

# PEORIA NOW

December 2012

A monthly publication of city-centered news and current events for the citizens of Peoria, Arizona.

[www.peoriaaz.gov/news](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/news)

## in the news

Multi-media Exhibit Comes to Peoria Art Gallery

Trine University to Develop Branch Campus in Peoria

Peoria Part of Coalition Receiving Top Award

Second Keynote Speaker Added to PACE Conference

To read the full articles, visit:

[www.peoriaaz.gov/news](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/news)

No access to the internet?  
Call 623-773-7000



## Transit Study

Interested in helping shape the future of public transportation in the Northwest Valley? Visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NMVTransitSurvey> to participate in a short survey. Share details regarding your current and future mobility needs as well as your priorities for future bus, local shuttle, and dial-a-ride services. Participation deadline is **Jan. 10, 2013**. For more information about the survey, contact Marc Pearsall at [mpearsall@azmag.gov](mailto:mpearsall@azmag.gov) or 602-254-6300.

## Keeping Citizens Safe



A vital part of every community is the safety of its streets and neighborhoods; and the Peoria Police Department is working hard every day to ensure the safety of its residents. The Peoria Police Department's goals are to reduce crime and the fear of crime, to partner with the community to identify and solve problems, and to operate the Department with maximum efficiency.

In order to meet the goal of partnering with the community, the Peoria Police Department has implemented community oriented policing. This program utilizes a directed patrol to focus on general deterrence. The theory of general deterrence is that if police presence is increased in an area, the likelihood that criminal activity will be detected is also increased.

Utilizing this program, the Peoria Police Department has partnered with groups such as schools, HOAs, and auto dealers to identify areas of crime and reduce them. In the first seven months of this year, crime has been reduced in several areas.

Another aspect of community oriented policing is events for the community to familiarize themselves with the Peoria Police Department. In an effort to be more present in the community, there have been several events held. Two "Coffee with the Commander" events were held for community members to meet the Commanders in their area and ask questions and voice concerns. On August 7, the Police Department held "National Night Out" events at all three Target Stores in Peoria, in which there were displays from both the Traffic Unit and SWAT Team as well as a number of officers on hand to meet citizens and answer questions.

As part of our partnership with the Peoria Unified School District, uniform officers visit local schools and have lunch with the students through our "Lunch with Blue" program. This gives students an opportunity to become comfortable with the police department and open a line of communication.

If you have questions about these programs or any other city matters, please contact my office at (623) 773-7368.

Mayor Bob Barrett  
[Bob.Barrett@peoriaaz.gov](mailto:Bob.Barrett@peoriaaz.gov)

## City Council Roundup



**Palo Verde District -  
Vice Mayor Ron Aames**

Great neighborhoods make great cities. Communication with neighborhood residents is important to me. I've heard recently from residents about the condition of street-facing walls, graffiti, crosswalks, and weeds each of which is being addressed.

The Palo Verde E-News, with local news items of interest, also can be sent directly to residents. Recent topics include free events for youth, grant opportunities, and public meeting notices. Residents are in the Palo Verde District between Peoria and Bell, along the city's eastern boundary. The Palo Verde District covers neighborhoods between Cactus and Tierra Buena, from Loop 101 east to the city boundary. The Running Horse subdivision and the Enclave at Arrowhead are also Palo Verde communities. Don't miss another important bit of news; send me a note, and we will get you subscribed immediately to the Palo Verde E-News. You will only receive information from the City of Peoria, and your email information will not be shared with any outside source.

Great neighborhoods are the byproduct of residents who care. Let's talk about how we can help your neighborhood. E-mail me at [ron.aames@peoriaaz.gov](mailto:ron.aames@peoriaaz.gov), or feel free to contact my office by phone at (623) 773-7306.



**Acacia District -  
Councilmember Tony Rivero**

During the month of September the city of Peoria celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. I would like to thank the citizens, sponsors, and city staff who made Fiesta Peoria 2012 a success. There were thousands of people in attendance at the Fiesta, as our community came together to celebrate in the heart of downtown Peoria. A variety of groups participated including non profits and local schools who raised money for their academic programs. There is a lot of interest in making the Fiesta a tradition for years to come, and I welcome your ideas and suggestions. Bringing life to the downtown has been one of my goals, and having events is one way to do that.

I wish you and your family a blessed holiday season and success in the coming New Year!

To sign up for Acacia District email alerts, visit [www.peoriaaz.gov/acacia](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/acacia) or email me at [Tony.Rivero@peoriaaz.gov](mailto:Tony.Rivero@peoriaaz.gov).

PEORIA NOW is a publication of the  
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## stay connected



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CHANNEL 11 e-NEWS [www.peoriaaz.gov](http://www.peoriaaz.gov)

Due to the nature of printing and mailing, some content may be dated. For the latest news, visit one of these sources.

# December noted items

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- 1 Police Youth Program Charity Race at Rio Vista Community Park
- 2 Farmer's Market at Osuna Park every Sunday
- 4 Study Session and Council Meeting
- 5 North Peoria Traffic Study at 6 p.m. Pinnacle Peak Public Safety Building
- 25 Christmas. City Offices Closed

## upcoming January 2013

- 1 New Year's Day. City Offices Closed.
- 5 Spring Training Tickets Go on Sale
- 8 Study Session and Council Meeting
- 22 Study Session and Council Meeting

For the most up-to-date info on events, visit: [www.peoriaaz.gov](http://www.peoriaaz.gov)

## Calling All Water Meters

Starting November 1, the city of Peoria will replace 37,000 water meters to improve the water delivery system and meter reading. The six-year project to replace aging meters throughout the city will have a minimal inconvenience to residents and takes about 15 minutes. Occupants do not need to be at home but a USI Services employee will knock on the door to let residents know they will be installing the new meter. For more information, call **city of Peoria Customer Service at 623-773-7160**.



### Ironwood District – Councilmember Dave Pearson

It has been my pleasure and honor to represent the citizens of Peoria over the last two decades. So, it was with regret that I decided not to seek a fifth term on city council. I will, instead, turn my attention to personal and business goals as well as family obligations.

Today's Peoria is much changed from my first term in 1991. Not only has our city grown in size but also in makeup. Then a farming community, Peoria is now a suburban city and active participant in one of the most vibrant urban regions in the U.S.

What has not changed is the capability of Peorians to govern themselves. I have met dozens of intelligent and capable residents over the years who fit the mold of city "leader." These citizens have fresh ideas and a passion to make government serve better those who are governed.

You overwhelmingly agreed with me that city council term limits encourage an infusion of new leaders to guide Peoria into the future. Now I challenge you to take up the cause. To prove me correct. Be the next leader who represents our Peoria neighbors; who cuts bureaucratic red tape; who asks the tough questions and; who challenges the status quo.

Thank you for your support over the years. So long... for now.



### Mesquite District - Councilmember Cathy Carlat

I am pleased to report that we have begun construction on the Lake Pleasant Parkway Project! Within this project, the city of Peoria will widen Lake Pleasant Parkway to four lanes from Westwing Parkway to the Loop 303. This will include two travel lanes in each direction, with a median and bike lanes throughout the project limits.

Project improvements include the installation of sidewalk, waterline, sanitary sewer line, a traffic signal at Westwing Parkway, equestrian underpass at the wash, street lighting and landscaping. In addition, an asphalt overlay will be installed on Lake Pleasant Parkway between Loop 303 and Carefree Highway (SR74). Construction began in October 2012 and is scheduled for completion in February 2014.

As Peoria responds to the needs of our growing communities, it is imperative that our roadways are equipped to handle the demands of our current and future residents. Lake Pleasant Parkway is a major arterial and I have no doubt that northern Peoria residents understand how much these improvements are needed. I am happy to see these improvements coming along and look forward to the completed roadway.

To keep updated about what is happening in your city, register for the Mesquite District electronic news alerts by visiting [www.peoriaaz.gov/mesquite](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/mesquite). Contact Councilmember Cathy Carlat at [Mesquite@peoriaaz.gov](mailto:Mesquite@peoriaaz.gov) or by calling (623) 773-7306.



### Pine District - Councilmember Carlo Leone

You don't hear much about roof rats these days, but the small rodent has been known to carry diseases and destroy screen doors by gnawing through them. The proactive approach of our community has proven effective in minimizing the impacts of roof rats. The best way to avoid attracting these rodents is to ensure that our yards and neighborhoods are maintained and free from garbage and debris. Continue to keep palm trees trimmed and dispose of the fronds, thin out bushes and discard cut branches, and consider xeriscaping your yard to control against roof rats. Roof rats will eat just about anything, but they prefer citrus fruit. So for those of you, who have citrus trees, make sure you pick up fallen fruit promptly, and consider donating the fruit you don't use to your local food bank. Thank you for keeping our neighborhoods free from roof rats!

For information about roof rats, please visit <http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc/VectorControl> and for information about the City of Peoria's Xeriscape Water Conservation Rebate Program call (623) 773-7286.

Don't forget to sign-up for your Pine District newsletter by sending an email to [Pine@peoriaaz.gov](mailto:Pine@peoriaaz.gov) and we will take care of the rest.



### Willow District - Councilmember Joan Evans

As a past educator, developing the young minds in our communities has always been something dear to me. When I learned that the Vice Mayor of Surprise, Mr. John Williams, had championed to create a Youth Leadership Council to encourage just this, I was eager to learn more.

The West Valley Youth Leadership Council (WVYLC) was created to help engage young leaders to be positive change agents for their community. By focusing on the constructive development of their character, community involvement and awareness, and communication skills, the WVYLC hopes to develop, engage and challenge future leaders. Members of this Council will be working closely with knowledgeable mentors who will help them develop the skills necessary to be effective leaders, while encouraging civic engagement.

The WVYLC provides an avenue for young leaders to participate in a diverse program, built to develop, engage, and challenge future leaders in an exponentially growing world. Applications into this council are currently being accepted and reviewed. If you know a promising young leader who may be interested in participating, please contact **Briana Decker at (623) 773-5133** for additional information.

# RECYCLE YOUR TREE!

The city of Peoria encourages residents to recycle Christmas trees this year. Live trees will be accepted at the various drop-off locations from **Dec. 26 to Jan. 6, 2013**.

Remember to remove tree stand, decorations, hooks, and lights. Artificial trees or wreaths will not be accepted.

*Please do not drop off your tree at city parks or vacant lots or leave trees on the curbside.*

**Sunrise Mountain Library** – 21109 N. 98th Avenue

**Peoria Sports Complex** – 16101 N. 83rd Avenue  
(Entrance Off Paradise Lane)

**Wal-mart** – 7975 W. Peoria Avenue

**Home Depot** – 9201 W. Peoria Avenue

**Home Depot** – 25650 N. Lake Pleasant Road

**Lowe's** – 8497 W. Thunderbird Road

**Lowe's** – 25311 N. Lake Pleasant Road



For more information, contact the Solid Waste Division at 623-773-7160 or visit [www.peoriaaz.gov/solidwaste](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/solidwaste)

Si tiene preguntas o necesitas mas informacion por favor llamar al Departamento de sanidad al 623-773-7160

