

Mesa residents can get help with prescription drug costs

On June 1, the City of Mesa launched a program to help provide residents with some relief from the high cost of prescriptions for those drugs not already covered in whole/part by insurance. The City is making free prescription drug discount cards available to Mesa residents through a program sponsored by the National League of Cities. The discount cards offer City residents an average savings of 20 percent off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs.

“In the current economic climate, where many people are watching what they spend, Mesa is happy to partner with the National League of Cities to make this prescription discount card available for our residents,” District 3 Councilmember Dennis Kavanaugh said. “This program can make it easier for our residents to afford the medications they need to deal with a short-term illness or stay healthy by managing a chronic condition. They may also benefit from savings through discounts on certain pet medications that are also used to treat a human condition.”

The discount cards may be used for free by all residents of Mesa and have no restrictions based on age, income level, or existing health coverage. The card can be used when purchasing prescription drugs at approximately 100 pharmacies around the City, as well as at more than 59,000 participating retail pharmacies across the country.

“Not only does the prescription discount card help residents save money on their medications, it is easy to use,” District 6 Councilmember Scott Somers said. “Mesa residents only have to show their card when purchasing medication at one of the many participating pharmacies. There is no enrollment form required to get a card, no membership fee of any kind and City residents and their family members can use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance.”

Cards are available at the following locations at no cost to City residents during normal business hours:

Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. in the lobby, Mesa Customer Service Center, 55 N. Center St., Mesa Customer Service Center, 6935 E. Decatur St., Main Library, 64 E. 1st St., Dobson Ranch Branch Library, 2425 S. Dobson Road, Red Mountain Branch Library, 635 N. Power Road, Shepherd Aquatic Complex, 1407 N. Alta Mesa Drive (east of Higley, north of Brown) Bashas, 9925 E. Baseline (southwest corner of Baseline and Crismon), Target Pharmacy, 5110 S. Power Road (near Ray Road)

City residents can call toll-free 1-888-620-1749 (identify yourself as a member) or visit www.mesaaz.gov/Info/prescription for assistance with the program. The prescription discount card program is administered by CVS Caremark. There is no direct cost to the City of Mesa to provide the program.



Community Coalition brings savings to Parkwood residents

By Greg Wolfe

Since you are reading this newsletter, you know about your homeowner's association and what it provides. But did you know you are also a member of the Renaissance

Community Coalition? That's right; everyone who lives in a neighborhood managed by Renaissance Community Partners is automatically a member of the Coalition. Let me tell you what that means.

The Renaissance Community Coalition was formed in order to leverage the buying power of multiple associations to get better prices for common services such as land-

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President's Message

The Board welcomes new members Van Vleck and Waters

By Jim Olness

President, Parkwood Ranch HOA

First off, I would like to welcome our new Board Members who were elected at our Annual Meeting in April. Newcomers Michael Van Vleck and Ronald Waters have volunteered their time and enthusiasm to help make Parkwood Ranch a better place to live. I look forward to working with them on the many issues facing our neighborhood.

Second, I would like to thank outgoing President Greg Wolfe for his many years of service to the Board. His dedication to our community will be missed.

For 2009-2010, your Board includes myself, Victor Reichstein as Vice President, Roberta Cullen as Secretary, Charles Stock as Treasurer,

with Vince Nasuta, Michael Van Vleck and Ronald Waters rounding out the Board. As always, we welcome your comments and concerns, as well as your ideas on making Parkwood Ranch a better place to live. Please email me at jim.olness@gmail.com with your input.

As with many other communities across the Valley, we are struggling with a high number of foreclosures and families who are unable to pay

their quarterly HOA assessments. If you are having trouble and need to work out a payment plan, please call our management company, Renaissance Community Partners, at 480-813-6788, and they will be glad to assist you.

As a reminder, the Board will not meet in June or July - our next regular meeting will be Aug. 24, 2009, at Patterson Elementary School. I hope to see you there.

Savings

landscaping, tree trimming, wall painting, pest control and more. By coordinating projects among several neighborhoods, contractors are much more willing to provide deep discounts. Your association has likely saved thousands of dollars over the past year due to coalition pricing. When your association is able to save money, you benefit through lower assessments and stronger reserve funds.

Coalition benefits are also being extended to you as an individual resident. For instance, you can get up to a 38% discount on paint and supplies at Dunn Edwards and Frazee paint stores. In the past year, coalition pricing has also been given to residents for tree trimming services, pest control and pre-emergent weed control.

Now we would like to know what you think. Have you used the pre-approved paint schemes and paint discounts? Were you one of the property owners who got their trees trimmed for less than half the going price? Would you like to be in the future? Please contact me at gwolfe3@cox.net with your experience.

Moving forward, we have a number of exciting ideas. We are exploring the possibility of creating an electronic

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classifieds for members of the coalition. Do you have a lawnmower left after switching your landscaping to xeriscaping? Perhaps your neighbor could use it. We'll provide the space for you to advertise your stuff on the association web site. Think of it as a 24-hour a day community yard sale.

Do you have a business you would like to advertise to your neighbors? We can do that as well. It sure would be handy to know the person on the next block is a plumber when the toilet suddenly floods the bathroom. Forget the phonebook; look up the service or product you need on your association's web site. It's always better to do business with someone you know. Of course, we will also be looking for more opportunities to partner with local businesses to offer discounts to coalition members.

Remember, you are already qualified for these benefits simply by living in a Renaissance managed community. Please check out www.rcoalition.com for more information about current discounts and programs. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact Greg Wolfe, Renaissance Community Coalition Director, at gwolfe3@cox.net.



Association Board News

The Parkwood Ranch Association Board is looking for new members for the Architectural Review Committee. ARC members must live within Parkwood Ranch and be current with their assessments. If you are interested, please contact Renaissance Community Partners at 480-813-6788.

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in the Media Center at Patterson Elementary School, 615 S. Cheshire, Mesa.

June 2009 - No Meeting

July 2009 - No Meeting

August 24, 2009

Patterson Elementary School

*Arch. Review Committee Mtg. - 6:30-7 p.m.
Board Meeting/General Session - 7:30 p.m.*

Ice Cream Cone Makes Appearance at 1904 World's Fair

Would you rather eat delicious, creamy ice cream from a bowl or a cone? Over time, several inventors around the world developed ideas of filling pastry cones with ice cream, and versions of the ice cream cone were invented. The walk-away cone made its debut World's Fair debut in St. Louis in 1904. Of course, before the cone, someone had to invent ice cream.

The origins of ice cream go way back to the 4th century B.C. when the Roman emperor Nero ordered ice to be brought from the mountains and combined it with fruit toppings. In the 13th century, Marco Polo learned of the Chinese method of creating ice and milk mixtures and brought it back to Europe. Over time, people created recipes for ices, sherbets, and milk ices. It became a fashionable treat in Italy and France, and once imported to the United States, ice cream was served by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Dolley Madison. Jefferson's favorite flavor was vanilla.

Whatever flavor ice cream you like best, you can make it by mixing cream, sugar, and flavorings (like chocolate or strawberry) and then carefully lowering the mixture's temperature until it sets. The discovery of using salt to control the temperature of the ingredients, along with the invention of the wooden bucket freezer with rotary paddles, were major breakthroughs in the creation of ice cream as we know it. A Baltimore company was the first to sell it to stores in 1851. Finally, with the introduction of refrigerator-freezers came the ice cream shop, which has become a symbol of American culture.

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Children making ice cream, 1940

CREDIT: Wolcott, Marion Post, photographer. "Children making ice cream to be sold for the benefit of the church at a ministers and deacons meeting near Yanceyville, Caswell County, North Carolina." 1940 Oct.? America from the Great Depression to World War II: Photographs from the FSA and OWI, ca. 1935-1945, Library of Congress.

Mamie Eisenhower's Million Dollar Fudge

Mamie Doud Eisenhower, wife of Dwight D. Eisenhower, was known for her gracious style and warmth - and for her outstanding fudge. She served as First Lady from 1953 to 1961, while husband "Ike" was President. Her recipe for Million Dollar Fudge is courtesy of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Mamie's Million Dollar Fudge

4 1/2 cups sugar pinch of salt 2 tablespoons butter 1 tall can evaporated milk 12 ounces semi-sweet chocolate bits 12 ounces German-sweet chocolate 1 pint marshmallow cream 2 cups nutmeats

Boil the sugar, salt, butter, evaporated milk together for six minutes.

Put chocolate bits and German chocolate, marshmallow cream and nutmeats in a bowl. Pour the boiling syrup over the ingredients. Beat until chocolate is all melted, then pour in pan. Let stand a few hours before cutting.

Remember it is better the second day. Store in tin box.



Hydrate the homeless and displaced with your donations of bottled water

With temperatures now hitting triple digits, the City of Mesa is working with nonprofit agencies to provide supplies of water to the homeless and unsheltered. The third annual Mesa Hydration Donation Campaign has begun. Residents are being asked to donate water at various drop-off locations throughout the City, including:

Mesa Fire Department Volunteer Center

2830 E. Adobe (located behind Fire Station 206 at Lindsay and Adobe)
24-hour drop-off in parking lot

United Food Bank

358 E. Javelina
(near US 60 and Mesa Drive)
7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday
Collection bins will be available on weekends

Paz de Cristo

424 W. Broadway Road
9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday – Friday
1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday – Sunday

City of Grace Church

655 E. University
9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday – Thursday
5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Saturday
9 a.m. – Noon Sunday

A New Leaf – MesaCAN

635 E. Broadway
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Friday in front lobby



Last year, more than 62,000 bottles of water were donated during the campaign. The water is distributed through United Food Bank to numerous agencies in the Valley, including A New Leaf-East Valley Men's Center, Paz de Cristo, Saint Vincent de Paul, Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) and City of Grace Church.

The Mesa Hydration Donation Campaign will be collecting water until August 28. For more information, contact City of Mesa Human Services Program Coordinator Lisa Wilson at 480-644-5831 or lisa.wilson@mesaaz.gov.

Recycling tip of the month: No plastic bags in blue barrel

A tip from the City of Mesa: Plastic grocery sacks are not accepted in the blue recycling barrels. They can jam equipment and interfere with the sorting process. Many local grocery stores have recycling bins for these bags, which are turned into plastic "lumber" for things such as planters, new plastic bags and other products. For more information on what is acceptable in Mesa's blue recycling barrels, call the Mesa Recycling Hotline at 480-644-2222, or visit www.mesaaz.gov.

Parkwood Ranch Community Master Association Board

Jim Olness.....President
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Roberta CullenSecretary
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Charles Stock..... Treasurer
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Vince NasutaMember
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Michael Van Vleck.....Member

Ronald WatersMember

Renaissance Community Partners

Kevin Bishop, Owner/Manager
480-813-6788
633 E. Ray Rd. • Suite 122
Gilbert, AZ 85296

Important Phone Numbers

Police & Fire 911

Mesa Police Non-Emergency #
..... 644-2211

Mesa Animal Control
..... 644-2268

Mesa Fire Community Services #
..... 644-2200

City of Mesa 644-2011

The Parkwood Ranch *RoundUp* is a community publication from the Parkwood Ranch Master Community Association. We welcome all comments, contributions and letters. Please contact us at Renaissance Community Partners, 480-813-6788.

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