



Tempe Today

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a community newsletter

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www.tempe.gov/newsroom

March 2013



Spring Festival of the Arts

Great weather, unique art and one-of-a-kind gifts – shoppers can find all of the above at the 2013 Spring Festival of the Arts, happening April 5-7 in the Mill Avenue District.

Kids activities, on-stage entertainment, street entertainment, more than 350 artists, and beer and wine areas will be highlights of this free event, which runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Visit the festival information booth at Fifth Street and Mill Avenue for complete vendor listings and a festival map. Check the festival website at www.tempefestivalofthearts.com for updated postings of entertainment schedules and parking information. For bus and light rail information, check www.tempe.gov/tim.



Get geared up for Tempe Bike Month

April is Bike Month, when Tempe celebrates bicycling as an alternative mode of transportation. Join the city and other community members at these two annual events.

Tour de Tempe

More than 1,000 people are expected to participate in the Tour de Tempe community bike ride on April 7 from 7:30 to 11 a.m. at Kiwanis Park, 6111 S. All-America Way, in the west parking lot north of Guadalupe Road across from the batting cages. This free, 10-mile bike ride is led by Mayor Mark Mitchell and members of the Tempe City Council. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. with the ride starting at 9 a.m. Register the day of the event or online at www.tempe.gov/bikemonth.

Free T-shirts will be available for the first 1,000 riders and helmets are required. Breakfast foods and coffee will be provided. There also will be free bike demonstrations, safety tips and bike tune-ups. Riders should bring their own water.

Bike to Work Day

On April 17 from 6:30 to 8 a.m., all bicycle riders who stop by one of the participating Bike to Work Day locations in Tempe will receive a free breakfast. The first 350 riders will receive free T-shirts. At 7 a.m., join 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)
- REI (Daley Park at northeast corner of College Avenue and Encanto Drive)
- Ncounter (southwest corner of Mill Avenue and 3rd Street)
- Wildflower Bread Company (southwest corner of McClintock Drive and Guadalupe Road)
- Whole Foods Market (northwest corner of Rural and Baseline roads)

For more information about Bike Month, visit www.tempe.gov/bikemonth or call 480-350-8663.



One Call to City Hall

480-350-4311

E-Mail: Tempe311@tempe.gov



Mayor Mark Mitchell: Tempe is looking forward

The history of any city is guided by change and transition—the election of a new council, the revitalization of a blighted section of town, or the building of a new mode of public transportation. Progress can often be difficult and raise the level of debate, but that doesn't mean that cities should stop moving forward.

I've often said that Tempe is different, but when it comes to evolving, we are not unique. Every few years, we reinvent ourselves. We are given that opportunity today.

The City Council recently decided to go in a new direction with the position of city manager. This decision does not negate the positive contributions Charlie Meyer made to Tempe during his tenure. We appreciate his dedication, but times and situations are ever-changing and now is the time to look forward.

Decisions of this magnitude are not taken lightly. But the majority of the Council felt that it was time to advance a new direction for Tempe, and we took the first step to finding a city manager who will work collectively with Council to implement our strategic goals and vision. It was the majority of Council's belief that a change of staff leadership would allow this community to grow and realize its full potential.

Communication between a City Council and its chief appointed officer is critical. Open dialogue can help grow a city's reputation, prevent conflicts, and foster cooperation. It is the job of a city manager to execute the policies and priorities of the City Council within the parameters it sets forth, and when communication breaks down, that job becomes all the more difficult.

Tempe is in the midst of a critically important time. We are at the forefront of recovery from one of the worst economic crises we have ever seen. But Tempe is in an extremely positive position, with a number of economic development projects coming to our city, from Arizona State University's Stadium District to the groundbreaking of the third tower at Hayden Ferry Lakeside to the development of the Discovery Business Campus.

My Council colleagues and I take our responsibility as caretakers of this city seriously. We will move quickly in our search for a new city manager. We are committed to our residents and employees alike to ensure stability throughout this process and to make it as transparent as possible.

I invite you to share your thoughts and ideas with us as we move forward. And, as always, Tempe will be here providing the same quality of service that we have always provided. Change may be hard, but often it has to be done in order to achieve something extraordinary. Change isn't something we should fear; it is rather an opportunity for progress. These are dynamic times and Tempe is ready to move forward.

Contact me anytime at mark_mitchell@tempe.gov or at 480-350-8793.

Mayor to speak at Chamber lunch

On April 18, Mayor Mark Mitchell will speak to members of the community at a Tempe Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Mayor Mitchell will share his perspective on the social and economic climate of Tempe and the Valley, as well as discuss the current business environment and his vision for the growth and future of the city. The special installment of Hot Topics and Lunch takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The location is to be determined. For more information or to RSVP visit www.tempechamber.org or call 480-967-7891.

2013 Neighborhood Workshop & Awards

Join fellow residents at the 2013 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards on Saturday, April 13, at the Escalante Multi-Generational Center, 2150 E. Orange St. The annual event honors community members who work hard to make Tempe even better.

The schedule includes registration and a light breakfast from 7:30 to 8 a.m., followed by presentation of the Neighbor of the Year Awards by Mayor Mark Mitchell and the City Council from 8-9 a.m. Four concurrent workshop topics will be offered from 9:15-10:30 a.m.

- **Town-Gown Relationships** – Learn about programs that ASU and the city offer individually and collaboratively to be good neighbors and successful community members.

- **Sustainability in the Community** – Hear what's happening to make our community more sustainable and how we can all make changes to decrease our carbon footprint. Provide input about Tempe's sustainability priorities moving forward. Led by Vice Mayor Onnie Shekerjian, with a guest speaker from ASU's Global Institute for Sustainability.

- **Hands-On in the Escalante Community Garden** – Build community and connections through gardening. Explore the history of this community garden and harvest some tips and recommendations to start your own. Learn from Dave Tally, Community Garden Coordinator, and Raul Puente Martinez.

- **Neighborhood Leadership & Community Building** – Listen in on a panel discussion of neighborhood activists and leaders sharing lessons learned, resources and ideas. Get inspiration for your neighborhood efforts.

Invite a neighbor, a friend or a co-worker and reserve your spot. Register at www.tempe.gov/neighborhoodworkshop or by contacting the city's Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234 or neighborhoods@tempe.gov. The deadline to register is April 10.

April is Earth Month

Tempe is now offering its twice-yearly landscape workshop series in the newly opened SRP Center for Water Education at the Rose Eisendrath House, 1400 N. College Ave. The free workshops teach residents how to beautify their yards and conserve water through xeriscaping. They are held on three consecutive Saturdays, each focusing on a different phase of the process:

- April 13 – Converting your lawn to a beautiful xeriscape: principles and design
- April 20 – Selecting and maintaining xeriscape plants
- April 27 – Designing, installing and maintaining drip irrigation

Workshops are held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. To register or for more information, visit www.tempe.gov/conservation/workshop.htm or call Richard Bond at 480-350-2627.

Sustainability forums

In honor of Earth Month, the City of Tempe is holding two public forums to share current sustainability efforts in the community and gather ideas about what we can do to be more sustainable in the future. The forums will be led by Vice Mayor Onnie Shekerjian, with guest speaker from Arizona State University's Global Institute for Sustainability.

- Thursday, April 11, 6 p.m.
Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.
- Saturday, April 13, 9 to 10:30 a.m.
Escalante Multi-Generational Center, 2150 E. Orange Street

For more information, call 480-350-4311 or visit www.tempe.gov/green.

Zero Waste Day recycling event

Tempe is holding a Zero Waste recycling event Saturday, April 20, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Tempe Fire Training Facility, 1340 E. University Dr. For more information, call 480-350-4311 or visit www.tempe.gov/recycling.

Tempe's 4th Annual Arbor Day 5K

Join Tempe for the fourth annual Arbor Day 5K on Friday, April 26, at 6 p.m. at Giuliano Park at Tempe Town Lake. Proceeds from the community fun run benefit Trees for Tempe, a program designed to replenish Tempe's urban forest. The 5K, chip-timed course is a single loop around Tempe Town Lake. For more information or to register, visit www.ArborDay5k.com.

Earth Day celebrations at Tempe Public Library

The Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, is holding a free, kid-focused Earth Day celebration on April 20, from 1-3 p.m. Activities include a movie about recycling and reusing, an introduction to how earthworms help the environment and a craft activity made from recycled materials.

In addition, look for events throughout the rest of the month, like an April 21 session on crafts made from recyclables and an April 27 book signing with local author and crafter Kathy Cano-Murillo. Check www.tempe.gov/library for details.



Interim Fire Chief Greg Ruiz, left, presented Reppe with a Service Award.

People Make the Place: Tyler Reppe

In summer 2010, Tempe Fire was introduced to an extraordinary young man who volunteered to help the department with its mapping projects.

Not many people would sign up for the daunting task of mapping hundreds of Tempe buildings, but Tyler Reppe enthusiastically jumped into the project. In many ways, he is not a typical volunteer.

"I am profoundly deaf and people sometimes have a hard time understanding me," Reppe said. "From my first day, everyone at the Fire Department made me feel like an important part of the team."

For about 15 hours a week, Reppe's job was to take hand drawings of complex buildings in Tempe and use the computer mapping program AutoCAD to turn them into digital drawings known as pre-plans. These plans are vital to emergency response teams during fires and other critical incidents. Pre-plans show the locations of fire hydrants, gates, gas lines and electrical boxes, along with the locations of suites or apartments within a building. One of Reppe's major projects was the West Sixth residential high-rises in downtown Tempe.

Reppe then uploaded digital files to the Phoenix Fire Department's Computer Aided Dispatch System where they are available to all the automatic aid fire department units throughout the Valley.

Reppe concluded his volunteer work for Tempe Fire in December 2012 to pursue educational opportunities. He is taking classes at Phoenix College and hopes to do CAD work.

Calendar

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

March 7, 2013

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

March 20, 2013

4:30 p.m., City Council
Strategy Session

March 21, 2013

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

April 4, 2013

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

April 18, 2013

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

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and 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

Mark W. Mitchell
Mayor

Onnie Shekerjian
Vice Mayor

Robin Arredondo-Savage
Councilmember

Shana Ellis
Councilmember

Kolby Granville
Councilmember

Joel Navarro
Councilmember

Corey Woods
Councilmember

Charlie Meyer
City Manager

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

Tempe Today is produced by the Communication and Media Relations Division

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News you can use

Safely dispose of pharmaceuticals

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 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Tempe Police South Substation, 8201 S. Hardy Drive. Bring medications in original containers with personal information removed from labels. Syringes and needles of any kind cannot be accepted.

The event aims to avoid 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.

Poetry in April

The 13th season of Tempe Poetry in April features a filmmaker, essayist, editor and teacher. The series kicks off at 7:30 p.m. on April 3 at the Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway. There is no admission; light food and beverage is available for purchase. Moderator Catherine Hammond welcomes Michele Poulos (April 3); Jeredith Merrin (April 10); Karen Rigby (April 17) and Myrlin Hepworth (April 24). For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/tca.

Free Tempe History Museum concert

Join one of the Valley's most spirited string bands as Pick & Holler plays music from America's past, keeping alive the sounds that have brought people together for centuries. The free performance, featuring lively fiddle and banjo tunes, is Saturday, April 6, at 7 p.m., at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. For more information about the museum, visit www.tempe.gov/museum.

Senior Health & Wellness Expo

The Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave., invites adults and seniors to the free Senior Health & Wellness Expo. From 8 a.m. to noon on Thursday, April 11, participants can discover services offered by more than 50 companies while participating in free screenings and demonstrations, and enjoying a light breakfast and a door prize drawing. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/adults50plus.

Free Art Friday

Free Art Friday is a free, family interactive art series that gives preschoolers and caregivers the opportunity to create art, learn about music and movement and have a great time! Each month has a different theme and featured art projects. Upcoming events are April 19 and May 17, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Edna Vihel Center, 3340 S. Rural Rd. April will celebrate Goin' to the Zoo, while May will highlight Dr. Seuss Day. Registration is not required. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/familyactivities or call 480-350-5287.

Resources for residents dealing with stray and feral cats

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control provides resources for residents and neighborhoods affected by feral cats. In addition, the agency has a foster program for people who want to look after abandoned infant kittens. For more information on county programs, call 602-506-PETS (7387) or visit www.maricopa.gov/pets. In addition, the Animal Defense League of Arizona operates a spay-neuter hotline for cats at 602-265-7729.

**Adopt-A-Street,
Path or Park!**
www.tempe.gov/adopt

Call for nominations for 2013 Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards

Tempe Community Council is now accepting nominations for the 30th annual Don Carlos Humanitarian Award. Presented annually by the Tempe Community Council Board of Directors, the Don Carlos Humanitarian Award is considered to be 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.tempecommunitycouncil.org/don-carlos or by calling 480-858-2300.

Rural Road waterline project to begin in April

In April, the City of Tempe will begin construction on the ASU Metering and Rural Road Waterline Project. The project will include the installation of water meters at designated sites on the perimeter of the ASU main campus along University Drive and Apache Boulevard, from Rural Road to Mill Avenue, as well as along Rural Road and Mill Avenue, from Apache Boulevard to University Drive. There are a total of 17 meter sites to be constructed, each taking approximately 2-3 weeks to complete. The contractor will work to complete several at a time to decrease the overall disruption to the traveling public, residents, ASU and businesses.

Additionally, the installation of a 16-inch water pipeline in Rural Road, from just south of Apache Drive to University Drive, is scheduled to begin construction in mid-May. Waterline installation will begin on Rural Road, at University Drive, and progress south toward Apache Boulevard.

While traffic will be restricted during construction, roads will remain open for travel and access to businesses will be maintained. The project is estimated to be complete in October. For questions or ongoing construction information, contact the project line at 480-898-4110.

Coffee, Tea and Books

Join us Thursday nights for book discussions in the Connections Café at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Coffee and iced tea are available, and donations are accepted. Bring a yearning to discuss contemporary fiction. Participants must provide their own copies of the books. For questions call Kim Garza, Support Services Librarian, 480-350-5557. On April 25, the discussion will center around Rachel Joyce's *Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*.

Learn the signs and symptoms of bites and stings

With Tempe having pleasant weather most of the year, many people take advantage by hiking, cleaning their yards or playing in the park. Every year, thousands of people are bitten by snakes, insects, scorpions and Africanized honey bees in the United States.

More than half of the venomous snakebites involve children, and most occur between April and October. Rattlesnake bites account for a majority of snakebite fatalities. Symptoms generally occur immediately, but only about one third of all bites show any symptoms. Snakebite venom can affect the central nervous system, brain, heart, kidneys and blood. Insect bites and stings are very common and most are considered minor. It's only when the insect is venomous or when the patient has an allergic reaction that the risk of developing anaphylactic shock turns the situation into an emergency. The normal reaction to an insect sting is a sharp, stinging pain followed by an itchy, swollen, painful raised area. The swelling may be there for several days, but usually goes away within 24 hours.

There are many species of scorpions found in Arizona, but only one is potentially lethal and that's the bark scorpion. Symptoms may include sharp pain at the site of the sting, swelling that gradually spreads, discoloration, nausea and vomiting, restlessness, drooling, poor coordination, incontinence or seizures.

Africanized honey bees are the cousin of the more common European honey bee found in Arizona. They defend their nesting sites very aggressively, sometimes stinging their victims hundreds of times. If you are attacked, run as quickly as you can away from the bees. Do not flail or swing your arms, as this may further annoy the bees. If someone has been stung by many bees at once or has an allergic reaction to a bee sting, call 9-1-1. Call the fire department if someone has become trapped in a building or car with lots of bees. Fire trucks are equipped with foam that can be sprayed on the bees to drown them. Do not call the fire department to remove bee colonies or hives. If you want bees removed, look in the yellow pages under "bee removal" or "beekeepers."

For any bite or sting, call the fire department only when emergency medical services are needed. For a complete list of symptoms and treatments, visit www.tempe.gov/fire.

Homebuying class at Tempe Public Library

A volunteer local real estate agent will teach a free, informational class for potential homebuyers about existing and upcoming loan programs and how to navigate the current housing market. The class will be Thursday, April 18, from 5:45-7:45 p.m. at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, in Study Room 8 of the Computer Commons. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/library and click on "Events and Programs." Registration is required as space is limited. To register, contact Kim Garza at 480-350-5557 or via email at kim_garza@tempe.gov.