



Wrangler News Special Edition

Graduation 2020: A day, and a celebration, we'll never forget



Join us and the hundreds of 2020 graduates and their families in celebrating what surely will be remembered as the most unique ceremony of its kind ever experienced here and across the nation. More photos by Billy Hardiman in a center-section pullout that we hope you'll keep as a memory of these unparalleled times. You can also visit wranglernews.com for a complete downloadable version of this and previous issues to share with friends and family in other parts of the country. Congratulations to all those who helped to make this year special. See our 2020 graduation section Pages 10-17, including a complete listing of 2020 graduates at Corona del Sol and Marcos de Niza high schools.

Weathering the storm: Businesses hang on

By Joyce Coronel

As the economies of Tempe and West Chandler gradually adjust to the new normal in the aftermath of the shutdown, business owners and their clientele are learning to navigate uncharted waters.

From restaurants to dental practices to gyms, those who operate businesses

say they were hard-hit by the shutdown but are here to stay.

Ward Walston, co-owner of Great Harvest Bakery, said that before the shutdown, sales were split—50 percent flowing from the lunch crowd and catering services, 50 percent from bread and other baked goods. When the lockdown was announced, catering dropped to zero.

— BUSINESS, Page 4

Chandler Chamber exec launches a preemptive strike as mall stores close

By Don Kirkland

Even before business owners began to face the full, staggering reality of an economic downturn, Chandler Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Terri Kimble had both eyes squarely on what the future might

hold. Discussions were underway with the general manager of Nordstrom's, whose local and nationwide store closures hadn't yet been sighted on the radar.

And she was already helping Harkins theater management plan its

— CHAMBER, Page 9

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Chandler's nearly \$1 billion budget open for public review

Proposal would expand city manager staff, reduce funds for police, fire

By Lee Shappell

Chandler is proposing a 2.8 percent decrease in its annual budget for fiscal 2020-21 from the current year as it moves into the final phase of adoption amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, several elements of the proposal might generate public discussion during a final public hearing on tentative budget adoption and property-tax levy at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 28, at City Council Chambers, 88 E. Chicago St.

Items possibly raising questions could be a proposed expansion of the city manager's staff from 5 to 7, a 24 percent increase, alongside 7 percent decreases for the city's police and fire departments. The budget, if approved, also would include \$300,000 for city welcoming signs.

The 2020-21 proposed budget of almost a billion dollars, \$901,353,473, is down from the 2019-20 adopted budget of \$927,046,172.

The proposed property-tax rate for the coming fiscal year of \$0.2501 per \$100 of assessed limited valuation, as determined by the Maricopa County Assessor, is down slightly from the \$0.2581 of 2019-20.

That would save taxpayers roughly \$10 per household. The proposed secondary property-tax rate of \$0.8700 remains un-

changed from 2019-20.

However, the city would bring in substantially more revenue despite relatively flat property taxes in the coming fiscal year, due largely to new property coming onto the books.

Primary property-tax revenue, used for general government operations, would generate \$8,111,829 in 2020-21, an increase of 4.4 percent from the prior year.

Secondary property-tax revenue, restricted to general bonded-debt obligations and voter-approved budget overrides, would generate \$28,217,900, a 7.7 percent increase over the current fiscal year.

The council has made the decision to open chambers to the public for the hearing, with measures in place for social distancing, according to Matt Burdick, the city's communications and public affairs director.

Admission to the meeting will be limited to 50 people or fewer, Burdick said. Audio and video of the hearing will be broadcast in City Hall lobby for those who cannot get into chambers, and audio of the hearing will be available in the courtyard outside.

Additionally, it will be aired live on Cox Cable 11, CenturyLink Channel 8502, and streamed through the city's website (chan-

dlaraz.gov/government/departments/communications-and-public-affairs/chandler-channel) and YouTube channel (youtube.com/user/chandlerarizona/feed), Burdick said.

Final adoption of the city budget is scheduled for June 11. Property Tax Levy Adoption comes 14 days later, on June 25. The 2020-21 fiscal year begins July 1.

Items in the proposed budget that may prompt resident inquiry:

- 5 percent merit pay increases for city employees.
 - Transfer of two positions to the city manager's staff, increasing it to seven. That's a 40 percent increase when two new positions are in the budget for the Police Department and none for fire, airport or public works —which is losing 11 positions.
 - 24.1 percent increase in the city manager's budget, compared with a 7.4 percent decrease for the Fire Department and 7.0 percent decrease for the Police Department.
 - \$300,000 for the City Gateways Project for reconstruction or replacement of welcoming signs into the city.
- The total operating budget would decrease by 6.0 percent but the total capital budget would increase by 2.9 percent if the proposal is approved.

Citizen engagement (in the budget workshops) was considered an important component, according to City Manager Marsha Reed.

The proposed fiscal-year budget is the result of city department directors and their teams reviewing and prioritizing services provided and capital projects based on the City Council's Strategic Policy Goals, guidance from the Council Budget Kickoff in December, 2019, and from subsequent budget workshops, in which citizen engagement would be involved was considered an important component, according to City Manager Marsha Reed.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic late in the budgeting process created a substantial element of uncertainty, Reed said.

This proposed budget includes COVID-19 impacts, reducing revenue and forcing spending reductions, Reed said.



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Elaine McCombie, owner of Bogey's, celebrates being able to have patrons stay and enjoy a meal on the premises. — Wrangler News photo by Joyce Coronel

Business

From Page 1

Gov. Doug Ducey's order, which followed national guidelines, forced restaurants to switch to take-out only and asked residents, with a few exceptions, to stay home unless they were engaged in essential businesses. The effect on local entrepreneurs has been staggering.

"Everything has gone down," Walston said.

"Lunch has gone to pretty much 5 percent of our business. It's coming back, but we still don't know about the future. We're selling more bread and more grocery items that people can take home and make themselves. They want a lot more bread."

Walston's son George, who manages the enterprise, concurred. "For the most part, people still weren't interested in dining in, whether they don't feel safe or they've got somewhere else to be, so we weren't seeing a particularly large number of people wanting to come in here at the bakery," George said.

Then there's the issue of not being able to get important items like beef for roast beef sandwiches.

"I've had roast beef on order for two weeks and it's not due in for at least another week," Ward said. "Supply-chain issues are going to start hurting a lot of restaurants. Yeah, they're open, but they can't get the supplies they need to be open."

And yet, when Ward looks at his numbers each evening, it looks like the family-owned business is making it.

"At the end of the day, it looks like we've done a fair business and sold a fair amount of bread. That's a good thing. It's not as if we've died." As he mulls things over, it becomes crystal clear: "If we wouldn't have had the bread component, yeah, we'd have been in trouble."

George says the family is considering installing a misting system to make eating outdoors at their location more comfortable. With a covered patio and breezeway just outside the front door, they're hoping to draw a crowd.

Elaine McCombie can relate. She's owned Bogey's Sports Bar & Grill in Tempe for 12 years and says the shutdown posed significant challenges. "The no-dining-in was extremely difficult because we had no set guidelines," McCombie said. "Every (police) officer that came by, any person you spoke to, nobody was clear on what the actual rules were and that was what our biggest concern."

McCombie said an officer who visited Bogey's told her they had received anonymous complaints about the establishment but reassured her she was doing everything right.

"He said the number one thing is to try to encourage social distancing. That is the very number-one thing they were looking for." And that has proven the most challenging, both during the shutdown and its aftermath, she added.

"A couple comes walking in together, out of the same car together, living together—how do you social distance them? I'm not going to tell them they have to stand six feet apart when they're married," McCombie says. Seating at the bar has been reduced from 30 barstools to eight. Patrons seem oblivious and move stools closer or simply stand beside each

other.

In spite of all the challenges though, McCombie seems to have rolled with the punches and developed some survival strategies. One of the first things she did was to create a quarantine menu that offered bargain take-out meals for families of four. A specialty pizza and wings goes for \$20.

"Some of our regulars purchased \$200-\$300 off the quarantine menu and had it delivered to the hospital," McCombie said. Others delivered the meals themselves to local police and fire stations.

"People were stepping up and trying to take care of first responders and we were lucky enough to be in the middle of that," McCombie says.

Unlike restaurants, gyms and fitness centers across the nation, as well as in Tempe and West Chandler, were completely shut down for nearly two months. When the word came that gyms could begin to reopen, Gerry Lee, owner of MegaFit, headed to his West Chandler establishment to clean and reorganize.

He had suspended all his clients' dues during the forced closure but he still had bills to worry about. With social-distancing requirements, those bills might be tougher to pay.

"I'm moving machines around to create some distance in between them and I'm actually going to move a machine out of the way so I can spread everything out," Lee said. "So I am going to have fewer clients per class now. With a lot of people

being at home and the schools being out, we didn't know how to put a schedule together—we don't know who is going to come when."



Ward Walston, co-owner of Great Harvest, says catering orders vanished during the shutdown but bread sales were up significantly. — Wrangler News photo by Don Kirkland

He's applied for a Paycheck Protection Program loan but hasn't heard anything back yet. Still, he remains hopeful. The former vacancy on the bottom floor of the building he occupies is now a popular restaurant. With a video monitor downstairs that shows of the MegaFit training classes, Lee is sure he'll snag new clients. "I think we'll get a lot of people that way."

Mark Tracy of Tempe Smile Design is also cautiously optimistic. The dental practice was closed to all but emergency services during the shutdown. He says they kept their staff on the payroll instead of furloughing them. "Being closed for six weeks and still having bills to pay was extremely tough. We did not get the first round of the Paycheck Protection Program," Tracy said.

When patients received word that Tempe Smile Design was again open for non-emergency services, they began calling. Stringent safety procedures, such as having patients wait outside, taking their temperatures once they enter and making them wash their hands are all part of the safety protocol.

"We're surprisingly busy. People are happy to come back to the dental office," Tracy said. "We're happy about that because we need the cash flow after being shut down for so long."



Gerry Lee, owner of West Chandler's MegaFit, says the fitness center is open again and that he's hopeful the new restaurant downstairs will help attract new members.

— Photo by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News



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Commentary by Don Kirkland

We may be small but we're told we play a big part in our readers' lives

When Joyce and I come into the office Monday through Friday to get the next issue ready for print, we don't take time to wonder if our readers think about or are aware of the level of energy that goes into putting together these pages that arrive in your driveway every other week.



In fact, because people aren't waiting in line each morning to tell us how much they love the paper, we remind ourselves that the real reason we show up every day is that **we** love it.

The neighbors who share ideas with us, the talented contributors who develop quality content for us, the businesses that support our efforts with their advertising dollars—all of these are a big part of why we keep doing what we do.

Still, it's always nice when someone does show up to thank us for producing *Wrangler News* or when we get stopped on the street by neighbors to say how much they look forward to each issue, as one did on a recent night.

While all of us have been consumed with a seemingly never-ending barrage of coronavirus coverage, we continue to operate as we always have: seeking out the inside stories of our neighborhoods and our neighbors, profiling the businesses that help sustain the economic health of our community and telling stories about the owners responsible for those businesses' existence.

For the most part, it seems as though the retail, commercial and service enterprises in our *Wrangler News* coverage area have been able, so far, to weather the economic earthquake that has shaken our world.

And we're hopeful that their determination to survive even so disruptive a time in history will continue to prevail.

If you know business owners who would like to join us in our efforts to report the *good news* in this community, who value the role that locally focused journalism plays in our lives and those of our children and grandchildren, please encourage them to be in touch with us.

We all want to tell our own stories of success, of how we have prevailed in the battle to defeat a death-wielding enemy. *Wrangler News* can help do that.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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Kids from Kyrene del Cielo Elementary splashed, frolicked and learned lots about firefighting during a tour of the reknown Valley landmark Hall of Flame. — Photo courtesy M.V. Moorhead

Kyrene, Valley kids fired up as Hall of Flame goes virtual

By M.V. Moorhead

Like the rest of the year-round attractions around the Valley, Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting has had no choice but to temporarily close to the public during the current health crisis.

But the world's largest museum of firefighting history, destination of countless Kyrene School District field trips and workshops, certainly has not abandoned its mission to educate, entertain and inspire both kids and adults on the subject of the social and technological history of firefighting and the traditions and lore of the fire service.

If the public can't come into the museum at the moment, Hall of Flame will simply bring the museum to the public.

To that end, Hall of Flame has launched its own Youtube channel, which is gradually offering a video tour of the museum's world-class collection of firefighting apparatus.

Already available are video segments presenting and explaining such highlights as the museum's oldest large piece, a manual hand pumper built in England, capable of delivering around 60 gallons of water per

minute to a fire.

The piece, which served a private estate and its neighboring village in the north of England, was built in London by a company called Newsham in 1725, about seven years before the birth of George Washington.

Other videos introduce viewers to such striking pieces as a "Metropolitan" steam fire engine built in 1904 by the American Fire Engine Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, for the city of Reno, Nevada, and a horse-drawn "pung" (sled) built in 1890 by Studebaker that served the fire department of Negaunee, Michigan, during that town's formidable Upper Peninsula winters.

There's also a segment on a hand-drawn parade carriage, built in 1870 by the New York City carriage makers Buckley & Merritt, to proudly represent the Hotchkiss Fire Department of Derby, Connecticut in parades and public events.

Another segment answers one of the more frequently asked questions by visitors: What's the deal with the Dalmatians?

The video explains that the breed was commonly used as a guard dog and calming in-

fluence with urban workhorses in the 19th Century, and became particularly associated with the fire service because of their depiction in firefighting-themed prints and lithographs.

These videos are not limited, however, only to tour material.

Hall of Flame's channel also features several story times aimed at younger kids, including the rhyming fire safety tale *No Dragons for Tea* by Jean Pendziwol, *The Fire Cat* by Esther Averill and the 1940 classic *Hercules* by Hardie Gramatky of *Little Toot* fame.

For those trying their hand at homeschooling for the first time, any or all of these videos may have the effect of being both legitimately educational and keeping the young pupils occupied for a while.

Hall of Flame plans to add more tour segment and story time videos in the future, and all of this material is free to access. Go to Hall of Flame Fire Museum at youtube.com or visit hallofflame.org for details and updates.

M.V. Moorhead contributes regularly to *Wrangler News*.



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Blue lights shine at Chandler Regional Medical Center during National Hospital Week 2020 to honor doctors, nurses and staff who are working on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. The lights stayed on through May 16 at all six Dignity Health hospitals in Arizona. — Photo courtesy Dignity Health



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Tempe, W. Chandler pharmacies open for drive-through virus testing

CVS pharmacies at 5975 W. Chandler Blvd. in West Chandler and 1750 E. Broadway Road in Tempe are among new COVID-19 test sites at select drive-thru locations across Arizona.

The opening of additional sites will be announced in coming weeks.

The sites utilize self-swab tests and mark a new phase of the

company's nationwide COVID-19 testing strategy, according to a statement.

Self-swab tests are available to individuals meeting Centers for Disease Control and Prevention criteria, in addition to age guidelines.

Patients must register in advance at CVS.

Patients will be required to stay

in their cars and directed to the pharmacy drive-thru window where they will be provided with a test kit and given instructions; a CVS Pharmacy team member will observe the self-swab process to ensure it is done properly.

Tests will be sent to an independent, third-party lab for processing, with results available in approximately three days.

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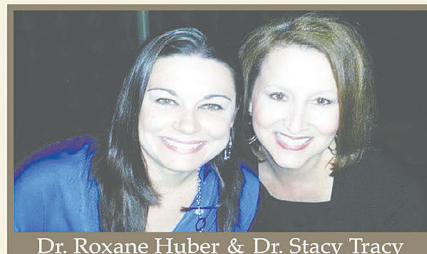
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Chamber

From Page 1

innovative takeover of another Chandler Fashion Center anchor, the departed Sear's store. And her efforts were going at warp speed to help guide planning for a new-concept business, Backlot, in the site formerly occupied by Dolce Salon & Spa.

While all the upheaval can indeed be worrisome—and rightfully so—Kimble insists it represents a transitional period that has been in the works for some time.

“Companies are changing and reinventing themselves,” she said. And because Chandler Fashion Center maintains such a high-profile footprint in the area, what happens there doesn't go unnoticed.

However, she says, “People shouldn't panic,” referring specifically to the recently announced Nordstrom's closing. “This was a decision made on a nationwide level, not aimed uniquely at the Chandler market.”

Although certainly the current pandemic has accelerated awareness of a changing business environment, Kimble notes that other factors have been occurring out of view of the general public's mindset.

And, despite the challenges faced in this changing environment, Kimble insists she is not alone in trying to visualize a newly reconstituted future.

“Online shopping is changing the way we do business, and (Chandler mall) is working diligently to keep up with those changes,” she said.

One of Kimble's partners in the revising of local business has been David Moss, Chandler Fashion Center's general manager.

“We have been working very openly with David, including on such issues as

when Gov. Ducey announced via an executive order that retail could reopen May 4, with restrictions,” she said.

“This is something we've been working on weekly, and involving David on a more personal level to help make sure that when stores reopened, we all could be confident they could reopen safely.”

So far, Kimble said, the chamber has watched—and helped advise—how business owners add online ordering or curbside pickup or home delivery. “Even if they didn't have those services before, they learned how to switch to them.”

And, she adds, changes made now can help those businesses be even stronger in the future.

As to following the sometimes complex pathways to applying for government loans that can help them survive, Kimble says the chamber continues to host weekly call-in opportunities with various experts.

“We aim people toward SBA lenders; we had a session involving a representative of a small business development center who talked about ‘now that you have this loan, where do you go next?’”

One more upcoming session will involve a long-experienced human resources director, another a certified public accountant offering advice on the tax deadline extension to July 15 and what it means to businesses.

“We're working all the time with state and federal officials,” advises Kimble.

Ironically, though, in spite of “all of the fabulous, available programs,” Kimble says, chambers of commerce have not been able to take advantage of them because they are classified as 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. “Our funding comes 100 percent from our membership. It means we can still be on the front lines, in the trenches. And that, she says, is what's “really important as we move forward.”



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GREEK SALAD

Downtown Chandler Farmers Market now with summer hours

As local businesses begin picking up steam again following the pandemic-induced economic shutdown, one well-loved institution is making a comeback.

The Downtown Chandler Farmers Market returns to Dr. A.J. Chandler Park West on Saturday, June 6, with new summer hours reflecting this season's sunshine-packed days. The market will run from 7 a.m.-10:30 a.m. to help patrons beat the heat.

Safety precautions will be in effect in coordination with guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control in response to COVID-19.

Grocery vendors are asked to stay home if they've recently been sick, wear gloves and masks; provide sanitizing or hand-washing stations for both their team and customers and use contactless payment methods.

There will be no on-site cooking or sampling; all hot food must be in covered

to-go containers. Vendors must place a table or bungees across the front of their sales table. Social distancing among vendors will be marked with chalk on the bricks.

Customers at the Farmers Market are asked to maintain a social distance of six feet and use cards rather than cash for payment method if possible.

No pets are allowed and families are encouraged to send one representative instead of the entire clan. The use of gloves and masks is encouraged but not required. Prepared foods are to be taken off site and enjoyed elsewhere.

Craft vendors, picnic areas, toys and games will not be available at this time.

Among the featured vendors at the June 6 Chandler Farmers Market will be Black Orchard Farms, the Community Exchange Table, Bad Dog Salsa, AZ Queen Bee Honey, Dr. Hummus and Ginger Brick Bakery.

Information: downtownchandler.org/farmersmarket

WRANGLER NEWS CELEBRATES THE GRADUATES OF 2020

WITH PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILLY HARDIMAN



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High schools see a changed but positive future from how events have unfolded

Commentary by Dr. Kevin Mendivil

In the weeks leading up to the eventual state-wide school closures, I — like so many others in leadership positions — grappled with how closure would affect our students, families, teachers, and staff.



In conjunction with our sister districts, Tempe Elementary and Kyrene, we decided that it was in the best interest of all that we

keep our schools closed for an additional week beyond our spring break.

Three days after that announcement, Governor Ducey and Superintendent Hoffman announced state-wide closures, and we have followed their guidance and recommendations since that time.

Throughout this crisis, my primary concern has been for our students, as well as our TUHSD families, teachers, and staff members.

My leadership team worked to ensure that students were “held harmless” during the shift to online learning and that they were provided resources to continue their education.

In the early weeks of the shutdown, TUHSD distributed approximately 2,400 laptops to students who did not otherwise have access to technology at home.

This ensured that they were able to continue their learning journey and attend virtual classes, office hours, and other group activities.

Our challenges have been specific to the needs of being an urban/suburban high school district. While our elementary and middle school peers were able to be nimble in meeting the needs of their students, it is worth remembering that each of our teachers have five times the

amount of students to plan for, worry about, and teach.

Our pivot to online learning was an amazing effort by all involved. Our TUHSD teachers are, simply put, the best of the best.

This has been a huge shift for all of us at TUHSD. I’m proud to share that our community has made the very best of a bad situation.

Entire departments shifted focus rapidly to meet needs - not just those of our school community, but also the wider Tempe and Guadalupe areas.

In the days after our initial school closure announcement, we began serving “Grab & Go” meals at three of our seven campuses, eventually adding a fourth distribution location.

All together, our incredible Food & Nutrition team served approximately 75,500 meals to community members 18 years and younger.

It took an enormous amount of preparation, communication, and collaboration to ensure that these efforts were enacted in a safe and efficient manner.

Our families were patient with us as we worked out the details, and our teachers and staff put herculean efforts into planning safe, efficient ways for our students to continue to engage and learn.

There are many unknowns facing us in the future, and I will continue to solicit feedback from our community as we move forward.

The guidelines issued by the CDC, State of Arizona, and Maricopa County will guide our decision making as we determine a safe course of action over the next few months.

Due to the events of COVID-19, our community is more prepared than ever to embrace online learning, and to meet the individual needs of our students.

Planning is underway for a variety of learning options and I look forward to keeping our community informed.

We know that education may look different in the fall, and in the future, but we are committed to embracing change, remaining positive, and continuing to put our students first.

Dr. Kevin Mendivil is superintendent of TUHSD.

Innovative grad ceremonies despite pandemic disruption

Members of the high-school graduating class of 2020 are not strangers to national crises. They were born, after all, in the midst of the 9/11 terror attacks and are now living through a pandemic that has shaken the nation to its core.

As a result, graduation ceremonies have been reinvented, and the Tempe Union High School District marked them in a big way by kicking off a week-long series of special events.

“We are excited for our seniors,” said TUHSD Superintendent Kevin Mendivil. “We have an amazing Class of 2020 and we’ve put together a full slate of programming to celebrate them thoroughly.”

Mendivil also shared that planning

continues for modified, in-person ceremonies on July 18, pending the safety guidelines around large gatherings issued by the CDC, State of Arizona, and Maricopa County.

TUHSD schools held “Senior Send-off” events May 21 with plenty of school spirit and with virtual graduation ceremonies streamed that evening, followed by fireworks at each campus.

At Marcos de Niza, graduates were encouraged to decorate their cars and were cheered on by their teachers and administrators as they drove through during the send-off event.

Similar celebrations took place at Corona, Tempe and McClintock high schools.

Diplomas, cords and graduation programs were distributed, with many parents making signs to celebrate their seniors.



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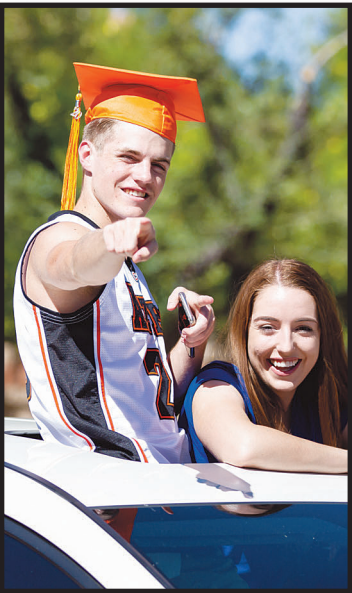
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GRADS HIT THE STREETS — Corona's Class of 2020 didn't let a pandemic get in the way of celebrating their big moment in the sun. The parade of decorated cars began in the parking lot of Arizona Community Church and wound its way through the neighborhood streets of nearby Warner Ranch. Friends, family and neighbors lined the streets, cheering and taking video with their smartphones.

— Photos by Billy Hardiman for Wrangler News



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Congratulations to Tempe Union High School District Class of 2020

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Corona del Sol High School

2020 Blake Norvell Smile
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Teddy, James.**



Austin M. Hart
Corona del Sol High School

Congratulations Austin!

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of you and so excited
for this next chapter!**

GO WILDCATS!



Gregory B Judge
Brophy College Prep

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big G! We love
you son!"**



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- Ethan Storment
- Tyler Allen Stromstad
- Josh Jamshid Tata
- Fernanda Tena
- Ashley Jordan Thatcher
- Makayla Skie Thomas
- Martell Roshawn Thompson
- Nathaniel Jesse Tierrablanca
- Jordyn Renee Towery
- Ashley Marie Troglia
- Lyle Lance Tsosie
- Cameron Anthony Tucci
- Ayden Wyatt Tuchfarber
- Moriah Yasmine Turpin
- Sydney Taylor Ulm
- Jaden Ray Upshaw
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- Michelle Paredes Valdez
- Alonso Valenzuela
- Daviana Reina Valenzuela
- Pete Michael Valenzuela
- Eliyanna Nicolle Valle

- Rianna Rae Vallecillo
- Angelica Marie Vasquez
- Yulisa Velasquez Barrera
- Victor Matuz Vera
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- Creshia Cornelia Wright
- Siedah Nicole Wright
- Manli Wu
- Jordan Marie Wulfekuhl
- Sophia Anna Ybarra
- Faisal Ahmed Yolaah
- Skylar Rae Zamer
- Adrian Gabriel Zepeda

Thank you for healing our tomorrow.

When the whole world stopped, they kept going. Working through extraordinary challenges and against countless odds. They put their own health at risk, providing quality care to every patient while communities everywhere fight to flatten the curve. To the frontline employees, the first responders, and all the brave women and men in the thick of it—thank you.

Humanity will light the way.



Care center responds to COVID-19 report

Following a Maricopa County-wide trend of deaths from COVID-19 in nursing homes and long-term care facilities, a number of residents of Westchester Senior Living in South Tempe have succumbed to the coronavirus. Wrangler News reached out to David Burch, spokesman for Volunteers of America, the non-profit parent organization of Westchester Senior Living, for comment following local news reports that 14 residents at the facility had died from COVID19, and received the following response:

"We have been notified that a number of residents and employees at Westchester Senior Living have tested positive for the novel coronavirus, also known as COVID-19.

"Our hearts go out to them and their

families during this difficult time. We are notifying designated family members/ caretakers as required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

"The health and safety of our residents, employees and community is our top priority. We are following strict CDC guidelines and recommended protocol to ensure the safety of our residents and staff. Out of privacy concerns for our residents, our employees and their families, we are unable to provide any additional information at this time."

Westchester Senior Living has operated in Tempe for more than 40 years and offers adult day services, assisted living, memory care, home health services, independent living, respite care, rehabilitation and other services. Due to the pandemic, tours of the facility are on a virtual basis at this time.

Information: voaseniorliving.org

Tempe Public Library staff picks for May

Springfield Confidential – Brian

The Illusionist – Rebecca

The Whispered Word – Jill

The Friend Zone – Rebecca

Small Fry - Brian

Dare to Lead - Kathy

A Heart in a Body in the World - Rebecca

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Guinea Dog – Alicia

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A Message from Tempe Chamber President & CEO Anne Gill

There has never been a more difficult time for businesses, as we navigate the pandemic and economic recovery. We have faced many unknowns and have had to change our lives and lifestyles to protect ourselves and our community.

So many of our Tempe businesses have been impacted and through no fault of their own, are experiencing the most stressful time of their business life. Many have had to close, furlough employees, or dramatically change the way they do business. Even as we work to flatten the curve, we know the road to recovery will be long, but the strength of that rebound ultimately rests in our hands. To continue to move our business environment forward, we still need to remain vigilant as we enter the most critical phase of recovery.

We have been working overtime to advocate on your behalf at all levels of government to ensure Tempe businesses like yours can rebound and recover. The direct feedback and insights from our members, including the results of several impact surveys conducted with the East Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance, help shape our recommendations to our elected officials. Through twice-weekly calls with the City of Tempe and Governor's office, as well as direct communication with our federal officials, the voice of our members has been heard. That support has arrived in various ways, such as relaxing temporary sign codes, downtown parking enforcement and rent relief; the creation of the Buy Now Save Local merchant program; implementation of the Economic Assistance Loans through Desert Financial Credit Union and backed by the City of Tempe; and draft liability legislation to help protect businesses as they reopen.

Collaboration and teamwork are part of our DNA, and we will continue to work with our community partners and elected leaders until Tempe businesses have rebounded and are back on their feet. Thank you to our business community for your courage and resilience. And thank you for supporting the Tempe Chamber as we will not stop supporting you.



The Chamber is community.

Whether in times of prosperity or times of crisis, we are with you on the front lines, leading the way and making sure our community emerges stronger than ever.

We are all in this together at www.tempechamber.org



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Western Association of Chamber Executives

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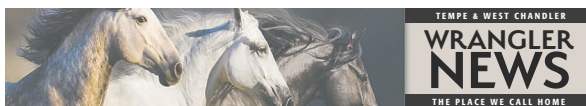
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For coronavirus information, visit tempe.gov/coronavirus or call Tempe 311 on weekdays at 480-350-4311.



Corey Woods



Doreen Garlid



Randy Keating



Joel Navarro

Mayor-Elect and Councilmembers take oath of office July 2

Mayor-Elect Corey Woods and Councilmembers-Elect Doreen Garlid, Randy Keating and Joel Navarro are scheduled to take the oath of office on Thursday, July 2, at 6 p.m.

Their four-year terms will begin after this ceremony.

If public gatherings are allowed at that point in the coronavirus pandemic, an in-person ceremony will be held in the Tempe City Council Chambers, 31 E. Fifth St., and community members would be invited to attend.

The audience may be limited so that physical distancing, state and CDC guidelines can be followed. If gatherings are not possible or advisable by July 2, the live ceremony will be available virtually for anyone to watch via Tempe 11 at tempe.gov/tempe11, on channels 11 or 1011 for Cox subscribers, and on Century Link 8012.

To verify the ceremony information closer to the event date, the agenda will be posted at tempe.gov/MeetingAgendas.

Details about the full City Council are at tempe.gov/elected.

Are you monsoon ready?

Steer clear of the storm with help from the City of Tempe.

As monsoon season approaches in June, residents are encouraged to take precautions and be prepared in case of severe weather.

Here are just a few tips to help you stay safe and prepare for before, during and after storms:

- Clear debris from roof gutters and downspouts.
- Trim trees, especially those close to the house, to help prevent breakage and uprooting.

- Pretreat pools with chlorine shock to help prevent algae growth.

- Keep storm drains and gutters clear of debris. City crews are checking and clearing storm drains to allow rainwater to drain as efficiently as possible; residents can help by clearing any debris from the gutters adjacent to their property.

- Pack a three-day bag of supplies, including clothes and medications, in case of emergencies.

- Keep pets indoors when storms are predicted.

Check out our Monsoon Prep Checklist for more tips on what to do before, during and after a storm to keep your family and property safe and secure.

Visit tempe.gov/monsoons or call 480-350-4311 for more information.

Learn landscape watering best practices online

Tempe is offering live online workshops on sustainable landscape practices that save water, money and the planet. Workshop topics include Landscape Watering 101, Rainwater Harvesting, Veggie Gardening, and Tree Pruning. Visit tempe.gov/conservation and select "Workshops" for a full schedule.

Please don't overload your trash bin

Keep your neighborhood litter-free by not overloading your trash bins. All trash should be bagged and tied. All bags should fit inside your trash bin so that the lid completely closes.

This simple rule ensures that trash does not fall on the ground when the truck dumps it.

Note that while trash should be bagged and tied, recycling should never be bagged, and it must be placed in your recycling bin loosely.

If it's not loose, it doesn't get recycled at the recycling facility. For more information about your solid waste services, visit tempe.gov/SMART.



Zero Waste Day is scheduled for July 25

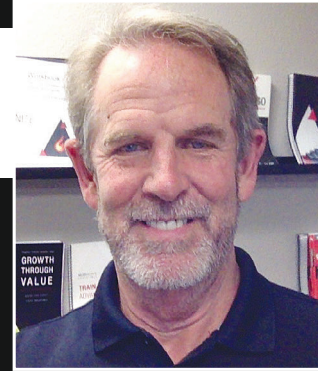
Tempe residents can recycle anything that won't fit in the blue bin for free at Tempe's Zero Waste Day on Saturday, July 25, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Tempe Fire Training Facility, 1340 E. University Drive.

Visit tempe.gov/ZeroWaste for a list of accepted items and to learn more about how these items are recycled at Tempe's Household Products Collection Center.



Patti Agnew

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