



## Acrobatic wunderkind leaps at a chance to revisit her mentor

SPECIAL REPORT BY M.V. MOORHEAD  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BILLY HARDIMAN

It can be difficult, watching a performance like this, to remember that the people up there are ordinary human beings with offstage lives.

Their acrobatic and athletic feats in the Cirque du Soleil franchise's various shows seem so ridiculously superhuman that they can come across like some other, higher order of human, some Nietzschean upgrade to Homo sapiens.

The idea of these people having families and hometowns and teachers seems almost impertinent.

Yet one of the cast members of Amaluna, the Cirque du Soleil show playing at State Farm Stadium through April 14, recently got to visit a mentor

from earlier in her life, here in Tempe at ASU.

Alix Croop, who plays one of the acrobatic Amazons in this Cirque du Soleil spin on Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, stopped by to check out the ASU Women's Gymnastics team compete.

She was also able to catch up with her former coach at Pitt, Jessica Santos, now the associate head coach of ASU's gymnastics team.

"I was a gymnast since I was five," recalls Croop. "I went to the University of Pittsburgh on a scholarship. I majored in Psychology."

— CIRQUE, Page 12

ASU gymnast shows off her 'superhuman' abilities.

— More photos on Page 13



## S.A.F.E. program a Lifeline for teens at five area high schools

Last year may have been only the tip of a rapidly melting iceberg of suicidal ideation among Tempe, West Chandler and other Valley teenagers:

More than 23,000 calls and nearly 1,400 texts flooded the phones of prevention specialists, who note that this year's spring season is again predicted to see an increase in desperate calls from adolescents ages 10 to 19.

That's why Phoenix-based Teen Lifeline is alerting those who come in contact with teenagers that it is a stressful time of year, typically resulting in an average 10 percent increase in calls that are answered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year following spring break.

It's also behind the organization's

reminder of a sweeping initiative that's underway to show Teen Lifeline contact information on the back of student ID cards, which already has taken place at Corona del Sol, Marcos de Niza and McClintock high schools, as well as at Compadre Academy and New School for the Arts.

Teen Lifeline says the move is part of its SAFE program, which spells out an easily recallable checklist in case friends or family feel a teen may be in danger:

**S**—Search the back of your teen's school ID. If you have a child in middle school or high school, check the back of your student's school ID to make sure it has the Teen Lifeline phone number.

— S.A.F.E., Page 20

DIGNITY HEALTH  
OPENS NEW  
FREESTANDING  
E.R. IN TEMPE  
Details, Page 20

For police,  
firefighters,  
just one more  
deadly risk

The sad news involving a Flagstaff police officer who took his own life, followed by our receipt of a white paper from an internationally

recognized foundation that deals with social and disability-related issues, prompted Wrangler News to delve into how our Tempe emergency-services departments deal with the effects

of untreated mental illness related to ongoing exposure to death and tragedy. According to the Ruderman Family Foundation, which undertook a study on the topic,

police officers and firefighters are more likely to die by suicide than in the line of duty. To determine to what extent Tempe police and firefighters are aware of the inherent

dangers involved with these issues, we asked Tempe Police Lt. Michael Hayes and Tempe Fire Asst. Chief Craig Fredricks to outline any

— DANGERS, Page 11



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# Tempe Elementary School District Where Bright Futures Begin

## BRIEFLY . . .

### Former vice mayor running for Tempe mayor

Former Tempe Vice Mayor Corey Woods is running for the city's top elected office, setting the stage for the city's first competitive mayoral race since 2012.

Woods announced his candidacy March 20 with a tribute video to his late mother, who passed away a couple of months before Woods was re-elected to a second term. He served eight years and worked to improve community development standards to attract business investment and protect neighborhoods.

"I have the utmost respect for the 20 years Mayor Mitchell has served on the city council," Woods said. "And I'm excited to share my priorities with the voters of Tempe."

As mayor, Woods wants to focus on affordable housing, quality jobs, modern-day middle-class housing, strong neighborhoods and a vibrant quality of life. Woods holds a master's degree from ASU, and a B.A. from University of Michigan.

### Tempe Chamber addressing sustainability

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce—the only organization of its kind in the U.S. dedicated to engaging and educating the business community on sustainability practices—will host one of the nation's foremost experts on implementing such strategies at a conference coming to Tempe on April 5.

The event will feature local and national experts offering programs and business solutions to help organizations save resources and money through the implementation of sustainable practices.

Christopher Guith, senior vice president at the U.S. Chamber's Global Energy Institute, will be keynote speaker.

Guith is responsible for developing the institute's policies as they relate to three branches of federal and state governments. His main focus is the development of policies relating to oil and natural gas, generation and nuclear energy.

Guith's expertise ranges from educating policymakers on the importance of energy and environmental issues to speaking frequently with local, state and national media to help inform the public on sustainability.

He also regularly consults with state and local chambers and business groups on the importance of safe, reliable American energy and how it can positively benefit their business.

The forum, sponsored by SRP, will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix-Tempe ASU Research Park.

Information/registration: Sukki Jahnke, 480-736-4283 or tempechamber.org.

### Human Services Day observance April 6

Tempe's inaugural Human Services Day is coming Saturday, April 6, offering residents a chance to explore how local lives are being changed for the

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The event, sponsored by the city of Tempe and Tempe Community Council, features Care Fair Tempe and a Tempe Human Services Symposium. Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tempe Community Complex, 3500 S. Rural Road.

The day's activities will feature more than 50 local nonprofits and service providers that assist Tempe residents. Visitors can connect with available services and learn about volunteer opportunities. Care Fair offers food, music, giveaways and a fun zone for kids. Low-cost produce—\$12 for up to 70 pounds—will be available through 11 a.m.

At the symposium, community members can join several speaker sessions focused on mental health and related topics and engage with experts. Participants will also learn how the city of Tempe serves residents through programs, services and community partnerships.

Mayor Mark Mitchell opens the day with a Human Services Day proclamation.

Information:  
tempehumanservicesday.org.

### Library hosts salaries workshop

For any who think they should be earning more for their hard work, the city of Tempe has partnered with the American Association of University Women to offer workshops designed to help community members build confidence and skills around salary negotiation, market worth, tools of persuasion and business strategies.

Discussion also will offer strategies on how to ask for a raise or negotiate the best salary at a new job.

The series of free pay-negotiation training classes are open to anyone who lives, works or studies in Tempe. Classes take place 9 a.m.-noon at the Teaching and Learning Center classroom inside Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

Classes are scheduled on Saturdays, April 13, Aug. 3 and Nov. 2.

One reason Tempe offers the free classes is to narrow the gender pay gap, according to a city of Tempe press release.

In 1963, a spokeswoman explained, Congress passed the Equal Pay Act requiring employers to give men and women employees equal pay for equal work in jobs that require equal skill, effort and responsibility, and are performed under similar working conditions.

Federal law acknowledges there might be pay gaps based on qualifying categories such as a seniority or merit system, or one which measures earnings by quantity or quality of production or a differential based on any factor other than sex.

Even though the act became law in 1963, women continue to experience wage disparities nationally, say the workshop planners.

Additional details on equal pay, as well as an Equal Pay business designation designed to celebrate businesses that can prove they walk the equal pay talk, are available at [www.tempe.gov/equalpay](http://www.tempe.gov/equalpay).

### ACC supports drought relief

Over the last several years, Bolivia has been in a state of emergency due to severe drought conditions affecting over 125,000 families and upward of 716,300 acres of agriculture.

Valley-based nonprofit, Food for the Hungry has teamed up with Arizona Community Church to provide the drought-ridden community of Belén, Bolivia with a crucial water supply necessary to sustain healthy families and grow plentiful crops.

"The partnership between Food for the Hungry and Arizona Community Church was an easy decision, as both organizations have the desire to walk hand-in-hand with these nations, not as foreigners, but rather as brothers and sisters in Christ fighting for the same cause," said Tina Schuler, Women's Ministry director at Arizona Community Church.

### Group assists Ugandan orphans

Connie Sunday, a Tempe woman who is chair of E3 Africa, a nonprofit that supports the orphaned and marginalized children of Uganda, traveled to the African country last year to see for herself the work the organization is doing to live up to its goal of educating, enriching and empowering those it serves.

On Saturday, May 4, E3 Africa will host the Classic 100, a fundraiser at Top Golf.

Mike Ingersoll, board member, said the event is a "fun day at Top Golf where each participant pledges to hit 100 golf balls and solicits pledges from friends, neighbors, and family. It is a lot like the fundraisers in school where students get pledges for every lap they make around the school track."

Information: [e3africa.org](http://e3africa.org).

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## Nextdoor: A follow-up Despite change in plans, our advisory remains unchanged

In the last edition of Wrangler News, we ran what we intended to be the first installment of a two-part series involving the online social-media site Nextdoor.com.

Our intent was to explore the site's ownership and origins, and to provide readers with sufficient background to help them decide whether they wanted to sign up for the service, which relies on random contributions from local residents about topics of neighborhood interest—lost pets, suspicious visitors, miscellaneous matters that the posters feel might be useful to other residents of the same area.

City agencies in our newspaper's coverage area, including the two local police departments, also use the site, primarily to alert and inform residents when it's felt that such information is a valuable adjunct to other means of reporting.

In developing this intended series, we assigned one of our top writers to research how Nextdoor develops its highly localized target neighborhoods, how it registers participants and what it does with the information it requires its members to provide when they sign up.

These were the avenues of exploration our writer followed, and the results she found became the basis for the first installment of our coverage that ran in the last edition, as well as for the second part that was due to appear in this current issue.

That second installment will not appear—not because it was inadequately documented or poorly written but because our writer found that the site's underpinnings were so heavily concealed beneath so many complex digital layers that it became impossible for us to reach any verifiable conclusions.

While our writer managed to compile a 2,600-word report of her findings, all of which were documented with details of what appears to be a

labyrinthine system of interconnected electronic pathways, we simply do not have the breadth of staffing, the time or the collective expertise to compile the millions of related and unrelated pieces into a report we could provide to our readers with full confidence of its accuracy.

This does not mean we are any the less interested in knowing more about how Nextdoor.com operates, or about what it does with the information it requires its members to submit before they can receive access to its site.

As with many internet-based services, including those whose data-mining policies have already been the focus of major concerns, we believe that any who sign up for seemingly innocuous online sites should know what permissions the service is requiring its members to agree to and what happens if and when those permissions result in information being used in ways we wouldn't want it to be.

A simple search of comments from online users, while certainly not 100 percent definitive, at least offers some insight into what others say they have experienced, evidence an article in *The New York Times* which reported recently on outrage in Oakland, Calif., where users complained that the service had become a magnet for racial profiling, leading African-American and Latino residents to be seen as suspects in their own neighborhoods—something Nextdoor says it is aware of and trying to prevent.

In conclusion, as with any online service that requires the user to divulge personal information or to anyone who is concerned about the broader implications for the community, we think such an exploration is well advised—before signing away rights to a company we know little, if anything, about.

— Don Kirkland



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# Dayspring church's LGBT stance followed by anti-gun activism

By Joyce Coronel

On the heels of its decision, alongside a majority of other United Methodist churches in the U.S. to protest a recent vote by the UMC's General Conference to continue its ban on same-sex marriage and ordination, a Tempe congregation will soon host two anti-gun-violence activists.

Dayspring United Methodist's Sunday, March 24, morning services will feature presentations by Shane Claiborne and Mike Martin whose "Beating Guns Tour" is in the midst of a multi-city run.

A 90-minute presentation takes place at the church at 2 p.m. as Claiborne, alongside Martin, a Mennonite pastor turned blacksmith, offer a Christian response to gun violence in America.

The afternoon presentation will feature music, art and stories of people impacted by gun violence, culminating with an invitation for the audience to take a hammer and transform a gun into a garden tool.

Inspired by the biblical prophets' call to "beat swords into plowshares," Claiborne and Martin, who



Mennonite pastor turned blacksmith Mike Martin at his forge.

— Photo courtesy Dayspring United Methodist Church

use a forge and other blacksmithing tools in their presentation, are promoting their new book, "Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence."

The Dayspring event coincides with the one-year anniversary of the "March for Our Lives" rally held in Washington, D.C., and around the country in the wake of the 2018 Parkland, Florida, school shooting

that took the lives of 17 students and staff.

Jeff Procter-Murphy, pastor of Dayspring, said his daughter's childhood has been impacted by gun violence.

"My daughter Claire was a sixth-grader when the Sandy Hook shooting occurred—the deadliest elementary school shooting—and a high school



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junior when the deadliest high school shooting in U.S. history took place at Parkland. Her middle and high school years have been framed—and marred—by horrific gun violence. [We have] a generation of students going to school in fear, with lockdowns commonplace across the land,” Procter-Murphy said.

The anti-gun-violence presentation at Dayspring offers a concrete response to the crisis.

“We have the audacity to believe that it is not the will of God for approximately 105 people to die from guns each day in the U.S.,” Claiborne and Martin say in a press release regarding their tour.

Claiborne and Martin’s presentation will address fear in America, corporate accountability, the number of guns in the U.S., “gun capitalists,” victims and the National Rifle Association.

Their book tour kicked off on March 9 in Philadelphia, stopping in more than 35 cities during the pre-Easter season of Lent.

Claiborne and Martin have also launched the Disarming Network to

help people connect with safe spaces to disable guns according to Federal ATF guidelines.

Dayspring United Methodist Church, on Elliot Road in Tempe, has come to be known in the community as a progressive house of worship. From jazz communion services and having a local rabbi address the congregation, to an active welcoming of the LGBT community and celebration of Earth Day, Dayspring has sought to reach those who might not feel at home in more conservative churches.

Pastor Jeff Procter-Murphy’s blog describes progressive Christianity as, “An expression of the faith that embraces critical biblical scholarship and welcomes metaphorical readings of Scripture, allowing for fresh, relevant understandings of the text ...This helps us understand how tribalism, slavery, the subjugation of women, and heterosexism are but cultural byproducts from a distant time and place that need to be put to rest once and for all.”

Information: [dayspring-umc.org](http://dayspring-umc.org)



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Shari Hamblin, a volunteer with Tempe Community Action Agency, has spent the last 12 years delivering meals to homebound seniors in the community.

— Photos courtesy TCAA

## TCAA mobilizing volunteers as part of 'March for Meals' campaign to help seniors, disabled to have better lives

By Nicholas Johnsen

Though known to many as a college town, Tempe is also home to a growing elderly and disabled population, many of whom require assistance with day-to-day tasks such as preparing meals and other seemingly routine chores. Good help, some have found, can be hard to come by.

For the entire month of March, Tempe Community Action Agency is participating in the "March for Meals" program, in partnership with Meals on Wheels.

Through March for Meals, TCAA is looking for dedicated volunteers to help deliver prepared food to senior and disabled individuals without the financial means to employ such help themselves.

One volunteer with TCAA with whom we spoke was Shari Hamblin, a textbook example of a good Samaritan. Hamblin has been volunteering with TCAA delivering meals for over 12 years now, each year more impactful than the rest.

When asked why she's put in so much time, Hamblin had one response: The people.

"I feel like we're doing good for them, and I love working with people. I'm partial."

Hamblin went on to describe a normal day of volunteering. She picks up her deliveries and her usual list, gasses up, and sets out. About two hours later, 12 meals have been sent off, 12 days more enjoyable and 12 lives much brighter.

To better understand why volunteers like Hamblin are tackling this problem head on and how important the work is, TCAA Executive Director Deborah Arteaga weighed in. Arteaga explained that nearly 85 percent of Tempe's senior citizenship is stressed financially in some way or another.

"They're struggling to pay for the kind of care that they need. Some tell us they skip medications or take smaller doses to try and stretch one out."

The kind of care Arteaga is talking about is often expensive and out of reach for many who still need help, so TCAA steps in where it can.

Arteaga also explained that, through Tempe Neighbors Helping Neighbors, TCAA will be seeking to expand its provided elderly and disabled care to helping with things such as trips to the doctor or the grocery store, or maintenance around the house. With this upcoming expansion and the warmer, busier meal delivery season around the corner, both Hamblin and Arteaga expressed the same concern for more help.

As an opportunity to assist those in need and develop lasting relationships at the same time, March for Meals seems to be as good as it gets.

For more information on how to get involved in the Home-Delivered Meal Program, contact TCAA at [www.tempeaction.org/volunteer](http://www.tempeaction.org/volunteer). Meal carriers must have a reliable car, proof of a current Arizona driver's license, clean driving record, auto insurance and pass a background check.

Mileage reimbursements are also available for drivers.

## April 13 finish line for race to end homelessness

Tempe Community Action Agency's Race to Alleviate Homelessness takes place Saturday, April 13 at Kiwanis Park.

The family-friendly community event features a timed 5K run for serious competitors and a 1-mile walk for those less athletically inclined.

The public is invited to join faith-based partners, community members, elected officials, neighbors and service organizations to help support efforts to provide safe shelter and pathways out of homelessness for men and women in Tempe.

The event features live music, games, food and beverage trucks, raffles, information tables and kid-friendly activities—all while raising money and awareness for what is recognized as a vital community service.

The race supports the mission of Tempe Community Action Agency's I-HELP Shelter Program: to assist men and women to overcome homelessness and improve their level of self-reliance.

I-HELP is Tempe's only homeless shelter program and serves up to 40 men and women per night with involvement from a vast network of community and faith-based partners.

Six hundred homeless men and women annually seek safety, shelter and support in their journey to regain independence and long-term self-sufficiency. I-HELP empowers men and women to overcome their challenges, both short and long-term, in order to successfully secure employment, safe permanent housing, and independence.

Information: [tempeaction.org](http://tempeaction.org).



# Dangers

From Page 1

preventive measures their agencies may have in place. Their responses follow:

## Lt. Michael Hayes

We have a variety of wellness programs within the Tempe Police Department.

All of these programs are designed to increase resilience both physically and mentally.

New officers begin acclimating within the law enforcement culture by joining our Advisor Program.

In this program new officers are assigned an advisor who can assist them with anything needed from the beginning until they are off probation. The relationship lasts well over a year, although can continue much longer informally.

Advisors go to a 10-hour training incorporating wellness, communication and goal-setting skills, financial and employee assistance, as well as going over Tempe PD's five key initiatives.

We believe this program is vital in acclimating new employees to law enforcement and to the Tempe Police Department. The advisor is solely a mentor to the new employee, which we feel is important so that communication is not inhibited by the training and grading process. We also have a strong CISM, or Critical Incident Stress Management, program of about 40 officers/sergeants.

CISM personnel are highly trained to assist those who have gone through a critical incident at work or are having issues outside of work. CISM provides a contact person to discuss any ongoing issues or to provide resources when the need is greater than they can assist with. Even if resources are provided, the CISM person still continues contact to assist with the process. CISM also conducts

structured briefings during extreme critical incidents to those that were directly involved during the incident.

If an officer is involved in a shooting, a (key multidisciplinary group) meets within two days of the incident to start talking about the welfare of the officer and to designate a point of contact. The purpose of these meetings is to ease the burden on the officer and to make sure the appropriate care and communication is happening.

Officers also have at their disposal the city of Tempe employee assistance program where officers can attend up to eight counseling sessions. We recently began a wellness class that teaches people how to regulate stress on their own. We are exposing officers to resilience through breathing and movement. In this class officers and dispatchers will learn techniques to move and breathe more efficiently to reduce stress. This will be a tool they can use on their own to maintain wellness.

A new program we are beginning is the tracking of not only the amount of critical incidents that officers are involved in but other incidents as well, including accidents, complaints and use-of-force incidents, among other topics.

Supervisors will be provided an early update as to when officers have had a variety of work-related issues come up over the last six months. The supervisor will be able to look into this to see if any potential issues may arise. This will be extremely beneficial as we understand a variety of smaller cumulative issues can have extreme effects when a large critical incident occurs.

We also understand a large (number) of cumulative issues may affect some negatively without a large critical incident occurring. Hopefully, by obtaining this information early, we can assist employees to maintain wellness and thrive throughout their career.

## Asst. Chief Craig Fredricks

PTSD and firefighter-, police- and military-suicides are occurring at an alarming rate. Tempe Fire Medical Rescue,

through our labor/management process, has developed a comprehensive employee assistance program that focuses on the unique needs of our firefighters. The program includes professional behavioral health provided by Public Safety Crisis Solutions and a peer support component provided by trained members of the department.

Both labor and management utilize member welfare people whose job it is to determine fit-for-duty status and assist in getting personalized help to members who need it.

We are developing a culture of wellness that includes early recognition of stressors and methods of coping.

This includes allowing time away from work to seek assistance if necessary. There is a notification system in place for when our firefighters respond to calls that we consider to be high stress in nature.

These high-stress incidents have an increased chance of resulting in long-term psychological effects and include such incidents as child drownings, suicides and major or unusual violent incidents. All of our members have training in recognition of high-stress incidents. When one of these incidents occurs, notification is made up the chain of command and out through our dedicated member-welfare team.

That team, in turn, puts into motion a check on our firefighters that responded to the incident and begins assigning peer support members for future welfare checks. Our peer support members have training in early support of firefighters who need assistance and the ability to recognize a greater need and steer them toward more appropriate professional help when necessary.

Because stress is often cumulative and can come from many different sources, we are attempting to be comprehensive in our approach to stress management.

All of our members have training in recognition and the ability to access peer support and other resources for themselves or others via a web based program called Firestrong. This program was developed and made available through our firefighter labor group, Local 493.

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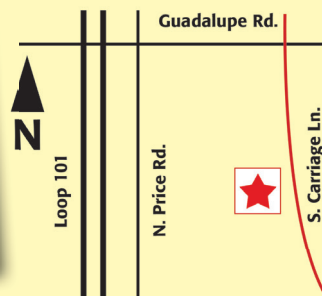
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## Cirque

From Page 1

See facing page for more photos

She also was a top member of Pitt's gymnastic team, partly under the tutelage of assistant coach Jessica Santos.

After Pitt, Croop went on to earn her Master's in Sports and Exercise Psychology from Chatham University. She had also sent an audition video to Cirque du Soleil, and was both thrilled and disappointed when she heard back.

"I had a really good internship," says Croop. "And I'm one of those people who, if I start something, I really want to finish it. I had to sort of ask them, 'can you not call me until August of 2011?' I had them in my cell phone as 'CIRQUE,' and it was really exciting every time that came up."

The master's degree duly obtained, Croop was at last able to run away and join the circus.

She accepted a position with "Cirque," appearing in the (now closed)

Las Vegas show Viva Elvis, and then in the touring company of Corteo.

Although working for the company has given Croop the opportunity to travel and perform all over the world, she seemed particularly delighted by her stop in the Valley, as it gave her the chance to reconnect with Santos.

"It's so cool," says Croop. "I'm so excited for her to see a show."

It was also gratifying to learn that Croop had essentially the same response that I did to the daunting prospect of joining the cast of Cirque du Soleil; it looked superhuman to her too.

"The first time I saw it, I thought, how can I do something in that show?" she says.

"I think everybody has that reaction. But then you do the training, and you become one of those people."

Cirque du Soleil's Amaluna plays through April 14 at State Farm Stadium, 1 Cardinals Drive in Glendale. Tickets start at \$48. Go to [cirquedusoleil.com](http://cirquedusoleil.com) or call 602-379-0102 for tickets and details.



The annual book festival at Tempe Public Library draws crowds with local authors, giveaways and games. — Photo courtesy of Tempe Public Library

## Tempe library turns a new page as national-award finalist

By Noah Kutz

It's the Academy Awards of the library universe. The Tempe Public Library has become a finalist for the 2019 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's most prestigious recognition for public institutions that make extraordinary contributions to their communities. Tempe's is the third library in Arizona to be nominated, and the only institution in the state ever to become

a finalist.

In this race to be named the top-performing library or museum in America, candidates must showcase their innovative ways of bringing neighborhoods together in a world of declining reliance on community-based institutions.

Despite local communities having drifted toward e-books, social media



**'THEY FLOAT THROUGH THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE . . . The daring young women on the flying trapeze'**  
Performers from Cirque du Soleil, top, were on hand for gymnastics competition at ASU; Alix Croop, lower left, signs autographs for young admirers; Croop was reunited with her former coach, Jessica Santos, lower right.

*— Wrangler News photos by Billy Hardiman*





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**9:30 am - Worship Center**

**9:30 am - Upstairs Intersect Worship**

**11:00 am - Worship Center**

**Kindergarten and younger in  
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**Children Grades 1-6 are in  
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**9:30 and 11:00.**

**Teens at 11:00 am in Worship Center.**



# Sports

with Alex Zener

## Blend of experience a plus for end of season

The Aztecs have all the makings of a good team, with 10 seniors, five returning players from last season and six younger players who should soon be able to mesh to finish the season strong.

"I am very excited about this season," says coach Geoffrey Horewitch. "We had a great group of kids come out for volleyball this year."

"We have the potential for strong leadership among our group with 10 seniors and five returning players," said Horewitch. "They all have the same drive and goals for the season."

The returning players are Niko Zeiner, James Watson, Sebastian Burgos, Zack Lobeck and Tyler Lai.

This season is Zeiner's fourth year on the varsity team and third year as the starting setter.

"Niko has continued to grow as a setter and become a dominant player on the court with his ability to change the flow of the game" said Horewitch. "He was top three in the state last year in assists and should be able to repeat that performance

this year."

Zeiner currently has 231 assists over 32 sets or an average of 7.2 assists a set.

Watson, who has 72 kills and 18 blocks in 32 sets is one of the three players Horewitch is expecting to be the better hitters on the team. Swansiger and Lai are the other two.

"James returns as one of our top players with the ability to play on the pin and in the middle," said Horewitch. "He was very dominant last year in the middle for us but has increased his volleyball IQ a lot over the off season so he may be even be able to help us in another position."

Burgos, who could play both middle blocker and outside hitter, is credited with 26 kills and 11 blocks so far this season.

Lai played libero last season, as a freshman, but has moved to the outside hitter position this season where he is leading the team in kills with 81.

"Tyler is one of the most athletic players on the team," said Horewitch. "He has continued to grow on and off the court and it shows in his performance on the court this season."

Lobeck was a transfer student last year so although he was able to practice with the team, he was not able to play in any games. He became eligible at the beginning of this season and has already started to have an impact on the team's success with 46 kills and 21 blocks.

"We are very happy to have Zach be able to play in games his senior season," said Horewitch. "He is very athletic plus he has been working hard in the off season to be prepared for his final campaign."

In addition to the five returning players, the

Aztecs have some new promising players on the team that Horewitch is hoping will have an impact on the team's success the rest of the season.

Goran Swansiger, a former baseball player, came out for volleyball his senior year.

"Goran played volleyball in middle school, so he knows the basics of the game," said Horewitch. "As a left-handed 6-foot-3 hitter, has a very high ceiling and should prove to be an asset on our team."

Milt Hatzidakis is the second senior transfer to Corona on the team. He is a soccer player from Nebraska who decided to go out for volleyball to give it a try.

"Although Milt does not have much experience playing volleyball, he is 6-foot-5 and very athletic," said Horewitch. "He has the drive to help the team in any way possible."

Connor O'Brien, just a freshman, is the starting libero for the Aztecs.

"Connor is new to the program but has a lot of athletic ability and is a very good libero," said Horewitch. "He is leading the team in digs with 102 digs which is nearly one-third of the team's current 313 total digs."

Other members of the Aztec volleyball team include senior defensive specialist Yuki Yamada, opposite hitter Uday Mohanty, outside hitter Santiago Connolly, middle blocker Finn Boyle and middle blocker Carson Bryan, junior backup setter Micah Lloyd and middle blocker Ahmed Wali and sophomore defensive specialist Owen Vullo.

The Aztecs are 1-10 so far this season but should improve over the rest of the season in the hopes of making it into the state tournament.

## VANISH THE VAPE

E-cigarettes are battery-powered devices that can deliver nicotine and flavor in the form of an aerosol. The use of e-cigarettes is commonly referred to as "vaping."

In 2016, more than two million US middle and high school students had used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days.

In addition to nicotine, E-cigarettes can be used to inhale marijuana and other drugs.

Vaping can cause a serious and irreversible lung disease known as "popcorn lung." The disease causes coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath, similar to the symptoms of COPD.

JUUL is the most popular brand of e-cigarettes among teens and they often refer to vaping as JUULing. Devices are small, look like a USB drive, and fit in the palm of your hand.

A single JUUL pod contains as much nicotine as a pack of 20 cigarettes.



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“We have an athletic team that allows for some players to play multiple position,” said Horewitch. “Add that versatility to the fact that we are a lot taller overall than last season, our blocking and hitting should improve the second half of the season.”

### Corona Track and Field

Nineteen teams competed at the annual Aztec Invite sponsored by Corona on March 2. Corona’s boys team took fourth place behind Desert Vista, Highland and Chandler.

The top finisher for the Aztecs in the track events was junior Jean Boyd who took first place in the 100 meters with a time of 10.92.

Boyd took second place in the 200 meters with a time of 22.55. Sophomore Jack Farley finished in fifth place while senior Joshua Holt took 16th place in the same race.

Freshman Jaden Shepherd was fifth in the 40-meter dash.

Junior Kaden Williamson missed getting fifth place in the 400 meters by .01 seconds. A runner from Chandler finished with a time of 52.30 while Williamson’s recorded time was 52.31 giving him a sixth-place finish.

Senior David Keeney took 8th place in the same 400 meters for Corona.

In the 1600 meters, junior Zachary Johnson took sixth place with a time of 4:37.81 while senior Raymond Mendoza-Lopez was 12th in the 800 meters.

Junior Domino Arellano was the top finisher for the Aztecs in the 3200 meters taking 16th place.

Junior Josiah Johnson was the top finisher in

the hurdle events with a 16th place finish in the 110-meter hurdles.

With Boyd as the lead-off runner, Corona’s 4x100 relay team of Boyd, Farley, Devon McGee and Holt crossed the finish line in second place.

Keeney, Calib McIntosh, Williamson and James Van Wicklin finished sixth in the 4x400 relay while the 4x800 relay team of Bennett Gunning, Callum Rohier, Diego Diaz and Connor McGowen finished ninth in the 4x800 relay.

Senior Tanner Kippes was the highlight in the field events with a first-place finish in the pole vault setting a personal record with a 15-00 jump.

Senior Alexander Webber tied for 10th place also in the pole vault setting a personal record with a 10-06 jump.

Junior Issam Zerek took fourth place in the triple jump while junior Jordan Nichols finished in 11th place.

Senior Michael Hall finished in seventh place in the discus with a throw of 133-03 and ninth in the shot put while junior Alden Moody took 12th place in the discus.

Other notable field event finishers included a 14th place for junior Demetrius Rock and a 17th place for Holt in the long jump and a 17th place for junior Conner Burns and an 18th place for senior Casey Barmore in the relatively new to Arizona high school track events, the javelin.

Corona’s girls team was 10th out of 18 teams who competed at the Aztec Invite with two top finishers in the track events. Senior Trinity Pierce took third place in the 40-yard dash with a time of 6.24 and Meg Horvath placed third in the 100 meters with a

time of 12.76.

In the 200 meters, the Aztecs top finisher was junior Anisa McLain who took 15th place while senior Lauryn White was 22nd.

Sophomore Audrey Weidner was the top finisher in the 400 meters with a 17th place.

Weidner was also Corona’s top finisher in the 800 meters crossing the finish line in 16th place followed by freshman Ashlinn Aguayo who was 19th.

Sophomore Peyton Burnside took 13th place in the 3200 meters while freshman Sachiko Devine was 25th.

Pierce and sophomore Zoey Allen gave Corona a 15th and 16th placed finish, respectively, in the 100-meter hurdles, while Allen finished higher in the 300-meter hurdles with a 14th place finish while Pierce placed 20th.

Corona’s top finish in the relay events was a fourth-place by the 4x200 team of Horvath, McLain, Haley Johnson and White followed by a seventh place by the 4x100 team of McLain, Haley Johnson, Suzie Marshall and Horvath.

The 4x400 relay team of Aguayo, Zoe Johnson, Abigail Holmes and Anissa Rios took 10th place.

White was the top finisher in the field events with a third-place finish in the triple jump event with a jump of 34-07. She was followed by sophomore Kayla Cortez in 11th place, junior Marshall in 13th and junior Payton Deer in 15th place.

Deer was the top Corona finisher in the long jump taking 12th place with a jump of 15.02 feet.

Agnew and Haley Johnson were impressive with a fifth and sixth place finish in the new javelin event while Agnew also competed in the shotput where she



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placed 15th.

In the discus event, senior Brooke Schmidt took 11th place with an 81-04.25 throw.

Freshman Morgan Crudup was 19th in the shotput behind Agnew but then placed 14th in the discus just ahead of Agnew who placed 15th in the same event.

Corona competed a week later, Mar. 8, at the Brophy Prep AMDG Invitational, where some of the Aztec track and field athletes continued to improve their records and finish placement.

For instance, Boyd improved his time by setting another personal record in the 100 meters at the Brophy Prep Invite with a time of 10.86 and Williamson was able to improve his time in the 400 meters by setting a personal record of 51.98.

Zachary Johnson improved not only his time but his finish place at the Brophy Prep Invite by moving from up from sixth at the Aztec Invite to a fifth-place finish with a personal best time of 4:31.31 in the 1600 meters.

Mendoza-Lopez also improved his finish and time at the Brophy Prep Invite in the 800 meters by improving his placement from 12th place at the Aztec Invite to a fifth-place finish with a season record time of 2:04.96.

Josiah Johnson went from 16th at the Aztec Invite in the 110-meter hurdles to a ninth-place finish at the Brophy Prep Invite with a season record time of 17.10.

In the field events, Kippes continued to place first in the pole vault, but was joined by teammate senior Wyatt Hackenyos in the top ten when he took sixth place with a season record vault of 11-06.

Hall moved up from a seventh-place finish at the Aztec Invite to sixth place in the discus and Moody moved from a 12th place finish to ninth place.

Junior Christopher Torla, who did not compete at the Aztec Invite, placed eighth in the discus with a season record of 117-01.

Nichols, who finished in 11th place at the Aztec Invite, took sixth place with a personal record of 40-03.50.

Other notable finishes from the Brophy Prep Invite include senior Richard Pearsall, who did not run at the Aztec Invite but came in 10th in the 100 meters with a personal record time of 11.25 and junior Steven Ortiz who also did not run the 300-meter hurdles at the Aztec Invite but finished ninth setting a personal record of 43.69.

### McClintock Track and Field

The Chargers competed in the Aztec Invite against mainly 6A schools but had some impressive results including a first-place finish by junior Jeremy Huckaby in the 40-meter dash.

Huckaby set a personal record time of 5.30 beating out runners from Chandler, Perry, Chaparral, Corona and Brophy.

Huckaby also took seventh place in the 100 meters while his teammate, freshman Prince Conteh, placed 10th.

In the 200 meters, Huckaby once again finished in the top 10 for McClintock with a sixth-place finish. Senior Jaleel Laffitte was ninth and Conteh finished 10th in the 200 meters.

Laffitte ran in the 400 meters as well finishing in

fourth place with a personal record time of 51.13

McClintock continued to show they could compete with the larger schools in the shorter distances by taking a first place in the 4x200 relay with the team of Laffitte, Conteh, Huckaby and Aidan Duvallon-Lohan.

The Charger's 4x400 relay team of Conteh, Huckaby, Laffitte and Keyon Lindsey crossed the finish line in fourth place.

The top finisher for McClintock in the field events was Duvallon-Lohan who set a personal record of 40-10.00 for a third place in the triple jump and a personal record 20-3:00 for an eighth-place finish in the long jump.

McClintock had nine runners compete in the track events and six in the field event from the girls team at the Aztec open.

The athletes who competed were: Seniors Areana Hamilton, Dymitrea Finley, Ayanna Augustine and Latise Howard; juniors Navaria Ortiz, Amelie Land and Mariska Bogaard; sophomores Selema Ortiz, Hailey Patrick, Olivia Fisher, Jordan Whitaker, Deyja Mack and Anje Hamilton; and freshman Ki'Anna Jones, and Ava Jacobson.

Navaria Ortiz took 10th place in the 100 meters and 11th in the 200 meters while Patrick was 39th out of 52 runners in the 100 meters.

Land finished in 18th place in the 400 meters while Jones was 25th out of 51 racers. Fisher finished 38th out of 55 racers in the 1600 meters.

Areana Hamilton ran in the 100-meter hurdles while Whitaker ran in both the 100 meter and 300-meter hurdles.

The Chargers 4x800 relay team of Selema Ortiz,

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Jones, Land and Bogaard finished in fourth place while the 4x200 relay team of Land, Jones, Navaria Ortiz and Selema Ortiz came in eighth out of 12 teams.

In the field events Finley took sixth place with a put of 32-11.00 which was a personal record for her. She also placed 11th place in the javelin and set a personal record of 52-02 in the discus.

+Augustine placed 16th out of 45 athletes in the shot put while Howard was 26th and Mack was 35th in the same event.

Mack also competed in the discus where she came in 31st and in the javelin finishing 20th out of 44 athletes. Jacobsen also competed for McClintock in the javelin.

Anje Hamilton competed in the long jump for the Chargers.



Corona's boys volleyball team has high hopes for a remarkable season with five returning starters from last season and quality leadership from the 10 seniors on the team. Team includes, from left, Finn Boyle, Ahmed Wali, Niko Zeiner, Zach Lobeck, Tyler Lai, Santiago Connolly, Micah Lloyd, Connor O'Brien, Owen Vullo, Yuki Yamada, Uday Mohanty, Sebastian Burgos, Carson Bryan, James Watson and Goran Swansiger.

— Photo courtesy Dion Deguzeman

## Tickets still available for Hotshots' March 24 opener

Just because ASU's Sun Devils and the Arizona Cardinals have wound down their seasons doesn't mean football is over.

Tempe now can boast the Arizona Hotshots, providing a new home football team to cheer for this year.

Best of all, Tempe residents can get tickets to the Sunday, March 24 game against San Diego Fleet for half price—\$32.50 for some of the best seats in the stadium.

This is the first season for the Arizona Hotshots. The team plays at Sun Devil Stadium, giving ASU football fans more games at the house they love best.

"I'm honored that Tempe and Sun Devil Stadium is home to the Arizona Hotshots," Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell said.

"The Alliance is a great opportunity for football fans and our downtown welcomes them with open arms. I hope to see many residents join us for the game against the Fleet!"

You can be part of a new tradition by attending the inaugural Tempe game.

Founded by TV and film producer Charlie Ebersol and Hall of Famer Bill Polian, the Arizona Hotshots is a professional football team that is part of the Alliance of American Football, which features eight teams under a single entity structure, playing a 12-week season.

Kickoff is 1 p.m. but early arrival is advised to visit the city sports booth, featuring a boating experience as a giveaway and golf specials.

Information: [Tanner.Roush@aaf.com](mailto:Tanner.Roush@aaf.com) or 623-900-4276.

Discounted tickets for the Sunday, March 24 game are available at

[www.azhotshotscityoftempeoffer](http://www.azhotshotscityoftempeoffer).







## Dignity Health opens new Tempe ER

### Dignity Health has just opened its newest freestanding emergency room in Tempe.

The new facility is licensed under Dignity Health Arizona General Hospital-Mesa, which opened last year in the East Valley. To celebrate the grand opening, Dignity Health Arizona General Hospital Emergency Room-Tempe hosted a ribbon

cutting with the Tempe Chamber of Commerce. "On behalf of our entire team, we are pleased to be a part of the Tempe community and look forward to providing residents with access to the high quality emergency medical care," said Dr. Glen McCracken, facility medical director. The Dignity Health Arizona General Hospital Emergency Room is a full-service emergency room, licensed by the state, and open 24-7.

The new facility is staffed by board-certified physicians, emergency trained registered nurses and radiology technologists and equipped with a full radiology suite and an accredited laboratory. It has full access to Dignity Health's network of physicians and specialists and is located at 5125 S. Rural Road.

**For more information, visit [azgeneraler.com](http://azgeneraler.com).**

## S.A.F.E.

From Page 1

If you don't see the hotline number listed, contact administrators at your child's school now and ask to have it added. Encourage administrators to call Teen Lifeline to implement the program.

**A**—Ask about thoughts of suicide. If you are concerned about your child, it is important to ask them about thoughts of suicide. It is a common misconception that you can give someone the idea of suicide, if you ask about it. Openly asking the question gives your teen permission to talk about their feelings, including the emotions, frustrations or challenges they are going through.

**F**—Form connections. Strong connections to family, friends and community support are a protective factor for teens. To help prevent teen suicide, form a stronger connection with a teen in your life today. For example, send a text to ask how their day is going, plan something

fun to do together, eat dinner together or ask about how things are going in their life.

**E**—Encourage positive relationships. Many times, a teen's friends help them feel supported and cared for. These friendships can come through school, sports teams, clubs, church groups and even social media. Encourage connections with peers and adults who are a positive influence in a teen's life. Think twice before cutting off all contact with friends or social media, which can actually increase risk. Instead opt for allowing some connection to continue but limit the time or duration.

"We know the time leading up to and after spring break can be especially stressful for teens," says Michelle Moorhead, Teen Lifeline executive director.

"Stressors can be anything from midterm exams to a break from friends which can leave teens feeling overwhelmed and alone.

"Connection to others, hope for the future, access to services and basic coping and life skills all help reduce risk and ultimately prevent teen suicide," she adds.

"But it takes the entire community to help our most vulnerable teens. It is important to know the things that

put your teen at risk as well as the things that will protect them from the risk of suicide."

An average of one out of every three calls to the service is from a teen considering suicide. The vast majority of those calls were resolved with a plan for getting a caring adult involved. Most callers hung up feeling as though their problem was more manageable, increasing their hope for the future, according to Moorhead.

If you know a teenager who is struggling, suggest they reach out to the Teen Lifeline hotline at 602-248-TEEN (8336) or 800-248-TEEN. The service is staffed by teen peer counselors from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. every day of the year.

Trained suicide prevention counselors staff the phones at all other hours.

Teens can also text with peer counselors at 602-248-8336 between 3 and 9 p.m. daily.

Concerned parents are encouraged to contact Teen Lifeline with questions related to their teen's behavior, to discuss how to help their child or to find community resources for additional intervention.

Information: [TeenLifeline.org](http://TeenLifeline.org).



# College tuition scandal a 'heartbreaker' for Corona, Tempe family

Commentary by Joyce Coronel

Securing a spot in a top-notch, prestigious university is one of those achievements many young people and their parents dream of and work hard to achieve.

Whether that treasured acceptance letter comes as a result of stellar academics, outstanding athletic performance or a combination of the two, the road to an Ivy-League or Division 1 college diploma is fraught with challenges.

Tempe residents Bob and Sandy McCauley know all about that. Their son, Max, Corona Class of 2006, is a graduate of Harvard Law School. "He worked very hard at ASU to get a perfect record and got all A's because he wanted to go to Harvard," Sandy said.

So when the news broke that dozens of wealthy parents—among them an Arizona real estate developer—bribed their sons' and daughters' way into coveted colleges, the McCauleys had something to say about it.

"I am absolutely disgusted by it," Sandy said. "I feel like the Hollywood people and others who are so condescending about ordinary people all the time—the same ones who are always making such a big deal about minority opportunities—they cheated, using their own influence and their own money to get their kids into these prestigious schools.

"It's just unbelievable."

Sandy says her heart goes out to students who may have missed their shot at attending an acclaimed institution of higher learning. "What really upsets me is that there are kids who didn't get into these schools because they were displaced by people who cheated," Sandy said. "It's very disheartening."

Federal authorities have charged 50 people in the largest college-admissions scam in U.S. history. Parents were accused of paying as much as \$6.5 million to get their offspring into the likes of Yale, Georgetown and Stanford, among other top-name schools. College athletic coaches have also been implicated in the schemes. From bribes to cheating on entrance exams to fudging athletic records, it's a dispiriting catalogue of dishonesty in America.

When word of the scandal began capturing headlines, my mind went back to my own teen years and my father, a man of unparalleled integrity who endeavored to instill in me and my siblings an unswerving commitment to honesty in all things.

During my sophomore year in high school, I worked at an ice-cream shop a couple miles from home. In daylight hours,

I was allowed to walk or ride my bike to work, but for the Monday-evening shift, Dad would pick me up once my co-workers and I finished up for the night. Depending on how long it took us to defrost all the ice-cream cases and complete other closing duties, we might finish anywhere between 9:30 and 10:15 p.m. This was 1978, long before the ubiquitous cell phone.

The store owner had a lock on the office phone, so we couldn't make any outgoing calls. There was a payphone (remember those?) near the drinking fountain though, and a girl I worked with would borrow two dimes from the register, deposit them in the payphone, call home and let it ring once. She would then hang up, retrieve the two dimes and return them to the register.

"See," she told me. "Now my parents know they can come get me."

I explained this ingenious communication method to Dad when he dropped me off the following Monday night and told him to await his signal. When I got in the car a few hours later, I was feeling a bit smug about how Dad and I had communicated for free and without actually speaking. Dad, however, had a different take.

"Doll," he told me, "next week I'll park in front of the store and wait for you. Or, I can just give you a quarter."

"But why, Dad?" I asked, bewildered and yet somehow knowing deep down there was something slightly shady about calling home without really...calling.

"It's cheating. You're using the phone company's equipment and not paying for it. And you shouldn't take anything from the register, ever."

And so that's how we managed until my career in frozen desserts ended and I became an ASU Sun Devil (no cheating to get in, either).

My point is that I never once, in my entire life, ever had reason to doubt that my father would do the right thing, given a choice between being honest and cheating. He taught us that any form of dishonesty, no matter how seemingly slight, was wrong, a slippery slope that would lead to more egregious offenses.

As a parent myself, I know this:

Our children look up to us. The question is, what do they see? My heart breaks for those whose parents have not modeled integrity for their sons and daughters.

No college dream is worth the price of one's soul. In a consumerist society in which we've grown accustomed to one-click shopping, it bears remembering that honor and integrity cannot be purchased, no matter how deep one's pockets.

## Asst. principal takes school's top job New Marcos principal aims at furthering a notable past

By Diana Nelson

When school starts next fall, the students at Marcos de Niza High School will be greeted by a new principal, but one with a very familiar name and face: Sarah Tolar, the school's current assistant principal of academics.



Sarah Tolar

Tolar has been part of the Marcos leadership team for the last four years, first having served as the assistant principal before transitioning to the academics role in 2017.

In her view, says Tolar, the transition will allow a continued focus

on "defining our vision for Marcos de Niza and creating the path to achieve that vision through the avenues of all of our different departments, including athletics, activities

and academics.

"I feel very lucky that I've had the opportunity to oversee the Activities Department and the Academics Department at Marcos before moving into this role as principal because it has given me a unique perspective of the importance of all of the different aspects of a comprehensive high school," said Tolar via email.

Over the past 40 years, A-rated Marcos earned a strong reputation for excellence in academics and athletics. Its current enrollment is 1,580.

"Marcos de Niza has a rich history and I would like to honor that history and tradition and develop ways to spotlight and appreciate where we have been as we grow and evolve, to support and to enrich our students," said Tolar.

As an added benefit, Tolar noted, the school is near ASU, which allows a special relationship to flourish, such as the Marcos Business Academy, a three-year educational program that partners with ASU's W.P. Carey School of Business.

— MARCOS, Page 23



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Wednesday, April 3  
8 am to 9:30 am

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

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Friday, April 12  
8 am to 9:30 am

Chandler Chamber  
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Tuesday, April 23  
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# Marcos

From Page 21

The relationship, says Tolar, allows students a unique learning opportunity in the field of marketing and a connection to ASU students and professors.

Tolar adds that Marcos is a unique and special place.

"I love the size of the school that we have because it is small enough to feel connected among staff, students and community, but big enough to offer a wide range of opportunities to our students."

Tolar also names the school's Fine Arts Academy as an outstanding program, along with several curriculums that provide students with hands-on experience in career fields such as criminal justice, early childhood education and construction technology.

"Our teachers work hard to find unique opportunities for our students to experience the content area with real-world industry experts and to get an understanding of how the skills they are learning are applicable outside of the classroom," said Tolar.

"We also have rigorous and challenging honors and AP courses to provide our students with the highest level of education and the flexibility to pursue a wide range of interests and opportunities throughout high school."

An Arizona native who was raised in Mesa and graduated from Dobson High School, Tolar attended UofA and competed on the swim team.

As an undergraduate, she majored in psychology and minored in creative writing, then returned to Phoenix after graduating. She became a teacher—clearly the family business as her grandmother, mother and brother were educators, she said.

Tolar taught at both Dobson and Desert Vista high schools, and coached swimming. She also went on to earn a masters degree in secondary education.

Added Tolar:

"My teachers and coaches...played such an instrumental role in my life and helped to shape who I am

today. It was clear to me from very early on that I wanted to be part of the educational process through my work, as well.

"When I started coaching after college it become clear to me very quickly that I wanted to work with high-school students as part of my life."

In 2013, Tolar was given an opportunity to move to Mountain Pointe High School as assistant principal of activities, which placed her in school administration and allowed her move to Marcos in 2015.

After school hours, Tolar still maintains a busy schedule. She spends her time with her husband John, an educator who teaches in Mesa. She also ensures her two young sons, Colby and Gus, are actively engaged in learning.

"Both my sons attended pre-school through the Tempe Union Early Learning Centers. Now, at ages 8 and 6, they're constantly exploring new interests to involve themselves in."

And finally:

"I also love to run and hike and drag my families outdoors to spend time together every chance I get," concluded Tolar.



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# Library

From Page 12

and online connectivity, the Tempe Public Library—among the 29 other nationally recognized finalists—has taken a “swimming upstream” approach to impacting the community.

Programs such as the Dementia-Friendly Tempe/Memory Café, Learning Lab and Tempe Book Bike are ways that the city brought residents together over the last year.

Says Kathy Husser, a 30-plus year veteran librarian and deputy community services director:

“The biggest change for libraries today is their relevancy and having to meet so many needs for a very diverse population...Libraries now are almost a refuge for a lot of disenfranchised and underprivileged people.”

In order to stay relevant in their communities, libraries must adapt

from their traditionally simple book-rental systems to being able to meet the various needs of large groups of people within the city.

How does one such institution fund all of these public programs? For the city of Tempe, its library is grateful for The Friends of Tempe Public Library who donate generously each year. Additionally, TPL incorporates innovative ways to raise money into its daily operations, such as the Connections Café, an in-house, self-sustaining entity that gathers enough revenue to help cover costs for improvements to the library.

TPL offers programs for tutoring children in grade school within its Learning Lab (founded by Friends of TPL), which includes programs such as “Sprouts” for math and reading, and AWE learning stations which contain computers with interactive learning games.

Children from preschool up until



middle school can utilize the library’s Learning Lab to grow and enhance their academic abilities while having fun.

With these kinds of improvements

to the library system, Tempe Public Library hopes to increase the connection between community members.

“The public library is the great equalizer for society,” says Husser. “No other entity offers something from babies to seniors on that kind of range seven days a week, and we welcome everybody.”

With a dream for museums and libraries to help transform the lives of people within every city, the Institute of Museum and Library Services hopes its members will grow continually with community outreach programs, and that individuals will find more ways to pay their local library a frequent visit.

To share personal stories about the ways that the community has become more connected through local libraries and museums, use #IMLSMedals on all social media platforms, and visit [TempePublicLibrary.org](http://TempePublicLibrary.org) for more information.

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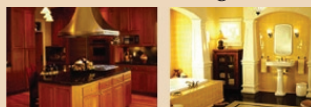
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<sup>1</sup>Introductory APY as of 11/16/18. Advertised rates are subject to change at the Bank's discretion.

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# Chandler • Arizona NEWS+ Events

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

## Chandler Annual Report Online

The City of Chandler's 2018 Annual Report is now online and it highlights some of the City's many exciting accomplishments, initiatives and awards. The report centers on these strategic goals set by the City Council:

- Attracting a Range of Private Sector Businesses
- Being a Leader in Transparency
- Being Safe and Beautiful
- Being the Most Connected City
- Maintaining Fiscal Sustainability
- Possessing a Contemporary Culture to Capitalize on the Cultural and Ethnic Diversity in the Community

The report also includes a Community Profile, an overview of Major Projects and a list of Accolades earned by the City in 2018. Find it at [chandleraz.gov/annualreport](http://chandleraz.gov/annualreport).



## Come Along for the Chandler Family Bike Ride

The annual Chandler Family Bike Ride is on Saturday, April 6, with registration from 7-8 a.m. and the ride starting at 8 a.m. Riders leave from Chandler's Park & Ride lot at 2100 S. Hamilton St., which is at the northwest corner of Tumbleweed Park. The 7.8-mile trip starts at the park and participants then travel to the nearby Paseo Trail. From there, riders go north along the Consolidated Canal to Tibshraeny Park and then back to Tumbleweed Park. The event is free and participants will receive a free T-shirt while supplies last. All riders must wear helmets. Pre-register at [chandleraz.gov/familybikeride](http://chandleraz.gov/familybikeride).



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## Jazz Festival Celebrates 20 Years in Downtown Chandler



Every April, Downtown Chandler turns the spotlight on its jazz scene with the return of our annual Chandler Jazz Festival, a two-day festival with a stellar

lineup of local and national talent. This year's free, family-friendly festival is Friday, April 5, and Saturday, April 6, at the Dr. A.J. Chandler Park - Stage Plaza, featuring 20 hours of live performances across a range of genres including blues, smooth jazz and fusion rhythm. Gates open 30 minutes prior to the event each evening and festivalgoers are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs to the outdoor concert. Of course, the festival is about more than just music; festivalgoers are invited to dig deeper into the art of jazz, with dozens of exhibitors showcasing painting, photography, custom jewelry and more. The complete festival entertainment schedule is available online at [chandleraz.gov/jazz](http://chandleraz.gov/jazz).

## Earth Day & Arbor Day at Veterans Oasis Park

Naturepalooza comes to Chandler on Saturday, April 13, with the annual Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration at Veterans Oasis Park, 4050 E. Chandler Heights Road. From 9 a.m. to noon, there will be games, giveaways, gardening tips, crafts and demonstrations that teach easy, simple ways to live a more sustainable life. More information at [chandleraz.gov/eec](http://chandleraz.gov/eec) or call 782-2894.



## EVENTS



### MARCH

- 23 Workshop: Creating a Desert Oasis Part II, Environmental Education Center, 782-3583
- 23 Science Matters @ CPL: The Science of Star Wars, Sunset Library, 782-2800
- 24 Chandler Symphony, Romance Near and Far, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 25 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180

- 27 Build Your Business Workshop, Grand Openings to Long-Term Success, Hamilton Library, 782-2800
- 28 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 29 Stayin' Alive: One Night of the Bee Gees, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 30 Jeanne Robertson, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 31 En Vogue, Center for the Arts, 782-2680

### APRIL

- 2 Workshop: Landscape with Arizona Natives, ASU Chandler Innovation Center, 782-3583
- 6 Family Bike Ride, Park & Ride Lot at Tumbleweed Park, 782-3442
- 5, 6 Chandler Jazz Festival, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park - Stage Plaza, 782-2665
- 7 California Guitar Trio, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 8 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180

- 9 Workshop: Desert Lawn Care, ASU Chandler Innovation Center, 782-3583
- 11 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 13 Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration, Veterans Oasis Park, 782-2890
- 20 Family Easter Celebration, Snedigar Sportsplex, 782-2665
- 22 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 24 Science Matters @ CPL: "Mo' Plastics, Mo' Problems", Sunset Library, 782-2800
- 25 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 25 Workshop: Do It Yourself Sprinkler System Design & Installation, ASU Chandler Innovation Center, 782-3583

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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**Gated Community**



Formal living - dining room, breakfast nook, family room with fireplace, wet bar, office/den plus 4 bedrooms. Master bedroom split with private exit to pool/patio. Wall of glass provides natural light throughout the family room and kitchen. Second master w/private bath, private exit plus sitting room.

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**CORONADO VILLAGE**

**Coronado Island**



3 Br, 3.5 Ba spacious townhome with bonus room. Clean, light-filled with wood floors, carpeted bedrooms and several outdoor living spaces. Centrally located near shops, restaurants, the Hotel Del and the beach Roof top Deck with "Mini Bar" and views of San Diego.

**REMODELED 2018**

**Coronado Island**



Dual Master Suites, plus oversized loft with room for 2 queen beds. Designer finishes, wood flooring, Bosch appliances. New windows and motorized skylights. Walking distance to the Hotel Del, beaches, dining and shopping.