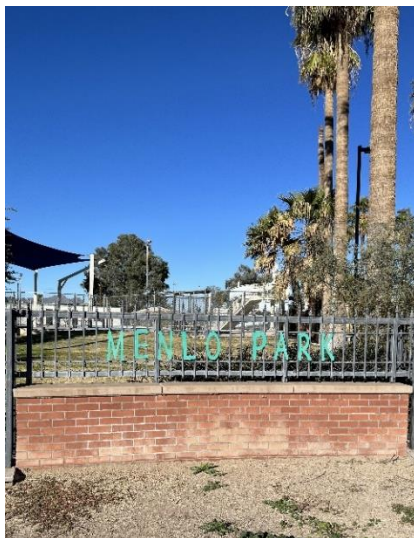




From cover of Current Conditions Report, May 2022, The Planning Center

**MENLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN:** The Menlo Park Neighborhood Plan is alive and well, and the **Neighborhood Plan Steering Committee** continues to meet regularly. With guidance from the City of Tucson and its consultant The Planning Center, the committee is reviewing neighbor input on multiple components of the plan. Neighbors provided this input at a number of events over the past two years, most especially the Open House in 2022. City experts in many fields including historic preservation, affordable housing, and transportation have attended meetings to educate committee members and help them craft a well-informed and effective plan. When this part of the process is complete, a draft of the plan will again be brought to Menlo Park neighbors for review and additional input. Following approval of the draft plan by the Neighborhood Association and final approval by the Board, the Menlo Park Neighborhood Plan will be submitted to the Planning Commission for a public hearing after which the plan will move to the Mayor and Council for another public hearing and approval. The plan will serve as a guide for development and enhancements in the neighborhood. If you would like to know more, please contact committee Chair Wendy Sterner at [wendysterner@gmail.com](mailto:wendysterner@gmail.com).



**PARK CLEAN UP:** On Sunday, December 18, 2023, Celina Soto, Sofia Angkasa, Mamta Popat, Lorenzo Ruiz, and Scot Baglione joined together to clean up our park. The committee meets **every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday morning at 9:00 AM** to pick up trash. These neighbors are posed beneath the newly installed Menlo Park Neighborhood Association Adopt-A-Park sign sponsored by Tucson Clean & Beautiful and the City of Tucson. There is also a newly installed bag holder for pet waste. These bags are replaced with grocery store bags which can be re-used to keep the park clean.



**On January 21, 2024, at 9:00 AM at the park clean up, there will be a celebration of the Adopt-A-Park status. Tucson Clean and Beautiful will provide snacks and volunteer t-shirts.**



**YARD SALE:** Menlo Park Neighborhood Association held a yard sale last year that raised funds for traffic calming, street trees, and community engagement events throughout the year.

You can purchase a table for \$50.00 and keep what you earn through sales. Or, you can donate your goods for volunteers to sell at the Association tables for the Neighborhood.

Drop off early for best chances to sell!

To sign up or volunteer scan the QR Code with your camera phone.

**The Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, January 27, from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM.**



San Juan, 2023



Piñata fun, 2023

**Save the date: Día De San Juan will be held on June 24, 2024, at Mission Garden.**

**DÍA DE SAN JUAN:** Last summer Menlo Park Neighborhood Association participated in the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Día De San Juan at Mission Garden.

June 24<sup>th</sup> is the feast day of San Juan Bautista (St. John the Baptist), patron saint of water. It is believed on that day in 1540 the explorer Francisco Vasquez de Coronado prayed for rain on the banks of the Santa Cruz River, and it indeed rained. The date marked the beginning of the summer rains.

Water from the river in our desert supported the continuous inhabitation of Tucson for over 4,000 years. When the river flowed freely during “the monsoon” season families gathered on the banks, beneath the cottonwood and mesquite trees to celebrate the day.

We start the planning early in the year for the annual June Fiesta so that we will have religious and native blessings, guest speakers, entertainment, and activities for children. Announcements regarding the planning for the Fiesta will be made at the neighborhood meetings. **Please consider volunteering.**



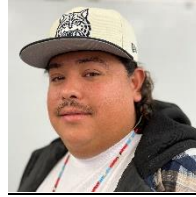
Mariachi Luz de Luna, 2023



Wendy, Liza, and Kylie, 2023



**Kylie Walzak**  
**President**  
-Committees: Neighborhood Plan, Día De San Juan, Park Clean-up, Ad Hoc member of all committees  
-Transportation Policy Advisor for Pima County Board of Supervisors District 2  
-Menlo Park resident for 13 years



**Anthony Nelson**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
-Committees: Menlo Park Neighborhood Plan  
-Self-employed  
-Menlo Park Resident for 36 years



**Laura Dent**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
-Committees: 501c3, Public Art  
-Leader of ACTIVATE 48  
-Menlo Park resident for 6 years



**Liz Martinez**  
**Treasurer**  
-Property Manager  
-Menlo Park resident for 50 years



**Wendy Sterner**  
**Secretary**  
-Committees: Chairperson of the Neighborhood Plan Committee, 501c3, Día De San Juan  
-Office Manager for Pima County Attorney's Office, Victim Services  
-Menlo Park resident for 15 years



**Keren Torres**  
**At-Large, representing Barrio Sin Nombre**  
-Committees: Menlo Park Neighborhood Plan  
-Self-employed  
-Menlo Park resident for 29 years



**Kara Harter**  
**At-Large, representing renters (.5)**  
-Committees: Pedestrian Crosswalks  
-Career history in behavior health  
-Menlo Park resident for 24 years



**Celina Soto**  
**At-Large, representing renters (.5)**  
-Committees: Pedestrian Crosswalks, Park Clean-up  
-Early Childhood Education  
-Menlo Park resident for 18 years



**Mamta Popat**  
**Parliamentarian**  
-Committees: Public Art, Park Clean-up  
-Photographer for Arizona Daily Star  
-Menlo Park Resident for 6 years



**Liza Grant**  
**Newsletter Editor/Historian**  
-Committees: Neighborhood Plan, Public Art, Día De San Juan  
-Case Management for homeless veterans at So. AZ. Veteran Health Care Services  
-Menlo Park resident off & on for 65 years

## **A message from The Board:**

The Menlo Park Neighborhood Association Board seeks “to promote a meaningful and lasting relationship among neighbors and to promote the enhancement of the urban lifestyle found within and between this neighborhood and other neighborhoods.”

To be clear, this current Board did not create that statement, but it is our guiding vision, inherited as written in our Bylaws. This Board strives to create community cohesion and build up trust and kindness within and among our diverse population. We will do this by hosting a variety of events—yard sales, park parties, ice cream socials—to intentionally bring people together to talk and figure out ways to support each other and help solve problems.

We encourage you to get involved and join us for monthly neighborhood association meetings on the 2nd Thursdays and our upcoming events. To get on our email list, please send an email to: [menloparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:menloparktucson@gmail.com).



Planning and Development Services Dept.  
 P.O. Box 27210  
 Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

*"The City of Tucson, its officers and employees, its Planning and Development Services Department and all other offices neither agrees nor disagrees with the views expressed or implied in this communication or any referenced websites and are not therefore responsible. The distribution requester is solely responsible."*



**Find us here:**

**Email:** [menloparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:menloparktucson@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [menloparktucson.org](http://menloparktucson.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/menloparktucson](https://facebook.com/menloparktucson)  
**Instagram:** [@mpna\\_tucson](https://instagram.com/mpna_tucson)

**The Menlo Park Neighborhood Association** meets every second Thursday of the month at 6pm.  
**EMAIL** [menloparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:menloparktucson@gmail.com) to join the neighborhood Email list for minutes of meetings and announcements.

**Menlo Park Clean-Up Committee and Tucson Clean and Beautiful** celebrate the status of the MPNA on Sunday, January 21, 2024, at 9:00 AM. Tucson Clean and Beautiful will provide snacks and volunteer t-shirts.

**The Yard Sale** benefitting the Neighborhood Association, January 27, 2024, 8:00AM to 2:00PM, 901 W. Congress St.

**Tucson Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show** officially begins on January 27 through February 11, 2024. The week before always sees tents and stands along the Freeway Access Road, beside the hotels, and at Mercado San Agustín.

**Mercado San Agustín** hosts the **Zoppé Family Circus** from January 6-21, 2024, from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona sponsors **Santa Cruz Farmers Market** on Thursdays 3:00 -6:00 PM. **Antique and Flea Market** on the 3rd Sunday each month from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

**Mission Garden** at 946 W. Mission Lane ([missiongarden.org](http://missiongarden.org)) is open Wednesday to Saturday 8:00 to 2:00 PM:  
**Docent Training** begins in January. The garden hosts monthly events with **Traditional O’odham Agriculture** on January 20, **Archaeology Day** on January 27, and **Tasting History-Citrus** on February 9.