

# PARKWOOD | ROUND UP

R A N C H

Parkwood Ranch Community  
Master Association Newsletter  
[www.parkwoodhoa.com](http://www.parkwoodhoa.com)

Fourth Quarter 2008 Vol. 5 Issue 4

## Make ARK part of your daily life

By Christine Wolfe  
Community columnist

I recently watched *Evan Almighty* again and remembered why I love this particular movie. It all has to do with a rather innocuous three-letter word - ARK.

In the movie, *Evan Almighty*, played by Steve Carell, is a senator who goes to Washington DC to make a difference. His life is going great until God, played by Morgan Freeman, instructs him to create an ark. Not only does Evan construct an ark - a boat to hold many animals and people, but he creates ARK - Acts of Random Kindness as well.

Talking about ARK is important to me because I see so many of my neighbors who commit ARK's every day. From the homeowner who brings in his neighbor's trash can to the neighbor who looks after kids as they walk home from school, our community is a terrific place to live because of these ARK's.

Acts of Random Kindness are important because you never know how important they can be to someone. Case in point is my next door neighbor, Monica.

Like most residents in Parkwood Ranch, my life is filled with running kids to activities, working, trying to keep my house clean (good luck) and making sure everyone eats, gets to school on time, and has clothes on that look somewhat presentable. This flurry of activity means I do not take the time to knock on Monica's door just to see how she is doing, or if she needs a break from her young

children, etc. Thankfully, she made the time for me a few weeks ago and knocked on my door.

My mother passed away at the end of August, and it has been a rough few weeks. She had been ill with diabetes, heart failure and Valley Fever, and we knew the time was coming when her body would no longer support her mind and spirit. I liken this situation to a train coming down the tracks. You know the train is coming, but it still hurts badly when it hits you. I think I've cried every day since she died. And while a large part of my psyche knows she is no longer in pain or suffering, the smaller, selfish part still wants her to be here for me.

About a week after the funeral, my daughter had a seizure. She is five, and it was her first one. The paramedics were called and she went to the ER to get things checked out. Monica came over and made sure my other two children got to school okay. I didn't need to call her - she just came over and offered.

A few days after that, Monica committed another ARK. She arrived at my doorstep bearing banana muffins, a note and a smile. The note was brief, but the words have made a lasting impact. *We're here if you need us.*

As you wade through your daily tasks, think about what kind of ARK you can commit. Make it a priority to commit one every day. Your life, and those around you, will be richer for having done so.

## Around the Ranch



## Upcoming Events

Save the date! **On Dec. 13** the annual Tour de Parkwood Holiday Lights competition will be held. Start your tour at Farmdale Park with hot chocolate and cookies before combing the neighborhood for the best outdoor light displays in Parkwood Ranch. Residents vote for the coveted title of Best of Parkwood. Visit the website for more information on how to enter your home for this year's competition!



## Fall Festival 2008

**On Oct. 18**, join us for the annual Parkwood Ranch Fall Festival in conjunction with GAIN. Festivities run from 5-7pm at Farmdale Park and include games, inflatables, food and fun, as well crime prevention information and tips.

## Rev up your day with an Express Workout at the RMMC

Don't have time to workout before or after work? Come try out the Red Mountain Multigenerational Center's new Express Pass classes. Monday through Friday at 12:10pm you can take either a 30 minute Cycling, Pilates, Pump, Yogalates, or Pump Lower Body class. The fee for the Express Pass is \$2 and also includes the use of the upstairs fitness area and the gymnasium from 12 noon to 3 pm. Lockers and showers are available. Kids Club child care is available from 12-1pm for an additional fee. You can check out the Group Fitness schedule and class descriptions online at [www.redmountaincenter.com](http://www.redmountaincenter.com). For more information call 644-4800.



### Association Board News

The Parkwood Ranch Association Board is looking for new members for the Architectural Review Committee. ARC members must live within Parkwood Ranch and be current with their assessments. If you are interested, please contact Renaissance Community Partners at 480-813-6788.

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in the Media Center at Patterson Elementary School, 615 S. Cheshire, Mesa.

#### September 22, 2008

*Arch. Review Committee Mtg.* - 6:30-7 p.m.  
*Board Meeting/General Session* - 7:30 p.m.

#### October 27, 2008

*Arch. Review Committee Mtg.* - 6:30-7 p.m.  
*Board Meeting/General Session* - 7:30 p.m.

#### November 24, 2008

*Arch. Review Committee Mtg.* - 6:30-7 p.m.  
*Board Meeting/General Session* - 7:30 p.m.

**No Meeting in December**

## City of Mesa offers backyard composting containers

The City of Mesa has established a Backyard Composting Program. Composting is a great way to recycle your yard and kitchen waste. Many of the materials needed for this program can be found in your home.

### What Is Compost?

Compost is the material that results from the natural decomposition of plant material and other once-living materials. Finished compost is an earthy, dark, crumbly substance that is excellent for adding to house plants or enriching garden soil.

### Benefits of Compost

\* Conditions your soil so you use less water

- \* Saves money on fertilizer and yard supplies
- \* Improves the soil structure which promotes healthy root growth
- \* Saves you money on hauling and landfill fees

The City of Mesa has backyard compost containers available to Mesa residents for a \$5.00 refundable deposit. If you are interested in getting a compost container or if you have any questions, please call the Mesa Recycling Hotline at (480) 644-2222.



TAKE A BITE OUT OF  
**CRIME**

## Crime Watch

### Important Phone Numbers

Silent Witness ..... 1-800-343-TIPS  
Narcotics Hotline ..... 644-5081  
Graffiti Hotline ..... 644-3083  
Gang Hotline ..... 644-4264  
Fraud Alert Hotline ..... 644-2345

## Maricopa County Vector Control

**602-506-6616**

**Stagnant Water   Mosquitoes**  
**Green Pool   Dead Bird**

## Local Events Calendar

### Hazardous Household Waste Dropoff

October 4, 2008

8am-Noon

East Mesa Service Center  
6935 E. Decatur St., Mesa

#### Acceptable Items

- \* Adhesives
- \* Aerosol cans
- \* Antifreeze
- \* Appliances (limit 2)
- \* Automobile tires (limit 5); rims are accepted if the tire has been removed
- \* Batteries
- \* Electronics (e.g.- computers, televisions, stereos, cell phones)
- \* Fluorescent and compact fluorescent light bulbs
- \* Fuel additives
- \* Gasoline
- \* Mercury
- \* Motor oil
- \* Paint, polishes & varnishes
- \* Paint related materials
- \* Pesticides
- \* Pool chemicals
- \* Small arms ammunition
- \* Transmission fluid
- \* Turpentine

#### Items Not Accepted

- \* 55 gallon drums of material
- \* Commercial / Industrial waste
- \* Explosives
- \* Large truck tires
- \* Prescription Medication
- \* Radioactive material

### Way to Glow!

#### Artwork of Scott McNeill

Oct. 3, 2008-Feb. 8, 2009

10am-4pm

Arizona Museum for Youth  
35 N. Robson, Mesa

Wow! Artwork that really glows in the dark? That's exactly what artist



*Artwork by Scott McNeill*

Scott McNeill creates by casting dazzling bas-relief sculptures using materials that have unusual color properties. Children become mesmerized as they immerse themselves in a world of illumination and color. His astonishing artwork contains a light-sensitive material that absorbs ultraviolet light, allowing each piece to glow with rich brilliant colors. This spectacular exhibition debuts on Oct. 3, but be sure to visit by Feb. 8, 2009 because, after that, it's "lights out!" The museum is closed on Mondays and most government holidays. Admission is \$5.50 for adults and children under 1 year. Visit us online at [www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com](http://www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com) or call us at 480.644.2467.

### MACFest

October 4, 2008

10am-4pm

Mesa Arts Center  
1 E. Main St.

A festival for the whole family! Come to downtown Mesa and the Mesa Arts Center for displays from local artists, food, live music and fun.

### Halloween Festival

October 31, 2008

5-8pm

Prospector Park  
Sports Fields  
3015 N. Idaho Rd,  
Apache Junction

This free event features a costume contest, pumpkin carving contest, (pumpkins must be carved prior to contest), food and games. The food and games will cost a minimal fee.



### Little Buck -A- Roos Round Up

November 15, 2008

10am

Prospector Park Sports Fields  
3015 N. Idaho Rd, Apache Junction  
Rodeo-style games and fun for children ages 3-7. This event is free if registered by Nov. 14; call 480-983-2181 for more information.

### Holiday Program

December 5, 2008

5-7pm

Veterans  
Memorial Park  
1001 N. Idaho  
Rd., Apache  
Junction

This holiday event will feature SNOW!, Santa, music, arts & crafts and refreshments. Free; call 480-983-2181 for more information.





# Got Weeds?

## New Coalition program to aid homeowners

The Board of Directors, working with Renaissance Community Coalition, a group of Renaissance clients, has arranged for convenient low cost application of “pre-emergent” for homeowners who would like to participate. Pre-emergent is a mixture of chemicals sprayed on your rock areas to help prevent weeds from growing in your those areas. Applying pre-emergent twice yearly can make weed control almost effortless.

If you are have weeds in driveways, ornamental landscape plantings, orchards and gardens, or other areas, now is the time to plan for weed control. Post-emergent herbicides are an effective tool to control large weed populations or deep-rooted perennial weeds. However, if you have had many weed seedlings in past summers, then you may want to consider an application of pre-emergent herbicide.

Pre-emergent herbicides are only effective when applied before weeds germinate on soil that has been recently cultivated, irrigated, and allowed to settle. Pre-emergent herbicides kill germinating seedlings of both annual and perennial weeds. Once applied, they are incorporated by rainfall or irrigation and are effective for about six months. Pre-emergent herbicides work well in ornamental landscapes and other areas where weeds tend to flourish.

The cost for front yard application is \$30 for coalition homeowners. If you have no pets and your back yard is accessible, for \$45 the technicians can spray the rocks areas in both your front and back yards. To participate in the program, fill out an online application, found at [www.rcoalition.com](http://www.rcoalition.com) before the deadline, send in your payment in advance, and when your community is sprayed, the chemicals will be applied to your yard. If you have any questions, please contact Renaissance Community Partners at 480-813-6788.

### Parkwood Ranch Community Master Association Board

- Greg Wolfe .....President  
gwolfe3@cox.net
- Jim Olness ..... Vice President  
jim.olness@gmail.com
- Melody Fowler .....Secretary  
fowler0361@cox.net
- Charles Stock ..... Treasurer  
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- Roberta Cullen ..... Member  
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- Heather Fassnacht ..... Member  
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- Vince Nasuta ..... Member  
vince@nasuta.net

#### Renaissance Community Partners

Kevin Bishop, Owner/Manager  
480-813-6788  
633 E. Ray Rd. • Suite 122  
Gilbert, AZ 85296

#### Important Phone Numbers

- Police & Fire ..... 911
- Mesa Police Non-Emergency #  
..... 644-2211
- Mesa Police Animal Control  
..... 644-2211
- Mesa Fire Community Services #  
..... 644-2200
- City of Mesa ..... 644-2011

The Parkwood Ranch *RoundUp* is a community publication from the Parkwood Ranch Master Community Association. We welcome all comments, contributions and letters. Please contact us at Renaissance Community Partners, 480-813-6788.

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