



Tempe Today



a community newsletter

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www.tempe.gov/newsroom

July 2009



Tempe provides residents with job search resources

The Tempe Public Library is extending a helping hand to residents looking for jobs or seeking new careers with a newly expanded job search Web site that includes a compiled list of resources for residents to use when looking for new jobs. The site includes links to popular job search sites, classified ads, how-to tips and other tools to help navigate job hunts. The library has also expanded its job search display.

Tempe felt that it was important for residents to have a place that would allow for the process to be more convenient, now that more people are using library computers to search for jobs and create resumes. The Web site also provides links to resources like the Maricopa Workforce Connection, sites where residents can research employers and books available in the library.

For more information, visit www.tempe.gov and click on "Job Hunting Resources" under Hot Topics.



Tempe earns GE ecomagination Leadership Award for water facility

For its efforts in developing a new, sustainable water source that helps overcome water scarcity, the City of Tempe has received a GE ecomagination Leadership Award. Ecomagination is GE's strategy to address the need for cleaner, more efficient sources of energy, reduced emissions and abundant sources of clean water.

Tempe's Kyrene Water Reclamation Facility won the award, which is given to entities that demonstrate significant environmental and economical performance improvements, striking a balance between today's environmental, industrial and sustainability challenges.

An upgrade at the water facility features GE's ZeeWeed Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) technology, a product of ecomagination. The facility's capacity has doubled from 4.5 to 9 million gallons of water a day, with a peak flow of 11.7 million gallons, making it one of the largest MBR plants in North America.

"We have to make use of every water resource that we possibly can," said Don Hawkes, Tempe's Water Utilities Manager. "This technology provides the flexibility to take waste water and turn it into a commodity that is marketable and usable."

The reclaimed water produced by the Kyrene Water Reclamation Facility exceeds Arizona Class A+ water reuse requirements and plays a critical role in the city's long-term water management strategy. High-quality, treated effluent is used for non-potable applications such as cooling at a major power plant and irrigation at a municipal golf course. The city also injects the reclaimed water into local aquifers, earning aquifer storage credits that can be used to access additional water supplies during times of drought. This expanded water reclamation program results in the reuse of an additional 2.5 billion gallons a year of water for commercial and industrial applications, and for aquifer storage.



Tempe student succeeds as Red Cross CPR instructor

For many students, school breaks are a time to relax. For Pooja Rajguru, 17, her 2008 fall break was the perfect time to learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid from the American Red Cross.

“Ever since I was a child, the American Red Cross has been active everywhere,” Rajguru said. “Ever since then I’ve been wanting to get involved.”

Rajguru, who graduated from Corona del Sol High School in May, is the youngest CPR and first aid instructor in the Red Cross’ Grand Canyon Chapter. She even served as president of her high school’s Red Cross Club, which participated in Race for the Cure and Relay for Life, and provided first aid kits for each classroom.

“It’s very interesting to be an instructor,” said Rajguru, who aims to enroll at the University of Arizona as a biosystems engineering major. “I can build my leadership [and] communications skills, and interact with many different people.”

Tracey Kiest, communications manager for the Red Cross’ Grand Canyon Chapter, called Rajguru “an inspiration.”

“It’s amazing to see someone so young giving back so much for her community,” she said.

The Red Cross’ Grand Canyon Chapter, one of two in Arizona, is the sixth-largest chapter in the country.

Tempe Newsroom

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Tempe in Touch Home News Archive Text Menu

Household waste facility celebrates 10 years

In April, the City of Tempe's Household Products Collection Center (HPCC) celebrated 10 years of protecting the health and safety of Tempe and Guadalupe residents. Since opening on Earth Day in 1999, the center – the first of its kind in the Valley – has recycled more than 1.5 million pounds of potentially hazardous household waste.

An estimated 55 percent of materials collected are flammable and toxic, such as gasoline and insecticides, while another 25 percent includes batteries and "e-waste," such as computers and monitors. The HPCC recycles more than 88 percent of the materials it receives, saving space in our landfill and saving our storm drains and groundwater from potential contamination.

Recent trends toward "green" living and sustainability have resonated with residents, as shown by a record-breaking year in 2008 at the HPCC. So far in 2009, the center is on pace to exceed that record. HPCC employees make use of paint that has been dropped off at the center, mixing it to make other colors that can be re-used by the city. Patrons to the center can even "shop" for free items they need, including paint, stains, cleaning products, automotive products, and lawn and garden products.

6/11/2009 Tempe residents are invited to attend upcoming community and regional workshops to learn, learn and share their thoughts regarding Pajada Park.

6/10/2009 City of Tempe community members are invited to assist the 2010 U.S. Census effort by serving on the city's volunteer Complete Count Committee.

6/10/2008 Tempe to celebrate Independence Day with Arizona's largest fireworks show over Tempe Town Lake.

6/9/2008 Close Enough String Band sets free performance at TCA.

6/6/2008 City offers software updates for computer usage during library renovation.

5/29/2008 Tempe reminds businesses and residents to clean drains before monsoons.

5/29/2008 City of Tempe earns GC recognition Leadership Award.

5/28/2008 Thursday evening (May 28, 2008), the Tempe City Council unanimously approved changes to the City of Tempe Ordinance (Ordinance No.2009.11).

5/28/2008 Tempe could have Arizona's first historic neighborhood since Prop. 207 with Dale Park Mall.

5/27/2008 Tempe offers seven aquatic facilities to keep you and your family cool this summer.

5/27/2008 U.S. Census Bureau prepares for the 2010 Census.

5/27/2008 Tempe Police Department's ACTION Team (Attacking Crime Trends in Our Neighborhoods) continues to be a vital part of the Tempe Police Department.

Tempe Today

Tempe's Local Station - LIVE!

Email Subscriptions

Social Media

Blog with Tempe Development
Blog with Tempe CVB
Twitter with Tempe
Twitter with DTC
YouTube - Tempe 11
Facebook - Support TCC
Facebook - TCC Fan page
RSS Feeds
Kodak Easy Share
Photobucket

Links

Mayor and Council
Street Closures
Bus and Rail Information
Records Request Form
Events Calendar

City launches newsroom, social media tools

Tempe has launched an online hub for all city-related news: www.tempe.gov/newsroom. Residents and media alike can visit the page regularly for updates on Tempe happenings. Video and downloadable photos are also accessible via the site. The Web page serves as a home for Tempe's social media tools, including Twitter and Facebook. Community members can sign up to follow Tempe on Twitter for even more up-to-the minute information. The city welcomes feedback about the page – to let us know your thoughts, please contact Communication and Media Relations Director Nikki Ripley at 480-350-8846 or via e-mail at nikki_ripley@tempe.gov.



Tempe Center for the Arts highlights children's book illustrators

The thriving art scene of contemporary Arizona children's book illustrators will be on display in "Read Me a Picture: Arizona Children's Book Illustrators," from July 18 to Sept. 19, at the Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway.

The exhibition will showcase the work of Arizona artists whose illustrations have been published in children's books, including Tucson artist Chris Gall's "Dinotrux," which is being developed as an animated film by DreamWorks. Gall's 32-page book imagines a prehistoric world ruled by Dinotrux—part truck, part dinosaur – with species like the Craneosaurus, Garbageadon and Tyrannosaurus Trux plowing and bulldozing their way across the terrain.

Other artists at the exhibition include: Molly Idle, of Tempe; Tanje Bauerle, of Gilbert; David Christiana and Paul Mirocha, of Tucson; Shonto Begay and Bajé Whitehorne, of Flagstaff; Anne Coe, of Apache Junction; and Sylvia Long, of Scottsdale. For gallery hours and information, visit www.tempe.gov/tca/gallery/exhibitions.htm.

Tempe City Council approves towing changes

In May, the Tempe City Council approved changes to the city's towing ordinance that are expected to relieve some of the headaches downtown patrons may encounter if their vehicles are towed. The changes provide increased protection for drivers who have had their vehicles towed while maintaining appropriate enforcement of parking violations.

One major change involves proof of ownership. Under the revised ordinance, a current rental or lease agreement will now be acceptable proof of ownership for a towed vehicle. If the driver's documents are inside the vehicle, the towing company must allow for retrieval of the documents to verify ownership.

Tow companies also must now accept credit and debit card payments for fees and are prohibited from charging additional fees for non-cash payments. The ordinance also prohibits tow companies from charging any fees not specifically authorized by Tempe City Code.

Towing companies are now required to notify the Tempe Police Department prior to towing, immobilizing or transporting vehicles. The ordinance previously allowed tow companies to make that notification within one hour after the tow. The change will allow police to quickly resolve questions about whether vehicles have been towed or stolen.

Grant extends free online tutoring at Tempe Public Library

The Live Homework Help service, provided by Tutor.com for several Tempe facilities, will be available to students for the next school year thanks to a \$16,000 grant provided by the Tempe Diablos, a local community organization. The service connects students online to expert tutors in math, science, social studies and English. Spanish-speaking tutors are also available to help students.

Tempe students in grades four through 12 and introductory-level college students may use this service from their home computers, or with computers at the Tempe Public Library, the Escalante Multi-Generational Center, and the North Tempe Multi-Generational Center.

The service began in November 2007 and was initially funded with a grant from the Arizona State Library. In 2008, more than 2,000 students received online tutoring assistance with this free service. Visit www.tempe.gov/library/homeworkhelp to learn more.

G.A.I.N. kickoff event

Tempe residents interested in planning neighborhood parties for G.A.I.N. – Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods – can attend a kickoff event Wednesday, Sept. 16, from 6-8 p.m., at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave. Attendees can enjoy a light dinner, pick up information packets, get advice on hosting successful G.A.I.N. events and enter a raffle drawing for prizes. Registration for the kickoff is required by going to www.tempe.gov/cpu/GAIN. Throughout Tempe on Oct. 24, neighborhoods will hold G.A.I.N. parties in order to get to know each other better, which police say is the best crime prevention device. For more information, call 480-858-6027 or Cyndi_calender@tempe.gov.



A vintage-style real estate advertisement for Date Palm Manor. The ad is framed with a decorative border and features a palm tree illustration in the top right corner. The text reads: "DATE PALM MANOR (SW Corner Mill Avenue and Broadway)", "Protect Your Future CHOOSE YOUR HOMESITE NOW IN DATE PALM MANOR Lots \$1,950 to \$2,500 Here's the extras you get -- ASPHALT surfaced streets, curbs and SIDEWALKS included in the price of lot!", "Developed by: AGNEW CONSTRUCTION CO. High Quality Custom-Built Homes", "Open for Inspection SUNDAY, APRIL 11 - 2-6 P.M.", "You Will Like... DATE PALM MANOR", and "TEMPE REALTY CO. REALTORS 323 Mill Avenue Phone WO 7-2921". There is also a small illustration of a woman in a hat on the right side of the ad.

Built in the 1950s, Date Palm Manor is now Tempe's fourth historic district and the first historic district to be created in Arizona since voters passed Proposition 207, the Private Property Rights Act, in 2006. The Tempe City Council voted May 28 to add the subdivision to the Tempe Historic Property Register.

In 1954, Presley L. Agnew began turning 40 acres of a former orchard located at the southwest corner of Mill Avenue and Broadway Road, into an exclusive development of large and expensive homes. The subdivision was annexed into the city limits before being developed. The area was subdivided into Date Palm Manor between 1953 and 1959, and its 38 lots for single-family homes began selling in 1954.

The ranch-style homes sold for more than twice what others in Tempe cost at the time. Many were built with central air conditioning and swimming pools. Agnew also sold some lots to those who wanted to build their own houses, stipulating minimum standards for construction materials, quality, and house size in the lot deeds.

The Date Palm Manor Historic District is a great example of early post-World War II custom home development in Tempe. It also is the first residential subdivision to be developed south of Broadway Road.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The July/August schedule for Tempe City Council meetings:

July 2, 2009

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

August 20, 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

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

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News you can use

Tempe elementary schools start Aug. 11 – registration ongoing

Through July 16, the Tempe Elementary School District will register children for school Monday through Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Sanchez Administration Building, 3205 S. Rural Road. Beginning July 20, registration will take place at each school's office.

Register for Parks and Recreation fall programs in August

Registration for Tempe Parks and Recreation's fall programs and classes begins Aug. 10 for Tempe residents and Aug. 17 for non-residents. Classes begin the week of Sept. 8. The Tempe Opportunities brochure will no longer be mailed to Tempe residents in the fall but will be available online beginning Aug. 7 at www.tempe.gov/brochure. A limited number of hardcopies will be available at Tempe community centers. Residents may request to receive the brochure by mail by visiting www.tempe.gov/brochure or by completing and mailing in the form on the inside cover of the brochure's current summer issue.

Get ready for annual Sun Devil Football Kickoff Luncheon

Hundreds of Arizona State University football fans are expected to turn out for the ninth annual Sun Devil Football Kickoff Luncheon scheduled for Aug. 28, at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel, 60 E. Fifth St. The Tempe Chamber of Commerce and the ASU Alumni Association are putting on the event, and head coach Dennis Erickson, the Sun Devil football players and cheerleaders, coaching staff and Sparky will be in attendance. For tickets, call 480-967-7891 or visit www.tempechamber.org.

Got a flat roof?

As monsoon season arrives, the City of Tempe Fire Department reminds residents that the best way to prevent damage to flat roofs during storms is to keep drains clear of debris. During the annual monsoons, several Tempe homes and businesses with flat roofs experience collapses that result in thousands of dollars in damage. Flat roofs on businesses and homes depend on a clean and unobstructed drainage system. Over time, these roof drains become clogged with debris that should be removed prior to the monsoon rains. This simple maintenance practice prevents major damage to structures, saves lives and allows for uninterrupted business activities. For more information, contact the Tempe Fire Department at 480-858-7230.

Mayor Hugh Hallman to speak at Chamber lunch

Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman will be the guest presenter at the Tempe Chamber of Commerce's Hot Topics and Lunch, scheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 20. Hallman will give his assessment of Tempe's present and future. For tickets and location information, call 480-967-7891 or visit www.tempechamber.org.

Tempe residents invited to share ideas for the future of Papago Park

Since this spring, Tempe, Phoenix, Scottsdale and the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community have been working with the public to develop a vision and series of recommendations for Papago Park's master plan. Residents have been invited to several Tempe and regional workshops to listen, learn and share thoughts regarding Papago Park.

The final Tempe workshop will be Thursday, July 30, from 6-8 p.m. at the city's Transportation Center, in the Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E. Fifth St. Two final two regional workshops are on Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 6-8 p.m., and Thursday, Aug. 20, from 10 a.m.-noon. Locations for these meeting will be announced shortly.

Residents unable to attend the workshops are encouraged to participate online at www.DiscoverPapagoPark.com. They can also request information by email at info@DiscoverPapagoPark.com, or call the project team at 480-391-6800 to receive a survey by mail. For more information about Tempe's role in the park master plan, contact Shawn Wagner at shawn_wagner@tempe.gov or 480-350-5299.

Tempe Public Library computers

This summer, renovations at the Tempe Public Library will mean a temporary reduction in the number of computers available for public use. The library has assembled a list of other Tempe sites, and locations in other cities, where patrons can find computers available for public use. For information, visit www.tempe.gov/library and click on the renovation link.