Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **July 4, 2008**

Have a safe and happy 4th of July weekend!

Independence Day Holiday. City of Glendale offices and all three Glendale libraries will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. Click here for information on holiday schedule changes in Sanitation services. Read more.

Glendale's 4th of July Celebration. Get fired up for July 4th fun! Celebrate America's birthday at Glendale's 4th of July Celebration at Glendale Community College (GCC) with hot dogs, water slides, great live music and fireworks.

The fun starts with free swimming at the GCC pool beginning at 1 p.m. Gates open for the event at 6 p.m., with free admission and free parking. Entertainment on the APS Main Stage begins at 7 p.m., with a patriotic program featuring Airman First Class Samantha Renner performing the national anthem and an F-16 flyover by Luke's 63rd Fighter Squadron. The evening continues with musical entertainment by local cover band The Walkens, and of course the stunning fireworks display scheduled to begin at 8:40 p.m.

Due to the storm drain installation project along 59th Avenue, adjacent to GCC and Sahuaro Ranch Park, there will be some traffic restrictions for people coming in to the event. City officials urge attendees to plan accordingly, to arrive early and expect some delays. Read more.

Here are some driving tips from our partners at ADOT:

- Make sure you and your passengers are buckled in.
- Check your vehicle before you go; proper tire pressure is important.
- Be patient. Don't speed and don't follow other vehicles too closely.
- Get a good night's rest before a trip.
- Bring extra food and water in case of a delay or an emergency.
- Build some extra travel time into your schedule.
- Never drink and drive.

Spark Awards. Last Saturday, Glendale recognized neighborhood leaders and businesses that have contributed to their community and improved the quality of the city's neighborhoods with the Spark Awards. The awards are given annually to those individuals who 'spark' their communities into action. The Citizens' Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods presented Spark Awards in six categories at the 2008 Neighborhood Leadership Forum.
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Pictured are Commission members DeLoy Salazar, Vice Chair, Betty McDonald and Kimberly Allen who all receive service awards. Kimberly, who is a Yucca District resident, did a great job as emcee of the event. Click here for more information and a list of all the winners.

2008-09 Glendale Budget. The Glendale City Council unanimously approved the city's 2008-09 budget on June 24, 2008. In addition to adopting the next fiscal year's budget, the Council voted on the property tax levy, which amounted to a decrease of approximately 2.5 cents. Click here to view the FY09 Preliminary Budget Book (PDF)

Abandoned Shopping Carts. Have you ever wondered how to report a stray shopping cart found in your neighborhood?

The state of Arizona mandates the laws regarding shopping carts for retailers, and the city of Glendale does not handle the retrieval of such carts or any part of the process.

There is a local company, however, that many retail stores contract with to carry out these services. Arizona Cart Retrieval Company handles cart retrieval for many merchants all over the Valley, including statewide locations of Safeway, Fry's, Smart & Final, Albertson's, Family Dollar, Party City, Trader Joe's, Sprouts, Sunflower Farmers Markets, in addition to most outlets of Wal-Mart, Walgreen's, Basha's, Food City and AJ's Fine Foods.

To report an abandoned cart, residents can contact Arizona Cart Retrieval by calling 1-800-THE-CART. Leave a detailed message with the exact location of the cart including major cross streets, the name of the store the cart belongs to as well as a phone number to provide them with additional information if necessary. This information is also available on glendaleaz.com.

Around Town

Summer Band Concert July 10. Join the Summer Band for performances at the amphitheater in Murphy Park, located at 5850 W. Glendale Ave., every Thursday evening through July 24. The free performances are sponsored in part by Glendale Civic Pride and offer a great evening for the entire family. The symphony, made up of more than 100 musicians, will please crowds with renditions of marches, ballads and show tunes. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Bring a chair or blanket for the lawn seating. For more information, call (623) 930-2820.

Free CCC-CPR Class. Learn Continuous Chest Compression CPR on Thursday, July 17 from 7-9 p.m. at Midwestern University, 19555 N. 59th Ave. Classes are held once a month at various locations throughout Glendale. To reserve a spot or learn more about CCC-CPR, click here.

Christmas in July in Historic Downtown Glendale! The weather may be frightful, but shopping in downtown Glendale during Christmas in July will be delightful! Celebrate the joy of the season early on Saturday, July 19th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and enjoy a fun-filled day of holiday crafts, sweet treats and exclusive deals in Historic Downtown Glendale.

Start the fun at the Glendale Visitor Center, 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, to pick up your holiday map, coupons and gift bag (for the 1st 500 visitors) and take a spin on our themed prize wheel. Then hop on board the cool and comfortable Glendale Express Shuttle, which will provide rides throughout Old Towne and Catlin Court. Visit boutique stores, specialty shops, and downtown eateries for giveaways and great deals. Santa himself will even be there to pose with all the good little boys and girls for a free Polaroid picture.

For more information, Click here or call the Glendale Visitor Center at (623) 930-4500.

2nd Annual World Records Day. What in the WORLD is happening on July 26? Breaking records! Do you have what it takes to break a Guinness World Record? Give it your best shot at the Foothills Recreation & Aquatics Center's 2nd World Records Day on Saturday, July 26 at 10 a.m. This event will showcase a variety of established world records that are just waiting to be broken! This free event will be held in the Coyote Room at the center, located at 5600 W. Union Hills Dr. For more information, call (623) 930-4610.

Contact Councilmember Joyce Clark

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