



NEWS RELEASE

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BIKE CHURCH SANCTUARY APPRECIATION CEREMONY

On Friday, January 24, 2014 at 12:30 p.m., the City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) and Ward 1 Councilmember Regina Romero will be presenting Jean and Jim Gorman with a Letter of Appreciation for their dedication and devotion to the bicycle community and the enhancements to the Bike Church Sanctuary. The Bike Church Sanctuary is located north of Downtown Tucson, in the Barrio Anita neighborhood, on the southwest corner of West Davis Street and North Main Avenue.

In 2009, TDOT was awarded \$50,000 by the Pima Association of Governments to fund the summer youth art program. In coordination with the Tucson Pima Arts Council, artists Joe O'Connell and Blessing Hancock were selected to design and produce bicycle themed art with the assistance of eight youths. Together the team of artists produced the Bike Church. The Bike Church is a nondenominational memorial dedicated to bicyclists and their families.

Since 2009, TDOT, Councilmember Romero and her staff, and community members have been beautifying the Bike Church surroundings with landscaping and benches.

With the help of the Gorman's, the Bike Church has evolved into a sanctuary. The Gorman's worked tirelessly to sell engraved personalized brick pavers for \$50 each and install the pavers with the assistance of local contractors. The proceeds from the bricks go directly to the B.R.A.D. fund, which is very close to the Gorman's hearts. In September 1999, their son, Brad Gorman was killed by a motorist while riding his bicycle. The Gorman's have dedicated their lives to educating drivers and cyclists to help prevent this tragedy from happening again. The ceremony will be on what would have been Brad Gorman's 55th birthday.

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