

MIDTOWN NEWS

This is your GARDEN DISTRICT NEWSLETTER November 2003

MIDTOWN MESSAGE

Let us all take a moment to remember Martha Cooper. Midtown will forever be grateful for the boundless energy she put into making our neighborhood the best place for our kids. Martha passed away one year ago.

OCTOBER SUMMARY

It was a full agenda last month. We had several guest speakers. Natalie Olsen, our Tucson police department community liaison, gave a report on our crime statistics. The biggest threat to neighbors right now is motor vehicle larceny. She reminded us not to leave anything of value in plain view in our autos. She also reported that prevention programs such as Neighborhood Watch have been cut.

Sal Guerrero, a longtime resident of Shady Haven Trailer Park has formed a subgroup of our association. The residents in the trailer park have organized themselves to clean up the park and make it a safe place for the children who live there.

Sean Fitzpatrick represents "Voices: Community Stories Past and Present". He is the Project Director for 110 Degrees, an after-school magazine program run by Voices. They employ 20 low-income youth from around the city and pay them \$5.75 an hour for 9 hours a week. They are mentored by professional journalists, writer, and photographers and are taught how to come up with story ideas and create a magazine, which comes out in June. The youth also get three college history credits at Pima Community College. For more information you can reach Sean at 622-7458.

Nathan, a representative from Fit Center provided information about the gym and said that free memberships are available for people with HealthNet or Secure Horizons insurance. For more information you can reach Nathan at 571-7000.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

JOHN B. WRIGHT: Lisa Langford reports that the school's performance on tests has improved to "performing".


LEGO CLUB: The Lego club has received a \$10,000 grant. The money will benefit the advanced Lego level which will be competing nationally in Lego technology. The advanced members will have two additional meetings each month. The club is currently looking for new members for the Lego Master Group (middle and high school youth with intermediate and advanced Lego creations and computer skills). Members will build motorized Lego robots and program them using desktop computers. For more information call David at 323-8278.

CHILI FESTIVAL: A BIG "Thank You" goes out to all the volunteers who turned out to help us sell paletas at the Botanical Gardens Annual Fiesta de los Chiles. The hot weather on Saturday was great for business. We raised about \$250.00.

LIBRARY LEARNING CENTER: Progress on the plans for the library are underway. At this time there is some confusion over the space that was to be created for Midtown meetings.

CODE TALKERS: This is a new committee formed to keep us apprised of the changing codes for building and land use. Neighbors Peter and Mary Yates-Hodshon will attend land use meetings and report to the association. Community involvement is important to protect our neighborhood from changing codes that may have an adverse effect on our neighborhood.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

 **FLOWER ANGEL:** No one was nominated for Flower Angel this month. If you would like to show your appreciation to one of your neighbors please call 795-1478. Hal Burn's Flower Land will deliver some beautiful flowers to them at no cost.

ALTERNATIVES IN HOUSING: This is a non-profit group whose mission is to provide affordable, accessible housing and appropriate support services to persons with physical disabilities who live in Tucson. To achieve this mission we are doing a survey partially funded by the City of Tucson to identify the demographics of people with physical disabilities, their needs that require assistance, and how and where they are living.

People with physical disabilities: The City of Tucson wants to hear your voice. We want to know about your current housing, supportive service needs, and your preferences regarding these issues. Call 318-9550 to request a survey or go to our website:

www.alternativesinhousing.org

Participating in this anonymous and confidential survey will provide information that will be used to help develop services and housing in Tucson for people with physical disabilities.

NEXT MEETING

November 18, 2003

6:30 Potluck

7:00 Business Meeting

John B. Wright School