

# Miramonte

Neighborhood Association

Fall 2024 Newsletter

Published for the 2400+ members of the Miramonte Neighborhood Association

## Annual Miramonte Halloween Fun & Parade

- Gather at 4:00 p.m.
- Wear your costume
- Treat bags passed out to first 40 kids
- Candy and goody stations for all



**Saturday, October 26, 2024**  
**Miramonte Park**  
**901 N. Richey Blvd.**

### From the President: Miramonte Park - A Community Asset in Need of Our Care

As many of you know, the City of Tucson, in collaboration with the Miramonte Neighborhood Association, made several upgrades to Miramonte Park in 2022 and 2023. Improvements included new playground equipment, a drinking fountain, and a large sunshade. Other Miramonte residents kindly donated their time and talent to paint the hummingbird mural, recondition the free library boxes, design and post educational bird signage, and host neighborhood gatherings to enhance community engagement and make the park a hub for positive activities.

Despite these improvements, however, we have faced considerable challenges to the park's safety and appeal over the past few

months. Homeless encampments, drug use and paraphernalia, graffiti and vandalism, littering, and unsanitary conditions have become pressing issues.

It's important to point out that anyone is entitled to use the park during the hours it is open, including those who are experiencing homelessness (although camping is prohibited). Of course, activities such as open drug use, threatening behavior, and theft are illegal. If you spot illegal activity at the park – or anywhere in

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### Stay connected – Join Miramonte Neighborhood's email group, MNA-Email!

MNA-Email is an electronic line of communication for the Miramonte Neighborhood Association. It is the best way to stay informed about what is happening in Miramonte and learning how you can be involved!

To subscribe, scan the QR code at right to automatically initiate an email

**OR** simply send an e-mail to:

**Miramonte-neighborhood-association+subscribe@googlegroups.com**

**MNA Email**



**Scan to subscribe**

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Miramonte – please dial 911 for immediate concerns or the City’s new 311 non-emergency number. It is important that if you SEE something, SAY something. While it is unfortunate that Tucson Police can’t always immediately dispatch an officer to every call they get (and they get plenty), they DO track every incident report. The City and TPD are data driven organizations by necessity; the data they accumulate from call-ins and reports are used to allocate additional patrols and resources to combat problem areas. That means, the more calls/reports they receive from us, the better their response.

Homelessness and drug addiction are tough and complex problems, but while local and national governments are addressing larger issues, we can also foster a sense that the park is our park, a community asset to be used and preserved. Regular use of the park can deter undesirable, illegal activities and promote a safer environment. MNA remains committed to bringing our community together by sponsoring park events. In fact, we look forward to seeing many of you at our annual Halloween party and parade on Saturday, October 26th. Meanwhile, walking your dog, hosting a coffee klatch or small gathering, or meeting up at the park for a bicycle ride or group walk are excellent ways to keep Miramonte Park a welcoming space for everyone.



**Reportable problems include:**

- Graffiti
- Damage to park amenities
- Irrigation/water leaks
- Homeless encampments
- Abandoned shopping carts
- Other park issues
- and more...

<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/Residents/311-Service-Request-Portal>

## **Traffic Calming on Camino Miramonte**

The city has completed installation of five chicanes on Camino Miramonte between 2nd Street and 5th Street, which are designed to slow traffic by narrowing the roadway. The city also painted white striping about five feet from the curb on each side of the street to indicate to drivers that area is used by bicyclists and pedestrians.

The chicanes have already had a positive impact, visibly slowing auto traffic on Camino Miramonte. In addition, attractive neighborhood signage has been installed in the northernmost and southernmost chicanes, thanks to the generous donation of a neighborhood resident.

The final step will be landscaping with native and desert-adapted plants, which is expected to be installed by a city contractor by the end of October. Our thanks to former Councilman Steve Kozachik, who was instrumental in making the project happen.

## Alvernon-Fifth Crime Coalition

Do you have concerns about criminal activity near you? If you do, come to the monthly Alvernon-5th Crime Coalition meetings, where you can talk directly with Tucson police. Help prevent crime and improve safety in our neighborhood.

### WHEN:

4th Wednesday every month  
6 p.m.

### WHERE:

Ward 6, 3202 E. 1st Street  
(and via Zoom)

Visit <https://miramontena.org> to verify location.



## Keep Miramonte Beautiful

Just a reminder that, by law, residents and businesses are responsible for clearing weeds and trash from the area in front of their property (all the way to the curb) and in their half of any easement or alley behind the property.



And dog owners – please help out by cleaning up after your pets!

## Recycling Update...or...The Great Orange Bag versus Blue Bin Dilemma

As of July 1, 2024, what's known as "hard to recycle" plastics (those to be deposited in the orange containers at the Ward 6 office and other locations) must be in Hefty® ReNew® orange bags. As of that date, anything added to the bins that is not first bagged in orange is deemed trash and is treated as such by city staff. So, if you are currently placing hard to recycle plastics in the Ward 6 Office orange containers in clear or colored bags — or simply putting stuff in there without it being bagged at all — please stop. Similarly, if you are putting any items other than hard to recycle plastics in those bins, please stop. Too often, it results in legitimate hard to recycle plastics ending up in the landfill rather than being pressed into blocks by ByFusion as intended.

Orange Hefty® ReNew® bags can be purchased at local Walmart, Ace Hardware, Frys, and Bashas locations. They are also available online at Target.com.

Click the QR code at right to download a nifty flyer that you can print and hang on your refrigerator. It lists acceptable orange bag hard to recycle plastics AND acceptable curbside blue bin items on one handy sheet.

### Know before you throw:

- No matter what the bin or bag, all items must be empty, clean, and dry.
- Orange Hefty® bags of hard to recycle items **cannot** go in the curbside blue bins.
- Curbside blue bin recyclables should be tossed *loose* in the bin, **not** within any type of plastic bag.
- If in doubt, throw it out (in your trash bin). If you can't determine if something is recyclable, assume it is not. Aspirational recycling — tossing it in the bin, hoping it might be recycled — does more harm than good in advancing our recycling efforts.

Printable  
recycle flyer



Scan me

## 2024-2025 MNA Board of Directors

**President**-Theresa Webster, **Vice President**-Brenda Kazen, **Treasurer**-Ellen Wheeler, **Secretary**-Dave Meko  
**Board Members**-Ann Baldwin, Ravi Bewtra, Jan Howard, William Kuitert, Anne-Marie Laurian, Betsy Lubis, Morris Palter, Marc Salerno, and Richard Webster

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## Sunny Days Specializes in Cool Tucson Gifts

Located on the second floor of the Rancho Center, Sunny Days Gifts, Décor & More is a brick-and-mortar shared space between RetroTrek and Tucson Handmade. Operated by Dale and Cricket DeNunzio, RetroTrek offers an array of Tucson-themed gifts, many with a mid-1950s retro vibe. Many of the posters and artworks feature Tucson artist and graphic designer Pete Marenfeld's iconic images reflecting the culture, wildlife, and architecture of our Old Pueblo. Other gift items are made by artists from Tucson Handmade, a collective of local makers and small businesses. For more information, visit the store's website at <https://www.sunnydaystucson.com> or stop by the shop at 3400 E. Speedway Blvd., Suite 202. Hours are from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.



## Miramonte Restaurant Still Planning on 2024 Opening

Miramonte is another culinary creation by Deborah Tenino and Nicholas Kreutz, the creators of Contigo and Locale restaurants. The restaurant is still anticipated to open in Rancho Center by the end of 2024 in the corner space across from Whole Foods. Renovations to the space will include outdoor seating using a portion of the current parking area to the west of Whole Foods.