

President's Message

Parkwood Ranch weathering economic storm well

By Jim Olness

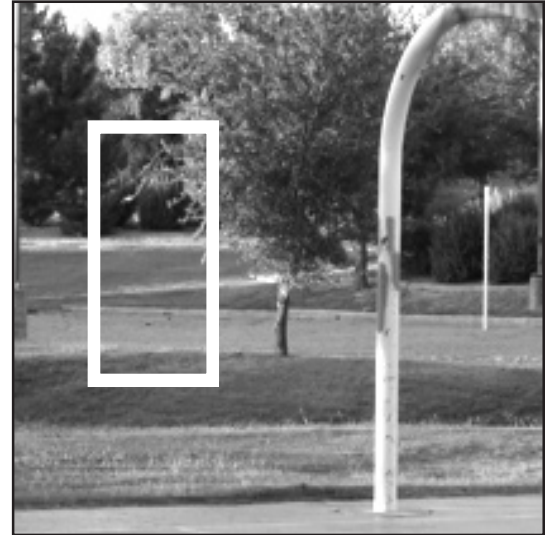
President, Parkwood Ranch HOA

Well, we made it through another summer. Our Association is faring better than most of the others in the area financially, which is good news. We did take some hits over the summer, especially with vandalism and graffiti. We have a volunteer who is diligently working to cover up graffiti as soon as it appears, and the help is greatly appreciated, as again it saves us money. We did lose a pole in our sand volleyball court to vandalism and have found it is costly to replace and we are trying to determine how much the court actually gets used

before deciding for or against and implementing replacement.

I'd like to thank a couple of Parkwood Ranch homeowners who took the time to let us know about some sprinkler vandalism over the weekend. Parkwood had 8 sprinkler heads badly damaged over the holiday weekend, and we were losing a lot of water. Thanks to these homeowners for taking the responsibility and time to do something about it and help the Association (and you the homeowners) save some money.

Fall festival is coming up, hope to see you there!



The white box above shows where the missing volleyball pole was located. Vandals also damaged sprinkler heads during the Labor Day weekend.

Celebrate "Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods" Night October 24 at Farmdale Park

Parkwood's annual GAIN event is set for October 24th from 4 to 7pm. This is an excellent opportunity for you to get to know your neighbors. It is held at Farmdale Park in Parkwood Ranch.

In addition to crime prevention tips and visits from Mesa council members, there are rides for the kids, food booths operated by the Skyline High booster club, and games run by Skyline High service club members. Also, look for booths featuring Parkwood Ranch business members.

This event wouldn't be possible without the support from community members like you. If you can contribute an hour of time to help during the Festival, Please call Social Chair Roberta Cullen at 984-8350 or contact her by email at jcullen58@cox.net. Donations of bottled water, soda, and booth prizes also are greatly needed and appreciated. Volunteering is a great way to meet your neighbors and help continue to make Parkwood Ranch a great place to live.

*Parkwood Ranch
Fall Festival
2009*



ATV's causing costly damage to greenbelt areas in Parkwood Ranch

Are you aware that ATV's are prohibited from all greenbelts and sidewalks in Parkwood Ranch? This rule has been in effect for several years now, but is not widely known. In fact, there is a \$250 fine for any type of ATV found being used in the greenbelt areas, with the exception of those of our landscapers. Why? Check out the pictures. On average, it costs between \$200 and \$1,000 to repair the damage done by ATV riders in our green belts. This includes damage to turf, plants and watering systems. **These are YOUR dollars being spent to repair the damage.** We need YOUR help to stop it!



Solar energy discounts available from city, state, feds

Everyone is looking for ways to save money these days. But, the following rebates and incentives have the added advantage of doing the planet a favor. Be sure to take advantage of these offers soon as they may not be available for long.

FEDERAL REBATES

Federal tax credits to improve the energy efficiency of your primary residence (existing homes only) have been extended an additional year through 2010. A credit of 30% of the cost, up to \$1,500, can be claimed on your tax return on

approved upgrades, including:

- Windows
- Doors
- Insulation
- Water heaters
- Roofs
- HVAC
- Biomass stoves

A 30% tax credit is also available for clean energy generation with no upper limit through 2016. New and existing homes are eligible for the credit on the following items:

- Geothermal heat pumps
- Solar panels
- Solar water heaters
- Small wind energy systems
- Fuel cells

Tax credits are also available on some hybrid vehicles. To get the complete list and amount of credit available for each vehicle visit www.fueleconomy.gov. Tax credits



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.

Sept 28th, 2009

Patterson Elementary School

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

Oct. 26th, 2009

Paradise Bakery (Signal Butte & Baseline)

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

Nov. 23, 2009

Patterson Elementary School

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

December 2009 - No Meeting

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for the first 250,000 plug-in hybrid vehicles will be eligible for a tax credit of between \$2500 and \$7500, and then will be phased out like the previous hybrid credits.

Find more information at www.energystar.gov/taxcredit.

STATE REBATES

State tax credits are currently available for residential solar energy systems. They will provide 25% of the cost of the system up to \$1,000 for the following items:

- * Solar photovoltaic systems (solar panels)
- * Solar water heating
- * Solar swimming pool & spa heating systems
- * Solar daylighting systems
- * Solar PV phones, street lighting, etc.
- * Passive solar building systems (thermal mass components, etc.)
- * Wind generators and wind powered pumps
- * Find more information at www.azdor.gov/brochure/543.pdf

UTILITY REBATES

SRP supplies electric service to over about 90% of Mesa residents. SRP has lots of tips and assistance to reduce your energy use. They also offer a variety of rebates and incentives for customers including the following:

- Compact fluorescent light bulbs, price reduction at participating stores
- Energy Star labeled appliances
- Energy Star Dishwasher \$20
- Energy Star Clothes Washer up to \$75
- Get rid of an old refrigerator



\$30 + free pick up + recycle product

- * Shade screens \$3 per square foot
- * Heating/Ventilation/AC SEER of 15 or greater up to \$400
- * Solar water heaters \$.050 per kilowatt hour of energy savings OG-300 ratings, no cap
- * Solar photovoltaic \$2.70 per installed watt up to \$13,500

Find more information at www.savewithsrp.com

City of Mesa Natural Gas Utility provides natural gas service to more than 52,000 homes and businesses throughout Mesa and portions of Pinal County. Natural gas is the cleanest of all fossil fuels, and while it is not a renewable resource, it does provide more value for your energy dollar. They offer the following rebates:

- * Gas water heater \$25
- * Gas swimming pool and spa heater \$50

Find more information by calling Lucy Lopez at (480) 644-3683.

Sustainable Desert Vegetable Gardening for Food & Fun

*When: Sat., Oct. 10, 1:30 – 4 p.m.,
Main Mesa Main Library, 64 E 1st Street*

The Environmental & Sustainability Division and City of Mesa Library are presenting a free monthly workshop series featuring earth-friendly advice for your home and garden. Join us on Saturday, October 10 for a comprehensive introduction on Sustainable Desert Vegetable Gardening for Food & Fun by MCC Environmental Biologist, Ron Dinchak.

No registration is necessary. Call (480) 644-4400 for more information on our monthly programs.

Course Description

Make your patio or yard a more dynamic and functional Xeriscape by attending this unique workshop. Ron Dinchak will show you how to plant, and grow your own fresh vegetables in the desert with simple and basic techniques. Topics will cover vegetable and herb gardening, water harvesting and biological control of pests. Also learn about fruits and seeds that have been a sustainable part of our indigenous people for centuries. The processing of seeds, seed pods and other plant products will also be demonstrated.



Earn discount attraction tickets by shopping local Mesa stores

The City of Mesa launched **Shop Mesa Get the Arts** beginning May 11, 2009 running through June 30, 2010 which will reward consumers for making purchases in Mesa. Shop in Mesa and earn Mesa Bucks toward free admission

to shows at Mesa Arts Center and free entry to Mesa Contemporary Arts, Arizona Museum of Natural History, and Arizona Museum for Youth.

Instead of feeling nervous about making purchases, it's time to be rewarded. The program is simple. Bring your receipts from any purchases made in the City of Mesa to the Mesa Arts Center Box Office. Shopper's sales tax price will be matched in Mesa Bucks from three dollars up to two hundred dollars per visit. These non-monetary vouchers can be used to purchase admissions to any of the Mesa arts and cultural facilities, events, exhibits, or performances with the purchase of a ticket at regular price.

Use the vouchers for admission to Arizona Museum for Youth and families can spend a day of fun exploring art and culture geared towards children. The Arizona Museum of Natural History will also accept Mesa Bucks, giving patrons the opportunity to view their thrilling new summer 2009 exhibitions. These are only a few options of the many that are available for Mesa consumers through the Shop Mesa Get the Arts program.

Consumers do not need to be Mesa residents but only receipts of purchases made in the City of Mesa are valid. Mesa Bucks cannot be used for purchases at any of the Museum Stores, have no cash value, and there is no carryover of unused funds. Mesa Bucks will be issued for receipts dated after April 1, 2009. No receipts with a tax total of less than three dollars will be considered, and the maximum amount to be converted to Mesa Bucks per receipt is two-hundred dollars. Mesa Bucks can be used to purchase admissions/tickets on a buy one, get one basis (Mesa Bucks have to pay for the full cost of the second - no partial payment.) For more information, contact the Mesa Arts Center Box Office at boxoffice@mesaartscenter.com or call 480-644-6500.

Current Locations Accepting Mesa Bucks:

- Mesa Arts Center (MAC) - All Performing Live Event are now Available with Mesa Bucks! Some restrictions may apply.
- Mesa Contemporary Arts (MCA) All Ages: \$3.50
- Arizona Museum of Natural History (AzMNH):
Adults: \$10.00 • Seniors: \$9.00 • Students: \$8.00 • Children: \$6.00
- Arizona Museum for Youth (AMY): All Ages: \$6.50



Parkwood Ranch Community Master Association Board

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Charles Stock Treasurer
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Vince NasutaMember
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Michael Van Vleck.....Member

Ronald WatersMember

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 Animal Control
..... 644-2268

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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