Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **June 18, 2010**

New LED Traffic Lights. Drivers in Glendale will be using two kinds of green at city traffic lights: green energy and brighter green lights. Glendale's Transportation Department has upgraded traffic lights citywide to LED in an effort to conserve energy and reduce costs. LED, or light-emitting diode, last longer, use less power to energize and have a robust sharpness compared to regular lights.

A grant from the Department of Energy enabled the city to complete the conversion of LED lights throughout Glendale. The grant enabled 30 intersections to be converted making all of Glendale's 190 signalized intersections equipped with LED lighting.

The higher quality lamps will require less maintenance, resulting in fewer lane closures due to repairs. Energy and cost savings are substantial, with anticipated savings of $92,000 in annual maintenance and $65,520 in annual energy costs for the newly converted intersections. Total energy and maintenance savings for the 30 intersections will be around $157,520 annually. With 40 lights (red, green, yellow) per intersection the total conversion of 7,600 lights to LED has savings comparable to the amount of power generated for 300 homes annually.

The city's commitment to being green continues with the old traffic lights. Hundreds of reflectors, lenses and bulbs will be auctioned in July and recycled.

Bicentennial Park Reopens

After six months of construction, Bicentennial Park will reopen to the public. The park was selected to receive renovations as part of the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department's commitment to upgrade and update older parks.

A reopening ceremony will be held at the Park, located at 71st and Missouri avenues, at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 30. The public is welcome to attend.

Upgrades to the park include turf and landscape, renovated irrigation systems, basketball and racketball courts resurfaced, new playgrounds with shade covers, pathways, picnic ramadas and security lighting.

Second Parks & Recreation Plan Update Meeting. Glendale residents are being asked to attend the second community workshop to develop the priorities and the future of Glendale's parks and recreation system.

The department is in the process of updating the existing Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The current master plan was adopted by City Council in February 2002 and since that time many changes have occurred within Glendale and the surrounding areas. The master plan identifies community priorities for recreation and park facilities along with outlining a plan of action.

The second public workshop will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 29 at the Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W. Brown St. This second meeting will feature information on the plan and an opportunity for attendees to provide feedback on the results of the first community workshop, community focus groups and interviews, online survey and community-wide survey.

Glendale residents' input during the planning process is critical to help establish priorities for current and future parks and recreation services, programs and facilities offered within Glendale. For more information, click here or call Glendale Parks and Recreation at (623) 930-2820.

Sewer Appeal Process and Rate Schedules. Each year in May, your sewer charge is adjusted based on your actual water usage billed for the winter months of January, February and March. Although each customer has a water meter to determine water consumption, there is no meter to measure how many gallons each customer sends into the sewer system. Sewer appeal process and rate schedules

Monsoon Ready. The Valley's official monsoon begins today, according to the National Weather Service. Though it might be a while longer before we see those high winds and rain, it is important that residents and visitors are educated on safety measures as well as informed on

what to expect in turbulent monsoon conditions.

The city of Glendale has created a Web site dedicated to monsoon information, where the public can find a wealth of information about preparing for an emergency, especially during the monsoon.

Preparation can prevent confusion and allay fears for your family in a time of crisis, and can also prevent injury or property damage. Click here to visit the site.

Starlets and Stripes at Centennial Nite Lights. Downtown Glendale shops are celebrating Glendale's Centennial by recognizing well-known celebrities from the last century. Shop owners are encouraging guests to dress like their favorite celebrities from the past during the Centennial Nite Lights celebration. The event will take place in Downtown Glendale tonight - June 18 from 5-9 p.m. in Catlin Court.

Participating shops include The Astrology Store (James Dean theme), the Cottage Garden (Marilyn Monroe theme) and The Country Maiden and Papa Ed's (The Wizard of Oz theme). Click here for more information and a full list of participating shops and themes.

Around Town

Click here for the City Council meeting schedule.

Hynotism and Magic Featured at Show. Join us at the LIVE HOOPS, Inc. and Glendale Parks and Recreation Department presentation of Mystified Fun, a high-energy, interactive hypnotism and magic show. Be amazed, surprised and laugh out loud! The show features James Kellogg Jr., a master hypnotist who has performed on television, film and radio around the country and overseas.

Two shows will be held on Saturday, June 19, at the Copper Canyon High School Performing Arts Center, 9126 W. Camelback Rd. The 5 p.m. show features a youth and teen fashion show sponsored by Old Navy. Admission is $15 per person. The 8 p.m. show features the dance crew Anonymous, and tickets are $15, $20 and $25 depending on the proximity to the stage. Tickets may be purchased by calling (623) 930-2820, online at www.mystifiedfun.com or at the show. All proceeds go to the funding of youth programs coordinated by LIVE HOOPS, Inc. and Glendale Parks and Recreation.

Authors @ the Teague. Four "Women Who Kill" authors, Juliet Blackwell, Sophie Littlefield, Jeanne Matthews, and Zoe Sharp will discuss and sign their latest high-body-count books during the Authors @ the Teague "MysteryPalooza" at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 24 at Velma Teague Branch Library, 7010 N. 58th Ave. For more information, please call (623) 930-3439.

Summer Band Concert, June 24. Enjoy renditions of marches, ballads and show tunes at 8 p.m., Thursday evenings through July 22. It's FREE and the entire family is welcome! The concerts take place in Historic Downtown Glendale at the Glendale Amphitheater, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. Click here for more information.

Help to Get Your Business Off the Ground. Instructors from the Maricopa Community Colleges Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will be in the auditorium of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 28 to offer "Business Launch." The free seminar is designed for individuals who are in the early stages of starting a business.

This once-a-month workshop answers most of the basic questions that a prospective business owner would have, such as how to develop a business plan, how to obtain financing and types of business ownership. To register, call (480) 784-0590.

Acoustic Jam Session. This evening of musical fun is an opportunity for everyone to bring their acoustic instruments and play round-robin style. Audience members are always welcome. Join us at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 30 at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown Street, in the large meeting room. For more information call (623) 930-3573.

Reel Talk Film Series. Superman the Movie (1978), starring Christopher Reeve, Marlon Brando, Gene Hackman will play at 1 p.m., Saturday, July 3 at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Join film expert Jeannie Berg in the Auditorium. For more information, call (623) 930-3573.

World Records Day. Think you've got what it takes to break a Guinness World Record? If so, come join the fun and give it your best shot at the Foothills 4th Annual World Records Day. A variety of established world records are waiting to be broken from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 17 at Foothills Recreation & Aquatics Center, 5600 W. Union Hills Rd. For more information, call (623) 930-4609.

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