

notes

City offers homeownership aid

If you're interested in buying a home, the city might be able to help.

The city's Neighborhood Stabilization Program provides qualified buyers with a \$15,000 loan to help with the down payment and closing costs for the purchase of a foreclosed single family home, townhouse or condominium in the city.

And, the loan will not have to be repaid until the home is either sold or the loan is refinanced.

The program, which is financed as part of a \$39.4 million federal grant, is aimed at helping stabilize neighborhoods that have been hard hit by foreclosures.

Buyers, who must maintain the house as their main residence, may earn up to 20

percent of the area's median income – \$53,950 for an individual, \$61,650 for a couple, \$69,350 for a family of three and \$77,050 for a family of four. They also must be credit-worthy and complete an eight-hour class on homeownership education and credit assessment counseling.

Homes purchased under the program must meet U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development housing quality standards and be clear of the city's top eight code violations. In addition, the purchase price must be at least 15 percent below the appraised value and the home must pass an inspection.

To learn more about the lending program, attend an information session

conducted by the Housing and Neighborhood Services departments. Call the program hotline at 602-262-6602 or visit the city's foreclosure event Web site at phoenix.gov/nsd/fevent.html. Additional foreclosure information is available at phoenix.gov/nsd/fland.html.

The city's counseling partners also can provide information and assistance. They include:

Chicanos Por La Causa, 602-257-0700 or cplc.org;
Community Housing Resources of Arizona, 602-631-9780 or communityhousingresources.org;
Greater Phoenix Urban League 602-254-5611 or gphxul.org;
and Neighborhood Housing Services Phoenix, 602-258-1659 or nhsphoenix.org.



Calling all swimmers – The city's public swimming pools will open 1 to 7 p.m. on Memorial Day weekend Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 23 to May 25, and reopen for the full 2009 season 1 to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 30 to Sunday, July 26. All of the 21 pools operating this summer will be closed on Fridays. For more information, visit phoenix.gov/parks and click on pools or call 602-262-6541.

Web site opens for volunteers

If you're looking for volunteer opportunities you'll want to check out a new city Web site – phoenix.gov/volunteer.

It's a central location for residents to easily find volunteer needs in a variety of areas, including neighborhood cleanups, social service programs, community centers, parks and more.

The site was established in response to residents who asked about volunteer opportunities while attending a series of city budget hearings in January.

Hazardous waste collection planned

Phoenix residents can dispose of common hazardous wastes and other items 7 a.m. to noon June 18, 19 and 20 at Los Olivos Park, 2802 E. Devonshire Ave.

The collections accept batteries, oil, up to five gallons of paint, antifreeze, pesticides, pool chemicals, computers, five road tires per household and household appliances that use refrigerants, including refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners and heat pumps. Commercial loads will not be accepted.

There will be no collections in July or August.

The city also will pick up household appliances at your home for a fee. Call for a collection appointment. For information, send an e-mail to pwserve@phoenix.gov, visit phoenix.gov/publicworks or call 602-262-7251.

Airport recruits Navigators

Finding your way around a busy airport can be confusing at times.

At Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, it's made easier by volunteer Navigators who provide information and assistance to the airport's 100,000 daily visitors.

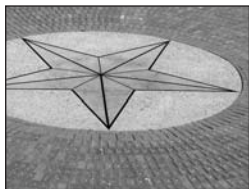
The airport now is seeking to expand the Navigator program with many more volunteers. Participants receive training, uniforms and parking privileges.

For more information, visit phxskyharbor.com or call 602-273-4017.

Become a star at the Orpheum

Now is your chance to have your name or the name of a loved one immortalized on the Orpheum Theatre's Avenue of Stars.

For a limited time, you can purchase a personalized, commemorative brick for just \$35, which is \$40 off the original price.



The Avenue of Stars, which was created in 1991 and now has more than 3,600 "stars" immortalized, is located in the pedestrian promenade in front of the historic downtown theater at Second Avenue and Adams Street.

For more information, visit phoenix.gov/extranet/pccd/ot_buybrick.html or call 602-534-5601. The discount ends June 30.

City seeks senior companions

If you're on a limited income, age 60 or older and looking for a way to give back to the community, consider joining the Human Services Department's Senior Companion Program.

Volunteers assist seniors at community centers, senior centers and adult day care centers and in senior housing communities, providing them with companionship and helping them with many of their daily activities.

For more information, call 602-256-3353 or visit phoenix.gov/seniorcompanion.

Collection days changing

Beginning June 1, solid waste collection days will change for some residents who live in an area bounded by Missouri Avenue, 16th Street, South Mountain, and 115th Avenue. Information about the changes is being mailed this month to homes that will be affected.

notes

Phoenix City Council

Mayor Phil Gordon	602-262-7111
Tom Simplot, Vice Mayor & District 4	602-262-7447
Thelda Williams, District 1	602-262-7444
Peggy Neely, District 2	602-262-7445
Maria Baier, District 3	602-262-7441
Claude Mattox, District 5	602-262-7446
Sal DiCiccio, District 6	602-262-7491
Michael Nowakowski, District 7	602-262-7492
Michael Johnson, District 8	602-262-7493

Garbage/Trash Service	602-262-7251
Landfill/Disposal Information	602-262-7251
Recycling	602-262-7251
Water/Wastewater	602-262-6251

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