

# Wrangler NEWS

Think Local. Read Local.

Dec. 3 - 16, 2016 • Volume 27, No.23



From upbeat Broadway classics to gospel and pop, the 142 members of Tempe Community Chorus have been singing their hearts out for 25 years. Page 15.



Paralympic cyclist Todd Key inspired students at Gilliland Middle School with a message about overcoming obstacles and helping others along the way. Page 6.



Students at Fuller Elementary got a lesson in baking bread—and sharing the handmade goodness with the needy and hungry in the community. Page 5.

What's Inside

## Saddle Up

A law-enforcement rarity in an age where technology reigns



Tempe's mounted police unit visited Buena Vista Ranchos, where residents offered their community arena for training.

— Wrangler News photo by Alex J. Walker

## Mounted patrols trot fearlessly where others dare not tread

Just as did many police officers during their early days on the force, modern-day cop Stephanie Braxton has a partner when she patrols Mill Avenue on weekend nights. But her backup in this case is a four-legged one, and his name isn't Fido.

Officer Braxton's steadfast, not-to-be-messed-with partner is a 2,000-pound gelding named Ranger, who she says is the perfect companion for what she calls her dream job.

"My whole life, ever since I was a little kid, I've been riding horses," Braxton said. One of two full-time mounted police officers for Tempe, Braxton said she's been in this—the "perfect" job—

since 2007.

If having equestrian blood flowing in one's veins seems a rarity, Braxton insists she's not the only one who has a love for horses.

Lt. Michael Pooley, who oversees Tempe's metro bureau, said he hopes to one day train for the mounted patrol. Tempe is one of few departments in the state to still have such a unit, he said, alongside Scottsdale and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

"Basically, what we use them for is crowd control," Pooley said.

"One of the biggest reasons is the number of special events we have. Tempe has over 350 (of those) a year that draw thousands of people."

Mostly, the event-goers are

well-behaved, Pooley said, "but there are times when crowds get large and out of control. They do things they shouldn't be doing."

That's where the horses come into play.

The department has seven of the equestrian beauties, stabled at Kiwanis Park. A mounted officer holds the manpower and capabilities that could be considered equal to that of six non-horseback officers, Pooley said.

Braxton says Pooley knows whereof he speaks.

"When a fight breaks out, that's our time to shine," Braxton explained. "We blow our whistles, we yell, so they should hear us

— MOUNTED, Page 9

## Refugees, fleeing war, find respite among Valley's welcoming families

By Joyce Coronel

The holidays are the time of the year when families gather to celebrate and hold each other close, sharing laughter, love and a home-cooked meal.

Not everyone is so fortunate.

For refugees arriving from war-shattered Syria, the season of joy may prove a lonely interlude in a foreign land.

Enter Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz, president and dean of Valley Beit Midrash, a Jewish community organization. Together with Arizona Jews for Justice, Rabbi Yanklowitz, joined by Sarah Kader and her family, welcomed two Muslim families from Syria for the start of the holiday season, Thanksgiving.

Kader, her husband and their new baby, along with members of their extended families, hosted a Syrian family that included a mother and father with

— REFUGEES, Page 8

## ASU prof helps kids engineer a path to careers of the future

By Mark Crudup

Students at Aprende Middle School are getting a head start in engineering, and the community service it provides, with the help of a program established by Arizona State University professor Dr. Tirupalavanam Ganesh and Jennifer Velez, of the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering.

"We are systematically trying to make a difference in high schools, and now middle schools, as well," Ganesh said. "Kyrene has agreed to pilot the program this year at Aprende."

The project, called Engineering Projects in Community Service, or EPICS, provides middle school students the opportunity to understand what encompasses engineering and the stakeholders involved.

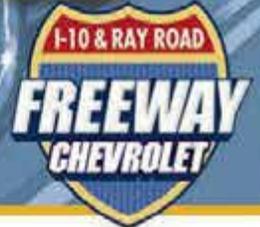
"Right now, we're trying to figure out how to get middle school students to understand the engineering

— ENGINEERS, Page 14

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# Declines seen in Kyrene enrollment trends, middle-school academics

## Superintendent finds inconsistencies in all grades

By Diana Whittle

When she arrived in July, Kyrene schools superintendent Jan Vesely promised that her first 90 days would include a comprehensive educational audit of the Kyrene district.

In Vesely's managerial style, apparently, promises aren't easily broken.

Within that three-month startup stretch, Vesely's team produced the anticipated results, along with a worksheet of suggested revisions to the district-wide curriculum.

"Together with my district leadership team, we began to analyze enrollment trends and achievement data in an effort to identify possible root causes to a decline in both areas," said Vesely.

"Our analysis results in the following conclusions:

- The district experiences inconsistent retention rates across elementary and middle schools;
- Our students' middle-school performance is typically lower than their elementary school performance; There are inconsistencies in the rigor of middle-school general academic programs;

- A lack of opportunity exists for children to enroll in pre-kindergarten options in the district, and;
- Many families are unaware of Kyrene's comprehensive pre-k to eighth-grade programs."

Based on these findings, the district's leaders began to develop an action plan to address these priority areas, starting with researching best practices and developing options to address each one.

The key proposed changes range from middle-school redesign to improvement performance to allowing more educational choice for families. Educators experienced with these programs introduced the concepts and voiced their support.

One of the new programs that would impact middle-school students includes an expansion of dual-language education to cover pre-k to eighth grade. The schools to adopt this model would include both elementary schools Norte and Lagos, explained Laura Toenjes, assistant superintendent for the district.

"This would allow students to continue their bilingual education until they move into high school."

The second option would expand the curriculum at Kyrene Traditional

Academy to include pre-k to eighth grades, where previously KTA served only elementary students, according to the principal of KTA Sureño Campus in West Chandler, Dr. Marianne Lescher.

"This new option would give students the benefit of continuing a traditional curriculum through the eighth grade at a school that is rated A-plus and that won a national Blue Ribbon award."

The third proposal, introduced by Dr. Christine McDougall, director of school effectiveness, is to establish an International Baccalaureate Program in the district that would cover both a primary and a middle-years program.

Final recommendations will be voted on at board meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Governing Board members had the opportunity to review the proposed program changes during a previous board retreat and then provided public comments during a recent study session.

Their consensus is that the new direction will provide more choices for students and their families, along with providing better preparation for college and career fields.

Bernadette Coggins, the Governing Board president, issued the following statement:

"The administration has been providing us with updates on the development of options to advance the Superintendent's Priorities, many of which address several issues of particular concern to me.

"We are pleased at their responsiveness to the Board's questions and concerns moving forward. We also appreciate the amount of time and effort they have taken to seek feedback from parents and the community. Our shared objective is in enhancing the academic choices for Kyrene families and for providing our students with optimal learning experiences.

"We are confident that this is a good first step toward meeting those objectives."

Parents and community members learned about the new educational choices and curriculum offerings during community forums on Nov. 9 and 15, each of which attracted about 80 to 90 attendees.

A Choice Fair on Nov. 17 attracted another group of 200 parents to learn more about different educational

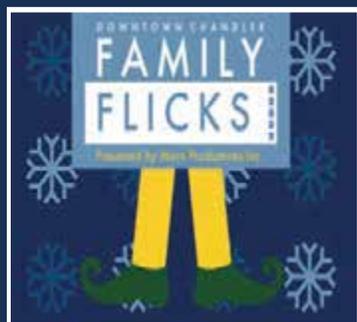


## Holiday Events

# IN DOWNTOWN CHANDLER

- **Tumbleweed Tree Lighting and Parade of Lights**  
Dr. AJ Chandler Park west  
Dec. 3,  
Event Festivities: 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 a.m.

- **Ugly Holiday Sweater**  
Chandler Art Walk  
Dr. AJ Chandler Park west  
Dec. 16, 6-9:30 p.m.



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- **Chandler Farmers Markets**  
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Oct. - Apr.  
Thursdays, 3-7 p.m.



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Kids packed their culinary creativity into boxes destined for area's families in need.

## Fuller Elementary School, where 'loafing' serves up a tasty slice of life

Story & photo by Mark Crudup

Students attending south Tempe's Fuller Elementary School now have first-hand experience in making bread, while passing along their final, baked loaves to the East Valley United Food Bank to be given to families in need.

During a presentation directed by Libby Treadway, of King Arthur Flour Company, 350 third-, fourth- and fifth-graders came together to prepare and bake two loaves of bread each – one to bring home to their family, one to donate to the food bank.

"My mom is a teacher at this school, and she asked me to come do the presentation," Treadway said.

"It's 50 minutes, and in that presentation we blend science, math and baking know-how. The students receive the instructions on how to

make a yeast-bread recipe."

Overall, Fuller Elementary students donated 177 loaves of bread to the East Valley United Food Bank. The project, called Bake for Good: Kids, is a nationwide program organized by Treadway with King Arthur Flour.

"They (the students) put a lot of time into making those loaves of bread, and then they get the joy of donating it," Treadway said. "The students basically get the instructions on how to make a yeast-bread recipe."

Diana Dohm, Treadway's mother who teaches classes of gifted students at Fuller, contacted her daughter in order to keep the project going. This is Fuller's third year participating in this event.

"Just knowing that we're a community and getting able to

— BREAD, Page 11



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# Parathlete's wisdom: 'If you put your mind to it, you can do it'

Story & photo by Joyce Coronel

Todd Key knows what it's like to be different, to be shunned. At age 7, he suffered a devastating fracture that landed him in the hospital for nine months and left him unable to use his right arm.

"I became the guy in the school the bullies liked to pick on," Key told a gym packed with Gilliland Middle School students, where the administration had invited Key to speak.

Middle school can be an awkward phase, fraught with a deep desire to fit in as well as the bullies and cliques that make the climb seemingly insurmountable.

That's why Gilliland's principal, Jolyn Gibbons, reached out to Key. He's well-acquainted with overcoming obstacles.

He's not only without the use of his right arm, he also lost his right leg above the knee at age 17 after a bout with cancer. A Paralympic cyclist with Team USA, Key has won 20 medals for the sport, including the national championship this year, the third in a row for a man with a seemingly indomitable spirit.

"Our special guest speaker has overcome some steep odds," Gibbons said as she introduced him to the gymnasium packed with students. The crowd began cheering before Key, clad in his Team USA



Todd Key, paralympic championship cyclist, at Gilliland Middle School.

navy blue uniform, even picked up the microphone.

"Obviously you can see that I am not your typical person," Key said. "There is a lot of physical stuff going on with me, but what you don't see are the struggles. For a lot of years I didn't know if I was going to make it, if I was going to live—if I *wanted* to live. In some of those years I was as old as you guys."

With a matter-of-fact delivery, Key demonstrated how his prosthesis is removed and snaps back on,

then showed how his riding foot can be removed in order to replace it with a running foot. Students applauded as he jogged laps around the basketball court, then returned to explain his specially adapted bicycles.

And though he spent most of his time demonstrating how his leg and his bikes work, his larger message was framed especially for middle-schoolers. Those years, he acknowledged, are tough on people who look and seem different.

"It's your job and my job now to help those people get through, because everybody—no matter how much they pretend that everything is so wonderful—everybody needs some help."

He encouraged students to find something they love to do, something that they could start working on and thereby develop skills and goals.

"You couldn't have told me when I was 17 that I would be riding this bike and traveling around the world. I never would have had that vision at 17, but I am able to now because of the help I got along the way."

Adrian Duran, an eighth-grader, said he learned something from Key's presentation. "It made me think anybody can do anything because he showed us how he rides his bike. If you put your mind to it, you can do it."





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# Rental-property owners to see change in Tempe sales tax collections

Starting next month, Tempe businesses and individuals who are the owners of rental properties will see a change in how they report their sales tax collections.

Starting with the January return, which is due in February, Tempe will join other government entities in switching to centralized licensing, reporting and payment of Transaction Privilege tax, commonly known as sales tax, to the Arizona Department of Revenue.

For those who currently report to the city of Tempe, the last tax return to Tempe will be the December 2016 return that is due to be filed in January 2017.

*Here are some other helpful bits of information:*

The state of Arizona tax return may start to list the city of Tempe on its November 2016 tax return forms.

However, businesses and rental-property owners have been asked to continue to report and pay

Tempe activity on the familiar city of Tempe form through the December 2016 tax period, due in January, directly to Tempe.

2017 renewals for city of Tempe tax licenses will be mailed and processed by the Arizona Department of Revenue this year during November.

Remit those renewal fees directly to the Arizona Department of Revenue.

For those who are currently licensed with Tempe to report residential rental tax, the change to the Arizona Department of Revenue administration will also impact the way in which owners license and pay tax beginning in 2017.

City officials say they will communicate with owners of residential rentals soon.

## How to proceed

Property owners will be required to obtain a Transaction Privilege Tax, or TPT, license with Arizona Department of Revenue by registering with AZTaxes.gov, the Arizona Department of Revenue's online licensing, filing and payment system.

Effective Dec. 1, Tempe is no longer accepting new TPT licenses; applications must be made directly with ADOR.

The tutorial "AZTaxes.gov—Licensing Your Business with the Arizona Department of Revenue" provides an overview of the online licensing process.

Before using the online business services, payors

must register to use AZTaxes.gov.

The tutorial "AZTaxes.gov - New User Registration" provides step-by-step instruction on how to register on AZTaxes.gov.

If the business is already registered in the AZTaxes.gov system, Tempe can be added as a location in the Region Code screen (using code "TE") and the appropriate Business Codes as instructed in the State's tutorial "AZTaxes.gov":

*Step-by-Step Instructions to Completing the TPT-2-Form" or "AZTaxes.gov - Business and Region Codes".*

ADOR offers free Taxpayer Education tutorials. This information can be obtained at the state's website, [azdor.gov/TaxpayerEducation/Tutorials.aspx](http://azdor.gov/TaxpayerEducation/Tutorials.aspx).

For any non-filed returns or outstanding receivables with Tempe, the city is authorized to continue collection for any liabilities and non-filed returns prior to January 2017.

In the coming months, additional information, forms and instructions from both the city of Tempe and the Arizona Department of Revenue.

Tempe has said it will update its website as often as information becomes available about the transition and how it will affect individual businesses. Information: <https://www.azdor.gov/TransactionPrivilegeTax.aspx>.



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# Refugees

From Page 1

five young sons.

"We should not fear them, but embrace them and welcome them into our home and say, 'You're here and you're safe. This country is a land of promise and so we want you to feel welcome and be with us to celebrate this holiday with us.'"

Kader sees the outreach through the lens of family history. Her grandparents were Holocaust survivors and her father, born in Germany, was a refugee who arrived in the U.S. following WWII.

"They came to this country after experiencing hell on earth. Without America embracing them, who knows what would have happened? For my family, it's very significant to embrace the immigrant and refugee and not shun them," Kader said.

Rabbi Yanklowitz, who also welcomed a family of seven Syrian refugees for Thanksgiving, echoed those sentiments. "Our feeling is that America should be welcoming to refugees and those that have arrived should be embraced and integrated into American culture," he said.

"My sense is that their healthy integration into American society will depend more on us than on them."

Between the linguistic, cultural and culinary divide—in the days leading up to the intercultural feast—Wrangler News wondered how local Jewish families would bridge the gap with the Middle Eastern, Muslim refugees. Would they be able to communicate? What about the turkey? And who



The Kaders of Tempe welcomed a Syrian refugee family to their home to share a Thanksgiving feast.

— Wrangler News photo by Alex J. Walker

would say the blessing?

"We have a Syrian leader who is coming and who will translate at our home," Yanklowitz said days prior to the event. At the Kaders' place, one of the older refugee children speaks English and will translate, he added.

"It may sound cliché, but I think the language of love and hope and light is what we are hoping to communicate," Kader said. "We hope to welcome them with not just our words, but with our actions and with hugs and food and a warmth we hope they will feel regardless of whether they can actually understand us. I think it will be just fine."

As for the turkey discussion, well, there wouldn't be one. The family follows a very specific dietary regimen, which precludes the consumption of poultry, Kader said.

"But apart from that, we do a traditional Thanksgiving meal, (with) traditional sides of stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes and all that."

Meanwhile, Yanklowitz is vegan. He's serving sushi and spaghetti to his guests.

And the blessing of the meal? "I will offer the blessing in our home as I always do as a traditional Jew, and I'll also welcome them to make whatever blessing would be most appropriate for them," he said.

Both Yanklowitz and Kader said their faith guides their vision of hospitality.

"As Jews, it's really a significant thing to do because the Jewish story is not just related to the Holocaust: Our whole history of thousands of years is a story of being a stranger in a strange land and wanting to feel like we have a home someplace," Kader said.

"The Bible is very clear that if you are a religious person, most fundamental is to be compassionate to those who are vulnerable, and in particular to the stranger," Yanklowitz said.

"We are trying make positive change here in Arizona," Kader said, adding that she hopes others will join Arizona Jews for Justice.

What about those who worry that refugees might harbor terrorist sympathies in this era of headline-grabbing, gut-wrenching terror attacks?

"America has a very thorough vetting process, both in terms of monitoring them and continuing to ensure their security around them.

"So I actually feel they are some of the most-safe people to interact with in the country," Yanklowitz said.

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# Mounted

From Page 1

coming—they should back up and stop fighting and walk away from the fight before we even have to touch them.”

If the rowdies won't quit, Braxton and Officer Dave Claridge nudge their way into the crowd—a crowd that is often egging on the fight.

“We use the horse's shoulders, the horse's head, the horse's hip,” Braxton said.

“We make a hole and make it safe for those bike officers to come in.” That's when the other officers are able to separate fighters from each other and keep things from escalating.

“We really take honor in protecting the bike officers because they are down on the ground. They are eye-to-eye with the suspects.”

At family friendly events, Braxton said adults with children often admire the horses, petting them as they ooh and ah over the spectacle. Friday and Saturday nights on Mill Avenue are a different matter.

“There aren't kids out there—they're oftentimes intoxicated adults, and when one person pets, then everybody wants to pet and we just can't,” Braxton said.

“A lot of people know us and respect us and they'll tell their out-of-town friends,

‘Don't touch the horse. He's an officer—you can't touch him!’ So that's kind of neat.”

A group of 18 volunteers help the mounted unit by cleaning the stalls and tack and grooming the horses.

The prized animals are largely draft crosses, geldings, but never stallions. “If it wasn't for our Tempe residents, we wouldn't be able to survive,” Braxton said. “We rely on them so much and they love the horses just as if they were their family members.”

Braxton said her work with the horses is the fulfillment of something she's wanted to do since she was 12. “Just being able to

have the most reliable, caring, kind partner in the whole entire world—they will go into battle without questioning it. They are the most courageous animal that I can think of. They trust so much.”

Pooley said the mounted unit also patrols neighborhoods from time to time. “You don't see a horse walking around your neighborhood very often. So it gets a lot of attention.”

Mounted officers are graduates of the Police Academy and certified officers, Pooley said, and the mounted unit is something in which the department takes tremendous pride.

“These are beautiful horses and they're great for police work,” said Pooley. “They really give the Tempe Police Department something that stands out about it.”

— By Joyce Coronel



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# Briefly . . .

## Four Peaks: Warmth for those in need

Four Peaks Brewery is giving hundreds of people a reason to say 'thanks' this holiday season. Now through Dec. 15, Four Peaks is collecting new or gently used coats, jackets, scarves, hats, blankets, bedding and towels to donate to Maggie's Place, A New Leaf and Helen's Hope Chest, benefitting Arizona mothers, families and foster youth in need.

The drive is also extending its help to the Arizona Animal Welfare League, the oldest and largest no-kill shelter, collecting blankets, towels and comforters to provide warm bedding for animals awaiting adoption.

"Many people I know have an extra coat – or even a blanket or towel in their closet that hasn't been worn or used in a while," said Alison Atkinson, Four Peaks Tempe manager.

"If we can get these unused items to people and pets who need them, together we can all help to make a big difference."

The inaugural drive collected more than 400 coats donated to Maggie's Place. Four Peaks and its partners plan to dramatically increase the amount of items collected this year, extending warm gifts to even more people and animals.

Valley residents can drop-off their new or gently used items to any Four Peaks Pub, not including the Sky Harbor Airport location. Brat Haus, an eatery in Old-Town Scottsdale is also a collection site.

## SRP Fantasy of Lights boat parade Dec. 10

SRP's annual Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade sets sail Saturday, Dec. 10 and will feature as many as 50 festively lighted boats of all sizes.

The fun begins at 4:30 p.m. with a party at Tempe Beach Park, located at Mill Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway, where live music, selfies with Santa, food trucks, face painters and more are sure to entertain.

After sunset, more than 1,000 luminarias will light up the sidewalks and paths at Tempe Beach Park in a special display provided by Tempe South Rotary.

The evening concludes with a colorful display of fireworks.

## Gift shop now open at Pollack Chabad

Looking for a menorah, mezuzah, jewelry or other meaningful gift for that special someone?

The Pollack Chabad Center for Jewish Life, 875 N. McClintock Drive in Chandler, has opened the Chai Judaica gift shop.

The new shop is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays 9:30-10 a.m. and 12-12:30 p.m. or by appointment. Information: 480-855-4333 or [info@chabadcenter.com](mailto:info@chabadcenter.com)

## Corona salutes its unsung heroes

From secretaries and classroom aides to cafeteria workers, maintenance workers and bus drivers, recognition—and thanks—were on display when students at Corona del Sol High School joined the nationwide celebration of Education Support Professionals Day.

Annually, it's the one day—although many teens are said to show their appreciation year-round—when educational support staff are recognized for their contributions to public schools in providing a positive, supportive environment for students to learn.

At Corona, smiles cropped up all over the campus as students took time out on Nov. 16 to show their appreciation.

Nearly 70 classified staff members received goodie bags and handwritten thank-you cards from members of Corona's Be the Change Club.

The gift bags included candy bars with a customized message reading "Thank you for all you do for our teachers and students here at Corona del Sol. #AztecStrong #AztecPride."

Club sponsor Mary Baker said the club's 80 members wanted the employees to know their hard work and dedication don't go unnoticed.

"We had a great time and the employees really seemed to appreciate it," she said.

## Christmas concert at Mission del Sol

Mission del Sol Presbyterian Church will present a Christmas concert at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17.

The program will feature the church choir and bells, as well as the Aletheia string quartet.

The church is at 1565 E. Warner Road, Tempe.

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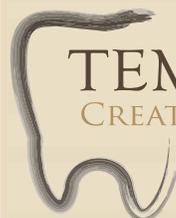
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## Bread

From Page 5

contribute – that’s a lifelong lesson,” Dohm said.

“We’re very proud of that here at Fuller Elementary.”

Melissa Forrester, community outreach coordinator of the East Valley United Food Bank, has helped to coordinate this event for the third year. Forrester arrived with the food bank truck on Nov. 28 to collect donated loaves of bread from students

who excitedly put their bread into designated boxes.

“These kids really are helping other families right here in their own backyard,” Forrester said.

The food bank will distribute the students’ donations to one of their local agencies in the Valley that serves meals nightly and distributes food to families in need.

“That’s what makes a real impact, by realizing, ‘I was able to make bread myself and I was able to give it back,’ and that means something,” Forrester said. “They get the gift of giving, and that’s an important lesson.”

## Proposal

From Page 4

options through representatives from each of Kyrene’s pre-schools, elementary and middle-school along with Community Education staff.

Dr. Susie Ostmeyer, the district’s director of research and evaluation, explained that an online survey was available until Dec. 2 for those who did not come to the forums.

“More than 1,000 replies are submitted and there is still time until

the survey is closed, which indicates a high interest in the superintendent’s priorities and the changes to the curriculum.”

Once all the input is digested, Superintendent Vesely will oversee the final plan for the next school year.

“With that direction, we will identify specific details, including fiscal impact, staffing needs and professional development and logistics, and return to the Board in January with a final plan to be implemented in the 2017-18 school year,” said Vesely.

## Brunch, auction to raise funds, hope for Lost Our Home no-kill pet rescue effort

The sixth annual Holiday Champagne Brunch and Auction sponsored by Tempe-based Lost Our Home Pet Rescue will wag its happy tail into supporters’ hearts from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11 to kick off the holiday season.

Champagne, a brunch, silent and live auctions, along with inspiring stories, will be part of the event, which raises vital funds for the nonprofit, no-kill shelter.

Emmy award-winning Jan D’Atri will emcee the event, and Lost Our Home Pet Rescue will announce its inaugural Pet Champion Excellence Award, which year will recognize a person, organization or company that has made an extraordinary

contribution to pets in Arizona.

The brunch is presented this year by Arizona’s Vision.

“The brunch is our most important event of the year,” says Jodi Polanski, Lost Our Home Pet Rescue’s founder and executive director.

“Our costs have increased this year as our intake of animals has increased. We appreciate the support from our community and corporate sponsors that make it possible to help needy pets and pet parents in our community.

“We hope to see many familiar and new faces on Dec. 11.” Brunch tickets are \$75. Tables start at \$750. Sponsorships range from \$500 to \$5,000. To purchase tickets online and pre-register for the auction visit [www.lostourhome.org](http://www.lostourhome.org).

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## Summit School's Dec. 3rd 'Pop-Up' play day stimulates kids' imagination

Families with children of all ages can let their creativity run wild by experiencing a unique, fun, play-based experience that allows children's imagination and ingenuity to soar.

A "Pop-Up Adventure Playground" awaits families from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at Summit School of Ahwatukee.

The Valley's first-of-its-kind program provides "loose parts" — materials that can be combined, moved, carried, redesigned, lined up, taken apart and put back together in multiple ways.

These are materials with no specific set of directions that can be used alone or combined with myriad others, such as large boxes, cardboard tubes, fabric, yarn, rocks, sticks, boxes, tires, markers, tape and more. Children are invited to take home their creations.

The free community event, which has appeared in other cities worldwide, will be provided through a partnership between Treasures4Teachers, Pop-Up Adventure Play and Summit School of Ahwatukee.

"Summit School of Ahwatukee is thrilled to work with Treasures4Teachers to host this experience," said Andrea Benkel, the director of Summit's Early Childhood Education initiative.

Barbara Blalock, founder and executive

director of Treasures 4 Teachers, said the event is part of the group's commitment to educate parents on the value of play, especially child-directed play, that has no specific outcome other than to build on a child's imagination.

Under Blalock's guidance, a number of local business, schools and private donors keep a 12,000- square-foot facility filled in Tempe, serving thousands of teachers and students.

Volunteers, called "Play Workers," will include Summit School 5th graders who have applied and earned the designation of "self managers," a leadership position earned by demonstrating strong abilities to independently and successfully manage activities and school.

These kids will be entrepreneurs for the day, with a goal of organizing and building a profitable business to sell snacks at the event.

Students will select a business name, procure a healthy food choice to sell, set price points, design signage and create a work schedule. Their profits will be donated to a charity.

Summit School of Ahwatukee is at 4515 E. Muirwood Drive, Ahwatukee.

Information: <http://summitschoolaz.org>.



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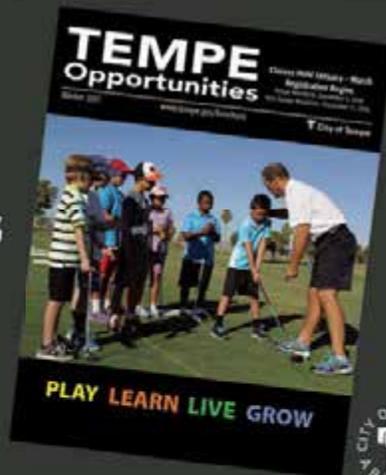
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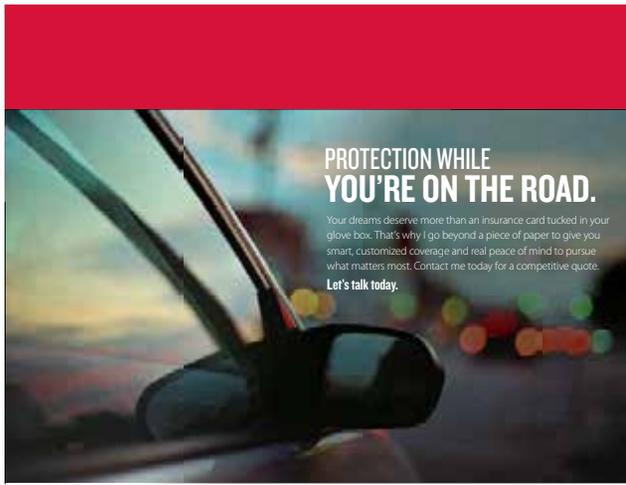
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Dr. Tirupalavanam Ganesh, right, of ASU's Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering, and teacher Jennifer Velez gave students at Aprende Middle School a lesson in the importance of teamwork.

— Wrangler News photo by Mark Crudup

## Engineers

From Page 1

design process and to understand more about the people we are serving," Velez, who leads the program at Aprende, said.

"Working in a team is so integral to being an engineer and that's hard for some middle school students."

Bringing general engineering concepts, such as discipline and self-control, to the middle school

level will allow students to better prepare for a career in the growing technology field, Velez said.

"It's really trying to catch kids at a younger age and grab their attention," she said. "If they decide to be an engineer in the 10th grade, they may already be behind."

According to Velez, all of the sixth-grade science teachers at Aprende are integrating the EPICS program into their classes.

"They have certain concepts that they have to cover," Velez

said. "So, they'll do a sustainability unit, a water filtration unit, etc., and then they've implemented the EPICS program into their existing program."

Engineering serves as a basis to learning science and making something with that science, Ganesh said.

"Applying the science to a real-life need is really what engineering is all about," he said.

"So we are attempting to bring this concept into the middle school classrooms."

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# Tempe Community Chorus, 142 voices strong, brings holiday music to the ears

*Editor's note: The story that follows, by Wrangler News contributor Deborah Hilcove, appeared originally in our Dec. 15, 2015 edition. The same program, with time, date and other minor changes, is on tap as part of this year's holiday entertainment schedule.*

By Deborah Hilcove

Imagine 142 friends—each with a different voice—high, low and in-between. Now imagine blending those voices, layering the tones into beautiful melody. This is the Tempe Community Chorus.

Directed by Cary Burns since 1998 and accompanied by pianist Mary Sievert, the organization enjoys a wide repertoire, ranging from contemporary to pop, from Civil War gospel music to Broadway classics, from toe-tapping classics to upbeat jazz.

It's easy to understand why Burns has such a large chorus. Swaying and snapping his fingers, he is constantly in motion, alternately hushing the group, then encouraging "a big sound now."

Burns' guidance proves masterful. "Excellent. Excellent. Awesome. A little more work, sopranos. Your gospel voices. Yes."

Soprano Gwen Henson notes that Burns helps them understand the lyrics and choices made by the composers and arrangers. "It's creating sound," she says. "He's the conductor and we are like the



Director Cary Burns orchestrates choral perfection. — Wrangler News photo by Alex J. Walker

musical instruments of an orchestra—the trumpets, clarinets—you can hear each instrument in the voices."

But it's more than the music, says soprano Cheri Shipp, who will be taking a short break in her chorus participation but is no less enthusiastic. "I wanted to sing, and here, there are so many friends. We support each other. It's fun."

With voices swelling as they sing "One Voice," the choir focuses on their director. "Softer now. But with purpose," he says. "Beautiful voices. I could feel the song."

Percussionist Ben Adams drums a beat and tenor soloist Lee Higginbotham sings. Burns nods to him. "Good. Good. I like how you improvised that run."

Higginbotham says he and his father, Doug, joined TCC together. "This is great. It's the first time I've sung in a choir with him. There's so much friendship, joy here." In the tenor section, Ben Hyde, a music major in college, says, "I was always

in choirs, but stopped for a while. I'm back now, because of Cary."

Tom Burns adds, "It's great to sing for an audience, sharing with them. Such give and take." Dominic Pochiro, who also is sitting out this current season but is nonetheless a huge fan, says he's been singing since elementary school and has been with TCC for five years. "It's fun. It fills my soul."

Satisfying Burns with the Hanukkah melody, "Dai Diddle Dai," the choir practices a section of Handel's "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

Burns says, "You're 89 percent there. Again." As the refrain of "Let it Begin with Me" echoes, he admonishes the group, "A good sound, but visually, I'd rather have the CD." He mimes the choristers, who break out laughing, then Burns orders another attempt, encouraging, "Tall it up. Give me some stuff."

Tenor John Burger smiles and whispers, "When a director says, 'One more time,' it means at least three

more."

High sopranos start, bolstered by rich tones of the altos, tenors and basses. It seems everyone is moving, swaying, every fiber filled with rhythm, resonating with the joy of music. Burns is pleased. "Excellent. A-plus." Pochiro smiles, wipes his brow.

"Whew. I call that 'the workout song.'" Burns says, "It's an incredible thing for a community of people from all walks of life to gather and create a wonderfully cohesive and musically powerful experience." He adds, "We want to create a wonderful experience for our audience. I agree with Ella Fitzgerald who said, 'The only thing better than singing is singing.'"

The holiday concert, "A Gift of Music," will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, in the large Ideda Theatre at the Mesa Arts Center.

Tickets are \$15; children under 12 are admitted free. Information: [www.tempecommunitychorus.org](http://www.tempecommunitychorus.org) or contact the MAC box office, 480-644-6500.

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# Sports

Saben Lee, photo at left, and Alex Barcello loom as leaders of Aztecs' hopes for another run at a state championship title.

— Kris Cartwright for Wrangler News / For more, visit [kriscartwright.smugmug.com](http://kriscartwright.smugmug.com)

## Corona, Marcos see potential for another winning season

The Aztecs, with two senior stand-out returning starters plus overall speed and athleticism, are eager to get the season underway that could ultimately lead to another run at a state championship title.

"We are excited for this year," said head coach Neil MacDonald. "We feel we have a strong team and a challenging schedule that should be a lot of fun."

The Aztecs, with their two highly recruited guards, are predicted to lead the way in Arizona boys basketball, according to MaxPreps.com after Corona seniors **Alex Barcello** and **Saben Lee** were named to the MaxPreps 2016-17 Arizona preseason high school boys basketball Fab 5, presented by the Army National Guard on Nov. 7.

Barcello, who helped Corona win two state championships in his freshman and sophomore years, had a terrific summer season, culminating with the signing last month of his letter of intent to play basketball at the University of Arizona.

Lee, who also had a great off season playing club ball, is touted as one of the best guards in the state. He has signed to play at Vanderbilt next fall.

"We expect that Alex and Saben will both continue to excel and will have standout senior seasons this year," said MacDonald.

Corona returned five additional players from last year's 15-9 team including **Josh Onwordi**, **Jordan Guy**, **Eric**

**Ozawa**, **Shane Grier** and **Ty Stolworthy**.

"We expect Shane Grier to emerge as a threat this year," said MacDonald. "In addition, Jordan Guy had an outstanding summer so we are looking for good things from him as well during the regular season."

The Aztecs added two promising freshmen to the varsity team who are expected to see playing time right away.

"**Dalen Terry** and **Erick Blackwell** have been pleasant surprises," said MacDonald. "Both are expected to contribute right away to our team's overall success this year."

Additional members of Corona's varsity team expected to contribute on and off the court are **Seun Talabi**, **Seth McCollum**, **Raymond Dawson**, **Diego Diaz-Colwell**, **Melek Alexander** and **Shelan Yarde**.

The Aztecs started their season with an 81-65 win over Copper Canyon on Nov. 21. They were scheduled to play Mesa Mountain View at home on Nov. 29 and at North Dec. 1.

The rest of their schedule, until they break for semester exams, includes a game at home against Cesar Chavez on Dec. 8 before playing two games in the HoopHall West tournament—first against Moreau Catholic from Hayward, Calif., on Dec. 9 and then Christ the King from Middle Village, N.Y., on Dec. 10.

The Aztecs' last game before exams will be at Highland on Dec. 12.

During the semester break, Corona is scheduled to play in the Iolani Classic in Hawaii Dec. 16-21.

After returning from Hawaii, the Aztecs will play in the Visit Mesa.com tournament starting Dec. 27.

### Marcos de Niza Boys Basketball

The Padres started their season winning four out of the first five games while playing in the 24th Salpointe Tipoff Classic during Thanksgiving week.

Marcos defeated Desert Mountain 64-59 in the first round on Nov. 21 when they came started the game on fire outscoring the Wolves by 11 points in the first half.

The Wolves came out after halftime more focused, with a comeback third quarter where they outscored Marcos 22 to 9 and started the fourth quarter with a one-point lead. Marcos came back to life in the fourth quarter to win by five.

**Mason Stark** led the team with 23 points, six rebounds, five steals, and four assists, while fellow senior **Tyson Union** put in 13 points, hitting three out of his four three-point attempts or shooting 75%.

The Padres lost to Central 52-62 on Nov. 22 but

bounced back to defeat Sierra Linda 53-47 on Nov. 23 where Stark had a team-high 18 points with nine rebounds. The second leading scorer was senior **Zurell Livingston** with 13 points and **DaShawn Ray** had 11 points and seven rebounds.

On Nov. 25, the Padres defeated Nogales in a back and forth high-scoring game, 74-65. Stark put in 30 points including an amazing seven out of 10 treys.

Ray scored 19 points with eight rebounds while Livingston put up 17 points. **Jamari Robinson** led the team with five assists and went two for two or shot 100% of his treys.

Marcos played a highly favored Sunnyside team Nov. 26, defeating the Blue Devils 94-84. The game was tied at 23 at the end of the first quarter but the Padres were able to pull ahead by eight points to go into the locker room at halftime up 47-39.

Marcos scored one more point than Sunnyside in each of the last two quarters to defeat the Blue Devils by 10 points.

Stark scored more than a third of the team's total points with 34 while Ray had 24 and three blocked shots. Livingston scored 18 points and junior **Sunny Ozuna** put in 10 points including two three-pointers.

Other members of the Padres basketball team contributing to the team's success on and off the court include **Aaron Childers, Orion Bryant, Gaige Hale, Jalen Porter** and **Lavonne Brunson**.

The Padres were scheduled to play at home against Bradshaw Mountain on Nov. 29, against Combs on Dec. 1 and against Cortez on Dec. 2.

The next week Marcos has two away games: Dec. 6 at Buckeye and Dec. 8 at top-ranked Shadow Mountain. The last game scheduled before semester exams is at Cactus Shadows Dec. 13.

## Corona Girls Soccer

The Aztecs, with 17 returning players, nine of them starters with five of those already signed or committed to play at the next level, longtime head coach **Matt Smith**, is looking forward to a great season.

"We have the potential to be among the top teams in the state this season," said Smith. "We have the experience and the ability to possess and attack."

The nine starters—**Olivia Nguyen, Liz Velasquez, Skylar Byrnes, Abby Robertson, Brooklynn Marois, Nikki Hoey, Emily Ramsland, Laney Gordon** and **Jordan Freese**—have experience.

Nguyen, committed to ASU, and Byrnes, committed to Fort Lewis College, will be counted on to attack the goal.

"Olivia Ngyuen, a junior this year, has led us in scoring the past two years," said Smith. "I expect her to continue doing the same this season."

"I am expecting two other juniors to have an impact this year on our ability to possess and attack," said Smith. "Skylar Byrnes will score goals for us while Abby Robertson will dominate as our central midfielder."

The Aztecs have a strong contingent of defensive players as well including seniors Hoey, committed to Western Oregon University and Marois and Freese, both signing letters of intent to Chandler Gilbert Community College.

"Team captain Nikki Hoey is one of the best defensive players in the state," said Smith.

"Brooklyn Marois, another team captain, is a dominate defensive midfielder while Freese, team captain, as well, will have an impact in her third year as our starting goal keeper."

Corona's girls soccer program has always had strong leadership and player development over the years and this season will be no exception.

In addition to the players already mentioned, Smith is expecting captains Siena Firestone and Laney Gordon to

provide leadership on and off the field.

What the Aztecs need to work on early this season is player development of the non-starters.

"We need to develop our depth early in the season," said Smith "We currently lack experience off the bench for substitutions."

It's too early to have totally evaluated the players new to the varsity team but one player has stood out as far as improvement in the off season to Smith.

"**Riye Torrance**, only a sophomore, has become a strong creative player for us," said Smith.

Other members on the team include **Maya Benedict, Annalise Montoya, Karyme Perea, Alyssa Baca, Catherine Ramirez, Serina Orona, Juliana Lay, Lauren Lambert, Emily Ramsland, Yazmine Munoz, Reagan Deimer, Samantha Scheurer, Grace Rayburn, Amber Sammon, Ally Sharp, CeCi Gradley** and **Jenessa Lewis**.

The Aztecs are scheduled to play Nov. 29 at Hamilton and Dec. 1 at O'Connor. Corona will then play in the Camp Verde Tournament starting Dec. 3 and the Horizon Tournament of Champs starting Dec. 5.

## Corona Boys Soccer

The Aztecs will be traveling to Sam Clemente, Calif., to participate in the 2016 Western Lotto Showcase Tournament Dec. 8-10. Other teams from Arizona include Hamilton and Brophy.

This tournament is by invitation only and one of the toughest high school soccer tournaments in the United States, according to Sheldon Shealer from TopDrawerSoccer.com.

Teams from as far away as Florida plus several California teams will be competing.

Corona will also be hosting Mater Dei High School from California on their home field Dec. 16 starting at 4 p.m.



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*Commentary*

**Tempe: All the right moves**

By Mark Mitchell

**R**ecently, we heard the exciting news that ADP, a national business solutions company, would be expanding to Tempe – bringing more than 1,500 high-wage jobs to our city.

Carvana, an innovative car sales company, also recently moved its headquarters to the Tempe, joining DriveTime at the Liberty Center.

Business moves like these show that we're doing it right in Tempe.

These companies want to be a part of our growing transportation network, our great diversity and deep culture of inclusiveness, not to mention our vibrant urban environment.

Our local businesses are also thriving and they are part of what makes Tempe special. Just a few weeks ago I joined the Vasquez family to celebrate their 30-year anniversary of Someburros, a true Tempe institution. We also welcomed a new Perfect Pear Bistro to Tempe.

Tempe business isn't the only thing that's flourishing. Just recently, Tempe hosted the annual Iron Man competition – bringing thousands of visitors to our city.

And we have so much to look forward to as we enter the Holiday Season – including the Fall Festival of the arts Dec. 2-4.

It's been a great month in Tempe and there is so much to look forward to in the coming weeks. Please contact me with questions or ideas at [mark\\_mitchell@tempe.gov](mailto:mark_mitchell@tempe.gov) or 480-350-8793.

Whether you're traveling far or staying close to home I hope you have a happy and safe holiday!

*Mark Mitchell is Tempe's mayor.*



Hi, I'm Tippy! I found myself at Lost Our Home Pet Rescue when my parent sadly passed away. I may seem a little shy at first, but please understand that I'm just not so sure about what's going on in my life right now.

I'm very gentle and sweet and I would love nothing more than a wonderful home with people who will love me forever. Please stop in a meet me today, you might just be my chance at a forever family. If you have any questions about Tippy call Lost Our Home Pet Rescue (602) 445-7387 or visit [www.LostOurHome.org](http://www.LostOurHome.org)



## Tempe launches two parts of Equal Pay initiative

**B**eginning Dec. 7, the City of Tempe will launch workshops aimed at helping women negotiate salaries that reflect the true value of their experience, skills and education.

And it will host a Jan. 24 focus group for businesses to explore a voluntary designation to highlight their commitment to equal pay. The two offerings are part of an overall Equal Pay initiative that the City Council in April asked to be developed by the city's Office of Strategic Management and Diversity.

**Training workshops** — The free negotiation training classes are open to anyone who lives, works or studies in Tempe.

The city has partnered with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) to offer the workshops, which are designed to help community members build confidence and skills around salary negotiation, market worth, tools of persuasion and business strategies. The goal is to train at least 8,000 women in five years. Each class features the same information and all will take place in the Business Resource and Innovation Center (BRiC), inside the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

The planned classes are:

- Wednesday, Dec. 7, 6-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 24, 6-8 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 4, 10 a.m. to noon
- Tuesday, March 21, 6-8 p.m.
- Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m. to noon
- Tuesday, May 6, 6-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 30, 6-8 p.m.

### Recycle your holiday tree this year

Give your holiday tree the gift of new life this year while keeping it out of the landfill!

**T**he city offers two locations where trees can be dropped off for free 24 hours a day, seven days a week through Jan. 30:

- Household Products Collection Center, 1320 E. University Drive

- Kiwanis Park Recreation Center, 6111 W. All-America Way (parking lot on west side)

Before dropping off any Christmas trees, please remove tree stands and nails, ornaments,

lights, garland and tinsel. The trees will be chipped and recycled into compost that will be returned to Tempe parks and gardens. For more information, call 480-350-4311, or visit [www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash](http://www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash).



Registration for each class is required. Visit [www.tempe.gov/equalpay](http://www.tempe.gov/equalpay) or call 480-350-5312.

**Business designation pilot program** — The City of Tempe is looking for local businesses to participate in the creation of a process

that will certify equal pay champions in the community. The test group of 20 businesses of all sizes will be asked to help devise a self-assessment tool that could lead each qualified employer to be showcased as an "Equal Pay Business Partner."

The designation will be voluntary.

Each recognized business would be listed on the city's website and would be provided with a window decal to promote its participation in the program and its commitment to equal pay. The full Council will evaluate the results of the test group before finalizing the process. The city will conduct more research and gather more input from businesses to explore other paths toward achieving equal pay partner designation.

Interested businesses are invited to participate in a focus group on Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 9:30 a.m. to noon, at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

Attendees will be asked to advise on the self-assessment tool, evaluate the ease of use of the online submittal form and provide additional ideas or recommendations.

To participate in the focus group, call Ginny Belousek at 480-350-8979 or email [ginny\\_belousek@tempe.gov](mailto:ginny_belousek@tempe.gov).

## How the Equal Pay initiative came to be

**E**ven though the federal Equal Pay Act became law in 1963, women continue to experience wage disparities nationally.

Vice Mayor Robin Arredondo-Savage and Councilmembers Lauren Kuby and David Schapira led a City Council working group that had been exploring the issue since February 2015.

The working group took substantial time to verify that the city's own standing as an employer committed to equal pay was solid.

It then worked to create a city program that would implement four pillars of pay equity simultaneously: policy; business designation; education and outreach; and training.

Tempe's 2014 Anti-Discrimination Ordinance, which was ratified by voters and made part of the City Charter, serves as the guide for complaints in the community of alleged pay discrimination on the basis of gender.

The ordinance prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, familial status, age, disability and United States military veteran status.

Protections apply to the areas of: employment at the City of Tempe and businesses in Tempe; contracts; housing; public places; and appointments to city Boards and Commissions.

For more details about the city's equal pay initiative, visit [www.tempe.gov/equalpay](http://www.tempe.gov/equalpay) or call 480-350-8979.

For more information about Tempe's commitment to inclusion and diversity, visit [www.tempe.gov/diversity](http://www.tempe.gov/diversity).

## Popular new Memory Café changes dates and location

**T**he new Dementia Friendly Tempe Memory Café program has been popular with individuals and caregivers affected by Alzheimer's and dementia.

Memory Café is now moving to a new day and time and into a bigger space in the library.

Instead of Wednesdays, it will now be hosted each Monday from 9:30 a.m. to noon in the lower level of the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

Simply take the elevator or stairs and signs in the lower level will guide you to the new room. For more details, call 480-350-8534 or visit [www.tempe.gov/dft](http://www.tempe.gov/dft).

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**Painting** — Village Painting – Interior/Exterior painting, drywall repair with texture matching, custom faux finishes, and cabinets. Small jobs also welcome. (ROC#069679) CALL (480) 814-1588.

**Painting** — Burden Painting Inc. Interior and exterior painting, power washing, drywall repair, wallpaper removal, texturing, and epoxy garage floor coatings. Free estimates, multiple room discount. Call Darrell Burden at 480-892-1190, or [www.burdenpainting.com](http://www.burdenpainting.com).

**Plumbing** — City-wide Plumbing & Service Co. Slab leak repairs, electronic leak detection, water heaters, RO systems & water softeners. Free estimates. 480-966-8795. [www.citywideplumbing.us](http://www.citywideplumbing.us). Contractor's lic. #C-37 064 954 & L-37 086 764.

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**Remodeling** — JAK Construction Inc. – Specializing in all phases of construction. Rain gutters, Downspouts, Aluminum and Vinyl siding, AZ rooms, replacement windows & doors, overhang trims/eaves. We love small jobs! Call (480) 820-8711. Licensed, bonded and insured. ROC # 112275.

**Remodeling** — English Building Company, LLC, General Contractor, Your Neighborhood Contractor, Remodeling, Additions, Kitchens, Bathrooms, See Project Pictures and Customer references online at [www.englishbuilding.net](http://www.englishbuilding.net), Tempe Native, Licensed, Bonded, Insured ROC 189470 Call today for a free estimate 480-603-8813

**Remodeling** — Custom Remodeling Specialist. Whole house remodels, kitchens, baths, bedrooms, counters & cabinets, tile & carpet, garages, offices, patios, room additions and much more. John C. Erickson – owner. Over 20 years experience. Licensed (/ROC#171687), bonded & insured. JCE Company, LLC. 480-200-9037.

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**Roofing**— 20 years in Tempe fixing roofs, new trim , sheathing ,drywall , stucco , paint. One crew does it all. Lic Bond Ins. Text , e mail or call 480 215 3373 rchildcustomcarpentry@cox.net.

**Roofing** — Shamrock Roofing Services. Specializing in residential reroofing and repair. Shingles, tile, shakes, foam and flat roofs. 24 years experience. shamrockroofing@live.com. #ROC244568 C-42 Bonded and Insured. 480-888-6648.

**Roofing** — Roofing specialist, 30 years experience, shingles, tile, shakes, flat roofs, leak repair and wood replacement. Free estimates. No Job too small. Licensed exempt, References available. Call Chuck 480-251-7886. 1/17

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Women in Business in November featured a power panel with Julia Peixoto Peters, from Peixoto Coffee, Lisa Cvijanovich, from Porsche Chandler & Subaru Superstore of Chandler, Molly Bell from PayPal and Chandler Downtown Redevelopment Manager, Kim Moyers



The October Public Policy Series featured Dr. Craig Gilbert, Asst. Superintendent from CUSD, Dr. Jan Vesely, Superintendent at Kyrene Unified School District and Diane Douglas, State Superintendent of Public Education. Terri Kimble, President/CEO Chandler Chamber

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## Chandler Chamber—Your Chandler Business Connection

With over 1,400 stakeholder business members representing over 170,000 employees, we are proud to offer our member community over 300 events, seminars, forums to festivals to expand their business horizons and grow their companies. Join us to improve the economic, civic and cultural fortitude of the region. Register for events at [chandlerchamber.com](http://chandlerchamber.com).



The Google Self Driving Car made an appearance at the Chandler 100 event held at Quantum Helicopters where the Chamber honored Chandler's Top 100 Businesses



## SAVE THE DATE

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### Breakfast

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- Unveiling of the Chandler Chamber "How We Stand" booklet depicting our legislative agendas and priorities

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Above: Over 300 business, government and local leaders attended the Chandler 100. Below: The annual Chandler Fashion Center Mall Crawl hosted Business After Business in October



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