



Message from Scott Ochoa – Glendale’s New City Manager



Hello, Glendale. I am so very honored and humbled, yet excited and energized to begin serving as your new city manager. The City Council has granted me their trust and confidence, and I am committed to fulfilling their expectations. Following an outstanding manager like Jim Starbird cuts both ways—he is a tough act to follow, but he helped build a path that is clear, positive and recognizable. With the Council’s vision and leadership, and the support of our dedicated and professional city employees, I know that Glendale will sustain its upward trajectory.

The challenges we face are plentiful and vexing. The recession, the State of California’s dysfunctionality, and all of the normal obstacles that a full-service city faces in the execution of our work plan and budget, all dictate that the City of Glendale further refines its focus, efficiency and commitment to exceptional customer service to you, our residents and businesses.

Glendale is a leader among cities, an attractive place to live and work, and a community whose strength lies in its rich diversity and heritage. Glendale is moving forward, and I am honored to be a part of helping to guide this amazing place.

Respectfully,

Scott Ochoa
Glendale City Manager

Glendale Transportation Center Dedicated to Larry Zarian

The Glendale Transportation Center was re-named the Larry Zarian Transportation Center on November 30 at a large public gathering. Zarian, a former Glendale Council Member for

16 years and Mayor of the City for four terms, passed away last fall.

Larry Zarian spent more than 30 years working to improve transportation--not only in Glendale, but statewide and nationally. He served on the National Highway Safety Commission, the LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and on the State of California's Transportation Commission.

Re-dedicating the Transportation Center in his name is a way of honoring the man who did so much for the City of Glendale. In addition to the sign shown here, a bronze plaque will be installed on the historic train station building at a later date.



Bloomingdale's is Coming to Glendale!

Bloomingdale's Department Store is coming to the Glendale Galleria, serving as an anchor in one of the premier shopping destinations in Southern California. The Galleria will undergo an extensive renovation, updating both the interior and exterior of the property. The store will occupy approximately 120,000 sf in the space vacated by Mervyn's on the corner of Brand Boulevard and Broadway, with an opening planned in the fall of 2013. This upscale department store represents the latest and most desirable merchandise in every category. Bloomingdale's expects to hire 175 employees/associates.

And Trader Joe's is now Serving Montrose!

More than 150 people joined in the October grand opening of the new Trader Joe's market at 2462 Honolulu Avenue in Montrose. The visitors at the event received colorful leis and enjoyed a Reggae Band. This 14,000 sf store will serve as an anchor to the Montrose Shopping Park.



Do You Want to be a Homeowner?

If you are interested in owning your own home, find out how to do it right. Take the free class on "How to Buy Your First Home" and learn step-by-step how to prepare for and succeed in buying a home. Registration for classes on the following dates is now taking place:

Saturday, January 21

Saturday, March 17

Saturday, May 19

Call Community Development Department-Housing Division at **(818) 551-6990** to register today.



Step to the Summit: Reaching the Top in Business and Life

Fewer than 300 people in the world, and only a handful of married couples, have ever climbed all of the Seven Summits—the highest mountain peaks on each of the seven

continents. Paul and Denise Fejtek, both born and raised in Glendale, have joined that elite group after reaching their seventh and final summit, Mt. Everest, the Earth's highest at 29,029 feet.

The Fejteks' Seven Summits Quest raised over \$114,000 for the Challenged Athletes Foundation which named Paul as the Most Inspirational Athlete of the Year.

Paul and Denise will share their exciting story and what it takes to train, prepare and select the right team to help you get to the top, plus cover some details from Paul's recently released book "*Steps to the Summit: Reaching the Top in Business and Life.*"

Visit with the Fejteks on Wednesday, January 25 at 7:00 pm in the Central Library Auditorium.



Glendale's TOP 20

The Library keeps a list of the top 20 books that readers have reserved at the Glendale Public Library. You can click on a title to find it in the Library catalog. Many of these books are also available as downloadable eBooks, audio books or books on CD.

What was #1 in December? Walter Isaacson's biography, Steve Jobs.

Check out the entire list at: <http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/library/GlendaesTop20.asp>

I-5 Freeway Project

CalTrans is hosting a community meeting to inform residents about the HOV/Car Pool lane project on the Golden State Freeway (I-5) from the Ventura Freeway (SR-134) to Magnolia Boulevard.

Wednesday, January 11 – 6:30 to 8:00 pm
Environmental Management Center, 780 Flower Street, Glendale. 91201

North Glendale Now Has a Community Plan

The North Glendale Community Plan has been adopted and beginning January 5, all projects in the Plan area must conform to the vision, policies and design guidelines listed here:

- The maximum allowable height on Foothill Boulevard will be reduced from 50 feet to 35 feet.
- The maximum allowable height on the west side of Ocean View will be reduced from 50 to 35 feet.
- There will be no change in the maximum allowable height on the north side of Verdugo Boulevard (had been proposed to be changed from 35 feet to 45 feet).
- The CR Zone was extended to include Trader Joe's (on the south side of Honolulu Avenue).

Final versions of the plan, maps, ordinance and design guidelines will be available shortly at <http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/planning/NorthGlendaleCommunityPlan.asp>

Don't Toss Your Batteries: Recycle!

After the holidays, everyone seems to be using new electronic gadgets or battery-operated toys. All these items drain thousands of batteries. When your batteries are "dead," please don't toss into the trash. Not only is this bad for the environment, it's against the law in California. Used batteries contain toxins such as cadmium, mercury, zinc and lithium.

Glendale has made it easy for residents to dispose of used batteries properly. Drop-off sites are located throughout the City for this purpose (see graphic below.) Small batteries can be recycled at these locations. Larger batteries such as computer or lead-acid car batteries should be turned in at the Environmental Management Center (EMC), 780 Flower Street.

For more information about recycling at the EMC or specific addresses of the drop-off sites, call **(818) 548-3900**.



Parent's Nite Out

After the hectic holidays, parents may wish for a night out by themselves. Let City staff help with this during "Parents Nite Out" at Sparr Heights Community Center, 1613 Glencoe Way. You can enjoy a night out, while we take care of the kids. Games, movies and snacks are included in the fee of \$25 per child. Children must be potty-trained and must be picked up by 11:00 pm or a late fee will be charged.

This program is subject to cancellation if a minimum number of registrations are not received.

Dates:

Saturday, January 21 (Register by Monday, January 16)

Saturday, February 25 (Register by Monday, February 20)

Call **(818) 548-2187** if you have questions.

Rancho Riverside Community Clean Up

Community members gathered recently to help clean up the Rancho Riverside Neighborhood. The project was organized by Neighborhood Services and the Glendale Police Department in an effort to foster civic pride among residents.

[PHOTO ALBUM](#)

Neighborhood Services will work with community groups and local businesses on community service projects to help improve the quality of life in our City. For more information about this, contact [Sandra Rodriguez](#) at **(818) 548-2877** or visit [CleanUpGlendale.org](#).



GEM AWARDS

The GEM Awards Program recognizes property owners who have made outstanding structural or landscaping improvements that enhance their own property, as well as the entire neighborhood.

Nomination Criteria

- Property must not have any active code enforcement cases
- Outstanding curb appeal
- Property owners may not nominate their own property
- Tenants of multi-family dwellings may nominate the property in which they live
- Renters may be nominated by their landlord or neighbors

To learn about the program, go to Neighborhood Services or Committee for a Clean & Beautiful Glendale. Nominate a property by contacting [Katrin Madatian](#) at **(818) 551-3098** or visit the [online registration form](#).

January Event Calendar

Wednesday, January 11: Community Meeting – HOV/Car Pool Lanes on I-5 Freeway, 6:30 pm, Environmental Management Center, 780 Flower Street. **(818) 548-3900**

Thursday, January 12: Public Hearing on Proposed Water Rate Hike – 5:30 pm, Sparr Heights Community Center, 1613 Glencoe Way. **(818) 548-3381**

Wednesday, January 18: Public Hearing on Proposed Water Rate Hike – 5:30 pm, Brand Library Recital Hall, 1601 W. Mountain St. **(818) 548-3381**

Thursday, January 19: Public Hearing on Proposed Water Rate Hike – 5:30 pm, Pacific Edison Community Center, 501 S. Pacific Avenue. **(818) 548-3381**

Saturday, January 21: First Time Homebuyer's Class. Call **(818) 551-6990** for reservations.

Wednesday, January 25: Steps to the Summit – 7:00 pm, Central Library Auditorium, 222 E. Harvard St. **(818) 548-2042**

As always, we want to hear your thoughts and ideas, so please let us know via [the City's website](#). You may also telephone Vicki Gardner at: **(818) 548-4844** for suggestions and/or questions.

We encourage you to forward this email to friends, family, and neighbors to [subscribe to City Connection](#)