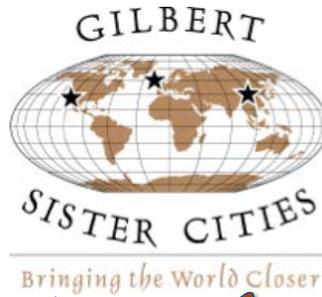


Gilbert Sister Cities



中国·乐山
Leshan · China

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Melinda Murphy

Christopher Stroud

Pamela Williams

Rich Vandermolten

Newsletter

May – 2016

The Gilbert Global Village Festival (GGVF) was your passport for a trip around the world on Saturday, April 9, 2016. Gilbert Sister Cities as a partner in the festival provided-GGVF Steering Committee Leadership, the Parade



Gilbert Sister Cities Booth



Gayle Disch and Cheryl Holbrook

of Nations, and a booth representing Leshan, China and Antrim and



Newtownabbey, where our new Gilbert Sister Cities Student Ambassadors introduced themselves.

The festival provided a platform to bring diverse people together and create greater understanding and friendships. The estimated crowd from not only Gilbert but through the State was 6,000 people.

Mayor John Lewis was honored at Global Village. This was his final time to lead the Parade of Nations. His term as mayor will end in June. When asked by a reporter about the festival, Mayor Lewis said:

Seeing the smiles of our local Gilbert youth dressed in outfits that represent various countries provides the emotional assurance that while we may have cultural differences between the nations of the world, the smile of a child brings us together as one unified community. Of course that

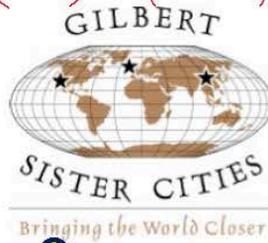
is what Gilbert Sister Cities is all about.

When asked to talk about the 12th year of Global, Gayle Disch, Gilbert Sister Cities Board Member and founding member of GGVF shared this: what we wanted to do 12 years ago, was to make sure that our community was being positive about different cultures, religions and human relation issues. I believe that Global Village has really added to that and helped with the direction in the community.



According to Everyone –The Gilbert Sister Cities Spring Tea was a Resounding Success!!

Gilbert Sister Cities



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Spring Tea



Pamela Williams and Daughter



Jaclyn, Corinne, Josie Youth Ambassadors



Gayle Disch And Nancy Barrett



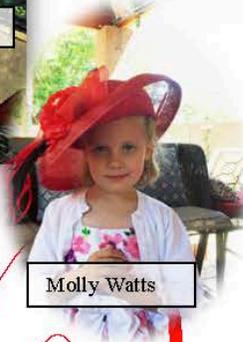
Janet Sanders and Husband



Cheryl Holbrook - Chair

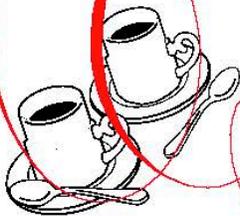


Suzanne Lunt and Mother



Molly Watts

March 26th



Prior Years Youth Ambassadors – Where are they Now?



Lindsay (Lunt) Riggs was a delegate to Newtownabbey in 2003. She went on to graduate from Highland High School in 2004. She then attended Northern Arizona University and Arizona State University, ultimately earning her degree in Secondary Education- English in 2008 from ASU. She and her husband, Ryan (also a Highland High School and an ASU alumni), have four daughters: Riley, Annie, Claire, and Kate. They live in Gilbert where her elementary school aged children attend Towne Meadows Elementary. Their family enjoys hiking and exploring in Arizona as well as taking road trips.

NEWS FROM OUR SISTER CITIES

Leshan

中国·乐山
Leshan · China

A delegation from Leshan, China will visit Gilbert for a quick visit on June 29th and 30th. The delegation will be headed by:

Mr. Fang Weija, Member of Standing Committee of Leshan CPC Committee and Chairman of the Leshan Labor Union

Antrim and Newtownabbey



On the evening of July 9th the Chief Executive (City Manager) of the Antrim-Newtownabbey Borough Council, Jacqui Dixon and her husband (former Newtownabbey Police Chief and now Episcopalian minister) Campbell Dixon will be arriving to spend the following week with Town of Gilbert staff to discuss best practices. They will also be discussing a planned trip to Gilbert this November with some of their staff and Council members to hold a re-signing ceremony to commemorate the name change to Antrim-Newtownabbey. The trip is still in the planning stages but will take place around Gilbert Days.