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**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20, 2015**

Today: High 100, Low 82, Slight chance of showers

Tomorrow: High 94, Low 82, Increased chances of rain



COMMUNITY:
Nearing the end
Man close to finishing goal of running marathon in every state, on every continent; p6

MONEY:
Standing out
Dierks Bentley's Whiskey Row hopes to bring something different to downtown Tempe; p10



ONLY IN THE TRIBUNE:
Parade
Words of wisdom from Miss Piggy, Kermit, Gonzo and Fozzi - TV's newest reality stars; inside

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COVER STORY



Durrie Parks shows the tools available for the city of Mesa Neighborhood Outreach Department's Tool Lending program on Sept. 15. [David Jolkovski/Tribune]

Tool loan program helps city stay spruced up

By Shelley Ridenour
TRIBUNE

A tool-lending program that's existed in Mesa for about 14 years helps keep the city spruced up, the program manager says.

Michelle Alvis-White, citywide volunteer program coordinator in the neighborhood outreach department, says people can borrow any of the 300 or so tools owned by the city for all sorts of projects.

Mostly, the city has tools for yard work and painting, she said, ranging from rakes to shovels to ladders

to trimmers to gloves to water coolers to buckets to hoes to paint rollers to paint scrapers to paint trays to safety vests.

Usually the tools are borrowed by members of community groups who are tackling a big one-day project, Alvis-White said, such as a park clean-up or perhaps a group is cleaning up the yard at the home of an elderly person. Lots of Boy Scout troops use the tools, she said. Often the users are people facing code enforcement violations.

"This is a great resource, not only

for the code compliance department," Alvis-White said, "but for people having trouble maintaining their homes or property. And, volunteers find it so beneficial to be able to borrow a dozen shovels, or whatever they need."

Mesa is a "very service oriented" community, she said, and this program allows people one more avenue to volunteer.

People need to pick up and return the items during regular city business hours, which are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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AIRPORT

Elite flights from Mesa should start in Nov.

By Shelley Ridenour
TRIBUNE

Sometime in November people should be able to fly directly from Mesa to San Diego, if all goes according to plan, the president of Elite Airways says.

John Pearsall said Elite flights between the two cities should start in mid-to-late November. Originally, Elite had said flights would start as early as Sept. 1. That date was amended to Oct. 1 and at the Sept. 15 airport board meeting, to late November.

Plans call for two flights per day on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, Pearsall said. One departure is planned for early morning and the other for sometime in the afternoon, he said. Return flights follow a similar schedule at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport.

Elite will use 50- and 70-seat regional jets in Mesa. The flight time between Mesa and San Diego should be 42 minutes. While ticket prices haven't been set, Pearsall said Elite is "a low-cost carrier and we'll be very competitive."

Elite has what Pearsall calls "a unique fare structure."

There's no charge for a carry-on bag and passengers can check one bag free. Snacks and beverages are free. Alcoholic beverages may be purchased.

"We may try out some dif-

» See Elite on page 12

Community

News, ideas and opinions on what's important to the East Valley



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- 23 and older only at Tempe apartment complex
- Chandler set to open new downtown concert stage
- Valley schools taking long route to avoid I-10 shooter

ENDURANCE

Finishing the test

Mesa man nears goal: Run marathon in every state, on every continent

By Eric Smith
TRIBUNE

Mesa resident Mark Dangerfield wanted what he called a “test of manhood.” As he aged, he wanted to make sure he was still physically fit, as much if not better than a man many years his junior.

Originally, Dangerfield was never one for long-distance running. He would run some or ride his bike here and there as a way of maintaining his health, but never more than a few miles.

That changed on his 50th birthday when he did his first test of manhood.

When he turned 53, he went to the Mesa Community College track and ran 53 laps, just to see if he could do it.

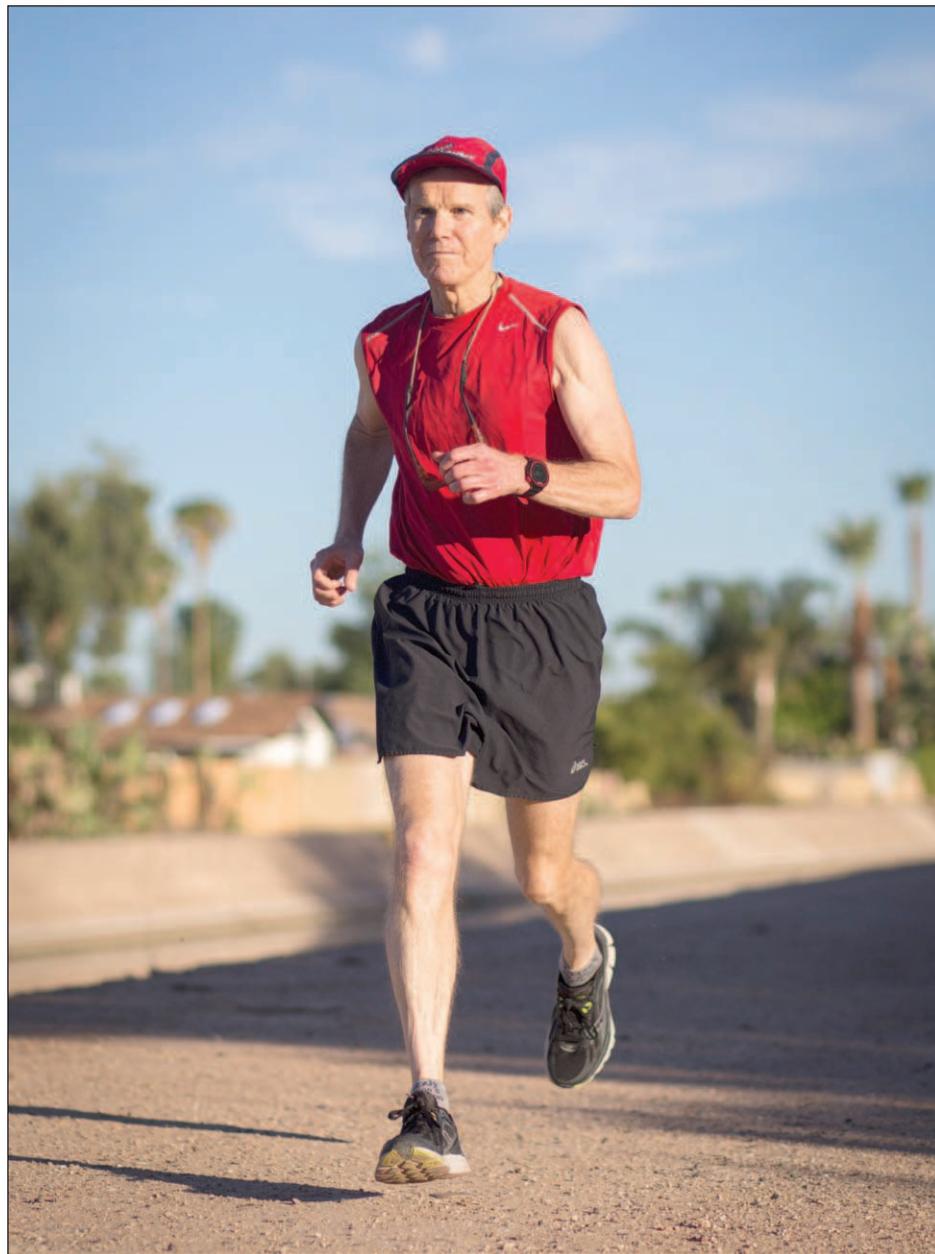
“Afterwards I sort of counted it up and realized, ‘Hey that’s about 13 miles, that’s about a half marathon,’” Dangerfield said. “Then for some reason the idea popped into my head, ‘Hey, maybe I’ll train to run a marathon.’”

Dangerfield ran his first marathon in 2004, the Desert News Marathon in Salt Lake City, Utah. He finished in just over four hours. But, in those four hours, it started him on a path that would take him all over the globe.

On his sixth marathon, Dangerfield spotted a man wearing a shirt that mentioned running a marathon on all seven continents. After talking with him, Dangerfield hatched the idea to run a marathon or ultra marathon in every state and on all seven continents.

Now, on Oct. 17, Dangerfield will accomplish his goal when he completes his 50th state, Missouri, having completed all seven continents already. Yes, that includes Antarctica which he knocked out in 2011.

“The cold wasn’t really the challenge because you can dress up warm,” Dangerfield said. “The wind can be vicious in Antarctica and was really blowing the day of the race. It was cold and



Marathon runner Mark Dangerfield runs along the Tempe Canal Trail near his Mesa home on Sept. 18. Dangerfield ran his first marathon at age 50. Now, 11 years later, he is preparing to complete his goal of running a marathon in every state. (David Jolkovski/Tribune)

windy and I was so happy to finish the race.”

Dangerfield has always been happy to finish a race, that’s because he’s never met a race he couldn’t conquer. In his 74 races to date, he has never had a single DNF (Did Not Finish).

That fact is even more impressive considering Dangerfield survived a potential colon cancer scare in 1997. He never let it stop him, though. Nothing has.

Part of that his wife, Kathy, attributes to his faith. The

Dangerfields are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Mark doesn’t run any races on Sundays.

“He’s never failed to finish a marathon ever,” Kathy said. “He’s been able to keep his goals and continue with the running partly because he doesn’t run on Sunday because running on Sunday would, I think, emotionally and spiritually compromise his feelings about what he was doing.”

Faith and health scares

aside, nothing has slowed Dangerfield from his goals. When he finishes his 50th state, as he always has, his family will be there to greet him and relish in the moment.

“We have six kids and 15 grand kids so they’re all going to converge on Kansas City,” Dangerfield said. “We’re looking forward to that.”

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HEALTH

East Valley office looking to raise Alzheimer’s awareness

By Eric Smith
TRIBUNE

The number of people with Alzheimer’s disease is growing, and as a result, more people and businesses are coming into contact with those with the disease that deteriorates memory.

However, Home Instead Senior Care’s East Valley office, a company that provides in-home care for senior citizens, is providing training to businesses that have frequent dealings with those with dementia in an attempt to help them interact with those who have the disease through a program called the Alzheimer’s Friendly Business Program.

“A lot of our caregivers, and also their loved ones, really have a hard time. They feel like they’re isolated in the community,” said Mahnaz Pourian, of Home Instead senior care. “The unpredictable nature of the disease can make going out in public with a loved one pretty intimidating.”

According to the Alzheimer’s Foundation, as many as 5.1 million Americans may have Alzheimer’s disease and that number continues to grow.

Through the Alzheimer’s Friendly Business Program, though, Pourian hopes to be able to educate businesses on how to handle those with Alzheimer’s and related dementia so those afflicted with the disease can get out in the community and improve their quality of life.

In order to earn the Alzheimer’s Friendly Business recognition, businesses have to complete a training

course. Pourian said that 10 percent of a business’ staff must complete the training in order to earn the recognition, which is good for two years.

“At the conclusion of the training businesses receive the window sign so families know this is an Alzheimer’s friendly establishment,” she said. “Or people in this business are familiar with this disease so (families) feel more relaxed and comfortable to go and eat there or shop there because the employees know what is going on with the disease.”

Pourian said 10 businesses are currently signed up to receive the training, including Good Sound Audiology, which has offices in Gilbert, Mesa and Sun Lakes.

The audiology office deals with a large volume of senior citizens so business administrator Alaina McCormick is signed up to receive the training so she can pass it on to her staff.

“A large percentage of our (customer) population are seniors,” McCormick said. “For us, it was just kind of a natural fit for our business model and taking care of our patients to have that one extra step of training and quote-unquote certification to just say that yes we are taking an interest in this area and it’s important to us and we want to be sensitive to those who come into our office struggling in this area.”

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