



Barrel District Network News



Vice Mayor Yvonne Knaack - Glendale, Arizona

March 14, 2014



More Than 150 Performers Entertain at Two-Day Glendale Festival. Performers with styles ranging from Folk and Bluegrass music to cowboy poetry and storytelling will entertain thousands of people at the two-day “*Glendale Folk & Heritage Festival*” presented by Glendale Parks, Recreation & Library Services.

The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, March 22 and 23, at the Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area, 9802 N. 59th Ave. Attendees are welcome to enjoy the entertainment on eight stages and participate in free workshops on topics such as Fingerstyle Guitar, Music Production, Harmonica Workshop and Vocal Harmonies, which will be led by accomplished entertainers.

The festival will include Arizona’s official state historian, Marshall Trimble; official state balladeer, Dolan Ellis; Dom Flemons of the Grammy award-winning “*Carolina Chocolate Drops*,” legendary folk performer and songwriter, Bill Staines; Grammy winner, Rick Nestler; accomplished professional musician, Rik Palieri; international performer Joe Bethancourt; and local folk hero, Hans Olson.

On Saturday, March 22, as part of the festival the Glendale Main Library will host Dolan Ellis with a unique presentation at 1 p.m. At 2 p.m., a special celebration of songs will honor the original Almanac Singers, including the late Pete Seeger, and will be performed by musicians Rik Palieri and Rick Nestler.

This unique festival includes a wide variety of folk and traditional family entertainment, how-to workshops by accomplished entertainers, a “*jam session area*,” historic Sahuaro Ranch house tours, blacksmith demonstrations, make-and-take crafts for kids, raffle drawing and a site scavenger hunt. Admission and activities are free. Food and refreshments will be available for purchase, along with vendors selling crafts and jewelry.

Jivemind and Midwestern University are both contributing sponsors of this community event. Representatives from the Arizona Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame, Arizona Pickers and Grinders, Desert Dulcimers, Arizona Autoharp Club, AMAZ Radio and additional nonprofits will have exhibition booths.

[Click here](#), for a complete schedule of the entertainment and workshops. Volunteers are still needed to help with a variety of activities during the event. To volunteer or for more information on the event, call 623-930-2820.

Glendale’s Office of Special Events Wraps up Festival Season with Increased Attendance in 2013-14. Twinkling lights, hot air balloons and sweet confections are the components that make up Arizona’s best festivals, but the residents and visitors are the heart and soul of downtown Glendale during the festival season. This past year, downtown Glendale was packed with all of this and more people came to enjoy the festivities.



Glendale’s festival season, which includes six festival weekends, drew a total attendance of 340,000, about a 7% increase over the previous year. Part of what drives that attendance, in addition to advertising, word-of-mouth and reputation, is editorial coverage. Television media coverage resulted in hundreds of stories, with a publicity value of \$443,000, reaching an audience of just over 3 million around the Valley and state.

One highlight of the event season occurred when CBSnews.com recognized Glendale Glitters as one of the top five community holiday light displays in the country. The event, now in its twentieth year, is Arizona’s largest free holiday light display which attracts tens of thousands of people to the area and has received numerous awards.

Glendale’s festivals are produced by the city’s Office of Special Events to showcase the historic downtown area, as well as to bring visitors to the area to discover the more than 90 shops, boutiques and restaurants. The downtown merchants have given city staff positive

feedback on the impact to their businesses because of the festivals.

Highlights of Glendale's festivals can be viewed throughout the year on Glendale 11, the city's award-winning cable TV station, or online. All three major festivals have their own 30-minute program recapping the sights, sounds and excitement of each celebration. Every program is available online at www.glendaleaz.com/glendale11 and vignettes from each show are also on the city's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/myglendale11.

For more information on Arizona's Best Festivals® like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/arizonasbestfestivals or check out the city's website at www.glendaleaz.com/events.

New “Creative Space” at Library Will Feature Artists, Workshops, Classes and Open Labs. With the help of a donation from the Glendale Public Arts Program, the Glendale Main Library, Brown St., will open a dedicated community meeting space for sharing ideas, exploring the arts and inspiring creativity called the “*Creative Space*.”

Open to ages 16 and older, the motto of the space is “*Create, Connect, Collaborate*,” and will provide classes and open labs March through August. Hands-on artistic classes will be led by artists-in-residence. Open labs will also be offered allowing attendees to drop in during the lab time and explore an artistic medium in a less structured environment. The opening ceremony will be held Monday March 17, 5:30 p.m., at Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown Street.

The classes will provide more traditional arts instruction, and each class requires registration to attend. During the open labs, materials will be on hand for participants, though supplies will be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

All classes and labs are for ages 16 and older. For more information or to register for the classes, [click here](#).

Around Town

Council Meetings and Workshops. To review the posted agenda and web video of Council Workshops and meetings, please [click here](#).

Glendale Relay for Life. Almost all of us have been touched by cancer in some way. Several city departments including the Glendale Police Department, Glendale Fire Department and the Glendale Convention & Visitors Bureau have formed teams along with local residents, schools and business owners to make a difference by walking and raising money in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life event to be held April 26-27, 2014 from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. at Ironwood High School. At the event, these teams will camp out overnight and take turns walking around the track to raise money and awareness to help the American Cancer Society. For more information, visit www.VisitGlendale.com.

Glendale Convention & Visitors Bureau Kicks Off Operation Women Warrior Drive. The Glendale Convention & Visitors Bureau in partnership with Soroptimist International of the Kachinas of Glendale kicks off the annual collection drive to benefit Operation Women Warriors and the Military Family Support Group beginning on March 14.

The Military Family Support Group is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization which sends 350+ care packages each month overseas of much needed supplies to the troops in every branch of the military. The Operation Women Warriors project will send specialized care packages to female soldiers stationed overseas. Needed items include bulk hard candies, travel-sized hair shampoo and conditioner, moisturizing shower gel, Q-tips, facial lotion with sunscreen, foot cream, SPF lip balm, personal hygiene products, cough drops, shower loofahs and hair bands. A full list of needed items is listed at www.VisitGlendale.com.

Donations can be dropped off March 14 through April 18 at the Glendale Convention & Visitors Bureau located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, and Bitz-ee Mama's Restaurant located at 7023 N. 58th Avenue, Glendale. For more information, visit www.VisitGlendale.com or call 623-930-2955. For more information about the Soroptimist International of the Kachinas of Glendale, visit www.sikachinas.org.

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