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CONTACT: Jeanine L'Ecuyer, Public Information Office, 623-930-2958

## **GLENDALE SET TO PURCHASE LAND NEAR WESTGATE** *Pendergast Family Calls Its Evolution a "Tribute to our Predecessors"*

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – The City of Glendale, Arizona is set to approve the purchase of approximately 99 acres of land near the [University of Phoenix Stadium](#) and the [Westgate Entertainment District](#) at its October 13 Council meeting. The Pendergast family land has deep historic ties to the city and its heritage.

In a statement, the Pendergast family said, "What was farmland for several generations is now home to world class entertainment and sporting events. This land is very special to us, and its evolution is a tribute to our predecessors who worked this land and helped grow Arizona over the years. We hope this area continues to be a community asset for Glendale and a destination for residents and visitors for generations to come."

Acting City Manager Dick Bowers added, "Acquiring the land gives us the ability to strengthen the area around the Stadium and Entertainment district, creating even more robust opportunities for the future of Glendale."

### **Pendergast Background**

The portion of land on 91st Ave and Bethany Home Road was farmed by Charles H. Pendergast, who settled in the West Valley in 1879. In addition to farming and raising a family, Charles was a community leader, and the Pendergast Elementary School District — one of the oldest school district's in the Valley — was named for him. A true pioneer, he helped construct the Grand Canal, and was one of the landowners who pledged his farmland as collateral to the government for construction of SRP's Roosevelt Dam in 1903, to ensure a stable water supply for the Valley.

One of his sons, Clarence Pendergast Senior and his wife, Lucia, originally purchased the land near 91st Avenue and Maryland in the 1930s for their home. They built a dairy at that location and raised their son Clarence, Junior who was born in 1928. Clarence, Jr., a graduate of Glendale High School and the University of Arizona, married his wife, Alice, in 1952; together they raised their family and continued the farming operation. Also committed to community involvement, Clarence was a long-time member of Glendale's Rotary Club, and served on

the Salt River Project's Board of Directors. The Library & Media Center at Pendergast Elementary School was recently named for Alice for her years of helping schoolchildren.

For more information about the City of Glendale please visit [www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com).

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