

Spring 2015

529-2169

# Catalina Foothills Association

[www.CFATucson.org](http://www.CFATucson.org)

P.O. Box 64546 • Tucson, Arizona 85728-4546

*Devoted to the preservation of the unique residential character of the Catalina Foothills*

## Annual Meeting Held February 2, 2015

“We need volunteers!” Daphne Srinivasan, President of the Catalina Foothills Association, highlighted this and other challenges and accomplishments during 2014 at the annual board meeting. Guest speaker, Tucson Mayor Rothschild, spoke on economic issues and growth of the City of Tucson.

### CFA Accomplishments and Challenges in 2014

- **Architecture review:** The CFA Board’s Architectural Review Committee reviewed plans for 4 new residences, 4 garages, 5 remodels, 2 solar installations, 1 re-vegetation, and 1 new kitchen in areas 1-6 and granted 2 variances. The Board currently does not charge an architectural review fee and may need to use members’ dues to pay for architect services. Without approval of an architecture review fee, the Board may cease to exist. In that case, the homeowner will have to resolve architecture-related issues directly with other homeowners or through litigation related to building heights, setbacks, etc.
- **New homeowners:** 80 new homeowners received welcome packets; the Board anticipates that more people will be in need of architectural review.
- **Board members:** Anyone living in CFA areas 1-9 can volunteer; experience in architecture, building, and real estate is a plus. Voting members at the meeting approved the slate of Board nominees: new Board members (Bruce Maben and David Katz), and Board members serving a second term (Lois Loescher, Jack Swiergol, and Paul Wheeler).
- **Mandatory dues:** Mandatory annual CFA dues of \$50 for anyone with CC&Rs passed on the 2014 ballot.

- **Insurance:** The CFA changed insurance company; the payment for liability insurance will be half the previous cost.

### Economic Issues and Growth of the City of Tucson

Mayor Rothschild stated that Pima County loses \$80 million a year because of current tax dispersion in the state. 70% of the tax earned in the Pima County goes to the State. 96% is returned to Maricopa County, and only 60% is returned to Pima County.

The Mayor discussed three strategies to bring monies and growth into the Community.

1. **Vertical Growth:** raises taxes.
2. **Horizontal Growth:** increases the business base through incentives for businesses to move to Tucson. This strategy provides money for infrastructure (streets, roads, schools). Incentives include: Paying percentages of construction costs

Government Property Lease Tax, (GPLET), which gives tax benefits to a company for 8 years

Revitalization of downtown Tucson

Jobs for UA students after graduation

“5Ts”: technology (start-ups), trade (with Mexico), transportation (building up trade routes with Mexico), tourism and teaching (Steps to Success Program, literacy programs).

3. **Annexation**, which offers return of money to the community because of taxes paid.

For more detailed information link to the Annual Meeting notes at our website [www.CFATucson.org](http://www.CFATucson.org).

**Catalina Foothills Association  
Board Members**

**President-** Amy Hernandez, President (Area 5)  
**Vice-president-** Paul Wheeler, Interim (Area 5)  
**Treasurer-** David Katz (Area 5)  
**Secretary to the Board-** Breda Cronin

Area 1 Bob Krackow  
Area 2  
Area 3  
Area 4  
Area 5 Lois Loescher  
Area 5 Bruce Maben  
Area 5 Daphne Srinivasan  
Area 6 Jack Swiergol  
Area 7 Bob Sommerfeld  
Area 8  
Area 9

**CFA Committees**

**Architectural Review Committee:** Jack Swiergol, Tom Branch

**Communications Committee:** Daphne Srinivasan, Lois Loescher, Amy Hernandez, Paul Steffen

**Deed Restrictions:** Bob Sommerfeld

**Historical:** Paul Wheeler

**Legislation:** Bob Sommerfeld

**Nominating:** Lois Loescher

**Planning & Zoning:** Bob Krackow

*Board Positions change January of each year, verify positions on-line.*

**Board Meetings**

The Board generally meets at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Upcoming dates for 2015 are June 9th, Sept. 8th, Oct. 12th, Nov. 10th, and Dec. 8th.

Holidays and vacation schedules sometimes result in the rescheduling or cancellation of a particular meeting, so please check with the secretary, 529-2169, to confirm a meeting time.

At the beginning of the meetings, the Board allows a ten minute period for "Resident Related Issues" – these must be scheduled with the secretary two weeks before the meeting.

Articles for the newsletter are welcomed and should be mailed to Catalina Foothills Association, P.O. Box 64546, Tucson, AZ, 85728-4173 or e-mail to CFANews@msn.com.

Visit our website for past publications and other information on the Catalina Foothills.

*www.CFATucson.org*



**President's Message**

The purpose of the Catalina Foothills Association (CFA) is to enforce the CC&Rs, preserve the natural vegetation in the area, and continue to ensure the Foothills remains a place we want to live. The Catalina Foothills Association is a volunteer, nonprofit entity whose board meets once a month, except for July and August. At our board meetings we address annexation issues, review architectural plans for homeowners, review the CFA finances, and watch over commercial development in the area. We currently have 9 board members and always welcome more participation from homeowners.

Working together as a community makes us stronger. Examples of the CFA making a difference in the Foothills are:

In the mid-1970s, Foothills resorts intended to use helicopter taxi service to shuttle their guests to and from the Tucson Airport to their grounds. The CFA actively opposed these helicopter taxi service and scenic tours due to the loud noise the helicopters would have made in our quiet desert area.

Campbell Avenue was originally slated to be placed in a location that would have required demolition of the two historic Murphy buildings located on the northwest corner of Campbell Avenue and River Road. The CFA opposed destruction of these two Murphy buildings and Campbell Avenue was ultimately moved to its current location, allowing the historic buildings to remain.

We do not know what challenges will arise in the future. Currently the City of Tucson is annexing two areas in the Foothills. A few years ago there was an attempt to annex the Foothills by a local fire district. Maintaining and supporting the CFA means we will be able to stay abreast of issues that affect our neighborhoods and keep you informed. The CFA also helps maintain your property values by enforcing the CC&Rs.

I heard from several of you related to the now mandatory dues for Foothills residents with CC&Rs. The \$50 annual dues are used to support the integrity of our neighborhood. To date, 73% of residents with CC&Rs have paid. We thank you for your support.

Living in the Foothills requires community participation to assure we are able to pass on this beautiful environment to the next generation of homeowners. Please consider becoming a board or committee member. If interested, please contact me at (520) 209-1855 or [ahernandez@dwyerhernandezlaw.com](mailto:ahernandez@dwyerhernandezlaw.com). I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,  
Amy Hernandez

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS

### **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**

Suspicious activity could be anything that makes the hairs on the back of your neck stand up. If you have a feeling that something just isn't right, call 911. If possible, give us a description of the person and/or vehicle involved. When forming a description, it helps to write the information down so that you don't forget what you saw. ***Don't be afraid to call 911***; you can remain anonymous.



### **MAIL THEFT**

Pima County experiences a tremendous amount of mail theft. Having your mail stolen could lead to you becoming a victim of identity theft and fraud. According to the Federal Trade Commission, Arizona is ranked #2 in the nation for identity theft and fraud.

Since you can't always watch your mailbox, here are some tips that may prevent you from becoming a victim:

- Always retrieve your mail promptly.
- Never leave your mail in the mail box overnight.
- Consider replacing your mailbox with a locking mailbox.
- Try to mail your outgoing mail in the blue Post Office boxes or directly at the Post Office.
- If you think you may have had your mail stolen, contact 911 and make a report.
- Additional reporting options are available from the United States Postal Inspection Service at [postalinspectors.uspis.gov/](http://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/).

You can find more information on how to protect yourself from fraud by visiting the Federal Trade Commission website at [ftc.gov](http://ftc.gov) or download one of our Identity Theft brochures at [pimasheriff.org](http://pimasheriff.org).

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## RURAL/METRO FIRE

People taking care of people...Together we can do anything!

### **Summer Safety from Rural/Metro Fire Department**

**Pool Safety-** While around the pool, assign someone to be a water watcher. The water watcher will pay close attention to the pool and not be distracted by other activities. Have a phone nearby the pool to dial 911 in case of an emergency. Allow children a break during swimming activities, they can become tired and then be in danger while in the pool. There is no excuse for not watching children around the pool. Don't think that someone else is watching them, make sure you watch the water.

### **Practice the ABC's of Water Safety-**

- **Adult Supervision-** Never let a child swim alone or be near water unattended
- **Barriers-** Fences around pools should have self-closing, self-locking gates that will keep a child from accessing the pool without supervision.
- **Classes-** Swim Classes for anyone who does not know how to swim and CPR classes for every adult.

**Hiking Safety-** Be prepared, take plenty of water, and wear sunscreen and light colored clothing. Carry a backpack where you can have a small first aid kit, a flashlight and a map of the area you are hiking. Don't hike alone; let someone know your planned route and when you should be home. Be attentive to the wildlife and remember the animals that can hurt you are very active.

**Barbeque Safety-** Start with a very clean barbeque and a safe area to cook in. Move the barbeque away from your home and the overhanging roof. If using propane, insure that the connection to the bottle is tight and there are no leaks in the rubber hoses. Make sure the barbeque has cooled off before storing. Storing of chemicals should be away from any heat the cooking area may produce.

### ***Plan on building or remodeling?***

*Please contact your  
Area Representative or  
Architectural Committee*

**Changes in your initial plans, you must notify your Architectural Representative or Architectural Committee.**



For more information go to: <http://cfatucson.org/thinking-of-remodeling/>

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS

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### **FIREWORKS**

In 2010, the Arizona Legislature amended state law to allow the sale, possession, and use by the general public of certain types of fireworks. (Arizona Revised Statutes sections 36-1601 - 1610). This change in the law became effective December 1, 2010.

When purchasing fireworks, there are several things to keep in mind. First, *NOT* all fireworks are legal, only those classified as “permissible consumer fireworks.” The following are considered “permissible consumer fireworks” within unincorporated Pima County:

Ground and handheld sparkling devices, cylindrical fountains, cone fountains, illuminating torches, wheels, ground spinners, flitter sparklers, toy smoke devices, and multiple tube fireworks devices and pyrotechnical articles.

**Any type of firework that is designed to rise into the air and explode or detonate, or to fly above the ground is illegal.** Bottle rockets, sky rockets, roman candles, helicopters, and other such items are in this category of illegal fireworks.

The Pima County Board of Supervisors has the authority to temporarily ban the use of all fireworks, in unincorporated Pima County, when there is a greater risk of fire due to dry weather conditions. Before using fireworks in the unincorporated areas of Pima County, contact the Sheriff's Department at 351-4615.

*Note: Incorporated cities or towns may regulate the use of permissible consumer fireworks within the city or town limits. Contact the appropriate jurisdiction for more information on those areas.*



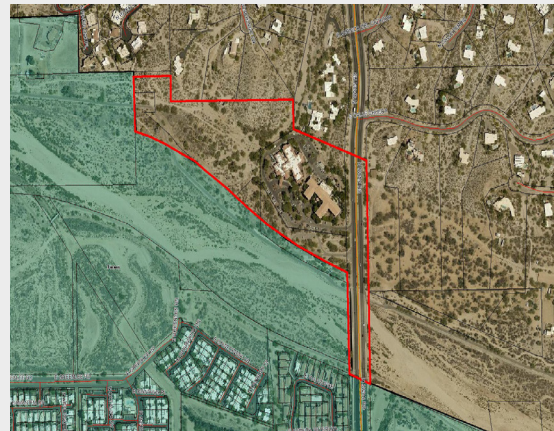
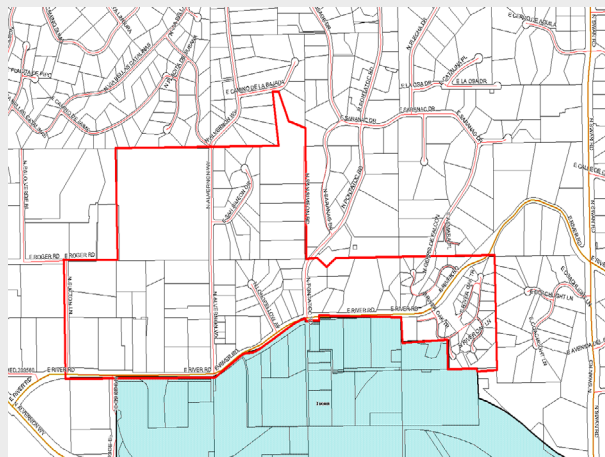
## Current Annexation Activity in the Foothills Area

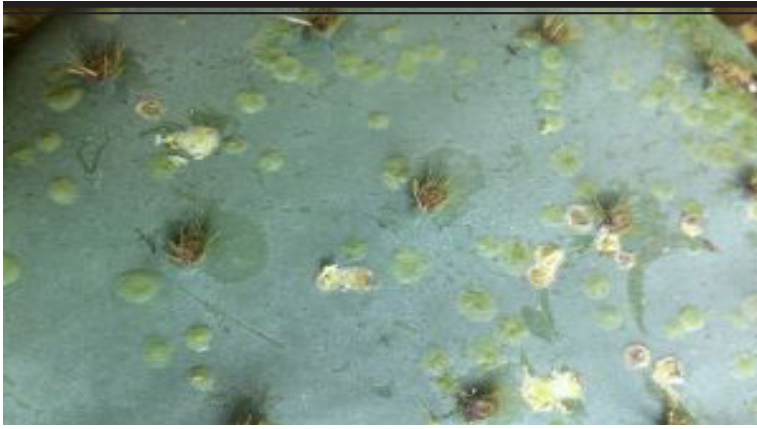
What's happening with annexation in the Foothills area? Mike Czechowski, Annexation Project Manager, City of Tucson, reported that Mayor Rothschild and the city council approved to move forward on the annexation process for the following Foothills areas:

- River and Pontatoc (See Figure 1). February 6, 2016 is the deadline to collect the necessary property owner signatures to complete the process. A consultant on contract goes door-to-door to talk with the 117 property owners so that they can make an educated decision. Completion of the process requires 59 signed petitions representing at least 50% of the total assessed value.
- Swan at River (See Figure 2). The process was approved on February 18, 2015. Mr. Czechowski is working with the owners of the assisted living facilities, Manor Care and Emeritus at Catalina Foothills, to collect the 4 required signatures for final approval.

Gateway Hacienda annexation (southeast corner of River Rd. and Hacienda del Sol) was completed and adopted on January 16, 2015. This is a medical facility scheduled to begin construction within the next few months.

For more information, link to <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/annexation> or contact Mr. Czechowski at 520-837-4058.





## Garden Sage: Bugs, javelina both enjoy tasty prickly pear

APRIL 05, 2015 •

BY PETER WARREN SPECIAL TO THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR

**Q:** *My prickly pear cactus pads have some strange markings on them. Please tell me what is the cause and what I should do about it.*

**A:** Prickly pear cacti (*Opuntia* species) are one of the most common cacti in our area. The damage you are seeing is from a species of plant bug sometimes called a cactus plant bug (*Chelinidea vittiger*). They resemble squash bugs in size and shape and are close relatives of the leaf-footed bug. They feed on the cacti by inserting their mouthparts through the plant surface to suck out the plant sap. The resulting damage you are seeing is merely a flesh wound and is of no serious harm to the plant.

**Q:** *I am having trouble with javelina getting into my plantings. Is there anything a gardener can do to protect their lots?*

**A:** Javelina can nibble plants or destroy plantings while foraging for roots, depending on what they want to eat and what is available in their environment. Often they forage for prickly pear cactus, mesquite beans and agaves but they will also eat a variety of native or cultivated vines, grasses, legumes, other cacti and succulents. Other times they can dig up entire vegetable gardens and eat entire plants. If pressed, they may also eat lizards and birds.

One of my colleagues published a list of resistant plants at <http://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/pubs/az1238.pdf> Lists like this are to be taken with a grain of salt because these animals will feed on a wide variety of plants and will eat most anything if the choices are few, especially in times of drought since they get their necessary water from plants.

Javelina can reproduce any time of year, they live in groups and they tend to forage in the cool part of the day. At my office, where we have extensive demonstration gardens, they are usually seen after dusk. They can be seen napping in a shady spot when it's hot. They are dangerous to approach and can bite when challenged. The only proven way to protect plants is to exclude them with fencing.

## Javelina; Possible Conflicts with Humans and Pets

Javelina will likely visit occasionally if you live in a semi-urban area near a wash or other natural desert. Javelina usually cause only minor problems for people by surprising them or eating a few plants. However, **people should NEVER feed** javelina. This can cause them to become regular visitors and lose their fear of people, creating problems for the neighborhood and often leading to the death of the javelina. Javelina occasionally bite humans, but incidents of bites are almost always associated with people providing the javelina with food. Javelina can inflict a serious wound. Defensive javelina behavior may include charging, teeth clacking, or a barking, growling sound. Javelina may act defensively when cornered, to protect their young, or when they hear or smell a dog. Dogs and coyotes are natural predators of javelina, and they can seriously hurt or kill each other. Javelina around your home may also inadvertently attract mountain lions, because mountain lions prey on javelina.

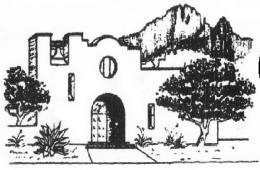


### *To discourage a javelina, immediately*

- Scare off animals by making loud noises (bang pots, yell, stomp on the floor, etc.); throwing small rocks in their direction; or spraying with vinegar, water from a garden hose, or large squirt gun filled with diluted household ammonia (1 part ammonia, and 9 parts water). The odor of the ammonia and the nasal irritation it causes will encourage the javelina to leave. Avoid spraying ammonia in the eyes as it may cause damage even at this low concentration. Ammonia should not be used around wetlands because it is toxic to fish and amphibians.
- If the animal is confined, open a gate, have all people leave the area, and allow it to leave on its own. If it is still there the following day, contact a **wildlife control business** or the Arizona Game and Fish Department.
- If you see javelina while walking your dog, avoid going near the javelina and quickly take your dog in a different direction.

### *In an emergency*

If a javelina is acting in an aggressive manner toward people, is contained and cannot leave on its own or be let out easily, or is in human possession, please call your **local Arizona Game and Fish Department regional office** during weekday business hours. After hours and weekends, call the Arizona Game and Fish Department radio dispatcher at (623) 236-7201.



## *Catalina Foothills Association*

*P.O. Box 64546*

*Tucson, Arizona 85728-4546*

*Devoted to the preservation of the unique residential character of the Catalina Foothills*

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**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

### ***The CFA Board Needs You!***

Are you interested in helping to preserve the Foothills so you can enjoy its natural beauty while living in it? If you are a resident of Areas 1-9 of the Catalina Foothills Neighborhood please consider joining the Catalina Foothills Association Board. We welcome all residents to join, but the Board desperately also needs residents who have skills in building, real estate, architecture and planning. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month (adjourned in summer) and last between 1 and 2 hours. For more information, call 520-529-2169 or access the CFA Website at [cfatucson.org](http://cfatucson.org).

