

Wrangler NEWS

Kyrene Corridor Edition

June 28 - July 18, 2008 • Vol. 19, No. 13

'Making a big community a little bit smaller.'

Date-Safe How area teens rank among their peers in dating violence . . . and how to minimize the risk

By Alex Zener

Students at Corona del Sol High School are close to the national average when it comes to statistics pinpointing teen dating violence.

According to a Bureau of Justice Special Report, 40 percent of U.S. high school students say they know someone their age who has already experienced some type of violence during a dating relationship.

Typically, in dating violence, one partner tries to maintain power and control over the other through some type of abuse.

Although most victims are young women, dating violence can be found in all racial, social and economic groups, as well as among both sexes and age categories.

Dating violence can include verbal and physical violence and forced sex. In an informal random survey taken at Corona, 37 per cent of the respondents knew someone who had experienced some type of teen dating violence.

One of the main problems with teen violence is that teenagers frequently do not realize they are in an impending volatile situation until it is too late.

Teenagers can often choose better relationships if they are able to identify the early warning signs of an abusive relationship. So how do you recognize behavior in a date that may eventually lead to aggressive or abusive actions?

According to the experts, there are several signs that can help teens identify the potential for date violence in others.

— **SAFE, Page 12**

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Engineering career downturn prompting major recruiting effort by Tempe

Fewer students are choosing the engineering field as a career path, and Tempe wants to see that changed.

City public-works officials hope to encourage middle- and high-school students, as well as incoming college freshmen, to consider careers in engineering.

So they've launched a series of educational workshops that will showcase engineering and related careers to about 200 students, including minorities and females.

The summer program will give participants a chance to check out the types of heavy equipment the city uses, attend tours with engineers and participate in hands-on activities. Students will see equipment such as bucket trucks, front loaders and refuse trucks.

Nationally, says **Jennifer Adams**, Tempe's Deputy Public Works manager, engineering jobs are less sought after, with women and minorities especially underrepresented.

The city's Public Works Department has a recruitment outreach committee that regularly participates in events for adults and children, to educate the community about what the department does for the city and explain the array of prospective career opportunities.

The committee's mission is to provide networking and employment opportunities that increase the diversity of the Public Works Department.

"Our goal is to educate the community and the students about the many diverse opportunities Public Works has to offer," Adams said.

A final summer educational event will be held Tuesday, July 15, for 60 middle school students. Similar programs for high school students and incoming college freshmen already have been held.

'Peter Pan' adaptation is KMS summer offering

Longtime Kyrene Middle School drama instructor **Dave Mittel** and chorus teacher **Julie Hackman** have combined their talents again for a summer production of "Peter Pan and Wendy," starring a number of Kyrene Corridor students.

The program will be presented June 30 through July 3 at Mountain View Lutheran Church, 11002 S. 48th St., Ahwatukee.

Performances are at 2 p.m. June 30, July 1 and 2, and at 7 p.m. July 2 and 3.

General admission seating, with \$7 admission for all performances.

Tickets are available at the door or by contacting Beth Stevenson at bstevenson@kyrene.org or Julie Hackman at jhackm@kyrene.org.

"Peter Pan and Wendy" is a musical adaptation of the original Peter Pan story by Sir James Barrie. The adaptation, script and lyrics were written by Hackman.

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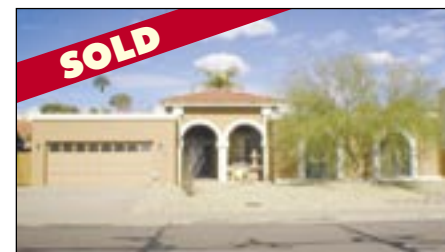
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Chronicling how video games bleeped, blooped into our lives

By Megan Thomas

The sound of bleeps and bloops filled the air as kids and adults mashed buttons and toggled joysticks at the opening of the ZAP! Vintage Video Games Exhibit.

The free event, ongoing through mid-September at McCullough-Price House in west Chandler, chronicles the evolution of videogames from the early 1900s, when pinball machines were all the rage, to the "golden age" of video games in the '70s and '80s when games like Pac Man emerged

into pop culture.

"A lot of times people think of history as stuff that's way in the past," said Jean Reynolds, Chandler public history coordinator. "People don't think about how we have a lot of contemporary history."

Barbara Anselmo, a McCullough-Price House staff member, said considerable interest was generated in the exhibit, even prior to its opening.

"I think it's a good way for children to learn about the development of technology," said Anselmo. "They can see that it's a product of innovation and

imagination."

Along with a video game timeline, the exhibit provides older consoles like the Atari and original arcade games, for patrons to play. Families gathered around to shoot pixelated space invaders with cannons and thwart centipedes crawling around mushrooms.

Chandler resident Dawn Clark came with her husband and two children to the exhibit.

"The kids love video games, and we've told them about the old-style games," said Clark. "They're so used to the [new games]

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that we thought we'd show them some of the stuff that we played when we were kid...They're having a blast watching their dad play old games."

Chandler resident **Scott Clapp** brought his sons to see how much games have changed.

"I wanted to show my three boys the genesis of the video game world," said Clapp, "They're spoiled with the Xbox 360...I wanted them to see where it's come from. This is right up my alley. My wife's always telling me to grow up."

Parents nostalgically revisited their favorite games while their kids introduced them to their current favorites.

"It was cool to see video games that I remember having in my home when I was growing up," said **Christine Boles**. "It's just amazing how far things have come. I remember having Pong and Veetrex and thinking how cool they were."

"A lot of parents don't like letting their kids play

video games, but I think video games are good," said David Johnson. "They keep them [kids] entertained and off the streets."

The present and future of videogames also played a role at the exhibit's opening. In the museum parking lot, visitors packed into a Game Truck full of the newest video games. The University of Advancing Technology also brought students to display video games they were designing.

"I think that no matter what you work on, the ideas remain the same," said UAT student **Herrick Erickson**.

"No matter how much the technology changes, the graphics, the art, the programming that's done, all of those at heart will remain the same. I think we [video game designers] all have the drive to make someone happy.

"If my game makes just one person happy, I've done my job."

Information: (480) 782-2876.



Moms and kids, even wee ones, have been getting a hands-on treat at McCullough-Price House video exhibit.

— Megan Thomas / Wrangler News

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Neighborhood grants available

West Chandler residents interested in improving their neighborhood may be eligible for up to \$10,000 in grant money from the city of Chandler.

A mandatory workshop for people living in traditional neighborhoods will explain how the process works.

The workshop will be at 5:30 p.m. Monday, June 30, in the Neighborhood Resources offices at 55 N. Arizona Place, Suite 310. The application deadline is Tuesday, July 29. Chandler provides the grants to spur grassroots community efforts and help improve the quality of

life in neighborhoods through resident involvement.

Grants can be used for a variety of neighborhood improvements including education, crime prevention and physical enhancements. The requirements include 250 hours of neighborhood involvement and letters of support from the community. Residents will have two other opportunities to attend workshops this year: Monday, July 28, and Monday, Aug. 25 (originally scheduled Sept. 1, but rescheduled to avoid the Labor Day holiday).

Information: (480) 782-4320.



Her Honor the Gov

Gov. Janet Napolitano was Mayor Hugh Hallman's guest at a June 24 taping of 'Let's Talk Tempe' at Pyle Center. The issues show is taped monthly before an audience and replayed on Tempe 11.

— Photo courtesy city of Tempe Public Information Office

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The bears were everywhere; the families had fun. And the teddy bear donation bin was filled. Simply said, the Teddy Bear Picnic at Kiwanis Recreation Center was 'beary' successful. Most heartfelt of the thank-yous came from the Tempe Fire Department, which keeps the donated bears on city fire trucks until they are needed to help comfort children in times of trauma and crisis. Donors included ChildsPlay Arizona, AZ Renaissance Festival, Chuck E Cheese, McCormick Stillman Railroad Park, AMF Bowling, Arizona Science Center, Phoenix Zoo, Papa Johns, Burger King, Hungry Howie's Pizza, IKEA and others.

Peg Conway, left, who operates the local Interiors by Decorating Den franchise, has been honored with awards for Region of the Year and Region with Outstanding Sales Growth. The awards were announced at the company's 39th annual conference in Washington, D.C. Established in 1969, the company has more than 500 franchises and decorators throughout North America. Each decorator offers design solutions and a selection of window, wall and floor coverings, furniture and accessories in a client's home or office. Said Conway: "My business continues to grow and prosper. Tempe and Chandler's growth, as well as my focus on reaching new markets has really made a difference." Information: (480) 284-6225.



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Kyrene Corridor Briefs

Christian athletes convene

Arizona Community Church will be the site of an endurance-athlete conference designed to link athletes of all interests and abilities through Christian fellowship.

The event, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 12, will involve runners, triathletes, coaches and others who love sports.

Cost is \$15, which includes lunch.
Information: www.fcaphx.com.

Pre-school names new director

Leslie Scheck has been selected as director of the Temple Emanuel preschool Yad b'Yad, succeeding the late

Syndi Scheck, her mother and founding director of the preschool at the Tempe-based reform synagogue.

"We look forward to Leslie establishing her vision on a very successful, dynamic and growing program.

She has demonstrated a magical touch with parents and children of all ages," said **Rabbi Andrew Straus**, Temple Emanuel's spiritual leader

Selection of Scheck as the new preschool director was the result of an intensive and extended search process.


Bonni Pomush, the who chairs the preschool search committee, said the group set high standards for its efforts.

An ASU graduate in elementary education, Scheck has taught for the past five years in the Mesa Public Schools.

Temple Emanuel is a mid-size Reform synagogue serving Southeast Valley families.

Information: www.emanueloftempe.org or (480) 838-1414.

Please note that our office is closed for vacation and will reopen at 9 a.m. Monday, July 7. Our next issue will be published Saturday, July 19 (deadline: 5 p.m. Monday, July 14) See you then!



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Mohawk circa 1985 . . .

— Photo courtesy M.V. Moorhead

Life's Little Gems . . . with M.V. Moorhead

How times (and attitudes) have changed

Last week a friend of mine observed that the Mohawk has made a comeback. She appears to be right. All of a sudden I'm seeing those shaved-and-spiked do's everywhere, especially on the elementary-school set. In one day alone I counted three kids, all of them younger than 10, wearing the look once reserved for villains in post-apocalyptic sci-fi movies.

And me.

That's right, back in 1985, when I was living in Erie, Penn., I had a fling

with a Mohawk. Hard as it may be to believe now, when kids are wearing them to daycare, at that time, in that city, a Mohawk was a big deal.

This memory brings on some fairly serious pangs when I think back on it now, partly of embarrassment over having still been so vulnerable, at the age of 23, to such a self-conscious affectation.

But then, if I make it another 23 years, who

. . . and circa 2008
— Photo courtesy Wikipedia

knows how much of what I'm doing now will seem vain and preening and obnoxious to me then? Blogging itself might.

Anyway, perhaps the pangs are really just simple nostalgia. Back in 1985, after all, my hair situation made a Mohawk possible.

I'm not sure what made me get it. I've never been a confrontational person by nature, and I was soon to learn that this particular haircut was something

that many regarded as a confrontation.

But something somehow made a Mohawk seem like a great idea, so I went to a hairstylist recommended to me by my then-girlfriend Mary Beth, who was a bit perplexed by, but supportive of, my plan.

The stylist, a young woman, was quite excited at the prospect of getting to do such a rare haircut—it was, I suppose, something like an ER intern in

— GEMS, Page 21

Film Fare . . . with Mark Moorehead

'WALL-E': A shipload of fun

What if mankind had to leave Earth and someone forgot to turn off the last robot?

That's the captivating premise posed by Disney-Pixar's new, animated sci-fi love story set 700 years into the future.

WALL-E (voice talent by Ben Burtt) is a cross between a robot and a trash compactor. This lonely soul was abandoned by his human creators centuries earlier, yet he continues to go about his designed task of compacting garbage into stackable cubes and piling them up into mini-skyscrapers.

Trudging through the dusty, trash-filled landscape while performing his pointless routine, dutiful WALL-E also collects artifacts such as cigarette lighters and old spoons along the way, storing them neatly in a truck he calls home. In his spare time, he watches old dance musicals.

What makes WALL-E so endearing to the audience is his curiosity, respect for all living things, including a cockroach he befriends, and his appreciation for sunsets and starlit nights.

Clearly, WALL-E is a Renaissance robot and a romantic. All he needs is an object for his affection, which is soon deposited on the planet's surface by a large spaceship. Enter EVE, an extra-terrestrial vegetation evaluator.

EVE is a sleek, ultra-advanced, powerful probe sent back to Earth by the last colony of humans, who are now living in a space-docked ship. EVE's mission is to search for any sign of

vegetation that would be a signal it is safe for humans to return to Earth.

Scanning the bleak and desolate urban landscape, EVE soon runs into WALL-E, but is unimpressed by the primitive compactor on wheels. Although she tries to ignore him, for lonely WALL-E it's love at first sight, and he pursues EVE with dogged determination.

Using every trick in a suitor's handbook, WALL-E "the Romeo" eventually wins the heart of EVE. The eagerly sought-after affection comes at a price, however. EVE almost destroys WALL-E and his home when she practices dancing! Children in the audience roar with laughter during this *Dancing with the Stars* spoof.

Humor turns to tension mid-way in the film when WALL-E presents EVE with a plant as a gift. The plant is the key to the planet's future, and EVE abruptly ends their romance and races back to the luxury spaceship, Axiom, to report her finding. WALL-E tags along as a stowaway.

Axiom is occupied by the descendants of the original humans who escaped from a uninhabitable Earth 700 years earlier.

As in the film *I Robot*, humans have completely delegated all forms of manual labor to robots, and as such have evolved into morbidly obese slugs that can't even walk. The über-fat humans glide around the ship on anti-gravity lounge chairs all day, slurping high-fructose corn syrup drinks and

watching futuristic television screens.

Those who've been on a cruise ship will laugh out loud at this scene because they will surely identify with such people.

EVE's delivery of the green plant to the spaceship's captain is thwarted by a 2001 *A Space Odyssey* HAL-like super computer, complete with large, blinking red eye. The computer runs the ship and is fearful of becoming obsolete should Earth become inhabitable, and thus feels it must destroy the plant.

Eventually, WALL-E and EVE reunite on the ship and recruit a heroic team of malfunctioning misfit robots from the spaceships psych ward, which is hilarious and reminiscent of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.

What is remarkable with the film *WALL-E* is that there is a shipload of humor throughout the movie – and it was all done without a stable of superstar celebrity voice talents.

The film's only minor blemish of the is the mismatched love interest.

Although the electricity between WALL-E and EVE is unmistakable, it is a highly improbable romantic paring. Imagine the union of WALL-E, a dirty, primitive, unsophisticated garbage collector and EVE, a clean, polished, technologically superior robotic probe.

Watching these two hold hands takes quite a leap of faith.

Aside from that, however, *WALL-E* has everything else necessary to entertain moviegoers of all ages, including an out-of-this-world story, appealing music (I particularly liked Louis Armstrong's rendition of *La Vie En Rose*), humor, imagination and impressive CGI animation.

Mark's Movie Meter

General audiences: Adults accompanying children will be dazzled and star struck by the spectacular special effects on display as *WALL-E* travels across the universe. Nothing mediocre about this space journey.

Family audiences: One of those rare children's films where there truly is nothing objectionable whatsoever. Rated G for children of all ages.

— Pecan Grove Estates resident Mark Moorehead writes regularly for Wrangler News.

Tempe Little Theatre auditions set July 28-29 for 'Red Hot Lovers'

Tempe Little Theatre will hold auditions for its upcoming production of Neil Simon's classic comedy *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, July 28 and 29, at the Tempe Performing Arts Center, 132 E. Sixth St., Tempe.

The auditions are open and no appointments will be given. One male age 45-60 and three women ages 25-55 are needed. Those who audition asked to bring a resume and a headshot if available and to prepare a two-minute comedy or dramatic monologue. Cold readings from the script will also be required.

Performances are 8 p.m. Sept. 12, 13, 19, and 20; 2 p.m. Sept. 13, 14, 20 and 21; and 7 p.m. Sept. 18. Information: (480) 350-8388.

Tempe City Page

News, notices and events
July - August 2008

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Options for water bill payments

Tempe residents have several options for paying their water bills: online payments, automatic withdrawals, in-person payments, payments by mail, phone payments and drop-box payments. Residents can:

- Sign up for Sure Pay, a monthly automatic checking account withdrawal, by filling out an application. Call 480-350-8361 to set that up.
- Pay online at www.tempe.gov/waterutil.
- Pay in person at the city's Customer Service office, 20 E. Sixth St., from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Drop off your payment at any of three drop boxes,

including the Tempe Public Library (3500 S. Rural Rd.), Fire Station #3 (5440 S. McClintock Dr.), and the small surface parking lot west of the inverted-pyramid City Hall building (31 E. Fifth St.).

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For information on all the payment options, visit www.tempe.gov/waterutil.

Tempe seeks resident input on proposed bus service changes

The City of Tempe Transportation Division, Tempe in Motion, will hold an open house to gather feedback from residents on revised, proposed bus service changes scheduled to occur in December.



The open house will be held Aug. 5 at the Tempe Public Library (3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe) from 6-8 p.m. Affected routes may include Red Line, 1, 30, 56, 65, 66, 72, 76, 81, 108, Flash, Orbit Mercury, Earth, Mars and Jupiter.

A second round of route change descriptions are online starting July 22. Public comment will be taken from July 22 to Aug. 19. Public

comments will be forwarded in September to the Tempe Transportation Commission for consideration. Visit our Web site at www.tempe.gov/tim to fill out a comment form, or mail written comments to Tempe in Motion, P.O. Box 5002, Tempe AZ, 85280. For more information, call 480-350-2775.

Kiwanis Tennis Center courts get state-of-the-art resurfacing



Tennis players in Tempe are now playing on environmentally friendly courts made of recycled athletic shoes. The Kiwanis Recreation Center's 15 tennis courts now feature the internationally famous Rebound Ace surface, which is made from Nike Grind, a recycled athletic shoe product.

The result is a surface that's not only kind to the environment, but one that also makes playing tennis a better experience.

Rebound Ace provides a more cushioned surface, which

is easier on players' joints. Kiwanis Tennis Center is part of the Kiwanis Recreation Center, 6111 S. All-America Way.

The City of Tempe has partnered with the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe program to collect and recycle used athletic shoes. Tempe is the only Arizona city to partner with Nike and has collected more than 10,000 pairs of shoes.

For information about Tempe's nine dropoff locations, call 480-350-8145 or visit www.tempe.gov/neighborhoods/shoes.htm.

Volunteers needed for Experience Corps

Community volunteers ages 50 and up are needed for Experience Corps Tempe, the nationally recognized literacy program hosted by the City of Tempe Social Services division in partnership with the Tempe Elementary School District. An informational session will be held Monday, Aug. 4, from 10-11 a.m., in the Tempe Public Library Connections Café program room, 3500 S. Rural Rd.

Volunteers work an average of four hours a week in Tempe elementary schools to improve

reading skills in children in kindergarten through third grade. Prospective volunteers are asked to commit to a school year or, at minimum, one semester.

A limited number of stipend positions are available to adults 55 and up who can commit to completing 300 hours in a school year.

To register for the information session or for more information on Experience Corps Tempe, call 480-695-5108.



Neighborhood News & Notes

With Tracy Doren

We all knew they were coming: the seemingly endless days where our low temperature is warmer than the hottest summer day in most of the rest of the country. So now the question remains: how do we tolerate the months ahead?

The ultimate solution would be to leave town until mid-October, but unfortunately for most of us that is not an option.

However, there are plenty of good alternatives to help keep us cool right here in the Kyrene Corridor...and with gas prices still climbing, that's good news for us all.

The most obvious and affordable option in my mind is to never turn on your oven during the summer months.

Besides, we have plenty of delicious options to fulfill our dining needs.

One of my family's favorite dining strategies is to order a pizza from **Crusty's** and have it delivered poolside to our own backyard.

A relaxing evening without having to leave the house seems to put everyone in a good mood. And Crusty's Pizza is something all four of my kids can agree on—no small accomplishment in my opinion.

Of course, getting out of the house is sometimes the only way to cool off, and last week I was treated to a taste of cool Hawaiian cuisine at Roy's Restaurant in Chandler.

My taste buds were enjoying a tropical vacation even though the rest of my body still felt every agonizing degree of a 112-plus day. **Reuben Huante**, the new executive chef at Roy's, has created a great new menu to celebrate Roy's 20th anniversary.



Reuben is an Arizona native and has been fortunate to work directly with Roy Yamaguchi, the founder of Roy's. His experience with regional cuisine from across the country brings a unique flavor to his dishes.

For a lot less than the price of a Hawaiian vacation, I recommend trying out the Hawaiian Fusion cooking for a tasty break from the heat.

Maybe it's a casual night out with friends that you're yearning for, and if that includes a couple of cold beers or other adult beverages, Dennis, the owner of Jersey's Tavern and Grill, has a deal for you.

He wants his patrons to be able to enjoy a night out, at the same time keeping the neighborhood a safe place.

In that pursuit, Dennis offers a free party bus that will pick your party up, bring everyone to his place and return them home at the end of the evening.

You'll get to enjoy some good local bands, good food and drinks, and a guaranteed safe ride home.

Of course, food isn't the only attraction we have close by to help keep our mind off the heat.

A day at Kiwanis Wave Pool is pretty relaxing. It's nice to not have to worry about reapplying the sunscreen for a couple of hours while you lose yourself in the rhythm of the waves.

The Wave Pool is open from 1 to 5 p.m. daily through Aug. 3 — the day school goes back into session, in case you'd forgotten.

Until it cools off again, we'll all be looking for ways to beat the heat.

Share your secret escapes by sending email to Tracy. Doren@WranglerNews.com. In the meantime, stay cool.

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Safe

From Page 1

For example, does the person you are dating get extremely jealous and angry when you go out with or talk to others? More than 75 percent of Corona respondents said they were either dating or had dated someone who expressed this type of behavior.

"One of my friends could not go out with anyone unless she constantly told him where she was and what she was doing," said one Corona teen.

Another behavior that should make you think twice about dating a person has to do with privacy. When asked if they were dating or had dated someone who violated their privacy by reading their notes to or from someone and/or went through their backpacks, purses or other things without permission, 80 percent of the Corona respondents said they had.

"He looked through my cell phone without my permission," one respondent said. "He was trying to read my text

messages when I caught him."

Other warning signs include constantly checking up on you, unpredictable mood swings and trying to make you choose between him/her and your friends and/or family.

Think twice about dating someone who has ever held you down, pushed, hit, kicked or thrown something at you.

The fact that only 10 percent of Corona respondents answered yes to this physical abuse warning sign is not surprising.

Teenagers often do not admit to violence in a relationship because they are inexperienced with dating relationships, are pressured by peers to act violently or are seeking independence from their parents.

"One time we broke up and she jumped me after school," said one Corona teenager about his current girlfriend. "I was frightened by her sudden change in behavior."

"I had to be constantly on the lookout for this one girl because she kept throwing things at me after we broke up," said another Corona student.

"I seemed to run into her everywhere I went."

Threatening violence or doing something to your car, house or property after a breakup is another sign. Surprisingly, 30 percent of the Corona respondents said this had happened to them in a current or past relationship.

"I never knew what I was going to find when I went out to get in my car," wrote one Corona teen. "Several times my car was egged or had creepy messages written on the windows. I had to start driving my mom's car to school to keep her away."

Be wary of someone who says he or she can't live without you, and imposes restrictions on the way you dress or your appearance.

Stay clear of someone who humiliates you by putting you down in private or in front of others, blames others for his/her problems or feelings, threatens suicide if you leave him/her or you find yourself unable to disagree with them.

Dating someone who harasses you after you break up by following you, showing up uninvited, spreading rumors

about you and/or makes prank phone calls is a warning sign that 47 percent of the Corona respondents identified in their present or past relationships.

Once a teenager gets involved in an abusive relationship, it is often hard for them to get out. Sometimes they fear for their personal safety or they don't want anyone to know.

It may be, once again, that they don't recognize they are in a potentially abusive situation.

Parents and other adults can help by looking for these clues that may indicate if a teenager is experiencing dating violence:

Physical signs of injury; truancy; dropping out of school; failing grades; indecision; changes in mood or personality; use of drugs or alcohol; emotional outburst; and isolation.

If you or someone you know is in a potentially abusive relationship, there are several ways to get help in ending the relationship.

First, seek help from family, a teacher or other adult that you can trust.

— SAFE, Page 13



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Safe

From Page 12

You can also go to a local domestic violence program for help but it may be easier to call someone who specializes in teen dating violence such as the National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline available 24 hours at day at 1-866-331-9474.

Here you can talk one-on-one with a trained peer advocate who can offer support and connect you to resources seven days a week.

You can also chat online with trained experts who can discuss your options from 2 p.m. to midnight at <http://www.loveisrespect.org/>

If you break up with someone and he or she continues to harass or follow you, take legal action such as a restraining order or assault charges to protect yourself and your family.

In addition, you should think ahead about ways to protect yourself if you are in a dangerous or potentially dangerous relationship.

Design your own safety plan around these key strategies:

- What people at school can you tell in order to be safe such as teachers, principals, counselors and security?
- Consider changing your school locker and your route to and from school.
- Find someone as a buddy for going to school, classes, and after school activities.
- Think about what friends you can

tell to help you remain safe.

- If you are stranded somewhere, who could you call?
- Keep a journal describing the abuse.
- Think about where you could go quickly to get away from an abusive person.

The best way to date safely and avoid teen violence is to consider utilizing a few safety strategies before dating a new person.

- First, consider double dating on the first few dates.
- Make sure you know the exact plans for the evening and make sure a parent or friend also knows the plans too before you leave.

- Realize that alcohol and drugs reduce your ability to react.
- Before leaving a party with someone you do not know well, be sure to tell another person all the details.

- Be firm and straightforward in your relationships and trust your instincts.

- If you feel uncomfortable in a situation, remain calm and come up with a plan to remove yourself from the scene

Keep in mind that statistics show that approximately 40 percent of date-rape victims are young women from 14 to 17 years of age and that more than half of the young women raped knew their rapist either as a boyfriend, friend or causal acquaintance.

Six out of 10 rapes of young women occur in their own home or a friend or relative's home and not in some dark alley or the back seat of a car.

Last but not least, approximately

seven percent of all murder victims in 2002 were young women who were killed by their boyfriends.

Studies also show that female abuse against their male dates is on the rise.

If you realize after reading this article that you are in an abusive relationship, take steps to help yourself get out by telling your parents or another trusted adult.

If that seems too difficult, call

one of the teen help lines listed in this article or go online to chat with a trained professional in dealing with teen dating violence at <http://www.loveisrespect.org/>. Before dating anyone new, come up with a plan to keep yourself safe until you get to know your date better.

Alex Zener graduated from Corona del Sol High School in May.

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Proposed changes to sex-ed materials generating little public feedback

Catholic Charities would replace teachers as purveyors of course content

By Don Kirkland

How school districts develop sex-education curriculum that's in balance with parents' widely varying personal, religious and philosophical beliefs historically represents one of education's biggest challenges.

In fact, it was the basis of a small hornet's nest of controversy several years ago in the Kyrene district, where some middle-school parents vehemently opposed various elements of the program, namely

the inclusion of certain anatomical terminology they considered inappropriate.

When the dust settled and a course of study was adopted, staff members agreed that, the next time the issue came up for discussion, they'd increase the number of people involved in the process and encourage more input than had been received during earlier rounds of study.

So, by the time the district started determining which books and audio-visual materials might be used to teach the approved course, the committee had grown to 35 staff and community members from the previous handful.

Although full consensus was not achieved, the committee's report met with approval and, according to curriculum and assessment administrator **Carrie Furedy**, a public review of the recommended resources yielded positive results.

"A lot of people turned out to look at the materials," said Furedy. "Overall, the response was

positive, with people saying, 'Well, it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be.'"

The teaching materials that subsequently appeared in classrooms during the 2006-07 school year were considered "quality and informational," said Furedy, adding however that they were not necessarily the same resources that might be utilized in future years.

"We used a PowerPoint presentation with nice colors, but the information was presented in a straightforward, factual way, which is not always engaging for students," Furedy said.

Now, with the Kyrene Governing Board scheduled to consider possible changes in how the classes will be taught next year, the study committee has once again taken on a challenge.

"For the parents who have served on this committee, they have been pretty much living with me," said Furedy, describing the stepped-up intensity to make an Aug. 22 deadline imposed by the governing board.

Meeting twice monthly for two to three hours each time, the group has reviewed existing videos and books, considering whether to keep the lessons intact or supplement them with district-developed activities and discussion, which Furedy says were lacking in the earlier materials.

Although the approaches under consideration are not designed to change the previously approved curriculum, they might modify the way in which the subject is taught, Furedy noted.

That, it turns out, could be a relief to district teachers.

"It's really hard for teachers in our middle schools to teach (sex education)," said Furedy. "They don't always feel they're trained, especially in this."

District administrators yielded to the teachers' reservations, going so far as to replace the teachers' own live commentary with a pre-recorded voice-over

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narrative.

With such issues in mind, coupled with what Furedy insists is the committee's determination to come up with the best possible recommendation, the group decided to investigate several successful approaches, including one developed by Catholic Charities as part of its abstinence-information program and used in schools nationwide.

To see the program in action, Furedy and committee members spent a week at Gilbert Junior High School, an experience she called "a turning point" in their decision process.

"We went there because we wanted to make sure that the delivery (of the content) was not fear based, that there was no religious piece to this instruction," she said, noting that being Catholic is not a prerequisite for selection as an instructor.

Its major concerns resolved, the committee decided to recommend utilizing the Catholic Charities staff and teaching materials, woven into Kyrene's existing curriculum.

The only step left was to make the proposed study materials available for public review and offer an opportunity for one last round of community input.

To the committee's surprise, however, only a small amount of public feedback was received, and the review period was extended to 100 days from 60.

With the clock ticking toward the board's August meeting, Furedy still is hoping for the community's involvement.

"Our committee desperately wants to hear what the community has to say," said Furedy. "This is not a rubber-stamp situation; we really want feedback."

Although she defends the committee's makeup as "very representative of the community, from

extremely conservative to extremely liberal, and everywhere in-between," she says the group knows "it isn't perfect."

While it has spent countless hours trying to develop materials that deserve broad public support, the committee knows it could have missed something in the process.

"If people feel this doesn't fit with our community, we want them to let us know," said Furedy. "We're absolutely willing to consider change."

What's right for some parents may be wrong for others, she knows.

"My position might be different if you're talking about reading," Furedy says. "But you're talking about teaching sex; every person has a different perspective of what's right for them."

"Our challenge is to develop what is best for every single child."

Whether or not parents agree with the committee's recommended study materials, they still have options, Furedy notes, including the requirement that every child participating in sex-education programs must have a parental opt-in form on file.

The governing board will make its decision on the coming school year's study materials at its meeting Tuesday, Aug. 26.

The public has until 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22, to review the materials and offer comments.

Even though the board's vote should bring an end to the current evaluation process, the committee's work won't be done. Studies will get under way shortly on curriculum materials for fourth, fifth and seventh graders; content being used by sixth graders

is considered adequate and is not currently due for review.

Proposed study materials are available for examination at Kyrene district offices, 8700 S. Kyrene Road, Tempe, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday until July 18 (closed July 14), and 8-4:30 July 21 through Aug. 22.

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Gems . . . From Page 9

Scranton getting to treat a cobra bite or something.

"You have the perfect hair for a Mohawk," she also told me.

This was true. My hair, which had been Mod Squad/Fifth Dimension frizzy when I was in high school in the '70s, had settled down to mildly curly in my 20s, which meant that it stood up and gave the sides the requisite hard, straight edges without the aid of gel.

As the cut progressed, I gradually became aware that the other customers in the shop were staring at me with real alarm. After one of them left, the manager came over to my stylist and said, "She just asked me 'Is he a member of a religious cult?'"

This pretty much set the tone. People kept staring at me with hostile bafflement everywhere I went from the minute I left the shop. The unkindest cut of all came from my nephew James, then four or five. He looked up at me, burst out giggling, and said, "You have a weird haircut!" How did he know?

My mom thought it was a weird haircut, too. On the other hand, my father, then about 70, seemed oddly pleased by my style choice. "You look neat!" he proclaimed, chuckling.

The most tolerant of men, my dad nonetheless harbored, in keeping with his generation, an amused distaste for the long hair of the hippie era, and he always thought my hair was too long in high school, so I can only conclude that he approved of any cut which involved less hair.

One day a few weeks later I drove my girlfriend to an appointment at the Cleveland Clinic. I dropped her off, then while I climbed a flight of stairs to find a waiting room, a security guard grabbed me out of the crowd, questioned me in the rudest and angriest manner about my presence in the hospital, and clearly didn't believe me when I said I was waiting for someone.

Lesson to criminals who wish to infiltrate major metropolitan hospitals to engage in God-knows-what nefarious activities: Don't wear a Mohawk, and you're home free.

I wouldn't blame anyone who suspected that I was exaggerating the degree of the response to a simple haircut.

Neither, though, am I now likely to ever doubt any '60s hippie's or '50s greaser's story of being shunned for a style choice.

What I wonder is: What's left? Is there some combination of piercing and tattoos and strange hair and revealing clothes that could still get a widespread rise out of people, or has it all pretty much gone mainstream?

I don't remember how long I kept the Mohawk up. Six or seven months, I'd guess. During that time I always tried to make a point of being extra-special polite and friendly, holding doors for old ladies, etc., in an attempt to confound people's expectations.

But at some point, of course, it got old, and I

shaved my head and started over.

At some point before that, though, my pal Stan took this picture of me. It remains my all-time favorite photo of myself; in the unlikely event that anyone publishes The Collected Works of M.V. Moorhead, Vol. 1, I want it on the back cover as my author photo.



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Governing board addresses Corona air-quality issue

Editor:

The Tempe Union High School District Governing Board and District administration have been immersed in resolving Corona del Sol High School's air quality issues for quite some time. We write now to provide accurate information to those of you with many reasonable questions.

Corona del Sol High School was built in 1975 as an energy-efficient school, with the requirement to be as airtight as possible. Classrooms designed for 20 students now accommodate 30-35 students, and ninety percent of the 1978 mechanical equipment is still operational.

The Arizona School Facilities Board, created in 1999, was charged with evaluating all existing school buildings, identifying deficiencies and making necessary corrections to meet minimum State standards. One indicator of indoor air quality is based on carbon dioxide levels. During initial inspection in 2001, Corona met minimum facilities-board standards.

The District questioned both the methodology and test results and requested reconsideration. This was denied.

From 2002 to present, occupants have periodically complained of stagnant air or a musty smell. Professional industrial hygienists investigated each time a complaint was made and their reports indicated there was inadequate ventilation causing increased relative humidity and accumulated indoor pollutants. A small amount of mold remediation work was completed at Corona del Sol in 2006 as a result of air quality testing.

In September 2006, Health Effects Group was hired to conduct a comprehensive indoor air quality assessment. The report indicated that during a normal school day CO2 build-up in occupied classrooms and common areas exceeded acceptable specified levels according to standards set by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Engineers and the School Facilities Board.

HEG reported that, "There is no evidence of any long-term negative effects for students and staff at Corona del Sol. The only persons who may have concern would be those with already-existing

severe respiratory problems."

In order to address identified concerns, the District formally requested emergency funding from the state facilities board in May 2007 to correct the HVAC deficiency. The facilities board denied two additional requests. The District made a final appeal in February 2008 and was again denied.

The District has begun a four-phase construction project to resolve identified issues at Corona del Sol. The estimated cost of the project is over \$14 million. Phase I consists of replacing an existing chiller with a larger capacity chiller, larger pumps, and the upgrade of electrical services. These monies were available within the District budget and work was completed in May 2008.

Phase II consists of installing a new supply loop for chilled water to classrooms and installing new exhaust fans to help reduce CO2 levels. These monies are available within the District budget and work will be completed when school begins in August.

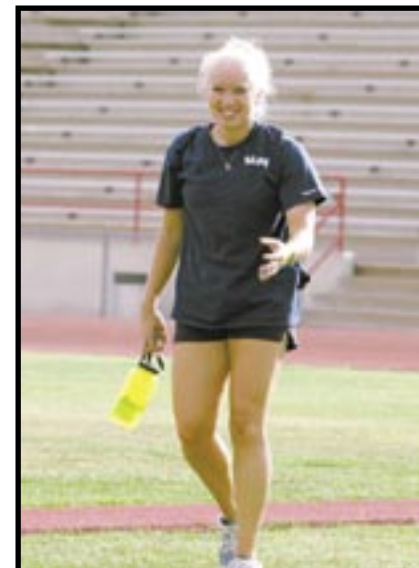
Phase III consists of electrical upgrades and requires additional funding.

Phase IV construction consists of air conditioning unit installment in each classroom and requires additional funding.

Tempe Union High School District Governing Board members and administration deeply appreciate the efforts of our Governor and elected officials in passing financial legislation to order to provide assistance with the Corona project. We have worked cooperatively with them for many months and will continue to do so as the District has exhausted all funding for the needed work at Corona and has reallocated all existing building renewal funds from other (school) sites. Now it will be the voters' turn to approve a bond that will provide the necessary funding to complete the project in the November 2008 general election.

For more detailed information, please visit the TUHSD website www.tuhsd.k12.az.us which is updated regularly.

— *Mary Lou Taylor, Governing Board President; Donald P. Keuth, Governing Board Vice President; Robin S. Arredondo-Savage; Michelle I. Helm; Zita M. Johnson.*



2004 Corona del Sol High School graduate Katie Morgan won the NCAA championship on pole vault to earn the honor of Muscle Milk California Student-Athlete of the Week. Morgan, a junior, posted a mark of 13-9.25 (4.20m) in the event and did not have a miss through four vaults, enabling her to capture the national title. Her first-place finish helped the Cal women tie for 22nd in the overall competition held last week in Des Moines, Iowa. She also earned All-American honors for the first time in her career. The Tempe native set Cal's school outdoor record four different times this year, and currently holds first when she vaulted 13-11.75 (4.26m) at the NCAA West Regional.

— Photo by Kris Cartwright

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12-year-olds: Bottom row, from left, Cole Coggins, Conner Popkins, Tudi Valle, Johnny Campion, Glenn Farina, Austin Sigrist, Kreston Woods, Alex Quintana, Top row — Daren Sigrist (Manager), Trevor Wood, Matt Reum, Preston Ryan, Craig McGinnis, Kurt Popkins (Coach).



9-10-year-olds: Bottom row, from left — Julian Bauerle, Anthony Farina, Conner Woods, James Broadus, Austin Treese, Ryan Farina, Marc Farina, Jacob Quintana Top row — Eric Treese (Manager), Hunter Olsen, Kyle Pickard, Riley Stanton, Ryan Novis, Lou Farina (Coach).



11-year-olds: Bottom row, from left, Jensen Thelander, Spencer Jarvis, Matthew Langmack, Christian Broadus, Sammy Kendree, Erik Lewandowski, Tyler Rojas, Nathan Lowe. Bottom right — Kyle Coggins, Andrew Johnson, Coach Todd Thelander, Tucker Swann, Erick Wendt. Not pictured: Coach Ken Lewandowski.

It's a 'family affair' in Tempe South Little League All-Star competition

Tempe South Little League has chosen the All Star Teams for the District 13 tournament, scheduled to be held June 27 through July 13. The 9-to-10-year-

old team is a real family this year with a set of triplets all making the team—Anthony, Ryan, and Marc Farina. Not to be outdone by the younger siblings,

12-year-old Glenn Farina will be doing his part to assist the 12-year-old All Stars to victory.

— By Tracy Doren

Kyrene district offices taking signups 'til July 10

Parents who have recently moved to the area or are interested in open enrollment can register their children at the front desk of Kyrene School District offices from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday until July 10.

Local schools will reopen and begin accepting registration starting July 21.

Parents should call individual schools for their specific hours of operation during the registration period. After July 10, registration will no longer be available at the district office, however parents can register online during that period.

Kyrene schools begin the 2008-2009 year on Monday, Aug. 4.

In preparation for the start of classes, schools will hold Meet the Teacher nights and students will receive their teacher assignments.

Those programs will be held for middle school students from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 30, and for elementary school students from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 31.

Information: (480) 783-4175.

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