

Bear Canyon Neighborhood Association

ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2012 ~ 6:30 PM

KIRK BEAR CANYON LIBRARY ~ 8959 E. TANQUE VERDE RD.

Agenda Items Include:

Presentation from Pima Council on Aging

New Community Garden Information

Neighborhood Updates and Election of Officers

BEAR CANYON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Summer/Fall 2012

NEWSLETTER

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Walgreen's Planning Cross Street Move

Walgreen's Drug Store, currently located in La Madera Plaza near Safeway, is planning to move across the street into a new free-standing store. RPM Development is in the process of obtaining permits to replace the current Shell gas station with a nearly 15,000 square foot Walgreen's which will offer drive-through prescription service.

Rick Engineering and the developer have met with neighbors to discuss the project and solicit suggestions and concerns. The developer is not asking for any variance from existing ordinances, including the Bear Canyon Neighborhood Plan, as well as Scenic Corridor, Sign Code, or Dark Sky restrictions. In conjunction with the Emeritus retirement home, a new access road is to be built parallel to Tanque Verde which will then align with Catalina Highway and eliminate the need for U turns by vehicles wishing to travel west from the location. The new access road will be at least 30 feet south of Tanque Verde as it crosses Fahringer Wash and preserve the buffer of mature mesquite trees.

The new store will have a unique design that will differ from the current building models, such as the store at Pantano/Speedway. Rather than stucco construction with a tall lighted bell tower the new Walgreen's will use block, tinted glass and rusted metal for its facade.

The main impact on the neighborhood will be the modification of the Tanque Verde/Catalina Highway intersection. Instead of the existing "T" configuration, the new intersection will be very similar to the intersection at Tanque Verde and Bear Canyon. This change must first be approved by the City's Zoning Commissioner who held a public hearing on September 13th. The Bear Canyon Neighborhood Association (BCNA) has not adopted a formal position on the development. BCNA President, Ed Messing, addressed the commissioner at the hearing and outlined the concerns over the project that were raised by residents and businesses in our neighborhood. A decision on the new intersection will be reached by September 21st.

RPM hopes to have all permits secured by December and begin construction shortly thereafter. It is anticipated that the project will take six to eight months to complete.

Dates to Note

October 11, 2012 ~ BCNA Annual Meeting, 6:30 PM

Kirk Bear Canyon Library Conference Room

Agenda items include:

Guest Speakers from Pima Council on Aging and Community Gardens of Tucson.

Neighborhood Updates, Election of Officers

November 12-16, 2012 ~ Brush and Bulky collection week.

Verde Vamos

City Recycling Program Expanded

Rigid plastics can now be recycled in your blue barrels, as long as they fit in the can with the lid closed. Any of the following PLASTIC ONLY items listed will be picked up and recycled:

Buckets	Pet Carriers	Totes
Milk Crates	Coolers/Ice Chests	Wastebaskets
Laundry Baskets	Flower Pots (cleaned)	Water Bottles (5 gallon)
Lawn Furniture	Dish Racks/Drainers	

New Community Garden Opens

Community Gardens of Tucson (CGT) has opened a new location in our neighborhood at the Rincon Mountain Presbyterian Church, 8445 E. Tanque Verde.

A community garden is a place where neighbors can grow flowers and vegetables together on one piece of land. Separate garden plots, measuring 3'x20' are made available to individuals and families in the neighborhood. A drip irrigation system supplies water to the plants and a separate water meter is installed in the garden so that the property owner is reimbursed for all of the water used.

The cost to the gardener is \$15.00 per month which includes a shed full of tools, monthly meetings with expert gardeners to enhance crop yield, and a newsletter with gardening tips. The gardener usually only needs to supply plants/seeds and soil amendments.

The benefits are numerous:

- Healthy, tasty, fresh vegetables grown without pesticides.
- Gives those without much yard space a place to garden.
- Brings families and neighborhoods together.
- Good exercise and a great peaceful stress reliever.
- Beginners and experts alike can share their knowledge (and harvest).
- Teaches both children and adults about the lives of plants.
- Turns otherwise vacant land into a thriving community resource.

CGT Coordinator, Gene Zonge will provide more information at BCNA's Annual Meeting on October 11th. You can also visit their web site at www.communitygardensoftucson.org. If you would like to join the garden please call 795-8823 or email admin@communitygardensoftucson.org.

City Services Aid Bear Canyon

During the past year various departments from the City of Tucson have been very helpful to our neighborhood when problems arose.

When we awoke to the new year we were greeted with a massive graffiti display along the entire length of Tanque Verde from the Coronado Villas Apartments to Houghton Road. Seventeen power poles, two retaining walls and several utility boxes had been hit in the overnight spree. A call to Councilman Cunningham's Ward 2 office was made, some photo documentation presented and the graffiti was removed within the week.

In May a neighbor brought to our attention the faded yellow center striping on Catalina Highway just north of Tanque Verde. The paint was very worn and made it very difficult to see the left turn lane at night. A call was placed to the City's traffic department and a couple of weeks later the road had been repainted and the hazard was corrected.

Taggers again hit poles, asphalt and retaining walls in the same area of Tanque Verde over the Independence Holiday. A call to the City's Graffiti abatement number was all it took to get the problem cleaned up within just a few days.

With the healthy monsoon we have enjoyed this summer a forest of tumbleweeds sprang up in the newly disturbed soil along Tanque Verde. City Code Enforcement was called and before the weeds could begin tumbling and spreading their seeds they were cleaned up and gone.

Phone numbers and contact information for services are readily available on the City's website, tucsonaz.gov. Once there you can link to the department of your choice to get answers to questions and resolutions to problems. If you are unsure which department to call, or you're not happy with the service, the Ward 2 Office is always ready to help. Contact them at 791-4687 during normal business hours.

Neighborhood Association Representation

The Bear Canyon Neighborhood Association is governed by a Board of Directors and three officers, President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer. As per our by-laws each subdivision within the BCNA boundary is entitled to a representative and alternate representative on the Board. Currently Coronado Villas Apartments and Custom Home Rentals are not represented.

Articles and Items for Publication

The BCNA Newsletter accepts items and articles of interest for publication. Any such contributions should be forwarded to the President for possible inclusion in the next edition.

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