

HUDSON MANOR

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MAY 2012 NEWSLETTER

Visit our Web site: www.hudsonmanor.org

Happy Mothers Day



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

HUDSON PARK

SUNDAY, MAY 20TH

1 PM - 4 PM NORTH RAMADA

Stop by and enjoy **FREE** ice cream and refreshments.

You can add to the fun by bringing cookies, cakes or cupcakes to share. See old friends and meet new neighbors. Always looking for ideas and help.

MARIA TAKES PRIDE IN THE PARK

Neighbor **Maria Salenger** was not happy seeing all the trash just left around the park. She is an architect and wants to use her creative skills to create permanent bi-lingual signs reminding people to pick up after themselves. She will unveil the design at the Ice Cream Social. We will then approach the city to see if we can get the go ahead to post them around the park. Great idea. Thanks for getting involved Maria.



THAR SHE BLOWS

In what has become an annual event in our aging neighborhood a water main broke right in front of Chair Phil Amorosi's house on Cedar St. on Friday, May 4. Neighbor **Jim Felkey** (upper right in photo) just happened to be taking his morning walk when it erupted, frantically calling Phil for help. Hudson Park was flooded again. To the city's credit they had a man on the scene within minutes who surveyed the situation and within 15 minutes a full crew and **officer John Morel** had arrived to take control of the situation. The pipe was repaired and water back running in under 5 hours.

A BIG THANKS to the Water Utilities Department.

SKATER SIGNS POSTED IN SKATE PARK

We don't know if they will have an effect or how long they will stay up but when the signs were being posted on Saturday a young teen read it and started picking up trash.

2012 NEIGHBORHOOD DUES

We are asking neighbors to **contribute \$12** (or more!) to the Hudson Manor Neighborhood Association. The dues is voluntary but we do have expenses. If you like being kept informed throughout the year please give by making checks out to our treasurer: **Janet Demars at 1508 E. Cedar St.** Our account is at Desert Schools CU.

REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, PARTIES OR GRAFFITI

Loud parties/music or foul language is not acceptable in Hudson. Don't stand for it, call the **police** non-emergency number **480-350-8311** and report it. Our area sergeant is **Carlos Benavidez** call **480-858-6059** or email: carlos_benavidez@tempe.gov.

The Graffiti Hotline is 480-350-8384. The police would also like you to report it to them so they can keep statistics. Currently they cannot cross reference the Graffiti Hotline information.

JOIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD EMAIL TREE

Get the latest information and participate in decisions that don't make it in the newsletter. E-mail **Phil Amorosi** at: philamo@cox.net.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS YOU WANT TO SHARE?

Send any stories to **Phil Amorosi** at: philamo@cox.net.

VOTE FOR MAYOR/COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, MAY 15 - VOTE EARLY NOW!

**GRACIE'S VILLAGE AT THE
TEMPE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
FIRST HEARING - THURSDAY, MAY 10
SECOND HEARING - THURSDAY, MAY 31
7:30 p.m. FREE parking or take light rail to Transit Station stop
Tempe City Hall (31 E. 5th Street)**

The buck stops here. Will the city council protect and preserve our neighborhoods and uphold true medium density or will they grant the out-of-state developer everything he wants and set a precedent that will allow high density projects along the entire Apache Blvd. corridor? Be there to let them know you have concerns.

Go to the City of Tempe Web site to contact the council: www.tempe.gov/elected

Phone: (480) 350-8110

Mail: P.O. Box 5002, Tempe, AZ 85280

**GRACIE VILLAGE UPDATE
WE LOST ROUND 1 AT THE DRC**

Editorial from HMNA Chair Phil Amorosi:

First I want to thank all of you that made it down to city hall for the Development Review Commission (DRC) meeting on April 24 and those who wrote letters which were read at the meeting.

The DRC chair Mike DiDomenico commented that this was the largest crowd he ever saw for a DRC meeting. Because of the size they cut speaking time down to two minutes but you could give your time to someone else.

All members were torn by the deceitfulness of the developer and the concerns of the neighborhood. After five and a half hours of testimony it was over. It was close but no cigar. We lost on a 4-3 vote.

This week is the first of two meetings with the city council. On Thursday they will listen and ask questions. On Thursday, May 31 they will make a decision.

If you haven't gotten involved yet now is the time. Even if it is writing a letter supporting existing zoning. Grace church set up a huge letter writing campaign. There were letters from South Phoenix, Chandler and Mesa. You wouldn't think that would count but reading letter after letter that said I support this project deluded our message. We need to speak up or the people that don't even live here but who's church will profit will win.

Reasons why this project as presented is a bad idea:

- After a year of negotiations church refuses to put in writing that they will not put community services in the project like portable showers for homeless or have a food bank. Items that are already well done by TCAA.



I see you. Projected 4 story Grace-zilla project from Elm and Hudson.

- After a year of negotiations Gorman refuses to build medium density project. Current project calls for a building that is 92,000 sq. ft., 110 beds or 220 people on a 2 acre site. This is high density and lots more traffic at Elm.
- Developer does not negotiate in good faith. Tricked your chair into believing he was going to build medium density and reduce bedrooms and height but instead added larger 4 bedroom units and kept same 64 foot height.
- After a year of negotiations developer is not sensitive to historic nature of neighborhoods. His modern big box looks exactly like all the other big box student housing being built on the boulevard.
- After a year of negotiations developer refuses to shield views of 4th floor apartments that can easily peer into University Heights neighbors back yards.
- If this project is approved as-is it will set a precedent and allow all developers to build high density projects anywhere on the boulevard. Devaluing our quality of life.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the meeting on Thursday. If you can't make it please send a note to the city council.

Support our 2011 GAIN Night Sponsors:
Liquor Express - 1605 E. Apache Blvd.
Long Wongs - 1639 E. Apache Blvd.
Tempe Tavern - 1810 E. Apache Blvd.
Target Tempe Marketplace

Remember that our Neighborhood Association is not a homeowner's association, just interested and involved renters and owners, who care about making Hudson Manor the best it can be.