Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **August 29, 2008**

Last Thursday **Councilmember Clark** received the Local Elected Officials Distinguished Service Award for 12 years of service and dedication to strong, effective local government in Arizona. The presentation was made at the annual Arizona League of Cities and Towns conference.

Boards & Commissions. The Glendale City Council appointed several residents to serve on advisory boards and commissions at its meeting on Tuesday. Congratulations to **Bill Jocewicz** of the Yucca District who was appointed to the Citizens Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods. In addition, **Councilmember Joyce Clark** was appointed to the Risk Management/ Workers Compensation Trust Fund Board.

For more information on Glendale's advisory groups, including a list of all boards and commissions and an online application, click here or call (623) 930-2249.

Storm Ready. After hurricane-force winds plowed through the valley last night, Glendale residents can be assured that our emergency management officials are continuously working to ensure our community is ready for whatever type of emergency comes our way. In fact, Glendale was recently named as a StormReady community by the National Weather Service (NWS.)

StormReady is a nationwide community preparedness program, sponsored by the NWS that recognizes communities who develop plans to handle all types of severe weather, from wind storms to extreme heat, as well as alert and educate citizens of potentially hazardous weather conditions.

Certain standards must be met in order to be recognized as a StormReady community. These include 24-hour warning points, such as weather radios, and an emergency operations center to monitor and receive severe weather forecasts and warnings; a system for disseminating information to alert the public of hazardous weather conditions; community programs to promote public readiness; and a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes trained severe weather spotters.

Glendale is one of only eight cities in Arizona and one of only 584 cities/communities nationwide to be designated StormReady. For information about how to make sure your family or business is ready for an emergency, visit www.glendaleaz.com/emergencymanagement.

Annual Grant Application Orientation. Glendale's Community Revitalization Division will conduct a grant application orientation session that will address key elements of the 2009-10 funding cycle. All non-profit and governmental agencies interested in applying for grant funds are encouraged to attend the workshop session, beginning at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at the Glendale Council Chambers building, 5850 W. Glendale Ave., in room B3 (basement level). The session will cover grants administration, application preparation and construction-related information.

The city of Glendale uses an on-line application system, which is designed to streamline the time and paperwork necessary to apply for grants. Attendees at the orientation program will be able to see a demonstration of the on-line system. Projects and programs that are grant-funded must benefit the residents of Glendale.

To register for the free workshops, please RSVP to the Community Revitalization Division at (623) 930-3670, TDD (623) 930-2197, or AZ Relay Service Number (711) by Sept. 5. For more information click here and scroll down to "News & Events."

Labor Day. City of Glendale offices will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day. For all households whose scheduled garbage and recycling service falls on or after the holiday, city sanitation crews will provide service on the following day. Click here for the holiday schedule for Sanitation services.

In addition, Glendale's three public libraries, as well as the Glendale Visitor Center will be closed. Read more.

The Big Read Returns to Glendale. The Big Read returns this September with Dashiell Hammett's "The Maltese Falcon." This detective novel is a brilliant literary work, as well as a thriller, a love story, and a dark, dry comedy. The 1930 novel set the standard by which all subsequent detective fiction would be judged. This book spawned director John Huston's classic 1941 film that starred Humphrey Bogart as the hardboiled private eye Sam Spade. Two other versions had been filmed prior.

The West Valley Arts Council, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Glendale Arts Commission, is sponsoring the local Big Read, which runs during September and October. On Aug. 25, more than 100 copies of the book became available to check out at the Glendale libraries – just look for the life-size Humphrey Bogart display as Sam Spade. Click here for more information, including the eight library events that have been planned in Glendale.

Around Town

Reading Therapy Dog at Main Library. Maggie the Reading Therapy Dog will return to her post at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 30. She will spend three hours in the Youth Room, patiently listening to youngsters read to her. She will return on the last Saturday of each month. Sign up for the free 15-minute sessions by calling (623) 930-3537. A family of two or more children can sign up for a 30-minute session.

The Bead Museum. Admission is free at The Bead Museum on Sundays through Labor Day weekend. The museum is located at 5754 W. Glenn Drive in downtown Glendale. Read more.

Primary Election September 2. For information on the Sept. 2 Primary Election, click here to visit the Glendale City Clerk's Web site. Click here to easily check your polling place, confirm your voter registration and more.

Teddy Bear Day. Celebrate National Teddy Bear Day in Historic Downtown Glendale! Have fun with friends, family and your favorite furry bears on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and enjoy a fun-filled day of make-and-take arts and crafts, sweet treats and exclusive deals in Historic Downtown Glendale. For more information, contact the Glendale Visitor Center at (623) 930-4500 or on the Web at www.visitglendale.com The Glendale Visitor Center is located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140.

Ballet Under the Stars. Ballet Arizona kicks off its season of Ballet Under the Stars in Glendale on Thursday, September 18 at 7 p.m., at Sahuaro Ranch Park Historical Area. Glendale residents and visitors will have the first opportunity to enjoy the popular free performance, which is a wonderful opportunity for families to enjoy an amazing cultural experience in a beautiful outdoor setting. Bring blankets or lawn chairs to enjoy this magical, free performance. For more information, visit www.balletaz.org or call (602) 381-0184.

Fire Prevention Parade. The Glendale Fire Department will host the 26th Annual Fire Prevention Parade sponsored by Southwest Gas, in downtown Glendale on Oct. 4. The ever-popular parade will begin at 10 a.m., traveling west on Glendale Avenue from 52nd to 58th avenues. It will feature fire vehicles, clowns, scouts and much more! The parade will end at Murphy Park, where families will find a fun safety fair which will include food vendors, arts and crafts, safety information booths, live music, attractions for the kids and a static display of fire apparatus from around the state. The fair will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, click here or call the Fire Department at (623) 703-1571.

Click here for the City Council Meeting schedule.

Vacant Homes and Rental Property Forum.

What you need to know to protect your neighborhood!"

Due to the overwhelming response to this forum, the location has been moved to Glendale Council Chambers, 5850 W. 59th Ave.

Vacant properties and rental homes have become a huge challenge for our community. In most cases, problems could have been minimized or prevented entirely if property owners and citizens were aware of what was happening, what to look for and what to do.

In an effort to help inform, educate and empower its residents on these issues, the Glendale Police Department is hosting a free vacant homes and rental property forum. The forum will be held from **7-9 p.m. on Monday, September 8 at the Glendale Council Chambers, 5850 W. 59th Ave.**

Pre-registration is required as seating is limited. To register, call (623) 930-4037.

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