Cholla District Network News

Vice Mayor Manny Martinez, City of Glendale

December 4, 2009

Glendale Glitters Continues Tonight!

Glendale's Gingerbread Nights – December 4-5. The holiday magic continues in Glendale tonight, Friday, December 4 and Saturday, December 5 from 6-10 p.m. each night, with 1.5 million dazzling lights, entertainment and a special dedication to that iconic holiday treat – gingerbread!

Gingerbread Nights will feature activities for all ages, including inflatable amusements, train rides, horse-drawn carriage rides, holiday arts and craft merchandise and more. Glendale's Centennial Flat Murphy project will be on display for visitors to check out. Kids will also enjoy free make-and-take gingerbread crafts, and of course, visits with Santa Claus. Bring your camera, or have Santa's helper snap one for a small fee. In addition to gingerbread treats, all kinds of delicious foods and beverages will be available, from kettle corn to funnel cakes to candy apples!

Many of the downtown merchants will offer extended hours to help visitors get their holiday shopping done! For a listing of downtown merchants, call the Visitor Center at (623) 930-4500.

Glendale Glitters offers free admission and free parking in the downtown area. Glendale's Gingerbread Nights is sponsored by The Arizona Republic, Glendale Community College, KTVK 3-TV, KMLE, KOOL, JAMZ, 7-UP and Sedona Pines. For more information on Glendale Glitters' Gingerbread Nights, call the Special Events Hotline at (623) 930-2299 or click here to visit the Glendale Special Events Web site.

GLENDALE CENTERLINE

Glendale Centerline Open House. Residents, business owners and others will have the opportunity to learn about the latest plans for Glendale's Centerline Project at a Community Open House on Thursday, Dec. 10 from 6 to 8 p.m. in downtown Glendale at the Glendale Civic Center Annex.

This is an opportunity for the community to provide input and learn more about the Centerline Project, the city's redevelopment plan for the Glendale Avenue Corridor. At 6:30 p.m. a brief presentation will be given and the Glendale Centerline Overlay District will be unveiled to the public for the first time.

The overlay district is an alternative set of development standards for the area, which provides greater flexibility in land use and development standards and encourages creative redevelopment within the Centerline. Attendees will be asked to comment on the overlay district and share their thoughts on future development for each area.

Key city departments involved with Centerline will have informational booths and displays available at the open house and staff will be on-site to answer questions. For more information on the Centerline project, click here.

Free Seminar: "Inside Secrets for HOAs." Is your homeowners association faced with financial challenges, such as residents who are delinquent in paying their assessments; absorbing the costs of maintaining an abandoned property; or paying vendors in a timely manner? If so, Glendale's free seminar is for you and your HOA board members.

Beth Mulcahy, an attorney who specializes in all the legal aspects of operating a homeowners' association, will share her professional knowledge on Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Glendale City Council Chambers, 5850 W. Glendale Ave.

Attendees will learn the legal remedies available for HOAs to collect delinquent assessments, including lien rights, foreclosure, and justice court lawsuits, garnishment of wages, bank accounts and rent.

The seminar is sponsored by the city's Neighborhood Partnership Office as part of the HOA Academy program, with the support of other cities in the West Valley including Avondale, Goodyear, Peoria and Surprise. To register, call Glendale's Neighborhood Partnership Office at (623) 930-2868.

Glendale Traffic Alert for December 6. Residents, Cardinals fans, Arena concert-goers and regular Loop 101 commuters are being advised of heavy traffic expected on the Loop 101 from Northern Avenue to Camelback Road in the afternoon and early evening on Sunday, Dec. 6, due to a concert at Jobing.com Arena and an Arizona Cardinals game at University of Phoenix Stadium occurring simultaneously.

Heavy traffic is also predicted on the surface streets surrounding the Sports and Entertainment District.

To safely move pedestrians in the area, 95th Avenue west of the stadium and Maryland Avenue between 93rd and 95th Avenues will be closed to vehicle traffic.

The city of Glendale has partnered with ADOT to ensure a smooth traffic flow for the stadium's events. Visitors are encouraged to call 511 for updated traffic information.

Glendale Police will be directing traffic to establish a safe and steady traffic flow. Follow traffic signs for directions.

For parking lot maps, traffic routes, and complete information on all of the city's efforts, click here.

Around Town

Click here for the City Council meeting schedule.

Jingle Bell Hike to Santa. Grab your hiking boots or sneakers and make the trek to visit Santa during the Glendale Parks and Recreation's Jingle Bell Hike.

Santa will be at the mid-point of a moderate 2/3-mile, round trip hike at the Thunderbird Conservation Park on 59th Avenue between Deer Valley Road and Pinnacle Peak Road. This free hike will be held from 9 to 11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 5. Children will receive jingle bells to tie to their shoes at the start of the hike so they may "jingle all the way." Bring water, and please leave dogs at home.

This is a great way to start a day, enjoy a little fun fitness as a family and let the children speak to Santa. Call (623) 930-2038 for more details.

Stop In for Small Business Counseling. No appointments are necessary for "Walk-In Counseling with SCORE" from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5 in the small meeting room of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.

The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) can advise on all areas of business, from start-up information to marketing and accounting concerns. The counseling is free. For more information about SCORE, call (602) 745-7250.

Holiday Food Drive. The merchants of Catlin Court and Historic Downtown Glendale invite the community to participate in the annual Holiday Food Drive to benefit St. Mary's Food Bank. Participating merchants and the Glendale Visitor Center will have collection boxes available for donations of non-perishable food items. The food drive will conclude on Saturday, December 12 with Glendale's Spirit of Giving event in Murphy Park. For more information, call the Glendale Visitor Center at (623) 930-4500. Click here for a list of collection box locations.

Holiday at the Ranch. Join us from 5-8 p.m. on Saturday, December 12 at Sahuaro Ranch Park for Holiday at the Ranch. Experience a hometown holiday and a seasonal atmosphere in the historic setting of this 17-acre ranch! Enjoy family activities and holiday-themed historic house tours. Dress warm for winter fun! Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic area is located at 59th Avenue & Mountain View Road. For more information, call (623) 930-4200.

Are You Ready to Be a Business Owner? David Moss, facilitator with the Maricopa Community Colleges Small Business Development Center (SBDC), presents "Should I Start My Own Business?" at 6 p.m. on Monday, December 14 in the auditorium of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St.

This seminar is perfect for people who are in the early stages of starting a business. Find out the answers to the most basic questions prospective business owners have about developing a business plan, how to obtain financing, and types of business ownership.

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