



May 2014

**MESSAGE FROM
SCOTT OCHOA**



Glendale City Manager

Legendary coach Paul Brown once remarked, "When you win say little; when you lose say less."

This week, we received word from the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder that the effort to repeal the Utility User Tax (UUT) failed to garner the requisite number of signatures by a margin of 198. Although proponents of the repeal submitted more than 2500 signatures in their effort to remove the long-established tax measure, it was determined that only 1994 were sufficient signatures.

On the one hand, I suppose this is cause for some small celebration. After all, the UUT raises about \$27 million dollars - or 16% - of the City's General Fund revenue. It has been in existence since 1969 and was recently lowered and reaffirmed by Glendale voters in 2009 with 66.5% of the vote. Yet despite its integral and well-established position in the City's revenue structure, the UUT has come into the crosshairs of a regional anti-tax coalition that also targeted similar measures in surrounding cities. And considering the relatively low threshold for

June 3 Special Election



The City of Glendale will be participating in a Special Election to fill a vacant City Council seat on Tuesday, June 3. This Special Election has been consolidated with the State Primary and will be conducted by the County of Los Angeles. For the latest updates on the upcoming Special Election, visit www.GlendaleVotes.org, follow [@cogCityClerk](https://twitter.com/cogCityClerk) on Twitter, or call 818-548-2090.

The last day to register is May 19!

Fire Service Day: May 10



The Glendale community is invited to celebrate Fire Service Day on **Saturday, May 10** at Fire Station 21, 421 Oak Street. The fun begins with a free pancake breakfast at 9:00 am prepared by Fire Chief Harold Scoggins and his Fire Command Team. From 10:00 am to 2:00 pm the festivities will continue with vehicle extrication demonstrations by firefighters, tours of the fire station, and use of a charged fire hose. There will be a rock wall and face painters for children along with a special visit from Sparky the Dog. Learn more [here](#).

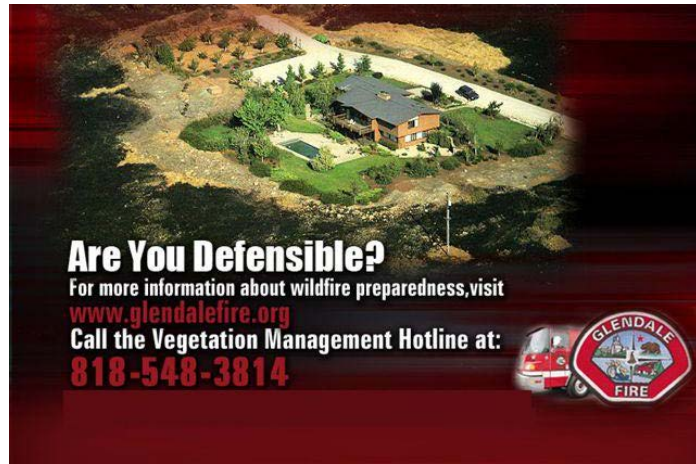
placing such measures on the ballot (five percent of the voter turnout in the last gubernatorial election; in this case 2192 valid signatures), I believe now is not the time for a touchdown end zone dance because my guess is that the same handful of individuals will march up this hill again next year.

Instead, I think now is a good time to soberly reflect on the crisis that was averted - even if only temporarily.

Again, the UUT has been in existence for 45 years. It has been an important and stable source of revenue, third only to Glendale's share of property tax revenue (.1357 of the 1% in assessed value paid by property owners) and sales tax revenue (1% of the 9% in LA County). These two sources generate 26.5% and 19.3% of the General Fund's revenue, respectively. The General Fund is the fund that houses the bulk of the GPD and GFD budgets, which comprise about 64% of the City's General Fund appropriations. But the General Fund also pays for the City's Community Services & Parks Department, Library Arts & Culture, much of the Community Development Department, and most internal service departments like Finance and HR.

Considering that the combined General Fund budgets for parks, libraries and community development totals about \$26.5 million, the loss of the UUT would effectively eliminate these operations. Of course, I doubt our residents would stand by as the entire library system was shut down or our parks went completely unmaintained and un-programmed. Thus, the real-world and most likely outcome of the loss of the UUT revenue would be the contracting out of Glendale Police and Fire. Further, because we would need to contract with either the County of LA or a neighboring city like LA, Burbank or Pasadena - and all of these public entities have the same cost pressures as the City of Glendale - we would have to lower the level of service provided to Glendale residents. Simply contracting out a service does not make it free. Even at rock-bottom service levels, there is still a cost. Thus, contracting out police and fire services would still necessitate some reduction in all of the other municipal services paid for out of the General Fund. Truly, the things that help make Glendale special - being one of the safest cities

Brush Clearance



It is critical to create a defensible space around your home to help protect it against brush fires. Due to the drought conditions and the extremely dry brush, the Glendale Fire Department is encouraging residents to conduct their brush clearance as soon as possible. Fire Department personnel will be conducting property inspections in May to ensure residents have properly completed their brush clearance. To learn more, please visit www.glendalefire.org and follow them on Twitter at [@GlendaleCAFire](https://twitter.com/GlendaleCAFire).

Photo of the Month



Thank you to Mike M. for sharing this great photo of #MyGlendale's Downtown!

Share your photos with @MyGlendale on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/MyGlendale), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/MyGlendale) & [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/MyGlendale) for a chance to be showcased as the Photo of the Month in the next City Connection. Include #MyGlendale and tag @MyGlendale to be entered.

The Month of May

in America, having a Class One fire department, featuring amenities like the Brand Library and Art Center and the Adult Recreation Center - would all be sacrificed for what amounts to an average of \$11.27/month for Glendale's single family utility users, and even less for multi-family utility users.

And herein lays the difference between folks who deal in services and solutions, and folks who deal in talking points. Our residents have told the City Council repeatedly, objectively, and overwhelmingly that they are satisfied or very satisfied with the value they receive living in Glendale. Despite this level of satisfaction, a small group of folks has tried - and will likely try again - to diminish Glendale's quality of life in favor of an ideological argument. Yet pot holes are neither conservative nor liberal; traffic safety is neither pro-tax nor anti-tax. Today, and for the foreseeable future, the challenges we face are real and plentiful. Our success will hinge on our ability to respond purposefully, as opposed to reacting thoughtlessly and without regard for the kinds of unintended consequences that continue to cripple our State.

CALENDAR

May 3 - National Train Day,
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Glendale Transportation Center
400 West Cerritos Avenue
See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 3 - Riverwalk Workday,
8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Glendale Narrows Riverwalk
300 Paula Avenue
Help keep Glendale's open space beautiful by weeding and watering the landscaped areas of the Riverwalk.
Learn more [here](#).

May 4 - Verdugo Mountains
10K Trail Run & Hike, 8:00 am
Brand Park
1601 West Mountain Street
See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 4 - Brand Associates Music Series: Cellist Maksim Velichkin, 2:00 pm
Brand Library & Art Center
1601 West Mountain Street
Cellist Maksim Velichkin plays Bach, Homage to Bach with Glendale composer George Gianopoulos, Alfred Schnittke and more!



Older Americans Month:

Since 1963, communities across the country have shown their gratitude to older Americans by celebrating each May. This year's theme for Older Americans Month is "Safe Today. Healthy Tomorrow." The theme focuses on injury prevention and safety to encourage older adults to protect themselves and remain active and independent for as long as possible.

Unintentional injuries to this population result in at least 6 million medically treated injuries and more than 30,000 deaths every year. With an emphasis on safety during Older Americans Month, we encourage older adults to learn about the variety of ways they can avoid injuries.

BUILDING SAFETY: Maximizing Resilience, Minimizing Risks



BUILDING SAFETY MONTH — INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL — MAY 2014

Building Safety Month:

May is Building Safety Month. Be sure to tune in to [GTV6](#) during the entire month to learn about a number of important issues pertaining to safe and sustainable structures, protecting yourself from wildfires, earthquake preparedness, backyard safety, and green building. For more information, please visit the [Building and Safety Division website](#).



National Bike Month:

The month of May has been recognized by the League of American Bicyclist as Bike Month. The community is invited to take part and join the City of Glendale to promote bicycling and all its health benefits. The City of Glendale will have two pit stop locations for Bike to Work Day on May 15 from 6:00 am - 9:00 am:

May 5 - Danza Azteca Xochipilli, 7:00 pm
Pacific Park Library
 501 South Pacific Avenue
 Danza Azteca Xochipilli will present the ancient traditions of the Aztec people through music, stories and dance in indigenous costumes.
 Learn more [here](#).

May 6 - Glendale Small Business Seminar, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Pacific Community Center
 501 South Pacific Avenue
 The City of Glendale, local leaders, and the California State Board of Equalization will co-host a seminar for small businesses and strategies for success in today's economy.
 Learn more [here](#).

May 7 - Glendale Youth Alliance Luncheon "Employees of Tomorrow," 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Brandview Ballroom
 109 East Harvard Street
 See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 8 - Tenth Annual Jewels of Glendale Luncheon, 11:00 am - 1:30 pm
Oakmont Country Club
 3100 Country Club Drive
 See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 8 - Honoring Moms this Mothers Day - A Discussion on Traffic and Financial Safety, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Americana Community Room
 889 Americana Way
 Hear from Glendale Lt. Abrahamian and Officer Saloomen on how to protect aging parents from financial fraud, elder abuse, and traffic safety.
 Learn more [here](#).

May 10 - Medicinal Plants of the West, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Deukmejian Wilderness Park
 3429 Markridge Road
 A fast paced hike on a moderately steep trail with many stops to discuss local plants and their medicinal uses.
 Learn more [here](#).

May 10 - Civic Center Walking Tour, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Municipal Services Building
 633 East Broadway
 The Community Development Department and Glendale Historical Society will co-host a [free walking tour](#) through the historic heart of Glendale.
 Learn more [here](#).

May 10 - Fire Service Day, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Glendale Fire Station 21
 421 Oak Street

- 613 East Broadway - In front of City Hall steps
- At the intersection of Sonora Avenue and Flower Street

Both locations will also have healthy snacks for bicyclists. For more information, please contact Mirna Martinez at (818) 548-3900.

Welcome Brockmont Park: Glendale's Newest Historic District



Glendale City Council recently voted to designate the city's sixth historic district - Brockmont Park. This beautiful neighborhood in Northwest Glendale is notable not only for its excellent architecture, but also for its interesting history. The area's 59 homes are located north of Kenneth Road and roughly bounded by Merriman Drive on the west, Valley View Road on the east, Cumberland Road and Arbor Drive at the north. Most of the houses were built between the late 1920s and middle 1950s and almost every major architectural style of those decades is represented. The neighborhood's streets are distinctive for their mature trees, with entire blocks lined with either white pines, Canary pines, or fan palms.

The new district is located on part of the former 140-acre estate of John Brockman, a self-made millionaire who struck it rich in the gold and silver mines of New Mexico and Arizona. Along with the grand mansion, he built a four-story clock tower and created extensively landscaped grounds that included a lake with an island and a deer park. The house and the tower are both listed on the Glendale Register of Historic Resources and now look out over the new historic district.

Learn more about Glendale's five other [historic districts](#), [historic preservation in Glendale](#), and [Brockmont Park](#).

Swim Lesson Registration: May 17

See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 15 - Bike to Work Day, 6:00 - 9:00 am
 · 613 East Broadway
 · Sonora Ave / Flower Street Intersection
 See story above for more information.

May 15 - Economic Indicators, 5:00 pm
Glendale Police Department
 131 North Isabel Street
 Glendale's Community Development Department and Armenian American Chamber of Commerce to co-host a seminar on Economic Indicators. Learn more by calling 818-548-2005.

May 15 - Journey to the East with Russ Furnas, 7:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
 222 East Harvard Street
 Photojournalist Russ Furnas will discuss and show slides of his 2014 trip to Vietnam and Cambodia. Enjoy Vietnamese style coconut tea while Furnas describes Ho Chi Minh City's (Saigon) explosively colorful China Town, opium refineries turned into French restaurants and antique alley's lively inexpensive open air garden restaurants.

May 16 - Digging into the Future - Armenia, World Premier Screening with Director Joseph Rosendo, 7:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
 222 East Harvard Street
 Emmy-award winning director Joseph Rosendo will discuss his new PBS program, a series that merges archeology's science and humanity into an educational and cultural adventure that spans the globe. Learn more [here](#).

May 17 - Registration for Swim Lessons Open
Location to be announced
 See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 17 - Great American Clean Up, 8:30 am



Summer is rapidly approaching and the City of Glendale offers great low cost aquatics programs for children and adults. On May 17, Glendale residents may register beginning at 7:00 am, and non-residents may register after 9:00 am for swimming lessons. The location for registration will be publicized at 5:00 am on May 17 through the Park's Departments social media outlets. Please check glendaleaquatics.com, [Facebook](#), or any of of the Parks Twitter Accounts [@myglendaleparks](#), [@myglendalesport](#), [@myglendalesc](#) for more information.

National Train Day: May 3



Celebrate National Train Day a week early with the City of Glendale on **May 3 from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm!** Begin the day with a tour of the historic Glendale Southern Pacific Railroad Station, 400 West Cerritos Ave. It is one of California's most beautiful stations with its 1920s Spanish Colonial Revival architectural style. The station is known to be one of Hollywood's premier film locations as it captures a majestic image of the early optimistic era in Glendale history. After enjoying the activities, tours, and information Glendale has to offer, extend the celebration with a free Metrolink train trip to Union Station to participate in Metro's LA Union Station 75th anniversary. Learn more about all the fun and festivities [here](#).

Great American Clean Up!

633 East Broadway
See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 17 - Wilderness Workday - Taking Care of Business, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Deukmejian Wilderness Park
3429 Markridge Road
Help keep Glendale's open space beautiful by weeding and watering the trails at Deukmejian Wilderness Park. Learn more [here](#).

May 17 - Opera Talk: A Streetcar Named Desire, 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Brand Library & Art Center
1601 West Mountain Street
Multimedia presentation and discussion of Andre Previn's 1995 opera A Streetcar Named Desire. The opera will be performed by LA Opera May 18 through 24.

May 17 - Brand 42 - Works On Paper Opening Reception, 7:00 pm
Brand Library & Art Center
1601 West Mountain Street
Opening reception and awards ceremony for the annual Brand Associates exhibition. The exhibition, which has gained national recognition over its forty-two consecutive years, will be on view during regular library hours from May 17 through June 20. Learn more [here](#).

May 18 - Jewel City Fun & Fitness Ride, 6:30 am
Verdugo Park
1621 Canada Boulevard
See story above or click [here](#) to learn more.

May 19 - LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR JUNE 3 SPECIAL ELECTION
Your vote counts! Be sure to register to vote before the May 19 deadline.
www.glendalevotes.org

May 21 - Teen Advisory Group - TAG, 4:00 pm
Central Library Conference Room, 222 East Harvard Street
Lend your voice to the services Glendale Public Library provides for teens. In the past few years, TAG has selected teen books for the library, created displays, planned programs, created public art projects, and much more!
Learn more [here](#).

May 22 - The Repression of the Armenian Repatriates



The 26th Annual Great American Clean Up is coming up on Saturday, May 17 at 8:30 am. Each year hundreds of volunteers gather to assist with a variety of community beautification projects, including graffiti removal and mural painting, gardening projects, litter and trash pickup, weed abatement and more. This is a great event for families, community groups, and civic-minded businesses to express their community pride. Volunteers will enjoy a fun filled barbecue after completing their work. Learn more [here](#).

Beyond The Box: A Utility Box Mural Program
During the event, the Arts and Culture Commission will partner with volunteers from Great American Cleanup to create murals on 26 utility boxes throughout Downtown Glendale. This great opportunity for artists to display their work will also help beautify the Downtown area streetscape.

Get Active, Glendale!



Verdugo Mountains 10K Trail Run & Hike: May 4
The 6.2 mile course begins in beautiful Brand Park, climbs steadily to one of the highest points in the Verdugo Mountains, and then heads back downhill for a fast descent to the finish. Be a part of the fun and enjoy breathtaking views of the LA Basin, the San Fernando Valley, and the Pacific Ocean at every turn. The race's highest point is 2,670 feet above sea level and offers a spectacular panoramic view of the San Gabriel Mountains. This annual event is presented by Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center and the City of Glendale's Community Services and Parks Department to benefit the Glendale Parks and Open Space Foundation. Learn more [here](#).

During the Stalin Era,
7:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
222 East Harvard Street
 Author Armine Kundakjian will discuss her new book, a scientific study detailing the fates of a portion of the 42,000 Armenian repatriates who were persecuted during 1920-1953. The lecture will be in Armenian.
 Learn more [here](#).

May 26 - Memorial Day
All City offices and library branches will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

May 28 - The Crusades of Cesar Chavez, 7:00 pm
Central Library Auditorium
222 East Harvard Street
 In the first comprehensive biography of Chavez, Pulitzer-prize winning journalist Miriam Pawel offers a searching yet empathetic portrayal. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.
 Learn more [here](#).



Jewel City Fun and Fitness: May 18
 Join the City of Glendale, Noon Rotary Club, and Walk Bike Glendale on a fun bicycle ride to raise money for Glendale Youth Alliance, Homenetmen, and the Glendale YMCA. Register today on [Active.com](#) for a day filled with fun activities, great food, live music, and raffle prizes! For more information, call (818) 937-8007.

Glendale Youth Alliance Luncheon, Employees of Tomorrow

★ **Let's Make 2014**
 ★ **An Unforgettable Year**



Support Our Youth by Being a Sponsor, Donating to Our Silent Auction or Attending Our Luncheon

Since 1993, Glendale Youth Alliance (GYA) has provided jobs and employment preparedness training to over 7,350 youth in the Verdugo Region. GYA's programs strive to empower and educate by providing the highest level of care to help youth recognize their own value and potential. Youth are provided the hope and the tools needed for a better future. Support Glendale Youth Alliance by attending the **May 7 Luncheon**. Learn more [here](#).

Jewels of Glendale Luncheon



Join the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) for their tenth annual Jewels of Glendale Luncheon on **May 8**. The Jewels of Glendale: Women of Courage Award recognizes, honors, and raises the visibility of outstanding Glendale women who have - through

strength, courage, and persistence - overcome hardship (physical, financial, or emotional) to become strong, positive role models in our community. Learn more about CSW's mission and the event [here](#).

Appreciate Mother Earth this Mother's Day



A few things to do to show Mother Earth your appreciation this Mother's Day:

- **Maximize Recycling at Home and Work:** Keep a list of items collected in the City's Recycling Program handy for [easy reference](#).
- **Compost Yard Trimmings and Food Scraps:** Reduce organic waste, learn how to compost and receive a free backyard composting bin at the July compost workshops on Friday, July 11 and Saturday, July 12. To register call the Public Works Integrated Waste Management Division at (818) 548-3916 or email dhartwell@glendaleca.gov
- **Conserve Water:** The majority of a household's water use is from landscaping - reduce outdoor water use by planting native and drought tolerant plants, watering early and leaving grass clippings on the lawn. For more water saving tips visit GlendaleWaterAndPower.com.
- **Recycle Electronics Properly:** Electronics contain heavy metals that are toxic to the environment if disposed of incorrectly. [Recycle electronics](#) by taking them to the Glendale Recycling Center located at 540 W. Chevy Chase Drive. You may also schedule a bulky item pick-up by calling (818) 548-3916 or visit www.earth911.org for a list of other local recycling locations.

STAY CONNECTED!

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This is an official publication of the City of Glendale, distributed by the Public Information Office. For inquiries, please contact Tamar Hadjimanoukian, City Connection Editor: thadjimanoukian@glendaleca.gov or (818) 548-4844.