Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **March 5, 2010**

Glendale's Family Bike Ride and Green Festival. Glendale's Green Festival is teaming up with the Glendale Family Bike Ride on Saturday, March 27 and both events are bigger than ever! This free something-for-everyone event is a great opportunity for people of all ages to get a little exercise and learn about water and energy efficiency, alternative transportation, going solar, and many other green-living practices. The annual Glendale Family Bike Ride will kick off the green-themed event at Sahuaro Ranch Park at 8:00 a.m.

The bike ride is suitable for cyclists of all levels and ages. Both long and short routes are available. Free snacks and water are provided at two rest stops along the route. All participants must wear a bike helmet. For those who do not have a helmet, they can be purchased at the event for $10. Click here for more information on the Glendale Family Bike Ride.

Cyclists and non-cyclists are encouraged to head over to the Glendale Green Festival from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Glendale Main Library. The event will feature information booths, green-product vendors, free give-aways, green-living and desert gardening classes for homeowners, and a family zone powered by Radio Disney's Friends for Change with fun and games for all. Be sure to explore the SRP Water Conservation Expo for the latest in water-efficient devices. For a list of activities and classes, click here.

West Valley Advocacy Center Receives Donation. On March 2, 2010 Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market presented a donation of food items and gift cards to the West Valley Advocacy Center, located at 6829 N. 57 Ave.

During the entire month of February, customers donated items to the Fresh & Easy located at 5802 W. Olive Avenue. Fresh & Easy employee Liz Chavez coordinated the donation drive; advertising her idea with a "Healing Hearts tree" giving customers who were able to donate the opportunity to sign their names on a heart and hang it on the tree.

Lieutenant Katrina Alberty, along with the Victim's assistance caseworker, employees and volunteers, accepted the generous donation at the Fresh & Easy Store on Olive and presented Liz with a certificate of appreciation.

First-time Home Buyer Down Payment Assistance Loan. If you are a first-time homebuyer planning to purchase a home in Glendale, you may be eligible for a loan of up to $10,000 through the American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) program.

Glendale's Community Revitalization Division is sponsoring the program to offer interest-free loans of up to $10,000 for eligible home buyers with a total household income 80 percent below median, or about $52,700 for a family of four, as determined by federal income standards. For more information, call the Community Revitalization Division at 623-930-3670 or download an ADDI brochure at: http://www.glendaleaz.com/recovery/documents/ADDI_brochure.pdf.

Nominations Sought for César Chávez Diversity Award. Glendale is seeking nominations for the 2010 Promoting Diversity Award in honor of the late César Chávez. The award is part of the March 31 annual breakfast, sponsored by the Glendale Hispanic Network and the Glendale Chamber Foundation, to commemorate the powerful life and legacy of Chávez.

During the seventh annual breakfast, the award will be presented to an individual or organization in recognition of their outstanding community leadership and promotion of diversity. Past recipients have included Dr. Kino Flores, Vice Mayor Manny Martinez, Mas Inoshita and Glendale City Manager Ed Beasley.

The keynote speaker for this year's event is Luis Ibarra, president and CEO of the Friendly House, a community-based organization serving the Valley for 89 years with programs for youth and family services, adult education, workforce development and home care for the elderly and disabled.

The 2010 César Chávez Breakfast will be held March 31 at the Glendale Civic Center and is open to the public. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the Glendale Chamber Foundation at (623) 937-4754.

César Chávez was a valued leader and hero that, through dedicated and tireless efforts, secured fairness and a commitment to creating a diverse workforce. Proceeds from the event will benefit the César E. Chávez Foundation, providing grants for K-12 schools and organizations promoting tolerance and diversity in the community and for scholarships to high school students pursuing a college education.

Event sponsors include Arizona Public Service, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Chicanos Por La Causa, City of Glendale, Glendale Community College, Qwest Communications and Southwest Ambulance. For more information about the nomination award or the Breakfast, call the Glendlale Chamber Foundation at (623) 937-4754, or visit www.glendaleaz.com.

Glendale's Got Adventure. Television viewers can discover adventures in Glendale and the West Valley with the Glendale Office of Tourism's new show "Glendale's Great Adventures and Beyond" debuting Sunday, March 7 at 7 p.m. on Glendale 11 TV.

Glendale and the West Valley are filled with great places for adventure and entertainment and "Glendale's Great Adventures and Beyond" travels to a variety of destinations including: Wildlife World Zoo, Cabela's, Camelback Ranch Glendale, University of Phoenix Stadium, Glendale's X-Court, Thunderbird Conservation Park, Paseo Racquet Club, Wet 'N' Wild Water Park and Phoenix International Raceway.

The show can be seen every Sunday at 7 p.m. on Glendale 11 TV, as well as online at www.glendaleaz.com. Click here for a complete viewer's program guide and live streaming video.

Around Town

Click here for the City Council meeting schedule.

Final Public Budget Meeting. Please join us at the final FY 10-11 City Budget public meeting on Monday, March 8th, 6-8 p.m. at Glendale City Council Chambers, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. This meeting will give residents an opportunity to comment or ask questions and learn about the budget process and innovative ideas that have been implemented. Read more about the 2010-11 Glendale Budget.

Acoustic Jam Session. One does not need to be a "picker 'n' grinner" to enjoy the Acoustic Jam Sessions. Players can bring their acoustic instruments and play round-robin style, while the audience just needs to show up! The Acoustic Jam Session is at 7 p.m. on March 9 at Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave.

Glendale Folk & Heritage Festival. Over 150 performers with styles ranging from Folk and Bluegrass to Cowboy Poetry and Storytelling will entertain at Glendale Parks and Recreation's two-day Folk & Heritage Festival.

The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, March 20 and 21 at the Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area, 9802 N. 59th Ave. Attendees are welcome to enjoy the entertainment on six stages and participate in free workshops, on topics such as ukulele techniques, mountain dulcimer, beginning autoharp and banjo led by accomplished entertainers.

This unique festival includes family entertainment, historic Sahuaro Ranch site tours, blacksmith demonstrations and a children's stage and activity area. Food and refreshments will be available for purchase. Admission and most activities are free. To volunteer or for more information, call (623) 930-4200.

Glendale Coffeehouse. At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17, the Main Library continues a 20-year tradition of Coffeehouse music with these scheduled entertainers: Greg La Cosse, bringing Irish, cowboy and folk music; and Rick Nestler, with more Irish, plus sea shanties, cowboy and folk songs. The Main Library is located at 5959 W. Brown St.

2nd Annual Summer Safety Fair. In partnership with the Glendale Police, Fire, and Transportation departments, the Citizens' Police Academy Alumni of Glendale (CPAAG) is planning its 2nd Annual Summer Safety Fair, sponsored by Target. The event will be held March 20 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Target shopping center, 10404 N. 43rd Ave. At the 2nd Annual Summer Safety Fair, kids and their parents can learn about everything from fire, home, and personal safety to water and bicycle safety. With a focus on youth safety, the fair will provide safety-related information for people of all ages. For more information about the 2nd annual Summer Safety Fair, call (623) 670-5710 or e-mail info@cpaag.org.

Contact Councilmember Joyce Clark

Council Office: (623) 930-2249
Home Office: (623) 772-9795
E-mail: jclark@glendaleaz.com