

Sahuaros

Weekly Update

*The Sahuaros District:
Celebrating Recreation, Education and Cooperation*

Councilmember Gary Sherwood - Glendale, Arizona

October 31, 2014

Glendale's Director Receives 'Turnaround of the Year' Award from Phoenix Business Journal. Glendale's Finance Director, Tom Duensing, was awarded the "Turnaround of the Year" Award from the Phoenix Business Journal (PBJ) at a recent ceremony in Phoenix. The PBJ's Outstanding CFOs Program was created to identify the best CFOs in the Valley who have compiled a track record of financial success in their organizations.



Under Duensing's leadership, Glendale's finances have recently received positive news and an improved rating from Moody's Investors Service, from negative to stable. In addition, Moody's affirmed Glendale's General Obligation bond rating of A3, an upper medium-investment grade rating held since August 2013.

Duensing began his tenure with Glendale in October 2013, creating a five-year budget forecast and a balanced budget approved by the city council, which was accomplished with no reductions in city staff or services.

He is known for having a personable and understandable style of explaining the complex budget to a wide audience from key stakeholders in the city to the media or local business owners. Duensing is a CPA with more than 20 years experience in government finance. He previously served as Assistant City Manager for the City of Maricopa and spent 16 years at the City of Tempe where he served as both Deputy Financial Services Manager and City Auditor.

The Phoenix Business Journal also featured an article on Mr. Duensing and the other award winners in the publication's Oct. 24 print edition.

Veterans Honored at 12th Annual Glendale Memorial Ceremony. The Glendale Veterans Memorial Association and the Glendale Library and Arts Division cordially invite you to attend the 12th annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 10:00 a.m. at the Glendale Veterans Memorial on the front lawn of the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.



In honor of Arizona's service men and women, during this ceremony, members of the Glendale Veterans Memorial Association, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans will replace the current flags from the memorial with new ones. These flags include an American flag, an Arizona state flag, and a POW/MIA flag.

This ceremony is free and open to the public. Please note that the Glendale Main Library itself will be closed for the holiday. For more information, call the Main Library at 623-930-3531.

New Restaurant to Open at Glendale Airport. The Glendale Municipal Airport will soon be home to a new restaurant proprietor, Something Special Aviation (SSA) Café, for pilots, staff and visitors to enjoy while at the facility.

The new restaurant will open on Nov. 3, with daily hours from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The menu for breakfast and lunch will feature waffles, eggs, breakfast burritos, coffees and lattes, pastries, sandwiches, salads, burgers and more.

SSA Café is an extension of Something Special Catering & Events, a company with more than 20 years of culinary service experience in San Jose, CA and Scottsdale.

The Café will hold a Fall Festival and Open House event on Sunday, Nov. 2, from 2-6 p.m., with complimentary food, live music and raffle giveaways. Raffle prize proceeds and donations will benefit Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation.

The restaurant is located in the Glendale Municipal Airport Terminal, at 6801 N. Glen Harbor Blvd., suite 104. Located just five miles west of downtown Glendale, five miles east of Luke Air Force Base, and 30 minutes northwest of downtown Phoenix, Glendale's 477-acre modern airport features a beautifully designed two-story, 18,000 square-foot terminal, a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Contract control tower, and complete airport services for general aviation and corporate jet traffic.

Around Town

Council Meetings and Workshops. To review the posted agenda and web video of Council Workshops and meetings, please [click here](#).

Downtown Glendale Shopping Season Begins with Holiday Open House. The holidays are about tradition and historic Downtown Glendale is set to continue one of its own with a seasonal favorite, the 18th Annual Holiday Open House, November 8. The shopping extravaganza runs from 10a.m.-4p.m. with feature shops in Glendale's Old Towne and Catlin Court districts offering special deals to help shoppers find that perfect holiday gift.

Shoppers will be transported into a winter wonderland, as storeowners will decorate their businesses with festive holiday lights and decorations. Shoppers can enjoy artist demonstrations and complimentary refreshments.

For the second year in a row, participants will also be encouraged to make a holiday ornament ranging from \$1 to \$5 each that will be displayed on the community holiday tree in Catlin Court. Proceeds will benefit the Military Family Support Group. Also, this event marks the conclusion of the Treats For The Troops drive. Visitors can donate items for holiday-themed gift boxes that will be shipped to service men and women in mid-November just in time for the holiday season. Among the suggested gift box items –baby wipes, small package of non-perishable snacks and phone cards. To see a full list of all suggested gift items please visit www.visitglendale.com.

Holiday messages from the heart can also be shared with military personnel through free greeting cards that will be available in the Glendale Visitor Center, located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140. Staff members at the Visitor Center will also provide event maps and event details. The first 100 visitors at the center will receive a free West Valley Info Pack.

For more information, call 623-930-4500 or [click here](#).

Things to do in November with Glendale's Award Winning Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services Division. Explore an array of family fun events available through November. Have you started thinking about Thanksgiving dinner yet? Want to impress your guests with cute and fun desserts? Glendale's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Division is featuring a fun Thanksgiving cupcakes class to teach exciting and unusual ways to decorate for the holiday using fondant. Learn a combination of art and pastry recipes sure to impress family and friends on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Foothills Recreation & Aquatics Center.

Through the month of November, there are classes, events and fun for the entire family. A six-week guitar class series begins on Nov. 10, at the Gallery Glendale at Westgate. Players from little hands to the adult can find a class to hone their musical skills. View a list of the guitar classes and other featured events beginning in November.

If the fall weather makes outdoor activities more attractive, check out the organic gardening classes, softball and golf classes. Review a full schedule of things-to-do through November with the Glendale's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Division.

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