

Stonegate Email News of 12-04-07

Vendor hours

The gate admits vendors Monday through Saturday, 7AM to 4PM, with no further work permitted after 5PM. No vendors on Sundays or holidays. Housecleaners, caterers, child care, home health care and other who work entirely within the home are obvious exceptions, as are serious emergencies such as plumbing and HVAC failures.

Lately we've seen too many vendors seeking admission after 4PM and too many residents claiming emergency status for work that clearly could've been scheduled at a more appropriate hour. Porta-Poodle is not an emergency call, even if little Muffy did roll in the mud.

Party reminders

Holiday party for adults. This Thursday, December 6, 5:30 – 8:30PM
Holiday party for children. This Saturday, December 8, 11AM – 1:30PM.
See last week's Stonegate Email News for details.

Caroling cancelled

The Stonegate Stepping Out group couldn't find enough carolers. Everybody liked the idea. Problem is, nobody wants to sing. Guess that means no *American Idol* auditions either.

Holiday shipping service.

The AIM Mail Center will set up a shipping and mailing center here at the Community Center on **Saturday, December 8, 10AM – 2PM**. The owners are Stonegate residents and they'll ship your gifts via UPS, Fed Ex or USPS, sell you the stamps you need for your cards, and can even do the packaging for you.

Cards for soldiers.

Board Secretary Lori Condon would like to enlist your help for her latest project in support of our soldiers in Iraq. If you have a Christmas card you'd like to share, to show your support for the troops, sign it, address is to "soldier" and drop it off in the basket at the Community Center. You may, if you choose, include a picture of your family and a note, but please do not seal the envelope.

Stonegate Hiking Out

Saturday, January 12, 2008 - A Guided Hike through McDowell Mountain Preserve. Hike through the beautiful McDowell Mountain preserve while learning about our desert surroundings. The hike will be about 2.5 miles or two hours, with mild to gradual

elevations. An experienced guide will discuss Sonoran desert plants and animals along our route.

When: Saturday Morning, January 12, 2007. Meet at 8:30AM at Lost Dog Trail lot.

Where: Lost Dog Trail Lot – Take Shea to 124th St. Turn north, past Via Linda to lot.

What: A guided two-hour nature hike lasting 2.5 hours.

RSVP: Sign up with Ann Fitzpatrick at 480-946-2255.

Garcia Realty Advisors will provide water and trail mix. Wear sturdy shoes. There is a \$6.00 fee per car, so car pooling is economical as well as fun. To find out more about the preserve, try these links:

<http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/mcdowell/>

http://www.fountainhillsguide.com/rec_hike_mcdmtn.html

www.scenicdrive.org/faqpres.htm

The pajama drive ends this Friday

The pajamas and gifts you donate will make the holidays happier for the women and children of the Chrysalis Domestic Violence Shelters. If you don't feel like shopping, a check would be most welcome. Nora can write you a receipt when you bring your donation by.

Stonegate has always been very generous. These women and children who have been through so much will benefit from knowing that people do care. Karen Weston has, for many years, been a Chrysalis supporter. She will deliver Stonegate's contributions to the shelters along with our good wishes for a better year ahead.

A box is set up at the Community Center through December 7 for your donations of new merchandise in these categories:

- Alarm clocks
- Backpacks
- Board games
- CD Walkman
- Cologne/fragrance for men & women
- Craft sets (jewelry, beading, etc.)
- Disposable cameras
- DVDs
- Gift Certificates (Best Buy, Sporting Goods, Old Navy, bookstores, etc.)
- Hand-held battery-operated games
- Harkins Theater certificates
- Make-up kits
- Payless Shoes gift certificates (\$15)
- **Pajamas in all sizes, for infants, boy and girls, up through adult sizes for teens.**
- Purses and wallets
- Remote controlled toys
- Skateboards
- Watches for women
- Wrapping paper