

# WRANGLER NEWS

## TOWN LAKE TURNS 20

Wrangler News joins the celebration with special coverage of the past, present and future of Tempe's centerpiece — Pages 16-19

— Photo by Billy Hardiman

NOVEMBER 2 - 15, 2019 • VOL 30 • NO 21



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## No-tuition grants open new doors for MCC, Tempe students

*Special for Wrangler News*

Seventeen Mesa Community College dual enrollment students studying early childhood education at the East Valley Institute of Technology are recipients of over \$8,000 in *First Things First* college scholarships to help pay for their first- and second-year collegiate education at MCC following EVIT graduation in May 2020.

Tempe Union High School District is one of the sources providing students with access to EVIT with no tuition charge, primarily via the district's Career and Technical Education initiatives.

EVIT staff members say the scholarships are well received—and needed.

"Many of my students cannot afford the tuition and the fees to take the Dual Enrollment classes," said Paula Corbin, EVIT instructor. "The students were so excited to tell me when they received their congratulations email."

Over 54 percent of Corbin's first year students took advantage of the *First Things First* scholarship this year. This funding, along with the Dual Enrollment credit earned from MCC, will help push these students one step closer to completing their prospective early childhood Certificates of Completion or Associates in Applied Science Degree during the 2019-2020 school year.

"I can't wait for future years to see the scholarship recipients grow," said Corbin. "For most of these students, my Dual Enrollment classes are their first experience with college."

## Lifesaving Narcan boosts Tempe PD's efforts to counter lethal threat of opioids

Every Tempe police officer will soon carry a supply of lifesaving naloxone for people who overdose on opioids as part of a comprehensive federal grant that also will provide treatment services to assist those facing addiction.

Tempe is one of only 12 cities, counties or tribal governments around the country to be awarded the grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Tempe grant is \$2 million across four years, with the city getting \$500,000 per year for a new program.

The City Council voted to formally accept the grant at its Oct. 17 regular meeting.

"The Tempe Police Department is consistently exploring ways to

reduce harm in Tempe.

"This grant, along with the addition of naloxone for our officers to carry on a day-to-day basis, provides an all-inclusive approach to save lives," said Tempe Police Chief Sylvia Moir.

"The collaboration with Arizona State University and La Frontera EMPACT Suicide Prevention Center allows a holistic approach to end the cycle of addiction."

Sgt. Robert Ferraro, president of the Tempe Police Officers Association, is the project manager for the department's effort.

In his travels across Arizona and the U.S. to meet with other law enforcement officials, he says he discovered that officers were having secondary exposures to opioids, particularly fentanyl.

Officers were starting to carry

naloxone, popularly known as Narcan, for their own personal safety. The accidental—and potentially lethal—exposure happens by way of a needle stick or inhalation of the opioid in powder form.

"A couple of departments across the country have had exposures where officers have been saved by Narcan," Ferraro said.

"That's kind of where this all started."

About 18 months ago, as the nation's opioid crisis escalated, Ferraro began looking into equipping officers with Narcan. According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 70,000 people died from drug overdoses in 2017, nearly a 10 percent increase from 2016.





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# Star-struck kids discover new universe

By Diana Nelson

Star gazing is a favorite way to learn at Kyrene del Cielo, thanks to a productive partnership between the elementary school and ASU.

For the past six years, a portable planetarium, known as StarLab, regularly lands at the school and offers youngsters a virtual trip through the spatial universe.

A first glance, the silver dome-shaped structure looks like an outsized mushroom cap with a stem—but there is actually a small tunnel entryway into hidden wonders.

Once inside, the ceiling transforms and students can see a replica of the sky—it's so magical they easily become absorbed at their surroundings, while learning at the same time, says Amanda Rock, a fourth-grade teacher at Cielo.

"This year, I presented to the fourth and fifth grades and I'll never get tired of hearing them go 'Wow!' as the lights go down and the stars come out," said Rock.



A young Kyrene del Cielo student, entranced by the StarLab portable planetarium, joined her classmates in learning about constellations and the universe.

— Photo courtesy Tempe Elementary School District

— STARS, Page 6



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# Stars

From Page 5

“I try to teach them as much as I can about the constellations and different stars that we see in the night sky here in Arizona.”

For centuries, the cosmos and what lies beyond have piqued the interest of ancient civilizations. In fact, early models of the universe were developed by ancient Greek and Hindu philosophers. Rock includes this history in her lecture.

“We make a point, at the older ages, to emphasize that we get most of our constellations from the Ancient Greeks—Orion, for example—but that other cultures, in different parts of the world, have different interpretations of the night sky,” said Rock.

She shows students a replica of the ancient Mayan skies, which becomes a whole new experience for most students. And, the class discusses why they might see some differences and similarities compared to the renderings drawn by the ancient Greeks.

“For example, both the ancient Mayans and the ancient Greeks knew the importance of what we call the North Star or Polaris. But the Greeks

saw a lion in the sky, Leo, and a bull, Taurus, whereas the Mayans saw interpretations of birds,” said Rock.

Then, the students practice hypothesizing why the Mayans wouldn’t connect stars to see a lion in the sky, and why the Greeks would.

“So much can be taught about our various cultures by discovering how each group of people interpreted the skies,” said Rock.

“Kids leave my StarLab class with new knowledge and usually even more questions than I can answer in a short time, so it encourages them to continue exploring on their own,” said Rock.

She also reminds them that the School of Earth and Space Exploration at ASU actually owns StarLab, and loans the portable planetarium to Cielo each year.

For six years, StarLab has been a fantastic partnership between Kyrene and ASU’s center, explained Marni Anbar, a community volunteer and the parent of two former Cielo students.

She credits ASU’s outreach coordinator, Meg Hufford, with writing the first grant to obtain StarLab and for providing both teachers and volunteers with training to operate it.

# StarLab advocate shines a light into space

In addition to coordinating the StarLab visits for the last nine years, Marni Anbar has given her time to promote math and science education at Cielo. A former math teacher, Anbar felt that limited time was being spent on science and the curriculum was highly programmed.

“For the most part, science was being treated as if it was knowledge to be mastered and not a process for discovering the unknown,” said Anbar, whose husband is an ASU professor with ASU’s space science program.

So Anbar and other parents launched what is now known as DISCOVERoom—a space of informal STEM learning for K-5 students and the site of StarLab as well as other educational events.

The initiative, which began in 2010 at Cielo, has allowed Anbar and her fellow volunteers to inspire children to embrace a hands-on exploration of science—one that she says teaches them how to learn and to be curious about the world around them.

The DISCOVERoom is packed with a number of STEM learning

tools, from microscopes to snap circuits to an X-Ray table—things Anbar says are too often off-limits to young students. Materials are donated by parents and others in the community.

There’s also an “invention bin” containing clean recyclables. Children receive masking tape, string and markers and are challenged to invent something, which they can take home.

Not only is there a wealth of materials at kids’ fingertips, but they also develop a sense of independent learning, since their time in the room is completely self-directed,

“The goal of this room is to complement classroom instruction by providing an opportunity for students to immerse themselves in a science and engineering-rich environment, with the ultimate goal being to stimulate a sustained interest in these disciplines,” said Anbar.

Information: [www.kyrene.org/Page/25026](http://www.kyrene.org/Page/25026).

By Diana Nelson

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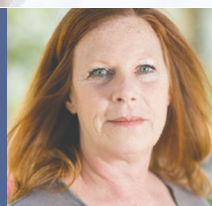
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## Kyrene 60-Day Curriculum Review

Kyrene School District is seeking updated curriculum resources for middle school science. The 60-Day Review is the window of opportunity for teachers, staff and community to provide feedback on resources.

**60-Day Review Window: October 16 through December 20**

**Materials available for viewing during business hours:**

District Office, 8700 S. Kyrene Rd., Tempe, AZ 85284



More information: [Kyrene.org/60DayReview](http://Kyrene.org/60DayReview)





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# Cryotherapy: New way to chill-out

*Novel approach helps with pain, weight loss, reduction in anxiety and depression*

By Lee Shappell

Judi Achore has no particular thoughts of abandoning the Valley's scorching heat for someplace cooler. Besides, she learned recently, Greenland is not for sale.

Yet she willingly endures 3 minutes in a chamber chilled to 220 degrees below zero—twice as cold as dry ice and 10 times colder than a nasty day in the Upper Midwest—in her underwear.

Her curiosity about cryotherapy, which is growing in popularity among elite athletes wanting to recover more quickly from workouts, and among weekend warriors just wanting to feel better, drove her to a sci-fi-looking cryotherapy chamber.

"I wasn't terrified, but concerned," said Achore, 56, of West Chandler. "I was so curious. For 3 minutes I said, 'Let's do it.' And I saw somebody do it. It helped a lot to see somebody else and to know that it's only 3 minutes."

In May, personal trainer Kevin Freeland, 55, also of West Chandler, opened Cryo Tempe, the first cryotherapy facility in the South Tempe-West Chandler-Ahwatukee area, as a side business within his gym. Freeland has operated Body Focus Fitness & Performance on Kyrene Road just north of Warner for 15 years.

Achore, who has trained with Freeland for years, was among the first to try it.

Freeland opens the door of the liquid-nitrogen-infused chamber and vapor rushes out. In steps Achore, a recreational tennis player.

Freeland, who holds a microbiology degree from the University of Arizona, agrees that it is helpful to watch a cryotherapy session before trying one.

"When you see somebody in there and they're not screaming in terror or pain, then it's not that bad," he said. "When you sit down and go over the benefits of it, most are willing to at least give it a shot."

"And a lot of people come in actually looking for it. It's growing. They've heard about it and we're the only one in this part of town."

Why cryotherapy?

A 2017 review of studies on athletes in the *International Journal of Sports Medicine* suggests that cryotherapy can be effective in reducing muscle pain, inflammation and cell damage. It's like an ice bath on steroids.

Anecdotal evidence also suggests that cryotherapy can be effective in combating anxiety and depression, according to an October, 2017, report in *Medical News Today*.

There is growing evidence that cryotherapy is effective in weight loss.

Exposure to extreme cold also increases circulation and collagen production.

Cryotherapy is not for everybody, say those

in the know. It should be avoided by anyone with respiratory illness, history of heart attacks and stroke, high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, Raynaud's syndrome, metal implants or pacemakers and those younger than 18.

Cryotherapy is not yet regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and most medical insurance is not yet onboard with it, either.

Freeland's Cryo Innovations XR, made in Newport Beach, Calif., has a heart-oxygen monitor that clips to the ear lobe and is connected to a suite of biometric monitoring equipment mounted on the outside of the chamber.

Freeland constantly monitors the client's numbers on a panel during a session.

Clients strip to their underwear and are given a robe in the dressing room.

They also are required to wear manufacturer-provided stockings, slippers and gloves to protect the extremities. The treatment is from the collarbone down.

The head is above the chamber and must be kept up because breathing nitrogen vapors can displace oxygen, and that can be dangerous. There is a head sensor, and an automatic shut off if levels become dangerous.

The chamber door also can be opened from inside if the client is uncomfortable.

"These are safety features that other machines

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With 3-minute sessions at minus 220 degrees, cryotherapy clients are required to wear special stockings and slippers supplied by the chamber's manufacturer. A heart-oxygen monitor clips to the ear lobe and is connected to a suite of biometric monitoring equipment mounted on the outside of the chamber that is constantly monitored during a session.

— Wrangler News photo by Lee Shappell

just don't have, Freeland said.

It is cool at first, not chilly. Clients keep their feet, hands and torso moving gently as directed, like doing the Twist in slow-mo. Some report feeling a sting in the forearms and calves in the final 30-40 seconds.

Achore's 3 minutes are up and she steps out with a smile on her face. It is not a frozen smile—she has nothing in common with Ted Williams. She is

uplifted and energized. Her skin is red, a normal byproduct that disappears as the afternoon wears on.

"There's such a feeling of well-being," she said, "and then I found out there's a collagen benefit for better skin. I just think the concept is very simple: 3 minutes in the cold and you have the benefits."

Information: cryotempe.com, info@cryotempe.com, 602-849-5280.

*Editor's note: After receiving many inquiries over the years, Wrangler News is now making space available for obituary placements. Please email editor@wranglernews.com or call 480-966-0837 from 9-5 M-F for format requirements, deadlines and rates.*



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# For hometown doc, career is all in the family

By Diana Nelson

It's not every doctor who can say that they practice medicine in their hometown, but it's true of Dr. Dan Sraow, a cardiologist and the Medical Director of Structural Heart at Dignity Health's Chandler Regional Medical Center.

He grew up in Chandler and watched as the East Valley suburb transformed itself from a sleepy farm town into a high-tech, much larger city.

Sraow graduated from Chandler High School, where he was on both the wrestling and football teams.

"I then left at 18 to attend Northwestern University. I did my medical training at Cleveland Clinic, where in 2008, I was introduced to the TAVR," Sraow told Wrangler News. He went on to work for Northwell Health in New York, where he performed a large number of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation procedures. After his time in New York, Sraow returned to Chandler, where, since 2016, has performed the game-changing TAVR procedure on his patients.

TAVR is a revolutionary heart procedure that may help more Tempe and West Chandler patients who suffer from heart disease—specifically aortic stenosis—one of the most common and serious conditions to affect heart values.

Rather than enduring the significant pain and recovery time of open heart surgery, TAVR is a minimally invasive treatment option. New medical guidelines expand the field of patients who may qualify for a TAVR, say staff from Dignity Health Chandler Regional Medical Center. The Federal Drug Administration's new protocols



Dignity Health cardiologist Dan Sraow grew up in Chandler and remembers when the hospital, now a Level 1 Trauma Center and state-of-the-art, burgeoning facility, was surrounded by farmland.

— Photo courtesy Dignity Health

mean that more low-risk patients could improve their health as a result of the TAVR procedure. The incidence of aortic valve stenosis increases with age.

As the aortic valve opening narrows, the heart must work harder to pump blood to the body. Occurring in about three percent of Americans over age 75, severe aortic valve stenosis can cause fainting, chest pain, heart failure, irregular heart rhythms (arrhythmias), cardiac arrest or death. Patients with severe aortic valve stenosis generally need to undergo heart valve replacement to improve blood flow through their aortic valve.

"As to the right candidate for the TAVR procedure, I believe it's anyone with severe aortic stenosis that is causing them symptoms," Sraow said. "That goes

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from the lowest risk, such as a young person with no health problems other than a tight valve, to the extreme risk, which would be a person with many medical problems.”

Previously, the transcatheter valves were used only for patients at an intermediate or high risk for death or major complications during open-heart surgery.

In low-risk patients, open-heart surgery was the standard of care for aortic valve pre-placement.

But revised thinking, by industry experts, suggest that the TAVR should be used on more patients, since it involves a smaller incision and shorter recovery time than open-heart surgery.

Once Sraow completes a TAVR procedure, he has his patients resume a regular routine in short order.

“After the TAVR procedure, I typically have my patients in a chair in four hours and walking eight hours later. I then have them walk laps around the floor the next morning and discharge the majority of patients in less than 24 hours.

“I generally see each patient one time after the TAVR procedure; and, then they would then follow up with their cardiologist,” explained Sraow.

As to other ongoing care, the doctor recommends cardiac rehab at Chandler Regional to all his TAVR patients.

“This is a comprehensive program of monitored exercise, nutrition, education, and cardiac nurses who can answer any questions one might have. We

do monitor the valve with echocardiograms at 30 days and 12 months, to assess the valve function,” said Sraow.

Before offering the TAVR to patients, hospital staff in Chandler undertook careful research and planning.

“A year before our first TAVR in implant in October 2016, we visited major centers in other parts of the country and assembled a comprehensive heart team, including interventional cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons, cardiac imaging specialists, and administrators that actually traveled to other states to learn how to create the best TAVR program,” said Sraow.

Cardiology care at Chandler Regional has grown along with the hospital, which began in 1961 with only 40 beds, 25 employees and 91 volunteers. Today, the facility includes 338-beds, more than 2,500 employees and nearly 1,000 doctors on staff, who represent all major specialties.

In 1999, Chandler Regional became part of the Dignity Health system of hospitals. Which brings us back to Sraow’s family ties in the community.

It was during the hospital’s expansion phase that Sraow’s father, Dr. Jagwinder Sraow, who is also a cardiologist, encouraged him to return to his hometown.

His brother, Dr. Paul Sraow, also returned to the Valley after receiving his medical education and is a pain management physician in Tempe and

serves as the medical director at East Valley Pain Management.

“My father, who was still practicing in the East Valley, stated my hometown needed this type of program,” said Sraow. After several years of training and working in New York, he said he returned to Chandler, “to start an excellent TAVR program for the community that raised me.”

Earlier, his father was instrumental in starting the cardiovascular department at Chandler Regional, along with three other cardiologists. He also began his practice in 1984.

“When I was a kid, the hospital was basically surrounded by farm land. I could actually ride my go-cart to the hospital when I was young. Then Loop 101 and Chandler Fashion Center were built. This led to exploding population growth. With that, the hospital grew to fit the needs of a larger community.”

Even though Dr. Dan Sraow’s diverse training all across the country did direct him back to Arizona, he says he is dedicated to staying current on developments in medical technology, and evaluating new and previously unavailable therapies for the patients in his community, as well as promoting preventive measures for positive change in his patients’ lives.

In addition, to following his father’s footsteps at Chandler Regional, the two doctors continue to work together in their private practice called Sun State Cardiology, with their main office in Chandler.



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## Schools recognized for stressing the value of positive behavior

By Gabrielle Dunton

“When your focus is on the good, it makes life a whole lot better.”

That’s the first thing that comes to mind when Minday Udall thinks of her career with the Tempe Elementary School District.

For the past four years, Udall has been the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support, or PBIS, coordinator, primarily supporting district-wide implementation of positive behavior at all 22 Tempe El sites.

“PBIS has many benefits, which include improved academic and behavioral success for students,” said Udall. “Students and teachers benefit when PBIS is implemented because more time is spent on instruction and less time on correcting behaviors.”

Each Tempe Elementary school has a PBIS committee, or integrates the PBIS framework into a leadership committee that analyzes behavioral data performs fidelity checks for school-wide implementation.

The committee discusses ways to communicate behavior expectations to students and parents, and how to positively reinforce students through monthly PBIS assemblies, student stores and positive referrals.

One way schools have reinforced positive behavior, according to Udall, is through principals and counselors calling parents directly to let them know when their students have received a positive behavioral referral at school.

“I appreciate going to our schools and seeing staff honoring students for their positive choices in behavior,” she said. “It is always a work in progress but we are moving in the right... direction.”

Recently, Tempe El was awarded recognition by Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports of Arizona for its success with the program. Seven schools were awarded silver recognition, four with bronze and seven with merit.

— BEHAVIOR, Page 14

## Empathy, trust boost at-risk students’ confidence in teachers

Aprende Middle School counselor Brook Norris has been nominated for the 2019-2020 national LifeChanger of the Year award.

Norris was nominated by colleague Jackie Williams for her support of the social and emotional needs of students as a result of her involvement with Stand Up/Speak Up/Save a Life.

The group empowers student leaders to work with their peers to promote a message of inclusiveness, empathy and the importance of reporting to a trusted adult if someone is need of intervention or support.

Norris works with the most at-risk students.

For many of those, she is the only positive adult support in their lives.

Students learn to trust her and, as a result, Norris has been able to intervene when a student’s home

life is not safe, or when they pose a safety risk to themselves.

Norris has also spearheaded Aprende’s Positive Behavior Interventions and Support, or PBIS, program, including a store where students can purchase items as rewards for positive behavior.

The nomination paperwork said she regularly exceeds the job’s requirements, ensuring that all students and staff feel uplifted.

Norris doesn’t hesitate to reach out to her colleagues when they need any assistance, and is often the first person to jump in and help.

“Mrs. Norris continues to go above and beyond each day...,” said Williams.

“We are a stronger school and community because of her. Without a doubt, she makes a tremendous impact and difference in the lives of our students each and every day. We’d be lost without her.”

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The Positive Behavior Interventions and Support system in place in Tempe Elementary schools has helped reinforce good behavior.  
— Photo by Gabrielle Dunton, Tempe Elementary

## Behavior

From Page 12

Fees College Preparatory Middle School was one of those earning the PBISaz Silver Award, which assistant principal Biju Padmanabhan said is due to “the tireless efforts of our teachers to build relationships with our students and focus on restorative practices—all while holding students accountable to the expectations that have been set.”

Heather Smalley, first-grade teacher at Aguilar Elementary, says she also has seen the positive impact that the PBIS program has had in her classroom.

Noted Udall:

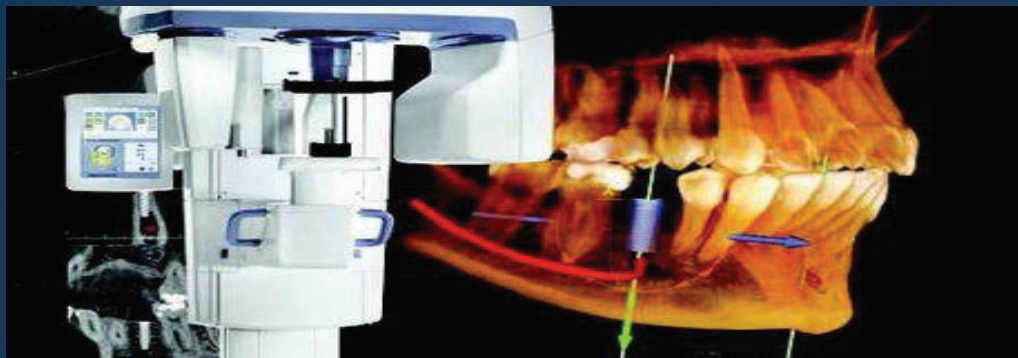
“I am absolutely amazed each day at the creative ways that Tempe Elementary schools are looking at positive behavior and making it even more meaningful.”

2019 PBISaz Silver Awards were received by Fees College Preparatory Middle School and Holdeman, Nevitt, Thew and Wood elementary schools, as well as Ward Traditional Academy.

Bronze Awards went to Aguilar, Getz, Hudson and Rover elementary schools.



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## From river bottom to Valley's recreation and development centerpiece . . .

# An evolution to celebrate

**I**t's a beautiful place to be at sunset. The sky and glass buildings reflect their colors in the water. A heron glides over a rowing team. Amidst the buzz of an urban city, it's peaceful at Tempe Town Lake.

The metamorphosis of Tempe Town Lake from a barren river bottom to one of the Southwest's leading destinations for recreation and development showcases Tempe's innovation, leadership and its value of community partnerships.

Now celebrating 20 years as a drawing card for visitors Valley- and state-wide, Tempe gets deserved credit for its transformation of seven miles of floodplain into breathtaking park space and some of the most coveted real estate in Arizona.

Said Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell:

"We are celebrating the lake as an entertainment and development success, but it is so much more than that. Town Lake is a place where people celebrate milestones in their lives—they get married at Tempe Center for the Arts; athletes push themselves to the limit competing in their first triathlon; families come together for traditions like the annual boat parade or just for Sunday evening strolls.

"Town Lake has become the backdrop of meaningful memories for many people." The idea for Tempe Town Lake originated as a class project for the Arizona State University School of

Architecture in 1965. The dry Salt River had long been used as a dumping ground.

But Dean James Elmore and his class had an idea: they conceived a return of the Salt River in the form of a lake, surrounded by businesses and recreation opportunities.

Great vision doesn't happen overnight. It took more than 30 years, but with partnerships from Arizona State University, federal, state and county governments and the business community, Tempe Town Lake became a reality in November 1999.

Today, more than 2 million people visit Tempe Town Lake annually. More than 30,000 people live within a mile of its shores. More than 42,000 people work within a mile of the lake at companies such as State Farm Insurance, Amazon, Microsoft, Freedom Financial, Silicon Valley Bank and Carvana.

As Tempe Town Lake continues to attract tech firms and advanced business service companies, the economy of the whole region rises.

What's more, the area's popularity continues to climb. Location is one reason—it's located minutes away from five freeways, Sky Harbor International Airport, light rail and, soon, Tempe's streetcar.

The amazing recreation opportunities around the lake make it a popular selling point for attracting some of the best of the Valley's workforce.

Where else can one go paddleboarding on a lunch hour? Since its creation, more than 13.8 million square feet of development has been built at Town Lake. Another 2.7 million is under construction. About 6 million square feet of Class A office space has been built with a vacancy rate of just 3.1 percent, compared to about 14 percent across metro Phoenix.

And to make room for the lake's visitors, 400 hotel rooms await, with hundreds more planned.

Underway now is IDEA Tempe, a technology campus to the west of Tempe Center for the Arts. The first building, anchored by Becton Dickinson, opens in early 2020.

Commercial and residential projects at The Grand at Papago Park Center and Watermark are under construction now, opening in the coming months.

ASU's Novus Innovation Corridor will also add more than 300 acres of new office, retail, residential, and educational uses. Looking to the future, there is still prime land on Town Lake, large enough for several new buildings.

The success of the lake has flowed into adjacent areas of the community, such as the Smith Innovation Hub and downtown Tempe. Where there were once development gaps, a long stream of businesses now exists. Additionally, there are more recreation options coming to Tempe Town Lake.

A Rio Salado Master Plan looks toward the lake's next 20 years, when it is expected that people will be able to take outdoor painting classes or do lakeside yoga. There could be a zip line or a rock wall. Rather than getting in the car, a water taxi could take passengers from the north to the south side of the

lake.

Rio Reimagined—a creative and collective effort envisioned to integrate priorities of public open space, environmental quality, housing, transportation, economic and workforce development, community sustainability and resilience—could spread the spirit of the Rio Salado Project to Phoenix and Mesa, using the success of Tempe Town Lake as a starting point.

The vision that foresaw what might be in two decades has become a reality, and is now spurring imaginations again.

The future of Tempe Town Lake is as golden as an Arizona sunrise.

— City of Tempe staff

## A Town Lake celebratory wish: Happy birthday!

By Noah Kutz

Tempe Town Lake turns 20 years old this year and a celebratory event featuring free activities takes place 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9.

Melissa Quillard, a public information officer for Tempe's Community Services Division, said the birthday party will also offer a view to the future.

"We want to celebrate the history of the lake--how far it's come--while also giving the community a preview of what the next 20 years will look like," Quillard said.

"Last year, Tempe City Council passed the Rio Salado and Beach Park Master Plan, which is the city's blueprint for the future of Tempe Town Lake.

The community event will activate the lake for a day in alignment with that plan," Quillard said.

"Additionally, we will be issuing an RFI (Request for Information) next month to seek ideas for public-private partnerships."

As for the types of activities that party-goers will see at this event, Quillard says, "People can experience mini-recreation classes like yoga, Core Fitness, Zumba and Tai Chi. There will be a zip line, rock wall, pump track, mini Sixth Street Market, tons of game tables and REI activity station, mini-kayak and stand-up paddleboard lessons."

The park will also feature various types of food trucks and exhibitors as well as live music from four separate bands.

## FACING PAGE . . .

Flood waters engulf Tempe's iconic Mill Avenue Bridge prior to the development of Tempe Town Lake; the dry Rio Salado river bed prior to its banishment with the advent of the lake; an overview of the area shows Sun Devil Stadium surrounded by dusty, arid fields.

— Photo courtesy City of Tempe





## Tempe Town Lake: an economic engine

Tempe Town Lake is an extraordinary place for recreation and relaxation. It's also an economic driver for the entire Greater Phoenix Metropolitan Area with an estimated value of more than \$2 billion.

Since its creation, more than 13.8 million square feet of development has been built at Town Lake.

Another 2.7 million is under construction. About 6 million square feet of Class A office space has been built. The vacancy rate for this space is just 3.1 percent. Across metro Phoenix, the vacancy rate is about 14 percent. And to make room for all the lake's visitors, there are 400 hotel rooms on the lake with hundreds more planned.

Development: \$1.5 billion

Tourism: \$500 million

Sales tax: \$50 million

Community Facilities District: \$8 million

Tempe Center for the Arts: \$7.5 million

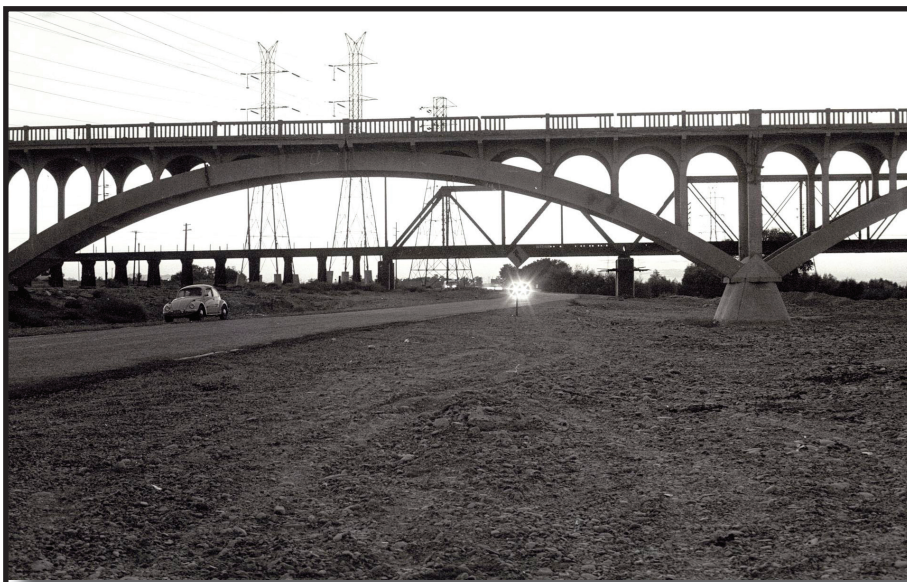
**TOTAL: About \$2 billion**

### **Developments included in this valuation include:**

Hayden Ferry Lakeside commercial buildings • Hayden Ferry Lakeside Edgewater and Bridgeview • Ten O1 on the Lake • Northshore • Papago Gateway Center • Riverside Office Plaza • Rio West • aloft Hotel • Playa del Norte • AC Hotel • Marina Heights • Grand at Papago Park commercial buildings • Broadstone at the Grand • Watermark • Aura Watermark • Liberty Center • Rio2100 • IDEA Tempe • Vela Tempe Apartments • Lofts @ Hayden Ferry Lakeside • Jefferson Townlake

— Photo: Alex Harris

 Making waves in the desert  
**TEMPE**  
**TOWN LAKE** **20**  
years





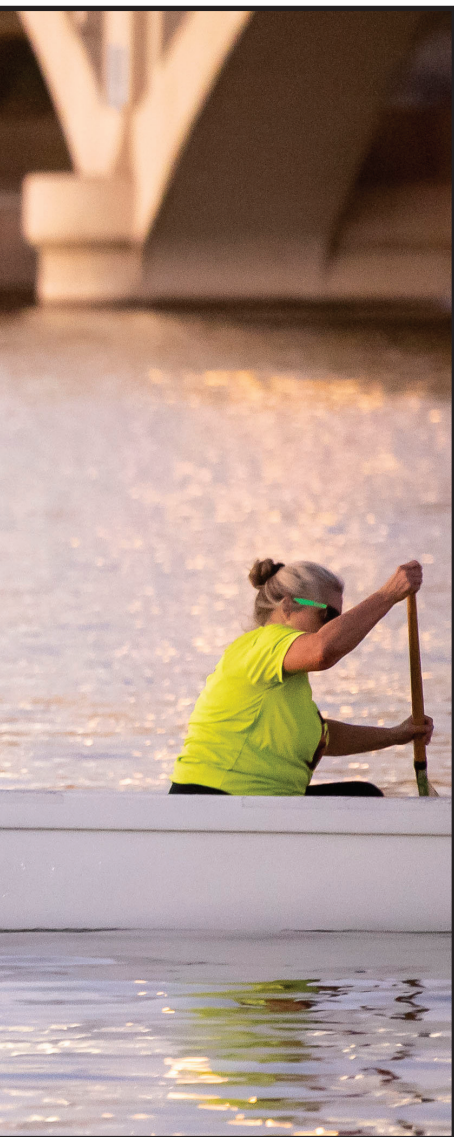


Dipping their oars in Tempe Town Lake at sunset, a team of rowers makes its way across the waters; a couple strolling along the shore pause for a snapshot; from the very youngest age, Tempe residents learn to appreciate the subtle beauty of an urban waterscape; a paddleboat ride offers a unique view of the setting sun.

— Photo feature by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News









# SPORTS

With Alex Zener

## Championship-event runners all deserve recognition; here it is

The Tempe City Cross Country Championship was held Oct. 23 at Kiwanis Park, where athletes from all Tempe Union high schools ran the 5,000 meters. Although Desert Vista won both the men's and women's races, Corona, McClintock, Marcos de Niza and Tempe had runners who deserve to be highlighted.

For instance, McClintock's girls team finished in second place accumulating only 60 points when juniors Ella Zeiders and Selema Ortiz took ninth and 10th place. Sophomore Alexandra Lamond placed 13th, senior Mariska Bogaard came in 18th and Olivia Fisher crossed the finish line in 21st place.

The scoring is not based altogether

on what place the runners finished in the race because Desert Vista had 32 of the 78 runners who competed in the girls race with 12 of them finishing in the top 20.

Only a school's top five runners are counted in the final score. Desert Vista had the top five runners and therefore received a score of 15.

Disregarding Desert Vista's seven other runners who were in the top 20, then, as far as scoring points, Zeiders and Ortiz took seventh and eighth place because Mountain Pointe had a runner in sixth place.

Juniors Rachael Pabst and Alexia Moreno, freshman Eloise Hales and senior Jimmie Sanders also finished the race for McClintock.

### Corona Girls Came in Third

Corona's girls team came in third with a total of 77 points. Junior Peyton Burnside was the top finisher when she crossed the finish line in 14th place but actually in 10th place, as far as scoring, if you disregard Desert Vista's extra runners.

Burnside was followed by sophomore Ashlinn Aguayo in 18th place, senior Emily Rugg in 20th, sophomore Sachiko Devine in 28th, junior Teadora Zawilak in 30th and sophomore Leah Gunter in 31st place. Freshman Kelsey Gunning and junior Isabelle Marcelles also finished the race.

### Tempe High School

Tempe High School had nine runners compete in the City Championships, with senior Maria Garcia Munoz as their top finisher in 27th place followed by fellow senior Jasmine Neal in 32nd place. Sophomore Ximena Daniel was next, in 47th place, followed by junior Karoline Rojas in 49th. The Buffaloes' fifth runner was junior Dayanara Gomez.

Tempe's other runners included freshman Rhonda Kent, junior Abigail Reyes and seniors Vanessa Galvin and

Guadalupe Hernandez Agaton.

### Marcos de Niza Girls Team

The Padres had a full contention of 11 runners compete in the 5,000-meter cross country race.

Junior runners Daniella Matuz and Gabrielle Ramirez were the first two Padre athletes to cross the finish line, followed by sophomore Donna Flores and juniors Esthere Richards and Crystal McCoy.

Sophomore Vanessa Vargas, senior Samantha Lohmann, freshman Virginia Penunuri, junior Aileen Verduzco Molina, freshman Cindy Penunuri and junior Dalila Mendoza made up the additional six Marcos runners.

### Corona Boys Team

The Aztecs took second place with two seniors and three freshmen, with all five finishing in the top 14 runners.

Zachary Johnson put forth a great effort down the home stretch trying to overtake Desert Vista's senior runner, Demetris Love, but to no avail. Johnson crossed the finish line in second place, less than five seconds behind Love, with a time of 17.11.9.

The time-spread for Corona's remaining four runners to finish the race was only 1:23 minutes.

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Johnson's senior teammate, Dominic Arellano, was the next Corona runner to complete the 5,000 meters. Arellano took fifth place with a time of 17:40.9.

Corona's next three runners who helped determine the second place points were freshmen Diego Frausto, eighth place; Andrew Davies-Boerner, 12th place; and Tyler Tisinger, 14th place.

Corona's next seven finishing runners were senior Conner Zook, sophomores Diego Diaz, Callum Rohrer and Bennett Gunning and then freshman Grant Murad.

They were followed by two seniors, Daniel Nichols and Riley Welch.

### McClintock's Boys Team

McClintock's boys team finished fourth, Tempe was fifth and Marcos de Niza finished sixth at the championships.

The Chargers' top finisher was senior Aiden Penry, who finished in 20th place, followed closely by freshman Tavern Sanders, who was 21st.

Rounding out the team for McClintock was freshman Cole Bolen, 31st place, junior Miguel Quijada Inzunza, 59th, and senior Christopher Pacheco.

Freshman Mario Menchaca was the final McClintock runner.

### Tempe's Boys Team

Tempe High was able to enter 18 runners at the Championships, with junior Derek Cobos as the Buffaloes' first runner to cross the finish line in 35th place. Rounding out Tempe's top five runners were seniors Ivan Felty, Jaxen Davis, Ulises Diaz and Jacob Bojorquez.

The final top 12 finishers for Tempe were sophomores Christopher Cruz and Jonathon Sandoval, junior Mikhael Borja, sophomore Julian Ramos, senior Alexander Lara, junior Ricardo Barajas and Andrew Henning.

### Marcos de Niza Boys Team

Marcos entered 21 athletes in the City Championships including their top finisher, freshman Luke Sieveking, who crossed the finish line in 28th place. He was followed by junior Ahmad Alawi, sophomore Benito Cervantes, and juniors Justin Malpica and Braeden Mattson.

The next Padre runners to finish were seniors Alexander Robles and Xavier Newell, freshman Wyatt Young, junior Marco Guillen, sophomore Moss Williams, freshman Heber Schaeffer

and junior Ashton Busey.

### Cross Country Sectionals and State Championship

All four local high school cross country teams will be using the next week to prepare for the AIA Sectionals which will be held on Nov. 8 at Gilbert Crossroads Park, 2155 E Knox Road.

The sectional results will be used to determine who qualifies for the AIA State Cross Country Championship Meet be held for Divisions I-IV on Nov. 16 at Cave Creek Golf Course at 15202 N. 19th Ave. in Phoenix.

Corona will be competing in the 5,000 Meters Division I-Section III race at the sectionals on Nov. 8.

The men's race will start at 9 a.m. while the women's event opens at 9:35 a.m.

McClintock and Tempe will be competing in the Division II-Section IV race on Nov. 8. The men's race will start at 12 p.m. and the women's race at 12:35.

Marcos will be competing on Nov. 8 in the Division III-Section II race. The men's race will start at 1:10 p.m. while the women's race will start at 1:45 p.m.

The Cross Country State Championship meet for all divisions will be held on Nov. 16, also at Cave Creek Golf Course.

At the State Championship meet on Nov. 16, Corona will compete in Division I with the men's race starting at 8:45 a.m. while the women's race will follow at 9:45 a.m.

McClintock and Tempe will be competing in Division II, which will have the men's race starting at 12:30 p.m. and the women's race at 1:30.

Marcos will be competing in Division III with the men's race starting at 2 p.m. and the women's race starting at 1 p.m.

### Corona Football

The Aztecs had one regular season game left scheduled at home on Nov. 1 against Mountain Pointe.

If Corona, ranked No. 19 after the first nine out of 10 games, was to defeat Mountain Pointe, there may be a slim chance the Aztecs could be one of the 16 teams that makes it into the 6A state playoffs.

It would be the first time since 2015 that the Aztecs played in a playoff game. In 2015 Corona lost to Marcos de Niza in the first round when the Aztecs were classified as Division II for just that one season.

Before that, the Aztecs had not played in the state playoffs since 2008

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## Sports

From Page 21

when Gary Venturo was in his 22nd year as head coach.

On paper, Corona has a good chance of defeating the Pride.

Mountain Pointe, currently ranked No. 25, has not won a single game so far in their conference and currently have a 1-8 record.

Second, Corona has been a touchdown or less away from winning four of the six games the Aztecs lost this season.

After defeating Mesa Mountain View the first game of the season, the Aztecs only lost to Mountain Ridge, currently ranked No. 14, by three points at 13-16 in their second game.

Then they lost to Basha, currently ranked No. 15, by seven points and to Queen Creek, currently ranked No. 11, by only seven points on Oct. 4.

Last weekend they played very competitively against currently No. 8-ranked Desert Vista, losing only by seven points. The game was tied until the fourth quarter when the Thunder outscored Corona 15-8 to win 29-22.

Aztec quarterback Quade Swearingen passed for 169 yards and one touchdown with no interceptions,

compared to the Desert Vista quarterback's 122 yards with one interception.

Jake Schmitt caught five passes for a total of 111 receiving yards and two touchdowns. One 27-yard touchdown pass came from sophomore running back Anyale Velazquez.

Velazquez was also the team's workhorse when it came to running with the ball. He carried the ball 25 times for a total of 71 yards and one touchdown.

In addition, Velazquez punted the ball the two times the Aztecs needed a punter, averaging 23.5 yards per punt.

Jean Boyd III caught and returned three kickoff footballs for a total of 83 yards, while Eric Brice and Demetrius Rock each had one return.

Jasper Schineller scored two points on PAT kicks and Schmitt earned two more reception points when the Aztecs went for a two-point conversion in the fourth quarter.

Schmitt also tried his hand at kicking with three kickoffs for an average of 35.7 yards a kick while Schineller had one kickoff for a total of 47 yards.

On defense against the Thunder, the Aztecs recorded 33 solo and 16 assisted tackles for a total of 49 tackles.

Alex Rafalski once again led the

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team in tackles with eight solo and three assisted for a total of 11 tackles.

Schmitt proved his worth on both sides of the ball with seven solo tackles and three assisted for a total of 10 tackles against Desert Vista.

Luke Bashford was recorded for one quarterback sack while Alden Moody caused Desert Vista's quarterback to hurry his action two times, and Tudor Georgescu was recorded for one time hurrying the quarterback.

Rafalski intercepted Desert Vista's quarterback one time while Andrew Synder caused and recovered one fumble.

If the Aztecs manage to defeat Mountain Pointe and move into the top 16 in the 6A division, the first game would be at the higher seed on Nov. 8.

### Marcos de Niza Football

After winning four games in a row, the currently No. 12-ranked Padres lost their last two conference games and are in need of a win the last game of the season on Nov. 1 to guarantee they are one of the top 16 teams to make it into the state championship tournament which starts on Nov. 8 at the higher seed.

Last week the Padres were not able to bounce back from their 56-0 loss to No. 1 ranked team in the 4A Division, Saguaro, on Oct. 18 but did put forth a good effort in their 28-14 loss to Mesquite last week.

Arcadia, the team the Padres were due to play Nov. 1, and Marcos both have 5-4 records but the Titans have lost four straight and are 0-4 in the 4A

Desert Sky region.

A win over Arcadia may be just what Marcos needs to get back on track before the state tournament.

In their most recent loss against Mesquite on Oct. 25, the Padres scored first with a rushing touchdown by Yakeen Baylis to go up 6-0 at the end of the first quarter when the PAT kick was missed.

Mesquite came roaring back with a touchdown in the second quarter to make the score 7-6 in favor of Wildcats.

The Padres were threatening to score before the half but two quarterback sacks by Mesquite stalled the action and time ran out.

Mesquite got the ball to start the third quarter and scored to go up by 8 points or to lead 14-6.

Baylis came through with another huge play with a 70-yard rushing touchdown and a two-point rushing conversion to tie the score at 14-14 with nine minutes left in the third quarter.

The Padres were once again stopped in their next possession with two big quarterback sacks by the Wildcats but the third quarter still ended tied 14-14.

Marcos had two possessions where turnovers gave the ball back to Mesquite. The first one was a fumble early in the fourth quarter. The second, a costly turnover, was an interception when the Padres were in Mesquite's Red Zone.

Mesquite marched down the field and scored on a rushing touchdown with three minutes to go in the game to go up 21-14.

Only behind by one touchdown but with time running out, Marcos may have passed the ball

one too many times because an errant pass was intercepted by the Wildcats and run in for a "Pick 6."

Mesquite went up 28-14 with a little over two minutes left in the game.

Baylis was once again the leading rusher on the team with 164 yards on 19 carries including one for 66 yards. He scored two rushing touchdowns and one rushing two-point conversion for a total of 14 points.

Matt Canada was the leading receiver on the team catching two passes for a total of 64 yards. Nico Updyke had three receptions for 22 yards and Martell Thompson had two receptions for 20 yards.

Senior Julius O'Banner had two kickoff returns for a total of 35 yards and one punt return for nine yards.

Schofar Hill was the leading tackler with four solo and seven assisted for a total of 11 tackles followed by Malaki Corella and Micah Willingham both with eight total tackles.

Altogether the Padres had 4.5 quarterback sacks with 22 yards for loss.

Hill was recorded as having 2.5 sacks while Jacob Irick had one and Alexander Norrish and Dante Kircher-Myton had .5 each.

Freshman Mason Stromstad intercepted a Mesquite pass returning the ball for eight yards.

If the rankings did not change, Marcos, as the No. 12 ranking, would play at No. 5 Desert Edge on Nov. 8. You can check the ranking next Tuesday to see what the Padres ended up online at <https://www.azpreps365.com/rankings/football/4a>.

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# DIVERSIONS



## Message of cultural phenom 'Joker' prevails in theaters

By M.V. Moorhead

**L**ate Saturday evening this past weekend I was approaching the door of a Quik Trip when I glanced up to notice The Joker headed to the same spot from the other direction. By which I mean not the campy super-villain from Batman comics or the '60s-era Batman TV show, but the troubled-loner Joker as played by Joaquin Phoenix in the Todd Phillips movie *Joker*, now in theaters.

I was momentarily startled; then I remembered it was the weekend before Halloween. I held the door and let the young man enter before me. But there's no denying that his costume gave me more of a genuine chill than your run-of-the-mill Halloween party hobgoblin.

As a cultural phenomenon, *Joker* appears not to be in any hurry to go away. Four weeks after its opening, it returned to the No. 1 spot at U.S. box offices, unseating another revisionist take on an iconic villain with *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil*.

Even before its opening, *Joker* was the subject of anxious controversy for its perceived appeal to alienated young men. There was concern that it could even lead to violence akin to the horrific 2012 shooting at a movie theater in Aurora, Colo., during a midnight show of *The Dark Knight Rises*, by a man who reportedly identified with the character. This shooting killed 12 people and wounded

dozens of others.

So far, thankfully, actual violence connected to *Joker* seems largely not to have materialized. But this doesn't alter the concern of many social critics that the movie could be seen as validating, even glamorizing, the "incel" ("involuntary celibate") sensibility and other angry, self-pitying and sometimes violent mindsets held by troubled young loners.

For those who haven't seen it: The title character of *Joker* is Arthur Fleck, a young man who lives with his mother in a low-rent apartment in a run-down, monochrome, garbage-strike-stricken '70s-era version of Gotham City.

Arthur suffers from a condition that makes him laugh uncontrollably and inappropriately. He's a for-hire clown, work he loves and takes seriously, but which makes him the target of everyone from street thugs to treacherous coworkers.

He can't even playfully make faces to amuse a child on the bus without getting scolded by the kid's mother.

In short, he's a man more sinned against than sinning; a man who might legitimately wonder if fate somehow simply has it in for him. He suffers mightily and through no real fault of his own, and when he turns to violence initially, it's in response to being abused by despicable strangers on a subway; for the most part he acts in

— JOKER, Page 26



# Costumes, spectacle form the mainstays of 'Dynasty'

By M.V. Moorhead

“Our show takes you through the entire history of China, from the earliest dynasty to modern times,” says Jane Ho. Then she giggles and adds, “as much as possible in the hour and 40 minutes we have.”

The history of China in an hour and 40 minutes. Nothing ambitious there.

The show to which Ho is referring is *Dynasty: A Martial Arts and Dance Epic*, which debuts, with one performance only, at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17, in Chandler.

Ho, an Arizona native, wrote the piece, and she's also the co-director and co-choreographer. She was also the force behind last year's production of *Mulan*—not an adaptation of the 1998 animated Disney movie, but based on the same ancient Chinese tale—which was performed at the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Phoenix.

*Dynasty* will employ a high degree of theatrical spectacle, with elaborate costumes, sets and graphic elements, music and narration, classical dancing

and the acting out of timeless, dramatic stories that are central to the Chinese legendary tradition. It will also feature many exciting scenes of martial arts skill and athleticism, in a style close to Ho's heart: Wushu.

“I'm currently the youngest certified Wushu judge in the world,” says Ho, manager of Phoenix Wushu Academy. The school, based in Chandler, specializes in Wushu, a term for Chinese martial arts essentially synonymous, says Ho, with the more familiar *Kung Fu*.

Says Ho:

“If you look at the fight scenes in movies with Jet Li, or Donnie Yen, to make them look more flashy, they are actually doing Wushu.”

Ho is co-directing the show along with Bonnie Fu. “Her expertise is in acting,” explains Ho, and well it might be; Fu had a long career in Asian films and television series, both as an actress and a talk show host, before relocating to the United States.

— DYNASTY, Page 26

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## Dynasty

From Page 24

Ho's co-choreographer on *Dynasty's* martial arts scenes is six-time U.S. Wushu Champion Andrew Ho, Fu's husband and the director of Wushu/Kung Fu at Phoenix Wushu Academy.

Of course, the production is also dependent on the contribution of the large cast and crew. One such person is Betty Yeung of Chandler:

"I'm involved in the backstage," says Yeung. "The costumes, and getting the girls ready for their scenes."

Yeung's daughter is one such performer. "She's in the production in about six scenes," says Yeung. Both Yeung and daughter were also involved with *Mulan* last year, and enjoyed the experience enough to come back for more.

Asked what she likes best about the experience of mounting *Dynasty*, Jane Ho has, at first, a hard time deciding on just one aspect. But then she says it's "To share our culture. We want our younger generation to know what's happened over 5,000 years."



## Joker

From Page 24

self-defense.

Eventually, as he self-consciously adopts the "Joker" persona, his crimes become more psychotic and calculated, but it isn't hard to imagine the character's actions seeming understandable and even justified by isolated, antisocial young men.

When I saw the film, about a week before it opened, what struck me was how powerful Phoenix was in the role, and how curiously unsatisfying the rest of the movie was.

I certainly don't think that Phillips and the other filmmakers had the slightest intention of justifying violence as a response to feeling lonely and persecuted, but by creating a character who suffers to such an improbably unrelieved degree, and so blamelessly, they've made a movie that can be read that way.

It may not be what the film's makers had in mind, but apart from showcasing a brilliant piece of acting, it's hard to say just what they did have in mind, so this dark interpretation has naturally filled the vacuum in *Joker's* thematic center.

The real, if grim, value of this movie may be to suggest how widespread this feeling of alienation is in our current angry, hectic, chaotic, social-media-driven lifestyle. *Joker* may be less a drama and more the description of a symptom: We're hearing a lot of laughter these days, but there doesn't seem to be a lot of joy behind it.

*Joker* is rated R due to "strong bloody violence, disturbing behavior, language, and brief sexual images." It remains in wide release.

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# Opioids

From Page 3

Of those deaths, opioids were involved in 47,600 cases. Arizona was one of several states nationwide that saw a significant increase in overdose death rates.

The grant to equip officers with naloxone could go a long way toward dropping numbers in Tempe, according to Ferraro. Officers will first need to be trained in how to administer the life-saving drug in its nasal-spray form, with each officer carrying two doses.

"The important part of this specific grant that we received is the gap that it's going to address in the aftercare," Ferraro said.

Across the country, officers have been administering Narcan and saving lives or helping people regain consciousness. "So the person goes to the hospital and they're discharged from the hospital and that's it," Ferraro said.

And, as those familiar with the nightmare of addiction know, an addict will frequently seek out his drug of choice soon thereafter—even if he or she almost died from an overdose.

Now, with the grant in place, the officer will call a dedicated line where a crisis team will go to the person's hospital room or home within 24 hours for an intervention. For 60 days following the overdose, the grant will provide case management services for each individual encountered through the program. This includes support services like transportation, referrals and connections to treatment and recovery services.

"That really is the biggest piece of this grant—the after care," Ferraro said.

Tempe police took the lead on applying for the grant, alongside Arizona State University and La Frontera EMPACT Suicide Prevention Center. The grant will fund a comprehensive program that includes naloxone for a full-time Tempe police officer devoted to the project; naloxone for 250 Tempe police officers, including bike and motor officers, patrol officers, parks officers, school resource officers and drug enforcement officers.

EMPACT is able to provide a one-dose naloxone kit and training to each overdose victim and a friend or family member, in case overdose occurs during or after treatment.

The estimate is that Tempe police could administer naloxone to about 155 overdose victims over the course of the four years of the grant. Each case will be reported via a 24-7 phone or online system and a certified specialist will be dispatched to meet the victim, most often while still at the hospital.

Information about treatment services will be offered and, if accepted, the patient will get up to 60 days of help from an EMPACT "navigator" who can help access support. It is estimated that many will accept some level of ongoing services to try to end the addiction.

Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Chief Greg Ruiz said the grant and the resulting new program with Tempe Police is another example of public safety agencies collaborating to save lives.

"We are in the middle of a national epidemic of opioid addiction and every new idea is a chance to impact that reality for the better," Ruiz said. "We look forward to being part of this innovative approach to help community members in crisis."

During the four-year course of the grant, researchers at the ASU School of Criminology and Criminal Justice will track data to help determine the effectiveness of

training and the reach and impact of the program in the community.

Tempe Fire Medical Rescue crews have long carried naloxone. In recent years, police departments have begun stocking naloxone for officers' use in assisting overdose victims before emergency medical help arrives. Tempe wanted to approach the issue with a more robust, comprehensive program that attempts to reduce the number of people addicted to opioids.

In 2019, through approximately mid-August, Tempe Fire Medical Rescue administered naloxone to 194 people; the total for all of 2018 was 272 people.

The number of doses used each time appears to be increasing as well, believed to be because of increased opioid potency or not knowing how much was taken by the individual. Tempe does not track the number of fatal opioid overdoses each year because only the Maricopa County Office of the Medical Examiner determines cause of death, taking into account underlying or other causes in any instances.

The City of Tempe, as part of its data and transparency initiative, maintains a dashboard of opioid overdose response statistics. It is available at [tempe.gov/opioids](http://tempe.gov/opioids).

According to 2015 statistics from the Arizona Department of Health Services and others, an estimated 46,000 people in the state have a diagnosed Opioid Use Disorder (OUD); and the age group with the highest number of affected individuals (37 percent of OUD cases) is people age 25 to 34. In June 2017, Arizona Governor Doug Ducey declared a public health emergency related to opioid use and overdoses in the state.

## MCC

From Page 3

For them to receive this scholarship through First Things First, only makes them more excited for their future and education."

EVIT students who are pursuing Dual Enrollment credit through MCC are already a step ahead with their college education.

"These students are completing coursework that counts towards the Early Childhood Certificates of Completion and the Associate in Applied Sciences degrees offered at MCC," said Annapurna Ganesh, Ph.D., program director for MCC Early Childhood Education.

"During their two years at EVIT they can earn 10 credits of college coursework and additional general education credits. This scholarship will help them reach their goal without incurring additional educational debt."

Gordon Freeman Brown, regional coordinator for the Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry, which administers the First Things First Scholarship, said:

"Membership in the registry not only connects these EVIT students to an amazing scholarship that pays up to 100% of books, fees and tuition, but also provides them with the minimum entry level credential for anyone who wants to work in the field of early childhood in Arizona.

"Most early childhood employers now require their staff to be members.

MCC facilitates credit transfers through online resources and their Early College Program.

Information: [mesacc.edu/early-college-programs/dual-enrollment](http://mesacc.edu/early-college-programs/dual-enrollment).

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## Tempe offers televised candidate forums to community groups

The Mayor's seat and three Council seats are opening with terms of office beginning in July 2020. The Primary Election is March 10 and the General Election is May 19.

These will be Ballot by Mail elections, which means that every registered voter will automatically get a ballot.

As a community service, as it has in past elections, the City of Tempe will continue to offer equal opportunities for candidates to provide information to residents.

### Candidate forums

Tempe 11 televises a limited number of candidate debates and forums for city elections. All candidates must be invited. Full guidelines for hosting a televised forum or debate are available at [tempe.gov/election](http://tempe.gov/election). Taping and airing of any forum or debate is done at the city's discretion.

Community organizations can email [nikki\\_ripley@tempe.gov](mailto:nikki_ripley@tempe.gov) AND [greg\\_wolfe@tempe.gov](mailto:greg_wolfe@tempe.gov) to request a televised debate or forum to occur on one of these three city-selected dates.

All will take place at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave., from 6-9 p.m.:

- Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020
- Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2020
- Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce and Arizona Republic will host a candidate forum at the Tempe History Museum on Friday, Dec. 13, from 6-9 p.m.

### Televised candidate "open mic" opportunities

Tempe 11 will tape and air televised statements from certified Mayor and Council candidates. Before each Regular Council Meeting starting Jan. 16, Tempe residents can tune in to Cox Channel 11 or Century Link Channel 8012 at approximately 5 p.m. to watch candidate statements that will be taped earlier on those same days. Candidates have up to five minutes to communicate their viewpoints and there is no editing. The statements will re-air regularly on Tempe 11 until the next Regular Council Meeting, when a new batch of statements will be recorded. Statements also can be viewed anytime

at [tempe.gov/tempe11](http://tempe.gov/tempe11). To confirm what time they will air on TV, check the Tempe 11 program guide at [tempe.gov/tempe11](http://tempe.gov/tempe11).

### Certified candidates to be announced soon

Candidates for Mayor and City Council must submit the valid signatures of between 763 and 1,524 registered Tempe voters.

The first day to file completed candidate paperwork was Oct. 14 and the last day to file is Nov. 8 at 5 p.m. (Filing may be done by appointment only on Nov. 11.)

The names of candidates certified by the Tempe City Clerk for the ballot will be announced after all paperwork is received.

According to the Tempe City Charter, Section 7.01, the Primary Election is held to nominate or elect candidates. If there are no more than two candidates for each vacancy, the Primary Election is eliminated and the General Election is held on that date. In the case of the 2020 elections, if there are six or fewer total candidates, the General Election would take place March 10.

Questions can be directed to the City Clerk's Office via email at [clerk@tempe.gov](mailto:clerk@tempe.gov) or 480-350-4311. Information is available at [tempe.gov/election](http://tempe.gov/election).

## Coming soon: new online payment system

A better way to pay for Kid Zone, city utilities and Tempe Municipal Court fines is coming to Tempe this fall.

A new, centralized system will enhance security and allow residents to make payments on multiple city accounts, all in one place.

Cyber security is evolving.

The new online portal reflects those changes, providing a high level

of encryption to protect sensitive payment and account information.

The portal is also mobile-friendly and offers convenient text alerts.

Payments can be made by phone as well.

Look for more information in the coming months, including launch timelines and how to register for an account.

Eventually, city recreation classes also will be paid for through the system; until then, class registrants should continue to use the system at [tempe.gov/brochure](http://tempe.gov/brochure)

## Love taking photos?

Tempe Instagrammys celebrates photographers and the best photos taken of Tempe each year.

The contest honors local photographers with recognition, trophies and prizes.

Your art could be displayed at the Tempe History Museum or at the Tempe Festival of the Arts.

To enter, take a photo of your favorite Tempe people and places. Post them to

Instagram and include #tempeinstagrammys2020 in your post.

That's it! We would love it if you also followed us on Instagram, @tempegov. Entries will be accepted from Nov. 16 through Dec. 16.

The 2020 Tempe Instagrammys award ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24, at Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway.

More details are at [tempe.gov/](http://tempe.gov/)

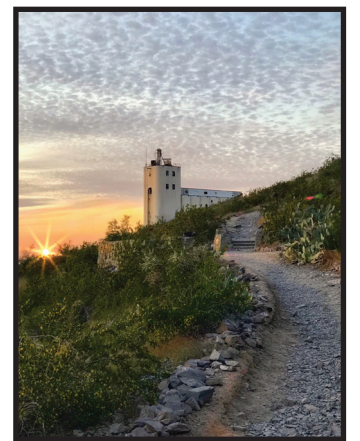


Photo by John Sypniewski

## Holiday solid waste collection dates

Tempe wants residents to know about alternate solid waste collection days this holiday season.

**Thanksgiving Day** is Thursday, Nov. 28, and Thursdays would be the normal collection day for

some residents – instead, those collections will move to Wednesday, Nov. 27.

**Christmas Day** is Wednesday, Dec. 25, and Wednesday is a normal collection day, so it will not be affected. Finally, New Year's

Day is Wednesday, Jan. 1, and it will also not be affected.

All other collection days will remain the same.

You can always call Tempe 311 (480-350-4311) if you have questions or visit [tempe.gov/SMART](http://tempe.gov/SMART).



# New Tempe Y chief stresses health, community as No. 1 cornerstone

By Nicholas Johnsen

To many, staying in shape is at the top of the priority list. Keeping healthy and active in both mind and body is important across the board, but it's not always easy.

Dave Burckhard is the new executive director of the Tempe Family YMCA, part of an international non-profit that works on keeping people not only active in their health but engaged in their community.

After a conversation with Burckhard, it was obvious just how important this ideology was.

Burckhard grew up on the east coast of New



York, with a strong interest in physical education. He attended Springfield College in Massachusetts, the birthplace of basketball.

"My older brother went to school there, and they have a great phys ed program—so I was definitely interested from the beginning."

Shortly after starting at Springfield, however, Burckhard transitioned to studying business and non-profit management. The college is well known for producing skilled—and sought-after—YMCA employees, Burckhard being no exception.

"After graduating from Springfield, I went to a Y career fair in Boston—the president of the greater Boston YMCA offered me an internship, and that's how it all began."

That was in 2012, making this his seventh year of involvement with the Y. Since then, Burckhard has

held several different managerial roles within the organization.

Eventually, he reached the position of executive director. When the opportunity of transitioning to the Valley of the Sun presented itself, Burckhard leapt at the chance.

"I wanted to explore outside of the Northeast, and being able to drive success here for the last year or so has let me do just that."

When asked what he thinks separates the YMCA from other community and fitness centers, Burckhard explained several unique aspects—starting with money.

"We don't turn anyone away for the inability to pay. Financial aid and scholarship access is key."

Considering how important it is to be active both physically and within the community, the non-profit nature is crucial. Burckhard and the rest of the Tempe Y team just finished one of their classic fundraising events, a "Spooky Sprint" 5K race.

Along with finances, the executive director added a more conceptual layer to this welcoming attitude.

"The tail of our mission statement is 'community for all', and we really take that to heart here," he said.

Regardless of religious affiliation, socioeconomic status or any other classification in communities it serves, the YMCA is open. The Tempe Family Y is no exception, and as the new director, Burckhard is working to keep that spirit—and the commitment to it—alive.

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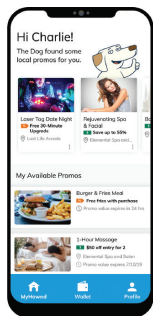


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### 2020 Leadership Speakers Series: Spark - Ignite - Illuminate

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Registration for the 2020 Leadership Speaker Series is now open!

This year's speaker lineup will boast a variety of topics from communication strategies for Millennials in the workplace to having a mindset of a leader. Times and dates are listed below and discounted 4-pack ticket sales are open now!

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Jodi Low - U & Improved



Olenka Cullinan - #iStartFirst

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Jodi Low

**Friday, January 31**  
8:00 am - 9:30 am  
Olenka Cullinan



Joan Jakel - Empowerment Instigator



Adam Lee Brooks - Speaker & Coach

**Friday, February 7**  
8:00 am - 9:30 am  
Joan Jakel

**Friday, February 14**  
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Adam Lee Brooks

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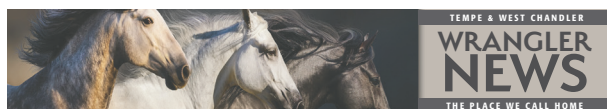
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Contributors: Alex Zener, M.V. Moorhead,  
Diana Nelson, Noah Kutz, Nicholas Johnsen, Janie Magruder  
Offices: Warner Century Plaza, 2145 E. Warner Road, Suite 102  
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*Wrangler News is printed by Tempe-based Signature Offset on partially recycled newsprint with ink made from 98 percent soy content*



A ceremony to mark the opening of Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Station 7 takes place 9 - 10 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 9, and will feature tours, refreshments and a short presentation. The new station is located at 8607 S. McClintock Drive. Info: [tempe.gov/station7](http://tempe.gov/station7)

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# ASU chief: plenty to 'Crowe' about

By Noah Kutz

To those who ask what ASU's ranking "#1 in innovation" actually means, ask no further. Perhaps if you've seen a billboard or two (or three) on the Price Freeway, you may have noticed that Arizona State University has been rated first in innovation from US News and World Report for five consecutive years.

"Great," says ASU student Lorenzo Rios, "so what does that actually mean?" Rios' voice echoes that of countless other students, many of them turning the university's capitalization on the achievement into a light-hearted joke.

Although these young scholars now exploit the ranking by sarcastically granting their friends nicknames like "innovator" when they complete insignificant tasks, the real-life accomplishments from ASU President Michael Crowe are no joke.

In his recent presentation to the Chandler Chamber of Commerce, Crowe highlighted the numerous ways that he and his staff have worked toward putting Arizona State at the top of America's list of robust academic institutions.

Crowe served as deputy provost and a senior faculty member of Columbia University in New York City for 12 years before coming to ASU where he has been president for 17 years. Columbia, as

Dr. Crowe describes, was "too small an arena in too rigid a place," despite the incredible opportunities he had there.

The level of success we desire in the United States, he says, will not emerge from the establishment institutions like Columbia University, but rather from new places that are able to do new things like ASU.

He continues, "The opportunity here and the reason that I was hired was to take this very large public university which had not yet matured and see if you could actually build a new kind of university."

Building this new class of education in America is something ASU certainly has accomplished, with many well-established universities following Dr. Crowe's example of innovation.

Becoming #1 in the U.S. for innovation is determined by a peer-based survey from Crowe's counterparts in other academic institutions.

According to the U.S. News and World Report, nominees must demonstrate innovative ways within their campuses to improve in categories such as curriculum, students and faculty or campus facilities and technology.

Dr. Crowe describes the process of growth and development as a long and hard-fought game, but the outcome has proven to be worth the fight.

"ASU today is one of the 10 most significant patentors of all universities on the planet. We weren't even in the top several hundred when we started that process," he says.

The university has also increased its research funding from \$100 million per year to nearly \$700 million which is more than major institutions such as UCLA, Princeton or Harvard, according to President Crowe.

In terms of other innovative processes, ASU has also created the world's first fully-accredited online electrical engineering degree for undergraduate students.

"This will allow us to teach world-class engineering to an electrician's mate serving forward deployed on an aircraft carrier," he says, referencing America's servicemen and women who now have more opportunities to obtain an education while deployed overseas.

These achievements represent just a few of the incredible things that ASU has been able to accomplish over the years, but according to Dr. Crowe, the work has only just begun.

"We have issues in Arizona. Huge, huge, huge issues. We grow and we think that's economic growth. We attract people here and we say, 'well that's good.' We build houses and apartments like there's no tomorrow which is fine, but that's not a sustainable economy."

President Crowe later continued to outline the ways that ASU must adapt to Arizona's growth, and help drive the development in areas pertaining to technology, sustainability and the economy.

For Dr. Michael Crowe's full presentation at the Chandler Chamber of Commerce, visit their channel "Chandler Chamber AZ" on YouTube.

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