

City CONNECTION

April 22, 2015

A Weekly Publication for City of Phoenix Employees

Meet this week's featured employee, **Gail Browne, Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture Executive Director**. View her "Doing What Matters" video at phoenix.gov/phxtv/phxtv-media/video/2659

Make plans to attend a Nationwide Retirement Social Security workshop

"Social Security - The Choice of a Lifetime" is designed to help employees with one of the most important decisions they face about their retirement – a decision that could potentially result in accumulating hundreds of thousands of dollars in additional retirement income.

Providing guidance for this important decision can help set the stage for a broader discussion about your retirement income plans. This presentation provided by Nationwide Retirement Institute breaks down and simplifies the many rules and filing options for Social Security, and demonstrates how you can make a suitable decision by analyzing and comparing different Social Security filing options. It's a choice of a lifetime. Make it count.

Please sign up on eCHRIS using class code: FM1000, and join us for the workshop from 10:30 a.m. to noon Monday, April 27, at Council Chambers

Phoenix participates in Building Safety Month

To help raise awareness of building safety, the city's Planning & Development Department proudly celebrates Building Safety Month during May. Building Safety Month is a public safety awareness campaign to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe, resilient, affordable and energy-efficient homes and buildings.



This year's theme is Resilient Communities Start with Building Codes. Weekly themes during Building Safety Month are:

- May 4-10, Don't Get Burned–Build to Code;
- May 11-17, Bounce Back Faster from Disaster–Build to Code;
- May 18-24, Water Safe, Water Smart–Build to Code; and
- May 25-31 Save Energy–Build to Code.

The department will feature photos and information about recent projects that will be on display in the City Hall atrium May 4 to 17. Staff also will host an informational table in the atrium and distribute educational materials throughout the entire month. The department will highlight projects, tips and photos on their social media sites: [facebook.com/phoenixplananddev](https://www.facebook.com/phoenixplananddev) and @[BuildingPHX](https://twitter.com/BuildingPHX).

Homes and buildings that are built in compliance with building safety codes result in resilient structures that minimize the risks of death, injury and property damage. Regardless of the department code officials work in—building, fire, planning or elsewhere—they work hard every day to provide public safety by ensuring buildings are constructed safely.

Because resilient structures minimize the risk of property damage, property owners may pay lower insurance costs and millions of taxpayer dollars can be saved when rebuilding from natural disasters.

For more information about the Planning & Development Department, visit phoenix.gov/pdd.

AAA offers discounts to city employees

Now through May 30, city of Phoenix employees can purchase one AAA membership and add a second membership for free. The first membership is at the special group rate of 10-15 percent off regular price and the second membership is completely free for one year.

To enroll, go to www.az.aaa.com/group/ten and enter "City of Phoenix" or "CPHX" for your company and select your membership. You can also call Kim Avila at 602-650-2783 to join. The offer is only good for new memberships for city employees.

Employees currently enrolled in AAA can add a new associate for free until their renewal date. The associate must reside in your household and cannot already be active on the membership. To take advantage of this offer, send an email to GroupMembership@arizona.aaa.com and include your name, employer, AAA membership number and the name of the person you'd like to add.

This offer also ends May 30. Enroll today and enjoy peace of mind while driving, along with discounts on travel, retail and restaurants.

NEWS BRIEFS

The city supports "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" day on Thursday, June 11. "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" day is scheduled nationally on Thursday, April 23. Because the impact that student absences have on our local schools, several school districts request that parents and businesses delay their participation in this event to an alternate date in June, rather than participating on April 23. If you have any questions, please contact Tiana Roberts with Human Resources at 602-495-5715.

The COPERS' Retirement Board is seeking nominations for an employee representative on the Disability Assessment Committee to serve a term through June 30, 2018. The Committee meets monthly during regular business hours to evaluate disability applications. To be considered eligible for nomination, candidates are required to be COPERS members for at least five years. Nominations are due by 5 p.m. May 15. If you're interested in being considered, contact Scott Steventon, Management Assistant II at 602-534-4421, or by email at scott.steventon@phoenix.gov.

PEOPLE

Congratulations to the following graduates of Supervisory Academy #158:

Charles R. Elmer, Melissa Hancher, Jian P. Keil, Ann M. Monroy, Mark L. Powers, Julie Jay Riemenschneider, Aviation; Kerri Barnes, Community and Economic Development; Lenise Martinez Housing; Colleen Dorame, Human Resources; Candice Hewitt, Cathy A. Patton, Cynthia Segovia, Human Services; Deborah D. Dwyer, Alma Puebla, Library; Clint Courtney, Parks and Recreation; Mario J. Liuzzo, Phoenix Convention Center; Michael Robert Grubbs, Brian Mosberian, Planning & Development; Justin Fulton, Gayle M. Swanson, Police; Aarti Dua, Public Transit; Misty Rae Cisneros-Contreras, Street Transportation; Britney A. Dempster, Debbie Sue Estrada, Water Services.

Ernesto Romero with Public Works was awarded an advanced supervisory certificate.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thursday, April 23- "Using Rainwater in Landscape." What is rainwater harvesting? How can it help enhance your plant health and increase local water quality? Learn about the principles of rainwater harvesting and easy ways to implement features into our landscape design. 6 p.m. Phoenix Public Library/South Mountain Community Library.

City Connection is published every week for city employees by the Communications Office, 12th floor, Phoenix City Hall, 200 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85003. For more information about the publication or to submit story ideas, email contactus@phoenix.gov.