyrene Communicates . . . School News you can use. Pg. 7*



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## DAILY DINNER SPECIALS

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### TUESDAY

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### WEDNESDAY

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### THURSDAY

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### FRIDAY

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## Ouch factor x 2

Kyrene School District and Chandler Regional Hospital are collaborating on a series of vaccine clinics being offered throughout the year at Kyrene's Family Resource Center, located at Kyrene de los Niños Elementary School. Participating in opening-day launch of the program were, from left, Chandler Regional staff members Margaret Barone, Eileen Dohse and Maryann Tenkat. The free program is available to children six weeks to 18 years. Parents must accompany children and provide immunization history. Next clinic is 3-5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23. The school is at 1330 E. Dava Drive, Tempe. For more information about the program, call 480-783-4062.

— Wrangler News photo by Alex Zener

## Chamber of Commerce endorses three south Tempe candidates

Three Tempe City Council candidates, all residents of south Tempe, have been endorsed by the Tempe Chamber of Commerce as being the most business-friendly among those seeking election in the March 9 primary.

Named by the chamber were Robin Arredondo-Savage and incumbents Shana Ellis and Onnie Shekerjian. "These are unprecedented times for the city of Tempe," said Chamber President/CEO Mary Ann Miller. "We feel these three candidates are the best prepared to make tough decisions necessary to navigate the next four years."

Candidates submitted written responses to a questionnaire and

were interviewed by the chamber's Good Government Committee relating to their approach to the city's budget deficit, transit needs and a proposed city sales tax increase.

The committee's recommendations were reviewed and discussed by the chamber board prior to selecting candidates for the available seats.

"Each candidate brought his or her own unique perspective to the questions asked," Miller said.

"Those candidates endorsed by the chamber are and will be the best advocates for Tempe businesses."

Tempe's primary election is Tuesday, March 9. Early voting begins Feb. 11 by mail and Feb. 16 in person.



Robin Arredondo-Savage



Onnie Shekerjian



Shana Ellis



# MardiGras

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# Program transforms girls into modern-day Cinderellas

By Geri Koeppel

Nearly every woman has one: That beautiful formal or cocktail dress that she's worn once, maybe twice, but now it hangs forlornly in the closet.

It's still stylish, but she doesn't want to wear it year after year to that same holiday party or fundraiser. Or maybe she's "grown out of it," so to speak.

The Cinderella Affair gives new life to those gowns. The Tempe-based program collects gently worn party dresses, shoes and accessories and donates them to high school juniors or seniors throughout the Valley to wear to prom.

Girls in the Tempe Unified School District get first pick.

"The rule of thumb is that they have to be in good condition and they have to be modern," said Amy Grossklaus, co-chair of the

Cinderella Affair. "We don't put anything on the floor that we feel is dated."

All sizes, colors and styles are represented, and girls pay nothing. They even get a voucher for free dry cleaning if the dress needs it.

The Cinderella Affair started in 2002 as a collaboration between the East Valley Women's League, a community service group, and the Tempe Community Council, a nonprofit working with the city and community groups. In past years, they gave away dresses to about 400 girls, but last year, thanks to a flurry of publicity, they were able to give more than 1,100 dresses.

This year, Cinderella Affair hopes to serve about the same number of girls, who will be able to choose from more than 2,000

dresses. Here is how it works:

Collection boxes are placed at sites around the Valley from Feb. 8-21, including several high schools and businesses in the Kyrene Corridor. The list of locations is online at [www.cinderellaaffair.org](http://www.cinderellaaffair.org).

Volunteers sort and organize the dresses and accessories.

Dress selection is open from 3-8 p.m. March 26 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. March 27 at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center. Only Tempe Unified High School students are allowed in on March 26. On March 27, it's open to any junior or senior with a valid high school I.D.

Volunteers age 21 and up help girls select a dress. Girls can try on five dresses, and if none fit the bill, they can choose up to three more.

Last year, Lexi

Raymond, 18, who was then a senior at Corona del Sol, volunteered to organize and sort dresses before the event, and in return, was able to get first pick of dresses.

"We untied all the bags, separated the dresses, helped set up dressing areas, (and) organized shoes, purses, necklaces," she said. "A lot of them were designer dresses. Some of them even still had the tags on them."

For herself, she chose a handmade silky black dress with a maroon tint.

"It was the cutest thing ever," Raymond said. "It was awesome. No one else had that dress."

The only caveat, Grossklaus said, is that girls need to be patient.

Last year, the line snaked down the sidewalk of Southern Avenue as girls waited their turn.



Lexie Raymond, left, and a friend sample gowns available through The Cinderella Affair.

## The Cinderella Affair

**Where:** Collection boxes Valleywide, including Compadre, Corona del Sol, Marcos de Niza and McClintock high schools and several other sites in the Kyrene Corridor. Dress selection is at Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave., Tempe.

**When:** Collection runs Feb. 8-21. Dress selection is 3-8 p.m. March 26 (Tempe Unified High School juniors and seniors only) and March 27 (open to any high school junior or senior with valid I.D.)

**Cost:** Free.

**Information:** [www.cinderellaaffair.org](http://www.cinderellaaffair.org) (click on "Donations" for collection sites) or 480-858-2300.



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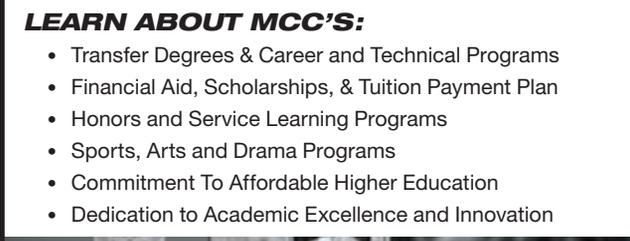


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- Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – MCC Red Mountain Campus, Lower Level Courtyard

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A Maricopa Community College The Maricopa County Community College District is an EEO/AA institution.

## Area horse owners urged to help Livestock endangered by storms

Kyrene Corridor horse owners are being asked to provide emergency supplies to help feed livestock endangered by recent storms in and around Arizona's Indian reservations.

Impassable roads and snowdrifts up to eight feet in some places has created a need for resources and hay among those living in remote areas on Hopi Tribe and Navajo Nation lands.

Both have identified a combined need for 4,750 bales of "cow hay" (grass) to feed livestock. The White Mountain Apache Tribe has sufficient hay, but needs help moving 600 bales from separate locations near the town of Whiteriver.

People able to donate hay, transport or both should contact the State Emergency Call Center at the statewide phone number, 1-877-464-1144.

Donors are asked to supply transportation of hay contributions if at all possible.

Road conditions in some areas may require a four-wheel-drive vehicle for safe delivery.

"The State Incident Management Team in Holbrook has done a

professional job in moving survival needs by land and air to those removed from resources and services," said Lou Trammell, director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management.

"Now there's a need for hay for livestock. Livestock is a source of sustainable food and a livelihood for some on the reservations, so it's imperative that we work cooperatively to sustain those assets."

Since Jan. 25, Operation Winter Storm in Holbrook has delivered 22,400 meals, 26,750 gallons of water, 4,500 Red Cross blankets and 100 cots to the Hopi Tribe and Navajo Nation.

Preliminary Damage Assessments for Individual Assistance and Public Assistance of affected counties are ongoing. PDAs are conducted in the field, where assessors can tour and gauge the damage caused to residential and commercial properties and public infrastructure.

Visit the Arizona Emergency Information Network website, [www.azein.gov](http://www.azein.gov), for incident information, including links to the recovery resources.

## Mardi Gras events coming to Chandler, Tempe

Residents of south Tempe and west Chandler may be 1,300 miles from New Orleans, but distance alone won't dampen their ability to enjoy some Mardi Gras fun this year.

Celebrations are planned in both local communities.

Mayor Boyd Dunn and his wife Nancy will be crowned king and queen of the Chandler downtown's inaugural Mardi Gras festival from 6 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6.

Hundreds of local revelers are expected to participate in the Cajun-style celebration, donning beads, masks and costumes.

In addition to crowning a king and queen, the event will include a walking parade, jazz music, dancing and a costume contest.

A cocktail reception and registration kicks off the festivities at 6 p.m. at Fat Cat, a downtown Chandler eatery.

Fat Cat chef Brian Ferguson is a Louisiana native, so the menu will include crawfish, hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

A buffet dinner of traditional Cajun cuisine (gumbo, jambalaya, black beans and rice, as well as some French dishes and desserts), along with other activities, will be held at the Crowne Plaza San Marcos from 7:30 to 11 p.m.

Ticket prices will be \$75 a person. Information: [www.chandlermardigras.com](http://www.chandlermardigras.com)

On Friday, Feb. 12, Tempe Sister Cities will host its second Mardi Gras festival at Hackett House, 95 W. Fourth St., from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Last year's inaugural event raised almost \$5,000, proceeds that were used to support educational and multicultural programs for children and adults provided through Sister Cities funding

In true Mardi Gras fashion, guests will don beads and dine on Cajun cuisine. There will be a cash bar, silent auction and door prizes.

The Bad Cactus Brass band will play from 6-7:30 p.m., leading a parade around Hayden Square at 6:15.

Costumes are not required, but partygoers are encouraged to come decked out in Mardi Gras gear to compete for prizes.

Admission is \$20 for Tempe Sister Cities members, \$25 for non-members. Pre-paid reservations are requested and can be made by visiting Hackett House or calling 480-350-8181.

Information: [www.hacketthouse.org](http://www.hacketthouse.org)

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Registration for March-May Classes Starts on February 6\*

\* Non-resident registration starts Feb. 12

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# COMMUNICATES

## Important Kyrene Dates

- On-going:** Registration for Kindergarten & Open Enrollment
- Feb & Mar:** Preschool Screenings
- Feb 15:** President's Day Holiday
- Mar 15-19:** Spring Break
- April 2:** Schools Closed
- May 27:** Last day of class
- August 9:** 2010-11 School Year begins

## Kyrene Governing Board Members

- Ross Robb**, President
- Michelle Hirsch**, Vice President
- Patrick McGill**, Member
- Ellen Shamah**, Member
- Rae Waters**, Member

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## Kyrene must develop scenarios of possible budget reductions



David K. Schauer, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

The downturn in Arizona's economy continues to cast a dark shadow on educational funding levels. Since education makes up a significant portion of the state budget, it is unlikely that funding can be maintained. Without definitive information, Kyrene School District must develop scenarios of possible budget reductions ranging anywhere from 4%-12%.

This conservative strategy means Kyrene will be well prepared once information regarding the state level of funding becomes available. My priority is to ensure the budget process is as transparent as possible. That is why an extensive budget information section is available on the district website.

In addition, parent, teacher and community groups will be involved in the process. We appreciate the interest and engagement of the entire school community as we plan for the future. Like last year, we offer a budget plan feedback section on our website and this spring we'll again host budget forums at several school locations.

It is important to point out that we do have some local control over providing additional revenue for the district through voter approved override programs. Kyrene has been fortunate to have this support from the community in the past. An election will be held on March 9th on the continuation of an M&O budget override of 15%. This funds existing programs and does not raise taxes.

I look forward to working with the community on developing long range plans for what the district will become in the 21st Century. While these times are challenging, they are also filled with exciting opportunities! ■

## Innovative Solutions...

...at the "unconference" challenge.

The field of education faces unprecedented challenges. On February 8, Kyrene Superintendent Dr. David Schauer is co-hosting with a Chandler business called Gangplank an "Unconference", bringing the resources of the East Valley together. He's asking educators and businesses to think as a unified team and plan for the future by embracing innovation despite what some call desperate times. Dr. Schauer believes this gathering will lead to unprecedented partnerships, new ways of thinking and, the chance to create a new reality for education in our area. ■

## Safe and Secure

Did you know that the Kyrene School District is upgrading all safety and security systems across the district?

The funding for the Safety and Security project is provided by Kyrene's community through a voter approved Bond election. These funds are specifically for Capital Improvement Projects and cannot be used for instructional staff salaries and benefits. Learn more at: [www.kyrene.org/ssp](http://www.kyrene.org/ssp) ■

## Why choose Kyrene for next school year?

*Enrolling Kindergartners and Out of boundary students now.*

Choose Kyrene and your child will be educated in one of Arizona's top performing schools with nationally recognized technology enriched curriculum and an award-winning before and after-school program. Kyrene Schools are known for quality learning environments, amazing character education activities, strong summer learning options plus programs for art, music, P.E., home-school, gifted and talented.

Additionally, you can explore our Kyrene Preparatory Program for 6th-8th grades, or Montessori and Preschool Options for 3-5 year olds.

To enroll in Kindergarten, children must turn 5 prior to September 1, 2010. To register at a neighborhood school: provide birth certificate, immunization records, and proof of residence.

New students not living in Kyrene boundaries must apply for Open Enrollment at [www.kyrene.org/oe](http://www.kyrene.org/oe). For information call 480-783-4175. ■

## Summer Academy expands classes and hours

This summer you have more ways to support your child's personal and academic growth through Summer Academy classes. There are 2 sessions:

**June 7-July 1 & July 6-July 30.**

Summer Academy includes two more hours and families can register for morning, afternoon, or both.

New courses offered this year include: Soar to Success, Junk Box Wars, Author Studies, Lego Robotics and Sports Journalism! Parents of

incoming Kindergartners have many more opportunities to sign up for the popular "Get Ready for Kindergarten" class. Local and out-of-state field trips are being planned for Middle School students.

All course descriptions will be available online starting March 1st.

**Registration takes place on March 23 and 25. ■**

[www.kyrene.org/summeracademy](http://www.kyrene.org/summeracademy)

# 'Overwhelming' generosity seen in drive to help Haitians

## Cover Story

**K**ailey Whitney and Clarisse Leppien were so inspired by local efforts to get shoes to earthquake victims in Haiti that they decided to organize their own campaign.

For a full week, the Corona del Sol seniors and members of Chandler Service Club's Flower Girls program collected new and slightly used shoes—

708 pair in all.

The results surprised even them. "We never expected to get this many," said Clarisse.

The girls' efforts were part of Project Priority, a community service project that each girl is expected to complete during her program year with the service organization.

The girls tapped into their social networking skills, contacting friends, family and neighbors to announce the

shoe drive.

They even partnered with their former elementary school, Kyrene del Cielo, to distribute fliers and set up collection boxes throughout the school.

Both Kailey and Clarisse said they felt "overwhelmed" by the donors' generosity.

"It was great seeing our community come together for Haiti," said Kailey.

Clarisse and Kailey collected shoes from Cielo as well as from neighbors, their churches and their friends at Young Life. They also received contributions from National Charity

League Inc., East Valley Chapter; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and other Flower Girls in the organization's Chandler chapter.

The girls filled two SUVs with shoes and delivered them to Sport Chalet at Tempe Marketplace, which collaborated with Soles for Souls to engineer the delivery and distribution to Haiti.

The store manager and employees said they were surprised by the number of shoes when the unloading began.

— Kelly Leppien



**Kyrene de la Mariposa Elementary School GARAGE SALE**

**Sat, Feb 6 • 7 to 11 a.m.**

**Household items, sporting goods, toys, clothing, etc**

50 E. Knox Rd. Tempe, AZ 85284  
(located on Knox west of Rural)

**Mariposa PTO joins disaster relief effort**

The Mariposa School PTO is sponsoring a "Mariposa Cares" fund-raising drive to aid UNICEF in its efforts in Haiti.

Coin containers have been placed in the school library and students are encouraged to contribute their coins. The coins will be collected through

Feb. 12.

The coin collection serves as a reminder that every penny counts when it comes to the Haiti relief effort.

According to UNICEF, 17 cents can provide a meal for one child, \$5 can feed a child for a month, \$30 for six months and \$60 for a year.

Information: [www.unicef.org/emerg/haiti](http://www.unicef.org/emerg/haiti)

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# Cielo mom succeeds Arizona organizer for grass-roots campaign

By Slim Smith

Every day, millions of Americans spend their days making phone calls, sending out résumés and searching Internet job sites in a determined effort to land a job.

And then there are folks like Rosalie Hirano, who found a job she wasn't even looking for.

Hirano, a Kyrene del Cielo parent, has succeeded Olga Vives as Arizona coordinator for Stand for Children, a national grass-roots education advocacy group that operates chapters in seven states. Vives resigned the position two weeks ago.

Founded last fall, the Arizona chapter came to life about the time the Kyrene School District announced it would ask for voters to continue a 15 percent budget override that has been in effect for more than 27 years.

The money, roughly \$12 million each year, goes to maintenance, operations and K-3 education support

for reading and math. No new taxes will result in continuation of the override, which was last approved by voters in 2007.

While the timing was a coincidence, the budget override, which goes to voters on March 9, has raised the profile for Stand for Children, which will work with a newly formed political action committee in an effort to get the measure approved.

"Right now, there is no organized opposition to the override that we are aware of," Hirano said. "But we certainly do not want to take anything for granted. We want to make sure the voters know that there are no new taxes associated with the override, and we want to make sure they understand just how critical the funding is for our schools."

Although Hirano's sudden rise through the Stand for Children ranks is unusual, her association with the group is typical.

"In deciding which states they want to get involved with, Stand looks for states where there are needs and challenges, but also places where there is a strong emphasis on education," Hirano said.

"Certainly, with the state budget crisis, Arizona fit those criteria."

Once a prospective chapter has been identified, Stand organizers begin to reach out to teachers,

parents and community-minded citizens to form its grass-roots organization within each state.

It was at one of those meetings that Hirano joined the group. With two children at Cielo, Hirano had no visions of a leadership role; she was merely a concerned parent.

But when Vives abruptly resigned her post in mid-January, the door opened for Hirano's elevation to the position.

The approaching override vote demanded that Hirano hit the ground running.

"Obviously, a lot of time and attention is going to the override," Hirano said.

"But Stand's involvement goes beyond that. It's a question of how do we improve education in ways that may or may not require additional funding? We are looking at things like mentoring new teachers, for example. We're not limited to funding issues; we take our direction from the community."

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## Kyrene Corridor **Briefs**

### Guys strut their stuff for charity

Here's one evening gown competition no one wants to see. Well, almost no one.

The Corona del Sol March of Dimes Club will hold its fifth annual "Mr. Corona Pageant" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at the school auditorium.

In lieu of categories such as evening gown and swim suit competitions common at most female pageants, the

program has been tailored to suit the male physique.

"No evening gowns," said club sponsor Leah Fleming, "but we do have a formal-wear competition where the contestants are judged on their poise, their smile and how they carry themselves."

The contestants will also participate in talent and interview competitions. Another part of the judging is based on

the amount of money each contestant has raised for the March of Dimes.

This year, 13 students will compete for the title.

"The first year, it was kind of difficult to get contestants," Fleming said. "But now it has gotten to be quite a prestigious thing. The contestants are nominated by the entire student body, so we have a good variety of contestants."

The event has proven to be a hit with the public, too. Based on past pageants, Fleming expects an audience of around 700 for this year's pageant. Typically, the event raises \$4,000 to \$5,000 for the March of Dimes.

Tickets are \$5 and available at the door.

### Realtors hosting Toastmasters

Southeast Valley Toastmasters Club, formed recently by Hunt Real Estate/Lucas Group, will hold a joint meeting with Ahwatukee Toastmasters at 7:45 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10, at Windmill Inn Suites, 3535 W. Chandler Blvd., Chandler.

Toastmasters focuses on helping members improve communication and leadership skills. Non-member guests are welcome to attend the free session.

Information: Kim Hunter, (602) 695-4163 or khunter357@cox.net

### Address delayed in tribute

In deference to ceremonies marking the death of Gilbert Police Lt. Eric Shuhandler, Chandler Mayor Boyd Dunn has rescheduled the 2010 State of the City address that had been planned for Feb. 3, the same date as Shuhandler's funeral.

"This was a day and a time where our focus should have been on the family, friends and co-workers of Lt. Shuhandler," said Dunn.

The rescheduled address will be given at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10, preceded by a reception at 6, at Chandler Center for the Arts, 250 N. Arizona Ave.

### Sandstone benefit set Feb. 13

Sandstone Café will hold a benefit party for Jocelyn Cote at 7 p.m. Saturday, on Feb. 13.

Cote, a familiar face behind the bar at the café, has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Patrons are invited to turn out in support of "Joss" at the part, which will feature prizes, raffles, live music, food/drink specials.

Proceeds will go directly to Jocelyn.

— BRIEFS, Page 26



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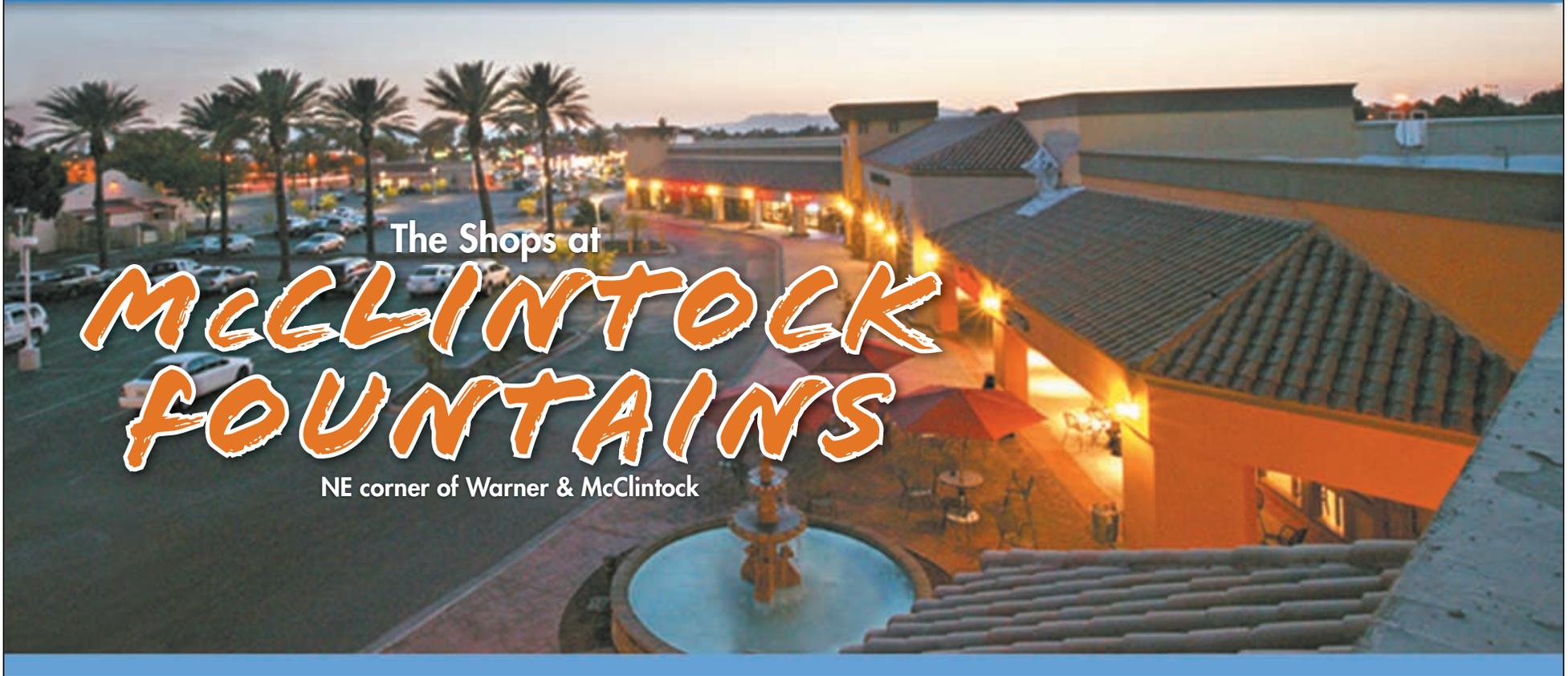
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## Under-the-radar location can't hide customers' enthusiasm for lovingly crafted treats — sweet!

Story and photo by Geri Koeppel

For nearly 14 years, Honey Moon Sweets in Tempe has been turning out cheesecakes and chocolate mousse, tarts and tiramisu, rum balls and rugelach. Chances are good you've sampled their sweets at any number of restaurants or resorts around the Valley.

Until recently, though, they've been under the radar — they only sold wholesale until May 2008, when they moved into an 8,000-square-foot facility at Southern Avenue and Roosevelt Street. Now owners Joan and Tim O'Connor of south Tempe would like to get the word out that they have pastries ready to go daily and would love to take orders for bulk pastries and cakes for weddings and other parties.

Joan O'Connor leafs through a book showing some of the highly decorative and creative cakes she's produced: One looks exactly like a designer purse; there are also racecars and Hawaiian shirts. A gleaming glass case holds an array of temptations, from Cabernet ganache tartlets to petit fours glacés.

"A lot of people say they have the best tiramisu," Joan O'Connor says, "but we have the best tiramisu."

Part of the appeal of Honey Moon Sweets is the artistry. As customers enter, they can look through floor-to-ceiling glass windows to a room on the right displaying ornate cakes for all occasions. O'Connor even won first place in December at the Tempe Town Lake's 10th birthday party cake contest with a cake topped with an edible replica of "A" Mountain.

For Super Bowl, she can make football-shaped cookies and cakes in your favorite team's colors, and for Valentine's Day, expect her to roll out the romance with heart-shaped flourless chocolate cakes, petit fours and chocolate-dipped

strawberries. For Mardi Gras, order a king cake in hues of purple, green and gold.

Everything is done by hand, and cakes are decorated at the last minute with only the freshest and most natural ingredients. Berries and other produce is handpicked daily to ensure everything looks perfect.

Of course, the whole reason for buying sweets is to eat them, and O'Connor is dedicated to making pastries that are not only darling, but also delicious. She makes all her own dough and uses only butter, no shortening.

Todd Stone and Melanie Haber of Chandler were in the shop tasting wedding cakes recently, and were impressed.

"Years ago, I was at a party and had their lemon bars, and have always been a fan," Haber said.

"Their cakes are delicious," Stone said. "Their lemon cake is probably one of the lightest and sweetest lemon cakes I've ever tasted."

"And moist," Haber added. The couple settled on a lemon cake with raspberry and cream cheese mousse for their March 28 wedding.

The O'Connors met while standing in line to register for classes at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y. in 1983. After graduating, they both worked in Manhattan, including at the Polo Lounge when Daniel Boulud was the sous chef.

Joan O'Connor later worked for a patisserie in Greenwich Village, and Tim O'Connor worked at the Silver Palate, one of the first gourmet take-out shops.

"Americans were just falling in love with food," Joan O'Connor said.

They later co-owned a restaurant called Spoleto in Northampton, Mass., from 1989-91, and then sold their



Tim and Joan O'Connor show off one the specialty creations that have made their hideaway Honey Moon Sweets bakery a favored destination by many.

share and moved to Arizona, where Tim O'Connor had family. In 1995, they chose to open their business in Tempe because Mill Avenue was being renovated and "things looked like they were really moving," Tim O'Connor said.

Now, their three children also help out at the bakery.

— SWEETS, Page 13

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## Sweets

From Page 12

Elizabeth, 20, works the counter on breaks from the University of Arizona. Kevin, 17, who attends Seton Catholic Preparatory, and Patrick, 15, who attends McClintock High School, help with everything from cookie decorating to cleaning.

Isn't it tough, though, to be around good-looking goodies all day?

Sampling, not gorging, is Joan O'Connor's strategy.

"I have to taste stuff because I want to make sure everything tastes good," she said, "but I won't eat the whole thing."

### Honey Moon Sweets

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## Home decor store seeing 'red' for heart-health party

The ladies of Nyla Simone Home, a home furnishing design showroom, are slipping into red dresses to host their second annual Nyla Simone Red Dress Cocktail party from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18 at the Nyla Simone Home Showroom, 1705 W. Ruby Drive, Tempe.

The event is being held in recognition of National Heart Health Month and to benefit the American Heart Association.

While red dresses are not mandatory, the party's theme is meant to inform guests about the importance of heart health and encourage annual

health checks.

The event will feature heart-healthy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from Home Sweet Home Catering and health screenings from ProActive, as well as raffles, door prizes and more.

Nyla Simone Home will sell tickets to benefit the American Heart Association prior to the event, and winners will be announced at the event.

Prizes include design services from Nyla Simone Home, handy man services, cardiovascular screenings, and spa treatments.

Information: 480-422-6178.

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# Young artist creates winning logo design for campaign to reduce underage drinking



Alisha Hurst tapped into a popular 'splattered paint' trend to create her winning logo design.



Alisha Hurst, a senior at Corona del Sol High School, has won the youth logo contest sponsored by the Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking and Drug Use.

Hurst's entry was selected from 20 competing entries and was announced at Tempe's Committee for Youth, Families & Community on Jan. 12. Ana Martin, a sophomore at the New School for the Arts, was selected as the runner-up.

Hurst, an aspiring graphic artist, said she saw a flyer for the contest and decided to enter.

"It was for a good cause and I'm always looking for ways to gain more experience," says Hurst. "I noticed that the splattered paint look was a popular trend in the graphic

design industry, so I played off that idea to make the logo look current and marketable to teens; then I gave it a morose-type feeling to get the point across."

The Coalition's Marketing Committee narrowed the contest to seven finalists. Ten judges from a variety of youth organizations selected the winners using an online survey. The contest was open to students from sixth through 12th grade. Hurst's logo will be used on future marketing and promotional material for the coalition's campaign.

The efforts to reach teens with the coalition's message continues with a campaign to encourage students at Corona and Marcos de Niza high schools to create a T-shirt or video that will discourage their peers from getting involved with drugs and alcohol.

The latest project is an outcome of a six-month study of underage substance abuse that was undertaken last spring. Program planners hoped to use the data to determine a strategic plan to help guide prevention activities for Tempe in the next three to five years.

The planning process was underwritten by a grant received by the city of Tempe from Magellan Health Services. Residents and professionals who participated in the planning effort used a combination of data, youth focus groups and national trends to develop four community issues to target.

Included among findings of the study were: Lack of community knowledge about the extent, trends, availability and consequences of underage drinking and drug use; fragmented availability of prevention education for youth; the practice of adults providing alcohol to youth; and insufficient community focus on the basic principles young people need to resist poor choices.

Information: Tempe Community Council, 480-858-2305.

— Story and photo by Alex Zener

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## Cosmetics bandit back in area after 6-month break

The Blue Basket Bandit is back. After a six-month hiatus, the man who has stolen cosmetics from several East Valley Walgreen's stores over the past 2½ years struck again, this time on Feb. 1 at the Walgreen's at Rural Road and Chandler Boulevard, according to Chandler PD Sgt. Joe Favazzo.



To date, the thief has stolen approximately \$10,000 worth of cosmetics.

The thief enters the Walgreen's, picks up a blue shopping basket and proceeds to the cosmetics section where he removes various cosmetics.

He then removes a Walgreen's plastic bag from his pocket and transfers the cosmetics from the basket to the bag. The suspect then walks out without paying.

The thefts range from \$300 to \$700 in merchandise each time.

The Chandler Police Department is asking the public's help in identifying the thief, who is described as a White male, about 5-foot-7 with a medium build and brown hair. In the most recent theft, he has some gray in his hair and appears to have lost weight.

Anyone with information about the case should call 480-782-4130 or Det. Preston Pierce at 480-782-4335.

## Sports Notebook . . . with Alex Zener

### Aztec boys look to move up in hoops power points

Corona del Sol's boys basketball team is tied for 11th place in power point rankings as of Feb. 1 after being ranked as high as No. 5 on the *Tribune's* Jan. 17 5A-I rankings.

The lower ranking is the result of losing three straight games in a row after being on a six-game winning streak in early January.



The Aztecs were defeated by three Central region foes for the second time this season when they lost to Mesquite Jan. 22 (75-61), Mesa Mountain View Jan. 26 (52-42) and Gilbert Jan. 29 (77-65). The last three games of the regular season should help the Aztecs gain power points if they can get back on track and win against the same teams they beat earlier in the season.

Of the final three games, Basha and Dobson, both previous ranked in the top five, will be the most challenging. Corona defeated Basha, previously ranked No. 2, on Jan. 12 when the Aztecs took over the game in the second and third quarters outscoring the Bears 25-4 and 23-14 en route to win 82-61.

**Kyle Noon** led all players in the Jan. 12 Basha game with 17 while **Calaen Robinson** had 16, **Marcel Towns** 13, **Tarik Smith** 13, **David Whitmore** 13, **Avery Moss** 8 and **Brooks Tennyson** 2.

You can bet the Bears came out ready to avenge their

earlier loss in the game scheduled for Feb. 5. The same will hold for Dobson's rematch scheduled for Feb. 9 at Dobson.

During the Jan. 14 televised game against Dobson, Corona started out hot scoring 29 points but holding Dobson to 16 in the first half. The Mustangs recovered in the second half outscoring the Aztecs in the final quarter but Corona still won by 12 points 68-56.

**Noon** once again led all scorers, in that Jan. 14 game, driving the lane scoring a season-high 24 points. **Whitmore** and **Robinson** added 12 each.

The last regular season game at home Feb. 12 is against Gilbert Highland, a team they easily defeated Jan. 19 by 30 points to win 79-49. Corona started the first quarter in that game scorching Highland 26-11 and never looked back.

**Whitmore** led with 17, followed by **Moon** 14 and **Towns** and **Smith** with 13 each.

As of Feb. 2, Corona's 4-5 region record puts them smack dab in the middle of the Central region race with Basha (6-2), Mountain View (7-1) and Mesquite (6-2) in front and Dobson (3-5), Gilbert (3-6) and Highland (0-8) behind. Winning games against Dobson and Highland will be crucial to keeping their spot in the Central region but the Aztecs could really move back on up in the power point rankings if they were able to defeat Basha again this second time around.

The state 5A-I tournament is scheduled to start Feb. 25 and continue Feb. 27 both at the higher seed's gym. The semi-finals will be March 2 and the finals March 3 both at ASU's Wells Fargo Arena.

— NOTEBOOK, Page 25

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# Kyrene Corridor Sports

## Aztec boys soccer: Something to prove at state

By Alex Zener

Ranked first, but seeded fifth, the Corona boys' soccer team has plenty of incentive as it competes in the 5A-1 Boys State Soccer Tournament.

The Aztecs have spent the entire season atop the rankings compiled by ESPN Rise, The Arizona Republic and the East Valley Tribune. Yet, because of the power-points formula used to determine the seedings, Corona is seeded only fifth. Tucson Salpointe is the tournament's top seed.

Last season's first-round loss, by the No. 1 seeded Aztecs, made history but not the kind they want to remember. Corona's loss to the No. 16 seed, Chandler, was the first time since the power ranking

system that a No. 1 seed had lost in the first round. An interesting note from this season's tournament bracket is that Chandler is once again the No. 16 seed

There will be an opening-match for disaster this year, though. The Aztecs, 20-2-1, got a pair of goals from Derek Rusher to beat No. 12 Mesa, 5-1, on Feb. 2 to open tournament play. Corona will play either No. 4 Kofa or No. 13 Tucson game on Feb. 6. This second-round match was scheduled at the higher seed which may mean the Aztecs had to travel to Yuma to play Kofa.

If the Aztecs make it into the third round, scheduled Feb. 10 at Campo Verde High School in



Austin Haas fights for position with a Chandler soccer player.

— Photo by Kris Cartwright

— SOCCER, Page 17

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# Soccer

From Page 16

Gilbert, the bad news is they most likely will be playing the No. 1 seed Salpointe. The Aztecs have not played against Salpointe all season. The good news may be they won't have to face Brophy, the only team to defeat them in the regular season, until the finals, if at all, since the No. 14 Broncos are in the opposite half of the draw.

Corona's team should do well in the post season after finishing the regular season strong allowing only one goal, against Desert Mountain in the Tempe Diablos Classic finals, in the last nine matches while scoring 49 goals. Matter of fact, over the entire

season including all tournaments, the Aztecs scored 93 goals allowing only 13 by opponents.

What's remarkable is the ability and depth of this Aztec team to attack on offense. The team has bombarded their opponents goals with 494 shots while 15 of the 20 Aztec players scored as least one goal. Josh von Allworden, Trevor Allen and Casey Phillips each had 11 while Austin Haas and Austin Crothers were each credited with 10 goals. Brain Hoyt and Daniel Van Vleet each scored eight goals. Allen is the assist leader with 14 assists over the season.

Corona has many weapons to control their opponents on defense including the swift-footed Shay Connors

and Chris Murray as defenders and the leadership and strength of Hass and Van Vleet as midfielders. Then add in von Allworden who leads the team in steals with 31, 13 more than the next closest Haas, who has 18, plus Phillips and Murray both have 14.

Junior keeper Matt Bersano makes scoring by opponents even more challenging. Bersano is undoubtedly one of the best goalkeepers in the state totaling seven shut outs and 52 saves during the regular season while accumulating a .567 GAA

(goals against average) while playing 1410 minutes.

Coach Dan Salas and assistant coach Brent Havins do not anticipate the Aztecs doing anything but continuing their winning ways during the state tournament but everyone knows, especially the players from last year's team, that anything can happen.

The goal now is to stay disciplined and focused to make sure the Aztecs bring home that championship trophy in 2010.

## Corona football coach search narrowed to 2

Corona del Sol High School Athletic Director Dan Nero said Corona had narrowed down the search for the new head football coach to two candidates. Zane Zamenski, head coach at Phoenix South Mountain the past two seasons and Ken Olson, long-time assistant and freshman coach under former coach Gary Venturo were still being interviewed as of Feb. 3.

Zamenski played and coached at Brigham Young University and coached at Western New Mexico and Scottsdale and Mesa Community colleges before going to South Mountain.

Olson, a science teacher at Corona, coached at Washington State and Mesa Community College before coming to Corona.

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## Tempe City Council begins 2010-11 budget discussions

This month, the Tempe City Council begins to contemplate how the city can balance its General Fund budget for the 2010-11 fiscal year and beyond.

They will consider a proposal formulated by City Manager Charlie Meyer, which was based on \$30 million in recommended reductions submitted by Tempe's department managers. Each manager was asked to submit reductions

in order to meet an individualized target number. The department-recommended reductions included combinations of cuts in personnel, equipment, programs, facility hours and more.

Meyer's plan can be viewed at [www.tempe.gov/budgetplan](http://www.tempe.gov/budgetplan).

The City Council began its discussions of the proposal at Feb. 4 and Feb. 5 sessions. Future Council budget workshops are noted on the

budget Web site.

Tempe needs the input of all community members. City staff will present details about the reductions being considered by the City Council at a series of forums this month:

- Tuesday, Feb. 16, from 6-8 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 31 E. Fifth St. (Tempe 11 will tape and make this session available online.)

- Thursday, Feb. 18, from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at the Pyle Adult Recreation

Center, 655 E. Southern Ave.

- Monday, Feb. 22, from 6-8 p.m. at the Escalante Center, 2150 E. Orange St., in the Senior Center

- Wednesday, Feb. 24, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at South Tempe Police Substation, 3340 S. Hardy Drive

To share your thoughts and ideas on balancing the budget, visit [www.tempe.gov/budgetplan](http://www.tempe.gov/budgetplan) and click on "Feedback Form."



## Renovated Tempe History Museum opens

Come and explore the renovated Tempe History Museum at its free reopening celebration Saturday, Feb. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 809 E. Southern Ave. The day will feature musical entertainment by local community groups, living histories of Tempe legends and the unveiling of an entirely renovated facility. There will be free cake and popcorn, strolling mariachis and performances from community music and dance groups.

The celebration will showcase a major renovation to the museum's structure and themes, providing patrons of all ages a more meaningful and contemporary connection to history. Adults will find interactive exhibits and an entirely new layout.

Children and grandchildren also will be totally engaged, thanks to two entirely new areas.

A "Little Devil's Stadium," themed with the ASU mascot, will provide a protected space for crawlers and toddlers. A Children's Gallery features interactive exhibits like planting artificial crops, role playing on a stage with costumes and props, listening to old music and radio programs, checking out an old fire truck, playing with antique toys and more. There also are plenty of interactive exhibits for adults. The renovations were funded by voter-approved municipal bonds.

For more information on the museum and its opening visit [www.tempe.gov/museum](http://www.tempe.gov/museum) or call 480-350-5100.

## Be Counted for Tempe: 2010 U.S. Census

Tempe needs the participation of all its residents in order to get an accurate count of how many people live in the city during the 2010 U.S. Census.

In March, residents will receive Census questionnaires at their homes. This 10-question form is easy to fill out and it is strictly confidential. Each household is asked to respond with how many people are living in the residence at that time. Citizenship is not a consideration. By law, the Census must remain confidential.

Individual information is not shared with even the President of the United States.

Tempe needs all residents to be counted because the federal government uses population figures provided by the Census to distribute funds for everything from schools and roads to public safety and human services. Additionally, a substantial portion of Tempe's General Fund revenue comes from state shared revenues, which are allocated based on Census population figures. Our community benefit when everyone is counted.

For more information on Tempe's efforts and links to national Census resources, visit [www.tempe.gov](http://www.tempe.gov) and click on the Census link under "Hot Topics."

## Early voting information

Tempe will hold a Primary Election March 9 and a General Election May 18.

From Feb. 16 through March 5, early voting in person will be available at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road and the ASU Safety Escort Office, 330 E. University Drive, Tempe.

The voting locations are open Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and

Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registered voters may request early ballots in order to vote by mail.

Voters also can place themselves on a Permanent Early Voting List by contacting the Maricopa County Elections Department.

For more information, visit the Tempe City Clerk's Web page at [www.tempe.gov/clerk](http://www.tempe.gov/clerk) and click on the "Election Information" link.

Voter registration for the March primary ends Feb. 8. To get registered to vote, visit the City Clerk's Web page or call 602-506-1511.

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**Tutoring/Instruction**—Reading Tutoring that helps struggling readers pick up the pace! For grades 2nd-8th - Tempe location. Call or text Dawn (Reading Specialist) at 480-703-3296 11/21

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Phoenix magazine, August 2007

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# Notebook

From Page 15

## Girls Basketball

Corona girls basketball team is not faring well in the new Central region with a 0-10 record as of Feb. 5 but still has some bright spots.

The Tribune's basketball statistics ending the week of Jan. 17 listed two Lady Aztec players. **Sydney Vanda** was 13th in average points per game at 14.6 and **Alexa Hogberg** was fourth in assists per game with 5.4.

## Girls Soccer

The Lady Aztec soccer team, with an 8-5, 2-4 Central region record, was No. 15 in power point rankings heading into the 5A-I State soccer playoffs Feb. 3. Corona was scheduled to play No. 2 seeded Gilbert in the tourney opener.

Corona's team was young but had great defense starting with senior goalkeeper **Hailey Hays** who recently broke the schools record in games and minutes played.

She also tied the career record of 35 shutouts. Add in returning defenders, **Jessica Johnson, Sammie Webber** and **Heather Crothers** to set the tone holding opponents to only 22 goals in the regular season.

Although the Lady Aztecs struggled at the beginning of the season without a returning dominate goal scorer, the overall young team soon took on a different mentality with 20 players scoring goals. Eight different Corona players scored six or more goals and 12 players had six or more assists.

Sophomores **Mackenzie Bader, Nicolette Newcomb** and **Brooke Ridley** led the team in goals with 12, 10 and 9 respectively but **Weber,**

**Melissa Pestalozzi, Tori Papp, Emily Tucker,** and two freshman **Zoe Martinez** and **Madeleine Caldwell,** each kicked five or more past the goalkeeper to score for the Lady Aztecs this season.

Sophomore **Newcomb** led the team in assists with 14 but **Pestalozzi** (11), **Tucker** (9), **Papp** (9), **Ridley** (9), **Martinez** (8), **Caldwell** (7), **Stephanie Petri** (7), **Mackenzie Koenig** (7), **Bader** (7), **Julie Vandenberg** (6) and **Weber** (6) all contributed to Corona goals in the regular season.

## Wrestling

The Aztecs finished the regular season against Mesquite Feb. 3 and were scheduled to start Sectionals at Corona's gym Feb. 13.

The 5A-I State Individual Tournament was slated for Feb. 16-17 at ASU with the State Team Tournament to be held Feb. 20.

## Football

Central All-Region teams were recently announced. Named to the first team was **Kyle Homewood, Billy Johnson, Todd Peat, Kyle Benson, Sione Letoi,** and **Alan Stitt.**

Players named to the second team Central Region were **Michael Lange, Chase Cartwright,** and **Dylan Harris.** Honorable Mention went to: **Tre Chambers, Grant Shidawara,** and **Alan Stitt.**

Corona football players honored at Tempe's All-City fall sports banquet were **Kyle Homewood, Billy Johnson, Chase Cartwright, Todd Peat,** and **Kyle Benson.**

**Chase Cartwright** and **Kyle Benson** were also named to the All-State team.



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# Film Faze

with M.V. Moorhead

## 'Last Station' worth the drive to Camelview

Recently I reread one of my favorite essays, George Orwell's "Lear, Tolstoy and the Fool" (1947).

Focusing on Tolstoy's own essay, written in the early 1900s, about his lifelong dislike of Shakespeare's work and his bafflement at the Bard's fine reputation, Orwell draws a convincing parallel between Shakespeare's Lear and the elderly Tolstoy.

I thought of this essay again while watching *The Last Station*, a tragicomedy about the chaotic final year in the life

of the Russian master, played by Christopher Plummer, paired in a heavyweight title bout with Helen Mirren as Sophia Andreyevna, the Countess Tolstoy.

This highly civilized entertainment, well worth the drive to Camelview from the Kyrene Corridor, was written and directed by Michael Hoffman.

Ironically, Hoffman has already brought Shakespeare to the screen with his fine 1999 *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and is also the fellow behind the underappreciated 1991 farce *Soapdish*. He's long been on the underappreciated side in general, I think.

Tolstoy's last days offer one of the most spectacular illustrations ever of the maxim that there's no fool like an old fool, and also of the less widely grasped truth that a fool and a great genius can reside in the same person.

Toward the end of his life Tolstoy, revered worldwide but especially throughout Russia, founded a sort of ecumenical social movement/religious sect based on unconditional love of humanity, pacifism, detachment from private property, and celibacy.

Since he was a Count with a beautiful country estate, and wealthy anyway because of his books, this was a significant renunciation for him. And since he was married to a beautiful woman of histrionic temperament who was still passionately in love with him and still very accustomed to the life of an aristocrat (and who had given him thirteen children!), his spiritual awakening did not, to put it mildly, go over well at home.

The movie dramatizes these scenes of domestic war, and not much peace, through the eyes of Valentin Bulgakov (James McAvoy), an ardent young "Tolstoyan" who is pressed into service as Tolstoy's new personal secretary.

He's also asked to serve as a spy for Vladimir Chertkov, the boss Tolstoyan and Sophia Andreyevna's loathed rival for her husband's devotion (and his inheritance), played with seething unctuousness by Paul Giamatti.

What ensues is a series of episodes, mostly comic though with an increasingly poignant edge, of the collapse of Tolstoy's marriage, his peace and his health, all played out against a bucolic backdrop.

Eventually he and a few of his followers, including his daughter, leave home, with no real destination in mind, and he is left bedridden in the remote train station of the title.

Hoffman's direction and script (adapted from a novel by Jay Parini), suggest that he sides, on the whole, with Sophia Andreyevna's view, and regards the Tolstoyans as sycophants, buffoons, and possibly even con artists, and Tolstoy as their vain and gullible mark. Yet he doesn't deny Sophia Andreyevna's

snobbery and patrician bigotry, her narcissism and penchant for soap-opera-ish melodrama. Nor does he deny the courage and greatness of heart that led Tolstoy to these ruinous valedictory gestures.

Most importantly, Hoffman gets delightful performances from his cast. McAvoy has a lovely moment where he bursts into tears after his idol expresses interest in his work. Kerry Condon is mischievously sexy as a young Tolstoyan woman who tempts him from the true path, and Anne-Marie

Duff is forbidding as Sasha Tolstoy. Mirren lets it rip as the Countess, rolling her eyes at her husband's folly one minute, wailing like Sarah Bernhardt the next.

In the end, though, the movie belongs to Plummer, who makes Tolstoy a magnificent yet lovable sap, with all sorts of mutterings and chuckles rumbling out from behind his long white beard. It might displease Tolstoy, but somebody really ought to let Plummer play Lear sometime soon.

## Briefs

From Page 10

### 'Whale' closed; reopening unsure

Sign of the Whale, a popular eatery at the northwest corner of McClintock Drive and Warner Road, has closed.

Owner Bruce Sandground said his attempts to gain rent concessions from the center management company failed. He said he was not yet sure if the restaurant will reopen.

### RigaTony's said coming to area

Italian food emporium RigaTony's, a longtime fixture in Chandler, is reportedly opening a new facility at the site of the former 3 Margaritas at McClintock Fountains center, Warner Road east of McClintock Drive.

RigaTony's owner also operates Iguana Mack's on Alma School Road. The company previously owned Chops at the Iguana Mack's location. A mid-March opening is anticipated.



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# Our website: A place to vent, share, enjoy

Editor's note: Since launching our new and improved *Wrangler News* website late last year, we've noticed a considerable increase in the number of online reader comments, including some that simply are too long to be included in the pages of our print edition.

We're reluctant to edit such submissions to meet the space

requirements of print publication (except for things that might get both us and the writer in trouble, of course), because we want our readers to have a place where they can share their views and see what others have to say about topics of interest.

So we encourage you to extend your understanding of the various

commentaries, news and feature articles that appear regularly in our print edition by clicking on the comments button at [www.wranglernews.com](http://www.wranglernews.com).

And, whenever the spirit moves you, to add your own thoughts to what your neighbors already have had to say.

Thanks...and enjoy.

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