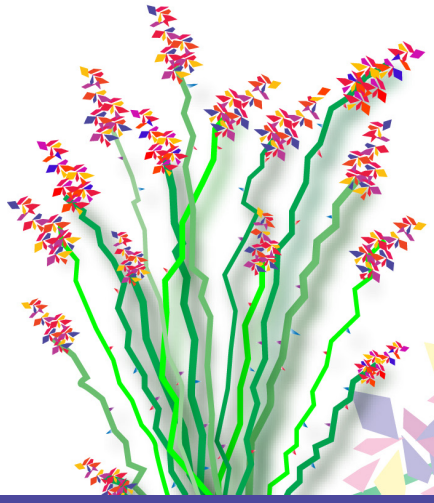


Ocotillo Weekly Update

A newsletter for the residents of Glendale's Ocotillo District

Councilmember Norma Alvarez **August 5, 2011**

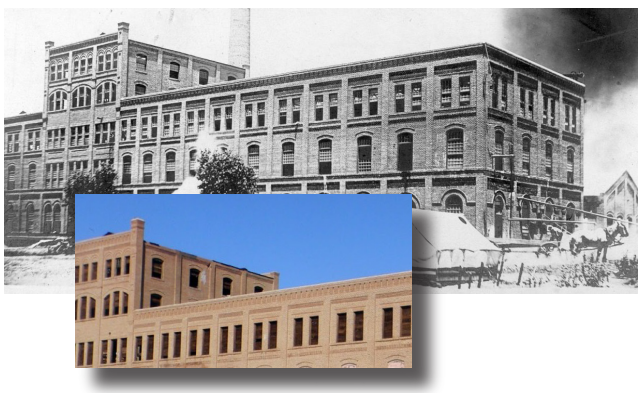
Dust Control: It's Time to Clear the Air. Dust. It can limit visibility, muddy standing water and cover everything in site. That's more than annoying, it can be a threat to public health and federal transportation funds for our community.

Small dust particles called PM 10 – particulate matter measuring 10 micrometers or less in diameter – can be inhaled and lodge in lungs. It's a dangerous situation for those with asthma and other respiratory conditions and a threat to all of us.

That's why the federal government has set air quality standards. Failure to meet those standards means $7 billion in transportation funds for Maricopa County could be lost.

In an effort to meet the federal standards, the city of Glendale is working with other local and state government agencies to prevent dust violations. As a Glendale business or resident, you can help by taking the following steps:

- Maintain your landscape and cover loose dirt with vegetation or gravel.
- Sign-up to receive alerts telling you when the air quality monitors show dust pollution levels rising and find out what actions you should take on those days. The information is available at www.maricopa.gov/aq/news/RapidResponseNotification.aspx.
- Do not use leaf blowers or perform other activities that may create dust on high wind days. Plan your work activities by viewing a five-day air quality forecast at www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/ozone/mcdust.pdf.
- Report any activity you see that is stirring up dust. Enforcement officers can take the opportunity to help educate others on the importance of dust control. To learn more about reporting dust issues, go to http://www.glendaleaz.com/codecompliance/dustordinance.cfm or call Code Compliance at 623-930-3610.



Glendale's Historic Beet Sugar Factory Prepares for Transformation. One of the city of Glendale's oldest downtown buildings, the Beet Sugar Factory, is undergoing a restoration to reopen its doors in the heart of Glendale's Centerline District. The current owner of the 105-year-old landmark at 52nd Avenue and Lamar plans to open a business and preserve the original red-brick historic features of the five story, 95-foot-tall structure.

The owner of this iconic factory, Ray Klemp, will assist in relocating Forward Brands from Phoenix to Glendale to create a production and distribution facility for premium quality spirits. Forward Brands is owned by Klemp's daughters, Lauren and Morgan. The improvements to the building are expected to take place in phases over the next several months and include re-purposing a small house south of the sugar beet factory that will eventually become a tasting venue and special event location.

The Beet Sugar Factory opened in 1906, six years before Arizona became an official state. Since then, numerous businesses called it home, each producing a variety of products including sugar, beer, Squirt soda and soy sauce. A massive smokestack was removed in 1951 after being struck by lightning. While the history books call it the "Beet Sugar Factory," local residents have also referred to it over the years as "sugar beet" instead. At one time the sugar beet was grown in Glendale and was the primary image of the city's official seal. To this day, the old factory is a recognizable icon for historic downtown Glendale and a point of pride for the community.

Construction for the first phase of restoring the building is expected to begin within the next 60 days. Read more about Glendale's Centerline District.

Glendale Recreation After School Program. Glendale Recreation After School Program (G.R.A.S.P.) is a supervised, drop-in recreation program for Glendale Youth, grades 1 through 8. Professional staff provides a variety of fun and educational programs including study time, indoor/outdoor activities, clubs, games, mini tournaments and guest speakers. G.R.A.S.P. sites are open Monday through Friday from school dismissal time to 6 p.m. Participants can register at the G.R.A.S.P. sites noted below, during the first two weeks of school. When registering, proof of residency, such as a utility bill, vehicle registration or driver's license must be provided; otherwise the non-resident supply fee will apply. After the initial two-week period, registrations must be completed at the Glendale Parks and Recreation office at 5850 W. Glendale Ave., Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Supply fee per semester: $35 (Non-resident $45). For more information click here or call 623-930-4700.

G.R.A.S.P Sites

- Glendale Community Center, 5401 W. Ocotillo Road
- O'Neil Recreation Center, 6448 W. Missouri Ave.
- Rose Lane Recreation Center, 5003 W. Marlette Ave.
- Barcelona Middle School (Grades 4-8 only), 4432 W. Maryland Ave.

Licensed before/after school recreation program. Glendale's before and after school recreation programs are licensed recreation programs providing a variety of activities for children ages 5 to 13. Arts and crafts, recreation activities, and guest speakers are all part of the fun! The focus is the total well-being and safety of each and every child while having fun! Educational activities, snacks, group games and homework time are offered by caring, adult staff members. The programs are regulated by the Arizona Department of Health Services and can accept DES qualifying families (contact your DES caseworker for information). Program sites are open on early release days, but closed on national holidays or when the school campus is closed.

Pre-registration is required, including a non-refundable registration fee for the school year. Registration must be completed at least 2 business days prior to program site attendance. As part of the registration, each family will select one of the program's sessions. Registration booklets with more detailed information are available at each site or at the Glendale Parks and Recreation office at 5850 W. Glendale Ave. For schedules and fees, click here or call 623-930-2046 or 623-930-2018.

Licensed recreation program sites

- Sahuaro Ranch Elem. School, 10401 N. 63rd Ave
- Desert Mirage Elem. School, 8605 W. Maryland Ave
- Canyon Elem. School, 5490 W. Paradise Ln.
- Kachina Elem. School, 5304 W. Crocus Dr.
- Pioneer Elem. School, 6315 W. Port Au Prince Ln.

Around Town

Walk-in Small Business Counseling. No appointments are necessary for "Walk-In Counseling with SCORE" from 12:15 to 3:45 p.m. on Saturday, August 6 in the small meeting room at Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown Street. The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) advises on all areas of business, from start-up information to marketing and accounting concerns. The counseling is free. For more information about SCORE, call 602-745-7250.

Community Conversations with Mayor Scruggs. Community Conversations is a series of meetings designed to encourage an open dialogue about important policy issues that affect the entire City of Glendale today and in the future. The next Community Conversation will be held at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, August 11 at First United Methodist Church in downtown Glendale. Items on the agenda are:

- Glendale by the Numbers – Looking back at FY2010-11 accomplishments
- Luke Air Force Base update – F-35 EIS status and F-16 Transfer
- Tohono O'odham Application to create an Indian Reservation within Glendale's boundaries
- Coyotes Update and future scenarios

Please click here to RSVP for this upcoming meeting.

Contact Councilmember Alvarez

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