

e.gov/geeks

APRIL 6-19, 2024 | VOL 34, NO 777
Home delivery & online for 30+ years



WRANGLER NEWS



Science, technology, exhibits and just plain fun awaited the throng that showed up for Geeks Night Out | Details & more Wrangler News photos starting on Pg. 10

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

TRUCK SEASON

UP TO

\$14,000 OFF*

2023 Silverado 1500 Crew Cab



Together let's drive™

UP TO **\$9,000 OFF***
2024 SILVERADO 1500 CREW CAB

PLUS **\$2,250**
TRADE ASSIST*

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



1150 N. 54th St., Chandler
480-735-0399 • FreewayChevy.com

*Up to \$14,000 Off new, unused 2023 Silverado 1500 Crew Cab models from dealer inventory. Up to \$9,000 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. Restrictions may apply. May not be combined with other offers. See dealer for details. Prices are plus tax, title, lic and dealer doc fees. Offers may not be combined. Photos are for illustration purposes only. Dealer not responsible for typographical errors.

SCAN FOR
SPECIAL
OFFERS





PAGE 3

HELLO, NEIGHBOR :-)
WELCOME TO OUR LATEST BI-WEEKLY ISSUE
(USE THE QR CODE BELOW FOR DAILY UPDATES)



Writer's son Henry says West Chandler racing school has filled his longtime desire: A need for speed.

Navigating the future (hold your breath til we arrive)

So. Tempe teen revs up driving skills while connecting to a community

Story & photos by Barbi Walker-Walsh

Watching your child chase a dream is exhilarating, but when that dream involves high speeds and negotiating a 15-turn race track, it's also nerve-racking.

Those moments of gripping the armrest and mashing on a non-existent brake in the passenger side floorboard come flooding back.

Only today, my now 17-year-old is clocking nearly 100 mph around a racetrack with his

classmates in the Advanced Teen Driving course at Radford's Racing School at Firebird Motorsports Park in West Chandler.

It's a thrilling ride for both kid and parent. The sun-drenched stretches of Firebird aren't just home to the roar of engines—they're the pulse of a community nurturing the next generation of drivers.

Among them is Corona del High School student Henry Walker, who recently completed Radford's program. It wasn't just his dream—it reignited his love for racing and connected him to a new community of like-minded people. And it's more

than just speed; it's a community of gearheads.

Radford's teen driving course is a rigorous program designed to equip young drivers with skills beyond the racetrack.

From mastering vehicle control and understanding how to handle their car if it goes into a skid to understanding the physics of driving, it offers a comprehensive education far exceeding standard driver's education.



— See next page

Visit WRANGLERNEWS.COM for updated news, photos and videos

– From preceding page

Most importantly, it emphasizes safety, ensuring your teen is not just skilled but responsible behind the wheel. From a parent's perspective, it comes down to building confidence and trust. "Mainly eye placement, braking skills and how to get out of a skid," Henry said, are the skills he learned at Radford designed to make him a safer driver.

Watching Henry navigate the track's twists and turns was heart-stopping at times, but seeing his newfound confidence behind the wheel after the course filled me with pride and trust. His respect for the car and the road had noticeably grown. Experts at Radford point out that no driver on the road benefits more from proper training than those in their teens. Their curriculum focuses on the fundamentals of safe, skilled and conscientious driving. It's more than racing; it's about a supportive community fostering invaluable lessons that help build confidence that aims at saving lives.

Casey Buckman, Firebird's track manager, provided valuable insights into the collaboration with Radford.

"It's about more than just driving," Buckman said. "It's about building a community and a safe environment where teens can explore their limits and learn the responsibility that comes with driving." One of the major concerns in Phoenix for the racing community, Buckman said, was the uptick in street racing if Firebird Raceway was to go away. Now that Firebird Motorsports is here to stay, Buckman said, we can make sure they have a safe place to race their cars. They even created the Jr. Street class, where drivers ages 13-17 are allowed to compete in street vehicles with a guardian or parent riding in the passenger seat. Fostering relationships and imparting the importance of having a safe environment for drivers, families and the community is paramount to everyone at Firebird, Buckman said. "We take it very seriously."

Connecting the community through history also matters. The historic raceway also shares a generation of love for the sport and a connection to the community that Firebird brought. Buckman is honored to carry on and share the legacy with others.

Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park, once slated to close, now stands strong. With community support, it carries on Firebird International Raceway's legacy. The world-class facility offers three road-course circuits, acres of pavement for



autocross and skidpad use, a 1/4-mile NHRA Drag Strip, drag boat racing, off-road truck racing and more. Led by Buckman and business administrator Connie Bopp, they bring a combined experience of over 50 years in the industry.

"As someone who grew up going to events at the facility when it was called Firebird, I am excited to be honoring the history of the past 40 years and look forward to adding to the legacy for years to come," said Buckman. "I'm such a history nerd," Buckman added when it comes to his deep connection to the sport and raceway. Now, in an ode to its history and former glory days as Firebird International Raceway, it was renamed Firebird Motorsports Park. Family, passion and the future of racing fuel Buckman.

His deep connection to the sport and raceway is evident. "The respect I have for Charlie Allen—he basically grew this with his bare hands. I love every aspect of this," he said. Allen, one of the first people Buckman called when bringing back Firebird, played a pivotal role in preserving the raceway's history. Buckman's family ties run deep, too; his dad and uncle were IndyCar drivers, and his mother worked at Firebird, eventually becoming VP under Allen. He said it's a great way for him and his mom to bond.

As Firebird Motorsports Park diversifies, engaging the community with car shows, DJs, and live entertainment, it's not just about racing—it's

an opportunity to bond with family. For Buckman, it's generational—a love and involvement in racing passed down. Witnessing this intergenerational bond is heartwarming. It's not uncommon at Firebird—many families connect over their love for racing. As I explored the grounds, I overheard staff discussing bringing family members to experience the track, a testament to the sport's unifying power.

Even 25-year-old mechanic Marques Jacobs got his mom and sister hooked. At first, his mom was worried about him driving and racing cars. But not anymore—not after he brought her and his sister out to take the race course training. Now they're crazy about it, too.

Beyond the finish line, it comes down to instilling safety, honing skills and inspiring dreams. Programs like Radford's extend far beyond individual participants. They contribute to the community's safety and well-being by fostering responsible drivers. The course ignites a passion for motorsports in teens, introducing them to the discipline, dedication and exhilaration it demands. It also serves as a stepping stone for teens interested in pursuing a future in motorsports, offering a taste of the thrill that the sport entails. Buckman said that for most people, the passion starts with wanting to drive or be behind the wheel.

But there are so many different avenues available for anyone who wants to be in the racing industry, he said. "No matter what kind of gearhead you are, there's a place for you here." Jacobs, who has worked for Radford for four years, said he was a manager at Fry's store before he got the job at Radford. He's always loved fixing cars, and now he repairs, drives, tests, and even races them. His advice to those interested in working there is to "Keep your head down, work hard, and shine bright."

As the sun sets on Firebird, one thing is clear: programs like Radford's create more than just safe drivers. They fuel dreams and equip teens to navigate their future, both on the road and in life.

When the first day is over, Henry wants to drive my car home. This time, I worry he'll want to drive my 10-year-old Porsche Cayenne like he's still on the track. He doesn't. It's like old times again, with him in the driver's seat and me on the passenger side. But I'm not gripping the armrest or mashing the non-existent brake. There's no white-knuckling. Instead, we connect and talk about his future aspirations and what he's learned. Now, I can take my eyes off the road and see my son beaming with accomplishment—a priceless moment.

Childsplay announces its 2024 season for summer academy



Tempe-based Childsplay, a professional theatre company for young audiences, has announced its 2024 Summer Academy Classes, featuring classes for ages 4-18 beginning May 28.

From Bluey to Barbie, and Jedis to Wizards, classes bring popular themes, stories and plays to life while

working to build students' confidence and imagination.

Classes are taught by professional theater artists who are said to employ engaging, participatory and dynamic instruction.

Offering themed, onstage, stagecraft and design classes, Childsplay features programming for a variety of interests.

Full day and half day classes are offered at the the Sybil B. Harrington Campus for Imagination and Wonder at Tempe;s Mitchell Park.

Onstage production classes end in a performance at t Tempe Center for the Arts.

Childsplay provides extended care, as well as before- and after- classes for students enrolled in full-day classes.

Information: Brianna Fallon at BFallon@childsplayaz.org.

Bread.
The way it
ought to be.

1730 East Warner Road | Tempe Great
NW Corner @ McClintock | Havest.com

LUCAS

Real Estate

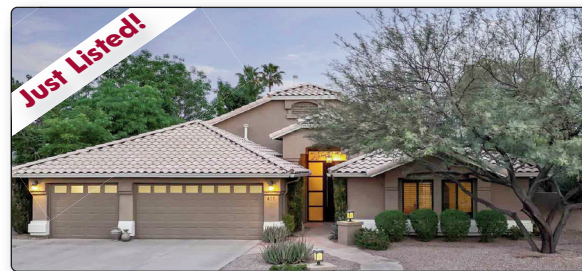
Erika Lucas-Goff (daughter) Jeff Lucas (father)

Google ★★★★★

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



Gorgeous!
Gilbert • Multi Generational Home
5BR, 3.5BA, 3172 sf, upgraded, pool, full casita
See Info and Video at 5117Quiet.com



Just Listed!
Chandler • 85226 • Carrillo Ranch
4BR+office, 2BA, 2557 sf, upgraded, pool
See Info and Video at 411Diane.com



Beautiful!
Mesa • Eastmark • Multi Gen Home
5BR, 4BA, 2726 sf, attached casita, gated
See Info and Video at 10728Tarragon.com

Call or Click

(480) 598-8800 • TheLucasGroup.com



Emergency medicine residency program to be launched at Chandler Regional

Visions of a new program to train emergency medicine physicians in the East Valley is about to become reality.

Officials at Dignity Chandler Regional Medical Center say the initiative is designed to maintain and further empower current and future physicians with advancing curriculum and cutting-edge technology.

In announcing the program, Chandler Regional administrators noted that the hospital staff's goal "goes beyond just developing an excellent program; it aims at maintaining a high standard of becoming the premier emergency medicine residency program in Arizona."

Historically, the desire for even more advanced emergency services has existed as the volume of Emergency Department visits has increased, officials noted.

Kevin Daniels provided a case in point.

When Daniels left his house in Chandler on a January morning in 2020, he never imagined that

he would wake up in the Level 1 trauma center at Chandler Regional.

Or that he would spend the next 89 days in the hospital, followed by months of home visits, appointments, complications and relapses.

The motor vehicle crash that caused his need for care was and will always be a mystery, says his wife, Linda.

Doctors believe he experienced a medical anomaly that caused him to lose control of his vehicle, never braking when he left the freeway and heading toward the exit.

Thankfully, no one in the other vehicles was seriously injured. Kevin was not so fortunate.

From Linda's viewpoint, where luck was on his side came from the fact that he was so close to an acclaimed trauma center.

"The gratitude I feel for the staff at Chandler Regional is boundless, Linda said. "They were always there when I needed them, and they always approached us with care and kindness."

Chandler Regional's role in providing the East Valley with trauma care capability is now solidly imbedded in the area's reputation for top-of-the-line medical services, according to those familiar with the availability of such abilities.

On March 24, the hospital's trauma services team marked a significant achievement—a decade of acknowledged excellence since the unit's receipt of Level I designation, the highest status of emergency care.

In the 10 years that have passed since then, history shows that countless lives have been touched by Chandler Regional's trauma physicians and ICU staff.

As 2024 progresses, a variety of events and programs illustrate the range of services and abilities available at or through Chandler Regional Medical Center.

Among those:

Women's Health Council Brunch — Presenting an opportunity to network with like-minded individuals, with presentations focused on women's health, including OB/GYN and postpartum support services, as well as men's and Children's Pavilion

April 10 — 22nd Annual George Rozsa Golf Classic — Whirlwind Golf Club in Chandler welcomes the 22nd annual golf classic that raises important funds for the areas of greatest needs within our medical centers. Over \$3 million has been invested into our medical centers from this event. Individual golfer spots have sold out and only sponsorships remain.

April 13 — 2024 Dignity Health FREE Sports Physicals — Dignity Health provides an annual free sports physicals event to over 700+ students from Chandler Unified School District, Gilbert Public Schools, Queen Creek Unified School District and a host of other area schools who participate in the Dignity Health Sports Medicine Program. Thanks to the Arizona Cardinals and the many volunteers who support this special event.

TEMPE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

**Award-winning, Tuition-free
Public Charter School
for Grades 6-12
School tours every Thursday**



29%

National Merit
Scholars
(Class of 2022)

\$16.5M

College Scholarship
Offers
(Class of 2021)

35%

TPA Graduates
attend an Ivy League
or Out-of-State
University
(Past 5 Years)

Ranked #1 in Arizona and #15 in the U.S.

Newsweek America's Top High Schools 2016

1251 E. Southern Ave.
(Between Rural & McClintock)



Enroll Now 480-839-3402 | www.TempePrep.org



Find the Tempe activities, classes, locations and information you need with this quick guide.

Community Resource Guide Find the activities, classes, locations and information you need.

Tempe 311 – Call 480-350-4311 with any Tempe question

Submit a service request – let us know about street lights that are out, graffiti, code violations and more – tempe.gov/311 or download the app
In case of emergency: Call 9-1-1.

Tempe Police non-emergency line – 480-350-8311

Business resources/Tempe Economic Development

tempe.gov/EconomicDevelopment

Building permits

[Tempe.gov/Building Safety](https://tempe.gov/BuildingSafety)

CARE & HOPE Line

Those experiencing homelessness can get help by calling 480-350-8004

City parks

tempe.gov/parks

Downtown Tempe/ Mill Avenue information

DowntownTempe.com

Give or get help from local nonprofit agencies

tempe.gov/nonprofits

Homeless Solutions

Report an encampment or a person in crisis
tempe.gov/EndingHomelessness

Neighborhood Association/HOA information

tempe.gov/neighborhoods

Pay a bill

tempe.gov

Recreation classes and leagues

tempe.gov/play

Take a Tempe survey

tempe.gov/forum

Tempe Center for the Arts

TempeCenterfortheArts.com

Tempe Chamber of Commerce

TempeChamber.com

Tempe City Council

tempe.gov/elected

Tempe City Council meetings

tempe.gov/clerk

Tempe Fire Medical Rescue

tempe.gov/fire

Tempe History Museum

tempe.gov/museum

Tempe news and information

tempe.gov/newsroom

Tempe Police Department

tempe.gov/police

Tempe Public Library

tempepubliclibrary.org

Tempe This Week weekly newsletter

tempe.gov/TempeThisWeek

Tempe Tourism Calendar of Events

TempeTourism.com

Trash and Recycling

tempe.gov/SolidWaste



Signup for email news - tempe.gov/EmailNews | Website - tempe.gov

Climbing stairs shouldn't feel like climbing Camelback.

Get back to the little things you love with stronger joints. Whether it is climbing Camelback Mountain or climbing your stairs without joint pain, we're here to get you back to the life you love. Our highly specialized physician and patient care staff works with each patient to establish a personalized treatment and rehabilitation program.

Discover how we can get you back to living your life your way.



Dignity Health[®]
Orthopedic and
Sports Medicine Institute



ALL STEAM-ED UP

A gaggle of science buffs unleash their geeky side



Snakes and critters? Sure. Slime and goo? Yep. Robots and technology? You got it.

The city of Tempe, with 60-plus interactive booths and exhibits, called on all the geeks in our community to share their brains and passion. Hundreds of students and fellow community members milled through the 11th anniversary of the scientists, techies, engineers, artists and mathematicians, or STEAM, festival. Tempe Union High School District, Tempe Elementary district, Kyrene School District, Park Rangers, ASU and Arizona Solar and Power provided the booths that entertained the masses.

— A Wrangler News photo story by Andrew Lwowski

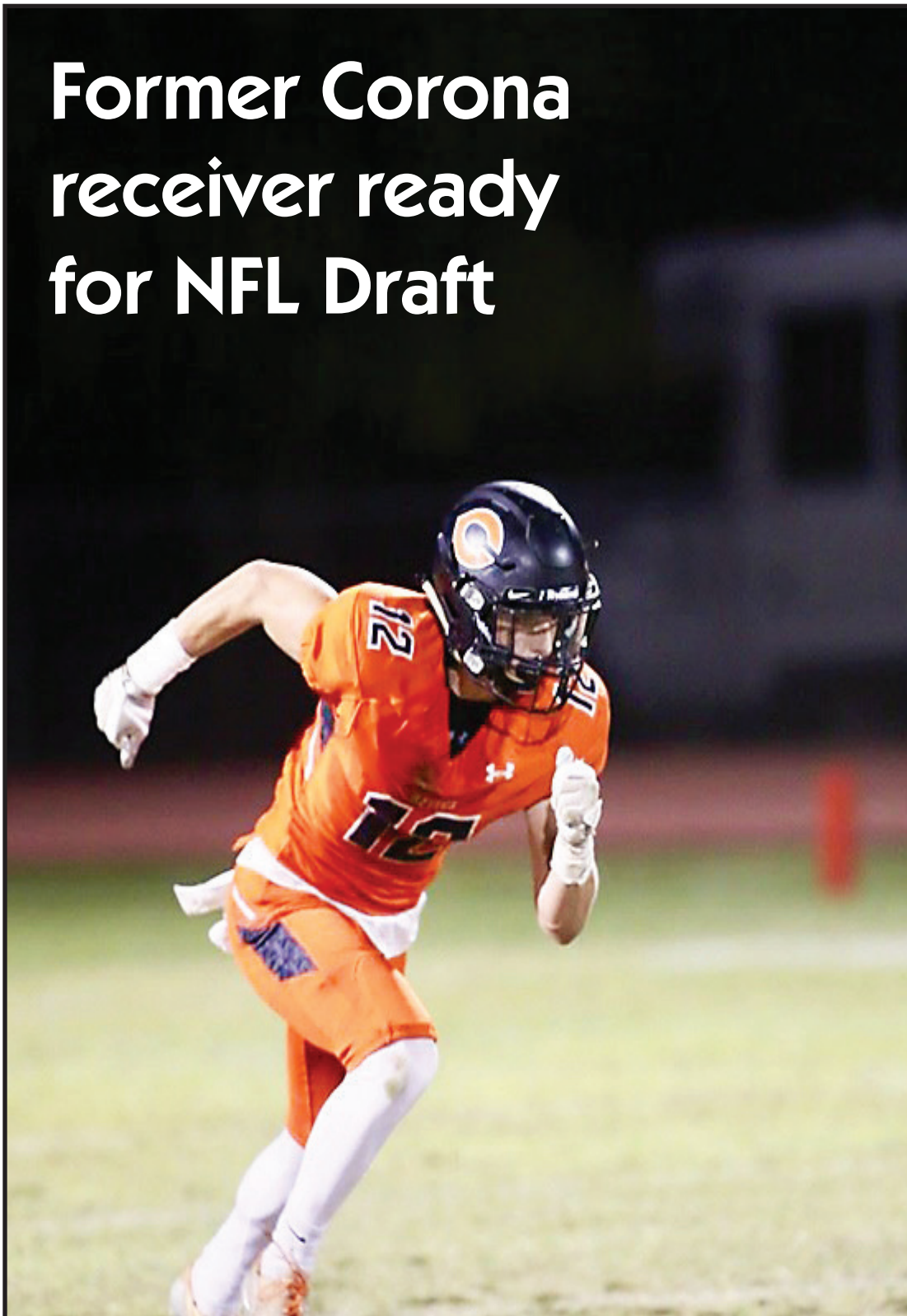




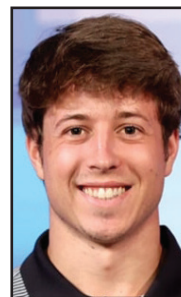


SPORTS

Former Corona receiver ready for NFL Draft



By Andrew Lwowski



Andrew

With one of the deeper wide receiver classes in

recent years, there's one name that rings home. Ricky Pearsall, a Corona del Sol alumnus and former Arizona State Sun Devil and Florida Gator, is one dark horse of the 2024 NFL Draft.

Pearsall, a 2019 graduate, put up a respectable career in the yellow and orange, racking up 2,358 receiving yards off 168 receptions with 20 touchdowns.

The 6-foot-2, 200-pound wideout also rushed for 103 yards and four touchdowns, and was 6 of 12 passing for 138 yards.

He erupted on the recruiting scene his junior year. During his senior year, Pearsall cracked the national leaderboard. He ranked 12th nationally in average kickoff

return yards (34.64), which also ranked sixth in Arizona and first in the 6A Central.

His 765 return yards placed him 49th nationally and first among the 6A Division and 6A Central.

As a three-star prospect, Pearsall made the short trip from South Tempe to Downtown, where he played for ASU during 2021 (2020 Covid year). The Tempe native played 13 games for the Sun Devils, reeling in 515 yards and four touchdowns through the air and 44 yards with a touchdown on the ground.

He elevated his production in the sunshine state, logging a career-high 970 yards and four touchdowns.

He then declared for the draft after the season.

His measurables were attractive, recording a 4.41 40-yard dash, a 10.9-inch broad jump and registered the third-best vertical and best three-cone drill among the receiver group.

He is projected as a second round pick, and is posed for success as the next level.



Corona's young beach volleyball team is sporting a 5-2 Division I record and is 3-0 in Section I with five matches left in the regular season.

Beach volleyball court change poses a challenge

By Alex Zener

With a very young beach volleyball team and new head coach **Stacy Noble**, who stepped to take over for long-time head coach **Ben Maxfield**—not available to coach this spring due to personal complications—Corona is sporting a 5-2 Division I record and is 3-0 in Section I.

The Aztecs have continued to practice and play competitively despite Noble finding out last month that



Corona no longer had access to its normal beach courts for the rest of the season.

“On the spur of the moment, I had to scramble to find practice courts and courts to use for our

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

matches the rest of the season,” said Noble.

“Needless to say, it was a challenge with everyone gone for spring break, including people at the District offices.”

Noble does have help from her daughter, assistant coach **Mady Noble**, a Corona alumna who gained experience not only from playing both

indoor and beach volleyball for the Aztecs but her stint as a player and coach at the University of Arizona.

At Corona, Mady lettered all four years in indoor and beach volleyball and was the Central Region Player of the Year for indoor volleyball, as a senior.

“Maddy brings a wealth of knowledge and experience as an assistant coach,” said Noble.

“In 2018, the first year of the AIA Beach Volleyball Pairs Championships, Maddy, just a sophomore, and her partner, senior **Brooke Nuneviller**, won as pairs champions.”

After graduation, Mady chose to play beach volleyball at UofA, where she competed before an injury forced her to quit.

While playing her freshman year for the Wildcats, she and her partners were 21-4, completing the season with the highest winning percentage, 40, on the team, which helped Mady earn Pac-12 All-Freshman team honors and AVCA Top Flight recognition.

At the Pac-12 championships, Noble and her partner Dana Parker were the only undefeated pair for the Wildcats, according to the university website.

Unfortunately, Mady was only able to play two matches in her sophomore season before she was forced to medically retire from competing due to injury.

Instead, in 2023, Mady's junior year, she joined the staff as a student assistant coach where she was active with practices and scouting.

Mady is currently on track to graduate from the University of Arizona in May.

"Mady has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to this team," says Stacy Noble. "The girls really look up to her and hang on to her every word when she is teaching them the beach game. It has been really fun to watch."

The Aztecs returned only one player from last year's team and currently have five freshman, three sophomores and two juniors playing in the starting ten or the five pairs of players.

"The only returning player we have is sophomore **Adrya Vance**, who was an alternate as a freshman on last year's team," said Stacy. "Otherwise, we are a very young team with just two juniors and the rest freshman and sophomores."

Most of the players have little or no beach experience although all of them are currently or have played indoor club volleyball, according to Stacy.

"It has been really fun for us coaches to work with this fresh, young, fun team," said Stacy, "because these girls want to be here. They are so excited with what they have learned during practices and seeing the results in matches."

There are no individual players that stand out

as being much better than others because they are all young and inexperienced in beach volleyball according to Noble.

"We do have a couple of taller sophomores and juniors that are playing great at the net as blockers," said Noble. "We also have four players who play libero during the indoor volleyball season. They obviously do really well defending in the sand but all the girls have brought different skill sets to the team.

"We have six freshmen that bring a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the team," said Stacy Noble. "They have a good relationship with all the girls on the team and have really stepped up. These young players have already exceeded our expectations in practice and in matches."

Freshman **Lexie Stevens** and the Aztecs' only returning player, sophomore **Adrya Vance**, have consistently played as the No. 1 pair this season.

"We have Adrya and Lexie as our No. 1 pair because they are the two on the team that probably had the most beach experience and displayed instant compatibility playing as a team," said Stacy Noble.

"Our No. 2 and No. 3 pairs are just as capable of being in that No. 1 spot but are still learning the game and working on their chemistry as pairs."

Recently playing as the No. 2 pair have been sophomore **Paige Nenaber** and freshman **Aubrey Butterfield**. The No. 3 pair has coupled freshman **Reese Wibricht** and **Taryn Vesely** while the No. 4 pair has been freshmen **Angelina Favela** and **Kate Shaw**.

Rounding out the No. 5 pair are a mixture of junior **Laney Hunsaker**, freshman **Shannon Kirchhardt**, junior **Tabitha Sywak** and sophomore **Davyn Dehorney**.

The Aztecs have five matches left in the regular season before the playoffs start April 16.

Corona was scheduled to play at home against Marana Mountain View on April 1 and against Ironwood Ridge on April 3 at 2 p.m.

On April 3, at 4 p.m., the Aztecs were scheduled

to play against Cienega.

The last two matches of the season will be at Desert Vista on April 8 at 4 p.m. and at home against Mesa Mountain View on April 10 at 3 p.m. Currently the schedule shows the match will be played at Tempe Town Lake VB courts but will need to be verified.

Marcos de Niza Beach Volleyball

The Padres Division II beach volleyball team consists of four seniors, including **Isabella Rodriguez**, **Giselle Orndorf**, **Isabella Newell**, **Mariah Estrella** and **Evelyn Rodea**, along with four sophomores and five freshman players.

Rodriguez and Orndorf started the season playing as the No. 1 pair, followed by sophomore **Nevaeh Lizarraga** and Rodea at the No. 2 spot.

Newell and sophomore **Angelina Arispe** were the No. 3 pair while Estrella and sophomore **Madison Staroszik** were pair No. 4.

Starting as the No. 5 pair was sophomore **Matalie Payan** and freshman **Myah Navarro**.

But as the season progressed, Payan and Navarro moved up to the No. 4 pair while sophomore **Isabella Primero** and freshman **Mila Humphrey** worked up to play the No. 5 pair.

Positions moved around for other players who had improved over the season so that in the last match on March 29 against Rancho Solano Prep, the No. 1 pair was Rodea and Lizarraga, the No. 2 pair was Arispe and Navarro, the No. 3 pair was Humphrey and Staroszik, the No. 4 pair was freshman **Karis Pilar** and freshman **Cecilia Cardenas** and the No. 5 pair was freshman **Sofia Acosta** and Primero.

The Padres last home match was scheduled for April 3 against Seton Catholic Prep, where they will have honored their seniors.

The last regular season match is scheduled for April 8 against AZ College Prep played at Casteel High School.

The Division II state championship team playoffs are scheduled to start April 16.

Lady Aztecs grinding through a rugged season

Story & photos by Andrew Lwowski

The Corona del Sol softball team is battling through a turbulent season, having dropped to 6-12 after a demoralizing 12-8 loss to Desert Ridge.

The Lady Aztecs began the season 0-9, but rattled off five straight wins through the West Valley Invitational and seemingly picked up momentum.

After run-ruling Mesa Mountain View, the Aztecs were looking to lock a pivotal win over a sectional rival.

And things appeared to be going that way for five innings the next night.

Corona jumped out to a 3-0 lead, before the visiting Mountain Lions tagged four across the plate by three errors, the other by an unearned run.

Showing fight, the Aztecs brought three home in the bottom of the fifth to recapture the lead, but it would be the last of the night.

The Lions cracked the game over with an eight-run seventh inning, chalked full of mental and physical errors on the Aztecs.

As sectional play picks up, and while the Aztecs have the talent, they are still searching for answers.





Princeton beckons Tempe Prep scholar with a full-ride grant

By Sayellor Taylor,
Tempe Prep student reporter

Admission into Princeton, for many students, is a dream. With lots of work from her end, it is senior Borislava Panayotova's reality.

Using QuestBridge, a scholarship program dedicated to giving students opportunities for education, she was accepted at this prestigious college and will be attending Princeton next year on a full-ride scholarship.

With coverage of her entire tuition, room, and board for four years, this adds up to over \$320,000.

QuestBridge is a program that partners with 52 colleges and universities and works towards offering an affordable higher education to high achieving low and middle income students.

Applicants must send their information and essays in to be reviewed.

Here, one of two things can happen: applicants may be deferred to regular decision or deemed finalists, the latter of which Borislava qualified for.

For finalists, supplemental essays are sent in to one's top choices for schools, which for Borislava were Princeton and Stanford.

If matched with one of the QuestBridge partner schools, it is a binding application to attend. If not matched, application fees to all colleges selected are waived, meaning it is a win-win either way.

QuestBridge is unique in that it offers all matched applicants a full-ride scholarship to their school depending on their income, which is radical for thousands of students across the U.S. who may

not be able to afford an expensive higher education to a highly distinguished school.

Borislava qualified for this scholarship, meaning she will only have to pay for books and other things to supplement her education. Room and board, as well as every cent of tuition, is covered.

Over the summer, Borislava worked with QuestBridge College Prep Scholars to help her every step of the way with applications.

This can be beneficial for those less familiar with the application process, as many resources are offered. Borislava highly recommends this program. Not only does it reduce the stress of applying to colleges, but it also gives her the ability to attend the school of her dreams, which might not have been possible otherwise.

Alongside the summer program, Borislava suggests for students to get involved in the variety of activities offered at their school.

At Tempe Prep for example, Borislava was active on the school newspaper staff and the school's Classics Club. All students at Tempe Prep take Latin in grades 7 and 8.

They can also continue with a classical languages track in high school that includes both Latin and Greek. With her strong background in Great Books literature from the Tempe Prep curriculum, and enthusiasm for her classes in Latin and Greek, Borislava was also a board member of the Arizona Junior Classical League.

"If I had not written Tempe Prep Humane Letters class essays or joined the TPA Classics Club or the Newspaper Club, I never would have been able to write the essays the application required of

me," she says. Fortunately, Borislava took advantage of the opportunities at Tempe Prep and now has an amazing academic future--with probably a lot more essays--ahead!



Public input sought on accessory dwelling expansion at April 8 meeting

So. Tempe site selected

Tempe is considering updates on zoning code regulations that allow Accessory Dwelling Units, or ADUs. City staff is seeking input at public meetings April 8, and through an online survey.

An ADU is an independent, smaller, rentable dwelling unit located on the same lot as an

existing, stand-alone single-family home.

In 2019, Tempe was among the first cities in Arizona to approve an ordinance adopting new regulations for ADUs.

The current Zoning and Development Code permits ADUs on Multi-Family zoned properties that already have a single-family home, which limits the number of properties citywide that qualify.

Updates being considered would expand ADU eligibility to include Single-Family Residential zoned properties.

Residents can offer feedback at one remaining in-person meeting; a first session was held on April 2.

Participants will hear details about preliminary concepts tailored to Tempe. The city will also address topics of interest conveyed by residents

during the first round of feedback, such as parking, restricting use as short-term rentals or the frequency of building permits based on staff research.

Public feedback will be used to help shape a final draft to be presented to the City Council.

The final opportunity for residents to share their ideas and opinions will be Monday, April 8, 5:30 – 7 p.m. Arizona 811, 1405 W. Auto Drive.

Residents can also provide input through an online survey available through May 1 at tempe.gov/ADU.

To request a paper copy, phone survey, one-on-one meeting or special meeting accommodations, call 480-350-8234.

RSVP for the online meeting and find a helpful FAQ at tempe.gov/ADU.

Bike Month pedals into April with something for every enthusiast, age, interest

April is Bike Month and Tempe is celebrating with programs and events for virtually every committed—or possibly would-be—bike lover.

Residents can nominate a Tempe Bike Hero, celebrate biking at Tempe Bicycle Action Group and Cul de Sac's PedalPalooza, take a solo ride along on one of the city's multi-use paths or participate in any or all other Bike Month activities.

Whether biking through downtown Tempe or riding along one of the city's off-street paths designed to be low-stress, it's being heralded the perfect time of year to discover the many benefits of biking in Tempe and celebrate Bike Month.

Tempe Bike Hero nominations—Nominate a Tempe Bike Hero, someone who makes life better for Tempe's two- (or three-) wheeled community. Whether it's done in a low-key manner or with public applause, Tempe wants to honor a person or organization that promotes the bicycling way.

Nominations are being accepted now through April 30. Nominated individuals must live or work in Tempe and nominated organizations must be located in Tempe.

Pedal Palooza — Culdesac and the Tempe Bicycle Action Group are gearing up for PedalPalooza 2024, a free celebration of cycling camaraderie 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Culdesac Tempe, 2011 E Apache Boulevard.

Attendees can enjoy bike games, refuel at food trucks and groove to pedal-worthy beats. Free bike tune-ups and bicycle safety training will ensure everyone's wheels are in top-notch condition while staying safe on the road. Highlight of the event is expected to be an all-levels "No-Drop 6-Mile Group Ride."

Tempe's public art program — LeMonde Studios' Light Lane, an interactive art installation is coming downtown Tempe April 3-30. The event combines bikes, music and visual art through nine stationary bicycles that activate Mill Avenue with light and sound when powered by pedal. Featuring artist-designed projections and songs from Tempe Playlist musicians, the event is said to have all-local origins. Bikes will be available for free to the public 24/7. Information: tempe.gov/LightLane.

Stay safe — Refresh your memory about the rules of the road. Whether you are out and about on your bicycle, walking or driving, remember these simple tips.

- Be aware, be seen and be safe: All share responsibility on the road: see and be seen.
- Heads up, cell phones down: Distractions, such as cell phones, can cause eyes to be off the road and result in crashes.
- Drive and ride sober: Driving and biking under the influence doesn't pay. Make sure you have a safe way home.
- It's the law: Bikers and drivers both need to follow traffic laws, including obeying speed limits, paying attention to lights and stop signs and yielding to pedestrians.
- Ride with the flow of traffic: Whether in a bike lane or on a sidewalk, be sure to ride with the flow of traffic, not against it.
- Give three feet: Allow for at least three feet of clearance when passing bicyclists

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



Yin Rising
ACUPUNCTURE

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

info@yinrising.com
(480) 206-6199

6101 S Rural Rd Suite 112 Tempe, AZ 85284

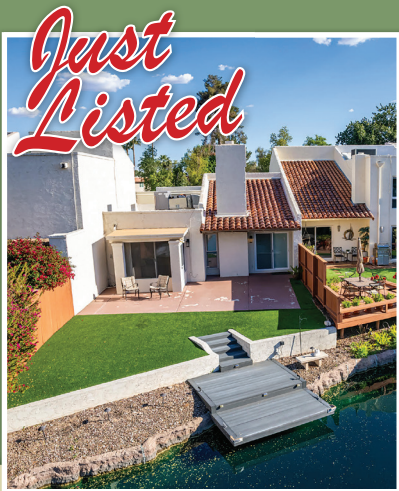
True Value

Mckay's True Value Hardware
4939 W Ray Rd
Chandler, AZ 85226
480-686-8064

Screen Repair Service

McKay's True Value® is the place for screen repair and replacement! You'll get expert service at a fair price on repair or replacement of window, patio and door screens. Refresh your old screens—and your home—with help from your local True Value.

YOU'LL LIVING IN THE LAKES!



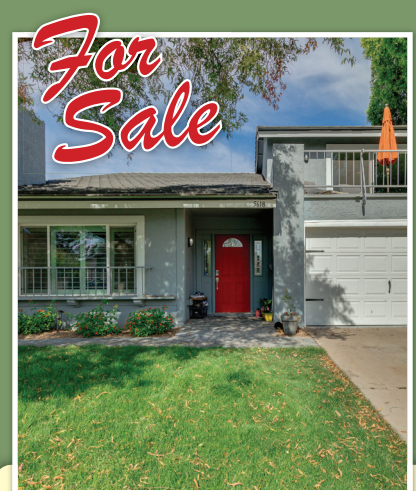
Just Listed
Waterfront Townhouse
 1042 E Driftwood Dr • \$747,000
 2 Bed + Den/2 Bath/1700sqft



For Sale
Remodeled Waterfront Condo
 in Runaway Point
 1209 E Northshore Dr #242 • \$489,000
 3 bed/2 bath/1,392 sq ft



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 • \$679,000
 4 Bed/2 Bath/2,364sqft



Sold
Waterfront Condo
 in Harbour Village
 5200 S Lakeshore Dr #233 \$535,000
 2 Bed/2 Bath/1831sqft



Sold
Waterfront Condo
 In Harbor Village
 5200 S Lakeshore Dr #223 • \$425,000
 2 bed/2 bath/1206sqft



Sold
Waterfront Townhouse
 in The Village Landing
 1114 E Leeward Lane • \$615,000
 2 Bed/2 Bath/1,212sqft



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 \$122/month!

The Lakes #1 Realtor! Thank you!

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



FREE ART FRIDAY

Tots Takeover

Friday, April 19

9 a.m. to Noon

Saturday, April 20



Explore visual arts, music and theatre with your children ages 0-4



Edna Vihel Arts Center
3340 S Rural Road | 480-350-5287
tempe.gov/FreeArtFriday @TempeCityArts



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



*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

START SMART START SMART START SMART



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

cgc.edu



The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) and CGC are proud to partner with American Family Insurance to provide a special discount on auto and home insurance policies. This offer is available to students and graduates of Chandler-Gilbert Community College. American Family Insurance is a member of American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies. For more information, visit www.amfam.com or call 1-800-444-4444. ©2023 American Family Insurance. All rights reserved.



Revamping of Warner Road site

Mostly vacant center to get a \$12.5 million facelift

Tempe and West Chandler residents can look forward to a convenient new destination for their shopping and just plain meandering needs.

After a period of vacancy, Arizona Partners has stepped in, acquiring the 20.46-acre Sun Village Fair shopping site for a significant \$12.5 million.

While the specifics of the redevelopment plans are yet to be unveiled, the news has sparked a wave of optimism, hinting at a brighter future for the community.

Sun Village Fair, located at the intersection of Ray and Alma School roads, served as a local

hub for many years. It housed a grocery store, restaurants and various specialty shops. However, in recent years, the center struggled to maintain occupancy, eventually leading to its closure.

The acquisition by Arizona Partners, a local investment group, signals a potential revival for the site. No details are available, however the group's comments hint at a mixed-use development that caters to the community's evolving needs.

"We see tremendous potential in Sun Village Fair," said a spokesperson. "Our vision is to create a vibrant destination that offers a variety

of shopping, dining, and entertainment options alongside spaces for community events."

As the redevelopment plans take shape, Arizona Partners wants to stress the company's commitment to community engagement. They are planning to host public forums in the near future, providing an opportunity for nearby residents and businesses to share thoughts and ideas. The collaborative approach, they say, is designed to ensure that the new center truly reflects the needs and desires of the immediate and nearby community, making all feel valued and involved in the process.



Your Business Advantage

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




Inspire. **Innovate.** **Lead.**





Presented by  **BD**

May 3, 2024

Foster diversity and enhance your leadership skills at this half-day event.



Register today!
Discounted admission
for members of
Tempe Chamber of Commerce

Looking for a way to build a diverse culture at your organization? Looking for professional development opportunities to grow your leadership skills? Join us at our annual half-day diversity in leadership event that showcases inspiring and diverse speakers. The program will start off with an informative session featuring key speakers and business community leaders, a fireside chat and plenty of networking time between sessions.



2024
TEMPE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

June 14, 2023
Doubletree by Hilton
Phoenix Tempe



Presented by Southwest



Nominate your favorite business!
*Must be located in Tempe
or be a member of the
Tempe Chamber of Commerce



COMMUNITY

Changes to FLASH routes coming soon

South Tempe and other city residents are being advised of adjustments planned for the Tempe Free Local Area Shuttle, or FLASH, route.

These changes, if approved, will go into effect on July 22.

Proposed changes include eliminating a stop at the Tempe Transportation Center along Veterans Way and going eastbound on Apache Boulevard, then looping around Gammage Auditorium instead of westbound on Apache Boulevard and making a loop around Spence Avenue.

The accompanying map outlines the proposed changes.

The purple line represents the current route. The green line represents the proposed updated route. The new route, if approved, will go into effect July 22.

During the ASU school year, FLASH operates weekdays 7 a.m.-6 p.m. with buses every 10 minutes. From 6-10 p.m., buses arrive every 15 minutes.

During ASU semester breaks, FLASH operates weekdays 7 a.m.-6 p.m., with buses every 15 minutes. FLASH buses are wheelchair accessible and equipped with bike racks to accommodate two bikes.

For disability accommodations and alternative formats, call 602-322-4436 or email sbenson@valleymetro.org.



National honors for Tempe Chamber exec

A recently expanded initiative to help chambers of commerce broaden their ability to improve outcomes for an even larger segment of the nation's workforce can thank Tempe Chamber president and CEO Colin Diaz for having being part of the national effort behind achieving such a milestone.

As a result, Diaz has been recognized for his role in a Certificate in Workforce Development Fundamentals program engineered by the International Economic Development Council and the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives Foundation.

The achievement, according to those behind the program, marks what is described as a milestone in efforts to enhance the skills of chamber staff and other professionals

involved in economic development.

It also aims to broaden access to fair workforce opportunities and results, say planners.

Workforce development is described as a people-first approach to upskilling workers for long-term success. The aim is to foster growth for individuals, communities and businesses.

In practice, say experts, workforce development means offering employees training, development opportunities and continuing education programs to maximize their job success and career pathway.

Its implementation can differ based on a company's perspective. At the macro level, say training experts, it refers to employment initiatives provided by government agencies to support national economic growth.

Companies can support such initiatives by participating in programs and opening roles to include those with underdeveloped skills or nontraditional education.

Said Diaz of his involvement with the initiative:

"Being part of this has allowed me to bring expertise back to Arizona to tackle workforce hurdles and foster economic growth. It serves to augment the indispensable contributions chambers are making towards workforce development."

The joint certificate program recognizing Diaz and others nationwide empowers professionals with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate what is said to be an intersection of economic and workforce development while closing education gaps. Diaz and other

Shutter and Sound, new jazz music exhibition at Chandler Museum, on view until May 26

Bob Willoughby (1927–2009) is perhaps best known for his candid photographs of famous Hollywood actors, but before taking photos on film sets, he captured many images of jazz musicians.

Working in difficult lighting and crowded conditions, the images in *Shutter and Sound: The Jazz Photography of Bob Willoughby* are jazz improvisation made manifest. The images give the viewer a sense of vibrant intimacy as he captured wistful singers, jamming musicians and enthusiastic audiences.

By 1950, jazz had migrated its unique sound from the streets of New Orleans to American cities from coast to coast. In the 1950s, one of the foremost jazz scenes was in Los Angeles. Some would say it was due to the laid-back surfer culture of California, but the jazz of this region had a flavor all its own and is often considered the birth of what we know as “smooth jazz” today.

Willoughby photographed jazz greats such as Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, Dave Brubeck and Frank Sinatra, to name just a few. The 50 images included in the exhibit reflect the dynamic jazz scene of the 1950s. As musician Dave Brubeck said, “Willoughby not only had a good eye, he had a keen ear, and seemed to know when to snap at an inspired moment.”

Whether visitors are seasoned jazz fans, newcomers wanting to learn more about the music scene, or photography enthusiasts, *Shutter and Sound* is as enduring as the music.

Shutter and Sound is on view in conjunction with Jazz Appreciation Month and the Chandler Jazz Festival. Related programs at the Chandler Museum include:

- Wednesday, April 10 and 24, 10:30-11:15 a.m.
- Art Tots Musical Art program for 3-5-year-olds Thursday, April 11, 5:30-7 p.m.
- Jazz on the Move Concert: Beth & Jazz Con Alma

- Wednesday, May 1 & 15, 10:30-11:15 a.m.
- C-Town Suitcase Club Jazz program for 3-5-year-olds

The exhibit will be on view at the Chandler Museum April 6 through May 26.

Chandler Museum is at 300 S. Chandler Village Drive.

It is open Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 1-5 p.m. and closed on Mondays. Admission is free.

Information: 480-782-2717.

Coming to
tcca

48 LIVE:
Jim Bachmann
and
The Day Drinkers
Country/Blues

APR 13

**Cultural Crossroads:
Dvořák in America
Classical**
APR 20



BODYTRAFFIC
Dance

APR 27



**Sammy Miller
presents 100 Years
of Jazz in America
Jazz**
MAY 4



**GET
YOUR
TICKETS**

480.350.2822
tempecenterforthearts.com

Tempe Center for the Arts





**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

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 1,100 - 2,000 square feet. Multiple leasing options, including month to month. Please contact Denise for more information:

EMAIL: LAKESHORE5400@GMAIL.COM
CALL: 602-456-6289



Wrangler News is delivered every other Saturday throughout the year to home driveways & rack locations in Tempe and Chandler, as well as being posted online.

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

— *Phoenix magazine*

Published since 1991 by Newslink LLC

Founder/Publisher: Don Kirkland
Contributors: Barbi Walker-Walsh,
Andrew Lwowski, Sally Mesarosh, Janie
Magruder, Alex Zener, M.V. Moorhead

Offices: Warner Century Plaza
2145 E. Warner Road,
Ste. 102 Tempe, AZ 85284
www.wranglernews.com

(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 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.

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

Copyright © 2024

SPRING FLING

CHIP REPAIR EVENT

MARY CONTRERAS STATE FARM

APRIL 6, 2024

9AM - 1PM

* 2 chip repair max

PARTNERS

SARRC
community
SCHOOL

NOW ENROLLING!

The Community School is for children 15 months - 5 years and offers early childhood education for young learners with and without autism — all in an inclusive classroom environment!

FEATURING:

- Small class sizes
- 4:1 student-teacher ratios
- Individualized instruction
- Play-based model
- And much more!

Tour our Tempe campus today!

Learn more about the Community School by calling **602.606.9806** or at autismcenter.org/CommunitySchool

SARRC
Southwest
Autism
Research &
Resource
Center

The Nick Bastian Team
Your Real Estate Experts

REALTY EXECUTIVES

Warner Estates

Experience the South Tempe lifestyle in luxurious Warner Estates!

- 5 Bedrooms
- 3.5 Bathrooms
- 4,105 SF
- Full Basement

Huge lot with an entertainer's backyard featuring a swimming pool, putting green, gazebo, fireplace and more.

**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.

SOUTH TEMPE
STYLE

See more details at www.8649Willow.info and call us to schedule your private showing.

KyreneCorridorHomes.com **602-803-6425**

Your Home Sold at Your Price or We will Pay You the Difference . . . Guaranteed

\$1,275,000 - South Tempe Custom Home



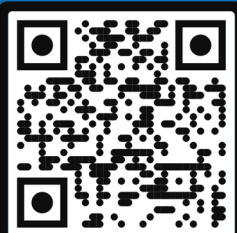
\$850,000 - Chandler



4 BIG REASONS TO CALL CAROL & VIKKI

1. We Guarantee Your Price
2. Your Home will Sell for More Money
3. We Sell Homes Faster
4. Your Home may Already be Sold with our Cash Offers or Our Buyers

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



SCAN ME

Scan with Your Phone for a message from Carol Royse

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [in](#) @carolroyseteam



*Terms Apply



Carol Royse

Vikki Royse
Middlebrook

Home Selling Experts
and Radio Hosts

CarolRoyse.com
480-776-5231

YOURHOMESOLD
GUARANTEED REALTY™

Our Name is Our Promise