

## looking back, moving forward

**D**id you know that the Tahquitz River Estates Neighborhood is the largest organized neighborhood in Palm Springs?

With its size comes neighbors with an amazing wealth of interests and talents and a built environment that successfully mixes historic homes, new homes, multi-family and single family residences, small hotels, places of worship, retail and service businesses, even a school!

### COMMON INTEREST & CONCERNS

What we have in common is our shared affection for Palm Springs, our beautiful mountain backdrop and bright blue skies, and an interest in enjoying our life here in Palm Springs.

On the flip side, we also have common concerns. Crime, homelessness, noise, and traffic come immediately to mind.

As a neighborhood organization, TRENO works to ensure the quality of life in the neighborhood,

and at times we reach beyond our borders to work on projects that benefit a broader community.

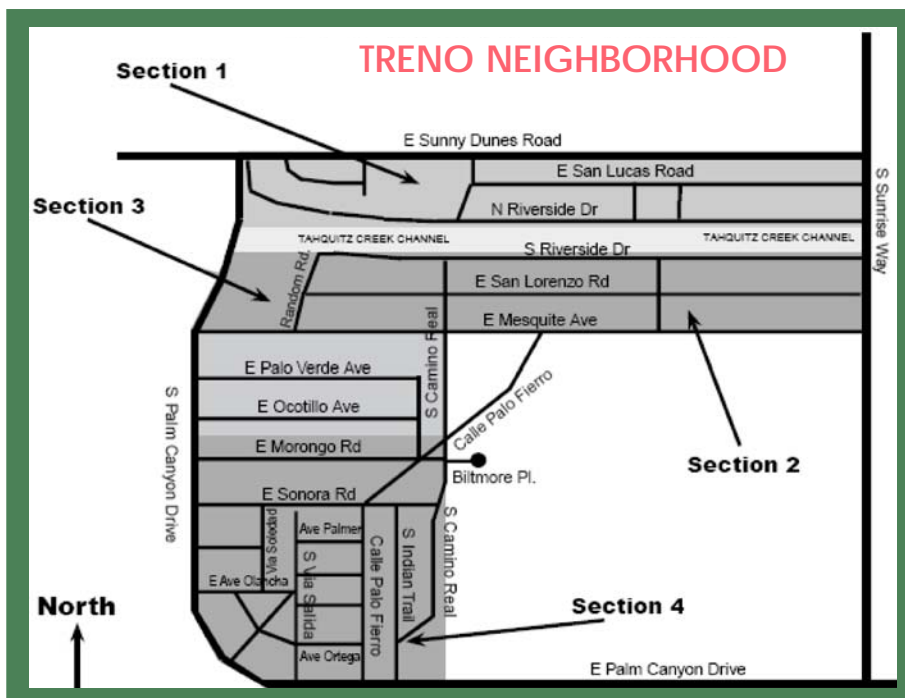
Yet, it is the common interests and concerns of the people living within its boundaries that determines TRENO's agenda. Having spent much time working with City staff and elected officials, it has become clear that developing a long-range plan for our neighborhood will help us effectively communicate and get action on our needs and interests.

### WHY DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN?

The purpose of a The Neighborhood Action Plan is to provide a way for neighborhood organizations to

- Identify and document the needs and interests of the neighborhood to present to City Departments, Commissions and City Council to guide future decisions involving planning, development proposals, budget approvals and plan amendments affecting the neighborhood.
- Identify and develop the assets within our neighborhood to create a sense of place and retain our unique characteristics.
- Guide TRENO in taking on neighborhood projects and improvements.

*"You've got to be very careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there." Yogi Berra*



### WE NEED TO BE PRO-ACTIVE

This is a community effort, where we identify the values and priorities for our neighborhood. An opportunity to identify issues such as traffic flow and speeds, safety and physical improvements such as adequate lighting and safe pathways for walking and bike riding. We might also want to address housing, zoning, community appearance, crime, open space and community building efforts.

It's up to us, as a collective group of people, to decide out vision and objectives for the neighborhood and then work together and with the City to make it happen.

1. Identify and document our history, how has our

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neighborhood changed over time?

2. Identify the features that give character and make our neighborhood unique;
3. Identify our common interests and concerns;
4. Identify ways to address our interests and our concerns;
5. Take action as a neighborhood and working with the city.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting on May 5 will be an informal gathering to brainstorm ideas and discuss common interests and concerns. It's *also* about HISTORY and a VISION for the future. It's about getting to know each other, too.

Many people have lived in the TRENTO neighborhood for decades. They swam in Tahquitz Creek, raised families, taught at or attended Cahuilla School, and shopped at the now long gone May Fair Market. People who have recently moved into the neighborhood, have developed sentiments toward TRENTO as a special place - what makes it so?

Bring your memories, stories, photos, whatever you think will help us create a compelling description of the history and character that shapes our neighborhood.

*History never looks like history when you are living through it.*

*John W. Gardner, quoted by Bill Moyers*

## TRENTO ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 5

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Cahuilla Elementary  
Camino Real @  
Mesquite Ave.

## WANTED: A FEW GOOD NEIGHBORS

We are seeking neighbors to provide their advice, input and energy to the TRENTO Advisory Council. Our by-laws allow for 3 representatives per section (please refer to the TRENTO map on Page 1). Each of Sections 1, 2 and 3 has an opening.

We need your involvement to have a full complement of advisors and to have each section properly represented on issues affecting the neighborhood. The Council also works to resolve TRENTO's concerns and the concerns shared by a number of neighborhoods through active participation in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement Committee where TRENTO plays a critical leadership role. Please consider giving us a call so we can meet and share with you more details about TRENTO and taking on this important and rewarding role.

Paul Crippan, Chair, 760-416-0992 or JPCrippan@aol.com or April Hildner, Vice Chair, 760-318-2618 or April@Hildner.com.



The great Parkway Cleanup November 18, 2006

## TAHQUITZ CREEK PARKWAY UPDATE

What's happened with the parkway project since we last met in November? Lots!

- ▶ Following our meeting, over 70 community volunteers came together to haul out 13.5 tons of trash out of the creek channel and along its banks.
- ▶ County of Riverside Flood Control District staff lent a hand and wheels. Eight staff, 3 dump trucks and a skidder to clean out the outlet area near the pedestrian bridge.
- ▶ We've made presentations to the Park Commission, the City Council (who directed staff to work with the neighborhoods on getting a plan put together) and the Public Arts Commission.
- ▶ The Historic Tennis Club Neighborhood Organization has joined in the effort, which makes for a total of four neighborhoods banding together to make this project a reality.
- ▶ Representatives of the neighborhoods met with new Parks Director, Sharon Heider, to fully acquaint her with the site and its potential. With her help and guidance we're bound to succeed!
- ▶ The Tahquitz Creek Yacht Club is going strong, membership increases every day! The Yacht Club has been working the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month to keep the creek channel and banks free and clear of litter and other debris.



## Don't Miss the Boat!

## JOIN THE TAHQUITZ CREEK YACHT CLUB

A great group of people who get together to help keep the Parkway clean, raise funds, and have fun.  
Clean ups 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 7:30 am - 9:00 am  
Meet at the pedestrian bridge.



## I REMEMBER...

When the “wash” was our neighborhood playground.

It was a playground? It sure was. Just ask all of the kids that grew up spending endless hours there running, playing, shouting, tubing, and all of the other games and activities they could come up with. No cement or culverts in those days. Just sand, rocks and imagination. And a little old wooden footbridge that we could cross when there were small amounts of water flowing. Of course, that water provided many opportunities for adventure too! You might have a pool at home but there was usually more fun to be had splashing around in the creek.

Sometimes Mother Nature took over though. Then there was no playing. On those somewhat rare occasions when the rains poured down and the wash filled up it could be downright scary. We'd stand on the banks and hope they'd hold as the water and boulders came roaring down the canyon wrecking havoc along the way. First to go was our little footbridge. Sometimes we'd find it downstream after the water receded and with some repairs it would be back in place. Then all the kids on the north side of the wash could get to Cahuilla without having to walk all the way down to the Palm Canyon bridge. Sometimes we'd have to wait for a new one to be built. And sometimes.... if you were really lucky the construction workers would give you a ride across the water in the bucket of the skip loader. That was the best!

Tubing was great fun after the water flow calmed down. You needed a sturdy inner tube, good tennis shoes, and an eye for adventure.... but it sure was fun.

By Jan Heller, TRENO Advisory Council,  
30 year resident of Palm Springs

# Neighborhood PEOPLE....

## Keeping It Clean in Palm Springs!

We are pleased to feature A.S.A.P., a neighborhood based hauling company. In business for just a year, owner Joey Dirnberger is making his mark in the Palm Springs community. A.S.A.P. specializes in all types of discarded item pick up. A new feature is the customized "dumpster on wheels" that just fits right in your garage and can

be parked as long as it is needed for your remodeling, clean up or get organized needs. No fuss, no muss and it is off the street! Do you have items that need to be hauled away? Joey can make it happen, A.S.A.P.

Recently, Joey lent a hand to the Tahquitz River Yacht Club by removing all the bags from our last Tahquitz Creek clean up day and taking them to the dump to prevent vandalism.

You might be interested to know that Joey represents a third generation TRENO family. His home on Riverside Drive was originally purchased in 1948 by his grandparents and has been passed down to Joey through his parents. He and his wife are now raising their two daughters across from Tahquitz Creek where Joey remembers rafting on hot days. Rafts were purchased at either the May Fair Market or Woolworths on the corner of Mesquite and Highway 111 and then the locals would propel down the creek and enjoy a day of sun and swimming.

**A.S.A.P. Dump Trailer Service - Keeping it Clean 774-2727**



## What's Happening at Cahuilla School?

Just back from spring recess, students are hunkered down and using all their brain power to demonstrate all they have learned this year for the California Statewide Assessments. Teachers and students have worked very hard to be ready! In 2006, Cahuilla grew by 62 point on the Academic Performance Index -a huge increase. Good Luck to ALL.

**May 5, 2007**-Car Wash- 8am-noon

**May 3, 2007**-Authors Faire in the Multi Purpose Room-2pm-4pm

Come see great student writing and illustrations. Please come to this fun event.

**May 24, 2007**-Volunteer Tea 11:30am-1:30pm- Cahuilla Elementary School WANTS YOU. Volunteers are needed to read to small groups of students have one student read to you one on one, assist in math in small groups or with one student you pick the age, volunteers organize clubs for small groups of students at lunch such as chess. Do you have a special talent or interest to share with Cahuilla students? Just contact **Brett MacLean, principal @ 416-6181**

# ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 5, 2007 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Cahuilla Elementary, Mesquites Ave. & Camino Real

TAHQUITZ RIVER ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

# TRENO

People Coming Together to Make  
the Neighborhood Great!

## LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD!

**Plan on attending the neighborhood meeting!**  
**We're preparing to take action on a neighborhood plan that will help us identify the history, character, assets and liabilities of our community so that we can set goals for the future of this neighborhood.**

## WHAT TO BRING:

- Neighborhood photos - old and new (digital or we will scan)
- Memories, stories and urban myths
- Thoughts on what makes TRENO a great place to live work and play
- Concerns you have that we need action

## TRENO GOALS

- Building a strong community of neighbors knowing, caring and looking out for one another;
- Providing a forum for goals and issues of neighborhood concern to come forward and be acted upon in a collaborative manner;
- Developing a collective voice to advocate for the neighborhood's needs, concerns, and visions before the City of Palm Springs.

Tahquitz River Estates neighbors began meeting in 2003 to identify shared issues and concerns. Traffic calming, crime and safety, and Tahquitz Creek clean up were notable issues of shared concern.

In 2004 an interim advisory council was approved by residents. During 2004 the advisory council developed by-laws for the organization, developed a resident database, conducted outreach, and established a neighborhood watch program. The first Annual Meeting was held on October 23, 2004.

## Why Become a Member of TRENO?

**Tahquitz River Estates Neighborhood Organization (TRENO)** is an organization of your neighbors. With TRENO'S involvement, Tahquitz River Estates Neighborhood is becoming a community of neighbors knowing, caring and looking out for one another in the neighborhood.

We are not a "Neighborhood Association" establishing rules for what color to paint your house or what to grow in your yard.

We are a community organization with the purpose of improving the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Please join and help us build a strong and vibrant neighborhood.

## TRENO is Doing Good Things!

- Tahquitz Creek Parkway Beautification and Trails Plan
- Disaster Preparedness Planning
- Neighborhood Watch
- Office of Neighborhood Involvement
- Neighborhood Planning
- TRENO Website
- Help individuals with issues and concerns
- Represent the Neighborhood in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement