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Neighbors diggin in!

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

RHNA meetings begin at 7pm on the third Tuesday of each month at Ha:sañ School located at Highland & 10th Street. Open to all residents of Rincon Heights. Upcoming dates:

FEBRUARY 16TH
Meeting: 7pm, Ha:sañ School

FEBRUARY 20TH
Planting and Celebration!

MARCH 16th
Meeting: 7pm, Ha:sañ School

APRIL 20th
Meeting: 7pm, Ha:sañ School

APRIL 24th
Yard Sale & Block Party!



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We're learning how to make tiles and dress
up our neighborhood park.

Neighborhood Yard Sale & Block Party!
Contribute to our first annual RHNA Yard
Sale Fundraiser! Meet your neighbors and
have some fun!

Rincon Heights Now On Facebook
Connect with neighbors and stay informed!

Rincon Heights Launches New Website
Visit us online at www.RinconHeights.org

www.RinconHeights.org

The Time For Celebration Is Here!

Saturday February 20, 2010 8 AM -NOON
Meet at 1750 E. 10th Street
Schedule of events: Planting from 8 AM-10:30 AM
Celebration and Lunch:10:30 AM - NOON

Come on out with your neighbors and Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias as Rincon Heights and Pima County join together to celebrate the 9th and 10th Street bumpouts! These bumpouts were constructed with a grant from Pima County Neighborhood Reinvestment. To celebrate we will begin the day by planting 9 bumpouts between Warren and Cherry. Lunch and recognition of several groups that have worked with RHNA on this and other neighborhood projects will follow.

For the planting you are encouraged to bring shovels, hand tools and gloves. We'll have some to share if you don't have any. Water and lunch also will be provided. Bring your own drinking cup too – keeps the trash down a bit.

The food and refreshments will be donated by neighborhood restaurants and stores. The hard work and success achieved isn't ours alone. We will be presenting a number of awards to

individuals and groups who have generously contributed their expertise and hours of labor in partnership with us.

The Neighborhood Reinvestment project in Rincon Heights is part an effort to reclaim and stabilize our neighborhood. This project has increased community building among a diverse group of Rincon Heights neighbors, increased traffic safety, and initiated collaboration with the City of Tucson, several schools, local businesses and other neighborhoods. By incorporating water harvesting in the 80 bumpouts that run the length of our neighborhood on 9th and 10th Streets we have also introduced the additional benefits of improved storm water quality, creation of urban wildlife habitat, beautification, long term sustainable practices and increased pride of ownership.

Rincon Heights thanks Pima County for investing in the people who live here!

Rincon Heights and UA - Good Neighbors?

by Mark Homan

The relationship between Rincon Heights and the University of Arizona has sometimes been sunny, but has often been stormy. Recent actions by the University, such as the unwarranted destruction of homes, have reopened old sores, but there are some signs that things may be on the mend.

In 1996 the Arizona Board of Regents, the Mayor and Council, and the Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association entered into a formal Memorandum of Understanding to stabilize and improve the residential character of our neighborhood, establish a boundary for University development, and establish guidelines

for mitigating the impact of that development on our neighborhood. While the UA has affirmed and respected the boundary agreement, in our opinion there have been specific, destructive violations of the guidelines for development.

UA President Robert Shelton, who will be meeting with us soon, has pledged to "make amends" for any violations that are verified. Associate Vice President Jaime Gutierrez has surveyed the vacant, dirt lots where houses used to stand and other UA lots with an eye for how the UA can make those sites attractive parts of our neighborhood. The UA Comprehensive Plan Update, endorsed by the Regents in December, emphasizes the need for the UA to apply design standards to all projects, even

those considered "temporary", noting that this is especially true in our neighborhood. We will continue to work with Dr. Shelton and his staff to make sure that all agreements are honored and that a spirit of mutual respect and neighborliness characterize our relationship.

Certainly, our neighborhood benefits from the collaboration with the UA, particularly with many student organizations, such as Blue Chip and Mortar Board. Professors like Brooks Jeffery and James Riley, along with students from their classes and the School of Renewable Resources have helped us gather our history and make our future more sustainable. For more information on UA matters and to follow developments see the RHNA website.

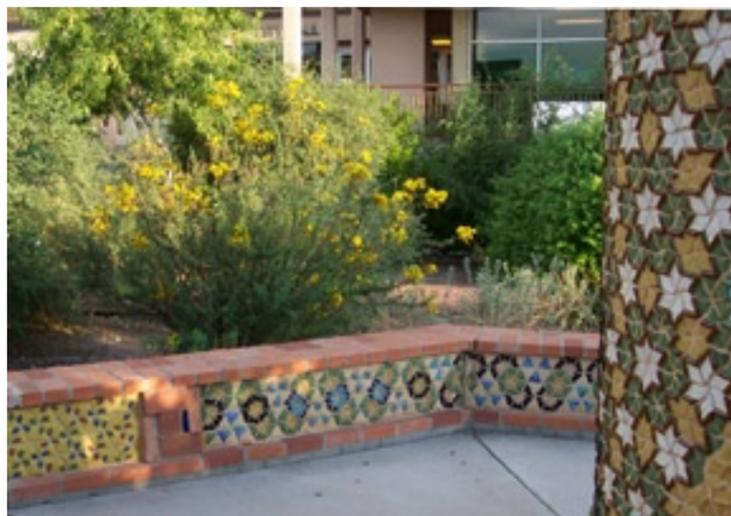
Tile Making Workshops To Begin In Spring

by Melody Peters

In December, the RHNA received notification that we had been awarded a grant by PRO Neighborhoods, to fabricate and install tile on the masonry benches at Feld-Davis Park, at Martin and 8th Street.

Starting this spring volunteers will be needed to design and make ceramic tile. No previous experience is necessary, as all processes will be taught on a step-by-step basis by neighborhood artist Melody Peters. We will be making tiles from scratch, using relief techniques such as stamping, press-molding, inlay and sgraffito. Once the tiles are made, we will glaze them, again using a variety of techniques. Tile fabrication workshops will continue throughout the spring.

In October we will once again need volunteers to install the tile on the benches, so if you have always wanted to learn basic tile-setting skills, here is a chance for you to do so. All events are free to neighborhood residents and materials are paid for by the grant. If you are interested in participating in this creative endeavor, please be assured that you do not have to attend all the workshops, just the ones that appeal to you personally. A more detailed schedule of workshops, photos of the lead artist's handmade tile, and more information about the project and how you can participate will be posted on the Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association's Facebook page and the RHNA website, starting early in March.



Handmade tile work by Melody Peters

Neighborhood Yard Sale & Block Party Saturday April 24th

by Penny Netz

We are hosting an all day event starting with an RHNA fundraiser/YARD SALE early in the day, then a B-B-Q & POTLUCK later mid-day, with a PLANT & SEED EXCHANGE and a SILENT AUCTION! We'll have music, food, refreshments, and plenty of fun things to do!

We heartfully invite our friends, neighbors and neighboring 'hoods, as well as local businesses. It matters not whether you have or haven't joined, contributed or met us before. Even if you have nothing to bring or don't know anyone, just bring yourself and share in connecting with new friends and neighbors!

There will be an opportunity to register for the RHNA listserve, the NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, and our great BUSINESS/TALENT NETWORK!

Anyone wanting to help organize will need to meet before the event; please contact me, Penny Netz at 623-8120 or permchoice_pnetz@yahoo.com. Spring cleaning? Don't throw it away! You can drop off items for the RHNA yard sale at my residence, 1601 10th St, anytime between now and the event. Please contact me prior to dropping off any items; weekends are preferred. Watch for further updates and information on the RHNA Facebook page and website.



Rincon Heights Now On



by Eva Romero

RHNA now has a Facebook page! If you already have a Facebook account, just search for "Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association" and become a member. If you are not on Facebook and would like to receive an invitation that will give you simple step-by-step directions on how to create an account, send an email to evakaneva@hotmail.com.

Our Facebook page is a place where anyone can publicly share content such as photos, video, upcoming events, neighborhood watch info, meeting minutes, news articles, talent for hire, etc. It's a great virtual space for getting to know your neighbors!

Rincon Heights Launches New Website

www.RinconHeights.org is your address for finding out what's going on in the neighborhood. This is our new and improved – and active Website.

Here you will find current and past newsletters, information on current activities and issues affecting the neighborhood, and a neighborhood calendar. The site will also have slideshows and pictures from past and ongoing projects, as well as options for blogging. We have a very vibrant neighborhood association, and you can keep up to date with what the association is doing and find ways to take part in strengthening a friendly, beautiful, and safe neighborhood.

Neighbors get together for back yard cookouts, strike up conversations when out walking, or get to know each other better during neighborhood plantings or other activities. The Website, our Facebook group, our listserv, and the newsletter are other ways we keep connected with one another. Heck, they may even lead to more of those cookouts.