



Celebrate Hispanic heritage at the 10th annual Tempe Tardeada

Vibrant folklorico dancers and energetic musicians will be featured at the City of Tempe's 10th Annual Tempe Tardeada on Sunday, Oct. 12, from noon to 8 p.m. This family-friendly event celebrates and recognizes Tempe's Hispanic roots, and coincides with National Hispanic Heritage Month. The festival will take place at the Tempe Community Center Complex, at the southwest corner of Rural Road and Southern Avenue.

Children will stay busy with arts and crafts activities. Community information booths and authentic Mexican foods will be highlighted, along with dancing, entertainment and music from performers like, "New Frequency Band," "Los Changuitos Feos Mariachi," and "Power Drive. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/tardeada or call 480-350-8979.



Tempe Center for the Arts has busy first year of performances, events

It was just one year ago this month that the Tempe Center for the Arts triumphantly opened to rave reviews and packed performances. Today, patrons have no less enthusiasm for the state-of-the-art, 88,000-square-foot venue on the south bank of Tempe Town Lake. The TCA, located at 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, has entertained thousands with its 600-seat theater, 200-seat studio theater, 3,500-square-foot gallery, Lakeside meeting room and 17-acre lakeside park.

In just the first 10 months of operation, the Tempe Center for the Arts, its partner organizations and staff have achieved amazing milestones. More than 41,000 tickets have been sold to 68 productions. TCA has hosted more than 700 events, including at least 400 performances, as well as meetings, gala parties and fundraisers, social events and weddings. The Gallery at TCA has welcomed more than 47,000 visitors, featured exhibitions like, "Mercy: A Roy Orbison Pilgrimage," and showcased the work of 25 Arizona artists, including 13 who hail from Tempe. An estimated 1,200 hours have been volunteered by docents who assist in showcasing the TCA to the community.

To "Be Part of the Scene" at the Tempe Center for the Arts, visit www.tempe.gov/tca or call 480-350-2822.

Tempe Mayor and City Councilmembers sworn in at July 17 ceremony

Mayor Hugh Hallman and three City Councilmembers were sworn in to office July 17. Hallman was sworn in for his second, four-year term in office. Councilmember Mark Mitchell was sworn in for a third, four-year term on the Council. Joel Navarro and Corey Woods, who were elected in the May 20 General Election, were sworn in as new Councilmembers. To reach any member of the Tempe City Council, call 480-350-8110 or visit www.tempe.gov/elected to e-mail the Council.

Stroll and roll through Tempe

Lace up your shoes and pump up your bike tires! The weather soon will be cooler and that means residents can get outside and enjoy all that Tempe has to offer. Tempe's 10th annual Walk to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 15, invites children and parents to leave cars behind. Students and parents at participating Tempe schools can take to the sidewalks between 6:30 and 8:15 a.m. to promote community involvement and a healthier environment. Children will receive free breakfast and a prize for walking. Each school will receive a tree to demonstrate how trees make walking more pleasant and help the environment.

On Sunday, Oct. 26, residents can pump up their bike tires and join the 13th annual Tour de Tempe community bike ride. More than 1,500 people are expected to participate in this 12- to 14-mile, non-competitive ride, which weaves through diverse neighborhoods, the Mill Avenue District and public art projects. The event begins at 8:30 a.m. at Kiwanis Park (All-America Way, just north of Guadalupe Road). Free registration starts at 7 a.m. All riders will receive free breakfast snacks, and artist-designed T-shirts will be distributed to the first 800 registrants. Helmets are required.

For more information on either event, call Tempe in Motion at 480-350-2775, or visit www.tempe.gov/tim.



Tempe to dedicate Esquer Park

There is only one place in Tempe where you can play horseshoes, pingpong and basketball, try out new stunts on your BMX bike and enjoy a picnic under a shaded ramada. It's all available at Tempe's newest amenity: Esquer Park. This three-acre gem is now open at 2407 E. McArthur Drive, north of Apache Boulevard and east of the Loop 101 freeway. It will be formally dedicated by the Tempe City Council and neighbors during a 1 p.m. ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 18. All are invited to attend.

Named after a longtime Tempe family, Esquer Park was developed in collaboration with the residents of the surrounding Victory Acres neighborhood, so that its features would meet their needs. The park is home to a splash playground, a concrete pingpong table, a walking path and a 5,850-square-foot BMX bike and skate facility – the first such dual facility in Tempe. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/parks or call 480-350-5200.

Tempe promotes safety

Fire Prevention Week is call to action

Bring the family to Arizona Mills Mall on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., for the City of Tempe's free, annual "Shopping for Fire and Crime Prevention" event. Outside the mall, in Parking Area 3, kids can enjoy fun water activities, meet firefighters and tour fire trucks. Inside the mall's food court, information booths will provide important safety tips on issues such as crime, fire and auto theft prevention, senior safety and domestic violence.

In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11, you can help the Tempe Fire Department prevent home fires by following these simple tips:

- Check your smoke alarm once a month, replace the batteries once a year and replace the entire alarm every 10 years.
- Create an escape plan for your home, showing two ways out of every room, and practice it at least twice a year.
- Stay in the kitchen while cooking and turn pot handles toward the back of the stove.
- Make sure all electrical appliances work properly.
- Use only large, deep, non-tip, non-combustible ashtrays.
- Keep matches and lighters locked high and out of children's sight and reach.
- Do not leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Use candle holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily, are made from materials that can't burn and are large enough to collect dripping wax.

For more information, call the Tempe Fire Department's Fire Prevention Office at 480-858-7230 or visit www.tempe.gov/fire.

Join your neighbors Oct. 18 for G.A.I.N.

Spend the evening outdoors with your neighbors Saturday, Oct. 18, and participate in G.A.I.N (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) Night. G.A.I.N. is designed to help residents get better acquainted with each other and to heighten crime prevention awareness in the community. Every block watch, neighborhood association, apartment community and mobile home community in Tempe is invited to participate from 4-8 p.m. For more information or to register your neighborhood's party, call 480-858-6333 or visit www.tempe.gov/cpu.

Tempe Transit Store moves to new Transportation Center

The Tempe Transit Store has moved to the new Tempe Transportation Center, 200 E. Fifth St., from its former location at 502 S. College Ave. Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., excluding holidays. Patrons can buy transit passes and get bus, bicycling and light rail information. Located at the northwest corner of Fifth Street and Forest Avenue, the Tempe Transportation Center is a mixed-use, three-story hub for transit in Tempe. The facility and its shaded courtyard and transit plaza will serve METRO light rail and local and regional bus patrons. The Transportation Center will be one of the first buildings of its kind in the nation to be submitted for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. For more information, call 480-858-2350 or visit www.tempe.gov/tim.

Tempe Transportation Center: A study in sustainability

Join City of Tempe staff member Bonnie J. Richardson for “Sustainable Strategies: What Can We Learn from the Tempe Transportation Center?” a free 7 p.m. lecture on Thursday, Oct. 16, at the Tempe Public Library’s Connections Café, 3500 S. Rural Road. Richardson has served as project manager for the Tempe Transportation Center, which opens this fall. The event is part of the Tempe Historical Museum’s 3rd Thirstday Night Café series, which run from September through November and January through April. For more information, call 480-350-5100.

Online homework help available through Tempe Public Library

This fall, students scratching their heads over math, science, social studies or English homework have a valuable resource, courtesy of the Tempe Public Library and its partners. Live Homework Help™ is a free online tutoring service that connects students to expert tutors in several subjects. Spanish-speaking tutors also are available. This free service, made possible by a grant from the Tempe Diablos is geared toward students in grades 4-12, and introductory-level college. It is available seven days a week from 3-10 p.m. via students’ home computers, or via computers at the Tempe Public Library (3500 S. Rural Rd.), the Escalante Multi-Generational Center (2150 E. Orange St.) and the North Tempe Multi-Generational Center (1555 N. Bridalwreath St.). A Tempe Public Library card is required. For more information, call 480-350-5511 or visit www.tempe.gov/library and click the “Get ahead of the class this year” link.

Watch Tempe 11’s newest show, “Tempe 411,” beginning this month! Check www.tempe.gov/tempe11 for airtimes.



Arizona Historical Society Museum

The Arizona Historical Society Museum at Papago Park has something for everyone as it hosts a variety of events this fall.

The museum covers the changes that have made Arizona what it is today, inviting conversations about Arizona’s future based on what we know about its past. Concentrating on Arizona in the 20th and 21st centuries, the museum features hands-on and multi-media displays, children’s activities, and a variety of educational programs.

On the third Saturday of every month, starting in September, the Fall History Brunch Series will reveal little-known stories of Arizona politics in “Grand Plans and Dirty Deeds.” The program combines a hearty breakfast with juicy tales of Arizona’s backroom politics told by the insiders themselves.

During Desert Day on Saturday, Oct. 18, families can explore Papago Park wildlife with local experts through nature walks and activities at the museum.

The museum’s annual fireside event, Lantern Lore, will be Saturday, Dec. 13. Families can hear and share dramatic stories of the West. Grandparents and grandchildren can record their family’s stories in the Traditions Booth, and take home a personalized CD.

Several new exhibitions debut this fall. Across Arizona in Stages presents Marjorie Reid’s historically detailed paintings of the Butterfield Stage line. In November, the museum will showcase garments donated by Justice Sandra Day O’Connor. Also in November, the new Historymakers™ Hall will be unveiled, focusing on some of the Valley’s most famous and influential figures. In December, there will be a special showing of historic weapons of the West, including a rifle used by Geronimo and a pistol owned by Wyatt Earp.

For more information, and a discount coupon, visit www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org or call 480-929-0292.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The August/September schedule for Tempe City Council meetings

September 11, 2008

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

September 18, 2008

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

October 2, 2008

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

October 16, 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

Shana Ellis, Vice Mayor

P. Ben Arredondo, Councilmember

Mark W. Mitchell, Councilmember

Joel Navarro, Councilmember

Onnie Shekerjian, Councilmember

Corey Woods, Councilmember

Charlie Meyer, City Manager

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)

Contributing writer Ashley White

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

City of Tempe
31 E. 5th St., Tempe, AZ 85281
www.tempe.gov

News you can use

Pyle Fall Craft Boutique

Find homemade crafts, baby items, jewelry, needlework and carved wooden items – all made by local artists and crafters – at the annual Pyle Fall Craft Boutique, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 24 and 25, at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, 655 E. Southern Ave. Free raffle drawings will be held throughout the event, and there will be entertainment and refreshments. The boutique will be open Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact the Pyle Center at 480-350-5211 with any questions.

Volunteer tax preparers needed

Looking to make a difference to hard-working individuals and families in Tempe? English-speaking and Spanish-speaking volunteer tax preparers are needed to assist the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program, an annual effort to assist income-qualified families with getting federal tax credits. Each Saturday from Jan. 24 to April 11, 2009, volunteers will donate their time and expertise at tax preparation sites in Tempe and Guadalupe. Volunteers must complete a six-session IRS tax law course offered on Saturdays at the Tempe Schools Credit Union, 2800 S. Mill Ave. In the past six years, the Tempe-based EITC effort has brought nearly \$7.4 million in tax credits back to local working families. For more information on volunteering, visit www.tempe.gov/tcc/taxhelp or call 480-858-2323.

Oktoberfest comes to Tempe

The 36th Annual Way Out West Oktoberfest, produced by Tempe Sister Cities, will be Friday, Oct. 3, to Sunday, Oct. 5, at Tempe Beach Park, 80 E. Rio Salado Parkway. Hours are 5 p.m. to midnight Friday, 10 a.m. to midnight Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Three entertainment stages will be featured, along with children's activities like crafts, games, face painting, rock climbing and a carnival. The event raises money for international student and teacher exchanges, as well as international humanitarian aid projects. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.wowoktoberfest.com or call 480-491-FEST.

Reels & Wheels

What's better on Friday nights than dinner and a movie with the family? This fall, take the show outdoors at Reels & Wheels, a free movie series at the Tempe Community Complex, 3500 S. Rural Road, at the southwest corner of Rural Road and Southern Avenue. Pack a picnic dinner and a blanket, and hop on your bike or an Orbit neighborhood circulator to get to any of these free movies, which will be shown at dusk on the following Fridays:

- Oct. 3 – Bee Movie PG
- Oct. 17 – Charlotte's Web G
- Oct. 24 – Monster House PG
- Nov. 7 – The Water Horse PG

Reels & Wheels is a partnership of Tempe Parks & Recreation and Tempe in Motion (TIM). For information, visit www.tempe.gov/recreation or call 480-350-5200. For bus routes and schedules, visit www.tempe.gov/tim or call 602-253-5000.

Trick or Treat at Tempe's Halloween Carnival

Come join some goblins, ghouls and ghosts at the boo-dacious 31st annual Tempe Halloween Carnival on Friday, Oct. 31, from 5:30 to 9 p.m., at Kiwanis Park, 6005 S. All-America Way. The carnival is offered by the city as a safe alternative to trick-or-treating. Your family will have a bewitching good time with entertainment, a costume contest for all ages, face painting, carnival games and food booths. Admission is free. Tickets for booths and games are 25 cents. For information, visit www.tempe.gov/events or call 480-350-5200.

Ambassadors in Mill Avenue District guide visitors

Starting this fall, a new program will help Mill Avenue District visitors find the right restaurant, navigate parking options and locate a great shopping spot. The Mill Avenue District Ambassador Program is a partnership of the Downtown Tempe Community, the Tempe Convention & Visitors Bureau and METRO Light Rail. Each weekday during peak periods and during special events, ambassadors will roam the downtown Tempe area, offering directions, distributing maps, giving shopping and dining recommendations, monitoring safety and conducting limited historic tours. For more information, call 480-355-6060 or visit www.millavenue.com.