

# PHX CONNECT

The Weekly Connection Newsletter for City of Phoenix Employees • December 13, 2023

## Holiday

## Wrap



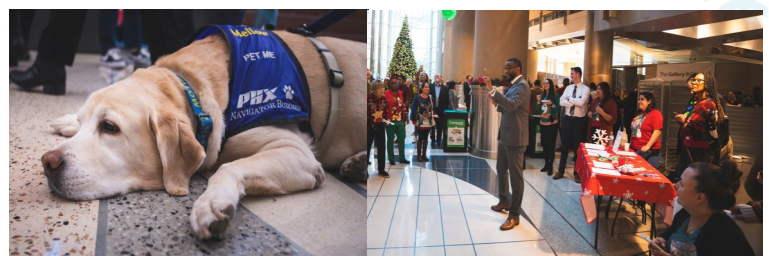
### ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual APS Electric Light Parade lit up the streets of Central Phoenix showing off its theme of "It's Electric!" Thousands of community members lined the streets to see the incredible floats, performance groups and electrified cars! The annual parade is the perfect kickoff to the holiday season. Thank you to all City employees who joined in the parade and worked countless hours to create visually stunning floats!



### EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY PARTY

Thank you to all the employees who came out to the Citywide Holiday Party on Dec. 1. It was wonderful to see everyone back together and in person to celebrate all your hard work and commitment to public service.



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**City of Phoenix offices  
CLOSED on Dec. 25  
and Jan. 1**



# CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



Congratulations again to the employees who were recognized for their City service! For the first time since the pandemic, we gathered in person to honor 347 individuals celebrating quinquennial work anniversaries between 25 and 45 years. All employees who met their milestones during 2023 were included in this event. Thank you for your service! You are an inspiration to us all.





# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Celebrate the Arizona Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday at the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona MLK Awards Breakfast "I Still Believe in the Dream." This annual event honors the winners of the Phoenix Human Relations Commission's Calvin C. Goode - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Lifetime Achievement Award" and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Living the Dream" Awards.

The 2024 Honorees are:

## Calvin C. Goode – MLK "Lifetime Achievement Award"

Mr. Dennis Prince, Sr.

## MLK "Living the Dream Award"

Pastor Aubrey L.

Barnwell

Mr. Kenny W. Harris

Mr. Jalen Herring

Mr. Essen Otu

Honorable Leah Landrum Taylor



## Event Details:

- ♦ Jan. 12 | 8 a.m.
- ♦ Phoenix Convention Center, South Ballroom (33 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Phoenix 85004)

For updates and information about the event, visit: [azmlk.org](http://azmlk.org).



Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport will be hosting a workshop to help passengers with dementia and their care providers plan and learn how to navigate a busy airport.

The Dementia Friendly Air Travel Workshop will bring together representatives from the airport, airlines, and TSA to share information and tips while answering questions from family members of those with dementia and care providers.

The Dementia Friendly Air Travel Workshop will be on **Jan. 10 from 10 a.m. to noon**. Those wishing to attend can email [skyharbor@phoenix.gov](mailto:skyharbor@phoenix.gov). Include the subject line Dementia Friendly Air Travel Workshop Registration. Seating is limited.



Time is running out! The City of Phoenix has teamed up with the Fiesta Bowl Organization to give you access to tickets for the Vrbo Fiesta Bowl and Guaranteed Rate Bowl at the best internal prices with reduced fees through **Dec. 15**.

The Vrbo Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1, 2024, features a matchup between the Oregon Ducks and Liberty Flames. The Kansas Jayhawks will face the UNLV Rebels in the Guaranteed Rate Bowl on Dec. 26, 2023.

With the expansion of the College Football Playoff to 12 teams in 2024-25, the Vrbo Fiesta Bowl will stage a host game between two highly-ranked teams this season, the first-ever CFP Quarterfinal on Dec. 31, 2024, and a CFP Semifinal on Jan. 8, 2026. By purchasing tickets for this year's Vrbo Fiesta Bowl or the Guaranteed Rate Bowl, **you will establish priority access to tickets for the expanded College Football Playoff beginning next year.**

Take advantage of this special opportunity for City of Phoenix employees by purchasing [Vrbo Fiesta Bowl tickets](#) and [Guaranteed Rate Bowl tickets](#).

If you have any questions, please contact [tickets@fiestabowl.org](mailto:tickets@fiestabowl.org) or call (480) 350-0911.



## Please note:

The PHXConnect will not be published on **Dec. 27** or **Jan. 3**.

We will return on Jan. 10!

Join the **Conversation**



## BENEFITS SCAVENGER HUNT



Employees enrolled in a City medical plan have an opportunity to win \$25 Virgin Pulse cash\* by completing an [online scavenger hunt](#)! Virgin Pulse is the City's health and wellness portal.

The City is using Virgin Pulse to communicate wellness events, challenges, and benefits updates, and it is also where employees complete their health assessment and primary care physician (PCP) visit attestation for the wellness incentive.

### Benefits Scavenger Hunt

#### Details:

- ◆ Complete before **Friday, Dec. 15**
- ◆ On the [Virgin Pulse Online Platform](#)
- ◆ Win \$25 Virgin Pulse Cash! Pulse Cash can be redeemed for health and wellness items, gift cards, and more. *\*While supplies last.*



## ESSENTIAL OILS TERRARIUM

There's a naturally engaging aspect to gardening. From the meticulous care bestowed upon plants to the nurturing process, gardening brings a sense of tranquility to our daily lives. In this team-building escapade, you'll not only cultivate your connection with the natural world but also forge stronger bonds with your colleagues as you delve into the realm of plants within your kit. As the session unfolds, collaborative efforts will flourish as you come together to craft mini garden terrariums, each adorned with vibrant succulents.

The essential materials will be mailed to you beforehand. Space is limited. Sign up soon!



#### Details:

- ◆ Jan. 4 | 6-7 p.m.
- ◆ Register at: <https://www.addevent.com/event/Ka19548526>

See more Fit4Phoenix events at our [Wellness site](#).



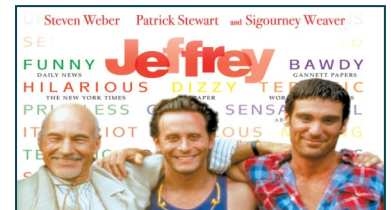
Join us for the next LGBTQ film discussion! *Jeffrey* is a romantic comedy centered on the chaotic love life of Jeffrey, a gay man who's vow of chastity is inspired by a fear of AIDS. He is happy and relieved for a time until he meets Steve, a handsome, charming dreamboat who also happens to be HIV-positive. Jeffrey wants nothing more than to be with Steve, but his anxiety over the disease and fear of commitment stands in the way. *Rated R for strong sexuality and language.*

Films are not shown during the discussions, so participants are encouraged to watch the movie before the session. You can earn triple cultural competency points with attendance.

Watch the film online at [Kanopy.com](#).

#### Details:

- ◆ Dec. 21 at noon
- ◆ Virtual Meeting Room. The link will be sent to you upon completing registration.
- ◆ Register at **PHXYou**, event code: **LEA100-VLT-LGBTQ Film, Course ID # 118500**.



## NEW PENSION SYSTEM

The City of Phoenix Employees' Retirement System (COPERS) is implementing a new pension administration system which will allow us to better support our members.

During January and February of 2024, our Benefits Staff will be completing every process in both our current system and the new system to verify that everything is processing perfectly before going live in the new system on Mar. 1. We ask for your patience during this time. Appointments with our office will be limited to employees who are eligible to retire before July 1, 2024. If you are not eligible until after July 1, 2024, please reach out to us after Mar. 1.

We also ask for your patience regarding the timing of annual member statements. They will be processed from the new system and should be going out sometime in February of 2024. Thank you and we wish everyone a very Happy New Year!



## VACATION CARRYOVER

The City has updated **A.R. 2.18**, reinstating the standard vacation carryover tables to reflect the current vacation amounts eligible for carryover each year. View the [carryover tables](#) for vacation amounts eligible for carryover into 2024. (You will be required to login using your City credentials.)

Please note the following:

- ◆ There is a separate table for employees in Units 3, 4, and 6
- ◆ There are no changes to the monthly accrual rate or the maximum accrual compensated at separation

Employees are encouraged to take their vacation whenever possible. Taking vacation leave is an important benefit for health, productivity, personal development, and life enjoyment. Please review the revised **A.R. 2.18** as soon as possible to determine the best options for excess vacation time. Contact your HR liaison with any questions.



## FEATURED JOB OF THE WEEK

### Electrical Maintenance Crew Chief - Aviation Department

**Pay Range: \$31.82 - \$47.01 per hour**

**Hiring Range: \$31.82 - \$42.64 per hour**

(Pay range is the entire compensation range for the position classification. Hiring range is an estimate of where you can receive an offer.)

The Electrical Maintenance Crew Chief supervises, schedules, assigns, and inspects the work of electricians and other employees who install, maintain, and repair electrical systems, equipment, and fixtures.

For more information, [visit the City's employment website](#) or log into eCHRIS. [Check out the latest job openings.](#)

## DID YOU KNOW

[ARIZONA@WORK](#) offers resources to help you make a great impression with your resume. Visit their website to create or edit resumes.

## LISTEN OR WATCH NEW EPISODES:



## LEAVE REQUESTS

The following employee is accepting leave donations.

- ◆ **Susana Padilla, Municipal Court**
- ◆ **Brandon Conner, Water Services**

Use eCHRIS to make your donation to any eligible employees. See the full leave donation list here. [Leave Donation website](#) for a complete list.



### SHOE & SOCK DRIVE

**NEW SOCKS. NEW SHOES.**  
**STEPS IN A NEW DIRECTION.**

DONATE SOCKS AND SHOES FOR PEOPLE  
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

**NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 15**

DROP OFF DONATIONS AT THE EMPLOYEE ENTRANCE,  
4TH & 17TH FLOORS

LEARN MORE

