

Armory Park Neighborhood Association



March 2014

Invitation from the President

Grant Wille

APNA President

Announcing: March General Meeting - March 11, 7:00 p.m.

Neighbors! We are going to have an exceptional Spring in Armory Park this year. The Board has put together this fantastic newsletter to help keep you up to date on the happenings in AP. Before you start reading about all the exciting projects going down in 'hood, please take a second and consider joining us for our **March General Meeting**, the first general meeting of 2014.

We have some *very* important presenters this month, dealing with issues that will directly affect your life in Armory Park (in a very positive way).

First, **Evren Sonmez and Corky Poster of Poster Frost Mirto, Inc., will discuss the Downtown Links Sub-District for the Infill Incentive District.** That's a mouthful, I know, but they're working to fix some serious problems in the zoning laws downtown that currently allow developers to build inappropriate structures without design review or input from stakeholders like us. Evren and Corky want your input to know just how to fix these problems. This is your chance to weigh in on laws that will affect the character of your backyard, Downtown Tucson.

Second, we've invited **representatives from Cyclovia and Hullabaloo will discuss their upcoming events.** Last year, Cyclovia did a great job bringing residents together to celebrate biking in Tucson. This year, organizers of Flagstaff's Hullabaloo are joining the ranks and will be filling our park with music and family events on April 5th and 6th. Hullabaloo began as an effort to bring local residents, businesses, artists and musicians together to celebrate the community. Personally, I'm very excited that they've decided to share some of the fun with us. Still, the events will

continued on page 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH PARISH HALL

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014, 7:00 PM

All Armory Park residents are welcome!

WINE TASTING EVENING

MAYNARD'S KITCHEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH, 2014

Please go to the area reserved for AP residents!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & FESTIVAL

ARMORY PARK

SATURDAY MARCH 15TH, 2014, 10:00 AM

Visit: www.tucsonstpatricksdays.com

TUCSON HULLABALOO CELEBRATION

ARMORY PARK (6TH AVE/12TH ST)

APRIL 5TH AND APRIL 6TH, 2014

Visit: www.tucsonhulla.com

CYCLOVIA DOWNTOWN

DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOODS

SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH, 2014

Visit: www.cycloviatucson.org - Volunteers Needed!

NEIGHBORHOOD POTLUCK

612 S. 5TH AVENUE

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH 4:00 PM - 6:00PM

See more information on page 3

*Join the APNA Listserv for updates by e-mailing
armorypark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com*

affect residents in Armory Park (they expect six to eight thousand at the event), and the meeting is your chance to voice any concerns.

Our general meetings are a great time to get an insider's view of what's happening in Downtown Tucson, to meet the Board and give us your input, and to get to know your neighbors. I hope to see you all there. And as always, if you see anything we're up to and want to get involved, don't hesitate to reach out! E-mail info@armoryparktucson.org and sign up for our listserv and stay in the know.

I look forward to meeting you! ❖

Railroad Update

Tim Vanderpool

Chair, APNA Transportation Committee

You've probably noticed that rail traffic along our neighborhood's eastern fringe has crept up year by year. Unfortunately, this trend is only slated to increase, and here's why: That line, running parallel to Jacobus Avenue, reaches all the way south to the shipping port in Guaymas, Sonora.

Guaymas lies a few hours south of Puerto Peñasco, on the Gulf of California. And the Guaymas port was recently expanded to handle even bigger ships with ever-more cargo. Presumably, much of that cargo will reach the U.S. by rail, traveling a line that ultimately shadows the east side of Armory Park.

But that's not all. The whistles on these trains also seem to be growing louder. Meanwhile, there's heightened concern about toxic cargoes traveling by rail – worries that were crystallized last summer during a derailment on the curving track near 16th Street and Euclid Avenue. From what we're told, no toxic chemicals were onboard. So perhaps we dodged a bullet this time. But there's always a next time.

The good news is that the APNA board in general – and the board's transportation committee in particular – is working hard on strategies to reduce train noise, and gain a better understanding of what hazardous cargoes are putting us at risk. For instance, we'll soon be traipsing around the neighborhood with decibel meters, charting noise levels at various

locations, and compiling data to be shared with city officials. Committee members are researching noise-reduction materials that can be applied to buildings nearest the tracks, and learning about quieter types of whistles. We've similarly been in contact with urban planners at the University of Arizona, to learn how other communities are dealing with train issues.

Short of rerouting the trains far from our homes, we hope to eventually create a whistle-free zone for those passing nearby.

It's a huge challenge. But these trains already impact the quality of life in our neighborhood, and could present a deadly risk. Developing strategies to face that challenge is a big no-brainer. And if you have any suggestions, we're all ears – at least when a train isn't roaring by! ❖



Armory Park History Project

Rand Carlson

Board Member

APNA is beginning to assemble and document the history of the Armory Park neighborhood. This information will then be posted on our website. We will have the documents broken up by time periods. For example, 1870-1909, 1910-1939, etc. We will also have stories posted from and about long time residents.

If you would like to contribute information and stories, email Rand Carlson at randomarts@cox.net, or call him at 891-3329.

Armory Park Tool Lending Library

Have the itch to start a garden, but would rather spend money on seeds than tools? Need to move that pile of rocks, but buying a wheelbarrow is out of the question? Tree limbs out of control, but don't want to hire a professional?

APNA has the solution for *you*. The much-anticipated APNA Tool Lending Library is finally here. You can rent the tools you need to start a garden or for your once-a-year yard clean-up. Through the library you can current, we have rakes, garden and weeding hoes, tree pruners, utility cart, wheelbarrow, loppers, shovels, picks, trowels, hand shears, trowels and even a ladder.

Better yet, all rentals are **FREE** for APNA members.

To learn how to start renting, visit:

<http://armoryparktucson.net/about/membership/tool-lending-library/>

The Library is housed at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 545 S. 5th Ave. Thanks to the generous support of the church staff, you can pick up your rentals from 8 a.m. To 11 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Other hours by appointment. Call (520) 955-9424.

Have a tool (in good working condition) that you would like to donate? Or are there other tools you think the library should carry? Or, are you interested in volunteering? Email info@armoryparktucson.org and we will get back to you right away. ❖

Armory Park Outreach and Social Committee

One of the best things about living in Armory Park is the people! The Armory Park Neighborhood Association has set a goal this year to provide more opportunities for us to get to know our neighbors and foster our community, including the many businesses and organizations right in our back yard. To this end, we are working to add more small events and get information out about more things that Armory Park residents might be interested in. In addition to the annual Pot Luck, Ice Cream Social and Home Tour, look for information on wine tastings, porch parties, and other events that Armory Park neighbors might enjoy. We'd also love to hear ideas from you about things you'd be interested in doing, in the name of getting to know each other and fostering good neighbors.

A great way to keep up with what's going on in the neighborhood is to sign up for the Armory Park Listserv. To do so, just send an email to armorypark-suscribe@yahoogroups.com. You will receive a confirmation with a link to click to finalize your membership on the listserv.

Please feel free to contact us any time by e-mail, and we look forward to getting to know you!

Nate Wade smileynate72@yahoo.com

Marty Esparza azesparza@yahoo.com



To support the Armory Park Neighborhood Association and become a member, visit the "Become a Member!" section of the www.ArmoryParkTucson.net.

For more information, contact our Membership Committee Chair, Phyllis Factor, at pefaz@aol.com.



St. Andrew's Church: Catering to All Your Needs

Rev. Jefferson Bailey
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

After Anne Bowen brought the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation's "Food for Life" Program to St. Andrew's Kitchen, we have produced more than one million meals over the past 15 years for people living with HIV/AIDS. That program has now moved out of our kitchen to larger quarters. In 2006, we began the Neighbor's Feeding Neighbors program, in conjunction with the Armory Park Neighborhood Association, in order to feed those in need living within the neighborhood. The program was, and still is, funded by the association, Episcopal Community Services, and many private donations. This past November, A.P.N.A. recently had a home tour and a portion of the proceeds went to our program. We would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" for their continued support and dedication to our food ministries and the Armory Park community as a whole.

With such drastic cuts to SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), we have recently enlarged the boundaries of Neighbors Feeding Neighbors to include all of the downtown area in order to better serve those in need. In anticipation of more clients, we have started a catering service in order to raise money for our much-needed food assistance programs. So far we have hosted gatherings and prepared menus for many different types of events including weddings, meetings, luncheons, galas and auctions. All the proceeds from St. Andrew's Catering go toward the church and Neighbors Feeding Neighbors, and we are very excited about this new possible stream of income, which will help us to expand our outreach to the community.

The rental of our Parish Hall is also available with or without our catering services. Our church building is a gem located in the heart of downtown Tucson, in the center of the Armory Park neighborhood. It is perfect for any group event, whether large or small, religiously affiliated or not. Whether a five-course

meal is required or you just need a place to have tea and chat, St. Andrew's caters to that. If you or someone you know would like to reserve the Parish Hall or the services of St. Andrew's Catering for an upcoming function, please give us a call or send us an email. It is a wonderful way to contribute to your community while wowing your guests at the thoughtfulness and creativity of your event.

To make a reservation or inquire more fully about our service, please email us at saintandrewstucson@gmail.com or call us at (520) 622-8318. ❖

Armory Park Neighborhood Potluck!

Springtime in Tucson is always a good excuse for a neighborhood get-together, so why not make it a potluck!

Brian Bateman and Thom Melendez have graciously offered to host this year's potluck at their home, 612 S. 5th Ave, on Sunday, April 13 from 4 to 6 p.m. The APNA Board will provide a main dish and beverages (limited alcoholic beverages, feel free to help supplement the bar); neighbors should bring a side dish such as a salad or dessert and whatever utensils necessary for serving your dish. If you are unable to bring a dish, we could use help with the dishes instead: Thom and Brian would like to make this a "green/eco-friendly" potluck and ask that everyone make an effort to bring their own plate, fork, etc. so that we can cut down on the disposable waste in an attempt to be environmentally conscious. Don't worry, if you forget to bring your own place setting, we will make sure there is an extra supply so no one goes hungry! Also, wear a swimsuit and bring a towel, if you are so inclined.

Hope to see everyone on Sunday, April 13th. If you have any questions, contact Marty Esparza at 909.5927 or at azesparza@yahoo.com.