



e-Council Connection

Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

December 2010

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ACC Building Dedication Ceremony



In recognition of a lifetime of dedication, service and commitment to all who pass through its doors the Arab American and Chaldean Council's (ACC) Board of Directors is proud to announce the dedication of its Detroit Headquarters, Youth Recreation and Leadership Center, and Artisana Adult Learning Center in honor of founding members Salman Ses, Esq., Dr. Haifa Fakhouri, and Father John Badeen. This commemorative Building Dedication Ceremony will be held on Friday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m. at ACC Youth Center, located at 62 W. Seven Mile Road in Detroit.

These founding members have been active supporters and contributors of ACC since its inception in 1979. 31 years later, they continue to dedicate their time, knowledge, and expertise to benefit the services of ACC. This event serves to recognize their commitment and stand as a monument of appreciation for all they have contributed.

Over 15 years ago, ACC committed itself to the revitalization of the Seven Mile neighborhood and community as it launched its Community & Neighborhood Development Initiative: The Seven Mile Project. Over the years the project became a stimulus for an entire neighborhood and indeed the City of Detroit. This ambitious revitalization initiative has transformed the Seven Mile Corridor and boasts four ACC outreach centers in a campus setting that provides one-stop-shop for community services that range from job education and training to behavioral health to primary and dental care facilities to youth.

ACC Annual Donation Drive



Each year ACC distributes clothing, toys, food and other much needed items through its many community outreach offices. There is a great need for your support, this year more than ever, and we invite you to be a part of this charitable effort. Your generosity and support will truly make a real difference in the lives of those in need.

Thank you for "*Making a Difference.*"

ACC is collecting: jackets, clothes, food, household items and monetary donations. To donate today please contact ACC at (248) 559-1990.

DTE Energy



Important Information about
**Payment Assistance
Programs**



...and how to lower your energy bill.

DTE Energy: Payment Assistance Program

DTE Energy, along with government and private agencies, offers programs that can assist with keeping electric and gas services on. DTE has a team of specialists available to help low-income customers reduce their unpaid balances by providing a payment plan, agency referrals and follow-up.

To enroll, call 800.545.8046.

You must meet the following requirements:

*An unpaid balance greater than \$750

*No illegal energy usage

*Household Income Guidelines ([see chart](#))

[Click here](#) for more information.



Detroit City Briefs: Safety Tips, Holiday Events and More

DETROIT FIRE DEPT. URGES RESIDENTS TO TAKE CRITICAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS WHEN USING KEROSENE AND ELECTRIC SPACE HEATERS

There are 64,000 home heating fires annually in the United States, resulting in 540 deaths and 1,400 injuries. The Detroit Fire Department does not recommend the use of kerosene or electrical heaters. If residents do use them, the Fire Dept. urges residents to take the following critical safety precautions.

When using either electric or kerosene heaters, residents should:

- Purchase only UL-approved heaters.
- Do not leave the heater unattended or with children, or operate while sleeping or in children's sleeping areas.
- Place the heater at least 3 feet away from any ordinary combustibles, such as clothes or furniture, or flammable liquids.
- Have at least one multi-purpose fire extinguisher nearby.
- Fill the kerosene heaters outdoors and do not overfill.
- Properly ventilate the room where the kerosene heater is located.
- Use only electric heaters equipped with an auto shut-off switch, or thermostat-controlled model.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO HOST BREAKFAST WITH SANTA DEC. 11

The Detroit Recreation Department will host Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Belle Isle Casino. There will be two seatings: 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Participants will enjoy breakfast, crafts, letters to Santa, and a winter wonderland walk!

Tickets are \$5 per person. Pictures with Santa will be available for an additional fee. For tickets and additional information, please contact your recreation center or call (313) 628-2081.

DETROIT PUBLIC LIGHTING DEPARTMENT OFFERS CUSTOMER REBATES THROUGH ITS ENERGY WISE PROGRAM

The Public Lighting Dept. (PLD) is offering rebates through its Energy Wise Program whenever PLD customers (residential, commercial and municipal) install qualified energy-saving equipment, such as fluorescent lighting. In addition to the rebates, customers can save money by using a compact fluorescent bulb.

PLD offers customer rebates for the following:

Residential Incentives Available For:

Compact Fluorescent Bulbs, LED Night Lights, Energy Star Ceiling Fans

Commercial Incentives Available For:

Fluorescent, LED and Induction Lighting, HVAC&R Equipment, NEMA Premium® Motors,

Variable Frequency Drives, Food Service Equipment, Custom Opportunities

To apply for incentives, customers must complete and submit an application, available from PLD's Web site: www.detroitmi.gov/DepartmentsandAgencies/PublicLighting.aspx.

If you have any questions or would like assistance in completing an application, please contact program staff by phone at (313) 279-3034, fax at (313) 918-3681, or e-mail at submissions@PLDEnergyWise.com.

CITY OF DETROIT DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS TO RELOCATE TO COLEMAN YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER JANUARY 5

The Department of Administrative Hearings will relocate from its current address at 561 East Jefferson to its new location in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. The Department will be housed on two floors: administrative offices will be located on the first floor in Suite 103, and the Hearing Rooms will be located on the 10th floor in Suite 1004. The department will begin operating out of the new offices on January 5, 2011.

For additional information, please contact the Department of Administrative Hearings at (313) 224-0098.

DETROIT FIRE DEPT. OFFERS IMPORTANT HOLIDAY SEASON SAFETY TIPS

The Detroit Fire Department urges residents to take the time this holiday season to observe the following fire precautions when using lighting, decorations, and Christmas trees.

If you use a natural Christmas tree:

- ~ Keep the tree away from any heat source, such as a heat vent, radiator or fireplace, and out of exit paths.
- ~ Keep your tree full of water and check it daily.

If you use an artificial tree:

- ~ Do not plug more than three sets of lights into one extension cord.
- ~ Make sure lights used outdoors have been approved for outdoor use and are waterproof.
- ~ Smokers should keep smoldering cigarettes and cigar butts away from gift-wrapping, Christmas trees, lights and other holiday decorations.

If you are using candles, remember to:

- ~ Keep burning candles, matches, and lighters out of the reach of children.
- ~ Don't place candles near natural Christmas trees, decorations, draperies or combustible items such as furniture, paper, and clothing.
- ~ Place candles in sturdy, non-combustible holders.

CITY OF DETROIT DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES SENIOR/CONSUMER ADVOCACY DIVISION TO HOST HOLIDAY GALA DECEMBER 3

The City of Detroit Department of Human Services Senior/Consumer Advocacy Division will host its annual Holiday Gala 2010 for seniors 60 years of age and older on Friday, Dec. 3, from 6 - 10 p.m. in the Cobo Hall Ballroom. The Holiday Gala features free food, raffle, and entertainment, featuring Fast Freddy. There is no free parking. For reservations, RSVP by Nov. 29 to (313) 224-5444.

WATER DEPT. CUSTOMERS CAN NOW PAY BILLS AND ACCESS ACCOUNTS ONLINE

As part of ongoing efforts to improve customer service for Detroit residents, the Detroit Water &

Sewerage Department (DWSD) has instituted a number of features to make the customer service experience simple and convenient. Detroit customers can now go online at www.dwsd.org to access important account information and to pay bills using a credit or debit card.

There is no extra charge for this service. Although card issuers charge a small fee per credit card transaction, DWSD is absorbing this cost to make it easier for customers to enjoy these online services.



2010 Holy Land Concert

Holy Land Concert

Songs of Peace and Joy
Saturday, December 18, 2010
6:30 pm - refreshments following
Vespers 5:00 pm

Featuring: Diana Al Barchini, Arabic Carols,
Rassem El Massih, Seminarian Chanter, St.
Mary's Choir, Hymns of the Nativity, Guest
Vocalists, Classical and Traditional Violin Trio

The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary
18200 Merriman Road, Livonia, MI (between 6
Mile and 7 Mile)
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www.saintmarylivonia.com

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Employment Opportunities

Employment Opportunities for U.S. Citizens in the UN and Other International Organizations

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Organization Affairs is pleased to announce the launch of its updated website (<http://intlorganizationjobs.state.gov/iva/default.aspx>) which provides information to U.S. citizens about professional employment opportunities at the United Nations and other international organizations.

The new website features:

- ~ Information about numerous current job vacancies open to U.S. citizens at international organizations.
- ~ A new user-friendly and effective job search tool.
- ~ Job Alerts: U.S. citizens can sign up to receive email alerts, based on their employment interests, as new jobs are posted to the website.
- ~ Other helpful tools and resources, including information about salaries and benefits.

The Department of State encourages qualified U.S. citizens to apply for these positions. As the

largest financial contributor to most of these organizations, the United States has a major interest in ensuring that they employ top-notch staffs who have the ability and experience to carry out programs efficiently and effectively.

For further information, please visit the DipNote blog for a [recent post](#) about this new website.

AECOM: ADVISORY, ATMOSPHERICS, AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT SERVICES IN IRAQ

Seeking Military Analysts, as well as Iraqi-born Special Advisors, Senior Advisors and Iraqi-born Americans who are fluent speakers of Arabic and dialects commonly found throughout Iraq.

* Provide an understanding of the complex issues across Iraq * Assist America's troops with situational awareness * Share the attitudes, perceptions and living conditions of the Iraqi peoples

This is a critical mission to collect Atmospheric information, conduct analysis, write reports and also advise local commanders as well as the highest levels of American and NATO command staffs.

Qualifications for Military Analyst (MA) - Military experience is essential Former Army Special Forces, Intelligence, Civil-Military Operations preferred with appropriate regional experience / Possess professional knowledge and experience in Counter Insurgency (COIN), Foreign Internal Defense (FID) / 5 years of pertinent tactical / operational military experience / Bachelor's degree, or equivalent experience / Coalition or U.S. Secret security clearance

Iraqi Advisor (IA) Must possess significant tribal, political, religious, business and/or military connections in Iraq (preferably possess established ties within the area of operations) / Fluent language skills in English, Arabic and/or local dialects / 5 years experience working, studying, or interacting with Iraqi communities (Age 21 +5 years experience) / Bachelor's degree, or equivalent experience / Coalition or U.S. Secret security clearance

Special Advisor (SA) US or Western-oriented citizen with an Iraqi background, committed to the reconstruction and development of a democratic Iraq / Subject matter expertise of specific value to the US and Coalition Forces in focus areas / Level III ILR for speaking, listening, reading, and writing both Arabic and English / Bachelor's degree, or equivalent experience / Coalition or U.S. Secret security clearance

Senior Advisor (SA) Have a previous history of working with Coalition forces; possess significant tribal, political, religious, business and/or military connections in Iraq; established ties to key figures in Iraqi society relevant to the required area of expertise / Level III ILR for speaking, listening, reading, and writing both Arabic and English / Hold a Master's degree or higher in social sciences / Coalition or U.S. Secret security clearance

Strategic Team Director Minimum Interim Secret or Coalition Secret required / Bachelors degree or Equivalent required / Must be knowledgeable of Government of Iraq (GOI) federal, provincial, and/or local regulations and statutes. Understanding of Iraqi or Middle Eastern Society acquired through experience or study / At least 5 years of program management experience with a program comparable in size and complexity to this contract / Must possess both professional knowledge of and demonstrated experience in several of the following fields: military operations, conflict stabilization, counterinsurgency (COIN) techniques, foreign internal defense (FID), intelligence, and / or low level source operations (LLSO)

In Country Program Manager Minimum Interim Secret or Coalition Secret required / Bachelors degree or Equivalent required / Must be knowledgeable of Government of Iraq (GOI) federal,

provincial, and/or local regulations and statutes. Understanding of Iraqi or Middle Eastern Society acquired through experience or study / At least 10 years of program management experience with a program comparable in size and complexity to this contract / Must possess both professional knowledge of and demonstrated experience in several of the following fields: military operations, conflict stabilization, counterinsurgency (COIN) techniques, foreign internal defense (FID), intelligence, and / or low level source operations (LLSO)

[Click here to apply](#)
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web: <http://www.myacc.org>