

West Valley View

The community newspaper of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, Litchfield Park & Tolleson, AZ ♦ Phone (623) 535-8439

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January 10, 2012

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Community Notes: January 3, 2012

Tree recycling scheduled at Buckeye fire stations

Buckeye residents may drop off their Christmas trees at any of the town's five fire stations.

Firefighters will accept live trees for recycling from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 7, and Saturday, Jan. 14.

All decorations, as well as tree stands, metal stakes and nails, must be removed, officials said. Artificial trees should be donated to a local charity.

The five stations are at 404 S. Miller Road; 1911 S Rainbow Road; 4106 N. 195th Ave.; 26100 W. Beardsley Road; and 30050 W. Tartesso Parkway.

Community resource fair announced in Avondale

Several groups have joined forces to stage a **community** resource event and open house in Avondale.

The free offering, which will feature food, fun, music and information, is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 14 at Care1st Avondale Resource and Housing Center, 328 W. Western Ave.

The sponsors are the Avondale Neighborhood and Family Services Department, Care1st, and the Maricopa County Health Department.

Information will be offered about health-care and food-stamp assistance, parent-education courses, citizenship classes, support groups and other topics

The event also will include health screenings, social services and housing information, booster car seat installation inspections and youth activities.

For information, call 623-333-2703.

Public input sought for regional park in Buckeye

Buckeye officials will host a meeting in January to gather public input for the development of the proposed Buckeye White Tanks Regional Park.

The meeting is set for 6 p.m. Jan. 23 in the Executive Conference Room at Buckeye Town Hall, 530 E. Monroe Ave., in downtown Buckeye.

The meeting will include discussion of three different alternatives for proposed improvements planned at the future park, which will be at the north end of Watson Road.

Initial plans called for hiking trails, picnic and camping areas. Now, the town is developing a master plan for the park.

A year ago, the town and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management signed a 25-year, no-cost lease that allows the town to develop 8,754 acres into a regional park.

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Free child screenings offered in Avondale

Free checkups will be offered for parents wishing to ensure that their children are developing on target.

The Avondale Department of Neighborhood and Family Services has announced monthly screenings for children from birth to 5 years of age.

The first clinic will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Jan. 19 at the Care1st Avondale Resource and Housing Center, 328 W. Western Ave. Appointments are not necessary, city officials said.

Areas to be screened are language, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving and social-emotional development. Resources and referrals will be provided based upon the child's need.

For information, contact Candice Ratlief at 623-333-2721.

Gardening, conservation & landscaping classes set

Avondale officials have announced a series of 11 free classes on water conservation and landscaping that will start Jan. 12 and continue through June 7.

Pre-registration is requested for the classes, which will be from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on all 11 dates and will be at Avondale City Hall, 11465 W. Civic Center Drive.

Topics include pruning basics, vegetable gardening, trees, shrub maintenance, caring for a desert garden and irrigation system maintenance.

To register, call Esmie Avila, the Avondale water conservation education specialist, at 623-333-4422, or send an e-mail to eavila@avondale.org.

Distinguished budget honor given to Avondale

Avondale has won an award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

The group, a nonprofit professional association serving more than 17,400 government-finance professionals, has offered its Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Avondale for the city's 2010 fiscal-year budget.

The city's Finance and Budget Department was singled out for efforts to improve quality budgeting.

Free e-waste recycling event set for Avondale

People may round up and dispose of unwanted electronic waste during a recycling event to be held at **Estrella Mountain Community College**.

Avondale has joined forces with the **college** and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality for the recycling effort, which will be staged from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, at the **college**, 300 N. Dysart Road.

Items that will be accepted include batteries, computers, printer cartridges, mobile phones, monitors, printers, fax machines, wire and cable, power supplies and calculators. Televisions will be accepted with a \$5 disposal fee.

For more information about the roundup, call 623-935-8319 or online at www.estrellamountain.edu/sustainability.

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