



Arbor Day 5K provides new trees for Tempe

Join Tempe for the third annual Arbor Day 5K on Friday, April 27, at 6 p.m. at Giuliano Park at Tempe Town Lake. Race proceeds benefit Trees for Tempe, a program to plant new trees and replace damaged trees in city parks and other locations.

Families are invited to run or walk in the 5K – dogs on leashes are welcome too! The course is a single loop around Tempe Town Lake that will be chip-timed. Advance registration is \$20 and includes a commemorative Arbor Day 5K T-shirt and goodie bag. Additional activities include an event expo and tree planting ceremony.

For race information or to register, visit www.arborday5k.com. There is no additional charge for online registration. For Trees for Tempe information, visit www.tempe.gov/parks.



Tempe's future envisioned by elected leaders, fulfilled by city staff

Tempe City Council members have worked together to develop a new system for setting priorities that will allow city staff to focus on providing even better service for residents.

Starting with their October summit, Councilmembers have gathered in a series of open meetings to discuss, identify and prioritize their collective vision for the future of Tempe. The resulting 11 priorities include achieving long-term financial stability, enhancing neighborhoods and leveraging technology, among others. Those priorities have been grouped into three umbrella areas that will become the City Council's new committee system.

The Council's effort to identify its priorities complements a staff-driven initiative over the last two years to set and achieve specific goals to improve services across the city. The two efforts have joined together to provide a powerful new way for Tempe to identify and realize a community vision.

"What you have for the first time is complete alignment in thinking from the City Council all the way through city management to the line-level workers providing direct services," said Mayor Hugh Hallman. "Ultimately, our residents and other community members will benefit from a more effective, efficient way of delivering all types of services, from recreation classes to street maintenance."

Since priorities will change over time, depending on the feelings of future City Councils, the biggest value of the current effort is in the process it has established. "It is most important that we now have developed a way to help City Councils articulate and organize their visions for Tempe," said City Manager Charlie Meyer. "That will help city staff members to always be assured that their work lines up with what the Council, and thereby the community, really wants."

To learn more about the City Council's strategic priorities, visit www.tempe.gov/councilpriorities.



Get geared up! It's Bike to Work Day

Start the day off with an invigorating bike ride as Tempe holds its 21st annual Bike to Work Day on Wednesday, April 18. The aim of the event is to encourage the use of bicycles as an alternative mode of transportation.

All bicycle riders who stop by one of the participating Bike to Work Day locations from 6:30 to 8 a.m. will receive a free breakfast and the first 350 riders will receive free T-shirts. At 7 a.m., join Mayor Hugh Hallman and members of the Tempe City Council on a bike ride from Whole Foods Market to Ncounter in downtown Tempe. Breakfast site locations include:

- Back East Bagels (northwest corner of Southern Avenue and McClintock Drive)
- Berning's Fine Jewelry (southwest corner of McClintock Drive and Warner Road)
- IKEA (northwest corner of Warner Road and Priest Drive)
- Ncounter (southwest corner of Mill Avenue and Third Street)
- REI (southwest corner of Southern Avenue and Priest Drive)
- Wildflower Bread Company (southwest corner of McClintock Drive and Guadalupe Road)
- Whole Foods Market (northwest corner of Rural and Baseline roads)

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/tim or call 480-350-8663.

2012 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards in April

Join the city's annual celebration of neighbors and businesses that build and enhance community at the 2012 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards on Saturday, April 28, from 7:30-10:30 a.m., at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.

Light breakfast refreshments will be served from 7:30 to 8 a.m., Mayor Hugh Hallman and the City Council will present the Neighbor of the Year Awards from 8-9 a.m., and workshops will be offered from 9:15-10:30 a.m. Participants are asked to choose one of three workshops:

- What's Happening in Downtown Tempe? A look at what's new and upcoming along Mill Avenue and in the downtown area.
- Building Community through Art – A hands-on activity for all ages.
- 72-Hour Disaster Preparedness – Build connections in your neighborhood and be better prepared for emergencies.

Invite a neighbor, friend or co-worker and reserve your spot. Register at www.tempe.gov/neighborhoods/workshop.htm or by contact the city's Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234 or neighborhoods@tempe.gov. The deadline to register is April 25.



Safely dispose of expired, unneeded medications

Tempe Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) are encouraging community members to safely dispose of unneeded and expired prescription and over-the-counter medications at an anonymous disposal event on Saturday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Tempe Police South Substation, 8201 S. Hardy Drive.

Last fall, Arizonans turned in more than 6,000 pounds of medications at sites operated by law enforcement agencies across the state, including Tempe. These events aim to impact accidental poisonings and overdoses, to stop theft and drug resale, and to encourage community members not to dispose of medications by flushing them down toilets, which can adversely impact our water supply and the environment.

Bring medications in original containers with personal information removed from labels. Syringes and needles of any kind cannot be accepted. For more information, visit <http://1.usa.gov/eB8TPU>.

Need info on Tempe's 2012 elections?

www.tempe.gov/clerk/election

Less smell, better service and – in the future – renewable energy

The City of Tempe is launching a new program for downtown restaurants aimed at easing the headaches of managing grease while bringing the city a step closer toward turning waste grease into renewable energy. The Tempe Grease Cooperative, set to launch in April, is a green partnership between the city and restaurants to better manage fats, oils and grease by joining together to get better service at a lower cost.

Through the cooperative, the city will purchase grease trap and interceptor services and manage the contracts, leaving one less hassle for busy restaurateurs and benefitting them by: lowering costs; improving service; providing quality assurance; eliminating regulatory inspections; preventing plumbing backups; and eliminating grease-related odors.

The program is voluntary and restaurants can choose to join or withdraw at any time. Several downtown restaurants are already eager for the program to start. The program will focus on downtown Tempe for the first year with plans to expand citywide later. Tempe will invite grease trap and interceptor service vendors to provide pricing on services that comply with Tempe's cleaning and maintenance requirements. The city will establish contracts with those that demonstrate low-cost, high-quality service and offer discounts based on higher levels of participation.

For more information or to enroll, visit www.tempe.gov/grease, call 480-350-2678 or email grease@tempe.gov.

Hoarding a major problem for first responders; resources are available

Imagine entering a smoke-filled home with boxes and papers stacked from floor to ceiling – you can't see anything and getting through the house is almost impossible. Tempe firefighters encounter this scenario all too often. Hoarding makes it difficult for first responders to help in the event of an emergency. It's a dangerous problem all around the Valley and in Tempe, but help is available.

Two Tempe firefighters were injured in March 2011 while fighting a fire in a home stacked with furniture, boxes and trash. Animal hoarding can be just as dangerous as hoarding material objects – thousands of animals suffer and die in these surroundings.

People with friends or loved ones who may have a problem with hoarding can seek help from the Arizona Hoarding Task Force at www.azhoarding.com. The group provides guidance in finding support groups and personal organization services. Tempe residents also can find help through CARE 7, the city's crisis response team, at 480-350-8004 or www.tempe.gov/care7.



Tempe's Zero Waste Day

Tempe residents are invited to participate in Zero Waste Day on Saturday, April 21, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Tempe Fire Training Facility, 1340 E. University Dr. (directly north of the Household Products Collection Center). Bring textiles, e-waste, scrap metal, household hazardous waste, tires, building supplies, appliances, shoes, paper, cardboard and other recyclables. The event will include secure paper shredding, free compost giveaways and a canned food drive for Tempe Community Action Agency. Residents who bring a can of food will get a free reusable shopping bag. Participants must show proof of Tempe residency, such as a driver's license or utility bill. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/recycling or call 480-350-4311.



Olde Towne Square

As one of the oldest communities in the Valley, Tempe is home to hundreds of historic buildings and structures. Each structure is significant in its own way, but few are as unique as Olde Towne Square, at 120-180 S. Ash Ave.

Olde Towne Square, or "the house museum," is a collection of five Territorial-era houses on 1.46 acres that were reconstructed in 1991 at Third Street and Ash Avenue. Combined, the structures have 9,400 square feet of office space, which are currently being used to house law firms and other businesses. The historic buildings in Olde Towne Square were built by pioneer homebuilders in Tempe.

Three of the buildings were built by J.W. Woolf and Milton Meyer, and are distinguished by their concrete columns and concrete blocks that resemble stone. Another building, the Woolf/Cole House, had been disassembled 20 years before the Olde Towne Square project. The pieces were discovered in storage, hauled to the site and reassembled on a new foundation. The architect of the project was Stu Siefer.

Because the homes lost some of their original details when being rebuilt, they are not eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. However, the project was a new approach to preserving historic buildings, said Joe Nucci, Tempe's Historic Preservation Officer.

"The impact of this project reaches far beyond its boundaries by preserving structures that would have otherwise been demolished by other projects, thus facilitating further redevelopment of the downtown," he said. The project won a Tempe Beautification Award of Merit in 1992.

Calendar

This is the tentative March/April schedule for Tempe City Council meetings.

March 8, 2012

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

March 22, 2012

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

April 7, 2012

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

April 28, 2012

3 p.m., Budget Review
6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and the Internet at www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

City Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 31 E. Fifth St. 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 and times with the City Clerk's Office, 480-350-8241 or at www.tempe.gov/clerk.

Tempe City Council

Hugh Hallman
Mayor

Joel Navarro
Vice Mayor

Robin Arredondo-Savage
Councilmember

Shana Ellis
Councilmember

Mark W. Mitchell
Councilmember

Onnie Shekerjian
Councilmember

Corey Woods
Councilmember

Charlie Meyer
City Manager

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

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News you can use

Tempe Diablos Excellence in Education Awards

For outstanding innovation in the classroom, teachers in the Tempe Elementary School District, the Tempe Union High School District and the Kyrene School District will be honored with \$220,000 in scholarships and awards at the Tempe Diablos' 23rd Annual Excellence in Education Awards on Monday, March 26, beginning at 7:30 p.m., at ASU Gammage, 1200 S. Forest Ave. Holocaust survivor, author and 2010 Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient Gerda Weissmann Klein will be the guest speaker. The event is free and open to the public. The awards and descriptions are available at www.tempeschools.org/diablos.

Mayor's Disability Awards

Students, employees and employers will be honored for making Tempe a community of acceptance and diversity at the 24th Annual Mayor's Disability Awards on Tuesday, April 24, at 3:30 p.m., at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. Mayor Hugh Hallman, in partnership with the Tempe Commission on Disability Concerns and Tempe Community Council, will honor those who have overcome significant barriers to succeed in the workplace, as well as the employers and architects who support the full participation of people with disabilities in the workplace and all aspects of community life. Check www.tempe.gov/tcc for details. The event is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. To reserve a seat, contact Tempe Community Council at 480-858-2300.

Poetry in April

The 12th season of the Poetry in April series continues with a reading each Wednesday during the month of April at the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 S. Rio Salado Parkway. Admission is free. Poetry in April celebrates National Poetry Month. Readings take place from 7-8:30 p.m. and are followed by discussions moderated by local poet and artist Catherine Hammond. Light food and beverages are available in the TCA Lounge. For a full schedule of poet appearances, visit www.tempe.gov/arts/events/Poetry.htm.

Free financial education workshops for families

Families are welcome to attend three free workshops that will provide information and tips on budgeting, handling credit and purchasing homes. The sessions, on March 28, April 4 and April 11, will be held at the Kyrene School District Office, 8700 S. Kyrene Rd. Children must be at least 6 years old and accompanied by a parent or adult. Classes are open to the public, but pre-registration is required and there is no childcare available for children under age 6. Register via phone at 602-377-2837, email at signup@arizonasaves.org or at www.eventbrite.com.

Beautify your yard and save water

The City of Tempe offers free landscape workshops to help residents learn how to beautify their yards and conserve water through xeriscaping, which simply means landscaping in ways that reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental water. The workshops focus on different phases of the process:

- April 7 – Principles and design aspects of xeriscape.
- April 14 – Selection of xeriscape plant materials and maintenance.
- April 21 – Drip irrigation design, installation and maintenance.

Workshops are held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Tempe South Police Station Community Room, 8201 S. Hardy Dr. Participants receive a free xeriscape workbook and brochures about conversion and design, drip irrigation and maintenance. To register or for more information, visit www.tempe.gov/conservation/workshop.htm or call Richard Bond at 480-350-2627.

"Lessons from the Hohokam" exhibit at Tempe History Museum

Visit the opening of a new exhibit at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave., on Saturday, April 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. "Lessons from the Hohokam: Our Future with Water" was created through a partnership between the Tempe History Museum and Arizona State University's School of Human Evolution and Social Change. The Hohokam people used Salt River water to create a society that thrived for hundreds of years, but ultimately collapsed. Today we are again using river water to survive in the desert. This exhibit will showcase the lessons we can learn from the Hohokam that could help our desert survive and thrive. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/museum.



Tempe Spring Festival of the Arts

Join thousands of shoppers in the Mill Avenue District

for the spring Tempe Festival of the Arts, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 30-31 and April 1.

The Tempe Festival of the Arts consistently ranks among the Top 20 art festivals in the nation by Sunshine Artist and has received the Pinnacle Award from the International Festival and Events Association. The spring and fall events each attract nearly 250,000 visitors to the Mill Avenue District over the course of a three-day weekend.

While the Tempe Festival of the Arts primarily focuses on art and the artists that create it, there are also a wide variety of other activities for guests to enjoy. Live entertainment stages feature performances by a number of well-known local musicians. For more information, visit www.millavenue.com.



KidZone leader honored for commitment to after-school program

KidZone is an enrichment program in Tempe that provides before and after-school programming for

children in pre-school through eighth grade. Existing in 19 Tempe and Kyrene schools, the KidZone program offers a safe and educational environment for children requiring out-of-school care. What makes KidZone special isn't necessarily its programs, but its staff, who keep kids motivated and excited to return every day. Jeremy King is one of those people. Assistant Recreation Coordinator at the Kyrene de la Mariposa Elementary School, King works tirelessly to make sure children are provided with an after-school home away from home.

King was recently recognized for his accomplishments at The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence's Spotlight on Afterschool Excellence Awards. He received the award for Outstanding Afterschool Professional for his commitment to all 140 of his KidZone students. Having worked in the before-and- after-school area for over 12 years, King knows the importance of such programs. He serves close to 175 families throughout the week and works to "create memorable childhood experiences for every student, every day."

For more information on KidZone, visit www.tempe.gov/kidzone. For more information on Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence, visit www.azafterschool.org.

Time to fire up the grill

Spring is here and that means barbecue season is upon us. The Tempe Fire Department wants to remind you to be safe whether cooking in your kitchen or on a barbecue grill. Every year people using barbecue grills start hundreds of fires.

The Uniform Fire Code, adopted by the City of Tempe, prohibits grilling on patios and balconies in multi-family complexes. In single family residences, move the barbecue grill out from under patios. If using charcoal grills, do not use gasoline as fuel; use charcoal light fuel only. Most importantly, keep children away from the grill. The kitchen is often one of the busiest and most dangerous places in the home. Sixty five percent of all residential fires are related to the kitchen. **Here are some simple tips to help keep your kitchen safe:**

- Turn handles inward when using pots and pans on the stove.
- When cooking, wear tight fitting clothing or shirts with short sleeves.
- Do not leave food unattended on the stove.
- Clean vent filters regularly. Keep stoves free of grease and oil.
- Place hot dishes on center of table or counter, not close to the edge.
- Do not allow electrical cords to dangle over the edge of counter or table. Unplug electrical appliances when not in use. Do not overload electrical outlets. Use only appliances with a laboratory testing label, i.e.; UL or FM.
- Popcorn can burn easily in a microwave so follow package directions carefully. Do not cook food in metal containers in the microwave.

In case of a fire:

- Cover the pan or fryer with a tight-fitting lid. Slide the lid over the fire from the side. Turn the appliance off.
- Do not pour water onto a grease fire. Use a fire extinguisher.
- Do not carry the burning pan or fryer to the kitchen sink or outdoors.
- If a fire starts in a microwave, close the door and unplug the cord.
- If the fire spreads rapidly, call 9-1-1.

For more cooking safety tips, including how to treat burns, visit www.tempe.gov/fire.

Time to sign up for summer school!

Tempe Elementary School District is set to begin registering students for fun, exciting and educational summer classes. Tempe's summer school program is among the least expensive in the Valley and offers a wide variety of classes for both in- and out-of-district students who are going into kindergarten through ninth grades.

Classes deal with topics like robotics, engineering, pirates, writing, Ancient Egypt, computers, mathematics, movies and music. Classes run Monday through Thursday, from June 4-28, at Curry Elementary and Connolly Middle School. Transportation within the Tempe Elementary District boundaries is available.

Registration begins March 5 online and in-person at the Sanchez Administration Building at 3205 S. Rural Road, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. except during Spring Break, March 12-16. To view a course catalog, visit www.tempeschools.org/summerschool or call 480-730-7306.

2012 Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards nominations

Tempe Community Council is accepting nominations for the 29th annual Don Carlos Humanitarian Award. Presented annually by the Tempe Community Council Board of Directors, the Don Carlos Humanitarian Award is one of Tempe's most prestigious honors. This award is presented to a person, or couple, who has given outstanding service to our community over an extended period of time, has benefited the less fortunate in lasting ways and has made Tempe a better place to live. The nominee should be a person who is, or has been, a resident of Tempe or who works in Tempe, has served the community by volunteering to help his/her fellow citizens in some important way and has brought credit to his/her profession or organization through personal service to others. Nomination forms are available at www.tempe.gov/tcc or by calling 480-858-2300.

Tempe Fire Department offers free blood pressure checks

Tempe Fire Department personnel are available seven days a week to take free blood pressure readings. Residents can stop by any of the Tempe fire stations listed below from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- Station 1, 1450 E. Apache Boulevard
- Station 2, 3025 S. Hardy Drive
- Station 3, 5440 S. McClintock Drive
- Station 4, 300 E. Elliot Road
- Station 5, 723 E. Curry Road
- Station 6, 655 S. Ash Avenue

Residents should ring the doorbell located near the main entrance of the fire station. No appointment is necessary. There will be times when firefighters will be out of the station responding to emergency calls. If the crew is away from the station, check back at a later time or try another station.

High blood pressure often has no symptoms. High blood pressure can lead to heart attacks, heart failure, stroke and kidney disease. It's recommended to have your blood pressure checked twice a year. Factors that can contribute to high blood pressure include: being overweight; smoking; drinking alcohol; not exercising; consuming too much salt; stress; and other medical conditions.

For more information, contact the Public Education Section of the Fire Department at 480-858-7230 or visit www.tempe.gov/fire.

Underage drinking reduction campaign

The Tempe Coalition, whose purpose is to help youth reach their full potential by reducing underage drinking and drug use, is in the midst of a citywide underage drinking reduction campaign, titled 21 or Too Young. The coalition hopes to educate the community about the harmful effects underage drinking has on youth.

Research shows that people who start using alcohol regularly before age 15 have a 40 percent chance of becoming alcoholics. In Tempe, the average age of first use of alcohol is 12.5 years. Research like this is what the coalition hopes will prompt community members to support the reduction of underage drinking in Tempe.

The coalition has developed a pledge for parents, adults and youth to sign saying they will not support, provide for, or participate in the act of underage drinking. The pledge, along with the public service announcements created for the 21 or Too Young campaign, is available on the Tempe Coalition website at www.tempecoalition.com. The coalition urges Tempe community members to join the cause and support to reduce underage alcohol consumption in Tempe by signing the 21 or Too Young pledge, and urging youth in their lives to sign it with them.

For more information, email tempecoalition@tempe.gov or call 480-858-2301.



Rail Ride program takes you to events

METRO and US Airways Center have teamed up to offer the Rail Ride program, a unique deal allowing light rail riders to take the train to events at no additional cost. This means your ticket to any concert, event or basketball game at the center is also valid fare for light rail to and from the event.

You are required to keep your event ticket with you when riding light rail and must show your event ticket to a fare inspector upon request. Failure to show a valid event ticket can result in fines ranging from \$50 to \$500. US Airways event tickets are good for light rail only – they are not valid as bus fare. While other opportunities have been explored, this is METRO's only ticket partnership; you must possess valid fare to travel to any other event center along the line.

For questions and more information about the Rail Ride program, call 602-253-5000 or visit www.metrolightrail.org. Be sure to also stay connected with METRO at www.facebook.com/InsideMETROlightrail and www.twitter.com/METROrail.