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## Cactus District Weekly Update

March 18, 2016

Welcome to this week's Cactus District Weekly Update!

[Cactus District Website](#)

### City Announcements

#### Cactus District Meeting is Less than Three Weeks Away!

##### Cactus District Meeting!

Come by the Cactus District Spring District Meeting on April 7, from 5-7pm at Manistee Ranch, 5127 W. Northern (enter at 51st Avenue, just south of Northern Avenue).

All are welcome to come out for an opportunity to meet your neighbors and talk with representatives from the Police Department, Fire Department, Code Compliance, Public Works Departments, Parks & Recreation, and others.



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Dinner and Refreshments will be available!

Please RSVP with Adam Maynes by calling 623-930-2878.

### Glendale Credit Rating Raised!



#### **CITY OF GLENDALE RECEIVES A+ WITH BOND RATING UPGRADE** *Significantly Improved Financial Situation Cited*

For the second time this year, the City of Glendale has received a bond rating upgrade from a financial rating agency. Standard & Poor's Ratings Services has raised its long-term and underlying ratings for the city's general obligation bonds to an A+ from BBB+. The upgrade follows a series of Standard & Poor's downgrades since 2012.

Standard & Poor's cites adequate budgetary performance with balanced operating results, very strong budgetary flexibility with an available fund balance in fiscal year 2015, very strong liquidity and strong management with good financial policies and practices as reasons for the three-notch improvement.

"Financial stability continues to be the top priority for the City of Glendale," says City Manager Kevin Phelps. Today's news is the result of prudent fiscal management by our team members which closely aligns with the goals of our mayor and city council." Earlier this year, Moody's Investors Service upgraded several types of city bonds from A3 to A2 including all of its general obligation bonds.

"We are extremely proud of this upgrade which solidifies the direction we are on," says Assistant City Manager Tom Duensing. "It is a reflection of the difficult but necessary steps the city has taken to address its fiscal condition."

The upgrade serves as an independent, objective evaluation of the city's efforts to stabilize financially. It also potentially allows the city to borrow money at a more competitive rate than it would be able to otherwise. Cities typically use money raised from bonds for large developments or infrastructure projects. For more information about the city of Glendale please visit: [www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com)

#### **Vice Mayor Hugh News and Notes from Around the District**

##### **Dedication of Enrique Banda Sr. Ball Field**



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11 a.m., Saturday, April 2, 2016  
51st Ave. and Marlette

A field dedication will be held, along with a softball tournament. Mr. Banda was a long-time resident and community supporter, as well as a mentor and leader to hundreds of Glendale youth through his love of sports as a coach. For more information on this event, please contact Mike Gregory at 623-930-2652.

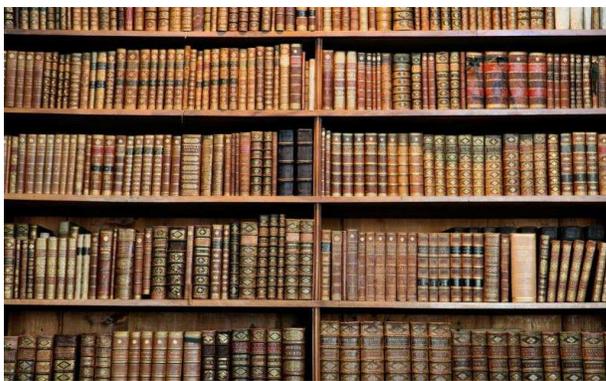


**Vice Mayor Hugh Donates a Car to a Glendale Mother in Need**  
Glendale Vice Mayor Ian Hugh has donated a car to Glendale Mother Tracey Thomas with special needs children after a local Police Officer heard the Mother's story and looked to find out how she could receive help. Originally aired on local Glendale Channel 3 on Friday, February 26, 2016, and was captured by TVEyes Media Monitoring Suite with a link to the video [here](#).



**Camelback Ranch Glendale Spring Training Opening Day 2016**  
Vice Mayor Hugh joined the City of Glendale in celebrating Opening Day of the 2016 Spring Training season at Camelback Ranch Glendale on March 3, 2016. Camelback Ranch is the home of the Chicago White Sox and the Los Angeles Dodgers and fans of both teams and the sport enjoyed a great day of baseball and the start of new baseball season. Watch the short recap [here](#).

**YOUR INPUT MATTERS!!**



**Conceptual Analysis of Possible Western Area Branch Library**

In October 2015, the Glendale City Council provided direction to explore the possibility of constructing and opening a modified version of a planned Western Area Branch Library to serve the residents of Glendale. The Library Advisory Board is hosting a series of public meetings to gather community input and feedback regarding preliminary design concepts for the two proposed sites. You can review and comment on the proposed floor plans, ask questions of the architect and learn about the planned scope of library services. [Details](#)

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### Vice Mayor Hugh's Glendale Today Segments!



**Polo's Italian Cuisine**  
Watch Vice Mayor Hugh speak with Owner Polo Blanco about his time in Glendale, his favorite dishes, and the live music that his restaurant holds four nights a week.

[Polo's Italian Cuisine](#)



**La Purisima Bakery**  
Watch Vice Mayor Hugh speak with Owner Irma Arellano about her family's time in Glendale, and how every item is made homemade from scratch everyday causing lines to stretch out to the street.

[La Purisima Bakery](#)



**Kiss the Cook**  
Watch Vice Mayor Hugh speak with Owner Nancy Hagadorn about her family's time in Glendale, and the many different fresh breakfast and lunch meals that they offer to loyal customers every day.

[Kiss the Cook](#)



CREDIT Photo by Better Sharpe Glendale Daily Planet

#### Westgate Healthcare Campus Groundbreaking

On Thursday March 10, Vice Mayor Hugh helped the Westgate Healthcare Campus officially break ground bringing to Glendale significant medical office space that will both bring an estimated 1,500 permanent jobs to Glendale and the entire West Valley, as well as new healthcare options for residents in the region. Located on the northwest corner of 99th Avenue and Glendale Avenue and developed by Dr. John Simon of Simon Imaging, the Westgate Healthcare Campus will offer state-of-the-art healthcare services that bring together health and wellness, outpatient, post acute, and acute care providers to serve patients of all ages and stages from pediatrics to seniors.

#### Notes From Around the Cactus District

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**MAYORS'**  
**BIG DOG**  
**RUN**

**Sat. March 26, 2016**

**Registration: 7:30 a.m. | Kickstands Up: 9:00 a.m.**  
**Thunderbird School of Global Management**  
1 Global Place, Glendale, AZ | (59th Avenue & Greenway)

**\$25 per person | CASH ONLY | pay at registration | includes lunch**  
Proceeds benefit ASU Veterans Education Fund

Excursions through Luke AFB (helmet required)  
& University of Phoenix Stadium  
Ends at Desert Rose Pizza & Gastropub, Downtown Glendale  
Festivities include a live band! | [www.MayorsBigDogRun.com](http://www.MayorsBigDogRun.com)



### Mayors' Big Dog Run

Please join Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers and the Glendale Chamber of Commerce Military & Veteran Affairs Committee for a motorcycle rally & ride to raise funds for the ASU Veterans Scholarship Education Fund. Kickstands-up at 9:00 a.m. at Thunderbird School of Global Management Campus.

This unique ride will feature excursions through Luke AFB and University of Phoenix Stadium. The ride ends at the Desert Rose Pizza & Gastropub in Historic Downtown Glendale, where everyone is invited to stay and enjoy the festivities! A live band "Demolition: A Tribute to the Wrecking Crew" will play, and lunch will be served. Riders' wristbands are their meal ticket. Also, on display will be military vehicles. The ride entry fee benefits the ASU Veterans Scholarship Education Fund. Arrowhead Harley - Davidson has donated raffle prizes, and drawings will be held at Desert Rose.

End Location: Desert Rose Pizza & Gastropub, Downtown Glendale

Rules of the ride:

1. This is NOT an escorted ride. Riders are expected to follow the rules of the road, obey all traffic signals, etc. A suggested route with staging points will be provided to riders at registration.
2. Helmets are REQUIRED due to our special excursion through Luke AFB. No weapons are allowed on Luke AFB. Luke AFB is allowing the ride on the base due to the veteran-related scholarships benefited by the ride. Without exception, anyone who is in violation of these rules will not be allowed access to Luke AFB. You will have to pull off and find an alternate route. Period.
3. Minors under age 16 are not allowed to participate in the ride, even as passengers. Riders with minors under age 16 as passengers will not be allowed to register/participate in the ride.



**Make Your Taxes Less Taxing Tax Help from AARP Tax-Aide**

8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday - Thursday, except holidays (Fridays by appointment only), through Apr. 18, at the Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W. Brown St.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers will provide free basic assistance with filing federal and state taxes online. This service is open to anyone but is aimed at moderate-income and low-income people ages 60 and older. All volunteer preparers are IRS-trained and certified. Please note that volunteers cannot assist with business or complicated individual returns. Service is limited to the first 50 people per day. For more information, call 1-888-227-7669 or visit [www.aarp.org/taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide).





### **GLENDALE YOUTH LEAGUE BASEBALL REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

The Glendale Youth Sports League (GYSL) is winding up for the exciting Summer 2016 Baseball, Softball and T-Ball season. Registration takes place March 14 - April 8, practice starts mid-May and games begin June 6.

Batter up! The following brackets are being offered:

T-Ball: Co-ed Ages 4-6

Baseball: Pee-wee Ages 6-8 (coach pitch) Rookies Ages 8-10 (machine pitch)

Softball: Ponytail Ages 6-8 (coach pitch)

Cholla Ages 8-10 (machine pitch)

Registration fee is \$55 for Glendale residents (or \$75 for non- residents) and includes a team t-shirt and baseball cap. An additional fee of \$10 will be charged during late registration April 11-15, 2016. Sign up online at [www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation) or call 623-930-2820. Players can also register in person on Saturday, March 26, 1-4 p.m. at Peter Piper Pizza, 4315 W. Glendale Ave. in Glendale.

Glendale Youth Sports League emphasizes physical fitness, equal participation and social and skill development. "These leagues are designed to teach kids the skills they need to play, while developing friendships and having fun," said Mike Davis, GYSL program coordinator. "Our philosophy is: the outcome of the child is more important than the outcome of the game," The program is sponsored in part through a \$7500 grant from Land O'Frost Youth Sports Program.

### **BE A VOLUNTEER COACH!**

Persons age 18 and older can submit a Coach Application to Glendale Parks and Recreation Office, 5970 W. Brown St., by Friday, April 15. For more information about GYSL, volunteering as a coach or to learn about program sponsorship opportunities, contact Mike Davis, Glendale Parks and Recreation, at 623-930-2841 or via email at [mdavis@glendaleaz.com](mailto:mdavis@glendaleaz.com).

**Glendale Empowerment Expo**  
**9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Saturday, April 23, 2016**  
**Glendale Civic Center**



The Glendale Empowerment Expo, hosted by Glendale's Commission on Persons with Disabilities, will connect local community members with more than 20 nonprofits, community-based organizations and government agencies serving individuals with physical disabilities. The event will feature a resource and information fair, an open forum town hall style meeting to encourage public dialogue about important topics and issues facing persons with disabilities and an award ceremony recognizing one outstanding individual and one service provider organization for their significant contribution toward improving the quality of life for the disabled community in Glendale.



### **ALL ABOARD FOR A GLENDALE HISTORICAL JOURNEY: 13TH ANNUAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION TOUR**

*Space is Limited for this Popular Tour Sponsored by Glendale Civic Pride*

Take a step back through time during Glendale's 13th annual Historic Preservation Tour. The event provides a guided, armchair tour of significant historic sites within Glendale, as well as walking tours of a few selected homes or other sites that are historically significant.

"The historic preservation tour remains a great way to see some of Glendale's most treasured landmarks and Historic Districts that trace the footsteps of the past," said Glendale Historic Preservation Officer Jon Froke. "Glendale enjoys 10 Historic Districts and the tour will pass through many of them."

#### **DATE & TIME OF TOUR**

Date: Saturday, April 30, 2016

Check in and Boarding Time: 8:30 - 9 a.m.

Departure Time: 9 a.m.

Return Time: Noon

Point of Departure & Return: Glendale Civic Center  
5750 W. Glenn Dr.

A detailed itinerary, along with maps and other informational items will be provided on the tour. Participation is limited to the 95 seats available on two motor coaches, and reservations will be made on a first-come-first-served basis. Children ages 15 and above are welcome, if accompanied by an adult. The tour is offered for free, thanks to a sponsorship from the Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors.

To make a reservation or request additional information, contact City Planner Martin Martell at [mmartell@glendaleaz.com](mailto:mmartell@glendaleaz.com).

### **2016 Events and Activity Listings**

#### **Free Classes At Velma Teague Library - Citizenship CLASSES (Citywide)**

March 7, 14, 21, 28  
Monday Evenings



5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

This is a 10-week class teaching the fundamentals of U.S. politics, government and history included in the U.S. Citizenship exams. Sponsored by the International Rescue Committee. Classes are free. Registration required. For more information and to register, please contact Violetta Lopez at [Violetta.Lopez@Rescue.org](mailto:Violetta.Lopez@Rescue.org) or 602-433-2440, ext. 191.

### **Movies at the Murph!**

Take your kids out to Murphy Park and enjoy a family movie, free! The first movie will take place on Friday, March 25, 2016, at Murphy Park Amphitheatre, which is located at 58th Avenue & Glendale Avenue starting at dusk. Here is a list of the dates and the movies. Pre-movie events kick off at 6:00 pm.

1. Minions (PG) - March 25th
2. Inside Out (PG) - April 8th
3. The Good Dinosaur (PG) - April 22nd
4. Frozen (PG) - May 6th
5. Big Hero 6 (PG) - May 22nd



### **SPRING SHRED EVENT APRIL 9**

Free Shredding Service Sponsored by Glendale Councilmember Lauren Tolmachoff and Glendale Police

Glendale Councilmember Lauren Tolmachoff and the Glendale Police Department will be sponsoring a Spring Shred Event on Saturday, April 9, from 8 -11 a.m. at Sierra Verde Elementary School, 7241 W Rose Garden Ln. This free document shredding service is a valuable

resource that can help residents properly dispose of personal information that can lead to identity theft.

Each household is limited to five banker's boxes and due to demand, this service may conclude if trucks are full. For additional information, contact Doreen Anderson, Crime Prevention Specialist, at 623-695-0440.

Tax season is the perfect time to evaluate documents that are stored and Glendale residents are encouraged to take steps to properly dispose of any item that can lead to identity theft. Identity theft has become a major problem in the United States with the Internal Revenue Service reporting that 2.7 million people had their identities stolen in



2014. It is a serious and growing crime. If you feel you are a victim of identity theft, contact the Glendale Police Department at 623-930-3000.

Councilmember Lauren Tolmachoff serves the Cholla District which is located in northern Glendale, generally bounded by Pinnacle Peak Road on the north and Union Hills Drive on the south. Residents can view the council district map at [www.glendaleaz.com/CityCouncil/districtmap.cfm](http://www.glendaleaz.com/CityCouncil/districtmap.cfm).



### Save The Date!

Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 8:00 am  
 Glendale Family Bike Ride  
 at Sahuaro Ranch Park  
 59th Avenue and Mountain View  
 Questions? Call 623-930-2940  
[www.glendaleaz.com/glendalefamilybikeride](http://www.glendaleaz.com/glendalefamilybikeride)



### GLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERS PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE TO ASPIRING WRITERS

*Published author helps with writing skills*

Amy K. Nichols, author of "Now That You're Here and While You Were Gone", is taking up residence at Glendale's Main Library through May to share her expertise and help novice writers hone their skills and become published authors.

As part of Glendale Public Library's Writers in Residence Program, Nichols will be conducting several workshops and offering one-on-one guidance sessions with aspiring writers.

"Many people dream of being published, but don't know where to start or think somehow such a goal isn't possible for them. This program brings published and aspiring authors together with the goal of helping people write the stories only they can tell," said Nichols.

Upcoming workshops include two teen writing programs, "Build a Fantasy Story" on March 21 and "Flash Fiction" on May 16 and a series of three adult writing workshops entitled "The Road to Publication" slated for March through May.

"The Writer in Residence Program is a great chance for authors to meet and work with their fans and for our library users to better visualize themselves as writers. It not only inspires writers to write, it provides practical tools and information to help them get their stories out into the world," said Kearsten LaBrozzi, Glendale Teen Librarian.

Nichols' open office hours and one-on-one meetings with aspiring writers will be held 2-4 p.m. most Monday afternoons and Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.

The Writers in Residence Program is supported by Arizona State Library, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. For more information about Writers in Residence or other Glendale Public Library programs, call 623-930-3530 or visit [www.glendaleaz.com/library](http://www.glendaleaz.com/library).



### **Arizona Artists Guild's Sixth Annual Juried Statewide Exhibition of Fine Arts**

March Gallery Hours: 6 to 9 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays & by appointment, from Mar. 4-26

Opening Reception: The public is invited to meet the artists and enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres on Saturday, Mar. 5, from 6 to 9 p.m.

This exhibition will feature creations by artists from all over the state of Arizona

working in all types of visual art media, including painting, drawing, photography, sculpture and digital art. The exhibit will be juried by three professionals in the arts: Tim Conte, Visiting Artist - Arizona State University; John Tuomisto-Bell, owner of Tuomisto-Bell Studio and Foundry; and Nathan Feller, drawing and design instructor at Paradise Valley Community College. Prizes will be awarded by the jurors, including Best of Show (\$1000), Award of Excellence (\$500) and Award of Merit (\$250).

The Arizona Artists Guild was established in 1928 with the mission to encourage the support of local artists working in all artistic media. For more information about the Arizona Artists Guild, visit [www.arizonaartistsguild.net](http://www.arizonaartistsguild.net).

Gallery Glendale at Westgate is made possible through a partnership between the City of Glendale and Westgate Entertainment District. The Gallery is located at 9380 W. Westgate Blvd., Suite D-102, next to Crave Waffle Sandwiche Creations. Admission to the gallery is free and open the public. For more information, please call 623-930-3557 or visit [www.glendaleaz.com/galleryglendale](http://www.glendaleaz.com/galleryglendale).





### **EXTRA! EXTRA! GET YOUR 2016 OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE HOT OFF THE PRESSES**

Locals and travelers alike will want a copy of this one-of-a-kind magazine

What is new and exciting in Glendale and the West Valley? Where are the hottest spots for outdoor recreation? What are the restaurants that only the locals know about? All these questions and more are answered in Glendale's 2016 Official Visitor Guide - Visit Glendale, Arizona and the West Valley, available now at many locations throughout the region, and of course, at the Glendale Visitor Center, 5800 W. Glenn Dr. Suite 140.

This beautiful, 36-page magazine is now in its tenth year of publication, and not only celebrates that milestone, but also the unveiling of the Glendale Convention & Visitors Bureau's (CVB) rebranding to Visit Glendale. Revealed at the CVB's annual meeting in the fall, the new branding and logo are present throughout the publication, along with the magazine's fresh look and design.

The insider tips on events, shopping, dining, accommodations and more will also include:

A welcome message from Visit Glendale staff, including personal recommendations on their favorite local spots:

- A journey through Glendale's history
- Artistic diversions - for arts and culture lovers
- The local's guide to Glendale
- 2016 events calendar
- Resources for businesses and meeting planners

This guide is distributed to leisure travelers, sports fans, tour guide operators and travel planners, and is among the top five guides picked up by visitors at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

To download a digital version of the guide, simply visit [www.VisitGlendale.com](http://www.VisitGlendale.com). You can also download the Visit Glendale app, free for iPhone and Android devices, to get directions, and find restaurants, shopping and other things to do while you're in the area.

For more information, contact the Glendale Visitor Center at 623-930-4500 or online.

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