

Wrangler NEWS

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**July 14 - 27, 2012
Vol. 23, No. 12**

*'The Valley's
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Newspaper'*

— Phoenix magazine

SPECIAL EDITION

**High school sports:
The first installment in a
3-part series on what last
season's history means to the
coming season's outlook . . .
Plus more!**

**Above: Chloe Hacker won her second
straight state diving championship as a
Corona sophomore last fall. Details, page 10**



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Chandler - Vasaro

4 Bedrooms + Den / 2.5 Bath, 4,262 sf - Fabulous opportunity to live in this Prestigious Gated Community. This stunning home features: separate guest casita, gourmet kitchen w/SS appliances, granite counters & custom alder cabinetry, amazing custom finishes, beamed ceilings, french doors, 2 fireplaces, an enormous master suite w/a spa like bathroom. Located on almost a half-acre lot w/lovely landscaped yard w/grill & firepit. Offered at \$650,000



Tempe - Wingfoot

6 Bedrooms/6.5 Bath, 5,964 sf - Exclusive gated community in Tempe. Home features 16' ceilings in formal living, dining, huge great room and large family room with wet bar. Family room and great room have fireplaces. Beautiful gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, large pantry with spacious open design. Six large bedrooms with walk-in closets and baths. Enormous Master Bedroom with suite with enough room for sitting and exercise equipment. The home wraps around a large patio with a pebble-tec lagoon pool and waterfall with raised cascading heated spa. Offered at \$949,900



Chandler - Waters Edge at Ocotillo

3 Bedrooms / 2.5 Bath, 2,206 sf - Model sharp home ready for a buyer! Showcasing: Decorator paint thru-out, great kitchen w/SS appliances, bayed breakfast area, spacious family rm overlooking the grassy backyard w/rm for a pool. All of Ocotillo amenities including: discounts on Golf & Bernard's Restaurant, beautiful lakes & greenbelts for walking & biking. Offered at \$259,900



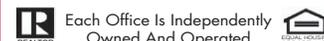
Chandler - Old Stone Ranch

5 Bedrooms / 3 Bath, 3,827 sf - Located next to a green belt is this beautiful home with a partial stone front. Showcasing formal living area, huge island kitchen w/upgraded cherry wood cabinets & stainless appliances which is open to the spacious family room, downstairs guest room w/private bathroom, upstairs master w/stunning bathroom and private balcony. Offered at \$410,000



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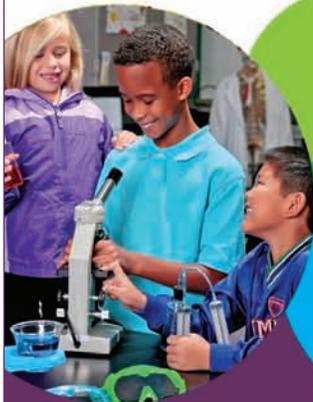
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Kid Zone camps still open to summer enrollments

Walk into most elementary schools during the summer months and expect to find empty classrooms.

But check out the hallways of some Tempe and west Chandler schools and be prepared for the sights and sounds of children having fun.

It's the phenomenon known as Kid Zone Summer Camp, which finds children playing basketball, asking questions as they conduct science experiments or learning to cook for the first time.

Sports, science lessons, cooking classes, swimming and bowling are all part of an average day at camp. Offered for children kindergarten through 8th grade, Kid Zone camps provide an opportunity for children to be safe and entertained through the end of

summer.

A city of Tempe program that is licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services, Kid Zone offers summer opportunities that are both enjoyable and educational, all in a setting with small child-to-staff ratios.

The camps run 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, and enrollment for both full- and part-time schedules is available. Part-time enrollment begins at \$70; full-time starts at \$120. Camps will run through July 27 and space is still available for the remaining weeks.

In addition to summer programming, Kid Zone operates both before- and after-school programs at 18 Tempe and Kyrene schools, as well as winter- and spring-break camps.

Information: www.tempe.gov/kidzone. or 480-350-5400.

Incubator site for advances in cryptographic technology

Cryptographic technology to ensure secure voice and data transmission for military, government and some Fortune 500 companies is now being produced in the landmark Innovations Incubator facility in west Chandler.

Cummings Engineering, established in 2007, has stepped up marketing efforts for SecureMobile 1.0, which Cummings calls a standard-setter for mobile security.

Darren Cummings, the company's president, said testing with government customers was responsible for an extended lead time prior to the product's release.

"We deliberately designed our pilots to gain first-hand working knowledge of what our government customers' real needs are by working closely with them as they tested (our product) for vulnerabilities and utility," said Cummings.

"We were committed to releasing a product only when we felt the appropriate security was achieved—the stakes are too high for our customers. We are confident this product represents the highest level of secure communications on a commercial off-the-shelf device today."

Cummings said the company's achievement enhances its role in leading Bring Your Own Device, or BYOD, initiatives to government and military markets where protecting privileged communications is critical.

The company has been working with the U.S. military for the past year as part of a Government-Only Early Adopter Program.

Innovations Incubator, home to the Cummings company's enterprise, was developed by the city of Chandler to bring additional high-wage technology jobs to the community by providing start-up companies space to work and grow.

It provides start-up space for businesses in the cutting-edge fields of biotechnology, bioinformatics, software design, nanotechnology, medical devices, renewable energy and others.

Information: <http://www.cummings-inc.com>.

Volunteers needed to teach kids to read

Tempe Experience Corps is recruiting volunteers ages 55 and over to be reading tutors in Kyrene and Tempe schools.

An information session will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 24, in the Connections Cafe at the Tempe Public Library.

The commitment requires six hours a week and involves teaching kids how to read.

For more information contact Project Director Peggy Goldberg, 480-858-2465, or peggy_goldberg@tempe.gov.

Kyrene OKs budget, gives staff first raise in 4 years

By Daniel Rasmussen

The Kyrene Schools Governing Board unanimously approved the district's \$98.8 million 2012-13 budget at its meeting July 10.

The board, made up of President Michelle Hirsch, Vice President Beth Brizel and members Ellen Shamah and Bernadette Coggins, voted 4-0 for the proposed budget. Board member Ross Robb was not present at the session.

The budget will give staff a two percent pay raise, their first in four years.

The allocation affects all staff members, not just teachers.

In the budget's early stages, some community members feared a raise in taxes. However, the school district worked out a budget that achieved its goals without raising taxes.

Said Hirsch:

"It speaks volumes that there were no public comments, no emails, and no complaints because we've worked out a solution that works."

According to Hirsch, the budget has been in the works since June 2011. The board added extra study sessions prior to its meetings for the past 13 months to make sure that every voice was heard and the details of the budget could be perfected.

"This [budget] reflects our team approach for doing what's best for all students," said Jeremy Calles, the district's chief financial officer.

Calles said the board has handled

each budget-balancing strategy individually over the past 13 months in order to create the most effective overall solution.

These strategies include reduced insurance payments; capital outlay revenue-limit transfer; expansion of fee-based community education; reduction in department and school budgets; contracted custodial services; district-office reductions through not filling some vacant positions and eliminating others; reduced use of math and literacy coaches for teachers; energy-saving initiatives; and implementation of a phased retirement plan.

Calles said that if all strategies meet projections, the district could see \$5.4 million in cuts, compared to the earlier projected \$5.2 million.

Calles also added that with this budget Kyrene now leads the state in the highest percentage of dollars going into the classroom.

According to data on the Kyrene website, 61 percent of the new budget goes to the classroom while the other 39 percent is divided among plant operations, transportation, food service, administration and teacher-and student-support.

Throughout the next year, the budget will continue to be updated. The board has said it will focus on maximizing the capital budget and will begin projections on the budget for 2013-14.

Information: www.kyrene.org.

1,000 to occupy new call center near Chandler mall

More than 1,000 employees are expected to relocate to a new operations center being planned by QBE First, an international insurance group, when it takes over a 183,000-square-foot facility near the Chandler mall.

The company has signed an 11-year lease that will house a call center, according to Steve Lindstrom, regional operations executive.

QBE, through a business it and its affiliates acquired from Balboa Insurance Co., has been an employer in Chandler since 2011.

Mayor Jay Tibshraeny hailed the announcement as good news for Chandler. "It is great to have QBE expanding into the Chandler business community," he said. "This announcement shows the confidence they have in Chandler. We look forward to

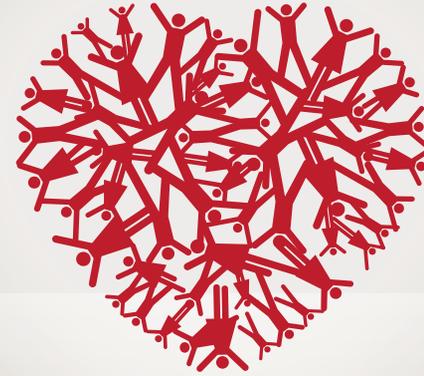
continuing this partnership and appreciate their recognition of a talented regional workforce to help them grow.

"A lot of people worked very hard to make this happen and we welcome QBE's continued expansion in the Price Corridor." QBE plans to begin moving into the new facility sometime during the fourth quarter of 2012.

Regent Properties is the owner/developer of the property. The lease was arranged by Jones Lang LaSalle on behalf of QBE and Bill Blake, principal with Lee and Associates, on behalf of Regent.

"We're grateful to the city of Chandler and the pro-business attitude of city leaders for making this project possible," said Lindstrom.

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*Source: American Heart Association

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Sports Notebook . . . with Alex Zener

Fall wrap-up

Aztec athletes could see lifetime benefit from new emphasis on commitment

All Tempe Union high schools have wide participation in their athletic programs. The following is a recap of some of the fall sports at Corona, McClintock, Marcos de Niza and Tempe high schools. Recaps of the winter and spring seasons will appear in subsequent issues.

Corona's football players, under new head coach **Tom Joseph**, took on a new challenge that may have helped them not only during the 2011 football season but ultimately throughout their lifetime.

"Last year was a new adventure in my coaching career," said Joseph. "Trying to get everyone on board was quite the challenge. We introduced the word commitment to the program and a lot of players started to figure out why it's so important to everything you do in life."

The Aztecs had a tough schedule but finished the season 5-5 winning more games than they had the previous two seasons combined when they were 1-10 in 2010 and 4-6 in 2009.

"Last season turned out pretty well over all," said Joseph. "We got better as the season went on and with our tough schedule it made a huge difference."

Despite losing five games over the season, the Aztecs averaged 21.4 points, over 85 yards passing, 216 yards rushing, 68 tackles and 1.5 sacks per game.

Seniors, most of whom experienced first hand the upheaval of the football program the last four years, continued to contribute to the team's success.

Dominic Mecurio, the leading rusher for the team, carried the ball 187 times to gain 1223 yards or close to 136 yards a game and score 11 rushing touchdowns. He was the leading scorer with 78 of the team's 214 points.

Matt Seall had five receptions, scoring on two with touchdowns to add 12 points offensively and recording 18 tackles and 2 sacks on defense.

Avery Moss led the team with five sacks, had 26 total tackles and then scored a touchdown on the only pass he caught all season--a 33 yard pass against Dobson from senior quarterback **Kyle Busk**.

Busk completed 47% of his passes averaging 57 yards per game while carrying the ball himself 47 times to gain short yardage when needed.

Zach Hamm led the team in tackles averaging close to nine a game. **Andrus Peat** protected his own quarterback but was credited with sacking the Highland quarterback three times when Peat played defense Sept. 16.

Seniors like **Dylan Calhoon**, **John Reidel**, **Nicholas Woods** and **Taylor Price** contributed to the team's success wherever needed. Calhoon caught a 60-yard pass in the Aztecs' win over Dobson. Reidel was one of the leading tacklers with 32, Woods had 23, and Price led the team in interceptions with three, plus he had the only blocked field goal on the team--against Cibola Sept. 20.

Zach Von Allworden, Corona's senior kicker, punted the ball 28 times averaging 38 yards per punt, scored 20 points on point after kicks and ended up with six touchbacks on his 29 kickoffs.

The returning players are spending the summer



Dominic Mecurio was Corona's leading rusher with an average of 136 yards per game while scoring 11 rushing touchdowns his senior season.

— Photo courtesy Kris Cartwright

working on their skills and getting stronger for the fall season.

"We have that same tough schedule this season as last," said Joseph. "Our athletes have been weight training at 5:30 a.m. every morning to get ready, plus we have just finished three weeks of passing league, and the athletes that participated have made remarkable strides."

Those athletes include several in-coming seniors who gained valuable experience and contributed mightily to the Aztecs' 2011 season including **Beau Sitton**, **Maceo Brown**, **James Vaifale**, **Quinn Robertson**, **James Contes**, **Billy Clemens**, **Cater Colton**, **Evan Kinney** and **Dylan Huch**, just to name a few.

Contes, one of the leading scorers with 18 points, carried the ball 92 times averaging 54 rushing yards and 15 yards receiving per game. He will be called upon, along with incoming junior wide receiver **Tevin Mayfield**, to score points this fall. Mayfield, as the only sophomore on the 2011 team, was the leading receiver with 19 receptions gaining 349 yards with three touchdowns.

Defensive-minded players who are most likely weight training this summer are the 2011 leading tacklers: Sitton, with 55; Brown with 26; and Vaifale, who had two interceptions and one fumble recovery. Colton had one kick off return that could have resulted in a game-changing 62 yards against Highland.

The Aztecs are using their July football camp to work on being fundamentally ready for the season, which starts Aug. 24, according to Joseph.

McClintock Football — Corona was not the only Tempe high school to get a new coach. McClintock, which plays Division II football, went 3-7 overall in coach **Matthew Lewis'** first season. The Chargers, on paper, should be a much improved team this fall when Lewis

returns 29 of his 41 players from last season, including the Chargers' outstanding quarterback **Xavier Gomez**.

Although the Chargers only won three games total, the team set some single-game records during 2011. In the game they won against Tempe Aug. 26, the Chargers completed .762 percent of their passes to set a new record for the school.

On Sept. 30, against Shadow Mountain, the team topped the school single game record by rushing 367 yards and then, even in a Sept. 2 loss against Chavez, the Chargers set a yards per catch single-game record of 43.50.

The team averaged 20 points, 138 passing and 173 rushing yards per game with 66 tackles and .6 sacks a game.

The 201 points scored by McClintock were spread out among nine players. **Sammy Jones** was the leader with eight touchdowns and two conversions for 50 points while **Bryce Posten** had 39, **Preston Ryan** 30, **Joseph Wells** 26 and Gomez 24. Posten scored 18 point after kicks but was multi-talented, scoring three touchdowns and one field goal.

Gomez, as the leading passer, completed 89 passes for 1079 yards or 108 yards per game and 11 touchdowns. Backup quarterback **RJ Rhiner** completed 9 of 18 attempts for 221 yards and two touchdowns.

Gomez had an abundance of receivers to choose from including Wells, who led the team with 33 receptions for 312 yards and three touchdowns, followed by Ryan, who only had 12 receptions for 301 yards but scored five touchdowns. Posten had 14 receptions for three touchdowns, the longest being 66 yards, while **Kyreen King** scored two touchdowns on six caught passes.

Jones was the rush leader for the team carrying the

Aztec athletes warm up in pre-season training



Summer heat hasn't dampened the enthusiasm of Corona athletes, clockwise from upper left: Freshman football, varsity baseball, pitcher Jacob Martin, pitcher Chris Tate, varsity fielder Shawn Maloney, track and field varsity and JV baseball. — Photos by Kris Cartwright



ball 120 times for 617 yards and eight touchdowns, while Gomez was right behind him in the state carrying the ball 100 times for 583 yards and four touchdowns. **Billy Suell** had 23 carries, **Jorge Valles** 26 and Ryan 14.

The Chargers relied on the defensive skills of **Keegan Allen**, who led the team with 63 tackles or 10.5 per game, followed by **Semir Andelija** with 43, **Trevor Logan** 37 and Josh Aberle with 32.

Wells, who played both sides of the ball, had three interceptions and recovered three fumbles while Logan and **Chris Contreras** had one interception each. **Andre Collier** and **Soloman Levin-Sanders** recovered two fumbles each. Kurtis Colter and Logan both sacked a quarterback two times each.

All-around player Wells was also McClintock's leading punter with 24 punts averaging 29 yards per punt while Ryan punted the ball 12 times over the season with his longest one, 51 yards.

Senior Wells, who will be hard to replace next season, was also the team's leading punt and kickoff returner. Others included Posten, **Josh Aberle** and Jones.

Lewis will have returning players Gomez, Aberle, Ryan and Valles to provide senior leadership to his young but experienced team which will include juniors Rhiner, King and Jones.

Marcos de Niza football — In the seven years that **Roy Lopez** has been at the helm of Padre football, he has compiled an astounding 53-25 record, which is the best of the four local Tempe high schools.

The Padres, playing Division II, were ranked 14th in the state last season, compiling 208 passing yards, 211 rushing yards for an average of 36.6 points per game offensively, and 69 tackles and 2.2 sacks per game defensively.

Altogether, the Padres had 13 players score 439 points including **Mauriece Lee** who scored 90 points on 15 touchdowns or an average of over eight points per game. **Paul Elvira** scored 12 touchdowns compiling 72 points

over the season while quarterback **Tommy Thornton** and **Jaquese Moore** both scored eight touchdowns or 48 points each. **Adam Pavlenko** and **Josh Eckley** scored 30 points each.

Most of the points were scored on passes from Thornton who completed 150 out of his 228 attempts or 66 percent of his passes for 20 touchdowns, an average of 200 yards passing per game. Thornton threw only four interceptions the entire season.

Thornton's favorite target was Elvira, who had 48 receptions for 774 yards for an average of 65 yards per game. Next was Lee with 23 catches for 405 yards or 37 per game. **Taylor Blankenship**, **Josh Kirkwood** and **Royal Bailey** also caught passes averaging over 20 yards receiving per game.

Although most of the Padres' points came off of touchdown receptions, Thornton either kept the ball himself—100 carries during the season, averaging 64 yards per game—or handed off to Lee, who averaged over 65 yards rushing per game.

The Padres' punter, **Daniel Villalobos** punted the ball 22 times for 887 yards with his longest punt an astounding 74 yards. Villalobos also averaged 9.2 tackles per game on defense.

Jaren Jones scored 19 of the team's points with point-after kicks in three of the Padres' games.

The Padres' leading tackler was **Adam Pavlenko** who had over 110 tackles, or an average of over 9 per game, the same as Villalobos. Averaging over 8 was **Rashad Baker** followed by **Dustin Lambson**, **Angelo Zacchio**, **Giovann Gomez-Makel**, **Richard Dollar** and **Jake Mansperger**.

Opponent quarterbacks were fearful of being sacked by the Padres' defensive line for good reason. They had a whopping 26 sacks over the season, or over 2 per game, causing their opponents to lose 182 yards. The leading sacker was Baker with 10, followed by Zacchio with five and Mansperger and Pavlenko with three each.

Together, the Padres defensive unit had 13 interceptions, 7 alone by Gomez-Makel and two by **Priest Willis**. This same unit caused their opposition to fumble the ball 17 times that the Padres were able to recover. Zacchio was credited with blocking a field goal.

Tempe Football — Third year coach **Brian Walker's** Tempe High School football team were 1-9 during 2011 only defeating Apache Junction 30-22 on Sept. 30.

The Buffalos, playing in Division III, averaged over 17 points per game with 111 passing and 169 rushing yards per game. The defense played hard averaging 50 tackles and one sack per game.

The leading scorer was **Raija Holt** who amassed 54 points over the season scoring nine of the team's 24 touchdowns. He was followed by **Marcus Whitmore** with 24 points, **Salvador Sanchez** with 20, **Clayton Kelly** 18, **Oswaldo Gomez** 13 and **Emanuel Gant** 12.

Miguel Valenzuela, **Dequan Hughes**, **Trevin McKinney** and **Martin Castillo** each scored a touchdown earning six points for the Buffalos.

Starting quarterback Gant completed 73 of 146 passes for over 100 yards per game and seven touchdowns during the season. Backup quarterback **Dayvon Phelps** completed 50% of his passes.

Gant's two favorite targets were **James Sanchez** and **Sebastian Watkins**, who each caught 17 passes, but Holt and Gomez gained the most yards, 253 and 205 respectively.

The leading rusher for the Buffalos was Holt who carried the ball 92 times for 497 yards followed by **Clayton Kelly's** 66 carries for 429 yards and Hughes' 49 carries for 380 yards.

Oscar Carrizosa averaged almost 10 tackles a game to lead the Buffalos on defense, followed by **Devonte**

— NOTEBOOK, Page 9

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Corona's girls golf team finished second in the Tempe City Tournament but failed to qualify as a team for the state tournament. Team includes, from left, Coach Reed, Katy Consoer, Heather Harry, Isabel Ramos, Heather Hittenberger, Kerry Lorenz, Brooke Taylor, Kelly Robb, Halie Carpenter.

— Wrangler News photo by Alex Zener

Gray who was credited with almost 6 per game, followed by **Nojeem Adebule** with 4, Castillo 3.8 and Whitmore 3.7.

Carrizosa was credited with four quarterback sacks while Gray had two, **Abel Borraro** and Castillo 1.5 each and **Holdon Gardener-Moore** had one quarterback sack.

McKinney, Gardener-Moore and Phelps each had one interception. **Kalun White** and Hughes caused two fumbles each. **Isaac Chavez** was credited with recovering one fumble as was Kelly, Barrayo, Castillo, Gray and Robinson. Carrizosa recovered two fumbles.

Gant, the quarterback, was also the leading punter for the Buffalos. He punted 25 times for 809 yards for an average of 32.36 yards per punt. His longest punt was 45 yards. He was followed by **Jose Elias** who punted 10 times for 214 yards.

Salvador Sanchez handled the kickoffs. Hughes and Hold returned 12 kickoffs each, both averaging 20 yards per return.

The Buffalos' first game is scheduled Sept. 7 at Saguaro.

Corona's Girls Golf — Corona's girls golf team won 12 dual meets and finished second in the City Tournament, fourth in the Tempe Invitational and fifth in the Prescott Invitational.

The team and coach **Pat Reed** were disappointed that they were not able to make it into the state tournament as a team with the AIA's rigorous new requirements. It was the first time in over 10 years that Corona had not been one of the top 6 teams in the Division I state tournament.

"My first thought is that the new system to 'get to state' was unfair," said Reed. "Our team played at extremely difficult courses and missed qualifying 5 times by one or two strokes."

Only 13 Division I teams qualified this year, down from 29 the year before

Brooke Taylor and **Halie Carpenter** both qualified as individuals for the 2011 Division I championship tournament at Aguila Golf Club Oct. 28-29. Taylor shot a personal best of 81 on the second day

helping her finish 29th with a combined score of 170 while **Carpenter** was 39th with a score of 175.

After losing seniors Taylor, **Kerry Lorenz** and **Isabel Ramos** to graduation, coach Reed expects to return Carpenter, **Katy Consoer**, **Heather Harry**, **Heather Hittenberger** and **Kelly Robb** next fall.

These remaining golfers have been working out at Jared's two times a week since the season ended and three of them are golfing regularly through the Junior Golf program, according to Reed. "I believe that we will be more mentally ready for our challenge of the tough qualifying standards and make it into the state tournament this fall," said Reed.

Corona Badminton — Although Corona's badminton team did not qualify for the state tournament with the new AIA guidelines, the Lady Aztecs had all six varsity players, **Alexis Emerson**, **Rachel Gur Arie**, **Hayley Jackson**, **Crystal Li**, **Kenna Lum**, and **Emma Reeve**, not only qualify and play in the Division I state tournament held Oct. 21-22 but all six made it past the third round according to coach **Katie Chance**.

Gur Arie was the top finisher for the team making it the fourth round in the state tournament. She finished as one of the top 16 out of 70 girls who qualified for state.

Emerson and Reeve made it past the third round in the state doubles tournament

The Lady Aztecs will only have two returning players next season, Lum and Li, so they will need to rely on players from its 8-6 junior varsity team to fill in the spots.

Corona Girls Volleyball — Corona's girls volleyball team finished the season with a 28-13 overall record and 10-4 in their section ending up ranked No. 10 in the state. The Lady Aztecs, as the No. 11 seed, lost to Hamilton in the Division I state tournament in the first round.

— NOTEBOOK, Page 10

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"We had a really good team last year and, unfortunately, were hit with some key injuries," said coach Ben Maxfield. "We had a tough first round matchup and lost, but I do believe we were still a top 5 team."

Girls' volleyball, along with several other teams at Corona, was hit hard with the new AIA power point rules that created a great deal of controversy.

"The AIA has acknowledged the power points were incorrect for most of the sports," said Maxfield. "We would have played Rincon in the first round, rather than Hamilton. Regardless, you still have to win."

The Lady Aztecs had several standout players in 2011 including **Olivia Ortiz, Jamie Burt, Haley Kesteloot, Alexa Moser, Cassie Fish, Kasey Kiefer** and **Steph Kennedy**.

"Setter Olivia Ortiz was sensational as a sophomore," said Maxfield. "She runs such a fast and varied offense. Her sets are very consistent and easy for our hitters to connect with."

"Jamie Burt, on the right side was phenomenal, leading all Division 1 opposites in hitting percentage," said Maxfield. "Haley Kesteloot finished a stellar career as a three-year starter at libero and even broke her personal record for digs in her last match at Corona."

"Alexa Moser continued being the steady and consistent player she has been for our team the past three years," said Maxfield. "Cassie Fish, who was injured in the beginning of the season, had a great career at Corona. She did a lot of good things playing back row for us, and then stepping back into the setter's role when Olivia was injured."

"Outside hitter Kasey Kiefer and defensive specialist Steph Kennedy were solid players and will be counted on to lead our team this year," said Maxfield.

The team has been doing strength and conditioning throughout the summer and most of the athletes are still training with club teams according to Maxfield. They will have a two-week team camp prior to the season.

The Lady Aztecs are scheduled to play Aug. 28 at

Dobson as their first match.

"We have four starters back in Olivia Ortiz, **Caroline Trent, Steph Kennedy, and Kasey Kiefer,**" said Maxfield. "Add to the team a nice group of underclassmen, and I think we will have a solid team that is going to surprise some people."

Corona Swimming — Corona's swim and dive team, with the help of first year coach, **Ron Musgrave,** had a dozen swimmers qualify for the state tournament.

"We had two boys relay teams qualify for the state tournament," said Musgrave. "**Nicole Holly and Nick Quan** both qualified in the 100 yard butterfly, **Chris Tate** missed qualifying in the same event by just over one second, and **Chloe Hacker** won her second consecutive state dive championship."

Quan, **Neon Stern, Chris Tate** and **Ryan Riley** qualified in the 200 yard medley relay just missing swimming in the finals after coming in 17th in the preliminaries.

Alexander Smith, Tate, Nicholas Wilson and Riley finished 18th in the preliminaries of the 200 yard freestyle relay and therefore, did not qualify to swim in the finals.

Hacker took home her second championship in the girls 1 meter diving championship defeating 31 other qualifiers with a 378.70 score.

Coach Musgrave is looking to build on what the team accomplished in 2011 with the goal of doubling the number of swimmers who make state. He has encouraged the returning swimmers to start the season in better swim shape by joining swim clubs and working out this summer.

"Our season is quite short and challenging for any swimmer who is not in shape when they come out in the fall," said Musgrave. "I was pleased to learn, at our recent team meeting, how many of our swimmers joined clubs and are swimming this summer."

Members of the team are attending a strength camp at Corona's weight room under the direction of Corona's

strength and conditioning coach **Scott Centanni** which Musgrave plans to continue to improve the athletes on his team.

Musgrave has been planning, with his two new assistant coaches, all summer and they are expecting a large turnout for Corona's team and an improved level of ability during Musgrave's second year as head coach.

"We are excited for this upcoming season and looking forward to seeing the improvement in our state qualifiers from last season and returning swimmers **Amy Hong, Trace Langley, Michael Ortiz, and Matt Hurst,** to name just a few," said Musgrave.

"I am also expecting great things from our dive champ, Chloe Hacker, and would like to have a few more qualify for the dive state meet."

Corona Cross Country — Corona's boys cross country team finished fourth and the girls team fifth at the Division I state tournament held Nov. 6 at the Cave Creek Golf course.

Senior **Jared Hirschl** placed fourth while sophomore **Jake Whitney** was 17th for the Aztecs. Fellow seniors **Jim Hert** was 25th, **Daniel Wrapp** 33rd, **Michael Seall** 86th and **Justan Yang** 127th. Freshman **Ryan Normand** came in 69th to give the team a total time of 1:23:52.970.

The boys team will be losing several seniors but have others waiting in the wings to help Whitney and Normand to hopefully help the Aztec continue their top five standing among the Division I cross country teams.

Dani Lemiux was 17th, **Sara Wright** 12th, **Hallie Swenson** 26th, **Hannah Lewis** 45th, **Ellen Dunn** 59th, **Alyssa Ramsland** 90th, and **Hanna Snyder** 97th. The team time of 1:42:44.750 gave the Lady Aztecs their fifth place finish.

The girls team will lose Wright, Dunn, Ramsland and Snyder but should be returning Lemiux and Lewis for their senior seasons along with Swenson and who will only be a junior.

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Profile: Keyon Cornejo

City sports official strives for balance in lives of young athletes

By Clayton Klapper

The forgotten key to happiness and success in life is often balance—balance between love and friendship, work and play, school and sport. One Valley leader learned this lesson the hard way, but has used his experience to make an impact on his community for the better.

Keyon Cornejo is now senior recreation coordinator for youth sports for the city of Tempe, but his path to that role was filled along the way with many life lessons.

Cornejo's years growing up were focused on basketball, which is common in his home state of California. Once he moved to Arizona, though, things were different. Most athletes in Arizona play two or three sports to keep in shape, so he picked up football and track and field in addition to basketball.

"When I joined football my senior year, everyone told me I was too late," Cornejo said. "They said I was too short and too slow. If I would've listened to them I wouldn't be here."

Cornejo's success on the football field his senior year drew national attention, but struggles on the academic level forced him to play two years of junior college football. Still experiencing some academic blips, Cornejo nonetheless earned All-American awards for football. He played his way to an offer by the University of Missouri, one of the most prestigious college football programs in the country.

"I still didn't have my priorities together when I signed at Missouri," Cornejo said. "Due to grades I got my scholarship taken away and I finished my senior year at Missouri State."

After a successful season there, a tough decision was at hand: make an attempt at professional football or try to get through school and earn his degree.

"I took the time to finish school without any eligibility for football. It was just school for the first time in my whole life," Cornejo said. "It was definitely the non-popular route, but I got my BA in science with an emphasis in recreation."

After attempting to work out free agent deals with a few NFL teams, the Canadian Football League was Cornejo's next step.

As a practice player Cornejo chose in June 2005 to hang up the cleats, and three months later took a job with the city of Tempe.

Cornejo had already worked part time during summers, and eventually found his way to a full time position despite his age

and experience at the position.

"I studied for the interview like it was a football game. I looked at notes, practiced and tried to be prepared," Cornejo said.

Now Cornejo is in charge of coordinating youth leagues and city events for youth sports for the entire city of Tempe.

"I want to help kids prioritize and not make the same mistakes I made," Cornejo said.

By using his experiences off the field, connecting with kids reaches a new level for Cornejo. Being in their shoes, experiencing the same academic woes, he works to teach student athletes that the student aspect comes first.

Through his time with the city, Cornejo has helped to employ Arizona State University athletes as coaches, referees and speakers for kids who are participating in the Tempe programs. He has also brought in familiar faces like Larry Fitzgerald of the Arizona Cardinals to help motivate the kids.

Fitzgerald has taken the time to help create a "Dream Courts" project at the Escalante Community Center, which will revitalize the area for kids to participate in sports. He chose Tempe as one of two locations for the new center, and with the help of Nancy Lieberman, met Cornejo.

Lieberman is a world-class former WNBA player, a coach on many different levels and a philanthropist who developed a friendship with Cornejo through ASU. The Dream Court is still in its planning stages, but is expected to have a solidified schedule for completion over the next few months.

Contrary to the words of Charles Barkley, who made a Nike commercial emphasizing that he's not a role model for kids, professional athletes often do find themselves in that capacity, whether they like it or not.

Having someone who has been successful on the field to look up to is huge for youngsters who are just trying to have fun and stay fit while they grow up.

Luckily for Tempe, people like Keyon Cornejo share their experiences and teach the importance of academics when it comes to success in life.

Cornejo pushes the kids to not only be successful on the court but, most importantly, in the game of life.

For information on upcoming programs and how to get your child involved you can visit www.tempe.gov/youthsports.



Keyon Cornejo confers with coach and former WNBA player Nancy Lieberman.

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Mike Felton, a member of the Aztecs' 2009 state championship baseball team, is attracting national attention at Campbell University in North Carolina.

— Photo by Bennett Scarborough

Update: Mike Felton Former CdS standout wins spot on college baseball writers' All- American 2nd team

Corona del Sol graduate Mike Felton has been named to Second Team All-American by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers of America for his performance playing second baseman at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C.

Felton, part of Corona's 2009 state championship baseball team, was also named by the American Baseball Coaches Association to the Second Team All-American and First Team All-Atlantic Region.

Playing in his junior year, Felton is the first Division I baseball All-American ever at Campbell.

"Mike has had a tremendous impact on our program in the one year he has been at Campbell," said head coach Gregory Goff.

"To become the first All-American in the school's history says it all."

Felton believes he was probably selected because of his batting skills but prides himself on the improvements he has made playing defense.

— FELTON, Page 13

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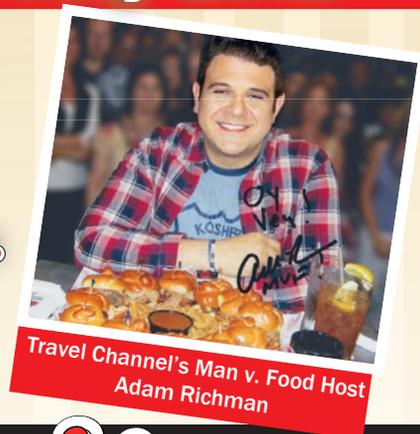
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Felton

From Page 12

"I think the main reason I was selected for the All-American awards is because I was in the top five in batting average and hits in the nation this year," said Felton.

"The thing I'm most proud of, though, would be my defense. I worked hard to become a better defensive player and it's really paid off."

Felton was the nation's leader in hits (103) before the NCAA Tournament and ranks fourth in batting average with a .424 clip.

He helped the Fighting Camels have a record setting season both as a team and individually breaking 10 single season team records including a best 41 overall wins, according to Goff.

He finished his junior year as Campbell's all-time single-season leader in hits (103), singles (87) and at-bats (243). He had 35 multiple-hit games including two four-hit games all in the regular season, and was named the league's Player of the Week on May 14 after getting 15 hits in five games.

He also was named to the Big South First Team All-Conference and the College Sports Madness First Team All-Big South team.

"Mike leads by example every day with his effort and attitude with our team," said Goff.

"He's a winner in every regard and I'm very thankful to have a chance to be his coach."

Not one to rest on his laurels, Felton has already set a new goal for himself next season.

"I want to steal more bases next year along with continuing to get better on defense."

Felton, who originally played baseball his freshman year at Southwestern Oklahoma State with Corona teammate Brock Abbadini, transferred to Gateway Community College his sophomore year.

"I always knew I wanted to continue playing baseball and the only way I could was to come back home and play at Gateway for a year and then head to a university my junior and senior year," said Felton.

Felton plans on finishing up his collegiate playing career at Campbell and then decide what to do after he graduates.

"If it happens that I can keep playing baseball after college, that will be great," said Felton.

"If not, I'm going to apply to Campbell's Law School. I like the people, the weather and the change of scenery here."

— Alex Zener

Group from Corona among top 36 in nation at career conference

Seven Corona del Sol High School students received national recognition at a recent 2012 Health Occupations Students of America National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Fla.

HOSA is national career and technical student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and Health.

The students from Corona's team were among 36 considered the top in the nation, according to Birgit Musheno, a CdS faculty member in advanced studies in science and

HOSA adviser.

"They made a great impression on everyone with their professionalism in competition and with their amazing performances," said Musheno.

Corona students recognized included: Michael Kim (2012); Alexi Choueiri (12); Collin Xa (12); and Guneet Gulati (12) — Eighth place in the nation for biomedical debate. Deydeep Kothapalli (2013); Lihong Tang (13); and Patric Cao (14) — Medical reading team recognition.

Resort to host chamber golf event

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce will host its 11th annual fundraiser golf tournament Sept. 21 at Ocotillo Golf Resort.

The event will feature golf competition, goodie bags, raffles, a silent auction, team photos and an awards dinner.

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at 1:30.

A \$10 lunch will be available for golfers at the course. Tournament fees are \$150 for an individual player or \$600 for a foursome. Corporate sponsorship foursomes are also available.

Registration forms are available on the Chamber's web site at www.chandlerchamber.com

Lunch RSVPs are available by calling the chamber at 480-963-4571.

Last year's event drew nearly 150 players, according to Terri Kimble, the chamber's president and CEO.

Said Kimble:

"The golf tournament is an excellent outlet for people to compete and win prizes while meeting and networking with other business leaders in the community.

Proceeds from the tournament are returned to the community through business development programs and events throughout the year.

Information: Karen Hall, 480-963-4571.



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A welcome benefit: Improved quality of life In-home treatments gain renewed focus

By Alison Stanton

To say that Sharon Barajas is busy is an understatement.

Barajas, who co-owns a local landscaping business with her husband, typically leaves her home around 5 a.m. and is on the go for most of the day.

So when her kidneys began to fail due to complications from diabetes and Barajas had to start hemodialysis, the grueling schedule of treatments and recovery time really cut into her schedule and began to negatively impact her quality of life.

Several years ago, Barajas heard about an in-home hemodialysis program that is offered through Dr. Ken Boren and the Tempe Southwest Kidney Institute in Tempe.

Intrigued, she visited the clinic and began using an NxStage System One portable dialysis unit that she can do from the comfort of home.

Much to her delight, the in-home hemodialysis has not only helped Barajas feel better, it has also given her back her freedom—and her life.

“Going in for hemodialysis was so inconvenient; I would have to drive to the center three days a week and it never felt personal or private; I’d always be with several other patients,” she said.

“Plus, it was a harsher treatment and it would take me a full day to recuperate, so I never felt very good.”

Boren, a nephrologist at Tempe Southwest Kidney Institute, said in-home hemodialysis has come a long way since he first trained on the system while in medical school in the 1970s. Boren helped open the center, located at 2141 E Warner Road, Suite 101, in south Tempe.

“A lot of physicians were familiar with the modality of in-home treatments, but then it sort of fell out

of favor in the 1980s, although there were always a few patients doing it.”

A key reason the in-home treatments weren’t as popular back then, Boren explained, is that the machines tended to be unwieldy and non-portable.

When Boren attended a meeting in 2005 and listened to five or six patients talk about the benefits of in-home hemodialysis, he said he was struck by photos that one of the patients, who used an NxStage System One machine, showed the group.

“There he was, in his RV at Crater Lake up in Oregon, with the machine right there with him on a table. And I thought, gosh, if I had the choice to do hemodialysis in an RV I would want to do it too,” he said.

“With the System One, it frees up the patients and gives them a better quality of life.”

The only drawback to using the NxStage System One machine, Boren said, is that most patients use it five to six times a week instead of the usual three days a week at a clinic.

“The length of time of each session is less, though, so even though it is more frequent it’s still about the same amount of time,” Boren said.

“People have to be committed to doing it, but for those who want to be

active, it’s a great option.”

Barajas said she doesn’t mind the extra treatments one bit. Each of the six hemodialysis sessions she does each week takes about half the time as those done in a clinic, she said, and she and her husband have the routine down to a science.

“I get up at 1:30 in the morning and get my machine ready, and then around 2 I wake up my husband who helps get everything started. It usually takes just over 2 hours to complete, and I can just relax and watch television the whole time,” she said.

By 5 a.m., Barajas said she is done with her hemodialysis and ready to get on with the rest of her day.

“I feel so much more in control now, and the important thing too is that I feel really well and my blood is much cleaner. People say I don’t look sick or act sick and they are right—I feel good.”

Boren said he hopes to expand the clinic to more locations, in order to help even more kidney patients just like Barajas.

“We want to give more patients the ability to have in-home hemodialysis treatment and to feel better and be able to do more things.”

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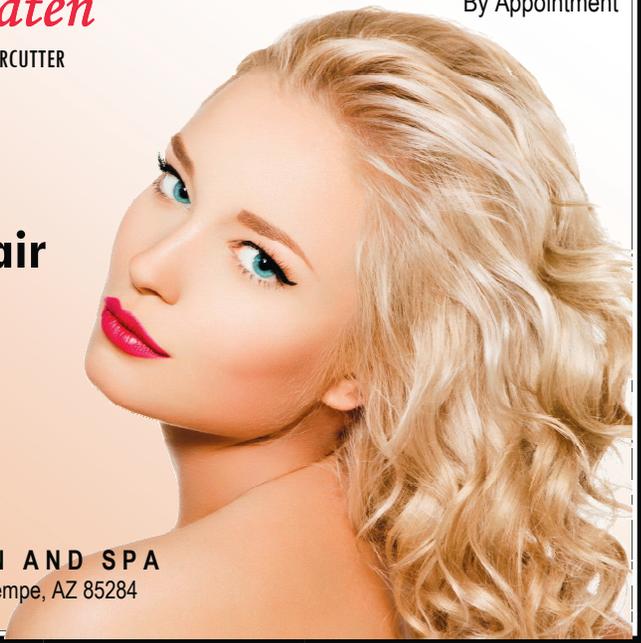
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Interim pastor considers job a fulltime labor of love

By Alison Stanton

As interim pastor at Mission del Sol Presbyterian Church in south Tempe, Dr. Larry Corbett stays busy every day with a variety of jobs that are typical for most pastors.

He leads Bible studies, and the weekly worship services, too. He writes his weekly sermon every Friday like clockwork, and he counsels church members who are struggling with any and all of life's challenges.

But since starting as interim pastor last September, Corbett also spends a lot of time on issues that are not usually a part of a permanent pastor's role.

Near the top of the list is working hard to let the parishioners of the church, located at 1565 E. Warner Road, understand that, just because there is an interim pastor in the pulpit each Sunday and in the office during the week, it doesn't mean that the church is in any way something less than it usually is.

"I have a responsibility to help do that, and to not to allow apathy to overcome people during this interim period of time," Corbett said.

"Some people might think 'let's take a break; we'll wait until the new minister is here' to come back to church, but while I'm here we will keep moving forward as a church. The spiritual needs are still there, and the church is here to meet them."

An interim pastor is also responsible for helping the church identify its mission for

the future so the person they call for the job will be a good fit, Corbett said.

"Another part of what I do is to look at who the church is, what its goals are, and what its direction will be 10 years down the road," he said.

"I also help look at what the demographics will be in five years, so the new minister will be a good match."

The third aspect of being in the interim position is one that Corbett described as being "very pastoral."

"I help people to grieve the loss of the pastor and to accept change—this might be the most crucial part of my work, helping them to deal with this change," he said.

"I listen a lot to people, and I have to love them a lot with the spirit of Christ's love, and be a presence for them, helping them to anticipate change, which is always difficult. I once read that the only human being who likes change is a baby."

This is the second time in his 44 years working in the ministry that Corbett has served as an interim pastor. He said that the process of hiring a new pastor is typically long, and the new pastor probably won't arrive until 2013.

"But until then, everything is the same here," he said.

While Corbett understands that there is what he calls a natural attrition in churches, due to things like deaths, people moving away, families splitting up and other reasons, while he is with Mission del Sol, he will do all he can to make sure the church remains as vibrant and active as possible.

"Churches that are not growing are dying, so we have to continue to move forward. I hold new member orientation classes on usually the last Sunday of the month," he said.

"This church is filled with caring people; it's a healthy, solid church."



Maricopa colleges: In 50 years, my how they've grown

Three Maricopa Community Colleges in the east Valley—Mesa, South Mountain and Chandler-Gilbert—have launched a year-long celebration commemorating 50 years of service that, in all, includes 10 colleges, two skill centers and multiple satellite locations.

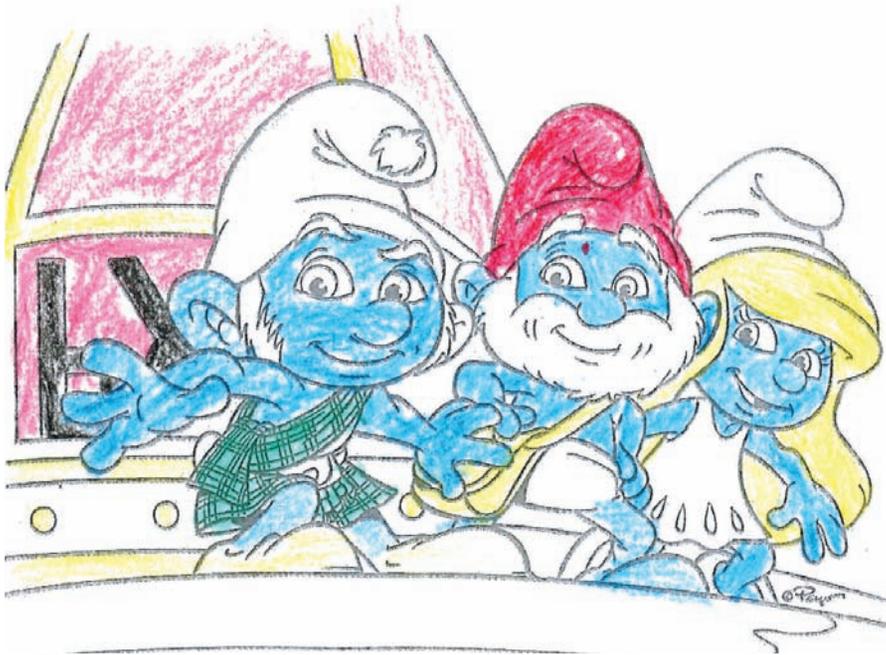
Starting with Phoenix College, the system has been in existence since 1920. Maricopa County Community College District was not formed until 1962, when an election was held and voters opted to create a county-wide

junior college district.

A new website, celebrate.maricopa.edu, shares a broad representation of the colleges' history, including commentary from more than 300 current and former students, faculty and staff, community members and leaders who helped establish the district.

The website also features a detailed timeline and lists events open to the public that are scheduled at the colleges through 2013.

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Hop, 6 and under:
RJ - 2

The family movie series has come to an end, and with it an end to the Wrangler News' coloring contest. Thank you to all of the participants. There were so many truly amazing pictures to choose from. **Congratulations to the winners, whose pictures are displayed here.**



Hop, 7-12:
Larry - 8

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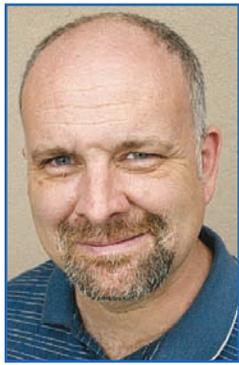
The Smurfs, 7-12:
Hailey - 10

Diversions . . . with M.V. Moorhead

Spider-man spins a new web of intrigue

Andrew Garfield looks like a spider—a daddy longlegs. That is to say, he looks like a daddy longlegs with the head of a Byronic poet.

As the title character in *The Amazing Spider-Man*, the young actor, who previously made an impression as Eduardo Saverin in *The Social Network*, commands an inhumanly svelte torso, like a ballet dancer's, with long spindly limbs that seem both frenetic and graceful in motion. Unmasked, as Spidey's hapless alter-ego Peter Parker, Garfield's delicate features often wear a smile, but it's a bleak one, as of resignation to disappointment in love.



M.V. Moorhead

Spider-Man, Sam Raimi's excellent rendering of the Marvel Comics saga with Tobey Maguire as the superhero, was released back in the dimly remembered bygone year 2002, so *The*



Amazing Spider-Man is a "reboot," a new retelling of Spidey's origin story.

As before, Parker is a lovelorn high school kid who gets bitten by an irradiated spider, and soon finds himself super-strong, able to climb walls and swing from Manhattan skyscrapers via webs slung from dispensers at his wrists, and imbued with a "Spidey-Sense" of impending danger.

A momentary indifference to a crime he witnesses leads to a personal tragedy, thus teaching him that with great power comes...

...well, if you're more than passingly interested in *Spider-Man*, you probably already know that with great power comes great responsibility. You aren't alone if you wonder why it's now thought essential to laboriously re-do the origin of a superhero just because it's deemed time to re-cast the role with a younger actor.

Garfield makes a splendid Peter Parker, particularly adept at the character's tragic side, and while I thought he seemed slightly less comfortable with the smart-alecky quips as Spider-Man, the performance is still an impressive success. But I really think audiences could have accepted the

change of leading man without the obsessive do-over.

Still, the re-do is, at least, well re-done, under the direction of Marc Webb (yeah, I know). A music-video specialist, Webb's work here is smooth, fast and efficient, if less magical than Raimi's.

The movie really took off for me toward the end, when it's finally time for Spidey to face-off against the movie's supervillain, my favorite from the old comic: Dr. Curt Connors, aka The Lizard. The Doc, played by Rhys Ifans, is a scientist who, trying to re-grow his missing arm, takes a dose of lizard juice and turns into a rampaging reptilian megalomaniac, and he at the Webhead have a couple of fine scraps before their main event above Manhattan.

Ifans can be a striking presence—he even managed to keep his dignity as Oxford in the absurd *Anonymous*—but he seems a bit sheepish here.

The other performances are strong, however: Emma Stone as Peter's beloved Gwen Stacy; Denis Leary at his nettled best as her police captain father; Campbell Scott in the small role of Peter's dad; Martin Sheen as Uncle Ben; and Sally Field as Aunt May — that's right, the Flying Nun is now of an age to play Aunt May.

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Star power dims with pair of recent losses

The departure of Andy Griffith early this month is kind of a biggie for me—watching *The Andy Griffith Show* after school with my brother ranks among the happiest memories of my younger years.

Griffith was a seriously skilled performer, and shrewd enough to know that he'd look better yet if he surrounded himself with terrific actors, then stood back and let them shine.

But for all the hilarity that the show was capable of, I still think that its real achievement was in the rapport between Griffith as Sheriff Andy Taylor and Don Knotts as Deputy Barney Fife—what

they captured, in the rhythm of their conversation and interaction, may be the most quietly convincing portrait of a close friendship ever committed to film.

The famous scenes in which they discuss their laid-back Sunday plans (“Go downtown, get a bottle of pop...”) over and over again are—for me quite



literally—heavenly; the sheer tangible savor in their anticipation of these simple pleasures is about as good as American TV comedy has ever gotten. It's an example for life.

Among the encomia to Griffith of the last day are many mentions of his brilliant performance as the reactionary media conman Lonesome Rhodes in Elia Kazan's wonderful 1957 *A Face in the Crowd*.

Well-deserved, but it should be mentioned that Griffith *often* put his genial persona to sinister, villainous use—he had a great time playing heavies on TV in the '70s.

A few years ago I was able to snag a VHS copy of the 1974 TV-wheeler *Pray for the Wildcats*, in which Griffith, leading a cast that includes William Shatner, Robert Reed and Marjoe Gortner, plays an unapologetically murderous SOB, and is amazingly convincing and scary.

Then, just a few days later, came another big-time show-business farewell, this time to the seemingly indestructible Ernest Borgnine.

I got to see Borgnine at work once, a little over a decade ago. A friend of mine was production manager on a low-budget, Grisham-esque legal comedy-drama called *Whiplash*, and I visited him on location, in the chambers of the Arizona Supreme Court.

There I got to watch Borgnine, the Oscar winner

for Best Actor in 1955 for *Marty*, the guy from *The Wild Bunch* and *The Poseidon Adventure* and *McHale's Navy* and *Jubal* and *Bad Day at Black Rock* and *From Here to Eternity* and *The Dirty Dozen* and *Johnny Guitar* and on and on, play the same scene over and over for most of an hour.

The old-school work ethic on display was impressive.



Borgnine, playing a wry old judge opposite some young actor as an idealistic lawyer, clearly knew his lines cold, and because of this was able to shade the scene a little differently every time, first realistically, then a little more broadly, then drawing the lines out, then whispering them in an ironically conspiratorial tone. At an age when he could have shown up on the set, recited his lines mechanically

and collected his paycheck, he behaved like a true actor-tradesman, providing his employers with multiple options for what a lesser talent might have left unvarnished. It was star power at its best, and a privilege to witness.

—M.V. Moorhead

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There's fun for all ages in newest 'Ice Age'

The original film which began the *Ice Age* franchise, in 2002, was a rather low-key, almost poignant affair, by animated kids-movie standards. It was the story of three prehistoric mammals—Manny the mammoth, Diego the saber-toothed tiger, and Sid the sloth, voiced respectively by Ray Romano, Denis Leary and John Leguizamo, trying to return a foundling human baby to his family.

Leguizamo's lispng nurturer of a sloth was goofy and funny, but the real laughs came from an on-the-margin subplot involving Scrat, a sort of sabre-toothed squirrel-raccoon who speaks in dismayed squeaks and clucks and the occasional anguished wail, and his perpetual, perpetually frustrated attempts to secure his beloved acorn.

It was a sweet, offbeat picture, and a hit, spawning three sequels, each gaudier, more whimsical and less concerned with paleontological accuracy than the last. In the newest, *Ice Age: Continental Drift*, Scrat's travails with his acorn



directly—and hilariously—result in the break-up of the continents. In the resulting apocalypse, Manny, Diego, Sid and Sid's grandmother (Wanda Sykes) end up at sea on an iceberg, where they eventually encounter another iceberg carrying a crew of scurvy

piratical creatures led by a maniacal primate, Captain Gutt (Peter Dinklage).

Meanwhile, Manny's mate Ellie (Queen Latifah) and daughter Peaches (Keke Palmer) try to get their herd out of the way of the approaching continent. More importantly, Peaches struggles with her first crush.

Ice Age: Continental Drift is very silly, but sweet and colorful, with strong performances—Dinklage and Sykes are entertaining additions to the company. As with the other films in the series, the prologue, featuring Scrat, is the best part, and it's already played in theatres, as a short before last year's *Rio*.

Continental Drift, in turn, is preceded by *The Longest Daycare*, a terrific *Simpsons* short, featuring baby Maggie—it's about Maggie's heroic efforts to save a butterfly from a sadistic classmate at "The Ayn Rand School for Tots." Grownups may find it the highlight of the bill.

— M.V. Moorhead



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Hospital's grants aimed at improving access to care

No-n-profits committed to increasing access to quality medical care for underserved populations are being encouraged to apply for 2012 Community Grants being offered by Chandler Regional Medical Center and its parent, Dignity Health.

"Partnering with others who share our vision and values is the only way to bring about real improvements in the health care system," said Kathleen Dowler, R.N., the hospital's director of community integration.

The hospital awards funding to non-profit organizations whose proposals coincide with the system's principles of serving disenfranchised populations with unmet health needs.

Grants are available up to \$50,000 for applicants who propose a response to the health priorities identified in Chandler Regional's Community Health Assessment or community benefit plan.

Organizations must identify the type of change expected and

how and when progress will be measured.

The project to be funded must involve collaboration with other organizations and/or with a Dignity Health hospital.

Chandler Regional's sister hospital, Mercy Gilbert, also participates in the program.

Grants exceeding \$25,000 are for a 24-month period, according to Dowler.

Priority will be given to those programs that demonstrate strong collaborative governance/partnership to address the identified health needs of chronic disease, mental health or obesity.

Specific populations should include those who are uninsured, underinsured or homeless as well as others in the community who are disenfranchised.

In addition, priority will be given to transitional programs to improve care after hospital discharge and continuum of care for discharge from emergency rooms.

Priority will also be given to programs that focus on the

spiritual, emotional and/or physical intervention, prevention, education and/or management measures for diabetes, heart disease, congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, stroke, mental health or obesity.

Deadline to submit a letter of intent to apply for the program is 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 25. Final grant applications are due by 4 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17.

Dignity Health's Community Grants Program is funded by contributions from its member hospitals. Typically, grant awards range from \$5,000 to \$50,000 and projects funded must involve collaboration with others.

Since the program began in 1990, Dignity Health has made grant awards to nearly 1,800 projects totaling more than \$30 million.

Information: Desiree Anthony, 480-728-5717 or CommunityGrantsChandler-Mercy@DignityHealth.org.



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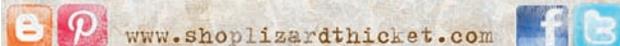


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First person

Friendliness, beauty defy Israel's wartorn stereotype

Editor's note: Jason Soronson graduated from Corona del Sol High School in 2009. He is a senior at ASU majoring in justice studies and minoring in business. He plans to attend law school after graduating in the spring.

Article and photos by Jason Soronson

This past month I was fortunate to have an opportunity to travel to Israel for 10 days, along with 40 of my peers.

Initially I was apprehensive about embarking on this adventure, primarily because those 40 peers were, only a month ago, 40 strangers.

However, the entire experience greatly exceeded my expectations. And, of course, I'm thankful for all the donors, as well as the Taglit Birthright organization, who made the trip possible.

Like any American traveling to Israel for the first time, I knew only what I'd learned from my friends and the media. However, after experiencing Israel, its culture and its people first hand, I quickly recognized its inherent beauty.

Whereas media outlets are prone to focus more on the controversy surrounding Israel's ongoing conflict with Palestine, there is much more than political struggle to this vibrant and historical nation. Granted, the threat is real and the military presence

is visible, especially considering that military service is mandatory, but Israelis live their lives in a way that is wholly unique.

Because of the incessant threat, there are many security precautions that have become part of everyday life and that may initially appear strange to outsiders.

However, in my view, these necessary precautions have made the country extremely safe. For example,

“It was not only the warmth of the Israeli people that made an impression on me. I was, in a way, awestruck by the way the Israeli people carried themselves and seemed to live with a purpose.”

— Jason Soronson

all school and youth groups have armed security guards; there is security outside every building, and abandoned bags are quickly disposed of by bomb disposal robots – something I witnessed first-hand at a yogurt shop in Tel Aviv.

Despite all the challenges that exist in the region, Israel shows evidence of doing quite well. Every city

we traveled to had a horizon dominated by sky cranes and was populated by incredibly warm and open people.

No matter where you go in the country, you are constantly meeting Israelis who seemingly without hesitation invite you into their home or ask you to join them for Shabbat dinner.

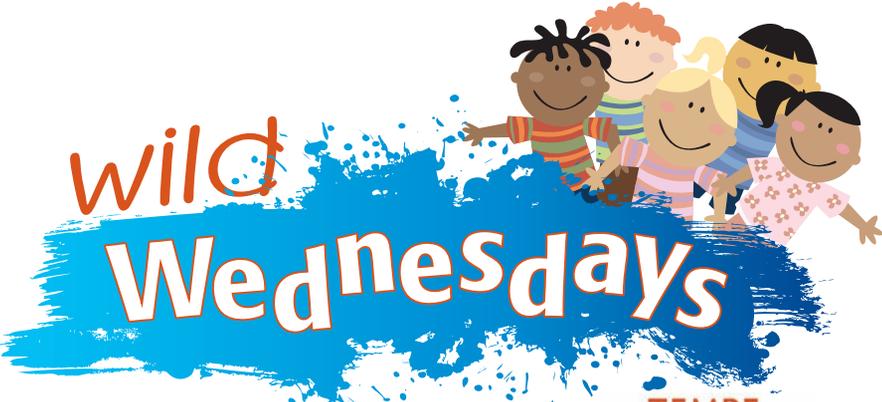
The warmth of these people was reinforced by the eight Israeli soldiers who joined our trip for a few days and with whom I became good friends. I even was able to see them again in Tel Aviv after the trip was over.

Although they were in the army, to me they were still normal 18-21 year olds.

It was not only the warmth of the Israeli people that made an impression on me. I was, in a way, awestruck by the way the Israeli people carried themselves and seemed to live with a purpose.

Despite some political separation in the country, the Israelis seemed to me an incredibly united people aware of the world around them and their shared desire to fight for survival.

Although the landscape was similar to that of Arizona, it possessed its own majestic beauty, much like the country's inhabitants. For those looking for a new, exciting—and worthwhile—place to travel, where the people are warm and inviting, Israel indeed should be at the top of the list.



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Photos, clockwise from left:

Western Wall in Jerusalem with Dome of the Rock as a backdrop. As in all visits, military was pronounced and visible. In this photo, however, the soldiers in the background were not there for security but because their training requires visiting the religious and cultural sites of Israel. Although guns are the soldiers' constant companions, they are not allowed in places of religious significance.

Jack Sherwood and Evan Weintraub, left, with Soronson, Andrew Laufer and Adam Fishman in the old port city of Jaffa.

With Soronson, left, at Western Wall are soldiers Mosh Amar and Dolev Margalit, who remained in plain clothes throughout the visit. Aaron Altman, who was not in the military, is at right.

Soldiers Sofi Maman, left, and Limor Shuker with Soronson outside Yad Vashem, a Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem. It was Soronson's and his group's last day with the soldiers, which was why they had returned to uniforms.



Ask the Doctor: Bariatric surgery, the only proven solution for long-term weight loss

Fad diets, ineffective short-term solutions to longer-term weight issues

Fad diets can take many forms and are popular because they promise quick weight loss, are relatively easy to implement and claim remarkable results.

Do any of these claims sound familiar? "Lose 30 pounds in 30 days!" ... "Eat as much as you want and still lose weight!" ... "Try the thigh buster and lose inches fast!"

"For the one in three Americans who are obese, these headlines may seem like the answer to their problems.

However, the reality is that fad diets provide temporary weight loss, and their results are rarely permanent," said Eric Schlesinger, M.D., FACS, a board-certified general surgeon specializing in bariatric surgery at Surgical Weight Loss Solutions at Tempe St. Luke's Hospital.

Weight loss through fad dieting is usually rapid in the beginning phases of the diet, but tapers off as the program progresses. Additionally these diets become tedious, boring and expensive.

In most cases, any weight lost through fad dieting is regained along with additional pounds — as individuals resume old eating behaviors, sedentary lifestyle habits, or do not address the core issues related to their weight gain. This can lead to "yo-yo" dieting and mounting frustration.

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), bariatric surgery is the only proven effective treatment for those

suffering from severe and morbid obesity. Below, Dr. Schlesinger answers questions about surgical weight loss.

What is bariatric surgery and who is the best candidate? — Bariatric surgery involves surgically altering the GI tract thereby changing how the body processes food. Bariatric surgery provides marked and reliable weight loss as well as significant improvement or complete remission of most of the medical disorders that accompany obesity.

In addition, bariatric surgery is safe with a low risk of complications and a short hospital stay.

Typically, a patient must be morbidly obese in order to qualify for weight loss surgery. A person is considered morbidly obese if he or she has a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or higher, generally 100 or more pounds overweight.

A person with a BMI of 35 or higher who suffers from two or more serious health issues related to their weight may also be a candidate. While weight loss surgery is not for everyone, it serves as a viable option with long-term health benefits for people suffering from morbid obesity.

What are the different types of bariatric surgery? — There are several different types of weight loss surgery. At

Surgical Weight Loss Solutions, we offer four bariatric procedures: gastric bypass, gastric banding, vertical sleeve gastrectomy and duodenal switch, all designed to treat obesity a little differently.

The gastric band causes a person to feel full after eating less food than previously, while gastric bypass, vertical sleeve gastrectomy and duodenal switch have additional effects on a person's metabolism.

The duodenal switch weight loss procedure is considered extremely powerful and effective for long-term weight loss. Currently, Surgical Weight Loss Solutions is the only location in Arizona to offer this service. In this procedure, the stomach is reduced by up to 80 percent of its original size and much of the small intestine is excluded from the food stream.

Although individual results may vary, duodenal switch patients experience the greatest weight loss, and weight regain is virtually unheard of.

How will patients know which procedure is right for them? — There are many resources available to individuals who are determining their most viable surgical option. It's important to get informed about the many weight loss programs, surgical procedures, benefits and potential risks that come with undergoing a procedure like this.

Those considering bariatric surgery should attend small group seminars and individual consultations with specialized physicians. When it comes to weight loss surgery, a one-size-fits-all approach simply does not apply. Each person must be individually evaluated.

Only then can he or she be matched with the procedure that will best address their needs, behavior and medical conditions.

What factors does the candidate need to consider when selecting a doctor? — Choosing a surgeon can be a daunting task, but it is very important. Candidates should ask about the type of procedures the surgeon performs, if they are board-certified, and if the surgery will be performed in a designated Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence (COE) by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS)/ American College of Surgeons (ACS). To earn and maintain a COE designation, surgical weight loss centers specifically are put under stringent standards of practice and overall excellence. Equally important to a qualified surgeon is the existence of a comprehensive weight loss program. Services should begin when a patient first enters an office, and should continue through insurance approval, surgical preparation, surgery, and post-operative lifestyle changes. Nutritional education, counseling and physical exercise should also be tailored to your conditions, needs and preferences.

Eric Schlesinger, M.D., FACS, is a board-certified general surgeon specializing in bariatric surgery at Surgical Weight Loss Solutions at Tempe St. Luke's. For a referral to a bariatric surgeon or another type of specialist, call 1-877-351-WELL (9355).

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From Tempe Fire, some hints to help prevent home poisoning

Thousands of people are injured or become ill in the U.S. every year due to unintentional poisonings, and Tempe Fire officials have issued a reminder to use caution when dealing with household products such as cleaning liquids and powders, paint thinners, drain cleaners, windshield washer fluid and polishes that are found in most homes.

Because they are so common, people often forget how dangerous they are, says Tempe Fire public information officer Mike Reichling.

"It's not always easy to recognize if someone has been poisoned unless they tell someone, ask for help or behave in an unusual way," said Reichling. "No one may know that an unintentional poisoning has even occurred."

Children are more likely to remain silent because they fear being scolded or punished. Items commonly ingested by children are cough and cold medications, Ibuprofen, Tylenol and vitamins.

If you suspect that a poisoning has occurred, and it does not appear to be life-threatening, says Reichling,

call the Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222. If you suspect that someone's life is in danger call 9-1-1.

Substances found in and around homes include:

Prescription and non-prescription medications; ammonia, bleach, dish soap, alcohol, spray cleaners, toothpaste; garden chemicals such as herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers; antifreeze, paint and paint products (kerosene, turpentine); alcohol and tobacco; swimming pool chemicals; plants such as poinsettias, oleanders, dieffenbachias, azaleas, mistletoe and pyracantha berries.

You can safeguard your home by:

Installing safety latches on medicine cabinets, drawers and cupboards where poisons are stored; using products with child resistant caps; keeping products in their original container; keeping chemicals in the garage or storage areas out of a child's reach; discarding all old, unused and unlabeled medicine; keeping shampoo, mouthwash, toothpaste, cosmetics, etc. out of a child's reach; putting a key outside the bathroom if the door has a lock on it; keeping a list of the plants in your home and garden in case of ingestion by a child or a pet; never calling medicine candy or taking medications in front of children

Most household chemical containers carry symbols and safety warnings on the labels. "By learning the symbols and following the instructions you could prevent an injury or even save a life," said Reichling.

Downtown Chandler launches backpack drive for kids

By Daniel Rasmussen

Downtown Chandler Community Partnership and GangPlank are uniting to bring school supplies to Chandler's children in need.

The groups are relying on community donations to help provide 100 children with backpacks filled with everything they need to start the school year right. This includes pencils, paper, binders, folders, crayons, markers, calculators and everything else in between.

The packs will be given to children in the Chandler Unified School District and at Chandler Christian Community Center.

DCCP and Gangplank have also partnered with Intel for the drive, who are providing a sustainability angle to the fundraiser.

Intel engineers sourced recyclable plastic and film reels from around the Valley and created 150 sustainable pencil boxes for the students.

"The goals of this project were to repurpose Intel's

clean plastic waste stream, to help provide local students with the resources they need and to find paths to zero waste," said Anthony Kong, one of the Intel project managers.

Each pencil box will come with a story that describes how it was made, as well as a list of easy tips to encourage kids to live an environmentally friendly lifestyle.

Donations big or small can be made from now until July 31. The organizations also welcome donations of socks, underwear, clothes or anything else that might be useful to a student in elementary, middle or high school.

Donations can be dropped off at:

GangPlank – 260 S. Arizona Ave., downtown Chandler, or Chandler City Hall (lobby) – 175 S. Arizona Ave. #5, downtown Chandler.

For anyone unable to drop off a donation, pre-stuffed backpacks can be purchased at walmart.com and sent to the GangPlank address above. Zip code for mailing is 85225.

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When the creative spark eludes her, author Shynyn Hosier has only a short trek from a nook in her living room to the washing machine. Once writers block has passed, returning to work is just a few steps away.

Stay-at-home mom's fan fiction hobby yields newfound success

Story & photo by Jennifer Pillen Banks

Four years ago, stay-at-home mom Shynyn Hosier and long-time fan of Harry Potter books decided to try writing some of her own stories with J. K. Rowling's characters and settings.

"I was kind of going nuts as a stay-at-home mom. I needed a creative outlet," she said. "I never had the courage to think that I could pursue fiction writing as a vocation."

But now she appears to be headed toward doing just that, with one self-published novel and a couple of others well on their way to traditional publication.

While searching the internet for details and timelines to ensure her Potter stories accurately reflected the world that Rowling had created, Hosier stumbled across a "fan fiction" site, where a bunch of others not only shared her hobby, but were also willing to share their stories with the rest of the world.

"People want to see characters they love continue to live and breathe," said Hosier. At fanfiction.net, for example, amateur authors have extended the life of books and

movies ranging from *The Hunger Games* to *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, from *It's Complicated* to *It's a Wonderful Life*.

Hosier decided to put some of her Harry Potter stories up "just to see if I could pull off a whole novel and would anybody be interested in reading it," she said.

It wasn't long before she garnered a regular following and a multitude of positive reviews, starting a path similar to that of recent sensation E. L. James, whose book *Fifty Shades of Grey* (currently number one on both the *New York Times* trade paperback and e-book lists) got its start as adult fan fiction written for *Twilight*.

"Success on the fan fiction site gave me the courage to try something more original," said Hosier. "Maybe I could start from scratch with my own ideas, characters, and premise."

She wrote a contemporary romance, *Old Enough to Know Better*, and submitted it to a publisher. It was rejected, as are most books, even those that later turn out to be best sellers and classics (*Gone with the Wind* was rejected 38 times and recent best seller *The Help* was rejected 60 times).

"It's entirely possible that I gave up too soon," she said. "But after hearing other writers' experiences, I thought well, geez, I'm nearly 40 years old. Do I want to spend the next five to seven years pushing others to do the job for me when I could do it myself in the span of a month?"

She hired a graphic designer to make a cover, then published her book on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Smashwords, using new technology that has made self-publication cheap, fast, and easy.

"You write your story, follow their formatting guidelines, push a button to upload it, and approximately an hour later, your book is for sale. It's insanely simple," she said.

In addition to multiple e-reader formats, the book is also available in oversized paperback from a print-on-demand subsidiary of Amazon called Create Space.

"Any time someone wants to buy a book, one copy is printed and mailed out rather than me having a 1,000 copies of them in my garage," she said.

Because it's free to upload the book to the sites, all sales result in profit. "Every time they make a sale, you get a royalty, which tends to be way higher than anything that you would get through a traditional publisher," said Hosier.

"It seems to be that the trend is eliminating the middleman between creators and those who consume the creativity."

The drawback, however, is that the only marketing her book receives is whatever she chooses to do. While Hosier said she's pleased with how well *Old Enough to Know Better* has sold via word of mouth, she admits that "the publishing industry has amazing distribution, and they know what they're doing as far as selling books. I'm not ready to abandon that idea wholesale," she said.

To that end, she is now pursuing a more traditional publishing route with another of her novels, a paranormal suspense/romance called *Brimstone*. Hosier entered it into—and won—a contest for unpublished manuscripts sponsored by the Desert Rose chapter of Romance Writers of America.

The prize for winning the contest? Face-time with an agent, editor, or publisher, catapulting her over the first very high hurdle of traditional publication.

Hosier has had three editors and an agent who asked to see part or all of her novel.

Hosier's written nine books, including two fan fiction novels.

She writes in what she likes to call her "corner office," which is literally a cozy corner of her living room. When she hits a block in her writing, she does a load of laundry, unloads the dishwasher, or vacuums a carpet, which she said is gets her creativity flowing again. "I can run right back to my laptop. It's always open and it's always on," she said.

She currently has one child in kindergarten at Kyrene del Norte and another in middle school at Grand Canyon Prep. To learn more about her writing, visit her website: shynynhosier.com.

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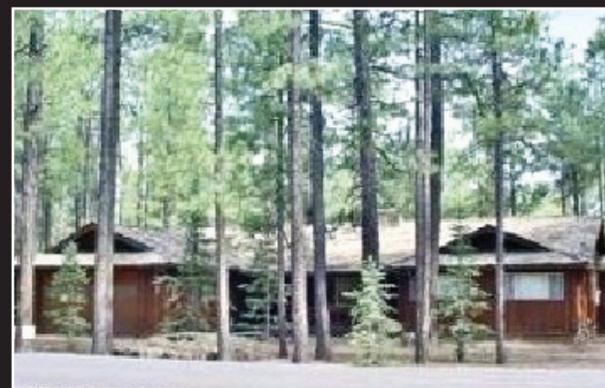
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