Cholla District Network News

Vice Mayor Manny Martinez, City of Glendale **July 17, 2009**

Utopia Park Arson Update. On June 12th, 2009 officers from the Glendale Police Department and firefighters responded to 7100 W. Utopia Road regarding a fire of playground equipment at the Utopia Park.

Glendale Fire Department Arson Investigator Mike Blair was able to identify two thirteen year old boys who were responsible for the fire. The teens admitted their involvement and were referred to the Maricopa County Juvenile Division for charges of Arson of a Structure. No other suspects were implicated in this crime and no other persons are being considered for prosecution in this matter.

The replacement cost for damages to the playground equipment and the shade canopy is approximately $40,000. The structure that supports the shade canopy is salvageable, providing a savings to the original estimate. It will take approximately 6 weeks to repair and replace the equipment once the order has been placed.

Parks and Recreation staff is working with Risk Management and Glendale Police to pursue restitution.

SHOP GLENDALE

Making Cents – Shop Glendale is back! Hot times call for hot deals! Get great discounts, while giving back to the community with Shop Glendale.

The important tax dollars generated by making a purchase can help fill library shelves with new books, replace the playground equipment at your local park or ensure your streetlights are always on.

The Glendale Office of Tourism is pleased to launch Shop Glendale 2009-2010! This program encourages residents and visitors to take advantage of daily discounts or deals at any participating Glendale business. The program also promotes spending in Glendale so that tax dollars used to support city services continue to grow. Glendale's police, fire, emergency medical services, streets, parks, libraries and much more are all funded through local sales generated by shoppers.

Shop Glendale is an annual program that invites Glendale residents and visitors to take advantage of one-of-a-kind promotions and special offers available throughout the year. Shoppers can begin by stopping in at the Glendale Visitor Center to pick up a free Shop Glendale Discount Card and get a chance to win great prizes. The center is also sponsoring a back-to-school supply drive to support local Glendale schools.

The Glendale Visitor Center is located in Historic Downtown Glendale at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140. To find a list of participating businesses click here. For more information, call (623) 930-4500.

Be Glendale Monsoon Ready. When the storm hits, it's best to keep your family safe at home. But, there are still dangers to be on the lookout for. Read the following tips to make sure your family and home are as safe as possible before the rain and wind begins.

- **When a storm is coming, turn off all unnecessary power equipment** to reduce the draw on power companies. Storms are prime times for power outages, and conserving energy will help everyone in the event of emergencies.
- **Have extra light and power handy.** Keep batteries, flashlights and a battery-operated radio or TV on hand to keep you informed during severe weather.
- **Do not burn candles for light.** Use flashlights for emergencies as a candle can easily be bumped, which can lead to a fire.
- **Stay off the phone.** Even cordless phones can cause a shock when lightning strikes nearby. Use cell phones only if necessary.
- **Avoid plumbing fixtures.** Do not bathe or swim during a lightning storm because lightning can travel along metal pipes.
- **Keep away from windows.** High winds can blow heavy debris and shatter a window.
- **Protect your pets.** Don't forget to gather up the family pets before the storm hits.

Lost your power? Follow these tips on what to do when the lights go out.

- **Turn the big items off first.** Switching off high-usage items like computers and televisions will help prevent overloading the system. It will also protect your electronics from voltage fluctuations when power returns.
- **Use surge protectors.** These simple and affordable devices can provide extra protection to expensive electronics. Find them at any electronics or home improvement store.
- **Tune in for information.** Turn on your battery-powered radio or TV for updates on the power situation.
- **Keep the cool air inside.** Limit how often you open doors.
- **Keep your freezer and refrigerator door closed.** This will maintain the cold air already built up inside and help protect your food.
- **Know your neighbors.** It's always good to get a helping hand and offer one when it's needed.
- **Report outages and concerns.** Click here for contact information.

Around Town

Tyson Crosbie Photograph Exhibit. Enjoy the Tyson Crosbie photograph exhibit, which shows now through July 20 at the Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W Brown Street. The exhibit is free. Call (623) 930-3547 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.

Reel Talk Film/Discussion Series. "Four Weddings and a Funeral" (1994) starring Hugh Grant will be shown at 1 p.m., on Saturday, July 18 at the Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. Film scholar Jeannie Berg will lead a discussion following the film. This series is free. Call (623) 930-3844 for more information.

Summer Band Concert, July 23. Enjoy renditions of marches, ballads and show tunes at the last Summer Band Concert of the 2009 season. The concert takes place at 8 p.m., Thursday, July 23 at the Glendale Amphitheater, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. The event is free and the entire family is welcome! For more information, call (623) 930-2042.

3rd Annual World Records Day. Do you have what it takes to break a Guinness World Record? If so, give it your best shot at Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center, 5600 W. Union Hills Drive. World Records Day begins at 10 a.m., Saturday, July 25 and will showcase a variety of established world records waiting to be broken! For more information, call (623) 930-4610.

July Authors @ the Teague. Mystery author Chris Cavender will be appearing at Velma Teague Branch Library, 7010 N. 58th Ave., in July as part of the Authors @ the Teague series.

Cavender, author of "A Slice of Murder" will stop in at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29. "A Slice of Murder" is the first in the Pizza Mystery series. Chris Cavender is actually a pseudonym of Tim Myers, a prolific author who writes both short stories and novels, including the Lighthouse Inn Mysteries. In addition, Myers also writes under the names of Elizabeth Bright and Melissa Glazer. The author's books will be available for purchase and signing. For information about the free program, call (623) 930-3431.

Contact Vice Mayor Martinez
Council Office: (623) 930-2249
Home Office: (623) 561-8263
E-mail: mmartinez@glendaleaz.com