CITY EVENTS

UPCOMING PUBLIC CITY MEETINGS

• Zoning Adjustment Hearing (Revised) – Tuesday, December 20th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room 10E, Phoenix City Hall, 200 West Washington Street.
• Planning Hearing Officer Meeting – Wednesday, December 21st, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Calvin Goode Building, 10th Floor East Conference Room, 251 West Washington Street.
• Zoning Adjustment Hearing – Thursday, December 22nd, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in Assembly Room C, Phoenix City Hall, 200 West Washington Street.

For more information on these and all other public City meetings visit: https://www.phoenix.gov/cityclerk/publicmeetings/notices.

City Council meetings are live on Cox Cable Channel 11 and streamed live on phoenix.gov and facebook.com/cityofphoenix. Past City Council meetings are posted to YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/cityofphoenixaz.

CITY NEWS

REPORT ON FAMILY HOMELESSNESS IN MARICOPA REGION

Maricopa’s Regional Plan to End Homelessness shows there were 443 total sheltered and unsheltered families according to the annual Point In Time count. This is a 10 percent increase from 2015. The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness - Opening Doors, states “Homelessness can be particularly traumatizing for children and youth. Many children experiencing homelessness have poor health outcomes and often develop educational deficits as their schooling is disrupted by frequent moves, setting them on a path to underachievement in school, academic failure and limited employment opportunities.”
The City of Phoenix supports families experiencing homelessness through funding and the allocation of housing vouchers. The Human Services Department provides over $1 million in federal funding through contracts with providers for emergency shelter for families. The City’s Housing Department allocates 53 vouchers for homeless families valued at over $365,000 per year.

While this is a valuable resource, the answer to homelessness requires a more coordinated regional response. As such, in 2009 federal policy was enacted which required communities to establish and operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system that provides an initial comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services. In response, non-profit providers serving homeless families in Maricopa County began meeting monthly in 2010 to plan a system design and establish collaborative policy and procedural decisions. UMOM New Day Centers was selected as the lead entity on the project. Private funding was secured from the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust and Valley of the Sun United Way.

In August 2014, the Family Housing Hub was opened to the public. For the first time, families were provided a single phone number to access a wide array of resources. Four locations were opened as “access points” to the system - one in Phoenix, two in the East Valley and one in the West Valley. Through the Family Housing Hub, families diverted, assessed and referred are carefully tracked. This has proven to be invaluable for community planning purposes. We now know on any given week in our region, at least 50 families are falling out of housing without options and approximately 25 families sleep on the streets or in places not meant for human habitation.

While we still face challenges as a community we are reducing the problem. From January to October 2016, at the Family Housing Hub, 3,238 families visited access points with 2,687 families determined homeless. Of these, 1,674 families were assessed and referred to housing with an additional 1,013 families diverted from the homeless system. The cost saving associated with the diversion is over $6 million. In addition, permanent funding for the coordinated entry has been secured by HUD dollars applied for through the Maricopa Continuum of Care Consolidated Plan process. UMOM New Day Centers is the recipient of this funding for coordinated entry which is over $800,000 for families and single individuals.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR A PREFERENCE FOR 25 SECTION 8/HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS (HCV'S) TO SERVE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV)**

At the request of subcommittee, the Housing Department staff worked with the Human Services Department to identify the demand for housing assistance for victims of DV. According to the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, there are 550 emergency DV beds in Maricopa County. While the waiting for an emergency bed is usually only a few days, many victims remain in shelter much longer than necessary due to the lack of housing opportunities. Based on this need, the Housing and Human Services departments recommend establishing a local preference by allocating up to 25 HCV’s as a pilot project for victims of DV, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking to begin addressing this community priority. Each Public Housing Authority is permitted to establish preferences to reflect housing needs and priorities in their community, and recent guidance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) supports such preferences as indicated by its recent expansion of housing protections for victims of violence. On Oct. 19,
2016, this recommendation was presented to the City's Public Housing Resident Advisory Board in accordance with HUD regulation, which will require an amendment to the Section 8 Administrative Plan scheduled to begin in the first quarter 2017. Led by the Human Services Department, City staff has met with members of the DV community to begin formulating a referral plan and identifying services to help maintain stabilization for these individuals once housed. The goal for implementation has been set for July 2017.

**ARIZONA ANGEL INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM**

The Arizona Angel Initiative is a pilot program that allows the Police Department to bridge the gap between law enforcement and opioid drug users seeking recovery. The program allows citizens to walk into the Police Department’s Maryvale Estrella Mountain Precinct, request treatment for addiction and turn in their drugs and paraphernalia without the fear of arrest. It also establishes a relationship with the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (P.A.A.R.I.), which is a national initiative with more than 150 police departments participating in 27 states. The Arizona Angel Initiative embraces multiple recommendations from the President’s Task Force on 21 Century Policing.

**Purpose of the Arizona Angel Initiative**

The Arizona Angel Initiative is intended to reduce drug-related overdoses as well as drug-motivated crimes and to lessen the overall demand for illegal drugs in our community. Cities around the country, to include Phoenix, are being negatively impacted by the opioid drug epidemic, which has led to an increased number of overdoses and drug-related crimes. Frequently, individuals addicted to opioid or other drugs participate in criminal acts to support their habit. Other jurisdictions participating in the program have seen reductions in these areas.

The initiative also helps families stay together by reducing the removal of children from homes with drug usage. The Maryvale Estrella Mountain Precinct was identified as having the highest rate of child removal by the Department of Child Services in the state. The most common nexus for this removal was drug usage within the family. Research has shown that when children are placed into a government system of protection, their likelihood of being involved in crime and incarceration increases dramatically.

The initiative also shifts perspectives and reduces the stigma of addiction while increasing community trust and legitimacy. Law enforcement is able to treat addiction as a disease and not a crime. It alleviates officers from the expensive process of repeatedly arresting the same individuals for addiction and allows addicts to be viewed as individuals who could be productive members of society with treatment.

The initiative also promotes public and private collaboration. Current partners in the Arizona Angel Initiative include the Phoenix Police Department, the Arizona Department of Child Safety, the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office, the Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith, and Family, the faith-based community and treatment providers.

**How the Program Works**

Individuals struggling with addiction can go to the Maryvale Precinct located at 6180 W. Encanto Boulevard, with valid identification, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and ask for participation in the program. Individuals are checked for outstanding warrants, probation and parole status and a history of
crimes involving violence, drug sales, arson and sex offenses. If conditions for participation are met, a peer-
support trained "Angel" is contacted and will respond to the precinct station assuming navigation within 30
minutes. If the individual is under the influence they will be transported to detox.

Responding "Angels" connect the individual to an appropriate recovery center, assist in creating solutions to
recovery, follow-up and monitor individuals during care and after care, assist in job placement, housing and
childcare.

Conditions for Participation
Participants must be an adult age 18 and older, or have parent or legal guardian consent if they are a minor.
They must be willing and able to follow staff directions. They must be physically and mentally able to self-
manage personal hygiene and self-care within a non-medical, non-psychiatric facility. They must possess a
valid city, state or federal picture identification. They cannot have a criminal conviction of possess with
intent to transport or sell, no drug violation in a school zone, or more than three drug-related arrests. The
on-duty sergeant, lieutenant or commander reserves the right to deny admission into the program if they have
reasonable belief the "Angel" or the community may be at risk for harm or injury.

HOLIDAY GIFT-WRAPPING RETURNS TO PHX AND MORE HELPFUL TRAVEL TIPS

Tis the season for holiday travel, and with the busy holiday season approaching, Phoenix Sky Harbor
International Airport has a few tips for you as you prepare to travel. Sky Harbor will be busier than usual
December 22 through January 3.

Are you planning to travel with gifts? Did you know the Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
recommends that travelers do not wrap their gifts if they are bringing them through security? Travelers need
not worry though, as for the eighth year, America’s Friendliest Airport® will be offering free gift-wrapping
for travelers in Terminal 4. From 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. December 22-23 and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on December
24, gift-wrapping will be available in Terminal 4 in three post-security locations: just past the A Checkpoint,
B Checkpoint and C Checkpoint. And, if you have forgotten to pick-up a gift or need something else, check
out one of our many retail shops - they have the perfect gifts for even the most difficult to shop for - and
then have them wrapped.

Additional holiday travel tips:
• Check flight status with your airline before coming to the Airport, and make sure to give
  yourself extra time. Arrive at the Airport at least two hours before your flight departs.

• If you are planning to park at the airport, know your options. Visit www.skyharbor.com/FindASpot to search for parking based on convenience or affordability. This unique features provides real-time parking information. Travelers can also call our 24-
  hour parking hotline at 602-273-4545. Phoenix Sky Harbor offers a variety of economy options as well as discounted convenience terminal garage parking through our Prepaid
Discount Parking program (www.skyharbor.com/prepaidparking) New this year for Terminal 4 are two valet parking options. Find out more at www.skyharbor.com/valet

- Look through your purse or carry-on bag before coming to the Airport. Visit www.tsa.gov for detailed information about what can be placed in your carry-on.

- **Locals Know Where To Go.** Use the 44th Street and Washington PHX Sky Train® Station for pick-up and drop-off to avoid roadway traffic and terminal curb congestion. Travelers can hop aboard the free PHX Sky Train® and be to the terminals in a matter of minutes.

- Traveling Delta, Frontier, Hawaiian or JetBlue out of Terminal 3? We’ve recently opened a larger, consolidated security checkpoint to get you to your gate faster. Familiarize yourself with our updated terminal by visiting https://skyharbor.com/TerminalModernization/getting-to-know-your-new-terminal-3

- More travel tips are available at www.skyharbor.com

**PHOENIX SKY HARBOR DEBUTS MODERNIZED TERMINAL 3**  
Mayor Greg Stanton and Phoenix City Council members open first phase

America's Friendliest Airport® just became friendlier and more efficient. On December 5, Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton and members of the Phoenix City Council rolled back temporary construction walls to officially open the first phase of the newly modernized Terminal 3. The updated terminal offers spectacular views, an abundance of natural lighting and a more efficient travel experience for visitors to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport with the addition of a larger, consolidated security checkpoint and new ticket counters.

“This enhanced terminal will help travelers find their way more intuitively while showcasing spectacular views of Camelback Mountain and the Phoenix skyline,” said Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton. “As the largest economic engine in Arizona, these improvements to Sky Harbor will benefit not only travelers but the entire region.”

Improvements as part of the first phase include 31 new common use ticket counters to allow for flexibility among the airlines. Terminal 3 currently serves Delta, Frontier, Hawaiian and JetBlue airlines. The new, larger, consolidated security checkpoint will get travelers to their gates faster, and travelers will find the pre-composure and re-composure areas before and after the security checkpoints to have ample space. Additionally, a new Museum Gallery will
be located past security so that travelers can enjoy Arizona’s cultural and artistic heritage while waiting for their flights.

The $590 million project (in 2014 dollar figures) is financed through airport revenues such as parking, concessions and tenant fees, with no local tax dollars used. The project, which is being completed in phases to minimize impacts to customers, has two additional phases which include replacing the south concourse and adding new food and retail concessions as well as upgrading the north concourse with improved customer amenities. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in 2020.

For more information, please visit https://skyharbor.com/terminalmodernization

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM VARIOUS ARIZONA CITIES/TOWNS FOR ACCESS TO BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE**

ARS 42-6001 establishes that the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) will collect and administer municipal Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT) for all Arizona cities and towns. This process has been known as Tax Simplification. The Simplification effort will go live in January 2017. As part of ADOR's administration of the TPT, they shall provide each city/town data reported and distributed to each respective city/town. Data analysis will be a crucial new revenue protecting activity performed to ensure that each city/town's revenue is kept whole after the Simplification transition.

Multiple departments, including Public Works and Finance, have invested in the Oracle Business Intelligence platform for the City of Phoenix which is specifically built for this type of complex data analysis. Currently, the Finance Department is using the Tax Business Intelligence (Tax BI) platform developed by the Information Technology Services (ITS) department. The City uses the Tax BI tool to validate the data being received from ADOR. Other Arizona jurisdictions have expressed interest in utilizing this investment. The Finance Department, working with ITS and the Law Departments, has determined access to the Tax BI tool can be shared with other jurisdictions.

The City of Phoenix will host the multi-jurisdictional Tax BI platform which will display the data provided by ADOR. Participation will allow other cities/towns to have access to only their city/town's data provided by ADOR. In return for this access, the participating cities will enter into an IGA with the City of Phoenix, which will require a one-time fee that will not exceed $14,000, and an annual maintenance fee not to exceed $2,500 from each participating jurisdiction.

**LOCAL BANK DEPOSIT PROGRAM UPDATE**

The program was initiated by the City to provide additional funds for consumer and small business loans in the local community and to increase the yield on City monies, while maintaining the primary objectives of safety and liquidity. Starting in July 2012 the Finance Department began the process of investing funds with local banks utilizing Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insured certificates of deposit (CD) and other related FDIC insured type deposits. Since the beginning of the program, the total amount of City deposits for this program has ranged from a low of $5 million to as high as $126 million. Total deposits fluctuate as the City’s need for short-term investments and movements in market interest rates change over
periods of time. In addition, banks need for deposits and the attractiveness of the interest rate they are offering on those deposits influence the amount of funds the Finance Department is willing to commit to the program.

The Finance Department is responsible for the investment of all City of Phoenix public monies within the guidelines of an internal investment policy and in compliance with state statutes that provide for the prudent and efficient investment of the City's money. The primary objective when investing City money is preservation of principal (safety) followed by ready access to cash when required (liquidity). Within these objectives, the Finance Department is continuously evaluating investment opportunities to maximize the return on City monies (yield).

**FREE VACCINATIONS OFFERED BY PHOENIX FIRE**

**WHAT:** A FREE Baby Shots Immunization Clinic for those who don't have insurance or are underinsured will be held this weekend. Parents are asked to bring their children's shot records to the event. **Strong visuals will include paramedics administering required immunizations to adults and children.**

**WHEN:** Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016
3 to 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Abrazo Scottsdale Campus
3929 E. Bell Rd.

As a parent, you want to do everything possible to make sure your child is healthy and safe. Did you know immunization is the single most important step parents can take to protect their children from serious disease? That's why Phoenix firefighters want to help parents by offering these vaccinations for FREE. It's all part of the Phoenix Fire Department’s “Baby Shots” program. Vaccinations will be given to protect children against 15 serious childhood diseases: Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Pneumococcus, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Rotavirus, Meningococcal Disease, Human Papaloma Virus, Varicella.

For more information, please visit the Phoenix Fire Department Baby Shots website at: [https://www.phoenix.gov/fire/community-outreach/for-kids/baby-shots-program](https://www.phoenix.gov/fire/community-outreach/for-kids/baby-shots-program)

**OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN/YOUNG WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

The city of Phoenix Youth and Education Office is now accepting applications for the 2017 Outstanding Young Man/Young Woman (OYMYW) of the Year awards. The OYMYW of the Year program recognizes and honors the outstanding achievements of young people, enhances the perception of youth and raises community awareness of the positive contributions of youth.
This awards program is open to any students currently enrolled in high school and living within Phoenix city limits. Here's how it works:

- One young man and one young woman will be selected as winners from each city council district and receive an award of $500.
- In addition, each district-level winner will be eligible for an additional $2,000 award if they are selected as the citywide winners.

Students interested in applying will need to write an essay, submit a recommendation letter and proof of legal residence in the United States. Finalists will be interviewed by judges of the program including members of the Phoenix Rotary 100 and Soroptimist International of Phoenix. District award winners will be invited to a luncheon sponsored by Rotary 100 and Soroptimist International where the citywide award winners will be announced.

Eligible students can apply before 5 p.m. Feb. 12, 2017 through the online application form located at https://www.phoenix.gov/education/outstanding-young-man-woman/award-application.

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS GO BACK TO SCHOOL FOR A DAY

Business and community leaders will be on their way back to school for the Principal for a Day (PFAD) program. During the week of March 6, 2017, local corporate executives and community leaders will work alongside Phoenix public and charter school principals to actively participate in the school's administration for one day.

"Principal for a Day is a great opportunity to form deeper connections between our schools and the business community," said Mayor Greg Stanton. "When we increase awareness of the successes and challenges our schools face today it leads to new, stronger partnerships to ensure success for every child in Phoenix."

After experiencing the life of a school principal for a day, the principals and their executive counterparts will discuss how local businesses and schools can form lasting partnerships to improve the quality of education, workplace readiness and leadership development programs in Phoenix.

"This opportunity allows community and business leaders to fully engage themselves within our public school environment," said Councilwoman Laura Pastor. "School administrators, teachers, students, and community partners can take part in meaningful dialogue about the knowledge, skills, and resources that our students need in order to be adequately prepared for involvement in the workforce."

Those interested in participating in the PFAD program, can register online at phoenix.gov/education. The deadline to register is January 31, 2017.

For more information about the city's Youth and Education Office, visit www.phoenix.gov/education.
Volunteer and be a part of the NCAA Final Four Experience Today!

The city of Phoenix is partnering with the Phoenix Local Organizing Committee for the 2017 NCAA Final Four in Phoenix to recruit volunteers. Be a part of the community initiatives, Final Four Fan Fest, March Madness® Music Festival, and annual NCAA Final Four Dribble. With a weekend full of action, community members have the opportunity to get involved, being a part of Arizona history as Arizona hosts the Final Four for the first time. Together, we can make the 2017 NCAA Final Four in Phoenix a slam dunk!

Volunteers must be 18 years or older by March 1, 2017. Festivities are scheduled from March 28 - April 3.

Visit http://www.phoenixfinalfour.com/volunteer/ for more details and to register to be a volunteer. Email any volunteer related questions to volunteer@phoenixloc.org.

Phoenix Park Foundation Mini-Grant Program

This program gives the opportunity for Phoenix residents, community nonprofits and Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department (PRD) employees to fund their small-scale community park improvement and innovation ideas. Examples of previous entries and ideas include an ADA pool lift at Washington Park, camping equipment for Adaptive Recreation Services, new computers for Eastlake Park Community Center, and a youth activity scholarship at Desert West Community Center.

For additional information and to download a copy of the 2016 mini-grant application, please visit the website at: http://phxparksfoundation.org/funding-priorities/mini-grant-program/

Phoenix Public Library Best of 2016

Wondering what you missed in books, movies, and music this year? Need a gift idea? Filling in your To Be Read list for 2017? We have got you covered. Take the guesswork out of identifying this year’s top titles and enjoy some of the greatest entertainment to come out of 2016. Visit the Phoenix Public Library Best of 2016 list here: https://www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org/browse/Interest-Guides/Pages/Seasonal/Best-of-2016.aspx
BICYCLE SAFETY PLEDGE

In Phoenix, there has been over 450 bicycle involved collisions in each of the last 5 years. The City of Phoenix needs your help to make our roadways a safer place to bike. Substantial advancement for the safety of bicyclists can be achieved by sharing the road, enhancing bicycle safety education, increasing helmet use, implementing and using bicycle facilities, and community involvement to promote bicycle safety. Take the Bike Safe Phoenix pledge today.

Whether you are a bicyclist, motorist, or pedestrian, everyone contributes to the safety of our city streets. We want you to take the Safety Pledge below to support a better future for bicycling, one that is safe and fun for everyone.

Please fill out the pledge form at the link below to receive a special offer.

https://www.phoenix.gov/streetssite/Pages/Bicycle-Safety-Pledge.aspx

PHOENIX PLANNED MAJOR STREET RESTRICTIONS – UPDATED DECEMBER 9TH, 2016

To view a listing of the latest planned major street restrictions please visit this link: https://www.phoenix.gov/streetssite/Pages/Planned-Street-Restrictions.aspx

These restrictions represent only the major planned activities reported to the Street Transportation Department’s right-of-way management office. This listing does not reflect closures or restrictions due to unexpected events such as flooding, traffic collisions, fires, utility failures or other emergencies. For street closure alerts follow the Phoenix Street Transportation Department on Twitter at @PHXStreetTrans.
DISTRICT 1 NEWS & EVENTS:

DISTRICT 1 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

The latest breakfast was held on Friday, Nov. 18, at the Radisson Hotel Phoenix North, 10220 N. Metro Parkway East, Phoenix, AZ 85051. Breakfast began at 7:30 a.m. and the speaker started at around 7:45 a.m. **There is no monthly breakfast scheduled for December!**

The next breakfast will be held on Friday, January 27th, at the Radisson Hotel Phoenix North, 10220 N. Metro Parkway East, Phoenix, AZ 85051. Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. and the speaker starts at around 7:45 a.m. The guest next month is newly appointed Director of Government Relations for the City of Phoenix, Frank McCune. Mr. McCune will discuss what his position entails and how the City of Phoenix interfaces with other government entities.

RESPONSE TO COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS’ REQUEST FOR PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ENHANCEMENTS AT 35TH AND DUNLAP AVENUES

Councilwoman Williams requested the Street Transportation Department examine potential pedestrian safety enhancements at the intersection of 35th Avenue and Dunlap Avenue. As part of the request, the Councilwoman mentioned the traffic fatality that occurred at 9600 N. 35th Ave. on Nov. 14, 2016. The fatal rear-end crash involved two vehicles and no pedestrians were involved in the crash. The driver of the vehicle that was traveling northbound on 35th Avenue failed to control his speed and collided into the second vehicle that was also northbound. The two victims in the second vehicle were not wearing any safety devices, causing them to be ejected out of the vehicle; both were pronounced dead at the scene. High rate of speed and symptoms of impairment by alcohol were found to be the factors that led to the crash. The driver and passenger of vehicle one were not injured. Police has filed charges against the impaired driver for the deaths and dangerous conduct.

Although the fatal accident described above did not involve pedestrians, this intersection has been previously identified as having a higher than normal number of accidents. As a result, Street Transportation staff made several improvements at the 35th Avenue and Dunlap Avenue intersection which include changing the left-turn phasing for 35th Avenue to enhance pedestrian and vehicular traffic safety, reconfiguration of driveways on 35th Avenue to minimize vehicle conflict, installing additional signage for pedestrians crossing the intersection, re-striping the crosswalks to high-visibility ladder style and providing additional lighting on Dunlap Avenue. These improvements were completed in summer 2015. Street Transportation and Phoenix Police staff also met and analyzed the Police-related service calls for this intersection during the period of January to November 2016 and for the same period in 2015. Police data shows that service calls decreased by 31 percent from 105 in 2015 to 72 in 2016. Accidents with no injuries account for majority of the cases. As a possible further safety improvement, Street Transportation staff will review the all red-phase timing of the traffic signals to determine if it can be extended. Further discussions are planned with the City Manager’s
Office and Police Department to review the safety issues at the intersection and discuss opportunities for further improvements to include extending the duration of red lights in all directions.

**DONATE A TOY & TAKE A RIDE IN A PHOENIX FIRE TRUCK OR POLICE CAR!**

What child wouldn’t want to take a ride in a real fire truck or police car? On Dec. 17, children of all ages will have a chance to take a ride as the Phoenix Fire Department and the Phoenix Police Department host their annual “Rides for Toys” event!

The City of Phoenix will trade a ride in a fire truck or police car for a new, unwrapped toy or clothing item (size newborn to 8-year-old boy or girl). The donations will go to at-risk children at valley charities.

“Rides for Toys” is a holiday tradition. It’s a chance to fill holiday wishes for less fortunate children and make wishes come true for “junior” firefighters!

**When and where**

Saturday, Dec.17, 2016
I-17/101 Target Parking Lot
2727 W. Agua Fria Freeway
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**DEER VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mountain Ridge High School Social Studies Teacher Chris O’Brien authored a lesson that won the University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies’ thirteenth annual lesson plan competition. The contest is very competitive with entries coming from across the United States. Mr. O’Brien’s lesson derives from learning and experiences gained in a Fulbright-Hays Group Project Aboard Curriculum Development that took him to Oman and Zanzibar for a month this past summer. In reviewing the lesson plan, the University of Arizona wrote that his work is exceptional and reflects well on Mountain Ridge High School and our District. Chris received an honorarium for himself and books for Mountain Ridge High School. In addition, his lesson plan will be posted on the University of Arizona website and burned onto 1,000 lesson plan CDs for distribution to teachers throughout the country.
Congratulations to the University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies’ thirteenth annual lesson plan winner, Mountain Ridge High School Teacher, Chris O’Brien.

DVUSD is proud to celebrate the National Board Certification renewal of teacher Vicky Mead. National Board Certification is an advanced teaching credential. This rigorous, peer-reviewed process, ensures that Board-certified teachers have proven skills to impact learning and advance student achievement. Board-certified teachers are invaluable to Deer Valley as mentors to their colleagues and for their ability to provide guiding input for curricular decisions. Vicky has been with the district for 15 years and was originally certified in 2007. Her renewal gives her certification for another ten years. Congratulations National Board Certified Teacher from Stetson Hills, Vicky Mead!

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

The next meeting of the WESD Business Advisory Team is Wednesday, January 25, 2017, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Grand Canyon University. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Jill Hicks, director of Communications and Public Engagement, at jill.hicks@wesdschools.org.

The Cholla Middle School eighth grade choir was recently featured in the Fulton Homes Noon Salute on KOOL 94.5. The choir performed a beautiful rendition of the Star Spangled Banner and they could win $1,000 for the music department. Good luck, Chargers!

The Washington Elementary School District continues to be a leader in giving, contributing $46,813 to the 2016 Valley of the Sun United Way campaign, a nearly 20 percent increase from the previous year and $6,813 more than its goal of $40,000. WESD is one of the top three school district contributors to the annual campaign behind Chandler and Gilbert, making WESD the Best in the West!

This year, the District Office led the campaign in total giving, with contributions of $5,253; however, it was Sunburst Elementary, located in Council District 1, that raised the most per capita with a total of $3,964. As a result, Sunburst campaign coordinator Sally Cook and her principal, Rhonda Warren, were presented with a check for $500 courtesy of the Washington Education Foundation (WEF). This is the sixth year in a row Sunburst has won the additional money from the WEF. In addition, the WEF provided five $50 Westcor gift cards to the campaign. Winners were Esther Heath, John Jacobs Elementary; Mindy Whalen, Palo Verde Middle School; JoAnn Brass, Royal Palm Middle School; Nancy Miller, Sweetwater School and Peggy Pitts, Tumbleweed Elementary.

The top five contributors to this year’s campaign by school/location are:

District Office, $5,253; Sunburst, $3,964; Maryland, $2,547; Roadrunner, $2,302; and Manzanita, $2,090.

Out of the total contributions collected, $18,027 will be donated to the Washington Education Foundation to be used for its employee mini-grant program. Way to go, #WESDFamily!
Did you know it’s not a requirement to have a student enrolled in any of the nine Glendale Union High School District schools to make a tax credit contribution? Giving a tax credit contribution to a GUHSD school can come from anyone! It’s also not a requirement that you reside in the Glendale Union High School District boundaries to give to programs that support neighborhood schools.

A tax credit contribution provides students with opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities at no cost. At GUHSD, more than 40 different student clubs and groups are on each of the campuses. Students have a wide selection of options to choose from, including National Honor Society, speech and debate club, journalism, yearbook, student council, sports, band and more. A tax credit contribution can also support students taking college entrance exams like the ACT, SAT and PSAT tests by covering the test exam fees.

Married couples filing jointly can contribute up to $400 against any state income tax owed and those filing singly can contribute up to $200. If the allowable credit is more than your tax or if you have no tax, you may carry the unused credit forward for up to the next five consecutive taxable years’ income tax liability.

To make an online donation, visit www.guhsdaz.org or call 623-435-6000 for more information or to request a printed tax contribution form.

**SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS TO VISIT METROCENTER!**

This holiday season, Metrocenter has something no other mall will have: **FREE photos with Santa - all season long**! After an overwhelmingly successful program in 2015, Metrocenter Mall is bringing back the free photos program, offering no cost, professional pics with Santa every **Friday, Saturday and Sunday** from **November 25 until Christmas Eve**. **The popular Mrs. Claus** will also return this year, providing entertainment on Saturdays and Sundays for visiting shoppers and children.

**WHERE:** Metrocenter Mall – Lower Level near Shiekh Shoes 9617 N. Metro Parkway West, Phoenix, Arizona 85051 (West of Interstate 17 between Peoria and Dunlap Roads)

**WHEN:** FREE Photos Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays November 25 - December 23 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, December 24
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Entertainment by Mrs. Claus
Saturdays & Sundays
November 25 – December 23
12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday, December 24
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

MORE: For more on Metrocenter Mall promotions, events, sales, hours and stores, visit www.metrocentermall.com or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Metrocenter is the only mall in the Valley offering free photos for the entire season.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Economic Development & Education

Community and Economic Development staff recently met with executive leadership of Verde Industries. Verde recently expanded with an additional ten hires and purchased an adjacent 35,000-square-foot building to accommodate their manufacturing of sheet metal products. They now occupy more than 100,000-square-feet and employ 55 individuals. They are interested in the City of Phoenix’s workforce training grants available to upskill their employees.

Community and Economic Development staff recently met with the Executive Vice President of U-Haul International. U-Haul’s Corporate Headquarters in Phoenix will have their 50-year anniversary in 2017. This is a family-run company that has 19,000 dealerships across the country. They have 150 IT staff who primarily oversee their e-commerce business unit and staff call center operation. They plan to expand their information technology business unit in the near future.

On Dec. 1, the Southwest Alliance for Excellence (SWAE) announced the Phoenix Convention Center as one of six award recipients of the 2016 Performance Excellence Program. This annual program recognizes organizations for excellence in quality, performance and results and is modeled after the Malcom Baldridge National Quality Award criteria. As part of the process, the department completed a comprehensive organizational profile and application which was followed by a multi-day site inspection by a team of examiners that assessed the department’s management and operations in seven key categories. Moving forward, the Convention Center Department will continue working with SWAE in its pursuit of excellence in continuous improvement, employee engagement, customer satisfaction and outcomes.
BluCore Construction started the roadway realignment of Colter Street at 27th Avenue for Grand Canyon University (GCU). This project includes 214 linear feet of new high density polyethylene pipe, 2,306 linear feet of new sidewalk, 2,225 linear feet of new curb and gutter, and 4,842 square yards of new asphalt. When all of the Colter Street improvements are accepted, the abandonment of the new right-of-way will be completed.

**Neighborhoods and Livability**

On Dec. 2, Aviation staff participated in the annual United Airlines Fantasy Flight event. Children from the surrounding communities were welcomed with breakfast, gift bags, static displays, and a 20-minute flight simulation to the “North Pole.” The Unified Command Vehicle was on display along with numerous other response vehicles and aircraft. Event participants were able to tour the vehicles to get a first-hand overview of how the vehicles would be utilized during an airport emergency.

On Nov. 30, Human Services Department staff met with Valley, Native American Connections and other community stakeholders about increasing efforts to address issues that are occurring at light rail platforms and bus stops. The meeting increased collaboration amongst providers and community stakeholders to better streamline services delivered to the Native American community.

The Parks and Recreation Beuf Community Center held its Youth Basketball 5-Star Coaches Ring of Honor Induction Ceremony. Volunteer Coaches Nate Simcoe, Corwyn Geiger, Raul Vargas, and Paul Altheide joined the select group of coaches who have volunteered at least eight seasons at Beuf Community Center and have been a shining example to other coaches, players, and parents. The inductees were joined by over 200 family members, players, fellow coaches, and current members of the Ring of Honor who routinely returned to the center to welcome the new coaches into their ranks. These four new inductees bring the total of Ring of Honor coaches to 20 out of over 400 coaches who have volunteered at the center since it opened in 2003.

**Social Services Delivery**

On Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, Human Services staff met with a planning team to discuss the annual Point in Time Homeless Street Count which will be held on January 24, 2017. Staff are partnering with Community Information and Referral Services, the Maricopa Association of Governments and other community providers to plan the event. This annual process is required by HUD to determine the number of homeless individuals and families in Phoenix.

On Dec. 3, Human Services staff participated at the Drop-In Center at the Helen Drake Senior Center. The all-day event welcomed individuals affected by trafficking and were offered an array of resources and supportive services. The event provided services for approximately 50 participants through the course of the day.

On Feb. 24 and 25, the CLEA-GI Anti-Graffiti Conference will take place. CLEA-GI, led by Ginnie Ann Sumner and Levi Bolton, is coordinating an anti-graffiti conference target towards professionals who manage
graffiti abatement programs from law enforcement, staff and industry educators. A panel of community members will also share their perspectives on the impact to their neighborhoods.

Public Safety

The Information Security Office has been actively involved recently in working with small businesses to discuss cyber security. A press release related to that activity caught the attention of an IRS representative and he described an upcoming opportunity to include the City of Phoenix as a partner in protecting the public’s information security and privacy. This week is “National Tax Security Awareness Week” and the IRS is holding a press conference with local media invited. ITS Security staff will participate and answer any questions related to security awareness and share helpful information.

Infrastructure

Compost applications for the Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments’ Turf Study have been completed for the fall growing season. Public Works Department staff delivered 131 cubic yards of compost to nine parks and plazas participating in the Turf Study. The study is a partnership with Arizona State University to assess the benefits of using organic compost compared to traditional turf management practices.

The City of Phoenix Public Transit Department and ADOT/Connect 202P are discussing the functionality of traffic operations at the 40th Street Park and Ride facility due to the new freeway interchange at 40th Street. Internally, City Public Transit and Street Transportation are working together to develop alternative solutions for the ingress/egress due to elimination of a driveway and restrictions placed on existing drives. A traffic signal at 40th Street and Cottonwood Lane will be proposed to mitigate anticipated high peak traffic flows. Signalization of this intersection will also benefit the neighborhood to the east.

As part of the South Mountain Freeway project, a pedestrian bridge north of Broadway Road was incorporated into the design of the freeway. During the summer, the proposed location of the bridge was moved north of Elwood Street into a commercially zoned area instead of within the residential neighborhood. The City of Phoenix Street Transportation, Office of Art and Culture and Neighborhood Services departments requested that ADOT and Connect 202 Partners address the community’s concern for the proposed alignment of the Pedestrian Bridge at Elwood. This month, ADOT responded that it had heard the City’s and neighborhood’s concerns and will re-align the bridge south to connect the Rio Del Rey subdivisions. City staff will be working with the Council District Office, Dr. Jaime Rivera, the Superintendent of Riverside Elementary School District #2, and Celia Trujillo, the Principal of Kings Ridge Preparatory Academy, to set up public meetings on the location and design of the pedestrian bridge.

ADOT and Connect 202 Partners are developing a construction timeline for the South Mountain Freeway that will be released to the public this month. The construction notice will include general information on when construction will begin along the freeway corridor and what activity will be occurring. It will be important for residents to sign up for electronic ADOT construction notices so that they can see when their neighborhood streets and intersections will be impacted. More information will be shared with the Mayor and Council as it is made available.
FOLLOW COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS ON TWITTER!

Thelda is tweeting! Follow her @TheldaWilliams1.

GREAT CHARITIES TO DONATE TO:

ANIMAL CRUELTY TASK FORCE: Need cases of water, 5 lb. bags of dog/cat food, bowls, towels, collars and leashes. Bring items to our DVPNBWO / BMCA Meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the DVCC or drop them off anytime at the Black Mountain Precinct at 33355 North Cave Creek Road, Phoenix AZ, 85331.

ANTHEM PETS Animal Rescue: A Voice for the Voiceless
http://anthempets.org/ 480-287-3542

ARIZONA PAWS & CLAWS www.azpawsandclaws.com

FETCH FOUNDATION: please go to the following site:
www.fetchfoundation.com/Newsflash/the-fido-bag-program

M.A.I.N. What We Do - M.A.I.N. - Medical Animals In Need, Dog Rescue in Phoenix Arizona Kelly Ferreira 480-245-9203 President / Medical Animals In Need www.medicalanimalsinneed.com Together we save lives!

MINI MIGHTY MUTTS for more information, contact Angie Crouse at 480-304-5654 or info@minimightymutts.com Also check out our website at www.minimightymutts.com Mini Mighty Mutts is a 501(c) 3 organization. We rescue the underdog!

OPERATION CARE FOOD BANK located in North Phoenix, a non-profit Christian organization committed to helping those in need with food and clothing. For additional information, please call 602-866-0135, or visit:
info@operationcarefoodbank.org
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