Cholla District Network News

Vice Mayor Manny Martinez, City of Glendale November 13, 2009

Glendale Wins Best of the West Award. Glendale's Parks & Recreation Department was honored with a Best of the West Award, presented by WESTMARC at the Renaissance Hotel in Glendale on November 5.

The Parks & Recreation Department was recognized for its Grand Canal Linear Park and Trail, an entry in the 'Attractions, Destinations, and Entertainment' category. The Park, located between 75th Avenue and Camelback Road, and State Route 101 and Bethany Home Road, features a bevy of amenities including recreational opportunities, an extensive trail system and playgrounds.

In addition, a pedestrian environment was developed to create safe surroundings for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and equestrians by promoting accessibility, connectivity and continuity with other regional open spaces. This allowed the city to continue to support adjacent agencies, their trail systems, and the innovative and collaborative approach to assuring the West Valley has updated and safe facilities.

Recreation activities and facilities have an impact on water, air, wildlife, transportation and aesthetics in our community. For example, trails such as the Grand Linear Trail, along with other trails in Glendale, led to *Prevention* magazine, in association with the American Podiatric Medicine Association, to identify the city of Glendale as the twelfth most "walkable" city in the Nation. This designation gave Glendale the highest ranking of any city in Arizona.

Volunteers Needed. The city of Glendale is organizing a volunteer project for National Family Volunteer Day on Saturday, November 21, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Volunteers are needed to help keep Skunk Creek Linear Park clean by picking up trash. Skunk Creek is a great park for walking, horseback riding and biking. It is roughly 3-1/2 miles of trails that connect to the Thunderbird Paseo Park for additional trails. The trail system runs along Skunk Creek, a natural creek bed, so you're likely to see some desert creatures along the way.
This day of service, held annually the Saturday before Thanksgiving, is designed to demonstrate the power of families who choose to volunteer together to support the communities in which they live and serve. Volunteering as a family provides quality time for busy families, strengthens communication and bonds, and positively impacts local communities across the nation. Across the country on this day, thousands of families and individuals will be mobilized to participate in a variety of service projects.

The National Family Volunteer Day project is sponsored by Glendale's Community Volunteer Program and the Parks and Recreation Department. Volunteers should meet at 9 a.m., November 21, in the Foothills Recreation & Aquatic Center lobby, 5600 W. Union Hills Drive. To volunteer, contact the Glendale Community Volunteer program at (623) 930-2915 by November 20.

Maricopa County HOME Consortium Survey Online. The public is encouraged to voice their opinions on affordable housing in the community through an online survey on the city's Web site. To access the survey click here then select the link to the "Maricopa County HOME Consortium Survey."

The responses will be used by the city's Community Revitalization Division and the Maricopa County HOME consortium to assist in developing revisions to their five-year consolidated plans, which are documents that guide local officials on the best use for federal funds.

Glendale relies on federal monies to assist in supporting local efforts to develop housing, prevent homelessness and to provide human services. For a complete listing of the social service agencies that receive federal funds from the city, call the Community Revitalization Division at (623) 930-3670.

Around Town

Friday Night Lights. Residents and visitors are invited to discover downtown Glendale after dark Friday, November 20 from 5-9 p.m. to enjoy late night shopping and dining in Catlin Court & Old Towne at Friday Nite Lights!

Shoppers may start their shopping journey at the Glendale Visitor Center to pick up a downtown map, a Shop Glendale discount card and take a spin on the Shop Glendale prize wheel.

In addition to great holiday shopping deals and promotions, there is a holiday food drive, which will benefit St. Mary's Food Bank. The Glendale Visitor Center and many downtown businesses will have collection boxes available for people to donate non-perishable food items.

Friday Nite Lights is held the third Friday of every month throughout the year. For more information click here or call (623) 930-4500.

Glendale Glitters Spectacular Kickoff. Mark your calendars now for one of the Valley's most-loved holiday traditions, Glendale Glitters, with the Spectacular kickoff on November 27-28 from 5-10 p.m. each evening. Free admission and free parking mean you can bring the whole family and not break the bank!

A half-hour stage show counts down to the lights turning on Friday evening, November 27 beginning at 5:30 p.m. The stunning display of 1.5 million lights will illuminate sixteen blocks of Historic Downtown Glendale, making it the largest free holiday light display in Arizona. For more information, call the Special Event Hotline at 623-930-2299, or click here.

National Gaming Day – November 14. The Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., is joining with Bookmans Entertainment Exchange and LAN Speed Games to bring National Gaming Day to Glendale. The free activities are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and will include a morning of fun and games, an afternoon of LAN speed games, a Mario Kart Wii tournament, and an ultimate gamer tournament. Some activities require registration. Prizes will be awarded to tournament winners. Snacks will be provided. To sign up or for more information call (623) 930-3537 and press "6."

Midwestern University Community Health Lecture. Join us for "Medications for People with Diabetes: Know the Basics to Help You Achieve Your Goals." Samantha Karr, Pharm.D., BCPS, will talk about medications for Diabetes and why the medications may not be working as well as you expected. The program will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17 at the Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Avenue, in the Roadrunner Room. Reservations are not necessary. Call (623) 930-3846 for more information.

B.A.G. I.T. (Bus and Gus Individual Training). A class is being offered to Glendale residents who are interested in learning about how to travel on the bus. No need to register, just show up and learn how to ride Valley Metro Public Transportation or Gus the Bus. Join us on Thursday, November 19 at 10 a.m. or 6 p.m., at the Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W. Brown St., in room 102. For more information, click here or call (623) 930-2035.

Live at the Library. Soprano Chelsea Camille and guitarist David Isaacs are stopping in Glendale as part of a southwestern tour at 7 p.m., Thursday, November 19 in the Main Library auditorium, 5959 W. Brown St. These California natives will be performing pieces that span the centuries from the Renaissance to the 20th Century. For more information call (623) 930-3573.

Parents' Night Out. The Glendale Parks and Recreation Department's youth and teen division presents "Parents' Night Out" from 6-9 p.m., on Friday, December 4 at the Glendale Adult Center. Children, ages 4 and older, can bring their pajamas and a pillow for an evening of FUN! The night out includes pizza and drink, arts and crafts, games and a special holiday movie. This is a GREAT opportunity to get that holiday shopping done without the kids! All children must be potty trained. The cost is $10 per child for Glendale residents or $12 per child for non-residents. Pre-registration is required, call (623) 930-2832.

Jingle Bell Hike to Santa. Visit with jolly old Saint Nick at the mid-point in this moderate 2/3-mile round trip hike. Join us from 9-11 a.m., Saturday, December 5 at the Thunderbird Conservation Park, 59th Ave. north of Deer Valley Rd. Wear hiking or tennis shoes and bring water. This event is free. No dogs please. Call (623) 930-2038 for more details.

Contact Vice Mayor Martinez
Council Office: (623) 930-2249
Home Office: (623) 561-8263
E-mail: mmartinez@glendaleaz.com