

Yucca Weekly Update



Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet.

May 18, 2012



Thank you to all the Yucca District residents who took time to attend the district meeting Wednesday evening. I would also like to thank the speakers for providing a lot of great information.

National Public Works Week Celebrates Dedicated Employees. Do you ever think about how your garbage is disposed of once it leaves your curb? Who repairs traffic signals, or who is on call to ensure your water is delivered to your home twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week?

These are just a few of the many services carried out by Glendale's public works departments.

May 20-26 marks the national observance of Public Works Week. The theme for this year's recognition is "Public Works: Creating a Lasting Impression." The theme speaks to the never-ending effort of public works professionals to use sustainable solutions to bring their communities the highest possible quality of life within a framework of environmental, social and economic responsibility.



Some Public Works employees recently garnering recognition for the city are winners in the Solid Waste Association of America (SWANA) state ROAD-EO competition for skills in their field. The first-place winners will advance to the national competition.

- *Steve Carrizoza - 1st place Mechanic and Top Gun winner*
- *Hershel Wright - 1st place Scraper and Top Gun winner*
- *Charles Margelot - 2nd place Compactor*

The Water Services Department also won several awards this past year, including the WESTMARC Best of the West Excellence in Innovation Award for the Oasis Groundwater Treatment Plant. This esteemed award recognizes outstanding contributions to the image, lifestyle and economic development of the West Valley. The Conservation and Sustainable Living Office was also honored by the Valley Forward Association with the prestigious Crescordia Award for innovative education and public outreach programs.

And just last week at the 2012 Annual Arizona Water Conference, the Water Services Department was honored with four prominent awards to include Large Distribution System of the Year, and Large Collection System of the Year. City staffers Dave Hutchinson and Anita Lutringer also won Plant Mechanic of the Year and the Water Treatment Plant Operator of the Year, respectively.

Finally, The Transportation Department and staff also have garnered numerous awards recently, including being honored at the Valley Metro Clean Air Campaign Awards. Executive Director Jamsheed Mehta was given the Leadership Award for outstanding accomplishments, and the department was given the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Livable Communities Award.

For additional information on any and all of these public works departments, [click here](#).

Glendale Public Libraries Offer Free Summer Reading Activities. School's out and parents are searching for affordable activities that not only prevent summer boredom but also keep their kids mentally sharp. One simple solution is to participate in the free programs offered by the Glendale Public libraries.

Beginning May 29, the libraries are “going to bat” for summer reading with The Arizona Republic and Arizona Diamondbacks’ sponsored “Read, Play, Win!” reading incentive program. In addition to the reading program, each library will feature a variety of weekly events.

Teens ages 12 to 18, are invited to change the way they view the world with “Altered: Teen Summer Reading 2012.” The prizes for this program include coupons from Harkins Theaters, Sonic and Cousins Subs. Teens can participate online, either at home or in the library. Those who complete the program will be entered in a drawing to win a Nook Color. The teen summer programs include activities from upcycling crafts to a water war party.

For more information about the summer reading programs and other summer events, [click here](#) or call 623-930-3530. Better yet, stop by the Glendale Main Library at 5959 W. Brown Street, the Foothills Branch Library at 19055 N. 57th Avenue, or the Velma Teague Branch Library at 7010 N. 58th Avenue.

JiveMind in Downtown Glendale. The Downtown Glendale Jazz Jam, coordinated by JiveMind Cooperative Music Labs, offers musicians the opportunity to play with professional jazz artists weekly. The jam will be held every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. All ages are welcome to attend for just \$5 per person. JiveMind is located at 5754 W. Glenn Dr. For more information, call 602-412-7093 or 623-931-0235.

Assistance for Job Seekers. Job coaching and assistance will be offered at the [Glendale Main Library](#), 5959 W. Brown St., from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., June 7, 14, 21 and 28. Job Searching Labs are held in the large meeting room and are facilitated by Steve Schrade, former director of Human Resources for Bashas’, and Estrella Mountain Community College instructor.

Free Job Searching Workshops will also be offered in the large meeting room on the following times and dates:

- 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. June 5, How to Find and Get Your Perfect Job
- 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. June 19, Writing a Winning Resume
- 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. June 26, Basic Computer Literacy for Your Job Search

To register for the workshops, call 623-930-3531.

Job coaching and assistance will be offered at [Velma Teague Branch Library](#), 7010 N. 58th Ave., from 2 to 4 p.m. June 6, 13, 20 and 27. Job Searching Labs at the Teague are facilitated by Michael Burton, Information Technology Specialist at Glendale Public Library. No registration is necessary.

All job searching labs and workshops at the Glendale Public Libraries are made possible in part by a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 along with the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records. For more information, visit glendaleaz.com/library and click on ‘Assistance for Job Seekers.’

Around Town

Glendale’s Summer Art Camp. This popular camp has been expanded to 16 workshops offered at two locations. Sixteen teaching artists will engage youth from 6-13 in a wide array of artistic endeavors. Each of the 4-day workshops are \$20 and will take place at either the Sahuaro Ranch Park Fruit Packing Shed, 9802 N. 59th Ave., or at the Rose Lane Recreation Center, 5003 W. Marlette Ave. For more information, or to register, [click here](#).

Watering your Landscape. The Watering Your Landscape class provides hands-on instruction on how long and how often to run your water system. Participants gain practice setting actual irrigation timers. This class will be held on Tuesday, May 22 at 6 p.m. at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. While the classes are free, pre-registration is required. All members of the public are welcome to attend, although energy-saving devices are available for Glendale residents only. To register for the free classes, call 623-930-3760.

Child Safety Presentation at Foothills Library. Glendale police officers, detectives and CSI technicians will be joined by McGruff the Crime Dog at the Foothills Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave., on May 23rd from 10 a.m. to noon to speak with parents, guardians and educators about child safety. The event is part of a national campaign called Take 25, created by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). Glendale law enforcement personnel will be on hand to fingerprint children, give out balloons and stickers and offer tips to parents on speaking to their children about safety. Take 25 campaign encourages parents to take 25 minutes to speak with their children about ways to prevent abduction, and offers 25 ways to make kids safer at home, on the Internet, at school and “out and about.”

Contact Councilmember Joyce Clark

Council Office: (623) 930-2249

Home Office: (623) 772-9795

E-mail: jclark@glendaleaz.com