Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **January 28, 2011**

"First Saturdays" Debuts @ Glendale Chocolate Affaire.
Join us at "First Saturdays," a free monthly artist event on the first Saturday of each month in the recently renovated walkway off of 58th Avenue.

Glendale Chocolate Affaire. If you haven't made a date to attend the Glendale Chocolate Affaire, mark your calendar today for Feb. 4-6, as downtown Glendale becomes a chocoholic's paradise!

Not only will there be thirty chocolate purveyors, including local, regional and national chocolatiers, but this award-winning event includes wine-tasting, horse-drawn carriage rides, author workshops and meet-and-greets with the romance novelists, plus fabulous entertainment.

Highlights include bands such as Valley-favorite Marmalade Skies, a seven-piece Beatles tribute band performing Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and cooking demonstrations by Arizona Catering's renowned chefs inside the Fountain Terrace of the Glendale Civic Center, on Saturday afternoon.

Visitors are invited to participate as judges in the storefront decorating contest! Simply stop by the Glendale Visitor Center to pick up a walking map with the participating businesses listed, along with the official contest ballot. Return the completed ballot to the Glendale Visitor Center by February 14 at 5 p.m. indicating your top choice for the "People's Choice Award." Completed ballots will be entered into a drawing to win a Cerreta's Candy gift basket.

So much more awaits chocolate lovers at the Chocolate Affaire, including tours of Glendale's hometown chocolatier, Cerreta's. Shuttles will run during event hours from Murphy Park to the chocolate factory, where attendees will get a behind-the-scenes glimpse at how the confections are made from scratch.

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 Historic Catlin Court.

The Glendale Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Cerreta's Candy Company, Monster Loca Moca, ABC 15, The Arizona Republic, KOOL, KMLE, JAMZ, Nissan Commercial, Sedona Pines, Pacific Monarch, APS, Glendale Community College and the Phoenix Coyotes.

For more information on the festival, including the full entertainment line-up, and the cooking demo, author workshop and author signing schedule, click here or call the Special Events Hotline at 623-930-2299.

City of Glendale Launching Alarm Ordinance. The city of Glendale has now implemented an alarm ordinance similar to those in dozens of cities throughout the state. As of February 1st, FREE permit applications are available to register your security alarm with the Glendale Police Department.

Glendale's Alarm Ordinance was created with the intent to reduce the number of false alarms throughout the city. Generating a false alarm is a violation of Glendale Ordinance Chapter 3, Alarm Ordinance. However, February 1st through March 2nd has been designated as a "grace period" to allow residents and business owners an opportunity to become familiar with the ordinance and correct any problems that may be causing false alarms.

Effective March 3, 2011 the Glendale Police Department will begin to enforce the new ordinance. A warning letter will be sent to alarm system owners after the first false alarm. Subsequent false alarms within a 365 day period will result in the assessment of fees which increase with each additional false alarm.

For questions, comments or more information on the fee structure or the ordinance, please call the Glendale Police Alarm Ordinance Hotline (623) 930-2466 or e-mail AlarmCoordinator@glendaleaz.com. In addition, there is a fact sheet available on the police department website at www.glendaleaz.com/police.

Income Tax Assistance. AARP Tax-Aide is dedicated to assisting senior citizens, low and middle income taxpayers file their personal income tax returns for FREE. Again this year, the Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W. Brown St., will be one of the sites providing this service. Tax-Aide volunteers are trained to help Arizona families with such programs as the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and Education Tax Credit. Last year alone, volunteers at the Adult Center assisted about 2700 residents file returns with refunds totaling approximately $2.6 million. No appointments are accepted and returns are done on a first-come, first-served basis. Opening day is Tuesday, Feb. 1st and runs through April 15th. Hours are: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays - 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Thursdays - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Saturdays - 9 :00 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Glendale University Graduate Class: Tour Oasis Water Treatment Plant. Did you ever want to see a water treatment plant in action? Then an upcoming tour of this Glendale facility is for you. Join us for a first-hand look at this state-of-the-art surface water treatment plant. The tour will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24. Students will learn:

- all the steps of the water treatment process;
- chemistry and physics of water treatment;
- lab work, quality assurance and quality controls for water quality

Registration for this graduate class is due no later than Feb. 18 and is limited to residents who have previously graduated from the 101 class of Glendale University. Registration for this class is mandatory and will be limited to the first 25 Glendale University 101 graduate students who apply.

If the GU graduate classes advertised in this newsletter sound interesting, but you are not a graduate student, sign up now for the Glendale University 101 spring semester! This free, 10-week educational program, offered in partnership with Cox Communications, is for Glendale residents and business owners who want to learn more about the city of Glendale and how it operates. Classes begin on Monday, March 7 when participants will meet Glendale's Mayor and City Council.

Please click here to download an application or call (623) 930-2868 for more information on GU 101 or the Tour of Oasis Water Treatment Plant.

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.

Coffeehouse. Acoustic music lovers are invited to the Main Library Coffeehouse in the Auditorium at 6:30 p.m., on the third Thursday of the month. On February 17, Tom Whitlock and Desert City Ramblers will perform. Videos of these performers are available at http://www.youtube.com. For more information, call 623-930-3573.

2011 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award Nominations. The city of Glendale Historic Preservation Commission is accepting nominations for the 16th Annual Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award.

The prestigious Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award was developed by the Historic Preservation Commission to recognize outstanding contributions by individuals and organizations to historic preservation initiatives in the city of Glendale. The award is named after Ruth Byrne, who has made significant contributions to historic preservation in the city of Glendale. Ruth served on the Historic Preservation Commission and is past president of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society. For more details, including submittal information and to download a nomination form, click here. Nomination forms are due by March 1, 2011.

Green Festival, March 26. The fourth annual Glendale Green Festival will be held noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at the Glendale Main Library and surrounding Xeriscape Demonstration Garden located at 5959 W. Brown Street.

This free something-for-everyone event is a great opportunity for people of all ages to learn about water and energy efficiency, recycling, gardening, alternative modes of transportation, and other green-living practices. Click here for event details.

Save the Date. The Glendale Family Bike Ride has been scheduled for Sunday, April 14, 2011 at Sahuaro Ranch Park. Check here for photos from last year's event. More information coming soon.

Contact Councilmember Joyce Clark

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