

West Valley View

The community newspaper of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, Litchfield Park & Tolleson, AZ ♦ Phone (623) 535-8439

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Letters to the Editor: April 17, 2012

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Decision targets student success

Editor:

Thank you to everyone who sent in a letter concerning the Estrella Mountain Community College (EMCC) Fitness Center. I'm responding in order to provide context and dispel any misconceptions about the changes. Fitness and wellness programming is a critical component of our offerings at EMCC, and will continue to be as we serve our student and community needs.

Only general fitness classes, which require weights and equipment, will be moved to the Southwest Valley YMCA located on Thomas and Litchfield roads. Specialized group fitness programs such as Yoga, Zumba and Kickboxing, etc., will remain on campus.

Why is this occurring? The EMCC Fitness Center is not immune to the national economic downturn, with declining community fitness center enrollment and significant budgets cuts taking their toll. These realities provided an opportunity to expand our partnership with the YMCA.

Our YMCA partnership will allow EMCC to offer a comprehensive wellness program, while expanding Student Life capabilities focused on student engagement activities and programs. As a result of transitioning general fitness classes to the YMCA, the existing workout area will be remodeled into an expanded Student Union managed by the Office of Student Life.

The College has grown to serve approximately 15,000 (credit, non-credit and Skill Center) students annually. This has developed a critical need to retool existing facilities/space to accommodate our expanding Student Life programming. These new spaces are essential for student government, athletics, student clubs and organizations to engage in leadership opportunities.

I believe Estrella Mountain's decision to provide additional support for the College's primary student body serves the greater good of the West Valley. Students who are engaged in the learning process are more likely to succeed and contribute back to our community as a whole. Our future is in their hands, and we want to them to be successful.

Ernie Lara

President

Estrella Mountain Community College

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Juvenile crime is serious problem

Editor:

Do you think juvenile crime is a serious problem in school? I believe that juvenile crime is a serious problem in schools. It can kill and injure people. It can make people lose their minds. Lastly it can be done at a young age and thousands of students can get expelled or suspended.

Kids do these things at a young age such as 11 years old. Over 6,000 students get expelled each

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year. They bring dangerous weapons such as guns and explosives in schools. They try to kill the kids at school. Or even worst the teachers because they hate them.

In the end I personally think juvenile problems in schools are a serious problem. If you were asked this question what would you say?

James Ibrahim

Goodyear

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Ban smoking forever

Editor:

I believe that smoking should be band forever because of the side effects It has on people. The one main reason why we should band smoking forever because, Smoking effects almost every organ of the body. And an example is that more than 443,00 people die each year because of one little cigarette. And is responsible for almost 6 million deaths each year.

The second reason why we should ban smoking is because it can effect people that don't even smoke! Another reason would be second to hand smoking causes appromexitely 3,000 lung cancer deaths each year. And finally nonsmokers who are exposed to second to hand smoking are 25% more likely to develop heart disease.

My final reason why to ban smoking forever is because of short, and long term effects. Like more frequent respiratory illness such as coughs, colds, bronchitis, and pneumonia. And for example, among children and adolescents exposed to this, rates of asthma, ear infection, and lower respiratory infection are higher for them. In conclusion I hope they can find a way to band smoking because for people who don't like smoking have to suffer the side-effects that smokers have to suffer.

Joseph Lowry

Litchfield Park

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We all have self-ownership

Editor:

A free person has self ownership

The majority of people have forgotten or have conveniently not been taught on what the proper role of government should be. What has happened is far too many people think that the role of government is to provide for our needs. A good majority of people fail to understand that politicians use the intentional deception of liberalism, conservatism and progressivism to infringe on liberty.

Your liberty is not a gift from politicians and certainly not a reward from the current president. Liberty is based on the principle of self-ownership in that YOU own your life. No other person, including government officials, has the right to own your life. Just as you do not have the right to own another person's life. Often a person's liberty is challenged by peer pressure groups through bullying. Government officials will use mandates that severely limit liberties.

NOBODY has the right to deny or initiate others into owning some else's life. One's past, present, and future is the product of your life and liberty, which becomes your property of unalienable rights.

1. To take life is murder
2. To take liberty is slavery.
3. To take property is theft.

When governments murder, deny liberty, and take property through the deception of the redistribution of wealth you have socialism. Socialism has utterly failed throughout history and only produces hardship through poverty. It is time that people exercise the power of liberty in making government great by severely limiting its power over the people. Maintaining a free society requires the courage to think, to talk and to act rather than do nothing. Unfortunately, many people think the way to prosperity is without liberty.

Thomas Brosius

Phoenix

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Hay farmers are too greedy

Editor:

Why is Hay is selling for \$16.00 to \$16.50 a bale.



The stated reasons behind this price is. Hay is being shipped to Texas, the hay farmers have cut back on hay fields to plant cotton.

I even heard, hay is being shipped over seas to the troops. Yeah Right. I didn't see our troops riding horse back!

And the most common, the price of gas!.

The price of gas does play a factor. But, the price of gas is almost the same as it was last year at this time. And a bale was \$ 8.00.

And when the gas does go down, hay prices don't.

According to the AZ Agriculture. web site. Hay fields went down 14%. So, why is hay up 55%

It cost's a average hay farmer around (pending investments) \$ 1.00 to \$ 1.50 a bale to produce.

It's the Hay Brokers that are buying the hay and shipping it out to fill their pockets.

What happened to the hay farmer that was for the people of the community? And his community came first.

And gave a fair price for his product. So, the community could enjoy their animals and feed them properly.

The sad thing about all of it is. The ones they are hurting are the animals that they are raising the hay to feed.

Horses are being left in the desert, taken to the dog food factory, they are starved or feed very little just to get by.

Maybe we should contact our state senator, so the government can control the price of hay. Then the government will control just one more part of our lives because the hay farmers cant control they greed.

Carol Duran

Waddell

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President does affect oil prices

Editor:

Reference "Free Market Drives Oil Prices" Mr. Juarez is partially correct. However, when he claims President Obama is blameless for the price of gas he misses the mark.

It is true that there is currently plenty of oil and gas/oil is being exported. What Mr. Juarez missed is, it is the speculators that drive the price of gas up or down based on what they believe the market will be in the future. It is all about stability or the lack of stability in the oil supply, turmoil in the Middle East and the price goes up, refinery capability is down and the price goes up and so on.

The President plays a significant role in raising or lowering the price of gas by his actions, which affect the stability of the market. If the President is against increasing domestic oil production by restricting drilling on federal land or off shore drilling, the price goes up. If the President supports the Federal Reserve printing more money, then the price of gas goes up because the more money in circulation the less value the money has. When the value of money drops, then it takes more dollars to buy everything, the price of food goes up as does the price of oil/gasoline.

This President is on record in opposing oil production. As a result his policies and his actions have been anti-oil which causes the price of gas to increase.

When he was running for President he stated we should be paying the same price for gas as the Europeans. And more recently his Secretary of Energy said the same thing. Gas in Europe is currently around nine dollars a gallon.

The high price of gas is favored by President Obama and he does indeed share in the responsibility.

David Rogers

Phoenix

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Game was disappointing

Editor:

I attended the Tuesday night softball game between Desert Edge and Buckeye High School. I knew going in Desert Edge was the better of the two teams, but what I witnessed was disappointing. Never have I seen a display of more gluttonous behavior and poor sportsmanship than by the coaching staff of the Desert Edge varsity softball. These are teachers? Someone needs to teach them Charity is not only monetary but also human. What a horrible example they set. Please do not brag about their 35 runs in the first inning in your paper. What kind of adults do that to opposing teams and at a charity game to boot. These defeated Buckeye girls donated money to the American Cancer Society too and this is how they are treated, to be humiliated. 20 to 0 is an embarrassing win

40-0 is disgusting. Shame on you Desert Edge.

Michelle Hernandez

Goodyear

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Reader Comments

Posted: Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Article comment by: **Janice Linderoth**

Carol Duran, I agree with you 100%.

100% is what the cost to buy Alfalfa has been raised to in the last year and a half. I have been buying Alfalfa since August 2010 when a bale was \$8.00 at that time, Now it's \$16.00 for #1

I have been told the reason was:

#1 Fuel prices going up

#2 Water prices going up

#3 Wind.... seriously

My bales have been getting lighter and lighter as well, with poor quality. I was told to bring em back.... Ok after I cut the baling twine and it's laying all over the ground I plan on throwing it all back in the truck to run it over to where I purchased it. Not at the cost of fuel these days.

Rumor was it was being sold to Japan, Mexico, California, Texas and China. Shipping it to Texas I understand with the drought. Mexico to feed cattle Ok but What happened to local helping local?

I see more and more Cotton fields replace the Alfalfa and wonder when is this madness going to stop. Rumor is that cotton contracts are in for the next few years. Hmmm

When there are no more animals to feed in the West Valley those Farmers are going to scratch thier heads in disbelief.

Thanks guys, because your prices kept going up and up and up, we could no longer Afford to feed our animals. We had to get rid of them so they wouldn't starve to death.

What that really translates to you is lost local sales and showing a community that you really didn't care much about us when we stood by you for years.

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