# CONTINENTAL Ranch

the windmill\_

February 2009 Edition www.crcatucson.com

#### Mark Your Calendars

Please see the website and marquee for the Board meeting date. February 2: Activities Committee 10 a.m. @WP February 3: Landscape Committee 7 p.m. @WP February 4: ARC Committee Noon @WP February 9: Pool Committee 7 p.m. @WP February 10: Covenants Meeting 6 p.m./Open & 6:30 p.m./Closed @ CC February 16: Facilities Committee 6 p.m. @WP February 18: ARC Noon @WP February 18: Board Study Session 6:30 p.m. @ CC

February 25: Board Meeting 7 p.m. @ CC

# President's Report

With a New Year comes new hopes and challenges for all of us. The economic downturn this nation faces has affected all of us in one way or another, and we can only hope that we will see some light at the end of the tunnel as we enter 2009.

Through the due diligence of our Finance Committee, Continental Ranch is in a strong financial position—so much so that the Board (BOD) and Finance Committee were able to give homeowners a \$20.00 reduction in their dues for this year. While Jim Susa and the Finance Committee have done a great job over the years of putting the Association in sound financial condition, they will be facing new challenges if the economic conditions do not turn around.

Rest assured that the Finance Committee and your BOD take their fiscal responsibility quite seriously, and

Pre-Sorted Standard US Postage Permit #80 Tucson, AZ we will be watching expenditures very closely (much like all of us are doing given the current state of the economy). It is only through the hard work and dedication of the Finance Committee that Continental Ranch is in positive financial condition.

I would like to say thank you to Jim and the Finance Committee for volunteering their time and energy to the Association; it is very much appreciated, as are all the members of every committee here in CRCA. Without the efforts of the members on each and every committee, Continental Ranch would not be where it is today. Please, if you truly care about how things are being done here in CRCA consider joining a committee. We can only achieve what you, the homeowner, wants from your Association if you are involved in the decision making process.

#### THE WINDMILL: NEWSLETTER POLICIES

The Continental Ranch Windmill is published monthly by the Continental Ranch Community Association (CRCA), and is prepared under the direction of the Activities/ Publication Committee. Articles with bylines and letters to the Editor reflect the views and opinions of their respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Association, the Board of Directors, the Activities/ Publicity Committee, or the management company. We reserve the right to edit articles and letters for brevity and clarity.

#### Letters to the Editor

Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Names will be withheld upon request. Anonymous letters or articles will not be printed.

#### **Advertising Policy**

The acceptance of a business ad in the newsletter does not constitute approval or endorsement by the CRCA."The Association reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to refuse to accept any advertising submittal made by a prospective advertiser of the Association's newsletter or other publications." Ad publication is subject to space availability on a first come, first serve policy and could be denied or postponed due to lack of space in a specific issue. All advertising is subject to current Advertising Rates, as adopted by the Board of Directors. All copy for articles and camera-ready advertising is due at the Association office by the 15th of the month. Distribution will be approximately the first week of the following month.Ads may only be submitted, electronically on a Floppy disc, CD-ROM or 100MB Zip Disk as A TIF, EPS, or PDF files. A printout of how the ad should look must be included.

#### **Advertising Rates**

RESIDENT RATES	5:
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Political Ads must have "Paid advertisement. Not endorsed by the CRCA" in at least 8 point type at the bottom of the ad.

### Community Announcements

#### Sincere Thanks to the Continental Ranch Community

The office received a heartfelt letter of thanks to everyone who participated in the Adopt-A-Family Program this year from one of the mothers of a very sick little boy, whose family was one of the families CRCA adopted.

"I wanted to just quickly thank you again, and please share this as well with the others in your company who were so gracious, kind and generous in the beautiful gifts that you so thoughtfully gave to help our family have an amazing Christmas!

It was incredible blessing to be given so much from people who have never even met us.... I just can hardly express our feelings, but please know much we deeply do thank you.

What a wonderful thing to work for a place like Continental Ranch that would be so kind like that to people not living in their area or anything...just for the sake of helping...you just don't see that too often these days, especially for an individual family or someone who's not a foundation or nonprofit organization...please know what you are all doing to help is exceptional and above and beyond just being nice.

We feel incredibly blessed to live in a community where giving and caring go hand in hand."

Your participation is appreciated. Continental Ranch is truly amazing!

#### The Results Are In: CRCA Canned Food Drive

Sponsored by the Continental Ranch Activities Committee

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the Food Drive, which ran December 2008 through January 23rd, 2009. We are pleased to announce that residents of Continental Ranch donated 318 pounds of food and \$50 dollars to the Marana Food Bank. Although this amount may not sound like a lot, every little bit helps. So once again, thank you to everyone who took the time to come by the Windmill Park office to drop off their much appreciated donations.

#### Town of Marana Blood Drive

The Town of Marana is again partnering with the Red Cross to hold a community blood drive on February 25th, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will be held in the visitor parking lot of the Marana Municipal Complex (11555 W. Civic Center Dr.).

Anyone interested in securing an appointment should contact Town Public Information Officer Rodney Campbell at 382-1936 or *rcampbell@marana.com*.

#### Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Anyone in our community in distress and facing landscape violations due to conditions beyond their control, please contact us so that we may assist you in your time of need. We are neighbors helping neighbors in an effort to make CRCA a neighborhood we can be proud to be a part of. If you want to be a part of this effort, or if you need assistance, please contact us.

John and Nancy Lambert 579-1775 —or — *jlambert04@comcast.net* 

#### Nightly Parking

We continue to have problems with the street parking, particularly on the weekends and in the evenings after 5:00 p.m. Please remember to report ALL parking to the CRCA office. The phone number is 297-7600, ext.105. We also have parking passes available in the Windmill Park office, if necessary.

For your convenience, you may email the parking info to *tnoggle@ stratfordmanagement.org*. Thank you in advance for your assistance on this matter.

#### Quick Reminder

Please remember that, when walking your beloved pooch out in the community, you need to keep him or her on a leash. We've seen a few dogs out and about with their owners who are not leashed! Arizona law requires that dogs be on leashes, and it's the neighborly thing to do.

As a responsible pet owner you should never allow your dog to run free, or even be off the leash while you walk together. Keep your animal safe, make your neighbors happy, and obey the law. Thank you!

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We wo	ould like to thank our

We would like to thank our advertisers for helping to offset the cost of this publication. Please know that all ads are paid for solely by our advertisers and are not an endorsement by CRCA.

### Board Of Directors Meeting Recap

#### January 28, 2009 Meeting Recap

- The Board approved the Consent Agenda.
- The Board approved to rescind the resolution regarding fences and gates.
- The Board approved to rescind the resolution regarding decorations.

• The Board approved the recommendation from the Finance Committee to adopt a resolution requiring the Management Company to notify the Treasurer when the monthly operating account statement is received, and then to have the Treasurer open and review the statement.

• The Board approved to allow Sunflower to utilize the Windmill Pool for water aerobics until their pool renovation is complete.

• The Board appointed three Board members, George Erhardt, Chuck Stead, and Dan Lust, to meet with the auditor, Mark Mitchell, to discuss the previous year's audits and the contract for the 2007/2008 financial audit.

• The Board approved Management to purchase a new clock for the community center pool, not to exceed \$100.

• The Board denied accepting the proposal from The Groundskeeper for the removal of thirteen (13) bushes blocking the visibility of oncoming traffic at Colony Park and Coachline.

• The Board approved the recommendations for fines from the Covenants Committee.

• The Board approved the recommendation to place a lien on a property.

• The Board approved the recommendation from the Covenants Committee to grant a homeowner permission to park their RV on the side of their home for a period of one year from the date of the approval letter.

• The Board approved the recommendation from the Covenants Committee to have the Board allow the Covenants Committee to research an outside source to review and rewrite the current CC&Rs.

• The Board sent back the recommendation from the Commercial Sign Criteria Ad Hoc Committee to rescind the current commercial sign criteria for Continental Ranch and to obtain a legal opinion.

- The Board postponed the website proposals.
- The Board approved to hire new Association Attorneys James Whitehill and Clint Goodman.
- The Board read into the minutes the action in lieu to accept the December 2008 recommendations for fines.
- The Board requested that Management perform additional research for a new filing system.

• The Board approved to send a letter to Marana Planning and Zoning opposing the proposed cell phone tower on Coachline and Twin Peaks.

• The Board requested that Management perform additional research for a new PA system.

• The Board received the information for the new software program Village Management System (VMS).

• The Board requested that the Landscape Committee meet with The Groundskeepers, set a date for a special meeting, and print the date in the March Newsletter.

## Wildcat Dumping Hotline

Please, if you have unwanted items there are a variety of ways to rid yourself of them without dumping them into our environment. Pima County is a terrific resource for information on how you can properly dispose of solid materials, hazardous waste, unwanted vehicles, etc. Visit their site at *www.pima.gov/deq/ waste/illegaldump.html*.

#### Why is "wildcat" dumping so bad?

"Wildcat" or illegal dumping:

- creates safety hazards to children;
- may be breeding grounds for disease carriers such as flies, roaches, rats and other dangerous pests;

- introduces pollutants and fire hazards that endanger our air, water, and land;
- disrupts wildlife habitats; and
- destroys the beauty of our desert.

#### What can you do?

If you witness someone dumping garbage or items into the desert, Pima County also has a hotline dedicated specifically to report illegal dumping.

Never approach an illegal dumper. Immediately call 622-5800, and try to give a license number, vehicle description, or other identifying information.

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### Committee Reports ACTIVITIES, ARC, COVENANTS, AND POOL

#### Activities Committee Report

The Committee wishes you a Happy New Year, and we hope you are looking forward to some of the activities we are planning for you. The **Community Yard Sale** will be held in April, and we will let you know the exact date by the next newsletter. There also will be a form to fill out so you can participate. Be thinking about things you can put in the Yard Sale. Remember the old adage: "One man's trash is another man's treasure!"

The **Holiday Lighting Contest** was a great success, as we had many entries. Look for the pictures of the winners in this newsletter.

The **Adopt-a-Family** was extremely successful, and on page 2 of this newsletter you will find a letter from one of the appreciative families. Doesn't it feel good to be able to help someone who really needs it?

We have the **Spring Concert** coming up in early May. We will hold the **Teen Event** at the swimming pool again this year, though we will try to outguess the Monsoon! Other events will be coming up in June, and we will share information about them in future newsletters. We hope to see you all there for these activities.

For those of you who get the newsletter online and haven't been seeing the inserts, go to the website, click on Documents, click on Newsletter, and click on the Newsletter Inserts that you wish to see.

Above all, we need volunteers. This is really a fun committee, but it requires a few more brave hearts and hands.

#### Architectural Review Committee

We are nearing the completion of the revised Design Guidelines and our new color pallet. We have had the pleasure of accepting two new members to our committee, Barb Snyder and Dave Lawrence. Our friend and long-standing committee member, Jan Goodall, has decided to take a break after four long years of dedicating herself to our community. Thank you Jan—we will miss you.

We welcome all homeowners to join us on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 12 p.m. at the Windmill offices.

#### **Covenants Committee**

The Committee has been hard at work trying to improve home values while making our meetings more convenient for homeowners to attend.

We moved the open session of the meeting to 6 p.m., with the closed session slated to begin at 6:30 p.m. This change was made as an action in lieu, in order to make the open meetings easier for homeowners to attend and to expedite the meetings.

Debbie Budd, Al Stark, and Angela Wagner-Gabbard joined the Committee in December. Angela Wagner-Gabbard was voted in as Chairperson, and Al Stark was voted in as Vice-Chair. The Committee lost its previous chairman in January, Jeff Penwell, due to a planned move to San Diego. We thank him for all of his time and work on the Committee, and we wish him and his wife well.

Resident Peg Bracken attended the January meeting, and the Committee unanimously recommended that the Board allow her to join Covenants. She previously served on the Committee, and we welcome her aboard. The Committee still has three vacancies, and we invite anyone interested in volunteering some of their time to join us in keeping Continental Ranch a beautiful place to live, work, and play.

The Committee submitted changes to the violation process to the Board of Directors at the December 9, 2008 meeting. We proposed that the daily fine system be removed, but that the current fine amounts of \$25, \$50, \$75, and \$100 for violation letters remain in place. It was also unanimously decided to perform lot cleanups for weeds after three letters, in order to streamline the property maintenance process. Additionally, the Committee asked the Board to permit staff and Committee members to proceed with lot cleanups after we review all of the facts and photos, without Board approval—again to speed up the process. The Board approved all recommendations.

One final note: Please make sure you are adhering to the codes, covenants, and regulations of the community, such as not parking on the streets. If you have guests, please call the office to let them know so you don't get a reminder letter. Also, please make sure that you are maintaining your yard and that you submit any changes to the exterior of your home to the Architectural Review Committee prior to doing any work. This will prevent any reminder letters from the association for such violations.

The members of the Covenants Committee would like to wish all of our friends and neighbors a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

#### Pool Committee Report

The Windmill pool re-plastering was completed, and the water quality and temperature has been a pleasure for winter swimmers to enjoy. The Community Center's pool re-plastering should begin in February, with hopes of completion by March. We plan to have the Community Center's pool open by spring break for all families to enjoy.

Saguaro Swim School will be returning this year. They will be offering lessons beginning this spring. In addition to swim lessons this year, they will be starting a Masters Swim program for the adults.

We are very fortunate to live in a community with access to such great pools. Please respect the rules of the pool area. We have had some minor vandalism, and we do want to remind everyone that no soap should ever be put into the Jacuzzi. **The Committee has decided to continue to have pool monitors staff the pools. You can expect to see them starting in May.** If you take an interest in the pool and would like to take an active role in the Pool Committee, we currently have spots available. Please inquire at the office.





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# Landscape Committee Report

Several people have asked how landscape design decisions are made for our community, so let me try to explain.

Landscape design and plant selection criteria can be traced to several CRCA documents, such as the CC&Rs, Design Guidelines, and recommended plant list. However, one document in particular (distributed to homeowners) best emphasizes the true spirit of landscaping at Continental Ranch. In "Continental Ranch Homeowner Information & Governing Documents," dated 01/93, it states that "All landscaping must reflect the Southwest character of the development." It then goes on to identify landscape features that we as desert dwellers enjoy. The documents identified above, along with accepted horticultural practices for the desert southwest, have helped every Landscape Committee member make educated decisions about which plant to place where and the rational behind plant selections.

So what are accepted horticultural practices for the desert southwest? These are the principles behind our design decisions and plant selections, and they focus on two primary areas: plant location and plant features.

Plant location emphasizes three primary environments or zones: The mini-oasis, the transition zone, and the arid or desert-adapted areas. Each area focuses on aesthetics, but water usage is the distinguishing factor. Near homes or in "community focus" areas, grasses and higher water usage plants are commonly used, whereas the arid zone utilizes the lowest water usage plants. The in-between area, or transition zone, uses low-to-moderate water use plants that blend the lush mini-oasis with the more arid zone.

"Plant features" forms the basis of evaluating plants with respect to drought hardiness,

tolerance of heat and cold, and adaptation to our desert soil. Likewise, cost, function, environmental preferences, maintenance requirements, and water usage are considered. Also, we ask ourselves whether the plant provides an "energy benefit," such as shading an office, home, or park. Additionally, we consider plants' special qualities, such as usage around pools or sidewalks.

Although plant features may meet the location criteria described above, there are additional elements that must be considered. For instance, thorny plants are never suitable around high traffic areas or areas that tend to collect blowing trash. Likewise, certain plants may not be suitable near roadways due to visibility factors and the need for supplemental trimming, thereby creating additional maintenance.

While not perfect, from a community perspective, the intersection of Silverbell Road and Coachline Boulevard provides an excellent design example. The grassy turf area provides a mini-oasis—soothing, relaxing, refreshing, and pleasantly inviting to all who pass by. The transition area is defined by decorative rock paired with the groundcover Lantana. Further out, along the block walls, is the arid region with boulders and desert-adapted plants that require even less water. Plant material and design criteria come together to meet the expectation of the community and the requirements of the Landscape Committee.

Some design guidelines to follow are as follows:

• Don't plant low- and high-water use plants in the same area, to avoid overwatering the low-water-use plants.

Consider high-water-use plants for low-

lying areas or swales, to intercept runoff from hardscape or pavement, thereby decreasing the need for supplemental watering.

• By all means, group high-water-use plants together to create a mini-oasis. These areas should be up close to the home or in "focus areas," to promote aesthetics and energy savings.

• Create an arid or desert-adapted region at the furthest point of the yard by using low-water-use plants such as desert-adapted trees, shrubs and plants more tolerant of the harsh desert conditions.

• Develop that in-between or transition area between the arid zone and the mini-oasis, with low-to-moderate water use plants that blend both regions together.

Recommended resources:

Online—	http://www.azwater.gov/		
	[search: Tucson Plant List]		
In print —	Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert:		
	Guide to Growing More than 200 Low-		
	Water-Use Plants		
	[online at http://www.amwua.org/]		

Professionals— The Groundskeeper [online at www.groundskeeper.com]

The Landscape Committee works hard to keep current with the latest landscape design and development practices for our region. It also works closely with CRCA's landscape maintenance contractor, The Groundskeeper, and management company, Stratford Management, to make good decisions. We also interact with the Town of Marana, especially on areas where homeowners have expressed concern.

The Committee appreciates feedback from the community...especially about what likes or dislikes. There's a lot at stake, and in the end the Committee hopes that your property's value within our community is increased. I hope this article helps you in your landscaping efforts.



### We Need Your Help! JOIN A COMMITTEE

If you haven't volunteered for a committee and can spare a couple of hours a month, contact the CRCA office. In an effort to make Continental Ranch the best community it can be, we urge residents to join one of the following committees and be part of the ongoing process to make our community an exceptional place to live, work, and play! Please take a moment to review the current committees and determine if one interests you.

#### Activities

The Activities Committee meets the first Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m., in the Windmill Park office (this may change in the future to evening meetings). The Activities Committee plans all of the fun community events throughout the year.

#### Architectural Review (ARC)

The ARC reviews applications the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 12 p.m., in the Windmill Park Office. The ARC approves and denies homeowner applications for changes that affect the exterior appearance of the homes in Continental Ranch by applying the design guidelines and the CC&Rs.

#### Covenants

The Covenants Committee meets in order to uphold the values of the CC&Rs. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., in the Community Center. The Covenants Committee reviews homeowner violations that have been sited during each month and, to rectify those matters, they make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

#### Facilities

The Facilities Committee meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., in the Windmill Park office. The Facilities Committee maintains all of CRCA's current structures, including the play parks, Community Center, Windmill Office building, monuments, and much more.

#### Finance

The Finance Committee does not have a set meeting date; however, it usually meets on the third Tuesday or Wednesday of the month. Meetings are typically held at 7:00 p.m. The Finance Committee reviews CRCA's monthly financials and makes recommendations to the Board for CD investments and budgets, as well as discusses expenditures and income.

#### Landscape

The Landscape Committee meets to discuss the community's landscaping on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Windmill Park Office. The Landscape Committee works closely with the landscape company, to maintain the common area landscaping around Continental Ranch.

#### Parcel Reps

The Parcel Reps meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Center. This is an opportunity to represent your parcel to the community.

#### Pool

The Pool Committee meets on the second Monday of each month in the Windmill Park office at 7:00 p.m. The Pool Committee maintains both of CRCA's pools and makes recommendations to the Board for improvements.

If you'd like more information, or to join a committee, please call the CRCA office at (520) 297-7600.



### For Senior Citizens and Retirees A MONTH OF LOVE

ebruary—already! One month of the new year is already behind us as we venture forth into the "month of love" hopefully celebrated by every one of our readers, whether it be with family, friends, a new acquaintance, or as a professional, a volunteer worker or whatever categories each of us falls under! Our lives are challenged to love and to show concern for our fellow man—not only on Valentine's Day, but since it costs us nothing, just share love EVERY day!

SCRCR is an extended family to many. If you are a couple, a single, a winter resident, a senior or retiree, you are welcome to visit our group on Thursday mornings and "check us out!" Jan and the Refreshment Committee have the coffee pot ready to go at 9 a.m., and our short meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

Throughout February, our Activities Committee has made plans for us to enjoy the Super Bowl and lunch at the New Yorker on the 1st; meeting and games on the 5th; meeting, birthdays, and a Valentine's Day red and white potluck on the 12th; the casino on the 13th; meeting and games on the 19th; and meeting and white elephant bingo on the 26th. Looking ahead into March, we made plans almost a year ago to enjoy an Arizona Opry performance on Saturday the 7th. This is "reservation required," so get your name on the sign-up sheet just as soon as possible!

As promised in the January issue, we want to acknowledge with our sincere thanks the generosity of local business establishments who contributed so generously in making our holiday party a huge success. Every attendee was able to take home a door prize due to the untiring efforts of our chairman, Frank, in spearheading the program, and to donors whom we now need to patronize and thank personally for their participation (these names appear in no particular order): Walgreens (on Coachline), Home Depot, Chili's, Red Lobster, McDonalds, Betty Bolin, Luke's Italian Beef, IHOP, Fry's, Tower Theater, Ace Hardware (on Silverbell), Classic Car Spa, Contessa Restaurant, Denny's (on Ina), Old Father Inn, Brake Max (on Cortaro), Vantage Credit Union, LaOlla Mexican Restaurant, Econo Lube 'n Tune, Coachline Hair Express, Basha's, Wells Fargo Bank, and Capin Car Wash. Be sure to seek out each manager and acknowledge each gift with our thanks!

#### This 'N That...

The Grand Canyon state celebrates its 97th birthday this year! Arizona became the 48th state in the Union on February 14, 1912—373 years after the first European glimpsed this terrain in 1539. Four flags have flown over the state since that time: Spanish, Mexican, the Confederate States of America, and the United States of America. On February 17, 1917, Arizona officially adopted the banner used in 1910 by the Arizona Rifle Team as its official state flag.

Designed by Colonel Charles W. Harris of the Arizona National Guard and Carl Hayden, Arizona's first congressional representative, the colors are true to historical values. Red and gold, colors carried by Spanish explorer Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, represent the rays of the setting sun—13 rays for the 13 original colonies. The blue is "liberty blue," the hue used in the US flag's field of stars, and the copper star identifies Arizona as the largest producer of copper in the United States.

Rodeo Days are coming up at the end of the month; children will be out of school for a couple of days, so use caution in driving through the community. Youngsters tend to dart out from between parked cars, especially with skate boards, so please use caution!

If you haven't given thought to your annual IRS obligation, now is the time to pull out files and receipts and get that tasking under way! There is help available from numerous agencies if you can't handle the job yourself. Just ask around or get online for assistance.

#### Thought for the Day...

The American Heart Association has created "Wear Red Day" during February, to raise awareness about heart disease among women. Join the campaign! For more info, visit www.americanheart.org.

### Valentine's Day Fun Fact

In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their valentines would be. They would wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

For more fun facts, visit www.stvalentinesday.org/ valentines-day-fun-fact.html.





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### Announcing the Winners... HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST

holidays have come and gone, and the memories of all the fun, festive lights and decorations are slowly fading away. With that said, we'd like to announce to you the winners of the 2008 CRCA Holiday Decorating Contest.

These individuals, in the opinion of our judges (who by the way, had a very difficult job to do with so many great entries from which to choose), went above and beyond in their creativity, enthusiasm, and overall fun when it came to their holiday decorating.

The categories were Best Overall, Best Use of Lights, Best Theme, and Most Creative. There were two runner ups and one unofficial judges' choice. The judges stumbled on a home that, while not an official entrant in the contest, was so nicely decorated that the judges nonetheless wanted to give them an acknowledgement for a job well done!

Congratulations to all, and we hope to see you enter in this year's contest for a chance to win big prizes!



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Congratulations to CRCA's 2008

Holiday Decorating **Contest Winners!** 









Clockwise From Top Right:





*Best Theme* Louis & Nicole Estrella

Most Creative Ned Derickson

*Runner Up* Lee Baca

*Runner Up* Phillip & Kimberly Young

with Judge's Choice

Martin & Tina Ruiz (no photo)

at left, our winners for

Best Overall

Robert & Ann Soellner







### Weeds Are Ready to Explode by deborah munoz-chacon, sonoran oasis landscaping

With the recent rains and warmer temperatures around Tucson, the time is ripe for weeds to make their 2009 debut. Take a look at your landscape, and you will probably already see small green leaves peaking through your crushed rock. No, those aren't desert wildflowers. They are more likely the beginnings of desert broom, tumbleweed, puncture vine, pigweed, dandelions, and other weeds.

There are things you can do to help keep weeds to a minimum:

- Adding groundcover such as crushed rock cuts down on weed germination.
- Having a healthy lawn reduces weeds ability to grow in it.
- Removing weeds before they flower stops the spread of their seed.
- Spraying a pre-emergent chemical stops weeds from germinating and creates a barrier between the weed seeds and the ground.
- Using a weed killer once weeds are visible kills them before they get large and spread.

The longer weeds are allowed to grow, the more difficult they become to get rid of. A perfect example of this is desert broom. Desert broom has a stubborn





and large root system. Once a desert broom takes hold in the ground and starts to grow, it becomes very difficult to remove. A large desert broom will usually need to be cut down and sprayed with a weed killer more than once to kill it. Then the roots can be dug out with a shovel or pick. This is not work for the faint of heart.

But, in all fairness to the desert broom, it is a hardy plant that can grow in places that most other plants can't. I knew someone who placed a rock border around an especially grand specimen of desert broom and added an irrigation line to it. They loved this desert broom because it grew well and created a shady spot for their dogs to rest under in the summer. It just goes to show you that one man's weed can be another man's valued plant!

Call Sonoran Oasis Landscaping at (520) 370-5697 if we can help you get rid of those pesky weeds. We are chemical spray certified.

#### LOOK WHO'S SELLING CONTINENTAL RANCH & RESERVE! BRIGITTE JEWELL \$\$ Multi-Million Dollar Producer \$\$ Brigitte has SOLD over 52 Million \$\$ of real estate in Continental Ranch/Reserve Areas! More than <u>ANY AGENT</u> from <u>ANY COMPANY</u> in all of Tucson! I can sell your home too....Ask me how!! >The top producing and selling agent in Continental Ranch/Reserve >The top listing agent in Continental Ranch/Reserve >The top listing agent in Continental Ranch/Reserve >Full time agent with a team of full time professional associates >Knowledgeable in short sales and foreclosures >Our RE/MAX office is right in your neighborhood

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Do you want to know the value of your home? Call me for a complimentary market analysis of your home!! BRIGITTE JEWELL RE/MAX ALL EXECUTIVES 8245 N. Silverbell Rd #167 #471-JEWL (5395) Call for "24 K" Service!! Visit my website at : www.homejewell.com Multi-Million Dollar Producer RE/MAX International HALL OF FAME member!!



BRIGITTE JEWELL YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIALIST

### Parcel Representatives Urge Neighborhood Watch

At the January 7th meeting, the parcel reps agreed that the most important undertaking for this year is developing a Neighborhood Watch throughout Continental Ranch. Several areas already have a neighborhood watch, and it can be very beneficial for everyone. The watch does not require lots of time, but it does require people to be involved.

If you are interested in participating, please contact your parcel rep. If you don't know who is your parcel rep, please contact the Windmill Office, or attend our next meeting on February 4, at 7 p.m., at the Community Center.

This is a very worthwhile effort, and we would appreciate everyone's cooperation in getting a Neighborhood Watch in place for the community.

WARNING



### Marana Bicyclists

The Town of Marana is looking for a Marana resident interested in serving as a voting member of the Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee.

The Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) was established to serve in an advisory capacity to local governments on issues related to bicycle recreation, transportation and safety. The BAC promotes the development of a safe bicycling environment in Eastern Pima County.

"If you want to advise on bicycle facilities, cleaner air and a healthier community, please join us on the Bicycle Advisory Committee. You don't need to be an experienced bicyclist, just committed to supporting cycling."

If you want to advise on bicycle facilities, cleaner air and a healthier community, please join us on the Bicycle Advisory Committee. You don't need to be an experienced bicyclist, just committed to supporting cycling.

Interested Marana residents should call Bob Clements, Marana Planning Department, at (520) 382-2645 or email *rclements@marana.com*.

For more information on the BAC visit *www.dot*. *co.pima.az.us/tpcbac/*.

#### GET YOUR MIND, BODY & SPIRIT IN LINE IN 2009!

We have everything you need to reach your fitness goals.



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Aerobic Classes

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Personal Training

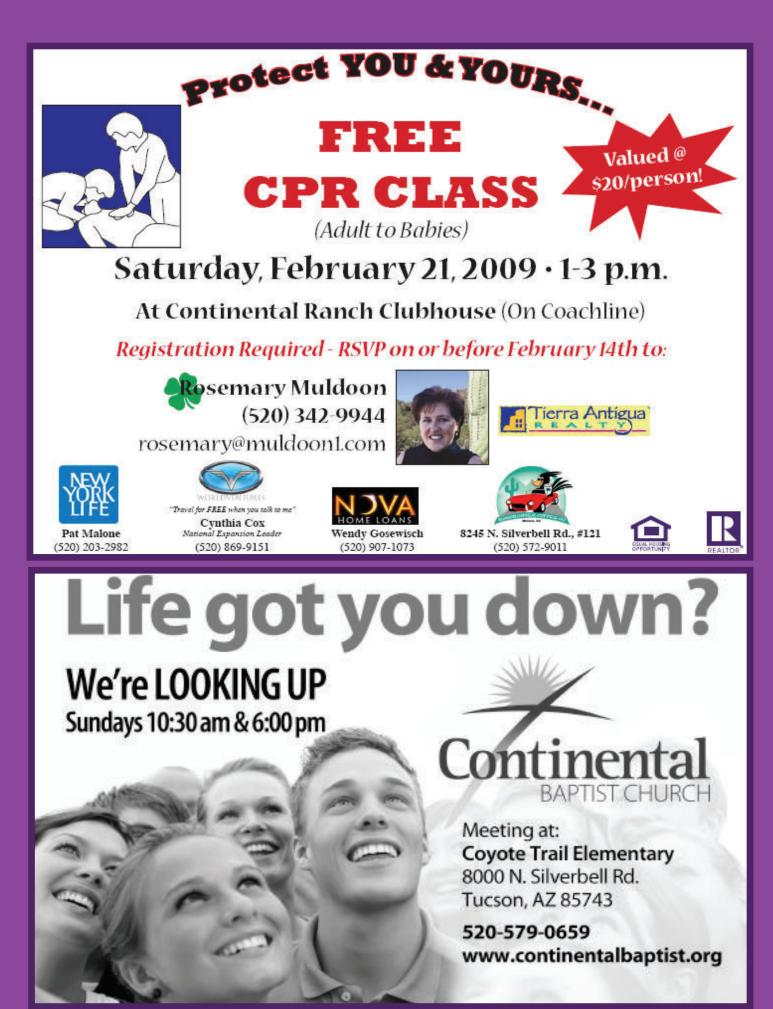


### Pima County Animal Control

The following are things that you can do to help Animal Control assist you with an animal nuisance or animal control problem. Pima Animal Control can be contacted at 520-743-7550 or *www.found-pets.org/pacc.html*.

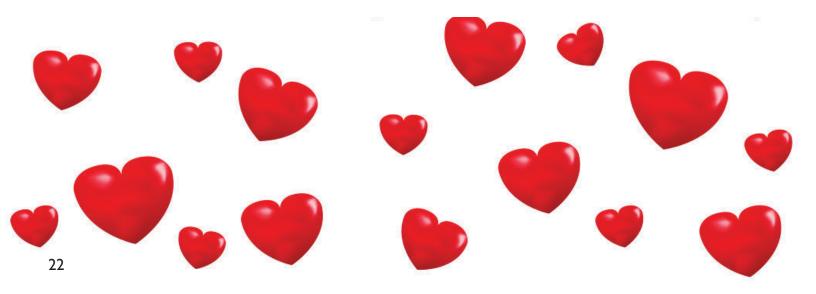
TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS	ACTION	
Leash Law	<ul> <li>Videotape or pictures of the dog at large.</li> <li>Notations of date and time on the back of the photograph or tape.</li> <li>Two or more witnesses from different households.</li> </ul>	Advise the Dispatcher if this is a repeat complaint.	
Barking Dogs	<ul> <li>It is required that both parties try to mediate the problem before any enforcement action is taken.</li> <li>Two or more neighbors from separate households.</li> </ul>	Call to register the complaint and for initial instructions.	
Welfare complaint • No water • No shelter • No food • Tie-out • Need vet care • Abandonment • No shade • Pet in a hot car	<ul> <li>If the animal needs water, please provide it if possible.</li> <li>Please ask a neighbor from a different household to observe the condition in which the animal is kept.</li> <li>Get a photograph of the area where the animal is kept before providing water.</li> <li>Please be aware that entering private property is trespassing.</li> </ul>	Call Animal Control tell the Dispatcher if this is an emergency, give them as much information regarding the animals condition and environment.	
Animal Waste	Photograph the yard where the animal waste has accumulated. This will help Animal Control to build a case.	Advise the Dispatcher if this is a repeat complaint.	
Dead Animal Pickup	Make note regarding the location of the body (northbound, southbound, by median, side of road, shoulder, street name, etc.)	Provide the Dispatcher answering the call with as much information as possible regarding the location of the body.	
Cat Complaints	Pima Animal Control Center only responds to cat complaints regarding bites and welfare cases.	<ul> <li>Nuisance Calls:</li> <li>Cats may be humanly trapped and brought into Pima Animal Control Center.</li> <li>We do not sell or rent traps. Check with local feed stores</li> </ul>	

**NOTE:** Should you place a complaint, the complainant(s) must be willing to testify on beating of animals, barking dogs, leash law and certain cruelty cases. However, should you ask that your name not be released, Animal Control will not release it, unless served by a subpoena.



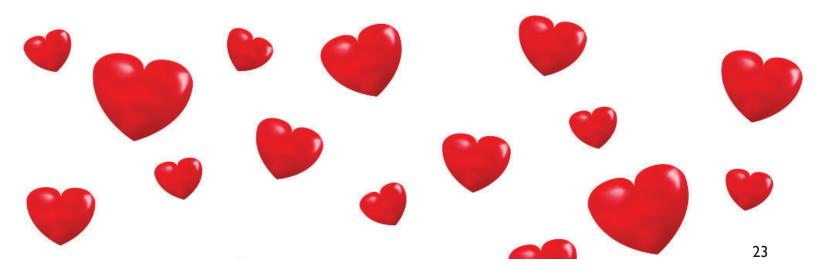
# FEBRUARY 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
I	2 Activities Committee I0 AM @ WP	3 Landscape Committee 7 PM @ WP	4 TOPS 10 AM @ CC ARC Noon @ WP Parcel Reps 7 PM @ CC	5 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC	6	7
8	9 Pool Committee 7 PM @ WP	10 Covenants Meeting @ CC 6 PM-Open 6:30 PM-Closed	II TOPS I0 AM @ CC	12 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	I6 Facilities Committee 6 PM @ WP	17	18 TOPS 10 AM @ CC ARC Noon @ WP Board Study Session, 6:30 PM @ CC	19 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC	20	21
22	23	24	25 TOPS 10 AM @ CC Board Meeting 7 PM @ CC	26 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC Rodeo	27 Rodeo	28



# **MARCH 2009**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Activities Committee 10 AM @ WP	3 Landscape Committee 7 PM @ WP	4 TOPS 10 AM @ CC ARC Noon @ WP Parcel Reps 7 PM @ CC	5 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC	6	7
8	9 Pool Committee 7 PM @ WP CC Pool Opens	10 Covenants Meeting @ CC 6 PM-Open 6:30 PM-Closed	II TOPS I0 AM @ CC Finance Committee 7 PM @ WP	12 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC	13	14
15	I6 Facilities Committee 6 PM @ WP	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 TOPS 10 AM @ CC ARC Noon @ WP Board Study 6:30 PM @ CC	19 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC	20	21
22	23	24	25 TOPS 10 AM @ CC Board Meeting 7 PM @ CC	26 Seniors/Retirees 9 AM @ CC	27	28



### Your Stratford Management Team



Continental Ranch Community Association 9150 N. Coachline Blvd.

Phone (520) 297-7600 Fax (520) 297-7917

In case of emergency, please call (520) 795-6500 and follow the prompts. This number is not for reporting violations or dealing with delinquencies. Report parking violations to (520) 297-7600, ext. 105.

#### **Office Hours:**

Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday

#### Visit us on the web:

Website www.CRCATucson.com Email continental.ranch@yahoo.com



Tucson, AZ 85743

#### Your Team:

Sarah Lebsack, CAAM **Community Manager** ext. 100 sarah@stratfordmanagement.org ARC, Pool, Strategic Planning, Board

Jennifer Swarts, CAAM Assistant Manager ext. 101 jswarts@stratfordmanagement.org Landscape, Facilities, Activities

**Gerrie Crawford** Accountant ext. 102 gcrawford@stratfordmanagement.org Finance

**Tina Noggle Compliance Assistant** ext. 104 tnoggle@stratfordmanagement.org Covenants

Monica Gonzalez Office Administrator ext. 103 monica@stratfordmanagement.org Activities, Publicity

### Manager's Corner

First, I would like to thank everyone for your participation in the Adopt-a-Family for the Holidays and the Canned Food Drive. The mother from one of the families that Continental Ranch sponsored contacted me to express her gratitude and to let us know what a wonderful and giving community that we have at Continental Ranch. Thanks again to everyone who participated!

The Activities Committee is in desperate need of volunteers to serve on the Committee. The Activities Committee is FUN! They plan community events such as the Spring Concert, Women's Pampering Night, the Halloween Event, and the Fall Festival, just to name a few. The Committee is looking for new and refreshing ideas that will draw in even more homeowners in the Continental Ranch community. The Committee meets on the first Monday of every month at noon. Please contact the office if you are interested in becoming a member of the Committee or wish to attend a meeting.

The Board requested a change in the office hours. Effective immediately, the office is now open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and during the lunch hour (12 p.m. to 1 p.m.). The new office hours are posted on the web, as well as the front door of the office. We will be closing at lunch one day a week for staff meetings, which will most likely be on Fridays. Please check the website for additional information.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office and we will be happy to assist you.

Sarah Lebsack, CAAM