

NEWS FOR NEIGHBORS

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NEW NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Jennifer Morrison has been selected to head the City's Neighborhood Resources Division; replacing Judith Register who retired in October of 2009. Morrison will oversee the activities of the City's Neighborhood Programs, Code Enforcement and Community Development divisions.

Morrison was an Assistant to the City Manager from 1997 to 2002, and helped establish Chandler's Human Relations Commission and Neighborhood Programs Division. As the staff liaison to the Neighborhood Advisory Commission, she brought various City departments together in a Neighborhood Empowerment Team to

implement a coordinated approach to address neighborhood issues. Morrison was Chandler's Housing and Redevelopment Manager from 1993 to 1997, managing the City's affordable housing and community development programs. She supervised a staff of 16 and was responsible for administering Section 8 and Public Housing programs, plus housing rehabilitation, modernization, and voucher programs.

Morrison served as Acting Downtown Coordinator from 2005-06, working with downtown property owners, developers and merchants to promote the historic square. She left City



Jennifer Morrison,
Neighborhood Resources Director

employment in 2006 to serve as Vice President of Desert Viking, a local real estate developer, general contractor and property management company, before returning as the City's Sustainability Manager on November 2008.

Please join Neighborhood Resources staff in welcoming Jennifer Morrison.

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAMS ASSISTANT

In November 2009, Jeanne Bosarge joined Neighborhood Resources as the new Neighborhood Programs Assistant.

Jeanne brings 10 years of municipal experience. She began her career with the City of Chandler as a Legal Secretary in the City

Attorney's Office.

In 2004 she joined Chandler's Downtown Redevelopment Office to assist downtown business owners in the revitalization of Chandler's Historic Downtown. Jeanne will be assisting Neighborhood Programs in

the coordination of volunteer activities and neighborhood events.

Neighborhood Resources staff is looking forward to utilizing Jeanne's expertise in the revitalization of our Neighborhoods.

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Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration of Unity Breakfast

- Date: Friday, January 22nd
- Time: 7:30 a.m.
- Location: Crowne Plaza San Marcos Resort
- The 2010 Celebration of Unity Dedication to Service Awards will honor local volunteers
- Guest Speaker: Alonzo Jones, Director of Multicultural Student Services at Arizona State University
- Tickets are \$25 per person.

For more information, visit www.chandleraz.gov/unity or call 480-782-2214

THE NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES DIVISION IS EXPANDING!

In the Fall of 2007, we announced the merger of three important City Divisions —Neighborhood Programs, Code Enforcement and Community Development to create one larger Neighborhood Resources Division. The reason for this organizational change was to create a division whose primary focus was on the sustainability of our neighborhoods.



Neighborhood Resources. Effective January 4, 2010 the Housing and Redevelopment Division will become a division of Neighborhood Resources.

This decision was made due to the importance and vital role that affordable housing plays in Chandler neighborhoods.

We are looking forward to bringing Housing and Redevelopment staff along with their excellent reputation of service into our ongoing efforts to bring programs and services

to Chandler neighborhoods.

As a team the Neighborhood Resources Division is looking forward to exciting changes that will provide residents with a variety of neighborhood related services for the community.

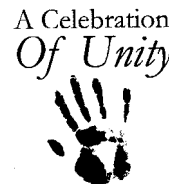
For more information on the Neighborhood Resources Division or to find out more about neighborhood programs available to you, visit our web page at www.chandleraz.gov or call 480-782-4320.

There is yet another organizational change that will be occurring with

MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

Each January, the City of Chandler holds events to honor our community's heritage and diversity, along with the spirit and ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement. The 15th Annual Multicultural Festival will be on Saturday, January 16th from

11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Downtown Library Courtyard. The festival showcases the cultural diversity of our community through music, dance, art,



food and storytelling. Arizona's theater company Childsplay will perform Androcles and the Lion. Admission is free to all Festival events.

THE ADVANCED HOA ACADEMY IS HERE!

Residents enrolling in the Advanced HOA Academy will learn from the experts about building successful and sustainable HOA's. The classes are taught by volunteer professionals who are experts in the field of HOA law and finance.

The Academy consists of six evening classes beginning Tuesday, January 26th and will run every Tuesday through March 2nd. Classes will be held from 6-8:30 p.m. at the McCullough-Price House located at 300 S. Chandler Village Dr.

All classes are free to Chandler residents and residents can attend one or all of the all six classes but space is limited.



Those who complete at least five classes will receive a Certificate of Completion and will be recognized at a future

Chandler City Council meeting.

Class topics include:

- **Advanced Community Association Finance**
Learn to read financial statements, understand what the elements of a successful audit entail, learn about HOA investment options, and how to make a budget become a tool for a successful community association.
- **Parliamentary Procedure**
Learn how to use Parliamentary Procedure to facilitate orderly and inclusive meetings.
- **Reserves**
Learn how to plan for the future maintenance and repair of Community Assets.
- **Writing RFP's and Evaluating Bid Proposals**
Learn how to work through the specifics of writing "requests for proposals" and practice evaluating bid submittals utilizing an evaluation matrix process.

- **Neighborhood Communications**
Learn how to get the word out in a way that will connect and engage your neighbors.
- **HOA Insurance**
Learn about the types of insurance necessary for the protection of HOAs and HOA board members

To register, visit <http://www.chandleraz.gov/neighborhoods> to download a copy of the registration form and fax it to 480-782-4350 or call 480-782-4351 for more information.

Drinks and snacks are provided at every class.

The Advanced HOA Academy is offered in partnership with The Leadership Centre (TLC). TLC was created in 1996 and provides residents with information and resources to create and support effective community leaders. You can get more information by visiting their web page at www.TheLeadershipCentre.org

YOUR GREEN LIFE NOW! – A GUIDE FOR CHANDLER RESIDENTS

Want to learn how to live your life and run your household in more environmentally-friendly ways? Could you use some help wading through the overwhelming amount of information on living a more sustainable lifestyle to find out what works for you?

Join the City of Chandler and local experts to find out how! In January 2010, the City is launching **Your Green Life Now! – A Guide for Chandler Residents**, a series of monthly introductory classes on all things “green”, with topics ranging from gardening to solar energy and from recycling to wise water use.

Class topics include:

- Gardening 101
- Low Water Use Landscaping
- Smart Water
- All About Solar

- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle at Home
- Greening Your Home

specific topics, with in-depth classes and follow-up workshops are available to those interested in learning more.



The classes are FREE and will take place from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Tumbleweed Recreation Center, 745 E. Germann Road, in the Cotton Room North.

All workshops will be held on the third Thursday of the month beginning January 21 and ending June 17, except for the March workshop, which will occur on March 11. Residents can attend one or all of the workshops and reservations are requested, as class sizes are limited.

Guest speakers, special offers, and free literature will be components of each of the monthly sessions. Residents attending all six classes will be recognized with a special “green” prize and a certificate signed by the Mayor.

As a complement to the monthly series, in April 2010, the City will host **Your Green Life Now! – Outdoor Expo** at the Environmental Education Center in southeast Chandler. The Expo will include exhibitors, vendors, guest speakers, food, prizes and a variety of free activities and learning opportunities on topics related to sustainable living.

For more information, or to reserve a seat call the Environmental Education Center at 480-782-2890 or e-mail: eec@chandleraz.gov.

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION & RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM

The City of Chandler is excited to announce the start of its Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). The City has received \$546,510 in federal funds for the program from the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) as part of the federal stimulus package. The HPRP program is designed to provide temporary financial assistance and/or services to help persons hurt by the recession gain housing stability,

either by allowing an individual or family to remain housed or rapidly moved into housing by providing rental (but not mortgage) assistance. To be eligible, a family must have an income at or below 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI), or \$32,950 for a family of four, be homeless or about to become homeless, and have no other housing options. In addition to paying rent, the program can cover various other costs, including rental arrears, utility costs,

security deposits, and case management services, including housing placement for homeless families. The City's has partnered with eight non-profits who will receive the funds and actually deliver the services to residents. Chandler residents can call Neighborhood Resources Division at (480)782-4320 with questions on the program or for housing assistance and direction to the appropriate agency.

VITA VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARERS NEEDED

Volunteer tax preparers are being recruited to assist with free income tax preparation in Chandler from February 1st until mid-April 2010. The volunteers will help low and moderate income residents file taxes and apply for the



Visit: <http://www.irs.gov/index.html>

Earned Income Tax Credit, which returns

money from overpayment of taxes to workers with modest incomes.

Volunteers must complete an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) course in tax law which concludes with an IRS test that all interested volunteers must pass.

Training classes will be offered five consecutive Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon on January 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30,

2010, at the Western International University Building, 55 N. Arizona Place, Chandler.

The VITA program assisted nearly 700 families with their tax returns last year, and helped them claim over one million in refunds.

For more information about becoming a VITA volunteer, call 480-782-4320

WHAT'S NEW WITH CODE? RUMMAGE SALE SIGNS!

Due to the current economy, it appears that we have a growing number of rummage sale signs posted in our community. Some people are trying to pick up a little extra cash over the weekend, and others are trying to save a buck.

The majority of these signs are in violation of City Code. They are not

*"Keeping our neighborhoods clean is everyone's responsibility."
Rick Brzuchalski, Code Enforcement Manager*

to be placed on streetlights and stop signs, and they are not to be placed in our center medians of our streets or rights-of-way. The Code Enforcement Unit does not have the time to remove all of these signs or enforce upon their illegal placement. Most people in our community don't get upset when these signs go up for a day or

two over the weekend; they get upset when they never come down. So, when you see these signs remain for days, especially after the weekend has passed, ask you neighbor who had the sale to remove their sign(s) or just remove and properly dispose of them yourself. They have no value, and they become litter when abandoned.

Keeping our neighborhoods clean is everyone's responsibility.

WELCOME TO "FOR OUR CITY-CHANDLER"

For Our City-Chandler coordinates service needs of the City of Chandler and non-profit organizations with the service resources of faith-based communities, employers, business groups and others in the Chandler area.

For Our City provides useful information about opportunities for service and various resources available in the community. It provides an avenue for residents to seek out volunteer opportunities, community needs, seek out organizations that can provide

assistance and read about success stories on community accomplishments performed by individuals and organizations

For Our City has also collaborated with Channel 3 to increase the scope of volunteer service opportunities throughout the valley. Channel 3 will list the opportunities at <http://azbloggers.com/>

Mayor Boyd Dunn describes For Our City-Chandler as "Bringing our community together through volunteerism."

passiontoaction/

If you are a volunteer group or individual interested in volunteering or needing volunteer assistance, please visit <http://www.forourcity.org>

Pastor Kevin Hartke is the director of For Our City-Chandler. Kevin, is a 24-year resident of Chandler and pastor of Trinity Christian Fellowship. Please

WATER SAVING REMINDERS FOR DECEMBER

December and January are our coldest months, and plant water usage is at its lowest point. Keep in mind that too much water on plants encourages lush, active growth that is more prone to frost damage. Plants that are dehydrated or water stressed also incur more damage. Recommendations below are for plants that are established in the landscape (in the ground about 2 years).

Lawn watering:

Summer grass (Bermuda) - once every 30 days
Overseeded cool season grass (rye) - once every 14 days

If trees and shrubs are on the same valve:

Desert Adapted - once every 35 days
High Water Use - once every 18 days

Tree watering:

Desert Adapted - once every 45 days
High Water Use - once every 21 days

Shrub watering:

Desert Adapted - once every 30 days
High Water Use - once every 14 days

Groundcover and vine watering:

Desert Adapted - once every 28 days
High Water Use - once every 14 days
Cacti and succulent watering - if needed
Annuals watering - once every 10 days
Wildflower watering - once every 15 days



Reduce your landscape watering 30 to 50 percent by adjusting your irrigation each season.

Landscape Watering by the Numbers: A Guide for the Arizona Desert" will help you determine how much water to apply and how long to run your system. Visit the interactive Web site at <http://www.wateruseitwisely.com> or request a free copy at <http://www.chandleraz.gov/water>

Bonus tips: To get up-to-date local weather and frost warning info, visit the National Weather Service Phoenix area web site at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/psr> Use styrofoam cups to protect the tips of columnar cactus on frosty nights.

Note: These recommendations are a general guidelines only and may need to be modified for your specific site conditions