Cactus Chronicle

"Glendale – Proud to be the home of Luke Air Force Base"

Councilmember Phil Lieberman, Glendale Arizona **June 24, 2011**

Councilmember Lieberman was on hand at Rose Lane Aquatics Center last Friday as Southwest Ambulance presented a $5,000 check to the city. The donation was made as part of Southwest Ambulance's Pool Pack Swim Lesson Donation program and is to be used to cover the cost of swim lessons for eligible participants. Please call the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department at 623-930-2820 to learn about eligibility.

Grant Funding for Transit Services for Disabled, Elderly Residents. The city of Glendale has once again received federal grant funding for transit projects, at a crucial time when budgets are being hit hard all over the Valley.

City staff aggressively pursued additional grant funding, much of which is targeted to serve elderly or disabled residents. The funds total more than $2.3 million. Glendale participated in a competitive process along with other Valley cities and was awarded funding for several programs.

The first of the grant awards will provide funds to replace three Dial-a-Ride buses and reimburse transit vehicle maintenance expenses.

A second grant was awarded through the New Freedom program, which funds programs providing services to persons with disabilities, encouraging public transportation alternatives to address needs beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA.) The existing Glendale programs that will be partially-funded through grants, which totaled $342,179, are the Taxi Subsidy Program, the Bus and Gus Individual Training (BAGIT), the Bus Buddies Program and Gus Bus, route 3, which primarily serves disabled and elderly riders. The Taxi Subsidy Program provides a three-quarter subsidy for persons with special transportation needs, assisting those making repetitive trips for medical treatments and therapies, such as dialysis and chemotherapy. The BAGIT and Bus Buddies programs educate residents, particularly seniors and those with special needs on how to use the public fixed route bus system and the Gus Bus.

The two remaining awards are transit facility grants that will fund pre-design and design work for a centralized transit center in Northwest Glendale. The pre-design phase will establish the scope, concept and location of the transit center, and the design work will also establish a plan for project implementation. The total amount of grant funding received from these five awards is $2,338,947. Some of the grants are 100 percent federally-funded, while others require some portion of a local match. The Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide $51,403 towards the local match for the purchase of vehicles, and the remaining local match, totaling $630,582, is available in the Transportation Services capital and operating budgets.

For more information on Glendale's transit services, visit www.glendaleaz.com/transit or call 623-930-3501.

Renting Facility Space in Glendale Just Got Easier. The city has facilities that can accommodate a full range of events – from a birthday party with 10 attendees to an elegant wedding with 13,000 guests. And venues range from the Amphitheater in downtown's Murphy Park to the Rose Lane Aquatic Center here in the Cactus District. But reviewing them all in one place wasn't possible – until now.

Glendale employees through the city's INNOVATE program have developed a one-stop, web-based approach to booking meeting space. Now facilities located in 14 areas of the city can be viewed in a single glance on either an area map or on a color-coded chart that lists capacity and the type of events each facility can handle. The event categories include:

- Meetings and conferences
- Social events and parties
- Sports Complexes
- Weddings
- Concerts and performances

Web users can move from the overview page and link to more details on any facility that catches their interest. They can learn about rental rates, availability and other details that help ensure they choose the place that best fits their needs. The same is true for those who call in to book a facility. If their first choice isn't available, city staff can use the same web-based system to refer callers to other appropriate city facilities.

The Glendale system is unique in that regard. Glendale is the only Valley city that's created such a user-friendly way to check out all its available rental space. The new system was developed with all in-house resources by involving people from seven departments through INNOVATE, a city program dedicated to "transforming ideas into action." INNOVATE works to improve customer service, increase efficiency, and help the city conserve resources or generate revenue. To view the city's available spaces for rent, click here.

Holiday Notice - Independence Day Holiday Notice. City of Glendale offices will be closed on Monday, July 4 in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

All households' scheduled garbage and recycling will be shifted one day due to the holiday. The Glendale Municipal Landfill will be closed. For more information about the city's sanitation services, please call 623-930-2660.

Only Gus Bus One will run, operating on a Sunday schedule from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For Dial-a-Ride service that day, reservations must be made by noon on Friday, July 1 by calling 623-930-3500. No same-day service on Monday will be available. Valley Metro buses will operate on a Sunday schedule. While the Glendale Municipal Airport will remain open during the holiday, the airport's administrative offices will be closed.

Glendale's three public libraries will be closed, as well as the Glendale Convention and Visitors Bureau.

In addition, Rose Lane Aquatics Center will be closed.

Around Town

Click here for the City Council meeting schedule. Click here for past Council meeting agendas and minutes. Click here to watch a City Council meeting online.

Voting boundaries are being re-drawn. Get involved in the process! Every 10 years following the U.S. Census, voting boundaries are looked at to ensure that each voting district is close to equal size and meets other legal requirements. With growth and population shifts, the boundaries for Glendale's voting districts will have to be changed. But not without input from Glendale residents. Get involved in the process. Click here to see how.

Se modificarán los límites de los distritos electorales. ¡Participe en el proceso! Cada 10 años después de un censo de los EEUU, se revisan las demarcaciones electorales para comprobar que todos los distritos electorales son aproximadamente del mismo tamaño y cumplen con otros requisitos legales. Debido al crecimiento y los movimientos poblacionales, los límites establecidos para los distritos electorales de Glendale tendrán que modificarse tomando en cuenta los comentarios de los residentes de Glendale. Participe en el proceso de esta forma: haga clic aquí.

Reel Talk Film Series. Who Framed Roger Rabbit? (1988, "PG" rating) starring Bob Hoskins, Christopher Lloyd and Joanna Cassidy will be shown at 1 p.m., Saturday, June 25 at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Join film expert Jeannie Berg in the Auditorium. Click here for more information.

Christmas in July. Put on the sunscreen, grab the jingle bells and head to Historic Downtown Glendale for a day of sun-drenched holiday shopping. Even Santa is leaving the northern climates to enjoy this annual Christmas in July shopping event on Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Christmas cheer begins at the Glendale Visitor Center, 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, where you'll pick up your holiday map, coupons and gift bag (for the first 500 visitors) and take a spin on the prize wheel. Click here for more information.

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