



TEMPE CHAMBER — of COMMERCE —

Tempe Chamber of Commerce Week of January 7, 2019

Tempe and Beyond: What's Happening in Politics?

NATIONAL

[Lowe's Plans to Hire 65,000 New Employees in 2019](#)

Just a few months after the company announced that it was closing “underperforming” stores in the United States and Canada, Lowe’s announces its plan to hire 65,000 new employees for both permanent and seasonal positions. What does this mean for the home-improvement super store?

["Libraries Ready to Code": Google's New Initiative to Transform Libraries into Training Hubs](#)

In 2019, Google is launching a new plan to turn local libraries into “tech-enhanced training hubs” for those looking to develop computer and digital skills in a competitive marketplace. Part of the initiative is geared towards helping young people develop strong computing skills long before they enter the workforce.

[Financial Titans Plan a Low-Cost Stock Exchange](#)

Several big-name banks and various other financial institutions are working together to reduce costs and open up new opportunities for investors through their new, low-cost stock exchange. Members Exchange, or MEMX, is planning to offer “a simplified, transparent equity trading platform for both retail and institutional investors”.

STATE

[Mining-Tech Firm Modular Plans to add 35 New High-Paying Jobs](#)

The Tucson based mining and technology firm is planning a \$6.4 million expansion that would add 35 new, high-paying jobs. Modular Mining provides computerized systems and services GPS networks that are beneficial to the safety at mine sites. Modular is seeking to increase its staff and is offering an average wage of \$81,000 a year. Pima County can expect a direct new revenue of over \$750,000 over a five year program.

[Able Aerospace to Expand and add Jobs at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport](#)

Able Aerospace Services is an aircraft service provider that is investing \$9 million to expand its facilities at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. Some of the new developments include a \$5 million addition to the existing headquarters and \$4 million in new technology and equipment. The director of communications and government relations for Gateway Airport says that the expansion is expected to add 100 new jobs and will allow the airport to expand further in the future.

[APS Announces New President](#)

Jeffrey Guldner has recently been named the new president of Arizona Public Services. Guldner's extensive background in legal and public policy has given him the tools needed to better the company internally and externally. Guldner plans to help transition APS "into a more advanced energy economy" with a focus on customers. Guldner also says that his main focus will be attracting businesses bringing in people from out of state to help grow the Arizona economy.

LOCAL

[ASU's New Call for Innovation: Waste Prevention and Diversion](#)

ASU has been named the most innovative school in the nation for the last four years. In its new collaboration with the city of Phoenix, they are calling for innovators and entrepreneurs to join in the RISN Incubator, "a diverse solutions business development and accelerator program". The Resource Innovation and Solutions Network (RISN) Incubator program is geared towards supporting new-market ventures "that focus on improvements in processing or utilization of waste as a raw material for new products or energy".

[Discount Tire Forges Partnership with East Valley High Schools](#)

Discount Tire has begun a new partnership with several East Valley high schools to encourage students to begin working on their careers while they are still in school. Tom Stanage, the company's training manager, said that "after kids attend its academies, they can take advantage of flexible schedules and college reimbursement". Students are able to learn on the job and improve future career skills while still attending their high school classes.