Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **January 27, 2012**

As part of the renovations at Sahuaro Ranch Park, the Glendale Public Art Program commissioned artist Laurie Lundquist to create the new entry monument signs.

2012
Glendale Chocolate Affaire

Friday, Feb. 3
5 - 10 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 5
Noon - 5 p.m.

City of Glendale Public Budget Meeting Schedule

The city of Glendale will conduct five budget meetings over the next two months:

- Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 6 at 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 20 at 1:30 p.m.

The meetings will be held at Glendale City Hall in room B3, and free parking is available in the city hall parking garage. The meetings will also be broadcast live on Glendale 11 TV and live online at www.glendaleaz.com/video.

The meetings are also archived on the city website for viewing 24/7 at www.glendaleaz.com/video and budget documents will be posted on the city's website at www.glendaleaz.com/budget prior to the meetings. Additional meetings could be added to the calendar if deemed necessary.

Glendale Chocolate Affaire. The weekend before Valentine's Day, Feb. 3-5, is a delicious delight for the senses as the Glendale Chocolate Affaire takes over downtown Glendale to create a chocolate-lover's dream!

Chocolate purveyors from Arizona and around the nation gather in Glendale for this award-winning festival, which celebrates not only chocolate, but romance and the arts as well. Chocolate confections will include items such as chocolate-covered bacon, chocolate-covered churros, chocolate-covered twinkies, chocolate-covered key lime pie, fried ice cream with chocolate and strawberries, chocolate-covered crepes and much more.

The Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Arizona's famous candy makers, Cerreta's. The candy factory will offer tours all weekend, so visitors can get a behind-the-scenes look at how the chocolatiers create everyone's favorite candy.

In addition, the festival has become the largest gathering of national romance novelists in the Southwest. This symposium of literary romantics offers fans the opportunity to get up close and personal with authors, as well as the chance to attend free writing workshops given by the experts.

Families with children will enjoy myriad activities, including hands-on arts and crafts, face-painting and a rock-climbing wall. Horse-drawn carriage rides will be available throughout the weekend to take couples or families on a scenic, charming ride through the historic Catlin Court district.

Arizona's Centennial will also be part of the Glendale Chocolate Affaire. During the event, the Glendale Arts Commission will put on a Plein Air painting contest with artists from all over the state coming to compete at this event. This year a major part of the competition instructions include painting historical subjects from the West Valley to acknowledge or salute the centennial, creating artwork to display tie-ins to the centennial such as Sahuaro Ranch, Beet Sugar Factory, First United Methodist Church and Murphy Park, all destinations that are more than 100 years old.

In addition, State Historian Marshall Trimble will be featured in the lineup of writer's workshops, giving a presentation on Arizona history. Finally, Glendale has displayed a giant "Happy 100th Birthday Arizona" sign constructed out of lights that will be glowing on the side of the building for the three-day event.

The Glendale Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Cerreta's Candy Company, ABC 15, The Arizona Republic, Valley Buick-GMC Dealers, YooHoo, KMLE, KOOL and JAMZ. Click here for more information.

F-35 Squadrons One Step Closer to Being Stationed at Luke AFB. On January 20, the U.S. Air Force has released the Draft F-35A Training Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) report, paving the way for up to six squadrons – totaling 144 aircraft – of the new fighter jets to be stationed at Luke Air Force Base.

The F-35A Lightning II is the Air Force's variant of the Joint Strike Fighter, which will replace the F-16 Falcon and the A-10 Thunderbolt as the Air Force's new multi-role fighter. Read more.

2012 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award Nominations. The Glendale Historic Preservation Commission is accepting nominations for the 17th Annual Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals or organizations for outstanding contributions to Glendale's historic heritage. Nominations must be received on or before March 1, 2012. For more information or to download an application, click here or call 623-930-2585.

Around Town

Arizona SCITECH Festivals! For information on ARIZONA SCITECH Festival events happening around the state, visit azscitechfest.org or connect with the festival on Facebook (facebook.com/arizonascitech) and Twitter (twitter.com/arizonascitech).

Make Your Reading Playlist! Read for the fun of it and win prizes. Teens, ages 12-18, can stop by the Velma Teague Branch Library, 7010 N. 58th Ave., Foothills Branch, 19055 N. 57th Ave., or Main Library, 5959 W. Brown Street, to participate in the "Make Your Reading Playlist" reading program now until April 1. Read six books and win a prize after the first, third, and sixth book you read. Call 623-930-3431 for more information.

Health and Wellness Fair. Bring the whole family to the Health and Wellness Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 28 at Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center, 5600 W. Union Hills Dr. A wide variety of health and wellness vendors will be on hand with information to help you start the new year off right!

The Business Forum. Business networking through The Business Forum at Glendale Library is a productive way of establishing beneficial relationships with potential clients and area business people. On Wednesday, February 1, the group will meet in the large meeting room at Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown Street. The free event is from 5:30–7:15 p.m. February speaker, Jeff Gottschalk will present "Marketing with QR Codes: How QR Codes Can Grow Your Bottom Line!" Call 602-725-3246 for more information about the program or to RSVP.

22nd Annual Antique Tractor Show. Join us for the Tractor Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11 and Sunday, Feb. 12 at Sahuaro Ranch Park, 9802 N. 59th Avenue. Enjoy tractor pulls, displays and more. The cost is $5 per person, ages 12 and under are free. Presented by the Arizona Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association. For more information, call 623-930-4200.

Contact Councilmember Joyce Clark

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