



Bringing new 'flavor' to area's casual-dining scene

Trendy Phoenix cafe seen as boost to So. Tempe

By M.V. Moorhead

South Tempe is special. That's the view resident Matt Smith happily shares any time he's asked or simply when the topic comes up in conversation. As of last week, though, "special" took on a new dimension and, you'd likely say, a new flavor.

Smith is talking about the arrival of Tempe Public Market Cafe, the long-awaited localized iteration of downtown's Phoenix Public Market Cafe. It was

slated to open last week at Warner and Rural roads. "South Tempe has a very high standard of living," Smith says fervently. "Gorgeous trees, homes and a very intense sense of community."

But even a booster as enthusiastic as Smith can't deny that he thinks something has been missing from an otherwise well-rounded South Tempe mix.

"We love to live down here," he says, "but when it comes to working and playing, we go to Arcadia or Central Phoenix."

The opening of this branch of Public Market, he

thinks, will allow residents to play closer to home — if by play they mean sampling the work of a chef who has already put himself on the map.

Tempe Public Market Café is the newest project of Aaron Chamberlin, known not only for Phoenix Public Market but for St. Francis near Camelback and Central.

Both establishments are modern but also delightfully accessible purveyors of sandwiches,

—CAFE, Page 12

Neighbors rally vs proliferation of short-term rentals

By Diana Whittle

If you think of your home as your castle, you're not unlike the Tempe residents who live in Estate La Colina.

Located in the 85284 zip code, the neighborhood extends from McClintock Road to the west, Buena Vista on the north and Warner Road on the south. It features large and well-maintained homes, with mature trees and many longtime residents.

Simply said, Estate La Colina is the kind of neighborhood most people would aspire to live in, with access to good schools and close to plenty of amenities.

Five years ago, current resident Jim Corkins happily purchased his residence on Holbrook Lane and hoped to live a long, comfortable life there with his family.

But the dream became altered last year when the next-door property sold to a Las Vegas-based investor, Juan Pulido, who re-modeled it and converted its use from single-family residence to a short-term rental—aka an Airbnb-type of vacation home.

For the uninitiated, Airbnb is a 10-year-old company, headquartered in San Francisco, which bills itself as an online marketplace and hospitality service that enables people to sign up for short-term lodging, including vacation, condo or home rentals.

While Airbnb doesn't own any lodging, it serves as an on-line broker and claims to have listings in 65,000 cities and 191 countries.

— RENTALS, Page 10



Jim Corkins stands in front of a nearby home in Estate La Colina that has been converted to Airbnb use. — Wrangler News photo

From the publisher

Using ad dollars to control media: Why we should take notice

Having spent these many years in the newspaper industry and its closely aligned counterparts, advertising and public relations, I've had an opportunity to see how these two "frenemies," for lack of a better word, have been able not only to coexist but, in many cases, actually thrive.

Reporters learned to place their trust in certain longtime

sources and feel confident that the stories they wrote as a result would stand the test of journalistic integrity. Likewise, those sources felt assured that they would receive fair treatment from reporters and editors with whom they had shared their confidence.

It neither case, it seems, can this onetime unspoken covenant still always be counted on.

While reporters are quick to point out that their coverage of stories is not and never will be

influenced by advertising dollars, the nature of communications appears to be evolving into what rightly may cause us to wonder if what we read, hear and see in the traditional media is as trustworthy as we once believed.

With advertising dollars providing a major lifeline to the media's continued existence, a reduction in that source of revenue—which seems to be

— MEDIA, Page 21



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Candidates listed for Tempe's March 13 Council election

By Chelsea Flood

Tempe's March 13 special election is on the horizon, and campaign signs are popping up all over town as six candidates jockey for three positions. Among those hoping to serve on the Tempe City Council are two incumbents, Vice Mayor Robin Arredondo-Savage and Councilwoman Lauren Kuby. Councilman David Schapira will not seek re-election as he will run for superintendent of public instruction.

The election will be conducted by mail-in ballot only, which are set to be mailed Feb. 14. Every registered voter will automatically receive a ballot.

Certified candidates for City Council are Jennifer Adams, Robin Arredondo-Savage, Sarah Kader, Lauren Kuby, Justin Stewart and Genevieve Vega. Those elected will be sworn in to four-year terms in July.

So, who are these six candidates? Here's a quick introduction to each:

Jennifer Adams: The former Tempe employee worked with the city for nearly 30 years in a wide variety of positions and aims to channel her experiences as a tool for understanding the needs of the community and the operations of the city. She says her main focus revolves around empowering neighborhood participation in decision-making processes, promoting small businesses to enhance a sense of community, and supporting much-needed infrastructure improvements in a sustainable and fiscally-responsible manner. She says her main values are: family first, inclusion, and service above self.

Robin Arredondo-Savage: The vice mayor was raised in Tempe, graduated from McClintock High School and received her bachelor's degree from Arizona State University. Arredondo-Savage is also a U.S. Army veteran and an advocate for veteran services. She was elected to the council in 2010 and has led efforts to bring STEM programs to youth and helped develop the Tempe Veteran's Commission and a veteran family housing project. Key issues in her agenda include jobs, the economy, public safety, education, parks, sustainability, transportation and housing.

Sarah Kader: The Tempe native attended the University of Arizona

and then Syracuse University for law school before returning to Tempe to start her career. Kader has worked as an attorney for the Arizona Center for Disability Law the past seven years. She teaches an online disabilities studies course as an adjunct professor at Northern Arizona University. Kader claims that she wants "to be confident that our city government is committed day in and day out to the safety, success and opportunity for families" in Tempe.

Lauren Kuby: The councilwoman was first elected in 2014 and has been a resident of Tempe for the past 29 years. She manages community engagement for Arizona State University's Global Institute of Sustainability. On the council, Kuby has supported equal pay, environmental protection, earned sick days and campaign finance reform. Kuby says her focus is that she "advocates for vulnerable populations, worker protections and climate-change action."

Justin Stewart: The neighborhood advocate is chairman of the Mitchell Park Neighborhood Association and a member of the Tempe Neighbors Together. Justin says he has worked very hard with city staff on a variety of issues including: Homeless initiatives aimed at their safety and well-being; how to make residential zoning laws work for the neighborhood and neighbors; and a continuing expansion of various arts programs within Tempe. His proposed focus on key issues is "preserving neighborhoods, improving parks, and altering how Tempe uses GPLET (Government Property Lease Excise Tax), and incentives for historic neighborhoods."

Genevieve Vega: The longtime Tempe resident is a business consultant and owns and operates GVega Consulting, and is starting a second term on the Tempe Community Council Board of Directors. With a background in local and global business and an MBA, as well as a long-standing history of community service in Tempe, Vega says she hopes to provide a compassionate yet progressive perspective for Tempe. Vega's key issues are entirely community-oriented, focusing on strong neighborhoods, openness, cooperation and education.

At press time, Lori DeLuca was



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One life at a time: How one bus driver's compassion made a life-changing difference



By Amy Garza

Some days you wonder if you are making a difference. You question if your life has purpose. Are you in the right place? Are you doing what you were meant to do with your life?

If you have ever felt this way, you are not alone.

Tempe Elementary Transportation Director Jessica Palmer thought all those things until recently when she got a letter in the mail.

The letter started like this:

“Miss Jessi: You probably don’t remember me. My name is Alex Hernandez. I rode your school bus #58 when I was at Aguilar from Kindergarten to 5th grade...”

Hernandez explained in the letter that he was teased for being small for his age. Some days things didn’t go his way, and the other kids picked on him.

He recalled: “You always shut them down.”

Palmer did remember “Alex.” She knew life at home wasn’t always easy for the boy. She never hesitated to protect her little passenger.

“I didn’t always like school,” said Hernandez, “but I sure loved riding the bus and when you showed up every day with a ‘Good morning!’ and a ‘Have a great day!’ and with the ‘Remember to make good choices,’ and ‘Come back and tell me something you learned today.’”

You were the adult in my life that told me I could make a difference, I could do anything I put my heart to.”

Hernandez rode “Miss Jessi’s” bus for his elementary-school years. Palmer worked her way up to routing tech/dispatcher, supervisor and then director of transportation, a position she holds today.

“I hear you hung up your bus keys and you became the Director,” wrote

Hernandez, “If you are able to pass off a little bit of your compassion to your employees, Tempe students will soar.”

She now trains her drivers to be positive.

“You set the tone for the day,” reminds Palmer. She encourages drivers to say “Good Morning” to the kids, tell them to have a good day. She explains to them, “In many cases, you are the first face these kids see in the morning and the last one they see at the end of the school day.

This is your chance to make an impact, to make a difference in these kids’ lives.”

Many of her drivers tell her they don’t usually get a response from the kids. They feel like they aren’t getting through to the students. They wonder if the students are even listening. Is it making a difference? Palmer knows this all too well.

She felt that way, too—but she tells them to keep doing it.

With a shortage of bus drivers, Palmer still drives a school bus quite often. She still always says to the students, “Good morning, have a good day, make good choices, and come back and tell me something you learned today.”

Just the other day, when some of the kids got on her bus after she drove them the day before, they said, “We’re so glad you are here again today.” A little surprised, Palmer grinned from ear to ear just talking about it. That’s making a difference.

Now a senior at El Dorado High School in New Mexico, Hernandez is looking forward to attending Santa Fe Community College in the fall and wants to become a teacher.

He attributes much of his hard work to Palmer, saying, “You made an impact in my life.”

So, touched by what he wrote, Palmer wrote her former passenger back. She wanted him to know how much his letter meant to her, especially at this time in her career—and her life.

Sometimes you don’t know if you are making a difference, Palmer advises. “You may not know right away. You may never know. Don’t give up. Don’t stop trying to make an impact, because if you make a difference in one person’s life, it’s worth more than you can imagine.”

Photo by Ernie Ontoveros



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Candidates

From Page 3

attempting to launch a write-in candidacy.

Tempe voters will also weigh in on three ballot measures, including Prop. 402, a proposed charter amendment for Papago Preserve; Prop. 403, a proposed charter amendment for contribution source disclosure in city elections; and Prop. 404, a proposed permanent expenditure base adjustment.

Prop 402 would amend the Tempe City Charter to declare the city's 300-acre portion of Papago Park a preserve, meaning it would regulate park hours and activities and halt any future development.

Prop 403 would amend the charter to require the disclosure of the origins of major contributions used to influence local city elections. Any person or entity making an independent expenditure over \$1,000 must disclose the source of their funding.

Prop 404 would raise a state-imposed spending ceiling for cities that was enacted in 1980 so the city can spend the revenue it brings in. A "yes" vote wouldn't affect taxes, the city says, and spending would go through a public process and require City Council approval.

Register to vote by Feb. 12. Ballots will be mailed after that deadline. Voters can drop off their voted ballots or get replacement ballots at either of the two ballot centers in Tempe, Tempe City Hall, Tempe Public Library or the Maricopa County Recorder's Office.

The ballot centers will be open March 3-13. Information about the elections can be found at tempe.gov/election.

Voters can also call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311 or email clerk@tempe.gov.

Arizona Community Church to host Jan. 23 candidate forum

Candidates' signs are on every corner, but who are those candidates? A coalition of South Tempe neighborhoods has scheduled an evening session to give residents the opportunity to meet and get to know the candidates running for Tempe City Council.

The program will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, in Building G, Room 2, at Arizona Community Church, 9325 S. Rural Road. Sponsors are the neighborhoods of Estate La Colina, Alta Mira, Raintree Estates and Carver Ranch Estates.

The forum will provide an opportunity to put a face to the candidates and hear their vision for area neighborhoods, particularly those in South Tempe.

Time will be available before and after the program, as time allows, to visit with the candidates and voice priorities and concerns.

Evoking memories of an ice-cream lovers' favorite Farrell's pioneer launches new incarnation of a Tempe original



Wrangler News photo

By Michelle Hirsch



For longtime area residents, the memory of Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour evokes sweet memories of good times and good friends.

Dave Burnett, owner of a new gathering place in town, is drawing on his extensive, formational experience as a district manager for Farrell's to propel Chandler's HOP Social Tavern into another success story.

Adjacent to Chandler Fashion Center, next to Firebirds, the site is remembered as that of the former Elephant Bar, but the address is the only similarity.

HOP Social is remodeled and redecorated, including the addition of a large outdoor patio and an atmosphere designed to encourage gathering, relaxing and conversation while enjoying up to 52 beers on tap, happy-hour specials from 3 to 6 and 9:30 p.m. to close every day, and a variety of quality, local-sourced, from-scratch recipes on the menu.

"We make everything from scratch. Every sauce, every soup—everything is from scratch," Burnett said.

He pointed to a career in restaurants that began in the early '80s, working for an icon of success, Bob Farrell, founder of the popular ice cream parlors that bore his name.

Farrell retired in 1985 and the company was sold to an investment group, leading to a significant change in corporate culture and most locations closing. But not before "Mr. Farrell", as Burnett respectfully and fondly refers to his mentor, had a profound positive impact on the restaurant industry, employees and customers alike.

For Burnett, that was the point in 2009 when he and his wife, Christie, decided to "risk it all," draining their 401k,

refinancing their house and taking their career experience and faith to open their first, then second, and third successful restaurants in Oregon.

Eight years later, with some entrepreneurial success under their belts, they took another leap of faith to consider where they could grow beyond Oregon.

One of Dave's good friends owns several area Biscuits Cafes, and he invited the Burnetts to consider Arizona. Fast forward to a year later, after carefully researching possible Arizona locations from West Valley to East Valley, and again harnessing their many years of restaurant management experience, the Burnetts, along with their long-time leadership team, crossed the threshold of planning, design, remodelin and hiring to open the HOP Social Tavern's doors last November.

Burnett is quick to humbly give credit where he says credit is due — blessings from the Lord, teamwork with his best friend, business partner and wife of 38 years, their top-notch employees (many who've traveled from Oregon to relocate here), and all he learned from Farrell.

"I simply paid attention. I don't have to reinvent the wheel. Mr. Farrell always taught us, it's about the guest, the guest, the guest. As I learned from Mr. Farrell, the answer to a customer is always yes," Burnett added.

Burnett has based his own company philosophy on what he learned working for Farrell, including the same "Give 'em the Pickle" excellence in customer service tenets found in Farrell's bestselling business book of the same name.

Burnett adds it's been rewarding to, as he describes, "Do something for a living that by nature I love doing."

Interacting with guests is clearly one of his favorite activities at HOP, as he will be found most hours socializing with customers to help ensure their vision in creating a social gathering place where people can meet, hang out, relax and enjoy the experience.

The layout and decor of HOP Social is designed to create a "social, community gathering place," said Burnett.

From the tufted-leather booth seating intended to offer a relaxing area to "hang out," to the back wall arrangement of tables that can be assembled together for groups and meetings, to family and small party tables, the place is surrounded by a clean, yet vintage-feel decor that will spark interest and conversation from every angle.

The Burnetts say they will soon join the Chandler Chamber of Commerce business community, and are looking forward to finding more ways to engage with and give back to our local community.

HOP Social Tavern is at 3405 W. Chandler Blvd.



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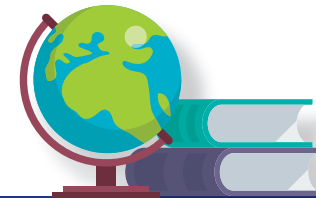
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Surgery-free approach to pain finally yields relief for victim of crippling arthritis

By Joyce Coronel

The pain got so bad, Tempe resident Carl Barnes called his wife to say he couldn't take it anymore. He was done living.

Plagued by vicious arthritis pain through the years, Barnes was at the end of his rope.

"I decided, enough is enough," Barnes said. "My primary-care doctor was like a lot of doctors: Prescribe, prescribe, prescribe." But nothing, not even the legal limit of opioid painkillers, relieved the agony.

"I was constantly in pain and couldn't figure out why. I was on five different painkillers."

Barnes' wife rushed home from work after receiving Carl's alarming call and took him to the hospital, where they learned he was not suicidal—he just needed a solution to the torment of advanced arthritis in his knees and back.



Unable to sit, lie down or do much of anything without pain, Barnes turned to Dr. Minesh Zaveri, who oversees pain management at Tempe St. Luke's Hospital and St. Luke's Medical Center.

St. Luke's is the first in the state of Arizona to offer a revolutionary alternative to surgery and joint replacement for arthritis sufferers.

The treatment, known as Cooled Radio Frequency Ablation, or Cooling RF, spells relief for patients who in

the past relied only on medications, intensive physical therapy or last-resort surgery that often includes joint repair or joint replacement.

Arthritis affects 24 percent of Arizona's population, and as the population ages that number is expected to grow. With more than 1.2 million adults currently living with doctor-diagnosed arthritis in a state where opioid consumption is reaching epidemic levels and has been declared a public health emergency, both patients and doctors are looking for alternative, yet effective, treatment options.

Recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration, Cooling RF is said to be a less drastic option for people with moderate to severe osteoarthritis pain. Using radio frequencies to target and essentially shut off the nerves that send pain signals from the affected arthritic area to the brain, Cooling RF has become an effective treatment option for individuals who whom knee replacement surgery is not an option or for those who have additional health conditions.

Probes are inserted that deliver the radio frequencies during an outpatient procedure that approximately takes 15-20 minutes to complete.

While the treatment does not reduce the level of arthritis in the joint, pain relief is significant and can help patients live relatively pain free, without needing to rely on sometimes highly addictive medication.

"We have seen incredible results with patients who have undergone this game-changing treatment," said Zaveri.



Dr. Minesh Zaveri

"By interrupting the pain receptors in the brain, pain and functionality is drastically improved in minutes to hours after the procedure, which is done

in an outpatient setting, giving patients the chance to get back to living their lives to the fullest much sooner."

Barnes said he would "absolutely recommend" Cooling RF to fellow arthritis sufferers. "It's done wonders," he said. "It's made me human again. I've told many people, 'Dr. Z. saved my life.'"

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Chandler unveils 2018 Celebration of Unity honoring King's legacy

Chandler has launched its 2018 Celebration of Unity with a series of events designed to recognize a diverse community and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement.

Scheduled events include a play, a photography exhibit, the 23rd annual Chandler Multicultural Festival, a peace pole dedication and a candlelight vigil.

Celebration of Unity events attract thousands attendees each year.

Included in the program are:

- A Jan. 11 play about the Polish Underground's daring undercover mission at Auschwitz;

- The 23rd annual Multicultural Festival, which returns to downtown Chandler through a partnership with the Chandler International Film Festival. The free event celebrates the city's diverse community and will be held 4-9 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, near the Downtown Library Courtyard and the Downtown Stage. It features cultural performances, a variety of food and beverage vendors and informational booths.

Performers include Indigenous Enterprise, AZ Rhythm Connection, Cool Hands Sign Language Group, Instituto de Folklor Mexicano, Master Shin's World Class Tae Kwon Do, Aloha Studio, Chinese Lion Dancers and more.

A complete



entertainment schedule is available online at chandleraz.gov/unity.

- Around 7 p.m., the International Film Festival will present five short films. After the viewing, attendees are invited to participate in a question-and-answer session with the filmmakers.

- The 18th annual Creative Expression Competition, which is open to students who live or attend a school in Chandler. This year's theme is "Leadership and Diplomacy: Showcasing youth leadership and citizen diplomacy efforts to achieve peace." Entries

were submitted last month, and the winners have been selected. All of the winners' work will be displayed at the Chandler Multicultural Film Festival.

- Before the Multicultural Festival, the community is invited to join city officials and the Rotary Club of Chandler for a Peace Pole Dedication at the Chandler Downtown Library, 22 S. Delaware St. A peace pole is a hand-crafted monument that displays the message and prayer "May Peace Prevail on Earth" on each of its four sides, usually in different languages.

The languages of Hindi, Mandarin, Spanish and English will be featured on this peace pole.

- After the dedication, Native American dancers will begin their dance to lead everyone to the Downtown Stage for the official Multicultural Festival kickoff.

- Finally, the Chandler Diversity Office, in collaboration with Chandler Men of Action, is holding the first annual Candlelight Vigil for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from 5-7 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 14, also at the Downtown Library Courtyard and the Downtown Stage.

The event will include an introduction by local clergy members, a short Martin Luther King, Jr. documentary, a candlelight ceremony and performances by local musicians.

Information:
chandleraz.gov/unity or call 480-782-2214.

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Rentals

From Page 1

The growth of Airbnb-style, on-line rentals served as a catalyst for a burgeoning market in neighborhoods all across the country and, in particular, in climate-friendly destinations like Arizona.

According to statistics, on the Airdna website, the increase in short-term rentals in Tempe is up 85 percent over the last several years.

It's a troubling trend for the residents of Estate La Colina, who say they feel that the historic character of their neighborhood is different, and that the stability and value of their homes is in jeopardy.

Led by resident Corkins, a group of neighbors appeared at a Dec. 7 Tempe City Council work-study meeting to express concerns over the growth in short-rentals in general and, in specific, about the home at 8648 S. Holbrook Lane.

"Essentially the new owner converted this residence into a small apartment building and hotel capable of supporting 10 people, when the property previously was a single-family, five-bedroom home," explained Corkins to the council.

Additional conversions to the home's interior removed common areas, so more bedrooms were created, and the entire front yard was paved to allow for additional parking.

In addition, Corkins said he and other neighbors have had to call Tempe police on numerous occasions due to loud parties, drug and alcohol use, as well as on parking issues created by the short-term renters.

"The landlord lives out of state and is available only by text, and has allowed construction debris to be in front of the house for months on end," said Corkins.

"The tenants seem to ignore texts from the landlord, and Senate Bill 1350 states that the property doesn't have to be registered as a rental, so he does not have to have a manager on site."

Even residents who don't live next to the home with the short-term renters say they feel their lives in the neighborhood are adversely affected.

In response, Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell cited the recently passed SB1350, which rules that a city or town may not prohibit short-term or vacation rentals in homes.

"Due to this law, cities are limited in their response to this problem of short-term rentals," said Mitchell. "So I encourage all residents to contact their state representatives to express their concerns."

Still, Mitchell pledged to those residents in attendance at the council work-study session that he would form a committee to review any possible city code violations.

In the following weeks, a special workgroup that includes Councilmembers Lauren Kuby, Kolby Granville and Joel Navarro, along with Ron Tapscott from Tempe Neighborhoods Together, have met to discuss the code issues along with some possible solutions submitted by Corkins and his neighbors.

"The state representative for my neighborhood is Jill Norgaard, and Councilmember Kuby is in contact with her and another neighbor, Bill Baxter," said Corkins.

"But to date, there has not been much state action in response to neighbors' complaints."

A Tempe city spokesperson, Kris Baxter-Ging, acknowledged that "staff has definitely heard the neighbors' concerns on short-term vacation rentals and we are looking for possible solutions in our code to mitigate the issue."

She also mentioned that some residential areas have homeowner associations while others have just neighborhood associations, each with different legal standings.

For example, a neighborhood association is a voluntary organization of residents who work together to improve and maintain the quality of life in their neighborhood—such as Estate La Colina.

Such associations can form out of concern over a particular issue, like the one involving short-term rentals, or as a means of enhancing the sense of community in the neighborhood.

HOAs, conversely, are formal legal entities created to maintain common areas and enforce private deed restrictions, commonly referred to as CC&Rs.

The HOA is usually created when the development is built and has the legal authority to enact and enforce maintenance and design standards in addition to those established by city ordinances.

If you would like to know whether you live within an active neighborhood-association area or are interested in receiving information on how to form such an association, contact Tempe's Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234.

See related story on facing page

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Tempe not alone in worries about recent spread of short-term rentals

Estates La Colina, it appears, is not the only neighborhood doing battle over the recent infiltration of Airbnb-type lodging.

As a result, residents in a growing number of cities, both state- and nationwide, are reported to have launched campaigns to place controls on the proliferation of temporary rentals.

Take, for example, people living in Arizona's spectacular red rock country, which four years ago attracted then-Tempe residents Mark Moorehead and his wife Lynda.

Their sprawling home in the Village of Oak Creek, which commands a breathtaking view of Castle Rock and its environs, finds itself only a few houses away from at least one Airbnb location, a situation similar to one that has drawn not only Moorehead's concerns but those of many in the community.

"The new state law (Senate Bill 1350, minimizing cities' control over such uses) has resulted in the character and quality of life in our community being negatively affected," said Moorehead.

Additionally, he said, a significant drop has been noted in Sedona-area school enrollment because a lot of people who used to rent have been forced out as a result of their homes being sold to short-term-rental investors, many from other states.

Under new, often absentee ownership, said Moorehead, a onetime traditional rental can generate anywhere from two to three times as much as it did under a one-year lease arrangement.

Growing worries regarding the influx of temporary lodging locations in the area have been taken to city of Sedona officials and the local Chamber of Commerce, both of which have expressed concern.

Chamber officials also have reported receiving complaints from business owners fearing that the lack of availability of affordable housing is driving away workers.

Like the city officials, Sedona Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jennifer Wesselhoff said her concern is not only affordable housing but potential impacts on visitor capacity.

"Affordable housing is already in limited supply and I believe this law virtually eliminates Sedona's chance to mitigate this issue," she said.

"Also, with this new legislation, the city of Sedona virtually loses its ability to manage visitor capacity and makes it even harder to balance tourism and quality of life for our residents."

That's coupled, Moorehead said, with the fact that business owners have been feeling the pinch for years due to a lack of available employees. In fact, a Sedona Chamber of Commerce survey distributed among its members last year listed the lack of existing workforce as the top concern.

One area official quoted in a Red Rock News article last year said, "I think [SB] 1350 has created a new sense of urgency. We're all hearing stories about renters getting kicked out of their homes. Or, houses that are on the market that are being purchased by individuals who have declared early on that their intent is to turn them into short-term vacation rentals."

Evidence of the migration by families out of the Sedona area is available practically every weekend, said Moorehead, when he and his wife stop at garage sales where the occupants report they've been forced from their rental home because of the owner converting it to an Airbnb-type residence.

While a quiet group of short-term vacationers may not result in any noticeable disruption to the neighborhood, that's not always the situation, Moorehead noted.

"We have one house that's a couple of blocks away but people are coming and going all the time," he said. "That, plus the traffic and the loud music—it changes your quality of life." The short-term rental business is growing so fast in Sedona, said Moorehead, that one Airbnb host is now renting out furnished tents in their backyard to

accommodate the demand.

Police will respond if groups get too boisterous, but Sedona's problem doesn't appear likely to go away any time soon.

HOA challenges

While the state's new law holds some help for Arizona's homeowner associations, it does so with a serious caveat: Provisions prohibiting multiple dwellers in single-occupancy homes must have been written into the subdivision's Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CCRs) when they originally were adopted.

At one of the Valley's first and best recognized HOA communities, The Lakes in Tempe, manager Christine Baldanza said their subdivision is not protected from the new law and would need to go through the complex challenge of rewriting the CCRs to cover that the current Airbnb problem.

As of last week, there were 12 temporary rental properties available at The Lakes.

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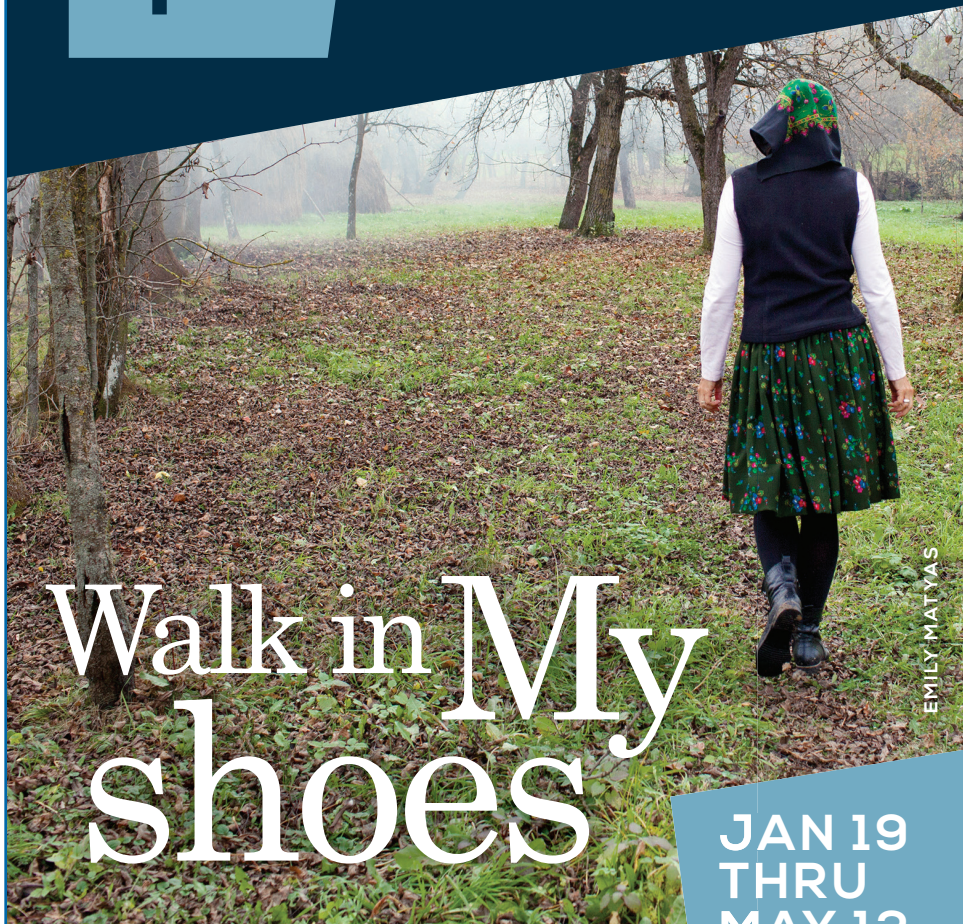
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Cafe

From Page 1

salads and wood-fired flatbread.

Chamberlain gained some national profile when St. Francis was featured on the Food Network in a 2013 episode of Guy Fieri's *Diners, Drive-ins and Dives*, even though it most certainly is none of the aforementioned.

Now Chamberlin's dishes will be available to South Tempeans without the need to drive to downtown, or uptown, Phoenix. The menu at Tempe Public Market Cafe will reportedly be based largely on that of Phoenix Public Market, which ranges across breakfast, lunch and dinner, offering everything from the "Flanched Flarney Garney"—an egg, avocado, bacon and cheese breakfast sandwich—to a Superfood Salad to a Lentil Curry Coconut Soup to Pork Chile Verde Pot Pie.

Smith believes this all will have a positive effect on the area that goes beyond just one more good dining option. "It's OK if we compare what's happening in South Tempe with what happened to Arcadia," he says.

"It was expensive to live there, but nobody knew why. When LGO opened, it profoundly affected the area economy."

Smith is referring to the trendy, infuriating-to-park-at but undeniably delicious La Grande Orange Grocery and Pizzeria—and burger joint and bakery and curio shop—at 40th Street and Campbell in Phoenix. He hopes for a similar boost to his own beloved East Valley turf with the opening of Tempe Public Market Cafe.

Other area merchants seem to share Smith's optimism.

"It's been a dead corner for years, even when it was a Circle K," says Flash Santoro, director of marketing, among other hats he wears for Sole Sports Running Zone at Warner and Rural, where the new café occupies the prominent northeast corner with a bicycle shop and other mostly unremarkable entities.

"They've re-done the corner, and it's going to be a great change for the community. We're hoping it will create some synergy with the other businesses around there. It should be fantastic."

Smith, meanwhile, notes that citizens have taken pains to keep certain businesses, like thrift stores and vape shops, out of the area on the grounds that they "weren't a good fit."

But when it comes to Tempe Public Market Cafe, observes Smith, "all the not-in-my-backyard types will line up."



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Staff, including Chef James Carpenter (above), bustled about with last-minute preparations for the grand opening of South Tempe's newest eatery. The longtime vacancy in the plaza at the northeast corner of Rural and Warner—once home to a convenience store—has undergone extensive remodeling. Neighbors watched as cranes, contractors and landscapers transformed the building into Tempe Public Market Café, a modern urban gathering spot that features an upscale menu and both indoor and outdoor seating. Not pictured is the large brick fireplace and patio that is aimed to draw neighbors for conversation and, of course, tasty fare.



— Photos by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News



January 2018

Tempe wants to show you the money

The City of Tempe invites community members to participate in planning the city's operating and capital budgets for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

You can offer input via an online survey and at public meetings.

The Mayor and City Council would like public input on daily operations and city assets and infrastructure, such as streets,

community centers, pools, lighting, parks and more.

The city's operating budget covers everyday expenses, while capital projects include equipment replacements and street improvements.

The two categories of expenses are budgeted separately.

A public budget forum will be held Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 6 p.m.,

at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.

For details on the formulation of budgets for the 2018-19 fiscal year, as well as projected dates for City Council discussions, visit www.tempe.gov/budgetplan.

Also on the webpage is a link to an online survey to gather residents' budget feedback. The survey is active through March 31.

Java with Joel location change

Please note a location change for Councilmember Joel Navarro's regular Java with Joel conversation event.

It will take place Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m., at the Tempe Public Market Café, 8749 S. Rural Road.

The topic will be to discuss ideas for the development of a vacant parcel at Rural and Warner roads.

March 2018 General/Special Election is all Ballot by Mail

Six City Council candidates will be on the March 13 General/Special Election ballot for three open City Council seats. Three propositions also will be on the ballot.

Certified candidates for City Council are: Jennifer Adams; Robin Arredondo-Savage; Sarah Kader; Lauren Kuby; Justin Stewart; and Genevieve Vega. Elected candidates will be sworn in to four-year terms in July. Names and contact information for candidates is at www.tempe.gov/election.

A seventh, previously certified candidate – Patrick Morales – withdrew his name from the ballot Dec. 28.

According to the Tempe City Charter, Section 7.01, the Primary Election is held to nominate or elect candidates.

If there are no more than two candidates for each vacancy, the Primary Election is eliminated and the General Election is held on that date. With six candidates and three vacancies, that means Tempe will now hold only a General/Special Election on March 13.

Televised candidate forums and statements

As a community service for city elections, Tempe 11 televises a limited number of candidate debates and forums. Starting Jan. 2, community groups can request to schedule a debate or forum to occur between Jan. 22 and March 7. One forum a week is possible on Monday or Wednesday nights. Forums must be open to the public. All candidates must be invited and at least four must attend in order for the forum to be taped and televised. Forums air live on Cox 11 and Century Link 8012, and can be streamed

live at www.tempe.gov/tempe11. The city replays each forum several times on Tempe 11 and posts them for later viewing at www.tempe.gov/tempe11. Full guidelines for hosting a forum or debate are available at www.tempe.gov/election.

Tempe 11 also tapes and airs five-minute statements from Council candidates. Before each Regular Council Meeting from Jan. 18 through March 8, Tempe residents can tune in to Cox 11 or Century Link 8012 at 5 p.m. to watch candidate statements that will be taped earlier on those same days. The statements will re-air regularly on Tempe 11 until the next Regular Council Meeting, when a new batch of statements will be recorded. Statements are not recorded before Work Study Sessions. Statements also can be viewed at www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

Propositions

Three ballot propositions will be decided by Tempe voters on March 13:
Proposition 402 – Proposed Charter

amendment for Papago Preserve
• Proposition 403 – Proposed Charter amendment for Contribution Source Disclosure in city elections
• Proposition 404 – Proposed permanent base adjustment

A publicity pamphlet with additional election and proposition information will be mailed to all households containing a registered voter in February 2018.

Ballot by Mail

This is the first time that Tempe elections will be Ballot by Mail, which means that every registered voter will automatically get a ballot. Voters can drop off their voted ballots or get replacement ballots at either of the two ballot centers in Tempe or at the Maricopa County Recorder's Office. Register to vote by Feb. 12. Ballots will be mailed after that deadline.

Information about the elections can be found at www.tempe.gov/election.

Voters also can call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311 or email clerk@tempe.gov.

Make 2018 a hole in one

Golf season is in full swing. Golf Tempe offers two beautiful, newly remodeled courses for your golfing pleasure. It's affordable fun for the whole family. Whether you're the family who golfs together or you're looking for a new

weekend brunch venue, Ken McDonald Golf Course and Rolling Hills Golf Course offer gorgeous venues for making your 2018 family memories more enjoyable! Visit www.tempe.gov/GolfTempe to see news and monthly specials.



Free College Connect workshops return in February

Tempe's College Connect program is designed to connect students and parents to the resources they need to fulfill their dreams of a post-secondary education. Participants can take part in free workshops, group sessions and one-on-one meetings with college experts. Topics include applying for college, the FAFSA process, paying for college, available scholarships, career choice, picking

the right high school classes, and many more.

• **Feb. 3:** Financial Aid and FAFSA assistance, scholarship opportunities; • **March 3:** Career Exploration and Career Fair; • **April 7:** Summer Job & Volunteer Fair, End of Year Celebration and Recognition.

For a full calendar and to schedule a one-on-one appointment, visit www.CollegeConnectTempe.org.

Know a great neighbor? Nominate your favorite by Feb. 20 awards deadline

Every neighborhood has people and places deserving of recognition, and you can help call out the residents, properties and businesses that make the experience of living in your neighborhood better.

This is the opportunity to publicly celebrate and thank them for their activities, actions, property maintenance and more.

For all award categories, criteria, nomination forms and more event information, visit www.tempe.gov/StateoftheNeighborhoods.

The nomination deadline is Feb. 20.

All nominees will be recognized by the mayor and City Council at the 2018 State of the Neighborhoods Awards and Workshops on Saturday, April 21, at Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.

Immediately following this year's State of the Neighborhoods Address from Mayor Mark Mitchell and the awards ceremony, there will be a Care Fair connecting those who need help with resources and providers.

Community members also will be able to learn more about human services needs in Tempe for those interested in giving their time or resources.



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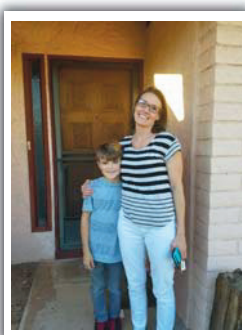
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Sports

Cactus Bowl offers glimpse of this writer's road to future

By Kody Acevedo

As we take our first steps into the new year, it's hard not to look back on all the ups and downs that we endured in 2017.

Hopefully for you, it was a little easier than it was for me. Not that it was a bad year—it was just tough. The highs were extremely high, yet the lows were overwhelmingly deep.

The highs mostly came from school and work. Now, I'm not here to brag. Rather, simply to extend my gratitude for the opportunities I've been blessed with to help launch my career.

A little over two years ago, I look my first steps into professional journalism. I had just wrapped up an internship with The Arizona Republic as a breaking-news reporter and was riding high on all the professional experience I had earned in a short 5-month period in early 2015.

The fall of that year, I turned my attention to sports. An assignment I had always wanted to cover and now, two years into college, I finally had a chance to do so.

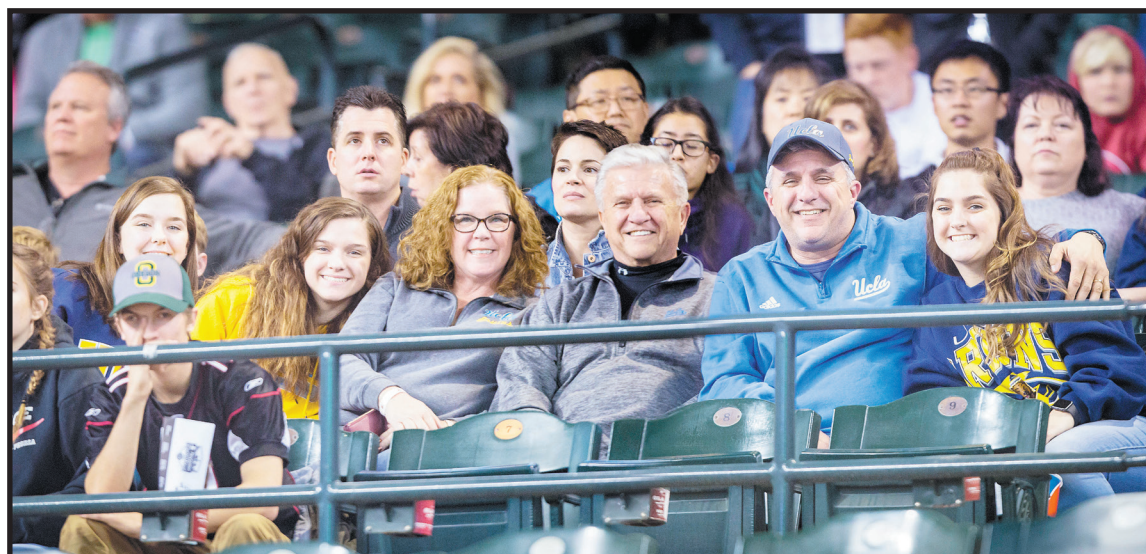
The kicker was: I needed my work to be published. In order to pass my sports writing class, I basically needed someone to take a chance on an unknown college student with no real experience and say, 'Sure. I'll publish any work you bring me.'

So, I called Wrangler News and spoke to Don Kirkland—the first of many phone calls between the two of us. Don was kind and thoughtful on the phone, however politely turned down my request.

To put it in a sports term, I had struck out. But just like a game of baseball, there was another chance to put the ball in play. "How about I give you an assignment and we'll see how you do?" Don said.

Well, two years later, I think it's safe to say I've put the ball in play.

You see, Wrangler News has been a tremendous stepping-stone for me. It



The Kansas State Wildcats trounced the UCLA Bruins in the 2018 Cactus Bowl held at Chase Field.

Home of the Diamondbacks, the space was transformed from a Major League Baseball diamond into a grid for a game that had KSU cheerleaders grinning (top).

The Bruins went down 35-17, but not without a fight (middle), and fans at the day-after-Christmas game sported hoodies and sweatshirts as they watched the pigskin fly (bottom).

— Photos by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News

Sports Notebook

WITH ALEX ZENER

Members of Corona's girls soccer team, currently ranked No. 16, has several matches in January to improve the team's rankings before 2018 6A Soccer Conference Play-In Tournament on Jan. 25.

The top eight 6A teams automatically qualify for the state tournament. The Conference Play-In Tournament is where the lower 16 seeded teams (numbers 9-24) play to determine which eight get to move up to play in the 6A State Tournament, scheduled to start Jan. 30 at the higher seed.

Corona's team started the season with several new players to varsity after returning only four starters and 10 players from last season's team

Two returning starters, seniors **Skylar Byrnes** and **Abby Robertson**, have continued where they left off last season by having a major impact on the success of the team with their offensive skills.

"Skylar and Abby are among the best players in the state," said head coach **Matthew Smith**. "They have been doing a bit of a role reversal this season. Skylar has been assisting most of the goals while Abby has been scoring the goals."

Senior midfielder Robertson is credited with five goals and 12 points.

"Abby is awesome," said Smith. "She can play any position on the field and has already played a number of them for us. Abby leads by example, leaving it all out on the field, every game. She has been incredible on free kicks."

Senior striker Byrnes is credited with six assists, two goals and nine points in Corona's first 10 matches.

"Skylar is one of the best kids I have ever coached. She is such a hard-working player," said Smith. "She will be playing at Fort Lewis College next year under Jimmy Hall."

"I'm thrilled because he was one of the first to see the same things in Skylar that I did—a determination to be great and a willingness to do whatever is necessary to win."

Junior midfielder **Riye Torrace**, another returning starter, is credited with five assists and five points so far this season.

"Riye was a starter for us previously but has really become an impact player this season," said Smith.

Junior midfielder **Samantha Scheurer**, the other returning starter, has

— NOTEBOOK, Page 22



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Media

From Page 1

occurring more frequently these days—can have a crippling consequence.

A case in point, appearing in a story in the Dec. 25 issue of *The New York Times*, relates to a report that newspapers, radio stations and television outlets in Mexico are experiencing the ripple effect of government cutbacks in advertising expenditures if officials perceive that a particular outlet isn't delivering the government-preferred content or tone in its coverage.

Conversely, according to *The Times* report, outlets that are deemed by the government to be those officials' favorites have been the beneficiaries of hundreds of millions of dollars in state money—dependent, it is assumed, on their continuing willingness to toe the ruling-party line.

As a result, according to an analysis by Mexico's Center of Analysis and Research, an independent, interdisciplinary organization involved with research issues related to democracy and citizen participation, tough-line stories are less likely to appear, are killed by an editor or are delayed interminably. The majority of Mexican journalists report that they censor themselves, and those who insist on delving into issues the government views as not in its best interest will likely see their funding evaporate.

While this kind of situation seems to strain credulity in our own country, even its appearance elsewhere becomes a worrisome development, not only for those of us in the media who, by our very nature, are committed to telling stories that we believe to be truthful and that are told with integrity.

Unlike *The Times* and other large, respected newspapers around the country with huge staffs and dedicated fact-checkers, there are only two of us in the *Wrangler News* universe who work full time to ensure that what you see in our pages is as accurate as we can make it. It's our promise, and we take it seriously.

You can also feel confident that businesses which entrust us with their advertising dollars—our only source of income, I should point out—receive in return our promise to help them tell their story in interesting and worthwhile ways, not however by sugar-coating what we publish about them to garner their continuing support.

While *The Times* reportage gave needed transparency to a phenomenon in Mexico, and likely other countries, that we have not experienced here, we felt it was important to share with you the news of what seems to be an alarming trend in controlling the flow of news that thankfully has not reached our shores or our town. Let's hope it never does.

As always, we encourage you to share with us your thoughts, ideas—and criticisms when you have them. We may be living in times that are significantly different than when I was a young reporter, but one thing hasn't changed: Our deeply held promise to be the best we can for our community and for you, our reader.

— Don Kirkland

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Notebook

From Page 19

started 11 matches, recording one assist and one point.

Besides the four returning starters from last season, several other players have had an influence on Corona's performance on and off the soccer field.

In her first season starting at goalkeeper, junior **Maya Benedict** is crucial to the team's success.

"Getting Maya back from injury has been huge," said Smith. "She has been very solid for us, getting better and better each game. She does a great job communicating and organizing our defense."

Benedict has recorded 96 saves at goal, or an average of eight a match.

Junior midfielder **Amber Sammon** showed up in the preseason much improved after playing club in the off-season and has stepped her game up to another level, according to Smith.

Sammon and Robertson currently lead the team in goals and points, with each scoring five goals and 10 points.

"Amber is incredibly fast and is really just starting to figure out how good a goal scorer she can be," said Smith. "She takes a lot of the load off Skylar and Abby, and the more she does that, the more successful we will be."

Freshman striker **Amaya Antonio** was named player of the game for scoring the only goal against Horizon earlier in the season that resulted in a win for Corona.

"Amaya is a big kid for a freshman, so you often expect a lot from her, but you also have to realize she just turned 14 a couple of weeks ago," said Smith. "She actually scored that goal against Horizon when she was only 13 years old."

"Amaya is a great kid. She is very coachable and will become a top-notch player," said Smith.

In addition, sophomore striker **Sheyla Castro** has been a pleasant surprise according to Smith.

Additional members of Corona's girls soccer team include senior strikers **Jordan Alperin, Destiny Romero** and **Natalie Swanstrom**; senior midfielders **Lauren Hollar, Juliana Lay** and **Mallory Gornall**; senior defender **Jenessa Lewis**; junior striker **Karyme Perea**; junior defender **Mielah Brown**; sophomore defenders **Emerson Echerivel** and **Suzannah Scheurer**; sophomore midfielders **Ally Sharp** and **CeCi Bradley**; and freshman defenders **Abby Benedict, Catelyn Bradley** and **Stephanie Lundine**.

Corona was scheduled to play at Westview Jan. 8 and at Highland Jan. 10. The Highland game was scheduled to be broadcast live on the High School Sports Network.

Corona's Girls Basketball

The team, which lost six seniors last spring to graduation, including the leading scorer for the past three seasons, **Leilani Peat**, returned four players who either started or played significant minutes last season.

Three of these four players are guards who currently lead the team in scoring.

The leading scorer is sophomore guard **Taylor Davis**, who has scored 126 points in 12 games. She averages 10.5 points, 4.3 rebounds, 2.1 assists and 1.8 steals per game.

The other two leading scorers are juniors **Justys Irish** and **Angelica Lopez**. Irish has scored 92 points in only nine games, averaging 10.2 points, 4.6 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 2.9 steals per game. She has made 19 three-pointers.

Lopez, a 5-foot-3 guard, is the third leading scorer, averaging 7.2 points and 3.2 rebounds a game. Lopez, who shoots 33% behind the three-point line, scored a total of 93 points in the first 13 games.

Corona also returned 6-foot-5 sophomore center **Maya Peat**, who has played in all 13 games so far this season. Last season she averaged almost eight points a game.

Those also returning from last season's varsity squad included senior **Asheley Chau**, who has played in all games averaging 3.5 rebounds a game, and junior forward **Brennan Agnew**.

New to the varsity team are two impact players in senior forward **Delany Mohr** and junior center **Chloe Medder**.

Mohr leads the team in rebounds with 56 rebounds in 13 games or an average of 4.3 rebounds a game. Mohr shoots 33% from the three-point line and is credited with 13 assists, 12 steals and five blocked shots.

Medder, who has played in all 13 games, is the leading blocker on the team with 19 blocks. The 5-foot-9 center has 47 rebounds, 13 assists and 49 points credited to her on the stat sheet.

Additional players who contribute on and off the court include junior guard **Amiya Iwueka**, junior forwards **Desiree Sheridan** and **Olivia Morgan**, and junior guard **Trinity Pierce**.

Iwueka has played minutes in all 13 games, scoring 13 points with 21 rebounds, six assists, seven steals and six blocked shots, while Morgan has played in 11 games where she averaged over three rebounds a game.

Corona has 13 games left on their schedule this season starting with a game at Desert Ridge Jan. 5 before two home games are scheduled. On Jan. 9 the Aztecs were scheduled to play Gilbert and Mountain Home Jan. 12, both on their home court.

Cactus

From Page 18

was the first paper to pay me to write stories. They made me feel part of the family and allowed me grow as a journalist.

Since I started here, I have worked for FOX Sports Arizona, the Arizona Diamondbacks and covered spring training for Cronkite News and Arizona PBS.

Each year was a step closer to achieving my career goals.

As the rollercoaster ride of 2017 chugged along, I found myself working a variety of professional sporting events in the Valley. The year was capped with a college football showdown between Kansas State and UCLA in the Cactus Bowl, an event I covered with the D-backs staff because the game was held at Chase Field.

I wasn't the only one with Wrangler News roots there. Billy Hardiman, one of our tremendous photographers whose pictures you see on Page 18, was there covering the game as well.

Yes, I was given the opportunity to work the game through the D-backs. Yet, afterward, I found myself

reflecting on the path that got me to that moment.

You see, for Billy and me, we probably wouldn't have been able to cover that event without Wrangler News' help getting us there. I can't speak for Billy, but for me, this paper gave me the confidence I needed as a scared college junior taking my first steps into this business.

For that, I'm very grateful.

Here's to a new year with new opportunities and new ways to bring stories to the Wrangler News audience.

And we're just getting started!

Notebook

From Page 22

Up next is an away game at Desert Vista on Jan. 16 and another at Kofa on Jan. 19.

Marcos de Niza Girls Basketball

The girls basketball team started the second half of the 2017-18 season with a home conference game Jan. 9 against Seton Catholic.

The team is led by five seniors and two sophomores who play most of the minutes.

Although senior guard **Melahni Washington** has only played in 10 of the 14 games, she leads the team in scoring with 137 points or an average of 13.7 points a game.

Washington also leads the team in rebounds with a total of 81 and blocks, with 10 or an average of one block a game.

Senior guard **Renee Ramos** has played in all 14 games, scoring a total of 134 points with 72 total rebounds and seven blocked shots. Ramos is the assist leader on the team with 39. She also leads all players with 74 steals. The next closest player is Washington with 35 steals.

Senior **Alex Lizarraga** is the third leading scorer on the team, with 72 points or an average of 5.5 points a game. She leads the team in three-point shots made at 13.

Senior **Kiara Martin** has played in 13 games, scoring 57 points with 49 rebounds, 11 assists, 14 steals and five blocked shots credited to her name.

In the center position, senior **Emma Barnes** has played in 14 games, scoring 29 points with 79 total rebounds, 17 steals and seven blocks.

Two sophomores, **Tamera Rivera** and **Moriah Turpin**, play significant minutes for Marcos.

Rivera has played in all 14 games, averaging 4.2 points, 3.9 rebounds, 1.9 assists and 1.7 steals a game while Turpin has played in 13 games averaging 3.2 rebounds a game.

Additional players on the team include **Micaela Vasquez**, juniors **Kiah Begaye** and **Bianca Mason-Martinez**, sophomore **Alaina Sellers** and freshman **Savannah Martinez**.

Early games this month included Jan. 11 at Tempe and Jan. 12 at Prescott before playing two games on the Padres home court, one scheduled for Jan. 16 against Higley and the second Jan. 18 against Casa Grande.

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Chandler Vice Mayor Kevin Hartke, left, with Chamber executive Terri Kimble and Councilmember Rick Heumann, were among guests at a Chamber-sponsored Meet-Elected-Officials breakfast. The event at Chandler Hilton drew a capacity crowd.

— Wrangler News photo by Joyce Coronel



From our online readers . . .

Comments regarding the Final Word: Fire Station at Tempe's Estrada Park 'a big mistake'

The safety or actual real-life emergency services for our areas including north Tempe is of utmost importance. Why even doubt that the city planners didn't think though ALL of the options you state? They are seasoned professionals. We need services now, not grass. The city has incorporated many of the things you wonder about in your post in the Wrangler News. Why not go on down and address it with the city it has been in planning phases for months?

— Amy McNamara

Couldn't agree more, Amy!

— Unnamed So. Tempe resident

This theft of our green space is in direct opposition to the City Plan which is committed to honoring and expanding our green spaces. Anyone I ask about this travesty tells me it's been in the works for a decade so it needs to happen. This is ridiculous. We don't need another fire station! Where are all the fires!? We need to protect our community green space and stop the political back scratching that is wasting millions of OUR dollars.

— Geoffrey Adams

Comments from the Final Word: Tempe's 'non-partisan' governance an your council vote

I could not have said it better myself. I totally agree with your assessment.

— Peter Graves

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Adventurer's photos provide spectacular view of 2,650-mile trek

Photographer, avid hiker and nature lover Martin Gatrost takes viewers on a journey along the Pacific Crest Trail, which spans 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon and Washington, during an exhibition this month and next at Chandler Center for the Arts Gallery.

The event runs through Feb. 23.

Visitors to the exhibition will relive Gatrost's adventure through photographs of the three states, seven national parks and 28 national forests he traversed.

"The landscapes in Martin's exhibition are ones people may not often get the chance to see," said Peter Bugg, visual arts coordinator at the gallery.

"There is a limited number of Pacific Crest Trail passes granted to hikers each year. It's quite a feat to not just hike the trail, but also stop and take stunning photographs of the adventure along the way."

Gatrost will share more insights into his journey and photography during a free public talk at 6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 2, in the Recital Hall at the Center for the Arts.

Chandler Center for the Arts Gallery is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.

More information on the exhibit can be found at chandlercenter.org.

After the exhibition concludes at the Center for the Arts Gallery, it will be on display at the city's Environmental Education Center from March 2 through April 1.



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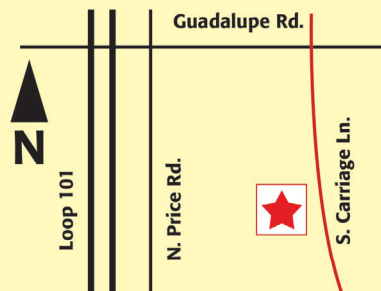
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Diversions . . . with M.V. Moorhead

Hugh Grant steals the screen in newest 'Paddington'



As far as I know, this is the first crime thriller about the theft of a pop-up book. The title bear wants to buy the one-of-a-kind tome, you see, as a gift for his adored Aunt back in “darkest Peru.”

Alas, before he’s saved up enough of his pay as a window-washer to make the purchase, the book is filched from the antiques store by a mysterious burglar, and Paddington is suspected of the heist and thrown in jail.

The real culprit—it’s revealed early on, but stop reading now if you don’t want the “spoiler”—is a crackbrained, down-on-his-luck actor played by Hugh Grant, who knows, as Paddington does not, that the pop-up book contains clues to the location of a hidden treasure.

So as Paddington struggles to negotiate the perils of prison life and his upper-middle-class adoptive London family searches for evidence of his innocence, the thespian gets closer and closer to claiming the loot.

Michael Bond’s beloved bear, with his blue coat, floppy red hat and love of marmalade, has been a mainstay of Brit kiddie-lit since the late ‘50s.

Bond, who died this past year (Paddington 2

is dedicated to him) claimed that the character’s inspiration came, in part, from the sight of tagged children on railway platforms being evacuated from London during WWII.

There have been several animated TV series based on Bond’s tales, but the first feature film was a 2014 live-action effort, with a CGI Paddington excellently voiced by Ben Wishaw.

That movie had plenty of charm, but it was marred, for me severely, by the introduction of a Cruella de Vil-like villainess played by Nicole Kidman, an obsessed taxidermist who, lacking a specimen of *Ursa Marmalada* in her collection, wanted to stuff Paddington.

This nastiness felt really out of place in the gentle context of the movie.

Paddington 2 is a major improvement. Directed, like the first film, by Paul King of the marvelous Brit TV comedy *The Mighty Boosh*, the sequel features lengthy, complex slapstick sequences in the sprit of Buster Keaton or Jacques Tati, executed by Paddington (Wishaw again) with similarly earnest absorption.

And its softer and sillier villain hits just the right note, without taking too much of an edge off the

picture.

It does, after all, contain the line, spoken by a security guard at St. Paul’s, “A nun went beserk.” And that cast!

Returning from the first film are Sally Hawkins, Hugh Bonneville, Julie Walters, Peter Capaldi and Jim Broadbent, joined here by the likes of Brendan Gleeson, as Paddington’s tough-guy prison mentor, Tom Conti, Joanna Lumley and Eileen Atkins, billed here as Dame Eileen Atkins if you please.

It’s a testament to the bear’s iconic status over there that that sort of A-list talent could be assembled for a kiddie-movie sequel.

Stealing the picture from all of them is Grant, who turns his no-good greedy ham into a star part. He gets to use a variety of accents and wear cunning disguises—including as that aforementioned “very attractive nun.”

He even gets to perform a full Sondheim number.

Paddington 2 is rated PG and plays at Harkins Tempe Marketplace, Harkins Chandler Fashion 20, Harkins Arizona Mills and many other multiplexes Valleywide.

Veterans of 'Ice Cold Gold' TV adventure exploring new series on the Travel Channel

By Jonathan Coronel

What could a 19th Century German prospector and a couple of modern-day Arizona cowboys have in common? For over 100 years, treasure-hunters from all over the country have travelled to the Superstition Mountains of Arizona in pursuit of the legendary Lost Dutchman's Gold Mine.

While the search for this fabled mother lode has so far turned up empty, the journey certainly hasn't been fruitless.

Just ask Jesse and Josh Feldman, owners of the O.K. Corral Stables and partners in their family's widely varied assortment of Superstition Mountains-based pursuits.

"My Dad started the stables in 1968 about 3 miles from here. Then we relocated to our current area" in nearby Goldfield Ghost Town, Josh tells me while we saunter down the popular tourist area's lively main street.

In addition to the stables, the Feldmans, along with some business partners, own the Mammoth Mine that their corral is now located on.

And, although the family is kept busy with its stables, horseback rides, the mine, a gift shop and a nearby RV park operated by the boys' mom Jayne, Josh and Jesse also starred in a three-year cable TV series, "Ice Cold Gold," in which they and a group of other hardy explorers prowled Greenland's



Jesse, Josh Feldman with Tempe adventure-seeker Corry Slama before setting off on a 2017 trek in search of a lost Superstition Mountains mine. — Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News

ice-caked glaciers for treasure.

A new adventure series, titled *Lost Gold*, follows the brothers on a series of excursions into some of Arizona's most intriguing treasure hideaways.

It aired for the first time last month and may become a regular feature on the Travel Channel.

So while the Feldmans thrive in a modern-day conglomerate of interconnected pursuits, the real history of the area dates back to the latter-half of the 19th Century. That was when German immigrant and prospector Jacob Waltz purportedly found a goldmine in the Superstitions. Upon finding 45 pounds of gold ore under his bed after his death, legends about the "Deutsche Man's" goldmine proliferated.

The upshot was a sort of mini-gold rush to Arizona, when from about 1893 to 1897, the Mammoth Mine that the Feldmans would later come to own produced approximately \$3 million worth of gold.

For their part, Josh and Jesse still engage in small-scale searches for gold in the Mammoth Mine, mostly as a hobby for the avid treasure hunters.

Though over 100 years have passed and many a treasure-hunting expedition in the Superstition Mountains has come back empty-handed, Josh says the hope for finding the gold still attracts many a hearty adventurer—some even paying Josh and his team of horseback guides to take them out into the mountains and subsequently return to pick them up after a few days of digging for gold.

"People aren't going out there looking for gold with heavy machinery. It's more of a fun hobby for people to test their theory and really get into the history of the legend," Josh tells me, before informing me of his theory of the Lost Dutchman's treasure.

"I think Waltz probably stumbled onto a Spanish mine that was actually mainly a silver mine with gold, and picked up already-mined gold ore from there. Mining is hard work and it seems doubtful that he could have actually mined all that gold on his own."

Josh chocks up a lot of the legends and hearsay surrounding the Dutchman's gold to misinformation that has persisted since the 1890s.

"I think people out here at the time didn't want any Johnny-come-lately's to find something they may have passed over. That's why you had and still have a lot of people searching the pretty much barren western region of these mountains for gold, even though the Dutchman's mine is definitely in the eastern region."

For Josh, treasure-hunting needs to be grounded in history, and an understanding of the context in which these treasures originated.

"My theory is that you need to put yourself in the shoes of the people at the time and understand who was politically and economically powerful in order to separate credible stories from fiction," Josh explains.

A brief look at the history behind the Lost Dutchman's Gold Mine shows how this theory could apply. For example, the woman who took care of Jacob Waltz on his deathbed, Julie Thomas, went on a futile adventure in search of the gold which left her broke.

Desperate, she ended up selling fake maps just to make a quick buck, and sending generations of hopeful explorers on wild goose chases.

Though the difficulty of separating fools' good from the real McCoy regarding this legend has caused many a treasure-hunter to quit in exasperation, for the Feldmans treasure hunting is a way of life.

The search for the Lost Dutchman's gold is something's that's been rewarding, even if they haven't struck gold yet, as is evidenced by Josh's passion for his work.

"Maybe we haven't found the Dutchman's gold, but as a family we have found a love for the history and beauty of the Superstition Mountains, and there is definitely plenty of gold in that."

Area Harkins will be among hosts of Feb. 11-25 Jewish filmfest

Harkins Tempe Marketplace will be among theaters featuring the 22nd annual Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival, running Feb. 11-25, 2018, across the Valley.

The event promises the largest slate of independent films in history, including the Arizona premiere of a film following the ragtag team of professional Jewish American athletes playing in the 2017 World Baseball Classic.

Coinciding with Cactus League Spring Training, *Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel* documents Team Israel's surprising run during the international baseball tournament held in South Korea.

In a David-versus-Goliath ballpark story, the team—comprised of current and former Jewish Major League Baseball players representing a small country with only one professional baseball field—bested powerhouse teams from South Korea, Chinese

Taipei, the Netherlands and Cuba before bowing out of the tournament.

Bonus MVPs of the festival include fascinating documentary subjects, including Hollywood classic film star and secret scientist Hedy Lamarr (*Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story*); Rat Pack member and surprise Jewish convert Sammy Davis Jr. (*Sammy Davis Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me*); and violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman (*Itzhak*).

Twenty-one feature-length films and five short films hailing from 11 different countries make this year's festival the biggest and most diverse one in its history. It features a rich assortment of independent Jewish cinema that travels from the baseball stadiums of South Korea to the sound stages of Hollywood; from a conservative Israeli town to orchestra pits across the world; and from the segregated towns in South Africa to the Coney Island

boardwalk.

"The scope and quality of our film slate keeps growing bigger and better," said GPJFF Co-Executive Director Jerry Mittelman. "I'm excited we can continue presenting films reflective of the rich and diverse Jewish people, culture, and faith to an even great number of people than prior years. The Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival stands as a point of pride for the Jewish Community and as a point of understanding, awareness and acceptance for the community at large."

Guest speakers conduct question-and-answer sessions with audiences following many screenings.

Information: 602-753-9366 or www.gpjff.org

Ticket prices are \$11 for adults (\$13 at the door); \$7 for active military (ID required) and students (ID required, 25 years and under); and \$150 Festival Pass.

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Briefly . . .

Diablos seeking top teachers to honor

Looking for the perfect way to recognize an extraordinary Kyrene, Tempe Elementary or Tempe Union educator or staff member who exudes teaching excellence? The ideal opportunity has arrived once again, provided you act by Friday, Jan. 26.

Members of the longtime Tempe Diablos service organization are seeking nominees for their 29th annual Excellence in Education awards.

The awards recognize educators who inspire youth and the community alike. Nominations should be submitted at www.tempediablos.info/nominations.html

Aquatics certification program in Chandler

For those in need of an employment opportunity should seek out the city of Chandler aquatics program. The aquatics facility is currently seeking part-time candidates for the 2018 season. Register now for the lifeguard certification course prior to

applying. There is also a course available, Lifeguard Prep Academy, that is designed to assist with the required skills to take the Lifeguard certification course.

To apply for the position or to register for the courses available online, go to chandleraz.gov and click the Employment or Certifications link.

New chef at Tempe Mission Palms

Tempe Mission Palms Hotel has appointed John du Toit as its new chef. Du Toit will lead the hotel's culinary operations and oversee its restaurants, banquets and in-room dining.

Eric Sather, general manager, said he also will develop new dining concepts, as well as add his signature touch to the menus at Tempe's only full-service hotel.

Du Toit honed his culinary skills in some of the world's renowned establishments, including Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort, the Hilton

Los Angeles/Universal City, Hong Kong Hilton, the London NYC Hotel, Indigo Bistro, Wrigley Mansion, and Arizona Biltmore, a Waldorf Astoria Resort.

Petersen House fundraiser planned March 3

A Saturday, March 3, vintage antique sale at Edna Vihel Arts Center and Tempe History Museum will serve as a fundraiser for the Niels Petersen House Museum.

The landmark home is on the National Register of Historic Places and has received the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation.

The antique sale is being held in conjunction with the Arizona State Questers-Hayden Ferry Chapter. Early-bird entrance from 7-8 a.m. is \$5.

Admission from 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. is \$3 per person.

Vihel Center is at 3340 S. Rural Road, Tempe. Tempe History Museum is at 809 E. Southern Ave.



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Commentary . . . by Mary Lou Taylor

Tempe's water: Your pocketbook, your health, your safety

Water. I take it for granted, don't you? I turn on the tap and expect water to flow forth. I use it to water my lawn and plants. I use it to wash laundry and my car. I use it to cook pasta and to bathe. My family drinks it; and we all expect it to be healthy to consume. If there's a fire in the neighborhood, I expect the fire department will access the hydrant in my cul-de-sac to put out the fire.

As a Tempe resident, I expect to pay a fair price for the water my family and I use. I expect the water to be safe to drink. I expect that firefighters will have ready access to plentiful supplies of water to quench any fire. My pocketbook; my family's health; our safety. All are core water issues as recently revealed.

In south Tempe, there are many large lots and horse properties. Some homeowners are suddenly seeing water rates that are triple their bills for the same amount of water used a year ago.

At the request of selected concerned residents, we asked to meet with the Mayor, a few council members and Public Works staff members on November 28. Residents gathered to express their dismay with these higher rates and to discuss the new "tiered" system that charges the highest rates per gallon to the highest users.

Residents who use lower quantities of water have a much lower rate per gallon. It is unreasonable to expect one homeowner to subsidize water costs for

others. I don't like it in my taxes and I don't like it in my City of Tempe water bill.

Is this new tiered system due to a water shortage in Tempe? No, but the Council, as part of its "sustainability" policy, aspires to motivate homeowners to consume less water.

When you purchased your Tempe property, did you anticipate that the City would penalize you for attempting to maintain this lifestyle even when there is no water shortage?

This is a Council policy. We should expect better.

Meanwhile last June, the City notified residents that its drinking water was in violation of a Stage 2 disinfection by-products rule. What does this mean?

The notice explained that the treated water had elevated levels of Trihalomethanes (TTHM), exceeding the Maximum Containment Level (MCL) set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 80 parts per billion (ppb). The notice states "TTHMs are four volatile organic chemicals which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water. People who drink water containing TTHMs in excess of the MCL over many

years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer."

I have yet to see any follow up information that provides reassurance that Tempe's water quality is back to safe and normal conditions. We should expect better. Then sadly, word spread recently that a couple of families in south Tempe experienced house fires. While response time of a firefighting unit was rapid, at one of these incidents firefighters needed to access three hydrants before succeeding in connecting with the water supply.

Most fire trucks have about an hour's worth of water on board, and Tempe's capable firefighters did finally access a hydrant. But why were hydrants inoperable? Was the water line broken? Is there a maintenance schedule for the hydrants themselves? This is a safety issue for residents and firefighters too! We should expect better.

On Wednesday, January 23rd, at 6 p.m., a South Tempe Candidate Forum will take place at Arizona Community Church, 9325 S. Rural Road. Residents are encouraged to attend to ask candidates questions about these and other issues and to let Tempe City Council candidates know that south Tempe expects better.

Longtime resident Mary Lou Taylor served 10 years on the Tempe Union High School Board.



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