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**BEHIND-THE-SCENES PEEK AT CITY GOVERNMENT
OFFERED IN GLENDALE UNIVERSITY CLASSES**

Glendale, Ariz. – Glendale University, a 10-week program that offers a behind-the-scenes look at how city government works, is accepting applications through Feb. 28 to attend its ‘101’ classes that begin in March.

Glendale residents and those who own businesses in the city can sign up for Glendale University to learn more about city government directly from the mayor, council members and top city staff. In the 15 years since the program was started, more than 900 people have attended.

Popularity of the program is a reflection of American values as noted in a recent national survey. Pollsters found that 89 percent of Americans believe staying involved in their community is important. In fact, 48 percent say it is “very important,” according to the USA Today/Gallup Poll conducted in October.

Glendale University 101 is structured to provide a starting point for people with similar beliefs. Classes are held every Monday from 6 to 9 p.m. for 10 weeks, kicking off on Mar. 7 with “An Evening with your Mayor and Council.” Subsequent classes cover the inner workings of a variety of city services including city courts, law enforcement, public works and more.

The classes, which are free, are limited in size to encourage interaction between attendees and the elected officials and city staff who teach each unit.

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GLENDALE UNIVERSITY
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“Glendale University is a unique opportunity to meet the city’s decision makers and talk about everyone’s role in our local democracy,” said Erik Strunk, Glendale’s Community Partnerships director. “The people who graduate from this course tend to have more knowledge about Glendale and more satisfaction living here and doing business here because they’ve taken the time to understand and work with their local government.”

To participate in Glendale University, you must be 16 or older, a resident of Glendale or own a business in Glendale. Attendees who complete eight of the ten GU 101 classes will be honored on the final night, May 9, in graduation ceremonies. These graduates are then eligible to attend the quarterly series of Glendale University graduate classes that enable attendees to take tours and further explore areas of special interest.

The deadline for registering for Glendale University 101 is Feb. 28. Applications are available online at www.glendaleaz.com. Look on the home page for a link to Glendale University or call the Neighborhood Partnership Office for an application at 623-930-2868.