

## sam hughes neighborhood association

# News on Hughes

Autumn 2008

### ***O'Dowd's Overview . . .***

Crime in our neighborhood has increased. Criminals are bolder and the resources of TPD are strained to the utmost. Recently the TPD commander of Midtown station described the priority system used in dispatching TPD officers. The system is complex but, simply stated, 911 calls are ranked by the nature of the crime and the sufficiency of the details showing that an immediate response will interrupt a crime in progress or will result in an arrest of the perpetrator at or near the scene of the crime. Thus, a caller expecting an immediate response will not always get it if several higher priority calls are awaiting responses.

In addition to requesting an increased response by TPD, the SHNA Board has been encouraging residents to form Neighborhood Watch groups, to phone 911, and to use the SHNA listserve

**(samhughesneighborhood@yahoo.com)**

to exchange information about suspicious activities/persons in the neighborhood. For assistance in forming Neighborhood Watch groups, phone Debbie and Rick Stertz, **Debbiestertz@gotucson.com**.

The issue of the increase of crime in the neighborhood is part of other issues that need to be addressed to preserve the residential quality of the neighborhood:

- Encouraging owner-occupied use within the neighborhood.
- Need for proper maintenance of existing housing.
- Encouraging new development that is compatible with the neighborhood.
- Respecting the cultural history of the neighborhood and the diversity of its residents.

And, above all, we need to maintain the spirit of hospitality and community involvement that is traditional to this neighborhood. One of the programs of SHNA that continues this tradition is **Sam Hughes Cares for Seniors**. The warmth and sociability of the residents who volunteer in this program continue the tradition of hospitality that is this neighborhood's greatest quality.

The crime problem should not create divisiveness when cooperation and mutual assistance is needed. The SHNA Board is open to your suggestions of how we can reduce crime in the neighborhood.

### **Board Members**

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520/325--0379  
Frank Soltys, V.P.  
Carolyn Classen, Secretary  
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John O'Dowd

#### *Traffic/Security*

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#### *Historic Preservation*

Kathi McLaughlin  
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#### *Mackey Project*

Janett Carbajal

#### *Webmaster*

John Wilder

#### *Membership*

Rick Bell

#### *Also:*

Larry Roberts  
Sylvia Mungaray

#### *Co-Editors*

Wallis Downer  
Gail Schuessler

#### *Neighborhood Watch*

Rick & Debbie Stertz  
[Debbiestertz@gotucson.com](mailto:Debbiestertz@gotucson.com)

POB 42931

Tucson 85733-2931

[www.samhughes.org](http://www.samhughes.org)

### ***Board meetings:***

3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. each mo., 7pm  
Himmel Library --  
Everyone Welcome

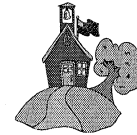




### *Home Tour 2009 . . .*

The popular Sam Hughes Home Tour is scheduled for Sunday, March 15, 2009 from noon to 5:00 p.m. It typically consists of homes, gardens, and places of interest within our one-square-mile boundary. Qualification for being considered: a property of any age (historical, new, remodeled) that would be of interest to the general public. Ticket price is still just \$15 with funds going to support ongoing activities in this historic neighborhood. For further information about the tour or to suggest homes, gardens, or places of interest, contact Denice Blake 323-7891 or [johnnden43@hotmail.com](mailto:johnnden43@hotmail.com).

### *Sam Hughes School News . . .*



There are some new and interesting things happening at Sam Hughes Elementary. We have a new 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher named Mr. Pease and the third kindergarten teacher is Ms. Demento, who is also a Sam Hughes resident. Principal Roseanne DeCesari has announced that this is her last year at the school and will be retiring at the end of the year. Ms. DeCesari has been at the school for 9½ years. She will be greatly missed. You may also have noticed the new speed humps that are around the school. This will help slow down the traffic and keep our children safe. The crossing guard from 3<sup>rd</sup> St. & Tucson Blvd. is no longer there as TUSD felt the traffic light was now sufficient. The local precinct voting will be at Sam Hughes School again this year. The proffered parking is at the south side of the school. The gate will be open there and voters will be directed to the new Talmadge Hall.



### *Sam Hughes Cares for Seniors . . .*

Things are going pretty smoothly. We continue to serve our regular with grocery shopping and yard work, but we also took a few non-regulars for medical appointments and grocery shopping. We added a new recipient last month. Bank account is stable as we've had no expenses of late. Sadly for those of us working on the administrative side of SHCS, Carol Ostrander, our fabulous liaison with the Pima Council on Aging, will be leaving. The steering committee has been enjoying meeting at the Rincon Market. If anyone would like to meet with us, our next meeting will be Tuesday Oct 7 at 7 p.m. ---*Trudy Mills, Coordinator*



### *Elderly Housing . . .*

"Casitas on East Broadway," formerly the Don Mackey car dealership, 2121 E. Broadway, will begin building sometime after the first of the year. The HUD-supported project for the elderly will consist of 62 units and be available to individuals 62 years and older. This unique redevelopment project was born out of a partnership between Tucson Housing foundation and Catholic Community Services. The SHNA Board has worked closely with this project to address neighborhood compatibility issues as well as the needs of our community. This project may be the only one of its kind to meet the LEED certification goals set under the U.S. Green Builders Council.

**▶ Check out *IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION* on page 4**

### ***PROTECTING YOUR HOME, INSIDE . . .***

- Keep all windows and doors locked at all times. Put an extra lock on all windows.
- Install deadbolt locks and metal strikes. A deadbolt lock has a solid metal "bar" that covers the gap between a door and its frame. There are no springs to operate the bolt and when fully engaged, it cannot be pushed back with a credit card or any other flexible "shimming" device. It is important that a reinforcing metal strike plate be used with the deadbolt lock.
- Install metal or hardwood outside doors. Avoid softwood doors and hollow-core doors. Most intruders enter a residence by physically destroying a door or doorframe; strong doors and frames are essential to your security. Steel doors and frames are harder to destroy than simple wooden doors and frames.
- Install a peephole or wide-angle viewing device and use it prior to opening the door. The wide-angle viewing device provides a larger range of view and allows you to see who is lurking outside the door.
- Put a lock or metal bar in the track of a sliding glass door to prevent it from being opened.
- When moving into a new home, change the locks. The previous owner could have made a copy of the key.
- When going out of town, let a neighbor know you will be gone. Use timers for lights and other electrical equipment in the house, such as a radio or TV to give the appearance of someone being home. Stop all deliveries for the times you will be gone and even ask a neighbor to park their vehicle in your driveway.
- Have an audible alarm installed into the home. This alerts neighbors, the alarm company and you that someone is trying to enter your home.

### ***PROTECTING YOUR HOME, OUTSIDE . . .***

- Install motion sensor lights outside or a photoelectric cell. Photoelectric cells screw into a light fixture and will automatically turn on or off based on the lighting levels.
- Dark areas provide a place to suspects to conceal themselves; make sure there is more than adequate lighting outside to diminish the dark areas.
- Make sure all shrubbery is cut back. The shrubbery gives a suspect a place to hide. Maybe consider replacing with bushes that have thorns or stiff, spiky leaves.
- Do not leave a spare key outside of the home, or tools that could help the burglar make entry into your home.
- Good watchdogs are also a good supplement to an alarm system; they become aware of intruders long before humans do and will bark and alert.
- Be cautious of door-to-door salespersons, a person delivering flowers or packages or anyone trying to convince you to open your door. They do not have to step foot into your home and the door being wide open may provide them with enough of a view to determine whether or not you have something worth stealing.

### ***VEHICLE SAFETY . . .***

- Lock your doors! Never leave the doors to the vehicle unlocked, even for a few seconds.
- Never leave the keys in the vehicle or leave the vehicle running and unattended.
- Roll all windows up completely.
- Never hide an extra key in the vehicle. Keep your vehicle keys and house keys on separate rings. Do not place an ID tag on your key ring; it could be used to identify your vehicle.
- Park in your garage, if you have one. If not, back your vehicle in; this helps others to see if a person is tampering with the vehicle.
- Do not leave anything in sight in the vehicle. Nothing! Not even change, people will break into the vehicle for anything!
- Remove the garage door opener from your vehicle if the garage door is operated by a remote control.
- Do not leave valuables in the vehicle. If you do leave any valuables, put them into the trunk and make sure the trunk is locked.
- Park in a well-lit area. This will help protect your vehicle and you.
- Use Anti-Theft Devices. Some examples include hood locks, alarm systems, and fuel and electrical cutoff devices. The use of an anti-theft device is highly recommended, but the device must be used properly to be effective.



Department of Neighborhood Resources  
P.O. Box 27210  
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

# Sam Hughes Neighborhood

## *Important Contact Information . . .*

<b>88 Crime (Report unsolved felony crime info)</b>	<b>882-7463</b>
<b>Animal Control</b>	<b>243-5900</b>
<b>Blue Stake All Utilities</b>	<b>800 782-5348</b>
<b>City Ward VI Council Office</b>	<b>791-4601</b>
<b>Code Enforcement (Weeds, junk cars, etc.)</b>	<b>791-4605</b>
<b>Development Services (Zoning violations)</b>	<b>791-5550</b>
<b>Graffiti Removal &amp; Other City services</b>	<b>792-2489</b>
<b>Household Hazardous Waste</b>	<b>888-6947</b>
<b>Mosquito Abatement (report standing water)</b>	<b>243-7999</b>
<b>My Neighborhood Watch Coordinator (Enter #)</b>	
<b>Non-emergency Police Dept. calls</b>	<b>791-4444</b>
<b>ParkWise (Parking permits and enforcement)</b>	<b>791-5071</b>
<b>Party Noise Complaints ("Red Tag" program)</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>Poison Control</b>	<b>800 222-1222</b>
<b>Recycling Information</b>	<b>791-5000</b>
<b>Street Maintenance (Report potholes, etc.)</b>	<b>791-3154</b>
<b>TPD Community Service Officer (Crime prevention)</b>	<b>837-7428</b>

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