



 **acceler8**
business advisors | tax | accounting

**Practical Professional
Support for Small
Businesses**

Michael A. Johnston, CPA, CVA
Kjell C. Andreassen, AInstB, CExp
4409 S. Rural Rd., Suite 202, Tempe, AZ 85282
480.270.8325 www.acceler8.net

BUSINESS AND TAX ADVICE WITH RESULTS

Check out our new [advertising opportunities](#),
and learn how your ad can appear here!

A huge thank you to the [Tempe Tourism Office](#) and [JumpStartBiz/Acceler8, LLC](#) for their
generosity in donating digital projectors to the Tempe Chamber!

This means the Chamber no longer has to rent or borrow these devices for events, which will allow us more flexibility in planning events and save us the additional cost of rental.

We asked, and you delivered! Thanks again to the Tempe Tourism Office and JumpStartBiz/Acceler8.



Technology fundraiser: We're overdue!

As you know, your business is the Tempe Chamber's top priority. We work hard to make sure we provide our members with the most up-to-date information and networking opportunities. It has recently come to our attention that as

of April 2014 our current operating system will no longer be able to download daily updates and, therefore, our system will be obsolete. We're currently raising funds to purchase new computers with proper operating systems for our staff. Here's how you can help:

Let us advertise your company! You pick the day and the month (ex. second Thursday in February), donate a minimum of \$30 to the Tempe Chamber, and provide three to four shirts (various sizes) to the Chamber. Then, on the designated date, three to four members of our staff will proudly wear your company's shirt and act as your "walking billboard"! We will post pictures of the Chamber staff in your business apparel on our various social media sites.

Donations toward our fundraising efforts are also appreciated. You will be recognized as a "Chamber Technology Supporter" in our communications.

To learn more, contact Courtney McIntyre at Courtneymcintyre@tempechamber.org or (480) 736-4281.

Business Woman of the Year nominations being accepted

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for the Business Woman of the Year Award. This award was established to recognize an outstanding business woman who has positively affected the Tempe community and the Tempe Chamber of Commerce. Nominees should demonstrate achieved excellence in their chosen field; have demonstrated leadership in the community; serve as a positive role model; and be active in programs and activities in the community and the Tempe Chamber. Nominations are due by Friday, March 7, and the award will be presented at the Women in Business Conference in May. E-mail your nominee's name, company and contact information to sachiyo@tempechamber.org.

Local hero honored at State of the Union address

Are you a proud member of the Tempe Chamber?

We're proud of our members and are constantly working to promote, improve and grow your business! Show that you're proud to be a member of the Tempe Chamber by adding our logo and a link to our website to your newsletter and website. To request a high-resolution logo and for additional information, please e-mail Sachiyo at sachiyo@tempechamber.org.



When consumers know that a small business is a member of the chamber of commerce, they are 44% more likely to think favorably of it and 63% more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future. - "The Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce: A Research Study," The Schapiro Group

Republican Principles for Immigration Reform Benefit Businesses

By Mary Ann Miller, President/CEO, Tempe Chamber of Commerce



As a nation of laws, a nation of immigrants and a nation of opportunity, we need a better immigration process.

The newly announced House Republican principles for immigration reform are a strong step in the right direction.

Reforming our immigration system will strengthen our economy and create jobs. It's just good business. At the Tempe Chamber of Commerce, we support Congress continuing the momentum of moving immigration legislation and passing broad immigration reform this year.

It is clear that immigration reform successfully has garnered strong bipartisan support. Due to the importance and the urgency of this issue, it transcends politics. Both President Obama in the State of the Union and the Republican Party with these principles are showing the need for commonsense reform.

[Read the full article here.](#)

Recently, U.S. Army Ranger Sgt. First Class Cory Remsburg's story of courage and survival was shared with the nation at President Obama's State of the Union address. The Tempe Chamber applauds this local hero and wishes his family the best. His mother, Anne, was once an active member of the Chamber in her position with Kelly Services. [Read an article on Remsburg from azcentral.com.](#)

MAC Update

The Tempe Chamber's Military Affairs Committee (MAC) hosted an award luncheon Jan. 13 to honor the Arizona Army National Guard. The award was presented to 1SG Justin Zulueta from Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 158th Infantry Regiment, for his outstanding efforts and commitment.

Zulueta recently tested for the Expert Infantryman Badge. Over 500 soldiers nationwide tested, but only 15, including Zulueta, completed the task.

The MAC was formed to offer recognition and honor to Valley military personnel for their sacrifice and service.

If you are interested in joining the MAC, contact Courtney at courtneymcintyre@tempechamber.org or (480) 736-4281.

Relay for Life

Everyone has some connection to cancer. It may be a family member, neighbor, co-worker, friend or even yourself. The American Cancer Society is looking for a dedicated team of volunteers to help with its signature event. Imagine a campout with your friends, family or co-workers, each walking the track to symbolize that there is no finish line until we find a cure. Sponsor a team, volunteer to help with the Relay planning, or just attend the event. For more information, contact Melanie Freeman at (602) 778-7633 or Melanie.Freeman@cancer.org.

Looking for a summer intern?

ASU is looking for summer internships for their Brazilian students here as part of the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP). Currently the third largest host university in the country, ASU has more than 100 undergraduate students studying on full scholarships paid for by the Brazilian government. Most of these students are focused on STEM studies (science, technology, engineering, math). BSMP students are also majoring in areas like biology, architecture, exercise and wellness and more. They are ambitious, have unique backgrounds and skill sets and have passed their English proficiency test.

The summer 2014 internships can be either paid or unpaid. There is no fee or contract required of the host companies. All visa administration, including work authorization, is handled by the Institute of International Education. For more information, contact Eileen Brill Wagner at brillcon@cox.net or (602) 617-0001.

Chamber Advocacy Day at the Legislature

The Arizona Chamber Executives' Chamber Advocacy

Share your news with us!

Did your company appear in the news? Do you have new employees you would like to introduce? Have you won an award? To be featured in our member spotlights section, please send your 50-word submission to sachiyo@tempechamber.org. All submissions are subject to editing to meet guidelines and formatting requirements. Submit your news by 10 a.m. on the Thursday of the week prior to the week in which you want your announcement to appear.



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn

[Read more news from the Chamber on our blog!](#)

Members Helping Members

Bryan University would like to thank **Sun Devil Trophy** for donating 28 gold, silver and bronze medals, fully engraved with accomplishment and names, and one overall achievement trophy to the children at the Pathway India Orphanage in support of the Academic Olympic games that concluded in the closing ceremony on Feb. 12.

Bryan University volunteers teach school-aged children at this facility in India via live online instruction. The donation from Sun Devil Trophy contributed to the success of this event. The children were delighted to receive awards, which will be cherished for a lifetime.

Bryan University is looking for people who are passionate about teaching children in math, English grammar, poetry, history and science. Those interested do not have to have previous teaching experience. If you have a passion for any of the subjects listed and are interested in volunteering your time, e-mail tania.standing@bryanuniversity.edu.



Day at the Legislature is the premier event where chamber executives and their members from across the state come together at the State Legislature to show a united front in support of Arizona businesses.

On Feb. 18, there will be a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Copper Blues Rock Pub and Kitchen, 50 W. Jefferson, Ste. 200, Phoenix. On Feb. 19, Chamber Advocacy Day at the Legislature will take place at the Arizona State Capitol Complex. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program going from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

The agenda will focus on three important topics: transportation, international trade with Mexico and education. Learn more and register at www.arizonachamberexecs.com/.



Renewals and new members

Check out our newest members and see what members have renewed their membership with the Tempe Chamber.

[Read more](#)

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Each tax season, Arizona families miss out on millions in tax refunds because they are unaware of programs like the Earned Income Tax Credit, a refundable federal income tax credit eligible to low-income working individuals and families. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is designed to provide families with the knowledge and guidance to lessen their financial burden. The Tempe Financial Stability Initiative, a collaboration with Tempe Community Council, Landings Credit Union, W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University and the Internal Revenue Service, operates a VITA program in our area. To find out dates and locations, visit www.tempecommunitycouncil.org or call (480) 858-2323.

Member spotlights

Congratulations to Jackie Thompson with Southwest Airlines on being honored as one of this year's Phoenix Business Journal's 25 Dynamic Women in Business! Thompson sits on the Tempe Chamber's board of directors and is a past recipient of our Business Woman of the Year award. She is also a strong supporter of the Chamber's Women and Business Council and has served as a mentor in its Mentoring Program for the past three years. The Dynamic Women in Business program celebrates women leaders in the Valley whose influence extends beyond their professional roles into their community service in terms of the time they invest and the expertise they bring to philanthropic causes.

Scientists and engineers at Medtronic's Tempe research center have been redesigning heart monitors and pacemakers and are now beginning clinical trials. Medtronic Inc., the world's largest medical device company, has begun worldwide trials of a pacemaker

Ribbon cuttings



Club E



ToGo's



ZipRecruiter

Our leaders

Chairman of the Board
Jeff Mirasola

Chair-Elect
Kristine Kassel

Treasurer
Tim Ronan

Medtronic will see a need to hire more employees as the technology is developed.

360 Solutions, from Waco, Texas, is pleased to announce that Melissa Charles, principle owner of Desert Leadership in Tempe, is now a faculty member of its High Performance Leadership program. Desert Leadership principles and practices are based upon observations and research from the foremost authorities in the field of leadership. Learn more about Desert Leadership at www.desertleadership.com.

Last week, Wanda Carr, the oldest resident (100 years old) at Elmcroft Senior Living, took part in the Second Wind Dream program. Carr got to ride in a limo through the streets of Phoenix and eat at a Mexican restaurant. Her special day's itinerary included circling Chase Field and Margaret T. Hance Park and more. Learn more about Elmcroft at <http://www.elmcroftseniorliving.com>.

JumpStartBiz is a business accelerator that helps develop jobs and additional economic growth in the local community. When a business is getting started, there are many areas in which the owners can use assistance. Kjell Andreassen of Acceler8 is one of the founders of JumpStartBiz. JumpStartBiz was launched a little over a year ago in Fountain Hills as a pilot program, with a goal of creating a semi-virtual incubator and accelerator aimed at developing jobs and economic growth in the area. JumpStartBiz Tempe will be launched soon. Learn more [here](#).

Immediate Past Chair

Jack Pisano

Directors

*Leslie Barrett
Nigel Brooks
Steve Eberhart
Misty Howell
Joe Hughes
Dave Long
Kelly Lorenzen
Mary Palomino
Laura Robertson
Randy Schultz
Aqeel Shahid
Jackie Thompson
Brian Wood
Liz White*

Ex-Officios

*Andrew Ching
Hollie Costello
Stephanie Nowack
Virgil Renzulli*

Committee Chairs

*Peter Adams
Tanya Chavez
Harvey Gibson
Jeff Heisner
Dawn Hocking
Vicki Kringen
Dave Long
Kelly Lorenzen
Jack Pisano
Ed Scannell*

Tempe Chamber of Commerce

909 East Apache Blvd.
Tempe AZ, 85281
(480) 967-7891

<http://www.tempechamber.org>



You are receiving this Tempe Chamber Newsletter because you subscribed at www.tempechamber.org