

Wrangler NEWS

Think Local. Read Local.

Dec. 19, 2015 - Jan. 8, 2016 • Volume 27, No. 1



Marcos de Niza Padres will face Chandler Dec. 26 in a Holiday Shootout, Pg. 15



Smiles were everywhere when 1,000+ kids showed up for a holiday extravaganza, Pg. 19

Inside



Tasty last-minute treats for any party or gift from Great Harvest Bread & Bakery Details, Page 7

A holiday season warmed with the joy of acceptance

A THEME OF AWARENESS and acceptance among all people became the centerpiece of a multi-generational gathering hosted by the Sol Buddies Club at Corona del Sol High School. Sol Buddies was established to promote closer relationships among those with special needs. A Winter Formal at the home of Traci Estenson was just such an occasion. Attending were members of the Buddies group, along with residents from nearby Sunrise Assisted Living Center, a provider of services and care to senior citizens.

Wrangler News photo by Alex J. Walker

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'We the People': Winners all



Members of Corona's 'We The People' team celebrated their district championship win.

By Jonathan Coronel

Most people know Corona del Sol High School for its dominant boys basketball team. Winning a state championship the past four years in a row can do that.

Amazingly though, many don't realize there's another dynasty at Corona—maybe an even more successful one.

With a fraction of the fanfare that other teams get, the Competition Government team has now won the state championship six of the last seven years, most recently including its district tournament, beating out teams such as Marcos de Niza and Desert Vista.

"Well, we don't get thousands of people watching us obviously, but we've had a powerhouse team of our own for awhile now," Senior James Torla tells me in his rapid, precise way of speaking.

Torla is a member of Corona's Competition Government or "We the People" team that competes with other schools through hearings on political issues ranging from British Parliament to the War Powers Act.

Each school breaks its team into six groups, each devoted to formulating a four-minute opening statement on their question, followed by six minutes of rigorous questioning by judges.

Students spend the first quarter of the school year studying the Constitution and government in general, reading heavily from their "We the People" textbook, or as Jenny Rice calls it, "The Comp Gov Bible."

Torla, for his part, is known for being a quick thinker, and as such is his team's "front man" or lead speaker.

"It's my job to basically start talking right away once that first question is asked so that I can buy time for

my teammates to come up with their answers. I like the challenge of trying to connect all the information we've learned into an answer that makes sense and flows well."

Other students, like Messar Rox, found the camaraderie among the team to be the most enjoyable aspect of Competition Government.

"It's really fun just being around a lot of other young people with similar interests and passions, and just growing closer with them throughout the year has been really great."

When talking to these students, it's easy to forget they're still just high school kids; their teacher and coach, Allison Rund, treats them more like college students.

"After we teach them the basics and really study the 'We the People' book in the first quarter, we really just turn them loose and leave it up to them to prepare and do their research."

This level of autonomy has been typical over the years for Corona's team, and it has worked exceptionally well.

"There's definitely a degree of pressure, with six of the last seven teams winning state...other teams definitely are gunning for us," Torla says with a somewhat bashful smile.

Coach Rund, herself a Corona alumnus and member of the Comp Gov team in 2007, acknowledges this.

"Yes, there's pressure, but I think it's good pressure and they enjoy it."

Amid the smiling and talkative groups preparing and researching for their speeches, this much is evident.

With goals of winning state and going to Washington for Nationals in mind, this Corona team doesn't plan on letting that pressure get to them anytime soon.



Jonathan Coronel

Tempe firefighters to get crime-scene protective gear

Tempe is investing in training and equipment to enable the city's Fire Medical Rescue personnel to provide responses that can be coordinated with police units being dispatched to the same active crime scenes.

The new procedures are designed to bring Tempe in line with efforts across the U.S. to ensure organized, cohesive readiness in urgent-response situations, say officials.

Throughout 2015, Tempe firefighters have trained in partnership with Tempe police while wearing new, specialized protective gear, including body armor and reinforced helmets.

Historically, firefighters would wait at safe distances from active crime scenes until police personnel communicated that it was safe to enter and assist victims, according to Tempe Fire Assistant Chief Paul Nies.

Today, a new approach is being advocated and used nationally; it involves firefighters taking more active roles by wearing protective gear and

entering active crime scenes in order to treat and evacuate victims.

This allows police officers to focus on containing or neutralizing threatening individuals, said Nies.

Tempe's training is modeled after best practices advocated by the International Association of Firefighters, the International Association of Fire Chiefs and U.S. Fire Administration.

"This special training and equipment makes it possible for our professionals to more safely put themselves in the middle of the worst possible scenes, increasing the chances that we will be able to rescue innocent victims," said Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Chief Greg Ruiz.

Tempe's program builds on its existing Medical Services Unit, which allows firefighters to receive advanced training to operate as medical support for Tempe Police SWAT officers.

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Love keeps Zoppé Italian family circus returning to Chandler

With accordion players making music in the background, Giovanni Zoppé will introduce his large and eclectic family to the masses just outside the big top located on the west lawn behind Chandler Center for the Arts during the holidays.

It's a tradition that started more than 170 years ago when the Italian family entered the circus business in 1842.

The crowd-pleasing, jaw-dropping Zoppé Italian Family Circus returns on Tuesday, Dec. 22, to launch its seventh year of performances at Chandler Center.

Performing in the Italian tradition, the unique one-ring circus tells a story in which the individual acts participate.

Departing from the typical acts seen at most mainstream American circus productions, Zoppé's old-world charm goes beyond clown cars and elephants with handmade costumes, original stunts and even dancing dogs.

Zoppé Family Circus emerged more than 160 years ago with a theme similar to Romeo and Juliet—the great love story that led to the birth of one of the most legendary circuses in all of Europe.

Today, seven generations later, the Zoppé circus lives on, spanning the globe carrying its romantic history with one consistent theme—family—while creating a captivating, thrilling world far from today's digital age inside their 500-seat tent.

"The circus is about family and tradition," Zoppé says. "Without that, you don't have circus."

The story begins in 1842 when a young French



street performer, Napoline Zoppé, wandered into a plaza in Budapest, Hungary, where a young equestrian ballerina named Ermenegilda was performing. In that moment, while capturing the attention of the crowd, Napoline's heart was captured by her beauty.

However, since Napoline was a clown, Ermenegilda's father saw him as beneath her and disapproved of their relationship. The two ran away to Venice, Italy, in search of a future together and founded the circus that still bears their name.

Alberto Zoppé, Napoline's great-grandson,

inherited the circus almost 100 years later when he was offered a job by John Ringling North of Ringling Brothers fame. North was putting together the circus acts for Cecil B. DeMille's Oscar-winning film, *The Greatest Show on Earth*.

Alberto would remain in America, producing circuses for Ringling and starting his own family. Alberto's children, Giovanni, Tosca and Carla, along with their spouses, have been active at one time or another in the family business.

Giovanni revived the Zoppé Family Circus in America eight years ago, and has since been building its reputation with audiences and critics as an enchanting exhibition of traditional European circus.

But with tradition and family, how does the circus remain fresh?

"The show changes every year," explains Zoppé. "So no worries if you saw last year's Chandler gig."

Highlights of this year's show include several performances by guest artists which feature two new acts. The world-famous Black Bear Group will interpret one of China's oldest art forms with dazzling acrobatic displays. Jose and Elizabeth Ayala from Mexico will bring Rolla Bolla performances and gravity-defying hair hanging.

The Zoppé Family Circus, presented by Steena Murray, runs Dec. 22 through Jan. 3. Tickets range from \$15-\$40 and show times vary.

Visit chandlercenter.org or call 480-782-2680.

— Tobin Ernst

An Italian Family Circus since 1842
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TIMBER!
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BLACK VIOLIN

Moscow Festival Ballet
Don Quixote

December 2015	
22-31 Zoppé-An Italian Family Circus	Times Vary
January 2016	
1-3 Zoppé-An Italian Family Circus	Times Vary
15 Black Violin	7:30pm
17 TIMBER! A Production of Cirque Alfonse!	7pm
23 Deana Martin Honoring Dean Martin & Frank Sinatra	7:30pm
29 Moscow Festival Ballet presents Don Quixote	7:30pm
30 Fiesta Mexico-Americana with Los Lobos	7:30pm
February 2016	
6 The Wellington International Ukulele Orchestra.	7:30pm
12 Tap Factory.	7:30pm
14 The Summit <i>The Manhattan Transfer meets Take 6</i>	7pm
20 Frankie Avalon	7:30pm
21 Lee Ann Womack.	7pm
27 Steppin' Out LIVE with Ben Vereen & Trio	7:30pm
March 2016	
4 The Second City Fully Loaded	7:30pm
5 Vicki Lawrence & Mama: <i>A Two Woman Show</i>	7:30pm
8-13 Tony n' Tina's Wedding	Times Vary
18 Rita Rudner	7:30pm
25 Flamenco Kings starring Los Vivancos.	7:30pm
April 2016	
1 The von Trapps	7:30pm

Kyrene budgets partially restored

By Diana Whittle

Governing Board members have agreed to provide some financial relief to budget-squeezed Kyrene schools with the restoration of \$300,000, which should be available in January.

Each of the 25 district schools would receive the returned funds based on a percentage of the money that was actually cut during this fiscal year.

"We will begin the calculations now and be ready to distribute the money in the early new year," said Jeremy Calles, chief financial officer for the district.

Calles explained that the money is available due to a growth payment of over \$300,000 from the state.

"The state recalculates the average daily membership (ADM) for schools on a regular basis, and the last growth payment wasn't factored into our original budget," said Calles.

"Because we know that our schools are hurting due to budget cuts, we decided our first priority was to distribute the money to them."

He says he has heard from a few principals that the portions of the budget hardest hit involved supplies and money for substitute teachers.

While the schools will be given some discretion as to how to put the funds to use, the district's preference would be that the returned money be allocated to the maintenance and operations, capital or sub budgets.

"There is a balance between ensuring that every school honors what we value as a district and providing the flexibility for each school to meet the specific needs of their community," said Calles.

"We are still working on finding that balance."

As for Kyrene standards, Calles is clear that each school will still offer families and students the values that they have come to know and expect.

"We want our schools to be successful and for site staff to have input on budget, but we will continue to maintain our standards of limited class size and offering special electives such as PE and music."

Some schools may choose to offer other kinds of electives, such as theater or coding.

"As we move through our budget planning cycle for the next fiscal year, we hope to adhere to our goals and also return to a full-budget allocation for each of our schools," said Calles.

But, that decision will hinge on the outcome of the May election, which could have a major impact on budget plans.

This will include a vote on the settlement between the state and school districts. The financial lawsuit with the state argues the amount of the award due to school districts, when it was ruled by the Arizona Supreme Court that the state failed to deliver adequate funds to schools since fiscal 2009.

Calles is currently the president of the Arizona Association of School Business Officials, and in this role he closely monitors decisions by the state



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How to be ready in case of a disaster

Editor's note: With threats to public safety being on the minds of many, here's a list of suggestions from the cities of Tempe and Chandler that you'll want to clip and follow.

In the event of a natural or man-made emergency, Tempe officials will attempt to contact you through a reverse 9-1-1 system.

Also:

- Keep a three-day disaster supply kit with essential non-perishable food, water (one gallon per person, per day), first-aid supplies, battery powered or hand crank radio, flashlight, manual can opener, plastic and duct tape, filter masks, tools, emergency supplies, clothing and bedding.

- Don't forget to grab medication and important documents once a disaster or emergency strikes.

- This kit should be kept in a designated place and be ready to "grab and go" in case you have to leave your home quickly.

- Make sure all household members know where the kit is kept.

- Keep items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire disaster supply kit in one or two easy-to-carry containers such as an unused small trash can, camping

backpack or duffel bag.

- Have additional supplies for shelter or home confinement for up to two weeks.

- You should also keep a disaster supply kit where you work.

- A kit of emergency supplies (including food, water, flares and jumper cables) should be kept in your car.

- Remember to change stored water and non-perishable food supplies every six months.

- Develop a family communications plan. If you aren't together when a disaster or emergency happens, determine how you would get in touch or where you would meet.

- Create a plan to get away. Choose several locations where you and your family might go in the event of an evacuation.

From the city of Chandler

The city of Chandler will make every attempt to adequately inform citizens in the event of an emergency situation.

If there is an emergency event, the city's Web site, Chandler Channel 11, and Public Safety TV 98 will be updated with specific information in the event of a real emergency or disaster situation.

If there is an emergency event and you would like more information, call the Chandler Emergency Center Hotline, 480-782-2990.

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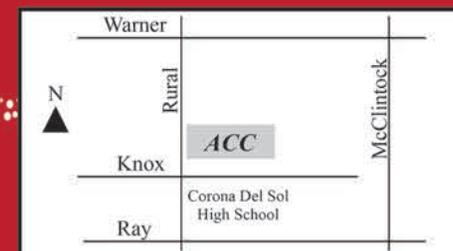
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Sports

By Alex Zener



Marcos de Niza's Zurell Livingston makes a shot during Padres' game against Desert Ridge in Tempe on Dec. 11. Padres defeated the Jaguars 61 to 56. Details, Page 15.

— Wrangler News photo by Ana Ramirez. More photos can be found online at wranglernews.com.

Speed, consistency boost Aztecs' advantage

A great deal of speculation before the season started, for the four-time defending D1 state champions Corona del Sol Aztecs, centered around the resignation of former head coach **Sam Duane Jr.** and the departure of 6-11 sophomore **Marvin Bagley III**, last year's azcentral.com sports Player of the Year.

Losing their first game, a three-point loss, 65-62, to Mesa Dec. 1—which broke the Aztecs' 69-game winning streak against Arizona opponents and a 20-game 2014-15 winning streak culminating in Corona's fourth DI championship—furthered the speculation that maybe Corona would not be able to continue the same level of success as it has seen during the past four seasons.

Fast forward to the Aztecs' game against Las Vegas' No. 18 nationally ranked Bishop Gorman



Alex Zener

on Dec. 12. Corona's three outstanding guards, **Alex Barcello**, **Tyrell Henderson** and **Saben Lee**, with a bounty of role players including **Nate Marshall**, **Jake Burroughs**, **Shane Grier** and **Jeff McCain**, shocked the Gaels, 76-74.

The Aztecs, behind by as much as 15 points at 37-52 in the third quarter, never gave up tying the game twice in the fourth quarter, 61-61 and 74-74.

Corona did not lead until Henderson made a game-winning layup with one second left on the clock. He ended the game with 15 points.

This come-from-behind victory had everything, including technical fouls, fast-break transition baskets, break-away slam dunks, momentum-changing three-pointers and total team effort on both defense and offense.

Bishop Gorman was called for two technical fouls in the first half that Barcello went 4-4 from the free-throw line to score four of his 17 total points.

The team used its speed to get out in transition and give the Aztecs an advantage over the taller Bishop Gorman players.

"Speed and quickness and our ability to defend consistently is our strength as a team," said head coach **Neil MacDonald**.

Lee, with his quickness and escalating basketball

New coach spurs culture change for lacrosse

By Kody Acevedo

It's starting to become as mainstream as football or basketball, but there is still a lot of work to be done for the leaders of the Aztec lacrosse program at Corona del Sol to reach that point.

While schools such as Hamilton, Gilbert and Desert Vista have established lacrosse programs, Corona is looking to become a contender as they attempt to develop a program that starts years before the high school level.

Established in 2003, the Aztec lacrosse program is a club sport on the Corona campus.

But this season, first-year head coach and program director Remo Montalbano is looking to change things up and bring in more kids to the program than ever before.

"It's fairly simple; we want to make it really fun and keep it really basic," Montalbano said. "We are working really hard to change the culture."

Montalbano enters his first year as a head coach and his first year at the high school level.

A former college player, he was a three-year captain and a four-year starter for Dominican College in New York, where he scored over 100 collegiate points.

He went on to graduate school at Grand Canyon University where he served as an assistant coach for four years. He said he made the move to the high school level earlier in the fall because he felt he was ready to be a head coach.

"It was also an awesome opportunity that popped up," Montalbano said.

"The timing was really, really awesome."

Montalbano spent the first four months of the fall season observing the talent he had on his team to determine what they need to work on when the spring

season gets underway in January.

"Our first goal was to teach practical, mental and live skills, but we also wanted to create a practice environment that was challenging, motivating and rewarding," Montalbano said.

He stressed the idea of simply having fun. He also hopes to teach his players more than just the sport itself.

"We are really focused on the development of the players," he said. "We want them to be problem solvers and learn lessons that will stay with them for the rest of their lives."

To accomplish that feat, Montalbano, along with booster club president Lu Ann Bussler, set out on a mission this year to strengthen their youth programs that will eventually feed into the high school level.

For the time being, all players from K-12 will play under the Aztec name, but the challenge has been trying to fill all the roster spots needed to make the program complete.

"We've been reaching out to school districts in the area for help," Bussler said.

"If we can get into the middle and elementary school level, that would be ideal."

Their plan seems to have worked. They received help from the Kyrene School District and had a fall ball team full of middle school kids this year. Bussler said they expect to expand the middle school team in the years to come.

Their work has not only caught the attention of the local school districts, but also those at the college level.

Bussler said the Arizona State University Lacrosse board provided their program with equipment and sent some of their players to visit and coach the high school kids.

Their partner, Corona del Sol, has also been their biggest supporter.

"We get to play home games at the school's stadium," Bussler said. "The school and the parents are very critical to the success of this club."

Just as the kids play for their love of the game, the parents, too, give time and effort for the love of their kids. Bussler's son, Trey, is a sophomore at Corona and has played since he was in fourth grade.

"One of the reasons I got involved was to make sure he has a team to play on," Bussler said.

"It's tough. I spend all of my free time on lacrosse, but it is worth it. There is a pretty passionate group of parents and booster club members who would do anything to help."

Between Bussler and Montalbano, the program seems to have a solid foundation in this revamped era of the club sport. The two leaders are constantly trying to come up with new ways to spread the word about lacrosse.

They'll have another crack at it this weekend when they host a free camp for all ages K-12 at Tempe Sports Complex Saturday afternoon.

"We'll work on skills and play mini games," Montalbano said. "It's a slow and steady climb, but the idea is to try and get new players interested in the sport."

"It's all about the expose," Bussler said. "Our main goal is to make it sustainable for players and parents for years to come."

That's what it'll take to make Lacrosse a mainstream sport in America. It's catching on, but only through the hard work in our local communities. We have a good example of this here in Tempe.

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Words and pictures: A treasure on paper, even in today's electronic world

Commentary

Around the world, social media commands a huge segment of our collective mindset—to the point, in fact, where many seem to feel that words on paper ultimately may be no more. I'm willing to admit that that expectation someday might become reality.

But the more I see how electronic communication is going through its own success-and-failure march to try to capture dominance, the more I notice how our print media not only is holding its own but gaining renewed recognition that words on paper definitely have not lost their appeal.

While it's obvious that email, Twitter and the seemingly never-ending array of other social-media start-ups have made their mark, and will continue to do so, there seems to be renewed strength among small, niche publications, like ours, that continue to demonstrate the inescapable truth that many still are drawn to actually reading a newspaper.

The more people I talk to the more I hear gripes about the proliferation of digitized communication that, frankly, many of us have grown to simply ignore.

A number of the organizations with which we hold longtime relationships have, over the last few years, jumped on the email bandwagon. Although I'd be the first to admit I didn't always rush to open every printed piece that arrived via our postal carrier (memories come to mind of Steve Martin's line, "The

phone books are here, the phone books are here!" in that hilarious film "The Jerk" of the late 1970s), I know those newsletters and other print pieces at least had a better shelf life when my first reaction wasn't to press delete on my keyboard.

Someone came into our office the other day and casually began thumbing through a few of the bound volumes we have of early 1990s Wrangler News—Warner Wrangler as it was known in those days, and, by many, still is.

Watching the reaction as that person marveled over those slightly worn copies, wondering out loud what the sequel to some of those stories might be today, reminiscing about the events of two decades ago—actually holding in their hands an anthology of our community's history—well, it was a happily eye-opening experience.

Somewhat surprisingly, Tracy Doren, our publisher, mentioned the other day that even her two youngest, a girl 14 and a boy 12, still like the feeling they get from reading in our newspaper the stories about kids they know, seeing their photos, perhaps understanding that what they're holding in their hands is not a transitory, here-today-gone-tomorrow point in time to be relevant only in the moment but a tangible, real world—feel good, if you will—experience.

I'm sure we all—at least most of us, that is—recognize the many ways in which the Digital Age

has improved our lives. But I believe there is now and likely will be in the foreseeable future a place for us to benefit from, to learn from, to support, to enjoy those magnificent words and pictures that come to us on paper. Delete button not included.

— Don Kirkland



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2 W. Chandler firms recipients of city's architectural honors

Two West Chandler businesses were among five local entities that received the Architectural Excellence Awards recently.

The city of Chandler recognized Alliance Bank, which graces Ray Road near Loop 101 and was designed by The Davis Experience.

The 25,000-square-foot building features two above-ground floors and one floor below ground, and the contemporary rooflines act as a floating element angled along the building.

Custom finishes include stone-manufactured in India, tile from Italy and handcrafted millwork.

Large sandstone tiles enhance the richness of the building's color pattern.

The other West Chandler business recognized for architectural excellence is Chandler Regional Medical Center's expansion on Frye Road.

Once a small, rural hospital, the medical center is booming.

A five-story, 128,500-square-foot addition includes a glass tower, angled wall panes and a white polycarbonate translucent wall system that lights up at nightfall.

Time again to freeze your paws for a cause

The fifth annual Polar Bear Plunge returns Saturday, Jan. 9, to The Lakes of Tempe, 5501 S. Lakeshore Drive.

"Polar Bears" will earn bragging rights by jumping into the community swimming pool for a desert-style unified polar plunge.

Those not quite crazy enough to

take the leap can still join in as Teddy Bears.

Registration and check-in begins at 8 a.m.

Polar Bears take the plunge at 9. Registration is \$20 and includes a long-sleeve t-shirt, snacks and hot beverages. Proceeds benefit

Tempe adapted-recreation programs and members of the special needs community.

Information and to register:
www.LakesPolarPlunge.com.

January baseball camp coming to Mesa Community College

Mesa Community College is hosting a four week baseball camp starting Jan. 10.

MCC head coach Tony Cirelli will direct the program in conjunction with U.S. Baseball Academy.

Classes are available for players in grades 1-12 and are limited to six players per coach.

Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching, catching, fielding and baserunning.

Space is limited.

Registration is now under way.

For more information, visit www.USBBaseballAcademy.com, or call toll-free 866-622-4487.

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Sports

From Page 10

skill development, was able to drive the basket on the Gaels' tall lineup several times, including two slam dunks that had the Bishop Gorman players, seven of them 6'5" or taller, stuck in their tracks on his way to 32 points.

"Sabén has grown a lot as a player, and we expect him to be a big part of what we do on and off the court," said MacDonald.

Marshall, who came off the bench last season, proved he could play during crunch time when he hit a big three-pointer to tie the game at 74 with a little over a minute left and add to his five-point total for the game.

It was a total team effort on defense, especially in the paint.

"Our defense, especially down low, is a team effort," said MacDonald.

"We have several players, like Jake Burroughs, Nate Marshall, Jeff McCain, and Shane Grier, who are contributing to this effort."

"Jake has worked extremely hard, as have Jeff and Nate," said MacDonald. "They have all had good stretches so far."

Grier, who moved up this year from the JV team, contributed five points to the win.

The Aztecs have seven new players out of the 13 on the roster. The only returning starters are Henderson and Barcello, but Lee played significant minutes last season until he was injured at the Hoophall Classic in Springfield, Mass., and had to sit out the rest of the season.

"Our three starting guards, Alex, Sabén and Tyrell, have all played well," said MacDonald, "but we have a lot of new faces on the court. It will take time to further develop the chemistry we need to continue to be successful as the season progresses."

New players working hard to get court time include **Jordan Bryant**, **Dalen Dorsey**, **Josh Onwordi**, **Erick Ozawa**, **Ty Stolworthy** and **Jordon Guy**.

Defeating Bishop Gorman, a private basketball school that has been a powerhouse nationally, had to have been a confidence builder for the Aztecs and should have reinforced the "never give up" attitude that past Corona teams have shown.

"The win against Bishop Gorman was a big step toward developing an identity for this year's team," said McDonald. "We are still growing, but it is a big confidence boost going forward."

At Corona, the basketball program, as when Duane was in charge,

continues with MacDonald to be about expectations, but is not dominated by winning.

"At Corona, we are looking at attitude and effort, not just points and rebounds, from all of our players," said MacDonald. "We expect all of our players, whether they start or not, to continue their progression as players and leaders."

The focus will continue to be the growth of each player and the team as a whole and to learn from each game, including losing to Mesa in that first game of the season.

"Mesa is a good team and it was a tough first game, but we can expect that every night when we take the floor," said MacDonald.

"I think we learned from that first loss that every opponent is to be respected and anyone can lose on any given night."

Corona was scheduled to play Liberty Dec. 14 at home before playing in the Hoophall West at Scottsdale Chaparral Dec. 18-19 against some challenging out-of-state teams.

On Dec. 18 they were scheduled to play St. Anthony from Jersey City, N.J. at 7 p.m. and on Dec. 19 against Seattle's Garfield at 4:30 p.m. The Aztecs are then scheduled to play Highland on Dec. 22 at Talking Stick Resort Arena at 8 p.m.

Marcos de Niza Boys Basketball

After losing the first four games of the season, possibly due the absence of three key players, the Padres have won five out of the last six games played before breaking for finals.

The team started to hit their stride after the return of guard **Mason Stark**, the leading scorer on the team at over 17 points per game, and football players **Davigughn Reagan** and **Montre Williams**.

Reagan, the leading rebounder with over eight rebounds a game, and Williams, who contributes over 10 points and two steals per game, were major players on the Padres' State Championship Runner-Up football team.

Reagan was missed not only for his rebounding ability but for his scoring, blocks and steals. Since returning he leads the team in blocks at over one a game and averages 11 points and over one steal per game.

Holding down the fort in their absence were **Cameron Stark**, **Chris Buchanon**, **Zurell Livingston**, **Tyson Union** and **Joey Villa**.

Cameron Stark, the leading three-point shooter on the team, has made an amazing 41% of his treys or 20 out of 49 attempts, and is contributing



Corona had four wrestlers selected to the All-Tournament team at the recent Duals in the Desert tournament at Chandler High School. From left: Dylan Conner, Diego Fill, Nick Ruffalo, Marc Farina.

— Photo courtesy Coach Jimmy Martinez

over eight points a game.

Buchanon, the second leading scorer on the team, averages almost 12 points a game, and, along with Mason Stark, is the assist leader with close to three a game.

Union and Livingston, both juniors, are the second and third leading three-point shooters on the team. Livingston has made 11, or 41%, of his treys, while Union, shooting 39%, had hit 13 three-point field goals.

Villa, playing in nine out of the first 10 games, contributed 30 points including eight three-pointers, making 38% of his treys and 56% of his shots overall.

Other players on the team contributing to the Padres' success include juniors **Jamari Robinson** and **Gaige Hale** and sophomores **Janathan Bolds** and **Orion Bryant**.

The Padres will play in the McClintock Holiday Shootout starting Dec. 26, with their first game of the tournament against Chandler.

Corona Wrestling

The Aztecs have a strong nucleus of 10 starting wrestlers from last season, led by returning state champion **Ryan Farina** and his brother **Marc Farina**, a fifth place finisher at state, according to coach **Jimmy Martinez**.

Returning state entrants include **Cam Upshur**, **Cole Bernstein**, **Nick Ramirez** and **Hunter Carmona**. Other varsity starters from last season are **Justin Sorenson**, **Diego Fill**, **Nick Ruffalo** and **Dylan Conner**.

"Ryan and Marc should have a shot at winning championships this year, but I expect each of the returning state entrants to improve on their performance over last year," said Martinez. "It is not unreasonable to expect 7-9 state place-winners to come

out of our returning wrestlers."

"Hunter, Diego and Cole will also be in the hunt for a top three or four finish, while Cam, Nick and Dylan will be setting their sights on standing on the medal platform this year," said Martinez.

In addition to these returning starters, Martinez has three wrestlers who should be able to contribute to the team's overall success.

"**Bradley Buchholz** has put in a lot of time this spring and summer and will have a good season," said Martinez. "Freshman **Zack Kvavle** also wrestled last spring and summer and should have a good deal of success, as should transfer **Michael Santa Cruz** who I expect to be a solid starter for us this season."

Martinez is expecting the Aztecs to be solid in the 113-pound through 145-pound weight classes and from the 170-pound to 285-pound weight classes. In the middle weight classes are new starters who will have to rapidly gain experience. Other wrestlers competing for the Aztecs include **Anthony Farina**, another one of the Farina triplets wrestling for Corona, **Tyler Black** and **Mario Reyes**.

The Aztecs went 5-1, taking second place to Cibola, at the Duals in the Desert held at Chandler High School Dec. 4-5. Four Corona wrestlers were selected to the All-Tournament Team: Marc Farina (138 lbs.); Fill (170 lbs.); Ruffalo (182 lbs.); Conner (285 lbs.).

The Aztecs are scheduled to compete Dec. 18-19 at the Moon Valley Invitational before finishing 2015 at the Blackford Duals Dec. 29-30 at Arizona State University. They will start the new year off on Jan. 6 with a dual meet at Hamilton before competing in the Mile High Challenge at Tim's Toyota Center in Prescott Jan. 8-9.



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Corona, McClintock earn semi-finalist rank among merit scholars

The road to success is paved with hard work, and 23 students from the South Tempe/West Chandler area are now being recognized for their distinguished efforts.

Sixteen students from Corona del Sol High School and seven from McClintock High School have been named semifinalists for the National Merit Scholarship. The prestigious recognition follows years of rigorous study and a commitment to academic excellence.

In order to be selected, students must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

Dr. Kenneth Baca, Tempe Union High School District superintendent, said he is proud of the students' achievements. TUHSD has more 2016 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists than any other school district in Arizona.

"Our students continue to prove they are among the best, not only in Arizona, but in the nation," Baca said.

"They've taken advantage of what Tempe Union has to offer in academics, athletics and the arts. We're proud of what they've accomplished so far and can't wait to see what they do next."

A glance at the students' high school records and the catalogue of their future dreams is impressive. Most plan to study science, aspiring to be physicians or engineers or to work in research. Some plan on attending local universities, such as Arizona State University's Barrett Honors College, while others have their hopes pinned on schools like Princeton, Yale or University of California at Berkeley.

Jason Juang of Corona, for example, wants to study biochemistry and eventually attend dental school where he hopes to specialize in endodontics/oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Roshini Kalagara and **Anuja Oke**, also of Corona, are planning on careers in research. Kalagara will study biochemistry at Northwestern, Brown or Yale and was noted as an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction.

Oke will attend either ASU or the University of Arizona where she will study material science and engineering with an eye toward working in an area of research, she says, preferably sustainability.

Julia Schroder and **Derek Shi**, both of Corona, also are shooting for ASU's Barrett Honors College. Schroder will major in journalism and global studies while Shi will study computer engineering and business management with an eye toward a future as an entrepreneur.

Over at McClintock, six of the seven scholars have plans to study science, engineering or math, with the exception of one student.

Huanvy Phan, who earned distinctions in French, debate and microbiology, hopes to study at an Ivy League school where he will focus on politics, law and philosophy, aiming for a career in government or law.

Alice Ku of McClintock named a plethora of areas she hopes to study in college. Among them are applied mathematics, biology, computer science, nutrition and studio arts. Ku aspires to one day work in computer animation with a goal of one day belonging to the team at Pixar, Disney or Marvel.

While effort in the classroom and top grades are key — **Nathan Tam** of Corona is in the top 3 percent of his class, for example, — students who become semifinalists for the National Merit Scholarship have also earned honors in other areas, too.

Megan Whittard of Corona is in Honors Choir and her classmate **Joshua Reyes** is co-captain of the cross country team and belongs to the ASMTA honor band, while **Andy Zhou** distinguished himself in swimming and diving.

Susanna D'Souza of Corona is president of the Robotics club and Water for All club. **Jane Chen** is a member of the National Art Honor Society.

At McClintock, **Bradley Bobbett** is a pianist and **Hannah Brabson** lettered in JROTC. **Bansri Doshi** was recognized for her flute-playing skills and hopes to study both music and science at Stanford with a career goal of one day teaching music and science. **Monica Welfert** lettered as a member of McClintock's varsity swim team and won a silver medal in the national French exam. **Caeli Ackles** is part of the Tempe Sister Cities program and Roger Chang belongs to the Honors A Capella choir at Corona.

All 23 TUHSD are represent the finest of high school seniors in the country, numbering among the top 0.5 percent of such students nationwide. As such, they've got stunning aspirations. **Amrita Rhoads**, a National AP Scholar from McClintock, is hoping to study at Johns Hopkins, Harvard or the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a dream of one day working in biomedical research.

Adam Huang of Corona said he wants to study biochemistry and earn a doctorate. **Varun Pattalachinti**, **Roger Chang** and **Andrew Xi**, all Corona AP Scholars, are looking at a future in engineering, though Xi said he's also considering becoming a doctor or pharmacist.

In high school sports, the push for college scholarships has driven young athletes to seek guidance from more than just their coach. So who calls the shots at game time?

Special report by Kody Acevedo

High school practice isn't enough anymore. That's what aspiring athletes are finding out these days. Young players like Jared Zarate, a junior baseball player at Corona del Sol High School, are turning to outside experts to reach their goal of obtaining athletic scholarships.

Gone are the days of the tri-sport athlete. Today it's all about specialization.

Zarate spent the last two seasons on the junior varsity squad. As a new year approaches, he is absorbing as much baseball knowledge as he can to prove he's got what it takes to make the varsity team. He currently is getting hitting lessons from two different private coaches.

He said the only way for him to reach the varsity team is to practice every single day.

"I get overwhelmed sometimes, sure," Zarate said. "If you have too many coaches, you're going to think too much, but at the end of the day you just have to do the work in the [batter's] box."

One of Zarate's private coaches is Jay Roundy, who owns, operates and coaches at Performance Plus in West Chandler. Performance Plus is an organization that helps athletes improve their sports performance physically and mentally.

Jay, along with his son Joe, trains athletes who play in a variety of sports, including baseball, softball, football, volleyball and gymnastics. Their mental strength training is led by Roundy, who played minor league baseball in the Angels organization before beginning his coaching career. He has since gone on to receive a Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology and a Doctorate with a focus on performance behavior.

Zarate went to Roundy to help improve his hitting ability.

"In this day in age, if an athlete wants to get better, they need to do more than just what their team does at school, whether it's on their own or with somebody," Roundy said. "That's just the way it is."

But with that increase in training time comes a problem many athletes, mostly baseball players, face: who do I listen to? If my high school coach says one thing, but my private coach says another, what do I do?

"It's kind of hard, but I try to take parts from every instructor I go with," Zarate said.

Lately, that hasn't panned out the way Zarate had hoped. His high school coaches began to voice their displeasure at Zarate for going against their philosophies.

"They didn't like me going to an outside instructor because I was not going the way they wanted to," Zarate said. "Their way of thinking was different from my hitting coach."

Zarate admitted he was upset because he had worked so hard and was beginning to see results.

"I think they should be into different types of thinking instead of one core way of thinking," Zarate said. "If you have everyone try a one-minded approach, some will benefit, but others will suffer because it's not for them."

Corona baseball coach Dave Webb said he and his staff have tried to do some research over the years to find private coaches that work best with the program.

"The parents usually come to me and ask who might be good to hit, pitch, or train with, so I can give them names and choices of great people," Webb said. "I do encourage it. I basically told the players that I don't have a right to tell you where to spend your money, but if you go to that pitching coach, we can't fix you when things go wrong. As a coach, that might be a problem in whether we keep a kid or not."

Webb said if he is dealing with a player changing a huge part of the teams "fundamental beliefs," he will suggest they make a change.

"I did have issues a few years back with a specific pitching guy that was teaching kids to do something drastically different from anyone else," Webb said. "If it would have worked I might have made a change in my thinking, but it took guys backwards in their progression."

But Webb said he hasn't had an issue with private coaches as of late.

"Most of the private coaches/trainers I deal with are very accommodating, understanding, and supportive."

While dealing with stubborn high school coaches isn't a major issue in the industry, Roundy said it's a problem they run into occasionally.

"When it comes to the school part, I say this: Nobody here makes out the lineup card, if you want to play, you probably ought to do what they say," Roundy said.

He admits it's frustrating at times watching athletes try to balance the different lessons and philosophies they are learning.

"A lot of high school programs have rules that say, 'My preference is you don't go anywhere for private instruction,'" Roundy said. "We are not trying to replace the coach and we're not trying to prove that we are better. Rather, we are trying to help that athlete get better as a player and also as a person."

Zarate was relieved when he explained his dilemma to Roundy, who stopped preaching his own philosophies and worked with his high school coach's teachings.

"Jay has been pretty good with it," Zarate said. "He knew how to blend the two teachings."

This growing trend seems to be a problem mostly with baseball coaches, according to Roundy. He

has never really dealt with a football or basketball coach who didn't want their players to work out independently during the off season.

Football coaches don't care how their players get bigger, faster and stronger "as long as it's legal," Roundy said.

Neil MacDonald, the first-year coach of Corona del Sol's basketball program, said he has never seen an issue with players getting private instruction.

"As a high school coach and teacher, I can only be available so much," MacDonald said. "In the off season, there are rules as to when we can actually coach our players. If a player is a basketball only athlete, then it would be natural for them to seek out more individualized coaching."

Hailey Harward echoes MacDonald's stance. The senior volleyball player at Desert Vista also trains with Roundy and recently wrapped up her final season with the Thunder as part of the back-to-back state championship team.

Harward started playing volleyball in the third grade. Since 2011, she has trained with the USA volleyball team every summer to improve her physical skills. Two years ago, she turned to Roundy to help her improve her mental strength as well.

"I wanted to learn to prepare for different situations," Harward said. "There's no other mental strength training anywhere else."

While she credits her high school coach Molly West for guiding her team to two state championships, she said there are limits to West's teaching abilities.

"She doesn't do mental training, but it's really easy to blend her lessons and Jay's," Harward said.

Harward's hard work has paid off. She signed a letter of intent to play at Long Beach State next fall.

But it's not the same story for baseball players. Roundy believes it's simply superstition that causes high school coaches to be more uptight about outside coaching.

"It's a weird situation, but if I were the coach and I knew that some of my players were going somewhere else, I would ask them, 'What are you working on?'" Roundy said. "If I've got a player that's trying to get better, why would I want to get in the way of that?"

Especially since it's expensive to learn from a coach like Roundy. One session alone costs \$65. An athlete can pay up to \$800 in a month for 16 private, one-on-one lessons at Performance Plus.

"We did a little research and found two separate sources that estimated four to five billion dollars are spent annually in the United States on athletic performance improvement," Roundy said. "That's from elite athletes to amateur and everything in between, but still, that's a lot of money."

Zarate said he embraces the different coaching styles he learns from.

"I get some knowledge and form it into me," Zarate said. "I take what [both coaches] said and find something in the middle."

Harward said the benefits of her athletic success outweigh the cost of private coaching.

"For me, it's been beneficial [working with Jay], for others I think it's important, but it depends on how much you love the sport and how much you want to be the best at it."

That's the mentality of a true champion.

Kody Acevedo is an ASU junior majoring in sports journalism at the Walter Cronkite School.



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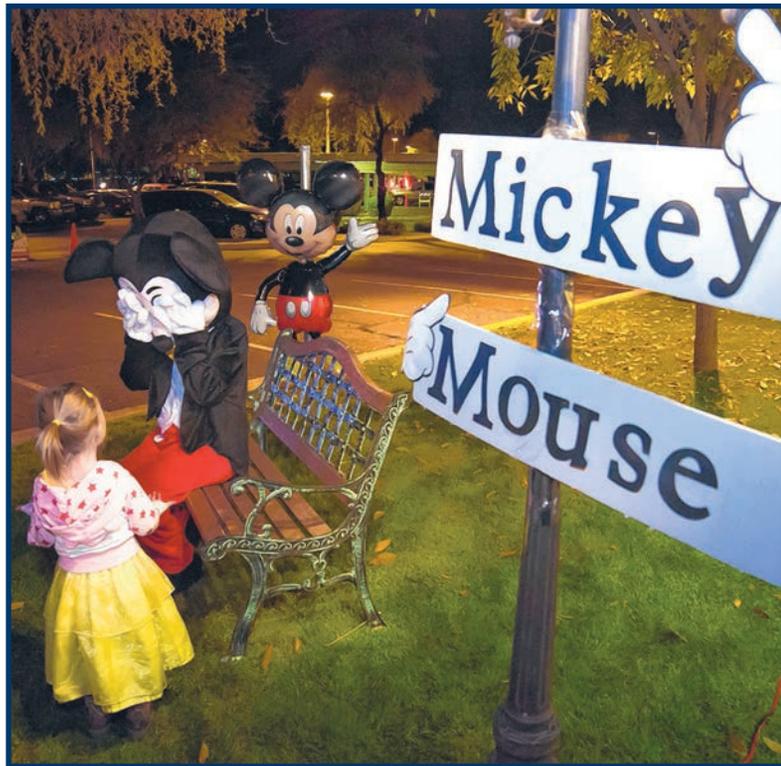
Registration at Ward Traditional Academy begins at 9 a.m. on January 14.

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Smile: Santa's watching



More than 1,000 children enjoyed a holiday open house at Children's Dental Village in Tempe, where Santa, Darth Vader, Batman and three (count 'em) Disney princesses were on hand for the fun. Now in its 30th year, the annual holiday event is held each December in appreciation of patients and their families who visit Dr. Alan Longfellow and his staff for their children's dental care and orthodontics. Leslie Barrett, director of operations for the practice, said that among the attractions was a heap of synthetic snow for desert-dwelling youngsters to dig into. "It was fabulous," Barrett said. "We also had games, a buffet with dinner, nachos and ice cream, and there was a train ride, too." No surprise, we think, that so many got on board for the fun.

— Wrangler News photos by Alex J. Walker



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City of Chandler NEWS+ Events

www.chandleraz.gov/newsroom

Honor diversity with the Celebration of Unity

The City of Chandler kicks off every year by hosting a series of events to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the civil rights movement and Chandler's diverse community. The 2016 Celebration of Unity events include a musical performance by Black Violin, the 21st Annual Chandler Multicultural Festival & Creative Expression Competition. The series attracts more than 10,000 attendees each year.

Event activities include a performance by Black Violin on Friday, Jan. 15, at the Chandler Center for the Arts. The group features violinists Wil B and Kev Marcus, who fuse together an eclectic mix of classical, jazz, hip-hop, blues and R&B. Tickets are available for purchase online at chandlercenter.org.

The Celebration also features the annual Creative Expression Competition, which is open to all students who live or attend a school in Chandler. This year's theme is "Peace Through People." Competition details are available



online at chandleraz.gov/unity. The selected winners' work will be displayed at the annual Multicultural Festival, which will be held at Chandler Fashion Center for the first time.

The free annual festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 16, and include two stages for a variety of entertainment along with cultural interactive areas for attendees to enjoy. More information can be found online at chandleraz.gov/unity.

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For more information, visit www.chandleraz.gov/tumbleweed

With the New Year right around the corner, what better time than to join the Tumbleweed Rec Center (TRC)? The TRC offers a variety of fitness classes, activities and events for every age. The 62,000-square-foot facility includes a fitness center, locker rooms, indoor track, gymnasium, two racquetball courts, exercise and dance studios, classrooms, lounges, child watch services and free Wi-Fi! Visit chandleraz.gov/tumbleweed for a list of available classes, events and information on daily, monthly and annual passes.

Live Christmas tree recycling

Once the holidays are over, it's time for the Christmas trees to be recycled. For safety purposes, please remove all lights, ornaments, garland, nails and tree stands. Do not place trees in bags. Live trees must be out for curbside collection by 6 a.m. on your recycling day. Place the tree at the end of your property, no more than four feet behind the sidewalk. Drivers cannot go more than four feet on your property to retrieve the tree. Trees must not be placed in recycle bins, the street or sidewalk. All trees that are collected are chipped and reused in park landscaping projects. Residents also have the option to drop off their tree at various parks to be recycled. Visit chandleraz.gov/recycle or call 480-782-3510 for the list of drop-off locations.

Christmas tree care & disposal

Christmas day is almost here, and the Chandler Fire, Health & Medical Department reminds you that the beautifully decorated Christmas tree in your home also can be a deadly fire hazard if you don't follow certain precautions. Safety starts with keeping your live tree well watered, so it doesn't dry out and become fuel for a fire. Use lights and decorations that are flame-retardant (check the labels), don't use lights with frayed wires or excessive wear, and don't overload electrical outlets. Turn off the tree lights when leaving your home or

going to bed. Keep candles and other heat sources away from your tree. Test your smoke detectors and make sure everyone in the family knows how to escape the home if there is a fire. More Christmas tree safety tips are online at chandleraz.gov/fire or at the National Fire Protection Association website, nfpa.org.

Finally, did you know that more than half of the home fires that started at the Christmas tree occurred after the holidays in January and February? Don't leave your tree up too long. Remove your tree from the home before it dries out, and the needles start to drop.

EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 22 Downtown Chandler Farmers Market, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park East, 480-855-3539
- 22,23,26-31 Zoppé: An Italian Family Circus, Center for the Arts, 480-782-2680
- 25 Christmas holiday, City offices closed

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day holiday, City offices closed
- 1-3 Zoppé: An Italian Family Circus, Center for the Arts, 480-782-2680
- 9,23,30 Vision Kidz Workshop, Vision Gallery, 782-2695

- 12 Meet the Trainers, Tumbleweed Recreation Center, 782-2900
- 14,28 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 15 Downtown Chandler Art Walk, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 480-855-3539
- 15 Black Violin, Center for the Arts, 480-782-2680
- 16 21st Annual Chandler Multicultural Festival, Chandler Fashion Center, 480-782-2214
- 17 Timber! A Production of Cirque Alfonse, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr./Civil Rights Day holiday, City offices closed
- 22 Break Time magazine available
- 23 Deana Martin – Honoring Dean Martin & Frank Sinatra, Center for the Arts, 782-2680

- 23 Our Stories: Ancient Native American Astronomy, Sunset Library, 782-2751
- 23 Sister City Southwest Tea, Tumbleweed Recreation Center, 480-600-8509
- 25 Spring Seed Swap, Sunset Library, 480-782-2800
- 29 Moscow Festival Ballet presents Don Quixote, Center for the Arts, 480-782-2680
- 30 Fiesta Mexico-Americana with Los Lobos, Center for the Arts, 480-782-2680
- 30 TEDxChandlerPublicLibrary, Downtown Library, 480-782-2831
- 30 Unity Walk, Tempe Town Lake, 480-782-2214
- 31 Chandler Symphony, Center for the Arts, 782-2680

For event details, visit chandleraz.gov or call the Chandler Special Events Hotline at 480-782-2735.

Mayor Jay Tibshraeny & City Council



Holiday generosity brings joy to area families . . . and to the volunteers who make it happen



The West Chandler and South Tempe community came together for a day of festive holiday fun, entertainment and sharing during the annual Winter Wonderland event. Amanda Nosbisch, program manager and community education and outreach coordinator for the Kyrene School District, helped plan the day. "There is an expectation that gifts are exchanged this time of year, and we know that can put a lot of pressure and stress on our parents who are strapped financially," Nosbisch said. Winter Wonderland is one way the district helps reduce that stress. Needy families are invited to come to the district headquarters where a personal shopper guides them through mountains of age-appropriate gifts. While volunteers wrap up the gifts, parents are entertained by music and choral groups from around the district. The gifts, along with a \$25 grocery card for each family, are sure to bring a smile to many faces through the holiday season. "The community comes together in such an amazing way to provide enough toys that each kid who is on our roster can get two gifts," Nosbisch said. Two brothers from the Kyrene district who celebrate birthdays in December ask their friends to bring a gift to donate to Winter Wonderland. This is the third years the boys have generously forgone birthday gifts. "They bring in probably 30 or 40 gifts from their party," Nosbisch said.

Wrangler News photos by Alex J. Walker



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Donate online at www.kyrene.org/taxcredit
District Donation Event: December 31, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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*Arizona tax law (ARS 43-1089.01) allows taxpayers a tax credit of up to \$200 (or \$400 per married couple) for contributions to support extracurricular activities that are otherwise not fully funded by the District. Must submit school receipt with taxes.



Housing-assistance program open for enrollment in January

While the city is widely known for the health of its economy, Chandler, like a number of its neighbors, offers housing alternatives for individuals and families who may need to secure affordable lodging in today's challenging economy.

Because Chandler is one of the Valley cities where housing prices have increased in recent years, families who live within the city can run into financial roadblocks to finding housing within their budget. One of the most commonly recognized affordable housing programs is public housing. However, another federal program called the Housing Choice Voucher, or Section 8, continues to generate interest. For rental-property owners, Section 8 ensures that rents will be paid even if the occupant cannot always keep up with the agreed-upon rent.

The Section 8 program—unlike public housing which limits applicants to a choice of pre-determined residential properties—can help families pay for rental homes in any neighborhood, in any community, provided the applying households meet specified income limits.

In Chandler, where 486 families now receive Section 8 assistance with their housing expenses, a waiting list will be re-opened in January for applicants to vie for a spot on that program's waiting list. It's the first time in five years

that this list has opened.

The weeklong signup period is being developed, according to city officials, to help ensure an adequate pool of Section 8 applicants is available when openings occur or additional funding is obtained.

The application process is the first step to qualify for the Section 8 program, preceding acceptance, which may take weeks, months or even years.

Contrary to some public perceptions, the majority of Section 8 vouchers are used by a high percentage of recipients who cannot work because of a disability or advanced age.

The funding for Section 8 program is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which sponsors subsidized housing for very-low-income families, the elderly and disabled whose incomes do not exceed prescribed levels.

Applications will be available from Monday, Jan. 11, to Friday, Jan. 15, by visiting affordablehousing.chandleraz.gov; and in person between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the city's Housing and Redevelopment Division Office, 235 S. Arizona Ave. Mail requests for applications should be made to City of Chandler, Mail Stop 101, P.O. Box 4008, Chandler, AZ 85244-4008. Requests to receive an application by mail also can be made by calling 480-782-3200.

Completed applications should be submitted to the Arizona Avenue address above and be mailed with a postmark no later than Friday, Jan. 15 and received by Wednesday, Jan. 20.

Applications also may be submitted in person at Chandler's Housing and Redevelopment Division, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. during the same weeklong program.

Downloaded applications from the city's website cannot be submitted online. Completed applications may be submitted only in person or by mail.

Reasonable accommodations will be made for applicants with disabilities by calling 480-782-3200.

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Director Cary Burns provides inspiration to the 129 members of Tempe Community Chorus during a practice session at University Presbyterian Church in Tempe. Group performs Dec. 20 in Mesa. — Wrangler News photo by Alex J. Walker

Tempe chorus brings joy of sound to holiday concert

By Deborah Hilcove

Imagine 129 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. 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 musical instruments of an orchestra—the trumpets, clarinets—you can hear each instrument in the voices."

But it's more than the music, soprano Cheri Shipp

says. "I wanted to sing, and here, there are so many friends. We support each other. It's fun."

With voices swelling as they sing "Bridge Over Troubled Water," the choir focuses on their director. "Softer now. But with purpose," he says. "Beautiful voices. I could feel the story."

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 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, "Light the Candles of Freedom," the choir practices a section of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." Burns says, "You're 89 percent there. Again." As the refrain of "King of Kings" 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+." 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 Sunday, Dec. 20, at Mesa Arts Center.

Information: www.tempecommunitychorus.org
Contact the MAC box office, 480-644-6500 or www.mesaartscenter.com

Which of These Costly Homeseller Mistakes Will You Make When You Sell Your Tempe Home?

Tempe - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7

deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

To order a FREE Special Report, visit www.TempeHomeSellerMistakes.com or to hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-800-368-3503 and enter 1000. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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Drive helps area's underprivileged

Arizona, with its dry desert heat, attracts thousands of snowbirds each year—people who are tired of shoveling snow.

Just ask Jim Brown, a native of Minnesota, who owns Fish Window Cleaning.

The west Chandler business owner moved to Arizona in 1987 and says he doesn't miss the biting Midwest winter one bit. "Shoveling slush, your car gets ruined, your clothes get ruined. It's 20 below and you get a flat tire — it's challenging," Brown said.

Three years ago, Brown became a member of the advisory board for Clothes Cabin, a Chandler outreach that serves needy area families with clothing and blanket donations.

Although it doesn't snow here, when children leave for school in the morning, the temperature regularly dips into the 40s during November and December. That's when Clothes Cabin steps in to lend a hand.

By the end of December, the Chandler non-profit will have served some 1,800 needy families with clothing, bedding, shoes and towels. During the winter months, blankets and warm clothing are especially needed.

All items are donated gently used and sometimes even new. Clothing Cabin is always seeking donations of clean, neatly folded clothing and blankets to distribute to the poor. Families are allowed to choose items at the facility once every three months with a photo ID.

"Decent clothing gives people self-respect and they go out and get a job then because they have that. Or they can put something warm on their kids

and send them to school that way," Brown said.

So why would a local business owner be involved with a non-profit like Clothes Cabin?

"It's a great group of people that started the thing and it's nice to be able to contribute something," Brown said. Helping the organization run more like a business and assisting them in getting the word out were two other ways Brown thought he could help.

Shannon Skarphol, executive director of Clothes Cabin, said the organization serves many local families that consist of a mom and dad and three or four children.

"We have a whole spectrum, but it's mostly working poor families," Skarphol said. "Dad is working and Mom is trying to find a job."

The families face many obstacles, such as a language barrier, lack of education and childcare that's so expensive it negates any earnings that might be generated from work.

"They're looking for warm clothes or new clothes for their kids that they want to wrap up something for them to open Christmas morning," Skarphol said. Recently, the Clothes Cabin received a number of donations that will help keep them stocked through the end of the year, but they're always seeking financial support.

The Clothes Cabin is a 501 (c) (3) organization that is eligible for the Arizona Tax Credit for charitable organizations serving the working poor. That means taxpayers can deduct dollar-for-dollar from their taxable income.

Information: clothescabin.org



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Some simple ideas:

- Lots of little talks are more effective than one "big talk." Big talks can be intimidating. Try everyday opportunities to talk- in the car-dinner or while shopping. Let them know how you feel about alcohol and drugs.
- Show you care about your child's happiness and well being. When children have parents who listen to their feelings and concerns are more likely to say "no" to alcohol. The conversation goes both ways.



to reduce underage drinking and drug use

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Film Fare . . .

with M.V. Moorhead



Ford brings a light touch to 'Star Wars' redux

The three *Star Wars* “prequels,” from 1999, 2002 and 2005, all started in the standard manner for the series, with the preface “A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away,” followed by the blasting John Williams fanfare and the title.

But then that crawl of yellow text would start, and it was a bunch of gobbledygook about trade alliances and congressional debates that would have seemed dry, complicated and confusing on C-SPAN.

The expository crawl for the new entry, *Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens*, starts with the line...



M.V. Moorhead

Well, wait a minute. As we were leaving the press screening, the PR folks asked us for our reactions.

One of the ushers, headed in to clean the theater, was holding his hands over his ears as he passed us, terrified that he’d overhear some “spoiler.”

So if you’re of this guy’s mindset, maybe you’d better stop reading until after you’ve seen the flick.

I’ll do my best not give away any specific plot points, but perhaps you’d rather go in completely uncontaminated.

OK, now: The opening crawl for *The Force Awakens* begins with the line “Luke Skywalker has disappeared.” It goes on to explain that Leia Organa (Carrie Fisher) has dispatched “her most daring pilot” to track down a clue to her brother’s whereabouts.

Now we’re talking. Much like in the original 1977 *Star Wars*, a hero has disappeared, and the good guys have to find him. It’s the sort of simple, fairy-tale setup that’s implied by that “Once upon a time” opening line.

And it’s this approach that makes *The Force Awakens*

so much more fun than the “prequel trilogy.”

In those films, there would be shootouts and spaceship dogfights and light saber duels, but it was hard to know what was at stake at any given point—at times I almost wasn’t sure who I was supposed to root for. The spectacle was great, but the storytelling was muddled.

It certainly didn’t seem like the feeling a *Star Wars* movie should give you.

With *The Force Awakens*, however, director J. J. Abrams, working from a script he co-wrote with Lawrence Kasdan and Michael Arndt, gets about as close, probably, as it’s possible to get to bringing us the feeling that the originals gave us back in the ‘70s and ‘80s—that sense of a new mythology, and a set of shiny new toys.

The cinematography and set designs and props have a subtly retro look—one robot has a head that looks a lot like an old-school drive-in movie speaker—that links them convincingly to the original trilogy’s universe.

The actors have a retro look, too. The story, set decades after the end of 1983’s *Return of the Jedi* during a period in which the Empire is trying to re-assert itself as the “First Order,” allows for the presence of original cast members like Carrie Fisher, Harrison Ford and, buried under Wookiee fur not noticeably gone gray, Peter Mayhew as Chewbacca.

But even the youngsters in the cast, like Daisy Ridley as a scavenger girl on a desert planet; John Boyega as a stormtrooper gone rogue with conscience; or Oscar Isaac as the aforementioned most daring pilot, seem to echo the gee-whiz young characters of the early films.

There’s even a spherical, chirping-and-whistling robot, and a villain with a rumbling voice behind a dark helmet and mask.

All of the actors are proficient, but the standout—a little surprisingly considering his supposed great indifference to these films—is Ford, who brings lightness and warmth to the middle-aged Han Solo that I don’t think he had back in the ‘70s. When he and Fisher’s Leia exchange their crooked, ruefully nostalgic smiles, it’s very charming.

There are innovative new characters, like a tiny, wizened, thousand-year-old barkeep (wonderfully performed, behind motion capture, by Lupita Nyong’o) who looks like a talking kumquat with coke-bottle glasses, but even she serves as a somewhat Obi-Wan-like mentor presence for Scavenger Girl.

There are new creatures, too—a hornbill-like bird pecking at a helmet, an enormous boar-like beast at a water trough, tentacled horrors running amok on a cargo ship. But they, too, recall the barely glimpsed fauna in the early movies.

This applies to the whole of *Force Awakens*. It starts on a desert planet, follows the search for a cute robot entrusted with vital information, involves mentors and pupils and family connections and a super-weapon and Jedi mind tricks and cringing underlings bringing bad news to scary bad guys and crosscutting between space battles and personal confrontations. It’s almost less a sequel than a series of variations on the original trilogy’s themes. That’s the shrewd and sensible method that Abrams, Kasdan and Arndt have used: Everything’s new, but everything’s old as well.

On the way to the screening, I saw, no kidding, a huge digitized traffic sign on a Phoenix freeway that read “AGGRESSIVE DRIVING IS THE PATH TO THE DARK SIDE.”

For better or for worse, that’s how ingrained in mainstream culture this once-nerdy mythos has become. Oddly, the movie uses a variation on this metaphysic: The previous *Star Wars* films were heavily concerned with the allure of the Dark Side, but this film is about the seductions of the Light, the risks and perils of giving in to one’s better impulses. This, I think, it’s what gives the movie its vitality. It might be called *A Franchise Awakens*.

Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens is rated PG-13 and plays at Harkins Tempe Marketplace, Arizona Mills, Chandler Fashion 20 and other multiplexes Valleywide.

Hometown memories: An awakening to the reality that terrorist attacks can happen anywhere, any time

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — “You never think it could happen here...not here...why here?”

Those are a few of the clichés we hear after every mass shooting, so much so that gun violence is starting to become the status quo in America.

But let me tell you, it can happen: anywhere, any time.

I’ve learned that lesson the hard way. Until two weeks ago, I was one of those guys who walked around saying the same thing: “It won’t happen here. This will be the last place it will happen if it does.”

I’m not talking about Phoenix or Tempe; I’m talking about my hometown of San Bernardino.

It’s true that the Valley has become my home away from home over the last few years while I attend ASU. From this point forward, Arizona will always have a special place in my heart. But California will always be home.

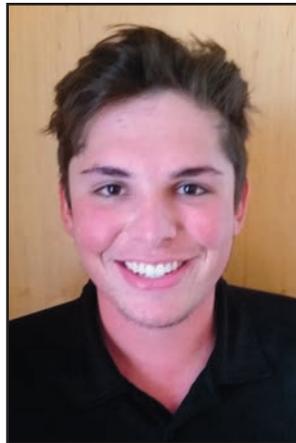
I was born and raised in Redlands and the surrounding cities of Highland

and San Bernardino. Up until this past Dec. 2, the “Inland Empire” as it’s known in the Southland, was largely unknown to people not familiar with the area.

For example, when I first arrived at ASU, people associated my home with Los Angeles. “Oh, you are from L.A.?” “How close are you to Malibu? Do you ever see any actors or celebrities?”

Quite the opposite, actually. Los Angeles, with traffic factored in, is about the distance from Tempe to Tucson. We have our own way of life here. San Bernardino and Redlands are large towns, but both communities seem to be connected in one way or another.

That’s one of the reasons this particular terror attack was so devastating.



Kody Acevedo

I was in my friend Jeanna’s car that Wednesday afternoon. She and I were driving to Tempe from ASU’s downtown Phoenix campus to attend our final American Indian History class of the semester. It really wasn’t our typical Wednesday since the semester was just about over and we had plans to go Christmas shopping later that afternoon.

But then my phone buzzed. I looked down to see who had texted me only to find a CNN Push Notification on my screen. At 12:37 p.m., the following message appeared:

“San Bernardino, California, fire department tweets that it is responding to reports of a mass shooting.” (I took a screen shot because I knew this was something I would want to remember.)

I realized right then and there that the name San Bernardino would be changed forever. I didn’t know how bad it was just yet, but I knew it would soon join the “Sandy Hook,” “Gabby Giffords” and “Columbine” list.

Little did I know it would actually be more appropriate to move it over to the “World Trade Center” list. As the day went on, it became abundantly clear that ISIS was responsible for this attack that killed 14 and injured over 20.

Not directly, I suppose, but the two perpetrators of this horrific tragedy doubtless were influenced by radical Muslim ideologies.

I knew as soon as it was confirmed that the United States was just attacked, once again, by terrorists. The war in the Middle East had officially made its way to America and my hometown was its first victim.

Needless to say, I can’t tell you a lick of what we talked about that day in American Indian History. I was glued to Twitter and kept a stream of CNN going in the corner of my laptop screen. I had never felt further from home than I did at that moment.

My first thought, of course, was of my family, most of whom still live in town. My dad, who was working on duty as a firefighter that day, might have been at the scene, and who knew if the shooter was still on the loose.

Turns out, Dad was still at his station in Highland and wouldn’t be going to the scene, but the shooters were still at large. They could’ve ended up anywhere.

The Inland Regional Center is located on Waterman Avenue, which is right off I-10 West. I remember thinking, “I hope they don’t go eastbound into town.”

(Turns out that’s exactly what they did, and their apartment was closer to my house than the actual crime scene. Go figure.)

I’ve spent a lot of time in the area where the shootings occurred. The center is not very far from a shopping center that houses the closest Costco and Sam’s Club. There’s also an In-N-Out and BJ’s nearby.

It was possible somebody I knew was down there. But I heard from my parents, who reassured me they were okay and everyone we knew was fine. I still kept my phone in hand checking Twitter and reading updates just in case.

Fortunately, no one directly related to me was killed or injured in the shooting.

Still, I can’t seem to wrap my mind around what happened.

I know people that grew up with some of the victims. My Mom, a Realtor in town, spent a lot of time in the apartment complex the police raided in Redlands. Not their unit, obviously, but in the same complex and in units that were feet away from explosives and automatic weapons.

It just goes to show: you never know who is living in your neighborhood. Yes, it can happen here. It can happen anywhere.

Editor’s note: For a list of recommended strategies from the cities of Tempe and Chandler, see the clip-out advisory on Page 8 of this issue.

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Budget

From Page 7

legislators that impact schools.

"If the May election is successful, then the provisions of that ballot measure will be the settlement of the lawsuit," said Calles.

The funding would be for this fiscal year and next, as well as the next eight years. Kyrene could begin receiving the settlement funds as early as June.

"We are planning on what we will do if the election is successful. We will then need to prioritize and hope we can store school budgets fully during the next fiscal year."

Kyrene kids score higher than average on AZMERIT

By Diana Whittle

Traditional wisdom says that students are not especially excited by taking tests.

Yet, the score for Kyrene kids on the new state standardized test, known as the AzMERIT, was better than the state average.

District results on the assessment tool showed that Kyrene schools are performing substantially better than the average school district in Arizona, with 51 percent of Kyrene students passing the English language arts section and 54 percent passing the math section.

State averages were 34 percent in English language arts and 35 percent in math.

In addition, 15 Kyrene schools achieved scores that were in the top 10 percent of all schools, including: Sierra, Cerritos, Monte Vista, Cielo, Mirada, Waggoner, Kyrene Traditional Academy—Sureño Campus, Brisas, Estrella, Mariposa, Milenio, Lagos, Esperanza, Altadeña and Aprende.

"Teachers in the district have been working really hard over the last four years to get this assessment tool off the ground," said Lorah Neville, executive director of Educational Services for the district.

"AzMERIT differs from AIMS, which was multiple choice questions, by requiring that students demonstrate reading comprehension and problem-solving skills. They not only have to provide the right answer, but also must be able to explain why it's correct."

The increased complexity of the test required that teachers receive some training on new ways to teach. The district offered professional development to make the instructional shift and to become comfortable with a computer-administered standardized test, explained Neville.

The AzMERIT is based on Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards. It stands for Arizona's Measurement of Educational Readiness. Students

who pass AzMERIT prove that they meet higher expectations and are on track for college or a career after high school graduation, which is important to the business community.

When compared to the results of other East Valley schools, Kyrene is tied in first place for math scores and in second place in English language arts. Chandler schools demonstrated they are closest competitor of the Kyrene district.

In math, Sierra ranked in the top 10 percent, and Cerritos and Monte Vista ranked in the top 25 percent among all schools in the peer group.

Another positive for Kyrene families is the emphasis on early childhood readiness, which is supported by all-day kindergarten classes not offered in other districts, said Neville.

"We are extremely proud of how well our schools and our students performed on the AzMERIT assessment," said Kyrene Superintendent, Dr. David K. Schauer.

"While we celebrate these schools' achievements, we recognize that these numbers represent a benchmark from which we hope all schools may improve," said Dr. Schauer.

"We will now use these results to identify areas for improvement and work with our principals and their staff on developing plans to provide students with the support they need to improve and grow."

The next AzMERIT exam will be administered in Spring 2016.

In the meantime, Kyrene will continue to use other assessments throughout the district to monitor student mastery of the standards.

For more information on Kyrene schools and AzMERIT, visit the Kyrene website at www.kyrene.org.

Plan now for February Taste of Kyrene event

A food and fun extravaganza will tempt residents of West Chandler and South Tempe Feb. 26 when the Kyrene Foundation holds its sixth annual Taste of Kyrene benefit at the Foothills Golf Club.

The event unites local businesses and residents of the Kyrene school district in an effort to assist children and families in need.

The foundation recently brought smiles to many such families with its Winter Wonderland project, but that's just one effort among many.

The organization provides food boxes, school supplies and other necessities for families whose children attend a Kyrene school.

Taste of Kyrene is the largest of the foundation's fundraisers. Last year, the effort raised \$45,000.

Guests at the Feb. 26 event will enjoy delicious food from several local restaurants, as well as live music, silent and live auctions plus raffles. Tickets for the event are \$75 or you can reserve a table for 10 for \$85 to make an even larger community impact.

Information: Kyrene.org

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Pool Care — Arizona Oasis Pool Service & Repair. LLC. Weekly service, full service or chemicals only, repairs, pumps & filters. Insured, dependable & trustworthy, references available. Professional family owned business. 480-694-1518.

Pool Care — FREE mineralized water for as long as we take care of your pool. Natural Way to Clear and Healthy water. From a company that has been #1 Worldwide for over 25 years. Weekly Pool Service Starting at \$80/month includes chemicals, cleaning and the many benefits of mineralized water. We also provide discounted expert Repairs, please call us at 480-818-8971 09/16

Professional Tile Installation— Install new or replace tile on floors, countertops, showers and more. Local Tempe resident with over 25 yrs. experience. Licensed, Bonded & Insured. ROC# 116117 Call Jim Garner for a quote 602-316-9862.

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, 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.

Remodeling — Remodel Contractor. Concrete, Block, Carpentry, Drywall, Stucco, Tile, Roofing, Painting, Patios, Additions, Kitchens, Bathrooms. I crew for all. Plans and permits. Tempe-based for 12 years. Best prices for quality work. ROC# B216115. Call 480-215-3373, rchildcustomcarpentry@cox.net. Lic. Bond. Ins.

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.

3/16

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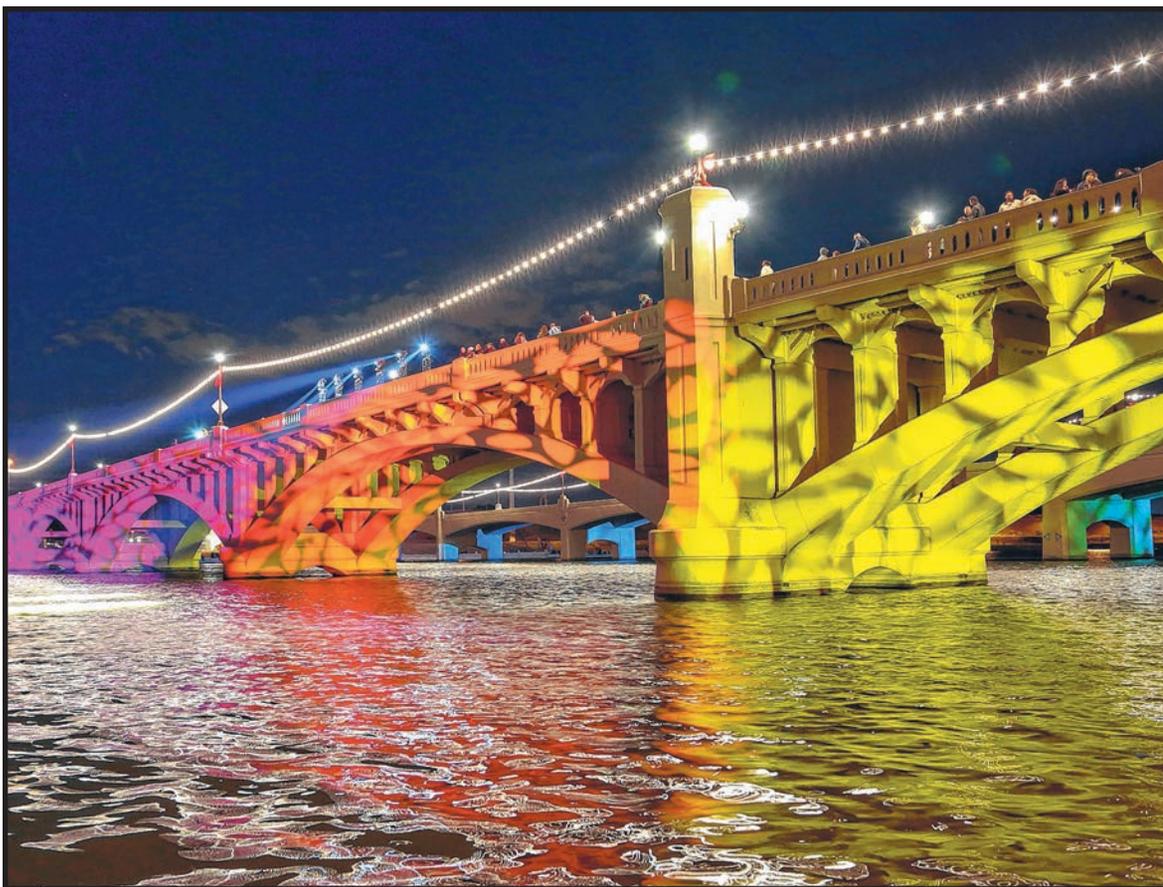
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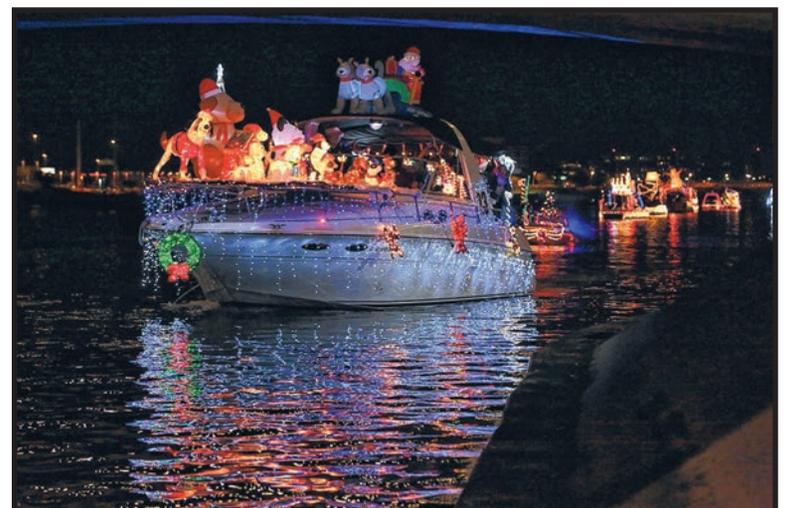
A Town Lake tradition: Lighting up the holiday



Thousands of residents watched as boats decked out with lights and other themed decorations floated across Tempe Town Lake during the Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade on Dec. 12. Friends and families enjoyed hot chocolate and a firework show at the end of the event.

Above, Jahlisa Ward plays with a string of lights while waiting to watch the festivities.

For more photos go to www.wranglernews.com.
— Wrangler News photos by Ana Ramirez





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Updated and highly upgraded, this basement home is sure to delight. New granite kitchen, Viking fridge, walk-in pantry, eat-in kitchen, huge family room, library, gorgeous master suite, custom bath with his and hers walk-in closets, separate vanities. Secondary bedrooms each have own shower and granite sink. Beautiful backyard with Italian grotto seating, firehose water feature for pool/spa. Wood burning fireplace, ramada, built in bbq, 4 car garage, 5200 sq. ft. of fabulous! MLS#531822

The Oasis in Tempe

This is a must see 5-bedroom, 3 bath, with loads of upgrades located in one of Tempe's highly sought after lake subdivisions. Upgrades include beautiful front and rear metal/glass doors with security features, newer carpet, front and rear stone veneer accents, surround sound speaker system, upgraded interior and exterior lighting, textured wood shutters throughout and pebble tec pool and 3-car garage. MLS #5349351



Tempe Gem



Stunning home situated on a sprawling irrigated oversized lot in the heart of Tempe! Bright and open floorplan features gorgeous hardwood flooring, new carpet, vaulted ceilings & skylights. Upgraded kitchen, white glazed cabinets, granite counters, wall oven, smooth cooktop, walk-in pantry. Office has exterior entrance and private bath, can be converted to 5th bedroom or studio apartment. 3 storage areas with A/C. Incredible backyard with mature trees and diving pool.

North Tempe Charmer

This semi-custom newly renovated, 4-bedroom, 2-bath home features a brand new roof, remodeled kitchen, bathrooms and sparkling pool. This home is located in the highly coveted Broadmor Neighborhood. This updated home is just south of ASU, close to major freeways, bike paths, shopping, restaurants, parks and much more.



Drastic Price Reduction



Owner wants it SOLD! Wonderful vacation retreat or full-time home on over 1/2 acre lot in Pinetop Country Club. Circular drive, lots of parking and 2-car garage. Expansive open greatroom for large gatherings or parties, rock fireplace and dining. Large kitchen, 2 eating bars and more dining space. Master down, 3 large secondary bedrooms. Game room, wet bar, sauna, tons of storage, new roof in 2011. \$319,000

New Remodeled Kitchen

Don't miss out on this amazing Frank Lloyd Wright inspired 3-bedroom, 2-bath home. This stunning property features a Sonoran Desert landscaped front yard, wood, tile, and plush carpet in all the right places, extra large bedrooms, spacious dining & living areas and ceiling fans in all the bedrooms. The gorgeous \$40k remodeled kitchen has stainless appliances, breakfast bar and loads of cabinets. Fabulous lush backyard.



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