

## 'Tis the Season for Holiday Happenings in Tempe



From now through the ringing of the New Year, the City of Tempe's calendar is filled with holiday-themed events for residents and community members of all ages. Whether you want to revel in music and gleaming lights, shop for unique gifts or treat the kids to holiday activities, read-on to discover how you can celebrate the season in Tempe.

Warm wishes to you and yours for a happy holiday season!

## FAMILY FUN FACTORY CELEBRATES WITH A GINGERBREAD CANDYLAND

Enjoy an evening of great activities for the whole family at our [Family Fun Factory](#) event! The free, gingerbread candyland themed holiday event will delight visitors of all ages from 6:30-9 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 2, within the Tempe Community Complex, located at 3500 S. Rural Rd. on the southwest corner of Rural Rd. and Southern Ave.

Kick-start your holiday creativity with make-and-take art projects including Gingerbread people and houses, candy wreaths, Santa's sleigh filled with treats and more! Decorate holiday cookies and write a letter to Santa. Enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and listen to live music performed by [Pick and Holler](#). Guests will get to make their very own "snow" and enjoy other winter science fun at the Kid Zone Enrichment Program booth.



Additional entertainment includes a live choir and a visit from the jolliest old elf himself, Santa. Guests are encouraged to bring cameras to capture photos with Santa.

Representatives from Tempe Recreation, [Edna Vihel Activities Center](#), [Kid Zone Enrichment Program](#), [Kiwanis Recreation Center](#), [Tempe History Museum](#) and [Tempe Public Library](#) are partnering to host this year's event, allowing for a wider array of activities, experiences and holiday memories. For more information on the Family Fun Factory event, call 480-350-5287.



## SEWING 4 A CAUSE



Gather the gang and come to the Tempe Public Library to practice your sewing skills and help out a good cause - making pet beds for local animal shelters and rescues, including Maricopa County Animal Care and Control, Ohana Animal Rescue and Lost Our Home Pet Rescue. Join us from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10.



The library will provide two sewing machines, patterns and materials for the event. Feel free to bring your own machines and materials.

Enjoy good company, holiday music and hot cocoa. Visit the Library's [event calendar](#) for more information about the event.

## SWIMMING WITH SANTA



Santa is exhausted from delivering toys all over the world, and Mrs. Claus is always so busy archiving the naughty/nice list, so they decided that the best place for a post-holiday vacation would be the Kiwanis Recreation Center.

On Monday, Dec. 26, you can spend your post-holiday vacation with Santa riding the waves or playing games with Mrs. Claus on the pool deck. Of course, all that splashing around and having fun can make you thirsty, so we are also offering complimentary cookies and milk to all of our guests.

Join Mr. and Mrs. Claus on December 26 from 1-5 p.m. The jolly couple will be there from 1-3 p.m. but the waves and water slide continue from 3-5 p.m. Tickets are on sale now and are \$5 for children ages 2-12 years and \$7 for children 13 years and older, and are available through Friday, Dec. 23. Day of admission will be \$7 for ages 2 - 12 years and \$9 for ages 13 years and older. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.Tempe.gov](http://www.Tempe.gov) and at the Kiwanis Rec Center, located at 6111 S. All-America Way Tempe, AZ 85283. For more information, visit [www.Tempe.gov/SWS](http://www.Tempe.gov/SWS) or call (480) 350-5201.

# FOOD FOR FINES

You always hear that it's better to give than to receive, but what if you could do both? Feed the hungry and pay your library fines without taking a dollar out of your wallet with the [Tempe Public Library's](#) Food for Fines program.

During November and December, bring canned-food items to the library, located at 3500 S. Rural Rd., and have your library fines waived in exchange. Don't have fines? You can still participate by donating canned food for entry into a drawing for a gourmet basket donated by [Whole Foods Market Tempe](#).

Every can of food you bring to the library is worth \$1 off your balance. Bring in 30 items or a 30 pound bag of dog food for our 4-legged friends, and your account balance will be zeroed out. Get more information at [www.Tempe.gov/DonationsforFines](http://www.Tempe.gov/DonationsforFines).

The food will benefit non-profit group [Tempe Community Action Agency](#) (TCAA), which serves the Tempe community.



## Food for Fines

# TEMPE HISTORY MUSEUM HAS THE HOLIDAYS COVERED



The [Tempe History Museum](#) likes to celebrate the holidays in style – and this year is no exception. Whether you'd like to commemorate the memories of loved ones or spend time in a local, historic home decked-out in its holiday best, the Tempe History Museum has two fantastic options to help you get the most out of this holiday season.

The 15th Annual "Larry Campbell Tree of Lights" will sparkle in the museum lobby again this holiday season. Presented by the Tempe Historical Society, The Veterans History Project and the Tempe Friends of the Library, this fundraiser is named in memory of Larry Campbell, a past president of the Society. This year there will be a second Christmas tree as the Society is partnering with the Tempe Veterans History Project to honor or remember members of the military.



Take the opportunity to honor or remember someone special to you in a unique and personal way. A \$10 donation will place a light and "take home" ornament on these trees. The Tree of Lights will be on display in the museum lobby. A reception for the donors, honorees and families of those being remembered will be held on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016. Purchased ornaments may be retrieved at that time.

Holiday enthusiasts are invited to experience a Tempe Christmas tradition by visiting the [Petersen House Museum](#), located 1414 W. Southern Ave. Celebrating turn-of-the-century style with a Danish flair in honor of Niels Petersen, the house will be festively decorated with personal tours for visitors.

Enjoy refreshments on the porch and create memories with your family during Tempe's Christmas at the Petersen House. The home is open from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. on Saturday Dec. 3, 10 and 17 and again from 1–4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 4, 11 and 18. For more information, visit [www.tempe.gov/museum](http://www.tempe.gov/museum) or call 480.350.5100.

# WINTER REGISTRATION BEGINS THE WEEK OF DEC. 5



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, music, art, dance and more. Quality programs are offered at convenient times and locations, at affordable prices.

The new brochure will be available in all City of Tempe facilities and can be viewed online at [www.tempe.gov/brochure](http://www.tempe.gov/brochure) the week of November 28. Tempe resident registration opens at

9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 5. Non-Tempe resident registration begins at 9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 12. Classes begin in January and are offered through March 2017.

We have upgraded our registration software to ActiveNet, making it much easier for you to find and register for classes. You will need to create a new account to register for classes. For step-by-step instructions, please visit [www.tempe.gov/brochure](http://www.tempe.gov/brochure).

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 19TH ANNUAL MLK DIVERSITY AWARDS

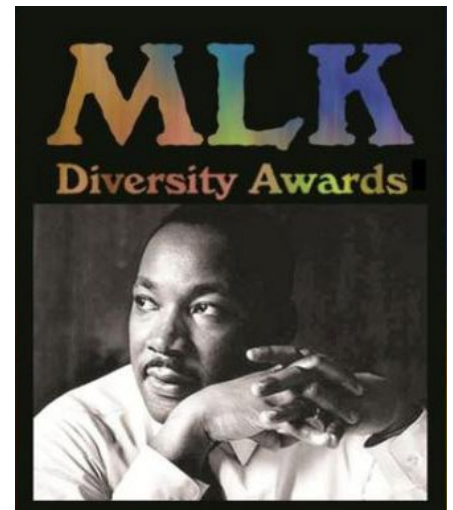
The Tempe Human Relations Commission, together with the City of Tempe, is seeking nominations for the 19th Annual Diversity Awards.

To be eligible, nominees must live, work, or volunteer in the City of Tempe and demonstrate a commitment to honoring and celebrating diversity within the Tempe community. There are six nominating categories including Individual Adult, Individual Youth (18 years and younger), Community Group / Organization, Educational

Organization, Business and Diversity Supplier Award.

Award winners will be recognized at Tempe's Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Diversity Awards Breakfast at 8 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017 at The Tempe Marriott at the Buttes, 2000 Westcourt Way, Tempe 85282.

Nominations must be received no later than Monday, Dec. 5, 2016. An online nomination form is available at [www.Tempe.gov/MLK](http://www.Tempe.gov/MLK).



## SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY



This season, put Tempe on your holiday list and consider shopping close to home. November 26, the Saturday after Thanksgiving is traditionally known as Small Business Saturday, where residents are encouraged to shop their local, privately-owned stores. Spending your money in Tempe supports the people in your community and helps keep stores open and your neighbors working. It preserves both necessary and fun businesses close to your home, saving you time and gas. More than that, shopping Tempe helps pay for community parks, police and fire service and many other city services.

According to Local First Arizona, when you shop at a locally owned business, 45 cents of every dollar stays in Arizona. National chains contribute only 13 cents. There are many great neighborhood retail centers as well as some shopping malls that provide fantastic shopping opportunities.

Visit [www.Tempe.gov/ShopTempe](http://www.Tempe.gov/ShopTempe) for links to local businesses and a fun holiday song full of original (and authentically-local!) gift ideas.

# FANTASY OF LIGHTS OPENING NIGHT PARADE



It's time for one of the most cherished holiday traditions in Tempe – the [Fantasy of Lights Opening Night Parade](#) sponsored by Wells Fargo!

Join us Saturday, Nov. 26, at 6 p.m., as thousands of spectators line Mill Avenue to see floats, marching bands and Santa. The parade begins at Rio Salado Parkway and travels south on Mill, it turns right on 7th St. through Centerpoint Plaza and heads north on Maple where it concludes.

The annual tree lighting ceremony and visits with Santa happen right after the parade. Families can feel free to snap their own photos with Santa during this opportunity.

The event is free. Make a night of it by stopping for dinner or dessert in the festive setting of Downtown Tempe.

# TEMPE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Visit Mill Ave. between Third St. and University Dr. from Friday, Dec. 2 through Sunday, Dec. 4, to experience the [48th annual Fall Tempe Festival of the Arts](#), Arizona's finest art and craft show and an award-winning holiday tradition ideal for the whole family. The three-day festival is open from 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. each day and admission is free.

Browse through the almost 400 booths featuring artists from around the country for unique and original pieces ranging from woodwork to photography, ceramics and wearable items. New this year, be sure to check out the Sixth + Mill Makers, a local Makers section curated by local artists.

Bringing the family? You won't want to miss Kids Block, where kids can see works by their peers and do some projects of their own.

Adults can relax in the Arizona Wine Festival Garden and The Art of Beer



microbrewery area. In addition to the street performers and entertainment areas, additional stages have been added on 5th St. East of Mill Ave. and in Hayden Amphitheater, tripling the performance space at the event.

In addition to arts and entertainment, the Tempe Festival of the Arts offers support to the Tempe community, as a portion of the proceeds raised at the Festival benefits local Tempe charities.

# FANTASY OF LIGHTS BOAT PARADE



Light up the night and be dazzled at the Valley's most unique holiday event – the Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade Presented by SRP at Tempe Town Lake. Begun in 1999, the Boat Parade will feature as many as 50 festively lighted boats of all sizes. After dark, more than a thousand luminaria will illuminate the sidewalks and paths of Tempe Beach Park, a special display provided by Tempe South Rotary.

The event kicks off at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 with live music, selfies with Santa, food trucks, face painter, caricature artists, Four Peaks Beer truck, wine and more! Come out early, get your spot, a bite to eat and listen to some great music while making new friends with your neighbors. The parade launches off at 7 p.m. and ends with a colorful display of fireworks at 8:45 pm. Free Admission for spectators.

## DON'T BE A TURKEY – RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAY COOKING GREASE

Whether you roast or deep-fry, holiday cooking can create a significant amount of grease. You can help put that grease to good use – and keep it from ruining your plumbing – by having it recycled.

The City of Tempe offers four (4) convenient drop-off locations for residents to [recycle turkey grease](#) and other used cooking oil.

Tempe residents can bring used cooking oil from deep fat fryers and other holiday cooking to four convenient locations:

- Household Products Collection Center  
1320 E. University Drive
- Fire Station #2 – 3025 S. Hardy Drive
- Fire Station #3 – 5440 S. McClintock Drive
- Fire Station #4 – 300 E. Elliot Road



# TIPS FOR SAFE DEEP FRYING

The [Tempe Fire Department](#) recommends following these safety guidelines for frying turkeys:

- Follow the fryer instructions.
- Only deep-fry small turkeys using peanut, canola or safflower oils.
- Fryers should always be used outdoors, on a flat surface, away from buildings.
- Keep children and pets away from fryer as oil inside the pot can remain dangerously hot for hours.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed. Oil and water don't mix and water causes oil to spill over leading to a fire or even an explosion.
- If oil begins to smoke, immediately turn gas supply off because the oil is overheated and can result in a fire.
- Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease fire. If a fire occurs, call 911 immediately.

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

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## SAVE THE DATE

### **Saturday, Nov. 26**

Small Business Saturday

#### [Fantasy of Lights Opening Night Parade](#)

6 p.m.; Mill Avenue from Rio Salado Parkway to 7th St.

### **Friday, Dec. 2**

#### [Family Fun Factory](#)

6:30-9 p.m.; Tempe Community Complex

### **Friday, Dec. 2 – Sunday, Dec. 4**

#### [Tempe Festival of the Arts](#)

10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Mill Ave. between University Dr. and 4th St.

### **Monday, Dec. 5**

#### [Tempe Resident Registration Opens](#)

Winter 2017 Session

### **Saturday, Dec. 10**

Sewing 4 a Cause

1:00 p.m.; [Tempe Public Library](#) Meeting Room A

#### [Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade](#)

4:30 p.m.; Tempe Beach Park

### **Monday, Dec. 12**

#### [Non-Tempe Resident Registration Opens](#)

Winter 2017 Session

### **Monday, Dec. 26**

#### [Swimming with Santa](#)

1 p.m.; [Kiwanis Recreation Center](#)

 City of Tempe

PLAY LEARN LIVE GROW

[www.tempe.gov/recreation](http://www.tempe.gov/recreation)