



Vote "YES" on General Plan 2040

Early Voting begins April 24

**Check out our new [advertising opportunities](#),
and learn how your ad can appear here!**

Are you a proud member of the Tempe Chamber?

We're proud of our members and are constantly working to promote, improve and grow your business! Show that you're proud to be a member of the Tempe Chamber by adding our logo and a link to our website to your newsletter and website. To request a high-resolution logo and for additional information, please e-mail Sachiyo at sachiyo@tempechamber.org.

When consumers know that a small business is a member of the chamber of commerce, they are 44% more likely to think favorably of it and 63% more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future. - "The Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce: A Research Study," The Schapiro Group



A great vision for Tempe's future

**By Mary Ann Miller, President/CEO,
Tempe Chamber of Commerce**

It starts when you're just a kid: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

And before you know it:

- "What are you going to major in?"
- "Where do you want to work?"
- "What do you want to do next?"
- "When do you want to retire?"

At each step of the way, our answers - our visions for our future - affect the next steps we take...You plan your life around the answers to these questions, and as you

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age, you often discover other talents and other interests. Outside forces impact your planning, sometimes for good and sometimes not.

A community goes through just the same process. It creates a General Plan, which is a vision for its future about 20 years out.

[Read the full article.](#)

Helping You Succeed!

Can alternative fuel vehicles save your business money?

In its 2014 report, Clean Cities provides information on the use and purchase of non-gasoline vehicles. Studying and incorporating these may result in savings for your vehicle fleet or company.

Clean Cities works to advance the nation's economic, environmental and energy security by supporting local actions to reduce petroleum consumption in transportation. [See more here.](#)

Leads group opens new business categories

Coffee Connections Group 2 has openings for new members. The leads group's purpose is to generate business by establishing trusted referral-based relationships. These groups are industry specific, which means that only one person per industry can join. Membership in the group is \$50 per year, and Tempe Chamber membership is a prerequisite. Interested people are welcome to attend a meeting with no commitment. Coffee Connections has two other groups for those with scheduling conflicts. For an application or to learn more, e-mail info@tempechamber.org.

Chamber Updates



Fun golf committee seeks members

We're seeking members to join our Tempe Links Classic golf committee and help us plan one of the most fun events of the year. Committee members need only make a commitment through the Sept. 12 tournament. We meet once a month, and our group of fun, friendly members would love to add to our ranks. This dynamic tournament features a full round of golf, prizes, lunch, a silent auction and barbecue dinner with live emcee. Please consider joining us and helping to make this event a success. Links will begin meeting on May 7 from 11 a.m. to noon and will continue on the first Wednesday of each month through the tournament. For more information or to join, e-mail sean@tempechamber.org.

MAC update



[Read more news from the Chamber on our blog!](#)

Dress us up in your company's clothes!



Tempe Chamber staff in shirts provided by Judy Aguilar-Woertz, Agent - State Farm Insurance

No, we're not Barbie dolls, but we are willing to let you dress us up. We've recently started a Technology Fundraiser to help offset the cost of new computers and operating systems. Let us be your walking billboards! [Find out how it works here.](#)



Pass it on!



[Changes coming to Facebook](#) mean that we have to count on you more than ever to help us share the business news and training tips we post. If you see something you like, please share it on your own timeline. Thank you for helping us make sure we continue to meet the needs of our community. You can visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/TempeCC>.

Ribbon cuttings





The Tempe Chamber's Military Affairs Committee (MAC) hosted an award luncheon Feb. 12 to honor the 944th Fighter Wing of the United States Air Force Reserve. The Graydon Williams Award was presented to Master Sergeant Jeffrey Braselton.

"The award is presented annually to an Air Reserve Technician or Active Guard Reserve member who personifies the character and traits of the late Tech. Sgt. Graydon Williams, a 944th Fighter Wing maintenance ART who died at a young age of cancer," said Major Elizabeth Magnusson.

Recipients of the award perform above expectations, do not seek recognition and have not been sufficiently recognized for their impact and contributions.

A special thanks to Club Five Six at Luke Air Force Base for having us. Thank you to our generous donors: Four Points by Sheraton Tempe and Pete's Fish and Chips.

The MAC is seeking new members. Please contact Courtney at courtneymcityre@tempechamber.org (480) 736-4281 for information and/or an application.

Renewals and new members



Check out our newest members and see what members have renewed their membership with the Tempe Chamber.

[Read more](#)

Get connected with Super Bowl XLIX

We've partnered with the Super Bowl to bring our members the Super Bowl XLIX Business Connect program. We're pleased to be able to help our members take advantage of the economic opportunities that the big game brings with it. The program will inform and engage local small businesses in procurement opportunities associated with Super Bowl XLIX. Learn more at www.azsuperbowl.com/businessconnect.

Community News

Spring into action during National Volunteer Week!

National Volunteer Week, April 6 to 12, is an effort dedicated to inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out new ways to engage in their



Cobblestone Auto Spa



JumpStartbiz



Painting with a Twist



Papa Murphy's Take 'N' Bake Pizza



SEA Life Arizona



communities. In that spirit, Tempe Community Action Agency challenges Tempe area residents to think about what they can do to make a positive impact on their communities. Check out volunteer opportunities at <http://www.tempeaction.org/get-involved/>.

Tempe flips switch on 924-kilowatt solar project

City of Tempe officials, along with project partners SRP and Solar City, recently placed the final panel on the city's largest solar project at Tempe's South Water Treatment Plant. The project features more than 3,000 solar panels that will generate more than 1.6 million kilowatt hours of electricity each year. Tempe expects to save more than \$25,500 in utility costs during the first year, with anticipated savings of \$2.3 million over 20 years. The project will reduce the water plant's carbon emissions by 1,130 metric tons annually.

News You Can Use

Is your business prepared for the sales tax reduction?

The City of Tempe reminds local businesses to re-program their computer equipment to reflect a lower city sales tax rate of 1.8 percent beginning July 1. The upcoming 2014-15 fiscal year starts July 1 and marks the end of the additional sales tax approved by voters and promised by the City Council to expire in 2014.

Tempe voters passed Proposition 401 during the May 18, 2010, General Election, allowing for a four-year, two-tenths of a cent sales tax increase that enabled the city to preserve essential services such as public safety and recreation programs. Effective July 1, 2010, the city portion of sales tax went from 1.8 percent to 2 percent. On July 1, the rate will go back to 1.8 percent.

Learn more at www.tempe.gov.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Each tax season, Arizona families miss out on millions in tax refunds because they are unaware of programs like the Earned Income Tax Credit, a refundable federal income tax credit eligible to low-income working individuals and families. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is designed to provide families with the knowledge and guidance to lessen their financial burden. The Tempe Financial Stability Initiative, a collaboration with Tempe Community Council, Landings Credit Union, W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University and the Internal Revenue Service, operates a VITA program in our area. To find out dates and locations, visit www.tempecommunitycouncil.org or call (480) 858-2323.

Share your news with us!

Did your company appear in the news? Do you have new employees you would like to introduce? Have you won an award? To be featured in our member spotlights section, please send your 50-word submission to sachiyo@tempechamber.org. All submissions are subject to editing to meet guidelines and formatting requirements. Submit your news by 10 a.m. on the Thursday of the week prior to the week in which you want your announcement to

Tempe Farmers Market

[Click here to view the Tempe Chamber's Board of Directors](#)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

In just two months, Four Peaks Brewing Company raised \$15,259 toward two future Make-A-Wish® Arizona wishes. The fundraiser encouraged customers to make donations at Four Peaks locations and gave away a Four Peaks Brewery Kegerator to help fund two Arizona wishes for wish kids Lauren, 9, and Aidan, 10. Four Peaks donated 100 percent of the money collected to Make-A-Wish Arizona. For more information, visit www.wishaz.org and www.fourpeaks.com.

CenturyLink Technology Solutions recently launched data center colocation and other IT hosting services for businesses in Phoenix and surrounding areas through a partnership with a local technology company. The new services provide secure data center space, power, cooling and network connectivity for other companies' computer equipment, allowing businesses to focus on their own innovation and growth rather than maintaining a data center. [Read the full article here.](#)

Susan Sullivan has joined Twenty Four Seven Hotels as regional director of sales for Arizona where she will be based out of Four Points Tempe. Sullivan has also worked with Marriott, Hilton and IHG hotels in Phoenix and Tempe. Contact Sullivan to schedule a personal tour of Four Points at (480) 337-2802 or ssullivan@t4shotels.com.

United Food Bank was recently awarded a grant of \$40,000 from The Arizona Republic/12 News Season for Sharing campaign. This grant is a collaborative effort of The Arizona Republic, 12 News and azcentral.com to partner with readers and viewers to improve the quality of life in Arizona communities.

appear.

Tempe Chamber of Commerce

909 East Apache Blvd.

Tempe AZ, 85281

(480) 967-7891

<http://www.tempechamber.org>



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