Barrel District Network News

Councilmember Yvonne Knaack - City of Glendale, Barrel District

July 3, 2009

Have a very safe and happy 4th of July holiday!

Boards & Commissions. The Glendale City Council recently appointed residents to serve on advisory boards and commissions. Congratulations and many thanks to Jeffery Hyvarinen of the Barrel District who has volunteered to serve on the Housing Advisory Commission.

Glendale's 18 boards and commissions assist the City Council in making important policy decisions that impact the community. These volunteer citizen advisory groups research, study and discuss specific Glendale projects and issues and then forward their recommendations to the City Council.

To request an application to serve on a city advisory group or for more information, click here or call the Council Office at (623) 930-2249. Board and commission members must reside in Glendale.

Special Art Honor. The city of Glendale shined brightly at the annual Americans for the Arts Convention when it was recognized for the Myrtle Avenue cultural entryway at Grand Avenue. The Circles of Time by Howard Meehan was one of 40 artworks selected for the 2009 Year in Review Award.

The award recognizes outstanding public art projects through a competitive process reviewed by independent curators. The Year in Review program is the only national award that specifically honors exceptional public art projects.

The artwork was completed by Glendale's Public Art Program in 2007. The "Circles of Time" is known for how it captures photographic history, providing a window into the past and a look into the future

As the city of Glendale honors its centennial this year, this park serves as a centennial point of pride and is an example of the evolution that has occurred since the use of these historic gas pumps and structures.

Artist Howard Meehan lives in New Mexico. He is a nationally-recognized artist. His portfolio includes projects from across the United States.

Click here for more information on Glendale's Arts and Culture programs.

Glendale History Online Project. After nearly a year, the Glendale History Online project is ready for citizens, researchers and anyone interested in history to learn more about the city's almost 100 year past.

Last summer, Glendale Public Library received a grant of $19,419 to develop the Glendale history project in partnership with the Glendale Arizona Historical Society, Glendale Community College, Sahuaro Ranch Historic Area and Thunderbird School of Global Management.

To learn about Glendale history, go to www.glendaleazhistory.com. The user then chooses which institution he/she wishes to learn more about. There is an online game, with copies of old photos, individuals can use to test their Glendale knowledge.

Another facet of the project is a display of copies of old photos from all of the partners in the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. A special exhibit system was built that has a changing display of photos, along with descriptions, for the public to see.

For more information about the project, call (623) 930-3554.

Around Town

Independence Day. City of Glendale offices and all three libraries will be closed July 3 in observance of Independence Day. Click here for a list of family-friendly July 4th events taking place around the valley.

Bobby Freeman. There probably isn't a musician in town who can command a live audience like Bobby Freeman can. You've heard him yourself if you've ever been to an Arizona Diamondbacks home game, pounding out the Mexican Hat Dance, the Hungarian czardas, or the opening riff from the Addams Family. Freeman's jersey sports the number 88-chosen for the number of keys on a piano-and he's been the Diamondback's organist since their first season. Join us at 2 p.m., Monday, July 6, at the Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.

Sidewalk Stargazing for Everyone. "Sidewalk Stargazing" will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 6 in the auditorium of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Tony and Carole La Conte, self-described guides to the night sky, will show the public what any novice can see from one's own backyard. Weather permitting, telescope and binocular viewing will follow the free program. Telescopes will be provided or attendees may bring their own viewing equipment. For more information call (623) 930-3554.

Hook a Kid on Golf Clinic. Get your kids, ages 8-13 years old, outdoors and learning something new with Glendale Parks & Recreation Department's Hook a Kid on Golf clinic.

The week-long program is an introductory clinic that teaches golf skill development to kids who may not have had the opportunity to learn yet. It is a complete introduction to the sport, including group lessons, a set of golf clubs and a golf bag, apparel, hat and golf balls, all for just $200 for Glendale residents, or $240 for non-residents. Click here or call (623) 930-2820 to register.

• July 20-24, 8-11 a.m., Desert Mirage Golf Course, 8710 W. Maryland Ave. **(sign up by July 10)**

Couples and Money. Whether you are planning to get married or have been married for a long time, some couples never get around to having "The Talk." Learn how to communicate with your partner about money. This class covers communication, assessing your combined finances, setting priorities and goals, determining your new budget, deciding on a plan of action and making the commitment. Join us for this free seminar at 6 p.m., Thursday, July 16 at the Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Reservations are not necessary to attend this free class. For more information, call the Main Library at (623) 930-3531.

Canyon Experiences: Sublime to Silly. Are you an actual hiker or the armchair type of trekker? Either way, you will enjoy "Canyon Experiences: Sublime to Silly" when award-winning landscape photographer Gary Ladd comes to Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave., at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 16. Call (623) 930-3844 for more information.

Poetry and Art Contest. Teens, let your creative side shine in the Foothills Branch Library's Summer Art and Poetry Contest. The deadline for submissions is 6 p.m. on Friday, July 17. Winners will be announced and unveiled on Saturday, August 8, at the end-of-summer Celebration of the Arts! Pick up a copy of the entry guidelines at the Foothills Branch or download them from the library's Web site, www.glendaleaz.com/library. Poems must be inspired by one of four art prints from the branch's Mobile Masterpieces collection, on display in the Foothills' teen area. For more information, call Karen at (623) 930-3853.

Friday Nite Lights, July 17. Enjoy late night shopping and dining, and a real hometown atmosphere at Friday Nite Lights. Stroll along brick-lined sidewalks and enjoy charming bungalows-turned shops. Friday Nite Lights will be held from 5-9 p.m. on the 3rd Fridays of each month in Historic Downtown Glendale and Catlin Court. Start at the Glendale Visitor Center, 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, to pick up a downtown map and information. Click here or call (623) 930-4500 for more information.

Christmas in July. Downtown Glendale will celebrate a fun-filled day of early holiday shopping and dining on Saturday, July 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shoppers will start at the Glendale Visitor Center, 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, to pick up a map, discount coupons and a holiday gift bag. Holiday music, entertainment and treats will surely put you in the holiday spirit!

The Visitor Center will be accepting food donations for the St. Mary's Food Bank to help during the summer months, when the food bank needs the most assistance. Call (623) 930-4500 for more information.

Contact Councilmember Knaack

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