

## ***Joan Brainard Retirement***

***WHEREAS***, 2007 marks the 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the YWCA of Maricopa County, it also brings to a close the distinguished career of Joan Brainard – our friend, champion and guardian of the Valley West Senior Center; and

***WHEREAS***, Joan’s retirement comes after 36 years of service to an organization that has benefited greatly from her talents, dedication and loyalty; and

***WHEREAS***, Joan’s expertise and commitment to working with the elderly has grown the home-delivered and congregate meal programs into a lifeline for so many who count on the 1.5 million meals which have been served to seniors since 1976; and

***WHEREAS***, Joan never viewed her service as a job but rather a life changing experience that empowers women and the elderly to live life to the fullest in a multicultural community; and

***WHEREAS***, Joan always explored ways to partner with outside groups; one memorable partnership was with my Mayor’s Youth Advisory Commission, who under Joan’s guidance collected over 6,000 cans of pet food from Glendale area high school students to feed the four-legged companions of her clients; and

***WHEREAS***, Joan’s kind smile, caring ways and unwavering persistence will be missed, the Valley West Senior Center is a better place for countless Glendale residents because of Joan’s time at the center and in our city.

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, Elaine M. Scruggs, Mayor of the City of Glendale, Arizona, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby express our sincere good wishes to Joan Brainard, our “St Joan”, for her service to the YWCA of Maricopa County and the residents of the city of Glendale.***

*In Witness hereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of August, 2007.*