



The Glendale Summer Band is one of our city's longstanding hometown traditions. Entering its forty-fourth annual concert series, it is the longest-running community band in Arizona. Over 100 volunteers contribute to the band and they will be entertaining their guests at the Murphy Park Amphitheatre in downtown Glendale at 8:00 PM every Thursday from June 3 to July 22. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy popular marches, ballads and show tunes from this group. Admission and parking for the event are free.

The late E. Lowell Rogers was the conductor of the band for the first 22 years. Rogers was a music supervisor for the Glendale school district and partnered with the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department to form the band which began in 1966. E. Lowell Rogers and the seventeen other original members began performing in the parking lot of the Bashas' grocery store. They then performed on a portable metal stage before moving to the basketball courts at O'Neill Park. Bill Wells, one of the eighteen original members in 1966, continues to play saxophone for the band today!

In 1985 the City of Glendale built our current office complex. During the design of the complex, the summer band was an inspiration for the amphitheatre that would connect the city hall offices and the building that houses the council chambers and meeting rooms. The Murphy Amphitheatre was constructed and the Glendale Summer Band has played there ever since.

John Faris will be entering his seventeenth year as conductor of the Summer Band. Ken Jaeger is in his eleventh year as manager of the band. Both Ken and John are Glendale residents and both are widely recognized and well respected for their experience, achievements and awards in the areas of music and music education.

I invite all of you to come out and be a part of Glendale's rich history and tradition by spending a Thursday night watching the Glendale Summer Band at Murphy Park.

Thank you taking the time to read my "Glendale Bulletins". Please contact me at (623) 930-2260 or mayorscruggs@glendaleaz.com, if you have any comments or questions. I strive to provide the most timely information and best possible service to you, the citizens of Glendale. I sincerely appreciate your feedback.