



FOOTNOTES Newsletter

CATALINA FOOTHILLS ESTATES No. 7 ASSOCIATION

www.CFE7.org

P.O.Box 64173, Tucson, AZ 85728-4173

520-323-9299

Mar. 2006



Welcome

We welcome all our new neighbors

Who Systems (Rodney McCabe)

Allan and Louise Malvick

Loretta Drotning

Leslie Condiss

M.G. J. Residential

Ronald and Sandra Hutchings

Thomas and Jody Flynn

Do we have your correct telephone number and e-mail address. If not, please contact us by phone (323-9299) or e-mail (jhoffmannj@hotmail.com) to update your information.

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Inserts: Buffelgrass & Neighborhood Watch Postcard

**Our Annual Meeting
will be May 9th (Tuesday)**

@ 7pm at

**St Philips in the Hills Church -
East Murphey Gallery**

**Please join us 1 hour prior to the meeting for a social
hour to meet with your board and neighbors.
Refreshments will be served.**

Arizona House Bill 2154

Change in Voting

No Proxy Voting

A: "Notwithstanding any provision in the community documents, after termination of the period of declarant control, votes allocated to a unit may not be cast pursuant to a proxy. The Association shall provide for votes to be cast by absentee ballot or by some other form of delivery. An absentee ballot or other form of delivery is valid pursuant to this section if it complies with all of the following:

1. The document or the envelope that contains the document bears the signature of the unit owner.
2. The document is valid for only one specified meeting of the Association and expires automatically after the date of the meeting.
3. The document lists the specified issues to be voted on and the specific vote of the unit owner on each issue.
4. The document is physically presented at or before the meeting at which it applies.
5. The document does not authorize another person to cast votes on behalf of the unit owner.

B: Votes cast by absentee ballot or other form of delivery are valid for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

C: Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, an Association for a timeshare plan as defined in section 32-2197 may permit votes by a proxy that is duly executed by a unit owner.

D: For the purposes of this section, "Period of Declarant Control" means the time during which the declarant or persons designated by the declarant may elect or appoint the members of the Board of Directors pursuant to the community documents or by virtue of superior voting power."

This bill passed in August 2005.

Open Board Meetings

The Board generally meets at 7:00p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month (Jan. 4th, Feb. 1st, Mar. 1st, Apr. 5th, May 3rd, June 7th, July/Aug. *no meetings*, Sept. 6th, Oct 4th, Nov. 1st, Dec. 6th)

Holidays and vacation schedules sometimes result in the rescheduling or cancellation of a particular meeting, so please check with the secretary, 323-9299, to confirm a meeting time.

At the beginning of our meetings, we allow a ten minute period for "Resident Related Issues" – these must be scheduled with the secretary two weeks before the meeting.

Articles for the newsletter are welcomed and should be mailed to Catalina Foothills Estates #7 Association, P.O. Box 64173, Tucson, AZ, 85728-4173 or e-mail to Mslec51@aol.com noting subject as Cat 7 News. Deadline for March publication is Feb 17th and Octobers is Sept. 16th.

CFE # 7 Board of Directors

President	Warren Edminster	887-5997
Vice-president	Jerry Bishop	615-5402
Treasurer	Jerry Boyle	888-8279
Secretary to the Board	Jane Hoffmann	323-9299

Architectural Review Committee

Chairperson	Jerry Bishop	615-5402
	Robert Parks	529-3673
	Dan Smith	888-3167
	Jill Schneider	232-1273
	Mike Simons	742-7737

Covenants Committee

Chairperson	June LeClair-Bucko	577-0989
	Linda Grossman	299-4718

Welcome Committee

Chairperson	Robert Parks	529-3673
	Linda Grossman	299-4718

Nominating Committee

Mike Simons	742-7737
Jerry Boyle	888-8279

Media Committee

June LeClair-Bucko	577-0989
Mike Simons	742-7737

Do you have a story or a photo you would like to share? We would love any stories about Cat 7 old and new or any suggestions for either our web site or newsletter. We would love to hear from you.



Web Site

Have you visited our web site? www.CFE7.org

- Not sure about the CC&R's.... check them online
- Doing an architectural project.... get the forms you need
- Need to contact the Board.... Find a telephone number
- Not sure how far you're walking..... check the walking maps
- Want a past publication of our newsletter

- Check out all the links to local plant and wildlife sites
- We also have useful links to government sites

Don't have access to the website, your always welcome to call us with your request – 323-9299.

CFE7 Needs Volunteers!

The Board is currently looking for 2 to 3 new members!

I joined the Board last May and have enjoyed meeting neighbors and playing a role in maintaining the beauty of CFE7.

The following is a short summary of my experience so far:

The Board meets one Wednesday evening each month for 2 hours. There are no meetings during the summer months. The agenda covers status of Covenant violations, Architectural change requests, and other topics. Between meetings the Board members provide new homeowners with 'welcome kits', remind homeowners to keep garbage cans out of view, monitor progress of architectural projects, etc. Average months require 2 hours' work outside the Board meetings; others may require more.

Beyond the Board itself there are separate committees: exploration on becoming a fire district; investigation of ways to improve walking conditions; home security issues, contributing to this Bi-annual newsletter; and maintaining the CFE7.ORG web site.

Each of us can make a difference in our neighborhood by becoming involved as a committee member or a CFE7 Board member! The commitment is as much as we choose to make of it; our contribution is returned with thanks and praise of our neighbors and maintaining a great place to live.

If you would like to contribute your time and talents to your community, or learn more contact Mike Simons at 742-7737 by April 15, 2006.

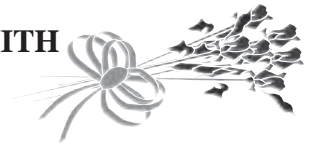


Water Pressure

– Do you know what your water pressure is?

Many homes in Cat 7 have a pressure of 120 psi. Your home should be at 60 psi. A pressure reducer valve can be installed on your water line to regulate the pressure. Too high of a pressure can cause undue wear on appliances, cause leakage, or breaks in your water lines.

PAUL SMITH



The Catalina Foothills Estates No. 7 Board and Membership lost a very good friend in January. Paul Smith, lived at 5121 N Via Entrada, for many years with his wife, Ruth. Although Paul recently had moved to a retirement community, he was still intensely interested in the area's activities and always attended our annual meetings. Paul served as President from 1992-95 and then as a Board Member from 1995-96. In 1998, the Board called upon Paul to come back and serve as President once again, which he agreed to for a 1-year term. Paul also served for years on the main Catalina Foothills Association Board. The Board continued to call upon Paul for historical information, guidance on arbitration issues, and knowledge of the covenants, conditions and restrictions. His love of CAT 7 and his desire to maintain its beauty was a uniting force for all of us. We will miss him.

Handy Numbers:

Barking Dogs/ Dogs off Leash-
743-7550 Pima Animal Care Center
Information to License- 743-7666

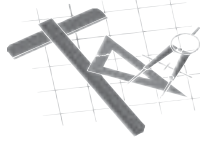
Illegal Dumping- 911
Unkept Yards/Weeds out of
Control- 791-3171, Ext 2

Junk Cars- it is a violation of zoning in Pima County to store inoperable vehicles without current registration on private property unless completely enclosed in a garage –
791-3171 ext 2

Graffiti- if you see an act of graffiti call 911 immediately- If you know the identity of the vandal report it to 882-7463- Graffiti abatement hotline 624-7833. For more information visit www.ci.tucson.az.us/graffiti.html

Committee Reports

Planning to Have Work Done on Your Residence ?



During the past three years as a member of the Architectural Review Committee I have seen projects undertaken by residents of CAT 7 go astray due to less than competent design services. In these cases the homeowners have been subjected to extra costs and delays in the implementation or completion of their projects.

The following examples are cited to illustrate the type of problems which one may encounter:

The drawings for a new swimming pool and landscape work indicated the pool equipment location with a concrete structure around it. The plans did not show the location of this equipment relative to the property line, however, resulting in the structure being constructed only eight feet from the property line. Since the Protective Covenants require a minimum thirty foot setback, the structure had to be removed and relocated to meet the setback requirements. The homeowners had to absorb the cost of this extra work as well as experience lengthy delays in the rest of the contract work.

In another instance, homeowners wanted to make an addition to their home. They contacted a drafting service (thinking they were hiring an architect) to draw up plans. These plans showed the proposed addition on top of a recorded easement. When the project was submitted to the County for review, it was returned because they would not allow building on the easement. All this was after the homeowners had gone to great expense for drawing preparation and survey work.

In yet another example, residents had plans prepared to convert an existing garage to living space. The plans called for work which did not conform to the requirements of the building code and; therefore, required extensive revisions before a permit could be issued.

The above cited scenarios exemplify the need for all of us who are planning to have work done to be extremely careful when selecting and contracting for design services with individuals and firms. Use only those who come highly recommended by former clients. If you hire an architect or landscape architect, verify that he/she is licensed (it is unlawful to call yourself an architect or landscape architect unless you are licensed). Many contractors offer design work as a part of their service. If this is the case, again be sure to get recommendations from former clients and, if possible, visit a project recently completed by the contractor. Also, be sure that the contractor holds a currently valid contractor's license. With this in mind we can hopefully avoid a few of the many pitfalls one encounters when going through arduous building process.

Architectural Committee

All residents must obtain approval from the Architectural Committee prior to any construction, modifications, or building alterations. Forms and/or any information can be obtained from the Architectural Committee or Office Secretary, or our web site.

The committee works diligently to review your request and enable you to complete your work project in a reasonable, timely fashion.

Architectural Review Oct 2005 to March 2006

	Approved	Pending	Active	Completed
Addition	4	1	2	1
Driveway Work	4			4
Entry Ways	4	1		3
Garage Additions	5	3	1	1
Painting	2		1	1
Replace Door/Windows	3	1	1	1
Roof Work	2			2
Swimming Pool	2		1	1
Trellis	1			1
Wall/Fence	3			3

Covenant Review Oct 2005 to March 2006

	Review	Rectified	Pending
Debris	3	2	1
Fencing	2	1	1
Signs	4	4	
Structural Violation	3	2	1
Trash Containers	12	10	2
White Roof	1	1	
Vehicles/Trailers	6	5	1

Non-resident completed & pending issues:

- Cul-de-sac trimming
- Wash damage
- Home security for community

A Green Approach to Fixing the Light by the Mailbox

The Board is occasionally asked whom to call to fix the night light on the mailbox post next to their drive. Even if there were a good recommendation, bringing these lights back to original condition is an expensive (read hundreds of dollars) proposition.

There is an inexpensive, "Green" approach that gives satisfactory if not optimum results. Home Depot and hardware stores sell solar powered lights intended to outline driveways at night that sell for around \$10. The base of some of these is designed to sit on a post about the diameter of the socket on the lightpost. Discard the mounting post, run a bead of silicon bathtub caulk around the base of the lamp and stick onto the socket of your light. The caulk sets up in about a day.

There are a few details to be aware of. The hole in the top of the existing cage around the light is less than 3 1/2" in diameter so be sure the solar light is smaller than that. The bath tub caulk will keep rain out of the existing socket and is flexible enough that it can be peeled off in about two years when the solar light gives up. Spend another \$10 for a new one.

The solar light will go on at night when it is supposed to, costs nothing to run, is cheap to install and gives off the welcoming glow of a friendly neighborhood.

CC&R's Bi- Yearly Review

Selected excerpts from some of the covenant restrictions are listed below. **Refer to your CC&R's for complete wording.** Attorney fees and court costs incurred by the Association in enforcing these covenants will be recovered from the violator. Disputes between the Association and a property owner may be submitted to final and binding arbitration.

1. Building sites are limited to a single family unit for residential use only. The premises may not be used to conduct a business.
2. **Native growth**, including cacti , trees and **ground cover** (including triangle-leaved bursage, range ratany and zinnia) must not be removed.
3. Private driveways must be approved before construction begins.
4. Plans and specifications, including exterior color scheme and roof material, for any building, patio, swimming pool, wall, etc. must be approved in writing and **the proposed location staked on site prior to such approval.** Changes from approved and specifications which affect the exterior of any structure also require written approval. **No white, off-white, or reflective roofs will be approved.**
5. No lot may be used for storage of rubbish, debris or trash.
6. **No billboards, real estate or other advertising signs are permitted** except occupant nameplate or (during initial construction) the name of the owner or builder.
7. **No exterior lights may be directed toward adjoining lots.**
8. Mailboxes and street fixtures must be uniform in shape and design and conform to specifications provided by the Association.
9. Heating and cooling equipment must be concealed in an enclosure and cannot **be located on the roof or wall of any structure.**
10. Only pollen free Bermuda grass may be grown.
11. Trees must be kept trimmed so as not to interfere with views.
12. Radio transmission towers are not allowed. Television receiving antenna must not extend more than 10 feet above the roofline. **Satellite antenna systems must be mounted and screened in so as not to be seen beyond the building site.**
13. Tanks for storage of oil and gas must be buried or enclosed.
14. Clotheslines, woodpiles, mechanical equipment, etc. must be concealed from view of neighboring lots at all times.
15. Garbage/trash cans must remain concealed and may not be placed along street rights-of-way.
16. No dwelling, swimming pool, garage or other structure may be erected **closer than 30 feet from the property line.**
17. No fence, wall or hedge may exceed 6 feet in height and may not be closer than **30 feet from any property line adjacent to a street.** Those adjacent to adjoining lots may be placed up to 20 feet from the property line, but, if closer than 30 feet, are limited to 4 feet in height.
18. No trailer, motor home, camper, camper van, boat, truck (other than pick up), commercial vehicle, etc. may be placed on the property in excess of four 2-day periods per month unless completely concealed in an enclosed structure.
19. No animal or fowl except pets may be kept. No more than 2 dogs and/or cats are allowed. Objectionable animals or birds will be ordered to be removed.
20. **Solar collector installations must be concealed** from view from any point beyond the building site on which located.

CFA



Who is the Catalina Foothills Association (CFA)?

The Catalina Foothills Association was established in the early days of the development of the foothills. The CFA organization began as the HOA organization designated by Mr. Murphey for the foothills, Areas 1 thru 6 in 1979. Catalina Foothill Estates 7 thru 9 were developed later and were given their own associations, each with its own separate covenants and authority. Cat 7 thru 9 became active within the overall Catalina Foothill Association, working as a collective group to monitor the development of the foothill areas and taking action when needed. Many of our new residents are confused by the different associations. Often, our newsletter and their newsletter will come out about the same time. Also, the request for dues payment can be confused – Cat 7 \$60.00 and CFA - \$20.00.

The Catalina Foothill Association, designated by its logo of St Philips in the Hills Church, has board members from Cat 1 thru 9, who actively monitor the foothills area and enforce covenants in those areas that do not have separate covenants. The CFA is responsible for monitoring and informing all the Catalina residents on what is transpiring in the area. They brought you the Symposium in 2005 and most recently the forum this year. The CFA is dependant on donations from Cats 1 thru 9 to support the collective group.

Cat 7 has an active board acting on their separate covenants and residents of the area are required to pay an annual assessment. I hope this brief explanation helps you to have a better understanding of the two organizations that serve you.

Pedestrians vs. Vehicles

Several people in the neighborhood have expressed concerns about pedestrian and vehicular safety on our streets, particularly Via Entrada. As we become more health conscious and new folks move in with children and pets there will be more pedestrian and bicycle use of the streets. There is a committee working with Pima County looking into ways to improve pedestrian safety. The challenge is to find a solution within the limits as to what can be done when consideration is taken as to the winding streets, maintaining the character of the neighborhood, and lack of funds to enforce speed limits.

While we have reasonably wide streets and there is room for both cars and pedestrians, the width is often limited by vegetation growing out into the streets. The County has said they will trim vegetation back to the edge of the road but this seems like a heavy handed approach even though the County has the legal right to do this. A better approach would be for each homeowner to be sure the vegetation was trimmed back to their liking in keeping with their landscaping.

All the non-vehicular users of the roads will appreciate your trimming. It is not fun to get a face or ankle full of thorns when dodging a wayward car.

From a driver's perspective, it is scary to come around a bend in the road and see a pedestrian, just feet in front of one's car. To make yourself more visible to automobile drivers we suggest the use of reflective clothing, as well as using a flashlight when walking at night. You don't have to keep the light on. Just turn it on when a car is approaching let it shine on the road a few feet in front of you. This makes you more visible and doesn't blind or distract the driver. Thanks!

Security Review

Neighborhood Watch

Cat 7 has on occasion sent out post cards warning residents about home intrusions. Crime is minimal here and we have a false sense of security. If you view the web site of the Pima Sheriff's department you can see that it is minimal, **but it does happen**. Just ask those residents that had encounters and were robbed this past winter.

From November of 2005 to February 2006 there were twelve different incidents in Cat 7. Three were actual home robberies and reported to the police. Three others had confrontations with suspicious persons. The others were an act of vandalism and suspicious activity. When Cat 7 called the Sheriff's Department to inquire if anyone was assigned to investigate the number of incidents, they were unaware of several of the incidents had happened. Unfortunately the majority of the incidents were not reported to the Sheriff's Department. We can't stress enough that all incidents, even if you think it's frivolous, should be called in to 911. If it's suspicious, call the police.

We have mailed security awareness post cards to inform our residents of these incidents happening. We hope the mailing has made you more aware and encourages everyone to take preventative measures. We have heard from many of our residents, who wish to participate in keeping our neighborhood crime free. After we spoke to the Sheriff's Department we have concluded that maybe a neighborhood watch would be beneficial to keep track, inform residents, and coordinate our efforts with the Sheriff's Department on what is taking place in Cat 7. A number of the incidents took place on and around Via Condesa. All the others were scattered around the neighborhood. There are 314 homes in Cat 7. We would hope to get volunteers from various cul-de-sacs and thru streets to create a watch for all of Cat 7. I have included a postcard with this publication to see if our residents would be interested in forming a neighborhood watch, and who would like to volunteer as a watch leader for their area. Below is a summary of what is needed for a neighborhood watch. **We will pursue in developing one if residents return with a positive commitment and interest.**

- 1- Volunteers, to be eyes and ears of their neighborhood.
- 2- An initial meeting to identify issues and relay information to members
- 3- Training of Neighborhood Watch leaders in home security, reporting skills, information on local crime patterns
- 4- The keeping of up to date information and involvement of designated neighborhood areas.
- 5- Relaying of information to authorities and residents of the neighborhood.
- 6- Placement of Neighborhood Watch signs if 50% of all the households enroll.

A neighborhood watch is neighbor helping neighbor. They are the extra eyes and ears to help minimize the effects of crime in a neighborhood. We promise to make it effective, not laborious. So please, if you think you could help (it doesn't have to be time consuming) lets build a network to help us get the information on incidents, get the proper attention, and inform our residents so they can help prevent crime.

Our job is to report crime not to apprehend criminals....Please fill out the post card and mail



Make Your Home a Harder Target

Locks

Keep doors and windows locked
Use deadbolt locks with one inch throw on all exterior doors.
Exterior doors should be solid wood or metal
Place wood or metal dowels in the tracks of sliding windows and doors.
Keep garage doors shut and locked
Keep gates locked or padlocked
Keep cars locked even if garaged

Lights

Use motion sensor lights
Use random timers for interior lights when away

Landscaping

Eliminate hiding places, keep shrubs, bushes trimmed
Plant preventive cactus or thorny bushes near windows or hiding places

Extras

Know who you are letting into your home
Use a home alarm system
Don't let mail or newspapers pile up when you're away
Have your answering machine answer "you can't come to the phone right now", rather than details as to where you are

Home Security

It's thought about usually when it's too late. Here are a few ways to make thieves leave your home alone.

Things to know

Burglars seldom strike randomly
They are more likely to check out your house before breaking in.

Dogs are great deterrents

Burglars hate dogs more than alarm systems

Plants can be deterrents too.

Plant thorny plants beneath windows

Know your neighbors

If you keep an eye out for each other and a community is vigilant criminals will usually stay clear.

Trust your instincts

If you see suspicious activities, don't brush it - off **call 911**

Security Measures Offered by Pima County Sheriff's Department.

Watch Your Car Program

Program to hinder auto theft

Operation Identification

Burglary prevention program for homes and businesses. Marking of property with identifying numbers.

Video ID

Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteers (SAV) of Pima County offer video taping your valuables and any important dialog in case of burglary or fire. The tape is kept by the homeowner, and the service is offered free of charge.

Home Security Inspections

SAV will inspect homes/businesses and recommend ways to improve safety in all areas.

Neighborhood watch

Assist residents in establishing and maintaining a neighborhood watch program.



Drought and Stress

Backyard Bird Deaths

One of our residents requested we include this article on Trichomoniasis and Backyard Birds. We have requested many a time not to feed the wildlife and birds are not exclusion. Not only does their feed attack other animals, the feeders themselves can be subjected to Trichomoniasis. It is common among the dove and pigeon populations and the raptor species that feed on them. Trichomoniasis is an organism that is virulent and avirulent. It is believed, 80-90 % of the adult pigeons are infected. Most are immune due to the exposure of the avirulent strains of the organism. Transmission of the disease takes place during feedings, courtship, or when pigeons and doves gather in large numbers at feedlots, birdbaths and birdfeeders. Wild raptors contract the disease when eating infected doves. To minimize the impact of the disease it is essential to keep baths and feeders clean. Minimizing dove/pigeon activity at the feeders is key.

Don't scatter seed on the ground.

Use seed smaller birds prefer such as sunflower, safflower, and thistle. Never use grocery store seed blends or any other blend containing high portions of filler grain.

Use pigeon resistant feeders.

Chemicals in pesticides commonly used around the home cause wide spread mortality in birds also. Raptors and other predators die every day from eating poisoned rodents and birds that have fed on poisoned insects.

Enjoy your birds responsively and take extra steps to ensure their health and well being.

Buffelgrass/Fountain Grass Invasion

The University of Arizona, Desert Laboratory, has been working cooperatively with citizens, local governments, and other groups to help raise awareness about the buffelgrass invasion and the very serious threat it poses to our Sonoran Desert and local economies. The buffelgrass problem has reached a critical point here in the Tucson area, with buffelgrass fires becoming more widespread in our urban and natural areas. These wildfires threaten to transform the landscape from our Sonoran Desert into something akin to an African grassland. This has already happened in our sister state to the south, Sonora, Mexico. The enclosed brochure tells more about buffelgrass and its close relative, fountain grass, with information on why they are a concern and what you as citizens can do to protect your own property and the unique American ecosystem that we all inhabit in southern Arizona. For more information you may contact the Desert Lab Buffelgrass Eradication and Outreach Coordinator, Travis Bean, at 520-629-9455 ext 104. Their website: <http://www.paztcn.wr.usgs.gov/buffelgrass/>, has links to recent news stories, how to identify buffelgrass, and a downloadable video on identification and removal techniques.



Pet Poison Prevention Tips:

Did you know that many substances commonly found in and around your home can be potentially dangerous to your animal companions?

Certain foods are toxic to pets if eaten in significant quantities.

Alcoholic beverages	Moldy or spoiled foods
Avocado	Onions
Chocolate	Raisins and Grapes
Coffee	Salt
Fatty foods	Yeast dough
Macadamia nuts	

Ibuprofen may help relieve your headache but painkillers and other common medications can be deadly to your animal companions.

Never use flea control formula on your cat that's meant for dogs and visa-versa. Also read the label on how to administer to your pet.

Many common houseplants can be poisonous to your pets. If you're unsure about a particular species visit www.apcc.aspc.org.

Antifreeze can be fatal to both dogs & cats - even in very small amounts.

Weed killers and insecticide can be fatal, follow label directions and don't allow your pet access to treated areas.

Store lawn and garden products in inaccessible area. This includes paint, oil, gasoline as well as other dangerous chemicals.

Some species of plants can be harmful if ingested such as Cardio toxic plants (those that can affect the heart) lily of the valley, oleander, rhododendron, azalea, yew, foxglove

Rhubarb leaves and certain species of lily can cause kidney failure
Cycads and some species of mushrooms can result in liver failure.
Secure all garbage cans with tamper proof lids.

Plant & Wildlife

Tucson Gardening Calendar

- Jan.-** Plant fruit trees
Plant bare-root roses and cool season herbs and vegetables
Cover plants on frosty nights
- Feb.-** Prune fruit trees
Start summer vegetables indoors
Fertilize citrus, iris and roses
- Mar.-** Plant hardy trees and shrubs, cacti, succulents and hardy herbs
Prune frost damage plants, and perennial herbs
Fertilize roses, iris and container cacti & succulents at half strength
- Apr.-** Plant desert and non-desert trees shrubs
Plant summer vegetables, summer annuals, herbs
- May-** Increase watering as temps rise
Plant palms, summer vegetables, herbs and summer annuals
Fertilize citrus late in the month and roses as well as container flowers
Prepare beds for monsoon vegetable garden
- Jun.-** Fertilize lawns
Shade & mulch vegetables as needed
- Jul.-** Reduce watering if rains are good
Tidy up herbs, flowers and fertilize
- Aug.-**Reduce watering if rains penetrate deeply
Prepare beds for cool season vegetables
Fertilize roses and citrus end of the month
- Sept.-**Plant hardy desert and non-desert trees shrubs, deciduous fruit trees and perennials
Plant cool season herbs and succulents
Start seeds for leafy winter vegetables in cups
Sow seeds for radish carrot peas
- Oct.-** Plant hardy desert & non-desert trees, shrubs, perennials, herbs, bulbs, cool season annuals, winter lawns
Sow desert wildflowers seeds, old fashion flower seeds, radish, carrots and peas.
Set out leafy winter vegetables
- Nov.-**Finish up any planting from October
Watch for early frosts and cover tender plants
- Dec.-** Plant old fashioned wildflower seeds
Plant hardy herbs winter vegetables and winter flowers
Cover tender plants on frosty nights

Information The Explorer Dec 2005,

Tucson Botanical



Xeriscape

-means low water usage, not dry and barren looking.

Using principals of Xeriscape can contribute to efficient water use.

- 1-Plan and design the areas around your home. Identify shady and sunny areas and water use.
- 2-Look at good xeriscape examples. Determine the type of plants that will work in which areas according to their needs.
- 3-Limit grass areas. Grass requires more water than anything else in the garden and also requires more maintenance.
- 4-Use harvesting water techniques. Channeling runoff from rain to planted areas or to a container for later use.
- 5-Match your irrigation method to the type of plant being irrigated. Drip is the most efficient.
- 6-Mulch at the base of plants retains moisture, keep weeds down and control erosion.
- 7-Maintenance will be minimal. Occasional irrigation check, pruning and weeding. Fertilizing as needed.

Water is Arizona's most precious natural resource. Through wise water use you can preserve and protect this resource at the same time and enjoy your xeriscape yard and garden.

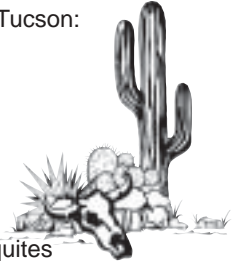
For more information visit various web sites on native plants and gardens from our web page on plants and wildlife.

Trees that thrive in Tucson:

Desert Ironwood
Velvet Mesquite
Blue Palo Verde
Desert Willow
Sweet Acacia

Fast growers

Willow Acacia
Thorn less Mesquites



Some of these trees grow very tall and wide. Remember, be conscience where you are planting. Do not block pristine views. Pruning may be a required per our CC&R's

Community

People in the Neighborhood

Mystery Writer

Jim Snedden is known by a good number of our residents. He has served on the Cat 7 Board for a number of years and also is a very active board member on the Catalina Foothills Association. Jim has been very influential in coordinating those great events for our foothill residents, the 2005 Symposium and the 2006 Forum.

There is one thing some people don't know about Jim, he is a published mystery writer. His writings draw heavily on his diversified experience as an international business executive, career consultant, newspaper columnist, college instructor, and self-proclaimed political junkie. His favorite hobby is watching and studying people, which led him from writing drab business books to mystery thrillers. He has a new book coming out this year titled Ostara. If you'd like to know more about Jim's books you can visit his web site www.jamessnedden.com. There you will find summaries of his books and where you can purchase them.

Resident Fundraising Effort

Some of our residents might have received a letter from Mukund Gnanadesikan, MD, a resident of Cat 7. Dr Gnanadesikan, a child physiologist, has joined the fund raising program developed by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society called Team in Training. The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society started Team

in Training to help raise funds towards the cure of blood cancers like leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

Team in Training gives ordinary people a chance to accomplish something good on two fronts. The first provides professional coaching to run events like half marathons, marathons, triathlons and 100 mile "century" bike rides. In return, participants raise money for a worthy cause.

The Team in Training event that he will attend will be in Anchorage, Alaska. Dr Gnanadesikan hopes to have all his funds raised by April. If you'd like to donate, please visit his fund raising website at www.active.com/donate/tntdms/tntdmsMGnanad or mail a check to his office address payable to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Mukund Gnanadesikan, 3938 E. Grant Rd #185, Tucson AZ 85712

For further information on the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and/or Team in Training visit Mukund Gnanadesikan fundraising website. The site links to the Leukemia Lymphoma Society's website.

He has also mentioned there are ongoing negotiations with Acacia. They hope to have an evening of dining with part of the proceeds going towards his fund raising efforts. It will be publicized in the Tucson Weekly.

Community Board

2006 Report to the Foothills

The forum presented by the Catalina Foothills Association on February 25th brought to the residents of the foothills an opportunity to speak directly to those who service their area. The guest speakers each presented a brief informational presentation about their discipline. Below is a short synopsis of what they discussed.

Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator was the Moderator.

Lt Tim Hughs, Pima County Sheriff's Department, Rincon District, talked about the crime statistics of the foothills comparing 2004 to 2005. He informed us that the most common crimes that affect the foothills area are burglaries, vehicle theft, mail theft and vandalism. Residents are the eyes and ears for the police force; we are the greatest asset in reporting criminal activity. He spoke about response time and priority of police calls. He also talked about property crime being higher than previous years and how residents can help in minimizing those incidents.

Carmine DeBonis, Director, Pima County Developmental Service Dept., discussed lot splits, a concern that has affected the foothills in recent years. He gave some history about the area and reviewed the zoning and building codes. He also

discussed how retaining the CC&R's in a HOA or on individual properties helps neighborhoods from drastic or unwanted changes. Restrictions on development would default only to county requirements pertaining to building, zoning and flood plain regulations.

Kurt Weinrich, Director, Pima County Transportation Dept., discussed the on-going construction on various roads in the foothills area, which were supported by the '97 Bond program. He reviewed their progress and proposed completion dates.

Les Caid, Chief, Rural Metro Fire Department, presented the number of stations that service the foothills. He reviewed the types of calls they respond to. Also discussed was the potential for wild land fires and how to defend homes by clearing brush and material that would fuel such a fire. Buffalo grass being a serious problem to wild fires, causing them to burn hotter. A brief review was given on the preparedness for a disaster situation. Reviewing what residents

should stock pile in case of a disaster.

David Modeer, Director Tucson Water, gave some history of water agreements among 6 western states in regards to the Colorado River. He discussed the delivery of service to Tucson and the incorporation of Colorado River water and the long-range view to sustain the needs. Also discussed was ground water, wells, growth versus available water and the drought which we are in. He also reviewed how costs were being contained within the department.

Aubrey Waingrow, District Manager, Waste Management, discussed the equipment issues, customer service and employment that the company is working on. He talked about the shortage of drivers. He also talked about the HOA's being an instrument to co-ordinate service for their areas.

con't on page 7



*To see the world in a grain of sand and a heaven in a wild flower
hold infinity in the palm of your hand and eternity in an hour.*

*Auguries of Innocence,
William Blake, 1757-1827*



Blake's words rebound from English class. The small and vast surround us. We have only to notice. Botanists, teachers, poets and pilots, to name a few, harvest this terrain. Luckily, the cinematographer and the scriptwriter are also asked to deepen an awareness of things. For years, Bob and I worked at it, through viewfinder and computer. Light and shadow. Speed and size. Substance and meaning.

Life's montage of quick cuts and dissolves made hours of our production company fly by as the focus of camera and writing shifted from big picture to little: NASA footage, cue ball, cityscapes, algae, coalmines, soybeans, airplanes, trains, salamis. Mozart. The Guckenheimer Saurkraut Band. So many memories. Scenes of Rex Allen, John Cameron Swayze, Bob Gibson. Words written for James Garner, Arthur C. Clarke, Hershel Bernardi. We thank our clients for that merry-go-round of assignments, the visits to intriguing subjects, conversations with amazing people and trips to unknown places.

Fortunately, in our version of retirement*, the adventures keep coming. Bob

clicks the shutter and I type on. Now we ponder black-collared lizards that practice push-ups in the sun. Or one invisible cholla spine that pricks the palm.

Inside the back patio wall, tiny leaf cutter ants move in a miniature parade. The insects carry green flags up to thirty times their weight, a lesson in size and speed. Hup. Hup. Winding around prickly pear and bursage, we follow their relentless trek from our property into a rock strewn gully. Eventually, the marchers disappear into a mound, the proverbial anthill of many chambers. There, the green bits from our bush will be chewed and the mulch blended into fungus, the staple of their wild garden. Long, live the queen, nested in her fungi. We consider the millions of ant colonies living in underground worlds, rich in this pulpy life substance. Returning home from the anthill, we gaze at the huge image that looms in the backyard, our stripped bare once lush butterfly bush. But it will leaf again. To be ravaged by the return of leaf-cutters. Only to survive once more. Or at least we hope.

Here an unseen hand edits light and shadow. Seasonally, monsoons wash the desert clean. By day, subliminal bobcats whiz past the no see'ums.

By night, coyotes narrate in the wash. And against a backdrop of endless clouds, the Catalina Mountains reach for infinity. The small and the large encompass us. Sand and eternity.

For now we gladly share Blake's poetic refrain as we celebrate life's moving picture, each disconnected leaf, each drop of rain. Mostly we opt for chicken instead of fungus. With that in mind, here to the meaning of things.

Connie & Bob

*This year, Bob's artography, photography on canvas was exhibited in the Wyatt Earp House and Gallery, Tombstone, AZ, the Murphey Gallery, Paloma Gallery in Tucson, and My Bose Gallery, Omaha, NE. Not surprising, his subject matter is The Nature of Things.

And one of my nature essays will appear in the anthology, *Land of many Stories*, featuring works by Barbara Kingsolver, Terry Tempest Williams and Leslie Marmon Silko. University of Texas Press. Pub date, Spring 2007

Community Board

Art in Cat 7

Many times we drive through our development and don't take the time to enjoy not only our wonderful natural environment, but some of the great art that dots our desert landscape. Here are a few examples, with the consent of those residents, to share with you.

John and Margie Stephenson have incorporated works from Rick Phanton. Rick's work with re-bar, nuts & bolts and miscellaneous pieces of metal, painted in wonderful colors, creates great looking artificial cacti. To see more of his creations visit his website www.metalloplants.com



Agave with humming bird, Hedgehogs in background mixed with live plants



Ocotillo made of re-bar, nuts & bolts

At the Collins residence we have enjoyed for many years the artistic luminary which stands at their entrance way.



At the Dantzlars, many of us have passed the metal sculptures that are distributed amongst the cacti. Most of the sculptures are done by Steven Derks using parts from compressed air tanks to car parts. His wonderful designs are called redeemed art. His works are also all around Tucson, visit his website www.stevenderks.com under public art to see his other works.



Bashful Rabbit



The Dantzlars also have a kinetic mobile, one of my favorites, by artist John Tyler. It gracefully dances in the wind which hypnotizes you into a peaceful bliss.



Art in Cat 7 isn't only sculptures, but also painted walls as you see here at the Schneider/Sax residence.



We also have a land mark, which many residents are aware of, but don't know its origin. We have our beloved weather vane, The Road Runner, which sits upon its hill at First Avenue and Via Entrada. This metal art was created by one of our residents - Bob Spittler. It was a combination of different metal parts from other projects. Bob & Connie have graciously placed it where it is, with the consent of the property owner, for all of us to enjoy.



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The audience asked numerous questions of the panelists after their presentations. It would be too lengthy to tell you all the details but here is a brief summary of those topics discussed:

Questions regarding zoning and permit requirements that are required from the county. Lagging and leading traffic lights. How to minimize the different waste collectors. Financial benefits of using one refuse company for an area. Use of waste water. Condemnation of lots. Loss of vegetation due to water table decline. Drought conditions and what will it mean to residents. Building in washes and the involvement of residents. Floodplains. Use of low water plants by the county. Property line setbacks. Street signs. Resurfacing of the local streets. Disaster readiness for

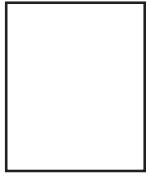
epidemics. Request of an awareness by the county and residents on building infractions and procedures. Development of a communication line between County Offices and the CFA concerning building permits, violations etc. Water quality. What is the county's grade formula. Historic concerns of Campbell Road and will it be widen. Fire districts and services, Commercial development. Utility lines.

For those residents that attended the forum, it was a rare opportunity for the public to hear directly from those in charge of essential every day services, offer comments and ask questions regarding issues affecting their daily lives. Discussions were at length on a number of topics and gave greater insight on the long-range plans and the shortfalls of certain procedures. For those who did not attend you missed out on a great opportunity to get a wealth of information first hand.



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May 9th Annual Meeting

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