

Connecting Tempe

THROUGH PEOPLE, PARKS AND PROGRAMS



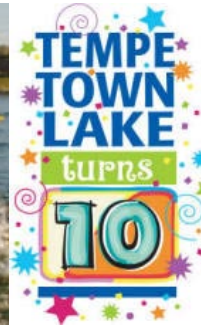
November 20, 2009

As Thanksgiving approaches and our minds turn to gratitude for family, friends, home and health, we at Tempe Parks and Recreation would like to share with you a few of the things we are thankful for:

EVENTS

More than anywhere else in the Valley, and maybe even in the entire state of Arizona, Tempe has the right amenities for hosting events, not to mention a vibrant population that loves to have fun. Between [Kiwanis Park](#) and [Tempe Beach Park](#) alone, there are more than 200 events held each year.

Looking back on 2009, we're glad you could join us at our Parks and Recreation events, like the Movies in the Park free family movie series at Kiwanis Park in April and May, the July 4th Tempe Town Lake Festival, our first Play Day in September and Major League Movie Night and the 32nd Annual Family Halloween Carnival in October.



Tempe will round out 2009 in eventful fashion. The [Ford Ironman Arizona](#) is this Sunday, Nov. 22 at Tempe Town Lake. Come watch 2,300 athletes from around the nation and the world start the race at 7 a.m. with a 2.4-mile swim in Tempe Town Lake, followed by 112 miles on the bike and a full marathon run. The Mill Avenue bridges provide a perfect view of the swim.

On Saturday, Dec. 12 at 4 p.m., Tempe Town Lake will commemorate its decade mark at the [Tempe Town Lake Turns 10](#) birthday celebration, immediately followed by the annual APS Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade at 7 p.m. The Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party at Mill Avenue will once again ring in the New Year on Dec. 31. And for those looking ahead to 2010, the [P.F. Chang's Rock'n'Roll Marathon](#) is set to race through the streets of Tempe on Sunday, Jan. 17. More than 60 live bands will jam along the course, ending with a free concert by Everclear at the finish line on Packard Drive near ASU's Sun Devil and Sun Angel stadiums. Whether you are training for the marathon or ½ marathon, or just want to enjoy the music and cheer on the athletes, this event is not to be missed!

Complete details about all of Tempe's fantastic events can be found at www.tempe.gov/destinationtempe.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Tempe Parks and Rec connects people and works to build friendships, especially in our programs for adults 50 years and better and our adapted recreation participants. Every Tuesday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. at the [Pyle Adult Recreation Center](#) and every Wednesday at 11:15 a.m. at the [Cahill Senior Center](#), friends and strangers alike can gather to watch a free new release or classic movie. And then there's bingo on Wednesday at Pyle at 1 p.m. and on Friday at 1 p.m. at Cahill, where there is always a great mix of long-time and new players and plenty of winners. See page 25 of the [Fall 2009 Tempe Opportunities brochure](#) for more information.



Children and adults with intellectual disabilities in Tempe's Adapted Recreation program look forward to Friday nights every month when they head to the Pyle Center to hang out with friends. The first Friday of every month brings game or bingo night, and Fabulous Friday Night themed dances occur the second Friday of each month. Keep up-to-date with the schedule and dance themes at www.tempe.gov/adaptedrecreation.

HEALTH



Good health is one of the many things we aren't always grateful for until we miss it. So you can do your part to stay healthy and active, Tempe Parks and Rec offers hundreds of [fitness programs](#) for babies, adults 50 and older and everyone in between. Here's a sneak peek at some of the new classes for body and mind in the upcoming Winter 2010 program session.

TOTS AND YOUTH

Introduction to Gymnastics – Children 30 months to 12 years will learn the basic skills and positions of all four Olympic events: bars, beam, floor and vault.

TEENS

Climbers Only for Teens – Held at Phoenix Rock Gym, teens will build self-confidence while learning climbing, bouldering, rappelling, belaying and safety awareness.

ADULTS

Yoga in the Park – Center yourself while practicing yoga in the beautiful outdoors at Papago Park.

ADAPTED RECREATION

Adapted Yoga – Students will learn relaxation techniques and basic sitting and standing yoga poses to increase flexibility and improve balance.

ADULTS 50+

Zumba – This class for all ability levels mixes easy-to-follow Latin dance moves with upbeat Latin music to maximize caloric output.

The full lineup of fitness classes will be available in the Tempe Opportunities brochure on Dec. 4 at www.tempe.gov/brochure, and registration for Winter 2010 begins Dec. 7 for Tempe residents.

GREEN SPACES

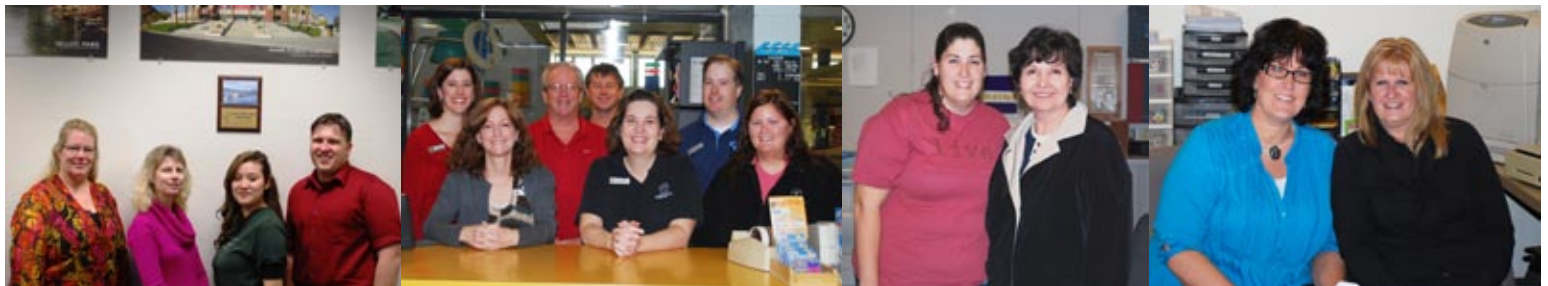
Did you know that Tempe has approximately one public park within one-half mile of every resident? [Our 48 strategically-placed parks](#) are some of Tempe's most valuable assets. Parks increase property value and provide places for children to play and families and neighbors to gather. To make sure these recreational gems do not lose their splendor, Tempe voters approved the Park Renovation and Restoration program last November. The program is a multi-million dollar effort that aims to redesign and restore three Tempe parks per year based on the specific needs and wants of the surrounding neighborhood. Before each park is redesigned, the Tempe Parks team holds a series of community meetings so that the park is refurbished according to the specific needs and wants of those using it most.



Hudson Park reopened in April as the first park renovated under the Park Renovation and Restoration Program. [Evelyn Hallman Park](#) and [Daley Park](#) are next in line, followed by [Scudder](#) and [Goodwin](#). Master plans for all four parks have been created, and construction will take place in 2010. Construction for Evelyn Hallman Park will span about six months, and the other three parks will be closed for approximately nine months during construction.

To find out when your neighborhood park is set to be renovated, see the complete [park renovation schedule](#). You can also check out the Master Plans for Evelyn Hallman, Daley, Scudder and Goodwin parks at www.tempe.gov/parks/Construction/default.htm.

PARKS & REC FAMILY



Tempe Parks and Recreation has over 700 full- and part-time employees devoted to providing you with fantastic programs, pristine parks, fun events and terrific customer service, and we are grateful for each and every one of them. Since most staff work behind the scenes, the faces and voices you probably know best are the front desk employees that handle inquiries from the public. If you call or visit the Kiwanis Recreation Center, Pyle Adult Recreation Center, Cahill Senior Center or the Parks and Recreation main office on the second floor of the library, you will speak with one of our extremely knowledgeable, helpful and kind staff members. All of them do their best to answer your inquiries and solve your problems, and we thank them for representing the department in such a positive way.

If you have any questions for [Tempe Parks and Recreation](#) or want to learn more about our parks and programs, give these great folks a call at the following numbers:

Parks and Recreation Main	480-350-5200
Kiwanis Recreation Center	480-350-5201
Pyle Adult Recreation Center	480-350-5211
Cahill Senior Center	480-858-2420

YOU

This Thanksgiving newsletter would not be complete without recognizing you, the participants of our programs, the families that attend our events, the groups that reserve picnic areas and the residents that use our parks and take advantage of all of Tempe's recreational amenities. Approximately 6,000 of you participated in Fall 2009 programs, classes and leagues, and even more of you visited Tempe's parks and recreation centers. You have also shown great support for our new [Facebook page](#); a month since the page was launched and 150 of you have already become fans! (If you are not one of those 150, search "Tempe Parks and Recreation" and become a fan of our page to get instant updates and news from us.)



So that we can serve you better, please take a few minutes to complete a brief [survey](#) about Tempe Parks and Recreation. We will use your responses to improve our methods of communication.

Thank you for playing with Tempe Parks and Recreation, and Happy Thanksgiving!

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, Nov. 22

Ford Ironman Arizona

Race begins at 7 a.m. at Tempe Town Lake

Friday, Nov. 27

[APS Fantasy of Lights Opening Night Parade](#)

Parade kick-off at 6:30 p.m. on 3rd Street and Mill Avenue
6-9 p.m., Free

Wednesday, Dec. 2

[Songwriters' Showcase](#)

[Tempe Center for the Arts](#)

7:30 p.m., Tickets: \$5 (excluding fees)

Friday, Dec. 4

Winter 2010 Tempe Opportunities brochure available online

www.tempe.gov/brochure

Monday, Dec. 7

[Winter 2010 registration begins for Tempe residents](#)

Saturday, Dec. 12

[Tempe Town Lake Turns 10](#)

Tempe Beach Park

3-7 p.m.

"Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds."

- Theodore Roosevelt

