

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2010 SPARK AWARDS RECOGNIZE RESIDENTS WHO PROVIDE ‘SPARK’ TO THE COMMUNITY

Glendale, Ariz. -- Glendale recognized neighborhood leaders, community volunteers and businesses that have contributed to their community and improved the quality of the city’s neighborhoods with the Spark Awards.

The awards, which were presented Saturday, are given annually to those individuals who ‘spark’ their communities into action. The Citizens’ Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods presented Spark Awards in the following six categories:

- Young Leaders on the Move: The students of the Northwest Christian School have volunteered for numerous community volunteer projects in Glendale over the past year, including several park clean ups, yard work for elderly residents, and spreading landscape rock around a retirement home. Collectively, the students donated more than 6,000 hours during the school year.
- Business Support & Involvement: Ed Sharpe launched the on-line website called the “Glendale Daily Planet” nearly five years ago. The site specializes in stories and photos about the city and offers readers news that might be overlooked by other media outlets.
- Community Partner: Vineyard Church adopted the East Catlin Court Neighborhood in downtown Glendale about five years ago. Since that time more than 100 volunteers from the church have painted homes in the neighborhood and formed close relationships with the residents who live there.
- Neighborhood Revitalization: Residents of the historic Floracraft Neighborhood worked with city staff to apply for a grant and received federal funding for streetscape improvements including pedestrian lights, sidewalk ramps and repairs.

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GLENDALE SPARK AWARDS

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- Traditional Neighborhood Leadership: Neighborhood leaders of the Heart of Glendale neighborhood, including John Torres, Mickey Nunez, Joe Enriquez and Rebecca Ontiveros, applied for a grant that provided leadership training to area residents. The group also organized two large events that were held in the neighborhood park and attracted attendance of more than 7,000 people.
- HOA Leadership: The HOA president of the Manistee Ranch, Ron Short, has been leading his neighborhood board for three years along with editing their newsletter. He works closely with the HOA's professional management company ensure that his neighborhood is a safe place to live.

For more information, about the Spark Awards or how to become active in your neighborhood, please contact the Neighborhood Partnership Office at 623-930-2868 or visit the department's website at www.glendaleaz.com/CommunityPartnerships.

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