

# La Madera Neighborhood



## Play Day in La Madera Park Was a Success

Wow!! We want to thank all those who participated in the awesome Play Day Event held on September 19, 2009. We raised \$120.00 dollars from the community before the event to buy paint, Eegee's, photocopies for the flyers, sidewalk chalk, and tape for the card board castle. Thanks to Kim Peterson, the Jumping Castle was donated, and many thanks to Jo Schneider who ran the bake sale and all the wonderful treats that everyone baked for the event. The list goes on and on to all the volunteers and helpers who made the day a big success. This Play Day event was tied in with a grant contest from **KaBoom!** for \$10,000.

submitted by Zita Owens



Painting the cardboard castle and having fun with active games at KaBoom! Play Day

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## NEXT LMNA Neighborhood Meeting/Plant Swap is APRIL 18

Join us for the next general meeting of your Neighborhood Association, followed by a plant swap. For neighbors interested in volunteering in any capacity, this is a great opportunity to become involved. Any neighborhood issues may be raised, and current Board members will be on hand. The meeting will be on Sunday, April 18, 2010, 3:00 p.m., in the ramada at La Madera Park, Treat Ave. between La Madera and Florence. **Our Third Annual Plant Swap will follow** immediately after the meeting.

Bring your extra plants, volunteers, cactus pads, and unloved houseplants to share with others in the community. This is a free event—participants are to give away their plants freely without charge, but you need not bring a plant to participate. First come, first served—but please be respectful in the number of plants you take. Any other yard and garden items (pots, yard art, etc.) that need to find a new home are also welcome.

**Meetings of the LMNA Board will now be held quarterly, on March 11, June 10, September 9, and December 9, 2010. Call Harrison at 321-3323 for meeting locations.**

## La Madera Neighbors Clean Up Christmas Wash

Eleven enthusiastic members of La Madera cleaned up Christmas Wash in October and December. The effort is intended as part of a longer term wash "adoption" through City of Tucson and Tucson Clean and Beautiful (TCB). Many thanks to Vicki, Bob, Jim, Dale, Ellen, Harrison, Craig, Bruce, Libby, and Jamie, and others who also volunteered!

Christmas Wash drains several square miles of the City. Our neighborhood is one of the few places where there is still natural wash vegetation. Native mesquite line the wash, in places providing a good can-

opy, whereas by Country Club the Wash has broken asphalt and is still used like an alley. We hauled out miscellaneous trash, trimmed young trees in the wash bottom, hauled woody debris, and dug out several large bags of buffel grass. A neighboring business thanked us for our work. We also said "howdy" to several residents who use the wash to walk. Much work remains; another wash clean-up will be planned for this winter. If you are not already on the neighborhood Yahoo! Group then consider joining so that you can receive future notices of the events.

Submitted by Julia Fonseca



## Sign up with Yahoo! and Keep in Touch with Your Neighbors

The La Madera Neighborhood Association (LMNA) has an online communication tool for the neighborhood. For more than two years we have had Yahoo! Group that allows La Madera neighbors to communicate via the Internet to:

1. Carry on group e-mail conversations,
2. Post neighborhood announcements,
3. Keep a group calendar of neighborhood meetings/events,
4. Set up neighborhood photo albums,
5. Archive Neighborhood documents (posted under "Files" in the left sidebar of the La Madera Yahoo! Group),
6. List useful contacts and resources.

**The previous LMNA e-mail list has been discontinued, and in view of the City's termination of free paper mailings to the neighborhood, we strongly recommend that you connect with Yahoo!** If you've never used a Yahoo! Group before it's very simple, and it's completely free. To join, go to [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/la\\_madera](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/la_madera). cont. p 3

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## Facilities get Face-lift at La Madera Park

The ramada and comfort station at La Madera Park, 2700 E. Florence Drive, recently got a makeover. The La Madera Neighborhood Association board of directors approached the city's Department of Parks and Recreation about giving the ramada a comfort station and face-lift, and the city agreed to do so. The demolition took place in June, electricity and plumbing were installed, and new concrete footings for the ramada. On Sunday October 11, 2009 neighbors in La Madera gathered to celebrate the completion of construction of the ramada. This is the first *all green* ramada in a Tucson city park. Features include a water cistern, low-flow toilets, native plants surrounding the ramada watered by gray water and a solar powered lighting system. Neighbors enjoyed pizza and live music while touring the ramada features.

## Sign up with Yahoo! Cont'd. from pg. 2

Click on the blue button at the lower right hand corner labeled "Join This Group".

- If you already have a Yahoo account, enter your existing Yahoo! ID and Password to sign in when prompted. Directions will guide you through the process.
- If you don't have a Yahoo account, click on the "Sign Up" link at the bottom of the page.
- Follow the directions to create a new account.

Once your membership is effective, you'll receive an online Welcome Message from Yahoo! explaining how to set up your preferences for how often, and where, you receive e-mails of group messages. **The default is set to send messages to the Yahoo e-mail address, individually, each time a message is posted.** If your regular e-mail is *not* Yahoo! you **DO NOT** have to use the new Yahoo e-mail address. Follow the directions in the Welcome Message to change the address and frequency of delivery.

Sherri Burke is the moderator for this group and a neighborhood resident. Should you have any difficulties in joining, she'll do her best to help. You can e-mail Sherri at [lmnamoderator@yahoo.com](mailto:lmnamoderator@yahoo.com).



## Congratulations!

The La Madera Yard and Garden Awards, category of ***Xeriscape***, has been awarded to Chuck Kowalski and Kim Peterson on Monte Vista Drive!

Five outstanding homes were recognized for category of ***Holiday Decorations*** this past month!

**A BIG thank you to Jamie Kennealy** for time as Chair of LMNA Board!

### LMNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carolyn Maki, vice chair 326-3355

Harrison Shaffer, treasurer 321-3323

Bob Cummings 322-5170

Jamie Kennealy 490-4379

Brandie Kiracofe 977-4828

Zita Owens 881-4420

Robin Schultz 705-2998

Jennifer Sprung, n.e. 323-0039

Libby Swanson 237-2865

Deborah Tosline 323-7108

Craig Wissler 327-2818

***Always accepting new volunteers for the LMNA Board! Please get involved...***



Housing and Community Development  
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## LA MADERA NEIGHBORHOOD

We are on the  
web—join the  
Yahoo Group!

**Are you interested** in beautifying La Madera, reducing crime, and slowing down traffic? Then please join the **Street Tree Subcommittee!** A group of interested neighbors will be gathering soon to work on coordinating a Street Tree and Rainwater Harvesting plan for La Madera. Please contact Jamie Kennealy at [jmkennealy@yahoo.com](mailto:jmkennealy@yahoo.com) or at 490-4379 to be notified of the first planning meeting.

**Tai Chi & Chi Kung Circle**  
Fee: Donation Only  
Location: La Madera Park  
Time: Sunrise  
Purpose: Great feeling. Great fellowship. Great fun!

Contact John Blue for more:  
[NaturalHealing@Doctor.com](mailto:NaturalHealing@Doctor.com)

## Tips for Using Fireplaces Safely

Cooler nights bring more fireplaces and wood stoves into use in our community increasing the amount of smoke in our air. Wood smoke contains hundreds of chemical compounds, including nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, and particulate matter. These compounds can cause health problems, especially for children, pregnant women and people with respiratory ailments and heart disease. In addition to causing breathing problems, standard wood-burning fireplaces are an inefficient method of heating and can actually remove more heat from a house than they produce.

- Pollutants from fireplaces and woodstoves with no dedicated outdoor air supply can be “back-drafted” from the chimney into the living space, particularly in well-sealed weatherized homes.

Those who choose to use fireplaces or woodstoves can follow these tips for healthier burning:

- Burn seasoned hardwoods (oak, mesquite, pecan) instead of softwoods (cedar, fir, pine) because hardwoods burn hotter and form less creosote and smoke;
- Use wood that has been split and dried for at least six months;
- Use smaller pieces of wood. They burn more efficiently so they are a better source of heat;

- Make sure there is enough room in the firebox for air to circulate freely around the wood;
- Do not use green or wet woods because they smoke and form creosote;
- Never burn painted scrap wood or wood treated with preservatives, because they could release highly toxic pollutants;
- Do not burn plastics, charcoal, and colored paper such as comics, because they also produce toxic pollutants;
- Go outside and check your chimney frequently. If you see smoke coming out, you’re wasting wood by not burning hot enough. Give the fire more air and check the chimney again;
- Watch your smoke. If it goes into your neighbor’s yard, you are causing a nuisance and should remedy the situation;
- Avoid burning wood on days when air pollution levels are elevated.

Check [www.airinfnow.org](http://www.airinfnow.org) or (520) 882-4AIR for hourly air pollution information. Natural gas fireplaces reduce emissions significantly more.

For more information contact Beth Gorman at (520) 740-3343.

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