

Wrangler NEWS

Think Local. Read Local.

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Friends embraced, and cherished memories came flooding back at the 110th annual Tempe Settlers' Picnic at Arizona Community Church. Photos, Page 31.



Tempe's Fuller Elementary School received the prestigious Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Department of Education, bringing smiles all around. Page 13.



Pro wrestlers grappled to raise funds for Kyrene Middle School's theater program as fans held their breath to see who would win the Hot Dog Match. Page 16.

What's Inside



Michael Pollack says the joy on children's faces when they experience Tempe Cinema Plaza's LED light show is what keeps him throwing the switch every November. The local real estate developer has a team setting up the show now in advance of the scheduled Nov. 17 debut.



Sparkling displays light up holiday nights

Entrepreneurial developer Pollack shows off his LED extravaganza again this year

By Joyce Coronel

You probably haven't noticed them—after all, no one has flipped the switch quite yet—but the half-million or so lights that sparkle over Pollack Tempe Cinemas in Tempe are starting to go up.

The big moment comes Thursday, Nov. 17, when the annual display of holiday warmth lights up the premises of the strip mall that Michael Pollack owns and redeveloped some years ago.

It takes a team of four to six people about six weeks

to string the LED lights and work the magic that the show has come to be known for in Tempe.

Think Disney. Think lots of sparkle. The show features 40-50 different animations, bright colors and plenty of eye-popping scenes.

"The show used to be here at my building in Mesa but it was so popular we couldn't get all the cars into the parking lot," Pollack said.

"I was out of room. On busy nights like a Friday or Saturday, people were taking their holiday pictures and

it was so busy that we had to hire an off-duty traffic policeman."

Moving the light show to the movie theater that sits on the southeast corner of Elliot and McClintock has allowed it to grow even more.

Pollack has some 80,000 square feet for his canvas and plays it to the hilt.

"Every time I take my kids to Disneyland I get these new ideas," he said. "It's a really labor-intensive show that we put together."

— POLLACK, Page 7

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Kyrene board OKs updates for coming year's school calendar

By Diana Whittle

If you're trying to schedule a vacation or holiday trip during the 2017-18 school year, the staff of the Kyrene District realizes that the dates when school is in session are critically important, particularly for families with school-age children.

So, the calendar committee, which includes representatives who are teachers and school leaders, along with district staff members, recently made final recommendations for the remaining two years left in a three-year calendar cycle.

Two calendar options were determined and last month both staff and the community provided feedback via a survey.

Based on the results, the committee recommended, and the Governing Board unanimously adopted, Option B for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years.

This calendar is a bit different than the current school year calendar because the start date is on a mid-week day, Thursday, Aug. 3. School ends also on a Thursday, May 24. The academic calendar aligns with Tempe Union's breaks and ends before Memorial Day. The final calendars are posted on the district's web page at www.kyrene.org/calendars.

School Choice Fair scheduled for Nov. 17

Parents and children can experience the Kyrene district first-hand at the first annual "School Choice" Fair.

Kyrene has schools in Tempe, Chandler and Ahwatukee and allows open enrollment, so the expo will be set up geographically to be convenient for families that want to stay close to home in their choice of school.

During the expo, scheduled 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 17, at the Kyrene District Office, 8700 S. Kyrene Road, attendees will be able to visit with principals, students and teachers from the 19 Kyrene elementary schools

Each elementary school will provide information and an activity for children who are pre-school age up to 5 years old, and for children who are already in kindergarten up to the fourth grade.

Besides learning about the many educational choices offered in the Kyrene District, parents also can take advantage of special information sessions targeted to educational options in early education and kindergarten.

4:30 - 5 p.m. Learn about early education options between pre-Kindergarten and kindergarten

6 -6:30 p.m. Learn what to expect in elementary school

7 -7:30 p.m. How to prepare your child for middle- school success

Kyrene

From Page 4

Governing Board adopts plan to retain teachers

Retention of teachers is at its lowest point across the nation, according to data presented by Kyrene District staff to the Governing Board.

“Almost half of teachers who enter the profession leave the field for other careers within five years,” said Mary Jane Rincon, director of human resources for the district.

While the numbers of teachers retained by the Kyrene District is much better than the national figure, officials continue to seek incentives to satisfy experienced teachers.

“During the most recent school year, 2015-16, our retention rate for teachers was 85 percent, which was a drop from 90 percent in 2014-15,” said Dr. Susie Ostmeyer, director of research, assessment and

accountability for the district, who was responsible for gathering the data on the teachers’ contracts.

“We know we had some teachers retire and others who relocated out of the district, but we wanted to know why others chose to leave Kyrene,” said Ostmeyer.

She discovered that teachers left because of job stress, inadequate salary or child-rearing.

For the 2016-17 school year, the Kyrene District adopted a performance based compensation system, which is funded through the Classroom Site Fund.

To be eligible for an annual award of up to \$2,700, a teacher must earn a highly effective evaluation and demonstrate both professional development and student achievement requirements.

Ostmeyer believes that last year’s increase in compensation for teachers improved their retention score, along with a new program to mentor teachers who are new to the profession.

Academic choice guides plans for future of Kyrene school district

The leadership team of the Kyrene School District has announced a proposed action plan to address the challenge of unstable and declining enrollment, according to an e-mail message from Superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely.

The proposal is the result of a review of enrollment trends and student achievement data, which led to examining the causes of these trends. Among the findings:

- The district experiences inconsistent retention rates across elementary and middle schools.
- Middle-school performance is typically lower than elementary school performance.
- There exist inconsistencies in the rigor of middle-school general academic programs.
- There does not exist enough opportunity for children to enroll in pre-kindergarten options in the district.
- Families are unaware of Kyrene’s comprehensive pre-k to eighth grade programs.

Although still in the planning stages, educators are looking at more academic choices for families, including Kyrene’s pre-k to eighth grade programming, middle-school redesign, and expansion of pre-kindergarten programs.

“Kyrene has established several

successful choice programs in our schools including the dual-language programs at Niños, Lagos and Kyrene Middle School; the Fine Arts Academy at Paloma and Pueblo; the Kyrene Traditional Academy—Sureño Campus; and the self-contained, gifted programs at Monte Vista and Mirada,” said Vesely.

Now, the district would like to extend these programs from pre-k through eighth grade.

Another option on the table is to develop a pre-k through eighth grade International Baccalaureate (IB) program, which aims to develop internationally-minded learners, who will work within a global context and explore significant content.

“An IB program has a strong world language component, which would provide our dual-language students with an option to continue their focus into middle school,” explained Vesely.

“It would be ideal to develop this pathway at one of the shared elementary- middle campuses along with an early learning program.”

Vesely says that her research shows that once families send their children to Kyrene, they generally remain within the Kyrene system.

“The challenge is how do we bring



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Crackdown on speeding, red light violations

As of Tuesday, Nov. 1, photo enforcement cameras at Arizona Avenue where it intersects with Warner, Ray and Ocotillo roads, have been re-activated.

All three intersections are now being monitored by cameras at the approach for southbound traffic.

On the same day, photo enforcement cameras at Dobson and Ray roads were activated.

This intersection is now monitored by photo enforcement cameras at the approaches for southbound and westbound traffic.

Starting the same date, violators captured on the photo enforcement cameras at these four intersections will receive a warning in the mail for their violations.

Warnings will continue at the intersections through Nov. 30.

On Dec. 1 the photo enforcement cameras at

these four intersections will be in full operation, and citations will be generated for speeding and red light violations.

The three Arizona Avenue intersections had photo enforcement cameras for the same approaches under the city of Chandler's prior photo enforcement contractor.

Cameras at the Dobson Road and Ray Road intersection are new to this location.

This re-activation and new activation are under the city of Chandler's new photo enforcement vendor, American Traffic Solutions.

In all, 11 Chandler intersections are now monitored with photo enforcement cameras.

All of these intersections are monitored for red light and speeding violations.

Five intersections became fully operational on

June 20, while an additional two intersections became operational on Oct. 1. They are:

- Eastbound Ray Road at Alma School Road
- Westbound & Southbound Warner Road at Alma School Road
- Westbound Chandler Boulevard at Kyrene Road
- Southbound & Eastbound McClintock Drive at Ray Road
- Westbound Chandler Boulevard at Dobson Road
- Westbound & Southbound Alma School Road at Queen Creek Road
- Eastbound Ray Road at Rural Road
- Southbound Arizona Avenue at Warner Road
- Southbound Arizona Avenue at Ray Road
- Southbound Arizona Avenue at Ocotillo Road
- Southbound & Westbound Dobson Road at Ray Road

West Chandler to house new facility for Google's self-driving-car technology

West Chandler residents will get an even closer look at the progress of Google's emerging self-driving-car initiative when the tech megastar company moves into its new 39,000-square-foot facility in their neighborhood.

Chandler's Economic Development Division has been working with Google to sign a lease for what will serve as the company's hub for its testing activities Valley-wide. Last April, Google's self-driving car project announced that it would begin

testing its concept cars in Chandler.

Officials say that, over the last six months, Google's automated-car drivers have learned what it's like to drive in Chandler's distinct desert conditions, including extreme heat and dust storms. Google's experience in Chandler has played a crucial role in helping their engineers refine their self-driving capabilities, say technicians working on the project.

Chandler Mayor Jay Tibshraeny said the city

remains enthusiastic about Google's involvement in the city and its environs.

"This emerging technology is helping to diversify our already outstanding reputation as the tech-hub of the southwest," he said. "We are thrilled that Google is making a home in Chandler." Google's Chandler-based team includes operations managers and trained test drivers, who will use the new facility to maintain the self-driving vehicles and grow the company's testing operations in the Valley.



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Pollack

From Page 1

empire. A drive through Tempe or Chandler reveals his name on many developments.

"Sometimes people say, 'Gee, Michael your name is on all these properties. Do you just like to see your name?'"

"The truth is, I like to take pride in marking what we've done. And if I'm not going to take pride in it, then I don't want to have anything to do with it."

The other thing he's passionate about is giving back to the community. The Assistance League, a national service organization, recognized him last month for his efforts on behalf of its East Valley chapter. Pollack received the School Bell Award.

He started out as landlord for the group, offering severely discounted rent for the thrift shop, and recently helped them relocate to a larger building he was hoping to lease to national tenants.

"One lady boldly asked, 'Is there any way we could get a free-standing building of our own?'" Pollack grinned. "I told her, 'The rent is twice what your organization wants to budget.' She looked at me again and said, 'Wouldn't it be nice if we could have that building?'"

The thrift shop had its grand opening last week.

Pollack said he doesn't do things like that for the awards but because it's the right thing to do.

"If everybody would try to give back or help others, wouldn't this be the most incredible world?"

He said he hopes that one day people will remember him as a man who tried to make a positive difference in the community. For the families who enjoy his annual holiday light display at Tempe Cinemas, that certainly seems to be the case.

The light display comes to life Thursday, Nov. 17, when the theater hosts four free holiday movies beginning between 7-7:30 p.m.

Show up early, he recommends, for a chance to catch such perennial favorites as "Scrooged," "Holiday Inn," "Arthur Christmas," or "Home Alone."

He does it, he said, for the community's children.

"It's a special time of the year, and I think that seeing the smiles on the kids' faces, and when they see the animations come to life and when they see that much light in one place—to me that makes it worth it because they really seem to love it."

The holiday decorations aren't limited to the outside of the building. "We start the interior in the beginning of November and that usually takes us about two and a half weeks to do," Pollack said. "We decorate it second to no one else—we go all out."

From twinkling lights, elves and reindeer to games and contests, a trip to Tempe Cinemas or the nearby shops during the holiday season lights up more than a few children's smiles.

The week before Christmas, Santa stands in the lobby as families armed with cameras line up for an opportunity for the kids to share their Christmas wish list with the jolly old elf.

But it wasn't always sparkle and shine for Pollack. Not by a mile.

He began like most people do in their careers—at the very bottom of the ladder.

"I started out hammering nails and pouring concrete, slinging wire and painting walls," Pollack said. "Before that, even as a teenager, I worked around job sites, as the guy that cleaned up, throwing stuff in the Dumpsters, cleaning toilets."

He remembers nights when he played music in a band, not for fun, but for the \$12 he earned that bought gas. "The most important thing for me at least is the old saying, 'Never forget where you came from.'"

Over the years, he worked his way up from building and into redevelopment.

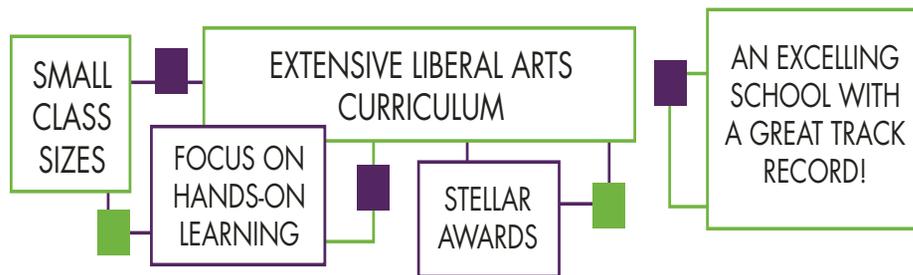
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Christmas bazaar at Bethany Christian

Bethany Christian School will stage a Christmas Bazaar from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, with 30-plus vendors participating.

The event, which will be held at the school at 6304 S. Price Road, Tempe, is open to the public.

Holiday cruise through the Rhine

It's still in the 90s here in Tempe and West Chandler, but that doesn't mean area residents can't do a little dreaming about the soon-to-arrive holidays.

A getaway that has Germany's Black Forest as a backdrop might be just the thing to refresh your psyche and conjure up visions of sugar plums and gingerbread.

A Christmas Market cruise through the Rhine region will be the subject of a wine-tasting event Wednesday, Nov. 9 at Tempe Total Wine and More, 8544 S. Emerald Drive.

Cindi Hanson of Infinity Travelaz, a West Chandler travel agency, will host the evening where attendees will sample wines from the Rhine region and learn about a Rhine Getaway Christmas Markets cruise offered by Viking River Cruises.

The cruise begins Dec. 9, 2017.

The Tempe wine-tasting event also features a presentation that shows the Viking Tialfi, a new longship in the Viking Cruises fleet.

Hanson, with more than two decades in the travel industry, launched Infinity Travelaz four years ago.

She said the company offers corporate travel management, groups and leisure vacations, ocean and river cruises and packages among many other services. "I love taking cruise vacations," Hanson said. "Tialfi, the new longship, is gorgeous!"
formation: InfinityTravelAz.com

Four-week baseball camp starts Jan. 8

Mesa Community College will host a four-week baseball camp starting Jan. 8, directed by MCC head coach Tony Cirelli.

Classes, which are limited to seven players, are available for players in grades 1-12. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching, catching, fielding and base-running. Space is limited. Registration is now under way.

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For Tempe H.S. students, a vital lesson in listening

Knowing how to listen is vital to teens' future, and teachers work hard to stress the importance of mastering that skill. Those efforts got a happily unexpected boost when band and orchestra students at Tempe High School came face-to-face with three-time Grammy Award nominee Stefon Harris, a vibraphonist and composer.

As the students gathered on the stage of the school's auditorium, Harris conducted what has become his signature "master class," encouraging students to really listen to the notes as he shares insight into the art of improvisation.

Jazz music, he pointed out, is characterized by listening and responding—in short, a musical conversation among band members.

"I was pleased with the presentation," said Tempe High music teacher Jill Osborne. "Mr. Harris hit all the points that music teachers love: listen, respond to the music, feel the music, be the music." The special instruction opportunity was made possible in part by an anonymous donor, who is said to care deeply about the community of Tempe and especially its students.

That generous, behind-the-scenes donation funded 100 tickets so that 50 music students from Tempe High, along with another 50 from Marcos de Niza, could attend Harris' Oct. 22 show with Sonic Creed at Tempe Center for the Arts.

As part of the donation, the city of Tempe agreed to offer the tickets at a discounted rate.

Then, Lakeshore Music arranged for Harris to fly in a day early, at no cost to the school, so he could meet with the students. Tempe-based Lakeshore Music produces and promotes jazz programming, master classes and educational seminars in the Valley.



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Business leaders, teens gather to explore future career options

Story and photo by Mark Crudup

In today's changing—and challenging—workplace, the dilemma of what to do after high school has become a topic that's poses as many questions to business leaders as it does the students themselves.

It was toward solving this 21st Century conundrum that more than two dozen local businesses created a platform by which Tempe Union High School teachers should be able provide their graduating students with professional contacts and potential job opportunities.

The forum was a business and industry meet-and-greet held at the Tempe Union district office, with participants tapped from a gamut of career fields, from engineering to retail, to law enforcement—even to a small mom-and-pop bakery.

"We ended up with 27 companies, and it's a wide range from culinary schools to Walmart to engineering firms," Jill Hanks,

executive director of community relations of TUHSD, said.

"That was really our goal, because our CTE (career and technical education) programs are so diverse, and we wanted to make sure that any teacher who showed up would have a company to talk to."

CTE programs are designed to be a combination of direct work-based experience and classroom support, Hanks said.

"We have 22 CTE programs, and all of our seven sites have programs with direct workplace experience," Hanks said. "I would like the teachers to make new industry connections that they might not have."

The city of Tempe, Goodwill, Intel, Tempe and Phoenix police departments, Costco, Great Harvest Bread Co., Arizona State University's biomedical department and GenoSensor were just a few of the companies showcased during the event.

Melissa Placencia, representing the city of Tempe, spoke with high school teachers about economic programs to help students succeed and become more financially prepared.

"Our College Connect program really works a lot with the school district and

the teachers," Placencia said. "We have a workshop coming up Nov. 19; we are going to be doing one-on-one workshops with financial aid experts on FAFSA (free application for federal student aid).

"We'll be doing scholarship searching, lifestyle calculators and things like that."

Approximately 40 teachers in the district attended the event, connecting with local businesses and corporations.

"I hope to bring back connections with the big corporations," Lisa Gammill, who teaches entrepreneurship and financial planning courses at Marcos de Niza High School, said. "I want to provide opportunities to the students or, at least, provide information on what's out there for them."

Gammill has worked with MidFirst Bank to educate students on financial aid and financial planning.

"In our business management class, we talk a lot about being a leader," Gammill said. "For example, how to take feedback in a positive manner. We also talk about financial planning and marketing – it's all about giving them (the students) skills that would make them better employees."

Not only do teachers connect with

industries helping students to achieve financial stability after high school, other businesses in engineering and technology spoke to teachers in regards to college and career opportunities.

X. James Xia, president of the GenoSensor Corporation, said it's all about connecting with the students.

"What we do here is biotechnology and DNA technology," Xia said. "Everybody can do this – most students think only the highest scientist with the doctorate degrees can do this, but we don't believe that. We bring this into the high school classroom level."

Xia's corporation works with DNA technology to provide medical expertise in various fields.

"Our company is technology-based," Xia said. "Our main focus is DNA technology and our business model is to bring this to ordinary classrooms and to inspire students to work with DNA technology."

GenoSensor holds courses at Corona del Sol High School on DNA technology, in addition to other scientific topics, in AP Biology and other science courses.

Scott Barren, a business teacher at Tempe High School, attended the event hoping to gain more information getting his students connected with local businesses.

"Ultimately, it's helping to connect students from classroom to job," Barren said. "We're helping to prepare students for when they leave high school, whether that's getting a job right after graduation or going to college right away, or a combination of the two."



George Walston: Exploring careers in baking



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Fuller Elementary has been honored by the U.S. Department of Education with the 2016 Blue Ribbon Award after students at the school scored in the top 15 percent of recent standardized testing.

Fuller Elementary one of select U.S. schools to win coveted Blue Ribbon

Fuller Elementary, a school in the Tempe Elementary school district, has been named a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School, one of just 279 public schools nationwide to receive the prestigious award.

National Blue Ribbon Schools are public and non-public elementary, middle, and high schools recognized for achieving outstanding results for all students.

The award was announced by U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools recognition program is part of a larger U. S. Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about effective school leadership and promising instructional practices.

“The Fuller staff, students, parents and community members are so deserving of this prestigious award,” said Christine Busch, Tempe Elementary School District superintendent.

“I am so very proud of their tireless work in creating an innovative, engaging and inspiring learning

environment in which every child is succeeding.”

Fuller Elementary was one of five outstanding public schools that Arizona nominated for an “Exemplary High Performing Schools” performance award.

Fuller became eligible for this award by being among the top 15 percent of schools in the state when ranked on the performance of all students who participated in the most recently administered state assessments in reading (or English language arts) and mathematics.

The staff of Fuller Elementary continually collaborates to create an environment where children are respected, challenged and experience quality learning at their own instructional levels.

District officials say teachers work continuously in a trusting, professional environment to help every child exceed beyond their learning goals.

Students understand their learning goals and strive to meet their goals with lessons designed for their own learning.

\$1m grant will make commuting easier for disabled ASU travelers

Students and faculty with disabilities who use Valley Metro services to get to and from ASU’s Tempe campus are receiving a couple of welcome additions to the service, thanks to a \$1 million grant from the Federal Transit Administration.

The funds will go toward developing a Smartphone app that will integrate mobile ticketing with trip planning information for the area’s light rail and bus systems.

A transit-industry technology provider, RouteMatch, will collaborate with ASU, Lyft and the city of Phoenix Public Transit Department to create the passenger-focused app.

Included in plans are paratransit trip management technologies to facilitate mobility among riders with disabilities, especially among the visually and hearing impaired.

ASU will assist with beta testing of the mobile app, as well as provide input into the project’s development. Phoenix’s Department of Transportation will provide the core data for vehicles, routes and fare collection.

Transportation network companies will provide “first mile, last mile” connections from transit hubs to riders’ final destinations.

“It’s exciting to receive a nationally competitive grant, which serves as seed money to build upon our Ridekick app that can eventually be shared with transit agencies across the U.S.,” said Scott Smith, Valley Metro’s interim CEO.

“Alongside our partners, we’ll be adding features such as real-time information, fare purchasing and an optimized trip planner.”

Seeking to bridge the gap between public transportation systems and app-based transportation companies such as Lyft and Uber, the mobile app is designed to create a seamless and efficient travel experience for riders.

The project is expected to be completed in two phases within the next 12 months, according to Valley Metro spokeswoman Susan Tierney.

Phase I will include mobile ticket purchasing and links to the mobile applications for Lyft and

Bike Share reservations.

Users will be able to purchase transit fare, as well as reserve a bike using a single payment method, then transition to the Lyft mobile app to complete the trip.

In addition, Wi-Fi between the ASU campuses in Tempe and Phoenix is expected to allow for seamless fare validation and added safety features, such as incident reporting.

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Diversions . . .

Written and compiled by M.V. Moorhead

Anti-Semitic bigotry explored in film headlining 2016 Jewish Film Festival

Sunday, November 13 only

Bagels Over Berlin—This one has to be worth checking out just for the title, right?

The Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival and the East Valley Jewish Community Center present this documentary by Alan Feinberg, at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov, 13 at Temple Beth Shalom of the East Valley.

It examines the contributions of Jewish veterans of the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

Director Feinberg elicited interviews with more than 30 such veterans, who joined the war effort early, in the face not only of the perils of battle overseas but of anti-Semitic bigotry here in the U.S.

The film screens for free (though donations are accepted) at the Temple, 3400 N. Dobson in Chandler.

For details or to reserve seats, call 480-897-0588, or email WebbC@evjcc.org.

Opening this week

Trolls — Like the Smurfs movies of recent years, this movie doesn't shy away from its own potential to be annoying.

The kitschy, cloying cutesiness of the "Good Luck Trolls" developed in the mid-20th Century by the Danish toymaker Thomas Dam is built right into this CGI musical from Dreamworks Animation, in the hope that it can be turned to ironic, self-deprecating advantage.

For the most part, this works, or at least it worked for me.

The Trolls, who have long shocks of prehensile hair sticking up above their elfin faces, live like perennial glam clubbers.

Led by Princess Poppy (voiced by Anna Kendrick), they spend their days singing, dancing and partying, under a philosophy of life as "Cupcakes and Rainbows," not to mention hourly scheduled hugs.

Twenty years earlier, they narrowly escaped from the "Bergens," a race of miserable snaggle-toothed ogres who believe they can only attain happiness by eating Trolls. The Troll's lone

dissenter from constant cheerfulness, Branch (Justin Timberlake), is sure that the Bergens are still a threat, and that Princess Poppy's blithe insistence on noisy partying increases the danger. He's proved right, of course, and he and Poppy must team up to rescue a group of Trolls in danger of becoming a Bergen banquet.

A variety of allegorical interpretations are possible here, from a straightforward vegetarian reading to an evaluation, at times surprisingly subtle and nuanced, of pessimism versus optimism.

But in any event, the movie is a silly good time, with inventive, laugh-out-loud gags and a generous heart.

Also, the music's pretty good. In part, this is a jukebox musical—Zoey Deschanel, as a lovesick Bergen, gets to sing Lionel Richie's "Hello," for instance.

But there are some original numbers as well, and a couple of them are sung by Kendrick, in her singular steely yet sweetly plangent belt.

Her presence on the soundtrack biases me in favor of Trolls, I admit—not to put too fine a point on it, I could listen to her sing all day.

Still in theaters

Inferno—A darkly visionary geneticist has developed a virus to wipe out half the world's population, thus solving, or at least postponing, the overpopulation crisis.

"Symbolologist" Robert Langdon scampers around Florence in the company of a pretty young English doctor, trying to find where the bug is stashed.

Agents of the World Health Organization and of a super-secret and lethal security firm chase them from landmark to landmark, led by clues encoded in Botticelli's illustration of Dante's version of Hell.

This is the third movie directed by Ron Howard and featuring Tom Hanks as Langdon, based on the fourth of Dan Brown's syntax-challenged Langdon novels.

The first film, 2006's *The Da Vinci Code*, was on the limp side; the second, 2009's *Angels & Demons*, was

feverishly entertaining.

Happily, *Inferno* takes after its immediate predecessor. Screenwriter David Koepp, who wrote the adaptation, brings a bit more bite and wit to the dialogue than Brown is able to muster, and Howard keeps the action flying from one James-Bond-worthy exotic locale to another, pretty close to non-stop.

The cast is full of attractive sorts like Felicity Jones, Irrfan Khan, Omar Sy, Ben Foster and, perhaps most memorably, Ana Ularu as a chic and scary motorcycle-borne assassin.

Best of all is Hanks, who as in *Angels & Demons* spends his footage belting out exposition on the fly, like a tour guide way behind schedule.

Giving him temporary amnesia and a bleeding head wound just adds to the fun.

These are silly stories, to be sure, steeped in the thudding, reductive literalism and reticular paranoia of Brown's response to Renaissance masterpieces.

But it's hard—for me, anyway—to resist a movie hero who's a pedantic middle-aged know-it-all.

Trolls is rated PG, and *Inferno* is rated PG-13. Both play at Tempe Marketplace, Chandler Fashion 20, Harkins Arizona Mills 25 and other multiplexes Valleywide.

'National Theatre Live' will partner with MCC for six unique broadcasts

Mesa Community College has partnered with The National Theatre in London to bring six of its "National Theatre Live" broadcasts to the MCC Theatre this fall.

NT Live productions are filmed in front of live audiences with cameras strategically positioned throughout the auditorium to ensure future cinema audiences enjoy a "best-seat-in-the-house" experience for each production.

"We are very excited to bring these world-class national productions to Mesa," said Christopher Tubilewicz, MCC Theatre's venue manager.

"The MCC Theatre was propelled into the 21st Century when it underwent renovations in 2012. Those renovations and technology upgrades have made this partnership possible," Tubilewicz said.

Upcoming screenings will include "The Audience" (Nov. 8, 7:30); "War Horse" (Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m.); "One Man, Two Guvnors" (Dec. 17, 2 p.m.); and "Hamlet" (Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.).

MCC Theatre & Film Arts will continue to bring additional NT Live screenings to MCC as content

becomes available, said school officials.

MCC advises that the selected films are not child appropriate, with most geared toward audiences 16 years and older. Additional information on each show—including directors, lead roles, story lines and critic reviews—is available at messacc.edu/arts.

Screenings will take place at the MCC Theatre. Patrons should use the Solar Way entrance east off Dobson Road for easy access.

Reserve a seat by calling the MCC Box Office at 480-461-7171 or online at mesacc.edu/arts. Tickets—\$15 general public, \$9 students and seniors—also may be purchased at the door.

National Theatre Live has been called a groundbreaking initiative to broadcast world-class theater to cinemas in the United Kingdom and internationally. The program launched in June 2009 with a broadcast of the National Theatre production of *Phèdre* with Helen Mirren.

It has since broadcast more than 40 other productions live, from both the National Theatre and from other theaters in the UK. The broadcasts have now been experienced by more than 5.5 million people in more than 2,000 venues around the world, including over 650 venues in the UK alone.

SRP honors Chandler as a Valley 'Energy Star'

The city of Chandler is one of 16 innovative Valley entities to be named recipients of Salt River Project's Champions of Energy Efficiency Awards and Luncheon, honored for saving money and conserving precious resources.

During the third annual awards presentation, SRP hailed the winners' participation in the utility's commercial energy-efficiency rebate and Energy Star Homes programs, as well as for going "above and beyond" in efforts to create a culture of conservation and stewardship within their organizations.

In naming Chandler, the judging panel noted that the city has a reputation as the innovation and technology hub of the Southwest.

Judges noted that the state's fourth largest city

is rich in diversity, family fun and progressive entrepreneurship.

Sustainability and energy efficiency are integral themes in Chandler's general plan, utility master plan and city policies, said the panel.

Chandler is one of the first 10 communities to be certified by STAR, or Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating Communities, it was reported.

Said an SRP official:

It's rare for business leaders to take center stage and receive awards for making small changes that yield big rewards like switching to LEDs, upgrading air conditioning units and teaching employees to conserve.

"Every year SRP helps businesses become more energy efficient by providing rebates on thousands of projects that our customers submit," said Dan



From left, Ryan Peters, intergovernmental affairs coordinator, City of Chandler; Jennie King, director, strategic energy management, SRP; John Knudson, municipal utilities director, City of Chandler; Councilmember Nora Ellen; Vice Mayor Jack Sellers, Councilmember Kevin Hartke, Councilmember Rene Lopez and Brian Bednar, strategic energy manager, SRP

Dreiling, SRP director of Market Research and Customer Programs.

"We created this special event to honor our top commercial energy savers and recognize their ongoing commitment to energy efficiency. Being named an SRP Champion of Energy Efficiency is a significant achievement. These companies serve as examples for other businesses to follow."

In a dynamic era of changing resource and emissions requirements, energy-efficiency programs will play a pivotal role in cost-effectively meeting customers' power needs — while also helping to optimize resources and protect the environment.

Strong customer participation in SRP's energy efficiency programs helped to surpass corporate energy-efficiency goals, Dreiling noted. Last year, the programs for both residential and commercial customers resulted in a savings of more than 525 million kilowatt-hours, which is equivalent to powering about 28,000 Valley homes for one year, he said.

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Grapplers wrassle with an adoring crowd as part of no-holds-barred fund-raiser

Story & photos by Mark Crudup

Students, along with parents, teachers and even a few admittedly die-hard wrestling fans, crowded the gymnasium of south Tempe's Kyrene Middle School to watch professional grapplers battle it out inside the roped-off arena.

Masked *luchadores* plunged across the ring, performing stunts as students cheered on their favored competitors.

Featured wrestlers brawled with each other, each representing one of two KMS teachers, Jake Fort and Andrew Shapiro.

Their goal: The teacher of the losing team would show up for classes the following Monday wearing a hotdog suit.

"We thought we would make it a little more exciting for the kids," Fort, sixth-grade science, said.

The fundraising event, coordinated by KMS Theater teacher Johnny Janezic, showcased members of the Sonoran Championship Wrestling group. Janezic, sporting a sequined purple hat, also served as moderator during the two matches.

"For the last 15 years, I got involved with wrestling – I do ring announcing and sort of manage the wrestlers," Janezic said. "They (the grappling pro athletes) love these school events, and the kids are so excited to see it."

Sonoran Championship Wrestling group travels across states, putting on shows for all types of events, including fundraising opportunities, Janezic said.

Jay Garland, a professional wrestler, promoted this event and coordinated efforts with Janezic.

"We want to do a lot of school fundraisers," Garland said. "It gives the families some time to spend together in a fun environment for a Friday night. It's really fun for everybody."

Garland wrestled professionally with the World Wrestling Entertainment Inc., popularly known as the WWE.

When the program was over and the proceeds counted, KMS had received approximately \$800 in donations for its theater department. Tickets were \$5 per person.

KMS Principal Sheryl Houston attended the event and at one point even ended up face-to-face with professional wrestlers as the match progressed, scolding two wrestlers for cheating in the ring by accepting money on the side as part of the staged performance.

"This is a smackdown for the arts, so it's to support our performing arts department," Houston said. "It's also a community event, bringing together students and teachers."

All of the money raised went directly to the theater department, Houston said, helping to support KMS's fall and spring musicals.

"The funds will go to support hiring a music director and any costumes or props we need for (the musicals)," she said.

Syredta Mcauley, a Kyrene parent, attended the event with her sixth-grade son, Amir.

"We actually drove across town for this," Mcauley said. "We live in Laveen, but Amir was so excited to come out. We just had to make it."

During the match, Amir sat among friends who wore wrestling masks they purchased at the event, giving high-fives to the pros as they scuffled around the outside of the ring.

"I definitely think it's a different way to do a fundraiser," Mcauley said. "I really like it. It's very unique."

After teacher Fort's team was defeated, he showed up at KMS on Monday as promised—wearing a hotdog suit into his classroom. Said someone, reflectively: At least they held the mustard.





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Meet with education experts on Thursday, November 17

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- Kindergartners attend classes in art, music, P.E. and library
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- Kyrene Traditional Academy (Pre-K to 5th)
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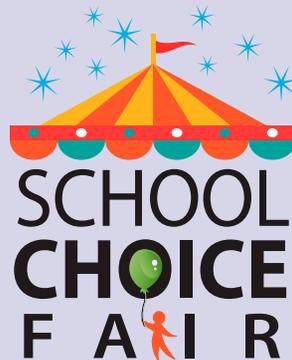


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Tuesday, November 15, 2016
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
 1965 E. Hermosa Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282
 (480) 491-8871
www.tempeschools.org/wta



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www.tempeschools.org/aspire

A cademies of Tempe At A Glance	Tempe Academy of International Studies McKemy Campus	Ward Traditional Academy	ASPIRE Academy
International Baccalaureate World School	✓		
All-day gifted program			✓
Traditional classroom instruction		✓	
1:1 computing (every student receives laptop)	✓	✓	✓
Application required for admission (no cost)	✓		✓
K-8 School		✓	
Grades 6-8	✓		✓
Honors/gifted classes	✓	✓	✓
Two electives daily	✓	✓	✓
Algebra, Geometry and Spanish for high school credit	✓	✓	✓
Art class	✓	✓	✓
Spanish class	✓	✓	✓
Free music instrument rental	✓	✓	✓
Free afterschool athletics and/or clubs	✓	✓	✓
Afterschool Care (Kid Zone and/or Boys and Girls Club)	✓	✓	✓



Tempe moving closer to clean energy goals

Kiwanis Park and the Tempe Public Library are among facilities in Tempe that are projected to save tens of thousands of dollars over the next two decades as a result of the use of clean energy.

In June 2014, the city approved a goal to power 20 percent of city operations with clean energy by 2025. Tempe is currently at 6 percent, marking significant progress since the goal— an important component of Tempe’s long-term asset management strategy to reduce the city’s overall energy use and utility costs—was adopted, officials say.

Kiwanis Recreation Center has a 372 kW system that produces 30 percent of the center’s energy needs and that promises a 20-year savings of more than \$115,000.

The library complex has an 800 kW system that provides 30 percent of the complex’s energy needs. The library’s projected 20-year savings amount to \$95,000.

Crews will soon be working on a 537 kW solar project at the East Valley Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility that will provide 33 percent of the location’s power needs. When completed, officials say Tempe will be 1.5 percent closer to reaching its 20 percent renewable energy goal, with 8 percent of the city’s operations powered by renewable energy.

The project, which will be complete in early November, features 1,704 solar modules installed atop existing bus ports, resulting in first year energy production of nearly 831,500 kWh. All told, that’s a savings of more than \$411,000 in utility costs over 20 years.

This latest endeavor will increase Tempe’s overall renewable energy use from 6.5 percent to 8 percent.

“This project brings together two of the city’s main energy conservation and sustainability efforts, combining a public transit facility with solar energy production,” said Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell. “The EVBOM solar installation furthers Tempe’s ongoing commitment to the environment, reducing pollution with clean energy use while saving money.”

The solar panels will reduce carbon emissions by more than 580 metric tons—equivalent to taking 123 vehicles off the road each year.

Tempe’s other existing solar projects include the police/courts building in downtown Tempe which boasts a 263 kW system providing 12 percent of the building’s energy needs. The panels are projected to provide a 20-year savings of \$145,800. The South Water Treatment Plant features a 924 kW system which produces 15 percent of the plant’s energy for a 20-year savings of \$2.3 million.

Tempe will begin construction on its next solar project at the Johnny G. Martinez Water Treatment Plant in early December.

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Turn-back yields a stash of outdated meds

By Moriah Hernandez

Area residents turned in more than 265 pounds of drugs to be sorted and safely discarded at Tempe PD's semi-annual Community Drug Take Back night, conducted once again at the department's Hardy Road Tempe South substation.

The local police agency, along with thousands of others across the nation, partners with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency every year to collect and correctly dispose of drugs for the public, officials said.

Individuals participated in the event by placing their medication and drugs in cardboard boxes that the police department then taped and relocated for disposal.

"We then transport those drugs to a DEA incinerator, and they are all burned," Tempe Police Department spokeswoman Molly Enright said.

The Drug Take Back event safely disposes of prescription and over-the-counter medications for the public but does not accept glass, syringes or injectables of any sort, Enright noted.

Despite widespread coverage in local and national media, most of

the community remains unaware of the safety hazards associated with improper drug and medication disposal, according to Enright.

"Prior to this, there wasn't a place for people to dispose of their medications. People would typically flush them down the toilet or put them in trash cans," Enright said.

The city of Tempe and much of the rest of the nation has become more aware of the dangers of improper drug disposal, especially because it can end up in the public water supply and other elements of the environment, according to Enright.

Failure to properly dispose of drugs and medication is also a cause for concern for the DEA, Tempe PD and the community itself. Unused drugs and medication left in the home could accidentally poison children, be taken by teenagers and, ultimately, contribute to growing numbers of drug addiction, officials said.

Moriah Hernandez is a student in ASU's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.



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www.tempe.gov/kiwanis

480-350-5201



Kyrene

From Page 4

those families into Kyrene as early as possible. Kyrene already has eight early-learning centers, and we will begin exploring ways to expand those options to meet the needs of our families.

"In addition, Community Education Services is exploring options to expand the Early Learning Center program into two more campuses with a target launch date coinciding with the first day of school in 2017.

"The ultimate goal is to keep up with community need and offer Early Learning Centers on six more campuses over the next few years," said Vesely.

Information and updates regarding each of the teams' proposals are posted on the district's website.

"We also started to share this information in meetings with staff, the

Parent and Superintendent Council, and at parent organization meetings. It is important for the community to know that we are in the very early stages of initial inquiry, and no final decisions have been made with regard to each of the proposals," said Vesely.

Community meetings to gather input will be scheduled in December. In the meantime, Vesely says that comments and questions from parents are welcome.

"We want to hear from you. Since becoming your Superintendent, I have been visiting three to four schools a week, and I will continue those visits to engage teachers, staff and students on these ideas.

"I also will reach out through my Let's Talk! visits with parent organizations and community groups. I hope you will take advantage of the Let's Talk! link, which is located on the Kyrene homepage to provide me with your comments and feedback."

— By Diana Whittle

Discerning Diner: A new look at holiday meals, on the side

Editor's note: With one of the year's most anticipated family dining seasons upon us, we turn a page of our Wrangler News history book back to the days when longtime Discerning Diner informed and entertained us with her frequent commentary on matters cuisine. Thus, for your reading and, we hope, dining enjoyment, our Discerning Diner's seasonal guide explores this holiday's culinary traditions.

This is a column about Thanksgiving side dishes. Not that I'm trying to get you worked up about Thanksgiving earlier than you have to.

Anyway, none of these dishes is exclusive to Turkey Day — they're good on any fall or winter menu, should either of those seasons ever arrive this year.

And if yours is the kind of family that is hidebound to holiday tradition, Thanksgiving is not the time you'll try something new.

When my husband and I go home for the holiday, we pretty much know what to expect.

Every year, the same people make the same signature dishes — mashed potatoes, cornbread stuffing — and for the most part, that's really nice.

Several years ago, however, we spent Thanksgiving stuck in an extended-stay motel room in Colorado Springs. Not so nice.

But I took advantage of the circumstances to mix up the menu a little. For example, since there were only four of us eating, I ditched the turkey in favor of duck.

I don't expect you to do the same, but here are a few ideas for at least shaking up your side dishes.

Green beans: Instead of steaming or boiling your green beans, try sautéing them very slowly. Here's what you do: wash your beans (one to two pounds) and tip and tail them as usual.

Use a large, shallow sauté pan that can accommodate the beans in one jumbled layer. Add enough extra-virgin olive oil to coat the pan and place over medium heat.

While the pan is preheating, peel two or three garlic cloves and slice them in half. Add them to the oil.

When the oil is hot but not smoking, add the beans. Stir to coat with oil. Allow to cook at a brisk sizzle for a few minutes, then lower the heat to medium-low and add a quarter cup of water.

Cook at a low sizzle for 25 minutes, stirring and adding more water as required. The beans and garlic should blister and turn brown in spots — delicious. Be sure to evaporate any excess water before removing the pan from heat.

If you're making a lot of beans, you can use two pans or cook them in batches; they can be made a few hours ahead and reheated in one pan (with a little water) just before serving.

Sweet potatoes: This is my mother-in-law's specialty, though she hasn't made it for Thanksgiving (yet). Preheat your oven to 400 degrees. (If you only have one oven, and you need to use it at low temperatures for the turkey, make this Thanksgiving morning and reheat before serving.)

Wash and peel enough sweet potatoes to go around. Cut small sweet potatoes in half lengthwise and again widthwise to make chunky quarters. Cut large sweet potatoes into eighths.

Put the potatoes in a large shallow pan and toss with olive oil and salt to coat thoroughly. Roast, stirring frequently, until the sweet potatoes are spotted brown on the outside and soft all the way through, about 45 minutes to an hour, depending on the size of your chunks.

You can also make this with a mixture of white potatoes and sweet potatoes; roast the white potatoes for 10 to 15 minutes on their own before adding the sweet potatoes.

Winter squash: Savory winter squash dishes make great Thanksgiving sides. The secret, for me, is high-quality Parmesan cheese.

Here's one idea: Cut a large spaghetti squash in half lengthwise and scoop out the seeds. Roast cut sides down until the flesh is soft and the shell begins to collapse — 400 degrees is a good oven temperature but you can use another temperature if it's more convenient.

Remove the squash from the oven and allow it to cool. Now scoop out the flesh and mix it with generous quantities of salt and heavy cream. Transfer to a gratin dish and pat flat.

Cover the top with lots of freshly grated Parmesan cheese. Just before serving, return the dish to the oven and heat until the squash is hot and the cheese is melted and beginning to brown.

Happy November!



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Experience Kyrene!

November 17, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Experience Kyrene at our School Choice Fair.

Are you overwhelmed by school choice? Your top-rated, local public elementary school district has options for children birth to 8th grade. It is never too early to start planning your child's future.

Parents of young children (birth to 4th grade) are urged to attend and learn about the many classes and programs offered. Our education experts will answer your questions, provide information and help you gain peace of mind about the excellent education choices available within the many Kyrene schools.

Kyrene School Choice Fair

November 17, Expo 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Visit with principals from all 19 schools.

4:30 p.m. — Parent information session on early childhood education opportunities.

Kyrene District Office • 8700 South Kyrene Rd., Tempe, AZ 85284 • NW corner of Warner and Kyrene

RSVPs requested at www.kyrene.org/KyreneChoiceFair

 **KyreneSchoolDistrict** | www.kyrene.org • 480-541-1000



Left to Right: Bob, Janice, Jayne, Kathy, Jeff

“They got me walking again after a bad fall.”

-Bob R. from Tempe

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Councilman Rick Heumann

Learn some of the benefits of shopping local that may surprise you

The holiday shopping season is not far off, and each year I like to remind residents of the importance of shopping local.

There are many great retailers that call our neighborhood home—people who have invested heavily in the community and rely on your support. By shopping local, we’re investing in our city on a number of levels, and the results can be quite surprising.

Based on a recent study cited on the Local First Arizona website, if a community the size of Tucson shifted just 10 percent of its spending from non-local to local businesses, the move would have an impact of 1,600 new jobs, \$53 million in new wages and a total economic impact of more than \$130 million. Local First Arizona is a non-profit that provides business directories and other tools to assist in making consumer decisions.

According to another study on the Local First website, **local retailers return an average of 52 percent of their revenue to the local economy, compared with just 14 percent for the chain retailers.** Similarly, local restaurants re-circulate an average of 79 percent of their revenue locally, compared to 30 percent for chain eateries.

Local business owners also tend to have a more vested interest in the region. They look for opportunities to conduct business with other companies within our city or the state that benefit Chandler and other neighboring Arizona communities. Studies show they also are more likely to give back

to the community through corporate giving, aid to area food banks and other social service agencies, and support for cultural events.

Shopping online, though convenient, hurts our local economy as well. Sales tax revenue generated from transactions within the city limits support our local economy. Many core municipal services such as police and fire protection, parks and recreation programs, library services and road construction and maintenance would simply not be possible without these funds.

I’ve also found that I get better service from local businesses, as they tend to better understand their products and depend more on brand loyalty. Finally, local businesses tend to better diversify our employment base and overall economy – an advantage for all of us.

The city of Chandler also encourages businesses and residents to become involved with the “Invest Wisely, Shop Chandler” campaign.

By supporting a local business you can be proud to know your dollars are put back into the community, making it stronger and more vibrant. As you prepare your next shopping list, think about where and how you want to spend your money.

To learn more about why it is beneficial to shop local, visit localfirstaz.com.

Rick Heumann, a West Chandler resident, is a member of the Chandler City Council.

In our neighborhood

A Danish Christmas at the Petersen House

Experience a Tempe tradition by visiting the Petersen House Museum, 1414 W. Southern Ave., each weekend in December.

Celebrating turn-of-the-century style with a Danish flair in honor of Niels Petersen, the house will be festively decorated with personal tours and refreshments for visitors.

The home is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 3, 10 and 17 and from 1-4 p.m. on Dec. 4, 11 and 18.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/museum or call 480-350-5100.

All Aboard!

Trains of Tempe rolls into the Tempe History Museum (809 E. Southern Ave.) this month. The 1,200-square-foot exhibit examines the history of trains in Tempe and the surrounding communities from earliest efforts to bring rail service to the area, to the modern endeavors in mass transportation, including light rail and street car.

The exhibit opens at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10, and includes live American Roots music performed by Mr. Mudd and Mr. Gold, a visit from Arizona’s Official State Historian Marshall Trimble, refreshments, family activities and more. Admission is free.

Sports



Kiwanis Park hosted the Desert Vista Thunder for Tempe Union District Championship Cross Country event. Corona boys placed second in 5,000 meter varsity race, with McClintock placing fourth and Marcos de Niza claiming fifth. — Wrangler News photos

Tempe teams make impressive showing at DV Thunder cross-country meet

Corona's boys team took second place in the 5000 meter varsity race at the Tempe Union High School Cross Country Championship, with 33 points, at the Desert Vista Thunder on Oct. 19 at the Tempe Union District Championship Cross Country meet held at Kiwanis Park. McClintock was fourth and Marcos de Niza finished fifth.

Slade Summers, the first Aztec to cross the finish line, took second place with a time of 16:40.30, followed by **Liam Kovatch** in fourth, **Joel Wadsworth** sixth, **Lincoln Johnston** eighth and **Josh Whitney** 13th.

In the 5000 meter Open event, Desert Vista had 46 runners from its boys team, but Corona's **Andrew Ferreira**, **Kyle Swindler**, **Daniel Bish** and **Scott Carpenter** finished in the top 15 out of 81 runners.

Corona's girls team was third behind Desert Vista and Mountain Pointe. **Renee Payne** was the first Corona runner to finish the race. She was 12th with a time of 21:49.71. Right on her heels were teammates **Riley Wright** who finished in 13th place and **Mackenzie Burgess** who was 14th. **Cybelle Cozart** was 17th, **Abigail Cordiak** 19th, **Mia Da Rosa** 20th and **Isabello Sarno** 24th.

Marcos de Niza Cross Country — The Padres are in the process of rebuilding their program under head coach **Marianne Webb** and assistant coach **Joe Shiflette** with more than 12 runners from the boys teams and 10-plus runners from the girls team participating in the TUHSD Championship cross country meet



Kepano Ream, running for Marcos, was the best finisher for the Padres, crossing the finish line in 16th place with a time of 17:59.6. The next eight runners for Marcos finishing right on the heels of the runner in front of them were **Orion Hunter**, **Kekona Ream**, **Xavier Newell**, **Miguel Calderon**, **Samuel Lumbr**, **Jonah Ortiz** and **Jack Hill**.

In the 5000 meter Open event, **Sebastian Shuell**, **Ethan Storment**, **Ricardo Palma** and **Pierce Hammock** ran for the Padres.

Taylor Delgado was the top finisher for the Marcos girls team in 18th place. **Maureen Juarez**, **Mackenzie White**, **Anna Bell** and **Carlie Liko** were the other runners from the girls team.

Running in the 5000 meter Open event for the Padres were **Vanessa Hernandez**, **Nikki Janousek**, **Clarissa Estrada**, **Brianna Etsitty** and **Blanca Vargas**.

McClintock Cross Country — The Chargers had five runners from the boys team finish in places 22 to 26 in the varsity event. **Jack Cleveland** was the first McClintock runner to cross the line. Right behind him was **Faruk Mohamed, Nathaniel Talkalai, Casey Brown and Luis Vargas.**

The top finisher for the Chargers in the 5000 meter Open event in order of finish were **Ernesto Salazar** followed by **Jose Sabas, Liam Huggins, Graydon Sharp and Pierce Hammock.**

Emilie Berthiaume, Grace Penry and Patti Chagolla competed for the McClintock girls team in the varsity event. The girls teams had three finishers in the 5000 meter open event: **Abby Karlin, Natalia Morales and Mayetzi Hernandez.**

Tempe Cross Country Team — **Danyella Miranda** was the second highest finisher from any school besides Desert Vista, who won the meet with their first seven runners crossing the finish line before Olivia Grieve of Mountain Pointe. Miranda finished the 5000 meter varsity event in ninth position with a time of 20:44.50.

Rubi Aguilera was 16th while **Haile Sechrist-Gaunt** was 23rd, **Brenda Juarez** was 31st and **Symantha Ramos** was 33rd in the 5000 meter varsity race.

Tempe had **Asli Burnham-Walker** finish in the top 16 in the 5000 meter open event. Also, running in this event for the Buffaloes was **Madie Damasco, Marta Balfagon, Kystal Akkurt, Karla Islas and Vivian Perez.**

The boys team had **Nathan Zurn** as the top finisher in the 5000 meter open placing 17th with a time of 19:17.46. His teammates in this race in order of finish included **Javier Romero, Alejandro Briseno, Chris Barjarano, Jesus Gomez, Ezedine Kargouou, Ivan Felty, Alec Mitchell, Jacob Davis, Gabriel Garcia, Omar Bello, Alex Tovar, Nico Garnero, Jose Alvarado and Gustavo Dominguez.**

Corona Volleyball — The No. 2 ranked Aztecs, 35-5 overall and 10-0 Central Region, were one of the top eight teams to automatically qualify for the 6A state tournament which started Nov. 2 at the higher seed. The new tournament format calls for the teams ranked No. 9-24 to match up for a conference play-in tournament.

Teams ranked No. 1-8, Xavier, Corona, Hamilton, Mountain Pointe, Perry, Millennium, Horizon and Desert Vista, were then matched up against the eight winners of the conference play-in to make a 16-team state tournament.

The brackets were seeded according to the overall ranking of those 16 teams for the second round which was scheduled at the higher seed on Nov. 2 in the single elimination 6A state tournament.

Although ranked No. 2 in the state, Corona ended up as the third seed behind Hamilton and Xavier when the seeding came out for the 6A tournament Oct. 28. The Aztecs were scheduled to play at home against Sandra Day O'Connor on Nov. 2. If they win, they will face the winner of the No. 6 Millennium versus No. 11 Mesa match in the quarterfinals.

Corona, in the bottom half of the draw, will most likely meet No. 2 seeded Xavier in the semifinals Nov. 8 at Mesquite High School if all goes well. This match can be seen on the NFHS Network.

Marcos de Niza Football — The Padres, 7-3, ended up as the No. 5 seed in the 4A state playoffs when the final seedings were announced Oct. 29. Marcos was scheduled to play No. 12, Buckeye Union, in the first round at home Nov. 4. That game will be shown live on AZPreps365.com.

The Padres, in their final regular season game Oct. 28, defeated the Buffaloes 49-13 on the same night Marcos honored their 42 senior players.

This final game also gave the Padres a chance to work on their running game so they may be able to generate more of a balanced offensive attack against opponents in the playoffs.

In all three of their losses this season, Marcos had problems running the ball. For instance, in their 27-13 loss to Casa Grande early in the season, the Padres were only able to rush the ball 29 yards while passing for 281.

In their 50-21 loss to Saguario, they only rushed for 76 while passing for 196 yards.

And then, in their more recent 36-27 heartbreaking loss to Higley, quarterback **Nazareth Greer** completed 20 of 33 passes for an amazing 332 yards but the team only had 38 total rushing yards in their 36-27 loss Oct. 21.

Against Tempe, Marcos had more of a balanced offense. The Padres running backs rushed 206 yards for six touchdowns, five by **Zyayre Moss** and one by **Marcos Moreno** while Greer completed 18 of his 28 attempts to pass for 267 yards and one touchdown.

Marcus Naisant, who only had two receptions on the night, one for 66 yards and another for 10 yards, scored the receiving touchdown.

Greer has a bevy of receivers to help Naisant, the team's leading receiver, in the playoffs including Moss, who is also the team's leading rusher, and **Jordan Johnson, Christian Trevino, Joren Davis, Jesse Guzman, and Anthony Steinpreis.**

On defense, the Padres will be counting on their leading tacklers, **Anthony Gomez-Nicastro, Mario Gastelum, Tyshawn Britton, Luis Alvarez, Gerardo Martinez, Rudy Balderamma, Alex Torres, Marcus Green, Aaron Childers, and Luke Barnes** to put together defensive stops.

The Padres will be also looking for Gastelum, Green, Torres, **Zuriel Trejo**, Childers and Martinez to turn up the pressure and sack their opponent's quarterback or Britton, Luis Alvarez, Balderamma and Guzman to get an interception and energize the team.

If Marcos defeats Buckeye Union in the first round, they will play once again at home against the winner of the No. 4 Salpoint Catholic versus No. 13 Canyon Del Oro matchup. If they win their first two games, in the third round, they will most likely play the No. 1 seed, Saguario.



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City of Tempe Page



Public Safety Memorial remembers heroes

The city will dedicate its new Tempe Public Safety Memorial on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 2 p.m. at the entrance to Tempe Beach Park, located at Rio Salado Parkway and Mill Ave.

The memorial honors the police officers, firefighter and police canines who have given their lives in the line of duty. Join the Tempe City Council, Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department, Tempe Police Department and family members of those fallen heroes to dedicate the memorial. For more about our local heroes, read their

stories at www.tempe.gov/publicsafetymemorial.

A City Council working group that has included Vice Mayor Robin Arredondo-Savage, Councilmember Joel Navarro, former Vice Mayor Corey Woods and former Vice Mayor Onnie Shekerjian helped this memorial become real.

“We are grateful to the people and businesses that contributed more than \$175,000 to help build this memorial,” said Arredondo-Savage. “This memorial is just one small way we can show our support for the men and

women, as well as the canines, who help our community in times of our greatest needs and I’m proud of our community for supporting this project.”

Artist Benjamin Victor sculpted the memorial. Victor’s work includes several public safety and war memorials and is shown around the world. See his portfolio at www.benjaminvictor.com

The Tempe Police Foundation is still accepting donations to fund ongoing maintenance for the memorial at <http://tempepolicefoundation.org/>.



Fantasy of Lights Opening Night Parade

It’s time for one of the most cherished holiday traditions in Tempe – the Fantasy of Lights Opening Night Parade sponsored by Wells Fargo!

Join us Saturday, Nov. 26, at 6 p.m., as thousands of spectators line Mill Avenue to see floats, marching bands and Santa.

The parade goes from Rio Salado Parkway south to Seventh Street through Centerpoint Plaza, ending on Maple Avenue.

The annual tree lighting and visits with Santa will happen after the parade. Families can feel free to snap their own photos with Santa during this opportunity.

The event is free. Make a night of it by stopping for dinner or dessert in the festive setting of Downtown Tempe.



Winter recreation classes open for signups Dec. 5

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

Topics include fitness, sports, music, art, dance

and more.

Quality programs are offered at convenient times and locations, at affordable prices. The brochure will be available in all city facilities and can be viewed starting in early December at www.tempe.gov/brochure. Tempe resident registration opens at 9 a.m. on Dec. 5.

Non-resident registration begins at 9 a.m. on Dec. 12. Classes begin in January and go through March.

We are upgrading our registration software and it will be easier than ever to find and register for classes.

Visit www.tempe.gov/brochure or call 480-350-5200 to learn more.

Tempe Briefs

Swimming with Santa

Santa and Mrs. Claus have decided on the Kiwanis Recreation Center as the spot for a post-holiday vacation to rest and relax.

On Monday, Dec. 26, join Santa among the waves or Mrs. Claus playing games on the pool deck.

All guests will get complimentary cookies and milk – of course! Swimming with Santa runs from 1-3 p.m.,

but the waves continue until 5 p.m.

Advance discounted tickets are available Nov. 14 to Dec. 15.

For ticket prices and other details, visit www.tempe.gov/SWS or call 480-350-5201.

Family Fun Factory

On Friday, Dec. 2, the Tempe Community Complex, 3340 S. Rural Road, will be transformed into a gingerbread candyland featuring free festive holiday activities.

Stop by the Edna Vihel

Center between 6:30 and | 9 p.m. to create art projects, participate in sing-alongs, decorate cookies, write a letter to Santa, grab a cup of hot cocoa and more.

Visit the Tempe History Museum next door and hear the the great sounds of Pick and Holler, performing music from America’s past.

And don’t forget to bring your camera...Santa will be visiting!

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/FamilyFun or call 480-350-5200.

Don't be a turkey: Recycle holiday cooking grease

Whether you stuff, roast or deep-fry the bird, holiday cooking can create a significant amount of grease. You can help put that grease to good use – and keep it from ruining your pipes – by having it recycled. Tempe residents can drop off used grease from Nov. 21 to Jan. 6 at four convenient locations:

• Household Products Collection Center – 1320 E. University Drive

• Fire Station #2 – 3025 S. Hardy Drive

• Fire Station #3 – 5440 S. McClintock Drive

• Fire Station #4 – 300 E. Elliot Road

Residents can pour fryer and cooking grease directly into barrels at the collection locations, or simply place containers of grease on a spill-proof surface next to the barrels.

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



DOWNTOWN CHANDLER

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Letters Home
Chandler Center for the Arts
Nov. 12, 3 & 7:30 p.m.
- Rock the Block!
Downtown Stage
Nov. 19, 12-10 p.m.
- Author Walk at the
Chandler Art Walk
Dr. AJ Chandler Park
west
Nov. 18, 6-9:30 p.m.
- Tumbleweed Tree Lighting
and Parade of Lights
Dr. AJ Chandler Park west
Dec. 3,
Event Festivites: 4:30-9 p.m.
Parade: 7 p.m.
- Santa's House
Dr. AJ Chandler Park west
(next to the Tumbleweed
Tree)
Dec. 8, 5-7 p.m.
Dec. 10, 12-5 p.m.
Dec. 15, 4-6 p.m.
Dec. 17, 12-5 p.m.
Dec. 22, 4-7 p.m.
- Caribbean Christmas 5k
Downtown Chandler
Stage
Dec. 18, 6-:30-9:15 p.m.
- Ugly Holiday Sweater
Chandler Art Walk
Dr. AJ Chandler Park west
Dec. 16, 6-9:30 p.m.
- Family Flicks
Free-to-attend; Watch *Elf*
in the park and get your
picture with Santa.
Dr. AJ Chandler Park west
Dec. 22, 6:30p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS

- Chandler Farmers Markets
Dr. A.J Chandler Park west
Oct. - Apr.
Thursdays, 3-7 p.m.



DOWNTOWNCHANDLER.ORG



Tempe recruiting applicants to fill variety of openings on city boards, commissions

Do you have a special interest or expertise in a particular field? Serving on a board or commission can be an excellent way to become involved in the community.

The city of Tempe could use your service to fill current or upcoming vacancies.

Hundreds of residents and other community members currently serve on Tempe boards and commissions, which advise the City Council on all aspects of life in Tempe.

Some of the groups require Tempe residency or experience in specialized fields such as plumbing, engineering or architecture.

Examples include:

- The Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board has three upcoming openings.

Board members must reside in Tempe. The board is responsible for advising the City Council about the planning, acquisition, disposition, operation, use, care and maintenance of municipal golf courses and facilities, parks and preserves, and cemetery facilities, as well as the development of a continuing plan for the city's park and recreation program.

- The Tempe Sustainability Commission, a business advocacy group, has a current opening. Members who are interested in sharing best practices, promoting partnerships and collaborations to create sustainability solutions to Tempe's most pressing challenges, and recommending policies and programs that advance sustainability in Tempe, are encouraged to apply.

Tempe residency is not required for this particular position, however preference will be given to applicants who are Tempe residents and/or those working in Tempe.

- The Technical Code Advisory Board of Appeals currently has two vacancies: one is for a plumber or plumbing contractor, and the other is for a mechanical contractor.

The Board is responsible for hearing and deciding appeals of orders, decisions, or determinations made by the building official relative to the application and interpretation of the city's technical codes.

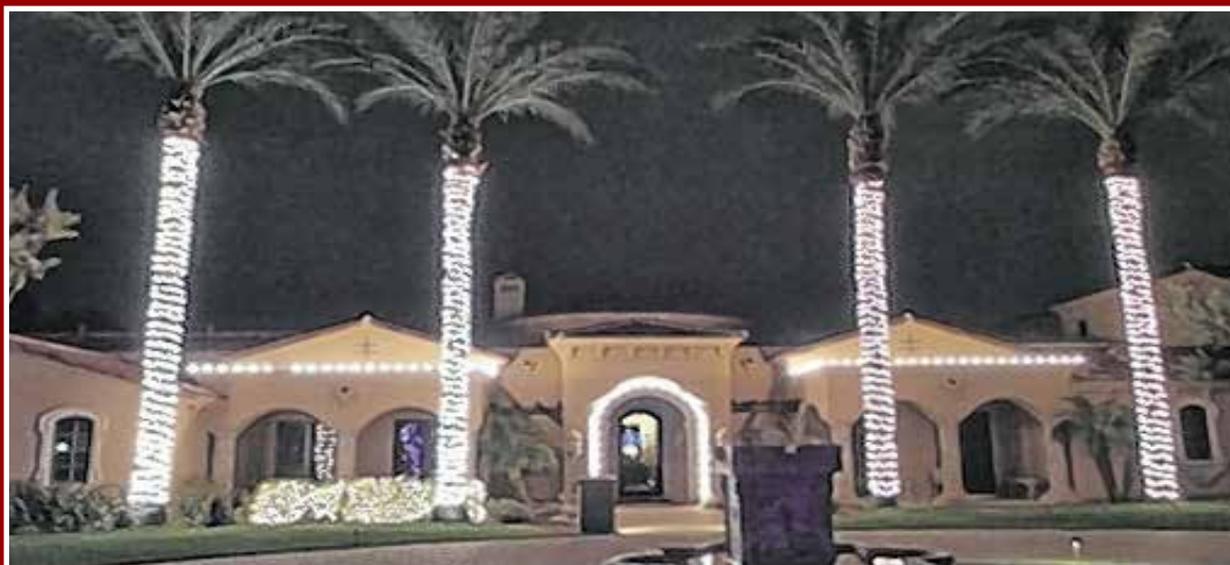
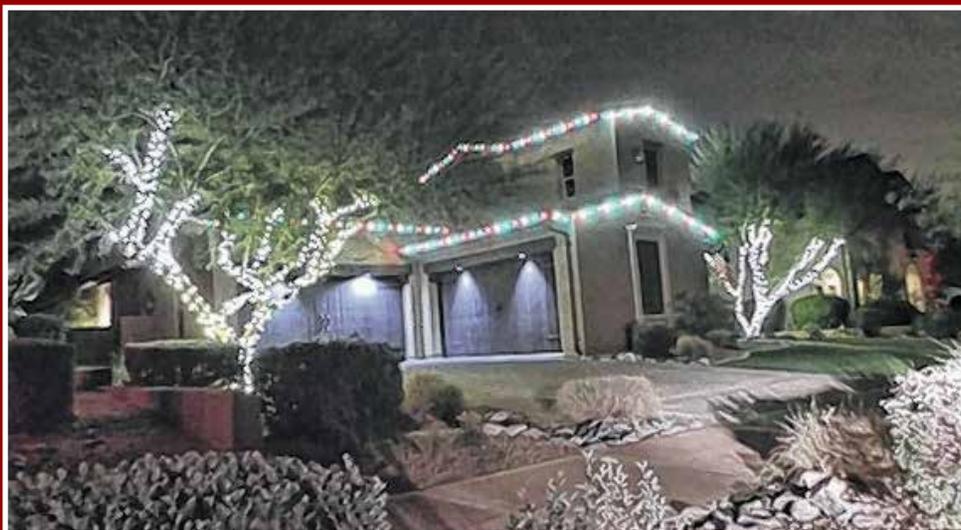
These positions do not require Tempe residency.

For a complete listing of boards and commissions, including vacancies, please visit www.tempe.gov/clerk.

Applications are accepted year-round and can be downloaded or picked up at the City Clerk's Office, 31 E. Fifth St., second floor, or in the back of the Council Chambers at 31 E. Fifth St., garden level. Applications can be submitted via email (clerk@tempe.gov), mail, fax (480-858-2012), or in person at the City Clerk's Office.

For questions, call 480-350-4311, or visit <http://www.tempe.gov/city-hall/city-clerk-s-office/boards-and-commissions>.

How to add some pizazz,



**minus
the
stress!**

By Joyce Coronel

Andy Lane remembers what it was like growing up with a birthday that fell on Christmas. His mother always wanted lights decorating the outside of the house. His father—well, not so much.

“My dad didn’t like putting them up and so I started doing it. Then the neighbors started asking,” Lane said. That’s when he realized he could establish a business and Holiday Helpers, his own company, was born.

It was a nice bit of cash for a college student in those days, but Lane went on to be drafted into the world of baseball. Signed first by the Nationals and later by the Chicago Cubs, Lane found he had five months of free time every year. What to do with all that spare time?

“When I got into baseball, I had a lot of friends that started making money and had big mansions or big houses throughout the Valley and they all wanted Christmas lights. So it kind of spread like wildfire,” Lane said. “The baseball family takes care of itself. ‘If there’s a baseball guy decorating with lights, we should use him.’ And that’s kind of how we spread, through athletes around town.”

These days, Holiday Helpers is decorating the homes of football, baseball, golf and basketball players around town. Lane gives clients two options: rent or purchase the lights.

“Some athletes we’ve dealt with, they’re on a couple-year contract. They want lights, so they’ll rent them—they don’t want to buy them. We’ve got people who are going to move and they don’t want to be attached to any lights.” With either option, Holiday Helpers stores the decorations for its customers.

Lane says his company lights up about 20 homes in the Tempe area and dozens more all over the Valley. Resorts, hotels, shopping centers and homeowner associations also use his service.

“The best part is seeing the kids—they’re fun to watch,” Lane said. “That’s why we really do it because the kids are sitting there saying, ‘Mom and Dad, what are we doing for Christmas lights?’ My kids are already asking.”

And though Lane and his team of about 15 work hard on the projects, he says it still brings a smile to his face.

“It’s more of just a job for us because we see so many, but it does bring you joy when you see the people and how much they like it.”

For those pining for that special look inside the home, Lane said he’s got that covered too, with a couple of interior designers willing to create a holiday haven, lighting up trees and hanging garlands. Mostly though, it’s the outdoor light displays. He shoots for a clean, classic look, as the many photos on his website demonstrate.

“We want it to be a stress-free thing,” Lane said. “It’s a stress-free way to have your holidays and you don’t worry about anything. Nobody has to get on a ladder or climb a tree. Let us do all the hard work and everybody else celebrate and have fun.”

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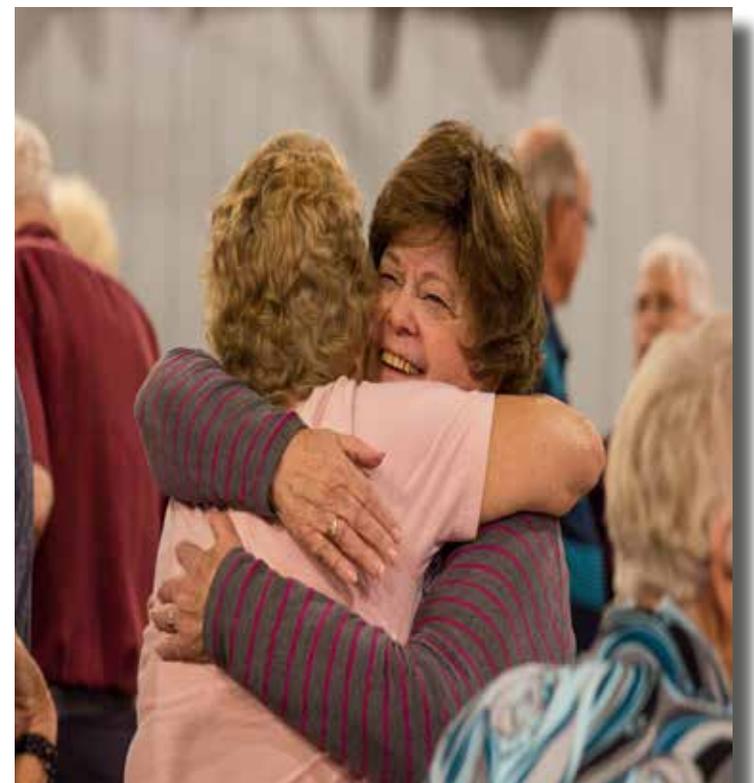
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A celebration of friendship

Tempe's longtime leaders and stalwart citizens reminisced about old times and precious memories during the 110th annual Tempe Settlers' Picnic held at Arizona Community Church . The Hon. Harry Mitchell, Congressman for Arizona's Fifth District from 2007-2011 and Mayor of Tempe 1978-1994, was one of those, below left, who recalled the city's days gone by.

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