

TEMPE TODAY

a community newsletter



VOLUME 29 ~ ISSUE 12

WWW.TEMPE.GOV

DECEMBER 2013



P.F. Chang's Rock 'N' Roll Arizona Marathon & 1/2 Marathon

On Sunday, Jan. 19, about 25,000 runners will compete when the P.F. Chang's Rock 'N' Roll Arizona Marathon & 1/2 Marathon runs through Tempe, Phoenix and Scottsdale. The full marathon begins in Phoenix while the half marathon begins in downtown Tempe. Both courses end in Tempe Beach Park. Bands will play throughout the two courses, encouraging runners to reach the finish line. The annual event has a major, positive economic impact on Tempe.

Tempe and the marathon planners make every effort to ensure that north Tempe is as accessible as possible on this day. Freeways will be open but expect delays. It is recommended that you drive around the courses rather than trying to cross them if you need to travel in these areas.

For information on road closures, traffic restrictions and bus detours, visit www.tempe.gov/streetclosures. For event details, visit <http://arizona.competitor.com>.



Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl is Dec. 28

Tempe is proud to be the host city for the 25th annual Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl, which is happening Saturday, Dec. 28, at Sun Devil Stadium.

The Big Ten and Big 12 conferences, annually among the national leaders in attendance and television ratings, each send one of their top teams to Tempe. Teams are being announced Dec. 8.

Kickoff is at 8:15 p.m.
Tickets start at \$25.
Call 480-350-0911 or www.fiestabowl.org.



Join the party at the NEW New Year's Eve

Ring in 2014 at the Circle K New Year's Eve Block Party on Mill Avenue! It's all happening Dec. 31 in downtown Tempe from Third to Seventh streets. Starting at 6 p.m., visitors can enjoy interactive games and activities, check out music on local band stages and grab dinner.

High-energy video dance stages will light up the intersections of Mill at Fifth and Sixth streets. For guests with children, the Family Fun Zone powered by Radio Disney, runs until 10 p.m. with a carnival atmosphere. A special "9 Year's Eve" fireworks show allows families to celebrate and get sleepyheads home for bed. A dazzling midnight fireworks display and countdown, along with many more activities, also are planned.

Tickets are available at Circle K stores. For discount ticket information and other event details, visit www.blockpartyonmill.com.

CONTACT:



480-350-4311

E-Mail: Tempe311@tempe.gov

www.tempe.gov/311

Free iPhone & Android app

CONNECT:

www.tempe.gov/forum

www.tempe.gov/enews

INTERACT:

facebook

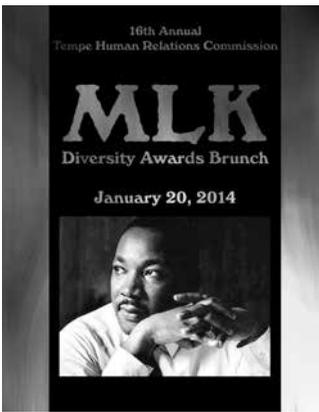
cityoftempe

twitter

[@Tempegov](https://twitter.com/Tempegov)

YouTube

Tempe11video



MLK Diversity Awards Brunch

All are invited to attend the 16th Annual City of Tempe MLK Diversity Awards Brunch. The brunch will be held on Monday, Jan. 20, at 9 a.m. at The Buttes Resort. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Matthew Whitaker, ASU Foundation Professor of History and the founding director of the Center for the Study of Race and Democracy.

The awards brunch honors community members and groups who have demonstrated a commitment to honoring and celebrating diversity in the Tempe community. The cost of the event is only \$5 to the first 500 people who RSVP. Please call 480-350-8979 for information on registration. Diversity Award nominations are being accepted through Dec. 6. Do you know an individual, community group, educational organization or business that exemplifies the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr? Visit www.tempe.gov/mlk to nominate them for this prestigious award.

Search is on for 2014 Neighborhood Award nominees

Without a doubt, you know at least one resident, organization or business that helps to strengthen and creatively build the Tempe community. You can nominate them for recognition at the annual Neighborhood Workshop and Awards, which is happening April 5. The annual Neighborhood Awards presents the perfect opportunity to honor and recognize:

- Residents who put the 'neighbor' in neighborhoods by strengthening outreach and involvement
- Properties that provide an outstanding contribution to their neighborhoods through improvement projects, impeccable maintenance or holiday decor
- Residents who recognize their side of the alley is their responsibility to keep neat and tidy

Nominations are due Jan. 17. For more detailed nomination information and a nomination form, visit www.tempe.gov/neighborhoods or contact the city's Neighborhood Services Division at 480-350-8234 or via email at neighborhoods@tempe.gov.

The Neighborhood Awards will be presented by the City Council at the start of the 2014 Neighborhood Workshop, a free morning event to be held Saturday, April 5, at the Escalante Multigenerational Center, 2150 E. Orange St., from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Save the date on your calendar and look for additional workshop details in an upcoming issue of Tempe Today.

Ditch the paper

Tempe's residential and commercial water and wastewater customers have the option to go paperless and not receive hardcopy bills in the mail. To make the change, simply log in to your account at www.tempe.gov/waterutil and change your profile information, checking the "opt out of paper copy" box.

Customers who go paperless also can sign up to get email alerts when bills are ready for viewing and payment online. To get those emails, simply provide your email address on the same screen as above.

Both changes also can be made by calling 480-350-8361.

City of Tempe holiday collection schedule

Tempe wants residents to know about adjusted solid waste collection schedules due to the city-observed holidays of Christmas and New Year's Day. If your regularly scheduled collection day falls on either of these holidays, your trash or recycling will be picked up on Wednesday of that same week. Christmas collections will shift to Dec. 26 and New Year's Day collections will shift to Jan. 2. Residents must have containers at the curb by 6 a.m. For a list of recyclable items, visit www.tempe.gov/recycling.



Art After Work relaxes, inspires

Gather friends and co-workers and unwind from the workday at the beautiful Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts on Jan. 29. One Wednesday each month, art teacher Laura Hukill leads a fun, laid-back class that requires no art experience. Participants relax during a friendly night of art making with enough guidance to ensure that everyone leaves with a lovely painting. Themes change each time.

The price is \$35, which includes a 16-inch by 20-inch canvas and an \$8 food/beverage voucher. Art materials are provided. Registration is accepted online only; it is capped at 25 people and must be completed by noon on the day prior to class. No refunds can be provided. Future classes occur on Feb. 26, March 26, April 30 and May 21.

Tempe Center for the Arts is located at 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway. Visit www.tempe.gov/artafterwork or call 480-350-2822.

New Year, New You

For many people, the start of a new year means making resolutions for self-improvement. To help you get started, here are some of the most common resolutions along with recommended solutions to make 2014 the best yet!



Lose weight and get fit – Tempe offers hundreds of reasonably priced and convenient exercise and fitness classes designed to get you and your family away from the TV or computer and into shape.

Have fun on a budget – Tempe hosts plenty of inexpensive or free events and programs throughout the year. In May, look for the Movies in the Park free family movie series at Kiwanis Park and, in October, Free Art Fridays, Wild Wednesdays, PlayDay and the Annual Family Halloween Carnival. Details for all of these events can be found at www.Tempe.gov/FamilyActivities.

Spend more time with loved ones – Tempe has classes and offerings designed for parents and children, such as Drop-In Storytime, and joint dance and sewing classes. Take a moonlight kayak ride for a relaxing evening with your spouse or visit one of Tempe's multi-generational centers to learn about exciting opportunities available for adults over 50.

Learn something new – Look no further than the winter 2014 issue of Tempe Opportunities to learn a new hobby, sport or skill. Some of the newest additions include the Storybook Chef classes for Tots, Cartooning for Youth, Rock Climbing for Teens, Drum Circle for Adults, Archery for the Family and Technology for Adults 50+.

Help others – Gather your friends and neighbors and Adopt-A-Park, Path or Street. It's the perfect opportunity to help make your neighborhood a better place to play. Or connect with a special-needs athlete by becoming a bowling buddy. Join Tempe's Adapted Recreation Buddy Bowling League and spend Saturday mornings knocking down pins and building new friendships.



Sign up for winter classes and programs

The winter issue of the Tempe Opportunities brochure is full of new and continuing classes and programs for all ages and interests. Topics include exercise and fitness, educational programming, sports leagues, music, art, dance and more. These quality programs are offered at convenient times and locations, at affordable prices.

The new brochure is available in all City of Tempe facilities or can be viewed at www.tempe.gov/brochure. The winter brochure is full of activities and classes occurring from January to March. Registration begins this month and some classes begin the first week of January. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/brochure or call 480-350-5200.

Connect with opportunities through free e-newsletter

Connecting Tempe is a bimonthly e-newsletter featuring information on programs and events in the City of Tempe. Focusing on recreation and community services, this newsletter gives readers a look into a thriving and people-focused community. Sign up at www.tempe.gov/enews and select Connecting Tempe/Tempe Opportunities Listserv under the News category.

Museum explores baseball and Japanese internment camps

Learn about how baseball became an unlikely part of life at the World War II-era Japanese-American internment camps on Jan. 16 at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. Bill Staples Jr., author of "Kenichi Zenimura, Japanese American Baseball Pioneer," will speak at the Third Thursday lecture series about the importance of this pastime to those in the camps.



Join the staff of the Tempe History Museum on the Third Thursday of each month for a look at the impact sports have had on Tempe throughout the past and how they will shape the future. All programs begin at 7 p.m. Admission is free and no registration is required. Future programs include:

Feb. 20: Tempe Spring Training

March 20: Early Arizona Baseball

April 17: ASU Stadium District and Sun Devil Stadium Plans

May 15: Sports and Playtime: Legend City, Big Surf and Kiwanis Wave Pool

Details are at www.tempe.gov/museumevents.

Calendar

This is the tentative December/January schedule for Tempe City Council meetings.

December 9, 2013

4 p.m., Committee of the Whole

December 12, 2013

6 p.m., Issue Review Session

7:30 p.m., Formal Meeting

January 9, 2014

6 p.m., Issue Review Session

7:30 p.m., Formal Meeting

January 13, 2014

4 p.m., Committee of the Whole

January 23, 2014

6 p.m., Issue Review Session

7:30 p.m., Formal Meeting

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, times and locations with the City Clerk's Office, 480-350-8241 or at www.tempe.gov/clerk.

IRS and Formal meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

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

Andrew Ching

City Manager

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

Tempe Today is produced by the Communication and Media Relations Division

Tempe Today editor Nikki Ripley
nikki_ripley@tempe.gov
480-350-8846 or
480-350-8400 (TDD)

City of Tempe

31 E. 5th St., Tempe, AZ 85281

www.tempe.gov

News you can use

Join the 2014 Regional Unity Walk

Get your walking shoes ready in celebration of cultural diversity at the Regional Unity Walk and Diversity Festival on Saturday, Feb. 1. Join several Valley cities as they "Walk for Unity in Our Community." For more information, call 480-350-8979 or visit www.tempe.gov/diversity.

Comic book exhibition at Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts

This free exhibition for all ages highlights the ongoing popularity of satire, fantasy and escapism in the worlds of comics, graphic novels, gaming, toys, television, movies and more. Displays include materials from local and national collectors as well as original art and limited edition pieces from some of America's favorite pop culture icons. The exhibition opens at Gallery Tempe Center for the Arts beginning Jan. 17. The grand opening will feature the original Batmobile. Learn about art and science at Friday evening pop culture salons. Visit www.tempe.gov/tcagallery or call 480-350-2822 for more details. Tempe Center for the Arts is located at 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway.

Tempe Center for the Arts activities

No need to stay home and watch reruns when you can have a fun night with friends at Tempe Center for the Arts:

- Beginning Jan. 8, Walk-In Wednesdays Open Mic Night returns. Listen to people perform their original songs in a relaxing setting with the legendary Walt Richardson as host. The Lounge at TCA is open for refreshments.
- Finally Fridays brings extended hours in the Gallery at TCA, free appetizers and past singers from the Songwriters' Showcase for a wonderful, free way to start the weekend. It happens every Friday in January from 5-7 p.m.
- The Tempe Comedy Concert Series starts at 7:30 p.m. on most Fridays. There's no drink minimum and tickets start at \$10. Promo code TONY gets a \$2 discount.

There are other shows throughout the month, from classical to children's theater to ASU guitar performances. Check the calendar at www.tempe.gov/tcaevents or call 480-350-2822. Tempe Center for the Arts is located at 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway.

Tempe Fire offers free blood pressure checks

Tempe Fire Department personnel are available seven days a week to take free blood pressure readings. Residents can stop by any of the Tempe fire stations from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Ring the doorbell located near the main entrance of the fire station. No appointment is necessary. There will be times when firefighters will be out of the station responding to emergency calls. If the crew is away from the station, check back at a later time or try another station.

High blood pressure often has no symptoms. It can lead to heart attacks, heart failure, stroke and kidney disease. It is recommended to have your blood pressure checked twice a year. Factors that can contribute to high blood pressure include being overweight, smoking, drinking alcohol, not exercising, consuming too much salt, stress and other medical conditions.

For more information, contact Tempe Fire at 480-858-7230 or visit www.tempe.gov/fire.

Give help to others

Each month in your Tempe utility bill, you have the opportunity to give a \$1 donation that can really make an impact in your community. Tempe's Help to Others program, also known as "H2O," provides food, clothing, shelter, counseling and after-school services to residents who need it most. There are three ways to give: adding a \$1 donation to your utility bill; setting up a one-time or monthly pledge at www.tempecommunitycouncil.org under the "Donate" tab; or calling 480-350-8361. Tempe 11 recently produced a video about the impacts of the program – it is available at <http://bit.ly/17XLtfl>.