Yucca Weekly Update

Councilmember Samuel U. Chavira - Glendale, Arizona **November 25, 2014**

I wish you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving Holiday Closures. All households' scheduled and recycling will be shifted one day later due to the holidays. The Glendale Municipal Landfill will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, but open on Friday, November 28.

Valley Metro buses will run on a Sunday schedule on all of these holidays. The Gus Bus will also operate on a Sunday schedule November 27-28, running from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For Dial-a-Ride service for Thanksgiving weekend (November 27-30) reservations must be made by noon on Wednesday, November 26. Reservations can be made by calling Glendale's Transit Division at 623-930-3500. There will be no Dial-a-Ride same-day service on November 27-28.

While the Glendale Municipal Airport will remain open during the holiday, the airport's administrative offices will be closed. In addition, Glendale's three public libraries will be closed, as well as the Glendale Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Glendale's Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center will be closed for Thanksgiving Day and through Sunday, November 30 for annual maintenance. The Glendale Adult Center will be closed November 27-28 for the holiday.

Glendale Glitters – Holiday Light Spectacular Kick-Off. Glendale's award-winning holiday lighting event has become a family tradition across the Valley and Arizona. This year the celebration kicks off on Friday, November 28 and Saturday, November 29, from 5-10 p.m. each evening.

The stunning display of 1.5 million lights will illuminate sixteen blocks of Historic Downtown Glendale, making it the largest free holiday light display in Arizona.

Free admission and free shuttles make this award-winning festival, now in its 21st year, one of the best-loved events for Arizona families year after year. Visitors of all ages will delight in holiday entertainment, delectable food, hand-crafted holiday gifts, a children's snow field and petting zoo, shopping and of course, visits with Jolly Ol' St.Nick.

The always entertaining stage show will feature special guest Olympian Amy Van Dyken-Rouen to help flip on the lights, as we count down to the lighting ceremony on Friday evening, November 28 beginning at 5:30 p.m. The theme for this year's countdown to Glendale Glitters show is "Super City, Super Stars" to celebrate outstanding people in the community, along with the fact that Glendale will host the upcoming Super Bowl.

Free shuttles will run from the Glendale Community College parking lot at 59th and Olive Avenues between 4:15 – 10:15 p.m. (last shuttle will leave downtown Glendale at 10:15 p.m.). Event attendees will have the option of paying for preferred parking in the two downtown garages, located at City Hall, at 59th and Glendale Avenues and the Bank of America Building, at 58th Avenue and Glenn Drive.

For more information on additional holiday festivals visit http://www.glendaleaz.com/events/.

It's Beginning to Look A lot Like the Holiday Shopping Season! Black Friday is right around the corner. Are you ready? The Glendale Police Department would like to remind everyone to be alert, patient and mindful of safety during the quickly approaching holiday shopping season, which kicks off this weekend with many retailers. The holidays can be a stressful and busy time. Let us offer some crime prevention tips to help keep the holidays safe and enjoyable for you and your entire family!

Holiday Safety Shopping Tips

- Lock packages and other valuables in the trunk.
- Don't overload yourself with packages.
- Shop during daylight hours. If you must shop in the evening, shop with a friend or in groups of two or more.
- If you are elderly or alone, ask for an escort to your vehicle.
- Park in well-lighted areas and be aware of persons in the parking lot, especially near your car.
- Lock your car and make sure the windows are closed.
- Carry only the charge cards you will need. Don't carry large sums of cash.
- Carry purses next to your body with the purse flap against you. Carry wallets in front or inside pockets.
- Be aware of your surroundings and the people around you. Don't become distracted from your purse or packages.
- Teach children to go to a store clerk or security guard and ask for help if you become separated in a store or shopping mall.
- Notify store security if you see suspicious activity.
- If you have to wait for a ride, wait in a busy, well-lighted place.
- Pay attention while driving in crowded parking lots or while walking to and from your car, as both vehicle and pedestrian traffic increases.
- Don't drive or walk distracted. Don't text while doing either, even in parking lots.
- If you are a victim of a crime, call 911 to report it police immediately.

Outgoing Council Members Honored at Farewell Reception. The City of Glendale invites the public to join in a farewell reception in honor of outgoing Vice Mayor Yvonne Knaack and Councilmember Manny Martinez. The farewell reception will be held Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014 from 5 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

The reception will be held in the Council Chambers Gallery at the Glendale City Hall complex, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. The reception will provide residents, members of the business community, city staff and others the opportunity to say goodbye to these two long-time elected officials.

Vice Mayor Yvonne Knaack was first elected in November 2006 to represent the Barrel District, and was appointed as Glendale's first female Vice Mayor in February 2013.

Councilmember Martinez began his tenure with the city as a councilmember representing the Cholla District when appointed for the post in 1996. He also served as Vice Mayor from January 2007 through June 2010.

Vice Mayor Knaack and Councilmember Martinez's last day in office will be December 9. No reservations are necessary to attend the farewell reception. Cake and coffee will be served. For more information on the upcoming reception, call 623-930-2249.

Contact Councilmember Samuel U. Chavira

Council Office: (623) 930-2249

E-mail: schavira@glendaleaz.com