Ex-prostitute shines light on child sex trade

By Corina Gallardo
When April 22 arrives each spring, Carolyn Jean Jones celebrates her anniversary. The date from a Tucson middle school returned this month from a two-week excursion to South Korea as part of a Tucson Unified School District’s Tucson Korea program. An initiative of TUSD’s Asian Pacific American Studies Department, this program aims to create memorable cross-cultural experiences for Tucson students.

Frequent violent arguments often working two jobs at a time, her stepfather and brother’s frequent violent arguments often led to the drawing of guns. Jones, the middle child, was forced to take on the motherly role in her family, taking care of food and cleaning.

Despite her mother’s absence, Jones said, “My mom did everything she could, so I didn’t have to become the girl she became anyway.”

Her life took another turn at 15, when Jones ran away from troubles and traded in her home for the street life of Phoenix. “The streets welcomed me,” she said. “The men were telling me how pretty I looked.”

She heard the words she wished her father had said. For the first time, she felt special.

“One day a man told me if I (would) go up to a motel with him, he would give me $100,” Jones said. She was still 15 years old at the time. She accepted, and when they arrived at the hotel the man explained exactly what he wanted her to do to in order to earn that $100.

With no place to stay and nowhere to go, Jones traded her body for the man’s money, beginning her life as a prostitute. Jones’ plight is not uncommon. An estimated 1.2 million children are trafficked for sex each year, according to The United Nations Children’s Fund.

“Sex Trafficking”

More about Streetlight Phoenix
http://streelightphoenix.com

Second year of city pool closures

By Chandler Longbons
Swimmers and pool staff are feeling a ripple effect this summer after budget cuts led to the closing of 17 of the city’s 27 pools.

The cuts made in January 2010, which reduced the $3 million Parks and Recreation’s aquatics budget by half and required pools to close for two consecutive summers, continue to affect swimmers, families and lifeguards.

Billy Sassi, the Parks and Recreation Aquatics program manager, says that his department is among the most costly and was one of the first considered for budget cuts.

As a result, a number of staff that could be hired was also cut in half, from 350 to 175 employees. The lifeguard staff at pools around the city are feeling the aftermath of the closures.

Though cuts have reduced the number of available job positions, Sassi says he has trouble finding young people who want to work as lifeguards. The lack of stability in lifeguard jobs is driving some applicants away, Sassi said.

“I think kids are realizing that the pools, there aren’t as many open and so they aren’t going to waste their time to go get the lifeguard training, and first aid, and CPR, they are going to go somewhere else where they can go and be sure and get a job, that’s what we are seeing,” Sassi said.

Stephanie Elias has worked at various Tucson city pools for the past six years and is now a lifeguard at Archer Pool, 1665 S. La Cholla Blvd. Getting a job as a lifeguard is much less competitive than in previous years, when those who were hired had five or six years of experience, Elias said. With these veteran lifeguards no longer interested in working for the pools, more first-year lifeguards are being hired.

The biggest issue the lifeguards say they deal with, though, is complaints.

“A lot of people complain to us that a lot of the pools are closed and they have to drive really far just...”

Local students return from ‘amazing’ S. Korea trip

By Demetrius Kent
Four students and two teachers from a Tucson middle school returned this month from a two-week excursion to South Korea as part of an exchange program. They ate Korean cuisine, studied Korean curriculum, and learned the Korean way of life.

The group was the first to make the trip as a part of Tucson Unified School District’s Tucson Korea Ambassador Program. An initiative of TUSD’s Asian Pacific American Studies Department, this program aims to create memorable cross-cultural experiences for Tucson students.

For the past three years, the program has taught Korean students to come and live in America with host families for one month. They eat American food, go to American schools, and see American sights. But, for the first time, members from a local Tucson school were able to go to South Korea. They spent a week in Ulleungdo, and then another week in Seoul.

The island, Ulleungdo, was so small that participant Leslie Kenney said all of it by tour bus in one only hour. The community was so tightly knit, and everybody was so comfortable with one another, that the few police officers sta-

tioned there were often relaxed, conversing with the locals, she said.

Ulleungdo is a remote island, 75 miles east of the Korean Peninsula. “The fact that we’re sending kids there from Tucson is unheard of,” said Margaret Pasquet, director of the Asian American Studies Department.

Rick Stancilfe, whose daughter Hope was on the trip, said that experiences like these don’t come often. For this reason, these students’ parents were eager to have them go.

“It’s the opportunity of a life- time,” Stancilfe said.

Kenney’s father, who is also named Leslie Kenney, spoke of how willing he was to let his daughter visit a foreign country. He felt that this program would open his daughter’s eyes to a culture that she had never seen before.

“My wife was kind of, you know, ‘Oh my god, she’s going across the ocean,’ and I was like ‘Go,’ he said.

Leslie Kenney can describe her time in Ulleungdo in one word: amazing.

From learning that Koreans throw their toilet paper away rather than flushing it, to getting used to kneeling and sitting on the floor instead of lounging on couches, and fellow students were introduced to customs that they had never been before, Kenney said.

Deanna Campos, a teacher who accompanied the students to Korea, said that the students’ immersion into Korean culture gave them a broader understanding of the world around them. The experience will have an everlasting impact.

“It has changed their lives,” she said.

Children participate in swim lessons at Catalina Pool, one of the city pools remaining open this summer.

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An oil-free Oro Valley, one plug at a time

By Kristy Westgard

The EV Project's goal is "to pave the way and build up the right infrastructure for the next wave of electric vehicles that are going to be coming out in the next couple of years," said Mary Sobelman, EV Project area manager, of Arizona, referring to the Nissan Leaf and Chevrolet Volt.

"It doesn’t idle or shake, it just sits there. In a regular car you’ve got the noise of the engine revving and you’ve got the shifting. In an electric car it’s just there, it feels like it’s effortless to accelerate," he said.

Another goal of the EV Project is to determinate the behavioral aspects of electric vehicle location. When the installed charging stations are used, data concerning the vehicle and the charger are collocated and the service for free. People that don’t even have electric cars in come and ask about it," said Trible.

"The girls that I have spoken with are very sad, but they all seem to be excited about different skill-building accomplishments. The scouts are staying positive and hoping for rain, so that the fire can be put out," said Pallack.

The workshop administration and participants thank the Dow Jones News Fund, the Department of Communication, the University of Arizona School of Journalism, the Tucson Media Institute, and the Arizona Student Affairs, Hopi Media Professionals, University of Arizona School of Journalism, the Arizona Student Affairs, Hopi Media Professionals, University of Arizona School of Journalism, and the Arizona Student Affairs, Hopi Media Professionals, University of Arizona School of Journalism.

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Arizona prepares to celebrate its centennial

By Shane Weinstein

Arizonaans rejoiced in the streets, firing their revolvers into the air and spooking horses. The moment was one to celebrate. It was Feb. 14, 1912, and President William Taft had just given Arizona its statehood, making it the 48th state to join the nation.

“Now, nearly a century later, Arizonans are again celebrating that momentous day — this time, with eight months’ worth of festivities, parades, rodeos and raffles. The Arizona Centennial Commission is sponsoring more than a dozen activities in the next eight months.

“Embrace it and celebrate it because it will surely be a unique experience,” said Mary Frances Krumwiede, projects manager for the Centennial Commission. “We want people to rejoice and make a big deal over this special day.”

One of the largest upcoming events is the “Best Fest.” It is “a celebration of the best of the state in every genre,” Krumwiede said.

The “Best Fest” will take place in Tucson from Nov. 11 to 13. The festival will be the largest of any kind to be held in the history of the state.

“Each festival will be held in the hosting city’s downtown area and they will all be unique to the city they are being held in,” Krumwiede said. “Tucson’s festival will have a lot of Southwestern themes and flavors incorporated.”

As part of the Centennial Penny Drive, 50 elementary schools from all over the state collected pennies in February to clean and paint the dome on the capitol building in Phoenix. According to Krumwiede, the dome has not been washed in over 20 years.

Erickson said, “They will be touring the state, including a stop in Sept. 30 in Willcox, before finally being raffled in February at a celebration in Phoenix.”

Other events, while not planned by the commission, have their “seal of approval,” Krumwiede said.

Other events range from the 2012 Tucson Rodeo Parade and the La Fiesta De Los Vaqueros to the Silver Spike Festival in March, a celebration and re-enchactment of when the railroad came to Tucson, and Wings Over Willcox, a January bird watching and nature festival in Willcox.

Planners expect the centennial celebration to spread a message of state pride across the Grand Canyon State.

“The state’s 100th birthday is a big deal,” Jones said. “It is one that should be celebrated loud and proud and really show that Arizonans care about their state.”

Cultural finds land at Arizona State Museum

By Halli Lomayakewa

In the 1970s laws and attitudes started changing about archaeological artifacts found at construction sites. In 1978, the Archaeological Resource Protection Act was passed.

According to the law, developers who pick a site that could have artifacts must go through a special process. When developers are doing a “ground disturbance,” the company or the contractor must hire an archaeologist to do the excavations. And they have to arrange for a repository to store the material they find so that it is available for future

“Recently, the museum was given a garnet gem from the 1800s that was found in downtown Tucson,” Erickson said.

The National Association Grave Protection: Reparation Act is a federal law that went into effect in the 1990s. It governs human remains and associated artifacts.

“That material never comes here automatically. Instead, they go to the tribes that have already been selected to get it,” Vokes said.

The museum sometimes gets items from projects started as far back as a decade ago, Erickson said.

Mike Jacobs is the curator of the archaeological collection at the museum. His main job is cataloging and researching information about the artifacts. Jacobs said if developers are caught skip- ping the excavation process, they face legal consequences.

“The law is enforcing that the developers have to go through the process of archaeology,” Jacobs said. Fines for violations can reach up to thousands of dollars, he said.

Residents of 1885 Tucson walk along Congress Street, one of many areas in which the “Best Fest” will take place. The celebration is being planned by the Arizona Centennial Commission.

Arizona State Museum houses finds from urban excavation sites. Photo by Christina Rucker

Arizona Historic Society/Tucson AMS 2011

PHOTO BY CHRISTINA RUCKER

Arizona State Museum is an archaeological repository. The museum sometimes gets items from projects started as far back as a decade ago, Erickson said.

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“Whether it’s developers putting up houses or archeologists removing their finds, materials are destroyed, but at least we are trying to record it,” Vokes said.

The museum, located on the University of Arizona campus in Tucson, is the default repository for the state and is the largest nonfederal repository in the country.

There are state and federal guidelines on what materials qualify.

Desert Archaeology, Inc. is one of the companies that brings collections to the museum. Desert Archaeology surveys land for developers, said Desert Archaeology Laboratory Director Lisa Eppley. When companies like Desert Archaeology find artifacts, they tell the museum.

“If we can’t find anything, we give the OK for the company to go ahead and do the construction site. But if we do find something, we recommend to them things on what can be done,” Eppley said.

The Arizona State Museum stores salvaged artifacts including arrowheads and pottery sherds from construction sites in Tucson.

There are 25,000 boxes of artifacts in the archaeological repository at the museum, according to Theah Erickson, an assistant curator.

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Continued from page 1

Opponents, especially children as young as 5 are brought into the sex industry and forced to perform sexual acts against their will. The average age of a child prostitute is 13, according to the Department of Justice.

About 450,000 children in the United States run away from home each year, one third of whom are lured into sex slavery in 48 hours of leaving home, according to a study by the Department of Justice.

At the age of 16, Jones learned she was pregnant by her emotionally and physically abusive boyfriend.

After losing custody of her child, Jones promised her mother that she would not sell crack cocaine to “numb the pain” while continuing with her use of marijuana and alcohol. She continued to prostitute herself and began selling drugs to support her crack cocaine addiction.

She was arrested for selling drugs 11 years later and sentenced to 18 months at a drug rehabilitation center.

“I told the judge I didn’t have a problem selling drugs. My problem was my daughter,” Jones said. “I said, ‘He could help me and send me to rehab, I could get myself together.’”

After the program, Jones stayed clean for 10 years. She got married and had two daughters, ages 10 and 12, before it closed. “So of course I was upset because I have to travel each morning for work,” she said.

When she was bit by a poisonous spider, she went to rehab, I could get myself togeth-er,” she said.

“Having this pool, where a pro-stitution Enforcer is positioned at the Pool of Choice creates a prob-lem for some parents who want their children to learn pool safety,” said Division Enforcement Deputy Special Agent Rick Crocker.

He recalled a case in Memphis, where a prostitution ring traffick-ing young girls was identified.

A 14-year-old girl was rescued from a trend that was being smug-gled into the U.S. “It was a very emotional experience, and there was not a dry eye in the room,” Crocker said.

“A lot of times, we recover the tipping point at a Phoenix bus stop. The feeling she had nothing left to live for con-tinued. I cried out to God and said, ‘Please get me out of this, I don’t want to be in this kind of life.’”

“Every once in a while, some-thing gets a chance to live again, a chance to get my life back… I’ll do whatev-er you say.” Jones said.

Her resurgence into life away from the streets is a uniquely emotion-al experience, and there are many people who could be inspired by her story.

Jones was taken to a hospital for treatment. The bite forced her to stay in an extended care rest home for a month to recover.

Once she left, she knew she could not return to the streets again. Instead of regreting her actions, she returned to a rehabili-tation center for three months after working at a separate center where she eventually became a man-ager.

She worked in that position for eight years before joining a pro-gram in Phoenix called Streetlight.

The faith-based nonprofit organi-zation, is funded solely by dona-tions. The organization recently opened a chapter in Tucson. In 2009 income was $1.13 million, according to tax documents.

The program’s focus, along with awareness and prevention, is to bring relief and direct services to girls between ages 11 and 17, who have been prostituted or traf-ficked.

Melody Bosina, a residential director at Streetlight, deals with the direct care and management of the girls, who average around the age of 15. The girls come to Streetlight either through FBI and law enforcement, or on their own.

“I think one of the things that just stands out to me with working with this population is how amaz-ingly strong these girls are,” Bosina said. “People tend to think these girls are simply devil-ish girls.”

Today, Jones focuses on shining light upon the dark street corners, where young girls continue to sell their bodies.

“Get people out at night that they can stop,” she said.

The schools at schools, churches or anywhere else she can stop someone to trumpet her cause. And to the young, invisible vic-tims of sex trafficking, her mes-sage is simple.

“It is not about how they start, but how they finish,” Jones said. “Never give up hope.”

“Sometimes, the pool is a place where they can go and not be judged.”

Kinnison children’s daily routine each day. But since the opening of Himmel Pool, Kinnison’s chil-dren have not joined another team because of the distance. They have to travel each morning for practice.

“We met a lot of people through swim team,” she said. Her 5-year-old daughter, Rosemary, has recently joined the girls at the University of Arizona.

Of the neighborhood pools are closed, some people are changing their habits by choosing not to swim or to make a longer drive.

Kinnison said she hopes the community pools will reopen in the near future, even if it means increasing the admission fee.

“We used that pool. We really, really loved having that pool open,” she said.

“We have identified the OSIRIS-REx project as the most exciting and compelling and nec-essary next project in planetary science,” said Paul Hertz, chief scientist for NASA’s Science Mission Directorate.

Throughout the entire mission, the UA will allow undergraduate students to help work the mission. These students will earn a decent salary, Drake said.

Drake will not be particular when assigning students to work on the mission. Students simply have to show an interest and offer something useful.

Students who show interest in continuing to lend their services to the program after graduation could conceivably be put on staff as full-time employees, according to Drake. They can build a career while simultaneously getting an education.

“We feel very strongly that there is not a distinc-tion between research and teaching.”

The University of Arizona recently began preparations for an $880 million space program spon-sored by NASA.

OSIRIS-REx, short for Origins- Spectral Interpretation-Resource Identification-Security-Regolith Explorer, an unmanned spacecraft, is expected to depart in September 2016 from Kennedy Space center and approach an Earth-hazardous asteroid to take a sample of its sur-face. One hundred UA undergrad-uate students will assist with the program.

“The OSIRIS-REx spacecraft is expected to reach the asteroid in October 2019. The spacecraft will return at the Utah Test Range north and west of Salt Lake City at 8 a.m. Sept. 23, 2023, said Michael Drake, head of the UA department of Planetary Sciences.

“We feel very strongly that there is not a dis-tinction between research and teaching.”
Students talk about Japan’s triple disaster

By Kristy Westgard

Initial media coverage in Japan following the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster made an impression that much of the country was completely destroyed. Cameramen rarely ventured beyond the destroyed coastline to the areas that survived.

The Chronicle interviewed two foreign students attending the Sendai Language School (SLS) of Sendai, Japan, and the school’s director about the triple disaster that struck Japan on March 11. SLS is a school centered in Sendai’s downtown district, about 10 miles from the coast where major destruction occurred.

Iranez Reza Jahanehshk, 27, went “by (his) own charge” to study Japanese at SLS. At his former job at Nissan, he worked with many Japanese co-workers. During the earthquake, Jahanehshk was instructed to crawl underneath a desk to avoid falling objects.

Nestor Isaza, from Bogota, Colombia, has been in Japan for six months working toward his master’s degree in architecture.

When you turn on the TV and hear about the disaster, you think she’d like to photograph, and she has nothing really happened here, and it was really amazing.

Q: What would you like the U.S. and other countries to know about your area in Japan?

Isaza: Well, there are a lot of people helping. The government has done a wonderful job cleaning, and helping people. There’s a lot of help coming from everywhere in the world and the Japanese people are working and studying doing their thing, and they’re not giving up. So that’s a good thing to show instead of buildings destroyed. I know newspapers have to put things out, but not that way.

As she walked in the room to speak with The Chronicle, she left her family to travel on a student visa to pursue a degree in building management at Pima Community College in Tucson.

There is a lot of instability in Zimbabwe,” Hungwe said. “And there is a so-called democracy, but you don’t have a say. The political climate quite a bit of panic and a lot of violence.”

Hungwe said she enjoys going on hikes, running, and her friends can do in their free time. U.S. living is the numerous activities she enjoys her time there and that if she were to come back to my country I explained to almost everyone what I saw here. People treat each other the same way, you think that nothing really happened here, and it was really amazing.

Q: What did it sound like during the earthquake?

Isaza: Last week I went to do some volunteer work at Ishinomaki. It’s about one hour from here, but the city was really damaged. We did a very good job cleaning the streets and pulling away the garbage, but you can still see the boats on the street and the cars damaged, that kind of thing. You can see houses, how they went out, fell down, and the sidewalks really strong, like a fishy smell.

Q: How do you think that this disaster has reshaped Japan?

Jahanehshk: It was a unique experience that I had in Japan. I didn’t see anyone pass a red light in the street. People here really respect the law, and they respect each other even in the worst situations. It was really amazing. When I came back to my country I explained to almost everyone what I saw here. People treat each other the same way, you think that nothing really happened here, and it was really amazing.

By Lacey Tewanema

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Where on Earth is Zimbabwe?

By Abigail Mampokolo

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Hungwe continues to be involved with Owl and Panther as a volunteer, working with refugee children.

“Whenever I was in Zimbabwe, the thought of having a major impact in a stranger’s life never occurred to me,” Hungwe said. “There is nothing like watching how grateful somebody is that you spent time teaching them how to write a sentence in English or showing them how to draw.”

Hungwe applied to colleges in the U.S. government has done a wonderful job cleaning, and helping people. There’s a lot of help coming from everywhere in the world and the Japanese people are working and studying doing their thing, and they’re not giving up. So that’s a good thing to show instead of buildings destroyed. I know newspapers have to put things out, but not that way.

A survivor among us: When politics get personal

By Marge Pellegrino

Pellegrino said. “Abby is now a faithful volunteer who helps drive families and helps with the workshops, and offers her gentle encouragement to our families and to me.”

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A survivor among us: When politics get personal

By Marge Pellegrino

Pellegrino said. “Abby is now a faithful volunteer who helps drive families and helps with the workshops, and offers her gentle encouragement to our families and to me.”

Hungwe applied to colleges in the U.S. government has done a wonderful job cleaning, and helping people. There’s a lot of help coming from everywhere in the world and the Japanese people are working and studying doing their thing, and they’re not giving up. So that’s a good thing to show instead of buildings destroyed. I know newspapers have to put things out, but not that way.
Looking out for box turtles

Arizona Game and Fish tracks turtles with public’s help
By Lizzy Sesteaga

Turtles need your help. The Ornate Box Turtle’s population is declining in Arizona, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department is looking for the public’s help in learning more about their habits and behaviors and help sustain the population.

In September 2009, Project Biologist Audrey Owens and Project Coordinator Cristina Jones of the Game and Fish Department established the Ornate Box Turtle Watch. The project was created to locate turtles and learn more about their habits and behaviors and help sustain the population.

Owens and Jones are trying to collect information to understand where and what area the turtles generally live in. By locating an area where many turtles live, biologists can study the natural habitats and learn more from watching the turtles in their environment.

The project coordinators don’t know exactly how many of these turtles live in Arizona, but people who have not spotted them as often as before.

Although Owens and Jones are stationed near Phoenix, the project was created to “reach out to people who spend time in southeastern Arizona, where native Ornate Box Turtles occur,” Jones said.

Little information is needed when someone comes across a turtle. The individual fills out a simple form describing the location, the turtle, and what the turtle is doing.

“We hope that it will give us a good database on factual locations throughout the range of southeastern Arizona,” Owens said.

Owens and Jones have limited data about the characteristics of the turtles, according to the Game and Fish Department website, “box turtles are secretive and difficult to find.”

The department is collecting material to further understand why turtles hide.

Jones said she thinks the program has been effective in the past two years she and Owens have received just over 80 reports.

In most cases the turtles have been spotted after a monsoon. Jones said she has no expectations for this long-term project, but she does hope to alert people about the lack of understanding about the turtles.

“The whole reason this Box Turtle Watch Project exists is because they’re hard to see,” said Cecil Schwalbe, assistant professor at the University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. “I think it’s an excellent way to try and study the scientific process.”

Schwalbe actually has a box turtle of his own. “Someone got tired of keeping it and they gave it to me. Tilly the turtle, he’s great.”

Tusconans can register to learn more about this project at a presentation on Sept. 25 at Brandeis Memorial Park. The presentation will be given by Owens and Jones and offered through the Pima County Park and Recreation Department.

For more information, visit http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/bturtl watch.shtml to participate in the program.

Memory keeper tasked with Jan. 8 tributes
By Adam Carrillo

It was a sunny Saturday morning on Jan. 8 when a young man wearing a hoodie arrived via taxi at a Safeway grocery store in Tucson where Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was hosting a community event shortly after. He killed her and others were wounded and six were killed. Jared Lee Loughner, 22, was arrested at the scene after being tackled by bystanders.

During the next few weeks, the lawn at the University Medical Center where Giffords was being treated was a refuge for grieving and healing. People left cards, posters, balloons, stuffed animals, candles, drawings and gifts to support and honor the victims. The site of the shooting and the congresswoman’s office also had memorial sites.

Once Giffords was relocated to a different hospital and victims’ conditions improved enough for them to return home, the media and the public’s visits to the memorial became less frequent. It was at this time that Chrystal Carpenter, an archivist at the Arizona University library, was chosen to pick up the pieces from the memorial sites.

“We would like the public to know we are honored to have (the memorial) and we’re taking good care of it until the community decides what they would like to be done with it,” said UMC spokeswoman Katie Riley.

According to Carpenter, a community college student at the University of Arizona, the presentation was created to “reach out to people who graduated from the UA with a master’s degree in Library Science, said she was “humbled” when chosen for the job. “It was kind of by chance that Giffords office found me, but I feel honored to be able to do this,” she said.

Carpenter chopped up the boxes of memorable items that were placed on the UMC lawn for recovering Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and in honor of the other victims of the Jan. 8 shootings.

Remembering Sgt. Nance, ‘one of the best’
By Halli Lomayaketewa

On Sept. 19, 2010, I lost one of the best teachers I have ever had. His name was Sergeant Kevin Lee Nance, also known to the cadets as Sergeant. I was one of his cadets in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

When we were all there, our other instructor, Major Phillip S. Taylor, came out. After him was Sgt. Nance’s wife, Patricia. Maj. Taylor announced to the cadets that Sgt. Nance had passed on. When the cadets heard this, they were all devastated.

I was past devastated. I didn’t know what to think. I knew it was true but at the same time I didn’t want to believe it.

When I got to the podium I couldn’t say any more so I ran off the stage in tears.

I cried until I got outside. When I tried to get air, it seemed like I couldn’t. I was actually in the fetal position, crying. I got so lightheaded that I had to hold someone. I just couldn’t stop crying. My three friends tried to calm me, I just didn’t want to stop till my boyfriend came to me and held me so tight that I relaxed and stopped my crying. I left early because I couldn’t handle it anymore.

Sgt. Nance was born on Dec. 6, 1953, and was only 57 years old when he died. The Tanner Chapel AME Church held his funeral service Sept. 27.

He was the sixth child in his family. He had two children of his own, a boy named Karlton Lavelle and a girl named Kalei Ans. He once lived in Chester, Pa., and was a member of the National Guard. He worked as the physical director at the YMCA in downtown Phoenix. He also got his bachelor of arts from Excelsior College in New York.

He was the National Defense Medal, the Army Meritorious Volunteer Service Award, the H.B. Daniels Community Service Award and the U.S. Army Good Conduct Medal. He was an army instructor for seven years at his high school.

Sgt. Nance was there for me every day when my actual dad wasn’t. He was the best instructor because he would talk to me when I was down, and ask what was going on at my house.

Kevin L. Nance will never be forgotten in my life. He was my father’s best friend, my guide, my hero, my sage. I will always miss him and his smiles, his courageous words, his hugs, his weird jokes and, most importantly, him.

No matter what, he will be with me in mind, body and soul.

Items were placed on the UMC lawn for recovering Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and in honor of the other victims of the Jan. 8 shootings.
Ex-prostituta alza al vélo que cubre el tráfico de prostitutas juveniles en EU

Por Corina Gallardo
Traducido por Lauren McIntyre Herrera

La distancia es otro factor para los padres que esperan que su hijo o hija regrese a casa. Además de la falta de saberes sobre la manera de autorizar a una persona para usar la piscina para "cobrar toda la tristeza." La piscina es un lugar donde trabajaba muchas horas al día, y con frecuencia mantenía dos trabajos. Los argumentos frecuentes y violentos con su novio la llevaron a trabajar en algún otro lugar hasta que dejó su trabajo para desempeñarse como así lo prohibió la ley. Jones recordó que el año 2010, la piscina donde trabajaba en Phoenix, dejando atrás su vida en la calle, de todos los que vivió, sólo uno no sabe que piscina le toca, dijo Jones. "Le dije al juez que mi problema no era ser separada de mis padres, sino de cómo terminar, dijo Jones. "Nunca perdamos la esperanza"...
Summer sports in the Old Pueblo

BMX superstar signs autographs
Manzanita BMX Raceway in Tucson has races twice a week—but the race on June 4 was special. Corben Sharrah, one of the most talented BMX riders in the country, came to ride with some of Tucson’s local kids. While most toddlers were still learning to walk, Sharrah was pedaling away on his first bike. At the age of 5, he began BMX (Bicycle Motocross) racing. He says the thrill of riding led him to turn a hobby into a career. Fourteen years later, he won the Supercross World Cup for BMX racing. Sharrah’s career has led him to South Africa, Japan, Canada, Australia, Denmark and Holland. Saturday’s event drew dozens of BMX fans. By signing autographs and speaking with the locals, Sharrah hopes that he can inspire younger riders. Sharrah says, “In five years he sees himself still riding bikes and working toward a degree from Pima Community College.”

Photo by Christina Rucker
Catch The Chronicle’s interview with UA baseball player
Vincent Littleman
www.myhsj.org/thechronicle

Youth activists unite to fight for ethnic studies

By Alexis Lopez
Early this year, students and others came together to protect ethnic studies courses in Tucson Unified School District. The group, called the United Non-Discriminatory Individuals Demanding Our Studies (UNIDOS), believes that ethnic studies courses are an essential part of education and should not be converted to electives, which the TUSD board has proposed.

“Our main focus is to help the youth protect their education,” said Elisa Meza, a UNIDOS member and University of Arizona student. The courses focus on the history and literature of Mexican American, African American and Native American communities and discuss the contributions to history each culture has made. They are currently counted as traditional history or literature class credits.

The group formed after Gov. Jan Brewer signed House Bill 2281 into law last year. The law “prohibits a school from including in its program of instruction any course or classes that are designed primarily for pupils of a particular ethnicity or promotes resentment towards a race or class of people.”

The bill does not acknowledge the roles that Hispanics have played in history, said Daniel Montoya, an 18-year-old Rincon High School graduate and member of UNIDOS. “It was like a slap to the face when people say these ethnic studies courses should be electives.”

Meza said there are about 15 members, including students, alumni, and concerned members of the community.

Mark Stegeman, the Tucson Unified School District Board President, described how the courses have inspired students to score highly in Arizona’s high school exit exam.

The group’s purpose is to protect student education, Meza said. The students who are involved in the group organize non-violent protests thanks to the help they receive from adult organizers.

“Ethnic studies helps educate the community,” said UNIDOS member Erin Cain-Hodge, a University of Arizona student who took Mexican American history and literature courses while at Tucson High School. Cain-Hodge said the group is fighting to protect the ethnic studies programs because the classes offer more opportunities.

UNIDOS has protested at several TUSD board meetings this past year. On April 26, nine people chained themselves to the governing board members’ chairs to disrupt the meeting.

“I was surprised at their actions and I feel they went beyond what was appropriate,” Stegeman said.

Stegeman released a proposal in January stating TUSD’s position on the ethnic studies program and how it wishes to improve the courses.

“The main idea is to get the ethnic studies course involved with the entire history courses offered at the schools,” Stegeman said. “Most of the courses in the district have room for improvements, so the purpose of the proposal was to make the program stronger.”

“The group and TUSD have spoken with one another about the matter, but little common ground has been found. Stegeman said he has tried to meet with UNIDOS, but legal issues have kept the group from meeting with the entire board at one time.”

“UNIDOS has become the new face of what activists are, as these students come together to protect their cultures in the system of education,” Montoya said.

Indoor soccer’s a kick

Owner shares lifelong love of soccer with adopted country

By Christina Rucker

Mladin Kozak’s grandfather put a soccer ball in front of the toddler as soon as he started walking. By the time Kozak was 4 years old, he was already playing soccer with his grandfather, a player on the national team of Yugoslavia, and his father, who also played professionally in Switzerland. All my cousins and I know, all the males they’ve played soccer,” Kozak said.

He came to Tucson when he was 13 because his country was going through political turmoil.

“When the war started in Yugoslavia in the early 90s, we went to Croatia and then Switzerland. We lived there as refugees for five and a half years,” Kozak said.

At the end of 1998 Kozak and his family moved to Tucson as part of a refugee program. He had family in the U.S., making it easier to settle.

Now 34 years old, Kozak and his brother run an indoor soccer field called Maracana at 555 E. 18th St. near downtown Tucson.

On most nights, there are between 50 to 200 people in the building. Upon walking in you can smell the plastic artificial grass and sweat of players working hard to win. The sound of kids yelling, parents calling to the refs on the sidelines, and the piercing sound of whistles creates an exciting atmosphere that attracts all ages.

When the complex first opened last August, 16 teams participated in leagues there, but now there are more than 80 teams. There are also ultimate Frisbee and lacrosse leagues. The field is open every weekend from 5 p.m. to midnight.

Kristal Richards, 19, who plays in a league at Maracana, enjoys playing there because Kozak is flexible with scheduling and always treats his players kindly.

Ming Vu, 26, enjoys playing on the artificial turf at Maracana because it is safer to play on than the field. Kozak, at another indoor soccer complex in town, “Outdoor soccer is more serious and competitive,” he said. Kozak plans to add another field and a snack bar.

“Any kind of sport makes you fit, and have more energy,” Kozak said.

If you go
Maracana soccer
555 E. 18th St.
520-235-7094
www.maracanascoua.com