



WEEKLY UPDATE

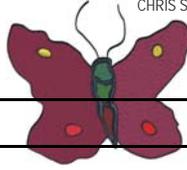
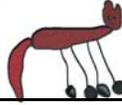
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

FRIDAY
25 APR
2008



SUCCEED
In Tempe, Arizona

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FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY CONFERENCE

The Housing Division's FSS Conference was recently hosted on Saturday, April 12.

Family Self-Sufficiency is a voluntary program designed to assist families in achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency through education and job training. The conference included workshops on parenting, finances and wealth, money management, job retention and advancement. The luncheon speaker **Jeff Young** who teaches real estate / financial advisement was passionate about the importance of being able to save money and to 'HATE debt!' FSS also had 30 tables set up with resources. Local HUD offices had representatives available to talk with participants in addition to participating banks, community health organizations, the attorney general's office, community action agencies, college representatives and housing counseling agencies. This year there were also four self-employed FSS participants who had tables showcasing their talents. Congratulations to this year's FSS graduates!

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SOUTH-BANK



SOUTH BANK BREAKS GROUND

The Wolff Company celebrated the start of construction on its **South Bank** project on Wednesday, April 23 with a well-attended reception on the site. Earth work on the infrastructure is already underway. The breakfast festivities brought together architects, realtors, members of the Tempe City Council and staff who worked on the project from the days when it was to be a Peabody Hotel. **Mayor Hugh Hallman** brought with him the broken shovel that was to be used on the groundbreaking for that project as a reminder of the forward movement Town Lake has seen. Encompassing 27.3 acres and 3.6 million square feet, South Bank is an urban community of office, retail, hotel and residential space. South Bank includes: 2.22 million SF of residential space, 889,000 SF of office space, 260,000 SF of retail space, and 170,000 SF of hotel space. Vertical construction is expected to begin sometime in 2009, and will include a central plaza, public parks, a lakeside boardwalk and an iconic pier. Services include formal and casual restaurants, cafes, a pharmacy, a grocery store and specialty retail stores, along with a continuous linear park connecting the entire district to Tempe amenities.



EARTH DAY 5K + GREEN EXPO

Community Development staff would like to thank all for participating in and planning Tempe's **Earth Day 5K + Green Expo**. The race and expo were a big hit. From the fun off-road **Segways** to the biodiesel sand buggies, from Grandmother Earth to the awesome CRUSHER machine, we had a very active and entertaining show that hopefully made people smile while being educated about the environment. We had hoped to have 300 people register for the race and bring their supporters to the expo, and had more than 400 registrations and easily 800 people on site supporting their running friends and checking out the green products. People loved the giveaways, from the gourmet **Cafe Cortez** coffee and **KaBloom** carnations at the finish line to the green **Whole Foods** bags, **Centerpoint** brownies and **Jamba Juice**. The prizes were great, thanks to **Tempe Marketplace**, **California Pizza Kitchen**, **Sarah Sims Bubble Creations** and **SuVino Winery**. And of course, everyone enjoyed Feeling the Earth Move Under Their Feet, thanks to band **Ringo McLennanSon**. Special thanks to event sponsor **Miravista Holdings** for all their work to prepare the site for our team.



THE RIGHT SOURCE

Humana RightSource, a national leader in prescription drug services celebrated the opening of its new Tempe facility on April 21. The grand-opening attended by **Mayor Hugh Hallman**, **Humana** executives and regional business leaders highlighted Tempe's reputation as the preferred location for advanced business services companies. The 82,000 square foot office on South Hardy Drive will employ 300 at startup with an expected employment figure exceeding 450 at build-out.



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TEMPE AGREES TO MANAGE RIO SALADO TO AID ENDANGERED SPECIES

Earth Day is more than an annual event at Tempe's Rio Salado Project. The City of Tempe is developing habitat that could be suitable for three endangered birds on its portion of the **Rio Salado Environmental Restoration Project**. The City has committed to maintain 159 acres of native wetland and riparian vegetation on a portion of the Salt River that could attract endangered southwestern willow flycatchers [top left] and Yuma clapper rails [bottom] and threatened bald eagles. The City completed a Safe Harbor Agreement and on Earth Day the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** approved an endangered species enhancement of survival permit. The Safe Harbor Agreement spells out how habitat will be restored and maintained.

"Tempe should be commended for establishing habitat and assisting in endangered species recovery here in a major metropolitan area," said **Mike Martinez**, fish and wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "Rio Salado offers us urban-dwellers a quiet, natural retreat and will hopefully provide a safe harbor to bald eagles, flycatchers and clapper rails in the near future."

Because many endangered and threatened species occur primarily or exclusively on private land – including land held by municipalities like the Tempe's Rio Salado Project – it is critical to involve private landowners in their conservation and recovery. Many landowners want to take action to help conserve these species on their property, but are concerned about potential land use restrictions that may occur if listed species begin to colonize or expand their numbers as a result of conservation actions. Due to these concerns, some landowners may limit land and water management practices that could enhance and maintain habitat for listed species.

To allay those concerns and provide landowners with both management flexibility and regulatory certainty, the Service developed the Safe Harbor program. Under this program, the Service initiates Safe Harbor Agreements with willing landowners who agree to provide habitat for listed species. The Service first establishes a "baseline" status for the species on the property, and develops an agreement under which the landowner agrees to undertake management actions that, directly or indirectly, will contribute to the recovery of the species.

In return for these efforts, the Service issues an "enhancement of survival" permit that provides assurances that, when the agreement's term ends, the participating landowner may use the property in any otherwise legal manner that ensures that it stays at or above the baseline conditions established when the agreement began. As part of the agreement, the Service issues a permit allowing incidental take of individual plants or animals and habitat modifications that could return the property to conditions agreed upon as baseline.

Prior to Tempe's efforts, the Salt River bottom provided no southwestern willow flycatcher nesting habitat or bald eagle roost sites and cattail stands were not adequate to support Yuma clappers rails. The City started with a baseline of "zero" threatened and endangered species. However, it is hoped that on-going cottonwood and willow planting programs and marshland development will someday attract nesting flycatchers and clapper rails and invite roosting bald eagles.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.



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NEW TALENT

Chantz Tieman came to Community Development by way of the Police Department where he worked in the Police Property Room for 9 months until he was hired full time in Customer Service [Water Utilities]. He continued to work there for a little less than 2 years until he secured the open **Residential Code Inspector** position with Neighborhood Enhancement. "One of my favorite things about Tempe is its organization and leaders," Tieman says, "It truly is a great place to work."

Prior to joining the City of Tempe, **Micah Miranda** served as Bioscience Business Attraction Manager for the Arizona Department of Commerce where he led statewide bioscience related marketing, business attraction, workforce development and policy issues. As **Economic Development Specialist** Micah's primary responsibility is to contact businesses to promote the advantages of Tempe as a location for immediate or future development or expansion. Micah is a lifelong East Valley resident and now lives in Tempe where he proudly flies his University of Arizona flag much to the annoyance of his Sun Devil neighbors.

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