

## Youth and Elderly Working Together for a Strong Tomorrow

by Dolly Adams, Youth Elderly Program Volunteer

In January 1996, twelve volunteers in and around the Ali-Chugk and Pia-Oik communities (on the western edge of the Tohono O'odham Reservation) decided to come together and offer positive activities for the youth of our community. The volunteers wanted to provide their children with an alternative to drugs and violence. The community knew it was important that the elders and the young people of the Ali-Chugk and Pia-Oik communities come together to motivate kids to stay in school and to keep them in touch with their cultural heritage.

In the summer of 1999, the Youth-Elderly Program (Y.E.P.) was born and soon received a grant in the amount of \$5,795.00 from PRO Neighborhoods. This grant allowed the Y.E.P. to do many wonderful things in the Ali-Chugk and Pia-Oik communities.



2000 Tohono O'odham Rodeo Parade

During the winter of 1999, Y.E.P. provided after-school and Saturday activities, which included arts and crafts, sports such as kickball, jump rope and volleyball in addition to two sleepovers. Also during this time, "Smokey Sue" appeared as part of an anti-smoking presentation and the elders provided cultural storytelling for the young people. On a couple of occasions the community came together to paint over graffiti.

During the spring of 1999, Y.E.P. youth offered bingo and served food to the elderly. The youth also continued the activities that were started in the winter and took a trip to "Castles and Coasters" in Phoenix. Both elders and youth participated in a Sonoran Desert Alliance cookout and educational presentation.

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PRO Neighborhoods staff welcomes your stories, helpful comments, questions and requests for future newsletters. Call: 882-5885; e-mail: [prohoods@azstamet.com](mailto:prohoods@azstamet.com); write: PO Box 27287, Tucson, AZ 85726-7287, Hablamos Español. PRO Neighborhoods is a partnership of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona, City of Tucson and Pima County. Please let us know if you have moved or have a new phone/fax number or email so we can update our mailing list.

## Youth Elderly Program Continued from page 1

The summer brought more bingo and food for the elders, as well as field trips for all ages. Furthermore, Y.E.P. actively participated in the Tohono O'odham Nation's planning process regarding the construction of community recreation centers.

In the fall, the elders dusted off their bikinis and headed for the beach at Rocky Point. The youth had pizza parties and watched videos. Both youth and elders came together for the Halloween and Christmas parties. In addition to the regular after school activities, young adults began learning new computer skills.

Late in 1999, Y.E.P. participants and volunteers began planning for the 2000 Tohono O'odham Rodeo Parade and designing their own float. The Y.E.P. float won a trophy for the most points and best community entry.

*As with most PRO Neighborhoods groups, the Youth Elderly Program is seeking donations to continue their work. If you would like to support Y.E.P. or any other grantee, please give us a call at 882-5885.*

## Upcoming PRO Neighborhoods Workshop!

### Basic Grant Writing

**When:** Saturday, July 29th, 2000  
from 9am to 12pm

**Where:** Tucson Pima Public Library,  
Lower Level Meeting Room, 101 N. Stone

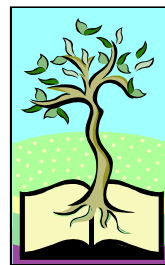
This workshop is for **first time** grantwriters who are seeking grants for neighborhood or rural communities. Presenters are Pat DeVito of PRO Neighborhoods and Jean Lewis of Tucson Pima Public Library. The workshop is free of charge. Space is limited and registration is required and begins on July 3rd. Call Jean Lewis at 791-4393 for more information.

## We're Moving!

PRO Neighborhoods is moving to a new location in mid-June. We will be located on the first floor of the Sentinel Building on 320 N. Commerce Loop, Tucson, AZ 85745. We'll be in Menlo Park Neighborhood, just west of the Santa Cruz River, between St. Mary's and Congress. Our phone number and P.O. Box will remain the same. Please call us before stopping by our new location to make sure that we are settled in to our new place.



## Stories Make You Strong: Develop Leadership in Your Neighborhood Through History



To help groups develop their projects and skills, PRO Neighborhoods is partnering with the local non-profit VOICES. A series of workshops and grants for neighborhood projects that discover community histories are coming up this Fall. At our first workshop, a panel of speakers will inspire you with their own stories of community history projects. The other workshops will help you develop and carry out a project of your own. Start thinking now about the voices, images, and relics that you and your neighbors could explore together and the resources you may need to do this. Workshops and grants will be available in Spanish and English. Look for more details at the end of the summer.

## Congratulations to the Good Neighbors of Pima County!

Over 40 individuals and organizations from both rural and urban Pima County were nominated for the 2nd Annual Good Neighbor Awards. Congratulations to all, especially award recipients: Frances Pat Martin, Pueblo Gardens Learning and Leading Teen Program, Richard and Mary Fimbres, Old Fort Lowell NA, Los Ranchitos Elementary School, Utterback Middle School, Cholla High Magnet School, Pima Community College, Neighborhood College. Special thanks to emcee Esther Tang.



# Wheeler Mural Project

by Ciora Medina and Valerie Shearer, Palo Verde High School Students

*In 1999, PRO Neighborhoods awarded the Terra del Sol, Palo Verde, Wheeler Coalition a "Youth-Led Community Change" grant of \$1,975.00 for their youth-led "Hands Across the Neighborhood" project. The first half of this project, murals at Wheeler Elementary School, is complete. The second half is tutoring and mentoring and is now in progress.*

The mural project at Wheeler Elementary was valuable to all in the Terra del Sol community. Fifteen high school students supervised over 100 elementary school students over two days of painting. In advance, fourth and fifth graders sketched concepts. Palo Verde High School art students compiled those drawings for two murals. The neighborhood association prepared the walls and bought supplies. Student leaders, teachers, administrators, and neighborhood association representatives coordinated the painting.

Our experience at Wheeler taught us many lessons. These include the importance of working with children and that going through a process together can allow you to achieve a successful outcome. Most importantly, we proved that youth can cooperate on a project which ultimately beautifies the environment.

The Terra del Sol community benefited from the mural project in a variety of ways. For example, it gained an appreciation for the difficult but rewarding process we went through to complete the murals. The Wheeler Elementary School mural artists, who devoted their time to the project, now have a sense of ownership. And finally, the community and future generations will profit from the enduring beauty of the mural.



Wheeler Mural Artists

The PRO Neighborhoods grant provided a unique opportunity for high school students, elementary school students and teachers to work together. Judging by the tremendous success of the Wheeler Mural Project, we believe it would be worth funding mural projects in the future. We envision a widespread painting of murals to counter the effect of destructive graffiti.

## PRO Neighborhoods staff: Where are they now?

We often get asked about former PRO Neighborhoods staff and wanted to report on a few. Lucia Sayre is working with the Southside Food Production Network to encourage gardening and food security. She and her husband, Nathan, recently gave birth to their first child, Henry. Kasey Nye finishes Law School at the University of Arizona in May. He and his wife Sue have had two children since he left PRO Neighborhoods. Bryn Jones will work through the summer here and will be starting Law School in the fall at the U of A. Kaye Godbey, her husband and two children will be transferring to England for four years with the U.S. Air Force. Ronda Stone has returned to Colorado to pursue her photography and Sandra Klinger is working with people with disabilities at PPP. Debbie Al-Housni is the supervisor of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program at the City of Tucson.



## Who are they now?



Elizabeth Gray Bradford (left) and Debbie Becher (right) have recently joined the PRO Neighborhoods staff. Elizabeth is the part time secretary and Debbie is working as a project associate.

United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona

**PRO**

Neighborhoods

People, Resources, and Organizations in Support of Neighborhoods



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## .... Community Information Exchange ....

**Tucson Urban League** offers HomeSaver Workshop Series which offers maintenance information and hands on practice with electrical, plumbing and other home systems. Fee is based on income. For more information, dates and times call 882-4872.

**Tucson-Pima Public Library** offers free Grants Collection Orientations. Part I: June 17, 9:15 to 11 am. Part II: June 29, 2:15 to 4pm. For more information, contact Jean Lewis at 791-4393.

**Pima Community College** offers an Effective Grant Writing class May 22-23, 8am to 4:30pm. Fee is \$34. For more information call 206-6468.

**Pima County Cooperative Extension** offers Portable Challenge Facilitator Training on May 30-June 1, 8:30am to 5pm. Cost is \$55, registration deadline is May 22. They are also available to facilitate challenge activities for your group for free! Please contact Bob or David for application and more information at 626-5161.

**The National Society of Fund Raising Executives** and the Tucson Pima Public Library is offering Fund Raising Basics on June 3, 8:30am to 12:30pm. Cost is \$20, registration deadline is May 31. Please call 327-2288, ext.126.

**Pima County Neighborhood Reinvestment** has capital improvement grants available for neighborhoods experiencing significant socio-economic stress. Call 740-8208 for more information.

**Increasing Effectiveness of Volunteer Programs** and Volunteer/ Staff Coaching, Relations and Recognition will be offered on August 10, 8:30am to 12pm. Cost is \$35. For more information contact Pearl Ford-Fyffe at 742-6652.

**Presentation Skills and Public Speaking** will be held on September 15, 1 to 5pm. Cost is \$35. For more information, contact Pearl Ford-Fyffe at 742-6652.

**Southern Arizona Grants Network** is offering a free Successful Grant Writing workshop on September 20, 12 to 2pm. For more information, call 791-5620.

**Southern Arizona Volunteer Management Association** meets on the third Tuesday of the month from 11:30am to 1pm. Meetings are free and open to the public. To confirm location, date and time, contact Mary Harvey at 326-9850.

**Barrio Anita's** new bilingual book, "A Path to the River-Memories of the Santa Cruz River and Barrio Anita: stories and illustrations by children and neighbors from Barrio Anita" can be purchased from Davis Bilingual Magnet School, Border's Books or contact Ramon Olivas at 622-8624.

**2nd Annual Tucson Neighborhood Association** citywide conference will be on September 30 at the TCC. For more information, contact Renee Sowards at CNS, 791-4605.

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