



# Cactus Weekly Update



Councilmember Ian Hugh - Glendale, Arizona

October 25, 2013



**Historic Award Honors Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway.** The City of Glendale Planning Division recently received the Distinguished Historic Plan/Program/Landmark Award from the Arizona Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) for the Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway project.

The Gateway serves as the primary entryway into Historic Downtown Glendale and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The historic northeast corner of Myrtle and Grand avenues features two buildings as part of the restoration project - an adobe house and service station. The adobe house was built in 1936 by Ed and Bessie Morcomb who actually used earth from the site for the bricks. The corner was known for decades to thousands of local residents as the Morcomb property. The family owned and operated the service station and later on as an auto and farm equipment repair shop on the site until 2003.

The public opening of the Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway occurred in Jan. 2013.

Preservation efforts enhanced the look of the corner while protecting its historic nature.

Visitors and residents are welcome to visit the Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway, which has also become a popular stop on various historic preservation tours. The site includes the restored adobe house and service station as well as a historic outdoor display plaza, artwork, parking lot and landscaping.

For more information on the city's historic preservation efforts, [click here](#).

**New Edition of "Glendale Insider" on Glendale 11 TV and Youtube.** Watch new episodes on "Glendale Insider" of recent events including: resources for veterans and their families, how the ice is installed for the NHL Coyotes at Jobing.com arena, a "Wall of Honor" dedicated to Glendale police officers who have served for at least 20 years and/or retired on a medical pension are just some of the 16 stories featured in the October edition of Glendale 11 TV's "Glendale Insider."

Other stories include the 1.5 million light installation for the award-winning Glendale Glitters festival, a tour inside the Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area's main house built in the 1890s, letters from children to commemorate 9/11 presented to first responders, how Glendale is keeping the skies blue and saving money with propane Dial-A-Ride buses and an underground view of the city sewer system with a "sewer cam" used by Water Services crews to help keep Glendale's sanitation network running effectively.

The "Glendale Insider" can be seen on Glendale 11 at various times throughout the day or each individual story can be seen on the city's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/MyGlendale11](http://www.youtube.com/MyGlendale11). For more information about Glendale 11 or the new TV show, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/glendale11](http://www.glendaleaz.com/glendale11).

**Glendale's Higher Educational Institutions Impact on City.** With thousands of high school students taking pre-entrance college exams this time of year, the value of attending an accredited higher education school in Glendale is reflected in a recent study commissioned by Glendale's Economic Development Office.

Glendale's colleges and universities create an annual economic benefit to the city totaling \$771 million according to the new study. This figure includes the yearly payroll, impact from local purchases of goods and services such as books and food, housing expenses, and tax revenues including city, county and state. The analysis touts the five colleges and universities in Glendale including Midwestern University, Glendale Community College, ASU West (on the city's border), DeVry University/Keller Graduate School of Management and the Thunderbird School of Global Management, as having a combined student-body of 38,000 and 3,700 employees.

The study, conducted by Applied Economics, breaks down the schools' financial impact in various categories including sales tax revenue, local spending by students, staff and vendors, and property tax revenue. Student spending is considered one of the largest components of impact with 21,400 full-time and 16,600 part-time students spending approximately \$24,000 per year on non-tuition

expenses like housing, food, transportation, personal items and books.

Both Glendale and the state benefit from tax revenue from the five schools. It's estimated the state annually receives \$16.6 million in state tax revenues and Glendale receives approximately \$3.5 million in local taxes generated.

One example of a contributing factor to the increased economic impact is school expansion and growth. The total investment on the Glendale campus by Midwestern University to date is more than \$285 million. This number will grow by approximately \$150 million over the next 24 months with the construction of a new veterinary college for a total estimated investment of \$435 million by June 30, 2015.

To view the Economic and Revenue Impacts of Colleges and Universities in Glendale report, [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 CVB Kicks off Stockings for Soldiers Drive.** Stuff a stocking for a soldier and get into the holiday spirit early with the Glendale CVB, which is coordinating a "*Stockings for Soldiers*" program through Nov. 9, with the conclusion of the drive at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Downtown Glendale Holiday Open House.

The CVB is asking the public to donate items from a list (see below) and encouraging all to stop by the Glendale Visitor Center to sign holiday greeting cards, which will be included in the boxes. The Glendale Visitor Center is located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The holiday greeting cards, along with the collection boxes are located in the lobby of the Visitor Center.

Items that are needed include: small canned food & fruit (Pop-Top Lids), individual drink powder packets (Wyler's, Crystal Light) coffee bags (Folgers Singles) candy and snacks, beef jerky, foot and body powder, microwave popcorn, tuna packets, crackers, hand towels and wash cloths, travel pack facial tissue, twin sheets and pillow cases, Lysol, air freshener, sunscreen, non-aerosol insect repellent, wet wipes, razors, hand and body lotion, hand sanitizer, crossword puzzles, pocket-sized games, AA batteries, calling cards, DVD's and CD's and holiday-themed candy/candy canes. Travel size items are preferred.

The holiday-themed boxes will be sent to deployed military men and women in mid-November just in time for the holiday season. For more information call 623-930-4500 or visit [www.visitglendale.com](http://www.visitglendale.com).

**Safely Dispose of Medications!** On Saturday October 26, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., drop off your unused, expired or unwanted medications at Walgreen's, 5895 W. Peoria Ave. The Glendale Police Department and Drug Enforcement Administration are providing residents an opportunity to safely and conveniently dispose pharmaceutical substances and other medications. Controlled, non-controlled and over the counter substances will be accepted. For more information, please call 623-930-2554

**Shredding Event - Nov. 2 at Glendale Adult Center.** The Glendale Police Department Community Action Teams want you to know that shredding old and unwanted documents has become a vital part of protecting yourself from data and identity theft. Please Join us Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Glendale Adult Center parking lot, 5970 W. Brown Street for a free shredding event. Each household can bring up to five boxes of documents to be shredded on site. This service will be offered 8 a.m. - noon or until the disposal trucks are full. For more information, [click here](#).

**"Read Local" Mystery Authors Event At The Teague.** Shop local, eat local . . . why not "Read Local"? Find something new to read and show support for local authors as they discuss and sign their small-press and self-published mystery books at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Velma Teague Branch Library, 7010 N. 58<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Each author will have approximately five minutes to promote his or her book, with a group signing afterward.

The program is free, and books will be available for purchase and signing. For more information, call 623-930-3431.

**Contact Councilmember Hugh**  
Council Office: (623) 930-2249  
Cell: (602) 615-7672  
E-mail: [ihugh@glendaleaz.com](mailto:ihugh@glendaleaz.com)