



# Human Services Newsletter

*Enhancing the Quality of Life*

**Spring 2009**



## Paiute Neighborhood Center Youth Visit the

# Magic Kingdom

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### Human Services Administration

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**We're on the web!**  
[scottsdaleaz.gov](http://scottsdaleaz.gov)

Twelve Paiute youth and four staff members traveled to Disneyland, California, over Spring Break for Paiute's Annual Incentive Program. For most of the kids, this was not only their first trip on an airplane but their first visit to Disneyland.

Four of our teens and eight youth earned this trip through their hard work in the Paiute Tutoring Room/ Teen Center, and for efforts noted through Paiute's Character Counts! program.

The kids had a ball on all the rides and were exceptionally well-behaved. Special thanks to Maria Gomez, Allie Ortega, Carlo Rascon, and Shari Lassiter for their commitment to making this trip and being super responsible for our kids on an adventure of a lifetime!

This trip was paid for through a grant from the non-profit entity, Partners for Paiute.



Kids from Paiute Neighborhood Center agree that Disneyland really is the "Happiest Place on Earth"





# Director's Message



This year will be one of those that we remember as a milestone year for the rest of our lives. We will remember it because it will be the year that we had to re-think everything about our lives. Each evening, if we are fortunate enough to be driving home from work, we hear the news reports on this day's evidence that the economy can always get worse. With this news, we are reminded of the possibility of losing our jobs and then we remember our friends and family members that have lost their jobs and we feel guilty that we do still have a job. In the midst of these concerns, we work to assist others, in much more serious circumstances, some of whom have really become distraught and truly

desperate. It seems difficult to find something to feel good about.

Actually, there are incredible opportunities to feel good, if we just take notice of them. In Human Services, we have meaningful work that makes a difference in people's lives, one person or one family at a time. We are assisted in the emergency services work by grants and financial contributions of citizens and businesses to Partners for Paiute, Concerned Citizens for Community Health and Scottsdale Cares, which provide resources to assist with many emergency needs. The Gleaners provide volunteer support to keep food coming in to the Vista Food Bank. We are able to provide safe

places for children and opportunities for their development at the Paiute Neighborhood Center and are assisted by great volunteers in that effort as well. This year, Hilda Macia was recognized as Paiute's Volunteer of the Year for the tutoring she provides to neighborhood youth each afternoon after school.

After receiving her award, Ms. Macia thanked the City for providing an environment that allowed her to make her own best contribution to children. Individuals, families and businesses have responded to the increased needs of people this year with surprising and wonderful contributions of time, toys, and money to the Holiday Adopt a Family Programs at

Vista del Camino and the Paiute Neighborhood Center and the Adopt a Senior Program at the Via Linda Senior Center. In these very difficult times, people continue to be very generous, to the extent that we are able.

If you are able to assist with time or money during this critical period, we encourage you to do that. If you are in need of assistance, Scottsdale's Senior Centers and Neighborhood Centers may be able to give you some help. We are here to help connect people to people and people to resources; so we are happy to see you either way.

*Paul Ludwick*



"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."

*~William Shakespeare*

## Youth & Family Services

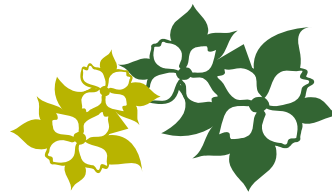


Youth and Family Services participated in Safety Week at Desert Mountain High School in March and Saguaro High School in April. The Simulated Impaired Driving Experience (SIDNE) go-kart and Fatal Vision goggles were used to teach citizens and youth about the risks of drinking and driving. YFS is collaborating with the School Resource Officers to bring this program to SUSD students. In the past, similar events have been held at Pinnacle High School, Mountainside Middle School, and the annual Arizona SADD Conference.

To date, over 1,500 students have participated in the Fatal Vision or SIDNE impaired driver demonstrations. Scottsdale Mayor's Youth Council teens, under directorship of Dan Morgan were on hand to help with the Healthy Families Rock event sponsored by NEVCAM at Mountainside Middle School on April 4, 2009



Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane demonstrates the danger of impaired driving by "walking the line" using Fatal Vision goggles.



The annual Volunteer Recognition Event was held on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Over 75 attended. Staff recognized volunteer contributions over the past year to the center's services including the food bank, clothing bank, career center, offices, youth programs, special events, and the Concerned Citizens for Community Health Board.

Over 50 community members attended a Fish Fry hosted on March 27<sup>th</sup>. This event was geared toward collecting historical photos to be incorporated into the Yaqui Alley Beautification Art Project that is currently underway and in Phase II of completion. An estimated 200 photos were collected for the project. Entertainment was provided

by Vista del Camino Ballet Folklorico. Members of the Vista del Camino Teen Program held a walk-a-thon on Saturday, April 7, 2009 to raise money to fund teen activities. 15 teen participated and \$300.00 was collected to fund special trips and activities through Concerned Citizens for Community Health.



### REMEMBERING:

Frances Young, Vista del Camino and Concerned Citizens for Community Health founder, and longtime Scottsdale Community activist, passed away on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at the age of 87 after a short illness. Frances' memorial reception was hosted by the Human Services staff at Vista del Camino on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Frances' mark on Scottsdale's Human Services Division was indelible and she will be sorely missed by all.

## Via Linda Senior Center

### Beat the Heat Needs You!

It's going to be hot before you know it! VLSC is getting ready for their annual Beat the Heat program for 2009! During the hot summer months, it is especially important to go visit our Scottsdale seniors that are isolated in their own homes from family, neighbors and friends. The Beat the Heat Program provides over 250 seniors with summer care packages. Included are light food items, a

grocery gift card, postage stamps and resources that can help. COS staff will make deliveries in June and assess any additional needs of these homebound seniors. There are ways to help:  
**\*\*Put together a summer care package from a list of needed items (call 480/312-5810)**  
**\*\*Make a financial donation to the program with the check made payable to "Concerned Citizens for Community Health". The value of each box is about \$50.**  
**\*\*Donate a \$25-\$35 grocery**



or discount store gift card.

Checks or gift cards can be dropped off at the front desk or sent to: Via Linda Senior Center, ATTN: Beat the Heat, 10440 E. Via Linda Scottsdale AZ 85258. Please have all donations to VLSC by Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Receipts are sent for all donations. If you have any questions please call Emily Papke @ 480/312-8455.

**Thank you in advance.**

## Paiute Teen Leadership

In March, 27 Paiute teens and 6 staff traveled to Prescott to attend the YMCA Sky-Y Camp for a weekend. The camp experience included low and high ropes courses, hiking, group challenges and activities, trust and respect. The camp emphasized

teambuilding, communication. Many THANKS to **Carlos Rascon, Alli Ortega, Chrissy McCollough, Sara Rivero, Johnny Gonzalez, and Kim McLane** for dedicating a weekend to this very important and exciting experience for our Paiute Teens.



## LITTLE LEO IS A SAGITTARIUS



Leo Molinari was born on December 11 to proud parents Nick and Heather. Dad claims he's only the happiest little guy in the world and just as handsome as his older brother.

## Granite Reef Senior Center

The Phoenix Art museum continues presenting their very popular series "Art All Around Us" at 10:00 am on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Our most recent highly successful 2 Fit 2 Fall collaboration with Scottsdale Healthcare, the Scottsdale senior centers and the Scottsdale Fire Department culminated the latest program with a finale at Pueblo Sereno on April 7th with another 84 citizens finishing the program. This is a great program and great service to utilize yourselves, inform your friends about or share with your neighbors to help prevent falls and improve the quality of your life.

Granite Reef Senior Center's annual "Senior Prom" will be held on Friday, April 24th at 7pm in the ballroom. Please call or visit the front desk to register.

McDowell Road/South Scottsdale Summit will be held by our Mayor Jim Lane at the Granite Reef Senior Center on April 18th from 9am to 1pm. This summit is free and open to the public. Please call 480-312-2433 to register.

Congressman Harry Mitchell will be facilitating a Home Foreclosure Survival and Prevention workshop on Saturday, May 2nd at the Granite Reef Senior Center from 8:30 to noon.

## Community Assistance

Community Services of Arizona will present their First Time Homebuyers workshop at Paiute Neighborhood Center on Saturday, April 18, 2009.

Family Self Sufficiency Alliance Homebuyers' Club and Consumer Credit Counseling will present "Improving Your Credit" at Escalante Center in Tempe on Thursday, April 23, 2009.

Over 120 people attended the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Alliance Spring Conference on Saturday, March 28. FSS participants from the cities of Scottsdale, Chandler, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix and even Pinal

county spent the Saturday in workshops ranging from interpersonal relationships to crisis budgeting and home ownership.

Family Self Sufficiency Alliance and Consumer Credit Counseling will present the second part of "Improving Your Credit" at the Escalante Center in Tempe on Thursday May 28, 2009



## Congratulations Heather!



Congratulations to **Heather Rennells**, Human Services Specialist at Vista del Camino on earning her LMSW (Licensed Masters in Social Work).

People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball.

I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring.

~Rogers Hornsby