

## Planning for the Future also Means Preserving the Past

Actors Jimmy Stewart, Henry Fonda and Cary Grant all have a Glendale connection unknown to many of today's residents.

These legendary actors were instrumental in establishing Thunderbird Field, a military airbase at 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Greenway used for training Allied pilots during World War II. The field eventually became part of the Army Air Corp.

After the conclusion of the war, the property was sold, eventually becoming Thunderbird School of Global Management. At that time the community saw a need to create a place to educate returning WWII veterans for business careers in the United States and overseas.

As the world's number one international business school today, Thunderbird has always prided itself on its military roots. In fact, the school has maintained many of its original military-related buildings, including the Air Control Tower. For over 60 years, this iconic structure served as officers' quarters, administrative offices and a gathering place for the Thunderbird community.

Unfortunately, the Tower was slowly deteriorating and closed due to structural issues in 2006.

Never a campus to pass on a challenge or forget its past, in 2009 several innovative alumni and staff set on a two-year mission to restore the Tower for a new generation of students and as a beacon of pride for Glendale.

Without the help of so many donors worldwide and right here in Glendale, this piece of history could have been lost forever.

I am so honored to have played a small role in helping to tell the story of the Tower Renovation Project. I am looking forward to celebrating the Tower's dedication in the Fall and hope you will be there too.

Please visit [GlendaleAZ.com](http://GlendaleAZ.com) for more information on the dedication ceremony.