Sahuaro Weekly Update

"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."

Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona **June 19, 2009**

First-Time Home Buyers Assistance. If you are a first-time homebuyer, who plans to purchase a home anywhere within the city limits of Glendale, you may be eligible for the American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) program. Glendale's Community Revitalization Division is sponsoring the program to offer an interest-free loan of up to $10,000 for eligible home buyers who have a total household income that is 80 percent below median, as determined by federal income standards. This translates to $52,700 for a household size of four. The program is coordinated by the Community Housing Resources of Arizona (CHRA) and is a limited time offer.

For more information, call (623) 930-3670. To set up an appointment with a loan counselor and to begin the application process, click here or call (602) 631-9780.

Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods (G.A.I.N.) Glendale's 2009 GAIN night will be Saturday, Oct. 3rd. It's not too early to start planning your event. GAIN night is a great opportunity for residents to meet one another and build relationships with city officials, staff and community leaders, while promoting public safety awareness and improving communications among neighbors. Those who live in a registered neighborhood or HOA can click here to register their event online. Call (623) 930-2498 for more information.

GU Graduate Class – Homeland Security. If a natural disaster hit Glendale, how would the city respond? A new class sponsored by the Neighborhood Partnership Office will educate residents on the city's emergency plan.

Registration is available now for this continuing education opportunity for Glendale residents who have previously graduated from the 101 class of Glendale University. This two-session course is an opportunity to find out how the city prepares for emergencies and organizes in response to disasters. Students will learn about the laws, processes and issues surrounding disaster preparedness, response and recovery. In addition, the class includes valuable information about how residents can help themselves and their families during a time of crisis. This course will be from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29 and Thursday, July 30 at the Glendale Training Facility, 11550 W. Glendale Ave.

Registration for this graduate class is due no later than July 23. To register, click here and print out an application or call (623) 930-2868 to receive an application by mail or fax.

Glendale University. If the GU Graduate Classes advertised in this newsletter look interesting to you, but you haven't attended Glendale University 101 yet, plan to attend the next session which begins in August. This free educational program is open to Glendale residents who are older than 15 and want to learn more about the operations of municipal government.

Glendale University classes are held in the evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. In order to graduate from the course, students must attend at least eight of the 10 classes. Each class highlights key functions of the city, such as finance, library, police and fire services.

For more information including the fall schedule, click here or call (623) 930-2868.

Glendale's 4th of July Celebration Cancelled. The city of Glendale is being responsible during difficult financial times and making hard decisions regarding the city's funds; this means that some non-essential programs or events have had to be cut. Glendale's 4th of July Celebration at Glendale Community College is one of those things that, unfortunately, has been cancelled.

If you are looking for alternate events to enjoy fireworks and festivities, contact the Glendale Visitor Center at (623) 930-4500, staff will help direct you to other events in the area.

Around Town

Friday Nite Lights Begins Tonight. Enjoy late night shopping and dining, and a real hometown atmosphere at Friday Nite Lights. Stroll along brick-lined sidewalks and enjoy charming bungalows-turned shops. Friday Nite Lights begins June 19 and will be held from 5-9 p.m. in Historic Downtown Glendale and Catlin Court. This event will continue on the 3rd Friday of each month, year-round. Start at the Glendale Visitor Center, 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, to pick up a downtown map and information. For more information, click here or call (623) 930-4500.

Online Reading Group for Men. Guys, how would you like to take part in a reading discussion group on your terms – reading and discussing short stories when it is convenient for you? The "Eight in Eight" Online Reading Group for Men is a summertime activity that is running now through July 24. Discussion takes place in a blog set up especially for the group.

The stories are accessed through LitFinder, one of the library's online resources. Storylines involve NFL Sundays at the bar, bear encounters, crazy fathers and more. Call (623) 930-3868 for more information.

Reel Talk Film/Discussion Series. Truman Capote's "Breakfast at Tiffany's" (1961) will be shown at 1 p.m., on Saturday, June 20 at the Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. Film scholar Jeannie Berg will lead a discussion following the film. This series is free. Call (623) 930-3844 for more information.

Are You Ready to Be a Business Owner? David Moss, facilitator with the Maricopa Community Colleges Small Business Development Center (SBDC), presents "Should I Start My Own Business?" at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 22 in the auditorium of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. This seminar is perfect for people who are in the early stages of starting a business. Find out the answers to the most basic questions prospective business owners have about developing a business plan, how to obtain financing, and types of business ownership.

The workshop is free. Registration required; sign up by calling the SBDC at (480) 784-0590 or go to www.maricopasbdc.com.

Social Networking Media. Attend the free "Can the New Social Networking Media Click for You? (Or, Everything You Wanted to Know, But Didn't Know to Ask!)" at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 25 in the auditorium of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.

LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube, MySpace, blogs and wikis. Find out who each of these tools is designed for, what they are designed to do and how they can be used—professionally and personally.

The program is presented by the Scottsdale Boomerz. RSVP at (480) 990-1450 or go to www.BoomerzAZ.com to sign up. The program will be repeated at the Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave., on Aug. 27.

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 June 25 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.

Summer Band Concert, June 25. Enjoy renditions of marches, ballads and show tunes 8 p.m., Thursday evenings through July 23. It's FREE and the entire family is welcome! The concerts take place in Historic Downtown Glendale at the Glendale Amphitheater, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. For more information, call (623) 930-2042.

2009 Leadership Forum. Glendale's Citizens Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods will host its annual Leadership Forum and Spark Awards Ceremony on Saturday, June 27 from 8 to 11:30 a.m., at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive. The breakfast is free and open to all Glendale residents, neighborhood leaders, community volunteers and business owners. This year's theme is "Networking Within Your Neighborhood."

The recipients of the annual Spark Awards will be recognized at the event. The award recognizes individuals, groups and organizations for their exemplary leadership and continued contributions to Glendale.

There is no admission fee for attendance, but reservations are required. To RSVP, call (623) 930-2125 or e-mail leadership@glendaleaz.com by June 22. Read more.

Contact Councilmember Frate

Council Office: (623) 930-2249
Home Office: (602) 439-8151
E-mail: sfrate@glendaleaz.com