

# TEMPE TODAY

a community newsletter



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WWW.TEMPE.GOV

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## Join the 2013 Unity Walk

Get your walking shoes ready in celebration of cultural diversity at the free Regional Unity Walk and Diversity Festival on Saturday, Feb. 1. Join several Valley cities as they "Walk for Unity in Our Community." Registration is not required.

Families, community organizations, scout groups, school clubs and church groups are welcome. Walkers should arrive at their assembly points by 10 a.m. The walk begins at 10:30 a.m. Participants from Chandler, Gilbert, Phoenix and Scottsdale will meet at the Town Lake Marina; those from Tempe, Guadalupe, and Mesa will meet at the Tempe Beach Park amphitheater.

Both walking routes are about one mile, ending at Tempe Beach Park. Walkers are encouraged to carry flags, signs or banners announcing their group's identity and promoting diversity. A free festival, which will begin as walkers arrive and end at noon, will feature a welcome by dignitaries, entertainment, jump houses and food. Transportation will be provided to bring walkers back to their assembly points. For more information call 480-350-8979 or visit [www.tempe.gov/diversity](http://www.tempe.gov/diversity).

## Character areas to shape city's future

Tempe has strong character – our neighborhoods, businesses, institutions and people. In that spirit, the city is creating eight "character areas" representing the unique personalities of these different geographic parts of Tempe:

- Papago/North Tempe
- Rio Salado/Downtown/ASU
- Central City/Shalimar
- Kiwanis/The Lakes
- Diablo/Double Butte
- Escalante/Marketplace
- Arizona Mills/Emerald Center
- Corona/South Tempe

The designations recognize geographic areas or groups of neighborhoods that contain common design, land use and commercial characteristics that may be distinct from other parts of Tempe. Each character area may have similar architectural styles, age of housing, landscaping, land use or street patterns.

Tempe staff and City Councilmembers will work closely with stakeholders – including residents, property owners and managers, neighborhood and homeowners' associations, community organizations, schools and businesses – to develop a plan for each character area. The goal of the planning process is to develop a vision for each area by identifying existing assets, assessing needs and developing implementation strategies.

Between 2014 and 2018, the city will focus on two areas per year, starting with Area 7 (Kiwanis/The Lakes) and Area 8 (Corona/South Tempe). For more information, visit [www.tempe.gov/characterareas](http://www.tempe.gov/characterareas).



## There's nothing like spring training

Hear the crack of a bat and smell the fresh-cut grass while watching America's favorite pastime as the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim return to their spring training home in Tempe.

The Angels will host the Chicago Cubs at Diablo Stadium for their spring training

home opener on Friday, Feb. 28. The season will run through March 24 at Diablo Stadium, when the Angels will take on the San Francisco Giants.

Tickets are on sale now at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or you can purchase them at the Tempe Diablo box office beginning Feb. 15.

Tempe Diablo Stadium is located at 2200 W. Alameda Drive. Visit [www.tempe.gov/diablo](http://www.tempe.gov/diablo) for information on games, tickets, stadium hours, directions and parking.

CONTACT:



480-350-4311

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[www.tempe.gov/311](http://www.tempe.gov/311)

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## Contribute views during February budget forums

The City of Tempe will hold public forums in mid-late February to inform community members about the city's operating and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budgets, and to hear their priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year and beyond.

The upcoming fiscal year, which starts July 1, marks the end of the additional sales tax approved by voters and promised by the Council to expire in 2014. Those funds contributed to the General Fund – the city's biggest operating fund – for four years during the worst of the latest economic recession and helped the city avoid more extensive layoffs and service cuts. CIP projects range from major equipment replacements and street improvements to new facilities and building updates. They are budgeted separately from operating expenses such as salaries and office supplies.

Public forum dates will be posted to [www.tempe.gov/budgetplan](http://www.tempe.gov/budgetplan) as soon as they are set; they also will be announced via the city's email notification system and through social media. For updated details on the formulation of budgets for the 2014-15 fiscal year, as well as projected dates for City Council discussions and votes on both the operating and capital budgets, visit [www.tempe.gov/budgetplan](http://www.tempe.gov/budgetplan).

## Emergency preparedness classes for residents

The Tempe and Scottsdale fire departments are offering emergency preparation training for residents and community members. The training is part of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) effort. CERT is an initiative of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that has spread to communities throughout the country. Hundreds of Tempe and Scottsdale residents are already involved in the program.

CERT volunteers are trained by fire department personnel in areas like disaster preparedness, fire safety, treating injuries, and search and rescue, in hopes that they will be able to put these skills to use in the event of large scale and daily emergencies.

CERT classes will be held Thursdays from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Feb. 27 through April 3 at the Thomas A. Hontz Police and Fire Training Facility, 911 N. Stadem Drive, in Tempe. A final drill will take place April 5 from 8 a.m. to noon.

The classes are free, but pre-registration is mandatory as class sizes are limited. Tempe or Scottsdale residency are not required. To sign up, visit <http://bit.ly/1bBxkTs>. For more information, contact John Moede at 480-312-1832 or [jmoede@ScottsdaleAZ.gov](mailto:jmoede@ScottsdaleAZ.gov). Watch our CERT video at <http://bit.ly/12byzEw>.

Follow us on Twitter at @TempePoliceFire or find us on Facebook by searching for TempePoliceandFire.

**Adopt-A-Street,  
Path or Park!**  
Call 480-350-4311 or visit  
[www.tempe.gov/adopt](http://www.tempe.gov/adopt)

## Candidate packets available for 2014 City Council election

Tempe residents interested in running for City Council seats in 2014 can pick up candidate packets at the City Clerk's Office, 31 E. Fifth St., any Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding city holidays.

Each packet provides all the information necessary to run for one of three City Council seats, all with terms of office that begin in January 2015. The Primary Election is Aug. 26\*, and the General Election is Nov. 4\*.

Candidates for City Council must submit the valid signatures of between 1,129 and 2,257 registered Tempe voters. The first day to file completed candidate paperwork is April 28 at 8 a.m. The last day to file candidate paperwork is May 28 at 5 p.m. For filing, candidate paperwork must be signed originals and filed in person in the City Clerk's Office.

According to a city Charter amendment approved in 2012 by voters, if no more than two candidates file nomination petitions for each vacancy, the city does not have to hold a Primary Election. In that case, the General Election can instead be held on the date the Primary Election would have been held. The charter language is below.

For questions, contact the City Clerk's Office at [clerk@tempe.gov](mailto:clerk@tempe.gov) or 480-350-8241. Detailed information about the 2014 elections is available at [www.tempe.gov/election](http://www.tempe.gov/election).

\**Tempe City Charter Sec. 7.01*

*(b) The primary election shall be held for the purpose of nominating or electing candidates for city elected office. In the event that no more than two candidates file nomination petitions for each vacancy in office, the primary election may be dispensed with.*

*(c) If no primary election is required due to the number of candidates filing nomination petitions for each vacancy in office, the regular city election shall be held at the time that the primary election would have otherwise been held.*

## Roof rat prevention community meeting Feb. 12

Roof rats are back – or, more accurately – they never left. Come to a community meeting to learn how you and your neighbors can work together to prevent and control roof rats on Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Tempe Learning Center classroom in the basement of the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Rd. Join a local roof rat expert to hear tips for tackling existing issues and preventing new invasions. The presentation will be followed by a question/answer period.

Signs of roof rat activity include: visual sightings on power lines, trees, bushes, patios and in garages, storage sheds and homes; hollowed-out fruit; rat droppings; gnawing or scratching noises in attics and walls or around eaves of homes; damage to plastics and coverings on electrical wires; and unsettled pets. For more information, visit [www.tempe.gov/roofrats](http://www.tempe.gov/roofrats) or contact Neighborhood Services at 480-350-8234 or [neighborhoods@tempe.gov](mailto:neighborhoods@tempe.gov).



## Reporting is critical in fighting graffiti

When you see graffiti on public or private property, it's important to report it immediately. If you are witnessing graffiti being painted, call the Tempe Police non-emergency line at 480-350-8311. For all other cases, report graffiti by contacting Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311, via an online form at [tempe.gov/311](http://tempe.gov/311) or via email at [tempe311@tempe.gov](mailto:tempe311@tempe.gov).

Grffiti can be reported anonymously. If you report online or call, you will be requested, but not required, to leave your name and phone number. Contact information can help officers when they investigate graffiti and other crimes. When graffiti on public property is reported, the city works to respond within 24 hours. Graffiti on private property should be painted over by the property owner within 10 days as specified in the Tempe City Code, Chapter 22, Article VI, Sections 100 & 101.



## City adds CNG trucks to solid waste fleet

As part of Tempe's commitment to sustainability, the city has added five new alternatively fueled trash and recycling trucks to its fleet. The new collection trucks are powered by compressed natural gas and replace older diesel-powered trucks. With the five new CNG trucks, Tempe expects to see reduced greenhouse gas emissions of 15 percent and fuel cost savings of nearly \$500,000 over the life of the trucks. The city plans to continue replacing old solid waste collection vehicles with new CNG trucks, and estimates that by 2017 half the fleet will be powered by domestic natural gas.



## The geeks are back in town!

Be part of a very special Third Thursday on Mill Avenue on Feb. 20 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. It is Geeks' Night Out presented by the Walton Sustainability Solutions Initiative. Phoenix Comicon, ghost hunters, meteorite men, robot makers, and science and technology organizations and schools will take over Tempe City Hall, 31 E. Fifth St., with free games, activities and even a costume parade.

There's science behind everything you love and we want to show you how it works. From science fiction to the business of science and everything in between, we're celebrating smarts. Join us. It's fun, smart and very Tempe.

Geek Week also takes place throughout Tempe Feb. 14-24. Visit the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, to enjoy the American Pop! Comic Books to Science Fiction exhibition. Free activities on topics related to the exhibition will take place each Friday from 6-7 p.m. inside the gallery. Admission to the gallery is free.

Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. and Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, will also have special activities throughout the week. Check [www.tempe.gov/calendar](http://www.tempe.gov/calendar) to see what's scheduled. Get details at [www.tempe.gov/geeks](http://www.tempe.gov/geeks) and follow #geektempe on Twitter.



## College Connect workshops help prepare students

The City of Tempe has partnered with Tempe Union High School District, ASU, Mesa Community College and Rio Salado College to create College Connect. The program aims to assist young people in fulfilling their dreams of a post-secondary education.

Attend any one of the free College Connect workshops on three upcoming Saturdays (Jan. 18, Jan. 25 or Feb. 1) to receive guidance on topics including scholarship searches, essay writing, FAFSA form completion and more.

Visit [www.collegeconnecttempe.org](http://www.collegeconnecttempe.org) for more information and to reserve your spot at one of the sessions.

# Calendar

**This is the tentative January/February schedule for Tempe City Council meetings.**

## **January 9, 2014**

6 p.m., Issue Review Session  
7:30 p.m., Formal Meeting

## **January 13, 2014**

4 p.m., Committee of the Whole

## **January 23, 2014**

6 p.m., Issue Review Session  
7:30 p.m., Formal Meeting

## **February 3, 2014**

4 p.m., Committee of the Whole

## **February 13, 2014**

6 p.m., Issue Review Session  
7:30 p.m., Formal Meeting

## **February 24, 2014**

4 p.m., Committee of the Whole

## **February 27, 2014**

6 p.m., Issue Review Session  
7:30 p.m., Formal Meeting

Agendas are posted 24 hours before each meeting outside the Council Chambers and on the second floor of City Hall. Meetings are subject to change. Confirm dates, times and locations with the City Clerk's Office, 480-350-8241 or at [www.tempe.gov/clerk](http://www.tempe.gov/clerk).

**IRS and Formal meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and [www.tempe.gov/tempe11](http://www.tempe.gov/tempe11).**

# Tempe City Council

**Mark W. Mitchell**  
Mayor

**Onnie Shekerjian**  
Vice Mayor

**Robin Arredondo-Savage**  
Councilmember

**Shana Ellis**  
Councilmember

**Kolby Granville**  
Councilmember

**Joel Navarro**  
Councilmember

**Corey Woods**  
Councilmember

**Andrew Ching**  
City Manager

To contact the Mayor and Council, call 480-350-8110.

Tempe Today is produced by the Communication and Media Relations Division

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# News you can use

## **Experience Corps looking for volunteers**

In partnership with AARP, the City of Tempe offers a unique volunteer opportunity for adults 50+ to work with elementary school children. AARP Experience Corps is a nationally recognized literacy program currently running in 20 cities across the country. In Tempe, there are 72 volunteers who work in nine Tempe elementary schools. Volunteers work one-on-one with first through third grade students, helping them improve their literacy skills. This fall, Tempe's program is expanding into three new schools and is looking to add about 30 volunteers. Volunteers do not need special skills – just the willingness to share their experiences, time and patience. Learn more by attending an information session on Tuesday, Jan. 28, or Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 10:30 a.m., or Tuesday, March 18, at 2 p.m. in the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Rd. For more information, visit [www.tempe.gov/adults50plus](http://www.tempe.gov/adults50plus) or call 480-858-2464.

## **Spring classes begin in March**

Spring into something new! The Spring 2014 Tempe Opportunities Brochure features hundreds of programs for every interest, age and ability, including health and fitness, art, dance, special interest, sports, aquatics and boating offerings. The brochure will be available online and can be found at City of Tempe facilities and Tempe Fry's Food Stores beginning Feb. 13. Registration for Tempe residents will begin Feb. 18 and Feb. 24 for non-residents. Visit [www.tempe.gov/brochure](http://www.tempe.gov/brochure) or call the Recreation Administration Office at 480-350-5200 for more information. Registration can be completed online, by fax or in person at many Tempe community centers.

## **Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature**

Tempe residents are invited to join the Mayor and Council at the State Capitol for Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature on Monday, Jan. 27, from 9-11 a.m., to meet their legislators, learn about the city's legislative program and tour the Arizona House of Representatives and State Senate. Residents are encouraged to share the stories of their neighborhoods and find out how the legislature will impact the future of our community. If you plan on attending, RSVP with the Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234 or [neighborhoods@tempe.gov](mailto:neighborhoods@tempe.gov). Free parking is available at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, 1820 W. Washington St., in Phoenix. To take public transportation, visit [www.valleymetro.org](http://www.valleymetro.org) for bus, light rail and park-and-ride information.

## **Taste in Tempe**

Taste in Tempe, a daytime "lifestyle" food and wine festival complete with food tasting opportunities from top local chefs and Valley restaurants, is scheduled from 3-6 p.m. on Feb. 9 at the Tempe Center for the Arts Amphitheater. Enjoy cooking demonstrations from well-known "foodie" celebrities, seminars from premiere wine connoisseurs, live music and entertainment, and a display of local vendors specializing in the "love and romance" categories, such as florists, jewelers, chocolatiers and pastry chefs. For more information, visit [www.tempe.gov/TCAevents](http://www.tempe.gov/TCAevents).

## **Empty Bowls event provides food for hungry**

For the hungry in our community, an empty bowl signifies a lack of food. At the Tempe Empty Bowls event ([www.tempeemptybowls.org](http://www.tempeemptybowls.org)), it signifies a chance for the local community to help fight hunger in Tempe. With the \$10 purchase of a handmade bowl, Whole Foods Market will offer a simple meal of soup and bread, symbolic of the caloric intake that must sustain many in our community for an entire day. The 2014 Tempe Empty Bowls will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21, at Sixth Street Park (just south of City Hall in downtown Tempe), and Saturday, Feb. 22, in the courtyard outside the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Rd. Handcrafted bowls, platters and vases made locally will be available for purchase.



## Night of the Open Door

Explore how fun science can be at ASU's Night of the Open Door on Saturday, March 1, from 4-9 p.m., at 727 E. Tyler St. Families can see ASU's Biodesign Institute, Arizona's largest bioscience facility, and get an up-close look at groundbreaking research in human health, sustainability and securing a safer world. Experience hands-on demonstrations, table-top experiments, meet scientists and have a memento photo taken. Afterwards, stroll ASU's Tempe campus and choose from more than 100 activities, encounters, tours and performances. For more information, visit <http://opendoor.asu.edu>.



## A Day for Walt

Pay tribute to Walt Richardson as he celebrates his birthday and induction into the Arizona Entertainment and Music Hall of Fame at "A Day for Walt," on Saturday, Jan. 18, from 5-8 p.m., at

the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway. Enjoy music from Hans Olson & Chuck Hall, the Sugar Thieves and William Eaton followed by a special reunion performance by Walt Richardson and the Morningstar Band. A percent of the proceeds will benefit Rosie's House and Phoenix Day. To buy tickets, go to <http://tca.ticketforce.com/ordertickets.asp?p=1730&backurl=default.asp>. More information is at <http://www.azmusichalloffame.org/> or <http://www.walterrichardson.com/>.

## Keep learning right in your own backyard

Rio Salado College's new location in Tempe (at Southern Avenue and the Loop 101) has opened its doors for Tempe learners. Offerings include College Bridge Pathways classes (adult basic education, GED prep and English language acquisition) as well as placement and certification testing. Residents can also take advantage of college support services including academic advising, counseling, tutoring and more. RSC Southern is located at 3320 S. Price Rd., Tempe. It is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more details, visit [www.riosalado.edu](http://www.riosalado.edu) or call 480-377-4150.

## LEAP After School Program

The City of Tempe's LEAP program has been specifically designed for high school students with developmental disabilities who attend school in the Tempe Union High School District. The program focuses on socialization, life skill development and enrichment through various recreational programs and activities, including arts and crafts, and physical activities such as yoga, martial arts, sports, and dance. LEAP has a 1:4 staff-to-student ratio program and is held Monday through Friday from 2:30-6 p.m. during the school year. For more information, visit [www.tempe.gov/adaptedrecreation](http://www.tempe.gov/adaptedrecreation) or contact Josh Bell at 480-858-2469 or [josh\\_bell@tempe.gov](mailto:josh_bell@tempe.gov).



## PlayDay 2014

In keeping with its designation as a Playful City USA community for the fifth consecutive year, Tempe will host a free day of play for kids of all ages to celebrate play and reap the benefits of being active

from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, at Kiwanis Park.

PlayDay participants can join in on structured and unstructured games and events, including kayaking, football, softball, tennis drills, inflatable games, dance and movement classes and more. New this year, the young and young at heart will be able to participate in the Inaugural Diablo Dash, thanks to a generous donation from the Tempe Diablos. The family-friendly obstacle course will feature two courses filled with age-appropriate challenges. More details can be found at [www.Tempe.gov/PlayDay](http://www.Tempe.gov/PlayDay).

## Tempe's Ken McDonald selected as prequalifying course for Phoenix Open

Tempe's Ken McDonald Golf Course was selected as a prequalifying site for the 2014 Waste Management Phoenix Open, providing an excellent opportunity for residents to watch world class golfers. The prequalifying event will be held Thursday, Jan. 23. The Waste Management Phoenix Open will be held Jan. 30 through Feb. 2 at the TPC Scottsdale.

## Tempe's HAWK still taking flight

Did you know Tempe has two HAWKS? No, not the bird, but unique pedestrian beacon signals called High-intensity Activated crossWalks – or HAWKS. Located at Tempe's Western Canal multi-use path, this signaling system is designed to make crossing easier for pedestrians, bicyclists and other path users while minimizing the wait time for motorists.

The pedestrian beacon signals are located just north of Elliot Road at the Western Canal on Rural Road and McClintock Drive. The signal is designed without a green light and remains dark until a path user activates the signal. For instructions on how to use the HAWK



## Dig your own dinosaur at Tempe Public Library

Complete prehistoric tasks and dig for your very own dinosaur. Join the staff of the Tempe Public Library for 90 minutes of dinosaur books, songs, crafts and fun. The program is geared toward children 7 years and younger. Registration is not required. The 10:30 a.m., Feb. 8, program is free.

## You never forget how to ride a bike, but do you remember the rules of the road?

With the cooler weather upon us, it's the perfect time to get out and take a bike ride along any of Tempe's multi-use paths. It may also be the time to refresh your memory about all those rules of the road.

When you are and about, please remember these tips.

- Ride on the right with the flow of traffic.
- Wear a helmet.
- Use hand signals.
- Follow lane markings.
- Be aware of what's going on around you.
- Use a light at night.
- When approaching a METRO light rail crossing:
  - o Never try to beat the train.
  - o Never stop on the tracks
  - o Look for flashing headlights and listen for warning bells and horns.
  - o Look both ways before crossing the tracks.
- Wear bright colored clothing.
- Obey traffic signals, signs and laws.

## Gather your neighbors and Adopt-A-Street, Path or Park

Tempe's Adopt-A-Street, Adopt-A-Park and Adopt-A-Path programs allow individuals, businesses and organizations to help maintain Tempe's streets, multi-use paths and parks. While Tempe does its best to clean up litter, pull weeds and remove graffiti, we could use your help. You and your friends can get out there and do something good for the environment and for your community. And, you'll be surprised by some of the things you'll find.

### Adopt-A-Street

Adopting a street includes things like pulling weeds, reporting graffiti and damaged light poles and picking up litter. The length of an adoptable street is a minimum of one mile, but no more than two miles. The commitment is a few hours each cleaning with a minimum of one clean up every three months for two years.

### Adopt-A-Path

Adopt-A-Path volunteers help with removing litter, pulling weeds, reporting graffiti and damaged City property on the multi-use path system. It's a great way to get out and enjoy the day while helping to clean up Tempe paths. The length of an adoptable path is a minimum of one mile, but no more than two miles. And most Tempe multi-use paths are also available for adoption. Like the Adopt-A-Street program, the commitment is a few hours each cleaning with a minimum of one clean up every three months for two years.

### Adopt-A-Park

Tempe's parks help increase the visual appeal of neighborhoods and provide a safe place for neighbors to gather, friends to meet and kids to play. Clean up duties include picking up trash and litter, raking leaves, pulling weeds, fluffing playground sand, sanitizing playground equipment and more.

Applications are accepted year-round. To adopt a street, path or park, call 480-350-4311 or visit [tempe.gov/adopt](http://tempe.gov/adopt) for a volunteer agreement and request form.