WRARGLER NEWS

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Lots of agreement, not much debate in candidate matchup

Story & photo by Lee Shappell Special for Wrangler News

For anyone hoping to glean what separates those running for Tempe City Council and mayor in the March 10 election, a candidates forum at Tempe History Museum was not necessarily the place to be.

None of the candidates articulated what separates them from the field. Nobody challenged positions of their rivals. Of course, that's largely because their opponents' stances mostly seem to reflect their own.

And, after all, sponsored by Tempe Interfaith Fellowship, it was a civil, nonpartisan forum, not a debate.

—CANDIDATES, Page 6



From left: Mark Mitchell, Corey Woods, Doreen Garlid, Joel Navarro, Marc Norman and Casey Clowes spoke at Tempe History Museum in an election forum sponsored by Tempe Interfaith Fellowship.

Closure stuns café scene; Postino's readies takeover

By M.V. Moorhead

mid a fair amount of civic and media hoopla—some of it written in these very pages by yours truly—Tempe Public Market Café opened in January 2018. Last week, two years almost to the week after it opened, the place has closed.

This was what the owners' Facebook page said: "It is with the heaviest of hearts that we make the following announcement. Effective today January 17, Tempe Public Market Café will be closed. This was not an easy decision and we cannot express our gratitude for every person that has supported us on this journey. We have seen great success here, however this was the next leg of our journey.



Locked doors, roped-off seating — and memories — were all that greeted staff and customers when they showed up at Tempe Public Market Café the day after it closed.

— Wrangler News photo

By Don Kirkland

he sudden and unexpected departure of Tempe Public Market Café suggested to some that the seemingly profitable enterprise may well have run into financial difficulties.

Not so, suggest those in the know.

Here is what is said to have actually happened:

Postino's, a popular upscale food and wine bar with restaurants in three states, reportedly became frustrated by the intransigence of nearby property owners involving Postino's proposal to develop a new location on the long-vacant northwest corner opposite the existing Tempe Public Market.

Frustrated with delays, said a city of Tempe source, Postino's devised an alternate strategy: Offer to buy the up-and-running Public Market, rename and convert it. W

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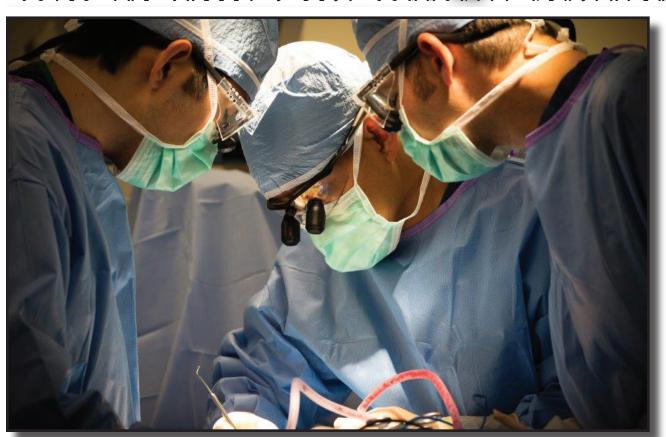


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WRANGLER NEWS

THE PLACE WE CALL HOME



Dr. Taro Kaibara, a neurosurgeon from Barrow Neurological Institute at Dignity Health Chandler Regional Medical Center, emphasized the importance of diagnosing and treating a first concussion.

— Photo courtesy Dignity Health

Dignity neurologist: Concussion risks multiply as more kids pursue hockey

By Michelle Hirsch

Tee is cold, but hockey is hot, and the sport is growing despite the risk of concussion. USA Hockey reports player memberships in Arizona have nearly doubled in the last five years, increasing, from 4,860 players in 2014 to 8,983 in 2019.

With 31 high school teams in the Valley, and an increasing number of players in a season that runs from August to February, the local ice rinks have emerged the cool place to play. Kids as young as 4 years old can develop coordination skills and gauge interest in Learn to Skate classes.

But parents may have some







hesitation for their child to enter a sport with a reputation for physical injuries.

Dr. Taro Kaibara, a neurosurgeon with Barrow Neurological Institute at Dignity Health Chandler Regional Medical Center, is an avid long-time hockey player himself and emphasized the improved culture and protocols of the sport in recent years.

"In a sport that is played at very high speed, body contact is an inherent part, but the culture and rules have changed over time, and now any contact to the head is a penalty. Across the board, concussion awareness has improved," said Kaibara.

Coaches and trainers have increased training and evaluation protocols of concussion

symptoms, and there's an increased awareness and focus in the sport to emphasize skills and speed over physical contact.

Kaibara also suggests that parents are just as important as coaches in identifying possible concussion symptoms because they know their child best.

Symptoms to watch for include headaches, ringing in the ears, sensitivity to light or noise, dizziness or imbalance, short-term memory loss, behavior or personality changes, nausea or vomiting, or inability to concentrate. Kaibara advises parents to go to the emergency room for further evaluation and treatment if they notice any unusual symptoms, particularly in

Westchester centenarian

Sense of humor, plus a kazoo, among her secrets to longevity

Story and photos by Janie Magruder

aybe the secret to a long life isn't eating all your vegetables, taking 10,000 steps a day or playing brain games on the computer.

Maybe it's living in a variety of places around the world, showing kindness to as many people who are different from you as possible, playing golf and bridge into your 90s, and always maintaining a sense of humor.

That's worked for Dottie Moomaw, who on Monday celebrated her 100th birthday at Westchester Senior Living in Tempe, where she is the only resident centenarian. Playing kazoo in a Western band and thinking less about your age and more about your blessings didn't hurt Dottie, either.

"I never thought about it (turning 100)," she said before her birthday party, at which 60 other Westchester residents and guests enjoyed cake and punch and music by the Looney Tooner Kitchen Band. "I just keep on living."

A look back at the Roaring

Wearing frog socks on her feet and a smile on her face, the Tempe native talked about being born Dorothy Louise Harelson at the start of the Roaring '20s. She was the eldest of Mabel and Harvey Harelson's two children, and in those days, Tempe had no hospital. Dottie and other babies were born in a house, the Nursing Home, where Tempe City Hall is today.

She enjoyed picnics in the desert, camping trips in the mountains, playing piano, and learning to golf with her dad, later winning gold medals from Arizona Senior Olympics for her links prowess. In 1942, she graduated from Arizona State Teachers College, where she excelled on the archery team, and taught third grade in Benson, Ariz., before meeting her future husband Hollis.

They married in 1942 and lived around the country during his Air Force pilot training, then were stationed in various places such as Japan, Taiwan and Italy. While Hollis fought in World War II and the Korean War, Dottie raised their three children, Lynn, Shary and Jim, and also taught school.



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How to make a difference in a child's life — and yours: join Tempe volunteers

By Susie Steckner

Tant to make a difference in a child's life? Tutoring young school children who struggle with reading may provide an answer.

The city of Tempe's AARP Foundation Experience Corps program is holding information sessions beginning Tuesday, Jan. 28 to learn more about what is designed to be a rewarding volunteer opportunity.

Part of the national AARP Foundation Experience Corps program, the concept focuses on early literacy skills and supports students in partnership with the Tempe Elementary School District.

It is open to volunteers ages 50 and older. Volunteers don't need special skills-just a willingness to share their experience, time and patience.

"During the school year, among the highlights of my week is the time I spend with four young readers helping them gain self-confidence as their reading fluency improves," said tutor Bev Rogers.

"With high fives, broad smiles and words of praise, it's an awesome experience to be part of this transformation.'

Information sessions are 9:30-10:30 a.m. in program room B of the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

Scheduled dates are Tuesday, Jan. 28; Wednesday, Feb. 26; Tuesday, March 24; Thursday, April 9; and Tuesday, April 21.

No advance registration is needed. Volunteers commit to approximately five hours per week September to May.

Each tutor is assigned to four students and meets individually with them for 30 minutes twice weekly during school hours. Comprehensive training and support services are provided.

Volunteers must undergo background checks, including fingerprinting, and 15 hours of preservice training.

Information: www.tempe.gov/ experiencecorps



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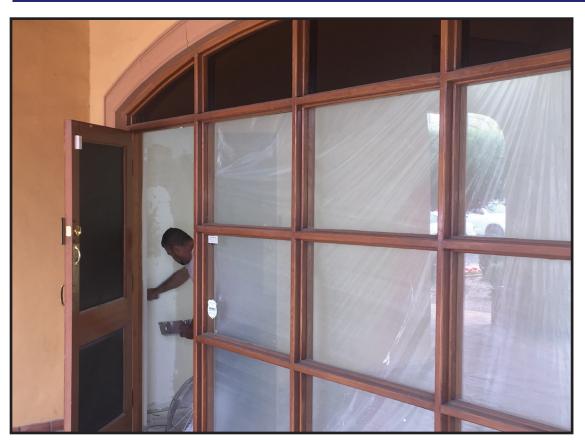
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With the recent exit of Rosati's and La Cleaners on the northwest corner of McClintock and Warner, there is lots of interest in those spaces, according to Sean Bishop, principal with Lee & Associates, which manages the center. Bishop confirmed there are draft leases out for review, and in the next couple months there is a tea room and a fitness and nutrition counseling office that will be opening next to Great Harvest Bakery.

— Michelle Hirsch for Wrangler News

Tempe free classes help parents of kids with developmental disabilities

Marie Raymond, human services manager for Tempe, understands what parents face in virtually every household.

Those challenges can be especially demanding, she says, for parents of kids experiencing disabilities.

Now, thanks to a program being offered by Tempe via its Stepping Stones Triple P family intervention program, help is available—and it's free.

Stepping Stone, for children ages 12 and younger, aims to help parents develop effective management strategies for dealing with a variety of childhood behavior problems and developmental issues.

Classes in the series include:

- Helping children reach their potential (Feb. 6);
- Changing problem behavior into positive behavior (March 26)

Classes are held 5-7 p.m. at Getz School, 625 W. Cornell Drive. Childcare is available. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Registration for classes and childcare is required and is available at tempe.gov/triplep.

"We know parenting can be difficult at times for all families," said Raymond. "For parents of children with disabilities, it can be especially challenging."

The Triple P program is designed to support families by teaching parents how to encourage their child's social and communication skills, emotional self-regulation, independence and problemsolving skills, according to Raymond.

"Equipping parents with these skills can help promote family harmony, encourage successful peer relationships and prepare children for transitioning to adulthood," she said.

Information: tempe.gov/education.





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Closure

From Page 1

When the management of Public Market became aware of Postino's possible offer, the timing seemed perfect. The restaurant's soaring popularity had started to drain the owners' personal and family time. A takeover might provide the perfect way out.

And so the deal was done.

City officials report that applications have been filed for the needed permits for revised management and the new Postino's is on a fast track to open, perhaps as early as the weekend of Jan. 25.

In the meantime, said the same city of Tempe source, yet another proposal for the disputed corner appears to be nearing fruition, again from a fashionable dining establishment. Like the original Postino's project, it too would require a zoning exception.

Café

From Page 1

"Our team is continuing to grow and pursue other opportunities, stay tuned for more to come.

"We love this community in South Tempe and we are grateful to have been part of its growth.

"All the best, The Tempe Public Market Café Team."

Back in 2018, folks were optimistic, not only about the prospects for the trendy new spot, a spin-off of downtown's stylish and successful Phoenix Public Market Café. Both initially were under the supervision of chef Aaron Chamberlin, also the mastermind of St. Francis on Camelback near Central in Phoenix.

There was also high confidence that a similarly crafted South Tempe location would significantly add to the area's caché, not only with an appeal to foodies but as a gathering spot for the neighborhood's upscale dynamic.

"It's OK if we compare what's happening in South Tempe with what happened to Arcadia," opined Tempe resident and booster Matt Smith at the time. "It was expensive to live there, but nobody knew why. When LGO [hip upscale eatery La Grande Orange, at 40th Street and Campbell in Phoenix] opened, it profoundly affected the area economy."

Flash Santoro, at the time a marketing representative for a nearby sporting-goods store, also chimed in about TPMC's

location

"They've redone the corner, and it's going to be a great change for the community. We're hoping it will create some synergy with the other businesses around here. It should be fantastic."

Seemingly fulfilling Smith's assurance that "all the not-in-my-backyard types will line up" for the new location, the place continued to climb in popularity. However, a remodel, other décor readjustments, revisions to the menu and management and ownership shifts, it appears the owners may have felt overwhelmed and agreed to a sale

So what comes next for the snazzy building at 8749 S. Rural?

More of the same, evidently. It has been reported reliably that the building will be taken over as a new location of Postino, the popular wine bar, sandwich, soup and salad chain that started in the Arcadia area in 2001 in an old post office (hence the name) and now has locations around the Valley as well as in Denver and Houston.

As to official reaction to the anticipated Postino takeover of the site, Tempe Councilmember Jennifer Adams said a new iteration of South Tempe's dining-and-socializing scene should be well received.

"It will be great to welcome Postino to the area and enjoy time there with my family and friends.

"I am grateful to the owners of the former Tempe Public Market, too, for breathing new life into this corner and showing that south Tempe can support a neighborhood restaurant."

Candidates

From Page 1

The candidates agreed that homelessness is a major problem and something must be done. Put feminine hygiene products back in women's public restrooms, everybody said. Give the three public-education districts that serve Tempe all the support possible.

Yes, they all said, they're concerned about congestion downtown and hope to find better, multimodal ways to move people around without fouling the environment.

And, for heaven's sake, let us vow to meet at least once a year with the Tempe Interfaith Fellowship, the two mayoral candidates affirmed.

"I would say more than once a year," Mayor Mark Mitchell said. "I'd even be receptive to once a month, schedule permitting. It's important to know the issues we're having and keep communication open."

Quipped mayoral challenger Corey Woods:

"To have a little fun here and try to one-up the mayor, I'd even do once a week. The faith community plays an integral role in everything we do, and it's my commitment to develop a robust working relationship to position Tempe for its brightest future."

Questions dealt almost exclusively with matters north of the U.S. 60, in the city's burgeoning downtown. Essentially nothing was said about South Tempe during the 90-minute session.

So while candidate after candidate said nearly the same thing during each one's allotted 2-minute response to questions posed by a team of Interfaith Fellowship moderators, all made clear where they stand on a variety of issues.

—CANDIDATES, Page 7



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

This day has come to be known as "Kings Day".

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

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

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

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

Celebrate this Mardi Gras
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ends on Mardi Gras (Fat
Tuesday"), the day before Lent
begins.

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Candidates

From Page 6

Even if it's about the same as their election-seeking colleagues.

Mitchell, Tempe's two-term mayor who was elected to City Council for three terms before moving up, is challenged by Woods, a former vice mayor and two-term councilman. Publicly, they seem to get along. During the forum, they laughed together and at times had their arms around each other.

Evidently, though, there is more than meets the eye behind the scenes.

Woods has the endorsements of current Vice Mayor Lauren Kuby and the Tempe Chamber of Commerce.

They've eschewed Mitchell, who has served in city government for 20 years, presiding during a period of unprecedented change as Tempe became the Valley's most urban and most socially progressive suburb.

Five candidates are vying for three seats on City Council, including incumbents Joel Navarro, seeking his fourth term, and Randy Keating, going for his second.

They are challenged by Doreen Garlid, a South Tempe resident, who has been active on committees for three decades and currently chairs Tempe's Neighborhood Advisory Commission; Marc Norman, an artist and champion of marginalized and displaced populations; and Casey Clowes, an attorney, who sits on the Arizona State Bar's Council on Persons with Disabilities in the Legal Profession as well as the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Keating was ill and did not attend.
As to Mitchell's goals, he said, the
No. 1 priority is "maintaining and
improving quality of life, providing the
necessary resources." For Woods, "My
biggest issue is affordable housing. That's a
major concern of mine."

Garlid hopes to build a stronger, closer community by "involving as many people as possible in more forums."

Navarro, a Phoenix Fire Department division chief, is concerned about human services that address homelessness and addiction, "not limited to opioids."

Norman said homelessness and affordable housing are linked, and he hopes to find "common-sense solutions to both."

Sustainability, "specifically the climate crisis," is Clowes' top concern.

All six want to find additional funding support for the Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program (IHELP) and to partner with faith communities to address human-service needs.

"Tempe should ban conversion therapy," Clowes said when questioned about the city's dealings with the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. "It's harmful to people emotionally and physically. We should not have this in Tempe."

And when candidates were asked about difficulties parking downtown for faithbased groups' services and gatherings, Clowes, who attended Corona del Sol High school, said:

"We should invest in public transit. I'm not sure it's appropriate to single out faith groups and give them preferential treatment over other groups who have experienced the same challenges."

The hottest topic was traffic and the carbon footprint downtown near Town Lake, where businesses continue to relocate, and near the Arizona State University campus, where several massive multi-housing projects are under construction.

Navarro was vocal about traffic and its peripheral issues.

"People want to park right next to the restaurant, want to pull right in and park right there, 'and that's how I want it—although there is a parking garage I see a block away and I know it's over there, I just refuse to do that," Navarro said.

"It does take education. Use other opportunities to get around. That's one way to alleviate congestion."

He added:

"I don't think I'm going to win over south Tempe urging people to get out of their cars.

"You might have a chance in downtown Tempe because of what we're doing and what we're trying to achieve. We have 200,000 to 300,000 people coming into the city daily.

"That's a lot of cars."

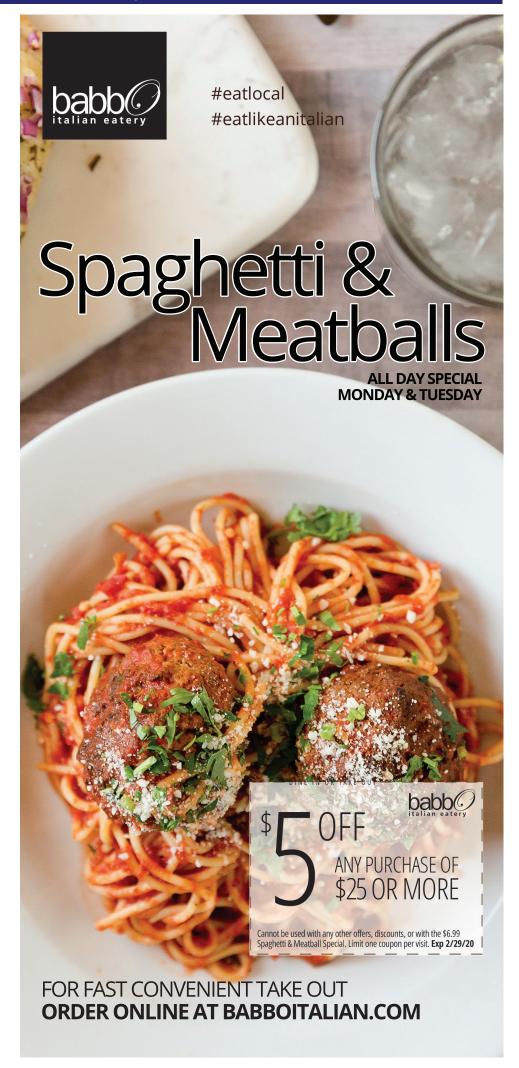
Mitchell pointed out that Tempe has invested in the Orbit bus system in the southern part of the city. He supports continued expansion as well as free passes to youth for mass-transit use "to educate our next generation."

Woods suggested that telecommuting as much as possible also would get cars off downtown streets.

"There are times when I get some of my best work done in a tee shirt and basketball shorts with a laptop on my couch." he said.

Keating's campaign information says that he has served on 26 committees and that he is especially proud of his first-term work on traffic, homelessness, revitalizing parks, repairing roads, protecting neighborhoods, public safety, economic development, animal welfare and maintaining high-quality city services.

Since there are no more than two candidates for each vacancy, the March 10 primary becomes the general election. If needed, a run-off election would be May 19. Elected candidates will be sworn in to four-year terms in July.



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Birthday

From Page 3

Dottie and Hollis returned to Tempe in 1972, and their family grew eventually to include two grandsons and five great-grandchildren. The couple loved square dancing and hiking, and she was especially fond of Bing Crosby, Cribbage and the Bible.

Aside from a bout with breast cancer in 1985, Dottie has enjoyed good health, driving a car until about six years ago and playing kazoo with the Looney Tooners until age 99.

Hollis passed away in 1986, but Dottie continued to live in her own home until three years ago when she moved to Westchester. She's a bright light there, never complaining and always joining in, said daughter Lynn Burns of Sierra Vista.

"She goes to everything," Burns said. "Exercise class, five days a week, balloon toss, dominoes. She loves Cribbage, too."

Dottie's favorite recollections aren't tied to world events, like the first American on the moon, the New Deal or the birth of technology.

"I think her best memories are meeting people around the world, inviting them into her home, taking pictures, becoming friends," said her eldest daughter Shary Thompson of Tempe.

A life well lived.



Dottie Moomaw, center, a Tempe native, celebrated her 100th birthday along with family and friends at Westchester Senior Living.



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Aprende school recognized for unique way it motivates students

By Diana Nelson

Students who needed just a bit more encouragement to excel in school are receiving it and their school just landed a notable achievement, too.

Kyrene's Aprende Middle School has just been rated an AVID Schoolwide Site of Distinction for the 2019-20 school year and is the only Kyrene school to earn this status.

Advancement Via Individual Determination is part of a national program aimed at closing achievement gaps and creating a college-going culture in schools.

Renee Kory, Aprende's principal, offered his enthusiastic endorsement of AVID.

"AVID has transformed teaching and learning at Aprende," Kory said. "It's embedded into everything that we do, and in addition to helping students with academics, social skills, and self-advocacy and efficacy, it has tremendously strengthened our culture."

All of that transformation didn't happen overnight. It took hard work.

"I am so proud of the teachers and students for their passion for and dedication to AVID and am honored their hard work has been recognized with the prestigious AVID Site of Distinction," Kory said. During the next year, the school's goal, said AVID program coordinator and elective teacher, Jackie Williams, is to become an AVID National Demonstration School. Since AVID began in 2000, there only are eight demonstration schools in the entire state of Arizona.

Aprende adopted the AVID model in 2017 as a way to build specific skills to help students focus on being college bound, as well as academically successful once they are enrolled in college courses.

"In our first year of AVID, we had approximately 35 students in two different AVID classes—one in seventh grade and one in eighth grade," said Williams. "This year we have 113 AVID students with two sections in sixth, seventh and eighth grades."

At Aprende, the students who participate in an AVID elective class might not ever be enrolled in advanced classes, but teachers sense that the student selected to participate has the motivation, desire, and determination to achieve at higher levels with support, explained Williams.

"Typically, an AVID student has average to high test scores and a 2.0-3.5 GPA. They are students who have academic potential," said Williams.

Students apply for the program

and go through an extensive interview process in order to be selected. Once enrolled, they created a binder to organize their assignments and documents for the course elective they select.

Having AVID available to schools is helping to create opportunities for all youth. And it's not just academics. AVID helps with other transferable skills, including organization, time management, collaboration and more.

The program goes beyond the traditional college and career readiness tactics to help educators foster a more equitable, student-centered approach. Teachers benefit from more professional development, resources, and ongoing support to ensure a lasting impact over their classroom performance.

Scott Schutkowski, an eighth-grade social studies teacher, is extremely positive about his classroom experiences with AVID.

"Being a part of an AVID school and the AVID program has reenergized me as a veteran teacher. I've seen so many things come and go over the years, but this program is for real.

"I transferred to Aprende a year after they implemented the AVID program and I was blown away. I am surrounded with extremely capable, professional teachers at who are equipped with



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numerous classroom strategies for student success. The AVID environment and professional development have made me more motivated than ever to step up my game and be a better teacher by using a proven program with engaging strategies."

Three Aprende students shared their thoughts on how the program is shaping their educational futures.

Taleah Burns, an eighth-grader, said AVID has helped her realize what she wants to do for her career and how to achieve her goals.

"I can be anything I want—an entrepreneur, a business manager, a judge, anything," Taleah said. "Before AVID, I never got that help or that push to encourage me to go to tutoring or accept help. Now I listen to helpful comments from adults. Last year I was a follower and now that I'm in AVID, I'm a leader. I'm on honor roll and I think about college, career, and future success."

Andrew Dudley, a seventh-grader, said AVID has benefitted him

"I used to just take notes and put them in my binder and now, I can reflect on them, use them to study, and understand why they are helpful," Andrew said. "Now I use notes to study for tests and I do well on tests. I am on the honor roll. AVID has helped me understand what it takes to get into college."

Makenzie Alvarez, a seventh-grader, learned to deal with the homework that had been piling up in her seven classes at Aprende.

"I interviewed for AVID and was accepted into the class and learned about Tutorials, which is where students in the class ask me questions to in order to understand why I might be struggling with a problem, then we work through the problem and solution together," Makenzie said. "I also found out through AVID what type of learner I am and that has helped me find new ways to write essays easier and better. Now, thinking about college, I am not going to freak out because I have the skills to help me be successful."



Andrew Dudley, 12, Taleah Burns, 13, and Makenzie Alvarez, 12, say the AVID program at Aprende Middle School has helped them become better students.

— Wrangler News photo



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Elected officials share insight into Chandler's future

By Noah Kutz



Former 7-term Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, now San Madrcos Justice of the Peace, spoke to the Chandler Chamber of Commerce at a Meet the Elected Officials event as Terri Kimbell, president/CEO looked on.

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce held its annual Meet the Elected Officials event recently at the new Marriott Phoenix Chandler in the Price Corridor.

Over 70 elected officials responded to the call for participation, providing the 400 attendees the chance to hear from electees across all sections of government.

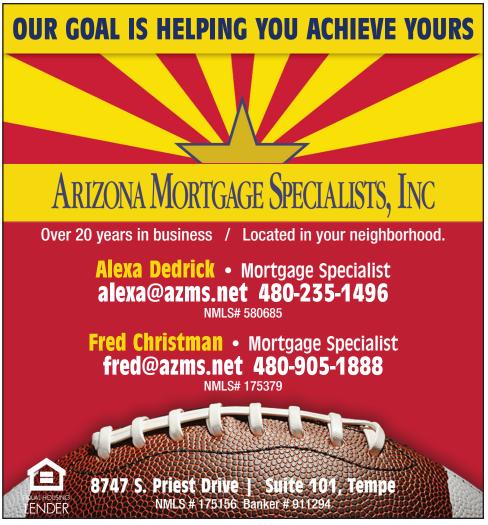
Representatives from the Governor's Office, Legislative Districts 17 and 18, Chandler City Council, School Governing Boards and more gave brief introductions to their agendas.

Chandler Chamber President Terri Kimble hailed the event as a way for business leaders to gain better insight into the city's economic future.

"Each year we are inspired by the high energy that emanates from this event.," said Kimble. "It not only brings our business community and government together, but is also an opportunity for our various branches of government to connect among themselves."

Jennings Imel, from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, gave a presentation on what was happening in Washington and what is due to be addressed in this year's legislative session. The chamber also rolled out its legislative agenda, How We Stand, depicting the concerns and issues of the Chandler business community and winning national recognition from the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.





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REAL ESTATE

Rockin' & rollin' for a cause: Helping kids beat the battle against cancer

Story & photos by Noah Kutz

he

Editor's note: As if Noah doesn't have enough to stay busy while he's pursuing a degree in Global Studies at ASU, working for us — and following the officer-training regimen prescribed by the United States Marine Corps — he finds yet another passion: triathlons. While he didn't sign up for the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, we couldn't think of a better candidate to cover this event for us.

he feeling in a runner's gut immediately

before a race is never forgotten. Each competitor's heart runs a race of its own while the mind reassures the rest of the body that the pain is only temporary.

The runner toes the line.

Breathing slows—the heavy beat of the entrant's heart appears to drown out all other sounds. Seconds before the starting gun blasts, the runner's gut fires itself into action and all feelings of nervousness are overcome by concentration.

"Three," says the announcer. "Two. One...Go."

This may be a common ritual for athletes in other races, but runners from the 2020 Humana Rock 'n' Roll Marathon series might've jumped and jived their way across the starting line to the rhythm of '80s rock instead.

Dance moves induced by AC/DC and Duran Duran filled the streets of Tempe on a recent Sunday morning as thousands of runners conquered the marathon, half-marathon and 10k races.

The course led runners through downtown Tempe into Papago Park and around some areas of Scottsdale and Phoenix, depending on the distance each runner chose to undertake.

The race series derives its name from the local rock bands that play along the course, their involvement designed to give runners a chance to slow down to a half-jog, half-dance pace every few miles if they feel the urge.

For the final leg of the race, athletes run south on the Mill Avenue bridge, turning right onto Rio Salado where friends and family members cram up against the railings to watch the runners sprint past the finish line—all to the deafening roar of classic rock accompanied by cheering from the crowd and commentary from the race announcer.

Participants in the Rock n' Roll Marathon series range from funseeking Arizonans attempting to satisfy New Year's resolutions to elite marathoners from across the country focused on beating a previous record.

A few runners were seen wearing costumes of varying wackiness, such as some in giant banana suits or others as Elvis Presley doppelgangers.

The race-inspired hilarity didn't end with the athletes' antics, however. All along the race route, spectators gathered to cheer for loved ones, many with signs bearing quip-inspired phrases of encouragement. Others simply gave donuts or beer to the racers who had become desperate enough for a pick-me-up.

Despite the overwhelming sense of fun and excitement at the Rock 'n' Roll marathon, many runners completed the challenge with purposeful sobriety.

Bret Lane from Seattle and Rory Hjelmaa from New York helped raise \$15,500 in support of families who are suffering from illnesses. "All of the money will go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital to support kids with cancer so that their families don't have to pay any money," says Lane.

"It's a huge deal," he said. "I have three family members that are dealing with terminal cancer right now, so they're my inspiration. Their battle is way bigger than running a marathon."

At age 57, Lane ran the marathon in 3 hours and 13 minutes, while Hjelmaa finished just behind him. They trained and raised money for the race for over a year, according to what they told *Wrangler News*. Their ultimate goal is to raise \$1 million.

The Rock 'n' Roll Marathon Series hosts hundreds of fundraisers similar to Bret and Rory's each year.

Donation information: fundraising.stjude.org/site/ SPageServer/?pagename=events_home

Thousands of runners participated in the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon and half-marathon event that spread through the Valley and ended at Tempe Beach Park where participants were met by family, friends and in some cases, recognition; the race culminated with a dash across the iconic Mill Avenue Bridge; Bret Lane from Seattle and Rory Hielmaa from New York were among the participants who helped raise money to help others fight illnesses like cancer.





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SPORTS

With Alex Zener

Optimistic view fails to materialize as reality

Coming off a 4-3 come-frombehind win against Maryvale on Jan. 14, the Aztecs, ranked at No. 4 in the 6A Division, were looking forward to playing No. 1-ranked Brophy Prep on Jan. 18

Against Maryvale, the Aztecs had several missed opportunities in the first half and ended up down 0-2 to start the second half against the Panthers.

Still unable to connect at the beginning of that period, Corona went down 0-3 when the Panthers scored another goal one minute into the half.

The Aztecs finally woke up when senior forward **Mohamed Ndiaye**, or "Mooooo!" as the crowd chanted,

scored a goal to get Corona on the board, at 1-3.

Still unable to get their shots into the goal, however, the Aztecs at least started to play with more urgency when they entered a scrum with the Panthers midway through the second half.

Corona somehow came out of that initiative to score and cut the lead to only one goal at 2-3. Senior midfielder **Alex de Heij** was credited with the goal.

Somewhat reenergized, the Aztecs were still down 2-3 with 15 minutes to go in the half when junior midfielder **Reyes Carbajal**, with an assist from senior forward **Nikhil Chagam**, tied

the game at 3-3.

With three minutes to go and the game on the line, de Heij threw the ball in, which somehow ended up being knocked into the goal, giving Corona a one-point lead at 4-3.

Senior midfielder **Sebastian Flores** was credited with the goal and the Aztecs went on to come from behind 0-3 to win 4-1

The No. 4 ranked Aztecs started their soccer game on Jan. 18 against No. 1 ranked Brophy Prep on a high note scoring in the first minute to

Alex Zener

go up 1-0 when Ndiaye scored a goal with his first shot. Sebastian Flores was credited with the assist.

Unfortunately, Ndiaye's goal would be the only one Corona scored that day.

Brophy tied the game at 1-1 before half time, then proceeded

to score three more goals in the second half to defeat the Aztecs 4-1 and maintain their No. 1 ranking.

Corona, with a 5-6 record, was

scheduled to play at North on Jan. 21 before playing two home games the following week. Both games were due to be broadcast live on the NFHS network.

On Jan. 24, Corona was scheduled to play Desert Ridge and then, Jan. 28, Queen Creek.

The Aztecs were predicted to win both of these games on their home field but, with only three more games left in the regular season, Corona cannot afford to overlook either one of these lower-ranked teams because Corona's following two games will be against ranked opponents.

On Jan. 31, the Aztecs are scheduled to play at currently ranked No. 9 Highland and then against currently ranked No. 8 Desert Vista. Both games will have ramifications for seeding in the 6A state tournament brackets.

The Aztecs' last game of the season will be at home against Mountain Pointe on Feb. 7, when Corona will honor its seniors.

The Aztecs will lose to graduation almost two-thirds of their roster after this season, when 13 seniors graduate.

In addition to Ndiaye, de Heij, Chagam and Sebastian Flores, the Aztecs will honor on Feb. 7 goalkeeper **Jack Ireland**, defenders

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Nathaniel Thompson, Jacob Helm, Zach Wadsworth, Jake Ryan Houk, and Ahmed Wali, forward Manny De La Cruz and midfielders Jacob Flores and Jude Homsi.

Other members of the Aztec soccer team who contribute to the team's success on and off the field are four freshman, midfielders **Aran Garza** and **Diego Frausto** and defenders **Nico Ramirez** and **Andrew Davies-Boerner**, one sophomore, defender **Diego Aplicano** and a junior midfielder **Moises Escobedo**.

Corona Wrestling

Corona's wrestling team, under new head coach **Jesse Whitson**, will be competing at the Diego Gadea Wrestling Tournament hosted by Salpointe Catholic High School Jan. 24-25.

The Aztecs have already this 2019-20 season competed at the Tiger Duels, Dec. 14, where they took second place at the Moon Valley Wrestling Invitational, Dec. 20.

They finished in fifth place out of 27 schools and at the Peoria Invitational Wrestling Tournament Jan. 10-11.

At the Tiger Duals on Dec. 14, **Tyler Hamm** was third in the 106 lb. weight class while **Anthony Gonzales** took home a first-place medal in the 120 lb. category.

Moving up the weight classes, Matt Gable was second, 126 lbs.; Anthony Garcia, second, 138 lbs.; Shane Aguarin, third, 145 lbs.; Micha Castro, second, 152 lbs.; Drew Nicholson, second, 170 lbs.; Joshua Gutierrez, fifth, 182 lbs.; and Jack Koeller, fifth, 195 lbs.

At the Moon Valley Invitational, the Aztecs had several wrestlers get on the podium, including **Sierrah Thrun**, Corona's returning girls state champion.

Corona has three girls wrestling this season who also competed at the at the Moon Valley Invitational, where Thrun continued her winning ways taking first place in the 118 lb. weight bracket.

Ana Jovanovich placed third in the 130 lb. weight bracket and **Mary Cowart** was fourth in the 101 lb. bracket

On the boys team, Anthony Gonzales, wrestling in the 120 lb. weight class, took third place, scoring 38 points as did Anthony Garcia in the 138 lb. weight class, scoring 34 points.

Wrestling in the 145 lb. weight class, Aguarin took home a third-place

medal after scoring 46 points.

Koeller, in the 195 lb. weight class, placed fourth while Nicolson, 170 lb. weight class, took fifth place, scoring 36 points.

Taking sixth place in the 152 lb. weight class were Castro and Gutierrez in the 182 lb. weight class after scoring 39 points.

Gable, wrestling at 126 lbs., placed eighth after scoring 23 points.

Anthony Gonzales wrestled at the Peoria Invitational and took home a fourth-place medal wrestling in the 120 lb. weight class.

After the Diego Gadea Wrestling Tournament, there will only be one additional regular season meet, scheduled Jan. 29 at Desert Vista, for the wrestlers to prepare for the Division I Section III sectionals scheduled Feb. 8 at DV.

Wrestlers will need to do well at the Sectionals in order to be able to compete in the 2020 Division I State Wrestling Tournament scheduled Feb. 13-14 most likely at the Findlay Toyota Center in Prescott Valley.

Corona Girls Basketball

Corona's girls basketball team, under new head coach **Peter Salazar**, is working on rebuilding and improving a program that in the past was very competitive with teams regularly contending for top finishes in state tournaments including winning a few as witnessed by the banners hanging in Corona's gym.

Leading the team in scoring are juniors **Narcisse Triano** and **Amiya Hunter**, sophomores **Kayla McDonald** and **Saraiah Ervin** plus freshman **Lizzy Lopez**.

Hunter leads the team in rebounding along with sophomore **Trinity Bratlien**, Ervin, McDonald and senior **Krysta Dohse**.

Other players on the team who contribute on and off the court are seniors Anisa McLain, sophomores Taylor Wasson, Abby Porter and Megan Kirchhardt, and freshman Brielle Phelan and Maddie Mitchell.

Corona has six more games in the regular season starting with two games at home. First, Jan. 24, against Mountain Pointe and then Jan. 28 against Desert Ridge.

On Jan. 31 the Aztecs are

- SPORTS, Page 18

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Sports

From Page 17

scheduled to play at Queen Creek before playing two more home games, Feb. 4 against Highland and Feb. 7 against Desert Vista.

One of these two games will be senior night.

The last game of the regular season will be Feb. 11 at Mountain Pointe.

Marcos de Niza Girls Basketball

The Padres have 14 girls on their relatively young basketball team, with five freshman and sophomores led by five seniors and three juniors.

Leading the team in points per game is senior



Tamera Rivera, with 8.5 points per game after only playing in two games.

Second in scoring average is junior **Savannah Martinez** with 6.8 points a game and senior **Alaina Sellers** with 6.6 point per game.

Sellers leads the team in three-point shots, hitting 15 out of 50 attempts or shooting 30 percent. Second would be sophomore **Sekai Cooley** who shoots 20 percent on her three-point attempts.

Other players who can hit the three-point shot include senior **Dulce Uriate**, Rivera and sophomore **Tamasha Laster**.

In the rebounding category, sophomore **Jewlesia Bailey** has everyone beat averaging over 10 rebounds a game while junior **Arianna Chiago** leads the team in steals with four steals a game after playing in six games.

Senior **Kayla Greer** has played in seven games scoring 17 points while grabbing 15 rebounds and stealing the ball 20 times.

Freshman **Valentina Lira** has seen action in seven games where she has rebounded the ball 33 times while fellow freshman **Natalie Hernandez** has made it into four games managing to steal the ball seven times.

Other members of the Padre girls basketball team who contribute to the team's success on and off the court include senior **Moriah Turpin** and juniors **Shayann Englebert** and **Rebecca Tucker.**



Concussion

From Page 3

the first 24-72 hours after their child sustains any hit.

Autumn Muir, a long-time area hockey parent who also serves on the board of the Arizona High School Hockey Association, the organization that oversees high school hockey leagues, said "Everyone is very aware of concussion risks, but everything is in place to help prevent them.

"The coaches are so good about placing players at the right skill level, training players how to take a hit, and not to hit in the head. Players know they will be benched for dirty hits. It's not acceptable."

AHSHA also requires, and provides players with, baseline concussion tests every two years; coaches and managers are required to take ongoing certified training in prevention protocols and evaluation of concussions. Muir says her son Mason, a junior at Corona, has been safely playing hockey for 10 years.

Mike Myrick, current president of the Kyrene Governing Board, is also an active hockey parent. His son Ryan, a sophomore at Corona, and son Tanner, an 8th grader at Pueblo Middle School, have been participating in hockey for years and neither has ever sustained a concussion, he says.

Myrick concurs there are good protocols in place for safety and an increased awareness in preventing and evaluating concussions.

From a medical vantage point, Kaibara emphasizes the importance of diagnosing and treating a first concussion to prevent the severity of a second injury during the recovery phase.

Kaibara, players and parents praise the sport for the love of the game, lifelong team bonds, and building athletic skills along with character skills like respect, accountability and teamwork.

In actuality, few youth players sustain a concussion in hockey.

A 2016 study found 10 percent of youth ice hockey placers sustained a concussion, but with the improved protocols, the goal is safety and enjoyment playing on ice in the desert.

Learn to Skate programs are available locally at the Ice Den location in West Chandler.



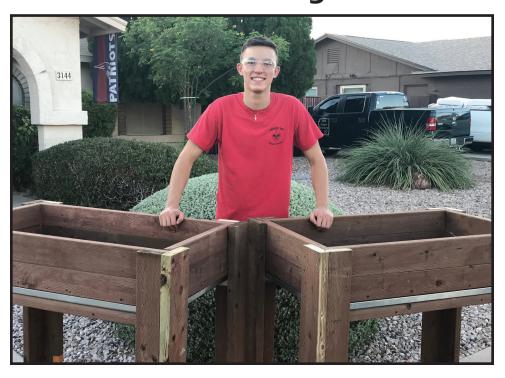
Finishing touches at Canes

Construction is said to be nearly complete on a new Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers restaurant at the southwest corner of McClintock Drive and Warner Road. Based on a sign at the site counting down the days, the restaurant is scheduled to open on Jan. 28.

— Wrangler News photo

WRANGLER NEWS • JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 7, 2020 • PAGE 19

Eagle Scout with a passion Planting seeds of a brighter future for teens with learning disabilities



Corona del Sol senior Nathaniel Thompson built raised planted boxes on wheels for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The undertaking was Thompson's Eagle Scout project.

— Photo courtesy city of Tempe

By Joyce Coronel

Corona del Sol senior has raised the bar on giving back to the community in an innovative way by designing and building raised planter boxes for Tempe students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Growing up, Nathaniel Thompson began volunteer work with special needs individuals when he was only in third grade. Through programs like Special Olympics, peer tutoring and Best Buddies, Thompson developed a passion for working with the disabled.

"Through firsthand volunteer experiences, I have learned that the special needs community is very underserved," Thompson told Wrangler News. When it came to brainstorming for his Eagle Scout project, he approached it with double objectives in mind: He wanted the undertaking to serve the special needs community and last for many years.

That's when he met Samantha Mason, the Adaptive Recreation Program Coordinator for Tempe, and the seeds of his project were planted.

"Nathaniel reached out to us wanting to make a difference in the lives of students with special needs," Mason said. The two developed a plan for Thompson to build raised movable planter boxes for the Life Skills Enrichment After-School Program.

Horticultural therapy is a new trend in adaptive recreation allowing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to enhance their cognitive abilities, task initiation and social skills. It took three consecutive Sundays to build the raised planter boxes for the program. Thompson was able to complete the project with the help of family, friends, teammates from the Corona varsity soccer team and fellow Boy Scouts.

"Overall, there were more than 200 collective man-hours spent from start to finish on this project," Thompson noted. The planters are inclusive in many ways, he said, because any individual can participate no matter their ability level.

The unique planters are on wheels, making them easy to move. They are also raised, allowing students in wheelchairs to pull up and use the beds for planting and harvesting.

The planter boxes will help to teach responsibility, accountability, communication skills, and the idea of working to be a team member in a group project to achieve a common goal.

In addition to the planter boxes, Thompson was able to donate over \$2,400 worth of adaptive recreational equipment through his fundraising efforts.

The donations include planting supplies, tools, and seeds, cooking equipment and utensils, books, puzzles, technology (iPads, tablets and Fire Sticks) and sensory tools and toys used for learning activities that can further support education and adaptive learning within LEAP.

This year, Tempe's LEAP program will start a garden club to provide a therapeutic release for students. Staff also hopes to plant, harvest and use the vegetables for its cooking program.



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Star-gazing just got a little easier—and more entertaining

That's thanks to the "Visionsphere" project of Mesa Community College Planetarium and international recording artists Nouveau Papillon.

The performance of digital imagery accompanied by live New Age instrumental music is currently showing at the MCC Planetarium in January, February, and

"The performances include nearly a dozen individual audio and visual experiences developed by a team of MCC faculty and Nouveau Papillion artists and technicians to engage with our audiences," said Kevin Healy, MCC astronomy faculty.

"The marriage of Digistar planetarium technology with live musical performances provides a truly immersive visual experience that enhances each Nouveau Papillon piece."

Digitally mastered visuals include angels gliding through the heavens, panoramic cavernous tours, fractal art, steampunk graphics and indigenous Arizona wildlife and nature.

International recording artists Nouveau Papillon perform selections from their current and upcoming albums. Mark Bensette Aux Bois, on electric harp and 6- and 12-string acoustic/electric guitars, and Hildi Thelen on Native American-style



flutes, synchronize their performances to visual images on the dome.

Ed Capps, Nouveau Papillon manager, said, "Our partnership with MCC has made it possible to create a truly unique experience for admirers of art, music and technology. I encourage anyone who is unfamiliar with our work to listen to the excerpts on our website; what we do live is even more phenomenal.'

After it leaves Arizona, the show hits the road for performances at planetariums, museums and colleges across the country.

Information: mesacc.edu/ planetarium for dates, times and ticketing information for performances at the MCC Planetarium, 1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa,

Tickets are \$20 and include a digital download of Nouveau Papillon's CD Enchantment Blooms. Half of the proceeds benefit the development of new MCC Planetarium shows to present to the community on Astronomy Nights, a free, first Friday event hosted at the college during the academic year.

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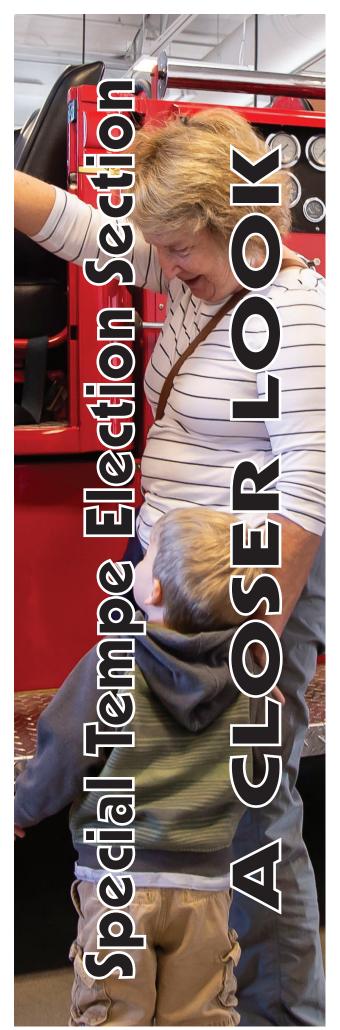
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Tempe Fire Station #7 groundbreaking / Wrangler News photo by Billy Hardiman

The following pages represent Wrangler News' commitment to providing our readers with information from which to decide on candidates for Tempe City Council and Mayoral races, ballots for which go in the mail on Wednesday, Feb. 12. Last day to register is Monday, Feb. 10. We hope you'll find these profiles useful in making decisions that affect your and our city's future . . .

Casey Clowes

Casey Clowes is a caring and passionate Tempe advocate who has spent her personal and professional life working to improve the lives of others. Casey is running for Tempe City Council to pursue more equitable solutions to modern challenges, ensure Tempe is a great place to live for families and seniors, and foster sustainable



Casey Clowes

communities. Casey will bring an analytical approach and a fresh perspective to the Council.

Casey's passion for advocacy was shaped by Tempe. She graduated from Corona del Sol High School and attended Arizona State University for her undergraduate and graduate degrees. At ASU, Casey pursued a degree focused on

community issues and service, receiving her BS in Public Service and Public Policy. Casey went on to receive her JD at ASU Law because of her desire to advance innovative solutions to current issues by bridging the gap between legal realities and community needs.

Casey continues to serve Tempe by sharing her love of the law, leadership, and civic engagement. She serves as the Faith and Non-Profit Subcommittee Chair on the City of Tempe's 2020 Census Complete Count Committee, an advisor for Alpha Gamma Delta at ASU, and a volunteer at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

Casey envisions a Tempe that promotes justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. As a member of the Tempe City Council, Casey Clowes will carry on Tempe's tradition of excellent public service by working to build sustainable communities, ensuring Tempe is the best place to live for residents of all ages, and by giving families the resources they need to thrive.

Doreen Garlid

I am a longtime resident of south Tempe and I've raised my four children here. I'm ready to move into the next phase of my life and put my 30 years of community leadership experience to work for the residents of Tempe.

I believe my extensive leadership resume is what really sets me apart from the other council



Doreen Garlid

candidates. I've served in more than a dozen notable leadership roles, bringing diverse people together in collaboration for positive change.

My leadership resume includes everything from serving as the president of my children's school parentteacher organizations to the current chair of the Tempe Neighborhood Advisory

Commission. Being your city council member would be my only job and I plan to use my time to really listen and connect with residents to ensure their voices are heard.

My top three priorities in this council race are giving neighborhoods a voice, making public safety a priority, and advocating for more affordable housing. I envision Tempe as a thriving and dynamic city with character, where the residents' wishes come first, people feel safe in their homes and neighborhoods, and everyone can find an affordable place to live. I am also a strong advocate for local businesses, historic preservation, supporting our city's veterans and taking action on climate change.

I am a proud member of the Navajo Nation and would be deeply honored to be the first to bring that very important perspective to our council.

I have the endorsement of our firefighters, police, Tempe Chamber of Commerce and many wellrespected community leaders.

More information: garlidfortempe.com.

Randy Keating

During my first term, I've been laser-focused on improving the quality of life for all Tempeans. I've served on 26 working groups, which is over 2.5x as many as any other councilmember. This was a very



Randy Keating

deliberate decision on my part, as there is no onboarding process or training for a new councilmember, and it can be very much like drinking from a fire hose. I wanted to take on as much as I could, so I could learn as quickly as possible how to be the most effective councilmember I could be for my city. It was a baptism by fire, and it worked.

I've worked on issues that

matter to Tempeans, and done so in a way that prioritized compromise and consensus over conflict. My approach has proven to be very effective, and I've made a difference in everything from traffic, homelessness, revitalizing our parks, repairing our roads, protecting our neighborhoods, public safety, economic development, animal welfare, and maintaining the highest quality city services.

We've accomplished a lot in only one term, but there is still more work to do. Tempe is still heading in such a positive direction and I believe we need pragmatic, inclusive, and thoughtful leadership to continue our upward trajectory. Tempe's future is bright, and we need the kind of leaders who can take us there, together.

I ask you, Tempe, to give me the honor of a second term. There is still a lot of work to be done, and with your help, I know we can make our city even better.

Mark Mitchell

Mark Mitchell is a third-generation Arizonan with deep roots in the Tempe community. Mayor Mitchell is a native of Tempe, attending elementary



Mark Mitchell

and middle school in the community before graduating from McClintock High School and Arizona State University. During his time as Mayor, Mark has strengthened Tempe's local economy by working to attract new businesses.

Since his election in May 2012, Tempe has added over 33,000 jobs and overseen

over \$2.7 billion in private investment. Mitchell has overseen City-wide investments in Tempe neighborhoods. Over the next five years, \$140 million will go toward updating Tempe streets and revitalizing neighborhood parks and playgrounds, with a focus on safety, accessibility, and the desires of each individual community.

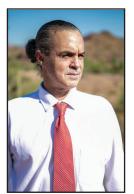
Mayor Mitchell is also committed to maintaining and improving Tempe's world-class assets like Tempe Town Lake, working with law enforcement to ensure that Tempe is made up of safe neighborhoods, and to providing a transparent city government. Mayor Mitchell has served on numerous boards and charitable organizations, including the Kiwanis Club of Tempe, Tempe Diablos, and Tempe Sister Cities. Mitchell is on the Board of Directors of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council.

Mayor Mitchell serves as the City of Tempe's representative and the Chair of the Maricopa Association of Government's Regional Council and Regional Council Executive Committee.

Mayor Mitchell is continuing his family's legacy in public service. His father, Harry Mitchell, was Mayor of Tempe from 1978 to 1994 and served on the City Council for more than 24 years. Mark has two daughters that he is raising in his hometown.

Marc Norman

Marc Norman for Tempe City Council 2020 "The residents of Tempe deserve better. I will give



Marc Norman

the voters' voices the weight they deserve."

Marc Norman is not your typical politician. If you are looking for a different voice, he is your candidate. Over the last three decades Marc Norman has been active in the Tempe community dealing the relevant issues we face day-to-day. Marc will continue by:

Combatting the Homeless Epidemic by creating and

encouraging programs that give those who are struggling a second chance, and measuring those that currently receive money to ensure it is well spent.

Requiring Responsible Growth by compelling developers to give back to the communities in which they build, and making decision with a long term focus, not a short term bump in revenue.

Investing in the Community by expanding programs that encourage the artistic development of Tempe and allowing the creative soul of the city to flourish and thrive.

Corey Woods

I'm Corey Woods, and I'm running to become the next Mayor of our great city. I'm a 17-year Tempe resident and have served in a variety of leadership roles in both the non-profit and education sectors including eight years on the Tempe City Council. I'm running for Mayor because it's time for change.

Over the past decade, Tempe has experienced dynamic growth. With that growth comes real challenges. I have the vision, experience



Corey Woods

and leadership ability necessary to address these challenges, facilitate difficult conversations, and lead Tempe into the future.

My platform is straightforward:

We must immediately produce an actionable plan to fix our serious traffic issues.

We must address our challenges with homelessness head-on.

We need to create more affordable housing opportunities to ensure that people from different backgrounds can live in Tempe, from young adults to senior citizens who want to age in place.

We must encourage responsible growth with a focus on supporting local entrepreneurs and protecting existing neighborhoods.

During my time on the City Council I earned a reputation of being a consensus builder and an accessible, proactive leader. I'm proud to have earned the endorsements of Vice Mayor Lauren Kuby, Sen. Sean Bowie, Hon. Neil Giuliano, Hon. Hugh Hallman, Hon. Onnie Shekerjian, Hon. Pam Goronkin, Hon. Linda Spears, Hon. David Schapira, Hon. Barb Carter, Hon. Hut Hutson, and Hon. Shana Ellis; along with many neighborhood leaders and entrepreneurs from all corners of Tempe.

Please visit coreyfortempe.com to learn more. I ask for your vote so we can position Tempe for its brightest future.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to an inadvertent delay in Joel Navarro's campaign staff submitting the requested statement and photo in time for publication, both will be included with our Feb. 8 edition and as part of the pre-election coverage available via our digital resources at wranglernews.com.

About . . . Corey Woods

The signers of this commentary reflect the views of the below-listed signators. A commentary from the Mark Mitchell for Mayor Campaign is scheduled to appear in the next (Feb. 8) issue.

As former elected officials in Tempe, we have all been honored to serve either as councilmembers or mayors, or both! All of us know both the incumbent and the challenger in the 2020 mayor's race, have worked with each of them on Council or in other capacities in our community activism. Not surprisingly, we have often disagreed about many things in our City; north to south, neighborhood to neighborhood, east to west, because the needs in our community vary almost street to street. Further, as a group we are diverse ourselves, registered as Independents, Republicans and Democrats.

So you might find it surprising that on this issue we are in complete agreement: It is time for Corey Woods to be Tempe's mayor!

Ours is a positive decision for Corey Woods, whom we believe is a dynamic, strategic-thinking, strong leader. Ours is a positive decision for Corey Woods who understands the political role from his own Council and Vice-Mayor background. But who is also a trusted servant-leader, with other significant community leadership roots in his resume. Having worked with and watched Corey closely, we believe he is a unique and special person among us. What else would explain how Corey has united all of us in support of his candidacy? We truly believe his mayoral leadership will also be a uniting spark for the entire community.

The reason for change now is that it has become clear that we cannot keep doing the same things hoping for better results. On many important issues the status quo is unacceptable: How do we address our serious traffic congestion issues? How do we address homelessness and generate more affordable housing? Negative community controversies in recent years have lacked proactive, healthy public dialogue, further segregating us rather than drawing us more closely together. Tempe should be better than this.

Our positive decision for a new mayor in 2020 is *because* we know Tempe can be even more aspirational...we are far from done. We need fresh eyes to envision a brighter future, open ears to listen to divergent views in the community, and hard-working hands that will reach out and bring disputing factions together, especially in tough times.

It is our combined experience with Corey Woods that he follows up on what he says he will do. He is civil both in public and in private. He has demonstrated the willingness to make difficult decisions, always putting Tempe, not politics, first. Mayoral leadership requires the personal capacity to bring people together, incorporate the diversity of views into a comprehensive vision, and then lead the City Council and community in a way that generates excitement and allows Tempe to offer its residents greater opportunities. Such is the essence of successful local leadership.

Having taken a voluntary break from elected office has afforded Corey the opportunity to engage the community in up-close discussions about what needs to change. Corey Woods has a new vision to take Tempe into the next decade. He has the skills and the courage to build upon Tempe's past successes and not permit the community to sink under the weight of indecision when it comes to creating Tempe's brightest future.

In any mayoral election voters must choose the

best candidate to advance Tempe's future. We say a gracious "thank you" to everyone who has served us on council and as our mayor. Each of us appreciates that we have ourselves built on the accomplishments of former leaders as we served Tempe. We have no quarrels with the past; but we have greater expectations for Tempe's future.

Tempe, our All-America city, has always strived to be better than the status quo. Here in Tempe, in Arizona and nationally, we all have a responsibility as citizens—as well as a right—to expect vibrancy, transparency and a new level of community leadership.

We believe Corey Woods is the best and boldest choice to be Tempe's next mayor. We respectfully ask you to join us in voting for Corey Woods on or before the March 10 deadline.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Honorable Neil Giuliano, City Council 1990-1994; Mayor 1994-2004

The Honorable Linda Spears, City Council 1994-1998

The Honorable Hugh Hallman, City Council 1998-2002; Mayor 2004-2012

The Honorable Barb Carter, City Council 2000-2008

The Honorable Pam Goronkin, City Council 2002-2006

The Honorable Hut Hutson, City Council 2004-2008

The Honorable Shana Ellis, City Council 2006-2014

The Honorable Onnie Shekerjian, City Council 2006-2014

The Honorable David Schapira, City Council 2014-2018



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About . . . **Mark Mitchell**

The following letter was submitted on behalf of the Mitchell for Mayor campaign. Other contributions will be considered for our next (Feb. 8) issue. Any such contributions must be received by Friday, Jan. 31.

In the upcoming Tempe mayoral election, voters can either choose a man like Mayor Mark Mitchell who has a dynamic record of implementing governmental policy, or his opponent who likes to talk about getting things done, and takes little any real action, if any at all.

Mark listens to the Tempe voters, and he trusts their ability to decide what is in their best interest. Proposition (Prop) 418 Code of Conduct reform was placed on the November 2018 ballot, after Mark and other council members referred it to the ballot. In turn, close to 79 percent of Tempe voters voted for Prop 418, which simply held city council members to the same standard of conduct that all other city employees must abide by.

Mark's opponent, who is Corey Woods, grandstands about leadership, but consistently doesn't even bother showing up for the issues he claims to lead until it's election time. For example, in public forum hosted by the Arizona Republic and the Tempe Chamber of Commerce, Corey suddenly took issue with the tax incentives that are sometimes used for development projects. Corev neglected to point out that when these issues were under consideration as public hearings before the city council, Corey never even showed up there, or in any other public forum. Corey was also a public no-show for the entire council code of conduct issue, the Valvoline oilchange facility in South Tempe, and countless other vital Tempe city issues.

Tempe deserves better. Mitchell is absolutely the stronger candidate to lead Tempe into the future. That is why I am voting for Mark Mitchell for mayor and urging others to do the same.

— Mario Martinez, Tempe

Arizona Community Church will host Tempe council, mayoral candidates

All candidates for Tempe's city council and mayoral races have confirmed they will participate in a forum scheduled Monday, Feb. 3, at Arizona Community Church.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with candidates for mayor scheduled to speak at 6 and those for city council at 6:45.

Candidates will be given one minute for an introductory statement; questions from the audience will follow.

The program is sponsored by Tempe Neighborhoods Together.

Event coordinators are Gail Majors, a resident of Raintree Estates; Judy Tapscott, of Alta Mira; and Lynn Danielewicz, Estate La Colina.

Information: 480-225-4388.

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