



GO GREEN!

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Community Newsletter

Striving to promote positive communication and participation

Ongoing Contributions:

- Family Corner
- Call for Volunteers
- Newsletter Release Dates

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Is There A Group You'd Like To Join?

(by Kathleen A. Lohnes)

Volunteers Needed To Support Our Madera Highlands Community!

Madera Highlands has a number of working committees dedicated to the enrichment and support of our community. ALL of our groups are in need of new volunteers. Many of our members have served for the past year or two (or more in some cases) and some members need to attend to other responsibilities or just need a break for while. We are always looking for new people, with new ideas, skill sets, and energy to help make our groups more diverse and effective. In addition, working with these groups provides useful training and experience that will be needed in the near future when our HOA is run solely by it's residents. If you are interested in giving some time to your community, as well as meet and work with some of your neighbors, the following groups are looking for volunteers. The groups are:

Communications Committee: This committee is responsible for both the community newsletter and website.

Maderahighlands.net: We are currently looking for anyone who is interested in helping to update and maintain our website. You don't need to be a 'webmaster', just proficient with a computer. We will train anyone who is interested in working on the website. We anticipate 2 to 4 hours per month but any amount of time you can contribute is welcome.

Newsletter: We need help with all aspects of putting out the newsletter, such as, seeking out interesting news and events, writing HOA related articles, selling advertising space, and assisting with the planning and publishing of our bi-monthly

newsletter. No experience needed, just a little bit of time and a desire to get involved with your community.

LifeStyle Committee: This 9 person committee meets once a month with Cadden Management to discuss HOA and community related issues and works together to find resolutions.

Architectural Design Committee: This committee meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month to review all submitted Design Modification requests. It is the responsibility of this group to ensure that all requests are in alignment with our current Design Guidelines and CC&Rs before being sent on to the Board of Directors for final approval.

Neighborhood Watch: This group works with the Sahuarita Police Department to keep our neighborhood compliant with the requirements of the National Neighborhood Watch Program and helps inform residents on criminal activity and preventive safety measures. We currently need participants and block captains for each village of Madera Highlands.

Each of these groups has made significant contributions to our community here at Madera Highlands and is in need of new volunteers to continue their work. If you are interested in participating, or have questions regarding any of the groups listed, please send an email to lifestyle@maderahighlands.net, or call Linda Hansen, at Cadden Management 520.648.6730. Any amount of time you have to offer is greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance for considering this request.



Cadden Community Management

101 S. La Canada Dr, Suite 20,
 Green Valley, AZ 85614
 (520) 648-6730 tel
 (520) 648-6658 fax
www.cadden.com

Linda Hansen

CAAM®, CMCA
 Association Manager
lhansen@cadden.com

Bountiful Baskets has come to Madera Highlands!

(by Ann Marie DeBoer)



Bountiful Baskets is a food co-op. Participants contribute \$15.00 for a basket **FILLED**

with fresh produce (or \$25.00 for organic). Additional items such as breads, granola, specialty produce packs, cases of produce, tortillas, etc... are available. After you

sign up to contribute, all you have to do is drive down to the pool entrance area that Saturday and pick it up! Besides building a closer community and healthier eating, it will cut down your grocery bill! The savings are amazing. If you would like to know more or become a participant, please visit www.bountifulbaskets.org or come by around 9:00 on March 5th or 19th, and see for yourself. We are an "A" Week.

HELP US! The Madera Highland's Bountiful Basket Site needs more people to participate or we can't keep it in the neighborhood! Please consider taking part in this wonderful thing!

A couple of the nearest pick up dates are March 5th, 19th, and April 2nd. It is every other week. Participants **MUST** contribute Mondays and Tuesdays **BEFORE** that week's Saturday pick up.

Eat Well, Be Happy

Planned Growth (by Betteann Rose Immel)

Our little town is growing up; its population has now reached 25,000. We now have more sidewalks for strolling, traffic signals for safety, and shops available in which to leave our money. While some celebrate the growth, others mourn the loss of the open space. Not to worry, we still have horses and cattle grazing. And now and then they're capable of even closing down I19 when they get loose.

The fact remains, however, that Sahuarita is going to continue to grow – like it or not it is projected that by 2020 there will be 45,600 citizens, by 2030 57,000 – so it is important that it grow 'smart' rather than in a haphazard way that some cities do. Smart growth is planned growth, and to this end a land use vision for residential and commercial plan was developed per the Arizona Growing Smarter Law, which was passed in 1998.

Facilitated by the Sonoran Institute, the Sahuarita Town Council unanimously adopted the "Sahuarita Vision Plan" in 2007. The plan was a year of collaborative effort and foresight by a diverse collection of citizens, property owners, businesses, government officials, Town staff and consultants working together to craft a vision into a equitable, feasible design for a Town Center and Santa Cruz River Corridor; an area of 3,600 acres.

A huge part of this blueprint is FICO and Sahuarita Pecan Farms since they actually own one-third of the land that is Sahuarita. For those who are new to the area, Keith Walden founded FICO in 1937; in 1948 he purchased Continental Farms and farmed everything from cotton to watermelon, alfalfa and more. In the 60's, Walden decided on pecans because of their compatibility with the Sonoran Desert Climate. He converted his 7,000 acres of farm land into the orchards we now all enjoy so much. By the way, it takes 12 years for a pecan tree to mature -- and only a few years to die



of neglect..

Today, Dick Walden and his wife Nan, operate FICO and the Farm. While the Walden's have no plans to develop, or have developed, any of their land –despite rumors or innuendo you might hear – they do recognize that over the next 20, 30, 40 to 50 years this Santa Cruz Valley will expand and farming in an urban environment will not be possible. They also respect the fact that following generations of Walden's – their grandchildren and great-grandchildren – may not want to follow in their parents and grandparents farming footsteps. Yet, this land, this community is their heritage and its future is of the utmost importance to them. Examples of their commitment are found throughout the area: the land donated for the new Sahuarita high school and the additional land on that site reserved for a middle school, land donated for a church, employee housing—many of their employees are second and third generation, too – even land that has been set aside for a future hospital.

To begin with, and set minds at ease, this smart growth design includes the incorporation of some of the pecan trees into future uses that will reflect Sahuarita's agricultural legacy:

community groves, parks or gardens are encompassed in the draft. As for water, a complicated subject, FICO, a founding member of the Upper Santa Cruz River Basis Providers & Users Group (USC-PUG) has assisted in the development of a functional plan that will bring the local aquifer into balance. Over decades, as agriculture uses transition into non-agriculture, there will be further reduction to existing groundwater pumping. FICO's intention is to also pay its fair share of future on-site and off-site roadway improvements to ensure efficient traffic flow and reserving major corridors that enable solid conductivity throughout the Town and region.

The Sahuarita Vision Plan embraces the area's inherent surroundings; the "River Plan" calls for community trails and open space networks that link neighborhoods and the Santa Cruz River, enhanced vegetation and wildlife habitats, increased access to the variety of recreational amenities, while the "Community Plan" incorporates balanced land use with quality development – such as dining, retail and other mixed use developments; employment opportunities and shopping that are close to home, a central Town Center.

Explained Nan Walden at a public meeting, "Wherever you live you can get there from here." Both Nan and Dick Walden affirm their enduring "understanding of stewardship and responsibility to the land." Reasons why they've also planned for enhanced flood protection , expansion of Sahuarita schools and fire protections services, but most of all protecting and celebrating Sahuarita and the Santa Cruz River Valley's agricultural, historical, and cultural history.

Aren't we fortunate to have chosen Sahuarita as our place to call home?

Community Concerns

To residents of our community who have valid concerns that they feel need to be brought to the attention of the LifeStyle Committee, please send an email to lifestyle@maderahighlands.net. If you do not have computer access you may mail your concern to the following address:

Madera Highlands LifeStyle Committee, c/o Cadden Community Management

101 S La Canada Drive, Suite 20, Green Valley, AZ 85614.

We will contact you regarding your concern(s) when a determination has been made.