



Sahuaro Weekly Update



"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."

Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona

December 18, 2009



Jingle Bell Rockin' Nights, Dec. 18-19. Bring your dancing shoes for a rockin' good time in downtown Glendale on Dec. 18-19 and enjoy Jingle Bell Rockin' Nights for music, fun and excitement amid 1.5 million lights!

The event, with free admission and free parking, will feature two stages of entertainment. The holiday stage will include performances by Peppermint James on Friday night and Terashain on Saturday evening. Other highlights will be holiday arts and crafts, delicious food and beverage, horse-drawn carriage rides and visits with Santa Claus. Bring your camera, or have Santa's helper snap a photo for a small fee.

A special treat for attendees will be the APS clowns, who will bring holiday cheer, do face painting and provide free make-and-take crafts. Children will also enjoy carnival-style rides and inflatables.

Many of the downtown merchants will offer extended hours to help visitors get their holiday shopping done! For more information on Glendale Glitters' Jingle Bell Rockin' Nights, [click here](#) or call the Special Events Hotline at (623) 930-2299.



Camelback Ranch-Glendale Wins Prestigious Design Award. Glendale's state-of-the-art spring training facility, Camelback Ranch-Glendale, was honored by Ballpark Digest with an Editor's Choice award for its bold re-imagining of the spring-training complex. The spring training home of the Chicago White Sox and Los Angeles Dodgers, Camelback Ranch-Glendale was recognized for bringing in the feel of a classic training camp with all the amenities of a modern today. Ballpark Digest Awards are chosen by the editors of the Web site following nominations from teams and fans alike. [Read more.](#)

Loop 101 Improvements between 75th Avenue and Union Hills Drive (Beardsley Connector Project). A much-anticipated project to improve Loop 101 freeway access between 75th Avenue and Union Hills Drive, reduce bottlenecks at the Union Hills Drive interchange and improve regional freeway access in the Northwest Valley has begun.

The improvements include widening Union Hills Drive at the Loop 101 interchange to include an additional through lane and turn lane in each direction to improve traffic flow. The northbound off-ramp will also be widened to accommodate more traffic exiting the freeway.

In addition, a new system of ramps will be constructed between 75th Avenue and Union Hills Drive to provide new freeway access at Beardsley Road, which will include modifying the southbound freeway ramps and auxiliary (merge) lanes at 75th Avenue and Union Hills Drive. A new southbound frontage road will also be constructed on the west side of Loop 101 between 75th Avenue and Union Hills Drive.

A new on-ramp bridge will be constructed at the Union Hills Drive interchange that will allow drivers traveling from Beardsley Road on the new frontage road to enter northbound Loop 101 without stopping at a traffic signal at the interchange. The innovative bridge design is the first of its kind in the state and solves a unique design challenge to efficiently move traffic onto the freeway at this location. Work will begin on the Union Hills bridge in January. The second phase of improvements to this stretch of Loop 101, the Beardsley Connector Project, is expected to start early next year.

ADOT is managing the construction of the improvements through an intergovernmental agreement with the cities of Peoria and Glendale, as well as the Maricopa Association of Governments. The \$20 million combined construction projects are funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The improvements at Union Hills Drive are scheduled to take approximately two years to complete. The Beardsley Connector Project is expected to be finished in mid-2011.

Westbound Loop 101 will be restricted to one lane overnight from Monday night until Wednesday morning between 67th and 75th avenues for work on the Loop 101 improvement project.

Drivers should anticipate delays and allow extra time, or adjust travel to avoid closures and restrictions. ADOT appreciates your patience as we construct improvements.

For more information, call (480) 890-3055. [Read more.](#)

Youth Sports Details:

League games will be played between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Saturdays, Feb. 27 – April 10. All leagues are coed. League prices include seven games, team shirt, participation certificate and trophy. Other league details are as follows:

League	Ages	Resident	Non
Kickball	3-5	\$35	\$45
T-ball	4-6	\$42	\$52
Basketball	5-12	\$50	\$60
Flag Football	7-13	\$45	\$55
Cheerleading	7-14	\$37	\$47
Box Soccer	9-14	\$42	\$52

Sign Up Now for Glendale Youth Sports Leagues! Sign up is taking place now for the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department's spring youth sports leagues. Leagues that will be offered this season include coach pitched kickball, t-ball, basketball, flag football, cheerleading and box soccer.

Registration is accepted through Jan. 9 by calling (623) 930-2820, online at www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation or in person at the Glendale Parks and Recreation office, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. Late registration is Jan. 9-15 and must include a \$10 late fee. For more information, call (623) 930-2834.

Glendale Public Library's January Recession Response Classes. The economy has affected almost everyone in the Valley, but some people are suffering more than others. Glendale Public Library offers help for people who are in the midst of a job search, facing bankruptcy or foreclosure, or simply struggling with the stress of the economic turmoil.

Upcoming free computer classes for job seekers include:

Saturday, Jan. 2, 10 a.m. – Getting an E-mail Account (Main Library)

Saturday, Jan. 9, 10 a.m. – Writing Your Resume (Main Library)

Saturday, Jan. 16, 10 a.m. – Job Searching Online (Main Library)

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 1 p.m. – Job Searching after 40 with AARP (Foothills Branch)

Because seating is limited reservations are required for the computer classes. For classes at the Main Library, call (623) 930-3555. To RSVP for the Foothills Branch class, call (623) 930-3868.

Other free classes in the series include:

Monday, Jan. 4, 6:30 p.m. – How to Succeed in Your Job Search. (large meeting room at the Main Library) Get advice from the real experts. Jump start your job search with the help of a panel of experts gathered by the Resume Writers Council of Arizona. Join the discussions and Q&A focusing on four vital job search areas: your career, resume development, interviewing skills and job search process, including online resume distribution. RWCA members will be available to evaluate your current resumes, giving you tips to improve how you look in print. Registration is recommended; call (623) 930-3555.

Saturday, Jan. 30, 10 a.m. – Credit Reports and Credit Scores. (auditorium of the Main Library) How do you read a credit report? Just what does your credit score mean and how can you improve it? These and other questions will be answered by Consumer Credit Counseling Services. Registration is not required. For more information, call (623) 930-3555.

GU101 Graduates – Discover the History of Glendale. Glendale's start as a small agricultural community and growth into a sporting and entertainment destination makes for a fascinating history lesson. As the city celebrates its 100th anniversary, a new class offers Glendale residents, who are also graduates of the Glendale University 101, an interactive class where students will learn about the people, places, events, and stories that set Glendale apart from other places in the Valley.

John Akers, historian and the Historic Education & Outreach Coordinator at the Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area, will lead the class from 2-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14 in the Fruit Packing Shed in the Sahuaro Ranch Park, 59th Avenue and Mountain View Road.

Registration for this graduate class is open and is due no later than Jan. 7. To register, visit: www.glendaleaz.com/communitypartnerships and click on Glendale University classes to print out an application or call 623-930-2868 to receive an application by mail or fax. Registration for this class is mandatory and will be limited to the first 30 Glendale University 101 graduate students who apply.

City Holiday Closures. City of Glendale offices and all three libraries will be closed on Friday, Dec. 25 in observance of Christmas and Friday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day. Residential garbage and recycling collection shifts one day later to avoid the holiday, therefore residents who normally receive service on Friday will receive service on Saturday on those weeks.

Contact Councilmember Frate

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