

FEB 23 - MARCH 8, 2019 - VOL 30, NO 4

TEMPE & WEST CHANDLER

# WRANGLER NEWS

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**HAVING A BLAST, KID STYLE** — The scientists of today, representing Intel and Northrup Grumman, provided some high-energy inspiration to the young scientists of tomorrow at a Science Spectacular that unfolded on the streets of Downtown Chandler. In all, 50 companies participated, with Northrup Grumman launching a rocket on the hour. Whoosh! More photos on Page 15.

— Wrangler News photos by Billy Hardiman

## The census is coming; count on it

By Diana Nelson

**A**pril Fools' Day is typically reserved for pranksters. But in 2020, April 1 also will mark the start of a serious and significant campaign—the U.S. Census, which takes place every decade.

Since the last official census in 2010, the population in Tempe grew more than 10 percent, to the current estimate of 178,339 from 161,719, according to data gathered by the Maricopa Association of Governments.

And, the county of Maricopa continues to remain one of the fastest-growing in the country. In 1950, the census counted less than 350,000 people. Now, 70 years later, the county's population is estimated at more than 4 million, with a median age of 36.

Even a slight uptick in population can mean a

significant increase in federal funding, which will be used to determine local allocations for social-service programs, highway planning and construction, and more.

Accuracy in the census count is critical because every person represents about \$1,979, explained Nikki Ripley, communication and media relations manager for the city of Tempe.

"The mayor and council, along with city staff, recognize the importance of educating our residents about the census, so we have already assembled a 'Complete Count' committee who meet monthly to develop strategies on how to best get out the word on this important effort," said Ripley.

"The primary goal of Tempe's Complete Count

— CENSUS, Page 14

## Fame-bound? No easy journey

Teacher on world stage for his work

**A**s they grow toward adulthood, aspiring stage performers tend to see the world through red-carpet-colored glasses. Scott Harnisch was no exception.

Now, as a music educator at both Kyrene del Norte and Kyrene de las Manitas schools, he knows how important it is to give parents the sometimes unwelcome news that visions of performance careers can fade almost overnight, despite years of expectation and hope.

— TEACHER, Page 24



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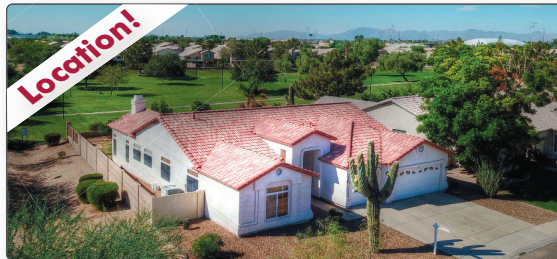
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# 1,000 new jobs forecast as financial services firm announces move to West Chandler

An estimated 1,000 new jobs are coming to West Chandler in the near future following an announcement by a leading financial services firm that it will create a permanent home in the Price Corridor.

Voya Financial, Inc. says it has secured a 151,359-square-foot facility at 1700 S. Price Road that will serve as its operational hub.

Once completed, more than 1,000 people will be employed, company officials say. When that facility opens, Voya says it will cease operations at its 70,000-square-foot temporary site at 1401 S. 52nd St. at the Tech Center in Tempe, and those jobs will transfer to the new location.

A site will continue to operate in Scottsdale, where approximately 200 employees are based.

"Establishing a permanent hub in metro Phoenix will contribute to our continued growth and enable Voya to deliver greater value for our customers," said Rodney O. Martin Jr., chairman and CEO.

"The city of Chandler provides us with everything that we need to build a successful operation—access to a skilled workforce and talent pipeline, a business-friendly environment, and many essential resources for future growth and success."

Voya, a leading financial services firm that helps people plan for retirement, will locate certain back-office and customer-support operations for its Retirement, Employee Benefits and Claim Administration groups, as well as human resources, at the West Chandler facility.

"Voya will be joining a number of leading-edge companies located on the Price Corridor that benefit from accessibility to a diverse and educated workforce and great amenities for employees," said Chandler Mayor Kevin Hartke.

"Voya's investment in the new Chandler facility is just the start of the impact they will have throughout the region. We're grateful for the support of our partners, the Greater Phoenix Economic Council and the Arizona Commerce Authority, and we all look forward to working with Voya together as they continue to grow."

Voya announced its plans to expand to the metro Phoenix area last November, at an event that included Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey and leaders from the Arizona Commerce Authority and Greater Phoenix Economic Council. It opened the temporary facility in Tempe last month.

## Our invitation to aspiring writers, journalists

With journalism evolving so rapidly these days, we try hard to keep pace with the changes that are relevant to our industry, now more than ever before.

Big dailies struggle to sustain their coverage with fewer resources. College classes spend less time on traditional journalism and more on video production. High schools produce fewer and fewer aspiring journalists, diminishing even further the fertile starting ground for young people who might once have seen their futures in the dynamic fields of reporting and editing.

The future of information dissemination has become a significant concern, and one that worries many of us.

Certainly we at Wrangler News have nowhere near the reach, the clout, the history or the dollars to mount an initiative to significantly change the course of today's educational environment. It doesn't mean, though, that we cannot in some small way contribute to what we hope will become a more widely recognized effort to help train potential young reporters and prevent the further erosion of an institution that underlies the foundations of freedom on which our nation was built.

Looking back on the three decades we've been in business as a community newspaper, we recall considering the use of articles by high school students as part of our own biweekly publications. In revisiting those discussions more recently, it seems that our plans would have involved inserting the participating schools' newspaper in our own, a concept that realistically would not have been

possible because of logistical, cost and production stumbling blocks.

In today's world, however, we think we might be able to accomplish some of those same goals in a much less complicated way. Which is why we have spoken with longtime journalism instructor Kris Urban at Corona del Sol High School and assistant principal Brian Fleming at Marcos de Niza about a possible interest among their students in submitting school-related articles for our review and, hopefully, inclusion in our pages. As we do with our other freelance contributors, we pay for any such content and, especially with those newer to the craft, offer what we hope can be helpful suggestions for the growth of their writing skills.

For any Tempe or West Chandler high school student who'd like to learn more about our needs, we invite you to call our editor, Joyce Coronel, any time 9-5 weekdays at 480-966-0837 or email her at [joyce.coronel@wranglernews.com](mailto:joyce.coronel@wranglernews.com).

Let her know a little about your interests, your experience and your possible future goals; we'll let you know what we're looking for, how and when we need to receive your submissions (deadlines are critical, so don't agree to do an assignment for us unless you're sure you can get it to us on time). And, of course, how we pay for any work you might do for us.

With high school newspaper classes and even journalism clubs having largely fallen by the wayside, we think our plan might provide a method to slow the exodus of young people to other career fields. And maybe even to help uncover a future Bob Woodward, Walter Winchell, Margaret Bourke-White or, of course, Walter Cronkite.

Despite the disturbing tendency for news to have become the fodder of an increasing number of untrained, unqualified digital entrepreneurs, we believe there is still hope for the kind of real journalists that many of us remember and revere. Best of all, maybe you could one day be among them.

— Don Kirkland



### NOT SO TAXING

Volunteers from Tempe Community Council are ready to assist seniors, the disabled and lower-income residents who might need a little help preparing their tax returns. Last year tax site staff and volunteers helped prepare 1,200 federal returns that secured \$2.4 million in refunds. The site, located at Gracie's Village, 1540 E. Apache Boulevard, will assist residents on select days now through April 13 but will be closed March 2-9. Information: [www.tempecommunitycouncil.org](http://www.tempecommunitycouncil.org).



# Tempe man's lifesaving act: It was 'all in the family'

By Joyce Coronel

There's nothing quite like a roaring fire to add a comforting glow to a cold winter's morning—unless, of course, the flames happen to be shooting out of the shed behind your house and have spread to your bedroom window.

At that point, lives hang in the balance.

Danny McKiernan, an Arizona State University student, experienced just such a scenario at his Tempe home recently. It was still dark outside around 6:15 a.m. and all of his other roommates were either sound asleep or had left for work or the gym.

"It was the average morning. I woke up to some sort of crackling sound," Danny said. "I was thinking, what's going on? I moved the drapes and looked outside. My window was fully engulfed in flames."

Danny dashed outside. "I didn't think it was going to be that big of an issue. I just wanted to see the lay of the land."

The shed was going up in flames and with a substantial hedge of trees and pallets of wood nearby, he worried the fire would spread quickly.

He called 911 then ran inside to alert his roommates.

"I started banging on their doors, just screaming. I'm like, 'Everybody get up! Our house is on fire! Just get out!'"

The windows were cracking and breaking. At first, Danny's roommates didn't believe him. He recalls warning one, "If you stay in this room it's not going to end well."

Meanwhile, three fire trucks arrived on the scene along with nine

or 10 firefighters to battle the flames.

"We were just all kind of shocked. We weren't really thinking—everything we did was just instinctual rather than logical," Danny said.

"We immediately grabbed our belongings and just made sure all of us got out of the house OK."

Wrangler News found out about the Tempe fire when Danny's father, Kevin, contacted the paper and shared a video of the aftermath of the blaze.

"I do believe my son saved lives," Kevin said.

"He is a hero in my eyes and he always has been."

Danny was quick to push aside such accolades.

"I am not a hero. I did what anybody else would have done—I want to make that clear."

He's thankful, he says, to the firefighters who put out the fire.

Kevin, for his part, is deeply grateful that his son wasn't injured. From the family home in New Jersey, 2,400 miles away, he reflected on the clan's heritage of first responders.

Danny's uncle, Thomas, is a retired New York City fire chief. Another uncle, Brian, is a retired New York City fireman. Danny's grandfather was a New York City gold shield detective.

"Our family is very proud of Danny's quick thinking and response to a pressure situation," Kevin said.

"He possibly saved lives. His instincts kicked in at the appropriate time. Save a life and we all win. I thank God everyone is OK."

Danny said he and his roommates have talked among themselves about what happened that day.

"This could have ended really, really badly. What we took from it, especially me, is this: Don't take anything for granted because you can lose everything in the blink of an eye. We're very fortunate.

"It's a blessing to just wake up and enjoy the next day you get."





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## Delicate procedure at Barrow, Chandler Regional Medical Center 'Life changing' brain operation seen as an East Valley first

By Carmelle Malkovich

A 68-year-old man with Parkinson's disease has undergone deep brain stimulation, known medically as DBS, at Dignity Health Chandler Regional Medical Center, marking the East Valley's first such operation since Barrow Neurological Institute expanded to Chandler Regional.

Patient Don Penfield underwent the delicate procedure that involves placing electrodes deep inside the brain. When doctors activated the electrodes about a month after they were implanted in October, the tremors that had plagued Penfield for the last five years disappeared immediately, according to a Barrow spokeswoman.

"This is my new way of living with Parkinson's," said Penfield, a retired city of Scottsdale project manager.

"I can tell you that Parkinson's is a life-changing thing. DBS is also a life-changer."

Barrow, main campus of which is located at Dignity Health St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in central Phoenix, performs the most DBS operations in the country. Penfield's procedure was its first in the East Valley.

As residents age, medical experts say, some will experience movement disorders, including Parkinson's disease, which afflicts an estimated 1 million Americans.

"DBS is one of the most exciting and promising developments in modern medicine," said Dr. Tsinsue Chen, the Chandler-based neurosurgeon who performed Penfield's operation.

But despite its success, it remains a mystery to many patients and some personal care physicians, according to reports.

"People travel from all over the world to undergo DBS at Barrow," noted Chen. "But for many patients, the trip from the East Valley to central Phoenix can be a major challenge. With six Barrow neurosurgeons now based in Chandler, we're excited to offer the same expertise to the growing East

Valley population."

Under DBS, electrodes are connected to a neurostimulator placed under the skin—a "pacemaker" for the brain. The neurostimulator can be programmed to deliver an electrical current to selected brain regions, providing therapeutic benefits for otherwise treatment-resistant movement disorders such as Parkinson's disease and essential tremor.

DBS may be performed two ways, traditionally with the patient awake and conversing with the surgeon or

while the patient is "asleep" under general anesthesia.

Weeks following the procedure, Penfield said he couldn't feel the device. But he has noticed a dramatic difference in his quality of life.

"At

Thanksgiving

dinner, my grandsons looked across the table and said, 'Grandpa, you're not shaking any more,'" Penfield says. "I looked down at my hands and said, 'You're right. I'm eating and not throwing food on myself.'"

Penfield's wife, Lana, along with his daughter and a longtime friend, were in the hospital room when his device was activated. At the doctor's command, Penfield walked out of the room and down a hallway. His tremors were gone.

"It's given him a new lease on life," Lana Penfield says. "It's given him hope."

In addition to DBS surgery, Barrow surgeons based at Chandler Regional also treat patients with various forms of complex neurological disorders as well as spine conditions, including advanced treatment for scoliosis, spinal stenosis and disc herniation.

Said Chandler Regional president and CEO Mark Slyter:

"We are thrilled to bring the world-class Barrow Neurological Institute to Chandler. Patients travel from all over the world to receive Barrow's expert care. Now, patients in the East Valley can get it without leaving their neighborhood."



Don Penfield, with his family, no longer suffers from tremors following delicate brain procedure.



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# Newly devised purchasing strategy seen as a plus for school's math students

By Robyn Martinez



The siren call of video games and smart phones can often make learning math basics a bit dry for some students, but the Tempe Elementary School District purchasing department is helping breathe life into math lessons.

The department split into teams of two for the school year with each team serving in a fifth-grade class at Scales Technology Academy once a month. Taking the skills they use each day, team members teach the class about district procurement and how they use those same math skills students to be successful in their profession.

And there's a side benefit to the math drills: Students are learning about a profitable career opportunity they may not have known existed.

The motivation behind this new partnership came last year after purchasing supervisor Rebecca Seifert visited a classroom at Curry Elementary. After leaving, Seifert shared that she felt so happy and grateful for that time, and it

reignited a passion for her job.

"Our jobs can be stressful. I felt like we were losing connection with why we do everything we do. Being with the kids was so special, I felt that we all need that as a reminder for why we do what we do," Seifert said.

The partnership with the school is beneficial in other ways, too. District staff offer an opportunity for extra help at no cost for those schools that may not have as much community and parental support, giving students another opportunity to develop a positive relationship in their life.

"I like when the purchasing people come to our class because it's always a fun experience," said fifth-grader Michelle Portillo. "It's helpful for when we grow up, and they're always so nice and care about our safety and whether or not we like the items in our classroom."

When the purchasing team comes in, they have hands-on problems for the students to solve.

For each lesson, they discuss topics like thresholds, taxes, budget planning, and project planning, and how that relates to the math that they do. Students are able to stretch their minds and practice problem solving using practical, real-life scenarios.

"This partnership is great for my kids. Sometimes when we teach math, we're teaching in a bubble. So for the kids to see how it applies to real life, it clicks more with them," said Scales Technology Academy fifth-grade teacher Ryan Vaughan.

Fifth-grade teacher Denise Blasi's students are creating "Are You Smarter Than a Scales Fifth-Grader" videos, where they explain various aspects of purchasing in their own words. This creative project is not only bringing what they're learning to life, but it's also helping them learn video skills.

"I taught the kids one lesson on thresholds, and they were so smart and picked it up after just one lesson. It's so impactful for our

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Members of Tempe Elementary School District's Purchasing Department have become mentors to students at Scales school, showing them the practical applications of math skills in the workplace.

— Photo courtesy Tempe Elementary School District

staff to be learning from our kids," said senior buyer Monique Harris.

This program is meaningful not only for the students and school staff but for the purchasing department as well.

"As we are exposed to the classroom and we build relationships, they have the chance to show us what they need," said Seifert. "We also receive student input on a variety of products we purchase – anything from markers to wiggle seats. Students have insights that we as adults would never think of."

"Being in the classroom gives us the opportunity to see things from a different perspective. I understand how important stretching our dollars really is," said account specialist senior

Crystal Carroll.

After returning from a classroom visit, the staff always comes back to the district office feeling invigorated and are so excited to share their experience with others.

Members of the purchasing team hope that other departments will consider participating at schools in the future.

Exposing children to as many career options as possible for their future will help them dream and give them hope.

"Working together with our schools reminds us we are on the same team, all working toward student happiness and success here in Tempe Elementary," Seifert said.



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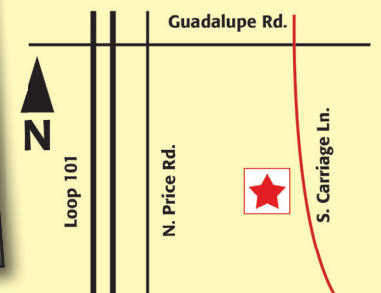
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## W. Chandler medical firm traces its roots to U.K. beginnings

By Sammie Ann Wicks

It's the classic 20th-century American immigrant's tale: young man, full of ambition and wanderlust, casts his eyes across the Atlantic, and resolves to make the Land of Opportunity his own.

The story starts in Wales, but after many a circuitous detour across the globe, ends in the city of Chandler, where the fruits of the young man's labor ultimately come to rest.

"My father was Welsh, but because his own father was British military, he was born in India, where the family had been stationed," says Steve Roderick, son of the founder of Chandler's Enzyme Process nutritional and supplements company.

The junior Roderick has been involved as a principal in the company for 25 years, and took over its direction after his father's death eight years ago.

"My father David's life was full of constant change from the beginning—that was his way," says Roderick. "He grew up in Wales, but when he turned 17, he left there, joined the (British) Navy, and served in Palestine for a couple of years. But eventually he left there, too."

Next stop, says Roderick, involved his father jumping on a boat to Argentina, where the senior Roderick learned to speak Spanish language and become familiar with Argentinean culture.

"Eventually, he left Argentina and went back to England, stayed there another year, and then talked himself into a job as a bartender on the Queen Mary, headed for New York City," Roderick continues.

With the Statue of Liberty at last looming before him, Roderick senior got off the Queen Mary and, emphasizing his recent experience, convinced a New York lounge owner to hire him as a bartender.

"This was pretty exciting stuff for my father, because the bar where he had his first job was in Manhattan, where all the actors and actresses hung out, which exposed him to a lot of well-known people," Roderick notes.

Always being responsible and applying himself in every job he had, his father ultimately was approached by one of the lounge's frequent patrons, recalled Roderick.

"This guy had noticed my father, and one day he went up to him and said, 'I love your accent, you have light hair, you have blue eyes, and I want you to



go to work selling for me,” Roderick recounts. “This guy was one of the upper management of Royal Lee’s Standard Process Co. of that time.”

(Standard Process founder Royal Lee, in the early decades of the 20th century, became known by some as “The Father of Natural Vitamins.”)

“My dad thought about it, and told the man he didn’t want to give up his main job—but he didn’t want to miss an opportunity, either. So they agreed my dad would sell during the day, and continue being a bartender at night,” says Roderick. “And my father insisted it be commission-only—he wanted to make some money.”

With time, Roderick says his father methodically built up his sales territory throughout New York State, New Jersey, and Connecticut, going from his initial commission check of \$172 to commissions that eventually ranged from \$25,000 to \$37,000, a sales coup for that time. His secret?



“He started visiting practitioners who at the time were called Applied Kinesiologists, and then later, he approached chiropractors—which was smart, because back then, there were a lot of doctors prescribing nutritional supplements,” Roderick explains. He goes on to say his father’s success not only was due to the type of client he focused on: he also utilized an unswerving sales methodology, based on good personal conduct, integrity and taking care of the client.

“My father never cursed, and he never said anything bad about anybody,” Roderick continues. “He always told me, ‘When you speak to someone, leave them with only one thing—not everything there is to know about the product—because they won’t remember it.’” He adds his father always emphasized good grooming and personal presentation.

“For my father, appearance was everything. He would always ask, ‘Are my shoes shined?’ He went out the door looking great,” Roderick says.

Roderick believes his father’s greater success was due in large part to his specialized service to his clients, saying, “He stressed to me that, if you show people that you care about them, they will call you, and he was sincere about that.”

Roderick says he was constantly mentored by his father, not only about life, but about how to go about business properly.

“As a child he would take me into Manhattan with him, and I would sit in the waiting room so that I could get a feel for what he did.

“There was one time when I was watching his dealings with the famous Doctor Atkins. So I grew up in it.” Roderick adds that, while he was interested in the supplements industry, he eventually wanted to explore his own path.

“For a time, I went off on my own-- with my father’s blessing--to learn more about the modern manufacturing end of nutritional supplements, and I worked in California for a company called Enzyme Process.” That company, says Roderick, eventually provided an entree for the Roderick family to become a major player in their industry.

“My father at that point had worked himself into a position where he could buy the company,”

— FOUNDER, Page 12

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The Epiphany or Little Christmas is observed on January 6 in many Christian churches.

This day has come to be known as “Kings Day”.

Since the 200’s, the day has honored the meeting of the Three Wise Men with the infant Jesus. King Cakes became part of the celebration to symbolize the “finding of baby Jesus”.

Traditionally King Cakes are oval-shaped to show unity of all Christians. The Mardi Gras season which begins on the “Twelfth Night” (January 6th) is expressed on King Cakes

by using the carnival colors of green (signifying Faith), gold (signifying Power), and purple (signifying Justice).

In the past, a bean, pecan, pea, or coin was hidden inside each King Cake. Today, a tiny plastic baby is used. As a King Cake is cut, each person awaits anxiously for a piece to locate the “baby”. The person who finds the baby is “King of the Party” and obligated to bring a King Cake to the next seasonal celebration.

Celebrate this Mardi Gras Tradition in your home, class, or office. King Cake season ends on Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday), the day before Lent begins.



## Founder

From Page 11

says Roderick, “and that was our start.” (The senior Roderick bought the company in 1988, establishing it in Chandler.)

“At first, we were only renting our building,” Roderick says, “and we stayed there for 15 years. Now we own our own state-of-the-art facility.”

Running a successful business for nearly 25 years, Enzyme Process’s son seems to follow the father’s wise and business-savvy vision for what good business should be about.

“I recently told my wife, ‘You know, I don’t want to grow any bigger, to get too big--all that huge corporate apparatus--that wouldn’t serve us, it wouldn’t serve our customers, and it wouldn’t serve our employees. Why should everybody want to become millionaires? We’re content as we are.’”

Now, Enzyme Process operates with 15 long-term employees and with the contributions of his Serbian wife Gorica’s nephew, Alex Jakovljevic, who contributes to operations and handles the company’s IT needs.

Vitally active all his life until his later years, Roderick says his father pushed on until a few years ago.

“It was after my father underwent open heart surgery that he started to slow down,” Roderick remembers. “I had put a couch in an office for him at the company, which he used a lot in the beginning, but eventually, he stopped coming. It was a sad moment.

“We were thankful he had an easy passing, but it was still hard to lose him, in part because of his stature as such an exceptional human being,” Roderick reminisces, reflecting on the 20th century’s titans of industry exemplified by his father:

“They don’t make them like that anymore--they were just a different breed--and they are missed.”

### More about Enzyme Process

Enzyme Process International operates out of its 25,000-square-foot facility on 56th Street in West Chandler, creating natural supplements in its GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices) Certified Laboratory under the direction of chemist Angel Gutierrez. The laboratory is humidity and temperature controlled,

and is registered with and inspected by the Federal Drug Administration.

Included among the company’s products are homeopathic “liquizymes,” glandulars (including thyroid-enhancing glandulars), herbs, pet and veterinary products, proteins, vitamins, minerals, and cosmetics, available in chewable wafers, oral dissolving tablets, tablets, capsules and powders.

The company also offers a line of private label products for sale to other businesses and doctors’ offices, manufactured and packaged to order.

Gutierrez says one of Enzyme Processes’s specialty products, Olive Leaf Plus, is a natural immune booster, and is especially popular during the flu season.

Active Enzyme Blend, another popular supplement, the company says will help digest proteins, fats, carbohydrates, and cellulose, helping the body to better absorb the immune-boosting chemicals contained in each plant extract.

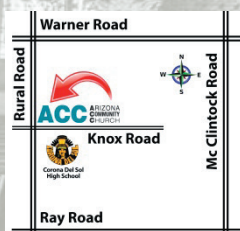
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# A new look at learning: More freedom to explore

By Diana Nelson

An innovative, new style of classroom learning will begin at Kyrene de las Manitas in the next school year, after being approved by the district's Governing Board.

It involves a reinvention of the traditional classroom—the customary format where a student sits at a desk most of the day and faces the blackboard with one teacher in the front of the room.

Instead, the new Manitas classroom will be transformed into an open space to allow more freedom of movement for students, while they explore various learning stations with more than one instructor on hand.

The initial program would be limited to 120 students in third and fourth grades, including students with any special needs such as gifted, special education, and English language learners.

It would be housed in a small section of Manitas, 1201 W. Courtney Lane in Tempe, during the prototype years of 2019-20. The estimated cost of \$125,000 of the program will be covered with existing capital funds. This school site was selected due to its central location with access to freeways. It also has the capacity to handle the program, with no new building requirements.

The new educational model is the result of two years of intensive input involving more than 100 stakeholders including Kyrene educators, other staff, and a Design Initiatives Team from ASU's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College.

In a brief video shared during the Governing Board meeting, several of the design team and Kyrene educators explained what drew them to the process.

"I chose to become involved because I thought the concept of designing a school from scratch was just really fascinating," said Sarah Snedeker, a teacher at Akimel A-l Middle School.

Another teacher, Kevin Amway, from Kyrene de la Colina Elementary School, spoke about the curiosity factor of participating in a process that imaged the possibilities of what education could look like in the future. Some of the team members actually shadowed students during the day to gain insights into their perspectives.

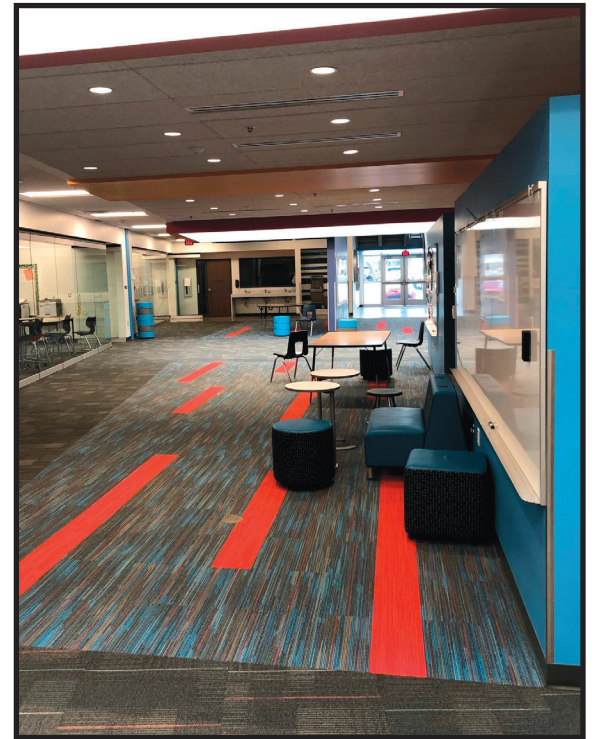
Together, the entire team worked to imagine and to design a new-style of education, which creates individualized learning for students without barriers or remaining in one place during the whole school day.

It also provides new career paths for teachers—as a possible solution to the growing teacher shortage.

"This isn't innovation for the sake of innovation," said Kyrene Superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely. "It's an effort to confront existing problems that require innovative solutions."

In the new proto-type, three full-time, certified teachers would be supported by a team of

— INNOVATION, Page 14



The innovative layout of this classroom at Kyrene de las Manitas is designed to allow more freedom of movement and enhanced learning for students.

— Photo courtesy Kyrene School District

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**Cinematography:** *The Trip* (Corona del Sol)

**Screenplay:** *Photographic Memories* (Corona del Sol)

**Editing:** *Chris the Photographer* (Corona del Sol)

**Use of Dialogue:** *Delphic Diary* (Desert Vista)

**Use of Character:** *You Can't See Me* (Corona del Sol)

**Use of Prop:** *Day in the life of Cheese* (Mt. Pointe)

To watch the winning films, visit  
**TempeUnion.org/Film-Festival**

## Innovation

From Page 13

additional staff, including instructional assistants, teaching interns, and content-area experts, which could include professionals from authors to engineers.

According to project leaders, the goal is not to surround a teacher with more students, but to surround the student with more teachers.

"Our learners each have different needs," Dr. Vesely said.

"Instead of asking one teacher to be all things to every student, with this model, we can provide a whole team of educators."

This concept may reinvigorate teachers and hopefully add to their retention by giving them a new way

to interact with students explained Vesely.

While the design process has been underway for two years, Kyrene expects the prototype will continue to evolve.

The Kyrene website states: "Community input and participation is an important part of the process that is just beginning and will continue through the prototype years."

Families and the community have a unique opportunity to help shape the future of the program."

In fact, the Kyrene District will host a Family Information Night at the main office of the district, 8700 S. Kyrene Road, to explain more about the program.

The session is scheduled from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 4

More information is available at [Kyrene.org/imagine](http://Kyrene.org/imagine).

## Census

From Page 1

Committee is to count everyone once—only once, and in the right place. Our committee is composed of members, who live or work in Tempe, and who bring a valuable perspective or expertise in reaching audiences," said Ripley.

"While we don't know what to expect as far as the final number of people we will find, we are working to get an accurate count and especially of the students in the city."

Ripley explained that while a student attending ASU may be from another state, since they are living most of the year in Tempe, they are eligible to be counted as a city resident "because this is currently where they spend the greatest amount of time."

The census is supporting local count efforts through a national media outreach campaign, which will let the public know when questionnaires will be mailed. Also, for the first time, the census will offer online access to the questionnaires.

In addition, the Maricopa Association of Governments will coordinate a local outreach campaign to reinforce the importance of the census.

Members of the Tempe census group will serve until Dec. 31, 2020 and represent a broad spectrum of government and community leaders from education, business, healthcare and other community organizations.

Kyrene schools are being represented by Superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely, who is a member of the census

committee.

"The Kyrene School District is a partner in the 2020 census initiative for school and community outreach," said Erin Helm, director of communications and marketing for the Kyrene District.

"Kyrene's role is to share census information with families and to hopefully help increase participation in next year's census."

"School districts have an interest in complete and accurate census counts, because it helps us to better understand our demographics in order to anticipate future enrollment trends and to serve all students in our community," said Helm.

At the moment, the census is in an organizing and educational phase, which involves recruiting employees to be part of the effort to gather the data. It is estimated the work of completing the census will create more than 6,000 jobs in Maricopa County.

While all jobs with the census are temporary, there are both full and part-time positions available in Tempe and Chandler. The local opportunities offer flexible work hours, including daytime, evening and weekends.

The 2020 Census Jobs website allows applicants to apply for a range of positions, including recruiting assistants, office operations supervisors, clerks, census field supervisors and census takers by completing a single application online.

For more information, visit the Tempe website at [www.tempe.gov/census](http://www.tempe.gov/census)

The official U.S. Census website can be found on-line at [www.census.gov/2020census](http://www.census.gov/2020census)



# Northrup Grumman, Intel help launch kids on a race for future



The annual Chandler Science Spectacular, sponsored by Intel and Northrup Grumman, drew families for a day of hands-on learning, as this teen atop a phone pole experienced firsthand. The event demonstrated the importance of science in everyday life and featured the launching of a model rocket every hour. Technology company volunteers focused their activities on computer science. Participants in the daylong event earned stamps for participation in each activity, eventually allowing them to exchange the stamps for a prize.



— Photos by Billy Hardiman  
for Wrangler News









## *Says a world class competitor* Tempe Town Lake rates among top rowing venues

By Noah Kutz

In simple terms, the possibility of competing in the Olympics becomes nothing more than a dream for most athletes. The likelihood of actually winning an Olympic medal remains even more illusory.

But for those who have competed in one Olympics after another, the experience takes on an almost surreal quality.

Train, sleep, compete, repeat—it's almost a lifestyle for many of America's peak performers. Every day, every month, every four years.

Henrik Rummel, a U.S. rower and recipient of the bronze medal from the team's success in the 2012 London Olympics, thought he'd given his final attempt at the Gold after a tough break for the U.S. team in Rio de Janeiro.

However, despite his efforts to retire from the sport and make his

way in the world without a paddle at his side, he simply couldn't fight the itch to climb back in the boat.

For the past several months, Rummel, along with former Olympic teammate Seth Weil, have trained at Tempe Town Lake to help prepare themselves for Tokyo in 2020.

"Tempe Town Lake is probably one of the best places I've ever trained," says Rummel, describing the lake as a low-wind, light-traffic and perfectly sized training environment. With two young children and a desire to "get back into peak shape," Rummel and his wife decided to move from the Northeast back to the Valley, where he could train extensively and she could receive some deserved help from her family.

Weil, on the other hand, called

— OLYMPICS, Page 21



Henrik Rummel and Seth Weil have been training hard at Tempe Town Lake for the 2020 Summer Olympic Games. Both men have represented the U.S. at previous Olympic competitions, and Rummel, above, says the man-made urban lake near downtown Tempe is an ideal training spot. A morning training session begins with stretching exercises (below, right) and includes a grueling 20 kilometers of rowing the placid waters in a tiny craft that affords little room for creature comforts. With two workouts a day, six days a week, it's stern stuff for two men who dream of attaining Olympic gold.

— Photos by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News



# Sports

with Alex Zener

## EMOTION OVERCOMES CHAMP *On the mat, Ladies Night out*

**S**ierrah Thrun, a sophomore at Corona, never dreamed when she started practicing a Brazilian martial art called Jiu-Jitsu at the age of six that she would one day be standing on the mat with her hand held high by a referee proclaiming her to be a state champion in the first Arizona Girls State Wrestling Championship Tournament.

"It did not sink in at first that I had won the state championship," said Sierrah.

"I was just happy to beat my opponent in the finals from Desert Mountain because she was very tough."

"Once I signed my name on the winner's side of the paper, I was overcome with emotion," said Sierrah.



Alex Zener

"After all my hard work, all the nerves, all the weight I had to cut, all the stress, I realized how much I had wanted to win."

"I knew, once I saw the look on my coaches' faces and all the joy from my teammates, I had finally done it. I had won the state championship."

Sierrah entered the girls state championship in the 110-pound weight class undefeated at 10-0 and finished the tournament undefeated with a 14-0 record, but it was her grit and guts, especially in the second round, that won the championship.

"I honestly did not think I would make it past my second-round match against Isabella Rodriguez from Gila River," said Sierrah.

"She was very late to the mat, so I was pumping myself up, conjuring up my confidence to beat her. Once the

match started, though, I realized how tough and strong she really was."

"I was beating her at the beginning but at one point we fell, and my rib popped out. I sprained my AC joint in my shoulder, and I was really hurting," said Sierrah.

"My coaches encouraged me to keep wrestling, so I finished the match winning 12-11 by one point."

"She was the toughest match I had all season but if I had not kept going I wouldn't have gotten a chance to even place at state," said Sierrah.

"I am very grateful to my coaches and everyone who helped give me the confidence to not give up."

Womens wrestling is one of the fastest growing sports in high school and college.

The number of women who wrestle in high school has grown from 804 in 1994 to 16,562 in 2018, according to the National Wrestling Coaches Association.

Arizona alone had over 100 high schools offering girls wrestling as part of their sports curriculum during the 2018-19 season and was one of 14 states and territories in the United States to sponsor a state high school championship.

"This year was an historic one in Arizona for girls wrestling with the first Girls State Wrestling Tournament," said coach **Jimmy Martinez**.

"Sierrah winning a state title in the inaugural year has great significance for Sierrah and for Corona."

Womens wrestling has also taken off as a sanctioned college sport and has been recognized since 2004 as an Olympic sport according to [www.nwcaonline.com](http://www.nwcaonline.com).

"This championship will provide Sierrah much needed exposure to college coaches throughout the country and increase her opportunities to continue wrestling beyond high



Corona del Sol sophomore Sierrah Thrun won the championship in the 110-pound weight category during the 2018-19 inaugural season of girls wrestling at the 2019 AIA State Girls Wrestling Championships on Feb. 8.

— Photo courtesy Jimmy Martinez

school," said Martinez.

Sierrah became interested in wrestling when her older sister, **Coree Thrun**, started wrestling in middle school.

"Coree had already been wrestling at Aprende Middle School for two years before Sierrah started sixth grade at Aprende," said **Mark Thrun**, their dad.

"We had already gotten over our trepidation about Corey wrestling against boys by the time Sierrah showed an interest in wrestling, so her mother and I were on board."

"We were excited to see what Sierrah could do on the wrestling mat plus it was a pretty good feeling to have

two daughters on Aprende's wrestling team that year."

Sierrah's parents were extremely proud of her not only for winning the state championship but for the way she did it.

"Winning state is a great accomplishment for Sierrah, but her winning isn't what made us the proudest," said Mark Thrun.

"The way that she fought through a tough injury in her second match and continued on in the tournament undeterred is really what we are the proudest of."

Until the girls programs get fully developed in the high schools, the girl



## Sports

From Page 18

wrestlers usually practice and compete with the boys team.

"Currently, Sierrah was the only girl we have on our girls team," said Martinez. "She traveled with the boys team and was a roster member at the boys tournaments as well."

"**Sean Thornton** and I both worked with Sierrah as her coaches as well as with rest of the wrestlers," said Martinez.

Sierrah mostly practiced and competed with boys during the regular season.

"I found practicing with the boys good for me

because a lot of guys are naturally stronger in the upper body than girls," said Sierrah.

"I was not only able to build my upper body strength wrestling with the boys, I was also able to practice ways to use my speed to get in situations where I could beat the boys no matter their strength."

"Wrestling with the boys helped me work on different techniques, as well, that when combined with my strength and quickness helped me come out victorious when I wrestled against girls," said Sierrah.

Sierrah along with her two siblings, Coree and younger brother, Liam, have been competing in mixed martial art sporting events since they were very young so that may have contributed to her feeling comfortable in Corona's wrestling program as

the only girl.

"The guys didn't treat me differently just because I was a girl," said Sierrah. "They knew I deserve to be there. I worked just as hard as the boys did. I listened. I succeeded."

"Plus, I love the bond all the guys had. I felt like one of them," said Sierrah.

What is different between the boys and girls competition is the weight classes and the style of wrestling.

Girls compete in 10 weight classes that differ a few pounds from the boys' weight classes.

The girls' weight classes are 101, 110, 118, 125, 130, 135, 145, 160, 185 and 225 while the boys have

— SPORTS, Page 20

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# Sports

From Page 19

14 weight classes starting at 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 145, 152, 160, 170, 182, 195, 220 and 285.

Sierrah won the girls state championship in the 110-pound weight class but during the regular season she competed against boys in the 113-pound weight class.

"I do wish the girls had just kept the guys weight classes because I was used to having to only be 113 pounds to compete with 114-115 pounds being my walking around weight," said Sierrah.

"Cutting down to 110 pounds was more of a challenge for me but in the end it wasn't too bad because I competed well in the 110-pound weight class."

During the regular season, what wrestling style Sierrah competed in depended on whether she was wrestling a boy or a girl.

"Although my coaches did not treat me any differently than the boys, girls wrestle in a different style than boys do so they would try to create a different practice for me to correspond with depending on what matches and tournaments we had coming up," said Sierrah.

"If there were only boys, I would wrestle Folkstyle, the style I have been doing my whole wrestling career. Sometimes there would be girls which was great because then I'd just wrestle girls."

Sierrah and nine other girl wrestlers were crowned state champions in the 10 weight categories out of the 147 girls who qualified and competed at the Arizona's first state girls wrestling championship including Marcos de Niza junior **Sofia Rubio**.

**Rubio** finished the tournament as the runner up in the 185-pound weight class.

Rubio ended the season with a 13-2 record after defeating Angelina Kirkpatrick from Chino Valley in the semifinals and losing in the finals to Mia Dadar from Centennial.

Corona coach Martinez anticipates more girls will join wrestling next year.

"Although this first year of girls wrestling was not well promoted and there were lots of questions on implementation, I believe the additional exposure that has resulted from the completed state tournament will help encourage more girls to consider wrestling next year," said Martinez.

Martinez is working hard to get girls wrestling recognized especially now that there is a state champion from Corona, Sierrah Thrun, and a runner up state champion from Marcos, Sofia Rubio, in the Tempe Union High School District.

"I am working with our district and the Tempe All-City Association to get Sierrah and Sofia included in the Tempe All-City Winter Sports Banquet," said Martinez.

"In past years, some of the boys recognized at this banquet in wrestling had not even placed in state. It only makes sense to recognize a girls state champion and runner up."

Girls wrestling may be the next big opportunity for girls hoping to win a college scholarship.

## Marcos de Niza Football Scholarship

**Torren Union** signed a National Letter of Intent to play wide receiver for the football team at South Dakota State on Feb. 6.

Union, who played all 10 games his senior year as wide receiver and quarterback for the Padres was the leading receiver on the team with a total of 16 catches for 335 yards or an average of 20.9 yards a reception scoring four touchdowns.

Union completed 20 of 41 pass attempts for a total of 171 yards and one touchdown. He was also the second leading rusher on the team with a total of 344 yards on 57 carries with two touchdowns.

Union also had two interceptions plus 13 solo and 16 assisted tackles for a total of 29 tackles playing defense his last high school football season.

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# Olympians

From Page 17

his teammate one day and discussed the preparations for the Tokyo games, as well as the return of legendary rowing coach Mike Teti.

Weil decided to quit his job, pick up his paddle and begin training with Rummel for the long-anticipated comeback on the U.S. rowing team in the summer of 2020.

Both athletes train six days each week, conducting two workouts on most days, both morning and afternoon.

Says Rummel: “We’ll usually do around 20 kilometers [in the morning]—sometimes more, sometimes less—which is about a half marathon.” After rowing for approximately 13 miles each morning, the pair conducts shorter “power” workouts in the afternoon to focus on different elements of training.

Once Rummel and Weil have finished their preliminary training in Tempe, they will wrap up their preparation for the Olympics with the rest of the U.S. team at its headquarters in Oakland.

Rummel never thought he’d make it to the Olympics when he was discovering his passion for rowing in his youth.

His secret to success? Become a master goal-maker.

“Whatever your particular goal is, keep it small and achievable.” He says, “Once you reach that, then set another one.”

Rome was not conquered in a day, and Michael Phelps didn’t obtain 28 Olympic medals overnight. With the right mindset and the proper goals set in place, says Rummel, the dream of competing in the Olympics becomes something more than imaginable.

# Black History Month: Remembering our (black) heroes

By Noah Kutz

“Among the Americans serving on Iwo island, uncommon valor was a common virtue.”

Admiral Chester Nimitz offered his recollections after the inconceivable sacrifices American warriors made at the battle of Iwo Jima nearly 74 years ago.

This island bears the bloodiest days in the history of the United States Marine Corps, making up one third of the total deaths suffered in the USMC during WWII.

Over the course of this war, young men became Marines, Marines became heroes, heroes became legends, and the legendary actions of these uncommon men became stories passed down through generations.

Unfortunately, these unforgotten tales commonly neglect to mention some of the most important aspects of the battles fought by these uncommon men, aspects that are now remembered and celebrated across all generations.

Black Marines who wished to serve in the USMC were unable to join until 1942, where they were sent to Montford Point in Jacksonville, N.C. to be trained separately.

Because of these racial biases, the Montford Point Marines were unable to serve in the front-line infantry battalions, but instead primarily became the warriors who resupplied the infantrymen, carried the casualties away from the conflict and supported the other Marines in any way possible.

These segregated Americans quickly became the backbone of the Marine Corps during each horrific assault on the Japanese islands, and experienced the same gruesome battles while



NROTC students compete in the Montford Point Challenge each year during February’s Black History Month. The competition commemorates the valor of Black Marines, who were not allowed to join the USMC until 1942 and who had to train separately at Montford Point, Jacksonville, N.C.  
— Photos courtesy ASU NROTC

bearing the same grit and tenacity with which every Marine is born.

In light of this history within the Marine Corps, the Montford Point Challenge has become an annual event for various portions of the USMC as well as Naval ROTC battalions during February (Black History Month). The challenge is designed to put Marines (or in the case of NROTC, Midshipmen), in leadership roles to demonstrate their ability to command a squad while under pressure.

They negotiate a series of obstacles over a lengthy course that are designed to replicate some of the challenges which Montford Point Marines faced in battle.

Says Midshipman 3/C Wilson, who planned this year’s Montford Point Challenge at ASU’s NROTC battalion:

“We do this physically intensive event every year in order to remember some of the missions and challenges those Marines faced during their service to our country, which didn’t value them at that time.”

In the case of the NROTC battalion in Tempe, squad leaders navigated a labyrinth of challenges across ASU’s campus, carrying ammo cans and water jugs up tall buildings and through sand pits, hoisting stretchers with simulated casualties on their shoulders, and decisively maneuvering their way through simulated mine fields.

They remember these events so that “the Marines may live on in our warfighting heritage,” says Wilson.

These challenges, conducted on college campuses all across America by Navy and Marine Corps future officers, represent a drive and determination to never forget mistakes made in the past.

By remembering the hardships these Marines endured, not only at Montford Point and during

WWII but also in the following years in the Civil Rights Movement, this nation’s military can reflect on the lessons learned and the actions it will take in the years to come.

*Semper Fidelis*, or Always Faithful, has been the Marine Corps motto since 1883.

The Marines of Montford Point demonstrated an uncommon faithfulness which remained unseen by many during the battle of “uncommon valor.”

No matter the color of the Marine’s skin, the blood that stains the beaches, uniforms and hands of these warriors will always stay red.

*Noah Kutz is a member of the Wrangler News staff. He attends ASU and participates in the university’s NROTC program.*





# Diversions

## Celebrating Oscar night, high school edition

By M.V. Moorhead



Is anybody interested in the Academy Awards this year? Plenty of people don't care about them any year, of course, but the gold standard of award shows has had a particularly rough lead-up to this year's extravaganza.

Between the controversies leading to the abolition of a host and the ridiculous decision to relegate essential categories like Editing and Cinematography to the commercial breaks, the 91st annual awards ceremonies really don't sound like all

that much fun.

Not so the Tempe Union High School District's recent film festival, with the work of the winning cinematographers available on YouTube for the enjoyment of those who didn't attend the awards ceremony held on Feb. 8.

The student-produced films, each around seven minutes (or shorter), may be viewed at [tempeunion.org/film-festival](http://tempeunion.org/film-festival), where you can also find glamorous images from the festivities that took place the night the student's entries were shown.

The film showings were an important acknowledgement of the students' work, according to Jennifer Liewer, executive director of community relations for the district.

"You know, athletes have games, actors have plays, bands have



A scene from 'The Cure,' a seven-minute film created by McClintock High School students, which won first place in the Tempe Union High School Film Festival. Students were recognized for cinematography, screenplay and editing among other categories.

— Photo courtesy Tempe Union High School District

performances," she said. "Our film kids don't really have a platform to celebrate their work, so it was really cool."

Films in the competition may be found by searching "TUHSD Film Contest" on YouTube.

In a practice that has become common in competitive filmmaking,

presumably to ensure that contestants don't use pre-prepared material, the students had to include obligatory elements in their mini-sagas; the contest's process required that each film had to include three lines of

— FILMFEST, Page 24

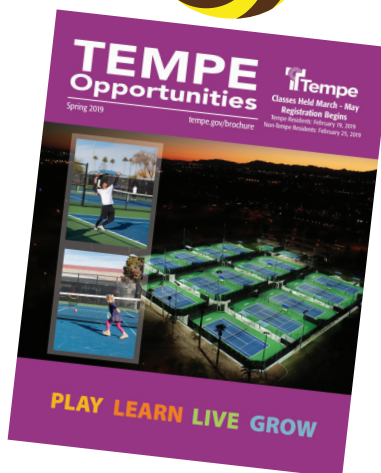


**Tempe Resident Registration  
begins Feb. 19.**

**General Registration  
begins Feb. 25.**

**Classes begin in March.**

The spring Tempe Opportunities brochure features hundreds of programs for every interest, age and ability, including health and fitness, art, dance, special interest, sports, aquatics and boating offerings. You can view the brochure online or pick one up at a City of Tempe facility.



**[tempe.gov/brochure](http://tempe.gov/brochure)  
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# Filmfest

From Page 22

dialogue, a character named “Chris the Photographer” and a can of spray cheese as a prop.

The lines of dialogue were:

“Are you really going to — that?”

“There’s something I need to tell you.”

“Get down.”

Beyond that, the filmmakers were limited only by their imaginations. And, of course, by little time or money.

First-, second- and third-place awards were at stake, along with Best Screenplay, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Use of Required Dialogue and Best Use of Required Prop.

Among the judges was Sarah Happel-Jackson, a Marcos de Niza High School alumnus turned Hollywood producer on such TV shows as *The Amazing Race*, *Big Brother*, *Dance Moms* and *Seatbelt Psychic*.

Not only did Happel-Jackson serve as the festival’s “Hollywood Judge,” she donated money for

the cash prize and is reportedly interested in hiring one of the contestants.

The first-place winning film was *The Cure*, from McClintock High, an action thriller with dangerous-looking parkour-like stunt work, starring and shot by Ammon Firestone, Aidan Lohan, Wyatt Liggitt and Nathan Firestone, with a brooding musical score by Lohan.

In second place, from Corona del Sol, was *The Trip*, a road comedy that takes a spooky twist, written by Aaron Cohen, with a nice buddy-movie rapport between stars Cohen and Cortez Roberts.

Third Place went to *The Cheez Whiz Murders*, also from McClintock High, an amusingly silly police procedure parody written by Emilie Berthaume and co-directed by Berthaume and Kevin Randall.

All three showed polish and skill, and were deserving of the red carpet treatment.

But in the grand showbiz tradition, Liewen assures us we ain’t seen nuthin’ yet:

“We are going to make it huge next year,” she promises.

# Teacher

From Page 1

“I had a very successful career; made it to Broadway three times,” recalls Harnisch. He basked in the enjoyment of glitter-filled events, and grew to see his future in those terms.

“You think your life is just a red-carpet event. But it’s really a lot of hard work.” And, potentially, disappointment.

For Harnisch, the disillusionment came when injury struck. “I dislocated my hip and I knew I definitely couldn’t dance anymore.”

That was when he also realized it was time to reconsider his future, ultimately earning master’s and doctoral degrees, the latter with a focus on special education.

Armed with those credentials and a new long-term goal, Harnisch decided to spend his remaining years as a music teacher and as an ambassador for the International Alliance for the Prevention of AIDS, from which he will soon receive the prestigious Child’s Life Award for demonstrating a commitment and taking action to eliminate the impact of HIV/AIDS on children around the world.

In his eight years working with IAPA in a multitude of roles, he became the group’s summer intern coordinator, where last year he led 14 interns and two student coordinators

on a life-fulfilling experience in India teaching HIV/AIDS prevention.

He will return there this summer with a new set of interns to continue the work to eradicate HIV/AIDS while continuing to make IAPA a positive, relevant agent of change worldwide.

As a result of those efforts, Harnisch will be recognized by the group at its 13th annual Hope in the Face of Aids dinner on March 30, an event that brings together hundreds of supporters in the fight to end AIDS.

Until then, on his Kyrene home turf, Harnisch says he will continue to help kids improve their performance skills and work toward parents understanding that, despite the “magic” that theatre brings to young lives, reaching that goal “can be a hard road to travel.”

Concluded Harnisch:

“I want to make sure parents have the real picture. They know that (performing) can be a wonderful world, but along the way they have to figure out what happens along the way.”

Some parents, but not all, accept his words of wisdom—and experience.

“I believe it’s really important to tell them the facts, and (at the same time) assure them you’re not trying to crush their dream.”

No matter what happens, the magic can still be out there.

“And,” he says, “that magic is called hard work.”

# Play Day

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Saturday, Feb. 23 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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## Feb. 23 pianist concert at Tempe Center for Arts)

The globe-spanning talents of 24-year-old pianist James Francies, the hottest young talent in jazz music, will be coming to the Lakeside Room of Tempe Center for the Arts Saturday, Feb. 23, fresh off an appearance eight days earlier at The Kennedy Center in New York.

In 2018 Francies, who frequently performs with The Roots on Late Night with Jimmy Fallon, played in the Con Edison-Town Hall Black History Month celebration on Broadway for 4,500 New York City school children.

The shows are part of a curriculum to introduce students to the arts and enhance their understanding of African-American contributions.

"Being a young black pianist who travels the world may not be typical. I try to show younger people that you can be something," Francies told International Musician. "Beyond music, it's how you carry yourself."

In between New York City and international tours, Francies returns to teach master classes at his old school, Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

"I enjoy being able to describe life through sound," Francies said. "To me, that's what makes music relevant, speaking on a subject without words."

The meteoric rise of the keyboardist and composer includes signing with Blue Note Records as a 20-year-old sophomore at the prestigious School of Jazz at The New School in New York. He dropped his first album, "Flight," last October. He wrote or co-wrote all but one track.

## Replacement sought for Kyrene constable

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors is seeking applicants for appointment to the position of Kyrene Precinct Constable. Kent Rini submitted his letter of resignation effective Feb. 15, citing personal reasons.

Constables execute, serve and return processes, warrants and notices and attend justice courts when required. The vacancy will be filled by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

By law, the appointee must be a Democrat, like Rini, live in the Kyrene Justice Precinct, and be a registered Arizona voter. The appointee will serve until a special election in 2020, when the winner will fill the remainder of the term until the 2022 general election.

Applicants should send their letters of interest along with a resume to the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 301 W. Jefferson, 10th Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003 or ClerkBoard@mail.maricopa.gov.

Applications will be accepted through Friday, March 8. All applicants will be subject to a background check including a financial review.

The Kyrene Precinct encompasses portions of Tempe, the Ahwatukee Foothills and the town of Guadalupe. It straddles the portions of Supervisorial Districts 1 and 5.

## March 8 deadline for submissions to Chandler's environmental art competition

Fourth grade students who are home schooled or attend public, private or charter schools in West Chandler and other areas of the city are being encouraged to participate in the city's 16th annual Environmental Art Contest.

The program asks students to draw colorful pictures promoting recycling, water conservation or storm water pollution prevention in their city.

The contest is an opportunity for students to learn more about environmental stewardship in their community and become catalysts for environmental education in the classroom, as the city offers classroom presentations and curriculum about conservation topics and is hoping to reach home schooled children as well.

"We are excited to see the wonderful artwork Chandler students create to help us spread messages of conservation throughout the city," said Traci

Conaway, Chandler's recycling coordinator.

The deadline for submittals is Friday, March 8. Entries are judged on creativity, content and colorfulness. Entry forms and rules can be found online at [chandleraz.gov/recycle](http://chandleraz.gov/recycle).

Entries can be dropped off at the Vision Gallery in Chandler City Hall, 175 S. Arizona Ave.

The gallery is open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

Participants also can mail their entries flat to Environmental Art Contest, Mail Stop 907, P.O. Box 4008, Chandler, AZ 85244-4008.

Selected drawings will be featured in an environmental calendar and poster and may appear in newsletters, social media, on recycling trucks and the city's website.

Information: Traci Conaway, 480-782-3510.

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# CHANDLER CHAMBER

## Business Education & Advocacy

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce offers many opportunities to sharpen your skills and advocate for your interests. Register for these events at [www.ChandlerChamber.com/calendar](http://www.ChandlerChamber.com/calendar)



### Chandler Chamber of Commerce Ostrich Festival *presented by Waymo*

Friday, March 8  
2 pm—Midnight

Saturday, March 9  
10 am—Midnight

Sunday, March 10  
10 am—Midnight

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce Ostrich Festival presented by Waymo is March 8—10 with something for every member of the family! Enjoy popular Main Stage acts—Flo Rida on Friday, The Commodores on Saturday and Andy Grammer on Sunday. Take the kids through the STEM attraction where learning is fun, test your daredevil skills on the many amusement rides and learn all about Chandler's connection to ostriches!

Purchase tickets at [www.OstrichFestival.com](http://www.OstrichFestival.com)

### Put Your Business Idea in Motion Thinking about opening a business?

Tuesday, March 12  
3 pm to 5 pm

Chandler Chamber  
25 S Arizona Pl, #201  
Chandler, AZ 85225



Are you an entrepreneur in the early stage of exploring and planning a new business venture? Do you know if it is a viable idea, one that will be a good investment of your time, resources and money? In the SBDC's Put Your Business Idea in Motion program, you will learn about the critical questions you need to ask, and be given tools and resources you will need to use, to make a "Go" or "No Go" business start decision.

Register @ [www.maricopa-sbdc.com](http://www.maricopa-sbdc.com)



### Women in Leadership Luncheon LinkedIn Sales Navigator

Tuesday, March 19, 2019  
11:30 am to Noon, networking  
12:15 pm to 1:30 pm—program

SoHo63  
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Join us for an intro to the new LinkedIn tool, Sales Navigator with Digital Marketing Consultant, Madhu Chadha of WSI-Optimized Web Solutions. Also, learn how to make your profile stand out, be advised on digital strategies to increase your sales and make a strategic plan.

Enjoy complimentary headshots from Moonlit Dreams Photography from 11:30 am to Noon.

Register @ [ChandlerChamber.com/calendar](http://ChandlerChamber.com/calendar)

### Policy Impact Series Business Advocacy

Friday, March 22  
8 am to 9:30 am

Chandler Chamber  
25 S Arizona Pl, #201  
Chandler, AZ 85225



Kathy Hoffman

Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman will talk about the ever-important subject of public education in Arizona and what her office is doing to improve the state of our public school system. Arizona Board of Regents Vice Chair Larry Penley will give an in-depth presentation on their priorities, college enrollment and completion, wages of graduates - and some of the strategies to address attainment and sustainable funding for the universities.

Register @ [ChandlerChamber.com/calendar](http://ChandlerChamber.com/calendar)





# Chandler • Arizona NEWS+ Events

[chandleraz.gov/news-center](http://chandleraz.gov/news-center)

## Time for #BudgetConnect

Mayor Kevin Hartke and the City Council will host Budget Connect, an annual online forum where Chandler residents may ask questions in real time and learn about the City's budget and fiscal policies during a special live event that will be held from 5-6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28.

The online forum will be streamed in real time on the City website at [chandleraz.gov](http://chandleraz.gov), the City's Facebook page and on the City's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/cityofchandler](http://youtube.com/cityofchandler). It also will be broadcast on Chandler's cable station, Channel 11 or CenturyLink's Channel 8002. During the event, City staff will monitor Chandler's official social media accounts using #BudgetConnect. Residents are encouraged to submit ideas, questions and input.

While the public is welcome to attend the event in person at the Council Chambers, 88 E. Chicago St., the City is encouraging residents to engage in this live forum from their home, office or any place they may be at the time by connecting online. Additional detailed information about the City's budget is available at [chandleraz.gov/budget](http://chandleraz.gov/budget).

## Chandler honors volunteers

Congratulations to the volunteers who were recognized during the annual Volunteer Recognition Awards program held in early February. Each year the City of Chandler partners with nonprofit For



(L to R) Michael Noffke, *Strong Arms Award* recipient; Kay Pratt, *Longevity Award* recipient; Elaina Ashton, *Youth Award* recipient; Lauren Dubrock, representing the Phoenix-Chandler Hilton's Blue Energy Team, *Working Together Award* recipient; Mary Ellen Crane, *Multitasking Maestro Award* recipient; Gina LaBenz, *Makes It Happen Award* recipient; Bob Dalpe, *People's Choice Award* recipient; Annette Auxier, *Mayor's Choice Award* recipient; Dheeraj Lokam, *Innovation Award* recipient; Gary Auxier, *Mayor's Choice Award* recipient

Our City-Chandler to recognize the contributions of time and dedication made each day by committed volunteers. In addition to the honorees, eight people were inducted to the 1,000 Hour Club for volunteering 1,000 or more hours in the calendar year.



Chandler Mayor Kevin Hartke and For Our City-Chandler Director Victor Hardy (in the back) are pictured with individuals who volunteered more than 1,000 hours in 2018. They are (L to R): Lori Dayton, *AZCEND*; Betty Ingram, *AZCEND*; Ricardo Felix (back), *Chandler Traditional Academy*; Helen Gonzales, *About Care*; Caryn Shoemaker, *About Care*; Rea Dias, *About Care*; Svetlana Todorov, *Intel*. Not pictured is Michael Duran, *Intel*.

## Be the solution to storm water pollution

Stormwater runoff is a leading cause of pollution to surface waters in the United States. Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rainfall events flows over the ground. Stormwater flows can pick up dirt, litter, automotive fluids, pet



waste, household chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers, yard waste and other pollutants as it flows over paved surfaces and yards. Paved surfaces like driveways, sidewalks

and streets direct stormwater runoff into the street and gutter and eventually into a storm drain, where it discharges untreated into the nearest landscaped retention basin, park, greenbelt, community lake and in some cases, local washes and gullies within your neighborhood. For information on what you can do to help prevent storm water pollution, visit [chandleraz.gov/stormwater](http://chandleraz.gov/stormwater).

## EVENTS FEBRUARY

- 23 Downtown Chandler Farmers Market/Yoga in the Park, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 855-3539
- 23 FRANK Talks: know Your First Amendment, Sunset Library, 782-2800
- 23 Preschool Expo, Chandler Community Center, 782-2728
- 23 The Doo Wop Project, Chandler Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 24 Best of Broadway, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 25 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 28 Budget Connect, Council Chambers or online, 782-2200
- 28 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 28 FitDC, Downtown Stage Plaza, 782-2669

## MARCH

- 2 Public Safety Fair and Classic Kar Show, Downtown Chandler, 782-4221
- 2, 9 Downtown Chandler Farmers Market/Yoga in the Park, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 855-3539
- 6 Resources to Build Your Business Workshop, Chandler Hamilton Library, 782-2800
- 7, 14, 21 FitDC, Downtown Stage Plaza, 782-2669
- 8-10 Ostrich Festival, Tumbleweed Park, 480-588-8497
- 11, 25 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 13 Creating a Business Plan/Marketing Your Business Workshop, Chandler Hamilton Library, 782-2800
- 13 Chandler Senior Expo, Chandler Community Center, 782-2727



- 14, 28 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 16, 23 Downtown Chandler Farmers Market/Yoga in the Park, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 855-3539
- 17 Skerryvore, free St. Patrick's Day Concert, Chandler Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 20 Financing & Staffing Your Business Workshop, Chandler Hamilton Library, 782-2800
- 21 Sonoran Sunset Concert Series: The Knockabouts, Veterans Oasis Park, 782-2890
- 27 Grand Openings to Long-Term Success Workshop, Chandler Hamilton Library, 782-2800
- 30 Great American BBQ & Beer Festival, Downtown Chandler, 602-276-2499
- 30 Downtown Chandler Farmers Market, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 855-3539

For event details, visit [chandleraz.gov](http://chandleraz.gov) or call the Chandler Special Events Hotline at 782-2735.

Mayor Kevin Hartke & City Council

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### Legal

**Attention: Rolland E. Strang:** Please contact me when you see this notification. Through the courts, I am trying to get visitation to see your son. 480-322-1238. Ms. E. Rue Bloomfield, NM. 2/19

**Permanent Guardianship:** I, Tanya M. Bailey, am filing a public notice about a permanent guardianship for Mary Jane Olivia Bailey. The hearing will be on 03/07/2019 at 8:30 am at the Superior Court of Arizona, 3131 W. Durango, Phoenix, 85009

### Help Wanted

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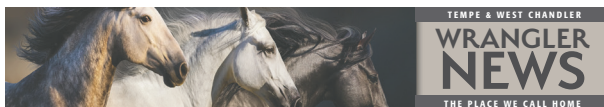
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# Jack Sellers named to succeed Denny Barney on Board of Supervisors

Jack Sellers, a former Chandler City Council member, has been appointed to succeed Denny Barney, who stepped down Feb. 1 to become CEO of the East Valley Partnership.

Sellers was appointed to represent Maricopa County District 1 by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors.

The district includes Tempe, Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Scottsdale and part of Phoenix. Because Barney's term does not end until 2020, Sellers will have to run for the seat after the term is up if he wants to stay on the board.

A Chandler native, Sellers won the post over ex-state legislators Steve Yarbrough, Jill Norgaard, Greg Patterson, Warde Nichols and Tom Forese. David Richins, Mark Stewart, Brandon Schmoll, Frank Schmuck, Angela Creedon, Rusdon Ray and Jimmy

Lindblum also applied for the post.

"What an honor and privilege it is to be appointed to serve on this outstanding board," Sellers said after taking the oath of office.

Sellers brings broad experience to the board in addition to his city council term, including posts on the Maricopa Association of Governments, the Greater Phoenix Economic Council and the East Valley Partnership. He currently chairs the state transportation board.

"I think the next several years will be critical for us in defining our transportation infrastructure for the future and I felt some concern going into my last year on the transportation board about how I was going to be able to play a key role. I feel like serving on this Board gives me the opportunity to do that," Sellers said.

"Jack Sellers brings a wide range of experience to the board, none more important than his work on transportation," said Chairman Bill Gates. "His vision for smart infrastructure and autonomous vehicles is inspiring and aligns with the direction of Maricopa County. Jack will be a tremendous asset to the Board."

Said Vice Chairman Clint Hickman:

"We had a lot of really good applicants. What I appreciate about Jack is that he takes a really holistic view of the county, as all of us on the board do. It's not about this district or that district, but about what's in the best long-term interest of Maricopa County."

The Board received 13 applications for the position.

Arizona Revised Statute 16-230(A)2 requires the current Board of Supervisors to appoint a person of the same political party from District 1. The seat will be open again in 2020.

"I'm at the point of my life where I want to do something I enjoy, but I'm also looking for something to make a difference," Sellers said.

"This is the perfect fit."



Former Chandler Councilmember Jack Sellers at ceremony welcoming him as new member of Board of Supervisors.

Photo courtesy Maricopa County Communications Department

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# Briefly . . .



## Tempe Councilwoman Kuby to host library forums

Tempe Vice Mayor Lauren Kuby will meet with residents twice in coming months during a forum at Connections Café at the Tempe Public Library.

Forums are held on the last Saturday of each month from 1- 3 p.m.

Participants can have a cup of coffee or tea and talk about any issues they would like to share.

Dates are Feb. 23 and March 30.



## Tempe exec named to board of regional Chamber group

Anne Gill, president/CEO of the Tempe Chamber of Commerce, has been elected to serve a one-year term on the board of the Western Association of Chamber Executives.

W.A.C.E. is an association of chamber of commerce executives and staff professionals with approximately 850 members in 18 Western states and Canada.

The association is designed to promote and enhance the professional development of chamber

of commerce executives and is the largest state or regional chamber of commerce executives association in the United States.

## I-HELP hosting 'Help the Helpers' session for hundreds of area volunteers

Tempe Cares will host a Help the Helpers Project from 7 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 2, with hundreds of Tempe residents, employees, students, businesses and organizations joining forces to improve the community and show how much they care.

The program is sponsored by the Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program under Tempe Community Action Agency and the Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility initiative of the YMCA.

The project will take place at the Tempe YMCA and three other sites in support of I-HELP.

Volunteers of all ages from within and outside the community will be accommodated and are encouraged to serve.

A complimentary breakfast will be provided.

Tempe Cares is organized and executed by Tempe Leadership, a committee of the Tempe Chamber Foundation, with Tempe residents, employees, students, businesses and other community-minded organizations joining forces each year to improve Tempe.

Information: [tempecares@gmail.com](mailto:tempecares@gmail.com).



## Noted speaker, musician featured at Lenten Mission

Acclaimed speaker and musician Julie Carrick will lead a Lenten Mission at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 1800 E. Libra Drive, Tempe, at 7 p.m. March 11-13.

The theme is "Intentional Disciples; Mary, the Apostles and Us." The presentation examines

the call to discipleship by the example of Mother Mary, the Apostles and the grace received through the sacraments.

Information: 480-838-7474

## Downtown Chandler Farmers Market running Saturdays through May

Cooler temperatures herald outdoor events aplenty, including the Downtown Chandler Farmers Market.

Held at Dr. AJ Chandler Park West on Saturdays 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. through May, the mornings feature fresh, locally grown, organic produce and fresh artisan breads and pastries.

Festivities also include Yoga in the Park, a free, 45-minute all-levels class taught by FLO Yoga & Cycle at 10:30 a.m.

Those who stroll the market can also learn at one of the monthly chef demonstrations. Chef Aaron Rickel from The Brickyard Downtown is sharing his secrets at 10 a.m. March 2.

Information: [dccp@downtownchandler.org](mailto:dccp@downtownchandler.org).

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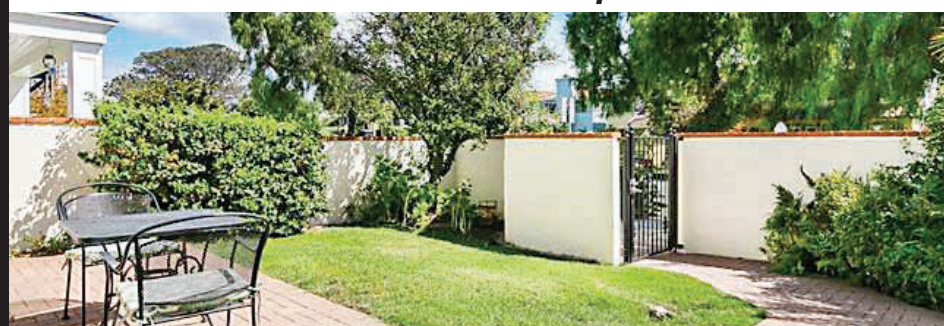
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