

# WRANGLER NEWS

NOVEMBER 5 - 18, 2022 • VOL 32, NO 21



Tempe Diablos Charities hosted its annual Celebrate Giving event, in which the Diablos and guests recognized \$17 million invested back into Tempe. Pages 14-15,



Over 1,000 volunteers from Chandler and nearby communities gathered to clean up local neighborhoods. Pages 27-28.

## An eye on the future . . . and it's **GREEN**



Photo by Billy Hardiman  
for Wrangler News

Story & more  
photos, Pg 3





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## Shady way to improve campus environment: Think green

### Cover story

A group of environmentally focused students from Corona del Sol High School have planted themselves firmly alongside the National Football League and the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee to bring more shade to the school's South Tempe campus.

The teens joined Mayor Corey Woods, TUHSD Superintendent Dr. Kevin J. Mendivil and community volunteers to plant 16 drought tolerant trees in various spots in selected locations.

According to planners, the concept was originated to help provide beauty, shade and cooling, and help to increase the tree canopy in Tempe.

The project was said to be one of nearly a dozen community greening projects being

implemented in the months leading up to Super Bowl LVII. Each year NFL Green works with local organizations to create a positive green legacy around the game by planting trees, building community gardens and restoring habitat, a spokesperson said.

As to how the initiative got started, NFL incorporated environmental projects into the management of tentpole events nearly 30 years ago.

Officials said it represents the NFL's sustainability program, which aims to reduce the environmental impact of events and leave a positive "green" legacy in host communities.

Other projects include food recovery and distribution, recycling and solid waste management, recovery and donation of event and building materials, community greening and reforestation projects, the use of "green energy" to power events and Super Kids-Super Sharing, a community initiative to help support local youth.

Super Bowl LVII will take place at State Farm Stadium in Glendale on Feb. 12, 2023. This marks the fourth Super Bowl played in metro Phoenix since 1996 — the year Super Bowl XXX took place at Sun Devil Stadium — and the third to take place at this venue, following Super Bowl XLII in 2008 and Super Bowl XLIX in 2015.



It might have sounded like work when these environmentally focused officials, teens and project supporters signed up as volunteers, but the pictures don't lie: A fun time was had by all. — Wrangler News photos by Billy Hardiman

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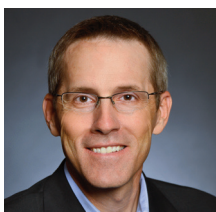
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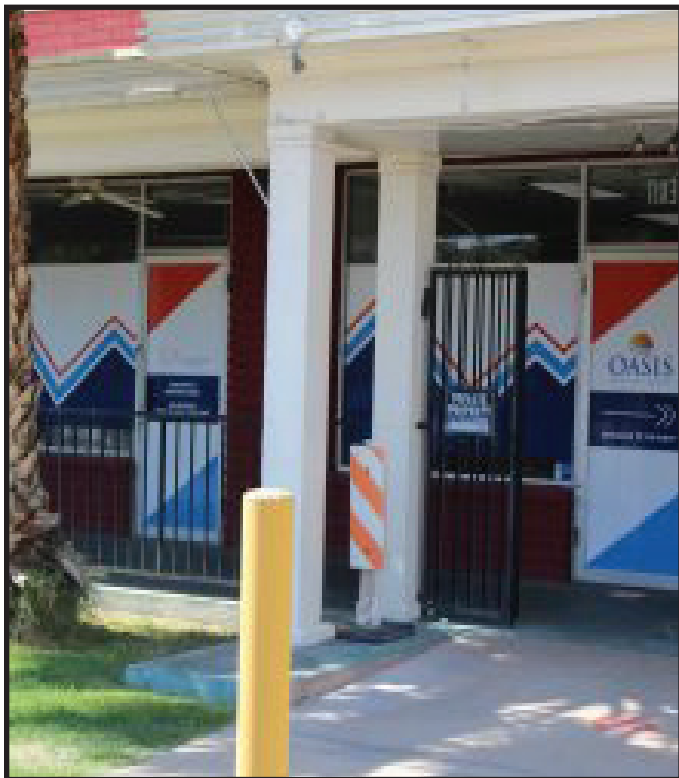


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Oasis Drop-In Center, operated by Tempe Community Action Agency, is open from 12:30 to 3 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of every month with service available on a first-come first-serve basis. The center is at 1880 E. Apache Blvd Tempe.

## City helping businesses offer aid to homeless

Homelessness is on the minds of area businesspeople as well as other members of the public, and Tempe is launching a new effort to help address the problem.

At a session earlier this month, businesses learned how to react to situations at or near their locations and heard program directors say the city's goal is to enable business leaders to show the community they are part of the solution.

Such participation involves agreeing to be one of the registered donation locations, sites where city crews can pick up items left for the program.

Participating businesses can take advantage of available supplies, from labeled donation boxes to posters for the business' windows. Also available will be social media graphics and free donation pickup, including a planned visit by a city utilities team truck on either Monday, Nov. 14 or Tuesday, Nov. 15 to pick up donations.

Planners say participants were able to leave the session with tools they can use at their business, and at the same time register for a citywide food and necessities drive.

Involved with the program were Mayor Corey

Woods, as well as representatives of Downtown Tempe Authority, Tempe Chamber of Commerce, Tempe Economic Development and Tempe Tourism.

The event included a panel discussion involving Police Chief Jeff Glover and Commander Kim Hale; HOPE Homeless Solutions Manager Jessica Wright; CARE 7 Human Services Manager Kris Scharlau; Deputy Human Services Director Paul Bentley; and Tempe Strategic Initiatives Manager Wydale Holmes.

Planners say that being involved with the program can offer businesses a way to keep the community strong, primarily by directing people to ways that can help them avoid homelessness.

Also, say planners, an upcoming citywide food and necessities drive will provide needed food, hygiene products and monetary donations to help keep families afloat while also caring for those who are unsheltered.

Participating businesses will receive mention on the city of Tempe website and in email marketing materials as a donation drop-off location.

Select businesses may also be mentioned in social media or in media opportunities as they are presented. Participants should be sure to tag @tempegov on Instagram and Twitter in social media posts and feel free to email photos of their food drive efforts to CMR@tempe.gov.

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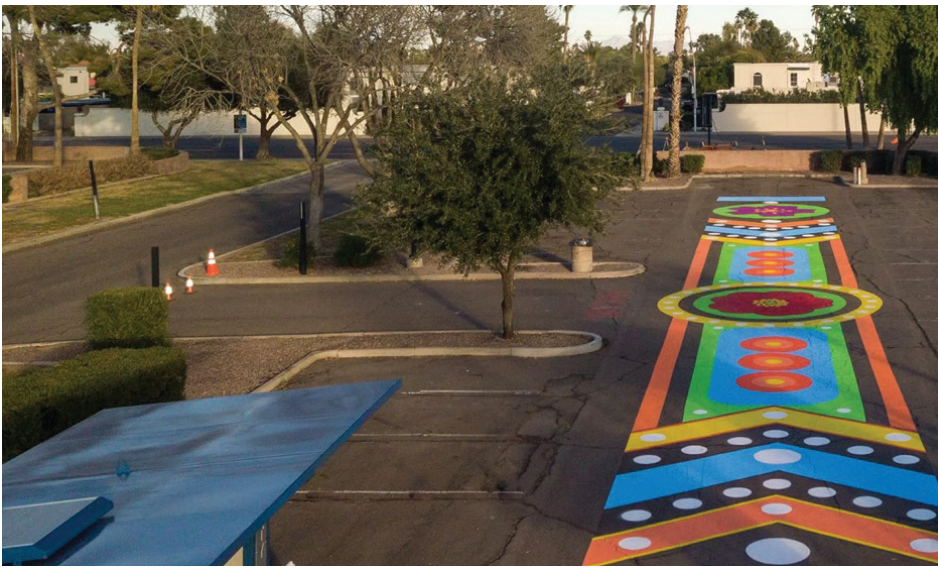
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New street art is designed to make drivers more aware.

## Partnership leads to more desirable streetscapes 'Vision Zero' also aims advancing safety

The Seventh Street and Forest Avenue intersection just got an upgrade. A partnership with Downtown Tempe Authority enabled Tempe artist Kyllan Maney to transform the look and increase the safety of the intersection using asphalt art.

"We are bringing art and joy to the community," said Kate Borders, president and CEO of DTA.

"This project is part of a partnership with the city to look at our downtown area and make improvements.

"Not only are we looking at art elements, but also infrastructure elements like lighting and shade that will allow people to enjoy the downtown and stay longer."

Asphalt art, the practice of combining public art with temporary transportation infrastructure improvements, comes in many forms. The Seventh and Forest intersection artwork visually creates a curb extension, narrowing the roadway and shortening the crossing distance for pedestrians.

According to officials, Tempe, the first city in Arizona to adopt a Vision Zero goal, prioritizes the safety of all road users.

"This project is intended to improve safety," said Cathy Hollow, the city's traffic engineer. "Not only are we increasing the visibility of crosswalks and encouraging drivers to be more alert of pedestrians and cyclists, but we are also encouraging users to safely cross at the crosswalk."

A Bloomberg Philanthropies study indicates that asphalt art can create safer, more desirable streets and public spaces. When analyzing 17 diverse sites over a two-year period, the study found a 50% decrease in the rate of crashes involving cyclists and vulnerable road users at mural sites.

To address the changing demands on Tempe's roadways to meet the needs of its community, while continuing to prioritize safety and efficiency, Tempe created an Adaptive Streets program, allowing for quick implementation of temporary changes to the city's public rights of way.

Earlier this year, City Council voiced support for the streets program and guide. The design guide includes a toolbox of lower-cost, temporary strategies, identifies when and how those strategies can be applied and provides guidelines for implementation. The asphalt art project at Seventh and Forest is the first use of the Adaptive Streets guide.

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## Commentary

# In Tempe, 'Diversity' is more than just a buzz word. We live it daily.

By Berdetta Hodge

I am a lifelong Tempe resident. It is a city home to churches, temples, and mosques. When I attend community events and neighborhood gatherings, I hear a wide range of languages being spoken, and see residents from all different ethnic backgrounds.

Nowhere is this diversity more apparent than in our city leadership. In the March 2022 City Council elections, the City of Tempe's residents elected the most diverse City Council in the State of Arizona.

I am the first African American woman elected to serve on the Tempe City Council. I share the dais with a Native American, an Asian American, an African American, a Latino, and a member of the LGBTQ+ community, among others.

I am grateful for the perspectives and opinions that each city council colleague present daily. In Tempe, diversity is not just a buzz word used for marketing purposes.



We ARE diverse in every facet.

Our city government has taken major strides to continuously embrace the principle of diversity. In September 2022, Tempe City Manager Andrew Ching, himself an Asian American, announced the hiring of Tempe's new Chief Diversity Officer.

The hiring of Dr. Velicia McMillan Humes, a nationally recognized expert in topics like inclusion and equity, cements Tempe's commitment to using these principles to guide our city's future.

This same month, the Tempe City Council also

established the Parks and Streets Renaming Ad Hoc Committee. Committee members such as former Mayor Neil Giuliano, the United States' first openly gay mayor, community activist Monica Trejo, and leaders of the City of Tempe's African American Advisory Committee, will gather over the next few months to rename a handful of city parks and streets named for Tempeans who served in a local Ku Klux Klan chapter in the 1920s.

We are taking the proper steps to reject our discriminatory past and create a welcoming and inclusive present and future.

This progress occurs because the City of Tempe is truly one of America's most diverse cities. No matter where in the world you're from, we will welcome you with open arms.

We will shun vestiges of our discriminatory past. This is our Tempe and I'm honored to help move it forward.

My office is open to every Tempe community member. Please contact me at [berdetta\\_hodge@tempe.gov](mailto:berdetta_hodge@tempe.gov), or 480-350-8748, if you have any questions or concerns. Follow me on social media too: @CMBerdettaHodge on twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

— Berdetta Hodge is a member of the Tempe City Council

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## As media climate changes, our hometown paper faces decisions

By Jennifer Adams

When I read Don Kirkland's recent column seeking comments about the advisability of expanding the scope of the paper's news coverage, I wanted to share some of my own, non-political, strictly community focused observations.

And so I sat at my laptop one afternoon to offer my ideas of what actions the paper might consider now that it appears our Arizona Republic is being economically forced to reevaluate the scope of its

pursuit of local news.

If a cutback in coverage were to result in a reduced amount of stories involving local news happenings, would that transfer to community-based publications, like our local Warner Wrangler, a responsibility to help fill that role? Obviously, I don't know the answer.

However, I do believe it's in the best interest of all of us to consider the future of news gathering and how it can continue to be done in a way that allows us, as residents, to be as informed as possible about the things that affect our daily lives.



It appears I'm not the only one who thinks this way. Based on the comments I've received during my many interactions with people in our community, I've learned that they love having a paper with a hometown voice; that they think every city and town should have something similar—something that covers the news but seems to do it whenever possible with an upbeat, positive community view.

No, there are certain things that happen that don't lend themselves to joyful telling. And I think our Wrangler knows that and knows how to tell those

stories responsibly, too.

So with these thoughts in mind, I paid a visit to Don Kirkland's office. We spent time face-to-face exploring the subject in more detail, and I offered a couple of ideas that I thought might help.

Among those was spending more time exploring ways to expand the paper's presence on social media, which have carried Wrangler News content for what even now appears to be a number of years.

Another suggestion, one that apparently was voiced by others who responded to Don Kirkland's column, was to not stray from the paper's many-year history of reporting the positive side of what goes on in our communities — to avoid content so common in other media that places emphasis on the "negative" side of today's society rather than the good things that occur.

Interestingly, Don told me that the same idea had been received from a number of other readers and staff contributors who responded to his column. That, he assured me, was a suggestion the paper has already put into place. Or, rather, made sure it continues to reinforce the founding concepts of the paper's tone and historical basis ever since its early days.

— Jennifer Adams plays an active role in community development and governance

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# Diablos charities: Plenty to smile about

There were smiles all around for members of the Tempe Diablos and Diablos Charities and their guests during 'Celebrate Giving,' recognizing grant recipients of the Charities' campaign. Almost 50 groups attended the event at Arizona Heritage Center. The group's efforts provided in grants more than \$366,000 in 2022. Group included, clockwise from upper left on this page: Event chairman Rob Personale with Mery Mezey with grant recipient city of Tempe; Rich Antonio, Diablo and board member of Charities unit with Curt Krizan of recipient East Valley Institute of Technology; and Bill Ottinger, Tempe Diablo and Charities board member, with Michael and Judy Crever of the American Legion.

Facing page: Diablo member Mike Horn with more recipients; and, facing camera, photo below, Gina Johnson, founder, Sharing Down Syndrome Arizona. She is hugging Michele Grimaldi, Wraparound Director for Tempe Elementary School.

Bottom photo, from left: Melinda Vazquez; Shontel Mulato from Jobs for Arizona's Graduates; and Bon-eca Brauer, Village 360

— Photos by Billy Hardiman  
for Wrangler News











# DIVERSIONS



Film Fare: Good Night Oppy

## Mars retrospective both satisfying and deeply emotional

By M.V. Moorhead

**R**obots have been a mainstay in movies for most of the past century, and one of the recurrent themes of such tales is the question of whether they are conscious entities, with personality and agency.



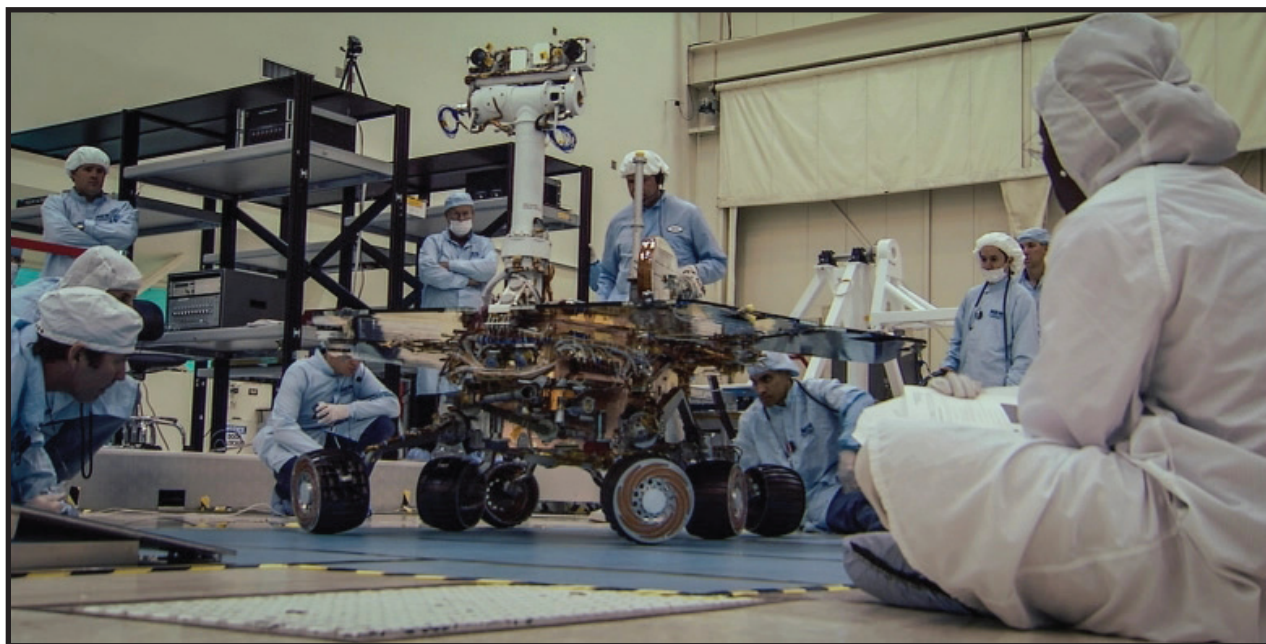
Good Night Oppy is the first film I know of on this subject that isn't science fiction.

This documentary chronicles the careers of Opportunity and Spirit, two robotic Mars Rovers launched by NASA in 2003 to explore the Martian surface in search of evidence of that there was once water, and thus possibly life, on the Red Planet.

The project followed a couple of embarrassing and expensive NASA failures, the Mars Polar Lander and the Mars Climate Orbiter in 1998, both of which were ignominiously lost, in one mortifying case through human error caused by confusion between American measurement and the metric system.

Spirit and Opportunity, by contrast, were overachievers. Brilliantly designed and engineered, both remained operational for many years longer than their projected mission duration of 90 "sols" (Martian days) and added greatly to human understanding of Martian geology and natural history.

But impressive and interesting as the discoveries were, this isn't really what Good Night Oppy is about. The dramatic core of the



film is about the degree to which the scientists and engineers who built the robots, and who supervised their activities from the Mission Control at the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, Calif., anthropomorphized their creations, attributed personalities to them, worried and fretted about them and ultimately mourned them.

Directed by Ryan White and gravely narrated by Angela Bassett, the film alternates beautiful simulations of the endearing robots on the Martian surface, created at Industrial Light & Magic, with actual footage of their controllers monitoring and guiding them back at JPL. We watch the beautiful nerds age with them, frowning at their struggles and grinning at their triumphs like soccer moms.

One of the designers notes that the robot he worked on was "just a box of wires" but admits that it took on a human persona for him. Another notes that the supposedly identical rovers had distinct personalities; that Spirit was "troublesome" while Opportunity was "Little Miss Perfect."

One of the project leaders says that to compare their relationship to parenting would be to "trivialize parenthood," but there's no doubt that the relationship these people feel toward Spirit and "Oppy" is parental.

There was something deeply satisfying about watching a bunch of top-flight scientific minds enter matter-of-factly into deep-seated sentimental projection.

After a while it's hard not to wonder if it is projection, or perhaps a sensitivity to the beginnings of a rudimentary sentience; to wonder if, at some level, human beings are not ourselves boxes of wires that stumbled into self-awareness.

It should be noted that the filmmakers do nothing to discourage this idea; they don't explain, for instance, that the rather Harold-Pinter-ish plainsong sentences from the rovers were human translations of transmitted data, not verbatim statements.

Even so, the effect of the film was, for me, not only thought-provoking but deeply emotional.

The soundtrack is also worth mentioning; it draws on the wake-up songs that were played at Mission Control at the beginning of the robot's shifts. Selections range from "Roam" by the B-52s to "S.O.S." by ABBA, and they all seem to take on deeper meanings in context.

It would make a pretty good mix-tape album.

Good Night Oppy is rated PG and plays at Harkins Chandler Fashion 20 and Harkins Tempe Marketplace.



# Coming Up at Tempe Center for the Arts

## 48 LIVE: Blackbird

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## City government develops new way to link with nearby areas



Chandler Mayor Kevin Hartke and the Chandler City Council have announced that applications for CIVIC are now being accepted.

CIVIC is an acronym for Chandler Involving Volunteers in the Community.

CIVIC, launching in January 2023, is the most recent initiative by Chandler to grow its connection and relationship with its community members.

CIVIC is a free, interactive 13-session program that allows members to meet and discuss with city officials on how the government functions and what goes on behind the scenes.

Applications for this program are being accepted now until December 2 and those interested can visit the eligibility requisites on the city of Chandler website.

Meetings for the program will be held every other Wednesday, starting at 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Information: 480-782-2231.



## It's time to start thinking about our favorite dinner [Gobble, Gobble]

Editor's note: Our longtime Discerning Diner, as always preferring anonymity, returns via the following reprint of a column written for us many Thanksgivings ago—for which, of course, we offer our enduring (what else?) thanks.

As November arrives and visions of pilgrims dance in our heads, it's hard to avoid the obvious seasonal discourse on, what else, turkey.

One caveat before proceeding, however: If you worry that a discussion of poultry mating habits might offend, please avert your eyes now and withhold your regular reading of this column until it appears again, when we will no doubt explore something less prurient, like eggnog or fruitcake.

Still with me? Okay. The white breast meat of the turkey is so prized that today's domestic turkeys have been bred to be extremely top-heavy—so top-heavy, in fact, as to render ineffectual the birds' natural mating position. Since the birds are unable to breed, turkey eggs are now fertilized by artificial insemination.

Moral concerns aside, people seem divided on the merits of turkey. Most of us like it in a lunch meat capacity, but were it not for the crushing weight of holiday tradition, I suspect that many Americans would as soon have a Thanksgiving steak.

Personally, I love turkey. I'm not a turkey nut or anything—I don't remember the last time I bought turkey off-season—but I do look forward to Thanksgiving.

Perhaps the turkey-tired have had only bad turkey, tough and tasteless.

By its very nature, this big, lean bird hovers on the brink of blah. It's easy to dry it out.

Here are two things you can do to keep it moist. First, consider brining your bird: four to six hours in a solution of two cups salt, two gallons water. Use a big stockpot if you have one, otherwise a clean bucket, and keep the brining bird in the fridge. Be sure you use a regular turkey, nothing

“self-basting.” Brining works wonders to keep the meat juicy. It's a big pain in the rear, but so is cooking a turkey at all. I think the extra step is worth it.

Also, don't overcook it. This sounds obvious, but it's not: If you follow U.S.D.A. guidelines, your turkey will be overcooked every time. Yet roasting it to a lower temperature does not necessarily compromise your safety. The excellent magazine Cook's Illustrated points out that salmonella and campylobacter are killed at 160 degrees. Turkey tastes best, says Cook's Illustrated, when the breast reaches 165 degrees and the legs 170 to 175. I agree.

If you're concerned about food safety, mind your stuffing instead.

Stuffing cooked inside the bird doesn't always reach its safe temperature of 165 degrees, even when the rest of the turkey is overcooked. Cook it in a separate pan instead. It will taste just fine, and get a nice crust to boot.

### Turkey tidbits

In at least one previous column, I mentioned the world's biggest pumpkin, which tipped the scales at 1,458 pounds before succumbing to pumpkin rot.

This time, I can't resist trotting out another statistic: the weight of the world's biggest turkey. According to the University of Illinois Extension, honors go to a bird that reached 86 pounds before succumbing to...well, Thanksgiving dinner or something. I'm not really sure.

Still, it's amazing, the stuff you can learn on the internet.

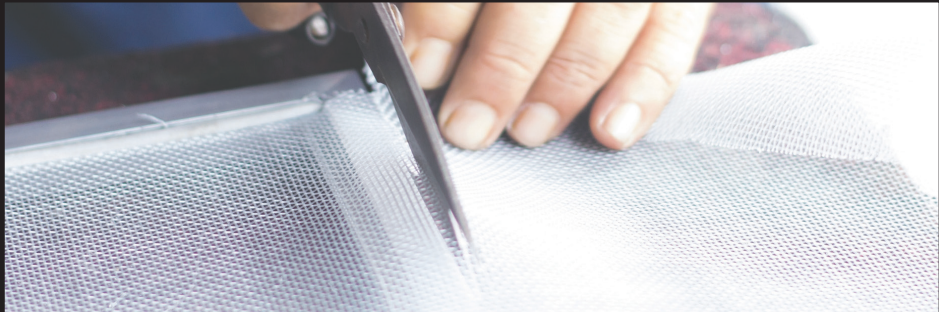
Here are some more turkey facts with the University of Illinois Extension's imprimatur:

- Turkeys used to be seen as cunning, in a good way. Ben Franklin thought the turkey was a “bird of courage” and a suitable candidate for our national bird.

By contrast, the bald eagle, he wrote his daughter, is “a bird of bad moral character.”

- There are probably still some wily wild turkeys running around, but today's domestic turkeys are pretty dopey. Turkeys have been known to drown in the rain—really. Turkeys will sometimes stand in the rain with their beaks pointed skyward, while rain pools in their nostrils.

Talk about “duh.”






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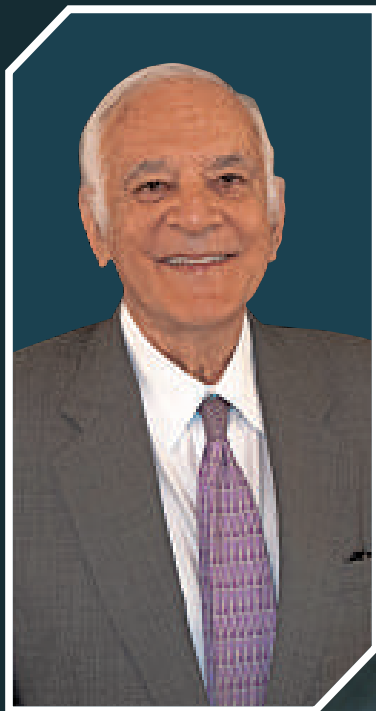
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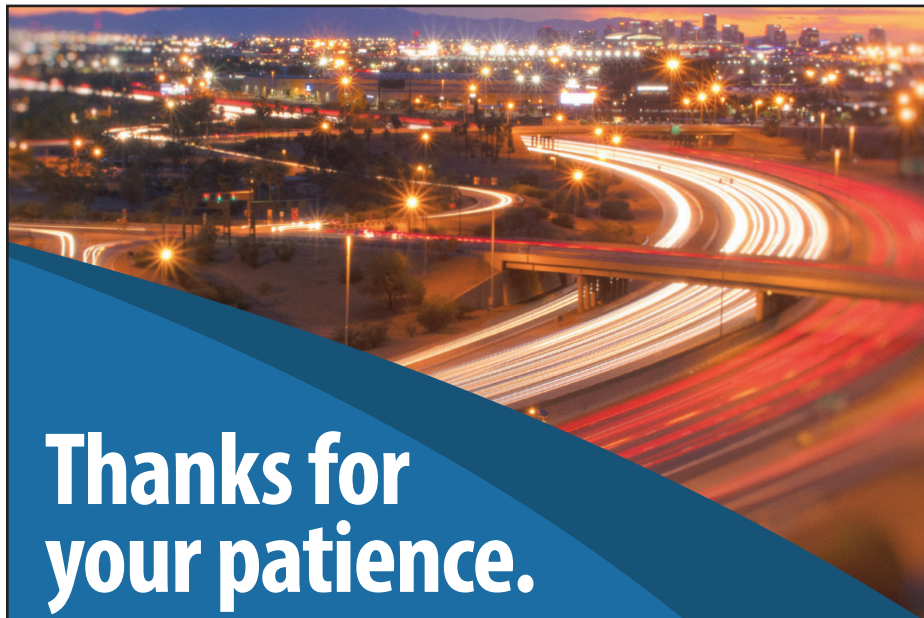
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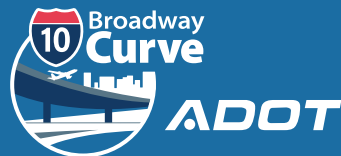
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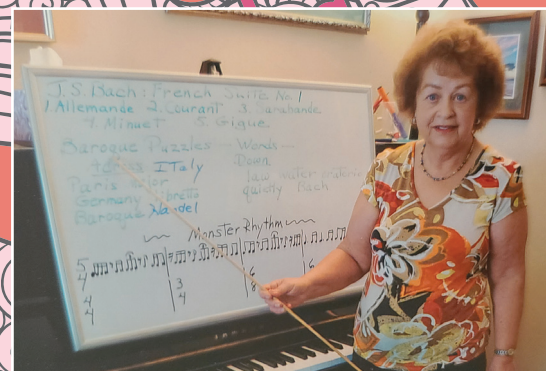
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## Squeaky clean

Photo story by Billy Hardiman  
for Wrangler News

Chandler hosted its 12th annual National Make a Difference Day observance as October came to a close.

The event, put together by program staff and community leaders, brought together more than 1,000 volunteers determined to make a difference in Chandler neighborhoods.

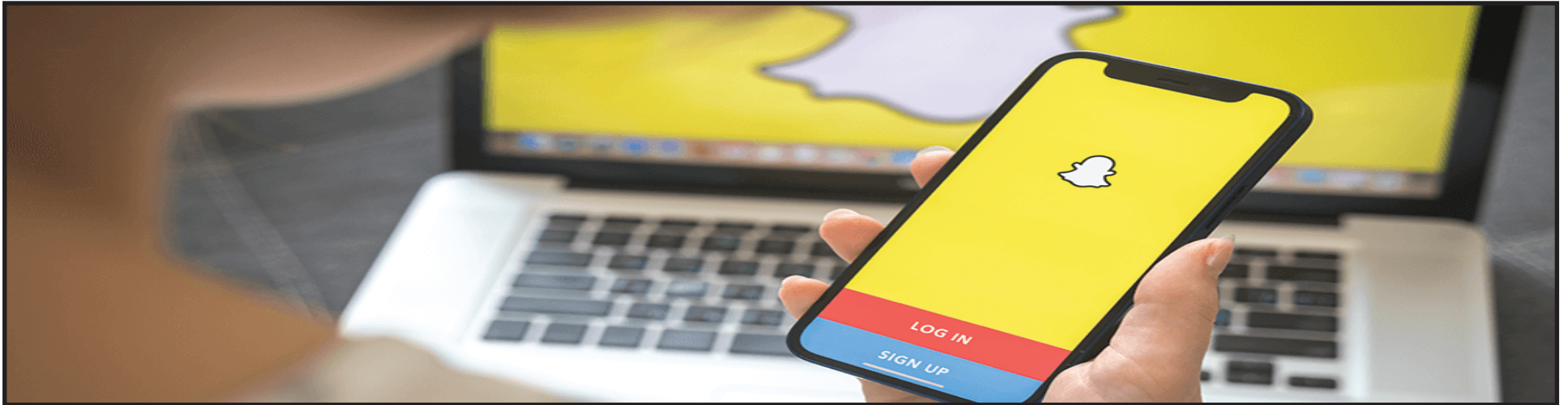
On one of the days, volunteers and community members, including Mayor Kevin Hartke and Chandler Police, threw in their support, working together in the Pepperwood neighborhood, near Chandler Fashion Center on the community's west side.

They performed basic yard work, painted and touched up homes, spread gravel and removed garbage from yards. Afterward, the group and residents of the surrounding community were welcomed to Harter Park for lunch and socializing and sharing the collective satisfaction of having made their neighborhood better — and cleaner.









## Viewpoint

# Snapchat: The newest opioid?

By Skylar Heisey

We can't prove with any degree of certainty that social media is the only cause of the increasing number of adolescents with mental illness, however, there is a link. What we do know is that there is a connection between social media and the mental health of adolescents.

Currently, almost all adolescents and young adults are active on social media. The Pew Research Center states that 69% of adults and 81% of teens in the U.S. use social media.

Social media platforms are designed to be addictive, and as such contribute to feelings of anxiety and depression for adolescents.

Noted in *Scope*, published by Stanford Medicine, "The hypodermic needle delivers a drug right into our vascular system, which in turn delivers it right to the brain, making it more potent. The same is true for the smartphone: with its flashing lights and engaging alerts, it delivers images to our visual cortex that are tough to resist."

Snapchat is one of the largest and most frequently used social media platforms that exists. The National Center for Health Research

said 69% of 13-17 year olds and 78% of 18-24 year olds use Snapchat.

Snapchat is said to be popular for adolescents because of its highly addictive features. One of the most addicting characteristics of Snapchat is what is called a snapstreak.

That refers to a feature given to users who have consecutively sent snaps for at least two days, say those who study the phenomenon. Paula McCall, PhD, who specializes in adolescent psychology, says:

"When you keep a snapstreak, it knows that you are not supposed to take a break.

"You are always supposed to be active, and people can get offended when you don't respond to them. You have to be online and present. It's really anxiety producing."

The standards by which friendships are measured is determined by the length of a streak. If one friend breaks the streak, the friendship is not valued as highly.

This form of connectedness can lead to depression and anxiety, according to those who have studied it.

Students at Arizona State University relate to these feelings, they say, due to Snapchat.

Ariana, a Tempe campus student, shared her story about how Snapchat led to feelings of depression and anxiety.

She said, "I was Snapping a boy I liked all summer long. We had a snapstreak over 100 days. We snapped so much that we even had the yellow heart" (the familiar visual image used to identify the program). "One day, he broke the streak and stopped snapping me. I was constantly checking his snap score and snap location to see him ignoring me. I kept

checking my phone to see 0 notifications."

Another ASU Tempe student, Kendall, talked about her usage of social media at school. She said she keeps over 50 different snapstreaks.

"I use Snapchat probably way too much. My snap score is literally almost 2 million," she said. This means she has sent almost 2 million snaps in her life.

She also said, "It's hard for me to focus on school and a lot of other things because of Snapchat. Everyone's always on it. When there's a party, everyone posts it and snaps me from there.

"All I can think about is wanting to go and hang out with my friends." Research has shown that the addiction to social media is somewhat similar to the addiction to drugs.

Additionally published in *Scope*, Lisa Coyne, PhD, said, "Social media has a reinforcing nature.

Using it activates the brain's reward center by releasing dopamine, "a feel good chemical."

Even though social media can lead to one feeling ill from anxiety and depression, like drug addiction, users report wanting to come back.

Like drug addiction, you don't realize it's dangerous until it's too late. It has been shown that social media boosts self esteem by allowing adolescents to form and be part of social circles, or added on private stories or having a snapstreak.

However, conclude the experts, the anxiety and depression caused by being removed from these social circles can be detrimental.

— Skylar Heisey is a student at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Arizona State University.





# SPORTS



## Aztecs list qualifiers for AIA championships

By Alex Zener

Corona's swim and dive teams have 18 swimmers in individual events; one diver and six relay teams provisionally qualified for the 2022 AIA State Swim and Dive Championships.

These athletes were given three chances to meet the state qualifying times or at least the provisional mark, in each event at an approved state qualifying event to be considered to compete in the Division I state meet Nov. 4-5.

According to AIA guidelines, the top 32 individuals, plus two individual alternates, and the top 24 nominated relay teams plus one relay team alternate, per event, will qualify for the state meet.

The last state approved qualifying event for the Aztecs was the Tempe All-City held Oct. 27, at which Corona's boys and girls teams both finished second to Desert Vista.

At this last regular meet of the season, two swimmers broke school and meet records, a relay team broke the school's record and six more swimmers qualified in individual events for the state meet.

Senior **Colin Campbell** set a new meet and school record when he took first place with a time of 1:51.69 in the 200-yard IM. Campbell is currently No. 1 in the 200 Medley Individual stat leaderboard on azpreps365.com.

Campbell also came in first in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:38.40 at the Tempe All-City meet.

Senior **Reed Lucero**, likewise, broke Corona's fastest time and the Tempe All City Meet record when he swam a record-breaking time of 56.12 in the 100-yard breaststroke event to take first place.

That 56.12 time has Lucero currently ranked No. 1 in the 100-yard Breaststroke Individual stat leaderboard on azpreps365.com.

The 200 Medley relay team of Campbell, Lucero, senior **Ryan La Ra**, and senior **Walter Moffatt** set a new school record with a time of 1:34.54.

The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Moffatt, junior **Tristen Lo**, senior **Andres Esparza** and senior **Cabhan Kelleher** took second place at the Tempe All-City meet.

The Aztecs 400-yard relay team of Kelleher, Esparza, Campbell, and Reed took 2nd place with a time of 3:18.75.

On the girls team, senior **Daytona Duggan** finished first in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:00.42 plus took second place in the 100-yard butterfly at the Tempe All-City meet.



Junior **Brea Zandt** came in second in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25:44.

Duggan was the lead swimmer followed by senior **Giada Schmidtknecht**, sophomore **Alexandra Burnes** and senior **Isabel Silva** when the 200-yard medley relay team took second place.

The girls 200-yard freestyle relay team of Zandt, Silva, senior **Kristen Marquis**, and Burnes came in second with at time of 1:44.09 as did the 400-yard freestyle relay team of senior **Macy Haugland**, freshman **Dylan Rhodes**, senior **Callista Baluha** and Duggan.

Corona's dive team had a successful meet as well with **Gavin Buttram** taking second place with a score 426.45 in the one-meter diving event while **Gabriel Calderon** was third and **Ty Mortenson** placed fourth.

On the girls dive team, **Isabelle Myers** scored 327.55 for a 2nd place finish in the one-meter diving event while **Alana Marquis** took 4th, **Ashley Chaloupka**, 5th, and **Ivy Stewart** was 6th.

Altogether, Corona could have swimmers or divers qualified to participate in potentially 30 or more individual events, six relay races and one or more diving competitions.

Lucero qualified to swim in three events including the 100-yard butterfly, 100-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard IM while fellow senior Campbell qualified in the 200-yard IM as well as the 500-yard freestyle.

Esparza qualified in two 100-yard individual events, the butterfly and freestyle, as did Ryan La Ra in the 100-yard butterfly and the 100-yard backstroke.

Kelleher is qualified to swim in both the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle and Moffatt in both the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle.

Lo met the requirements to swim in the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke and freshman **Bruce Bowman** qualified in two events, the 200-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke.

Junior **Justin French** met the required time for the 200-yard IM as did sophomore **Ezra Frietz** in the 50-yard freestyle, sophomore **Diego Silva** in the 100-yard breaststroke and senior **Joshua Winder** in the 50-yard

freestyle.

The boys team has three relay teams that qualified to swim at the state meet including 200-yard medley team of Campbell, Lucero, Ryan La Ra, and Moffatt.

The Aztecs qualified the 200-yard freestyle relay team of Lo, Esparza, Kelleher, and Moffatt along with the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Kelleher, Esparza, Campbell, and Lucero.

Corona's girls team has five swimmers who qualified in more than two individual events including Burnes, Rhodes, and Zandt.

Burnes, just a sophomore, qualified to swim the 50- and 100-yard freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly while Rhodes, only a freshman, can choose between the 100-yard backstroke or butterfly and the 200-yard IM.

Zandt has met the time requirements to compete in the 100-yard backstroke or freestyle and the 50-yard freestyle at state.

Duggan qualified for the state meet in the 100-yard backstroke and the 100-yard butterfly while Kristin Marquis qualified for the 50-yard freestyle and freshman **Reagan La Ra** qualified to swim the 500-yard freestyle.

The girls team has three relay teams that qualified to swim at the state meet in the 200-yard medley, 200-yard freestyle and 400-yard freestyle relay races.

The team of Duggan, Rhodes, Burnes, and Silva qualified in the medley relay while the 200-freestyle team is made up of Silva, Marquis, Rhodes, and Burnes.

The team of Zandt, sophomore **Kate Pyatt**, Rhodes and Duggan qualified in the 400-yard freestyle relay event.

Currently, Buttram is the only Corona diver who has qualified for the state meet but that could change when the formal notifications are announced.

The Division I state swim and dive preliminaries are on Nov. 4. Swimming is at Skyline Aquatic Center and diving preliminaries will be at Phoenix Country Day School.

Semifinals and finals will be on Nov. 5 at the same locations.

More sports coverage on Page 31



# Badminton state championship results

**T**he Corona del Sol High School badminton team finished the regular season ranked No. 5 in Division I with a 11-3 record heading into the 2022 AIA Badminton Division I Team Championship on Oct. 24.

As the No. 5 seed, the Aztecs played and defeated No. 12 Mountain Ridge, 5-3.

In the quarterfinals Oct. 25, Corona was defeated by the No. 4 seed Sunnyslope 5-0 and thus eliminated.

The first round of the singles and doubles championships were played on Oct. 21 at Independence High School.

Senior **Merilyn Li** qualified as the No. 5 seed in the singles competition where she defeated unranked players in the first two rounds before meeting a ranked player in the third or quarterfinals round.

Li defeated a player from Trevor G. Browne in the first round 21-4, 21-4 and a Westwood player in the second round 21-17, 21-10.

Li defeated No. 4 ranked Maddie Schlesinger from Sunnyslope 21-19, 21-13 in the quarterfinals to make it into the semifinals before losing to No. 1 ranked and eventual state champion Mangpor Luanvorawat from Mesa Mountain View, 21-17, 21-14.

After losing in the semifinals, Li played in a Consolation Final to determine who took third place in the single championship against the No. 3 ranked Perry player, Emma James, who had also lost in the

semifinal.

Li defeated James after losing the first game 15-21 but rallying to win the next two 21-10 and 21-18 to take home third place in the 2022 AIA Badminton Division I Single Championship.

Corona had two doubles teams qualify for the state tournament who played in the first round at Independence High School on Oct. 21.

No. 7 seeded junior **Michelle Chen** and senior **Allie Pequeno** defeated a Xavier Prep team in the first round 24-22, 21-18 before losing to a team from Sunnyslope in the second round.

The second doubles team from Corona, senior **Jen Tran** and senior **Mayson Milanovich** were unseeded and lost in the first round to a team from Dobson, 21-16, 21-15.

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**Get more information at [NickBastian.com/Turkey-Drive](http://NickBastian.com/Turkey-Drive)**

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