

PALO VERDE PARK POST

The official newsletter of the Palo Verde Park Neighborhood Association



Welcome to the
Palo Verde Park Neighborhood Association

President's Corner

Nothing feels certain right now.
And in times like these, when you have
so little control, there are some things
we can control.

We can practice kindness.

We can take care of each other.

We can take care of our neighborhood
and our park.

We can check on each other.

We can stay home to protect ourselves
and wear masks to protect others,

It's unthinkable that we're here. But
here we are. It's going to change our
plans this year. But we'll be back.

Until then: Stay safe. Stay healthy.



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Palo Verde Park Neighborhood



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THE HISTORY HUB

In January 1959, more than two dozen
Navy construction veterans showed up
to our neighborhood to build a bridge
over an arroyo to help schoolkids get to
Kellond Elementary,

The 40-foot bridge still exists today, at
the end of Timrod Street in the Glen
Heather subdivision east of Palo Verde
Park.

Our neighborhood plans to hold a
bridge painting party at some point this
year, when it's safe to do so, to spruce
up the bridge and honor the veterans
who built it for us. And it's a chance to
honor the work of the Kellond PTA,
which helped raise funds for the bridge
through bake sales. We also hope to
install some commemorative signage. It
will be fun. We'll keep you posted.

Neighborhood Association refocuses in response to COVID-19

A message from the leadership team:

2020 was a promising year back in January.

We had lots of momentum, energized by creative events over the past two years that invited our neighbors and our larger community to our park to celebrate everything from music to movies to zombies and fitness.

It was to be a year of more movies, a home tour and more festivals.

It's turned into a year no one expected.

After canceling our spring events to respond to the need to limit the spread of the virus, we still hoped we could be back in the fall.

But even when the world starts spinning right on its axis again, it's going to take a while for us collectively to put the fear and anxiety behind us, to coax people out of their homes and to ensure they feel safe in gatherings again.

We don't want to push.

And we don't want to rush a recovery.

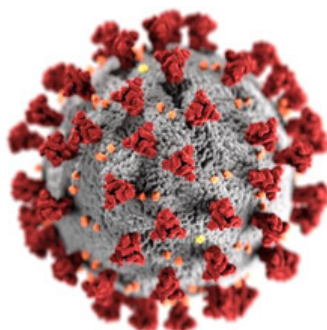
It is a very difficult decision, but we are going to cancel our events this year, with the possible exception of a December toy drive and fun run.

Instead of our meetings, we will interview the officials who were supposed to come and will keep you posted on their plans.

Instead of our big events, which are expensive to host, we will have a focus on service and investment instead. We are weeding the park and working toward installations, from the bulletin board and the Locks of Love statute we told you about last month, to the bridge sign we shared in this month's History Hub.

Our Association is going to look a little different. But we're still here and we're every bit committed to building community and preserving our quality of life and celebrating what makes our area special.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. We hope you'll join us.



Why are we weeding?

If you use the park with some regularity, you've probably seen us out with our hula hoes and our garbage bags, taking weeds out of the perimeter over the past month. Several of you have asked us why, noting it should be the city's responsibility.

Our answer is two-fold.

First, it's part of an agreement we struck to bring an extensive water harvesting and tree planting project to our park. The city agreed to take care of the tree line if we did our part to clean the slope down to the parking lot. We are protecting an investment in our neighborhood.

It's also a question of resources. Our city has 128 parks and resources are strained. We organized our neighborhood in part to have a voice in competing for those resources. But if we wait, we run the risk of being left behind and losing to the city's other needs. It's our park and we think working in partnership with the city best helps us protect this critical asset in our neighborhood.



Colorful Renovations



An array of colorful rocks (above) with words of inspiration were spread out throughout Palo Verde Park while several tables (below) were given a fresh coat of paint as neighbors use their shelter in place time to good use.



Neighbors touch up park during shut down

Several picnic tables in Palo Verde Park have a new coat of paint thanks to neighbors coming together.

PVPN President Norma Coffman was able to get several residents David and Clare Hubbard, with Curb Appeal Renovations, along with neighbors Tassea Carrilllo and Taryn Wintersteen to paint the tables. Their goal is to paint game boards on the tables.

A note of thanks to our sponsors

Applause to Tread Lightly Carpet Care! Owner Matt Russell, a Palo Verde Park Neighborhood resident, was our first sign sponsor! He and his wife, Cathy, support all of our events and have been critical to Park Fest.

- Arizona Beer House has been a stalwart friend.
- Little Anthony's donated ice cream for our ice cream social
- Stewart Title & Trust of Tucson, Inc. has also been a good friend, as has Community Medical Services, which donated a sign at Broadway and Jessica across from their center.
- Bookmans supported our Zombie Walk with a trunk or treat; Brian and Kelly's Pumpkins gave us lots of little pumpkins for our little punkins to decorate.
- All of the businesses who have supported our fundraising event raffles

Other event and sign sponsors include:

Andy and Diane Weiss

Vonnie Baldwin

Jeremy and Rachael Blackketter

Mike Southworth and Giuliano De Santis

Mike and Toni Krause

Mia Ford

Norma and Dave Coffman

Rhonda Bodfield and Fred Araiza

Christine Cerda

Brett Lange

Connie Sadler-Nelson

And everyone who contributed to our Go Fund Me page!