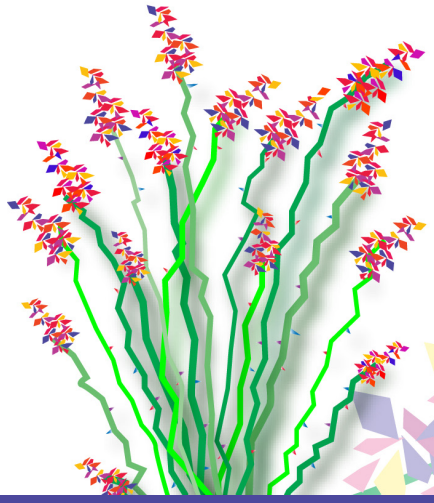

Ocotillo Weekly Update

A newsletter for the residents of Glendale's Ocotillo District

Councilmember Norma Alvarez **May 6, 2011**

Congratulations to the Glendale sanitation workers who claimed top honors at a recent statewide event sponsored by the Arizona Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA). Awards went to (l to r) Joe Zak, 2011 Solid Waste Field Support Person of the Year; Amy Moreno, 2011 Solid Waste Field Supervisor of the Year; and Steve Carrizoza who earned "Top Gun" honors in a competition for mechanics.

Two other Glendale employees placed in the mechanics category - they are Ernie Valenzuela, second place, and Jon Beachem, fourth place.

Glendale Named Tree City USA Community. For the fifteenth consecutive year, Glendale has been named a Tree City USA Community by the Arbor Day Foundation for its commitment to urban forestry. Glendale has met the four standards to receive this designation, which include having a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

Councilmember Alvarez and other city officials celebrated on Earth Day as they planted trees with second-grade students from Desert Garden Elementary School at Desert Garden Park.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Parks and Recreation - Youth Scholarship Program. The Glendale Parks and Recreation Department maintains a scholarship fund to help Glendale youth who do not have the financial means to participate in recreation programs. The scholarship program is made possible through donations from businesses and individuals throughout the Valley. Scholarships are offered to residents of Glendale and are available for designated programs offered by Glendale Parks and Recreation.

TO DONATE TO THE FUND: If you would like to make a donation, please make a check payable to "City of Glendale Scholarship Fund" and mail to: Glendale Parks and Recreation Department, 5850 West Glendale Ave., Glendale, Arizona 85301.

TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING: Children who are residents of Glendale may apply for the youth scholarship. A child/youth is defined as being 17 years of age or under. Approval of the application is made on an individual basis. The City of Glendale Parks & Recreation Department uses a sliding-fee scale guideline based on total household income and number of dependents. The scale assists staff in determining the amount of scholarship awarded.

Click here for more information or to download an application. Once completed, mail or bring your application to the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department, 5850 West Glendale Ave., Glendale, Arizona 85301.

Glendale Community Services Magazine. The summer issue of *My Community* magazine is available for pickup and online now.

My Community features events, programs and services offered by the City of Glendale Parks and Recreation, Library, Neighborhood and Human Services, and Code Compliance Departments.

This issue will highlight the summer reading programs, art camp, summer recreation drop-in and licensed programs, library special events, swimming pool safety and over 100 self-enrichment classes. All the programs available at Glendale's three libraries and through the Parks and Recreation Department for the months of May-August are included.

The magazine is available online at www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation or for pick up at Glendale Parks and Recreation facilities and all three Glendale libraries.

Registration for Glendale Swimming Lessons Begins May 9. Four pools will host the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department's swimming lessons this summer. Registration for *Glendale residents only* will be held May 9-11 and for residents and non-residents from May 12 to June 4.

Summer swim lessons are offered for all ages and levels. Lessons are available at Rose Lane Aquatic Center, 5003 W. Marlette Ave.; Foothills Recreation & Aquatics Center, 5600 W. Union Hills Dr.; Cactus Pool, 15500 N. 63rd Ave.; and Ironwood Pool, 12603 N. 61st Ave.

Details on the swimming lessons available, cost, times and locations can be found in the *Splashbook!* available at glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation or at Glendale's recreation centers and libraries.

To register, click here or call 623-930-2820. You may also register in person at the Parks and Recreation office, 5850 W. Glendale Ave., or Foothills Recreation & Aquatics Center. For more information, call 623-930-2838 or visit the Splashline at 623-930-2041.

Basic Community Emergency Response Team Training Opportunity - The Glendale Fire Department will be hosting a 21 hour Basic Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training program beginning on Friday, June 10 from 6 to 10 p.m. and then continuing on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the final day of the course will be held on Sunday, June 12 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All classes will be held at the Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Center (GRPSTC) located at 11550 W. Glendale Avenue. Any Glendale resident, age 18 and above is eligible to attend the training program. The class will take up to 30 participants and the participants will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. To sign up, call 623-930-4483. Click here for more information.

Around Town

Click here for the City Council meeting schedule. Click here for past Council meeting agendas and minutes. Click here to watch a City Council meeting online.

Comic Book Day. *Free Comic Book Day*, founded in 2002 to celebrate the state of the art in comic book creation, is coming to downtown Glendale on Saturday, May 7, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The local celebration – which is co-sponsored by Drawn to Comics, a downtown Glendale store, and the Glendale Convention and Visitors Bureau – will feature more than a dozen top creators of comic books illustrating and showcasing their works. Artists will be featured at the Glendale Visitor Center, in Murphy Park, and as part of Artwerks First Saturdays, located in the walkway east of Murphy Park by 58th Avenue. The event is free to the public. Click here for more information.

May Green Living Classes Focus on Energy Use. Join us on Saturday, May 14 for the next set of free classes in the Green Living series presented by the City of Glendale's Conservation and Sustainable Living Program. Classes will be held in the second floor boardroom of the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. The class times and topics are: *Simple Savings 101* from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. and *Solar: A Brighter Future* from 1:30 to 2:00 p.m. These classes will repeat on Saturday, May 21.

Glendale residents and non-residents are welcome to attend. All classes are free, but advance registration is required. To sign up for classes, call 623-930-3760. Click here for more information.

8th Annual Glendale Historic Preservation Bus Tour. The city of Glendale encourages people to sign up for the 8th Annual Glendale Historic Preservation Bus Tour, which will be held Saturday, May 14 and includes Glendale's most treasured historic landmarks such as the Beet Sugar Factory, the Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway and the Thunderbird Tower located on the campus of the Thunderbird School of Global Management. Check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Dr. The tour will depart at 9 a.m. and return to the Civic Center at Noon.

Participation is limited to 35 people, and reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. To RSVP, call (623) 930-2810.

Glendale Spark Awards. The Glendale Commission on Neighborhoods encourages residents to nominate a neighbor, volunteer, business, nonprofit or faith-based organization that has made a commitment to the Glendale community by helping and improving Glendale neighborhoods. If you know of someone like this, nominate the person or group for a 2011 Community Spark Award. The deadline to submit nominations is Wednesday, May 25, 2011.

Click here for nomination forms and more information including the six award categories. For other questions, call 623-930-2868.

Contact Councilmember Alvarez

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