

# WRANGLER NEWS

January 13 - 26, 2024  
Vol. 34, No. 771

Remembering 1991 and  
our first-ever edition.  
(Yes, we're still going strong)



## WHAT'S INSIDE

• MEET OUR STAFF:  
YOUR NEIGHBORS WHO  
PRODUCE—AND LOVE—  
WRANGLER NEWS, PAGE 3

• A 2023 PHOTO  
SCRAPBOOK, PAGES 23-25

• BIG CHANGES AHEAD  
FOR DANELLE PLAZA,  
PAGE 5



—Wrangler News photo by Andrew Lwowski

# F R E E W A Y C H E V R O L E T

UP TO  
**\$10,000 OFF\***  
**+ \$2,250 TRADE ASSIST\***



**NEW  
YEAR**  
*New Ride*

2024 Silverado 1500 Crew Cab  
So Powerful, You'll Feel Unstoppable.

**TRADE OR SELL US YOUR VEHICLE – WE MAKE IT EASY!**



1150 N. 54th St., Chandler  
480-735-0399 • [FreewayChevy.com](http://FreewayChevy.com)

\*Up to \$10,000 Off select new, unused 2024 Silverado 1500 1LT Crew Cab models from dealer inventory (excludes Trail Boss). \$2,250 Trade Assist: Must trade in a 2010 model year or newer vehicle. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 1/31/24. Restrictions may apply. May not be combined with other offers. See dealer for details. Photos are for illustration purposes only. Dealer not responsible for typographical errors.

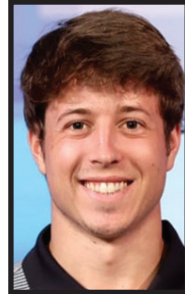


Together  
let's drive™



### From us to our Wrangler News neighbors . . .

Happy New Year, and  
thanks for 30+ years of  
your support & friendship



Andrew



Janie



Don



Mark



Alex



Ty



Barbi

**M**y, how time flies. Has it really been that long? It seems like just yesterday that we launched our little neighborhood town crier in what we then called Warner Wrangler—Warner because we delivered to only a few hundred homes on both sides of Warner Road, Wrangler because most of those streets were what we knew as horse property.

Yes, time has indeed sped by. And while there admittedly have been a few bumps in the road in terms of growth, we have nothing but great memories of the people we've met, the friends we've made in city government and schools, the businesses we've helped to be successful. And, of course, the readers who tell us quite regularly: "We love your little newspaper."

There is no single person, myself included, who can take credit for the way in which we seem to have become enshrined among readers who evidently value an approach to newspapering that focuses on the best our community has to offer.

We don't overlook what some might call "real news," but we don't look for those kind of stories under the rocks, either.

And so at this start of a new year, we want you to meet—and know a bit more about—a few of the people on our staff who love where they live and work, and who want to help keep it a valued hometown for themselves and those who follow.

To do that, we've been able to attract journalists, some experienced, some excitedly pursuing new life opportunities, who look at our little world with the same enthusiasm we do.

That brings us to introducing you to the folks who produce the content you look forward

to arriving in your driveway every other week throughout the year.

And to sharing with you some of the reasons we feel they bring the same qualities to their work with us as they do to the conduct of their own lives.

You can follow our commentary with the photos appearing above, starting at the left.

**Andrew Lwowski** is a lifetime Tempe resident, having attended Waggoner Elementary, Kyrene Middle School and Corona del Sol. He graduated from ASU's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism with a degree in sports journalism..

**Janie Magruder**, also a longtime Tempe resident, wrote for The Arizona Republic for many years, covering with true journalistic style and professionalism the stories that came along during her career.

Next to Janie am I, and I'll simply say that newspapering has been part of my life since age 10, when I somehow discovered the science of gelatin in a cake pan which, when touched by paper with special ink, allowed even a schoolkid to publish his own neighborhood newspaper.

There's more, of course, but let's just say I seem to have printer's ink flowing in the same veins today, along with the passion I had those many years ago.

So upward and onward.

There's also **Mark Moorhead**, one of the most talented film writers in our country, starting in his early days with the Phoenix New Times and a regular in our Tempe offices for how long? At least half of the 30-plus years we've been in publication.

Another contributor whose name and face have become familiar to regular Wrangler News readers

is **Alex Zener**, who joined us while he was still playing varsity volleyball on Corona's Aztec team.

Alex writes about high school sports with a familiarity that never seems to have left him, thanks of course to the relationships he has so successfully built with coaches who want to ensure that their players receive deserved recognition for their successes on the playing field. And what better way to do that, they apparently realize, is in the pages of their hometown paper.

**Ty Tabat**, our associate publisher who keeps me on a straight and narrow path relating to the business side of our operation (or at least tries to), spent many years helping to likewise steer operations of Tempe-based Signature Offset, a recognized leader among newspaper printers around the country.

And finally **Barbi Walker-Walsh**, also a Tempe resident and NYU journalism graduate, who writes with the kind of insight that only her many years of exploring our local byways can provide.

So there you have it: A bit of Wrangler News history and a small get-acquainted opportunity with our current staff and the commitment they have to local news coverage.

And how and why they have it.

We hope that our efforts these past years not only represent our determination to be your reliable source of news and information, but to let you know it's coming from people who know—and love—their home town as much as you do.

Best wishes from all of us for a happy 2024.

— Don Kirkland  
founder and publisher.

Visit [WRANGLERNEWS.COM](http://WRANGLERNEWS.COM) for updated news, photos and videos

# \$100k in Chamber funding for Black Women in Business

TEMPE CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE  
FOUNDATION  
WELLS FARGO



Tempe's Chamber of Commerce Foundation and Wells Fargo have named the recipients of newly established Black Women in Business supportive grants totaling \$100,000.

The grants are earmarked to assist Black women-owned businesses in developing, growing and sustaining their businesses.

The recipients are:

2 Doves Notary, LLC – **Joycelyn Wooten**

Arizona Network of African American Behavioral Health Providers – **Buffy Wooten**

AVID Consulting, LLC – **Dr. Cindy Banton**

Bashir & Associates, LLC – **Jeanine Bashir**

Big Red's Hot Sauce – **Quantasia Ford**

Black Russian Label – **Joanna de 'Shay**

Brownstone Spa, LLC – **Stacy Best-Nervis**

Meineke Car Care Center 2830 – **LaVon Jackson**

## Maccanico

Sugar Puffs – **Nyktashia LaFate**

Sol Revolution, LLC – **Veronica Clark**

Total Nourish Beauty – **Sammi Tolliver**

Wholeness 2 Peace Care Services – **Katrina**

## Harrell

Recipients were selected from a pool of over 200 applications.

Said Chamber President/CEO Colin Diaz:

"It was encouraging to see the diverse types of myriad deserving businesses represented by the applicants.

"This grant helps to level the playing field, promote inspiration and create an equitable opportunity for everyone to thrive. It demonstrates to future business owners that success is achievable."

Support provided through the grant includes:  
• Financial award to contribute to the growth and/or sustainability of the business;

- Membership to the Tempe Chamber of Commerce and related benefits;
- Business consulting and educational training to aid in business success; and
- Routine check-ins to facilitate connection between ongoing needs and available resources.

Said Wells Fargo executive Shannon Tolbert:

"Congratulations to all the recipient businesses.

And thank you to everyone who applied. It was truly inspiring to learn about the various types of businesses Black women have started here...we hope these supportive grants can be a stepping stone to empowering more entrepreneurs and, ultimately, strengthening the small business sector for the long term,"

The grants were awarded to qualified applicants to advance the growth of businesses in Greater Phoenix while addressing systemic issues affecting access to capital for black women business owners.

  
**smileINNOVATIONS**  
COSMETIC & FAMILY DENTISTRY

## ARE YOU READY TO BREATHE?

Sleep disorders affect millions of people and can lead to anxiety, depression, obesity, and other related health disorders.

If you are having trouble sleeping, **our dental office offers alternative sleep solutions** that improve the quality of your sleep and life.

**Call 480-820-7777 today to schedule your appointment** and start your journey to having more energy and health.



6323 S. Rural Road #101 Tempe, Arizona  
SmileInnovation.com •  mysmileinnovations

## Next steps due for arts, music, housing initiative in Tempe

The Tempe City Council is considering an ordinance to allow the city to convey its portion of Danelle Plaza for \$2.75 million to the group that will re-envision and develop the property.

The sale would take place at a future date, after the conditions from a Master Development and Disposition Agreement have been met. A second hearing and vote for this ordinance will take place on Jan. 18.

“This is another step in bringing the community’s vision for local art, live music, open space and attainable housing to fruition,” said Tempe Mayor Corey Woods.

“We value Danelle Plaza and want to make it stronger. We can make exceptional use of this land while still protecting the incredible culture that makes this corner so special.”

As described in a resolution authorizing the agreement, the development is intended to be a “mixed-use project with multifamily market rate, workforce, and affordable residential units, ground floor retail, restaurant and other hospitality amenities.

There are, however, no specific plans or proposals for the project being presented at this time, city officials said.

The proposed project, which will be jointly planned by the city and developers as part of a future phase in the development agreement, will involve community meetings, a minimum of two sessions at the Development Review Commission and two hearings presided over by City Council.

While the public amenities for any future project would be agreed upon as part of the final development plan, it is expected that these would include art walls in honor of existing murals, affordable housing, an outdoor amphitheater, a public park, multimodal pathway options, EV charging stations and more. Any future development would include Yucca Tap Room.

The establishment’s ownership is working with development teams and has indicated full support of a project.

“This action marks a pivotal step forward in our collective journey to reshape Danelle Plaza.

Yucca Tap Room has been a steadfast presence in this community for almost five decades, dedicated to fostering local arts, live music, and community engagement. The impending acquisition of parcels is the next critical phase, laying the groundwork for the future of Danelle Plaza. As we navigate this transformative journey, the community’s support is not only appreciated but crucial to our success,” said Yucca Tap Room owner Rodney Hu.

### Timeline

**1963:** Danelle Plaza opened. The development was a very innovative concept. Retailers purchased from 52 parcels within the development, much like residential condominiums. Each of these owners also maintained a share of the common area in the center of the complex.

**2011:** The city of Tempe began purchasing property at the plaza with the intent of redeveloping the property.

**September 2022:** After a public request for proposals, the city awarded Guina Affiliated Development and Desert Viking – Danelle Plaza LLC an opportunity to begin work to revitalize the plaza to meet today’s retail, housing and cultural needs.

— Continued on Page 21

# LUCAS

Real Estate



**LUCAS** - your trusted, local experts for over 30 years!



**Mesa • Eastmark • Multi Gen Home**  
5BR, 4BA, 2726 sf, attached casita, gated, wow  
See Info and Video at [10728Tarragon.com](http://10728Tarragon.com)



**Tempe • 85284 • Warner Ranch**  
2BR+loft, 2.5BA, 1771 sf, ideal location!  
See Info and Video at [224Courtney.com](http://224Courtney.com)



**Central Tempe • 85282**  
4BR, 2BA, 1474 sf, totally remodeled, wow!  
See Info and Video at [1436Geneva.com](http://1436Geneva.com)

Call or Click

**(480) 598-8800 • TheLucasGroup.com**

# Applications open for Tempe PRE

## Full-day preschool offers tuition options

Tempe PRE, the city's full-day preschool program, is now accepting online applications for the upcoming school year.

Families who live in Tempe and surrounding cities are encouraged to apply; various tuition options are available and state child care assistance is accepted.

Tempe PRE is offered in partnership with the Tempe Elementary School District and available on eight school campuses.

The program accepts children ages 3 and 4 who are fully potty-trained. Students must turn 3 by July 24, the start of the school year, to be eligible.

Families whose children will turn 3 between July 25 - Aug. 31 may still apply and wait for their applications to be processed as children become eligible.

Tempe offers full-tuition, half-tuition and free options depending on eligibility. Options include:

- Full tuition of \$750 per month (\$770 with extended care): All families who live in Tempe or surrounding cities.
- Half tuition of \$375 per month (\$385 with extended care): Tempe families with an income between 200 - 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- Free: Tempe families with an income at or below 200% of the FPL.

Tempe PRE offers a range of benefits, including early childhood education-certified teaching staff, small class sizes and a play-based curriculum.

Preschool classrooms participate in Quality First, a program of First Things First, which partners with regulated early childhood providers in Arizona to make quality improvements that help young children thrive.

With classrooms at Tempe Elementary schools, students have access to support staff such as nurses and amenities like school playgrounds. Families may also have an easier transition to kindergarten if they choose to remain at the same school.

Access to full-day preschool has allowed families to improve their quality of life by returning to the workforce, increasing work hours, pursuing new employment options and going to school.

Parent Jessica Keene advanced her education and career, boosting the family's gross annual

income by 44%. "This life-altering increase would not have been possible without this program," she said.

### Application process

The timeline for processing applications depends on the tuition option selected by families. For children turning 3 by July 24:

- Applications for free or half tuition will be part of a lottery. The city will randomly select applications for processing beginning March 11; new applications will be pulled for processing every month.
- Applications for full tuition are processed as they come into the city.

Tempe PRE accepts child care assistance from the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), which allows the city to expand access to preschool.

Families interested in free or half tuition are required to apply for DES assistance once they are selected for enrollment in Tempe PRE.

Families who do not qualify for DES assistance may still be eligible for financial assistance through the city if they are Tempe residents or through Quality First and meet certain income qualifications.



Wrangler News is driveway delivered every other Saturday throughout the year to homes & rack locations in Tempe & Chandler

**'The Valley's Best Community Newspaper'**

— Phoenix magazine

Published since 1991 by Newslink LLC

**Founder/Publisher:** Don Kirkland

**Associate Publisher:** Ty Tabat

**Content Coordinator:** Andrew Lwowski

**Contributors:** Janie Magruder, Alex Zener, M.V. Moorhead, Sally Mesarosh, Barbi Walker-Walsh

**Offices:** Warner Century Plaza  
2145 E. Warner Road,  
Ste. 102 Tempe, AZ 85284

**(480) 966-0845**

Press Option 1 for your call to be directed  
We welcome your stories, photos — and ideas!  
Feel free to call with article suggestions. We accept manuscripts and photographs from area residents about topics of interest to our community.  
Sorry, we do not accept paid "advertorials."

### Member

Tempe Chamber of Commerce  
Chandler Chamber of Commerce

### CALL US TO LEARN HOW WE CAN HELP YOU PROMOTE YOUR TEMPE AND WEST CHANDLER ENDEAVORS

Articles appearing in this publication represent the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of Wrangler News or Newslink LLC. Acceptance of advertising does not constitute an endorsement of the described products or services. We reserve the right to reject advertising or other content that we feel does not meet the needs or interests of our readership. To place a vacation stop and for other delivery requests, send email to [editor@wranglernews.com](mailto:editor@wranglernews.com) or call (480) 966-0845, Option 1. Full, downloadable copies of recent issues, along with a searchable database of past articles and a complete Media Kit with rates & information, are available at [www.WranglerNews.com](http://www.WranglerNews.com).

Wrangler News is printed on partially recycled newsprint with ink made from 98 percent soy content

Copyright © 2023

# Choose Tempe Elementary Schools



## 3 Easy Steps to Enroll for 2024-2025!

- 1 Download an enrollment packet.
- 2 Gather child's birth certificate, immunization records, & proof of address.
- 3 Turn in completed packet at school of choice or enroll online!

Now  
Enrolling  
Grades  
K-8!

## We Offer:

- ★ Certified, passionate & caring teachers and staff
- ★ Free kinder screening
- ★ Nurturing, supportive environment
- ★ Before & afterschool care
- ★ Gifted & specialty programs
- ★ Free sports, music, clubs, activities & more!

Questions?  (480) 730-7406  [info@tempeschools.org](mailto:info@tempeschools.org)

## Empty Bowls fund-raiser returns for 22nd year

Tempe Community Action Agency and United Food Bank are collaborating again to present the 22nd annual Tempe Empty Bowls fundraiser, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 24.

The event will be held in the Community Center courtyard near the Tempe Public Library, at 3500 S. Rural Road.

This year's event will combine art and community action to help combat food insecurity in Arizona.

Arizonans can check out and purchase from hundreds of bowls on display, hear live music and sample soup, which is free with the purchase of a bowl.

The two agencies work with Tempe Union High School students, teachers and local artists, as well as participants from the Edna Vihel Arts Center, to create handcrafted, decorative clay bowls for display and purchase during the event.

Each bowl is said to represent the acknowledged hundreds of "empty" bowls in the community.

"This year's family-friendly fundraiser is designed to bring artists, emergency food providers, and neighbors together to make an impact on hunger in our community." Said Deborah Arteaga, CEO of Tempe Community Action Agency.

Proceeds will benefit the nonprofit Tempe Community Action Agency and United Food Bank.

This community tradition is reported to have gathered over 5,000 attendees in past years to achieve an annual fundraising goal of \$30,000.

"We are thrilled to once again partner on this event," said Jason Reed, CEO of United Food Bank.

"The number of Arizonans struggling with food insecurity has seen a massive increase over the years. This fundraiser will provide community members in need with reliable access to everyday meals."

The program traces its origins back to 1990, during which an impassioned Michigan High School arts teacher and student group sought a way to incorporate local, handmade art and resources to support a food drive to engage the community and amplify donor turnout.

The students used their skills in a class-wide project to create a bowl for a fundraising meal with a lasting impact.

Guests were served a simple meal of soup and bread and were invited to keep the bowl as a reminder of hunger in the world.

United Food Bank and Tempe

Community Action Agency will be celebrating their 22-year anniversary of community outreach, inviting participants to help combat local food insecurities.



**Be a legend.  
Insure your life.**

**Mary Contreras, Agent**  
2145 E Warner Road  
Tempe, AZ 85284  
Bus: 480-775-7788  
mary.contreras.gpdf@statefarm.com  
Hablamos Español

With the right life insurance, you can leave a legacy for your family. I'm here to help.  
**LET'S TALK TODAY.**



State Farm Life Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI)  
State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI)  
1708145 Bloomington, IL

# A COLLEGE EDUCATION AS unique as me

**Enroll Today! [mesacc.edu/me](http://mesacc.edu/me)**

The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) is an EEO/AA institution and an equal opportunity employer of protected veterans and individuals with disabilities. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or national origin. A lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in the career and technical education programs of the District. The Maricopa County Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. For Title IX/504 concerns, call the following number to reach the appointed coordinator: (480) 731-8499. For additional information, as well as a listing of all coordinators within the Maricopa College system, visit <http://www.maricopa.edu/non-discrimination>.



**MESA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MCC is a welcoming community that makes you feel like you belong. We embrace your unique experiences, offer support, and encourage you to explore new opportunities.

- ◆ In person, online and hybrid small class formats
- ◆ Transfer agreements with 40+ universities
- ◆ Industry career certifications
- ◆ Scholarships and assistance with paying for college
- ◆ Supportive instructors
- ◆ Real world project learning

## Locations & Classes Uniquely For You!

We help you fit college into your busy life with classes in the day and evening, on campus, online and hybrid – online/on campus.

**Southern and Dobson Campus**  
1833 West Southern Avenue  
Mesa, AZ 85202  
480-461-7000

**Red Mountain Campus**  
7110 East McKellips Road  
Mesa, AZ 85207  
480-654-7200

**Downtown Center**  
145 North Centennial Way  
Mesa, AZ 85201  
480-461-6300

**MCC Online**  
Anytime, Anywhere



# Begin your weight loss journey here.

From the moment you step in for your initial consultation to post-surgery support, our dedicated team at Dignity Health's Weight Loss Surgery Center is with you at every step of the way. Our mission? To guide you into a new beginning marked by improved health, vitality, and longevity. We're here to help you lose weight with dignity and jumpstart your journey to a better quality of life with improved health and sustained long-term success.

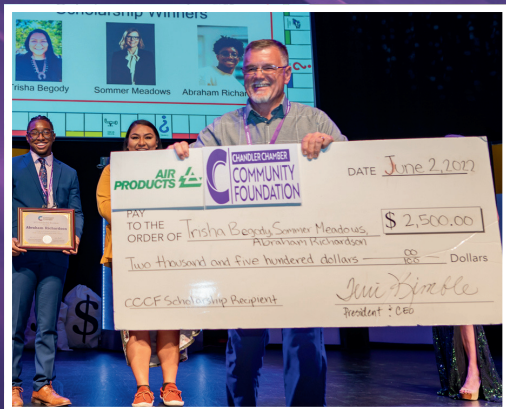


To learn how weight loss surgery can transform you and your life, visit [DignityAZWeightLoss.org](https://DignityAZWeightLoss.org) or call (480) 757-0292.

Hello humankindness®



# 37th Annual Chandler Chamber Community 2024 Awards



## NOMINATE

your favorite business,  
educator, veteran, or public  
servant. Scan to complete  
nomination applications.



Commentary . . .

## New year a good time to consider past, future

By Tempe Mayor Corey Woods



**J**anuary is a great time to reflect on the past and set goals for the future. During the last year, our City has thrived in important ways. I'd like to list a few of my favorite wins for the year.

Tempe ranks among the nation's best cities when it comes to meeting residents' expectations – our survey showed our satisfaction rate is 32% higher than the national average. That's among the top 10% in the nation.

Last month, we launched our Tempe Park Rangers program after City Council approved \$2.2 million to staff our parks seven days a week, 20 hours a day.

We hired 17 rangers to keep our recreation areas safe, and to make sure we deliver inclusive, welcoming spaces for everyone.

The most recent census of the City's homeless population shows we've reduced homelessness in Tempe by 30%. We are laser-focused on moving

people from the streets, from our parks and away from the river bottom, into immediate housing.

Our new 24/7 CARE & HOPE crisis number is averaging over 100 calls a week. Since last year, our Hope team has made more than 16,000 contacts. So far, this unique outreach model has helped more than 1,200 people get off the street.

We hosted one of the best Spring Training Baseball seasons in Cactus League history at Tempe Diablo Stadium. Nearly 110,000 fans watched baseball at Tempe Diablo Stadium this year – the best attendance in more than a decade.

We enrolled more than 150 of our brilliant 3- and 4-year-olds in Tempe PRE, our full day preschool. We doubled funding for Arts in Schools grants. We've increased the amount of housing for those in need, and expanded necessities like mental health services and job training.

We partnered with the Tempe Chamber to grow our Career Ready Tempe program, helping more than 30 students get paid summer internships with local businesses.

In 2023, we approved more than 3,500 housing units to help us gain more housing options and lower costs in our community. Because of our city's deep commitment to affordable housing, we received more than \$10 million from Maricopa County to bolster those efforts in 2024.

Our Hometown for All initiative continues to pay dividends. We're moving ahead to transform the old Food City site along Apache Boulevard and

Dorsey into the Apache Central Center. This mixed-use development will include 400 units of housing at multiple price points, a new grocery option, and the interactive public spaces residents have told us they want.

This year, we made Indigenous People's Day a paid city holiday. Since it opened 60 years ago, few sites in Tempe have meant as much to our live music scene or to small business as Danelle Plaza. We're working to rejuvenate this plaza with workforce and affordable housing, shops and restaurants – and we can do this while still keeping what people love most about Danelle Plaza – Yucca Tap Room, local art, and that welcoming, neighborhood feel.

We started the first makeover for Mill Avenue in more than 40 years. This \$22 million effort will help us create a downtown for everyone in our city – students, workers, seniors who want to live near the electricity of Mill, and families who come downtown to grab dessert at Sparky's Creamery. Already, the Mill Avenue bridge shines with new energy-efficient lighting. New murals and streetscapes have been completed, and new festoon lighting will soon be installed. Construction along Fifth Street from Farmer to College will begin in the next few months.

2024 promises to be another year of milestone opportunities for our city. Your involvement in the future of Tempe can only make our city a better place.

**START  
SMART  
START  
SMART  
START  
SMART**

 **CHANDLER-GILBERT  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**cgc.edu**

The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, ethnicity, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or marital status. A list of English language skills will not be a barrier to national origin, race, or ethnicity. For more information, please visit [www.maricopa.edu](http://www.maricopa.edu). This advertisement is not intended to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or marital status. For more information, please visit [www.maricopa.edu](http://www.maricopa.edu). This advertisement is not intended to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or marital status. For more information, please visit [www.maricopa.edu](http://www.maricopa.edu).



Share your  
input!

## TEMPE'S CHARACTER AREA 6 PLANNING PROCESS

Tempe kicks off the Character Area 6 (Southwest Tempe) planning process on January 24 and you're invited to participate! Character Area Plans are roadmaps to help community members get to a desired future for their neighborhoods.

### ATTEND THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, Jan 24. | Meeting details: [tempe.gov/CharacterAreas](https://tempe.gov/CharacterAreas)  
- BE A PART OF THE PROCESS -

#### January 2024 through Spring 2024

Help shape the draft plan through public meetings, surveys and staff presentations.

#### Early Summer 2024

Release draft plan and gather your feedback.

#### Fall 2024

Release of final draft plan for public review. Community members can provide feedback all the way to the adoption hearing.

#### Winter 2024

Development Review Commission hearing and present to City Council for adoption.

Learn more about Tempe's character areas, sign-up for project alerts and share your feedback at [tempe.gov/CharacterAreas](https://tempe.gov/CharacterAreas) or 480-350-8234.

COMPARTE SUS  
COMENTARIOS!

## PROCESO DE PLANIFICACIÓN PARA EL ÁREA DE CARÁCTER 6

Tempe inicia el proceso de planificación del Área de Carácter 6 (Suroeste de Tempe) el 24 de enero y estás invitado a participar! Estos planes son hojas de ruta para ayudar a la comunidad a llegar a un futuro deseado para sus vecindarios.

### ASISTA A LA PRIMERA REUNIÓN PÚBLICA

Miércoles, 24 de enero. | Detalles de la reunión: [tempe.gov/CharacterAreas](https://tempe.gov/CharacterAreas)  
- SEA PARTE DEL PROCESO -

#### Enero de 2024 a la primavera de 2024

Ayude a dar forma al borrador del plan a través de reuniones públicas, una encuesta en línea y viendo presentaciones del personal.

#### Principios del verano de 2024

Publique el borrador del plan y recopile sus comentarios.

#### Otoño de 2024

Publique el borrador final del plan. La comunidad puede dar comentarios hasta la audiencia de adopción.

#### Invierno 2024

Audiencia de la Comisión de Revisión del Desarrollo y presentación al Ayuntamiento para su adopción.

Obtenga más información sobre las áreas de carácter de Tempe, regístrese para recibir alertas del proyecto y comparte sus comentarios en [tempe.gov/CharacterAreas](https://tempe.gov/CharacterAreas) o 480-350-8234.

James Madison Preparatory School:

# NOW ENROLLING

[Madisonprep.org/info](https://Madisonprep.org/info)

Small School. Big Opportunities.



See what makes us different!

Small Class Size. Passionate Teachers.  
Administration That Listens. Students Who Succeed In Life!

College Prep, Rigorous Academics, Honors Classes, AP, SAT, & ACT Prep, College Planning, Self Reliance & Logic Classes

Art, Chess, Choir, Drumline, Orchestra, Ukulele, Yearbook, Rock Band, Drama, Academic Decathlon, Odyssey of the Mind

Sports: Football, Cheer, Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis, Wrestling, Soccer, Sand Volleyball, Baseball

James Madison Preparatory School  
6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, not for profit, public charter

5815 S. McClintock Dr., Tempe AZ 85283  
(480) 345-2306 | [madisonprep.org](https://madisonprep.org)

Information Nights:  
January 11 & 18 at 6:30pm  
Open House & Interest Night:

January 25 at 6:00pm  
Reserve your seat at [madisonprep.org/info](https://madisonprep.org/info)



# DASH<sup>®</sup> designs

The Ultimate Dash Cover!  
**FREE INSTALLATION!**

Custom Dash Covers Reduce Glare, Protect from Fading and Cracking

**SEAT<sup>®</sup>** The Ultimate  
**DESIGNS<sup>®</sup>**  
**CUSTOM SEATCOVERS**  
**FREE INSTALLATION\***

\*Some Rear Seat  
Cover Installations Extra



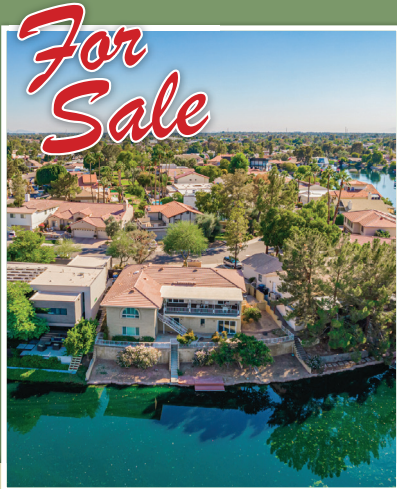
Protect Your Car's Seats from Fading, Wear & Tear, Spills, Kids, and Pets

Mention Promo Code **DASHMAN10WN** for 10% off your order!

**DASH  
DESIGNS<sup>®</sup>**  
CUSTOM FABRIC AUTO ACCESSORIES

**FACTORY OUTLET STORE**  
615 W Knox Rd. Tempe  
(480) 967-1675  
[www.DashDesigns.com](https://www.DashDesigns.com)

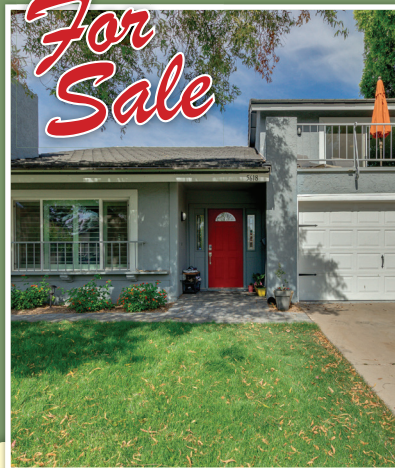
# YOU'LL LIVING IN THE LAKES!



*For Sale*

*Waterfront Home  
on The Island*

1017 E Sandpiper Dr • \$1,100,000  
4 Bed/3 Bath/3,485sqft



*For Sale*

*Beautiful Remodel*

5618 S Sailors Reef Rd • \$675,000  
4 Bed/2 Bath/2,364sqft



*Under Contract!*

*Waterfront Condo  
in Harbour Village*

5200 S Lakeshore Dr #233 \$535,000  
2 Bed/2 Bath/1831sqft



*Sold*

*Waterfront Home  
on West Lake*

971 E Driftwood Dr • \$680,000  
4 Bed/2.5 Bath/2,469sqft



*Sold*

*Gorgeous!*

1514 E Westwind Way • \$689,000  
4 Bed/2.5 Bath/2,316sqft



*Sold*

*Waterfront Townhouse  
in The Village Landing*

1114 E Leeward Lane • \$615,000  
2 Bed/2 Bath/1,212sqft



*Sold*

*Redesigned Home  
on East Lake*

1518 E South Shore Drive • \$760,000  
4 Bed/3.5 Bath/2,284sqft



*Sold*

*Waterfront Home  
on The Island*

1053 E Sandpiper Dr • \$1,150,000  
4 Bed/4.5 Bath/2,817sqft



THE LAKES AMENITIES - Swimming, Tennis, Pickleball, Racquetball,  
Fitness and More! HOA Dues Only \$117/month!

*The Lakes #1 Realtor! Thank you!*

Dan Birk • The Lakes Specialist - Lakes Resident since 2007  
Realty Executives / 602.369.1145 / dbirk@realtyexecutives.com





# SPORTS



The Corona del Sol Aztecs (8-6) held on for a commanding 58-43 victory over the Chandler Wolves. The Aztecs and Wolves exchanged baskets in the game's opening minutes, but the scrappy defense of Corona closed the door early for Chandler. Senior Crew Swearingen scored the first buckets for the Aztecs with back to back 3-pointers, fueling the fans and bench. Swearingen paced the Aztecs with 22 points, including six 3-pointers. He shot 53 percent from the field and eclipsed six steals. Senior Bo Dolinsek scored 12 points and led the team with eight rebounds. Corona stretched its lead in the opening quarter and maintained it through the remainder of the game, despite the Wolves' surge in the third quarter to pull with 12 points. This was the Aztecs' third consecutive win as they hit the midway point of the season.

—Wrangler News photos by Andrew Lwowski



Senior Crew Swearingen of the Aztecs drives the ball down the court, looking for an outlet in Corona's game over the Chandler Wolves. He led the team in points and steals en route to a blowout win on Tuesday.



Seniors Bo Dolinsek (left) and Jayson Covington (right) pick up No. 32 RJ Rucker after driving to the basket and picking up a foul in the first half over the Chandler Wolves.

# ROLL WITH IT!

PURCHASE 2 SOUP MIX & GET A 6-PACK OF ROLLS FREE!



1730 E Warner Rd  
@ McClintock  
480-777-1141  
[TempeGreatHarvest.com](http://TempeGreatHarvest.com)

## Feel Better Today!

Experience The Healing Power of Acupuncture

*"Excellent care. Excellent recovery. I have had no need for chiropractic service. I've had no surgeries. I've had no pain meds in 5 years. I have healing and recovery beyond my expectations. I've required no PT or other methods of injections or nerve burning practices since joining Yin Rising. Thank you for your expertise. The staff is amazing."*

- Google Review



Anna Lunaria,  
Ms.Ac. L.Ac.  
CMT CYT CHT

**\$10.00**  
Off First Visit  
with this ad



**Yin Rising**  
ACUPUNCTURE

30 years of experience, Specializing in relief from chronic pain with Orthopedic, Neurological and Sports Medicine Acupuncture.

[info@yinrising.com](mailto:info@yinrising.com)  
**(480) 206-6199**

6101 S Rural Rd Suite 112 Tempe, AZ 85284

# Sports Notebook . . . with Alex Zener

## Corona, Marcos athletes take fall sports awards



Alex Zener

The Tempe All-City fall sports awards banquet was held Dec. 11, with 23 Corona del Sol and eight Marcos de Niza athletes honored for their skills in golf, football, flag football, volleyball and swimming and diving.

Corona athletes dominated the golf category with senior **Brody Leid** and junior **Tyler Weihe** honored along with senior **Bellamaria Mantini**.

Leid and Weihe were the top Tempe Union High School District finishers in the Division I boys state golf championship, where their scores helped Corona's boys golf team take fourth place out of 12 teams. Both scored a total of 143 to tie for 12th place out of 70 golfers who qualified to play. Likewise, Mantini was the top finisher out of the Tempe Union high schools, coming in tied for 16th place with a total score of 160 in the 2023 Division I girls golf state championship.

In the football category, the Aztecs had three awardees in offense and two in the defense category.

Junior **Joel Guizar Taitano** was acknowledged for his offensive line play, while junior **Raiden Vines-Bright** was recognized for his receiver skills. Senior **Connor Ackerley** accepted the quarterback award.

Ackerley completed 65.2 percent of his passes, resulting in a 94.2 quarterback rating, which is considered a good high school placing, according to thatsportlife.com. In addition, he was the leading rusher with an average of 26.5 yards per game.

Ackerley amassed a total of 15 touchdown passes, nine of them to Vines-Bright, accumulating 2,761 passing yards or an average of 251 yards a game.

Wide receiver Vines-Bright, the Aztecs' leading receiver with a total of 1114 yards or an average of 111.4 yards a game, is ranked No. 2 in the AZ

Division 6A category for receiving yards.

On defense, junior **Keane Abril** was recognized for his linebacker play, and senior **Malcolm Flynn** as a punter.

Abril, in nine of the 11 games, impressed with 15 solo tackles and 33 assisted tackles for a total of 48 tackles or 5.3 tackles a game.

Flynn punted the ball 29 times, 11 of those within the opponent's 20-yard line, for a total of 1,231 yards or 42.4 yards a punt.

The Aztecs have two athletes recognized in the newest sport for girls to be sanctioned in Arizona high school, flag football.

Senior **Deven Kircher** was recognized on defense and freshman **Aaliya Van Heel** for her offensive skills.

Kircher was the leading tackler on the team with a total of 27 solo tackles in seven games or 3.9 tackles a game on average. Kircher also led the Aztecs in interceptions with a total of eight interceptions for an average of 1.1 interceptions per game.

Van Heel was the leading receiver on Corona's flag football team with a total of 61 receptions in 12 games for a total of 671 yards or 11 yards per reception.

Corona's girls volleyball team, which made it all the way to the semifinals before losing to the eventual champion, Perry, in the semifinals, had six out of the seven volleyball categories taken by Aztec athletes.

Senior **Julia Owens** and sophomore **Avery Lim** were both recognized for their skill at the setter position. Owens played in all 116 sets where she recorded 612 assists or 5.3 assists a set while Lim played in 115 sets where she had 525 assists or 4.6 assists a set.

On the receiving end of those sets were three Corona hitters who were also awarded: senior outside hitter **Maggie Beauer**, junior outside hitter **Alyssa Aguayo** and sophomore middle blocker **Hayden Conner**.

Beauer, headed to Pepperdine in the fall, played in 114 sets, recording 380 kills or 3.3 kills a set. In addition, she led the team in service aces with 59 along with leading the team in blocks with 32 solo blocks and 44 assisted blocks for a total of 76.

Aguayo, on the other hand, led the team in kills at 511 or 4.4 kills per set, as well as being second on the team in total blocks, with 70.



Aztec volleyball players honored at Tempe All City Banquet, accompanied by Coach Ben Maxfield. — Photo contributed by Angelica Mejia

Conner, in just her first year playing varsity, had the highest hitting percentage, 0.306.. She also had 2.6 kills a set and 66 blocks.

Sophomore **Erin Clark** was recognized for her skills at the libero position. She led the team in digs, with 545 or 4.7 a set.

Additionally, Clark was second on the team in service aces with 49.

Altogether, four members of Corona's swim and dive team were selected to receive awards.

Sophomore **Dylan Rhodes** was selected for her ability to compete in the 100-yard backstroke. Rhodes placed 12th out of 32 swimmers at the 2023 Division I state championship meet in the backstroke and was part of Corona's 200-yard medley relay team with freshman **Tila Tometich**, sophomore **Paige Dancz** and senior **Brea Zandt**, who took ninth place out of 24 teams.

Freshman **Katherine Saenz** was honored for her diving ability. She was the top finisher among the other Tempe Union high school divers at the 2023 state championship meet in the one-meter diving event.

Junior **Yuichiro Miyake** was recognized by the Tempe All-City members for his swimming abilities in the 100-meter breaststroke.

Miyake probably never realized when he came to Corona as a foreign exchange student from Japan that he would qualify to swim in a Division I state championship meet. But he did when he qualified in the 100-yard breast-stroke, where he came in 18th out of 32 swimmers.



Miyake also swam the breaststroke leg of the 200-yard medley relay, taking sixth place with Aztec teammates senior **Tristen Lo**, junior **Sutton Landen** and sophomore **Ezra Friez** that came in sixth out of 24 other teams.

In addition, Miyake swam the anchor leg as part of Corona's 200-yard freestyle relay that came in ninth with teammates Lo, sophomore **Josh Shepherd** and freshman **Tran Landen**.

Senior **Gavin Buttram** was recognized for his one-meter diving accomplishments.

Marcos de Niza had four football players and two flag football players acknowledged for their outstanding play in each of these sports.

For his outstanding play on the offensive line, senior **Adan Estrada** was recognized by the Tempe All-City Association along with senior **Michael Turner** for his play on the defensive line.

Estrada, a 6-ft-1 offensive lineman, started in all 10 games of the 2023 season.

Turner led the team in tackles with an outstanding 51 solo tackles and 24 assisted tackles for a total of 75 tackles, playing in 10 games for an amazing 7.5 tackles per game. He also led the team with five quarterback sacks and 11 quarterback hurries.

Junior **Jullien Jones** was recognized for the

linebacker position and senior **Jamari Johnson** for defensive back.

Jones was right behind Turner with 73 total tackles including 40 solo and 33 assisted tackles. His statistics include two interceptions with an average runback of 18.5 yards per interception. Jones caused three fumbles and recovered one.

Johnson should be known as an interception magnet as he recorded five interceptions in 10 games amassing a return yardage of 254 yards or an average of over 50 yards per interception.

In addition, Johnson had 24 solo and 11 assisted tackles for a total of 35 tackles.

In the new category of girls flag football, sophomore **Nevaeh Valenzuela** was recognized for her defensive skills, while sophomore **Kylie Clinton** received an award for her offensive play.

Valenzuela played in all 10 games, accumulating 27 solo tackles, or 2.7 tackles per game. In addition, she intercepted the ball twice. When playing offense, Clinton was the touchdown leader on the team with three receiving touchdowns and one rushing touchdown. She caught the ball five times for a total of 74 yards and carried the ball 13 times for 106 yards or a total of 180 offensive yards.

The Padres' senior **Nayia Laus** and freshman

**Lian Pan**, who won the 2023 AIA Badminton Division II Doubles Championship, were chosen to receive awards for the doubles team category by the Tempe All-City Association.

Laus and Pan, ranked No. 1 in DII doubles, had won all of their matches heading into the state championship helping the Padres team amass a 10-3 division record which they carried over to their doubles play in the state tournament.

Pan and Laux readily defeated five other DII teams to win the championship starting in the first round with a team from Sunrise Mountain who they easily put away 21-10, 21-9.

They went on to effortlessly defeat a team from Casteel, 21-9/21-8, and a team from Washington in the quarterfinals, 21-11/21-15.

In the semifinals, Pan and Laux ran into a bit more competition when they defeated the No. 5 ranked team from Ironwood, 21-19/21-17 and then went on to defeat the No.2 seeded team from Ironwood in the finals, 2/17, 21/13, to be crowned the state champions.

The Padres team of Pan, Laux and seniors **Aaliyah Sordia**, **Shaylee Luna**, **Katharine Smas** and **Kalina Copado** along with junior **Putu Widiyanti** qualified for the state tournament as the No. 8 seed but lost in a hard-fought battle to the No. 9 seed **Deer Valley**, 5-4, in the first round.

**BODY20<sup>®</sup>**  
**TEMPE**

**BOOK A FREE  
SESSION**

**20-MINUTE SESSIONS.  
LIFE-CHANGING RESULTS.**

ONE-ON-ONE TRAINING.  
LOW IMPACT. LOW STRAIN.  
INCREASE STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE.  
REDUCE FAT AND CELLULITE.  
ENHANCE MUSCLE DEFINITION.  
IMPROVE POSTURE.  
RELIEVE LOWER BACK PAIN.  
MINIMAL TIME. MAXIMUM RESULTS.

7650 South McClintock Drive  
Suite 101  
Tempe, AZ 85284  
480-576-8182  
[body20.com/tempe](http://body20.com/tempe)

**True Value<sup>®</sup>**

**FS 23" Col Gas  
Fire Pit**

Four Seasons Courtyard. 23" column gas fire pit with a simple pillar silhouette design. It is metal with a black  
108113

**\$249**

Reg 366.00  
Sale Ends 00/00/00

**FS LP Gas  
Fire Pit**

Four Seasons, LP Gas Outdoor Fire Pit Column with Honeycomb Pattern Stone Look. Dimensions are 11.8" D x  
108364

**\$159**

Reg 199  
Sale Ends 00/00/00



**MCKAY'S TRUE VALUE HARDWARE**

4939 W. RAY RD CHANDLER, AZ 85226

**(480) 686-8064**

Historic Mill Avenue

**NEXT LEVEL**

While many places are covered in snow, January comes alive in Downtown Tempe. **In fact, it blooms.**

**Tempe Blooms****JAN. 27 AND 28**

Check out huge, vibrant floral sculptures and displays throughout Downtown in storefronts, hotel entrances and well, everywhere!



Watch as muralists paint stunning works of art. Shop for exquisite bouquets, plants, and other botanical treasures at the flower market. Get hands-on at an interactive floral workshop. There will even be floral-inspired drinks, apps and more to complete your sensory experience.

**Take a hike**

"A" Mountain is a popular hike in Downtown Tempe frequented by many. Sunrise or sunset, it's one of the best views in Arizona. Take the quick, yet steep trek up to the top – then get some hydration at one of our local restaurants.

**Get your groove on**

Tempe's music roots run deep. So naturally, there are several venues in downtown that bring the hottest acts to concert stages and turntables throughout the week. Low Key Piano Bar, Marquee Theatre, Sunbar and Varsity Tavern are among the hottest spots for live music, DJs and more. Tempe Center for the Arts and ASU Gammage offer additional experiences.

**Make your plans: [tempe.gov/MillAvenue](https://tempe.gov/MillAvenue)**

# A PORTRAIT OF A KYRENE KID

ADAPTABLE LEARNER

SELF-ADVOCATE

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR

COMMUNICATOR

CRITICAL THINKER

PROBLEM SOLVER

COLLABORATOR

## Get ready for the future with a Kyrene Education.

Kyrene kids develop the skills needed for success from preschool to 8th grade and on to high school, career and beyond. Kyrene School District is known for high academic achievement, with schools consistently outperforming peer districts and charter schools. Kyrene offers a wide variety of choice opportunities.

**Enrollment for Preschool to 8th Grade begins January 9**

[kyrene.org/kyrenekids](https://kyrene.org/kyrenekids) or call 480-541-1000

KYRENE KIDS ARE READY FOR THE FUTURE

 **KyreneSchoolDistrict**

## Annual competition open for artists, writers through Feb. 20

**A**spirational writers and artists are being invited to show off their talents in the 2024 Tempe Writing Contest.

Writers can submit original work for a chance to be published in this year's Tempe Writes: An Anthology.

Artists also can submit original designs for a cover design contest.

Submissions will be accepted Jan. 8 through Feb. 20.

There are three writing genres from which to choose—fiction, poetry or creative nonfiction like memoirs or essays.

Writers can enter one of three categories: high school student, college student or adult.

The contest is open to Tempe residents, Tempe Public Library cardholders, Phoenix-area residents, high school students and college students.

Writers can prepare their

submissions using free resources from the Tempe Public Library, such as personal consultations with the library's writer-in-residence, writing workshops, and the Pen to Paper resources for writers newsletter. Artists and writers can submit their work at [tempepubliclibrary.gov/WritingContest](http://tempepubliclibrary.gov/WritingContest) Jan. 8 through Feb. 20.

All work entered must use the designated theme of "Celebration" to qualify. Theme areas focus on how to honor personal triumphs, losses, memories and accomplishments.

Entries are judged by members of ASU's creative writing community. Contest winners will be published in Tempe Writes: An Anthology, and receive a cash prize.

The contest is a collaboration between Tempe Public Library, ASU and Friends of the Tempe Public Library.

## NOW LEASING IN LAKESHORE VILLAGE

Lakeshore Village is a unique office complex located in the heart of The Lakes community in Tempe. Units range in size from 450 - 2,000+ square feet. Multiple leasing options available, including month to month. Please contact Denise for more information:

**EMAIL: [LAKESHORE5400@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAKESHORE5400@GMAIL.COM)**

**CALL: 602-456-6289**



# EARN MORE. DRIVE FOR KYRENE. COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS



### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

AZ State Retirement, Medical, Dental, Vision,  
Paid Holidays, Flexible Schedules

**THE FUTURE  
IS BRIGHT...  
YELLOW!**

 **Kyrene School District**  
[www.kyrene.org](http://www.kyrene.org) | 480-541-1000



## Continued from Page 5

**September 2023:** Tempe City Council passed a resolution to authorize the City to enter into a development agreement with Desert Viking and Guina Affiliated Development

**November 2023:** A Master Development and Disposition Agreement is filed. This provides expectations for both the city of Tempe and the developers that must be adhered to move forward with a project. As shown on the map above, green properties are currently participating in the revitalization. Red are not.

## Moving forward

**Today:** The city of Tempe, Guina Affiliated Development and Desert Viking own nearly all of Danelle Plaza. Developers could propose a plan that involves only the land they own and city property – which is all but about one acre of the plaza. Or they could continue to negotiate with the remaining landowners.

**Future:** It will take time for the development team to finalize the

development's boundaries and create its plans for the space. Once those boundaries are finalized, residents can expect to see plans for a proposed project.

They will be able to attend community meetings and public hearings and be involved in the future of Danelle Plaza.

The property has several vacancies and requires rejuvenation. While there have been other efforts to redevelop Danelle Plaza over the last decades, none has come as far as the current opportunity with Guina Affiliated Development and Desert Viking, according to officials.

This team is said to have significant experience in re-envisioning and redeveloping historic properties.

"Danelle Plaza has been a critical part of our local creative scene for decades and I'm still hopeful we can find an outcome that respects the existing community value and potential of this special place," said resident Rob Moore, who coordinates

The Danelle Project website to build awareness about the cultural history of the plaza. Check it out at [thedanelleproject.org](http://thedanelleproject.org).

# LIFE'S BETTER WHEN YOU'RE PROTECTED UNDER OUR ROOF.

Save up to 23% when you bundle auto and home\*  
Call to get a quote and start saving today.



**Keith Utter, Agent**  
Keith Utter Agency PLLC  
2033 E Warner Rd Ste 101  
Tempe, AZ 85284-3417  
(480) 831-8668  
[kutter@amfam.com](mailto:kutter@amfam.com)



\*Customers who bundle auto and home insurance policies may save up to 23% on both policies together (as of July 2022). Discounts may vary by state, property, policy form and company underwriting the auto and/or home policy. Discounts may not apply to all coverages on an auto or home policy.

American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53783  
©2023 21714 - 4/23 - 18929310

## BlackBerry Café

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

SERVING THE VALLEY'S BEST BREAKFAST AND LUNCH



OPEN 7AM TO 2PM DAILY

2090 N. Dobson Rd  
Chandler, AZ. 85224

ESPORTA  
FITNESS

N. DOBSON RD

W. WARNER RD

N

**480.454.3917**

**BLACKBERRYCAFEAZ.COM**

**\$5 OFF  
BREAKFAST**

Offer valid Mon-Fri. Must present coupon. Not valid with other offers. One coupon per table. Exp. 1/30/24

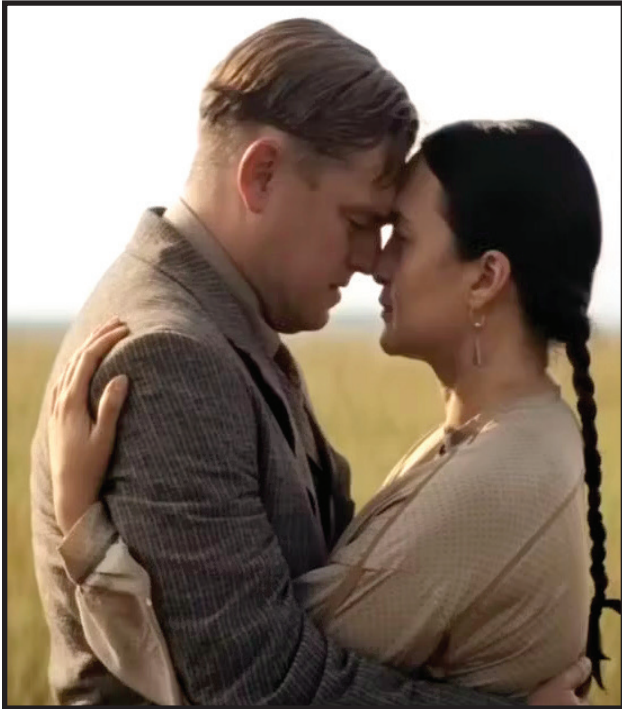
of with \$30  
or more with the  
purchase of  
2 beverages

**\$5 OFF  
LUNCH**

Offer valid Mon-Fri. Must present coupon. Not valid with other offers. One coupon per table. Exp. 1/30/24

of with \$30  
or more with the  
purchase of  
2 beverages

# DIVERSIONS



Killers of the Flower Moon

## Our film guru shares his 2023 Top 10 picks

By M.V. Moorhead



**B**efore rattling off a list of the Top 10 movies for the year, I should make a disclaimer: As with other years, this list is based on incomplete information. There are still a few significant movies I haven't yet seen.

But here, based on what I have seen and how I'm feeling at this writing, is my current Top 10 List for 2023:

### Killers of the Flower Moon

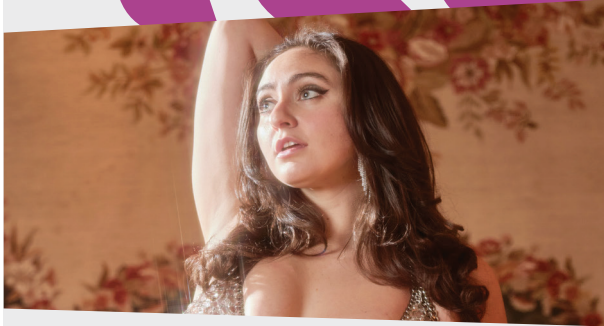
Martin Scorsese's epic yet intimate nightmare about the Osage murders in Oklahoma in the 1920s is a masterpiece; one of his best works and probably the best movie of the year.

**Oppenheimer** Half of the midyear smash duo, this chronicle of the atom smasher of White Sands is a dazzling directorial performance by Christopher

— Continued on Page 31

# tcca

something  
for everyone.



**CATHERINE COHEN**  
Comedy  
JANUARY 19



**48 LIVE: J. WHITE**  
Smooth Jazz  
JANUARY 25



**TIME FOR THREE**  
Classical Americana  
JANUARY 27



**SMALL ISLAND BIG SONG**  
Indigenous Arts  
FEBRUARY 10



**48 LIVE: Beth Lederman  
And Jazz Con Alma**  
Jazz  
FEBRUARY 15

GET  
YOUR  
TICKETS



Tempe Center for the Arts



480.  
350.  
2882

TEMPE  
CENTER  
FOR THE  
ARTS  
.COM

# IN REVIEW: A LOOK AT THE BEST SHOTS FROM EVERY MONTH

A 2023 PICTURE ANTHOLOGY BY WRANGLER NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER ANDREW LWOWSKI



JANUARY — JUMP INTO THE NEW YEAR AND START OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT WITH MILL AVENUE'S STREET FAIR



MARCH — ENJOY ARIZONA'S BIGGEST CARNIVAL AND FLIGHTLESS BIRDS



FEBRUARY — ASU GRAD JON RAHM IS THE DRAW OF THE PHOENIX OPEN



APRIL — TAKE A RIDE WITH THE EASTER BUNNY OR OUR CITY OFFICIALS



MAY — TOSS YOUR CAPS, IT'S TIME FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER! CONGRATS, GRADUATES!



JULY— THE HOTTEST MONTH DESERVES A COOL, TASTY TREAT



JUNE — BRING HOME A FURRY NEW FAMILY MEMBER FROM LOST OUR HOME PET RESCUE





AUGUST — SCHOOL SECURITY PREPARED AS STUDENTS RETURN TO CLASS



SEPTEMBER — CELEBRATING SUCCESS ON THE GRIDIRON FOR THE AZTECS



DECEMBER — ENJOY WINTER WONDERLAND, MINUS THE SNOW



OCTOBER— TRICK OR TREAT AND MEET YOUR FAVORITE HALLOWEEN CHARACTERS



NOVEMBER — CDS AZTECS BUILD THE NEXT GREAT GENERATION



# LOOKING FOR A REAL ESTATE AGENT?

CALL RANDI GARCIA,  
ASSOCIATE BROKER

THE NEWNEST GROUP AT HOMESMART

Experienced Tempe/Chandler REALTOR®  
Since 2006!

---

Here to help you buy or sell your home  
& navigate current market trends.

Schedule your appointment to get  
a complimentary market evaluation.



602.319.8685



@lifeinmynest



[www.newnest.net](http://www.newnest.net)

HomeSmart

8388 E Hartford Dr #100

Scottsdale, AZ 85255



MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE  
MLS



  
newnestgroup

## Diversity awards exemplify spirit of MLK Day

Tempe's MLK Diversity Awards pays tribute to those who demonstrate a commitment to diversity and inclusion, and exemplify the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This year's program honored people and organizations, including students, who work to make Dr. King's dream a reality.

The event took place Jan. 8 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel.

Winners included:

**Lisa Groom** — Groom is a founding member and president of the Tempe Black Employee Alliance, the first Black employee group in the history of Arizona government.

**HEKIU** — Meaning past in the O'odham language, it is a local Indigenous artist continuum aiming to create accessibility and visibility for many Indigenous voices.

**Cut To A T Barbershop, Tanya B. Holloway** — Holloway is a local business owner who has, for more than 20 years, exemplified Dr. King's spirit through inclusion, access, and persistence.

**Laurie Dadd** — Dadd is a math teacher at Tempe High School and a sponsor for the Peer Solutions club on campus. She works to foster safe spaces for her students.

**Robert Trujillo** — Trujillo has held the role of a Peer Leader through Peer Solutions club for two years. He has leveraged his influence to encourage connection within his community in the Town of Guadalupe and Indigenous community members.



Winners of this year's MLK Diversity award

s. — Photo courtesy city of Tempe



# CHANDLER AIRPORT DAY

1948-2023  
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF CHD

**Saturday, Jan. 20**  
**8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**2380 S. Stinson Way**

## Celebrate 75 years of aviation at CHD's current location

- Aircraft and helicopter displays
- Meet Airport staff
- Learning stations
- Chandler Fire and Police displays
- Food trucks and more



[chandleraz.gov/AirportDay](http://chandleraz.gov/AirportDay)





# Your Business Advantage

*We serve as the voice of business, a catalyst for economic growth, and a champion for a strong community.*



## Mayor Corey Woods Celebrated City Achievements with the Tempe Business Community



Tempe Mayor Corey Woods delivered his fourth State of the City Address to an audience of nearly 700 at the Omni Tempe Hotel at ASU, marking the 25th anniversary of the event hosted by the Tempe Chamber of Commerce. The speech focused on Tempe's strength as a city, its leadership on national issues, and future opportunities. Mayor Woods highlighted the city's thriving performance, with Tempe ranking among the nation's best in meeting residents' expectations, boasting an 80% satisfaction rate with city services, which is 32% higher than the national average and places it in the top 10% of surveyed cities in America.

Key achievements in the address include a 30% reduction in homelessness through city services, increased funding for arts and early education programs, the addition of 3,500 new housing units, and a total of 13,500 units either recently opened or under review. The upcoming opening of the Real Time Operations Center in February for

enhanced public safety and a November bond initiative aimed at improving Tempe's streets were also highlighted as significant milestones. *(Pictured: President & CEO Colin Diaz (left) and Mayor Corey Woods (right) photo by Pablo Robles, Media Compass*

## 2024 Economic Outlook to Provide Glimpse of the Economic future of the East Valley

The 2024 Economic Outlook on January 26th at Grace Community Church will give business leaders and members of the community a look into the economic future of Arizona and the East Valley. Packed with thought-provoking information and data you won't find elsewhere, be the first to get updates on Tempe's current and future projects.



Attending will help guide your decision-making with exclusive insights prompting the ability to make informed decisions for the year. Our experts will provide current information and analysis on the business climate, economic performance, emerging trends and attitudes towards future growth.

Panels & presentations will cover workforce development, local and regional economic development and panel discussions on the hospitality & tourism industry as well as access to capital and funding trends. Save the date, registration opens Friday, December 15th at [www.tempechamber.org](http://www.tempechamber.org) - contact [david@tempechamber.org](mailto:david@tempechamber.org) for sponsorship opportunities.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TEMPE CHAMBER: [WWW.TEMPECHAMBER.ORG](http://WWW.TEMPECHAMBER.ORG)**

# More Than A Makeover

**BAREFOOT POOLS** can transform your backyard into a **LUXURIOUS OASIS**



Whether you're looking for a sleek, modern design or a more traditional look, we have the expertise and creativity to make your dream outdoor environment a reality.

Clean-up • Repairs • Acid Wash • Tile Work  
Resurfacing • Equipment Repair and Installation

 **BAREFOOT  
POOLS**

[Barefootpoolman.com](http://Barefootpoolman.com)

**602-546-POOL**

(7665)

Six candidates have submitted sufficient signature petitions and their nomination papers for the March 12, 2024, election ballot for the Mayoral seat and three City Council seats

### MAYORAL CANDIDATE

Corey Woods

### CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Nikki Amberg

Doreen Garlid

Randy Keating

David Lucier

Hugo Tapia



**Tempe City Council Candidate Forums**

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARIZONA  
**6 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 16**  
**Tempe History Museum**  
*North Tempe Neighborhood Association & League of Women Voters*

**TC**  
**TEMPE CHAMBER**  
 of COMMERCE  
**6 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 17**  
**Tempe Center for the Arts**  
*Tempe Chamber of Commerce*

**SOUTH TEMPE**  
 STYLE  
 A COMMUNITY GATHERING SINCE 1987  
**6 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 30**  
**Arizona Community Church**  
*South Tempe Style*

**KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL**  
**6 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7**  
**Tempe History Museum**  
*Kiwanis Club of Tempe*

Elected candidates will be sworn in to serve four-year terms in July 2024.

Register to vote by Feb. 12 for the March 12 election. Ballots will be mailed to all registered Tempe voters beginning Feb. 14.

Check your voter registration status at [BeBallotReady.Vote](https://BeBallotReady.Vote). Register to vote through the Maricopa County Elections Department at 602-506-1511

the highest number of votes, they are declared elected on March 12. Therefore, the March 12 Primary Election would replace the General Election, foregoing the need for one on May 21. Information about the election can be found at [tempe.gov/election](https://tempe.gov/election). Voters also can call the City Clerk's Office at 480-350-8242 or email [clerk@tempe.gov](mailto:clerk@tempe.gov).

or at [maricopa.vote](https://maricopa.vote).

According to the Tempe City Charter, Section 7.01, the Primary Election is held to nominate or elect candidates. A Regular (General) Election may be held on May 21, if necessary. If one Mayoral candidate and three Council candidates receive

Continued from Page 21

Nolan, fracturing his narrative yet keeping us focused. Possibly a hair overlong and anticlimactic, it's riveting at its best.

**Barbie** The other half of "Barbenheimer." Greta Gerwig's brightly-colored take on the Mattel icon is crazy, imaginative and deeply goofy, yet in its own way no less serious in its ambitions. Margot Robbie is improbably touching in the title role.

**American Fiction** Jeffrey Wright is quietly marvelous as an African-American novelist who so resents being expected to pander to white ideas about the black experience that he does so with a vengeance, and becomes a smash. Jefferson Cord's adaptation of the Percival Everett novel Erasure is both rueful and hilarious, often at the same time, and beautifully acted by Sterling K. Brown, Tracee Ellis Ross, Leslie Uggams, Myra Lucretia Taylor, Issa Rae, Miriam Shor and the criminally underutilized Erika Alexander.

**Maestro** It's not so much a biopic in the usual sense as a portrait of the marriage of Leonard Bernstein and Felicia Montealegre. Bradley Cooper is luminous as Bernstein, and his reserved directorial style balances Bernstein's grand self-dramatizing manner beautifully. Yet it's Carey Mulligan's Felicia who emerges as the movie's guiding spirit.



Oppenheimer

**Godzilla Minus One** The Lizard King stands in for postwar despondency in this one-off, one-of-a-kind monster spectacle that's also a surprisingly moving portrait of a nation coming to terms with utter defeat, and gradually starting to rise from its own ruins.

**Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret** Judy Blume's classic for adolescent girls was a long time coming to the screen, but under the direction of Kathleen Fremon Craig it struck just the right note; sweet and lighthearted.

**Air** Sneakers have become such a cultural

touchstone that it's probably inevitable that we'd get an origin story for athletic footwear. Ben Affleck's account of the development of the Air Jordan line and the issues around it is absorbing and amusing.

**The Holdovers** Alexander Payne's '70s-period comedy, set at a private school in Massachusetts, is essentially a vehicle for the performances of Paul Giamatti as a splenetic ancient history teacher, Da'Vine Joy Randolph as a bereaved cafeteria manager and Dominic Sessa as the kid they're stuck with for the holidays. But what performances they are.

**Saltburn** After her stunning debut with Promising Young Woman, Emerald Fennel's second feature, a neo-gothic take on class, is by comparison a little overwrought and sour. But it's no less brilliant, and it comes together joltingly at the end.

A few others that I found to be worth my time:

**The Blackening, A Haunting in Venice, Dumb Money, Jules, Theater Camp, Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny, Thanksgiving, Somewhere in Queens, Cocaine Bear, Renfield, Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves, Napoleon and The Boys in the Boat.**

A superb 2024 to us all!

**The Nick Bastian Team**  
Your Real Estate Experts

**REALTY EXECUTIVES**

## South Tempe Candidate Forum

Join us for the South Tempe City Council Candidate Forum!  
Meet the candidates and have an opportunity to ask questions about issues that matter to OUR community.

This is the only forum scheduled in South Tempe!

Monday, January 30

6 - 8 PM

Arizona Community Church: 9325 S. Rural Road, Tempe, 85284

**SOUTH TEMPE**  
— S T Y L E —

Hosted by the South Tempe Style Community Facebook Group

Get more details at [NickBastian.com/Candidate-Forum](https://www.NickBastian.com/Candidate-Forum)



Knowledgeable.  
Trustworthy.  
Professional.  
Experienced.

Work with a Top Producer  
for Realty Executives  
who is a community expert.

Nick has over 30 years  
experience helping buyers  
and sellers in the area.



[KyreneCorridorHomes.com](https://www.KyreneCorridorHomes.com) 602-803-6425

# Your Home Sold Guaranteed or Carol will Buy It!

## Your Home Selling Experts

**Under Contract - \$1,895,000**  
**Trovita / Gated Community**



**For Sale - \$2,400,000**  
**Buena Vista Ranchos**



## 4 BIG REASONS TO CALL CAROL & VIKKI

1. We Sell Homes for More Money
2. Your Home is More Likely to Sell
3. We Sell Homes Faster
4. Your Home may already be Sold with Our Many Buyers & Cash Offers

Sell your home hassle-free with confidence, confidentiality and while offering you Top Dollar and access to our design team



Carol  
Royse

Vikki  
Middlebrook

Home Selling Experts  
and Radio Hosts

**CarolRoyse.com**  
**480-776-5231**



Scan with Your Phone for a message from Carol Royse

    @carolroyseteam



\*Terms Apply



**YOURHOMESOLD**  
GUARANTEED REALTY™

Our Name is Our Promise