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TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD



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Havasu schools to expand behavioral health services

By **TAYLOR SCHWARTZ-OLSON**
 TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

The Lake Havasu Unified School District plans to expand behavioral health services across its eight schools for the 2024-25 school year, following the approval of a memorandum of understanding with Southwest Behavioral Health Services.

At their latest meeting, the LHUSD school board approved a one-year memorandum with Southwest Behavioral Health Services, or SBH, which will offer services under shared direction with the district. SBH currently serves over 250 Arizona schools and is based out of Phoenix.

Board Member Lisa Roman said she is glad the service is coming to local schools because of the high demand.

"I have heard from multiple people who are looking for therapeutic services or counseling services, that we live in a city where it's very hard to find those types of services, so I'm glad that we're

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 4

Coach Mike Memorial Lake Swim sees two new winners

By **BRYANNA WINNER**
 TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

The Havasu Stingrays hosted the team's 11th Annual Coach Mike Memorial Swim Wednesday morning. The swim, which honors late coach Mike Taylor, saw two new winners this year in Stingray Bradley Brown and Josie Martin from California.

There were 12 swimmers this year to participate in the 3-mile swim from Rotary Park to the Bridgewater Channel and back. The youngest swimmer was 10 with the oldest being 39.

Boats consisting of Mohave County sheriffs, San Bernardino County sheriffs and the Lake Havasu City police monitored the channel along with volunteers on Jet Skis and kayaks guiding the swimmers to safety throughout the race.

Brown was the first to finish overall with a 1:14.59, beating last year's male winner, Luke McNay, who finished this year in 1:27.39. This was the fourth time Brown competed with this year feeling the easiest.

"It feels pretty good to finish first like it felt pretty good and it felt easier this year too. Also, I

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Bryanna Winner/Today's News-Herald

Bradley Brown (left) and Josie Martin (right) were the top male and female during Wednesday's Coach Mike Memorial Lake Swim.

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No obituary listings in today's edition. See past obituary listings at legacy.com/us/obituaries/havasunews/today

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River City Newspapers

Judge: Hobbs acted illegally in naming deputy directors to run state agencies

By **HOWARD FISCHER**
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — Gov. Katie Hobbs acted illegally in naming 13 individuals as deputy directors to run state agencies after the Senate would not confirm her picks, Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Scott Blaney ruled Wednesday.

In a 17-page decision, the judge acknowledged that Hobbs was “arguably” within her powers to withdraw the names of those she tapped as directors after she could not get them confirmed. The governor then used a maneuver to have them named deputy directors of the same agency.

Where she broke the law, said Blaney, is in giving those deputies the exact

same duties and powers they would have had as Senate-confirmed directors.

“The governor ... took those actions for an improper purpose, culminating in an improper results -- one that violates Arizona law,” he wrote.

Blaney also took a slap at Hobbs for arguing that state law allow the appointment of deputy directors, even without directors who are subject to Senate confirmation over them.

“That argument improperly elevates form over substance,” the judge said.

He said under Arizona law, directors run their respective agencies and are appointed to their positions through a statutorily defined process.

Congressman Gosar pitches bill for \$500 Trump bill

TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

Congressman Paul A. Gosar wants to put the face of former President Donald J. Trump on a \$500 bill, giving Americans a new way to make it rain.

Gosar introduced the TRUMP Act, aiming to combat inflation with larger-value currency and create a collector's item that could boost government revenue.

“As Bidenflation continues to devalue our currency, the issuance of \$500 bills featuring President Trump by the Treasury offers several practi-

cal advantages,” Gosar said in a news release issued on Wednesday.

He also pointed out that the lack of large-denomination currency encourages reliance on digital banking, which he said is vulnerable to surveillance and censorship.

Gosar noted that from a collector's perspective, the \$500 Trump bills would become highly sought after, potentially generating revenue for the government. He emphasized that currency featuring unique designs and historical significance, like the proposed Trump bills, would attract signif-

icant interest from collectors, thereby increasing the government's seigniorage earnings and overall revenues.

According to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, there are currently no currency denominations issued above \$100. The Department of the Treasury last issued \$500 in 1969, when they were discontinued due to lack of use.

The last \$500 bill featured former President William McKinley. Before that, another version of the bill featured former Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall.

LAKE SWIM: FIRST OPEN WATER SWIM COMPETITION FOR MARTIN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

feel like I trained a lot better for it,” he said. “Longer distance workouts, staying more in shape and not eating as much food.”

When coming up the beach to stop the timer, he was struggling to walk back with the current.

“I couldn't walk, I was going everywhere, walking back and forth trying to keep my balance because of the current,” Brown said.

Martin, who had the best overall time for the females with a 1:17.51, hadn't competed in this swim before

and this was even her first open water swim.

“I come here whenever I'm on vacation to swim in the morning and I've gotten to know a couple of the coaches around here and I heard about the swim and I felt this will be fun, my first open water race, so I tried it because this sounded like a really fun thing to do.”

When starting in the water, Martin, who was in the last group to begin with the shotgun start, began preparing Tuesday night to make sure she didn't give

out in the race. She began with a 200 pace and by the end, was completely sore.

“Well I felt like ‘oh this is great, I'll just keep up with like a 200 pace’ and then once I finished, my back was hurting and everything's super sore and tired,” Martin said. “I made sure I got lots of sleep last night, I had a good breakfast of eggs and I tried to get some electrolytes in before I swam so I wouldn't peter out during the race.”

With this being her first swim like this, Martin got

to make friends with those on the Stingrays and said it was an amazing event.

“I want to say thanks to everyone who put it on like it was a really awesome event,” she said. “I got to meet so many people from here and it's nice to make new friends.”

Partial proceeds made from this swim were donated to the Coach Mike Memorial scholarship fund, which goes to seniors graduating and going to college each year.

SCHOOLS: ALSO LOOKING TO HIRE HEALTH/SAFETY COORDINATOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

able to have them in our schools,” Roman said.

Jon Moss, director of student services for the district, also said there are many proven outcomes of including behavioral health services within public school systems.

According to Moss, services in the school setting will include individual or small group therapies, skills training, individualized education program support, and crisis support.

In a clinical setting, SBH will offer individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, case management, skills training, medication manage-

ment, psychiatric evaluations, summer programming, and more.

Overall, Moss said the various services will teach students essential social skills, support at-risk students, and educate and equip students with the tools to manage their mental and behavioral health.

Families interested may be referred directly to SBH from the individual school site, or parents may directly request services, with written parental consent required before a representative can work with a student.

Moss said the goal is to be proactive in allowing families and staff to

identify and address the root causes of behavioral concerns, leading to decreased disruptive behaviors and a positive classroom environment.

In addition to the new services, the district is looking to hire a new behavioral health/safety coordinator. According to the job description, the coordinator would be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the district's student wellness programs and working with state and community partners.

More information about the job listing can be found at www.lhusd.org/page/applytoday.



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