



# TEMPE & WEST CHANDLER WRANGLER NEWS

THE PLACE WE CALL HOME

May 19 - June 8, 2018 □ Vol 29, No 11

## Online college: A windfall for veterans, others 800 new jobs said to be coming to So. Tempe offices

Story & photo by Noah Kutz

**C**heered by a backdrop of welcoming onlookers, ribbon-cutting ceremonies were held last week for a new educational institution and magnet for veterans coming soon to South Tempe.

Ashford University, in association with Bridgepoint Education, has been hailed as an alternative pathway for individuals in search of college degrees or potentially lasting careers.

With Ashford U. finally established here in the Valley, planners said the move will offer significant advantages, especially for military-affiliated students.

Arizona is said to be home to more than a half-million veterans, for whom the promise of higher education seems well-aimed.

The new location, on Kyrene Road just north of Warner Road, is intended to house 800 new employees in coming years, part of a contingent that will expand the abilities and resources of the online education platform for all its members.

Inside the doors, students, faculty members and other visitors will find brand-new testing centers, work stations, advising offices and much more.

When discussing the goals of the launch in Tempe, CEO and founder Andrew Clark explained

that the group's intention is to "provide workforce development skills to Phoenix-area companies and employers, as well as nationwide."

In the long run, officials of Bridgepoint Education and Ashford University say they hope to provide more jobs to the Phoenix area as well.

This new Tempe-headquartered division will act as a hub for the support and retention of college students who are pursuing degrees with the pair of education-focused companies. Students may contact advisers, enrollment counselors and support staff either virtually or face-to-face at the new facility.

— COLLEGE, Page 7

## Community Action Agency, Tempe PD unite to fight hunger

**T**empe Community Action Agency and the Tempe Police Department have joined forces for the first-ever Take a Bite Out of Hunger food drive, running now through June 5.

Three Tempe police stations will host internal food drives to benefit TCAA's Food Pantry at the same time TCAA is collecting community donations at its offices on Apache Boulevard.

The Food Pantry benefits more than 11,000 adults and children in crisis each year, according to officials.

The not for profit service group says donations tend to decline for most food pantries during late summer, when community support is most needed.

Any non-perishable foods, especially canned and

— HUNGER, Page 17



Bridgepoint/Ashford University welcoming ceremonies brought smiles and promises of a bright future. Among guests being greeted by Andrew Clark, third from left, were a number of the originators and planners who envisioned the new location.

## Millenium Falcon picks Tempe for a comeback landing Epic film redux 'a rambling, rollicking space opera'

By M.V. Moorhead

**T**empe Marketplace was an unlikely landing site last week for the *Millennium Falcon*. That is to say, it was the site of a screening of *Solo: A Star Wars Story*, which opens May 25. Fair warning: I'll try to keep

what follows free of significant "spoilers," but if you want to go in with no foreknowledge whatsoever, stop reading now.

OK, so for those still reading... This one, set years before the events of the original 1977 *Star Wars*, is an origin story for

dashing pilot Han Solo, played back then by Harrison Ford, and arguably the best-loved character in the franchise.

When we meet Han, played here by young Alden Ehrenreich, he's a runaway who has fallen

— STAR WARS, Page 11



Original Han Solo, Harrison Ford, teams up with the new, Alden Ehrenreich



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## High schools mobilize to help teens combat rise in stress-related ills

By Diana Nelson

Generation Z is the informal name given to those in their teen years now, who are ready to move into center stage after the Xers.

They were born tech-savvy with a smart phone in one hand and more electronic gadgets than any previous generation.

Yet, experts opine, it's more challenging than ever to be a teenager.

Complaints of bullying through social media, combined with fears of school shootings, and even the unpredictable threat of terrorism, are all recent social and emotional issues that add to societal stress and impact teens.

Closer to home, TUHSD is working diligently to offer support services and classes to better prepare these worldly-wise youth for the demands of living in a complex world.

Dr. Lisa Merrin, lead psychologist for the district, says that counseling services are available to TUHSD students who ask for them.

"We are invested in creating an atmosphere where students learn to advocate for their own needs, and where seeking support is seen as strength, rather than a weakness," said Dr. Merrin.

"We also have been working toward more staff training, so that more staff—beyond those who counsel formally—knows how to respond to a student who reaches out for help or guidance. We know that not all students are comfortable seeing a counselor or other mental-health support person as a first step."

For students reluctant to ask for support, Merrin says staff is also trained in a threat assessment process to identify those students who may pose a problem.

"If there is a concern that a student may pose a threat, there is a team process that is triggered where data is gathered and analyzed, and a plan of support is generated based on the information identified in this assessment," said Merrin.

During these difficult times, Merrin and other mental health staff can respond; although, having services that are offered on an as-needed basis is critical to avoid problems escalating.

"We have a number of supports for student counseling on our campuses. We have guidance counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and behavioral interventionists," said Dr. Merrin, "all of whom may see students in crisis; but, also for planned, proactive counseling to help them problem solve, to learn coping skills, and to be able to re-enter the classroom focused on learning."

The district also partners with the city of Tempe to have their prevention counselors on high-school campuses.

"These skilled professionals often run groups for students on a variety of issues such as anger management or divorce, as well as seeing individual students in need and consulting with staff to help students and families," said Merrin.

Her advice to parents is to try to connect with



# Stress

From Page 4

your teen, but don't react negatively too quickly if they aren't willing to open up and talk.

"It's also important to reassure teens that these are hard years, and that it's normal to feel anxious, sad, or angry, but it's also healthy and important to seek support when these feelings become too intense to cope alone," said Merrin.

In addition to mental-health services for students, TUHSD adopted the Botvin LifeSkills Training program for all youth who are freshman or sophomores.

Jennifer Liewer, executive director of Community Relations for the district, says that the program, "is a highly interactive, skills-based program designed to promote positive health and personal development for youth in grades 9 or 10. Currently, the program is funded for a total of three years and this is the first year.

"The program is an integrated approach that helps develop personal, interpersonal, and drug resistance skills. It is taught over the course of ten-class periods and every student enrolled in a TUHSD PE class is learning the curriculum."

The curriculum is designed to strengthen student abilities in the following areas:

**Personal Self-Management Skills:** Students develop strategies for making healthy decisions, reducing stress, and managing anger.

**General Social Skills:** Students strengthen their communication

skills and learn how to build healthy relationships.

**Drug Resistance Skills:** Students understand the consequences of substance use, risk-taking, and the influences of the media.

The district's website lists extensive information on additional community resources and mental health services as well at [www.tempeunion.org](http://www.tempeunion.org)

## How system failed Parkland High School shooter Nikolas Cruz

Florida school officials now say school-shooting suspect Nikolas Cruz was referred during middle school to a mentoring program aimed at steering children away from the criminal justice system.

It's a shifting explanation that critics are calling a reversal of earlier statements.

The school district clarified that Cruz was referred to the program while at middle school in 2013; but, he didn't fully participate, and that he did not attend the program at all while at Stoneman Douglas High School.

The middle-school referral came after the school said Cruz got in trouble for vandalizing a bathroom and incurred a disciplinary infraction for vandalism and destruction of school property for less than \$1,000.

School officials said in a statement that the middle school student underwent an intake interview in November 2013 "but "it does not appear that Cruz completed the recommended three-day assignment to the mentoring program."

It's unclear why there was no follow-through by the district.

## Firefighters are heroes again in a hair-raising event to fight cancer

How many times have our hair-disadvantaged friends reminded us that, yes, bald really is beautiful.

Now come the United Phoenix Fire Fighters Charities, who evidently have combed through some successful fund-raising ideas to promote a head-shaving party from noon to 5 on Saturday, May 19, in Tempe.

The members say they're doing their part to fight cancer at a "Bald is Beautiful" event that will take place at the C.A.S.A restaurant at 5 E. 6th St.

The family-friendly event will celebrate cancer survivors and those who have fought the good fight by

sharing #storiesofstrength. Funds raised will benefit Children's Cancer Network.

Anyone making a donation will receive a "Cancer Fighting HERO" sign to show support for the person in their life who is battling cancer or who has lost the struggle for survival.

Donors will also receive a free head shaving—optional, of course—to support those who have lost their hair from cancer treatment.

UPFFC will also be selling shirts and other items to support the Children's Cancer Network.

Information: [facebook.com/events/199538180811316](https://facebook.com/events/199538180811316)



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# City of Chandler NEWS+Events

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

## The Faces Behind Chandler Water



**Meter Services**

Chandler's Public Works and Utilities Department delivers 56 million gallons of drinking water every day to residents, industry and businesses.

In the coming weeks, the City of Chandler will begin mailing postcards to you, our water customers, inviting you to review our annual Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report found online at [chandleraz.gov/waterquality](http://chandleraz.gov/waterquality).



**Water Quality**

Thanks to the efforts of those pictured here, Chandler continues to supply customers with drinking water that meets or exceeds all state and federal water quality standards.



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Shawn Prisciandaro  
Vern Martin  
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Fernando Villalobos  
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Rhonda Schmitt  
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Rick Tonn  
Brian Tyler  
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James West  
Joe Feratto  
Joe Flores  
Jose Carrillo  
Josh Hudson  
Sean Miley  
Cassandra Zink  
Catalina Nunez  
Corina Castrellon  
Emily Meza  
Jason Hafen  
Mary Jean Goeldner  
Melissa Primero  
Natalie Figueroa  
Toni Bourland

## EVENTS MAY

- 19 FRANK Talks: Is Incarceration the Best Approach to Address Criminal Behavior, Basha Library, 782-2751
- 19 Our Stories: Arizona's Wild Myths & Legends, Sunset Library, 782-2751
- 19 Yen-Li Chen Ballet School presents Sleeping Beauty, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 21 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 24 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 28 Memorial Day holiday, City offices closed
- 31 2018 Full Draw Film Tour - Bow Hunting, Center for the Arts, 782-2680

## JUNE

- 1 The Monkees: Mike & Micky Show, Center for the

- Arts, 782-2680
- 2 Showcase: Ballet Etudes School of Dance, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 3 Innerlight Dance Center Recital, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 8 The Greatest Show: The Dance Loft Recital, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 9 Salt River Kayak Excursion, Environmental Education Center, 782-2890
- 9 Our Stories: Skirting the Law – Crime History of Chandler, Basha Library, 782-2751
- 11 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 14 MBBC is Broadway Bound: Marilyn Bostic's Ballet Centre, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 14 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 16 Ballet Folklorico Quetzalli-AZ 10th Anniversary

- Celebration with Mariachi Sonido de Mexico, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 17 Father's Day - Free Admission for Dads at Chandler Pools, 782-2749
- 17 Regina Belle, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 20 Future Leaders Fair – Teen Career Expo & Job Fair, Chandler Community Center, 782-2730
- 21 Tempe Dance Academy and Talent Factory: Meet Me at the Fair, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 23 Wagner Dance Arts: Yellow Brick Road, Center for the Arts, 782-2680
- 25 City Council Study Session, Council Chambers, 782-2180
- 28 City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 782-2180

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

Mayor Jay Tibshraeny & City Council

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# College

From Page 1

Just across the threshold of this establishment stand the flags of this nation and its military, symbolizing Bridgepoint and Ashford's admiration for those who served or are currently serving this country.

In addition to the demonstrated immense support of their students, the organization also provides a veterans center, which allows all veteran students to receive help from counselors in various fields.

Says Heather Albin, strategy manager for military and veterans services:

"In the veterans center, if a student comes in they can receive face-to-face advising from enrollment services, academic advising, registrar (which takes care of credit evaluations and matters like that), and military financial-aid assistance."

Even if a veteran student is not affiliated with Ashford University and Bridgepoint Education, they may still utilize the veterans center, which includes a brand-new testing center and study lounge.

The organization prides itself

in hiring individuals with military affiliation, and who emulate their core values in all areas of life. Some of these values include being passionate, trusted and taking ownership for one's own actions.

"First and foremost," said Philip Dana, head of human resources and a 14-year Navy veteran, "we're a value-based culture, so for us starting a new site and scaling significantly over the next few years, to me, as a human resources guy, it's absolutely critical that we maintain a purpose driven, value-based culture."

Dana emphasized that the 800 people they plan to bring onto the team must prove themselves to have the skills necessary to be a part of the organization that provides outstanding service and support for all their students.

"Naturally, we're looking for folks who are passionate about education and changing lives."

Bridgepoint Education and Ashford University provide over 60 online degrees, with 5-to-6-week classes starting 50 times per year for ample flexibility.

For more information regarding enrollment, military advisement and careers visit [ashford.edu](http://ashford.edu).

## Kids' creativity blossoms when they dig in to Broadmor's veggie garden

By Amy Garza

The day at Broadmor Elementary was one that the parents likely relished even more than their kids, even though it was planned mainly as a hands-on learning opportunity for the group of young, aspiring chefs.

Broadmor students, parents and community members gathered in the school's Learning Patch Garden to get a hands-on lesson from Erick Geroyl, a professional chef from Boulders on Broadway and himself a Broadmor parent.

First, the group harvested some edible flowers, like pansies and nasturtiums, then took them to the outdoor classroom, where Geroyl demonstrated how to roll sushi made from nori, rice, avocado, cucumber and imitation crab, all ultimately adorned with the beautiful flowers. Everyone had a great time—and they even got to eat their delicious, colorful creations.

Broadmor Learning Patch hosts such Chefs in the Garden events throughout the school year. Lorie Simms, parent co-chair for the program, said, "These events really give families the chance to come to the garden after school hours and spend time together learning and enjoying each other's company."

Simms explained the significance of this special school/community garden:

"Every class at Broadmor comes out to the garden once a month for a hands-on lesson, where they utilize their five senses and roll up their sleeves to dig in the mud and water the plants, harvest fruits and veggies, listen for sounds of birds and insects, and taste the edible flowers."

All of this is in partnership with local vendors and the Broadmor community, including parents and neighborhood volunteers who say they love to be involved with their school garden. The lessons are tied to the curriculum in some way, giving the students project-based learning opportunities in something at their school that they take pride and ownership in.

And, the kids love watching the seeds grow into plants that bear fruits and vegetables.

"There are so many benefits of a school garden," said Simms. "Kids who sometimes struggle in the traditional learning environment come out to the garden; they relax and can learn in a whole different way."

As one teacher noted: "You could say they really blossom when they are outside in the garden."



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# West Chandler's homeless population more than doubles over 2017 count

By Diana Nelson

The number of homeless people in West Chandler is growing. This year the official count was 54 unsheltered individuals, up from 20 people in the previous year.

It's the same trend throughout the Valley, according to the results of the annual Point-In-Time Homeless Count, which is conducted by the Maricopa Association of Governments to determine the number of unsheltered individuals.

MAG coordinates the PIT Count

each year, through their task force called the Maricopa Regional Continuum of Care, and collaborates with 24 cities, who recruit their own local volunteers for the effort.

Currently, Chandler Councilmember Kevin Hartke co-chairs the MAG task force, and says that the number of people experiencing homelessness continues to rise at an alarming pace.

He explained that the growth trend in Maricopa County is similar to the

entire country, and despite more resources in the Valley, the problem persists. The leadership in each city is responsible for using the data from the annual count to develop solutions for their particular community's needs.

"However, it is important to note that the Point-in-Time Count is not a perfect science. Variables such as weather, number of volunteers, etc. can make a difference in the count from year to year," said Hartke.

"In 2017, the day of the count was unseasonably cold and rainy, likely contributing to lower numbers. Chandler has implemented new strategies to address this issue to include increased resources and collaborations with other East Valley cities to ensure a regional approach."

Fortunately Chandler does offer a number of services to families who are willing to accept help, according to Hartke:

- IHELP provides shelter, food and assistance for about 400 men and women a year through a collaboration of churches, restaurants and nonprofits. IHELP has been successful with finding employment for about 50 percent of those who sign up for case management, while staying with the program. IHELP also has helped resolve reasons for homelessness on a

case-by-case basis and found housing for some as well.

- Chandler has two homeless navigators who meet with those experiencing homelessness and help identify resources and opportunities to get them out of being homeless.

- Chandler provides vouchers for up to 24 months to take 19 men, women and families off the street.

- Chandler also provides housing for those experiencing homelessness, who apply for public housing.

Even with some safety-net programs in place, homelessness can be a thorny problem to solve. Many times the homeless suffer from addictions or have mental or physical disabilities, which may require extensive and long-term support.

As co-chair of the MAG task force Hartke says he has learned that "homelessness is a big problem caused by many things.

"Homelessness is bigger than the currently identified resources we have and getting bigger every year. It will take more collaboration and resources from areas of faith, nonprofit, business, health care and municipal, county, state and federal government to adequately address and resolve this problem."

Hartke explains that the PIT count



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The number of homeless individuals in West Chandler has more than doubled in the last year.  
— Photo by Joyce Coronel, Wrangler News

is an effort to learn more about the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Maricopa County.

“It serves as a one-night snapshot of homelessness in the region. To accomplish community goals and make a difference in the lives of people experiencing homelessness, we need to know who they are, where they are, and understand the factors that led to their homelessness,” said Hartke.”

The overall findings in the 2018 annual homeless PIT count tell a troubling story of an increase in the overall number of people experiencing homelessness in the Maricopa County region. Of particular concern, he said, is the continuing increase in the number of people living on the streets or in unsheltered situations.

According to the report submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by the Maricopa Regional Continuum of Care, there were 6,298 people experiencing homelessness on the night of Jan. 22, 2018. This includes those living in emergency shelters or on the streets. It is a 12 percent increase from the region’s 2017 number of 5,605.

While the overall numbers went up, the report also showed that the number of homeless individuals, youth, and families who were not in shelter continues to increase. This year, the number of people living in unsheltered situations was 2,618. This is a 27 percent increase from the 2017 number of 2,059, and a whopping 149 percent increase from the unsheltered number recorded in 2014.

One reason for the increase in homeless may be an insufficient supply of affordable housing available in the region.

“Maricopa County continues to be the fastest-growing county in the nation,” noted Amy Schwabenlender, Valley of the Sun United Way and co-chair with Hartke of the Continuum of Care task force at MAG.

“With the population growth, housing shortage, and stagnation of federal and state resources, homelessness will remain a challenging issue for the region,” she says.

For additional information on resources for families in Chandler, visit the city’s website at [www.chandleraz.gov](http://www.chandleraz.gov).



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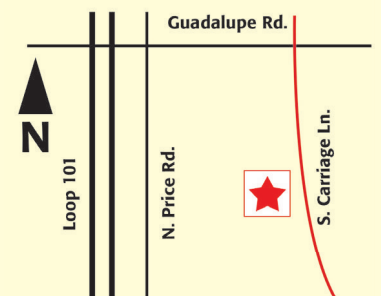
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## Wide array of art, other offerings during May at Tempe History Museum

**E**xpressive art, sculptures and live music are all happening at the Tempe History Museum this month. The museum's newest featured exhibit—Humans of Tempe—is also on display, showcasing the portraits and stories of everyday people who live, work or spend time in Tempe.

Also scheduled is the return of Tempe Time Machine, a summer enrichment program that begins in June.

Now through June 3

*Material Beauty*—This pop-up ASU sculpture display explores some of the natural aspects of sculptural materials and how they impact the meaning of beauty.

The exhibit is open during regular museum hours.

Thursday, May 17, 7 p.m.

*Third Thursday at the museum*  
*An Evening with David Miller*  
(Primordial Creative Studio).

*Expressive and Experimental Photography*—Miller will speak about Expressive + Experimental Photography, blending all the things individuals can do with photography to go beyond the straight image.

Coffee and dessert will be available before taking part in a group light-painting event.

The series is part artist portrait, part history lesson, part community forum and part creative event.

Free, family-friendly and open to the public. Donations welcomed.

Friday, May 27, 7 p.m.

*Performances at the Museum*—*Dry River Yacht Club*

The Dry River Yacht Club's seven-member lineup surrounds an acoustic guitar with violin, percussion, bass, bassoon and trombone.

The band's sound is an artful mix of gypsy, Bohemian, Eastern European, American and world music. Meet the band in a Q and A after the show.

Free, family-friendly and open to the public.

Information: [www.tempe.gov/MuseumEvents](http://www.tempe.gov/MuseumEvents).

# Diversions

## Diverse offerings coming to Tempe Arts Center

**M**usic lovers of all ages and interests have received a welcome early look at the upcoming season's slate of offerings at Tempe Center for the Arts, which continues to emerge as one of the Valley's premier entertainment venues.

The center's growing something-for-everyone reputation is reinforced with its premiers of critically acclaimed theatre, cutting-edge hip-hop, delicious comedy, Grammy award-winning musicians and a female revolution and drama inspired by American history.

Musical highlights include Julliard-meets-Nashville sensations Annie Moses Band; hip-hop and classical orchestra Ensemble Mik Nawooj; and Dailey & Vincent, winners of 35 International Bluegrass Music Awards.

AZ Theatre debuts include *The Revolutionists*, a play about feminism, legacy and change; and *Detroit '67*, exploring the 1967 race riots and the soulful sounds of Motown, breaking records and breaking down barriers.

Popular offerings include *Dinner at Five*, where hilarity ensues; the family classic, *A Christmas Carol*, and TCA's third annual *Disrupt FEST*.

"We are excited to feature partnerships with several resident-artist companies

for our 2018-19 TCA season," said Ralph Remington, Tempe Center for the Arts' producing artistic director.

"By expanding our theatrical portfolio and presenting a variety of artists and acts, we continue our goal of bringing experimental, mainstream, diverse and accessible art to TCA and the community."

*Upcoming:*

**Annie Moses Band — Sept. 22:**

The Annie Moses Band unifies audiences of all ages, from classical connoisseurs and roots enthusiasts to pop music and bluegrass buffs. Drawn together by the bonds of family and faith, this band of siblings has graced the stages of Carnegie Hall and the Grand Ole Opry House.

**Ensemble Mik Nawooj — Oct.**

**20:** Led by composer/pianist, JooWan Kim, Hip Hop Orchestra Ensemble Mik Nawooj (EMN) creates New Concert Music based on the musical materials of hip-hop and by sampling compatible classical compositional techniques. Executed with MCs/lyricists Do D.A.T. and Sandman, a lyric soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, drums and bass, EMN brings their hip-hop and classical reinventions to TCA.

**Changüi Majadero — Oct. 27:**

The group has recaptured the traditional

— TCA, Page 12

## Make this your best summer ever!

Most programs start the first week of June.

## Registration Now!

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.



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## Friday, May 25 is National Tap Dance Day!

To celebrate, all of our classes will be free on that day!

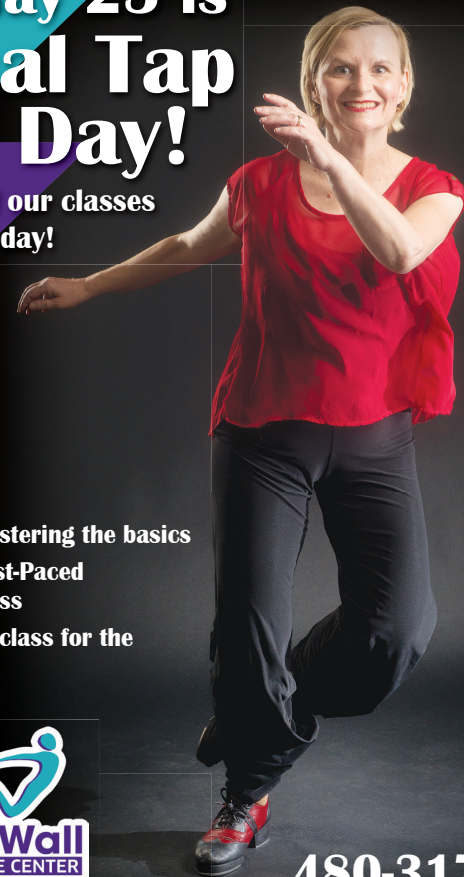
### Schedule:

- 9am - Tap Level 1: Mastering the basics
- 10am - Tap Level 3: Fast-Paced intermediate class
- 11am - Never-2-Late: a class for the total beginner



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# Star Wars

From Page 1

into a Dickensian life of street crime on a dreary industrial planet, in servitude to a sort of giant tomato worm (with beautiful diction).

He escapes, albeit at a painful price, and we're shown his first meetings with Chewbacca (Joonas Suotamo), Lando Calrissian (Donald Glover) and his beloved spaceship the Millennium Falcon.

Han and Chewie fall in with a gang of space bandits including Woody Harrelson, Thandie Newton and a little multi-armed dude voiced by Jon Favreau, who are working for odious crime boss Paul Bettany and his beautiful consigliere Emilia Clarke.

The gang, along with Lando and a revolutionary-minded robot (Phoebe Waller-Bridge) end up on another crazy, daring exploit.

As an audience member, I may be in an unusually fortunate position where Star Wars is concerned.

I've always liked Star Wars, liked it a lot, really, but it was never the gold standard of entertainment for me.

Probably because I came to it as a teenager rather than as a child, I never had the emotional investment in the franchise that so many in the generation after me did (and that I have in, say, Star Trek), so I can take pleasure in the movies on their own merits, and

if something feels a little off to me, it doesn't seem like a desecration.

Within that context, I found Solo very authentic and enjoyed it thoroughly. The credited director is Ron Howard, who reportedly took over late in the shoot, after the directing team of Phil Lord and Christopher Miller were fired (they're credited as executive producers).

Whoever's work predominates in the finished product, it has that inimitable Star Wars feel, with one possible exception: It's a bit dark, in the literal sense, especially early on.

To emphasize the grittiness of Han's background, the initial planets we visit are on the gray, overcast or even downright murky side.

While this is appropriate enough to the story, the loss of some of the color and visual vibrancy we expect from a Star Wars movie mutes the effect a bit.

But that's about as much of a criticism as I can muster.

Solo is a rambling, rollicking space opera, with all the chases and dogfights and shoot-outs and monsters and double-crosses and noble sacrifices one could wish for, supported by a truly engaging cast.

Ehrenreich, who jumped off the screen a couple of years ago as the young cowboy star in the Coen Brothers' comedy Hail, Caesar!, is even better here as the cocksure but likable Han.

He has a no-kidding movie star's face, and dare

I say it, I thought he came across here as less aloof, more openhearted than the young Harrison Ford did in the original film (Ford grew much warmer as an actor as he matured).

Ehrenreich and Suotamo, the Finnish basketball player who takes over the role of Chewbacca from Peter Mayhew, generate an easy and touching rapport from their first scene together.

Glover channels the suavity of Billy Dee Williams as Lando, and adds a welcome touch of comic vanity and youthful overconfidence. Clarke has the English hothouse-flower charm that seems to recur so often among the leading ladies in the series in recent years, Bettany's bad guy has an unctuousness that's very easy to hate, and the brash line readings of Waller-Bridge are quite amusing.

Best of all among the supporting cast, though, is Harrelson as the wearily cynical leader of the bandits: In the midst of all this Buck Rogers silliness, he manages to create a complex character.

Part of the credit for this must go to the dialogue, by the father-and-son team of Lawrence and Jonathan Kasdan, with its touches of humane antiauthoritarian idealism, little riffs on loyalty and selflessness that pop up here and there as if smuggled in.

If the movie was made in the '50s, you wouldn't be surprised to learn that the script was the work of some blacklisted writer, working through a front.

*Plays Valley-wide starting Friday, May 25.*

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# TCA

From Page 10

Afro-Cuban musical sound of changüü and brought it into the modern era. With an innovative and unique combination of raw Cuban Roots and East L.A. Grit, the band's music has an intensity and grace that lovers of folk, jazz and world music will appreciate.

**Dinner at Five — Nov. 3:** Written & Directed by Lloyd J. Schwartz (The Brady Bunch, Gilligan's Island, Harper Valley PTA), Dinner at Five stars TV legends from the 1960s, '70s, '80s & '90s in a swinging play filled with one-liners, zingers and a raised eyebrow here and there.

**Dailey & Vincent — Nov. 17:** Five-time Grammy award-winners individually and three-time nominees collectively, this group, backed by one of the best bands on tour today, are performers in American music: bluegrass, traditional country and gospel. Jamie Dailey's tenor, Darrin Vincent's reedy harmonies, and the members' electric musicianship will make TCA patrons feel right at home.

**A Christmas Carol — Dec. 6-23:** Music by Broadway's Alan Menken and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens.

Co-presented with resident artist Scottsdale Musical Theater Company. This spectacular Broadway musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' novel, A Christmas Carol, follows Ebenezer Scrooge

as he takes a ghost-guided, eye-opening journey through his past, present and future to learn the importance of family & friendship. Filled with lively song and dance, stunning sets and costumes, it will leave you and yours wrapped in the joy of the season. No one will want to miss this holiday classic of hope, love and redemption.

**The Revolutionists — December:** Written by Lauren Gunderson, co-produced with resident artist The Bridge Initiative for Women in Theatre. Literally anything can happen when you put the infamous French Queen Marie Antoinette, assassin Charlotte Corday, playwright Olympe de Gouge, and Caribbean spy Marianne Angelle in a room together. This irreverent comedy set during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror propels itself into modern times while standing up for one's beliefs and who runs the world.

## Ticket Discounts

TCA offers a 15 percent discount for members of Friends of TCA, Groups of 10 or more and packages of three or more TCA shows. Purchase six or more TCA shows before Sept. 22 and Save 25%; after Sept. 22, Save 20%.

Student, senior and military rates available. Discounts are through the TCA Box Office, online at [tca.ticketforce.com/TCAPresents](http://tca.ticketforce.com/TCAPresents) or by phone at 480-350-2822.

Tickets for TCA-presented and produced, as well as co-produced, events are on sale through the TCA Box Office, online at [tca.ticketforce.com/TCAPresents](http://tca.ticketforce.com/TCAPresents) or by calling 480-350-2822.

# Creative talent sought from 85283-84 areas of Tempe

Calling all musicians, spoken-word artists, emcees, storytellers, poets and singers: Tempe wants to hear your voice. Submit original work for a chance to be featured in Tempe's first audio podcast, *Tempe Playlist: Saturn Sessions*.

The program is a locally inspired audio project designed to capture and celebrate the talents of local *creatives*—musicians, poets, spoken word artists, emcees, singers and storytellers—who live, work and/or study within the 85283 and 85284 zip codes.

These recordings will be compiled into a digital playlist available online for free and visually marketed on the Orbit Saturn buses. Selected artists will also have the opportunity to be commissioned for the Saturn Sessions live performances at local destinations. All submissions are due by noon Wednesday, June 6. Information: [www.tempe.gov/TempePlaylist](http://www.tempe.gov/TempePlaylist) or e-mail [TempePlaylist@gmail.com](mailto:TempePlaylist@gmail.com).

Tempe Playlist: Saturn Sessions is supported in part through the AZ Creative

Communities Institute, a program of the Arizona Commission on the Arts, an agency of the state of Arizona and Arizona State University Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, with guidance from Southwest Folklife Alliance.

AZ Creative Communities is funded in part by a grant from the Surdna Foundation, awarded to the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts at Arizona State University as part of its Thriving Cultures grant program.

Orbit, Tempe's free neighborhood circulator, connects residents to local destinations, including shopping, recreational facilities, schools and major bus routes. The six Orbit routes—Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn—operate daily, most with 15 minutes between pickups. Saturn, the newest addition to Orbit, started operating in October. This route serves as a bridge between northern and southern Tempe, travelling from Southern Avenue to Elliot Road.

# Tempe Diablos express community's gratitude with \$31,000 in rewards

Many can remember the teacher who inspired students to do more than they ever thought they could. What is not known is how far this inspiration can travel because inspiration, remind members of the Tempe Diablos service organization, is infinite.

It is that very phenomenon of education—recognized with a salute to the motivation and encouragement that drives teachers' determination—that Diablos members honor each year.

Thereby unfolded this year's Excellence in Education Awards, presented May 14 at Tempe Center for the Arts.

Overall, this year's recognition honored 45 finalists, comprised of teachers, administrators and staff members from the Tempe Elementary, Kyrene and the Tempe Union High School districts.

The winners received a coveted Jade Trophy and cash awards up to \$2,000. The runners-up were presented cash awards as well.

In all, the Diablos awarded more than \$31,000 during the celebratory evening.

Also this year, Diablos members presented another special award, Heart of Education, to longtime Tempe educator Joe Spracale.

Spracale, after serving for decades as both an accomplished teacher and

principal in the Tempe Elementary district, dedicated his retirement years to leading the Tempe Impact for Education Foundation, which has raised significant funds in the community to provide basic needs to disadvantaged school children.

In addition to becoming its first recipient, the Diablos' new Heart of Education Award has been named for Spracale.


"We are humbled to honor these dedicated individuals and to let them know how much we appreciate their passion for excellence," said awards chairman Greg Garcia. "They are the backbone of our educational system, and the way they use their extraordinary talents and abilities make such a positive difference in the lives of our children."

Educators from each district were nominated by their peers, principals or students and their families in a variety categories, including *Class Act*, *Inspiration*, *High Impact*, *Leadership*, *Rising Star* and *Lifetime Achievement*.

At the end of the awards program, results were announced on a search for *Teacher of the Year* honors.

A panel of retired teachers and administrators judged the submissions based on the criteria as described in each category. The finalists and their

— DIABLOS, Page 26



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# Tempe Diablos 2018

## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION



For 29 years, the Tempe Diablos' Excellence in Education Awards have recognized outstanding educators. This years recipients received cash awards of more than \$31,500. It's a small way of giving back to the teachers, administrators and staff who make a difference in the lives of the children our community.



Teacher of the Year  
**Vico Guerrero**  
Kyrene de la Sierra  
Elementary School



Teacher of the Year  
**Kent Hendricks**  
Laird School



Teacher of the Year  
**Melissa Wendell**  
Mountain Pointe  
High School



Lifetime Achievement  
**Deborah Malsom**  
Kyrene Centennial  
Middle School



Lifetime Achievement  
**Dr. Christine Trujillo**  
Tempe Elementary  
District Office



Lifetime Achievement  
**Leigh Trudgen**  
Corona del Sol  
High School



Rising Star  
**Ashley LaMonica**  
Kyrene de la Mirada  
Elementary School



Rising Star  
**Brianna Kleitsch**  
Thew Elementary  
School



Rising Star  
**Beatrice Williams**  
Mountain Pointe  
High School



Leadership  
**Christine Hartland**  
Kyrene Monte Vista  
Elementary School



Leadership  
**Ken White**  
Curry Elementary  
School



Leadership  
**Michael Cooper**  
Tempe High School



High Impact  
**Karen Ruth Reiss**  
Kyrene Centennial  
Middle School



High Impact  
**Betsey Sieveking**  
Fees College  
Preparatory  
Middle School



High Impact  
**Joe Dominguez**  
Mountain Pointe  
High School



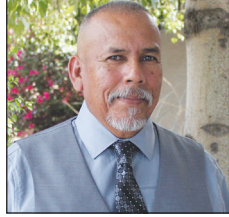
Inspiration  
**Brenda Mulkey**  
Kyrene Monte Vista  
Elementary School



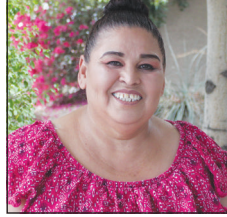
Inspiration  
**Al Enriquez**  
Gililand Middle  
School



Inspiration  
**Dr. Michelle Crary**  
District Office



Class Act  
**Ignacio Alvarez**  
Kyrene Aprende  
Middle School



Class Act  
**Hilda Galindo**  
Arredondo  
Elementary School



Class Act  
**Isley Frazier**  
Desert Vista  
High School



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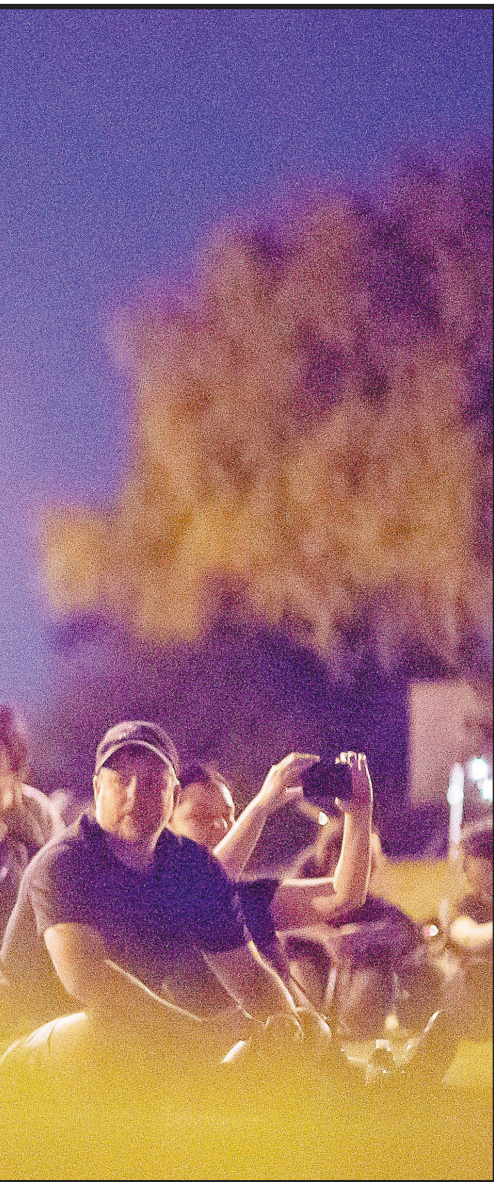
# Concert under the s



A free concert at Tempe's Estrada Park featuring the nationally known Blaine Long & Rosas del Rey trio (upper right) drew neighbors for an evening under the stars, sponsored by UBG Realtors Kris Cartwright and Julie Hettermann. An ice cream cart and catered barbecue added a tasty note to the event organized by the Estate La Colina Neighborhood Association and Mckell Keeney. Also on hand (at left) were Jen Schook and Rachel Anthony, along with concert-goers Kevin Walsh and Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell.



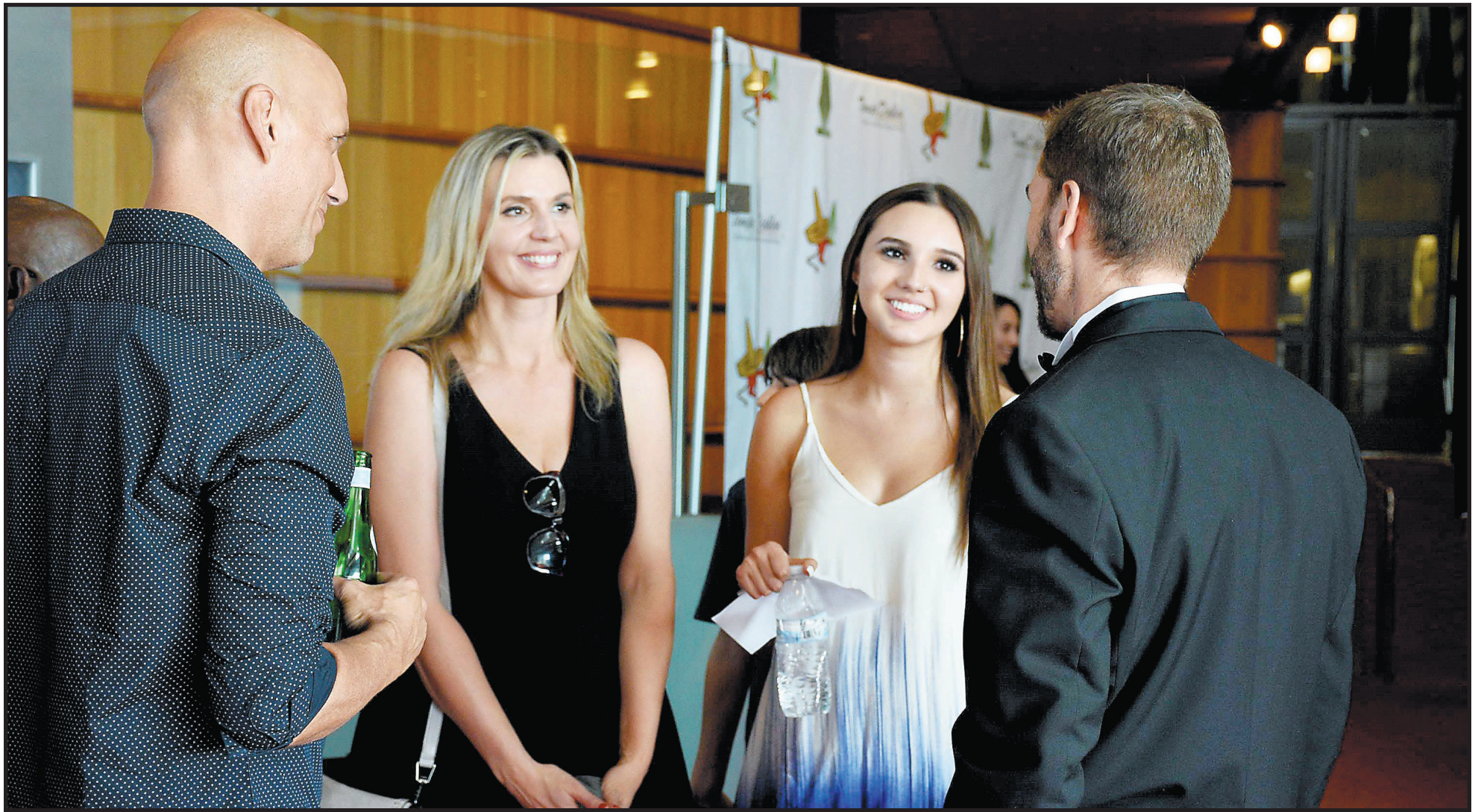
# stars



*Photo feature for Wrangler News by Billy Hardiman*







## TEACHER HONORS: A TRIBUTE TO THE BEST OF THE BEST

Clockwise, a high school senior who received a scholarship chats with attendees at the Tempe Diablos' Excellence in Education awards event; Scott Glasser, director of orchestras at Marcos de Niza High School, plays the violin alongside some of his students; Scott Lieme, co-chair of the Excellence in Education awards event and past president of the Diablos, addresses the crowd.

— Photos courtesy Tempe Diablos





# Blockchain's future to be May 23 topic at Chandler Chamber

Blockchain, a new technology that's predicted to change the business world, will be the topic of a program coming to the Chandler Chamber of Commerce 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 23.

The technology, as described in nontechnical terms by Blockchain authority Steve Murphy, is described as a continuously growing list of records, called blocks, which are linked and secured using cryptography.

Forecasters say the technology could have implications on money, business and the world, as well as potentially providing a way to provide security and privacy.

Topics for discussion include what is Blockchain, how does it work, what is its connection to crypto markets and what is the current regulatory status.

Admission is \$35 for members, \$50 for non-members. Those attending will receive a certificate for the completed business-education hours.

Information: 480-963-4571.

# New KMS principal

Kyrene Middle School has a new principal effective July 1, prior to the start of the next school year.

The announcement was made by District Superintendent Dr. Jan Vesely.

Martinez, who holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Arts in Bilingual/Multicultural Education, has over 24 years in education and has been a principal for the past seven years.

He also holds a Masters of Education in Educational Administration from Grand Canyon University. Martinez has been an assistant principal, prevention specialist and classroom teacher. He attended University of Arizona and has a bilingual teaching certificate in both New Mexico and Arizona.

Vesely said the district will work to ensure a smooth transition in leadership at the school.

"I know Mr. Martinez looks forward to meeting KMS parents, students and staff as soon as possible and working together to make 2018-19 an outstanding school year," said Vesely.

# Hunger

From Page 1

high-protein items are welcome.

"The Tempe Police Department is committed to serving all members of our community in this very important endeavor to end hunger," said TPD Public Information Officer Lily Duran.

The Take a Bite Out of Hunger campaign offers an opportunity for the community and Tempe police to work together to support families in need and be a part of an essential movement to fight hunger, said Duran.

Tempe Community Action Agency is at 2146 E. Apache Boulevard. Food donations can be accepted 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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# Making it this far: 'A great accomplishment'

## Sports

With Alex Zener

The Aztecs made it into the quarterfinals of the 6A Boys State Volleyball Championships, for the first time since 2012, before losing to eventual champions Desert Vista, 3-1, on May 8.



"Coming into this season, we knew it was not going to be easy because we lost a lot of good seniors at key positions last May," said head coach **Geoff Horewitch**. "But this group of varsity players pushed themselves day in and day out to make everyone better around them.

For the team to make it into the quarterfinals was a great accomplishment."

Corona as the No. 10 seed, first defeated Mountain Point, 3-0, on May 3 in the state play-in round to gain the opportunity to play in 6A State Championship against Highland in the first round.

"This is the second year of having a state play in tournament where the No. 9-24 ranked teams compete to determine the 9 through 16 seeding for the ultimate first round of the state tournament. The top eight ranked teams automatically qualified," said Horewitch. "We were happy to earn the 10th overall seed because it guaranteed us one more home game which was fun for our seniors."

In the Aztecs, 3-0, win over Mountain Point, senior outside hitter **Chris Davis** led the team in kills with 13 or an average of 4.3 kills a set with a .343 hitting percentage. Davis also recorded 10 digs, two blocks and two aces in that match.

Fellow senior outside hitter **Ryan Pike** was next with 10 kills while junior middle blocker **James Watson** had eight kills, one block and one ace.

Senior middle blocker **Dallin Dayes** led the team in blocks with four while senior **Preston Schoenhardt** led the team in digs with 13.

Junior setter **Niko Zeiner** had 84 assists, two blocks and one ace.

Corona defeated No. 7 seeded Highland, 3-1, on May 5 to move up to the quarterfinals.

"It was great for our players to be able to go to Highland in the first round and win," said Horewitch. "We had beaten Highland for the first time in six years earlier in the season at home but had not won at Highland in a long time. It was a special moment to be with the team during that victory."

In the Aztecs, 3-1, win over Highland, Davis, who is ranked No. 4 in kills overall in the 6A conference, was on fire hitting .400 with 20 kills or an average of five kills a set.

Pike was next with 13 kills while Dayes led the team in blocks with four total blocks.

Watson, who is ranked No. 15 in the 6A Conference with 66 total blocks, had three blocks in the Aztecs win over Highland.

Senior opposite hitter **Trey Kuyper** led the team in digs with 20 or five digs a set followed by Davis with 13 and Zeiner with 12

Zeiner, who is ranks No. 3 in the 6A conference in assists with a total of 998 assists or an average of 8.4 assists a set, tallied 47 assists in the Aztecs win over Highland.

Schoenhardt led the team in aces with four while



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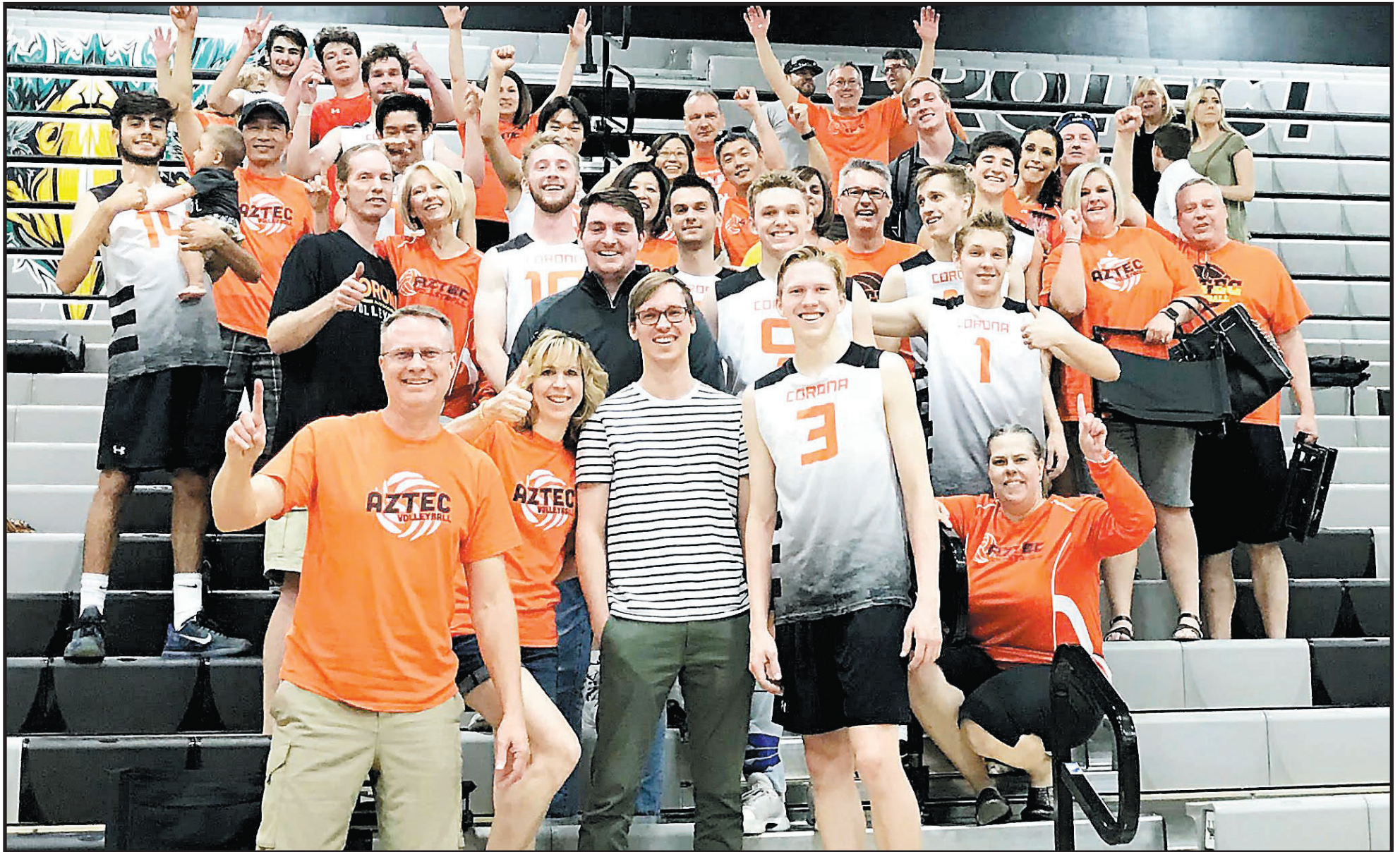




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Corona players, parents and fans celebrate the Aztecs' 3-1 win over Highland in the first round of the 6A Boys State Volleyball Championships.

— Photo courtesy Lexi Vlcek

Kuyper and Zeiner each had one.

Corona started strong against Desert Vista, May 8, in the quarterfinals but was unable to sustain their momentum against the Thunder after the first set.

"It was tough having to face Desert Vista, who went on to win the state championship, in the quarterfinals," said Horewitch. "We were able to take the first set, but they are a very good team. When Desert Vista turned on the jets in the second set, they were able to outplay us the rest of the way."

Corona will once again lose several valuable players to graduation next week. Seven seniors were honored at the last home game on April 26 in a 3-0 win over Mountain Pointe: Chris Davis, Ryan Pike, Dallin Dayes, Trey Kuyper, Preston Schoenhardt, **Matthew Burgess** and **Fili Nedelkov**.

Chris Davis, one of the team captains, was not only the Aztec's kill leader with 456 kills or an average of 3.9 kills a set hitting .280, but he is also ranked No. 10 in the 6A conference in both aces with 21 and digs with 268 digs over the season.

— SPORTS, Page 20

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# Sports

From Page 19

“Chris signifies what Corona volleyball is all about,” said Horewitch. “He moved to a new position as an outside hitter for us and ended up proving to be one of the best in the state. He was named Most Outstanding Player at the Brophy Invitational.”

“He is like a mini-coach on the floor and a great team player. We could not have been as successful as we were this season without Chris.”

Co-captain Ryan Pike has the second largest number of kills on the team with a total of 276 kills which gave him the No. 15 ranking in kills in the 6A conference. Pike is also ranked No. 11 in digs with 263 or 2.3 digs a set during his senior season.

“Ryan was a three-year starter and is the definition of a teammate,” said Horewitch. “He was the heart and soul of our team. He also continued to improve this year by leads and bounds.”

Pike was also the recipient of the Bill Kajikawa Excellence award from the Tempe All-City Association.

Dallin Dayes, the block leader on the team, is ranked No. 6 in the 6A conference with a total of 88 blocks, 17 of them solo blocks, over the season.

“Dallin is a mature individual who improved his overall game to be tougher against our opponents,” said Horewitch. “He was voted by his teammates as the Most Improved Player for good reason. He improved his overall game to be top 10 in the state in blocking and increased his offensive ability.”

Trey Kuyper is ranked No. 14 in digs in the 6A conference with 240 digs or 2.1 digs a set.

“Trey is a true competitor,” said Horewitch. “He helped push his teammates to do better and to keep up with his intensity. His teammates voted to give him the Joe Sellah award at the end of the season.”

Schoenhardt led the team in digs per set with 2.7 and had 15 service aces recording an ace one out of every 10 times he served the ball.

“Preston had the ability to play any position although we utilized him as a libero,” said Horewitch. “He was able to improve our first contact to keep us in system. Preston is extremely knowledgeable about volleyball and I wish we would have had him at Corona for longer than just one season.”

“**Filip Nedelkov** and **Matthew Burgess** helped push everyone in their positions to succeed while keeping the team loose and in a fun mood when we needed it

Freshman **Tyler Lai** was able to serve 30 aces in only 81 sets to lead the team in ace percentage at 13.5 per cent.

“Lai was another one of our players who improved tremendously over the season,” said Horewitch. “He started the season as libero, a position he had never played before and improved his overall game to help contribute to our success as just a freshman.”

Other member of the team who helped contribute to the Aztecs overall success on and off the court include junior outside hitter **Santiago Connolly** and defensive specialist **Yuki Yamada** and sophomore middle blocker **Sebastian Burgos**.

“Overall, I think this season was very successful,” said Horewitch. “We started the season strong going five sets with Boulder Creek, the defending state champions and then five sets with Sandra Day O’Connor, who was the state champion runner-up

team this season.”

“Practices were intense, and competitive with the players working hard to get better,” said Horewitch. “We continued to improve, getting second place at the Notre Dame Tournament then finishing fifth overall at the Brophy invitational.”

“We kept that momentum going into the playoffs and we very proud we were able to stay competitive throughout the state tournament.”

## Marcos de Niza Baseball

The Padres, as the No. 18 seed, had to defeat No. 15 Douglas on April 25 in the 4A State Play-In Tournament to play in the playoff championships.

Marcos defeated the Bulldogs, 6-2, to move into the first round as the No. 14 seed bracketed to play against No. 3 seed Seton Catholic Prep on April 28.

The Padres ended up losing to the Sentinels, 8-3, and were eliminated from the playoffs.

The Padres who finished the season with a 17-12 overall record recognized their eight seniors at their last home game with a 13-0 win over Yuma on April 19.

The eight seniors who were honored at that game included shortstop **Nick Leach**, catcher and third baseman **Max L’Heureux**, outfielder **Kevin Dunnahoo**, third baseman **Adam Sabastian**, outfielder **Michael Rosales**, first baseman and catcher **JP Patterson**, pitcher and first baseman **Tyler Daraban**, and pitcher and outfielder **Eric Oden**



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# Weathering the weather: A homeschool primer

Commentary by Noah Kutz

To this day, I can still remember the homeschool learning adventures I experienced throughout elementary and high school.

It may have been using the scorpion that my sister had just crushed inside our house as a biology lab experiment or writing make-believe news articles with my siblings to create a makeshift newspaper for creative-writing practice.

No matter the subject, there was always some ingenious way we could apply what we were learning to our everyday lives at home. This is a way of explaining that homeschoolers and their parents often look at the world differently, donning their imaginative spectacles to seize on events that might otherwise be overlooked without a second glance.

For us, these became more than passing moments; they provided real hands-on opportunities for education.

Fast forward to May 2018 and a few hours spent with kids participating in Chandler's innovative educational

program at the city's Environmental Education Center.

Just a couple of weeks ago, as the days with temperatures soaring above 100 degrees became more frequent and we were all adjusting our thermostats and day-dreaming of cooler climates in Southern California, this creative homeschooled bunch saw an opportunity to educate themselves on the topic of weather, sponsored by the Chandler Department of Parks and Recreation.

The group of grade-school-aged kids were eager and motivated to learn all that they could about the various aspects of climatology and meteorology.

"One time, I was in a tornado," shouted one of the energized children during the classroom activity, which was followed by numerous exclamations regarding sand storms, thunderstorms and earthquakes.

The day consisted of one-on-one learning with high-tech thermometers, barometers, radiometers and other devices used for studying weather.



Homeschool students explored Chandler's Environmental Education Center as part of a hands-on, innovative program that examined weather and climatology. From thermometers to barometers, and more, students had the opportunity to conduct experiments and learn more about thunderstorms and other weather phenomena. — Wrangler News photo by Noah Kutz

— HOMESCHOOL, Page 22

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# Homeschool

From Page 21

In addition, the children had the opportunity to demonstrate different weather occurrences through creative science experiments using clay, shaving cream and other everyday items.

Chandler Parks and Rec hosts a number of educational programs just like this one at the Environmental Education Center in order to inspire young minds to think creatively and give them what planners say are unique and enlightening experiences.

"For example, maybe we're doing a botany class, so instead of just talking about it and having pictures of the parts of the plant, let's go out there and dissect it. Or maybe we're doing an Earth Day program, so why don't we go out there and plant something that has space and can grow in the next couple years," said EEC Director Ariane Francis.

Homeschooling parents said they are grateful for the department putting on this program and others like it because parents could then expand on these topics of climatology and radiology at home,

and because it filled their kids with an exceptional desire to learn.

Parents like Melissa Twine and Tanya Bland, who both homeschool their children, agreed that they really like it because they can use it as an opportunity to meet other homeschool moms.

"I love that my kids get a chance to meet other homeschool kids their age, and that there's a hands-on aspect to it, because that's something that they're able to physically take home and use to remember the things they learned here today," said one mom.

Although my homeschool days are behind me, as is the happy, beneficial—productive—time spent with my parents, siblings and friends, there always seemed to be an opportunity to learn something out of any given situation.

Often in some strange, MacGyver-like fashion, experiments were created, hypotheses were proven or disproven.

And some seemingly plain objective became exciting.

This is what homeschoolers and their parents do well. They find innovative ways to study various topics and fields on their own, which is fueled by their genuine desire to learn something new.

## Viewpoint: Mayor Jay Tibshraeny

### Opportunity, challenges come with Chandler's new budget forecast

As remarkable as 2017 was for our community, I am even more optimistic for the future.

Last year we witnessed a number of high profile business locates and expansions—most notably Intel's plans for a \$7 billion expansion and the location of Rogers Corporation international headquarters.

These projects, along with growth among Chandler's small and mid-sized employers, will provide thousands of quality jobs in our community.

And I am confident we will see continued economic success in the coming fiscal year.

With the coming year's fiscal budget, which begins July 1, 2018, we remain cautiously optimistic.

This budget, at \$875.7 million represents a 6.3 percent decrease from last year; and a proposal for a slight property tax levy reduction.

Yes, we still have some challenges that include an unstable global economic environment as well as an underfunded state public safety retirement system. And, while we were the first Arizona city to come up with



a viable plan to address this, we will remain watchful—and fully aware of the lasting impact this will have.

But, I also remain encouraged that our community continues to move in a good direction, and we will continue to be vigilant with your tax dollars. In fact, we continue to be among the lowest in the Valley in cost of service for local sales tax, property tax and city utilities. We are – to say the least—a tremendous value.

As I have said many times—and it bears repeating—our solid economic foundation is the product of more than two decades of sound financial planning. Policies that have been strictly adhered to by those you have entrusted to run this city.

I want to thank my fellow Councilmembers who fully understand the impacts of this strategy, and work tirelessly on our budget to ensure we remain fiscally strong.

The result is that in the coming fiscal year, we are again able to fund road projects, build and upgrade parks and maintain basic services and infrastructure. We will add a new parking garage in downtown Chandler, begin phase II of our Public Safety Training Facility and enhance our technology in a number of areas. We benefit from Triple-A bond ratings with all three agencies—an achievement only 30 cities across this country can claim.

Thanks to all of those people in the community who have provided input through our budget survey, the Budget Connect online forum and by other means.

Your feedback is always helpful as we plan for Chandler's future.

And what a future it is.



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### Women in Leadership '2018 Real Women of Chandler'

Tuesday, May 19, 2018  
11:30 am to 1:30 pm  
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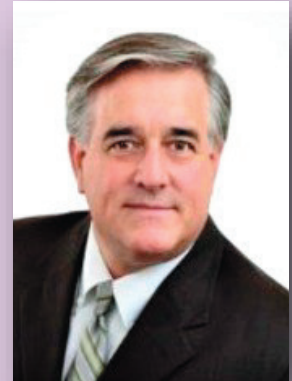
Meet these incredible women as chosen by Chandler Lifestyle Magazine. Some ladies were courageous. Some were resourceful during hard times. Some saw a need and found a solution. Some impact individuals; others impact the community as a whole. But they're all making a difference. Come hear their amazing stories.

Register @ [ChandlerChamber.com/calendar](http://ChandlerChamber.com/calendar)

### Chamber University 'Blockchain & Crypto Markets'

Steve Murphy

Wednesday, May 23, 2018  
8:30 am to 10:30 am  
Chandler Chamber  
25 S Arizona Pl, #201  
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Blockchain is a continuously growing list of records, called blocks, which are linked and secured using cryptography. It could change the business world as we know it in the very near future. Join Steve Murphy with Horseshoe Bend Energy for a nontechnical dive into this exciting segment of business technology.

Register @ [ChandlerChamber.com/calendar](http://ChandlerChamber.com/calendar)



### Ask an Expert 'Sell More. Sell Easier. Sell Faster.'

Mark Kirstein

Tuesday, May 29, 2018  
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# Diablos

From Page 12

guests arrived via red carpet and were recognized at a VIP reception and dinner hosted by the tuxedoed Diablos.

Also attending were Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell, along with other city officials and school administrators. Immediately following the dinner, the festivities shifted to the main auditorium for the awards presentation.

In addition, the audience met this year's recipients of Tempe Diablos Scholarships.

Recipients were high school seniors residing in Tempe and planning to attend Arizona State University or a Maricopa County Community College.

In all, approximately \$240,000 in scholarships were awarded.

Co-emcees for the evening were Mathew Blades and Priscilla Ornelas, morning personalities for Mix 96.9.

The recognition, held each year, has been called *Academy Awards for Teachers*, said to be the only event of its kind in the Valley.

For almost three decades, the Diablos have had a direct, hands-on presence with this program.

Members of the organization volunteer their time to produce almost every aspect of this exclusive event.

Wrangler News has been publishing for almost 3 decades, and it's been a fascinating journey. Happily, the growth which has accompanied us during those 30 years illustrates that news BY local people ABOUT local people remains a powerful incentive for those of us who disagree with the occasional suggestion that 'print doesn't work.' Based on nationally recognized formulas, Wrangler News reaches 46,500 prospective readers every time it's printed — quite a change from the meager 5,000 papers we delivered to homes back in 1991. We're looking forward to continuing our reign as this community's favorite newspaper, and we hope you'll join us in what we think is a deserved celebration. If you agree, perhaps you'll mention Wrangler News to your favorite provider of quality products or services. Businesses that support Wrangler News with their advertising support the continuation of what Phoenix magazine has called the Valley's BEST community newspaper. We hope you feel the same.



**EARLY MORNING BLAZE ROUTS FAMILY. NO INJURIES BUT A FAMILY PET IS STILL MISSING** — Fire raced through this Secretariat Drive home in Tempe during pre-dawn hours May 14, the resulting smoke seen by residents as far away as Ahwatukee. Assistant Chief Paul Nies said 48 firefighters and two ladder trucks responded, however the home appeared to be total loss. Mom Julie Devlin said she awoke to the smell of smoke and managed to alert her husband, a son and the family dogs. The fire remains under investigation. A white-and-black cat was missing as of May 15. For information call 480-966-0837. — Wrangler News photo



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# The Final Word

By Mark Mitchell  
Mayor of Tempe

I'm sorry that I have to keep writing about different iterations of the same bill, but I believe that Senate Bill 1387 is an immediate threat to our neighborhoods and our quality of life in Tempe.

SB1387, which contains resurrected language from previously defeated bills is—unfortunately—continuing to move through the legislative process. It was scheduled to be heard by the entire State House of Representatives today.

Senate Bill 1387 is a clear-cut case of some state legislators overreaching into what should be local issues regarding the character of our neighborhoods. At first glance, the SB1387 amendment seems to give cities the right to regulate these home-based businesses, *but it does*

*not, we already have the authority to regulate in this area.*

The bill is misleading it will make it nearly impossible for cities and their residents to stand up for their neighborhoods.

Instead, SB 1387 would *open your neighborhood for nearly any type of commercial and retail use*, allowing nearly any type of business transaction in YOUR neighborhood. If a home-based business causes problems in a neighborhood now, cities can intervene and find solutions that preserve the property rights of everyone.

But this bill no longer allows the city to mediate, which could make these types of situations a matter for the court.

We've helped these proposals to open up neighborhoods (SB1002, SB1175 and HB2333) on 3 different occasions this legislative session, but it keeps popping back up.



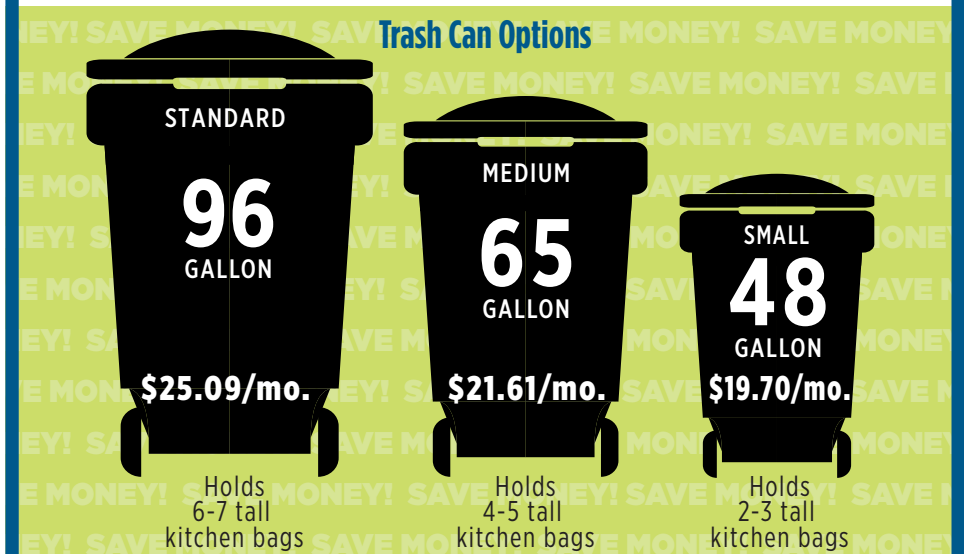
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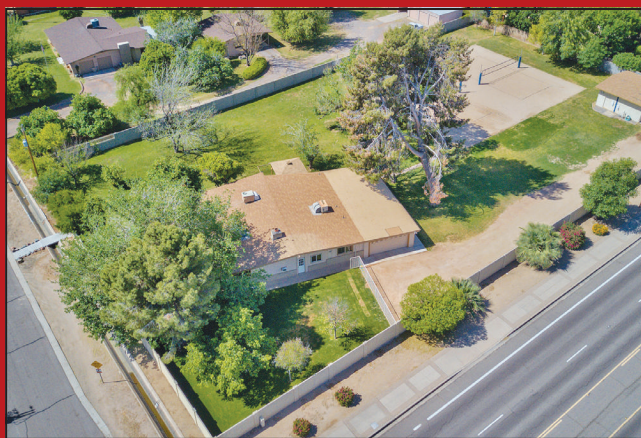
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