



Tempe Today



a community newsletter

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March 2008



Tempe among "100 Best" for youth

Tempe is celebrating its third year as one of the top communities in the nation for young people. America's Promise Alliance selected 100 communities throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, honoring commitments to provide healthy, safe and caring environments for young people.

Programs that helped single out Tempe for the honor include the Tempe/Kyrene Communities in Schools organization, which has formed nine family resource centers and decreased the school dropout rate, and the Kids' Zone Enrichment Program, an after-school program available at all Tempe elementary schools offering homework help and free educational enrichment classes.

Founded in 2005 by General Colin Powell, America's Promise Alliance looks for communities that fulfill the organization's Five Promises: Caring Adults, Safe Places, Healthy Start, Effective Education, and Opportunities to Help Others.



Arts and Entertainment Weekend

With huge events like the Tempe Music Festival and the Tempe Festival of the Arts happening all in one weekend, Mayor Hugh Hallman has formally declared March 28-30 as Arts and Entertainment Weekend in Tempe.



Browse through more than 350 artists' original pieces at the 31st Spring Tempe Festival of the

Arts, March 28-30, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., on Mill Avenue. The diverse art ranges from woodwork and ceramics, to photography and wearable art, to paintings and jewelry. Enjoy street performances and live music, sample Arizona wines, and eat festival fare and homemade goods. Children can create and explore art at the Kids Innovation Station. For more information, visit www.tempefestivalofthearts.com.



Fergie and My Chemical Romance will headline the Circle K Tempe Music Festival, March 28-29 at Tempe Beach Park, at Mill Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway. More than 30 national, regional and local bands will perform at the event. Tickets start at \$35. For more information, call 480-970-3378 or visit www.tempemusicfestival.com.





Cinderella Affair makes dreams come true

Find your dream dress at the sixth annual Cinderella Affair

prom dress giveaway on Friday, March 28, from 3-7 p.m., for Tempe Unified High School District students, and March 29, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., for all other high school students, at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave. Tuxedos also are available.

The Cinderella Affair is a nonprofit program that makes attending prom affordable for hundreds of students each year. In 2007, volunteers collected 1,500 gently-used dresses and tuxedos and distributed them to students in need. Dress donations are accepted year-round. For more information, call 480-858-2300 or visit www.cinderellaaffair.com.

2008 Neighborhood Workshop and Neighbor of the Year Awards

Honor Tempe's exemplary neighbors, learn about the tools and resources available to homeowners and neighborhood groups, formulate fresh outreach approaches, make new friends and get motivated at the 2008 Neighborhood Workshop and Neighbor of the Year Awards.

The event, on Saturday, April 5, from 7:30 a.m. to noon, begins with registration and a continental breakfast at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave. Mayor Hugh Hallman and the City Council will present the Neighbor of the Year Awards, followed by keynote speaker Congressman Harry Mitchell.

Four workshop topics are offered, including:

- **Almost Easy Money** – The Maryanne Corder Neighborhood Grant Program
- **Upward and Onward** – A Look at Tempe's Future
- **A Greener Tempe** – Leading the Way to Environmental Excellence
- **Reaching Over the Wall** – How to Strengthen Your Neighborhood

The deadline to reserve a seat is April 2. To reserve a seat, contact Tempe's Neighborhood Services Division by calling 480-350-8234 or by sending an e-mail to neighborhoods@tempe.gov. More information is available at www.tempe.gov/neighborhoods.

Diversity Award winners

More than 400 people attended the City of Tempe's 10th Annual MLK Diversity Awards Brunch on Jan. 21 at The Buttes Resort. Keynote Speaker Alonzo Jones, director of Multicultural Student Services at Arizona State University, spoke about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Several individuals and organizations were honored with Diversity Awards, including:

- Reverend Trina Zelle, who advocates for low-income and immigrant workers, and is currently creating a facility where workers can seek job skills training.
- Student Jessica Cooper, who is a member of Marcos de Niza High School's Stand and Serve Club, and headed up a donation drive for clothing, toys and food for the Angel Society.
- Student Elizabeth Gonzalez, who has volunteered at community events including Tempe Tardeada, the MLK Unity Walk and Stuff the Bus at Arizona Mills through Tempe High School's Stand and Serve Club.
- Student DeAnna Stout, volunteered for many community service projects for the past eight years, as well as at homeless and domestic violence shelters. She is also a peer educator for younger students, and recently presented at a United Way site to support Teen Health and Diversity Fund.
- "1 in 10," a community organization serving gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth through social support programs.
- Dayspring United Methodist Church, for its Diversity Outreach Ministry and a series of six Diversity Dialogue sessions for adults, modeled after the City of Tempe's Diversity Dialogue program.
- Hayden's Ferry Girl Scout Neighborhood Service Team, for promoting diversity and cultural awareness through volunteering at the Tempe Tardeada, the Unity Walk and at the Tempe Sister Cities Garden.
- Newtown Community Development Corporation, which provides permanently affordable homes through its Community Land Trust program, helping first-time homebuyers become successful homeowners.
- Corona del Sol High School Unity Leader group, which holds two all-day Awareness/Respect Days to coach peers on defeating stereotypes and prejudice.
- Tempe High School Centennial Celebration Committee, which included many diverse groups in planning the event, from current students, faculty and alumni, to government officials and local businesses.

Lifeguard recruitment

This summer teens can make money, have fun and help others in the community as a lifeguard. Teens ages 15 and older can get training as a certified lifeguard through Red Cross, with classes available at Kiwanis Recreation Center, 6111 S. All-America Way. For more information on certification class times and dates, and to register, visit www.tempe.gov/brochure. After enrolling in a class, fill out an application at www.tempe.gov/pools, under Employment, and drop it off at the Kiwanis Recreation Center.

Boards and Commissions

Tempe's 31 Boards and Commissions advise the City Council on critical decisions about every aspect of life in Tempe. They are established by city ordinance to fulfill specific roles, but they can only function if they have enough qualified, engaged Tempe residents who want to serve their community. The city is always looking to fill vacancies on its Boards and Commissions, so visit www.tempe.gov/clerk to apply. In a continuing series of monthly articles, Tempe Today has been highlighting each of these volunteer groups. This month, we're looking at:

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission: reviews applications and makes recommendations for the designation of landmarks, historic properties and historic districts; makes recommendations on applications for proposed alterations, new construction, demolition or removal affecting landmarks; makes recommendations to the City Council concerning the use of funds to promote the preservation of properties in Tempe; and recommends changes in the zoning ordinance, building code, general plan or other local laws regarding historic preservation issues. Members serve three-year terms and must have a demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic preservation. The commission must hold at least four public meetings a year. For more information, call 480-350-8870.

Human Relations Commission

The Human Relations Commission promotes understanding and respect among members of the Tempe community. They discuss ways to eliminate prejudice and discrimination, and they work to distribute information on human relations topics. The Human Relations Commission is composed of 13 members who serve three-year terms. Meetings are held once a month. For more information, call 480-350-8999.

Industrial Development Authority

The Industrial Development Authority: promotes industry and develops trade in Tempe; leases, sells, and disposes of properties; and assists in the rehabilitation, expansion and development of businesses and industries which promote and assure job opportunities and an improved standard of living in the city. The Industrial Development Authority has up to nine members who serve six-year terms. Meetings are usually held the first Tuesday of each month at various locations. For more information, contact the Authority's Counsel and Statutory Agent at 602-263-2694.

Celebrate Cesar Chavez in March

- Celebrate the life and legacy of Cesar Chavez at a film screening and roundtable discussion on Thursday, March 27, from 6-9 p.m., at the City Hall Gallery, on the ground floor of the inverted-pyramid building, 31 E. Fifth St. Tour the "Art with a Cause" exhibit followed by a roundtable discussion. Panelists at the discussion include representatives from the Cesar Chavez Foundation, the Cesar Chavez Leadership Institute at Arizona State University, Chicanos por la Causa and more. The event is sponsored by the Tempe Historical Museum, Xico, Inc. and the City of Tempe Diversity Office. For more information, call Dan Miller, Exhibit Coordinator, at 480-350-5115.
- City administrative offices will be closed Monday, March 31, in honor of Cesar Chavez.



Loma del Rio archaeological site

Loma del Rio, "hill by the river," is located on a ridge on the north side of Tempe Town Lake. The archaeological site includes remnants of a 650-year-old Hohokam residence that may have been home to as many as 20 members of an extended family between 1200 and 1450 A.D. The site contains the remains of six connected rooms, an isolated room, a stone-paved area and agricultural terraces on the slope of a hill.

Frank Hamilton Cushing led the first archaeological expedition to the Salt River Valley in 1887. Cushing identified the Loma del Rio site as "Los Pueblos Arriba" and reported evidence of its use as a shrine.

The site was recorded, mapped and excavated several times until the 1980s. In 1988, Loma del Rio was part of an archaeological survey commissioned by the City of Tempe of a 40-acre area of Papago Park. On Oct. 14, 1995, the site was dedicated by the City of Tempe as part of the Rio Salado Expo that included the dedication of trails within Papago Park.

The Loma del Rio site enhanced Tempe's park system, and having an archaeological site in an urban setting allows easy accessibility to tourists and residents alike. The site gives us a glimpse at life in a small, rare settlement in the center of the Salt River Valley, and gives us more information on how the Valley was populated, the location of settlements, and how they interacted with one another.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The March/April schedule for Tempe City Council meetings

March 20, 2008

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

April 3, 2008

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

April 10, 2008

3 p.m., Special Budget Review Session

April 17, 2008

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

Hut Hutson, Vice Mayor

P. Ben Arredondo, Councilmember

Barbara J. Carter, Councilmember

Shana Ellis, Councilmember

Mark W. Mitchell, Councilmember

Onnie Shekerjian, Councilmember

Charlie Meyer, City Manager

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

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www.tempe.gov

News you can use

Arcadia Citrus Program

Donate the extra citrus fruits from your yard to the Arcadia Citrus Program every Saturday morning through March 22, at the Elks Lodge at 6398 E. Oak St., in Scottsdale. Resident drop-off is from 8 a.m. to noon, and commercial drop-off is from 8-10 a.m. Good-quality fruit will be donated to food banks, senior centers, Native American communities and Maricopa County jails.

Also on each of these Saturdays at the Elks Lodge are roof rat clinics from 9-10:30 a.m. Get advice on the best method for rodent eradication, home-proofing and landscape care. For more information on the Arcadia Citrus Program or the clinics, call 602-273-0435 or visit www.roofrat.net.

Online homework help at Tempe Public Library

The Tempe Public Library now offers Live Homework Help, a free online tutoring service from Tutor.com that connects students to expert tutors in math, science, social studies and English. Spanish-speaking tutors are available to help students in math and science.

This free service allows students in grades 4-12, and introductory-level college, to connect with expert tutors via Tempe Public Library computers or from their home computer with a library card. The tutors are able to send them Web pages and resources, as well as answer questions and offer assistance with homework. The student and tutor chat through instant messaging, draw problems on an interactive whiteboard, share files to review essays and papers, and browse educational resources on the Web together. Sessions are saved so that students and parents can review them at any time. Students can visit www.tempe.gov/library, click on the Live Homework Help link, and then enter their grade level and the subject they need help in.

Live Homework Help is available in English Sunday-Thursday, from 4-10 p.m., and in Spanish Sunday-Thursday, from 4-7 p.m. For more information, contact the Library's Reference Desk at 480-350-5511.

April is Tempe Bike Month

The City of Tempe is celebrating the 17th Annual Bike Month in April to encourage people to use bikes as an alternative mode of transportation. More than 1,000 people are expected to participate in Bike Month activities. Bike-A-Palooza, formerly known as the Valley Bike Expo, takes place April 6, from 7 a.m. to noon, at Kiwanis Park, 5500 S. Mill Ave. The free event features a bicycle swap meet, bike rodeo, helmet fittings, giveaways, a 13-mile community bike ride and bike tune-ups. The first 300 community ride participants will receive free T-shirts. Bike to Work and School Day, on Wednesday, April 16, from 6-8 a.m., includes free breakfast and T-shirts. For more information on Tempe Bike Month, call 480-858-2215, or visit www.tempe.gov/tim.

Arizona Children's Festival

Tempe families are invited to celebrate the cultural diversity of the community at the Arizona Children's Festival on March 30, from 1-4 p.m., at the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway. Cultural children's groups will present live music and dance performances, and winners of photo and artwork contests focusing on "peace" will be honored. For more information, call 480-648-6703 or visit www.fid-az.org.

Tempe named a Tree City USA community

Tempe has been named a Tree City USA community for the 13th year by the Arbor Day Foundation. The city also received the Growth Award, which recognizes environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care.

Adopt-a-Pool-Fence

In an effort to prevent accidental drownings, the United Phoenix Fire Fighters Association started the Adopt-a-Pool-Fence Program, providing low-income families a donated pool fence to protect their children. Families with a child 6 years or younger may be eligible to receive a donated fence. For more information, call Program Coordinator Marin Davies at 602-631-4843 or visit www.saverkids.org.