



On Thursday June 18, 2009 the City of Glendale will host a Centennial Concert and Carnival from 6 to 9 PM to kick-off the year-long celebration of Glendale's incorporation as a city. June 18, 2010 is the actual 100 year anniversary of our city's incorporation.

Glendale's Summer Band will be performing a special show, beginning at 8 PM, celebrating music from each decade for the past 100 years. Prior to the concert will be an old-fashioned carnival featuring a classic car exposition, antique police cars and fire engines, a demonstration and display by the Glendale Historical Society, a vintage fashion show by Matilda's Closet, and other free carnival games and prizes. The carnival and concert will take place right in Murphy Park with the classic car show taking place along Glenn Drive which is directly adjacent to the park and will be closed to traffic during the celebration.

Arizona was first established as a territory in 1863. In the early years, Arizona was known across the rest of the country as the wild west. Similar to what we all have seen depicted in the old western movies, the territory was known for its gunfighting, gambling and drinking. However, W.J. Murphy and other early settlers of the northwest area chose to set themselves apart from their wild neighbors and established a temperance colony of Glendale forbidding drinking, gambling, fighting and jails.

By 1892, Glendale had an ample supply of water for land, a major roadway known as Grand Avenue that connected a direct link to the northwestern portion of the valley from Phoenix and several successful agricultural ventures in place. On February 27, 1892 the first residential area of Glendale was surveyed and platted. However, the town would not be incorporated until 18 years later.

In the late 1890's one of Glendale's founders knew that they needed to recruit other residents if the colony was going to prosper, so he put an advertisement in the *Arizona Weekly Gazette* which would be distributed to residents of Phoenix and the East Valley. In the advertisement, he expressed the area's beauty and convenience, the schools and churches and the fact that it was a temperance colony. The advertisement also included the following paragraph:

*The design is to furnish opportunities for beautiful, peaceful homes, combining as fully as possible the advantages of the city with the security and charm of the country. This will be a very large class of people. It is the first colony located in the territory, planned on this basis.*

I feel this final paragraph is so significant because it really describes the precedent on which

our city was established and continues to define our city today.