

Dunbar/Spring



News

SPRING 1998

Scribbles from the Press ...

By Brad Lancaster

Many Things Happening in the Neighborhood and Coming Up - Join In!

First off, HOWDY! A lot is going on in and around the neighborhood and I welcome and encourage all of you to get involved in whatever way you can. What sort of goings on are happening? Well...

ELECTIONS

Neighborhood Association elections are happening in April. All positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian) will be elected at our regularly scheduled meeting - 7pm, April 20 at the Tucson Urban League Business Resource Center at the south west corner of Speedway and Stone (the old bank building). Nominations will be taken from the floor, and then we will vote on those nominated. Nominations and elections happen the same night. If you will be unable to attend you can work out an absentee ballot with our acting Secretary, Nikki Freegard. Call her at 792-1927.

This neighborhood is full of very qualified and capable people who can fill these positions. If you are willing and able to work constructively with others to better our community I'd say you've got what it takes. After two years as President I will not be running again. Its been a great two years for me as this is such a wonderful, active neighborhood. I do plan to remain very active, just not in the role of an elected position. It is time for others to have that opportunity.

So people are up on the expected responsibilities of the neighborhood board, here they are:

- **President** shall call and preside at all meetings, shall act for and in behalf of the membership of the association, contingent upon the associations voted approval of that action, shall appoint special committees necessary for the operation of the business of the association, and shall act as official spokesperson of the association, The President shall implement the decisions of the Neighborhood Board.
- **Vice-President** shall, in the absence of the President, assume all of the duties of that office. In addition, the Vice-President shall be chairperson of the Committee.

(continues on page 3)

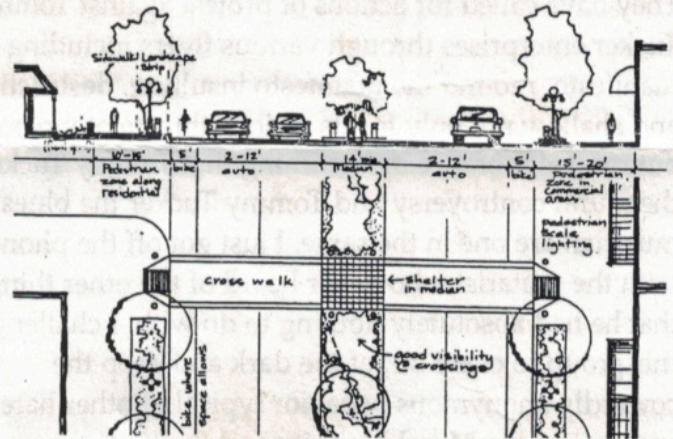
Neighborhoods Form Coalition To Improve Stone Avenue

by Jonathan Crowe

A coalition of neighborhood associations have joined forces to urge the City to improve conditions along Stone Avenue. The Stone Avenue Coalition, which formed last year, includes seven neighborhoods from downtown to the Rillito River. All share a commitment to making Stone Avenue safer and more pleasant for bicyclists, pedestrians, and bus riders.

To make it easier to cross Stone Avenue, the Dunbar/ Spring neighborhood will be lobbying for a traffic signal at the intersection of University Boulevard. Crosswalk improvements are also needed along Stone Avenue at 1st Street, 2nd Street, 4th Street, and 5th Street. All along Stone Avenue, a new streetscape is envisioned, with bike lanes, sidewalks shade trees, landscaped medians, bus shelters and public art.

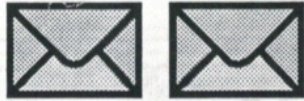
Stone Avenue as it would look with bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks, medians, landscaping and streetlights.



In South Tucson, South Sixth Avenue received similar treatments and is considered a model for how Stone Avenue will look. Jerry Anderson, council member from Ward 3 has been a strong supporter of the project. To look at these issues the City Council has initiated the Stone Avenue Corridor Study, which will analyze conditions for pedestrians, cyclists, transit and traffic and make recommendations for improvements. Two meetings have already been held with the City Transportation Department to discuss the scope of the project. Neighborhood representatives are concerned that the City may want to widen Stone Avenue to make room for more cars. The City will hire a transportation planning consulting firm to conduct the study. The study should officially begin April and the Dunbar/Spring neighborhood will be actively involved.

If you would like to be included on upcoming mailings, the project manager from the City is Joe McCullough and his phone number is 791-4372. The Dunbar/Spring neighborhood and Stone Avenue Coalition will be holding meetings to discuss problems like crossing Stone Avenue and to ensure that the study is focused on improving conditions for alternate modes (bike, bus, walking). If you have any ideas or would like to get involved, feel free to call Jonathan Crowe at 624-0759.

Your Letters



March 7, 1998

Dear Neighbors,

As a long time resident and homeowner who has watched our neighborhood fight for it's survival, I see the neighborhood as revitalized, stronger and more harmonious than it has ever been.

However, the recent angry threats (some violent) and acts of vandalism toward a Stone Avenue business owner have compelled me to express my disgust, disagreement and concern that the association and all the residents may be perceived as supporters and in total agreement with a group calling themselves "Tucsonans Against Tommy Tucker".

The group seems to have formed to protest the destruction of Leslie Marmon Silko's "snake mural." They have called for actions of protest against Tommy Tucker enterprises through various flyers including a manifesto. I found the manifesto insulting, destructive and shallow not only for its vicious threats of violence, but for its ignorance by assuming that Tommy Tucker of the mural controversy and Tommy Tucker the blues musician are one in the same. I just got off the phone with the guitarist who never heard of the other thing that he had absolutely nothing to do with. I challenge this group to come out of the dark and drop the cowardly anonymous behavior typical of other hate groups like the Moral Majority and the KKK.

The group's manifesto has nothing to do with art, beauty or anything positive.

I, like most of you, disagreed and was saddened by Mr. Tucker's decision to paint over the "snake mural." Though his attitude and actions as a businessman with a large financial investment are as hard to understand as the lack of action, concern or planning about the mural's preservation over the last ten years by all the suddenly outraged mural supporters. It's not as though financial assistance hasn't been available for art for those who sought it out.

Perhaps such assistance could create a new mural and some positive action.

Dan Seymour
827 N. 9th Avenue, 792-6377



Neighborhood residents work to put in the new Community Garden at the corner of 11th Ave. and University Boulevard. (see page 3)



Neighborhood mothers gathered recently after visiting the Community Garden. A neighborhood parenting group meets on the fourth Sunday of every month at Estevan Park. For those interested, call Sabine Wilms at 624-0759.

Tall Tales from Dunbar/Spring

This newsletter is hoping to start a new column of stories from the neighborhood. Most everyone has a colorful tale to tell from times past - please share them with your neighbors by sending them to Lori Paca, 628 North 9th Avenue. And be sure to watch for them in the next issue!

Dunbar/Spring Neighborhood Association Board

- President Brad Lancaster, 882-9443
 - Vice President Thomas Lewis, 623-4486
 - Treasurer Nicola Freegard, 792-1927
 - Secretary Nicola Freegard, 792-1927
 - Parliamentarian Rita Elliott, 623-6068
- Contributors to this issue: Brad Lancaster, Jonathan Crowe, Dan Seymour, Arts & Culture Working Group