

GIVING BACK MAKING A DIFFERENCE ISSUE



The New Year is a great opportunity for you to give back to your community! Whether you want to donate a few hours a month or just one afternoon, there are plenty of ways that you can make a significant impact on the lives of others in the Tempe community. If you're new to volunteering, or simply looking for ways to serve others, you'll find lots of opportunities and ideas throughout this issue on how to give back.

The City of Tempe's Volunteer program aims to connect citizens with opportunities to serve within the Tempe municipal government organization and the community. Volunteers not only enable the city to maximize tax dollars, but also help to improve the lives of its citizens. Individuals who are interested in volunteering will meet with the city's volunteer coordinator to determine where their interests lie and how their skills can be best utilized. A wide variety of service projects are available for participants who are middle-school-

aged and older, from a few hours to reoccurring assignments. Volunteers are frequently assigned in areas such as: the Tempe Public Library, Tempe's Adapted Recreation programs including Special Olympics, the Escalante Community Garden, recreation programs and many more!

Currently, the city is in need of volunteers for its monthly Free Art Friday events which feature a morning of art projects and movement activities for tots, youth and their families. Volunteer coaches are needed for the Youth Sports Small Ball and Youth Hoops basketball programs, as well as for Team Tempe's Special Olympics sports including tennis, volleyball, kayaking and track & field. Adapted Recreation is also looking for assistance with the Buddy Bowling program and its Friday Night Social activities.

Whichever program you choose to donate your time to, your efforts are sure to make a difference in your life and in the lives of those you help serve. To view the current volunteer opportunities, visit Tempe.gov/Volunteer.

SHOW TEMPE HOW MUCH YOU CARE

Each year, [Tempe Cares](#) focuses on a different need in the community. Established in 1991 and organized by the Tempe Cares Committee of Tempe Leadership, the Tempe Cares day brings together resources and volunteers to transform the appearance of Tempe's neighborhood and community spaces, helping to improve the quality of life for everyone in Tempe. Join others for this one-day service project and make a difference from 8 a.m.-Noon on Saturday, March 1.



The 2014 project will focus on the [LoPiano Bosque Habitat](#) located just north of the 202 Red Mountain Freeway between College and Mill avenues. Named after former Tempe Mayor Dr. William LoPiano, the Habitat is a 13-acre site originally constructed in 1993 through a collaborative effort of volunteers from 26 schools. The Habitat is utilized as an area for educating students on the natural desert environment and also

serves as a site for recreational activities such as walking, biking and horseback riding. The Habitat is in critical need of a massive clean-up effort to remove trash and debris, re-establish rock-lined trails and remove non-native invasive plants. This one-day event is a great way to get involved and make a difference in our community. If you are interested in participating, call 480-736-4281 or email TempeCares@gmail.com.



LEAVE A LEARNING LEGACY WITH EXPERIENCE CORPS

In partnership with [AARP](#), the City of Tempe offers a unique volunteer opportunity for adults 50+ to work with elementary school children. AARP Experience Corps is a nationally recognized literacy program currently running in 20 cities across the country. In Tempe, there are 72 volunteers who work in nine Tempe elementary schools. Volunteers work



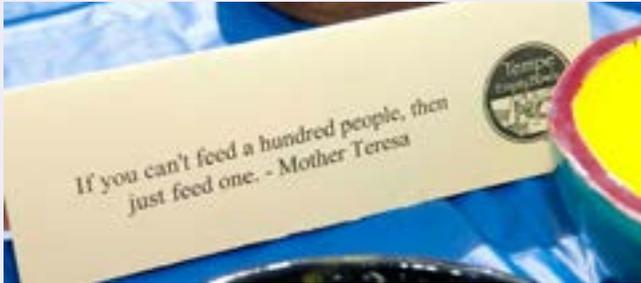
one-on-one with first through third grade students, helping them to improve their literacy skills.

This fall, [Tempe's AARP Experience Corps](#) program is expanding into three new schools and is looking to add approximately 30 volunteers. There are no special skills required to be a volunteer – just the willingness to share your experiences, time and patience. Comprehensive training, support services and orientation are provided. Learn more by attending an information session on Tuesday, Jan. 28 or Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 10:30

a.m., or Tuesday, March 18, at 2 p.m. at the [Tempe Public Library](#), 3500 S. Rural Rd. For more information, visit tempe.gov/volunteerec or call 480-858-2464.



ENJOY A TASTY LUNCH WHILE SUPPORTING A GREAT CAUSE



Bring your appetite and a desire to help others to [Tempe Empty Bowls](#), held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 22. Friday's event will

Attendees can purchase hand-crafted bowls, made by potters from the City of Tempe Ceramics Program, local artists and Tempe-area high school and middle

be held at 6th Street Park, just south of City Hall in Downtown Tempe, and Saturday's event will be held in the Tempe Community Complex Courtyard, 3500 S. Rural Rd.

school students. With the \$10 purchase of a bowl, Whole Foods Market will offer a simple meal of soup and bread. This meal is symbolic of the caloric intake that must sustain many in the world for an entire day.

Proceeds from Tempe Empty Bowls benefit the [Tempe Community Action Agency](#), the [Escalante Community Garden](#) and [United Food Bank](#).



MAKE YOUR MARK... ADOPT A TEMPE PARK!

Tempe's [Adopt-A-Park](#), [Adopt-A-Street](#) and [Adopt-A-Path programs](#) can be the perfect reason to get together, enjoy the nice weather and participate in selfless service while enhancing the appearance, safety and cleanliness of Tempe.

The Adopt-A-Park program responsibilities include picking up trash

and litter, raking leaves, pulling weeds and fluffing playground sand, sanitizing playground equipment, sweeping all hard surfaces (i.e. basketball courts, sidewalks, ramadas, etc.), reporting any necessary cleaning, unsafe conditions or repairs, as well as completing any special projects that may be assigned by Parks staff.

The Adopt-A-Street and Adopt-A-Path programs support litter control and storm water management throughout Tempe. The length of an adoptable street and/or path is a minimum of one mile, but no more than two miles. The commitment is a few hours each cleaning period with a minimum of one clean up every three months for two years. Signs providing information related to the litter control effort and crediting the volunteer or sponsor organization are provided by the city.

There are also year-round opportunities for groups. All of Tempe's 48 parks, major streets and various side streets, as well as most of Tempe's multi-use paths, are available for adoption. For more information, visit [Tempe.gov/Adopt](#).



CARE 7 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: MEL BECVAR



On the crisis scene, CARE 7 is able to fully focus on the emotional and practical needs of the family and/or individual in crisis while Tempe Police and Fire personnel attend to law enforcement, medical emergency, and fire suppression needs.

The Sandi Daley Exceptional Service Award is named after one of CARE 7's most memorable volunteers, Sandi Daley, who began volunteering in 2001. Sandi had experience dealing with medical emergencies as a flight attendant and wanted to help other people at critical times in their lives. She always had a smile on her face, a compassion for others, and was always prepared to do anything and everything that was asked of her.

Tempe's [CARE 7 Crisis Response Team](#) is a group of dedicated and professionally trained staff and community volunteers who provide 24-hour, on-scene, crisis intervention services in Tempe. CARE 7 is dispatched to calls through the emergency 911 system and responds to traumatic incidents, sexual assaults, homicides, robberies, attempted or completed suicides, drownings, domestic violence incidents, house fires, loss of loved ones and serious injury accidents.

The 2013 CARE 7 Sandi Daley Exceptional Service Award recipient is Mel Becvar. Mel has volunteered for CARE 7 since August 2010 and shows genuine compassion for everyone she helps. Mel continuously goes above and beyond what is required as a volunteer and rarely misses a shift. Additionally, Mel always participates in special events and generously donates not only her time, but also provides monetary support and any other items needed to assist CARE 7's clients.

Since 2007, the CARE 7 Sandi Daley Exceptional Service Award has been given to the volunteer who has gone above and beyond – just like Sandi always did. Past recipients include: Sharon Meyers (2007), Bob Rose (2008), Beverly Adams (2009), Beth Gross (2010), Jim Gallagher (2011) and Leon DeHaven (2012).

For more information on the CARE 7 program, please call 480-350-8032 or email care7@tempe.gov.

ROOT, ROOT, ROOT FOR RACHEL'S CHALLENGE AT THE TEMPE DIABLOS' CHARITY GAME



Nothing can beat the feeling of a nice afternoon of baseball and rooting for your favorite spring training team... except for the feeling of helping a great organization while you're cheering on the Angels!

Join the [Tempe Diablos](#) for their annual charity game at 1:05 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4 when the Angels take on the Texas Rangers.



All proceeds from ticket sales, parking, concessions and merchandise from the game will go directly to the Tempe Diablos local charities. This year's game will support [Rachel's Challenge](#), an organization focused on preventing bullying in schools. Based on the life and writing of Rachel Joy Scott who was one of the victims of the Columbine school shooting tragedy in 1999, *Rachel's Challenge* was created to equip and inspire students to replace acts of violence, bullying, and negativity with acts of respect, kindness, and compassion. One of the largest school-based character development programs in the nation, *Rachel's Challenge* has been brought to Tempe schools through grants created by the [Tempe Diablos](#).



Tickets are now for sale [online](#) or you can purchase them at the [Tempe Diablo box office](#) beginning Feb. 15.

KAJIKAWA SOFTBALL CLASSIC RETURNS TO TEMPE FEB. 6 -9

The Arizona State University Women's Softball Team will host the annual Kajikawa Classic from Thursday, Feb. 6 through Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014 at the [Tempe Sports Complex](#) and ASU's [Farrington Stadium](#).

Named after legendary ASU softball coach and Sun Devil athletics founder, Bill Kajikawa, the Kajikawa Classic is an ASU softball tradition. The 2014 Classic will host 24 teams and over 60 games will be played throughout the four-day event. Teams play in round-robin fashion and the winning team is determined by percentage. This year's classic will feature eight teams that advanced to the postseason in 2013 with numerous conferences represented including the

Pac-12, Mountain West, Big Ten, Big East and more.

The ASU Women's Softball Team is scheduled to play Creighton, New Mexico, North Carolina State, Penn State, Fresno State and UC Riverside in this year's Classic. Additional visiting teams include Stanford, Western Michigan, Utah, Boise State, University of California - Berkeley, Appalachian State, Northwestern, Indiana, San Jose State, California Polytechnic, Seattle University, San



Diego State, Bradley, Colorado State, Northridge, Oregon State and Portland State. For more details, include a complete schedule of games, visit thesundevils.com.

FREEZIN' FOR A REASON AT THE 2014 POLAR BEAR PLUNGE



The 3rd Annual Polar Bear Plunge at The Lakes was a freezing success as over 100 "Polar Bears" took the plunge at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 11 on behalf of Team Asa. An additional 150 registered supporters of the cause or "Teddy Bears" cheered on the Polar Bears who earned their bragging rights by jumping into the chilly 56 degree pool.

Team Asa is a 501c(3) organization that benefits Tempe's adapted recreation programs for participants with physical and intellectual disabilities. Thanks to the generous support of the community, the 2014 Polar Bear Plunge raised over \$7,500 for its cause and Team Asa will be able provide necessary equipment, uniforms and scholarships to programs such as Buddy Bowling, Special Olympics and many more.

To see photos and coverage of the event, visit LakesPolarBearPlunge.com.

KIWANIS RECREATION CENTER WANTS TO HELP YOU FULFILL YOUR HEALTH AND FITNESS GOALS IN 2014!

It can be difficult to start a new workout routine or keep an existing one going, which is why the Kiwanis Recreation Center is excited to help you get on and stay on the path to good health! Kiwanis is offering a variety of ways for you to get fit, from free water fitness classes to an unbeatable fitness center promotion, so you're sure to find the workout that's right for you.

Adults ages 18 and older are invited to enjoy free Water Fitness classes at



Kiwanis through Friday, Jan. 31. Guests can choose to try the Shallow Water Exercise or Transitional Deep Water Exercise classes, offered at convenient times throughout the week. Visit Tempe.gov/Kiwanis for the complete schedule of classes.

If you'd rather stay on dry land, come check out the Kiwanis Fitness Center for two weeks...for free! Just stop by Kiwanis before Jan. 31 to receive your free two-week pass. Additionally, you can purchase a three-month unlimited fitness pass and you'll get an extra three months for free! The three-month pass sells for \$64 and is also available at Kiwanis through Jan. 31.

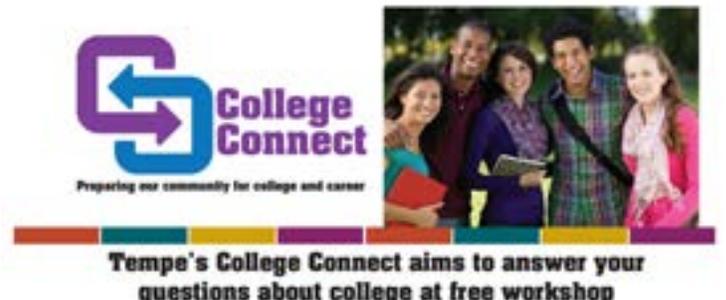
The Kiwanis Fitness Center is equipped with treadmills,



elliptical machines, stationary bicycles, strength-training equipment, free weights and more! The Fitness Center is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Fridays from 7 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

Come check out the Kiwanis facility and our free classes in person, or visit Kiwanis online at Tempe.gov/Kiwanis.

TEMPE'S COLLEGE CONNECT AIMS TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT COLLEGE AT FREE WORKSHOPS



The City of Tempe has partnered with [Tempe Union High School District](#), [ASU](#), [Mesa Community College](#) and [Rio Salado College](#) to create [College Connect](#). The community-based program has been specifically designed to assist young people in fulfilling their dreams of a post-secondary education.

"The upcoming College Connect workshops will provide students and their families with the resources and tools necessary to navigate the college process," said Councilmember Robin Arredondo-Savage. "The workshops not

only include how to apply for college, but also focus on how to pay for it through financial aid, scholarships or both."

High school students and their parents are encouraged to attend any one of the free College Connect workshops from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18, Jan. 25 or Feb. 1 at the [Tempe Public Library](#), 3500 S. Rural Rd.

The workshops will provide guidance on many topics including scholarship searches, essay writing, [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) form

completion and more! The student and their parents both need to bring the following information to complete the FAFSA:

- Social Security Number
- 2012 or 2013 federal tax information
- Bank and investment records
- Records of any untaxed income

Visit CollegeConnectTempe.org for more information, including a list of items to bring with you and to reserve your spot at the free workshop.



To receive up-to-date information about exciting events and opportunities happening between Connecting Tempe newsletters, become a fan of Tempe Opportunities on [Facebook](#).

SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday,
Jan. 18**

[College Connect Workshop](#)
10 a.m.-2 p.m.; [Tempe Public Library](#)

**Saturday,
Jan. 18**

[Walt Richardson Inducted to the AZ Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame](#)
5-8 p.m.; [Tempe Center for the Arts](#)

**Monday,
Jan. 20**

[MLK Holiday](#)
City of Tempe Administration
Offices Closed

**Monday,
Jan. 20**

[16th Annual MLK Diversity Awards Brunch](#)
9 a.m.; [The Buttes Resort](#)

**Friday,
Jan. 24**

[An Evening with the Laura Walsh Band](#)
7 p.m.; [Tempe History Museum](#)

**Saturday,
Jan. 25**

[College Connect Workshop](#)
10 a.m.-2 p.m.; [Tempe Public Library](#)

**Tuesday,
Jan. 28**

[Experience Corps Recruitment](#)
10:30-11:30 a.m.; [Tempe Public Library](#)

**Saturday,
Feb. 1**

[College Connect Workshop](#)
10 a.m.-2 p.m.; [Tempe Public Library](#)

**Saturday,
Feb. 1**

[Regional Unity Walk](#)
10 a.m.; Starting locations vary