

# The Iditarod Trail Virtual Walk

Great job at completing the Appalachian Trail Virtual Walk everyone! We had some awesome feedback on this walk with people sending us emails to record their miles as though they were *really* on the trail, telling us all about the weather they encountered, the wildlife they saw and the sights they viewed! We also has some great trail names turned in as well! Thank you to everyone who took part.

Now, get out your parkas folks as we tackle the Iditarod Trail! Although the race will be slightly different this year due to Covid, we are going to follow the traditional 1,000 mile route from Willow to Nome, Alaska.

What is the Iditarod? The race was created with two goals in mind: The first was to the get the Iditarod Trail recognized as a historic trail because of its importance in the settlement of Alaska. The second was to promote the continued use of sled dogs, as they were slowly being replaced by snowmobiles and airplanes as methods of transportation. The Iditarod is often thought of as a commemoration of the 1925 run to get the medicine for Diphtheria to the children in Nome, however, for the most part those are two separate routes.

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Get your team prepared....let's head North to Alaska!



#### A Memo from our Park Manager

As it slowly turns to spring, the thoughts of the new life and the change that is upon us runs through my mind. The changing of a season is certainly underway with warming weather, blooming plants, trees and more.

With an already beautiful community garden, I'm excited to see what spring has in store for our little special corner. It will be nothing short of phenomenal I'm sure. It's been incredibly special for me, being a small part of the changes that we've had over the past few years. It's because of the wonderful team, that oftentimes feels more like family than anything, that so much has been able to get done.

From every room, to every corner of the park, this amazing team has made some sort of impact or change for the better. In every department we are so incredibly lucky to have such fun, dedicated and most importantly genuine staff and volunteers. I couldn't have asked for a nicer or better bunch. Please give them your appreciation when you see them, they are why we have such a fun and wonderful community.

It's been nothing short of an honor working with this amazing group. Every day working with them can also promise a smile and a laugh as I'm sure many of you can also attest to.

Just a reminder that even as Covid numbers continue to go down, please stay vigilant and continue to wear a mask. Just because the numbers are going down doesn't mean we can forego these safety practices. Danny O'Leary

### Checkin' In with the Front Office

As we welcome spring back, we do so this year with such bitter sweetness. It has been such a challenging season but we want to send great big virtual hugs to everyone who still helped to make it a memorable one! While we couldn't see all of your smiles, we did imagine them under your masks;). Thanks everyone for the extra care, compassion and patience this year. We are already looking forward to next season, whatever "normal" may look like by then. Don't forget to give us a call before you leave to rebook your sites.

Also, another reminder that the city of Tucson no longer collects glass in the recycle bins. If you would still like to recycle glass, please take it to any of the 21 sites listed on the City of Tucson website. Two locations near us are: Ward 4 Council Office at 8123 E Poinciana Dr and Eastside Police Substaion at 9670 E Golf Links Rd.

Your Front Office Team,

Joanne, Jasmine, Mark and Tamara





### "Acting Up" with the Activity Office

Happy March everyone! We hope this newsletter finds you all well and healthy....and enjoying the beautiful Tucson sunshine. Hasn't this weather been awesome?!

We continue to deliver hot coffee, a treat and a joke to your doors on Wednesday mornings. Make sure to sign up with us on Mondays and we will come out Wednesday morning to fill up your coffee cups.

We have been hosting some great food trucks this month and continue to do so in March with Meatball Madness, Pin-Up Pastries and we welcome back The Curry Pot by special request from numerous residents who loved their Sri Lankan curries last month!

We will also have another golf cart and bicycle parade for St. Patrick's Day and would love to see everyone out wearing their green for a fantastic afternoon around the park. Make sure to come out and wave as we go by if you're not able to be in the parade!

Be safe and well.

Shannon, Sue, Jean and Jennifer



### **Photo Club Photo Show**

March 1 • Coffee/Mail Room

Due to Covid 19, this year's photo show/contest has been cancelled. But with a desire to contribute some color in a year of limited activities, the Photo Club has scheduled a "showing" from March 1-15 in the Mail Room. Members will be exhibiting some of their favorite photos.

Please take some time to view them at your leisure.

Wear a mask and maintain recommended spacing. Enjoy!



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One of the best parts of our jobs in the Activity Office is creating shuttle adventures for all of you! Although we are not able to be on the Rincon Country shuttle, we still would like to give you some ideas for adventures that you can go on independently. This month we are planning day trips for your next adventure. Enjoy and make sure to let us know if you went to any of them and how you liked them.

### Day Trippin' in Southern Arizona

**Benson and Tombstone:** Just over an hour Southeast of Tucson lies the towns of Benson and Tombstone. We found some great little spots to stop and see while visiting these towns. Just before you get to Benson, why not take a trip to Kartchner Caverns State Park. There are trails to hike, and they are offering guided tours with reservations made in advance. Discovered in 1974, these awesome caves are a sight not to miss while in Arizona! After your underground journey, why not head over to Tombstone, the "Town Too Tough to Die." You can hang up your cowboy hat, and dust off your chaps in the numerous saloons, restaurants and shops that line Allen Street - each building having its own story to tell.

**Green Valley:** Directly South of Tucson, Green Valley has a ton to offer for visitors. Make sure to head there on a Wednesday where you can visit their famous Green Valley Farmer's Market. They have all kinds of treats on offer, whether you are buying gifts for friends or treating yourself to a Southwestern treat, you will find something at this awesome market. Green Valley also houses the amazing Titan Missile Museum where you can see the last of the 54 Titan II missile sites that were on alert across the United States from 1963 to 1987.

**Florence:** Let's head North of Tucson to the town of Florence where you can visit one of Arizona's hidden gems, St. Anthony's Greek Monastery. We have taken shuttles to the Monastery for the past few seasons and have had nothing but praises for this awesome and beautiful oasis in the desert. They do have strict dress codes, so please check their website before venturing out. After your peaceful visit to the Monastery, head on over to the Pinal County Historical Museum. The museum hosts exhibits of Native American artifacts, day to day life in early Florence, prison artifacts and an extensive Library of Arizona and the Southwest.

# We recommend that you contact any of the above mentioned attractions before visiting to check on their COVID restrictions.





### **Painting with Karina**

#### March 14 • 2:00 p.m. • \$20 pp

Come out and enjoy painting with the awesome Karina. We will be painting outdoors in the courtyard by the fountain and cannot wait to paint this awesome picture of the Arizona sun and prickly pear flowers.

Not artistic? That's okay! Karina will walk you through making your very own piece that can hang in the Louvre (or maybe just your living room!). This will be an afternoon of fun, friends and painting.

We will all be social distanced and masks are required. Sign up in the Activity Office.



### St. Patrick's Day

### **Golf and Bicycle Parade**

#### March 17 • 2:00 p.m. • Breezeway

Happy St. Patrick's Day folks! We will be rounding up all of the golf carters and bicyclists for our last golf cart parade of the season.

We will be meeting at the Front Office at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17 to head around the park wishing everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day. Make sure to decorate your cart or your bicycle and wear your green so you don't get pinched!

If you aren't able to take part, make sure to be outside to say hello and wave as we pass by!

Masks are required and we encourage those on golf carts to be from the same household.





### **Shuffleboard Milkshakes Delivery**

March 7 • 1:00 p.m. • Delivery Service • \$4

Who doesn't love a good old milkshake? We sure do!

The Shuffleboard club will be delivering milkshakes directly to your door on Sunday, March 7 at 1 PM.

Come to the Activity Office to buy your milkshake tickets for only \$4.00 and support your Shuffleboard club!

### **POST OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Saturday

9:00 - 9:30 AM & 10:00 - 1:00 PM

**Closed Sunday** 



### Farmer's Market & Craft Fair

#### March 9 & 23 • 10:00-1:00 p.m. • Breezeway

We encourage everyone to come down to the Breezeway to check out local artwork, fresh fruits and vegetables, handcrafted jewelry and much more! If you are a resident who would like to host a table at the Craft Fair, please let the Activity Office know. All vendors will be placed outside for social distancing.

### **ACTIVITY OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Tel: 520-296-4651





### **Ben's Bikes of Tucson**

Whether you're an experienced rider or you're just starting out, **Ben's Bikes of Tucson** has the expertise and the wide range of inventory that will ensure you get exactly what you're looking for.

Ben's Bikes will be here for all of your biking repairs, to answer questions and to share their biking knowledge with RCE residents. They will be in front of the Breezeway on the following date: Mar 12 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



\$149 trip charge (plus \$1 per mile over 50 miles) plus parts and labor.



We sure love food trucks here at RCE and we have lined up food trucks this March. All will be here from 12:00 - 2:00 PM outside the Front Office.

Thursday, March 4: Meatball Madness.

Friday, March 12: Pin-Up Pastries and BBQ.

Friday, March 19: The Curry Pot

Come out to support local business and enjoy a day off from cooking!



#### **MEDICARE QUESTIONS**

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Kari Brice Strack, Lisenced Agent

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520.807.7252

s get moving

RCE classes - a great way to keep active, to meet up with friends and stay healthy while being safe!

Masks are required at all classes, classes <u>are limited to 10 people</u> and you will be social distancing during the classes.



### Monday

9:30 a.m. Line Dancing. Breezeway. \$5.00 per session.

12:00 p.m. Stretch, Strength, and Balance with Marci. Breezeway. \$5.00 per session.

## **Tuesday**

1:00 p.m. Strength Class with Dee. Breezeway. \$5.00 per session.

2:30 p.m. Tai Chi with Sue. Breezeway. Free of Charge.

## Wednesday

11:00 a.m. Aqua Zumba. Swimming Pool. \$5.00 per session.

12:00 p.m. Stretch, Strength, and Balance with Marci. Breezeway. \$5.00 per session.

# Friday



11:00 a.m. Aqua Zumba. Swimming Pool. \$5.00 per session.

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