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**FOR THE LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES & TOWNS WEEK,
GLENDALE SPOTLIGHTS VALUE OF LIBRARY SERVICES**

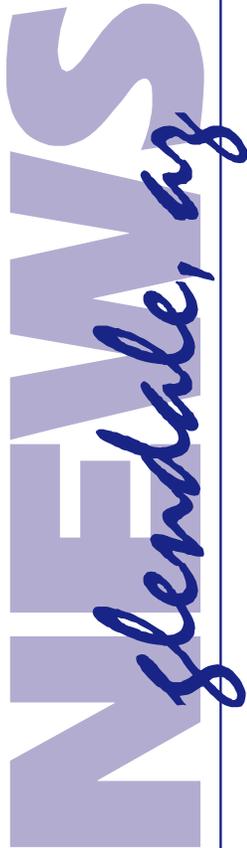
GLENDALE, Ariz. -- In money-strapped times, one of the best recession-buster strategies a family can employ is to look at their spending and see how much they could save by using their city library for everything from books, music and games to online tutoring and other little-known library services. In Glendale, librarians estimate a family of four can save approximately \$4,000 a year.

This savings has prompted the City of Glendale to shine a spotlight on its three public libraries during Cities & Towns Week, Oct. 25-29. This week is set aside by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns each year to focus attention on city services that contribute to residents' quality of life.

Even moderate use of Glendale's public libraries translates into big savings. Based on formulas developed and refined by various library associations, the annual value of library use for a family of four is calculated at \$4,069.56. That total was reached with the following assumptions about use and market values.

Quantity	Item Description	Market Value
2	Hardback books	\$60.78
2	Paperback books	\$13.36
1	Audio book	\$27.00
4	Music CDs	\$48.00
2	Video Games	\$100.00
1	Magazine borrowed or read in library	\$5.00
2	Usage of 2 subscription databases	\$24.00
2	Movie DVDs for a week	\$14.00
2	Hours of On-line tutoring	\$40.00
1	Sewing pattern downloaded from library database	\$6.99
	Monthly Total	\$339.13
	Yearly Total	\$4069.56

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Cities & Towns Week
Library Services
Add 1-1-1-1-1-1

“Every family’s actual usage will vary, but for many library users, this is a conservative estimate. Avid readers don’t stop at one book a month, and when you look at the other services people are using too, it can really add up if you had to purchase all of them,” says Lesa Holstine, branch manager at the Velma Teague Library.

Residents who aren’t visiting their libraries regularly may be surprised to learn the variety of available services that go well beyond borrowing books and magazines. In addition to reading materials, Glendale libraries offer a variety of entertainment items such as video games, music CDs and movie DVDs. There are also a variety of special interest and educational programs held each month, such as the Authors at the Teague series, which brings in best-selling authors for book signings and lectures, and Glendale Coffeehouse, where local musicians perform on the third Thursday of every month.

However, in difficult times, libraries see an increased focus on services such as free computer use for job-hunting, and access to employment specialists who help library patrons polish their resumes. Other popular services include:

- **Online tutoring.** Third graders to college students can benefit from instant access to tutors in subjects such as math, science and language arts. A 24-hour writing lab is also available to help students produce better papers and reports.
- **Online practice tests.** Test-takers have the opportunity to take practice tests to prepare for college entrance exams, licensing and certification tests.
- **Databases.** Library patrons have access to more than 60 databases. Among the most popular during the recession have been do-it-yourself resources for home and auto repairs.
- **Book sales.** For those who want to own books, each branch offers its own bookstore with items selling at deep discounts. Additionally, the Foothills Branch holds semi-annual book sales.

In fact, the next Glendale Library book sale will be 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 29, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 30, at the Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. in Glendale.

(more)

Cities & Town Week
Library Services
Add 2-2-2-2-2-2

This event, held in conjunction with The League of Arizona Cities and Towns Week, will feature books ranging from Dr. Seuss to Shakespeare, as well as movies, recorded books and CDs.

Glendale library services are open to both residents and non-residents. Library cards are free for residents, and non-resident cards cost \$15 per quarter, or \$60 annually.

For more information on all library services and locations of Glendale Public Libraries, log on to www.glendaleaz.com/library.

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