



OCTOBER 2012

MESSAGE FROM
SCOTT OCHOA



Glendale City Manager

The autumn is a season of reaping harvests and gathering the fruits of long labors and hard work. Here in - despite the ongoing heat wave - autumn is in full swing. Decisions that were made months and years ago have presented ripe opportunities for our community. Across many different fronts, is setting a shining example of municipal leadership and community vibrancy.

There has been much written recently about the topic of pension reform. The State recently adopted a massive two-tier overhaul of the CalPERS system. Because most of the important reforms are two-tier (meaning they only apply to new employees entering the retirement system), the benefits will largely be realized well into the future. In September, the City Council received a report from staff illustrating how Glendale's own pension reforms - enacted over the last several years and built upon the City's traditionally fiscally conservative principles - place our city well ahead of the region and even the State in controlling the cost of



International Walk to School Day is
Wednesday, October 3

The City of Glendale, in collaboration with the 33 Glendale/La Crescenta public and private schools, are joining with students from around the world to celebrate International Walk-to-School Day on Wednesday, October 3. Join the nearly 4 million children and adults around the world who will celebrate the benefits of walking that day.

Why walk? International Walk to School Day is an annual event that promotes walking for several reasons:

- Physical activity and health of our children;
- Teaching safe walking skills to children;
- Reminding adults to drive safely in school zones;
- Concern for environment;
- Reducing traffic congestion, pollution, and speed near schools; and
- Sharing time with community leaders, parents, and children.

Let's all work together to make our community a more child-friendly place to walk! Keep these pedestrian safety tips for Walk to School Day:

- Use the crosswalks.
- Obey and respect the crossing guard.
- Cross only at corners so drivers can see you.
- Look all ways (left, right, left) before crossing the street to see cars, pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Make eye contact with drivers of vehicles.
- When crossing, watch for cars that are turning left or right.
- Never cross the street from between parked cars--drivers can't see you.

benefits. In Glendale, in addition to enacting a two-tier retirement system last year, employees - that is, current employees - pay the "employees' share" of the pension cost and even a portion of the "employer's share" (based on negotiated agreements). The result is that has developed a more stabilized cost structure for both the long term and short term.

In the arena of public safety, the Glendale Fire Department recently earned the rating of a "Class I" Fire Department. This reflects the training, professionalism, water resources, response times, and overall capacity of the Glendale Fire Department. What this means is that residents and businesses are served by an elite department, which translates into reduced (or at least constrained) property insurance premiums and escalations. Similarly, the Glendale Police Department continues to perform exceptionally well. Recently, was rated as one of the safest cities in the entire nation (population between 100,000-400,000).

On the community development front, despite the wobbly economy, has emerged as a one-city Works Progress Administration. Battling the lingering effects of the worst recession since the Great Depression, progressive zoning codes and careful planning have attracted private development back into . Currently, nearly a dozen major developments, the large majority of which are privately funded, are either under construction or in the design review process. Simply stated, this translates into jobs - construction jobs, engineering and architecture jobs, finance and insurance jobs, retail, and service jobs. Additionally, because the City Council has appropriately incentivized investment in the City's central urban core by creating a clear and concise Downtown Specific Plan and placed emphasis on delivering exceptional customer service, local residents are able to reap the benefits of significant new developments without having to accept the burdens of overdevelopment. Complemented by significant and enhanced environmental impact fees, is realizing the benefit of visionary planning and balanced economic development.

Throughout history, the fall harvest gave people reason to celebrate. Important successes

- Jaywalking anywhere, especially near schools during drop-off and pick-up times, puts both pedestrians and drivers at risk.



Fourth Annual Glendale K-9s in the Park Saturday, October 13

The City of Glendale Police Department, Community Services and Parks Department, and the Glendale Police Foundation will host the **4th Annual Glendale K-9s in the Park on Saturday, October 13.** Join us anytime from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at Verdugo Park for this free, family and dog-friendly event.

Event attendees can see live Police K-9 demonstrations, receive low cost vaccinations and micro-chipping for pets, enjoy a dog costume contest, and more! There will plenty of children's activities and vendors, such as the Pasadena Humane Society, who will be offering pet adoptions.

For information please contact Nancy Michael at nmichael@ci.glendale.ca.us or visit the [Glendale Police Foundation](http://www.glendalepolice.org).



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Glendale Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) has organized activities to raise awareness and prevention efforts in our community.

- Every year in the US there are over 3 million incidents of domestic violence--that means that every nine seconds, someone is beaten by their domestic partner.

take patience and perseverance. Here in , we see that our bounty is enriched by the tough choices, clear priorities, and diligent effort of our City Council and community leaders.

Economic Development Dashboard Highlights

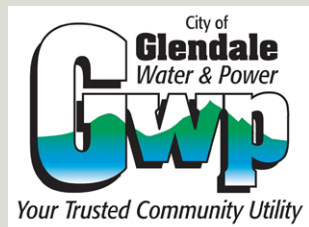
The total sales tax collected in Glendale for the first quarter of 2012 outpaced last year's quarter by 9.6 percent. The restaurants and hotels category led the increase with a 14.1 percent gain over the same period of the prior year.

Industrial property continues to be in high demand for leasing in Glendale, with only 2.2 percent vacancy by the end of the second quarter 2012.

Glendale's median home price of \$508,000 shows a slight improvement over last year, with a 0.5 percent increase.

The US Department of Labor reported that 9,770 (9.4 percent) Glendale residents are unemployed as of August 2012, which is slightly better than the Los Angeles County unemployment figure of 10.4 percent.

Visit [Economic Indicators](#) for more information.



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Go Paperless with eBill!
By signing up for eBill, GWP customers will receive an email

- Every year over 4,000 victims of domestic violence are killed.
- Domestic violence can happen to anyone, and occurs in 25-33% of all relationships.

Annual Candlelight Vigil: Thursday, October 18

The annual Candlelight Vigil, presented by the Glendale CSW and the YWCA of Glendale, will be held on Thursday, October 18 at 6:00 pm in memory of victims of domestic violence: both survivors and those who have lost their lives. Join us as we honor those in our communities who have been victims of domestic violence and help light the way to end domestic violence at the YWCA Regency Room, 735 East Lexington Drive.

Film Screening and Q&A: Thursday, October 25

The Glendale CSW is partnering with the Armenian Relief Society of Western USA to present the short film, *Loves Me, Loves Me Not*, which portrays the disintegration of a marriage and the complex emotions and attitudes surrounding domestic violence. The screening will be held on Thursday, October 25, at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium of the Glendale Central Library, 222 E. Harvard Street. The film will be followed by a question-and-answer session with a panel of professionals representing various backgrounds within the field, including the Glendale Police Department, the YWCA, and the ARS Child, Youth, and Family Guidance Center.

Please call (818) 548-4844 or email women@ci.glendale.ca.us for more information.

PARKS MAKE LIFE BETTER



Doran Gardens Mini-Park is located at 327 West Doran Street. The site is 0.35 acres in size, and contains two tot lots, one for 2-5 year old children, and the other for 5-12 year olds. The park also incorporates a shaded seating area, as well as other seating arranged throughout the site. Sustainability features include the use of a smart irrigation controller, drought tolerant planting, and pervious paving in the form of decomposed granite. The irrigation system is plumbed for the eventual use of recycled water, when it becomes available in the neighborhood.

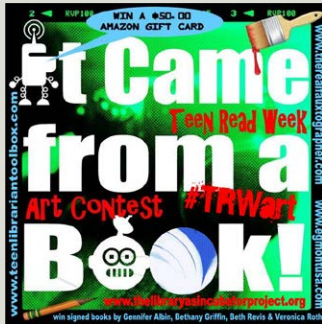
The Doran Gardens Mini-Park is part of the larger Doran Gardens housing development that offers affordable homeownership opportunities to income-qualified households that are first-time homebuyers. Townhomes are now available for purchase and immediate move-in. For more information, visit [Doran Gardens Housing](#) or call (626)403-4663, ext. 151.

Housing Rights Center: Fair Housing Workshop For Property Owners and Managers

Housing Rights Center, in partnership with the City of Glendale Community Services & Parks Department, has organized a **Fair Housing Workshop for Property Owners and Managers**. The workshop will take place on **November 8, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm** in the Pacific Community Center's Sycamore Room (501 S. Pacific Avenue, 2nd floor).

when their bill is ready. Customers who sign up for eBill can view and pay their energy and/or water bills online. To sign up, visit the [GWP website](#) and click on "Your Account" on the right side of the home page.

LIBRARY NEWS



Teen Art Contest
During [Teen Read Week](#), October 14-20, the Glendale Library will display a huge online gallery of all *IT CAME FROM A BOOK!* art contest entries and will collect votes on the best library-incubated artwork. The winner will be announced on the site the following week!

The Library @ Your Fingertips

The Library's new mobile app is the perfect solution for people on the go. The app enables Android or Apple users to find and reserve materials, borrow eBooks, study a language or view historic photos of Glendale—all from an Android or Apple mobile device. Download the Glendale Public Library [mobile app](#) today!

CALENDAR

October 2 - Tri-City Woodwind Quintet/Cuatro Amigos Saxophone Quartet
7:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
222 E. Harvard Street
Call (818) 548-2042 for more info.

October 11 - Lecture and Book Signing
7:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
222 E. Harvard Street
Author Levon Parian will present *Crows of the Desert*.
More info [here](#).

October 13 - K-9s in the Park
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Verdugo Park
1621 Canada Boulevard

The event will discuss landlords' and managers' rights and responsibilities, fair housing, evictions, security deposits, repairs, rent increases, and more. Those who wish to participate must RSVP by calling (800) 477-5977, ext. 19.

ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

Stephen M. Zurn Appointed General Manager for GWP



On September 18, 2012, City Council confirmed the appointment of Steve Zurn as the permanent General Manager of Glendale Water & Power (GWP). Mr. Zurn has served as the Interim General Manager of Glendale Water & Power since May 2012, and has provided dedicated service to the residents of Glendale for 25 years. He has served as the Director of Public Works for the past 9 years.

Mr. Zurn will remain the Director of Public Works as he assumes the permanent role as General Manager of Glendale Water and Power. Although he will manage both, they will remain independent operations within the City's municipal services structure.

2011 Safe Routes to School Improvements Project

Phase one of the Safe Routes to School Improvements (SR2S) project was completed early September 2012. The goals of the SR2S program are to improve the health and well-being of children by enabling and encouraging increased walking and bicycling among students. The program's mission involves the construction of facilities that enhance safety for pedestrians and bicyclists with improvements to pathways, trails, sidewalks, and crossings.

The Public Works Department applied and received the project-specific grant funding to implement safety-related improvements at the following six schools: Balboa Elementary, Columbus Elementary, Dunsmore Elementary, RD White Elementary, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary, and Wilson Middle Schools.

Engineering Division staff from the Public Works Department designed the infrastructure improvements and managed the construction of the project. The scope of work included:

- Modification of curb returns and installation of bulb-outs;
- Installation of new curb ramps meeting current Federal ADA requirements;
- Reconstruction/Resurfacing of existing pavement at select intersections;
- Selective removal, repair, and reconstruction of damaged curbs, gutters, sidewalks, driveways, cross gutters, alley aprons, and retaining walls;
- Removal of three existing street trees that were in conflict with the proposed improvements and planting of nine new trees;
- Reconstruction/Modification of existing catch basins and storm drain lateral connections; and
- Installation of new rapid flasher yellow flashing beacons, traffic striping, and pavement markings.

See story above for more info.

**October 13 - Opera Talks:
Madame Butterfly**
2:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
222 E. Harvard Street
More info [here](#).

October 13-14 - Relay for Life
Sat, 9:00 am - Sun, 9:00 am
Scholl Canyon Field
3200 E. Glenoaks Boulevard

**October 18 - Domestic
Violence Candlelight Vigil**
6:00 pm
YWCA Regency Room
735 E. Lexington Avenue
See story above for more info.

**October 25 - Domestic
Violence Film Screening**
6:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
222 E. Harvard Street
See story above for more info.

**October 27 - Foothill
Community Clean Up Day**
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Dunsmore Park
4700 Dunsmore Avenue
Sign up and more info [here](#).

BALBOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: BEFORE



BALBOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: AFTER



'GLENDALE: THEN & NOW



Brand Boulevard, looking north toward Harvard Street

The right side of this image is from 1934, when the Famous Department Store was Glendale's destination for men's and women's clothing, luggage, dry goods, and more. The Red Car lines and tracks are visible down the center of the image. The left side of this image depicts the current view of Brand Boulevard including the Americana at Brand.

This THEN & NOW image is one of thousands available on HistoryPin.com. Find more photos on the Library's [HistoryPin profile page](#).

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This is an official publication of the City of Glendale, distributed by the Public Information Office. For inquiries, please contact Christine Baboomian, City Connection Editor: cbaboomian@ci.glendale.ca.us or (818) 548-4844.