

At your parks...

Lifeguard Classes -

Sign up now!
It's never too early to be thinking about that summer job. Check out www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation for details on lifeguard classes which run through the end of March.



Citrus 'Zestival' at Sahuaro Ranch

Saturday, Jan. 24, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Visit Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area and celebrate its historic grapefruit and orange trees and all things citrus. Enjoy citrus-themed entertainment, cooking demonstrations, special citrus activities, and take home some citrus. Admission is free! Refreshments will be available at a nominal cost. For more information, call 623-930-4200.

Antique Tractor & Engine Show

Feb. 14 - 15
Come and enjoy this event at Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area featuring tractor pulls, parades, hayrides, antique engines, house tours and more, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. This event is sponsored by the Arizona Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association. Admission is \$5 for adults and teens; ages 12 and under are free.

Happenings

February

3.....City Council Workshop, 1:30 p.m.
6-8.....Glendale Chocolate Affaire*
.....Fri. 5-10 p.m.
.....Sat. 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
.....Sun. 12 - 5 p.m.
10.....City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
16.....Presidents' Day Holiday (city offices closed)
17.....City Council Workshop, 1:30 p.m.
24.....Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

March

3.....City Council Workshop, 1:30 p.m.
10.....City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
17.....City Council Workshop vacated
24.....City Council Budget Workshop, 1:30 p.m.
24.....City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

For more information on events, contact the Glendale Visitor Center at 623-930-4500. *Events take place in Historic Downtown Glendale

At your libraries...

Songwriters' Workshops

Saturday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
The 13th Annual Arizona Songwriters Gathering has a new home at the Glendale Main Library with activities taking place both inside and outside the building. The happening is co-sponsored by the Arizona Songwriters Association and Glendale Public Library. This free event includes workshops and is perfect for those interested in a great cultural experience with live music. Throughout the day more than 50 Arizona songwriters will perform their original works. Workshops will cover topics important to every songsmith: crafting songs, using social media, the power of performance royalties and inspiration. Call 623-930-3573 for more information.

Romance Writers' Workshops

Acclaimed author Diana Gabaldon is one of 15 presenters who are participating in a series of writers' workshops and panel discussions at Foothills Branch Library. The Arizona Authors Association will offer panel discussions on how to write romance, mystery, non-fiction and sci-fi books. Writing workshops cover creating young adult fiction and historical fiction. The series, which includes seven events, begins with "So You Want to Write a Romance" on Jan. 7 and ends on Jan. 31 with Gabaldon's appearance, where she talks about writing the bestselling "Outlander" series and other works. This series is supported in part, by a grant from the Glendale Arts Commission. For more specifics about the programs and the authors who are taking part, call 623-930-3844.



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Glendale Connection

A Newsletter for City of Glendale Residents / January - February 2009

A CHOCOLATE AFFAIRE TO REMEMBER FEBRUARY 6 - 8



The multi-award-winning Chocolate Affaire will be a chocolate lover's paradise as the 14th annual event celebrates with music, romance and an abundance of that sinfully delicious confection. Delight in the three dozen chocolate purveyors, featuring treats that include chocolate-covered potato chips, chocolate chile pecans and goat milk fudge. Also enjoy hands-on arts and crafts, face-painting, a rock-climbing wall and horse-drawn carriage rides.

What goes better with chocolate than romance? The festival has become the largest gathering of national romance novelists in the Southwest. This symposium of literary romantics offers fans the opportunity to get up close and personal with authors, as well as the chance to attend free writing workshops given by the experts.



The event is located in the heart of Historic Downtown Glendale, in Murphy Park, located at 58th and Glendale avenues. Admission and parking are free. The event runs Friday, 5-10 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sunday, 12-5 p.m. The Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Arizona's famous candy makers, Cerreta's, who is offering tours all weekend. For more information on the Glendale Chocolate Affaire, including the entertainment lineup and a list of authors making appearances, visit our Web site at www.Glendaleaz.com/events or call our special events hotline at 623-930-2299.



LIBRARY LOCATIONS

Main Library
5959 West Brown Street
623-930-3530

Foothills Library
19055 North 57th Avenue
623-930-3830

Velma Teague Library
7010 North 58th Avenue
623-930-3430

www.glendaleaz.com/library



A Message from Mayor Elaine Scruggs

World Dining Tour

During the holiday season, we are often busy with family events and activities. If you are short on time and looking for a quality dining experience, I invite you to try one of our downtown options.

Haus Murphy's offers authentic German food in an old world atmosphere with frequent live entertainment and celebrations. Located at 5739 W. Glendale Ave., Haus Murphy's won azcentral.com's 2008 Critic's Choice Award for Best German Restaurant.

If you feel like cuisine from another region of Europe, the owners and chef at A Touch of European Café will serve up authentic Polish classics at their intimate café, located at 7146 N. 57th Dr. in our Catlin Court area.

You can complete the European leg of the world dining tour with a trip to La Piazza Al Forno, located at 58th and Glendale avenues which will be featured this winter on the Food Network's popular program, "Diners, Drive-in's and Dives."

If you have a taste for something on the other side of the world, you can make the easy trip from Europe to Asia without even getting in your car. ZANG Asian Bistro, located at 6835 N. 58th Dr., features many Asian dishes to tantalize your taste buds.

Little Saigon offers more than 100 delicious Vietnamese dishes in a charming, downtown Glendale cottage, at 7016 N. 57th Ave.

For south of the border flavor, downtown Glendale has several Mexican food restaurants. At 7023 N. 58th Ave., you will find Bitzee Mama's, serving up authentic Mexican dishes for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Cee Cee's on the Corner, located at 7123 N. 58th Ave., serves up home-style Mexican food in a quaint Catlin Court bungalow. With over 60 years of history and tradition, La Perla is Glendale's oldest family-owned restaurant. Located at 5912 W. Glendale Ave., La Perla is a local favorite for Mexican food connoisseurs.

These are just some of the many local dining delights we have in downtown Glendale. Visit www.visitglendale.com for a complete list of dining options.

Bon appétit!

Mortgage Crisis Assistance

It seems that everyone is talking about the foreclosure issue in Arizona. It is estimated that one in four homeowners will be affected by foreclosure.

Here are some tips to consider if you are in this situation:

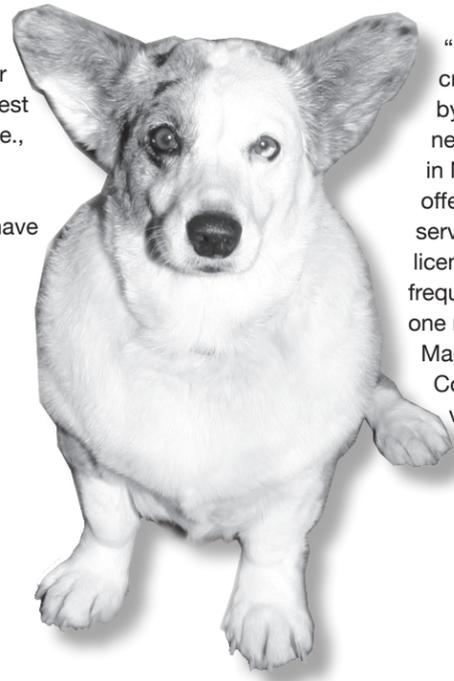
- Contact your lender and discuss your options.
- Open and respond to all mail from your lender.
- Prioritize your spending.
- Use your assets.
- Know your mortgage rights. Visit www.fha.gov for more information.
- Avoid foreclosure prevention companies. Your lender or a HUD-approved housing counselor can provide the same information free of charge.
- Never sign a legal document without reading and understanding all the terms and conditions or getting professional advice.

For additional information call the Arizona Foreclosure Help Line at 877-448-1211 (toll-free) or visit the Arizona Department of Housing Web site, at www.housingaz.com.

Worried About a Stray Animal?

Contact Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) at 602-506-PETS. MCACC is a full-service animal welfare agency with shelter, adoptions, field services, licensing and education programs. MCACC strives to take care of animals and stay proactive, providing programs to prevent problems before they occur.

Last year, MCACC cared for 55,974 dogs and cats in its shelters. More than 24,000 of those animals were adopted out, returned to their owners or transferred to other animal welfare organizations. While MCACC has not euthanized any healthy, adoptable animals since October 2005, they still euthanized more than 30,000 animals last year that were sick, aggressive or had other behavior problems.



"Uno por Uno" is a proactive and creative program that was created by MCACC in 2007 to address the needs of underserved neighborhoods in Maricopa County. Uno por Uno offers free or low-cost spay/neuter services, rabies vaccination clinics, license clinics and education on a frequent and repetitive basis throughout one neighborhood. To learn more about Maricopa County Animal Care and Control and the Uno por Uno program visit www.maricopa.gov/pets.

Free Water Education Programs for Glendale Teachers



It's never too early to become water wise! That's why the city of Glendale Water Conservation Office provides free water education programs to encourage students to utilize critical thinking skills and to get involved in the community. Classes can receive free educational material and listen to presentations on water conservation and resources,

Arizona water history, and desert plant adaptations through Glendale's Water Watchers program.

The Glendale Water Conservation Office is booking quickly for classroom visits. Teachers interested in the program for the current school year must contact Joanne Toms at 623-930-3535 or jtoms@glendaleaz.com by January 30, 2009 to obtain free materials and schedule guest speakers.

Glendale Assists Low Income Residents in Filing for Earned Income Tax Credits

The city of Glendale is partnering with the IRS, Arizona's Department of Economic Security (DES) and AARP to encourage residents to learn more about the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Glendale residents can receive free tax preparation and financial counseling at the following sites:

DES Office, 6010 N. 57th Drive
Jan. 26 – Apr. 13, Mondays, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(first come, first-served basis)

AARP services-Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W. Brown St.
Feb. 2 – Apr. 15, Mondays, Tuesdays,
Wednesdays, and Fridays 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Thursdays 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Saturdays 9-11 a.m.

Household income and number of dependent children determine eligibility. Income must be below \$38,646 in 2008 to receive the credit.

For more information on applying for the EITC, call the IRS office for the Phoenix metro area at 602-207-8031.

Check Out Free TV Programs about Glendale

Did you know that TV shows seen on the city's TV station Glendale 11, are also available for checkout at Glendale's three libraries? Programs such as "Glendale's Historic Hidden Treasures" featuring historic buildings, arts and culture in Glendale can be checked out for free. Other shows include: "This is Glendale," "Glendale's Got Art!" and several past festivals. There are more than a dozen Glendale 11 TV shows available for check out. For more information, visit www.glendaleaz.com/library.



Firearm Safety

Does the firearm in your home protect you or endanger you? Owning a firearm is a great responsibility; keeping it in your house is even greater. It is up to you to take the proper steps to

secure it and keep your family out of harm's way. Statistics show that most firearm accidents within the home can be prevented.

Here are some frightening facts:

- Most unintentional firearm-related deaths among children occur in or around the home. Fifty percent occur within the home of the victim and 40 percent occur within the home of a friend or relative.
- Most unintentional shootings among children occur in the late afternoon, on the weekend, during summer months, and during the holiday season when children are most likely to be unsupervised.
- Most unintentional firearm-related deaths involve guns that were loaded and accessible and occur when children play with guns.
- Approximately 3.3 million children live in households with firearms that are sometimes left loaded and unlocked.
- As many as 75 to 80 percent of first and second-graders know where their parents' gun is kept.
- Many three-year-olds are strong enough to pull the trigger of a handgun.

Take these steps to keep your family safe:

- Look at your firearm storage from the perspective of a child; what appears to be a secure storage arrangement to you may only present a slight challenge to a curious child.
- Use a trigger lock or a gun safe designed to prevent unauthorized users from gaining access to the weapon.
- Lock guns and ammunition in separate places.
- Remove guns from a home where children or depressed individuals can access them.
- Ask neighbors and relatives if guns are kept in their homes and how they are stored. Your child's safety is your responsibility.

Do you want to get rid of a firearm? If you have firearms or ammunition you no longer want, contact the Glendale Police Department non-emergency line at 623-930-3000. An officer will pick up the item(s) for you. For further questions, contact your CAT representative at 623-930-3380.

Sync Your Computer to Glendale

Navigate to www.glendaleaz.com for the latest information on events, exciting sporting announcements, news and more on what's going on in Glendale. You can also receive e-bulletins to find out about neighborhood happenings, news from your council district and other city updates. Go to www.glendaleaz.com and click on the 'online services' tab at the top of the main home page. From your computer you can watch the city's award-winning TV station, Glendale 11, as well. Go to www.glendaleaz.com/glendale11 and click on the 'video streaming' link.