



Dear District 3 Residents,

The holidays are here and I want to wish you all a very joyful and safe holiday season. There are a host of wonderful events going on throughout the City during this time and I urge you to take part. For instance, you can take your picture with Santa at Paradise Valley Mall until Christmas Eve, Moon Valley has the 12 Homes of Christmas and Luminarias on Christmas Eve, and the Desert Botanical Gardens Luminarias and Phoenix ZooLights are always crowd pleasers.

Of course, during this time of year there are those who look to dampen our holiday joy through theft and burglary. I urge you to take the necessary precautions to ensure your property and belongings are safe and secure at all times. Read the helpful Holiday Safety Tips below from the Desert Horizon Police Precinct. By following their advice you can make sure that your family's holiday remains full of cheer throughout the season.

*Bill Gates*



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## Upcoming Community Events

- **City of Phoenix Council Inauguration**

Councilmembers: Thelda Williams, Bill Gates, Daniel Valenzuela, Michael Nowakowski and Mayor Stanton

Date: Monday, January 4, 2016

Time: 10:00 a.m. – *please arrive by 9:30 a.m.*

Location: Orpheum Theatre  
203 W Adams St.

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### **District 3 Coffee Chat**

Join me for a review of 2015 and a look at priorities for District 3 and the city of Phoenix in 2016.

Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2016

Time: **8:00am – 9:00am**

Location: Shadow Mountain Senior Center  
3546 E Sweetwater Ave,  
Phoenix, AZ 85032

### **Coffee w/ Commander Chuck**

Join Black Mountain Precinct Commander Chuck Morin for the first coffee chat of 2016.

Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Time: 8:00am

Location: Times Square Restaurant  
718 E Union Hills Dr  
Phoenix, AZ 85024



# Holiday Safety Tips



## Be Aware

- Be alert to any suspicious activity and report it immediately to the Phoenix Police Department by calling Crime Stop at (602) 262-6151 or if it is a crime in progress call 9-1-1.
- Be alert to your surroundings when parking, walking, or withdrawing money at an ATM. Try to avoid carrying a large amount of cash. Keep your purse closed and close to your body.
- Don't overload yourself with numerous packages; by doing this you become vulnerable.
- Automobile accidents increase over the holiday season so please drive carefully, and watch for children.

## Parking

- Park as close to your destination as possible and in a well lit area.
- Re-park your car in another spot after you have secured packages and plan on more shopping, this is to deter criminals that may be watching.
- When returning to your vehicle walk with confidence and have your vehicle keys in hand.

## Vehicle

- Lock your vehicle and set your vehicle alarm or use an anti-theft device. When returning to your vehicle look around outside and inside before you get in.
- Never leave your vehicle running while unattended, even for a minute.
- Do not leave children unattended in your vehicle.
- Secure your packages out of sight, preferably in the trunk.
- Remember where you parked, if possible write it down, which aisle and near what store.
- Have your license plate number and the description of your vehicle written down and kept in your purse or wallet, in the event your car is stolen or towed.
- Don't place your purse on the rooftop or on the trunk of your car, this is setting yourself up to be a victim.

*Slow down and use common sense when leaving your vehicle unattended.  
Remember, call the POLICE to report a CRIME or any SUSPICIOUS activity.  
YOU are the eyes of OUR COMMUNITY.*

## *Have a Safe and Happy Holidays*

The Phoenix Police Department is committed to the safety and well being of its customers. If you have any questions or comments please call the Desert Horizon Precinct Community Action Officers 602-495-5006. (In the event of an emergency call 911, for non emergency call Crime Stop 602-262-6151)



## APS Electric Light Parade

It was my honor to participate in the Electric Light Parade with my family on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to APS and the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department for supporting this wonderful event.



## Honor Health & John C. Lincoln Crystal Princess Celebration

Thanks to Honor Health & John C. Lincoln Hospital for including me in their Crystal Princess celebration again this year. A big shout out to Chick-fil-A for giving out free chicken sandwiches!





## Annual Senior Center Appreciation Luncheon

This year, senior centers in the City of Phoenix contributed over 130,000 of volunteer hours. That impressive feat comes out to \$3 million of in-kind contributions. I would like to congratulate and thank the Senior Centers in District 3 for their amazing efforts. The Sunnyslope Senior Center contributed 3,259 total hours and the Shadow Mountain Senior Center contributed 3,808 total hours! Below are some pictures from the celebration.



## Delivery Scam Alert

A special thanks to the BMCA for passing along this delivery scam alert. Please read below and protect yourself this holiday season.

Wednesday a week ago, I had a phone call from someone saying that he was from some outfit called: "Express Couriers," (The name could be any courier company) He



asked if I was going to be home because there was a package for me that required a signature.

The caller said that the delivery would arrive at my home in roughly an hour. Sure enough, about an hour later, a uniformed delivery man turned up with a beautiful basket of flowers and a bottle of wine. I was very surprised since there was no special occasion or holiday, and I certainly didn't expect anything like it. Intrigued, I inquired as to who the sender was. The courier replied, "I don't know, I'm only delivering the package." Apparently, a card was being sent separately... (the card has never arrived!) There was also a consignment note with the gift.

He then went on to explain that because the gift contained alcohol, there was a \$3.50 "delivery/ verification charge," providing proof that he had actually delivered the package to an adult (of legal drinking age), and not just left it on the doorstep where it could be stolen or taken by anyone, especially a minor.

This sounded logical and I offered to pay him cash. He then said that the delivery company required payment to be by credit or debit card only, so that everything is properly accounted for, and this would help in keeping a legal record of the transaction.

He added couriers don't carry cash to avoid loss or likely targets for robbery.

My husband, who by this time was standing beside me, pulled out his credit card, and 'John,' the "delivery man," asked him to swipe the card on a small mobile card machine with a small screen and keypad. Frank, my husband, was asked to enter his PIN number and a receipt was printed out. He was given a copy of the transaction. He guy said everything was in order, and wished us good day.

To our horrible surprise, between Thursday and the following Monday, \$4,000 had been charged/withdrawn from our credit/debit account at various ATM machines.

Apparently the "mobile credit card machine," which the deliveryman carried now had all the info necessary to create a "dummy" card with all our card details including the PIN number.

Upon finding out about the illegal transactions on our card, we immediately notified the bank which issued us a new card, and our credit/debit account was closed.

We also personally went to the Police, where it was confirmed that it is definitely a scam because several households had been similarly hit.

**WARNING: Be wary of accepting any "surprise gift or package," which you neither expected nor personally ordered, especially if it involves any kind of payment as a condition of receiving the gift or package. Also, never accept anything if you do not personally know or there is no proper identification of who the sender is.**

Above all, the only time you should give out any personal credit/debit card information is when you yourself initiated the purchase or transaction!

**PLEASE Pass this on, it may just prevent someone else from being swindled.**

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## Phoenix Continuing to Seek Input from Community for Police Chief Recruitment

The city of Phoenix continues to invite residents to take part in a community survey to give input on the recruitment for a new police chief. So far nearly 1,000 surveys have been received from the public.

Phoenix's current chief, Joseph Yahner, is scheduled to retire in October 2016 after serving the city for more than 30 years.

The community survey is an opportunity to gather feedback from residents that can be considered when creating the candidate profile for the new chief. The city has communicated to residents about the survey via traditional media communication and social media along with inviting neighborhood groups and other key community organizations to take part.

The survey will close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 30. The survey is also available in Spanish on the police chief recruitment webpage at [phoenix.gov/pdchiefrecruitment](http://phoenix.gov/pdchiefrecruitment). For those who prefer a hard copy of the survey instead of an electronic version please contact Phoenix Human Resources Center, at 135 N. 2nd Ave, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday, with the exception of Thursday, Nov. 26, and Friday, Nov. 27, which are city holidays.

To take the survey online, go to [phoenix.gov/pdchiefrecruitment](http://phoenix.gov/pdchiefrecruitment), or visit [phoenix.gov](http://phoenix.gov) and look for the link on the homepage. Those in need of a computer can visit a city library and use a public computer for free. Citizens who need special accommodations to participate in the survey can call (602) 262-6277 or TTY (602) 261-8687.





## **CITY OF PHOENIX OFFICE OF ARTS AND CULTURE SEEKS GRANT REVIEW PANELISTS**

If you are an artist, arts professional, non-profit leader, educator or member of the general public interested in the arts, you may want to apply to be a grant review panelist for various city of Phoenix arts grant applications.

The Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture seeks knowledgeable, fair-minded and responsible individuals representing different points of view and various cultural orientations to serve as grant review panel members.

Serving as a panelist involves reading applications submitted in a category, then meeting anywhere from a half day to a full day with other panel members to discuss and rank each application using established evaluation criteria. Panel meetings are open to the public and usually are held in April or May each year.

Applicant areas of expertise may include dance, literature, music, theatre, education, multicultural/ethnic, business/administrative, festivals/multidisciplinary, visual/photography and marketing/development. Grant applicants include Phoenix cultural groups and local youth and ethnically diverse arts groups.

Grants will be awarded to non-profit cultural organizations for general operations, arts learning and festivals activities.

For more information and to submit a panelist application form, visit [phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program/grant-review-panelists](http://phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program/grant-review-panelists) or call 602-495-0188.



# **City of Phoenix**

## City of Phoenix Announces New Human Resources Director

The Phoenix City Manager's Office has officially announced the hiring of Blair Johnson as Human Resources Director. Johnson's background includes more than 25 years of experience in the public and private sector and both union and non-union work.

"Mr. Johnson has broad experience in human resource management and strategic thinking that will strengthen the city's workforce needs," said Ed Zuercher, Phoenix City Manager. "We look forward to the value he will bring to the city to help employees continue providing top service to residents."

Most recently Johnson worked in human resource management for Dignity Health, one of the country's largest healthcare firms. Previous experience includes working for cities and a county in Oregon and Washington along with the transportation, legal and hospitality industries.

"I look forward to working with the city manager, human resources staff and our labor partners toward our shared goals of customer service, excellence, diversity, teamwork and professionalism," said Johnson. "I'm ready to serve employees throughout the organization and continue making the city of Phoenix one of the best places to work."

Johnson has professional certification from the Human Resource Certification Institute, Society for Human Resource Management and the International Public Management Association for Human Resources. This fall Johnson will complete his Master of Science in Management and Human Resources from Southern Oregon University. He has a bachelor degree in Social Science from the same school. He begins working for the city of Phoenix on December 7.



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## Aviation Update

October passenger numbers are now available and show a 5.8% percent increase compared to October 2014. Total passenger numbers for the calendar year are up 5.1% compared to Jan-Oct. 2014.





### **WESD News in District 3**

Congratulations to Anna Davis, eighth grade language arts teacher at Mountain Sky Junior High. She was recently named the Junior Achievement of Arizona Teacher of the Year! The award is the result of her frequent work both during the school day and outside of school promoting life, financial and career skills with students. Way to go, Mrs. Davis!

For the fourth time in just over a month a WESD school was featured on Fox 10's Back to School with Cory McCloskey! This time, Moon Mountain Elementary students and staff were the stars and boy did they bring their school spirit! The cheerleaders greeted Cory with a cheer and students lined the basketball courts with classroom banners and signs! PE teacher Patti Mitchell shared information about the school's food drive and turkey raffle and students displayed their comedy talents with jokes for Cory! Cory visits Moon Mountain every year for their annual Turkey Trot and teacher Mike Plutschuck was a good sport in the turkey costume! What a fun way to start the day and kick-off the Thanksgiving holiday! Nice work, Moon Mountain!

Thanks to generous local businesses and individual donors, the WESD has received more than \$160,000 in funding for projects on DonorsChoose!

On December 10, John Jacobs Elementary received flash funding from Kia Motors that paid for all of their classroom requests – 27 projects, primarily in the area of technology (Chromebooks, storage carts, management consoles, etc.). Kia helped fund projects throughout the WESD, including two at Mountain Sky Junior High, but their generosity helped fulfill every request at John Jacobs – including some that were partially funded by googlematch. Ultimately, John Jacobs received \$65,000 in donations!

Additionally, State Farm Insurance funded more than \$25,000 in projects throughout the District benefiting eight schools including District 3 schools Moon Mountain Elementary, Mountain Sky Junior High and Mountain View School. Thanks to these donors, WESD students will have the benefit of new technology, instruments, classroom materials and sporting equipment.

A big thank you to Alliance Home Loans! For the fourth year in a row, the company adopted the Head Start classes at Mountain View School, providing a brand new bicycle and a bag of gifts for every child! There are four sections of Head Start with 68 students. The event is coordinated by the City of Phoenix caseworkers assigned to Mountain View.

'Tis the season of caring and giving! Why not consider giving to the WESD tax credit program? When you do, not only are you enhancing the education of a child, you're receiving a credit on your state income tax!

Your donation can go to the program you specify, or you may permit the school to designate which of its extracurricular programs your donation will support. You do not need to have a child enrolled in school to make a tax credit donation. As a taxpayer, Arizona Revised Statute §43-1089.01 allows you to reduce your personal state income tax bill or increase your refund from the state by the amount of your donation. It's a win-win situation! For example, if you owe \$650 in state income taxes and you donate \$200 to a WESD school, you may subtract \$200 from the total taxes owed. The actual income tax you owe would be \$450. Check with your personal tax consultant to see if you are also eligible for a deduction on your federal taxes. To give, go to [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org) and click on Tax Credit under the Quick Links section. Thank you!

The Washington Elementary School District (WESD) will host a Teacher Interview Fair on Saturday, January 9, 2016 to hire teachers for the 2016-2017 school year. The fair will be held from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the WESD Administrative Center, 4650 West Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, 85304. Contracts for the 2016-2017 school year will be offered to qualified candidates.

Interviews will be conducted for those interested in teaching: kindergarten, elementary education, special education, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, general music, art and special needs preschool. Successful candidates may be recommended for a 2015-2016 teaching contract.

Apply online prior to the interview fair at [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org). Please select the posting titled, Teacher Fair – January 9, 2016. Human Resources will contact qualified applicants directly to preschedule an interview. Walk-in applicants are welcome, but interviews will be limited. Human Resources will paper screen the application to determine if the applicant is eligible for an interview. In order to obtain a prescheduled interview, interested teachers (or soon-to-be teachers) should apply online by at [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org).

Applicants will need to take the following items to the Interview Fair:

- Copy of most recent teacher or student teacher evaluation
- Teaching Certificate (if applicable)
- NES Exam Scores
- IVP Fingerprint Clearance Card

For more information, contact the WESD Recruitment Office at 602-347-3622 or e-mail [lydia.garcia@wesdschools.org](mailto:lydia.garcia@wesdschools.org).



## Youth Ambassador Exchange Program: Opportunity for Council District 3!

The application for the 2016 Phoenix Sister Cities Youth Ambassador Exchange Program is now available online! This incredible international summer exchange program is now open to students in District 3. The application can be found here:

[phoenixsistercities.org/index.php/youth-education/youth-ambassador-exchange-program#application](http://phoenixsistercities.org/index.php/youth-education/youth-ambassador-exchange-program#application)

Last year, several students applied from District 3. We would love to see these numbers from our district increase! It is important to note that **all applicants are eligible to apply for scholarships!**

The deadline is **12/18/2015** and entirely available online at [www.phoenixsistercities.org](http://www.phoenixsistercities.org).

### What is the Youth Ambassador Exchange Program?

The purpose of the Youth Ambassador Exchange Program (YAEP) is to offer opportunities for Phoenix high school students to appreciate and understand the cultures of our Sister Cities through a reciprocal three-week home hosted international exchange experience. The Phoenix Sister Cities Selection Committee will select high school students (Sophomores or Juniors), each of whom will be assigned as a Youth Ambassador to one of the ten Phoenix Sister Cities. Through the Sister City program, Youth Ambassadors will have the opportunity to experience the sister city and the culture in ways not available to the typical international visitor.

