

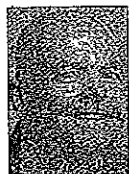
From the Publisher

Touching all the business bases

This just in: This month marks the fifth anniversary of the Sarbanes-Oxley law.

What, no cheering?

Some people say it has brought much-needed reform to corporate reporting, board governance and financial oversight, maybe even giving CEOs better tools to do their jobs. Some people have made a lot of money helping others navigate the nuances of the law. Some



people say cheering for SOX feels a little like cheering for Barry Bonds for breaking the home run record. Perhaps some polite applause is in order ...

... This just in, too — at least, this notice just surfaced from the top of the pile on my desk: “Summer is here! The kids are out of school.” Wow, it was dated just a few weeks ago. Schools already back in. The point of the notice: free on-line summer screenings for depression.

Which I didn’t need. Until now ...

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... A reader makes a good point in the aftermath of the bridge collapse in Minnesota. He says 720, or 10 percent, of Arizona’s bridges have structural flaws, based on a federal

study. “There are many ways to kill the Golden Goose of Growth. Along with poor air quality and congested roads, neglected infrastructure is high on any list. ... Even though core infrastructure needs are not sexy or headline grabbing, except in the face of a tragedy, the work must be done. The support of those of us involved in Arizona’s business community is crucial. It’s not just Minnesota’s problem.” The reader makes a good point on taking things like infrastructure for granted ...

... One of the new additions to the lineup of Valley bank executives is Candace Wiest, who launched West Valley National Bank about a year ago and just opened a new office in Goodyear. Keep your eyes on Wiest, who sits on the Federal Reserve Board in San Francisco, as a new mover and shaker in town. Actually, it will be easy to keep your eyes on Wiest if you come to our SRP Economic Forecast on Sept. 11. She’s one of the speakers ...

... Adam Goodman and his team at Goodmans Interior Structures show how having a good corporate heart mixed with a little creativity can help the community. For three years now, they have held a contest that results in an office makeover for a deserving nonprofit executive.

This year they awarded a \$20,000 renovation to Linda Lyman, chief executive of the Greater Phoenix Youth at Risk Foundation. Lyman, in turn, requested the project benefit the shared office space of four program managers. It proves again that you don’t have to be a big business to make a big difference ...

... Old-time boosters from both sides are rolling in their graves today. And they would have laughed you away if you had suggested 15 years or so ago that the University of Arizona and Arizona State University would partner to open a medical school in Phoenix. Yet school is in session right now, as two dozen first-year medical students began classes this week.

Two points from this stand out. One, the momentum from the biosciences effort in downtown Phoenix continues to build. Surely, but slowly, the vision set in place five years ago is coming into focus and delivering results. Two, there is nothing better than the power of collaboration to achieve great things.