Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Joyce Clark - City of Glendale, Arizona

Yucca District - where Glendale's past, present and future meet. **July 25, 2008**

Neighborhood Information. The Neighborhood Information System (NIS) is an interactive system that puts geographical mapping (GIS) together with various sources of data throughout the city. This gives residents the ability to look at and gather different information about your neighborhood in one place. Whether you want to know where your nearest park, library, school, fire or police station is, find out demographic information about your area, or see how many code compliance cases have been resolved, you can do it all! Click here.

Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Facility Awarded

The 'Public Partnership' Desert Peaks Award which recognizes excellence in regional cooperation was awarded to the Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Facility on June 25th.

The $45 million state-of-the-art public safety training center represents a unique partnership between four West Valley cities and the Maricopa County Community College District. It is the first and only shared-use public safety training center in the Valley. Along with classrooms and computers, its 56-acre "props" site includes a shooting range, driver training track, a burn/drill tower, a simulated fire station and many other features. By pooling their resources, the participating cities collectively saved millions of dollars. The inclusion of Maricopa County Community Colleges in the partnership is expected to result in the expansion of community college public safety programming to campuses across the Valley, and to increase the number of students who are exposed to public safety as a professional career choice.

Partnering agencies: Cities of Avondale, Glendale, Peoria, and Surprise; Maricopa County Community College District.

Training Opportunities

GLENDALE UNIVERSITY

Applications for the Fall 2008 semester of Glendale University (GU) "101" are now being accepted. This free educational program is open to Glendale residents who are older than 15 and want to learn more about the operations of municipal government. GU classes will be held on Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. The course begins on Sept. 4 and ends Nov. 6.

In order to graduate from the course, students must attend at least eight of the ten classes. Each class highlights key functions of the city including, but not limited to finance, library, police and fire services.

GLENDALE HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION TRAINING ACADEMY

The eight session educational program is open to all Glendale Homeowners Association (HOA) board members and residents, who want to learn how to more effectively manage, lead or participate in their HOA. Each class highlights a different topic. HOA classes will be on Thursday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The course begins on Oct. 7 and ends on Nov. 1.

To register for either training, visit www.glendaleaz.com/communitypartnerships and click on "Glendale University" or "HOA Training" or call (623) 930-2868 to receive an application by mail or fax.

Around Town

2nd Annual World Records Day. What in the WORLD is happening on July 26? Breaking records! Do you have what it takes to break a Guinness World Record? Give it your best shot at the Foothills Recreation & Aquatics Center's 2nd World Records Day on Saturday, July 26 at 10 a.m. This event will showcase a variety of established world records that are just waiting to be broken! This free event will be held in the Coyote Room at the center, located at 5600 W. Union Hills Dr. For more information, call (623) 930-4610.

Film/Discussion Series. "The Pianist" (2002) directed by Roman Polanski will be shown at 1 p.m., Saturday, July 26 at the Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. Film scholar Jeannie Berg will lead a discussion following the film. Click here or call (623) 930-3844 for more information.

Jammin' at the Library. The Acoustic Jam Session meets at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 30 in the large meeting room at Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.

All levels of musicians are welcome in a round-robin circle. Play along with others, or just sit and enjoy the camaraderie of other musicians. In fact, knowing how to play an instrument is not essential to having a good time at this monthly gathering. Everyone is welcome to this free program. Call (623) 930-3573 for more information.

Backyard Stargazing. "Backyard Stargazing" will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 4 in the auditorium of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Weather permitting, telescope and binocular viewing will follow the free program. Telescopes will be provided or attendees may bring their own viewing equipment. Instructor Tony La Conte is a "Solar System Ambassador," one of seven Arizonans chosen to organize public educational events about solar system exploration. For more information about the free program, call (623) 930-3573.

Glendale Coffeehouse. It never changes. The atmosphere is warm and friendly, and there is no better place to be at 7 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of the month than the Glendale Coffeehouse at Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.

Performing in the large meeting room on Aug. 6 will be three terrific acts. A. Rocco Mare brings mellow and thoughtful originals to the Coffeehouse, Wyllow Ravenscroft, with an ethereal style and wistful ambiance, performs traditional folk music and Ken Harold is back with many great songs from the '60s and '70s. For more information, call (623) 930-3573. Admission is free.

Back-to-School Teen Battle of the Bands. What better way to get ready for the first day of school than to "rock out" at the Teen Battle of the Bands at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. The musical event of the summer will be happening on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 5:30 - 9 p.m. in the library's auditorium.

Participating bands can play any type of music. Look for rock, heavy metal, alternative, blues, country, dance/techno, folk, hip-hop/rap, jam, jazz, funk …or any other style of music. The six bands chosen to compete will have gone through a "try-out" process during July. For more information about this free event, call (623) 930-3537.

Sweet Summer Saturday. Mark your calendar for August 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Start your summer day at the Glendale Visitor Center to pick up your sweet summer gift bag* filled with downtown discounts, event map and a special surprise and take a spin on our themed prize wheel. Enjoy many interactive activities including make-and-take arts and crafts for a nominal fee, a caricature artist, magician, balloon art and a mime. For more information, click here or call the Glendale Visitor Center at (623) 930-4500. The Glendale Visitor Center is located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, #140. *1st 500 Visitors.

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