Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **November 14, 2008**

Glendale Glitters Spectacular. The city's favorite holiday tradition, Glendale Glitters, was awarded azcentral.com's Critic's Pick for Best Festival for 2008! Don't miss this year's opening weekend on Nov. 28-29, from 5-10 p.m. each evening. Free admission and free parking mean you can bring the whole family and not break the bank!

The exciting stage show counts down to the lighting ceremony on Friday evening, beginning at 6 p.m. You won't believe your eyes as you take in the stunning display of 1.5 million lights illuminating twelve blocks of Historic Downtown Glendale.

Visitors of all ages will delight in multiple stages of entertainment, food, hand-crafted holiday gifts, a children's winter wonderland, horse-drawn carriage rides, shopping and, of course, visits with Jolly Ol' St. Nick. The charming shops and one-of-a-kind boutiques in Historic Downtown will also offer extended hours for the opening weekend. For more information, click here or call (623) 930-2299.

Free GED Classes. Do not let the lack of a high school diploma keep you from your dreams of the future. Once you obtain your General Equivalency Diploma (GED), doors to higher education and job opportunities will open.

Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., is offering a series of free basic skills/GED prep classes, three hours a session for 12 weeks, beginning Thursday, Jan. 8. The classes run from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in the large meeting room. Participants must commit to attend all 12 classes. An instructor from the Rio Salado Adult Learning Center will teach the classes. All class materials will be provided. Free on-site child care will be available for children, ages 2-9, of parents enrolled in the classes. Space is limited in the class and childcare.

Participants must be at least 16 years of age and not currently attending high school. Preference will be given to Glendale residents.

Registration is required and starts December 1. Registrants must fill out a form available at the youth reference desk. Participant's registration will be confirmed after the completed form has been reviewed by the program coordinator. For more information, call (623) 930-3537.

Vacant Homes. Please watch for problems at vacant homes in your neighborhood.

- If grass and weeds become overgrown, report the violation to Code Compliance at (623) 930-3610.
- If a crime is in progress, call 9-1-1 immediately; for other suspicious activity call the police non-emergency number, (623) 930-3000.
- If there is a continuing problem with a vacant home, call your Community Action Team at (623) 930-3380 for assistance.
- If neighbors want to do a clean-up, the Neighborhood Partnership Office has a variety of tools available to registered neighborhood and volunteer groups. A Resource Guide is also available with tips and information. Call the Neighborhood Partnerships Office at (623) 930-2868 for more information on these services.
- If you have cable television, be sure to watch "Glendale Full Circle." This month's show covers the economy – foreclosures in Glendale, where to get help and personal finances. Read more.

Click here for foreclosure information available to Glendale homeowners.

Around Town

B.A.G. I.T. (Bus and Gus Individual Training). A class is being offered to Glendale residents who are interested in learning about how to travel on the bus. No need to register, just show up and learn how to ride Valley Metro Public Transportation or Gus the Bus. Some of the lessons include how to read a bus book, plan a trip, find the closest bus stop, signal your stop and more. Classes will be held on Nov. 20 and Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., at the Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W. Brown St., in room 102. For more information, click here or call (623) 930-2035.

"Updates on Diabetes and Heart Disease Prevention." Midwestern University (MWU) faculty has teamed with Foothills Branch Library to provide an on-going series of health lectures.

"Updates on Diabetes and Heart Disease Prevention" will be presented by Kris Vijay, M.D., who will discuss the traditional and emerging risk factors for heart disease and diabetes. He will describe how plaque develops in arteries and can lead to heart attacks, as well as the role of diet, exercise and medication in disease prevention. Dr. Vijay is Director of Critical Care and Cardiovascular Research at the MWU—Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine. The lecture will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, November 18 at Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave., in the Roadrunner Room. Reservations are not necessary. Call (623) 930-3846 for more information.

$100,000 Hole-In-One Shoot-Out. Get a hole-in-one and win $100,000! It all happens at Glen Lakes Golf Course, 5450 W. Northern Ave. Qualify between November 15 and 22; the Finals will be held on Sunday, November 23. Proceeds benefit the Hook A Kid on Golf program. For more information, click here or call (623) 930-2042.

Live at the Library. Glendale Main Library's Live at the Library takes place at 7 p.m. on Thursdays in the library's auditorium at 5959 W. Brown St. On Nov. 20, Kevin Cherilla, international mountain specialist, world-adventurer, teacher and coach speaks about his adventures.

Thanksgiving Holiday. City of Glendale offices and all three libraries will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 27 and Friday, Nov. 28 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Holiday Sanitation Collection Schedule.

Weekend Events in December. On Friday and Saturday evenings, Dec. 5-20, downtown Glendale will be aglow with 1.5 million sparkling lights, and Murphy Park will be filled with entertainment, arts and crafts, delicious food and horse-drawn carriage rides. Each weekend has a special theme with all kinds of fun for all ages. Events take place 6-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday evenings. For more information, click here or call (623) 930-2299.

Dec. 5-6, Gingerbread Nights: Enjoy family fun all about gingerbread, including a gingerbread house, a gingerbread building competition, both amateur and professional, as well as fairy tale performances and all sorts of treats to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Jingle Bell Hike to Santa. Visit with Jolly Ol' St. Nick at the midpoint in this moderate two-third-mile, round-trip hike on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9-11 a.m. at Thunderbird Conservation Park, 67th Ave., north of Deer Valley Rd. Wear hiking or tennis shoes and be sure to bring water and your camera, but please leave pets at home. This event is free. For more information, call (623) 930-2038.

Free holiday concert at Midwestern University. Enjoy the "Sounds of the Season" at this free holiday concert featuring the Arizona Winds and the Arizona Arts Chorale. The concert begins at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 7 at Midwestern University, 19555 N. 59th Ave. This annual program will include a variety of band and vocal holiday favorites, plus a holiday sing-along. For more information, call (623) 572-3353 or visit azwinds.com or arizonaartschorale.org.

Holiday at the Ranch. Experience a hometown holiday and a seasonal atmosphere in the historic setting of this 17-acre ranch! The event takes place from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec 13 at Sahuaro Ranch Park's Historic Area, 59th Ave. & Mountain View Rd. Enjoy family activities, entertainment, special tours, exhibits, as well as tours of two historic houses decorated for the holidays, a gingerbread house exhibit presented by the Arizona Culinary Institute, a gingerbread craft-making activity, roving entertainers, and a "Let it Snow" play area. Bring an unwrapped toy for a community toy drive. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Dress warm for winter fun! For more information, call (623) 930-4200.

Contact Councilmember Joyce Clark

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