

Sahuaro

Weekly Update



"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."

Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona

April 4, 2008



Glendale's Annual Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival. The city of Glendale's Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival will celebrate its 25th year with a tremendous lineup of local, regional and national entertainment in Historic Downtown Glendale April 12-13.

National blues headliners for the festival will include Roomful of Blues, whose latest album currently tops the Billboard Blues chart, and the Tommy Castro Band, whose impressive experience includes touring as the opening act for B.B. King and recording with John Lee Hooker. Jazz headliners will include the Grammy-nominated Stanley Jordan, as well as the legendary David 'Fathead' Newman, featuring the Papa John DeFrancesco Trio.

The Glendale Arts Commission is helping commemorate the 25th anniversary of the festival by commissioning an eclectic mix of artisans representing myriad art forms to work on-site, giving event attendees a one-of-a-kind experience to add to the musical performances. The art will range from interactive voice-changing music to improvisational poetry to an incarnation of the music on paper. One of the artists will even create unique sculptures of cacti made from vinyl records.

The city of Glendale's Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival is not just about music. The event will also feature craft artisans, and delicious food and beverages including wine tasting by Kokopelli Winery.

The event will run 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, April 12 and Noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday, April 13. Admission and parking are free.

[Click here](#) for more information including the full entertainment line-up.



Downpayment Assistance for First-time Home Buyers. The downturn in the local real estate market may benefit prospective, first-time home buyers who have a low to moderate income and are looking for an affordable home. First-time home buyers planning to purchase a home in Glendale, may be eligible for the American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) program.

Glendale's Community Revitalization Division is sponsoring the program to offer an interest-free loan of up to \$10,000 for eligible home buyers who have a total household income that is 80 percent below median. The program is coordinated by Community Housing Resources of Arizona (CHRA).

For more information or to set up an appointment to begin the application process, [click here](#) or call CHRA at (602) 631-9780.



Fresh & Easy Market. Councilmember Frate attended the Grand Opening of the new Fresh & Easy Market at 59th and Olive avenues on Wednesday, April 2. Many Barrel District residents came out to shop at their first store in Glendale. Fresh & Easy presented the Peoria Educational Foundation with a donation of \$1,000.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

67th Avenue Roadway Improvements. Drivers who travel along 67th Avenue from Camelback Road to Glendale Avenue and from Olive Avenue to Thunderbird Road will experience restrictions beginning this month as the city works to add new sidewalks, curbs and other road improvements in the area.

Infrastructure improvements along 67th Avenue from Camelback to Glendale began March 31, 2008 and are scheduled to be complete in Jan. 2009. The second section involves 67th Avenue from Olive Avenue to north of Thunderbird, this construction is scheduled to begin this month and should be complete by April 2009. [Read more.](#)

59th Avenue Closure Alert – this weekend. Northbound lanes on 59th Avenue from Deer Valley/Melinda Lane to 55th Avenue will be completely closed from 10 p.m. Friday, April 4 to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 5 as crews work to complete paving. Southbound lanes will remain open.

Around Town

Take Back the Night. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and “Take Back the Night” is a national theme to support Survivors of Sexual Assault (many of which are children). A New Leaf is one of the partners at the West Valley Advocacy Center, providers of counseling for victims of crime.

You are invited to join A New Leaf at a bowl-a-thon to raise funds for victims. The event is from 2:30-4:30 p.m., Sunday, April 13 at Brunswick Zone Glendale, 59th Ave just north of Bell. The cost is \$20 per person which covers the cost two hours of bowling and shoes. Ten of the twenty dollars will be donated to the victims served at the West Valley Advocacy Center. There will be a raffle drawing, candy, and bakery items for sale. Information about Sexual Assault and the resources located at the Advocacy Center will also be available.

We hope that you will join us in this worthy cause! Please RSVP by April 10th to (623) 930-3722.

Sahuaro Ranch Sundays. Come and join your friends and neighbors at Sahuaro Ranch Sundays, a series of free outdoor concerts: April 6: [Rondavous](#); April 20: Three-Legged Dog, Whistle Stop and Sue Harris; and April 27: Nathan Dean. All concerts begin at 3 p.m. For more information, call (623) 930-4200.

Glendale Family Bike Ride 2008. Ready, set, ride! That’s right, it’s time for the annual Glendale Family Bike Ride, and 2008’s event promises plenty of family fun and exercise. This year’s ride is set for Sunday, April 13 with registration from 7-9 a.m. The Ride begins at 8 a.m. at Sahuaro Ranch Park, 59th Avenue and Mountain View Road. Riders have a choice of a 6- or 12-mile ride. Both routes are on neighborhood streets and segments of the Thunderbird Paseo Pathway. If you have young children riding, you may want to go on the shorter route. [Read more.](#)

National Library Week. Join Glendale’s Libraries in celebrating National Library Week, April 13-19. National Library Week began in 1958 and is sponsored by the American Library Association. Glendale Public Library is pleased to observe this very special week! [Read more.](#)

Relay for life. Each year, across the nation, one event brings entire communities together to take part in the fight against cancer. The event is the American Cancer Society Relay For Life®.

Glendale will host its 4th Relay for Life on April 19-20 from 6 p.m. Saturday until 6 a.m. Sunday. Glendale’s Relay will take place on the Ironwood High School football field. Teams make camp for this overnight event while members from each team take turns continuously walking or running around the track.

For more information contact event chair GFD Battalion Chief Gary Benson, at (623) 693-0361 or at wbenson@glendaleaz.com. [Read more.](#)

[Click here](#) for the City Council Meeting schedule.

Contact Councilmember Frate
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