



# WRANGLER NEWS

APRIL 8 - 21, 2023

VOL 33, NO 6

## HA HA VERY BUNNY

Mayor Corey Woods and Vice Mayor Jennifer Adams hopped into the festive mood of Easter as they joined the 800-plus cyclists heading out for Tempe's annual bike run.

Wrangler News photo by Andrew Lwowski  
More, Pages 14-15



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Approximation of the type of drone that is proposed for testing in West Chandler over summer months.

## Drone technology ready to take off in W. Chandler test

Staff reports

**W**est Chandler is the newly announced site for a limited-scope trial using drone aircraft to deliver critical supplies to medical-services providers. The path to be followed during the test flights will link a pharmaceutical distributor with an assisted living facility.

The project, which is tentatively scheduled to be launched sometime this summer, represents a collaborative effort by the Chandler City Council, Maricopa Association of Governments and a Detroit-based company, Airspace Link. News sources describe the company's mission as one

providing the resources that drone pilots and communities are pursuing to ensure safe drone activities.

According to an announcement from Chandler, the project is said to be similar to pursuits the city has followed within the autonomous vehicle industry. It reportedly will support the testing of a new technology that planners say has the potential to improve traffic and shorten delivery times for what it lists as critical products.

The project, funded by MAG through an Emerging Technologies testing program, supports

the deployment of transportation technologies area-wide.

Under discussions currently being conducted, the project is limited to seven total days of operations during a two-week span, with four to six flights per day along a five-minute route.

The drones will fly below the 400-foot requirement set by the Federal Aviation Administration. Operators will maintain visual line-of-sight at all times. There will be cameras on the drones to assist with flight safety, but no video will be recorded, according to the city's statement.



# Dreams killed with one pill

By Andrew Lwowski

**F**entanyl has an incredibly important role in the medical world as a powerful pain reliever and anesthetic with its potency being 50 times more than heroin and 100 percent stronger than morphine.

However, this synthetic opioid has taken a deadly grasp on Tempe and Arizona residents.

Illicitly manufactured fentanyl is distributed through the drug trade for its heroin-like effect and a lethal dose could fit on the tip of a pencil. Since 2017, over 1,100 18-to 24-year olds have died of an opioid overdose, according to Substance Abuse Coalition Leaders of Arizona.

That's why Tempe Coalition has taken the initiative to educate the community and fight back, partnering with the Tempe Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Agency for National Drug Take back day.

On Saturday, April 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., those with unused or expired medications can drop them off at the Hardy police substation for proper disposal.

The goal is to help bring attention to the eminent drug problem within the community while providing responsible disposal so they do not fall into the wrong hands.

"We have local youth as young as 14 who have lost their lives from taking a counterfeit pill they got at a party," Bernadette Coggins, the program director for Tempe Coalition, said. "As many students are headed off to college, they need to be aware that any pill not prescribed to them by a medical doctor could be counterfeit (Adderall, Percocet) and it was laced with fentanyl.

is providing education and resources to our three local school districts and have recently completed Narcan training for over 450 educators and every Kyrene and Tempe Union campus has trained staff," said Coggins, adding that Naloxone is available if ever needed to save a life.

Coalition members represent a wide range of community sectors including; business, media,

law enforcement, schools, substance abuse providers, youth, parents, youth-serving organizations, civic groups, healthcare professionals, governmental agencies, and faith-based organizations, said Coggins.

"As a parent, I have seen many families suffer from the results of drug abuse and the devastation it leaves when a family loses their child to a deadly fentanyl poisoning," she said.

"We are living in different times and everyone needs to be on high alert. Parents must be informed

and talk to their children.

"It can be a difference between life and death."

For more information about Drug Take back or Tempe Coalition email [bernadette\\_coggins@tempe.gov](mailto:bernadette_coggins@tempe.gov) or pay an online visit to [TempeCoalition.org](http://TempeCoalition.org).

## Fentanyl Facts

### Dreams Killed with a Single Pill

**What is fentanyl?**  
Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid, similar to morphine, but 50 to 100 times more potent.  
It is used to treat pain in its prescription form, but is also made illegally and distributed as a street drug. Fake fentanyl is sold as a powder or made into pills that look like real prescription pills like Xanax®, Percocet®, or Oxycontin®.

**How fentanyl affects the body:** It creates feelings of euphoria and can lead to slowed breathing and heart rate, unconsciousness, coma, and death.

**1,163**  
The amount of 18- to 24-year olds who died of an opioid overdose from 2017 to 2021 in Arizona.

**Find naloxone near you!**  
[NaloxoneAZ.com](http://NaloxoneAZ.com)  
Naloxone is a medicine that can reverse an opioid overdose. It is sold at pharmacies without a prescription or available for free at community distribution sites across Arizona. Naloxone is easy to administer and can be lifesaving.

**SAVE YOURSELF & SAVE A FRIEND**  
**DO NOT BUY PILLS** or drugs from someone who offers them to you, even if you think you know what type of drug it is. It may be laced with fake fentanyl. Fake fentanyl is being made to look like prescription pills or mixed with other street drugs.  
If you see someone who is beginning to overdose on drugs and/or alcohol, immediately call 911!

**Treatment Works & There is Hope**  
If you're concerned about someone's opioid or fentanyl use, call the **Arizona Opioid Assistance Referral line at 1-888-688-4222** for information about treatment and counseling options.

**These are signs of an overdose:**  
unresponsive  
slow heart rate and/or breathing  
blue lips  
clammy or grey skin

**Don't be afraid to call 911!**  
If you are someplace where drugs are present, you are protected. The AZ Good Samaritan law protects you so that neither you, nor the overdose victim, will be charged for possession of substances if you call 911 in the case of overdose.

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**Substance Abuse Coalition Leaders of Arizona**

"Even more frightening, is these deadly drugs can be in vapes, powders, and any drug off the street."

Access to drugs and alcohol has never been easier with amount of youth with cell phones on social media. This further emphasizes the need for educating and preventing. "The Tempe Coalition



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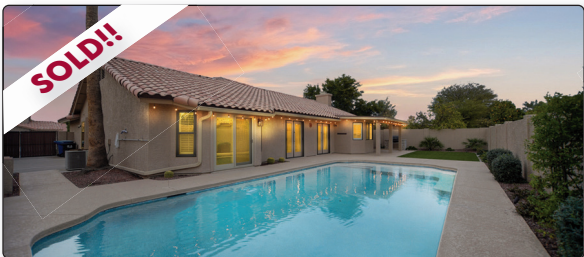
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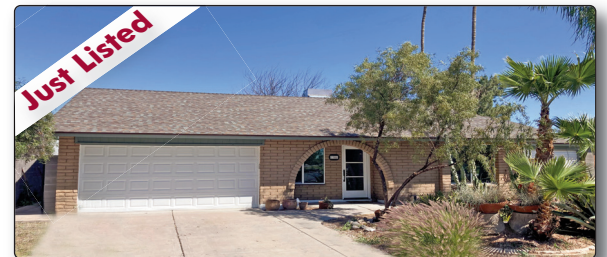
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— Wrangler News photos  
by Andrew Lwowski





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This is a great opportunity to safely & anonymously  
dispose of unused or expired medication



**Tempe Coalition**

TO REDUCE UNDERAGE DRINKING AND DRUG USE

[TempeCoalition.org](http://TempeCoalition.org)

Tempe Coalition is a grant-funded project of  TEMPE Community a 501(C)3 nonprofit Council



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For more information or learn how to get involved  
please contact [Bernadette\\_Coggins@tempe.gov](mailto:Bernadette_Coggins@tempe.gov)

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This publication was made possible by grant number H79T1083320 from SAMHSA and AHCCCS. The views, opinions and content of this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions or policies of SAMHSA or HHS.





## COMMENTARY

### Readers share their views on landfill proposal from both sides of discussion

#### Seeing a boon, not a burden

I saw your clarification, and thought it was appropriate, and classy.

However, press ahead on your coverage, which I think is better overall than any I've seen.

Am particularly perturbed by Tempe First's roadside posters, which I think are misleading at best and libelous at worst.

Everything I've read indicates the project will be a boon to Tempe, rather than a financial burden. Also, while the developer has had his ups and downs, I haven't seen any allegations of corruption, as the placards declare.

Arizona's Family had a report the other night that "neighbors" are up in arms about project, but it looked like only 50+ people were marshaled for the event.

It would be a mistake of historic proportions for Tempe voters to reject an exciting \$2b development on what's currently a landfill. C'mon! Let's keep the city's exciting momentum going.

Keep up the good work!

— Jim Kevlin

#### Don't let views go unchallenged

Support for Props 301, 302 and 303, which will transform an old, unlined landfill into the privately funded Tempe Entertainment District, has been public, professional, consistent and diverse and led to the Tempe City Council's unanimous approval of the deal in late 2022. The proposal earned the endorsements of all four living former Tempe mayors:

Harry Mitchell, Hugh Hallman, Neil Giuliano, and Mark Mitchell. They joined nearly a dozen other former council members, scores of local businesses, unions and thousands of Tempe residents in support. A full list of endorsements can be found at [www.TempeWins.com](http://www.TempeWins.com).

The developer is offering to buy an old, unlined, toxic landfill for \$50 million, clean up the site, and build new retail, residences, and a new sports arena without raising Tempe taxes and at no cost to the City of Tempe.

The project will create 6,900 jobs, \$33 million for public safety, and \$225 million in new revenues in Tempe among other benefits.

Despite the false and misleading rhetoric from the opposition, the developer is committed to contributing \$808 million in direct benefits to Tempe, which is a net benefit of \$693 million after the temporary GPLET (Government Property Lease Excise Tax) on the property that currently generates zero revenue and benefits for the City of Tempe.

It is important for voters to know more about the hypocrisy of a leading opponent of this project – former Councilmember Lauren Kuby.

In 2021 Kuby voted yes on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Tempe and the Los Angeles Angels in which the city agreed to spend \$40.9 million of Tempe taxpayer dollars on improvements to Tempe Diablo Stadium.

She later voted yes (twice) on a

subsequent lease agreement. Kuby's opposition to Props 301, 302 and 303 – which again will approve a private development at no risk to taxpayers – seems hypocritical given her willingness to spend \$40.9 million of Tempe taxpayer dollars on the Los Angeles Angels and its billionaire owner, while she opposes an agreement with the Coyotes that won't cost Tempe a dime.

In 2018, Kuby voted to give the Omni Hotel, which is on ASU land, a \$21 million tax break even though she was an ASU employee at the time.

In contrast, Props 301, 302, and 303 will create thousands of new jobs and hundreds of millions in new revenues while cleaning up an old, unlined landfill at no cost to Tempe taxpayers or the City of Tempe.

"We have no issue with the Tempe City Council's decision regarding the Los Angeles Angels or the Omni, but for former Councilwoman Kuby to vote yes on these plans and then actively oppose The Coyotes plan is hypocritical," said Nick Bastian, chair of Tempe Wins and longtime Tempe resident and business owner.

Additionally, Lauren Kuby is a member of the LLC Geo Fantasy Sports. Her husband is a co-manager and member of Geo Fantasy Sports LLC, an online gaming company. SaharaBets sportsbook will have a physical location in the Coyotes' arena, Geo Fantasy Sports will not. Her conflict of interest in this matter is obvious. Her actions are hypocritical.

One of the speakers at a recent opposition news conference stated she was concerned about environmental issues. That's even though the proposal would see the developer clean up an unlined landfill, removing all the trash and toxins that are currently seeping into the groundwater.

Another speaker expressed concerns about "gentrification," even though it's impossible to gentrify a landfill. No one is being evicted

from the site. The only thing being evicted is trash dumped on the site years ago and the toxins they contain. In addition, the project will create hundreds of millions in tax revenues for vital City social services like affordable housing.

Another speaker labeled the proposal "corporate greed" even though no taxpayer dollars would be used to fund the project.

"Tempe First has always played fast and loose with the truth but this time they have managed to pile up a series of lies higher than the mountain of trash supporters are trying to remove.

These tall tales cannot go unchallenged and it's disappointing to see Ms. Kuby's hypocrisy. I have to wonder if those at the rally knew of Kuby's competing business interests," said Mr. Bastian.

— Michael Anthony Scerbo

#### 'Risky deal' funded by quarter mil

Tempe City Council has passed along the decision of whether to build a 16,000 seat hockey arena and "Entertainment District" to Tempe voters. Ballots will arrive in your mail after April 19, and we will vote through May 16. The proposed development for Tempe's last big chunk of remaining land will appear on the ballot in three parts, as Propositions 301, 302, 303.

The pro side of this question has vast resources to convince you to vote for this risky deal, and Alex Meruelo, owner of Bluebird Development and the Arizona Coyotes, has funded their PAC with a quarter of a million dollars to start. No surprise: The developer stands to profit mightily if allowed by voters. He's spending money to make much more money - if we let him.

In contrast, the NO side is an all-volunteer effort supported by donations from local individuals. We are actual Tempe residents calling our grassroots effort Tempe1st because

— Please turn to Page 17



**YES** ON **301** ✓  
**302** ✓  
**303** ✓

**NO COST TO TEMPE**  
**MORE MONEY, NO TAXES**

Endorsed by Former Tempe Mayors:

✓ Neil Giuliano

✓ Harry Mitchell

✓ Mark Mitchell

✓ Hugh Hallman

Voting YES on Props 301, 302 and 303 on or Before May 16 Means:

- The private sector will clean-up an unlined landfill instead of taxpayers or City
  - 6,900 New Permanent Jobs
  - \$693 Million in Net Benefits to Tempe
  - \$33 Million for Tempe Public Safety
  - \$2.1 Billion Private Investment in Tempe
    - Will Not Raise Tempe Taxes
- No Risk to Tempe Taxpayers or City of Tempe

Learn more at [TempeWins.com](https://TempeWins.com)



Paid for by Tempe Wins, sponsored by Bluebird Development LLC, with 0% out-of-state contributors. Not authorized by any candidate. Top donors: Bluebird Development LLC and Arizona Hockey Co., LLC



# PROTECT OUR



★ **VOTE NO on 301, 302 & 303** ★  
**"Tempe Entertainment District & Sports Franchise"**

This bad deal creates **\$500 million** in taxpayer-funded property tax breaks using a legal mechanism known as a Government Property Lease Excise Tax. The pro-business **Goldwater Institute** called these GPLET schemes **"crony, corporate welfare"** that **"unfairly shifts the tax burden to existing residents and businesses."**<sup>1</sup>

They also point out that **"GPLET abatements leave gaping holes in school-district, community college, hospital, and county budgets, which rely on property-tax revenues..."**

If passed, Tempe will have to pay a corrupt billionaire developer **\$250 million** in shared City tax revenue. They say it's "publicly funded", but the fine print tells the real story. Tempe deserves better than this bad deal.

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Backgrounder\\_Phoenix-GPLET4.pdf](https://www.goldwaterinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Backgrounder_Phoenix-GPLET4.pdf)

## Here's a Few Reasons Your Tempe Neighbors are Voting NO:

- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Increased Neighborhood Traffic | Massive Water Waste          |
| Creates 2 New Taxes            | Increases Jet Noise          |
| \$700M in Taxpayer Handouts    | Threatens Community Services |
| Harms Small Businesses         | Raises Cost of Living        |

WHY WILL YOU  
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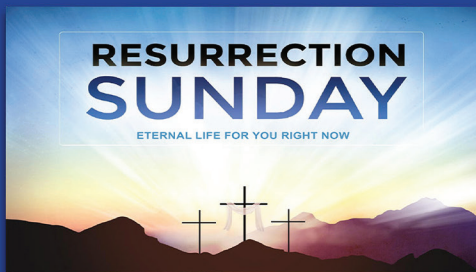
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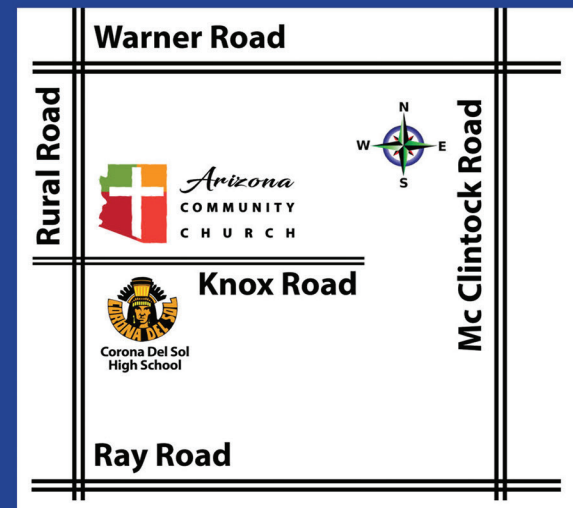
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### EASTER SUNDAY

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Worship Band 11:00\* a.m.



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## There is no way that can be true!

By Bill Meiter

**W**e have all been in situations where someone told us something and our initial reaction is, “There is no way that can be true!” Let me give you a good example of this very thing!

Do you know that if you could fold a piece of paper in half 42 times it would reach the moon! When I first heard someone tell me this I thought to myself, “There is no way that can be true!” But it turns out... it's true!

Now the reason I bring this up is because this very type of scenario happened 2000 years ago

when a group of women who had gone to the tomb of Jesus came back reporting that Jesus had risen from the dead... and wouldn't you know it, Jesus' own disciples thought it was nothing more than an “idle tale”!

“There is no way that can be true!”

“But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood



by them in dazzling apparel. 5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” 8 And they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, 11 but these

words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.” – Luke 24:1-12

Now, of all people, you would think that Jesus's own disciples (who had seen Jesus perform many miracles) would be a little bit more open minded to this news. But the fact is, they were not.

And you want to know why? They were letting “human wisdom” guide their thinking!

The disciples, of all people, should have known that nothing is impossible for God... not even raising someone from the dead! Sadly, many today let “human wisdom” keep them from seeing what God accomplished in the death, burial, and resurrection of His Son, Christ Jesus!

It was upon that cross that Jesus died, taking the punishment we deserved for our sins! The good news is that Jesus rose from that grave and offers forgiveness of sin and eternal life to all who believe in Him! So what about you? Do you see the resurrection of Jesus Christ as an idle tale? Or will you believe that He is, in fact, the Savior of the world?

— Bill Meiter is senior pastor at Arizona Community Church.

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## Tour de Tempe rolls happily into, and out of, town

Nearly 1,000 hardy souls showed up for this year's 10-mile bike ride with friends, family, pets, vendors and members of the Tempe City Council, led by Mayor Corey Woods, all of whom seemed to share a mutual wheelhouse for some neighborly fun.

— Wrangler News photo essay by Andrew Lwowski









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- Google Review



Anna Lunaria,  
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## COMMUNITY

## Neighborhood group joins in campaign to aid people, pets

Help Tempe families and pets in need by donating at a community food and supply drive Saturday, April 22. Gather up non-perishable food, feminine hygiene supplies and pet food for an easy, drive-thru event 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Pyle Adult Recreation Center parking lot, 655 E. Southern Ave.

Organized by Tempe Neighborhoods Together, in partnership with the city of Tempe, the event supports Tempe Community Action Agency, Aris Foundation, Lost Our Home and Women4Women.

"Many individuals and families depend on the generosity of the Tempe community to assist with basic

food needs," said Sid Frede, TNT member.

"This food drive is a great opportunity for citizens to easily extend a helping hand."

TCAA is grateful for donations, said Tyler Haskell, the organization's food pantry manager.

"The TNT food drive is wonderful opportunity to replenish our food supply necessary for feeding the Tempe community," he said.

"We have received a wide variety of items from the TNT food drive and always look forward to receiving what the community is willing to provide."

"This is an event we look forward to every year as it renews our faith in the Tempe community," Haskell said.

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## — Continued from Page 9

we believe that honoring Tempe's existing residents and real needs requires that we reject this proposal from Las Vegas developer Alex Meruelo and Bluebird Development.

Here are six reasons we oppose this proposal:

The proposed stadium is being pushed onto voters by an out-of-state billionaire, Alex Meruelo, who's looking for tax breaks and public subsidies. The Coyotes owner has a long history of failed deals and broken agreements in Glendale, Tucson, and across the US. The NBA wouldn't do business with him because of his shady business practices, like failing to pay taxes and other bills. Glendale had to threaten to lock out his team to force Meruelo to pay his past-due rent and taxes. So why should Tempe taxpayers bail him out?

The development deal depends upon the success of a large entertainment district with two hotels, 2000 high-end housing units which Tempe is currently being sued over as the FAA deems the site "incompatible with housing." The plan is to create a bonding mechanism to allow the developer to charge not one by two special taxes in the district, whose revenues are kept entirely by the developer. To make this work, the district would have to net \$1 billion in revenue each year for 30 years while charging prices higher than equivalent venues in Tempe. This is more than the total revenue, \$884 million, that the entire rest of Tempe generates each year. It's not even clear that the Coyotes, a weak team with chronically low attendance and revenue, could attract the 3 million visitors that the developer projects to make repayment feasible.

To further finance the deal, the billionaire wants relief from \$500 million dollars in property taxes over 30 years, which steals from our K12 schools and communities for generations to come.

One also must wonder whether apartments and restaurants under Sky Harbor's flight path would attract long-term patrons. The noise of aircraft (often every 60 seconds) would be hard to eliminate from apartments and would prohibit open windows and discourage sitting on patios. These new residences appear to violate a longstanding agreement that keeps departing flights over the river bottom and away from residential Tempe. Without this agreement in place, planes will

fly more convenient routes over all, but especially Central and South Tempe, homes.

Dun & Bradstreet, the independent financial analytics firm, rated his team as High-Risk, warning of the likelihood of unpaid bills and business failure. Adding to the risk, there's simply no guarantee that the Coyotes would stay in Tempe. When they declared bankruptcy in 2009, the National Hockey League demanded \$50 million dollars to keep the team in Glendale. Faced with an empty arena, Glendale paid up. Given the shaky financials and status of the team, Tempe faces the same risk and could be left with an empty hockey arena or a half-built mess.

Instead of this risky gambit, by voting NO, the City can start over and discover other options for these valuable 46-acres that would bring in an immediate return on investment. The tax money that could flow from a more responsible development, financed privately without taxpayer subsidies, runs into the hundreds of millions of dollars. This is money that could be used, not to feather the nest of a corrupt billionaire, but for education, street repair, affordable housing, homelessness services and more.

We're fortunate that our City Council has put forth this development – the largest in Tempe history – for we the voters to decide. We hope that you will vote NO on Propositions 301, 302, and 303, which will require the Council to go back to the drawing board. We need to put Tempe on a better path and you can do that with your NO vote. Learn more at [Tempe1st.com](http://Tempe1st.com).

— Dawn Penich

### Wealthy special interests seen as 'dark side'

As Tempe races off to another grand project, in this case its a multi-billion dollar proposal by a professional hockey team with a well reported less than stellar record in the town they just left, one can only wonder when city hall will take a serious look at Tempe's underbelly, it's dark side, that seems to be all but forgotten in the glitz, the high powered lobbying of wealthy special interests and shiny buildings along the Town Lake.

According to the 2022 US Census report, Tempe's poverty rate is 18.2%, the highest in the east Valley and even higher than in Phoenix where the poverty rate is 15.4% The Maricopa County

poverty rate is only 11.3%. Obviously, the wealth of the massive downtown developments and the "high paying" jobs Tempe is always promised has escaped a significant percentage of Tempe residents. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/phoenixcityarizona,tempecityarizona/PST045222>

Then there's the condition of the streets. Has Tempe forgotten what regular maintenance is? And that brings up the failure of the city to provide regular maintenance and inspection of the water system that led to the shutdown of the US 60 and the problems that created on Tempe's already overcrowded streets.

While the city has professed they will be able to manage the traffic of a massive new sports complex and hundreds of new apartments, I have to wonder if they can't handle traffic now how are they going to handle even more traffic?

I understand the out of state developer and owner pf the hockey team is going to contribute 20+ million dollars to public safety, and that sounds like a lot, but it costs tens of thousands of dollars to train a new police officer, fire fighter or paramedic. Fire trucks can cost between \$200,000 and \$1 million dollars, a fully equipped ambulance can cost between \$125,000 and \$150,000 and a fully equipped police car is around \$60,000. Throw in the costs of the personnel and \$20 million isn't all that much. Then there's the calls for service, which I'm sure a new arena, entertainment district and those hundreds of apartments will bring.

Considering that Tempe has the highest serious felony crime rate in the metro area, including Casa Grande and Maricopa, one can only wonder what will happen if Tempe's transient population explodes, new apartments are added, and the crime associated with more people and traffic that are linked to the hockey arena and development.

Before Tempe adds another new grand project to its plate, I'd sure like to see them fix what's long been broken, like the crime problem, target the failing infrastructure and do it's best to break the cycle of poverty in Tempe.

And please don't tell me a sports complex will provide the funds to make things right. That's been disproven over and over again in other cities. "All that glitters is not gold."

Tempe needs to get its house in order before they plan a costly addition.

— Bill Richardson





# SPORTS

## New acquisitions expanding their volleyball skills

### Sports Notebook by Alex Zener

The Aztecs, after returning eight players from last season, have spent time integrating eight new players into the rotation, who are continually acquiring more knowledge about the intricacies of volleyball at the varsity level while attempting to build team chemistry.

"We are continuing to work on the process with the team and getting better at the simple things on the volleyball court," said head coach Geoff Horewitch. "We have some new players this season who may lack experience playing the game but have high athletic abilities. In addition, we return some very special players who have been on varsity since their freshman season."

The returning players include seniors Omar Leon, Walter Moffatt, Kai Becker, Nathan Magro, Jon Seddon, Ollie Hinder, Cade Banks, Toby Lim and junior Luke Vlcek.

"Jon Seddon is one of our most impactful players," said Horewitch. "He has played varsity starting his freshman year and is currently into his second year playing outside hitter."

"Jon, as one of our captains, is a vocal leader who continues to push his teammates in the right way making everyone else around him better."

Seddon is one of the top two leaders in six statistical categories including kills per set at 2.8, overall kills with 127, hitting percentage at 0.219, services aces with 16, digs per set at 2.7, and total digs with 123.

Four-year varsity setter and team captain Banks is another player Horewitch lists as having an impact on the team's overall success.

"Cade is one of those natural setters who puts his teammates in the best position to succeed on the court," said Horewitch. "We can always depend on Cade to get us into a rhythm offensively."

"In addition, he is a triple threat to opponents because he is tall and athletic so he can not only set the ball but also hit and block."

Banks, who has played in all 46 sets, has amassed 384 assists or 8.3 assists a set. In other aspects of the game, he has 34 kills plus 10 solo and 10 assisted blocks for a total of 20 blocks.

Banks and Seddon lead the team in service aces, both with 16, plus he is third on the team in digs with 88.

"As a captain, Cade is a quiet leader on the court," said Horewitch. "He continues to amaze me how calm he is at all times during the game."

The third impact player and team captain for the Aztecs is libero Luke Vlcek.

"Luke is our defensive leader on the court," said Horewitch. "He is great at reading the other team's hitters and can dig up almost any ball. In my opinion he is the best libero in the state."

Vlcek leads the team in digs with 181 or an average of almost four digs a set.

Lim and Hinder, who just finished his senior season on Corona's basketball team, both made the list of players who are having an impact on the success of Corona's volleyball team this spring.

"Ollie, only in his second year playing volleyball, has grown tremendously," said Horewitch. "He has become a student of the game and is consistently finding ways to grow as a player and leader."

"Ollie, who started out as a middle blocker, has moved to right-side hitter or the opposite position where he is finding his groove both in blocking and hitting."

Hinder and Lim lead the team in blocks with 28 total blocks each while Hinder has 57 kills in 41 sets played or 1.4 kills a set.

"Toby has the ability to be one of the top middle blocker in the state" said Horewitch. "In addition, he has been a tremendous help in bringing along our new middle blockers by teaching them some of the fine points of playing that position."

Lim has 52 kills in 36 sets or the same average kills per set as Hinder at 1.4 kills.

Magro and Moffatt along with Seddon and Hinder, are the four players Horewitch lists as the go-to hitters for the Aztecs.

Seddon, who has played in all 46 sets, leads the team with 127 kills or an average of 2.8 kills a set followed by Magro with 60 kills or 1.6 kills a set. Moffatt averages 1.5 kills a set.

In addition to Vlcek, who plays the libero position, Becker, junior Azzlyn Potts and Leon are the players who are having an impact on the

defensive aspect of the Aztec's success.

Leon is averaging 2.3 digs a set with a total of 63 digs in 28 sets while Becker has 62 digs or 1.5 digs a set and Potts is in the mix with an average of 1.6 digs a set or 44 digs in 28 sets played.

Becker and Potts are also two of the best servers on the team.

"Kai Becker has a tremendous jump serve," said Horewitch, "while Azzlyn Potts has a wicked float serve that he is learning to control better while generating more power."

The Aztecs have eight players new to the varsity team including one junior and two senior basketball players: Bo Dolinsek, Zach Jones and Andre Mesihovic.

"Bo is learning to play middle blocker and wants nothing more than to succeed at the sport of volleyball," said Horewitch. "He has recently been finding success playing offense at the net and is starting to become a great contributor to the team's success."

Dolinsek has 21 kills in 32 sets or an average of 0.7 kills a sets along with 17 blocks.

"Zach Jones is an amazing person who will always give his full effort in practice and during games," said Horewitch. "He tries everything we ask him to do and is getting better every week."

Jones has played in 15 sets where he has eight kills and six blocks on the stat sheet.

"Andre Mesihovic possesses great athletic ability and can jump really well," said Horewitch. "He has two cousins who played volleyball at Corona so he is not only working hard to continue learning the sport during practice and at games, he is also learning volleyball from his relatives."

Mesihovic has played in 10 sets where he is averaging one kill and one block per set.

The Aztecs have won three of their last five games and have a current 8-8 overall and 2-1 region record after playing against some of the toughest teams in the state according to Horewitch.

With eight games left in the regular season, the Aztecs will need to continue to come together as a team in order to make it into the state playoffs.

"Our team is putting in a lot of work on the volleyball court and is learning how to compete



with the best teams in state which is really fun to be a part of," said Horewitch. "It has been really good for the team to play those top teams on a weekly basis and grow from that experience."

The Aztecs experience at almost every position with their large number of seniors along with their size and athleticism should be beneficial in winning games the rest of the regular season.

"We are a very tall athletic team whose experienced players are starting to gel with the new less experienced athletics," said Horewitch. "That aspect, plus the fact we play fearlessly on defense to get every ball up, is starting to pay dividends as the season continues."

Additional athletes who contribute on and off the court to the team's success include senior opposite hitter Jake Peshak, senior middle blocker Antonio Lopez, senior defensive specialist Ewing Baker and junior middle blocker Micah White.

The Aztecs were scheduled to play at Queen Creek on April 4 before playing two home games.

The first home game was scheduled for April 6 against Desert Ridge before playing Brophy College Prep at home on April 11.

Corona then plays four away games before the Aztecs play their last game at home.

The Aztecs are scheduled to play at Desert Vista on April 13, at Highland on April 18, at Gilbert on April 20, and at Desert Ridge on April 25 before playing at home against Desert Vista on April 26.

The Aztecs will honor their 12 seniors that last home game on April 26.



The Aztecs made No.1 Highland earn every set, but ultimately fell three sets to none. — Wrangler News photos by Andrew Lwowski





# DIVERSIONS

## Thundering hordes no miscue for latest 'Dragons' epic

By M.V. Moorhead

There's more than one dungeon in *Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*, and more than one dragon. Thus the title is truthful, at any rate.

Once or twice back in college—twice, if memory serves—I played *Dungeons & Dragons* with some of my fellow theatre students. It was sort of fun, as I recall. The first time, an obnoxious kid we didn't know named Dan—not a theatre major—had somehow been invited, who seemed to think himself a great ladies' man. He named his warrior character "Dahn" and spent most of the evening drinking a lot and hitting on the young women there.

When we played again a week or so later, Dan was not invited, and the Dungeon Master mildly

informed us that "Dahn disagreed with something that ate him."

This was in the early '80s. I recount this story only to make it clear how limited my familiarity is with the classic role-playing fantasy game developed in the mid-'70s and now owned by Wizards of the Coast (a subsidiary of Hasbro). I've never played D&D or any similar game since, though I have friends and family who are enthusiasts.

Even at the time, I didn't really grasp how the dice rolls and "damage points" and other such jargon determined the flow of the game; I just enjoyed the socializing and improvisational creativity.

So for all I know, this new movie version, directed by Jonathan Goldstein and John Francis Daley from a script they concocted with Michael

Gilio and Chris McKay, is a rich and faithful fleshing-out of tropes from the game.

Or, for all I know, it's just a sword-and-sorcery fantasy with the franchise's name hung on it. I can't say, nor need any general audience member care; either way, it's highly entertaining.

Chris Pine is a lute-strumming troubadour living in a Ren-Faire-ish realm of racial and gender diversity. A washed-up member of a heroic order, he leads a band of thieves including a warrior (Michelle Rodriguez); a sorcerer (Justice Smith) of low self-esteem and questionable prowess, and a horned and tailed elfin person (Sophia Lillis) who can shape-shift into various other creatures, including a brawny monster owl.

They're on a quest to obtain some sort of magical thingy that will allow them to enter a magic

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vault from which they want to steal some other magical thingy. This will allow the troubadour to resurrect his murdered wife. Along the way the band is helped by a noble but humorlessly literal paladin (Regé-Jean Page from *Bridgerton*).

This synopsis does the movie little justice, however. D&DHAT isn't heavy. Despite all the thundering hordes and clanking armor and clashing steel and roiling brimstone and mystical spells and hideous ogres and such, the flavor is less like a Tolkien epic than like a Hope-Crosby Road comedy. The guiding joke is that the characters, notwithstanding their fairy tale attire, speak and interact in a contemporary American idiom, like people on a sitcom. There's an extended schtick, involving questioning of the dead, that's almost worthy of the Marx Brothers.

Your own tastes will determine if this approach makes the movie a blast or an outrage. For me, it not only made it less ponderous, but more emotionally satisfying. The actors generate an ensemble playfulness

and a sense of affection. Pine retains his raffish agreeability, and he and Rodriguez are particularly convincing as longtime, patiently enduring friends.

But once again, the best reason to see the film, even if this sort of fantasy isn't your usual tankard of mead, is Hugh Grant. He plays the rotten mountebank who betrayed Pine and friends back in the day. Since then, with the alliance of a sinister sorceress (Daisy Head), this fraud has ascended to the throne of the kingdom; it's his vault the gang wants to loot, and he's also, intolerably, been serving as the surrogate father to Pine's daughter (Chloe Coleman).

Between this movie, the recent *Operation Fortune* and 2017's *Paddington 2*, Grant has quite a line these days in cheery, good-natured comic villains. The scenes he steals here are the most honorable theft in the movie.

*Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves* is rated PG-13 and plays at Harkins Tempe Marketplace, Harkins Arizona Mills, Harkins Chandler Fashion 20, AMC Ahwatukee 24 and other multiplexes Valleywide.

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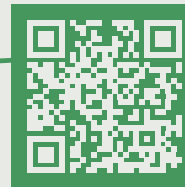
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## Closing the gap: Tempe moves forward with Grand Canal Connection Project design

April 17: provide input at public meetings or online

Tempe is closing the gaps on the Grand Canal Multi-use Path! This project will connect the Rio Salado North Bank and Crosscut Canal paths with the Grand Canal Path, allowing for continuous, low-stress, multi-modal travel.

The proposed improvements may include buffered bike lanes, a new 10-foot-wide multi-use path, rest nodes, new pedestrian signal along Mill Avenue at Crosscut Canal, public art, lighting, landscape and ADA improvements.

The Tempe community is encouraged to attend public meetings

to view 30% design plans and provide feedback for the Grand Canal Connection Project on:

**Monday, April 17, noon**  
Virtual meeting via Zoom

(Password: Bike!, Meeting ID: 845 4993 5022, Call in number: 1-699-900-6834)

**Monday, April 17, 5:30-6:30 p.m.**, Tempe Field Services Facility, Assembly Hall, 55 S. Priest Drive

Tempe's portion of the Grand Canal Path is located just north of the Loop 202 and east of Priest Drive.

The Grand Canal Connection Project was awarded a Federal Design Grant, a Federal Construction Grant and will use local Tempe Transit Tax funds.

For more information, or to provide online input April 17-May 1, 2023, visit [tempe.gov/GrandCanal](http://tempe.gov/GrandCanal).

  
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# Fields of Dreams: How farming and football helped AZ town harvest NFL talent

Story & photos by Andrew Lwowski  
For ASU/Cronkite News

**E**LOY – Midway between Phoenix and Tucson along Interstate 10 sits Eloy, home to just under 16,000 residents and mostly known for world-class skydiving and copious amounts of dust. But a rich history can be found deeper off Exit 208.

Santa Cruz Valley High School has produced some of the best football talent to come from Arizona. Although it is the only high school in Eloy and has a yearly enrollment of roughly 400, the football program has produced five NFL players – the most per capita in Arizona.

Of those five, there is a set of brothers: Art Malone (class of 1965) played seven seasons in the NFL with the Philadelphia Eagles and Atlanta Falcons, while his brother, Benny Malone ('69), played six seasons with the Miami Dolphins and Washington. And there's a set of cousins: Mossy Cade ('79) played two seasons with the Green Bay Packers. Eddie Cade ('89) played one season with the New England Patriots. Levi Jones ('96) played eight seasons for the Cincinnati Bengals and Washington.



Landfill adjacent to proposed entertainment district, which would have to undergo massive cleanup before work could proceed.

The extraordinary athletes put Eloy on the map, but the school's hard-nose mentality started on a different kind of field before the city became known for football.

"(Traveling on the road for games) was like the movie 'Hoosiers,' where they would go there would be a line of followers. It was the same thing here," said Charles "Nap" Lawrence, a former Santa Cruz athlete who is a philanthropist still involved with farming in Eloy and a major contributor to his alma mater and Arizona State athletics. "There would be vehicles backed up for miles to come and watch the game, and same thing in Globe or Miami."

However, the five players that would make it to the next level only begin to scratch the surface of talent that Eloy has produced in its heyday. Paul Ray Powell ('66), Rufino Saucedo ('67) and Ernie Hernandez ('67) helped usher in the new identity for the farm town during the 1960s.

## Small town, big dreams

Eloy was founded as a railroad town for the Union Pacific line during the late 1800s, and was formally established as a city in 1949. It was during that time when the city established its new reputation and workers would come from all over.

Jeff Dean, a Santa Cruz graduate in 1977 and a current Eloy resident, said it was the "perfect example" of a small-town melting pot, with kids

from all races and socioeconomic backgrounds coming together to farm and play sports.

The low humidity and flat terrain provided an opportune settlement.

"In the early '50s, it was called Cotton City," said Lawrence, adding at some points there would be "as many as 100,000 (farmers)."

What brought so many to Eloy was the year-round opportunity to work.

"If you wanted a job, you came here," Hernandez said. "Once we had cotton, we got potatoes with onions. And if you had a large family that we did and (Ernie) did, too, guess who the workers were and guess who helped finance the living standards?"

Work opportunity is what brought Powell's family to Eloy as well. His parents traveled from across East Texas in an open bed truck before making it to the desert. "When they stopped in Florence, they had tents," Powell said. "My mom and dad had a tent and they went through the line and they got one fork, one knife, one spoon, a tin plate and a tin of coffee. And that's how they started."

Much like the families of Powell, Hernandez and Lawrence, Eloy was built off migrants and became a hot spot for agriculture with workers coming from California, Mexico and Oklahoma.

Hernandez recalled that his father traveled to Oklahoma with two covered trucks and may have coincidentally brought the Malones to Eloy.



“(He) brought many Negro families to Eloy, where they settled,” Hernandez said. “And they worked in the cotton fields along with the rest of us. I want to say that one of those families that my father brought back, their last name was Malone. No kidding.”

Back then, it was unruly and only the toughest survived. “Even if you were a teacher teaching English, you had to be more physical than your students,” Lawrence said with a chuckle.

Until Eloy established its own council in the 1950s, there was no organized law and it was the last municipality to have martial law applied, Powell said.

“It was a difficult place to live,” he added. “Coolidge, too, all of the smaller towns. You’d have to learn very quickly how to protect yourself.”

Added Saucedo: “They had shootouts here on Main Street.”

Frontier Street had “bar after bar after bar,” and when he was age “14 or 15,” Powell and his cousin got a shoe-shining kit and would shine shoes for tips to make extra money.

“Guys would tip us pretty good-size tips in those days because they were drunk,” he said. “And so we would take that and we went back to our primary residence, and my dad looked at it and said, ‘Where’d you get this money?’ I said, ‘Well, we earned it.’ ‘Well, how’d you earn it?’ ‘Well, we were shining shoes in one of the drinking establishments,’ I said. We were going to be out there again. He said, ‘The hell you are.’ So that was the end of that. We couldn’t go back.”

Eloy was the wild, wild West, where the sheriffs were wary of sending deputies to town, but the disciplinary teachings that Santa Cruz instilled spread into the community. Though the early risings of Eloy were coarse, Lawrence said he “had never seen a bigger thrill and more exciting place to be raised.”

It was a close-knit community where everyone knew nearly everyone by name. When Lawrence’s parents moved from Peoria, Illinois, to Eloy in 1958, they ran the A&W Root Beer stand that his brother-in-law built. Powell said that the stand became the most social gathering place in town and remembered cars would drive around waiting for a spot to open because of limited space.

The busiest street in Eloy was Frontier Street. All outside traffic went through Frontier, which runs parallel to the railroad. However, with the construction of I-10, traffic into Eloy began to slow and the hustle and bustle started to dissipate.

“(My parents) had a brother-in-law that just built the A&W Root Beer stand at 310 West Frontier, which was the main highway from Phoenix to Tucson,” Lawrence said. “And they said the reason they wanted to sell it is because they wanted to

retire and it’s too busy. So Mom and Dad thought they struck oil, and they opened it up, and a month later they built I-10 and moved it. They had no traffic except people from the town. You can’t win them all.”

## A dynasty in the making

The football players never spent any time in the weight room, but out in the fields along with everyone else at Santa Cruz.

“But you know, you’d see guys that would leave weighing 150 pounds and come back after a summer pitching melons weighing 175,” Dean said. “By the time they went to two-a-day football practices, that was fun, because working like some of these guys did, they weren’t afraid of it.”

Dean, whose parents moved to Eloy in 1958 and taught, essentially grew up in the high school gym. His father, Howard, spent more than 40 years at Santa Cruz Valley, as a teacher, coach and athletic director.

“We were out there 55 hours a week (in the cotton fields),” Saucedo said. “So when it came time to play football, we were in shape because we walked all day.”

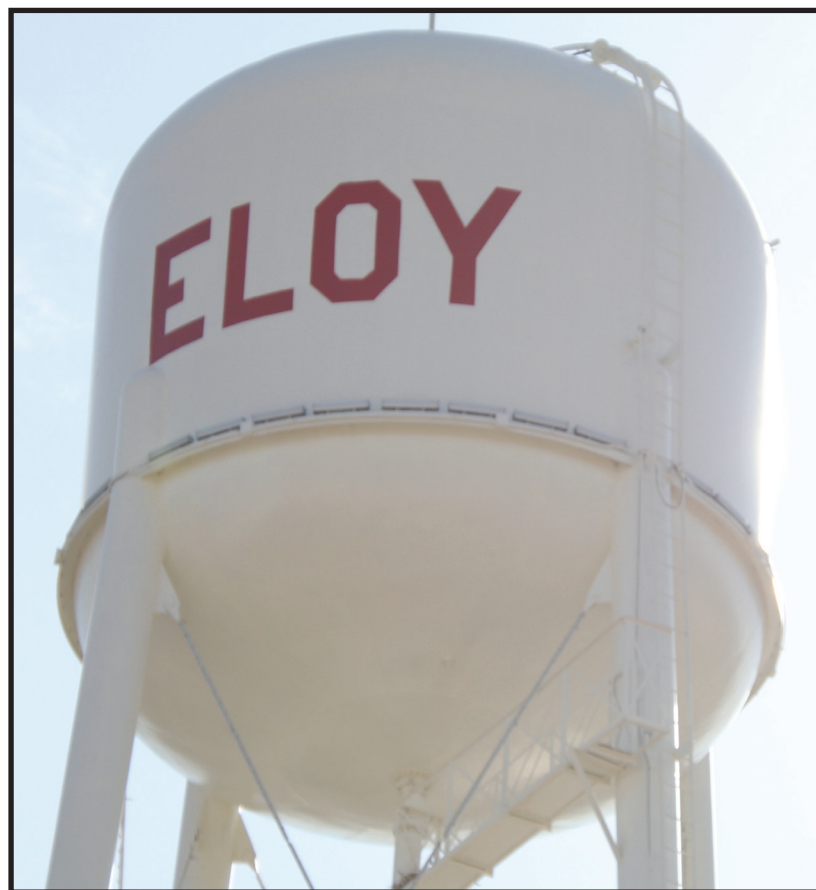
Workers in the field would carry 50- or 100-pound sacks and make 3 cents per pound of clean cotton or a penny and a half for dirty cotton, Saucedo said. The intensive labor it took farming molded the athletes at Santa Cruz to produce a team that struck fear into its opponents.

Back then, Santa Cruz had a “football-loving superintendent” who bolstered the Dust Devils into elite company. “When you’re in a community like Eloy, you want to find out what your strength is and capitalize on it,” Lawrence said. “We had the right managerial team at the school and we were very fortunate.”

Hernandez said it was gratifying when the Dust Devils won their first state title in 1965. The team was loaded with talent at every position, and it was easy with such players as Art Malone and Paul Ray Powell.

“I mean, we outscored the team by a whole lot of points. Like Paul Ray said, Art (Malone) didn’t play in the second half. Paul Ray played more on defense in the second half because we were playing the other offensive players that needed to play.”

However, Hernandez recalled that it was the championship run during his senior season that



Landfill adjacent to proposed entertainment district, which would have to undergo massive clean-up before work could proceed.

was special.

“Why? I think the second one, we probably worked a little harder,” he said. The seniors who led the 1965 team graduated and the 1966 team was undersized. But what they lacked in size they made up for in determination and courage.

The Malones and Cades were electrifying athletes that played major roles in the school’s dynasty. Hernandez described Art as the power back to run through defenders, while Benny was more “shifty.” Art had 37 touchdowns in a single season, but Powell swore that he would have had 100 if he played the entirety of games.

Mossy set the high hurdle record at 13.7. That record stood for 30 years, according to Lawrence.

Santa Cruz won state titles in 1965, 1966, 1969, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1990 and 2020. By the time the Dust Devils had established their throne as a football city, they had developed a formidable rival.

Just 18 miles north was Coolidge. Former Santa Cruz star athlete Levi Jones remembered the animosity when the two cities collided on the field during his senior year.

“I was talking it up and it was like, they had me ready to hurt somebody on the field,” Jones said with a laugh.

“I just remember being on such an adrenaline



rush, and when I fractured my ankle, I didn't want to evaluate. I literally was going to play that game regardless."

Jones is arguably the most accomplished athlete to come from Eloy, academically and athletically, walking on at Arizona State and graduating with a degree in exercise science before starting 97 games at left tackle for the Cincinnati Bengals.

The rivalry extended beyond the gridiron, though. There was a bar in Coolidge where there were "probably thousands of dollars in bets" between farmers on their city's football team, Dean said.

Growing up in Eloy was a mindset. "You know, it is definitely a sense of pride and we will not be counted out," Jones said.

"No matter what people or our competitors try to do to us, and that's kind of the motto of Eloy. We're not going to back down. We're going to fight. We're going to work. We're going to do whatever it takes to basically get the job done and didn't change when we got on the football field."

Current Santa Cruz coach Thomas Cortez understands the history behind the city and its football program as an alumnus and resident himself.

"You know, your dad played 20 years ago, his

dad played 20 years ago," he said. "My dad played in the early '80s when the dominance was really going on. He grew up watching the '70s team that won three state championships in a row. That culture led onto me."

Heading into his first season, Cortez plans to instill the same discipline and pride that built the program decades ago.

"The kids learn to win every day and winning is not just winning on the football field," he said, "but winning in the classroom or whatever you're doing at that moment. Hopefully we develop some great men and along the way we develop some great athletes."

### A ripple-down effect

Fifty years ago, Eloy was a self-dependent city centered on farming and football, but things are not what they once were.

"They used to say like farmers (in Eloy) were the best cotton farmers in the United States," Dean said. "You know there were no Walmarts, there were no Kmart. You shopped (for) groceries in Eloy, bought furniture in Eloy. You know, everything was on Main Street and, so as the farming situation changed, a lot of those guys had to move out, you

know, they had to sell their land. And so that took a lot of money out of the community."

The expansion of Casa Grande in conjunction with mega stores had a ripple-down effect in Eloy. Eloy also became one of the cities to get hit hard with the war on drugs, Jones said.

"It was kind of a good place to grow up and I had a good upbringing there," he said. "But there was pitfalls at every corner and if you fell in them, they got you, you know? So it was anything and everything there, should you want to partake in and go that route, was available. The ones that did succeed and did you know steer clear of that, that's a huge kudos."

Now, Eloy is a quiet city. Agriculture is not as big as it once was, and the main attraction now is skydiving. While the football program is still striving to regain the title for football city, Arizona, those who built Eloy and continue to live and work there, will always support their home and Santa Cruz Valley football.

"Everybody should feel good about where they grew up," Dean said. "But most of the people that I know were proud to be a part of it. Football kind of was the thing that everybody rallied around, because the whole town did."

## Show Us Where You Read Your Wrangler News



*Alonso Loera reads The Wrangler News after picking up the recent edition at Steve's Espresso in Tempe!*

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## More COMMENTARY

# Tempe Bike Month pedals through April

By Arlene Chin



Electric or manual. One gear or 10. Road, mountain or cruiser. Off-road or paved paths.

Whatever kind of bike, whatever kind of cyclist – Tempe's

proudly got it all and Bike Month is the time to celebrate everything that makes our city great for cyclists.

In my own life, any day can be a biking day and I proudly have a little bike collection to prove it. Here in Tempe, we celebrate big once a year and our community really gets behind it. After all, in 2019, Tempe was redesignated a Gold-Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists and we've been handing out a Tempe Bike Hero Award every year since 2008.

Tempe has more than 220 miles of bikeways and we're not done investing in quality bicycling infrastructure. This month, you can provide input on two future projects:

- April 17: Join virtually at noon or in-person at 5:30 p.m. to help plan Tempe's newest off-street path, connecting the Rio Salado North Bank and Crosscut Canal paths with the Grand Canal Path. This project will provide continuous, off-street travel

into Scottsdale, Mesa and Phoenix, allowing better access to employment, entertainment and education. Provide online input April 17-May 1. Details: [tempe.gov/GrandCanal](http://tempe.gov/GrandCanal).

- April 19: We'll talk about a new bike/ped project with 3 miles of improvements along Kyrene Road, Roosevelt Street and Farmer Avenue, between University Drive and Baseline Road. Join virtually at noon or in-person at 6 p.m. Improvements will provide a low-stress, multi-modal route with links to major regional bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Provide online input April 19-May 2. Details: [tempe.gov/Handlebars](http://tempe.gov/Handlebars).

Check out the biking investments that have been and will be made in Tempe at [tempe.gov/bike](http://tempe.gov/bike).

There are many bicycle advocates in Tempe. One such gem is Bike Saviours – if you don't know about them, please check them out. The shop is located east of McClintock Drive and south of Rio Salado Parkway at 420 S. Perry Lane, Suite 3.

Bike Saviours is a nonprofit community education collective focused on the use, repair, recycling and proliferation of bicycles. They

accept donated bikes and bike parts, teach the community how to build and repair bikes, and advocate for bike safety and transportation solutions for all. Founded in 2006, Bike Saviours has served thousands through classes, open repair hours and used part shopping and provides a work trade program to allow individuals in need to earn bikes.

Upcoming classes include: Basic Bike Maintenance on April 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and an in-depth class on headsets, stems and forks on April 17 from 6-9 p.m. Stay updated at [bikesaviours.org/shop-updates](http://bikesaviours.org/shop-updates).

The City of Tempe provides biking support as well, partnering with Culdesac and Kamp Kool this summer to provide bicycling instruction and bike rides for youth summer camp participants. Details will be available under the "Programs and Events" tab at [tempe.gov/Escalante](http://tempe.gov/Escalante).

Cycling Without Age Tempe engages seniors in bicycling activities to counteract loneliness.

— Arlene Chin is a member of the Tempe City Council.



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## An exciting growth opportunity — for you and us

On at least half a dozen occasions in recent months, our Wrangler News staff has pondered the plausibility of us expanding our advisory relationship with advertising clients to include a couple of what we agree would be worthwhile added services.

After exploring such a possibility with some of the major companies with whom we have a longtime personal and business partnership, we've decided to take these

discussions to the next level by seeking experienced applicants who might be interested in growing with us on what now appears to be an inevitable new service module—strategic social-media and website development coupled with (or without) professional cinematography.

If either or both of these areas are among your interest and experience, please contact our associate publisher, Ty Tabat, to discuss ways you might be part of this exciting new expansion of Wrangler News' always growing menu of services. Email: [ty.tabat@wranglernews.com](mailto:ty.tabat@wranglernews.com).

# We Hear You!

## OLLI is coming to Chandler

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) has partnered with the ASU Chandler Innovation Center (ACIC) to bring an incredible class to the City of Chandler and East Valley communities.

Friday, April 21 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

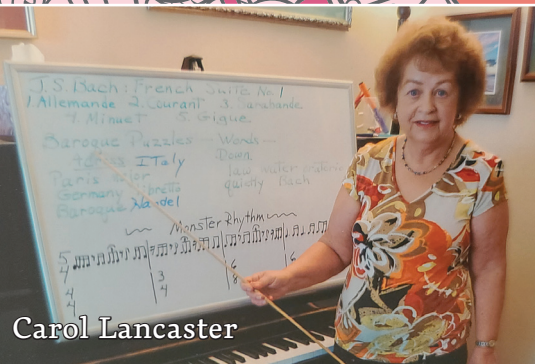


### Kevin Sandler

*Class: A look back at Tootsie*

Kevin Sandler is an associate professor in the Film and Media Studies Program. He specializes in the contemporary media business, with a particular focus on censorship and animation.

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## Chandler asks your input on protected bike lanes

The city of Chandler recently released a survey on its website to obtain feedback of West Chandler residents and their citywide neighbors on potential protected bike lanes within the community.

The survey asks for feedback regarding the individual's current bicycle usage as well as potential usage if protected lanes are built; the respondent's desired locations for any such lanes; and opinions on design options that might be considered.

Anyone participated in the Chandler Family Bike Ride on April 1 was able to view some of the design

options that are being considered. Under the plan, physical barriers were placed onsite at the Chandler Park and Ride prior to the bike ride for participants to experience what a protected bike lane experience looks like.

The city's Transportation Master Plan identified four corridors for protected bike lanes, however it was noted that the survey feedback may result in increasing the number of protected lanes in other parts of the city as well.

The survey will be available through April 30. It is part of a nine-month study in partnership with Maricopa Association of Governments to evaluate the feasibility of upgrading existing bike lanes to protected status.

The feedback received from the online survey will be one factor used to determine the best location for new protected lanes to be installed.

To complete the survey, visit [chandleraz.gov/ProtectedBikeLanes](http://chandleraz.gov/ProtectedBikeLanes).



Engineers' rough view of how proposed protected bike lines would look if adopted by city of Chandler.  
— Photo courtesy city of Chandler



## BUSINESS



Angel Encinas, Chandler city councilman, left, and James Xie, founder of new specialty Ramen Hood restaurant at northeast corner of Dobson Road and Chandler Boulevard, celebrate opening organized by Chandler Chamber of Commerce.

— Photo courtesy Ramen Hood



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**8:30 a.m.**

**Friday, April 14**

**Hilton Garden Inn at University Research Park  
7290 S. Price Road**

**RSVP: [tempe.gov/TempeBusinessRoadshow](http://tempe.gov/TempeBusinessRoadshow)**



## Joint venture to combat homelessness in Tempe

A \$50,000 partnership between Tempe Community Action Agency and The Arizona Lottery is being credited with a joint effort to support individuals experiencing homelessness in Tempe.

The initiative supports TCAA's Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program, a collaboration between TCAA and a network of faith organizations that provides for unsheltered adults in the community.

The Arizona Lottery joined TCAA late last month to support the I-HELP program during a night the groups hosted the emergency shelter.

TCAA's I-HELP emergency shelter provides a place to sleep for 40 adults, hot meals, employment assistance, housing navigation, case management and access to health care, along with an array of additional services.

Hot showers and laundry services are also made possible with TCAA's mobile trailers.

Said Chris Rogers, Arizona Lottery deputy director:

"We are grateful for the opportunity (for this partnership) to...better serve the needs of area adults experiencing homelessness.

"We recognize the demand for shelter has increased sharply in recent years and the I-HELP program provides essential services to those in need while improving their quality of life in meaningful ways."

TCAA conducts assessments and addresses participants' barriers to finding and keeping permanent housing.

Since the I-HELP model was launched in 2006, more

than 8,000 adults are said to have been beneficiaries of the program.

With the support of the Arizona Lottery, TCAA officials say the organization will be able to expand its services to help address the mental health needs of I-HELP participants and improve their overall well-being.

"We are deeply grateful to the Arizona Lottery for its support to this vital emergency shelter resource in Tempe," said Tempe Community Action Agency CEO. Deborah Arteaga.

"I-HELP is more than a safe place to sleep; it's access to vital supports such as health care and employment, that can ultimately shorten the duration of homelessness and hasten the return to a permanent home."

This partnership with TCAA has been described as a continuation of the commitment to help some of Arizona's most vulnerable residents.



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