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EAST VALLEY

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see today's community section or go to azcentral.com**

Longfellow to switch to year-round schedule

MESA — The Mesa School Board on Tuesday approved a modified year-round calendar for Longfellow Elementary School.

Under the 180-day instructional calendar, students will start class Aug. 4 and finish June 3, with two-week breaks for tutoring in October, December, March and June.

Longfellow also will have a seven-week summer vacation, compared with other Mesa schools that break for 2½ months.

150 attend arts center's site preparation kickoff

TEMPE — About 150 city officials, state legislators and residents attended Tempe's "Ground Opening" on Tuesday morning to celebrate the start of site preparation for the voter-approved Tempe Center for the Arts on the southwestern edge of Tempe Town Lake.

The center will open in 2006.

Landfill materials need to be removed from the site and replaced with clean fill. A 108-inch diameter storm sewer below the site will also be relocated.

"This facility will be the

crown jewel of Tempe Town Lake," Mayor Neil Giuliano said.

Author reading explores immigrant experience

MESA — Tonight, an author will relate his experiences of migrating to the United States, at the Mesa Main Library.

Eduardo B. Hernandez will read from his book, *Los Zapatos del Inmigrante y Otros Escritos (The Shoes of the Immigrant and Other Writings)*, at 7 p.m. in the Saguaro Room. Hernandez was born near the U.S.-Mexican border.

The library is at 64 E. First St.

For information, call (480) 644-4637.

Secretary of State talks to GOP women's group

GILBERT — Arizona Secretary of State Jan Brewer will speak at the Gilbert Republican Women's Club meeting at 7 tonight.

The club welcomes anyone interested in joining, along with friends and family. The meeting is at the Freestone Recreation Center, 1141 E. Guadalupe Road.

For information, call (480) 855-3633.

TODAY IN TEMPE

WHO'S MEETING	Tempe Union High School District governing board.
KEY ISSUE	Board members will discuss the superintendent's budget proposals.
WHEN/WHERE	4:30 p.m., Benedict Education Center, 500 W. Guadalupe Road.