

# Wrangler NEWS

**Think Local. Read Local.**

May 20-June 2, 2017 • Volume 28, No. 10

## What's Inside

Longtime Kyrene theater teacher Julie Hackmann is bringing her talent and love of theater to a new, district-wide role as Performing Arts Coordinator.  
Page 5.



Aprende's varsity and junior varsity baseball teams hit it out of the park with championship victories apiece that sparked celebration.  
Page 24

## ASU/Compadre link opens door to teens' learning, earning



News of an innovative program allowing Compadre High School students to pursue better educational futures brought plenty of excitement to the Tempe campus.

— Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News

By Jonathan Coronel

The watchword in education of late has been access. Arizonans are acutely familiar with this due to the fact that the country's largest university, Arizona State, has made educational accessibility a priority under President Michael Crow.

With an ever-growing presence online, ASU has become a major producer of college grads in the world; the next step will take it even further toward

its goals.

Starting this fall, ASU Prep will open a third high school, to coexist on the campus of Compadre Academy, part of the Tempe Union High School District.

Currently, ASU Prep operates schools in Phoenix and Mesa, and its notable academic success has encouraged the coming expansion into the Tempe area.

ASU Prep currently has 2,100 students enrolled

across its two existing campuses, and the school is producing results quickly, with the 2016 class graduating 100 percent of its students, all of whom were admitted to some form of secondary education or military service.

Most were admitted to ASU itself. Art Lebowitz, the head of schools for ASU Prep, acknowledged this success and how it will positively impact Compadre

— ASU PREP, Page 20



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## Celebrating their service

The initiative of individuals and organizations to better their communities often goes unnoticed.

Not in the city of Chandler. Each year, the city honors those who have made significant and enduring contributions on behalf of the community by inducting them into Celebration Plaza, a permanent water feature and monument wall at Tumbleweed Park.

The park is on the southwest corner of McQueen and Germann roads. Since 2007, it has served as a central location to honor service organizations and a select group of residents, living or deceased, for their civic leadership, public outreach, personal service and commitment to Chandler.

If you know of a person or organization that might fit that description, it's time to take action.

Nominations for induction into Celebration Plaza come from the public and are being accepted by the city now through Friday, June 30. Details are available at [chandleraz.gov/celebrationplaza](http://chandleraz.gov/celebrationplaza). Forms can also be picked up at the Chandler Sunset branch and other city libraries, community centers, recreation facilities, Chandler Museum and City Hall.

Inductees are selected by the Chandler City Council, based on recommendations from the Museums Advisory Board.

Any nominee selected for induction after the review process will be honored at an induction ceremony in January 2018. As part of the induction, a brass plaque will be placed in Celebration Plaza.

Last year's honorees included former Chandler Mayor Kenny Thomas, Police Officer James Snedigar and the Chandler Chamber of Commerce.

Celebration Plaza nominees should be residents, living or deceased, who have displayed outstanding civic commitment, leadership, public outreach and service to the people of Chandler. Nominations should clearly state why the individual or organization deserves this recognition, and supporting letters or documentation is strongly encouraged.

## Equal pay workshop

Ever since the U.S. Congress passed the Equal Pay Act in 1963, the discussion around the pay gap between men and women has continued to simmer.

The city of Tempe will offer a workshop Tuesday, May 30, 6-8 p.m., designed to help women build confidence and skills around salary negotiation, market worth, tools of persuasion, and business strategies.

The workshop is the latest in a series that began last December.

Each class features the same information and all will take place in the Business Resource and Innovation Center, inside the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

The free equal pay negotiation training classes are open to anyone who lives, works, or studies in Tempe.

The goal is to train at least 8,000 women in five years.

Registration for the workshop is required. Visit: <http://www.aauw.org/work-smart-tempe>





Julie Hackmann coaching performers in a production of 'Annie.'

— Wrangler News file photo by Billy Hardiman

## Admired theater teacher will lend experience, talent to wider role

By Diana Whittle

If the Academy Awards presented Oscars to local talent, surely Pueblo's theater teacher, Julie Hackmann, would have won more than her fair share.

Soon, she will move into a district-wide role for the upcoming school year, by serving as the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator. In this new position, Hackmann plans to expand the art programs in Kyrene.

"While I am sad to be leaving Pueblo and my own classroom, I am very excited about developing the new position of Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator for the Kyrene District," said Hackmann.

"I see this as a great opportunity to support all the arts teachers in the district, to collaborate with the high schools, universities and community arts professionals to give great new experiences to the students in our area."

For her long-time work as the director of many well-received musicals for schools in the Kyrene District, including a recent version of "Bye Bye Birdie," Hackmann is held in high esteem by her colleagues and the community.

In addition, during her 21-years as a Kyrene teacher, she has earned the respect of her students, along with gaining the appreciation of parents for introducing their children to acting and uncovering some hidden talent.

In an email note to Kyrene Superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely, a parent, Maureen Williams wrote:

"Although my son enjoys singing, he did not know he would enjoy acting. However, after his two experiences with Ms. Hackmann, in the 'Schoolhouse Rock' in the fall and 'Bye Bye Birdie' this spring, he now feels confident enough to try out for productions in high school.

"Her teaching style has given all the kids a sense of belonging and joy in all of their accomplishments. Both productions were so amazing, and the parents left the performances with overwhelming feelings of pride and happiness in the kids and staff."

A second email sent to Dr. Vesely by a parent, Elizabeth Salas, is equally complimentary to Hackmann:

"I would be remiss if I did not take a few moments to recognize the unbelievable impact that Julie Hackmann and her theater program has had on my daughter, Bryana Salas.

"In my 20 years of being a fairly involved parent within the Kyrene District. I have never had a teacher make the kind of positive difference that Ms. Hackmann made in her three months as my daughter Bryana's theater director. By selecting Bryana and casting her in a role in the Bye Bye Birdie play she has literally changed Bryana's life.

— ARTS, Page 31

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## Tempe, Scottsdale align human services ventures

The issues of homelessness, domestic violence and substance abuse affect many communities. The cities of Tempe and Scottsdale are coming together to find ways they can combat the effects of these and other traumas.

Tempe and Scottsdale, along with several hospitals and social services organizations, joined forces at a recent Thriving Cities forum to share data and best practices designed to build more resilient communities.

It was the first of an anticipated many meetings focused on finding ways to most effectively help people.

The goal, says a program spokeswoman, is to create a system that could be used across all Valley cities. Members of the group would like to ensure that social service providers, health care, schools, first responders and the justice system can coordinate efforts and have access to the tools to recognize trauma and treat it.

Phoenix Children's Hospital, Arizona State University, Arizona Trauma Institute, Social Intelligence Institute, Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and The Faith City are partners in this working group with the city of Tempe and city of Scottsdale.

According to the National Survey of Children's Health, there is a significant link between a child's exposure to trauma, its effect on neurological and behavioral development, and long-term health.

Information: paul\_bentley@tempe.gov.

## Arts center gets grant for strategic planning

A year-long, \$106,000 grant for consultant services to plan and implement research and develop a comprehensive marketing plan for the Chandler Cultural Foundation, which facilitates programming and fund development for Chandler Center for the Arts, has been received from the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust.

Susan Pepin, the trust's president and CEO, said the program is designed to "build the two organizations' capacity as a creative, artistic force and an educational resource for the community."

The grant funding will to toward testing and identifying specific opportunities for audience identification and increase both non-paid and paid attendance to the arts center, which attracts more than 300,000 visitors annually.

In addition to its season series of visual arts and performances, Chandler Center for the Arts offers free engagement opportunities through its Connecting Kidz program, Summer Concert Series symphony concerts and community events.

"Chandler Center for the Arts' vision embodies the belief that the arts hold transformative potential and that the Center elevates the social culture of our community, empowering citizens to bridge borders through participation, intellectual exploration and leadership development of the arts," said Jeanne Forbis, chair of Chandler Cultural Foundation.

"The grant will allow us to better understand the challenges and opportunities while listening to feedback from the community."

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Students at Mirada Elementary gain confidence and improve performance through innovative program.

## Leadership skills boost kids' behavior, success

By Diana Whittle

Look out President Trump—youth at Mirada Elementary in Chandler now understand leadership skills and stand ready to be accountable for their academic achievement and behavior.

If this seems like a tall order, given the students' tender ages—between kindergarten and fifth grade—Kyrene de la Mirada principal Nancy Branch says the elementary students have mastered traits usually reserved for adults through a program called the “Leader in Me.”

The principles behind the Leader-in-Me philosophy are drawn from a wide-variety of social-emotional learning and other respected educational models. As a result of adopting the Leader-in-Me program, Mirada was named a “Lighthouse School,” by Franklin Covey, the organization who created the program and is also known for the “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.”

Branch, said, “We are honored to become a Leader in Me Lighthouse School. We have seen such amazing results from implementing the Leader-in-Me process at our school, such as improved academic ownership, an increase in student confidence and a decrease in negative student behaviors.”

The Lighthouse Milestone is a highly regarded standard set by Franklin Covey. The attainment of the Lighthouse Milestone represents a significant benchmark, and it is evidence that a high standard has been met by a school.

Applying for the Lighthouse Milestone typically occurs three to five years after a school begins the Leader-in-Me curriculum.

Kyrene de la Mirada Elementary joins 262 schools nationwide that hold the Lighthouse designation and is one of only two in Arizona.

Branch says that Mirada teachers are seeing first-hand a more positive classroom environment and that students participate in goal setting, data tracking and learning the value of leadership roles.

“All students set goals and track their behavior performance in order to celebrate their accomplishments or to make adjustments for the future.



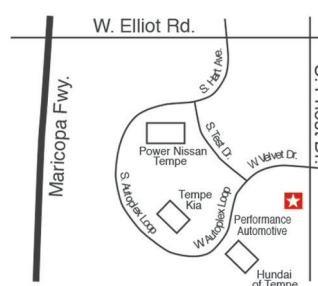
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# From migrant to M.D. Tempe surgeon shares life's journey in new memoir

By Deborah Hilcove

**D**r. Edgar H. Hernandez was born in the rural Mexican state of Michoacán, near the Pacific Ocean. As a boy, he watched his father treat common illnesses, as well as the abscessed throats of villagers.

He watched his dad suture gashes with catgut and improvised tools.

All the while, Edgar dreamed of becoming a doctor—an American doctor who would help people.

Hernandez, who now lives in Tempe, has recalled that immigrant's journey in his book, *"On the Border of a Dream: One Mexican Boy's Journey*



*of Becoming an American Surgeon."*

The book details the careful preparations his older half-brother, Miguel, made for Edgar's legal immigration into the United States. Documents were gathered and his grandfather bought new clothes for nine-year-old Edgar. His mother bought him a toothbrush and a comb and reminded him to "take a shower every

morning; brush your teeth and comb your hair."

Like a travelogue, the journey unfolds through the Mexican countryside and the cities of Uruapan,

Morelia, Guadalajara, Hermosillo and finally Nogales. Along the way, Edgar learned about telephones and television, as well as popular Mexican movie stars, like Cantinflas. He tasted ice cream and hot chocolate and milk shakes.

Presenting immigration officials with the folder of carefully arranged documents, Miguel and Edgar learned they needed a copy of their father's death certificate—a process estimated to take several months. After consulting a documentation professional, they decided that Edgar must learn some English, gain the trust of a border official and slip through the border where he would meet his legally documented brother and they would drive to the Valley, returning when the documentation expert received the death certificate.

They would then correct Edgar's immigration status.

During the illegal interlude, Edgar endured three tense encounters with immigration officials making surprise raids. The last incident produced such terror that the brothers decided to return to Nogales. Although Edgar and his brother faced the convoluted

process of documentation, eventually Edgar crossed at Nogales, visa in hand.

Soft-spoken with an engaging, faint Spanish accent, Hernandez recalls sitting at his desk with a pen and a stack of yellow legal pads, writing his story "the old-fashioned way," he says. He consulted often with his brother, Jorge, scribbling during lunches and exchanging phone calls, dredging memories from childhood.

Each chapter begins with a triggering memory, many drawn from Hernandez's medical practice—a child with a scorpion bite, a young woman killed in a car accident, a male breast cancer patient with Klinefelter syndrome. The memory is followed by a related portion of his journey from childhood poverty to his successful medical career.

After graduating from Phoenix Union High School, Hernandez received his medical degree from the University of Utah College of Medicine and completed his general surgery residency at Maricopa County Hospital in Phoenix.

During the last 10 years, he has dedicated his surgical practice exclusively to breast and oncoplastic surgery at Chandler Regional Medical

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### PARENT INFORMATION MEETING:

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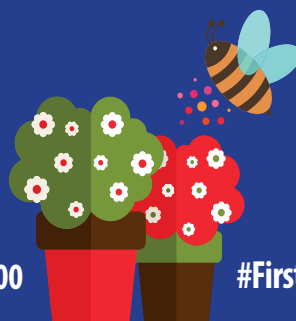
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## ON THE BORDER OF A DREAM

ONE MEXICAN BOY'S JOURNEY OF BECOMING AN AMERICAN SURGEON.

Edgar H. Hernandez, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.

Center and Mercy Gilbert Medical Center. Recently he joined Ironwood Cancer & Research Center.

He has been honored by the Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona. In 2011, the Fresh Start Women's Foundation named him "Man of the Year" for his continued support of uninsured women in need of medical and surgical care for breast disorders. He is credited with introducing innovative techniques such as oncoplastic surgery, brachytherapy and skin-sparing mastectomies to Arizona patients.

Asked about his recent Commencement address at South Mountain Community College, he says,

"I spoke about inspiration. About the spirit to persevere."

Taking a breath, Hernandez continues, "My goal is to help many people understand the great contribution immigrants have made to this wonderful country--our fractured, wonderful country. I want to meet with women--Melania Trump, the Congressional wives--and talk about these precious children who came with the heartfelt desire to live here. Their moms suffer every day, worried about their children and their future. There are 11 or 12 million immigrants and they are not to be ignored. The only ones to have the sentiment, this glorious sentiment, to do something are the women. Women are the ones to make it happen."

It will happen. The dreams of Dr. Edgar Hernandez do become reality.

"On the Border of a Dream: One Mexican Boy's Journey of Becoming an American Surgeon," by Edgar H. Hernandez, MD, MS, FACS, is published by BookChix Book Publishing, Phoenix, AZ, May, 2017. ISBN: 978-0-9989215-0-1, available through Amazon.



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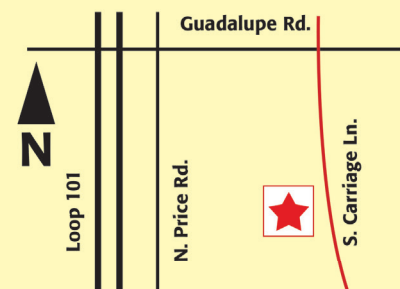
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The Rev. Joseph Terra survived a deadly attack by a man high on meth.

— Joyce Coronel

## West Chandler couple tell how drugs fueled murderous rampage that cost revered cleric his life

*Editor's note: Joyce Coronel sat down with a West Chandler couple in an effort to gain insight into a high-profile murder case in which the man accused, a homeless meth addict, recently pleaded guilty.*

**D**on and Ellyn Black, a West Chandler couple, have a unique perspective on the deadly grip of drug addiction and how it fosters criminal behavior.

Don is a retired law enforcement officer and Ellyn is a social worker who often assists clients with substance abuse issues.

Three years ago, a brutal crime at a Phoenix church that left a 28-year-old priest dead and another gravely injured grabbed national headlines. The man accused of the crime, Gary Moran, pleaded guilty last month and will spend the rest of his life in prison.

The night the murder took place, Moran was high on methamphetamines. He had only been out of prison a short time when the attack took place.

"Drug addiction takes away your decision-making capacity," Ellyn said. "The drugs run your body and your mind—you don't make logical, rational decisions."

At his sentencing hearing, Moran's defense attorney attempted to paint a picture of a man who had not received the psychiatric care he needed for his

bipolar disorder and other issues.

"It doesn't excuse what he did but it helps the parties to understand...Mr. Moran really struggled."

Prosecutor Patricia Stevens was having none of it. The county attorney's office had reviewed the ex-con's records and he had indeed received care, she said.

"He was using meth. He did have a number of prescriptions in his possession when he was arrested," Stevens said. In other words, Moran was receiving psychiatric care and could have taken medication but instead succumbed to his drug addiction.

"Meth users often become paranoid and the longer they use, the more paranoid they become, Ellyn said.

"It's the drugs that run your body. They think, 'How do I get my next fix?'"

Getting that next fix becomes such a desperate search that addicts often turn to crime. Don said that in his experience, the majority of the arrests he conducted dealt with people addicted to drugs. "The crimes they were committing were to support their drug habit," he said.

He recalled a 19-year-old woman he and his partner observed who looked out of place in a drug-infested area of town. He described her as a normal, healthy-looking person and said it was obvious that she was hoping to buy drugs. Over time, Don said, he watched



her tragic descent: dramatic weight loss, the decaying teeth, the lines on her face. The woman eventually became a prostitute to support her drug habit. Within a year, she was HIV positive and had tuberculosis.

As a police officer, Don said it was customary for him to keep track of who was locked up and who had been released in his district.

“Almost a hundred percent of the time, when people were released from jail, they would go right back to the same environment that they were in and the same people that were negative influences on them and start using again,” he said.

“Several times, on the day they were released from jail, we’d catch them again trying to support their habit.”

Even after advising people to stay away from their former companions and neighborhoods, they’d often tell him, “Sir, I just can’t.”

Ellyn said she remembers a client who begged authorities to let him keep his ankle monitor even after his probation had ended.

“He didn’t have the ability to tell his friends no but he could say ‘I can’t do it because I’ve got the monitor on.’”

Substance abuse often goes hand-in-hand with mental illness,

Ellyn said. Often, people don’t like how they feel when they’re on medication, so they seek relief in illegal substances. “And then that gets you into a different problem,” she said. “Your body needs it.”

In Moran’s case, he had managed to stay clean and sober for most of the 47 days following his release from prison for an earlier violent crime.

Strung out on meth, he tried breaking into the church where the Rev. Kenneth Walker and Rev. Joseph Terra served a thriving congregation. When Terra went to investigate the ruckus, the deadly encounter began.

Standing in the courtyard near the door where the crime took place, you can hear the birds call to one another.

The blood has been scrubbed away and no signs of the violent encounter remain. Terra has been reassigned to Texas. In an interview with this reporter near the one-year anniversary of the attack that took the life of his fellow priest, Terra said he had forgiven Moran.

“There is forgiveness,” Terra said. “But there is also justice.”

Moran is not eligible for parole but could at a future date seek clemency.

## Leaders

From Page 7

“In addition to behavior goals, all students also set individual, class, and school-wide WIGS (Wildly Important Goals) at the beginning of the year and revisit and revise these goals consistently throughout the year. Because they are tracked individually and posted as a whole class, and revisited, students can see the growth—which is encouraging to them and allows them to strive to meet their goals,” said Branch.

Mirada kindergarten teacher Kirstin Williams, recently shared that she believes that the reason all her students mastered their reading goals this year is because of their enthusiasm and excitement each day as they tracked their progress on a classroom bar graph.

“Data is posted in every classroom, so growth is easily visible and students are truly empowered to be in charge of their own behavior and learning.”

Another kindergarten teacher, Sarah Hesse, also gives the program a ringing endorsement.

“This is my fourth year teaching and using the Seven Habits approach and I couldn’t imagine teaching without this amazing program. I not only see value in this program, but I see results.

“I’ve seen kids that start the year off shy, lacking confidence, or struggling behaviorally, and by the end of the year they are totally different kids. They become strong, independent leaders that are more than capable of anything they set their minds to.

“It teaches children that they matter in this world, they can succeed in anything they give effort towards, and that they can make a difference. I truly believe this program can help each child take charge of their learning, behavior, and help them to go on to do great things in their life.”

Branch says she knows many Mirada teachers, who have incorporated the Seven Habits into their own lives; but, was pleasantly surprised when she learned the thoughts of a kindergartner, Alice, whose parents sent an email.

“Alice’s mother shared a story with me that her daughter was explaining to her aunt and uncle, who are visiting from New York, how she was practicing for a performance at her school.

“She said that ‘Mirada is a place where people synergize. It’s helpful there and we experience kindness and peace.’ Those words came out of the mouth of a kindergartner,” said Branch.

“It seems that Alice has taken the school’s proclamation to heart, which is ‘Great Happens Here!’



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# With an eye to easy summer eating, warm up to potato salad

*Editor's note: Our longtime food writer may be gone, but she's not forgotten by the many readers who looked forward to her regular musings on all things edible. So here's another column out of our Discerning Diner collection. The timing, you'll note, is as good as it gets.*

Summer weekends are upon us, and to me that means two things: pools and potato salad. The pools are obvious. As for potato salad, well, one way or another, my outdoor dining adventures always have included it, whether I'm out on a picnic or at home by the grill.

It's a summertime tradition, and not one I'm inclined to give up.

Now, potato salad is something that people feel strongly about. I'm pretty sure you have a favorite picnic potato salad recipe, and I'm not going to tell you how to make it.

Instead, I'm going to talk about a different kind of potato salad: the warm kind. It's not a replacement for the cold, creamy stuff you pack on picnics, but pretty scrumptious

nonetheless.

My interest in warm potato salads is primarily due to my husband, who, among his many quirks, professes to hate cold potatoes in any form.

Without conceding his point—I love cold potato salad—I will say that, yeah, the starchy texture of potatoes is typically better hot.

Warm potato salads are also convenient if you forget to make the cold stuff ahead (and that's the real reason I make them so often).

Warm or cold, the best choice for salad is red-skinned new potatoes, which hold up well to boiling. Baking potatoes, like Russets, will tend to mush and fall apart.

For my warm potato salad, I borrow a tip from Cook's Illustrated, which recommends slicing the potatoes before cooking them. Not only will the pretty red skins adhere all the better, you'll cut down on cooking time and avoid having to handle the proverbial hot potato.

So: For a family of four hungry potato salad eaters, thoroughly scrub two pounds of small new potatoes and

slice into rounds about 1/4-inch thick.

Put the potatoes in a pot, cover them with plenty of cold water, add one tablespoon of salt, and bring the whole thing to a boil over high heat. Reduce to a brisk simmer and cook the potatoes until tender but not soft, five or 10 minutes.

You can probably tell that the potatoes are done just by poking at them. But if you'd like to bite into a slice, spear it with a fork and run it under cold water first, to avoid burning your mouth. (Not that I've ever done that before.)

When the potatoes are done, drain them well. Carefully transfer the slices directly to a serving bowl.

So much for the potatoes. Now for the dressing, a vinaigrette, which you make while the potatoes are cooking.

Here's the basic formula: one to three teaspoons of Dijon mustard (depending on how mustardy you like it) whisked with two tablespoons of red or white wine vinegar and five tablespoons of best-quality olive oil.

Some freshly ground black pepper and 1/4 teaspoon salt is a good idea, too.

When the potatoes are just barely cool enough to handle, drizzle the vinaigrette over them and, with clean hands, toss gently to combine. Salt the potatoes to taste.

If you're adding extras, toss them in at the same time. Fresh herbs are always in order: chopped fresh parsley, chives, tarragon and/or thyme.

So are alliums, i.e., the onion family. Add finely chopped shallots, sliced scallions or even sliced green garlic (if you can find it) directly to the salad.

Or, finely chop 1/4 of a red onion and soak it in two tablespoons of wine vinegar, mixed with 1/4 teaspoon sugar, for 10 minutes. Substitute this mixture for the vinegar in your dressing.

And if you're feeling adventurous, try mixing in some chopped, oil-cured black olives and oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes. Garnish with slices of freshly hard-boiled egg.

It's not your mother's potato salad—but then, it's not supposed to be.



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# Meet the Class of 2017

Special 8-page  
Graduation Section



Tempe's high schools have once again sent their best and finest on to the next step toward their future—a time when these outstanding young people, the Class of 2017, will go forward into a new and challenging world.

We at Wrangler News have worked with and personally know many of these students — teens who have contributed not only to us but to their community, their friends and families and, not to be overlooked, to a future that we're sure will be better because of them.

Based on what we read and see in today's media, some of us occasionally ask where our world is headed. If we answer that question by looking at the young people who are celebrating their high school graduation this year — students who have made their way through three challenging years at one of our Tempe Union High School District campuses — we can feel confident that this world of ours indeed will be a better place.

To them we say congratulations, go forth, make your mark.  
And, what we think is important parting advice, *Carpe Diem*.

The Editors

Wrangler News photo archives • Billy Hardiman, May 2015

2017 Graduation Ceremonies had not yet taken place when this issue went to print. Look for 2017 graduation photos and more grads in our next issue.



# Corona del Sol High School

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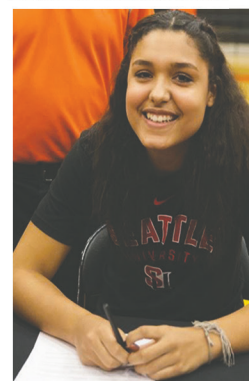
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# ASU Prep

From Page 1



Interest soars among Compadre students. — Billy Hardiman/Wrangler News

Academy.

"Initially we will be focusing on starting off the 9th and 10th graders. While Compadre has generally served older students, the goal here is to give those kids a full high school experience in a smaller environment with a college-attending emphasis."

Once ASU Prep at Compadre expands, Lebowitz sees the successful post-graduation opportunities garnered by ASU Prep graduates as crucial because these older students will serve as role models for the younger students.

Though the implementation of a separate school on a currently existing high school campus sounds

like it could pose logistical problems, administrators from both ASU Prep and Compadre High are optimistic for the plans.

Ed Flores, current principal of Compadre Academy, was particularly excited, noting that he is confident this innovative partnership will bring new and exciting opportunities to his students, while still allowing Compadre to offer the same unique services that are so crucial to the community.

For example, though ASU Prep will initially be more like a separate school, this set-up is planned to last only through the first semester, after which Compadre students will have the opportunity to take courses from the ASU Prep Cambridge curriculum that has served their students so well; ASU Prep students will also be able to take courses from Compadre.

Flores sees this move as huge for Compadre students and crucial to their future success.

"If you give students opportunities, they will run toward those opportunities.

"It's our duty to provide that for them, we would be doing a disservice if we did not. It's an exciting time to be a Lobo."

This sentiment was echoed by Deborah Gonzalez, Chief Academic Innovations Officer at ASU Prep.

"We held a focus group [of Compadre students], every student wanted to be educated and have the opportunity to go to college when they choose to."

ASU Prep will achieve this goal of expanded opportunities for Compadre students by working closely with Compadre to achieve these goals that will mutually benefit all students, as Gonzalez explained.

"We are bringing in our own teachers. The administration at Compadre is helping us as we are helping them so that we can realize these goals," she said.

"Compadre students will have more options for success beyond high school and be able to go to a university or a career that is meaningful to them. ASU Prep students will benefit by having more opportunities for extracurriculars that we would not have on a smaller campus."

Though Compadre is set for these new and promising changes, Flores clarified that the school's normal programs like the Teenage Pregnancy Program (TAPP) will still be available and older students up to 21 years of age will still be able to attend Compadre to complete high school credits, as both of these and other services are crucial to Compadre's overall mission.

Flores, Gonzalez, and Lebowitz all agreed that the ultimate goal of the partnership is a total integration of the two schools, so that students effectively double their opportunities in high school and beyond.

Although they have their eyes set on this goal in the future, it's clear that they aren't so forward-looking that they are overlooking the current mission of getting the partnership started in the coming school year, as was clear when the group was asked about the possibility of adding a middle or elementary ASU Prep at Compadre High school in the future.

Said Gonzalez:

"We are going to hit this one out of the ballpark before we even consider what's next."

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# Diversions

## Costumes inspire creativity for Tempe High boy as he takes a 'Cosplay' 1st-place

By M.V. Moorhead

“I’ve always been interested in dressing up as characters, and getting into that character’s point of view,” says R. J. Uriarte. This interest has led him into his first effort at cosplay, and so far he shows promise.

Earlier this month, the Tempe High School junior took first place in the first Cosplay Fashion Show held at the Guadalupe Branch of the Maricopa County Library District, wearing the costume he designed and created as part of the branch’s Cosplay Club.

Uriarte and the second and third place winners were competing for a chance to attend Phoenix Comicon later this month.

For the uninitiated, Cosplay—from “costume play”—is a term for the recreational activity of designing, building and dressing up in costumes, especially those representing favorite characters from sci-fi and fantasy movies, TV, comics and other iconic pop culture.

It is thought to have been coined in the early ‘80s, for the subculture that had grown up around the pastime connected to sci-fi and comic conventions.

In the decades since, cosplay has spawned conventions and competitions of its own. Participants can range from beginners like Uriarte to professional-level designers spending thousands of dollars on their costumes, to every level in between.

The Guadalupe Branch’s cosplay club came into existence for a very basic reason: They had the necessary equipment.

“I started a Cosplay Club here in March, because we had a sewing machine in the back,” says Branch Manager Amy Vaterlaus.

“So I thought it was a way to get teens to learn to sew. I started with ten teens, and six actually completed it. Four showed up for the contest.”

Out of those four, Uriarte took the top spot for his costume of Dr. Strange, the “Master of the Mystic Arts” from Marvel Comics.

“I had seen the new movie,” says Uriarte. Hence his costume was based on “the Benedict Cumberbatch Dr. Strange,” from last year’s film, explains Vaterlaus, “not the vintage Dr. Strange [from the comics]. It’s not an easy costume to do.”

Second place went to a costume based on the Heath Ledger Joker from 2008’s *The Dark Knight*. The third place winner was a costume representing the character Marquise Mindfang from Andrew Hussie’s webcomic *Homestuck*.

“One of the cool things about this was learning about these webcomics that I wasn’t aware of,” notes



Vaterlaus.

As you can guess, it’s an area of interest that Vaterlaus can share with the young club members. She is herself a cosplayer, who has dressed up as characters ranging from Belle from *Beauty and the Beast* to Wonder Woman to Harley Quinn to Miss Frizzle from *The Magic School Bus*.

In her previous cosplay experiences, however, Vaterlaus had often worn rented costumes.

“The process was a new one for all of us,” she admits.

“Only one of the kids had any sewing experience.”

So Vaterlaus enlisted the aid of some cosplay advisors, who gave them such valuable tips as using inexpensive bedsheets for the originals design experiments, rather than wasting valuable fabrics.

The results surprised at least one of the participants.

“I never sewed anything before,” says Uriarte.

“When I finished it, I was amazed that I could do that.” Go to [mclcdaz.org](http://mclcdaz.org) for details on Maricopa County Library District activities.

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# Sports

With Alex Zener

## Third time no charm for CdS in 6A finals

The Aztecs had to face Pinnacle three times in the 6A State Baseball Championships before being eliminated in the semifinals by the Pioneers.

Corona automatically qualified for the 6A state tournament as the No. 5 seed with a 15-3 record in games counted by the AIA for rankings.

The Aztecs defeated No. 12 Chandler 1-0 in the first round in a game played on Corona's home field April 29. In the second round, played May 3 at Tempe Diablo Stadium, the Aztecs defeated Boulder Creek 4-2.

The Aztecs easily defeated No. 8 Pinnacle, 10-2 in the third round on May 5 at Tempe Diablo Stadium to advance to the semifinals.

Pinnacle, because their players suffered their first loss in the double elimination tournament, dropped down into the losers bracket, where they had to play and defeat No. 13 Boulder Creek to remain in the state tournament.

The Pioneers defeated Boulder Creek 10-0 on May 9 and therefore qualified to play in the semifinals against Corona.

The Pioneers, their confidence high after their rout over Boulder Creek, defeated Corona 7-3 in the semifinals on May 12, giving the Aztecs their first loss in the double elimination tournament.

The Aztecs were unable to win their third straight game against the Pioneers and were eliminated May 13 from the 6A state tournament. Pinnacle, in defeating Corona 5-2, qualified to play in the finals against No. 10 ranked Hamilton, scheduled for May 16.

Although it was a heart-wrenching way to end the season, Corona still finished its season with an outstanding 23-8 record and a No. 6 Arizona ranking.

"This team has been one of the greatest teams and groups of human beings to ever come through Corona," said head coach **Dave Webb**. "They bought into what we set as the standards and were the epitome of TEAM in every sense of the word."

The Aztecs had 11 seniors on their team this season, many of whom also played a big role in their 21-7 season record last year.

"We had some great senior leadership this year," said Webb. "I am going to miss these seniors on our team greatly."

One of the aspects that made this season's team successful included quality pitching. Altogether, the Aztecs had 10 players make an appearance on the mound with seniors **Brandon Bracy** and **Jacob Clemens** and sophomore **Daniel Sotelo** pitching the most innings.

Seniors **Grayson Poole** and **Nick Parke** along with juniors **Luke Eno** and **Matt Novis** and sophomore **Nick Schobinger** pitched innings for the Aztecs.

"Brandon, on the mound, kept us in the race for the playoffs with one quality start after another," said Webb. "He is a super-selfless individual."

Seniors playing in the outfield included **Venkat Narayanan** and **Christian Slater**.

"Venkat, who was the manager on the freshman team, then spent two years on JV but kept working until he earned a starting job in the outfield," said Webb. "He's always been all about the team. He just wants our team to win."

"Christian is an unbelievable human besides being an outstanding baseball player who not only led our team on offense but was a leader in the dugout," said Webb.

Seniors who played infield positions included **Luis Arriola**, **Zak Repar**, **Chase Hamilton**, **Patrick Walker** and **Gehrig Sanchez**.

"Gehrig may be the greatest team player and leader I have ever coached," said Webb. "He was integral in raising another generation of solid future Aztec baseball players, in the way he treated the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors."

Additional players on this season's team who will be looking to get back to the state playoffs again in 2018 include junior **Eric Weidner**, sophomores **Wyatt Berry**, **Brian Kalmer** and **Jack Schobinger** and freshman **Hunter Haas**.

### Marcos de Niza Baseball

The Padres, seeded No. 6, made it all the way to the semifinals of the 4A State Baseball Championships before losing to No. 2 seed Tucson Salpointe Catholic by one point, 4-3, on May 10.

The Padres defeated No. 11 seed Flagstaff on May

— Continued on facing page



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2 to advance to the quarterfinals where they defeated No. 3 seeded Sunrise Mountain 7-5, setting up the semifinal match against Salpointe.

Marcos ended the 2016-17 season ranked No. 7 in the 4A conference with a 21-9 record.

The team will need to replace graduating seniors **Jesse Guzman**, **Drew Johnson**, **Buddy Watson**, **Jake Denham** and **Conner Woods** who each contributed to the team's success in 28 games this season, in order to have a chance to go all the way through the playoffs into the championship round in May 2018.

Guzman, an outfielder, had a .400 batting average, while Johnson played second base, hitting .316 and scoring 25 runs on 30 hits with 20 RBI's, and pitching over 11 innings. Watson played 27 games at first base.

Denham pitched in over 64 innings

and is credited with six wins and three losses while, at bat, he scored 17 runs on 28 hits with 15 RBI's.

Woods pitched over 53 innings and is credited with seven wins and one loss plus, with his batting skills, led his team with a batting average of .540 scoring 36 runs on 47 hits with 32 RBI's and six home runs.

The team should return six juniors, one sophomore and one freshman with varsity experience next season, including junior **Nick Leach** who is tied for second with fellow junior **Max L'Heureux** with a .524 batting average. Leach has scored 35 runs on 54 hits with 22 RBI's and one homerun while L'Heureux is credited with 28 runs on 44 hits with 31 RBI's and three home runs

Junior **Kevin Dunnahoo** is not far

Members of the Aztecs' season-frontrunner varsity baseball team shared their disappointment in the team's semifinals loss to Pinnacle after three previous wins.

— Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News





## Sports

From Page 23

behind with a .418 hitting average, scoring 26 runs on 33 hits with 22 RBI's and three home runs.

Other players who will return to help the Padres attempt to get into the finals next year should be juniors **Adam Sebastian**, **JP Patterson** and **Eric Oden** along with sophomore **Elias Martinez** and freshman **Ethan Galleti**.

Oden has played in 29 games and is one of the Padres' right-handed pitchers, where he has pitched in over 52 innings and is credited with the most wins at eight, with no losses

Martinez is a left-handed pitcher for the Padres plus playing the outfield. He is credited with 22 runs on 27 hits with 20 RBIs and a batting average of .342.

Sebatian, who plays catcher and infielder, has a .304 batting average with eight runs while Patterson has played in 27 games at first base.

### Corona Softball

Corona finished the regular season ranked No. 9, with a 13-5 record in games that count towards the 6A state tournament record. They were just on shy of being an automatic qualifier and therefore had to win in the 6A Play-In Tournament to qualify as one of the 16 top seeds in the 6A State Championship Tournament.

On April 26, the Aztecs easily defeated No. 24 Trevor Brown 15-0 on their home field to move into the 6A State Championship Softball Tournament as the No. 9 seed.

The Aztecs played the No. 8 seed, Desert Vista, at DV on April 29, where they lost 9-3 to the Thunder and were eliminated from the tournament.

Corona ended the season ranked No. 9 in the 6A conference with a 21-12 overall record, losing only three seniors and potentially returning 13 players with varsity experience for next season.

Graduating seniors included

# Champs!



Aprende Middle School JV Team, front row bottom from left: Ben Connolly, Carter Bailey, Cole Carlon, Zane Coggins, Alex Seibal, Owen Janssen and R.J. Saenz. Back Row: Kobe Ladd, Peyton Beauer, Zack Wroble, Christian Lomeli, Orlando Figueroa, Chad Bogan, Tommy Steinkamp, Diego Diaz.



Aprende Middle School Varsity Team, front row bottom from left: Kenneth Russell, Camden Nygaard, Mason Winkelmann, Michael Fuller, Nomar Sierra, Quade Swearington; back row: Coach Jason Eres, Levi Graham, DJ Barrett, Hunter Whitmore, Connor Williamson, Jackson Doren, Scott Musgrave, Marcus Harrison, Tyler Bracy.



# Sports

From Page 24

**Allyssia Sanchez, Haley Vallejos and Taylor Miller.**

Sanchez, who played could play both second and third base along with outfielder, played in 32 games this season earning a .346 hitting average with 36 hits, 30 RBI's and scoring 22 runs.

Miller played in 22 games, hitting .278 with eight RBI's and six runs, while Vallejos, on varsity since a freshman, played in 88 games as an Aztec, hitting .384 with 112 hits, 72 RBI's and 43 scored runs.

Corona should return three of its top hitters who will be seniors next year.

**Olivia Miller** played in every game hitting .482 scoring 47 runs on 55 hits, knocking in 16 RBIs. She also led her team in stolen bases with an outstanding 29.

**Caleigh Tilden-Long** played in

30 games, hitting .479 scoring 29 runs on 46 hits with 24 RBI's while **Jessica Lynch** averaged .417, scoring 18 runs on 40 hits with 10 RBI's.

Corona will also return two of its main pitchers from this season: juniors Lynch and **Mikaeli Davidson**. Also making appearances on the pitching mound were junior **Bailey Sejnoha** and freshman **Jada Wendling**.

Lynch pitched in over 20 innings and is credited with 11 wins while Davidson pitched in over 14 innings and is credited with eight wins.

Current sophomore catcher **Reyna Mori** leads the team in put-outs with 118, while is right behind her on the state sheet with 117.

Other players who should return next season with varsity playing experience who should help Corona go further in the playoffs include junior **Nicole Neumann** and **Sydney McKarns**, sophomores **Ally Quintero** and **Ariana Marquez-Yniguez** and freshman **Sierra Fuchs** and **Summer Duran**.



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# City of Chandler NEWS+Events

[www.chandleraz.gov/newsroom](http://www.chandleraz.gov/newsroom)

## Donations and volunteers needed for Operation Back to School

The City of Chandler Diversity Office, along with For Our City-Chandler, is gearing up for another Operation Back to School event on Saturday, July 22, at Chandler High School. The goal is to ensure Chandler students are ready with the supplies they need for the first day of school. More than 3,000 families and students attended last year and staff expects the same or more to attend this coming year. It takes a village to make this happen, and the City needs help from the business community and residents.



There are several ways to get involved, including:

- Corporate sponsorships that range from \$500 to \$20,000;
- Making an online financial contribution (100 percent of monetary donations are used to purchase supplies for students);
- Donating school supplies, uniforms, shoes, socks or underwear from a recommended wish list;
- Volunteering to assist with inventory and backpack stuffing prior to the event and on the day of the event.

To view a complete list of sponsorship opportunities, school supplies needed, or volunteer opportunities, visit [backtoschoolchandler.org](http://backtoschoolchandler.org).



## Small business owners invited to free workshops

The City of Chandler's Economic Development Division and Chandler Library are partnering to host a series of workshops to help small business owners grow their business. Its purpose is to empower small business success to help build a strong local economy. When local businesses succeed, the entire community benefits.

- Wednesday, June 14 – Start or Grow Your Business, Part 1: Your City and Chamber of Commerce Resources  
Join the City of Chandler's staff to learn about business resources available through the Economic Development and Tax & License divisions. In addition, staff from the Chandler Chamber of Commerce will discuss their resources for assisting startups and expanding companies.
- Wednesday, June 28 – Start or Grow Your Business, Part 2: Getting Started with a Business Plan & Structure  
The Small Business Development Center will discuss business plans and structures. Chandler Public Library staff will provide an overview of the Library's free resources, which provide information important to entrepreneurs, particularly in creating a business plan.
- Wednesday, July 12 – Start or Grow Your Business, Part 3: Financing Your Business  
The Small Business Administration will provide information on business financing.

Mark your calendar and spread the word – you don't want to miss out on these free workshops! All workshops will be from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Basha Library, 5990 S. Val Vista Drive. Registration is required. Space is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call 782-2800, or visit [bit.ly/StartorGrowYourBusiness](http://bit.ly/StartorGrowYourBusiness) to reserve your spot.



## Summer Reading Program starts June 1

The 2017 Summer Reading Program starts on June 1, and runs through August 1. Summer is a great time to build and create and have fun with friends at the Chandler Public Library! The theme of this year's program is "Build a Better World" and will include science, magic, self-defense programs, healthy food demonstrations and visits from Arizona Rick: The Great Grand Canyon Balloon Show and Jungle Jill's Animal Encounters.

In addition to having fun, this program helps prevent the "summer slide" so that kids will not lose the reading comprehension skills that they learned during the school year. Not only does the summer reading program reinforce literacy skills, but it also provides positive reading habits to youth and adults.

The Library has many resources to help you learn, grow, connect and create. There are summer reading programs for all age groups and are all free of charge! For more information, go to [chandlerlibrary.org/srp](http://chandlerlibrary.org/srp) or call 480-782-2800.



## Find your spot

Coming to downtown Chandler? You may have noticed that construction has started on the Overstreet Chandler project on the southwest corner of Chandler Boulevard and Arizona Avenue. There is plenty of free parking available to enjoy all of the shopping, dining, special events and services offered in downtown Chandler.

It's as easy as 1-2-3! There are three free parking garages east of Arizona Avenue.

- City Hall parking garage, 240 S. Washington St., open 24/7;
- Ports America parking garage, 105 E. Buffalo St., after 5 p.m. during the week and all day on weekends; and
- First Credit Union parking garage, 100 E. Boston St., after 5 p.m. during the week and all day on weekends.

There also is free parking available at the surface lot just west of Arizona Avenue along Buffalo Street. Follow the signs with the parking symbol to direct you to free parking. Visit [chandleraz.gov/downtown](http://chandleraz.gov/downtown) to view a parking map of the entire downtown.

## EVENTS

### MAY

- 22 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 25 Public Hearing on utility rate changes, Council Chambers, 782-2256
- 25 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 29 Memorial Day holiday, City Offices closed

### JUNE

- 5 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 7 Family Night at the TRC, Owls and Elephants, Tumbleweed Rec Center, 782-2900
- 8 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 14 Start or Grow Your Small Business Workshop Series (Part 1 of 3), Basha Library, 782-2800
- 16 Juneteenth, Center for the Arts, 782-2214
- 17 Family Luau Party, Hamilton Pool, 480-782-2733
- 18 Free admission for Dads at Chandler aquatic centers, 480-782-2733

- 19 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 19 Future Leaders Fair, Chandler Community Center, 782-2746
- 21 Family Night at the TRC, Bugs Galore!, Tumbleweed Rec Center, 782-2900
- 22 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 28 Start or Grow Your Small Business Workshop Series (Part 2 of 3), Basha Library, 782-2800

For event details, visit [chandleraz.gov](http://chandleraz.gov) or call the Chandler Special Events Hotline at 782-2735.

Mayor Jay Tibshraeny & City Council





## Tempe launches search for 2017 humanitarian

Do you know someone who has changed Tempe for the better through donating time or money to help others? Tempe Community Council is accepting nominations for the 2017 Don Carlos Humanitarian of the Year, volunteer and philanthropy awards.

This is the 34th year for the program. Considered Tempe's most prestigious distinction, the Don Carlos award honors an individual or couple who have given outstanding service to the community, has benefited those in need in lasting ways and has made Tempe a better place to live.

The award embodies the legacy, character and spirit of Charles Trumbull Hayden, known by Spanish pioneers as "Don Carlos," who spent his life working to help those in need.

Awards are also presented to a notable philanthropist, volunteer and young humanitarian who have contributed in significant ways by serving the Tempe community.

"Tempe has many great people who do amazing things to help those less fortunate in our community," said TCC Executive Director Valerie Kime Trujillo.

"We look to our residents and

neighbors to nominate these individuals and elevate the good works of those who inspire others by illuminating the unsung heroes who help make Tempe a caring community."

Nominations can be submitted online. For information about the awards or nominations email [cindy\\_kominska@tempe.gov](mailto:cindy_kominska@tempe.gov) or call 480-858-2310. The deadline for submitting a nomination is June 14.

Winners will be honored at the 34th Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards event being held on Sept. 27.

Past honorees:

*Dr. William Payne, Leonard Monti Sr., Margaret and William Kajikawa, Jinnett B. Kirk, Peggy Bryant, Eliza Carney, Naomi Harward, Mimi & Mac Bohlman, Virginia Tinsley, Betty and John Waters, Pat Hatton, Lawn Griffiths, Rudy Campbell, Bobbie and George Overby, Sue and Bob Lofgren, Carol E. Smith, Sue Searcy, Zita Johnson, Bobbie and Don Cassano, David B. Cutty, Joseph Spracale, Jane and Dick Neuheisel, Gail Fisher and Mel Kessler, Linda Spears, Pen Johnson, Sue Ringler, Catherine May and Dan Abbott, Alice and Ralph Goitia, Harry E. Mitchell, Kerry Fetherston, Neil G. Giuliano, Raveen Arora and Shana Ellis.*

## 30-year anniversary for Chandler Chamber's community awards

It all started in 1987 and now the Chandler Chamber of Commerce will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Community Awards at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino on June 1.

The event will be emceed by Valley radio legend Dave Pratt with live music provided by Throwing Fitz.

The following winners were selected by a Chandler Chamber Committee.

- Large Business of the Year: Garmin International
- Medium Business of the Year: Alliance Bank of Arizona
- Small Business of the Year: Commit Agency
- Micro Business of the Year: Spike Lawrence
- Community Cup: Chandler Symphony Orchestra
- Chamber Cup (Chamber Volunteer): Jane Poston of J2 Media
- Chandler Cup (Mayor's Choice): Rogers Corporation
- James R. Snedigar Public Service Award: Russell Suprak,

Chandler Fire, Health & Medical  
• Business Diversity Award: PayPal

• Ambassador of the Year: Dave Waltzer, Combined Insurance

• Educator of the Year: Torie Brown, Andersen Elementary

• School Administrator of the Year: Leo Schlueter, Carlson Elementary

• School Support Staff of the Year: Roy Mesquita, Arizona College Prep, Erie Campus.

"It is wonderful to have such remarkable people and organizations here in Chandler and it is our pleasure to honor these exceptional businesses, organizations, educators and volunteers," said Terri Kimble, Chamber President/CEO.

"They each make unique and valuable contributions to our community and Chamber."

"This year's show will truly be a lot of fun. Attendees will enjoy dinner, live music, and a great show."

Tickets can be purchased at the Chandler Chamber or by visiting [ChandlerChamber.com](http://ChandlerChamber.com).

## Make this your best summer ever!

Programs start the week of June 5

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The summer Tempe Opportunities brochure features hundreds of programs and camps for every interest, age and ability, including health and fitness, art, dance, special interest, sports, aquatics, boating and summer camp offerings. You can view the brochure online or pick one up at a City of Tempe facility.



[www.tempe.gov/brochure](http://www.tempe.gov/brochure)

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# Arts

From Page 5

“Words could never express my gratitude that Bryana was blessed to be touched by Ms. Hackmann’s talent and undeniable ability to make a difference in a child’s life!”

And, a third parent, Monique Crudup, wrote to say how much her daughter, Morgan, gained during her participation as part of the cast for Bye Bye Birdie.

“She made great new friends and gained a love for the arts because of the great deal of care that Mrs. Hackman put into the kids. I have never seen her work so hard and love it that much. She would come home from rehearsal with a smile on her face and tell me how she loved it--so much so that she plans to pursue acting in high school next year.”

Upon learning about the accolades, Hackmann is appreciative, but humble because she believes the productions have been accomplished through a group effort.

“I have loved being part of the Kyrene Community, so it is fun to hear that people appreciate what I have been able to do, but I certainly don’t do it alone,” said Hackmann.

“I give thanks to a lot of wonderful district and colleague support. There are incredible teachers in Kyrene that are creating masterpieces out of children every year.

“It really is the parents and families who offered a lot of time and love to help my programs be successful. I’ve had amazing students and parents willing to jump in no matter how crazy the task seemed!”

Hackmann was raised in Iowa and was involved in music and drama all of her life. When not teaching, she serves as the Bell Choir director for the Dayspring United Methodist Church in Tempe.

“I graduated from Simpson College with a double major in English and Theatre, and a minor in Music,” said Hackmann.

“I’ve been singing and playing the piano since I was small, and have performed all over the country and in Europe. My parents instilled a love of music in my sisters and brother, and my whole family is musical.”

She is a National Board Certified Teacher and received the ASU Mentor Teacher of the Year award and also the Tempe Diablos Excellence in Education for Going Above and Beyond.

As for the odds of her winning that big national award like an Oscar or maybe a Tony--Hackmann is banking on her son, Nathaniel.

“He is a professional actor who lives in New York City and is easily found through a Google search. He recently finished a two-year run on Broadway, singing Jean Val Jean in Les Miserables.”



## Tempe volunteer honored by St. Luke's

A 72-year-old Tempe resident has received Tempe St. Luke's Hospital's "Volunteer of the Year" Award, designed to recognize outstanding achievements and dedication of more than 100 hours of yearly service.

Sharon Bouros is one of seven volunteers to have provided pastoral care at the hospital for the last 14 years.

She also has served on the scholarship committee for the last 10 years, and was recognized for exhibiting a positive attitude toward the staff, fellow volunteers, patients, families, physicians and guests of the hospital.

Additionally, 10 students pursuing a degree in medicine each received a \$1,000 scholarship from the hospital.

## Tempe Chamber 2017 conference inspires women to 'Learn, Lead, Grow'

Debbie Gaby, an area entrepreneur and philanthropist, will be keynote speaker at the Tempe Chamber of Commerce's 22nd annual Women in Business Conference and Trade Show Wednesday, May 24, at the Doubletree Hilton Phoenix-Hilton.

Theme for the event is "Learn, Lead, Grow."

Gaby, who was known as "America's Sleep Queen," was president and spokesman for Sleep America, Arizona's largest mattress retailer in Arizona before the company was sold in 2015.

In addition to Gaby, the program will feature a leadership panel featuring

business and community leaders that have been innovative in their field, including Lacya Shelton-Johnson, vice chancellor of Human Resources for the Maricopa County Community College District; Lauren Kuby, city of Tempe councilmember; and Ji Mi Choi, associate vice president of the Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development at Arizona State University.

Dr. Aneesah Nadir, past president of the Islamic Social Services Association-USA and a social worker for over 40 years, will moderate the discussion.

The conference will celebrate the accomplishments and achievements from prominent businesswomen across the Valley.

This year's new theme, "Learn, Lead, Grow," will feature speakers, breakout sessions and a trade show. Information: Chris Samuels, [chris@tempechamber.org](mailto:chris@tempechamber.org).

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## ASU Bound?



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