

FEBRUARY 2021

PALO VERDE PARK POST

The official newsletter of the Palo Verde Park Neighborhood Association



Welcome to the
Palo Verde Park Neighborhood Association

Join us for our year of service!

We have lots of opportunities to strengthen our area, from lending some muscle to a neighbor in need to helping to paint curbside addresses or rooting out goat heads in the park. Details inside!

THE HISTORY HUB

Tucson's first suburban department store opened in the Wilmot Plaza on Feb. 28, 1957 when Myerson's White House, one of the oldest retail firms in the city, opened as an anchor in the new complex. The firm, which was founded in 1910 at its West Congress location, became the first major retailer in the city to open a branch. The store was one of the earliest in Tucson to carry Levi Strauss denim items, along with Stetson hats. The Center boasted central cooling, as well as a nursery where parents could park the kiddos for 90 minutes while they shopped.

Upcoming Events
Help a Neighbor with Cleanup:
March 6, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Follow us on:

www.paloverdeparkneighborhood.com



Palo Verde Park Neighborhood



[paloverdeparkneighborhood](https://www.instagram.com/paloverdeparkneighborhood)

Neighbors Make a Clean Sweep



About 50 neighbors of all ages showed up for our third annual Palo Verde Park cleanup, hauling bags of trash and green waste out of the park.

Over the weekend, neighbors also filled up the three roll-offs.

Thanks to everyone who participated and thanks also to the City of Tucson and Tucson Clean & Beautiful for supporting the event and helping us get the word out!

A Magical Place Where Kindness Grow on Trees



One recent day in February, a red heart showed up on a eucalyptus tree west of the large dog park. Rocks, painted with inspirational messages showed up, followed by butterfly garden stakes, the occasional bag of grapefruit, charms, friendship bracelets and inspirational tokens to spread kindness to others. Who knows what's there today?

Tiny Pocket Angels Provide Great Strength



Dianne Bustamante started making pocket angels to honor a friend who passed away unexpectedly. When she learned how much they were appreciated, she started making them to leave behind at the Kindness Tree. Each week, she paints about 40 - and they're snapped up quickly by those looking for a little strength in challenging times. One dog park attendee gifted one to a man facing dialysis; another to a woman whose mother was ill. "It's a labor of love," Dianne said. "I'm just happy to be able to help in trying times."

Got an Hour on March 6? Help a Neighbor in Need

We asked for help identifying a neighbor who, because of age or physical challenges, could use a little help tidying up their yard. If you can do basic yardwork, we'd love your help on March 6, from 9-10 a.m. Drop us an email at paloverdepark@gmail.com if you can help!

March 20: Free Portraits in the Park



Fred Araiza spent 33 years as a staff photographer at the Arizona Daily Star, documenting newsworthy events and the moments that shape a community and taking viewers to places they would otherwise never see. You might have seen him at Cyclovia, for instance, snapping portraits of families and friends in attendance.

A Palo Verde Park resident for the past 11 years, he'll be setting up in the park on March 20 from 10 to noon, so bring your family and friends by for a fun digital portrait, featuring your favorite park as a backdrop.

Reservations are encouraged, especially while we're respecting physical distance. Please email aearaiza1@hotmail.com for your preferred time slot.

Curb Address Refresh in April



Neighborhood volunteers are available throughout the month of April to repaint them for free. Just drop us a line (paloverdepark@gmail.com) and let us know where we can get to work!

Teams Sought for Puzzles in the Park



Hey puzzlers!

Join us for our first Puzzles in the Park competition on May 1 at 10 a.m.

We're looking for:

- up to 10 adult teams of up to two players
- up to 10 family teams, with a cap of four players and at least one adult.

Fastest puzzlers over the course of an hour win a prize (and everyone keeps the puzzle).

As with our other events, we'll respect physical distance with comfortably spaced separate tables, wear face coverings and provide hand sanitizer.

Interested?

If you're the type who loves to give order to an undefined mess, and gets great satisfaction from plopping that last, final, hard-won piece into the mix, we want to hear from you! Drop us a line (paloverdepark@gmail.com) and reserve your space today!

New Coloring Page Series Celebrates Our Neighborhood



Palo Verde Park Neighborhood has many points of interest.

This bulletin board will help you stay up to date on events in our neighborhood. If you have an image that reflects who we are and how we live, please **submit your photo to paloverdepark@gmail.com**



A Note from the Council

We're at an intersection of hope and science as vaccines and other protocols begin to offer a glimmer of normalcy. Even so, it's still not clear yet how 2021 will unfold.

We are committed to bringing back events as soon as we can, as safe as we can, as soon as public health guidance is in alignment.

Until then, we're hopeful that the smaller, physically distant events we have in the works will help us stay connected and celebrate what makes this place so special.

We're also holding off on any fundraising drives until we identify an attainable, viable project, so drop us a note if you can think of an investment that will make a difference.

Meanwhile, the Council will be up for re-election in April. We haven't yet determined what the meeting will look like, but we'll share more in the March newsletter. The slate includes:

Michael Southworth, President; Erinn Peters, Vice President; Andy Weiss, Treasurer; Rhonda Bodfield, Secretary; Torey Crandell, delegate; Matt Russell/Cathy Cromwell, delegate; Dianne Bustamante, delegate; Patty Bowers, delegate

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 our events.

Other donors and stalwart friends include:

- Arizona Beer House
- Little Anthony's
- Stewart Title & Trust of Tucson, Inc.
- Community Medical Services
- Bookmans
- Brian and Kelly's Pumpkins

Palo Verde Park has numerous independent and small businesses. Please support them.

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!
Thanks to Fred Araiza, too, for hand-etching and building the labyrinth sign. Go check it out!