

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GLENDALE CELEBRATES NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION
MONTH WITH TOUR AND AWARD**

GLENDALE, Ariz. – Recognize and experience Glendale’s living history with two special events this May.

The city of Glendale encourages people to sign up for the 8th Annual Glendale Historic Preservation Bus Tour, which will be held Saturday, May 14 and includes Glendale’s most treasured historic landmarks such as the Beet Sugar Factory, the Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway and the Thunderbird Tower located on the campus of the Thunderbird School of Global Management.

“This tour allows residents and tourists to get a sneak preview of Glendale’s rich history and legacy in a short time,” said Jon Froke Glendale Planning Director. “Traditionally, the bus tour is held during the month of May to coincide with National Historic Preservation Month. Long-time residents who have taken the tour always comment on how they have learned about something new in their backyard.”

Participation is limited to 35 people, and reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. To RSVP, please contact Marilyn Clark at (623) 930-2810 or mclark@glendaleaz.com.

Date:	Saturday, May 14
Check In & Boarding Time:	8:30 a.m.
Departure Time:	9 a.m.
Return Time:	Noon
Point of Departure and Return:	Glendale Civic Center 5750 W. Glenn Dr.



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City of Glendale
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The other national preservation event is the presentation of the 2011 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award. Each year the Glendale City Council presents the award during the month of May to coincide with National Historic Preservation Month. After careful review and evaluation, the Historic Preservation Commission selected the Thunderbird Tower Restoration Project Committee and the Thunderbird Community as the award recipient. This award is being presented in recognition of their hard work in restoring the Thunderbird Control Tower building on the campus of the Thunderbird School of Global Management

For 60 years, the tower has been the icon of the school grounds at 59th Ave. and Greenway Rd. It was built in 1941, and served as the air control tower and officers' quarters during the operation of the Thunderbird 1 Army Air Field, where American, British, Canadian, and Chinese pilots trained during World War II. It was designed to resemble a Thunderbird, based on the Indian God of Thunder.

In January 2006, the tower closed due to structural issues. In the fall of 2007, a student led task force initiated a project to restore the Tower. Andrew Burman, Will Counts, and Rebecca Mitchell spearheaded the project and started a vigorous campaign to raise money for the restoration.

“The completion of the project is a wonderful testimony to their commitment to environmental sustainability and an outstanding contribution to the preservation of Glendale’s historic heritage,” Froke said.

The tower dedication celebration will be held in conjunction with Thunderbird’s 2011 homecoming activities on November 11, 2011.

The Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award was established in 1996. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation of Glendale’s historic and cultural resources. This prestigious award is named after Ruth Byrne, a

Glendale native, in honor of her dedicated work and ongoing efforts to preserve Glendale's history. For more information, visit www.glendaleaz.com/historicpreservation.