July 28 PCFYI: Keeping cool, free pets and creating career paths

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Beat the heat in Pima County
with these 5 fun indoor destinations

Pima County is feeling the heat these days. This week, Tucson experienced its 40th consecutive day — and counting — with temperatures over 100 degrees, setting a record. When the temperature soars that high, it's easy to feel as if your only option is to stay home and blast the air conditioning all day long. Fortunately, Pima County is home to plenty of fun indoor activities that will allow you and your family to have fun while keeping cool. Here are five destinations you shouldn't miss.

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Pet adoptions are completely free this weekend at Pima Animal Care Center

With more than 450 dogs and 100 cats living at the Pima Animal Care Center, the facility is at critical capacity, with more animals in the shelter than kennels. In order to help get some of these pets into loving homes, PACC will be offering completely free adoptions for dogs and cats July 29-30. Typically, the shelter charges a $20 licensing fee but, for this weekend only, a generous volunteer will be covering the fee. Visit this weekend from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Summer employment program puts youths on pathways to careers

Dakota Abasta had never considered herself a painter. But in the span of two short weeks, she realized it was something she could do for the rest of her life. Abasta got a taste of a life in the arts as one of nearly 1,000 young people taking part in the County's Summer Youth Employment Program. Her enrollment in Las Artes, coupled with the Summer Youth Program, enabled her to paint and build mobile barrio libraries in local neighborhoods.

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Learn how to keep kids safe around pools, spas

Summer in Pima County means swimming pools — both public and private — are buzzing with activity. Keep the fun going by remembering basic pool safety, such as constant supervision of young swimmers; swim lessons for children; and making sure pools are surrounded by safety gates and fences. Simple steps save lives. Learn more at poolsafely.gov.

WATCH VIDEO

Pima County Health Department helping schools boost students' mental wellness

Schools made some wishes. The Pima County Health Department's Schools & Youth Communities team made them come true. The team recently delivered much-needed supplies to schools across the county to support the mental wellness of students in all grade levels. Items included workbooks, grief kits, skill-building games and more.

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Sign up for Pima County's MyAlerts before there's an emergency

Storms, wildfires and power outages are just a few examples of events that require urgent public messaging. However, those messages are only effective if they reach the public quickly. That's what Pima County's mass notification system is for. In an emergency, those in the system will receive messages directly from the County's Office of Emergency Management. The service is free, but users must sign up in order to receive messages. Go to MyAlerts.pima.gov and click the "sign up" link. Messages are issued based on geographic location. Information provided is confidential and will never be shared. Users can opt out at any time.

SIGN UP

Get ready for Pupapoolooza — a chance for dogs to enjoy public pools

As summer break comes to a close, pools across Pima County are either closing or shifting to new schedules. Before they wrap up the season though, Pima County's Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department wants to invite you and your furry, four-legged friends out for a swim at two county pools, Aug. 12 at Picture Rocks Pool and Aug. 19 at Kino Pool. Online registration begins Aug. 1 for Picture Rocks and Aug. 8 for Kino. NRPR will be collecting dog food and used blankets for the Pima Animal Care Center during both events.

REGISTER

If you see street damage, report it!

Did you know that you can help Pima County keep the roads safe during the monsoon? If you see storm damage, debris in the street, potholes, damaged signs or other safety or maintenance concerns in unincorporated Pima County, you can report it directly from your phone. Just use the SeeClickFix app — available for [Android](#) or [iOS](#) — to tell the County what the problem is and where it is located. If it's safe to do so, you can even snap a picture and send it to us. Your tip may help expedite the cleanup or repair process.

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Read the book or watch the movie?
Library offers list where you cannot go wrong

The book is better than the movie. No! The movie is better than the book. That's an argument often heard when people go to the Pima County Public Library to search for literary works that have been turned into movies. One library staff member has come up with a list of dystopian adaptations in which both the books and the movies will have you rooting for the underdogs. So, if you enjoyed "The Hunger Games" series — either in book or movie form — this list will be sure to have books and movies that will keep you entertained during the dog days of summer.

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