**SAMPLE EARTHQUAKE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE**

**TITLE: 4.1-magnitude Arizona earthquake shakes metro Phoenix**

Residents reported shaking across metro Phoenix on Sunday night amid at least three quakes that struck near Black Canyon City.

A string of earthquakes north of Phoenix gave the Valley a rare jolt Sunday night, and the largest – a magnitude 4.1 just before 11:30 p.m. – rattled homes across the region.

The series of at least three Arizona earthquakes generated no reports of notable damage, but left people swaying or stunned from Black Canyon City, closest to the epicenter, to Camp Verde and across metro Phoenix as far as Queen Creek.

Michael Conway of the Arizona Geological Survey said Monday morning that scientists had not identified the causative fault line yet. Because the earthquake was small and did not rupture the ground, it will be hard to identify where it originated, Conway said.He also said there will be aftershocks over the next few days, many of them too small to feel.

What happened?

In central Phoenix and elsewhere, the largest quake came as one quick rap – a bit like a distant explosion without the sound, or an unexpected bang on the door.

Tempe City Councilwoman Lauren Kuby lives in central Tempe near Alameda Drive and College Avenue.

"I just heard this rumble and this movement and I thought it was my dog falling off the bed," she said. "It felt like a rumble and a slight movement and then like a thud."

Norris Nordvold and his wife were up late and felt the rumble. Like others startled by earthquake, he posted on Facebook.

"I was on the couch and my wife was at the table and our house definitely moved at 11:31 p.m," he said. "We were babysitting our granddaughter … and she woke up, too."

Where was it?

The quakes were centered along the Agua Fria River a few miles north of Black Canyon City, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Black Canyon City is located about 20 miles north of Phoenix, a community bisected by the I-17 with a population of about 2,600 people. Before the highway opened, it formerly was a settlement along the scenic main route from Phoenix to Prescott. Now, Black Canyon City is perhaps best known to Valley residents as just another name on a road sign on the drive up to Flagstaff – along with Bumble Bee, Cordes Junction and the like – as well as the home of Rock Springs Cafe. (Indeed, when news of the earthquake spread, one reader's first reaction was to "Save the pies!!!!")

Was it a big one?

Earthquakes are rare in Arizona, which is removed from the major fault lines of the West Coast. Still, Sunday night's quakes were far from the first. A 4.7-magnitude quake shook the Oak Creek Canyon fault near Sedona in December 2014, and others shook the Arizona-New Mexico border in June of that year.

But perhaps the more memorable recent shaking came in 2009, when a series of powerful quakes in Baja California, ranging from magnitude 5.0 to 6.9, sent their tremors as far north as Phoenix. Those rumbles, around 11 o'clock on a Monday morning, were far easier to feel in a Valley that was up and about, at work in offices, schools and downtown towers.

Sunday night's tremors were comparatively less significant, both for their magnitude and their timing, said Zachary Reeves with the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo.

"In general, it's relatively small," he said of the 4.1-magnitude peak earthquake Sunday, the largest of the series. "If people are in bed then people may not even be woken up by it."