



# DISTRICT 3 NEWS

A Message from Phoenix City Councilwoman Debra Stark

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Hello District 3,

In this newsletter you will find the latest news, announcements, and event details that I want to share with you.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with questions, comments, or concerns at (602) 262-7441 or [council.district.3@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.3@phoenix.gov).

Respectfully,

Councilwoman Debra Stark

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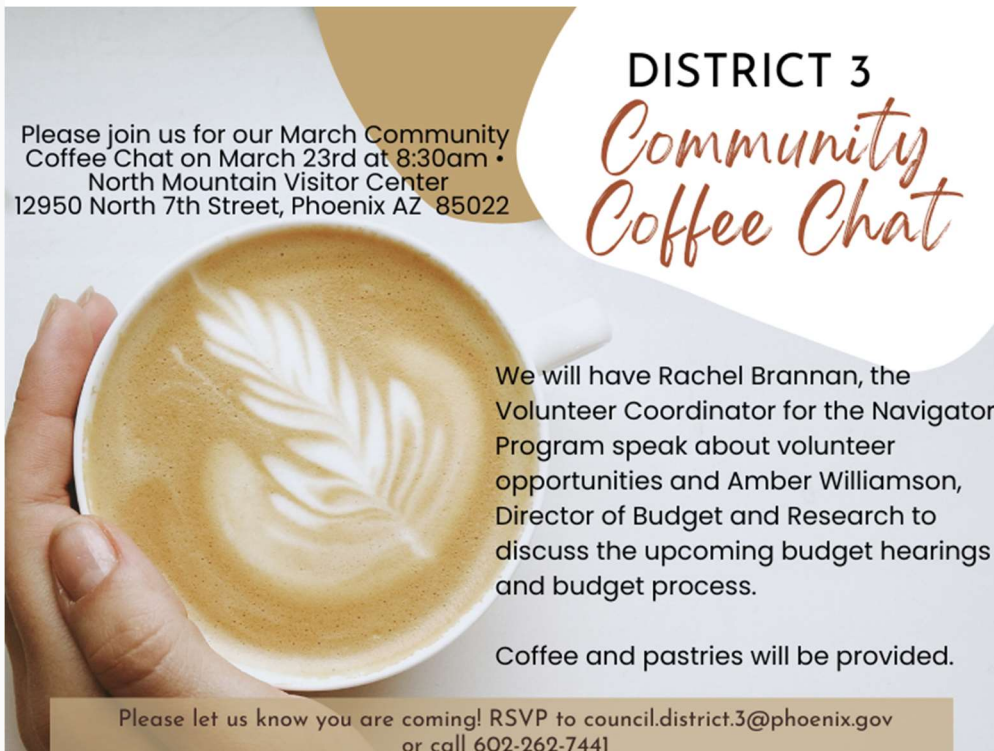


**City of Phoenix**

The Phoenix City Council will have a Formal meeting on **Wednesday, March 1st at 2:30 p.m.**

Members of the public can attend and speak in-person, by phone, or virtually via Webex. Pre-registration is required to speak on an agenda item or during the Public Comment period. To find the agenda and information on how to register to speak and how to submit an e-comment, visit [Phoenix City Council Meetings](#).

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Please join us for our March Community Coffee Chat on March 23rd at 8:30am • North Mountain Visitor Center 12950 North 7th Street, Phoenix AZ 85022

## DISTRICT 3 Community Coffee Chat

We will have Rachel Brannan, the Volunteer Coordinator for the Navigator Program speak about volunteer opportunities and Amber Williamson, Director of Budget and Research to discuss the upcoming budget hearings and budget process.

Coffee and pastries will be provided.

Please let us know you are coming! RSVP to [council.district.3@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.3@phoenix.gov) or call 602-262-7441

## District 3 Community Chat

We hope you will join us for our District 3 community chat on **Thursday, March 23rd at 8:30 a.m.** at **North Mountain Visitor Center – 12950 N. 7th St.** Our speakers for the meeting will be Rachel Brannan, who will speak about the Navigator Program, and

Amber Williamson, Director of Budget and Research, to discuss the upcoming budget hearings and budget process. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

RSVP: [council.district.3@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.3@phoenix.gov) or 602-262-7441.

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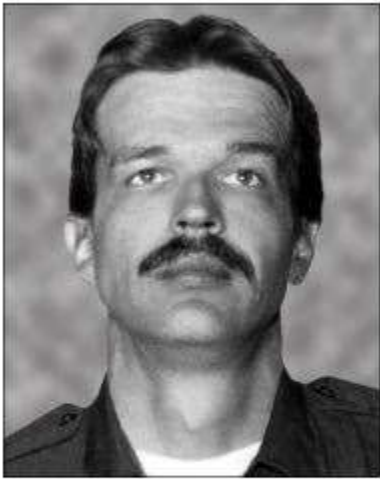


### A Special “Thank You”!

Commander Brian Issitt has served the City of Phoenix community selflessly for the last 20+ years. Our office thanks you for your service in the Desert Horizon Precinct and in the police department, and wishes you the best in your future endeavors.

Congratulations on your retirement! You will be missed!

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Officer Kevin W. Forsythe  
End of Watch 9-7-84

## Phoenix Police 3rd Annual Honor Run/Walk

Each year, Operation: Blue Ribbon hangs a ribbon on all EOW markers to honor our fallen officers.

Please join us at Phoenix Police Foundation's Honor Run/Walk on **Saturday, March 18th at 8:30 a.m.** Our office will be joining team, Team Phoenix Kickoff! The team comprises of a group of community leaders and members, Phoenix Police Foundation Board Members, and city officials. The run/walk will end with the hanging of a wreath on Officer Kevin Forsythe's End of Watch Marker.

Details: Meet at Station 20 which is NWC of 7th Ave and Glendale beginning 8:30 am. Walk to begin at 9 am. Coffee and Water table will be at starting point thanks to our Phoenix Firefighters. Phoenix Police Engagement Bureau will escort the walkers to the marker at 7th Ave and Maryland.

Please sign up below, and make sure to join Team Phoenix Kickoff.

(Please ignore the date on the website, this is planned for March 18th and is the one mile run/walk)

<https://www.phoenixhonorrn.org/> [phoenixhonorrn.org]

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## Ask a Park Ranger

A Fun & Educational Series of Ranger Presentations on  
the Sonoran Desert, its Unique Inhabitants and Natural History



### Discovering the Sonoran Desert An Introduction to North America's Most Diverse Desert Ecosystem

➤ Saturday March 11, 2023 @ 8:30AM

Discovering the Sonoran Desert – An Overview North America's Most Diverse Desert

➤ Saturday March 25, 2023 @ 8:30AM

Discovering the Sonoran Desert - Spring Wildflowers and Desert Plants

➤ Saturday April 8, 2023 @ 8:30AM

Discovering the Sonoran Desert - Animals and Their Adaptations

➤ Saturday April 29, 2023 @ 8:30AM

Discovering the Sonoran Desert - Desert Ecology and the Five Seasons

**Come join us at**

**North Mountain Visitor Center**

12950 N 7<sup>th</sup> Street

Phoenix, AZ

North Ranger Office: 602-262-7901

paul.westcott@phoenix.gov



## Ask a Park Ranger Series

The Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce that our Park Rangers will be hosting a series of presentations in March and April at the North Mountain Visitor Center. These “Discovering the Sonoran Desert” presentations will be an introduction into the unique flora and fauna and the natural history of the Sonoran Desert. Please see the flyer above for information!

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# SAVE BELL ROAD COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP



**EVERY SATURDAY IN  
MARCH 2023 9AM-  
11AM**

**1512 W. Bell Rd. #3**

**info@thrivephoenix.org**





## Volunteers Needed - Thrive Phoenix

Please join us on each Saturday of March as we work with Thrive Phoenix to perform community clean-ups on Bell Rd. Each Saturday will have its own theme for the cleanup crew!

March is as follows:

3/04 A call to block watches

3/11 A call to churches

3/18 A call to schools and sports teams

3/25 The City is Here!!!!

For more information visit [Thrivephoenix.org](http://Thrivephoenix.org) [[thrivephoenix.org](http://thrivephoenix.org)] or email at [info@thrivephoenix.org](mailto:info@thrivephoenix.org)



**Cesar Chavez Community Engagement Scholarship**

**REQUIREMENTS**

- Current high school seniors moving to a 2 or 4-year university or trade school
- 2.5 minimum GPA score
- City of Phoenix resident

**APPLY NOW**

[phoenixhispanicnetwork.org](http://phoenixhispanicnetwork.org) 

[phx.hispanic.network@phoenix.gov](mailto:phx.hispanic.network@phoenix.gov) 

Applications due Friday, March 3

## PHN Cesar Chavez Community Engagement Scholarship

As part of the Phoenix Hispanic Network's (PHN) vision, PHN is dedicated to collaborating with community partners to strengthen relationships with the residents we serve. We are pleased to announce our fifth annual Community Engagement Scholarships, to be presented at our Cesar Chavez Celebration on March 30, 2023. Two scholarship recipients will be selected and will receive a \$1,500 scholarship to be used towards their college education in the field of local government or civic engagement.

### Eligibility

- City of Phoenix resident
- Current high school seniors who are moving on to a two or four-year university,
- Must submit a copy of a high school transcript showing a minimum 2.5 Grade Point Average.

Website - [phoenixhispanicnetwork.org/phn-scholarship](https://phoenixhispanicnetwork.org/phn-scholarship) [[phoenixhispanicnetwork.org](https://phoenixhispanicnetwork.org)]

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## Around the World in 5k

Walk/run "Around the World in 5K" with Phoenix Sister Cities at 7:30 A.M. on Sunday, March 12, 2023 at Arizona Falls, located at 5802 E. Indian School Road. Virtual racers are welcome to "5K your way" from anywhere in the world. Report your results by March 10 and Phoenix Sister Cities will share your story (and photo) online. More information and registration is available at [www.phoenixsistercity.org](http://www.phoenixsistercity.org).

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## 2023 Youth Ambassador Exchange Program

Do you know a Phoenix resident high school sophomore or junior, who would like to represent Phoenix in one of our 11 sister cities this summer? Phoenix Sister Cities is accepting applications for the 2023 Youth Ambassador Exchange Program. Phoenix youth travel to one of our sister cities for approximately three weeks in June, where they are home hosted. In July, they welcome their international counterpart for three weeks here in Phoenix.

Applications are due at 11:59 P.M. on March 3. More information and a link to the online application are at <https://www.phoenixsistercities.org/youth-ambassador/>.  
[\[phoenixsistercities.org\]](https://www.phoenixsistercities.org)

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## Habitat for Humanity

Join us for our next Habitat for Humanity Project in Sunnyslope!

Join the Sunnyslope Revitalization Coalition, as we partner with Families in the West Sunnyslope Neighborhood! It is Saturday, **February 25th from 7:30am until 11:30 or 12 Noon.**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!** These are landscaping and painting projects. Habitat provides ALL of the materials, tools and direction.

Please spread the word to those you know who might want to volunteer that day. We need everyone to sign up ahead of time, so we know how many to expect that day. (Volunteers with Habitat must be at least 14 years old.)

This is the link to the Habitat site to sign up:

[http://vhub.at/Sunnyslope\\_habitatcaz.volunteerhub.com](http://vhub.at/Sunnyslope_habitatcaz.volunteerhub.com)

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## Phoenix Launches Community Survey Tool to Assess Resident Concerns

The City of Phoenix is launching a new public survey tool to better understand local priorities and concerns on a wide range of City services and the quality of life in Phoenix. The tool will enable the City to more holistically understand neighborhood issues and enhance our responsiveness to community priorities. The survey asks residents to evaluate their experience with different aspects of life in Phoenix including affordable housing, transportation, public safety and other City services.

“Phoenix is an innovative, data-driven city,” said City Manager Jeff Barton. “We are always striving to get input from residents and this partnership with Zencity will be a great step forward in really understanding the needs and concerns of our residents so we can continue building the Phoenix of tomorrow.”

Take the survey now in English or Spanish or learn more about the community surveys at [Phoenix.gov/pio/survey](https://phoenix.gov/pio/survey).

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### **Help Keep Phoenix Graffiti-Free in 2023**

Did you know if you see graffiti in your neighborhood, you can report it and, in most cases, the City of Phoenix will remove it for free? Reporting graffiti is an easy way to help have a positive impact on your community.

In 2022, the Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) Graffiti Busters used nearly 12,000 gallons of paint to clean up approximately 50,000 sites of graffiti around

Phoenix. The Graffiti Busters work seven days a week, tracking down graffiti and responding to reports from residents. Crews can cover or remove up to 200 sites of graffiti every day, at no cost to residents or businesses.

Graffiti is a crime, so if you catch it in the act, call 911. Otherwise, if you see it in your neighborhood there are three ways you can report it and have it removed:

Online : [myPHX311 Phoenix.gov/myPHX311](https://myPHX311.phoenix.gov/myPHX311) .

Call : 602-534-4444

Email : [blight@phoenix.gov](mailto:blight@phoenix.gov)

You can also take control of your neighborhood and help wipe out graffiti yourself. “We always encourage our residents to get involved in keeping their neighborhoods clean and free of blight,” said Betsy Cable, the program manager. “Residents can get a group of volunteers together for a community clean-up and we will provide color-matched paint and supplies to help erase vandalism in your area.”

The City of Phoenix does need permission from property owners to remove graffiti from private property. You can fill out a permission slip and learn more about getting graffiti removed from your property at [Phoenix.gov/graffiti](https://phoenix.gov/graffiti).

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# FundPHX

The **Dollars** and **Sense**  
in Phoenix's Budget

[Phoenix.gov/FundPHX](https://phoenix.gov/FundPHX)

## Budget Season and FundPHX

With City of Phoenix budget season upon on once again, residents can access FundPHX to build their own operating budget. [FundPHX](#) is an online tool designed to educate and engage the public in the City's annual budget process. The tool is available with the 2022-23 adopted budget in both English and Spanish and gives residents an opportunity to provide feedback on current funding levels and share community priorities with staff. Information collected in the tool from residents will be shared regularly with City Council so it can help guide development of the 2023-24 operating budget.

Visit our [Budget Library](#) to view our past FundPHX Reports.

[Please try the Tool! \[phoenix.abalancingact.com\]](https://phoenix.abalancingact.com)

Please mark your calendars as District 3's 2023-24 Community Budget Hearings will be held on:

**Monday, April 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Paradise Valley Community Center 17402 N. 40th St.**

**Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.**

**Shadow Mountain Senior Center 3546 E. Sweetwater Ave.**



## Volunteers Needed for Income Tax Assistance

Every year, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program prepares free tax returns for low-to-moderate-income individuals and families.

VITA volunteers receive free training and are certified by the IRS to prepare basic tax returns. Greeters, screeners, bilingual interpreters, and site coordinators are also needed.

Training is free and available online to complete at your own pace. You can become a volunteer with as little as 8 hours of training and get IRS certified with 24 hours of training.

Learn more and sign up at [Phoenix.gov/TaxHelp](https://phoenix.gov/TaxHelp).

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Healthy Giving



[\[givesmartaz.org\]](https://givesmartaz.org)

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