



OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

SPRING 2017

Community Development Block Grants celebrated

For more than 40 years, Congress has funded the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to create jobs, develop affordable housing, improve existing housing stock, deliver vital services and make infrastructure improvements.

Communities across the nation celebrate the impact of the CDBG program during the month of April. These critical funds have been used in partnership with states and local communities to strengthen neighborhoods and improve the quality of life for all Americans, with emphasis on low-and moderate-income citizens.

These federal entitlement programs are based on the area's poverty level enabling Phoenix to build affordable housing, community centers and critical infrastructure, as well as supporting local non-profit organizations that deliver numerous services for city residents.

The city of Phoenix receives approximately \$15 million of CDBG funds to revitalize neighborhoods, help businesses expand and create jobs, eliminate graffiti, build domestic violence shelters, support child care and enrichment programs, and serve seniors and people with disabilities.

To learn more about the city of Phoenix CDBG program and the way funds are used through the grant program, visit our Facebook page for a month long social media showcase at [facebook.com/phoenixneighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/phoenixneighborhood).



Celebration of CDBG

- Graffiti
- Code Enforcement
- Blight Elimination
- Fair Housing
- Public Service (youth and senior support programs)
- Public Facilities Improvements
- Housing Counseling
- Landlord/Tenant Counseling
- Infrastructure/Enhancement Parks projects Sidewalks Safe routes to school
- Homeless Services

HOW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NSD



phoenix.gov/NSD

200 W. Washington, 4th Floor
602.534.4444

Cooling Ordinance reminders as temps increase

As spring rapidly gives way to summer in Phoenix, the thermometer continues to climb. With the increasing temperatures, Phoenix's Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) readies for a steady increase of cooling complaint calls from tenants through the summer months. Landlords in the City of Phoenix must

supply reasonable cooling to rental housing units as stated in the city's Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance.

Phoenix City Code, Chapter 39 was amended in the Spring of 2015 to include minimum temperature requirements for heating, cooling and ventilation systems in rental housing units. In summary, the ordinance states every rental housing unit shall have a cooling system capable of safely cooling all habitable rooms to a temperature of no greater than 86 degrees Fahrenheit if cooled by evaporative cooling; and no greater than 82 degrees Fahrenheit if cooled by air conditioning.

The city's ordinance also states that heating, cooling and ventilation systems in any building are to be

maintained hazard-free, operational and in a state of good repair.

NSD is also home to the Phoenix Landlord Tenant program. This group can help tenants understand their rights and show them the steps necessary to hold their landlords responsible.

Landlord Tenant staff reminds tenants to bring any problems with their housing unit's cooling or heating systems to the landlord's attention first.

However, if the issue isn't fixed in a timely manner, reporting the issue to the NSD Landlord Tenant Office will allow the city to begin investigating and enforcing the code requirements if the ordinance has been violated.

For more information call NSD at 602-534-4444.



Phoenix Unveils First Food Hub Project

The City of Phoenix celebrated the opening of this first of its kind project that includes a food hub, demonstration farm, farm stand, and agricultural training facility for veterans and developmentally disabled adults. The project will provide locally grown and freshly harvested food products to the south Phoenix community.

This is the first Brownfields to Healthfields project completed through funding received from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Quincea/Green Purpose, Inc. located this food hub within a USDA-designated food desert to deliver food to the community and provide food to residents reliant on public transportation; provide agricultural vocational training, employment opportunities, and entrepreneurial mentorship to veterans and developmentally disabled adults; and promote, educate and train community members on nutrition and cooking.

This increase in community access to fresh and healthy food will improve community health and reduce diet-related disease.

By 2050, Phoenix wants to establish a sustainable, healthy, equitable, local food system by eliminating food deserts, increasing urban agriculture, establishing farmers markets in each of the city's urban villages, and significantly reducing the rates of hunger, obesity, and diet-related disease.





Upcoming Classes and Workshops

APRIL

Saturday, 4/29 from 9:30 a.m.

WATERING METHODS OUTSIDE THE BOX (OR HOSE): Learn about different watering methods for your landscape; a Landscape and Water Management Workshop from Keep Phoenix Beautiful. Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N. Central Ave. To register, email PHXRenews@KeepPHXBeautiful.org.

MAY

Saturday, 5/6 from 9:30 a.m.

Smart Controllers and Efficient Watering: A Landscape and Water Management Workshop focused on creating beautiful, water efficient landscape for your home or business. Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N. Central Ave., To register, email PHXRenews@KeepPHXBeautiful.org

Saturday, 5/6 from 2-3 p.m.

LANDSCAPE WATERING: Learn how to properly water your landscape to save time and increase the health and beauty of your plants. Desert Sage Library, 7602 W. Encanto Blvd. To register for a class, visit phoenix.gov/water or call 602-261-8367.

Saturday, 5/6 from 3:15-4:15 p.m.

RAIN GARDENS: Learn how to design an earth-friendly yard using simple earthworks and low-water-use plants. Desert Sage Library, 7602 W. Encanto Blvd. To register for a class, visit phoenix.gov/water or call 602-261-8367.

Thursday, 5/11 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

HOA Training: Burton Barr Central Library, 1st Floor Auditorium. To register, call 602-534-4444.

Saturday, 5/13 from 8 - 10 a.m.

PAINT SPRAYER TRAINING: Learn how to keep your neighborhood graffiti-free by using a paint sprayer (which you can use for free after completing the workshop), tour the warehouse and see other tools and supplies available to residents. NSD West Facility, 3325 W. Flower St. To register, call 602-534-4444.

Saturday, 5/20 from 2-3 p.m.

LANDSCAPE WATERING: Learn how to properly water your landscape to save time and increase the health and beauty of your plants. Century Library, 1750 E. Highland Ave. To register for a class, visit phoenix.gov/water or call 602-261-8367.

Saturday, 5/20 from 3:15-4:15 p.m.

RAIN GARDENS: Learn how to design an earth-friendly yard using simple earthworks and low-water-use plants. Century Library, 1750 E. Highland Ave. To register for a class, visit phoenix.gov/water or call 602-261-8367.

Thursdays, 5/25, 6/1, 6/8 and 6/15 from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

OWN IT: FINANCIAL EDUCATION WORKSHOP SERIES: This four-week interactive financial education series will provide you with money management skills and tools that can help you own your financial future. Topics include: Saving for the future, developing a budget and spending plan, understanding and using credit wisely, managing a bank account and so much more. Travis Williams Family Service Center, 4732 S. Central Ave. To register, call 602-534-4444.

JUNE

Tuesday, 6/6 from 6 - 8 p.m.

BELIEF WINDOW: We all have a "Belief Window" which is the framework each of us has for understanding and seeing our own world. What is written on our window defines who we are,

how we act and what we may become. Our version of reality comes from our own beliefs, what others have taught us, previous experiences, cultural beliefs, and general observations. Learn how to identify your beliefs and change your principles to ensure your success. Desert West Community Center, 6501 W Virginia Ave. To register, call 602-534-4444.



hive @ central is at Burton Barr Central Library. For registration or more information, visit phoenix-publiclibrary.org/hive or call 602-262-4636 (for TTY use 7-1-1)

Tuesday, 5/30 from 6 - 8 p.m. WORKSHOP 1 | How to Start a Business in Arizona:

The roadmap-style outline of this workshop provides the attendee insight into creating a business plan that is compatible with the initial framework required to start a **new** business venture. Foundational knowledge, essential for the new business owner to understand and consider when launching a business, is laid out in an easily understood format.

Thursday, 6/1 from 6 - 8 p.m. WORKSHOP 2 | The Legal

Ins and Outs of Startups: As new business owners narrow down the focus of their "big idea", much of what assists this idea stage process is understanding the variety of legal entities available for small businesses to operate under. This workshop provides the breakdown of licensing, permitting, insurance and other necessary considerations for a successful enterprise.

Tuesday, 6/6 from 6 - 8 p.m. WORKSHOP 3 | Understanding Your Target Market and Value Proposition:

The ReferenceUSA database is one of the most valuable and resourceful tools offered by public libraries, and is accessible at no cost to Phoenix Public Library cardholders. This workshop demonstrates how ReferenceUSA can be utilized to broaden the awareness of a business's customer base by creating strategic marketing plans and understanding/defining the competition. An additional workshop will be provided on branding and how to use your brand to grow the value of your business.

Thursday, 6/8 from 6 - 8 p.m. WORKSHOP 4 | Evaluating and Estimating Your Costs and Pricing Part 1:

An introduction to examining how and why financial literacy is so important to starting and maintaining a successful business. The workshop reviews basic accounting methods, examines financial statements and illustrates the value of understanding the business's bottom line.

Tuesday, 6/13 from 6 - 8 p.m. WORKSHOP 5 | Evaluating and Estimating Your Costs and Pricing Part 2:

Building on the concepts introduced in 'Evaluating and Estimating Your Costs and Pricing, Part 1', this workshop teaches the skills needed to create a 12-month cash flow, shows how to avoid financial mistakes, and identify methods to grow your business.

Thursday, 6/15 from 6 - 8 p.m. WORKSHOP 6 | Building Your Sales Projections and Setting Milestones:

Participants will apply the skills learned in previous workshops to build the foundation for smart business forecasting. You will determine how to set milestones and begin to develop the visionary component of entrepreneurship and business growth.

Court program helps with past due fines

In January, 2016, the Phoenix Municipal Court instituted a Compliance Assistance Program (CAP), to help individuals with past due fines owed to the court. The CAP allows individuals to pay off civil traffic, civil non-traffic, and parking fines without having to see a judge.

In the 14 months the CAP has been in operation, over 14,200 people have enrolled and over \$8 million in overdue fines and fees have been paid. All it takes to enroll in the CAP is a down payment and an agreement to make affordable monthly payments. The CAP not only provides an economical way for individuals to satisfy financial obligations owed to the court, but qualifies them

for a waiver of significant collection costs normally added to unpaid balances, and may qualify them to apply for reinstatement of driver licenses suspended for nonpayment of traffic fines owed to the Municipal Court.

The Phoenix Municipal Court encourages individuals with unpaid financial obligations owed to the Court to appear in-person at the Phoenix Municipal Court, 300 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona, or if they live outside of Maricopa County, they may call 602-256-3281 to learn how to participate in the CAP. Additional information can be found online at the following webpage: <https://www.phoenix.gov/courtsite/Documents/CAP-FAQ.pdf>

The was written by Victoria. She is a 5th grade student at Desert View School. She was one of nearly 100 students taking part in the Junior Good Neighbor Program facilitated by Neighborhood Specialists Ray Yocopis and Fernando Felix.



Did you know we are on Facebook and Twitter?
 Check us out at
 Facebook: Phoenixneighborhood
 Twitter: @PHXNeighborhood



Big thanks to the Sunnyslope Basketball team pitching in at the 19th North clean up!



IN YOUR WORDS

In every community, there exists residents willing to step forward and take mantles of community enhancement, protection, and engagement. Diane Harris of the Alhambra Neighborhood was one of those residents, who was tireless in her efforts to make her neighborhood and community, a safe place for all, and a better place in the future.

Diane helped to form the Alhambra Neighborhood Association in October of 2004. In the years following, Diane worked closely with the Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) and the Phoenix Police Department, learning about resources and how to best direct efforts. Diane would help form NSD and Police partnerships and task forces, and author guides to help other neighborhoods understand and deal with every facet of liquor applications, zoning, and crime issues.

Diane's devotion to her neighborhood spread to zoning applicants looking to set up business on the periphery of the neighborhood. She effectively engaged the electorate in her area to educate and make their voices known to their elected officials, to organize neighborhood clean-ups and to reduce graffiti. Many neighborhood inspectors and specialist came to value her knowledge.

Diane fell into poor health in the fall of 2016, and passed away in December. The City of Phoenix will miss her devoted spirit.

— Written by Ben Harris, son of Diane