Police Chief Jeri Williams Sworn-In

On Oct. 28, the city of Phoenix held a ceremony to swear in its first-ever female police chief. Jeri Williams is no stranger to the city’s police force. She began as a patrol officer back in 1988 before moving up the ranks over the years to the position of assistant chief. She left Phoenix to run the Oxnard Police Department in California before returning to Phoenix as the city’s 45th police chief. She has taken over for Joseph Yahner, who announced last year he would retire after 31 years of dedicated service.

Chief Williams is joining a team with nearly 4,000 officers and civilian staff. The Phoenix Police Department works to protect 1.5 million people across 517 square miles. Watch the Chief’s swearing-in ceremony on Facebook.com/CityofPhoenixAZ.

Travel Tips & Free Gift-Wrapping

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport wants to help ease the stress of travel when using America’s Friendliest Airport® during the upcoming holidays. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recommends you do not wrap your gifts if you are bringing them through security. From Dec. 22-24, free gift-wrapping will be available in Terminal 4 after security. Check SkyHarbor.com for specific times and locations.

Arrive at the airport at least two hours before departure and check your flight status with your airline ahead of time. You can check security wait times on SkyHarbor.com, the flight information displays in the terminals and in the PHX Sky Train® stations. Also, visit TSA.gov for details about what you can and cannot carry in your purse or carry-on luggage.

Burn Cleaner, Burn Better

While a fireplace is great on a cool winter night, all that smoke can mean burdensome federal regulations, possible fines and a substantial health risk to Valley residents. Whenever you can, use a gas or electric fireplace.

On No Burn Days, please don’t burn wood. If possible, convert your wood-burning fireplace to natural gas or retrofit your fireplace with an air pollution reduction device. Maricopa County Air Quality Department offers a free fireplace retrofit program. For more details, call 602-372-WOOD (9663) or visit CleanAirMakeMore.com/NoBurn.

Celebrate and Honor Heroes

Celebrate the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday at the MLK Awards Breakfast “Standing Up for Justice,” 7 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13, 2017. The event will honor the winners of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Living the Dream Awards and Calvin C. Goode Lifetime Achievement Award.

The cost is $100 per person or $1,000 for a table of 10. To purchase tickets or a table, call 602-513-8311. For updates and information about the event, visit Phoenix.gov/eod.

This event is sponsored by the Arizona Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee and supported by the Phoenix Human Relations Commission.

FiT PHX

Be more active and fit in 2017! Check out dozens of free city programs and activities at Phoenix.gov/FitPHX
Out With the Old, In With the New

The next “I Recycle Phoenix” Festival will be 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 7 at the Christown Spectrum Mall, 1703 W. Bethany Home Rd., adjacent to the movie theaters.

Acceptable items: Laptops and electronics, rechargeable batteries, inkjet cartridges, small appliances and holiday décor. Document shredding, up to five boxes-full, will be offered along with hard drive shredding. We will also accept live Christmas trees and canned food for a food bank.

Unacceptable items: CRT TVs and monitors, household hazardous waste items including tires, paint, pool chemicals, cleaning solutions, any kind of light bulbs and non-rechargeable batteries. Event is hosted by Keep Phoenix Beautiful in partnership with Phoenix Public Works. Visit PhoenixRecycles.org or call 602-262-4820.

Attend a Musical Performance

In celebration of Pueblo Grande’s One World, Many Voices: The Artistry of Canyon Records exhibit, this One World, Many Voices - Two Languages program is a bilingual musical performance and presentation on Aztec-style instruments with Canyon Records recording artist Xavier Quijas Yxayotl. The performance will happen on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2017 from 2 - 3 p.m. at Pueblo Grande Museum. Tickets are $10 in advance, $12 at the door. Children under 6 are free. Discounts available for museum members.

Lawn Care Tips for Winter

Give your landscape a breath of fresh air. Over-watering in winter months can suffocate your roots and wilt your plants. Bermuda grass only needs water every 30 days, while rye grass needs water every 14 days. Desert trees can go one or two months between watering. Learn more at Phoenix.gov/wrc.

Keeping Track

You can obtain information and take appropriate precautions to learn about sex offenders in your community. The Arizona Department of Public Safety website can be used to track individual offenders and locations (by ZIP code or address).

You can sign up to receive email notifications about offenders, find out the definition of classifications, find the location of offenders, learn the requirements for offenders to register and see laws regarding offenders at azdps.gov/Services/Sex_Offender.

Hangin’ Around

Did you know that your dry cleaners will take back not only your wire hangers but also the plastic film used to protect your dry cleaned clothing? Let them recycle right! Do not place wire hangers and plastic film in your blue recycling containers as they get caught in the sorting equipment, causing major damage. Have recycling questions? Email them to ReimaginePhoenix@phoenix.gov.

Watch on: Cox Cable 11 or CenturyLink 8005

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