

City CONNECTION

November 30, 2011

A Weekly Publication for City of Phoenix Employees

Nominations open for Employee Excellence Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2011 Employee Excellence Awards for individual employees or employee teams who have made exceptional contributions to the city and/or public during the period of Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2011. The deadline to receive nominations is **Jan. 8, 2012**. Team nominations are limited to 20 employees.

A new Excellence category has been added this year: "Implemented a new project or idea that, when applied, demonstrated protection of the environment and/or the city's commitment to sustainability." The other seven categories recognize employee excellence in areas such as job performance, innovation, diversity, and customer service, among others.

Links to the online nomination forms can be found through the Excellence Awards link on the Inside Phoenix home page.

A selection committee will determine the winners who will be recognized at the annual Employee Excellence Awards Ceremony in May 2012.

For more information or questions, please contact Janie Sue Bailey with the Human Resources Department at 602-262-4705. Employees also may call the Human Resources Center at 602-262-6608 or email hrcenter@phoenix.gov.

Homeless need help staying warm this winter

With winter approaching, many of the community's homeless face life on the streets without blankets, clothing and other necessities to keep them warm.

City employees, along with the community, can help them by donating cold-weather items. The highest priority is blankets, new or used but clean and freshly laundered. Clean warm clothing, such as long-sleeved jackets and long pants, sweatshirts and sweatpants, warm hats and gloves, coats, underwear and socks (new only), shoes and hygiene items also will be accepted. Winter clothing in children's sizes is also needed. Additional needs are baby food/formula, diapers and children's blankets.

The items will be collected through March 14. Deliver your tax-deductible donations to any of the city's three Family Services Centers: Travis L. Williams, 4732 S. Central Ave.; John F. Long, 3454 N. 51st Ave.; and Sunnyslope, 914 W. Hatcher Road.

Local outreach teams from various community agencies and nonprofit organizations will deliver the items.

Nationwide: Investing is a lot like taking vitamins

Nationwide Retirement Solutions, the administrator for the city's 457 and 401(a) plans, wants you to understand how you can think of investing your plan's account assets as a lot like taking vitamins.

Asset allocation helps you achieve investment diversification in your plan's account, the same way taking different vitamins helps you.

One of the benefits of diversification is that it helps investors reduce risks. Just as taking the right balance of vitamins cannot guarantee that you'll always be healthy, no investment strategy, including asset allocation and diversification, can protect you from investment losses, especially in a down market. That's the nature of market risk.

You can select one or more options from the menu of funds in the plans. Or, you can invest in a Nationwide Investor Destinations fund – one of five asset allocation funds in the plans' portfolio that can serve as a "multivitamin" designed to help meet your needs with one easy-to-take "pill."

Remember, the most important thing is that it is the right mix for you (based on your risk tolerance and time horizon for investments). If you'd like to give your plan's account a "healthy dose" of asset allocation or learn more about investing through the city's plans, contact a Nationwide Plan Service Representative or attend a catalog class or onsite group workshop.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call Nationwide's Phoenix office at 602-266-2733. Fund prospectuses can be obtained by calling 800-891-4749 or visiting www.phoenixdcp.com.

Before investing, carefully consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses. The fund prospectus contains this and other important information. Read the prospectuses carefully before investing. Investing involves market risk, including possible loss of principal and there is no guarantee that fund objectives will be met. Nationwide Investor Destination Funds are designed to provide diversification and asset allocation. They do this by investing in several types of investments and asset classes. So, in addition to the expenses of the Investor Destinations Funds, you pay a proportionate share of the expenses of the underlying funds. Neither Nationwide nor its representatives may offer investing, tax or legal advice. You should consult your own counsel before making any decisions.

Information from Plan Service Representatives is for educational purposes only and is not intended as investment advice.

News Briefs

Get a jump on holiday shopping at the annual Golf Blowout Sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at City Hall. Golf apparel and merchandise from all city golf courses will be on sale, including discounted golf shirts with the city bird logo for men and women. Phoenix Golf gift cards will be available for purchase at the sale. For more information, visit phoenix.gov/golf or call 602-262-5088.

Motorized skateboards, "go-peds" and mini-motorcycles are popular holiday gifts. Before you purchase one, keep in mind that there is a city ordinance that prohibits the operation of "play" vehicles on city streets and sidewalks. Furthermore, if the vehicle has no pedals it requires a motorcycle license, registration and insurance – regardless of the engine size. For more information, call the Police Department's Traffic Complaint Hotline at 602-534-7733.

Sky Harbor International Airport recently launched a new mobile website that can be accessed with smartphones and tablets. The mobile website is a handy version of skyharbor.com and features information about airlines, parking, services and much more.

People

Sue Davidson with Water Services earned a master's degree in business administration from Western International University.

Mark Your Calendar

Dec. 10 & 11 - Annual Indian Market. Featuring artwork by more than 200 top Native American artists, live entertainment, demonstrations and Native American food. Admission, \$5 for adults; children 12 and under free. 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Pueblo Grande Museum, 4619 E. Washington St. For more information, visit pgindianmarket.com.