

■ At your parks...

Aquafina Pitch, Hit & Run March 29

FREE! The Aquafina Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit & Run, is a free skills competition open to boys and girls, aged 7 to 14 as of July 18, 2008. Registered participants will compete in four age divisions and will challenge their baseball skills in three categories – hitting, pitching and running. Please note that no metal cleats are allowed.

The competition will be held at 5 p.m., March 29, with check in at 4 p.m., at the Paseo Racquet Center ball fields, 63rd Ave. and Thunderbird Rd. Participants must complete a signed registration/waiver form, available at Glendale Parks & Recreation, 5850 W. Glendale Ave., by March 20 and submit it with a copy of their birth certificate. For more information, contact Mike Davis at 623-930-2841.

Glendale/Peoria Hershey's Track & Field Games April 18

FREE! For boys and girls ages 7 to 14 (as of December 31, 2008) – our local Track & Field Games feature events such as softball toss, standing long jump, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 800-meter run, 1600-meter run as well as the 4 x 100-meter relay for teams only. Participants can compete in up to two events. The games begin at 6 p.m., April 18, at Centennial High School, 14388 N. 79th Ave., in Peoria, and check in is at 5 p.m.

Top finishers may get the opportunity to advance to the West Valley district games. Please note that only tennis shoes are to be worn for all events. Participants must complete a signed registration/waiver form available at Glendale Parks & Recreation, 5850 W. Glendale Ave., by April 9 and submit it with a copy of their birth certificate. For more information, contact Mike Davis at 623-930-2841.

■ At your Libraries...

April means One Book AZ!

Learn some of Arizona's history the easy way -- by reading the exciting adventure "These Is My Words" by Tucson resident Nancy Turner. Taken from her family's original memoirs, this absorbing story introduces us to the questing, indomitable Sarah Prine, one of the most memorable women ever to survive and prevail in the Arizona Territory of the late 1800s.

Children have the opportunity to participate, too! The OneBookAZ for Kids selection is "Danger in the Desert" by retired Sunnyslope High School teacher Terri Fields. This book tells the story of two brothers attempting to survive in the desert outside Scottsdale, abandoned there following a carjacking.

Check the online calendar of events to see the exciting programming that complements these two books. Enjoy book discussions, guest speakers and, perhaps, a theatrical production and an author visit. Log on to www.glendaleaz.com/library and click on "What's Happening" to find specific event details.

"Turn Off the TV Week" April 21-27

OK, 'fess up! Do you and your family watch too much television? Below are a few facts to think about as you mull over that question:

- The average child watches 20,000 30-second commercials each year.
- Parents normally spend only 38.5 minutes per week in meaningful conversation with their children.
- 50% of children ages 6-17 have TVs in their rooms.
- The average American youth spends 900 hours per year in school; they spend 1,500 hours per year watching television.
- 66% of Americans regularly watch TV while eating dinner.

Go ahead and take the plunge: break the TV habit by coming to the library during "Turn Off the TV Week" Activities and events will be found during the day, afternoon and evening at all three Glendale libraries. Crafts, puppet shows, games, animal programs, and storytimes are just some of the fun programs planned for your family.

Check the library's online calendar at www.glendaleaz.com/library and click on "What's Happening" for more details. Printed calendars are also available at each library location.

Happenings

March

- 1..... **City Council Workshop 1:30 p.m.***
- 5..... **Roses at the Ranch**
Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area
- 8..... **City Council meeting 7 p.m.**
- 12-13 **25th Annual Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival**
- 13..... **Glendale Family Bike Ride**
Sahuaro Ranch Park
- 15..... **City Council Workshop 8:30 a.m.***
- 15..... **City Council Workshop 1:30 p.m.**
- 17..... **That Thursday Thing**
- 22..... **City Council Workshop 1:30 p.m.***
- 22..... **City Council meeting 7 p.m.**
*special budget workshop session

April

- 6..... **City Council Workshop 1:30 p.m.**
- 13..... **City Council meeting 7 p.m.**
- 15..... **That Thursday Thing**
- 20..... **City Council Workshop 1:30 p.m.**
- 26..... **Memorial Day (city offices closed)**
- 27..... **City Council meeting 7 p.m.**

For more information on events, call our Visitor Center at 623-930-4500, or check out VisitGlendale.com.

Items in bold take place in Historic Downtown Glendale.



Mayor
Elaine M. Scruggs
(623) 930-2260

Vice Mayor
Manuel D. Martinez
Cholla District
(623) 561-8263

Councilmember
Joyce V. Clark
Yucca District
(623) 772-9795

Councilmember
Steven E. Frate
Sahuaro District
(602) 439-8151

Councilmember
David M. Goulet
Ocotillo District
(623) 937-2524

Councilmember
Yvonne J. Knaack
Barrel District
(623) 937-9689

Councilmember
H. Philip Lieberman
Cactus District
(623) 934-1648

City Manager
Ed Beasley
(623) 930-2870

City Switchboard
(623) 930-2000



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Glendale Connection

A Newsletter for City of Glendale Residents / Mar - Apr 2008

Glendale's 25th Annual Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival April 12-13

The city of Glendale's Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival will celebrate its 25th year with a tremendous lineup of local, regional and national entertainment in Historic Downtown Glendale April 12-13. Two national acts have already been announced for the festival, including Roomful of Blues and the Tommy Castro Band.

Roomful of Blues, an eight-piece unit led by guitarist Chris Vachon, weaves a combination of jump, swing, blues, R&B and soul (pictured at right). The Alligator Records recording group is known as one of the tightest, most joyful blues ensembles in the world. The Tommy Castro Band, previously the house band for NBC's "Comedy Showcase" for three years, offers a mesmerizing blend of rock, blues and Memphis soul. The band's impressive experience includes touring as the opening act for B.B. King, recording with John Lee Hooker and sharing the stage with Carlos Santana.

As part of the 25th anniversary celebration, Glendale's longest-running festival will also feature an eclectic mix of artisans representing myriad art forms. Four artists will work on-site, giving event attendees an interactive, one-of-a-kind experience to add to the musical performances. The art will range from interactive

voice-changing music to improvisational poetry to an incarnation of the music on paper. One of the artists will even create unique sculptures of cacti made from vinyl records and other musical pieces.



In addition to the fantastic musical entertainment, the event will feature craft artisans and delicious food and beverages, including wine tasting by Kokopelli Winery.

The event will run 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, April 12, and noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday, April 13. Admission and parking are free. Parking is located throughout the downtown area, including handicapped parking. Historic Downtown Glendale is located at 58th and Glendale avenues.

Sponsors for the event include Gibson Guitar, APS, Diamond Resorts, KTVK Channel 3, Arizona Republic, KOOL, KMLE, JAMZ, Kokopelli Winery, Fuze, Southwest Airlines and Grolsch.

The city of Glendale's 25th Annual Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival is produced by Glendale's Office of Special Events. For more information, call the city of Glendale special event hotline at 623-930-2299 or visit www.glendaleaz.com/events.

Gear up to 'Go Green' in April! Glendale Family Bike Ride

Riding a bike is a great way to go green. (Think: no fossil fuel burned, no CO2 emissions.) But there are many other ways to help the environment get back on track. Experts will be on hand with strategies for improving the environment. So join your fellow

cyclists for a fantastic 'go green' experience. Bring your used plastic grocery bags to exchange for a Glendale Family Bike Ride T-shirt!

To register, call 623-930-2940 or visit www.glendaleaz.com/transportation.

If you go...

Sunday, April 13, 2008
Sahuaro Ranch Park
Registration from 7-9 a.m.
Ride starts at 8 a.m.
12-mile route or 6-mile route



INSIDE: 20th Annual Rose Show at Sahuaro Ranch Park

A Message from Mayor Elaine Scruggs Preparing for out of town guests



Do you remember what it was like the last time that you were expecting company from out of town? You probably started on your list of home improvement projects months ahead of time. As you got closer to the event, you began to worry about feeding all of your guests, making sure that they have a place to stay and making sure that they had transportation to get to where they needed to be.

The city of Glendale recently had a large group of out of town guests over to visit when we hosted Super Bowl XLII. I am often asked how Glendale was able to prepare for one of the world's largest events. I would compare it to a family preparing for company, magnified a few thousand times.

One big advantage of having company over is that you finish all of those projects that you have been unable to complete, resulting in lasting improvements that you continue to enjoy after your company has left. Well, the same holds true for our city. Not only did our guests come and get a wonderful impression of our city, but our preparation for the event resulted in benefits that will impact our residents and future visitors for many years.

Glendale started working on its "home improvement projects" long ago. Residents, businesses and visitors are now enjoying new landscaping, curb and intersection improvements and bus bays along major arterials. New street lights, brick-paved sidewalks, benches and parking have been installed in our pedestrian-friendly downtown.

Feeding and housing our guests was another concern. Eighteen exciting new restaurants opened in Westgate and Zanjero. Six hotels have now opened in Glendale with a total of 911 new beautiful rooms and suites. These new hotels and restaurants were terrific for Super Bowl visitors. But, more importantly, they will be a lasting part of Glendale's tremendous economic vitality.

Making it easy for our guests to get around town was very important and Glendale was able to build new roads and freeway access. We are now installing traffic monitoring cameras and centralized traffic controls.

Glendale knew that we had company coming and our preparations not only led to a successful Super Bowl weekend, but also benefits that will last for a long time to come.

You make the agenda! Get involved in Community Conversations

Mayor Elaine Scruggs is planning her third series of Community Conversations meetings throughout Glendale. There is a lot going on in our city and Mayor Scruggs would like to know what you are most interested in discussing.

Visit www.glendaleaz.com/rsvp or call 623-930-2260 to RSVP for one of the meetings below and to let the Mayor know what city topics are of interest to you.

Monday, March 10 – 6:30 p.m.
First United Methodist Church
7102 North 58th Drive

Saturday, March 29 – 9 a.m.
First Southern Baptist Church
10250 North 59th Avenue

Monday, April 21 – 6:30 p.m.
Crosspoint Christian Church
8600 West Glendale Avenue

Thursday, May 15 – 6:30 p.m.
Church at Arrowhead
7902 West Union Hills Drive

Easy way to decrease response time for your home, business

Do you have an alarm for your home or business? When it's activated, who receives the first call? Have you ever thought about this? When the alarm sounds, the alarm company makes contact with the owner or responsible party; if the responsible party answers the call, they have to determine what their plan of action will be and decide whether or not to call the police. It's not until then that the police are even notified.

You can decrease the police response time by simply arranging for the alarm monitors to call the Glendale Police Department first. This not only gets police at the door quicker, but may assist in capturing the suspects in the act! The very next call will go to you. You can then determine what action you want to take, if any. If you choose to cancel the response from the police, your monitoring company can make that request. Remember, the police are the trained first responders. We are here to protect the lives and property of the people we serve.

For more helpful crime prevention and safety information, contact your Community Action Team at 623-930-3380.



20th Annual Rose Show at Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area April 5

The Rose Society of Glendale will put on its 20th Annual Rose Show at Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area on Saturday, April 5, from 1-4 p.m. The Fruit Packing Shed will be filled with 1,000-1,500 blooms of all sizes, shapes and colors grown by local gardeners.

"Roses at the Ranch" also offers floral enthusiasts and aspiring gardeners a free workshop. A special rose education seminar will take place from 2-3 p.m.

The Rose Society of Glendale is a nonprofit, educational, community-oriented organization that provides an opportunity to share a love of roses by providing information, education and demonstrations. For more information, call 623-930-4200.



Duck, Duck, Shop! That Thursday Thing April 17

You will be singing "Rubber Duckie, You're the One" on Thursday, April 17, from 5-8 p.m., as Historic Downtown Glendale celebrates "Duck, Duck Shop" at the monthly That Thursday Thing event.



Begin your experience at the Glendale Visitor Center, located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, where you will receive a gift bag, event map and take a spin on the themed prize wheel. Follow the "Duck" map to find rubber duckies all along the way!

Live entertainment is located throughout Old Towne and Catlin Court. Enjoy an evening filled with music, free horse-drawn carriage rides, fun giveaways and much more. Ollie the Trolley will provide free trolley rides throughout Old Towne and Catlin Court. Hitch a ride at the Visitor Center.

Additional fun highlights will include make-and-take crafts; free trolley rides with stops at Cerreta Candy Company; free carriage rides through Catlin Court; a photo costume booth; a caricature artist as well as gifts and giveaways!

For more information, contact the Glendale Visitor Center at 623-930-4500 or visit the Web site at www.VisitGlendale.com

FUN FACT:

The "Rubber Duckie" song was first sung in 1970 by Ernie (Jim Henson), a character on "Sesame Street." The Rubber Duckie song was a bona-fide hit: In August of 1970, it made the Billboard Top 40 chart for pop/rock and stayed on for seven weeks, peaking at number 16.

Learn about law enforcement, sign up for Citizen's Police Academy

Has the television show "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" piqued your interest in law enforcement? Satisfy your curiosity by applying to the Glendale Police Department's Citizen Academy. This is a chance for residents or business owners to get an insider's look at law enforcement, and specifically, how the Police Department operates.

The academy gives participants a unique opportunity to learn, hands-on, about police operations. Students will learn about crime scene investigation, tactical operations, use of canines and much more. To participate in the academy you must be 18 years of age or older and be able to commit to attend an 11-week program.

Classes begin April 16, but applications are due by March 15, so get yours in today! Class size is limited and applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Download an application at www.glendaleaz.com, or call Marie Shepherd at 623-930-3089 for more information.

Upcoming Water Conservation landscape classes - FREE!

April 1 - Understanding Your Landscape Watering System: Understanding and maintaining your system will keep your plants healthy and your system running efficiently, so make sure to learn the basics about of water system, no matter which type. This class gives a system overview, design tips, repairing common leaks as well as how to set the controller.

June 4 - How to Set Your Water Timer: If knowing how to water your plants is a mystery to you, you are not alone. Learn easy-to-follow steps to determine the amount and frequency of water needed for your landscape plants, trees, and grass (including winter grass.)

All classes are held in the Glendale Main Library Auditorium, 5959 W. Brown Street, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. To register, call the Water Conservation Office at 623-930-3760.