Sahuaro Weekly Update

"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."

Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona **September 18, 2009**

LUKE FORWARD
READY FOR THE FUTURE

Move Luke Forward – Let Your Voice Be Heard. West Valley cities, Maricopa County and Fighter Country Partnership have developed the Luke Forward initiative to help inform residents and businesses on the Air Force's F-35 basing plans and to receive support from residents living in every city and town in Arizona. To register your support for Luke AFB and the F-35 training mission, visit www.lukeforward.com.

Community Support. In the face of a global recession, Glendale residents and visitors are giving back to the community in record numbers. Thousands of donations came through the Glendale Visitor Center during Christmas in July, Friday Night Lights and Teddy Bear Day.

The holiday spirit truly began during Christmas In July when Glendale collected more than 2,100 meals for the food banks, which is a 10 percent increase over last year. The charity component for Friday Night Lights was a school supply drive, which was also a tremendous success. More than 12,000 items were donated, which quadrupled the donations from last year.

Finally, it recently rained teddy bears for Teddy Bear Day! A big part of Glendale's annual Teddy Bear day is the collection of teddy bears to benefit the Glendale Fire Trauma program, as well as other entities such as Southwest Ambulance and United Way. More than 400 bears were collected, doubling last year's total. For more information, call (623) 930-4500.

Homework Help. Homework help is available through the Glendale Public Library Web site. You'll find live online tutoring, databases for every subject and newspaper or magazine articles. You'll need your valid Glendale Public Library card to try it out. Click here for "Teen Turnpike" homework help. Click here for "Kids Zone" homework help. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders can get free homework help every Monday afternoon from 3:30-5:30 at the Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Students can come by the large meeting room to get help with math, reading and writing. For more information, call (623) 930-3537 and press "6."

Ballet Under the Stars. Spend a relaxing evening under the gorgeous Arizona sky as Ballet Arizona performs at Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area on Sunday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m.

The premiere dance company continues its annual tradition with "Ballet Under the Stars," offering free family entertainment with a combination of classical and contemporary works. This year's program will feature the debut performance of a work created as part of the "Class Act" program by Don Mensendick Elementary School students.

Ballet Under the Stars offers open lawn seating. Guests are encouraged to bring picnic dinners and lawn chairs or blankets for the entire family to enjoy an evening of art and culture. Concessions will also be available for purchase during the event.

In the past ten years, "Ballet Under the Stars" has been enjoyed by more than 60,000 Valley residents. For more information on Ballet Arizona, visit www.balletaz.org.

Sahuaro Ranch Park is located at 59th Avenue and Mountain View Road. For more information on the event, call 623-930-4203.

Around Town

Click here for the City Council meeting schedule.

BMX-Court Competition presented by Gordy's Bicycles. The Glendale Parks and Recreation Department will host its first BMX competition at the X-Court on Saturday, Sept. 19. Admission is $1, check in at 4 p.m. and competition begins at 5 p.m. The Glendale X-Court is located at 83rd Avenue & Bethany Home Road. For more information or to register for the competition ($15 pre-register, $20 @ event), click here or call (623) 930-2044.

From Caves to Castles: If Beads Could Talk. The Bead Museum will open a stunning new exhibition in mid-September titled "From Caves to Castles: If Beads Could Talk." This exhibition showcases the incredible, global array of ancient beads from the private collection of The Bead Museum founder, Gabrielle Liese. This exhibition covers the time frame from Prehistory (early hominid-caveman) until the end of the Islamic Period (1400 AD) and explores the question of why beads are an important pathway to understanding human culture. A Grand Opening Fundraiser will be held from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, September 24 at The Bead Museum, 5754 W. Glenn Drive. Cost is $100 per person, $50 for valued members. Click here for more information.

Live at the Library. Enjoy Back Porch Bandits, an eclectic mix of bluegrass, Appalachian Mountains Old-Time, and "grassitized" Americana at 7 p.m., Thursday, September 24 in the Main Library auditorium, 5959 W. Brown St. For more information call (623) 930-3573.

AVP Professional Beach Volleyball Returns to Westgate - USA Takes on Brazil. AVP Professional Beach Volley returns to Glendale September 25-27, this time potentially placing Westgate City Center into the international spotlight. Tickets are on sale now. Read more.

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, September 28 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; to sign up click here or call the SBDC at (480) 784-0590.

Arab-American Festival. The Arab-American Festival returns to downtown Glendale on September 26 & 27 from noon to 10 p.m. each day. The event includes more than 40 singers, musicians and dancers from all over the Arab World. Activities include kids rides, a Hookah Lounge and an Arabic Food Court. Click here for more information.

27th Annual Fire Prevention Day & Parade. Join the Glendale Fire Department and Southwest Gas at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 3 for Glendale's 27th Annual Fire Prevention Day and Parade. The parade starts at 9 a.m. at 52nd and Glendale avenues and will end at Murphy Park. Everyone loves a parade, especially a parade filled with fire vehicles, mascots, bands, clowns, scouts, and more! Stick around for fun at Murphy Park which will include music, food vendors, safety booths, activities for families, and a huge display of fire apparatus! The festival in the park runs 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Free Landscape Class: Proper Care of Desert Lawns. This class includes the installation and care of winter lawns and takes the mystery out of winter grass over-seeding by providing maintenance, watering, and troubleshooting tips. Join us from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Monday, October 5 at the Glendale Main Library Auditorium, 5959 W. Brown Street. Please register by calling (623) 930-3760.

2009 Glendale Hispanic Network Breakfast. The Glendale Hispanic Network (GHN) invites you to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month on Thursday, October 15 at 7:30 a.m. at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive in Historic Downtown Glendale. To purchase your tickets, please contact the Tourism Center at 623-930-4500. Individual tickets are $35 or a table of ten is $350.

The GHN's 5th annual breakfast featured speaker is Rosemary Ybarra-Hernandez. Ms. Ybarra-Hernandez is the CEO and founder of AGUILA Youth Leadership Institute, a college prep/access program for Latina and Latino youth that has received national recognition for its innovation and success.

Contact Councilmember Frate

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