



Annual neighborhood workshop highlights residents

Tempe will recognize the contributions of its residents, neighborhood associations and homeowners associations on Saturday, April 18, from 7:30 a.m. to noon, at the 2009 Neighborhood Workshop and Neighbor of the Year Awards. The event is a chance to meet other Tempe residents, learn new tips for your area, discover ways you can get involved in your community, and get inspiration from the efforts of others.

Breakfast will be offered at this free, half-day event at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave., followed by an awards ceremony saluting the work of dedicated community members. Residents also may register for workshops that will be offered after the awards ceremony, covering topics such as historic preservation, the Carl Hayden Campus for Sustainability, oral histories and more. Keynote speaker Donovan Rypkema, an international authority on the positive economics of preserving historic structures, will be sponsored by the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation.

For more information and to reserve a spot at the event, call 480-350-8234 or e-mail neighborhoods@tempe.gov. The deadline to register for the event is April 15. The city's Neighborhood Services Division will continue to accept nominations for the Neighbor of the Year Awards through Feb. 23. Visit www.tempe.gov/neighborhoods and click on "Neighbors of the Year" for a nomination form.



Successful education partnerships bring rewards for Tempe

By Tempe City Councilmember P. Ben Arredondo

Great schools are the foundation of our neighborhoods and essential to a healthy and vibrant community. As Chair of the City Council's Education Partnerships Committee, Councilmember Joel Navarro and I are committed to studying and identifying mutually beneficial school partnerships. I believe that we can achieve our greatest successes only by working together as partners.

The purpose of the Education Partnerships Committee is to create collaborative alliances that enhance the quality and delivery of education in Tempe. We will be working with our residents and educational partners, such as Arizona State University, the Maricopa Community Colleges, the Tempe Union High School District, the Tempe Elementary School District, the Kyrene School District, charter schools and non-profits that further education.

We have set high goals for our committee's work because, especially in this challenging economic environment, partnerships become increasingly vital as resources diminish. Some of our goals include:

- Coordinating human and social services programs and resources between schools and the City of Tempe, where appropriate, in order to address the needs of our students and parents. Communities in Schools of Tempe and Kyrene, through its nine family resource centers, is providing support to thousands of children and families in the Tempe Elementary and Kyrene school districts to help them through these difficult economic times.
- Enhancing communication and information sharing to promote city and school activities. Using district and school communication tools, as well as city tools such as Tempe 11 and Tempe Today, we can ensure that residents and parents are informed about the latest events and issues.
- Increasing participation in and knowledge of recycling efforts among students and their families. This year, the city plans to introduce a mobile recycling information center that will be made available to schools to promote the ease of recycling. In addition, Tempe continues to be the only city in Arizona partnering with Nike to recycle athletic shoes that are used to make athletic courts.
- Continuing to identify and facilitate resource sharing among all educational entities, educational non-profits and the City of Tempe so that resources are maximized and services improved. One critical example is our School Resource Officer program, which ensures there is an officer in all Tempe middle schools and high schools, providing our students and teachers with a safer environment in which to learn and grow.
- Assisting students in becoming fully participating and empowered members of our Tempe community. Our young people are our greatest hope for a strong and successful community in the future. Focus areas will include dropout prevention and increasing mass transit use, among others.

The Education Partnerships Council Committee's work plan is available at www.tempe.gov/clerk/CouncilCommittees.htm. Please feel free to call me anytime at 480-350-8834, or via e-mail at ben_arredondo@tempe.gov with any ideas or feedback. I welcome the input and the opportunity to shape change in our community.



Rotary River Rally turns 10

Think you can stay afloat in a cardboard boat? Then join the fun Saturday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Tempe Town Lake for the 10th Annual Rotary River Rally. Each year, as many as 100 teams build boats and paddle them through a 200-yard race course. The catch? The boats are made using only corrugated cardboard, glue and paint! If you're not first to cross the finish line, other trophies are given out for the competitors who are Best Dressed, Most Spirited and Most Creative. There's also the Titanic Award for the most spectacular sinking! This event is great for families, scout groups, youth groups, after-school groups, high school and college students, company teams and individuals.

Free Boat Building Clinics will be held in Tempe before the big event, so participants can get tips from seasoned pros. The clinics are free and participants are asked to register for them in advance. The first clinic will be Saturday, Feb. 28, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, at ITT Technical Institute, 5005 S. Wendler Drive. The second clinic will be Saturday, March 21, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the North Tempe Multi-generational Center, 1555 North Bridalwreath St.

For more information, visit www.RotaryRiverRally.com. To register for the boat building clinics, call 480-905-5944.

Secure pool equipment to prevent copper theft

The Tempe Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit has identified a trend showing thieves have been stealing pool cleaning equipment from residential yards across the Valley to obtain copper. Last year, from late April to early December, about 80 thefts of pool cleaning equipment occurred across the Valley, including in Tempe. These items were valued at \$74,000. Thieves steal pool equipment, access the copper inside and sell it. Tempe residents are encouraged to secure their pool equipment by keeping gates closed and locked at all times. For more information and to find additional crime prevention tips, visit www.tempe.gov/cpu.

Free tax preparation for qualified residents

Free tax preparation, electronic filing and direct deposit of tax refunds are available for qualified individuals and couples every Saturday through April 11 (except March 14) from 9 a.m. to noon at Tempe Schools Credit Union, 2800 S. Mill Ave. This site has Spanish translators and is accessible for people with disabilities. Volunteer tax preparers certified by the IRS will provide free tax preparation and electronic filing for individuals earning \$35,000 or less per year and couples making \$55,000 or less per year. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/tcc/taxhelp.



Angels spring training in Tempe is a home run

Through April 1, head out to Tempe Diablo Stadium for spring training with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim and enjoy every bit of your day in the sun! The first home game of the season, on Feb. 25 against the Chicago White Sox, will give fans the chance to support local charities while watching two of last season's top American League teams face off in Cactus League play at Diablo Stadium, 2200 W. Alameda Drive. All proceeds from ticket sales, parking, concessions and merchandise on that day will directly benefit the youth sports and education causes

supported by the Tempe Diablos. Last year's Charity Game raised more than \$47,000 for Diablos charities.

Tickets for all Angels home games are available at Ticketmaster.com or at Diablo Stadium. Tickets range from \$6 to \$27.50. For more details, visit www.tempe.gov/diablo. For more information on the Tempe Diablos, visit www.tempediablos.org. See you at the ballpark!

Read Tempe Today online at: Tempe.gov/tempetoday



Pictured, from left to right: PMT Ambulance Medic Derek Boehm; Tempe Fire Captain Paramedic Ed Sanchez; ASU Police Officer Dan Gaughan; Roy Jones and his wife; Tempe Firefighter John Garza; Tempe Engineer Paramedic Paul Engel; Tempe Captain Paramedic Aaron Novack; and Tempe Emergency Medical Coordinator Mike Baros



Tempe Fire uses new CCR technique

Roy Jones and his wife were enjoying a Tempe Symphony Orchestra performance Dec. 1 at ASU Gammage when the 74-year-old man was rendered unconscious by a heart attack.

To save Jones, first responders from the Arizona State University Police and Tempe Fire Department employed Cardio Cerebral Resuscitation (CCR) before he was transported to Tempe St. Luke's Hospital. CCR has replaced Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) as the preferred lifesaving technique among many emergency response organizations.

ASU Police started the CCR process on Jones and Tempe Fire Department Engine 276 responders continued the method upon their arrival. Jones is the first person saved in Tempe since the department began using CCR in November.

Jones lives in Apache Junction for six months each year, as a winter visitor from Indiana. In a moving reunion on Dec. 22 at Tempe St. Luke's, the emergency personnel involved met Jones for the first time since saving him.

For more information on CCR, visit www.azshare.gov.

Tempe to host Orbit open house

The City of Tempe's Transportation Division, Tempe in Motion, is soliciting public input on the performance of the Orbit neighborhood circulator system. Two meetings will be held to gather information from residents on their experience with the service and ideas for improvement using existing resources. Meetings will be held March 25, from 6-8 p.m., and March 26, from 2-4 p.m. Both meetings will be in the second-floor Don Cassano Community Room at the Tempe Transportation Center, 200 E. Fifth St. Beginning March 2, residents may also submit comments online at www.tempe.gov. For information, call 480-350-2775 or visit www.tempe.gov/tim.

Tempe employee returns wallet, helps spread holiday spirit

An act of honesty by Tempe Public Works Department employee Mark Whittle meant a happier holiday for six underprivileged children late last year. Whittle was driving his solid waste collection route in south Tempe route when he found Phoenix lawyer Charles Keller's wallet in the street. When Keller was called to retrieve his wallet, he offered Whittle a reward for returning it. Whittle declined the reward but asked Keller to instead use the money to purchase holiday gifts for less fortunate children. Keller did just that, buying toys for several children. This story of holiday cheer was told by the media in late December, through newspaper articles and TV news stories.

Andre Building

Many historic Tempe buildings are distinct, whether for alleged mysterious happenings inside, for their design, or for the diverse businesses that have occupied them. Downtown Tempe's Andre Building secured its place in history for all of these reasons.

The Andre Building, located at Fourth Street and Mill Avenue, was built in 1888 by Captain R.G. Andre as a saddlery and harness shop. In 1899, a fire completely destroyed the original building, causing Andre to rebuild it a year later and continue to operate his business. Later, after the building became part of the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, the exterior of the building was fully restored to its original appearance by 1981.

In 1999, 100 years after the first fire, the building was engulfed in flames again. However, unlike the first time, the building was able to withstand the fire due to structural renovations made throughout the years. The Andre Building received an Award of Merit from the Tempe Beautification Awards in 1996 and 2001 and the Award of Distinction in 2001.

It is the Victorian and Neo-Classical architecture of the Andre Building that allows it to stand out from other businesses along Mill Avenue. After Andre first sold the building in 1902, it has changed hands many times. Through the years, the two-story building has housed an array of businesses and organizations, including furniture stores, undertakers, a Masonic Lodge, the U.S. Post Office, restaurants and the Arizona Cotton Growers Association. One of the building's current occupants is Rula Bula.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/museum/.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The February/March schedule for Tempe City Council meetings

February 5, 2009

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

February 19, 2009

3 p.m. Five-Year Financial Planning
6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

March 5, 2009

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

March 26, 2009

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 on the Web site at www.tempe.gov/clerk.

Tempe City Council

Hugh Hallman, Mayor

Shana Ellis, Vice Mayor

P. Ben Arredondo, Councilmember

Mark W. Mitchell, Councilmember

Joel Navarro, Councilmember

Onnie Shekerjian, Councilmember

Corey Woods, Councilmember

Charlie Meyer, City Manager

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City of Tempe
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News you can use

32nd Spring Tempe Festival of the Arts

More than 450 fine artists and craftspeople will display and sell their original visual art at the 32nd Spring Tempe Festival of the Arts, Friday, March 27, through Sunday, March 29, in the Mill Avenue District. The free event boasts entertainment and family activities each day from 10 a.m. to dusk Visit www.tempefestivalofthearts.com for more details.

Kiwanis Recreation Center wave pool

The Kiwanis Recreation Center wave pool offers family fun in March, including:

- Spring Break Waves: March 7-14, from 1-5 p.m., residents can head to the pool during spring break.
- Swim-tastic Spring Fun Day: On March 14, from 1-3 p.m., Kiwanis hosts an event for the whole family. Admission is \$15 for two adults 13 and older and two kids ages 2-12. There will also be a family meal deal for \$15.
- Happy Birthdays Day: March 28, from 1-3 p.m., there will be free admission to the wave pool with proof of a March birthday.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/kiwanis.

Go Green! Earth Festival

Learn what you can do to help care for the environment on Saturday, March 7, from 1-4 p.m., at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road. The free family event includes entertainment by Step's Junk Funk, activities, community booths featuring crafts and information celebrating the Earth. Refreshments will also be provided. For more information, call 480-350-5522.

Spring Parks and Recreation classes begin March 23

Residents can find that perfect spring recreational opportunity through Tempe's array of Parks and Recreation classes, which begin March 23. Registration for residents begins Feb. 23. The Tempe Opportunities Brochure will be available at www.tempe.gov/brochure starting Feb. 20. Registration can be completed online, by fax or in person at many city community centers. For more information, call 480-350-5200.

Conversations in Leadership

Tempe Leadership will host the third annual Conversations in Leadership breakfast Friday, March 27, at the Fiesta Resort, 2100 S. Priest Drive. This event brings three leaders from diverse industries together to discuss leadership issues. One of the featured panelists at the event will be Derrick Hall, President and CEO of the Arizona Diamondbacks. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the breakfast and program begin at 8:30 a.m. For ticket information and updates, visit www.tempeleadership.org or e-mail cyndy_lawshe@tempe.gov.

Summer school registration begins

Early online registration for Tempe Elementary School District summer classes begins March 2; in-person registration begins March 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Sanchez Administration Building, 3205 S. Rural Road. Topics for summer classes include digital photography, engineering/robotics, a babysitting clinic, wearable art and drama. Classes are Monday through Thursday, June 1-25, at Curry Elementary School and Connolly Middle School. Transportation for students within the Tempe Elementary School District is available. For questions, call 480-730-7306. For online registration and to view a course catalog, visit www.tempeschools.org/summerschool.

Volunteers to plant trees and paint homes

Tempe Cares, a non-profit volunteer organization led by Tempe Leadership, plans to tackle three projects for its 18th annual workday on Saturday, March 7. Many of the volunteers will support Tempe Parks and Recreation's Trees for Tempe program, planting trees at Tempe Beach Park, Tempe Center for the Arts, Giuliano Park and Jaycee Park. Volunteers also will paint homes in the Clark Park neighborhood. To volunteer your time, contact Tempe Cares volunteer coordinator Rebecka Johnson at 480-250-3488. For monetary contributions to Trees for Tempe, contact Parks supervisor Jeff Carroll at 480-350-5977.