

TEMPE TODAY

a community newsletter



VOLUME 33 ~ ISSUE 5

WWW.TEMPE.GOV

MAY 2017

Grow a garden with help from Tempe's new Seed Library



The Tempe Public Library's Seed Library is now open, featuring a variety of plant and herb seeds

that can be "checked out" for free, then planted and grown at home. The seeds are appropriate for all Arizona seasons and growing conditions. All that is requested of participants is that they donate the seeds of their harvests back to the Seed Library. The Seed Library is located on the first floor of the library, in a repurposed card catalog. It's made possible through a partnership with Garden Pool, a non-profit dedicated to sustainable food growth. Visit www.tempe.gov/SeedLibrary for more information, classes and online gardening tutorials.

Register for Summer Reading Program

The Tempe Public Library offers a fun and engaging Summer Reading Program throughout June and July. There are programs for babies, tots, kids, teens and adults. Participants can keep track of their reading progress to earn badges and prizes. Register at www.tempe.gov/library.

Tempe to launch free preschool for income-eligible children

Starting in the fall, many Tempe children and families in need will be able to access free preschool – a first-ever city pilot effort to improve kindergarten readiness and long-term school success. The program also aims to help parents bring their families out of poverty through increased opportunities for work.

The City Council decided in March to launch the program in partnership with the Tempe Elementary School District, the Kyrene School District and other possible partners. A Council working group comprised of Mayor Mark Mitchell and Councilmembers David Schapira and Joel Navarro developed the idea for more than two years. Schapira brought the concept to the Council in February 2015.

The two-year pilot initiative – known as "Tempe Free PRE (Preschool Resource Expansion)" – will launch with 20 classrooms housing in existing schools with a capacity of 360 children ages 3 and 4. If it is successful in improving kindergarten readiness, the city could consider dedicating a permanent revenue source for an expanded program to serve more Tempe children.

(Continued on page 2)

Tempe announces first Equal Pay Business Partners



The City of Tempe in April proudly named seven businesses as the first Equal Pay Business Partners in the city. Mayor Mark Mitchell and Councilmember Lauren Kuby recognized the businesses at a special ceremony on the day after national Equal Pay Day.

The certified businesses are:

- GoDaddy
- Mountain Park Health Center
- Express Employment Professionals
- Architekton
- Mulligan's Manor
- Landings Credit Union
- Dinos2 Personalized Auto Sales, Inc.

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Preschool *(Continued from page 1)*

Fiscal year 2017-18 costs for the first year of the pilot are expected to be \$3 million, which the Council committed to come from restricted funds the city already has set aside. The funds are derived from city land sale proceeds, as well as from lease payments the city receives when leasing land owned by the city to developers. The City Council will formally vote to approve the budget expenditure after May 25 and June 8 public hearings, as part of the larger city budget process.

Working with the Institute for Child Success, the city studied the need for more preschool opportunities in Tempe and the feasibility of different funding models. The study concluded that Tempe has a high child poverty rate and inadequate kindergarten readiness; 64 percent of Tempe children were shown to have not reached basic reading and language benchmarks by the time they enter kindergarten.

For more information as it becomes available, visit www.tempe.gov/TempeFreePre. Interested families and prospective employees of the program can also sign up for updates via email at www.tempe.gov/TempeFreePreNews. A phone line with a recorded message also has been set up to provide updates – call 480-858-PreK (7735).

Equal Pay *(Continued from page 1)*

Kuby, Councilmember David Schapira and Vice Mayor Robin Arredondo-Savage led a City Council working group that had been exploring a business designation since February 2015. The working group took substantial time to verify that the city's own standing as an equal pay employer was solid. As a result, the City of Tempe itself also received the designation.

The Equal Pay Business Partner program requires companies to complete a worksheet to determine if they are providing equal pay. Payroll numbers do not have to be submitted to the city. Businesses that are not yet achieving equal pay can receive coaching from the city's Office of Strategic Management and Diversity. Those that qualify receive Equal Pay Business Partner status, which gives businesses the opportunity to use the program logo on their websites, in hiring materials and on storefront windows. The city is listing the businesses at www.tempe.gov/EqualPay.



Correction In the April issue of Tempe Today, an incorrect photo of Tempe Public Library donor Annette Voth was used. This is the correct photo of Ms. Voth. We sincerely apologize for the error.

Broadmor Elementary Bikecats earn 2017 Bike Hero Award



Each year, Tempe recognizes the efforts of individuals and organizations in increasing awareness of bicycling as a viable mode of transportation. It's called the Tempe Bike Hero Award and, this year, the Tempe Transportation Commission chose the Broadmor Elementary School Parent Teacher Association's "Bikecats" program for the honor.

Since 2010, this organization has improved the safety, skill and comfort of young Tempe bike riders and fostered a new generation of avid bike users. The Bikecats meet four to six times during the year, passing on bike safety tips, organizing community bike rides and more. The program is open to all Broadmor students, alumni, families and neighborhood residents. For more information about bicycling in Tempe, visit www.tempe.gov/bike.

What should Tempe Streetcar stops look like?

Plans for the Tempe Streetcar are moving forward. The design team and public artists have been working together to develop what the streetcar stops will look like. Now the City of Tempe and Valley Metro are hosting a public meeting on June 7 from 6-8 p.m. to present and gather feedback on design and public art concepts for the streetcar's 14 stops. The meeting will be in the second-floor Don Cassano Room at the Tempe Transportation Center, 200 E. Fifth St. Project staff will be available to answer questions and take input. For more information about Tempe Streetcar, visit www.valleymetro.org/TempeStreetcar.

Tempe reaches halfway mark in its renewable energy goal

The City of Tempe, in partnership with SRP, has finished a 1.2-megawatt solar panel installation project at the city's Johnny G. Martinez Water Treatment Plant. The completion of the project marks a big milestone: Tempe is now halfway toward its goal to use 20 percent renewable energy at city facilities by 2025.

This latest project features more than 2,000 solar panels that will generate more than 1.8 million kilowatt hours of electricity each year, supplying 30 percent of the water treatment plant's energy needs and saving more than \$530,000 in utility costs over 20 years. The project will reduce the water plant's carbon emissions by 1,280 metric tons annually, equivalent to removing 270 cars from the road each year.

"We are now halfway to our overall goal and that is a notable milestone," said Mayor Mark Mitchell. "This solar project is the latest example of our commitment to renewable energy and a sustainable and resilient Tempe."

For more information on the city's sustainability initiatives, visit www.tempe.gov/SustainableTempe.



Sign up for recreation classes and summer camps

Summer is just around the corner and Tempe

has all kinds of opportunities for the whole family! Choose from art, dance, special interest, sports, aquatics, health and fitness and boating programs. The Summer Tempe Opportunities brochure is full of quality programs offered at convenient times and locations.

Check out our offerings for summer camps in the brochure. From full-day, summer-long options to weeklong sports or music camps, there's something for just about every kid. All camps are listed at www.tempe.gov/SummerCamps.

Registration is open and most classes begin the first week of June. The brochure can be viewed at www.tempe.gov/brochure. You can also pick up a copy of the brochure at City of Tempe facilities. Registration can be completed online, by fax, by mail or in person at many Tempe community centers. For more information, call the Recreation Administration Office at 480-350-5200.



Investing in city parks – Selleh Park completed

The new-and-improved Selleh Park, near McClintock Drive and Broadway Road, was unveiled in March, featuring a new playground with swings, more shade and improved lighting. The project is part of the city's Parks Capital Improvement Plan, which will invest more than \$30 million in Tempe parks over the next few years. For a list of current and scheduled projects, visit www.tempe.gov/parks.

Splash and swim the heat away

Keep cool at any of these Tempe destinations:

- The indoor Kiwanis Wave Pool and its 3-foot waves will be open daily from 1-5 p.m. from May 27 through July 30. Check out www.tempe.gov/waves for special offers, theme days and deals.
- The outdoor swimming pool at Escalante Park opens Memorial Day weekend, featuring a six-lane lap pool, zero-depth entry play pool and two slides. Visit www.tempe.gov/pools.
- Three spray pads in Tempe, at Esquer, Jaycee and Hudson, are open now through the end of October. Admission is free.

The Splash Playground at Tempe Beach Park is now closed. A new Splash Playground is currently being designed for Kiwanis Park and will open in summer 2018.

Swim lessons

Lessons are available for swimmers of all ages and skill levels at Kiwanis Recreation Center and the Escalante Community Center this summer. Children as young as eight months old can learn to swim in parent-assisted lessons. Classes are available for adults and older children as well. Visit www.tempe.gov/brochure for a list of lessons times, locations and to register for a lesson.



Go back in time to Tempe's first train

The Tempe History Museum is presenting a summer enrichment program called "Tempe Time Machine: Trains of Tempe," in June and

July. Guests will journey back to 1887, when the first trains arrived in Tempe, and see the history of transportation through today and the into the future. The kids will enjoy crafts, model trains, demonstrations and train stories. Sessions will be held each Wednesday and the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. Visit www.tempe.gov/TempeHistoryMuseum for more information.

City of Tempe 2017-18 budget:

Details and public hearing information at www.tempe.gov/BudgetPlan

Calendar

This is the tentative May/June schedule for Tempe City Council meetings. Check www.tempe.gov/tempe clerk for updated schedules.

May 4, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

May 22, 2017 (Monday)

4 p.m., Work Study Session

May 25, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

June 8, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

June 15, 2017

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

June 29, 2017

4 p.m., Work Study Session

Agendas as posted a minimum of 24 hours before each meeting outside of the City Council Chambers and on-line at www.tempe.gov/clerk. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Confirm meeting dates and times online or by contacting the City Clerk's office at (480) 350-4311.

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

Tempe City Council

Mark W. Mitchell
Mayor

Robin Arredondo-Savage
Vice Mayor

Kolby Granville
Councilmember

Randy Keating
Councilmember

Lauren Kuby
Councilmember

Joel Navarro
Councilmember

David Schapira
Councilmember

Andrew Ching
City Manager

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

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City of Tempe
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News you can use

Tempe St. Luke's women's services open house

Women and families are invited to tour and talk to staff in the Tempe St. Luke's women's services and maternity departments on Tuesday, June 13, from 5-7 p.m. The hospital is located at 1500 S. Mill Ave. For more hospital information, visit www.tempestlukeshospital.com.

What should go in the blue bin?

Do you know what you can and cannot put in the blue recycling bin? The City of Tempe has a goal to have 25 percent of its solid waste as recycling by 2020. We need your help. The Top 10 things to put in your blue bin are: broken-down cardboard; paper; food boxes; mail; beverage cans; food cans; glass bottles; glass and plastic jars; jugs; and plastic bottles and caps. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/SlashtheTrash.

Low-flow toilet rebate

Install a low-flow toilet and receive a rebate up to \$75. By replacing an old toilet with a WaterSense labeled model, you could reduce water use by up to 60 percent. Visit www.tempe.gov/conservation for details on this and other water conservation rebate programs the city offers.

Stormwater safety during monsoon season

Monsoon season officially starts June 15 and you can help protect our stormwater system – and the environment – by avoiding the use of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other outdoor chemical products when rain is likely. When it rains, excess fertilizer, pesticides, oil, gasoline and other chemicals can wash off lawns and driveways, creating the potential to pollute Tempe's lakes and drinking water aquifers. Residents can help keep these products from ending up in the stormwater by avoiding use when rain is likely, properly storing them under cover, and cleaning up spills immediately after they occur. Making sure that only rain goes in the storm drains ensures that our water supply remains clean and safe. For more details, visit www.tempe.gov/stormwater.

New underpass near Tempe Town Lake

A new bicycle and pedestrian underpass has opened under the Priest Drive bridge along the Rio Salado south bank. The underpass connects the shared-use paths on the east and west sides of Priest Drive and includes a lighted, 10-foot concrete path. The underpass provides an accessible crossing under Priest Drive for Rio Salado Path users and links more than five miles of paths along the Rio Salado and Town Lake area. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/tim.

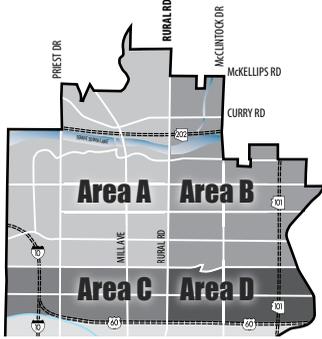


JUNE 2017

Mixed Bulk Trash Collection Schedule

Collection Week	Collection Type
Area A JUN 5-9	MIXED BULK WASTE
Area B JUN 12-16	
Area C JUN 19-23	
Area D JUN 26-30	

Items may be placed for collection no earlier than 10 days prior to Monday of your collection week and no later than 6 a.m. on Monday of your collection week.



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ALAMEDA DR
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SUPERSTITION FWY

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