



### Share your news with us!

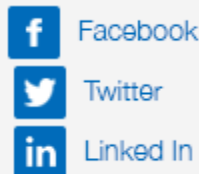
Did your company appear in the news? Do you have new employees you would like to introduce? Have you won an award? To be featured in our member spotlights section, please send your 50-word submission to [sachiyo@tempechamber.org](mailto:sachiyo@tempechamber.org). All submissions are subject to editing 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.

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

#### Attention Tempe business owners!

The Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department has been receiving numerous complaints by business owners regarding fraudulent activity involving fire protection equipment. Some Tempe businesses have been visited recently by independent operators asking to inspect their facilities and fire protection equipment. These individuals are dressed in what appear to be Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department uniforms. They ask for access to extinguishers, sprinkler systems, fire alarms, etc., and claim to be "affiliated" with local fire departments. These individuals then tell the business owners that they've found a problem and that the fire department wants to cite them for the offense. They then offer to fix the problem on the spot, making a profit.

The Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department says that businesses should always confirm the identity of the individuals and request identification of anyone requesting to inspect their facility. All official inspectors will have a clearly marked navy blue uniform with the department name on the front and back and the inspector's title and full name. The Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department does not perform any repairs to extinguishers or fire protection equipment. Please feel free to call **(480) 858-7230** if you have any questions or to report any individual who may contact you with the above scam.



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

#### Jerry Brock to be honored with Spirit of Tempe Award

Jerry Brock will be presented with the Tempe Chamber of Commerce's Spirit of Tempe Award at the 17th Annual Breakfast for Chamber Champions on Feb. 28 at the Embassy Suites Tempe.



The award recognizes lifetime achievements of service, dedication and contribution to the community and

## Looking to upgrade your projector? We'll take your old one!



The Tempe Chamber of Commerce is continuously working to make your success our business. One way we do this is by hosting a wide variety of networking and educational events throughout the year. We are currently in need of an LCD projector to better serve our members and keep the cost of AV fees low. If you are able to donate a new or gently used LCD projector or provide one to the Chamber at a significantly reduced cost, please contact Courtney at (480) 736-4281 or [courtneymcintyre@tempechamber.org](mailto:courtneymcintyre@tempechamber.org). Your support is greatly appreciated!

### MAC Update

The Tempe Chamber's Military Affairs Committee (MAC) hosted an award luncheon on 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.



From left, 1SG Justin Zulueta, CPT Joe Mayeaux and Edward Scannell, MAC Chairman

Zulueta recently tested for the Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB). The EIB test examines the overall infantryman knowledge and skill with 63 evaluated tasks, including physical and mental tests, to determine expertise. Over 500 soldiers nationwide tested, but only 15, including 1SG Zulueta, completed the task.

The MAC was formed to offer recognition and honor to Valley military personnel for their sacrifice and service. Following the award ceremony, Chairman Ed Scannell reminded members of the Feb. 12 luncheon, in which the MAC will be honoring the 944th Fighter Wing of the Air Force Reserve.

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

### Chamber Advocacy Day at the Legislature

The Arizona Chamber Executives' Chamber Advocacy 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 meet and greet reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Copper Blues Rock Pub and Kitchen, 50 W. Jefferson, Ste. 200, in Phoenix. On Feb. 19, Chamber Advocacy Day at the Legislature will take place at the Arizona State Capitol Complex, Senate Hearing Rooms Two and Three. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program going from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

The Chamber Advocacy Day at the Legislature agenda will focus on three important topics: transportation, international trade with Mexico and education. Each topic

honors hard work and strong commitment to improving the quality of life in Tempe.

A Tempe native, Brock founded Brock Supply in 1960, guiding its growth from a one-man operation into a nationally-known name in the automotive world. He is deeply involved with the community and over the years has donated more than \$1,000,000 to various charities, including the East Valley Boys and Girls Club, the American Cancer Society and The Center for Hope, a residential treatment program run by Community Bridges. He has also been a generous donor to the Tempe Community Foundation endowment, a fund that focuses on Tempe's future and quality of life for the next generation.

"Jerry embodies just what this community is about: Do good, help others do good, and don't worry about who takes credit. He measures success not simply in reaching his goals but in helping others reach theirs as well. His unheralded involvement in local charities and causes has made a powerful impact on Tempe, and we are proud to honor him," said Mary Ann Miller, president and CEO of the Tempe Chamber of Commerce.

To attend the Breakfast for Chamber Champions where Brock will be honored, please call (480) 967-7891 or visit [www.tempechamber.org](http://www.tempechamber.org).

### Message from the Chairman of the Board

*Jeff Mirasola, CenturyLink*



Do you know what "hegemony" means? Up until last week I didn't know. I had to look it up. My daughter was writing a paper regarding the media's influence on a certain event and how various groups can frame and advance a particular public opinion. One of the prompts was to choose a recent media representation of an event and critically examine how

the concept of hegemony has influenced how you view this event. The definition of hegemony is, "the social, cultural, ideological or economic influence exerted by a dominant group."

Around the same time I was learning the meaning of hegemony, that same daughter sent me a link to a [video](#) about someone referred to as "the world's ugliest woman" in a YouTube post. Lizzie Velasquez is a 25-year-old woman with a very rare disorder that only two other people in the world have. She can't gain weight no matter how much or how often she eats. It has left her blind in one eye, distorted her facial features and prevented her from ever weighing more than 64 pounds or putting on even one percent body fat. She eats a meal on the average of every 15 minutes just to stay alive.

[Read the rest of the article on our blog.](#)

will have a dedicated question and answer session with key leaders in the industry. Learn more and register at [www.arizonachamberexecs.com/](http://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 of dollars 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 change this by providing 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 (formerly Tempe Schools 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](http://www.tempecommunitycouncil.org) or call (480) 858-2323.

### Member spotlights

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](http://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 area. JumpStartBiz Tempe will be launched soon. Learn more [here](#).

For nearly 15 years, Republic Media's Million Dollar Club has recognized the significant role women business owners play in driving the economy here in the Valley and across Arizona. This year, Republic Media is introducing a name change of the Million Dollar Club to Successful



### Ribbon cuttings



ToGo's



ZipRecruiter

### Our leaders

**Chairman of the Board**  
*Jeff Mirasola*

**Chair-Elect**  
*Kristine Kassel*

**Treasurer**  
*Tim Ronan*

**Immediate Past Chair**  
*Jack Pisano*

**Directors**

*Leslie Barrett*  
*Nigel Brooks*

are 50-percent owners of Arizona-based businesses that have generated more than \$1 million in gross revenue. The Tempe Chamber would like to congratulate the following members for being a part of this impressive group: Lorraine Bergman, Caliente Construction; Judy Aguilar-Woertz, State Farm Insurance; Mary Contreras, Contreras State Farm Agency; Julie Jakubek, Allstate Office of Julie Jakubek; Patricia Christofolo, Santa Barbara Catering; and Eileen Spitalny, Fairytale Brownies.

A world-class Concours d'Elegance has long been envisioned as a focal point for Arizona auction week every January, when all eyes in the collector-car world turn to the Scottsdale/Phoenix area for its famous array of automobile auctions. On Jan. 12, the vision came to life when the inaugural Arizona Concours d'Elegance kicked off collector car auction week. Proceeds from the Concours will go to benefit Make-A-Wish Arizona.

Sonoran Studios is no longer offering live audiovisual (AV) event services, but is instead returning to its roots, simplifying and offering only video and media production services. With that change, Sonoran will sharply focus on one vision: to tell stories about people, organizations and companies through interactive video and media. Learn more at [www.sonoranstudios.com](http://www.sonoranstudios.com).

*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](http://www.tempechamber.org)