

POPULAR STORE EXPANDS

# H&M sets opening day at Park Place

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

H&M (Hennes & Mauritz), the popular fashion retailer, has announced its grand opening at Park Place: noon on Oct. 20.

The store in the mall at 5870 E. Broadway will offer collections for women and men, and for children from newborns to age 14.

The opening coincides with H&M's promotion of its fall color palettes, including "camel, burgundy, cognac, pumpkin and muted jewel tones," the company said Thursday in a news release.

Key items for women, H&M says, will include knit dresses for \$19.95, blouses starting at \$17.95, and blazers starting at \$29.95. For men, shirts start at \$9.95, basic T-shirts at \$5.95, and trousers at \$19.95.

On opening day at Park Place mall, H&M says it will offer the first 200 shoppers in line a T-shirt and access to a fashion pass valued from \$10 to \$300, in addition to other giveaways.

If H&M's opening in August 2010 at its first local store, at Tucson Mall, is any indication, long lines will form for those promotions.



PHOTO COURTESY OF H&M

The collection for men includes blazers like this one for \$69.95.

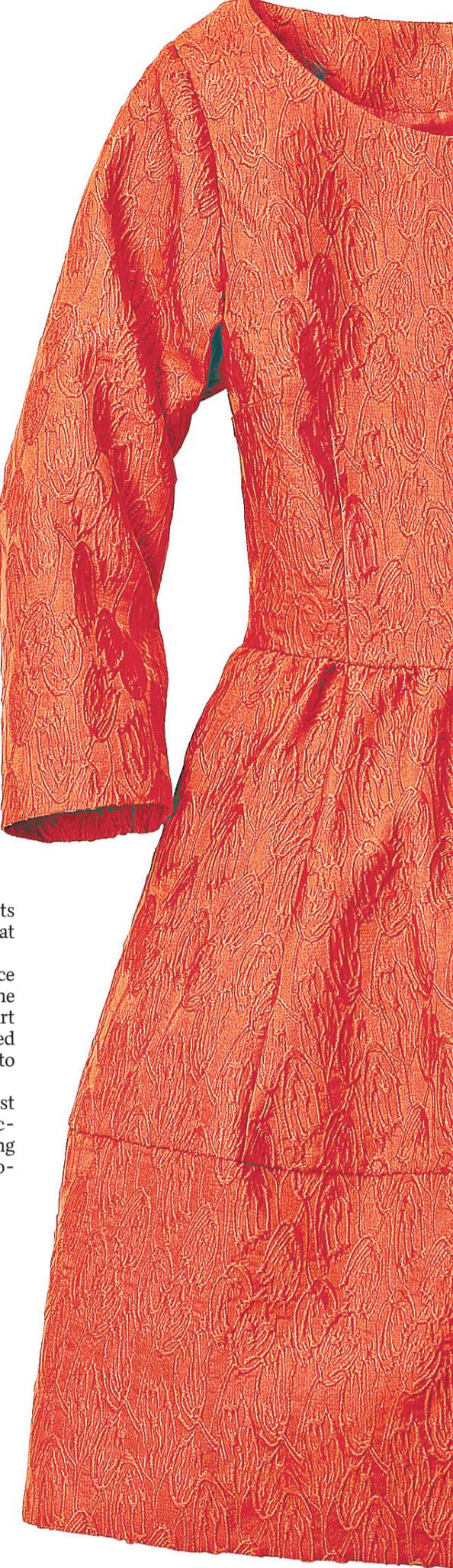


PHOTO COURTESY OF H&M  
H&M's fall collection includes colors such as camel, burgundy, cognac and pumpkin.



JILL TORRANCE / ARIZONA DAILY STAR 2010

Employee Karla Mexia hands out gift cards to shoppers waiting in line. The company opened its first local store at Tucson Mall in August 2010.

MARKET ROUNDUP

It was another day of big swings in the stock market. Traders were relieved that Germany passed a measure to expand the powers of a regional bailout fund.

But investors struggled to make sense of conflicting reports on the U.S. economy (see story, Page A12).

**HIGH** 11,271.14 **LOW** 10,965.45 **CHANGE** +143.08 **CLOSE** 11,153.98

▲ DOW30 2,538.97 2,433.58 -10.82 2,480.76

▲ S&P 500 1,175.87 1,139.93 +9.34 1,160.40

▲ Russell 2000 669.53 645.33 +10.83 662.80

**Change:** -32.19 (-2.8%)

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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Mortgage rates likely to keep dropping

Fixed mortgage rates have fallen to historic new lows for a fourth straight week and are likely to fall further.

The average on a 30-year fixed mortgage fell to 4.01 percent from 4.09 percent this week, Freddie Mac said Thursday. That's the lowest rate since the mortgage buyer began keeping records in 1971.

The average on a 15-year fixed mortgage, a popular refinancing option, ticked down to 3.28 percent. Economists say that's the lowest rate ever for the loan.

Rates on mortgages could fall further after the Federal Reserve announced last week that it would take further action to try to lower long-term rates.

Still, low rates have so far done little to boost home sales or refinancing. Many would-be buyers or homeowners don't have enough cash or home equity to get a new loan.

A drop in mortgage rates could provide some help to the economy if more people could refinance. When people refinance at lower rates, they pay less interest on their loans and have more money to spend.

### Phoenix man accused in Tempe ATM case

A Phoenix man is in custody in connection with an ATM skimming scam at a Tempe bank.

Tempe police said Thursday that 22-year-old Ray Camez is being held on two outstanding felony warrants plus suspicion of computer tampering, forgery and aggravated identity theft.

Authorities say Camez allegedly placed a skimming device on an ATM at a US Bank branch on June 5.

Police say video surveillance shows someone installing the skimming device.

Detectives later received a tip identifying the suspect as Camez. It took months before he was located at a Phoenix home.

Police say evidence of other skimming activity in the form of forged credit cards recoded with stolen credit card numbers were found in Camez's possession.

It was unclear Thursday whether Camez has an attorney for his case.

### Arizona's gas prices lower again this week

Gasoline prices in Arizona are down again this week.

The average price around the state for regular is \$3.40 a gallon at the pumps, AAA Arizona said Thursday. That's down by more than 4 cents from last week.

This week's national average is \$3.45 per gallon, down by more than 10 cents from last week.

Tucson has the lowest average gasoline price in the state at \$3.28, down 2.7 cents per gallon since last week.

The Associated Press

## Get your 40 Under 40 tickets now

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Today is the final day to purchase tickets to the Star's seventh annual 40 Under 40 awards breakfast.

The event honors up-and-coming Tucsonans younger than 40 for their professional accomplishments.

Placements, leadership and community impact.

The breakfast is Thursday, Oct. 6, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Doubletree, Reid Park.

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.tucson.com/store](http://www.tucson.com/store)

**40  
UNDER  
40**

Arizona  
Daily Star

# Economy gaining, but not much

### Recession fears recede, but unemployment is likely to remain high

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The economy is showing signs of modest improvement — not enough to reduce high unemployment but enough to ease fears that another recession might be near.

Fewer people applied for unemployment benefits last week, though some of that was due to

technical factors. And the economy grew slightly more in the April-June quarter than previously estimated. Growth is expected to tick up in coming months.

Investors drew some hope from the latest data, as well as from news that Germany's government approved a plan to bolster Europe's response to its debt crisis.

But some of the news Thursday wasn't encouraging. Chief executives of the nation's largest companies are more pessimistic than they were just three months ago,

according to a survey by a trade group, the Business Roundtable.

Only about one-third of the CEOs said they plan to hire or boost spending in the next six months. That's down from about half who said so in June.

Fewer Americans signed contracts to buy homes in August, the second straight month of declines.

The economy expanded at an annual rate of 1.3 percent in the April-June quarter, up from an estimate of 1 percent a month ago, the Commerce Department said.

The improvement reflected modestly higher consumer spending and a bigger boost from trade.

Even so, the economy grew at an annual rate of just 0.9 percent in the first six months of the year. That's the weakest six-month performance since the recession ended more than two years ago.

Most economists don't expect another recession. But they also don't see growth accelerating much. Many foresee a rebound to between 2 percent and 2.5 percent growth in the current quarter.



DAVID SANDERS / ARIZONA DAILY STAR FILE PHOTO

"The mining industry has had 23 fatalities so far this year, and we want to get to zero fatalities. The way we can do this is by better training," said Ros Hill, right, director of the University of Arizona's San Xavier Underground Mining Laboratory. Here, Hill helps direct the driver of a single-boom jumbo drive drill.

## UA wins \$122K mine-safety grant

By Becky Pallack

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

A team of UA researchers has won a \$122,000 federal grant to develop safety-training programs for miners.

The money is from the Mine Safety and Health Administration's Brookwood-Sago grants program, named for those who died in major mine explosions at those sites in Alabama and West Virginia, respectively.

"The mining industry has had 23 fatalities so far this year, and

we want to get to zero fatalities. The way we can do this is by better training," said Ros Hill, director of the University of Arizona's San Xavier Underground Mining Laboratory.

The team includes professors Mary Poulton and Patricia Anders and graduate students Leonard Brown and Alison Waibel. They developed the Arizona Mine Safety Training Simulator, which uses gaming software to re-create mining accidents and lets workers learn how to prevent

such accidents, Hill said. The program especially helps workers with low literacy or limited English proficiency, he added.

The group has been working on the project for more than a year, with previous grant funding from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and now is ready to start training miners on how to use the simulator.

Contact reporter Becky Pallack at [bpallack@azstarnet.com](mailto:bpallack@azstarnet.com) or 807-8012.

## BofA to charge fee for debit card use

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Will a monthly debit card fee soon be the norm? Bank of America said Thursday that it plans to start charging a \$5 monthly fee when customers make debit card purchases. The fee will be rolled out starting early next year.

Paying to use a debit card was unheard of before this year and is still a novel concept for many consumers. But several banks recently have introduced or started testing debit card fees.

Bank of America's announcement carries added weight because it is the largest U.S. bank by deposits.

The fee will apply to basic accounts, which are marketed toward those with modest bal-

ances, and will be in addition to any existing monthly service fees. For example, one such account charges a \$12 monthly fee unless customers meet certain conditions, such as maintaining a minimum average balance of \$1,500.

Customers will be charged the fee only if they use their debit cards for purchases in any given month, said Anne Pace, a Bank of America spokeswoman. Those who only use their cards at ATMs won't have to pay.

The changes come ahead of a regulation that goes into effect this weekend.

Starting Saturday, the regulation will cap the fees that banks can collect from merchants whenever customers swipe their

debit cards. Those fees generated \$19 billion in revenue for banks in 2009, according to the Nilson Report, which tracks the payments industry.

There is no similar cap on the merchant fees that banks can collect when customers use their credit cards, however. That means many banks are increasingly encouraging customers to reach for their credit cards, in hopes of reversing a trend toward debit card use in the past several years.

Chase and Wells Fargo are also testing \$3 monthly debit card fees in select markets. Neither bank has said when it will make a final decision on whether to roll out the fee more broadly.

## BUSINESS CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY

#### Best Practices Under the America

#### Invents Act of 2011

— University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law Ares Auditorium, Room 164, 1201 E. Speedway. Attorneys with Quarles & Brady discuss the effects of the landmark new patent-reform law. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Oct. 5. Free. R.S.V.P. to [karen.thomas@quarles.com](mailto:karen.thomas@quarles.com) or call 770-8733.

#### Tucson Job Seekers Network

— Nanini Branch Library, 7300 N. Shan-

non Road. Group meets weekly to share job search information. 8:15-9:30 a.m. Wednesdays through Dec. 21. Free.

### THURSDAY

#### Connecting on LinkedIn

— Catalina Foothills High School, 4300 E. Sun-

rise Drive. Learn to use LinkedIn to

build targeted connections and to

exhibit expertise in your industry.

6:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 6. \$20. 209-7812.

#### Entrepreneurial Mothers Association Luncheon

— Old Pueblo Grille, 60 N. Alvernon Way. Guest speaker for October is Sandy Featherston,

speaking on identity protection.

Member speaker is Diane Krebs

Carhuff, speaking on soul coaching.

Reservations required. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 6. \$15. 400-1099.

### FRIDAY

#### Basics of Trade: Imports and Ex-

ports

— Pima Community College East Campus, 8181 E. Irvington

Road, Room L101. Presenters:

Thomas J. Lindmeier, adjunct faculty member; and Carlos Emmer-

mann, president, Emmermann and Associates LLC. Topics: customs en-

try process; customs requirements

("the big three: classification, value

and country of origin marking") and

export financing. 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Oct. 7. \$80 through Sept. 30; \$100 after. 206-4850.

Go to [dailystarcalendar.com](http://dailystarcalendar.com) for more calendar listings and to submit an event at least three weeks in advance.

## Sony's PlayStation chief to speak at UA next week

By Phil Villarreal

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Sony Computer Entertainment CEO Jack Tretton will speak at the University of Arizona next week as part of the Eller College Distinguished Speaker series.

Tretton, who is in charge of Sony's PlayStation video game consoles and games, has held the position since 2006.

It's been a tough year for the PlayStation brand, with the PlayStation 3 continuing to trail its Microsoft and Nintendo rivals in sales, and the notorious PlayStation Network failure that lasted from April 26 to May 14, in which hackers swiped personal information from holders of 77 million accounts.

Tretton has been praised for the way he handled the aftermath of the network failure and data breach, issuing apologies to the

### IF YOU GO

What: Sony Computer Entertainment CEO Jack Tretton speaks at the University of Arizona.

When: 5:15 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6.

Where: Berger Auditorium, McClelland Hall, 1130 E. Helen Street.

Admission: Free.

public on various occasions and vowing to double down on security.

Contact reporter Phil Villarreal at [pvillarreal@azstarnet.com](mailto:pvillarreal@azstarnet.com) or 573-4130.

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