

March 2013

Mission Statement

To facilitate and participate in the development of a vibrant downtown Tucson.

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WICKED



Rio Nuevo

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Note from Rio Nuevo Chair McCusker

I don't know how many of you have been inside the arena lately but as someone recently stated to us, "calling it antiquated is disrespectful to antiques."

Rio Nuevo will improve the seating, lighting, bathrooms and concessions. Working with the City, the escalators and elevators will be replaced to create an event center we can be proud of, and one that will draw popular concerts and events. The sound system is being evaluated as we publish our newsletter.

The arena and a downtown hotel are, and have been, the primary and secondary mission of Rio Nuevo. Somewhere along the way, those priorities were changed and the new Rio Nuevo Board is committed to re-establish our mission.

We are entrusted with State tax dollars and are supposed to invest those wisely; with full transparency and accountability. That is not the history or legacy of Rio Nuevo. We believe with modern technology that is an easy problem to solve.

If you visit our new website, www.rionuevo.org, you will soon be able to track the TCC project and the dollars flowing to the remodel in real time. We expect to approve the project budget in our April meeting.

We welcome your feedback and ideas about the TCC and how it is utilized, how it could be improved, events you might like to see, concession ideas or any other thought about how to improve this venue. Send us an email or call into the New Pueblo radio show, sponsored by the Rio Nuevo District, Sunday afternoons at 104.1 The Truth.

If you are a Rio Nuevo merchant and would like appear on the radio program please contact us.

See you downtown.

Fletcher McCusker,
Rio Nuevo Board Chair

Rio Nuevo highlights merchants on the New Pueblo

This month the Rio Nuevo District launched the New Pueblo radio show on Sunday afternoons on 104.1FM. The show features, developers and merchants within the Rio Nuevo District.



The Arizona statute which created the newly reconstructed Rio Nuevo Board mandates marketing the District and the businesses that comprise its tax base. Rather than create one minute ads that provide little insight into Tucson's development and the merchants who spur that development, the Board opted to continue its commitment to transparency and accountability by taking to the airwaves and opening up the District Board to the public's questions.

Each week downtown developers, merchants and Rio Nuevo Board members visit with the public and take their questions and listen to their concerns through the listener line, (520) 520-751-1041.

This month the New Pueblo has featured restaurateur Travis Reese from 47 Scott, ghost whisperer Eddie Gallego with Tolteca Tlacuilo of the Old Town Artisans, Rick Collins from the Presidio, and Board members Fletcher McCusker, Cody Ritchie, and Alberto Moore.

Join us every Sunday on 104.1FM and learn about the offerings of merchants across the District!

Did you know? The benefits of TIF districts....

Rio Nuevo is a TIF district. TIF districts create short and long term benefits for communities. Rio Nuevo TIF benefits include:

- **Increased property values**
- **Private investment and development**
- **New jobs**
- **Stronger economic base**
- **Locally controlled development with State oversight**

Old Town Artisans – The True Historic Tucson Experience

Located in the El Presidio Historic District is the little city block of Old Town Artisans. The 150 year old adobe buildings have 6 distinctive shops and galleries which feature fine arts and crafts from hundreds of local and regional artists.

The Spanish-style courtyard and patio offer a relaxing place to enjoy lunch or a beverage from the cantina amidst regional plants and trees. The restaurant also has indoor seating in the converted 1920's gasoline station and Mexican cantina.



Old Town Artisans is located on the site of El Presidio San Augustin del Tucson, the fort built by the Spanish in 1775. The block was the stables area, and the north wall is the location of the fort's north wall from which Apache attacks were repelled. Construction of the adobe buildings was begun in the 1850's.

The 1882 Tucson Directory lists a variety of early residents, including assayers, clerks, a ladies' nurse and a grocery store. In 1888 Julius Goldbaum, a liquor merchant, bought the property for use as a distillery and his family's residence.

Stroll through the shops and you will see original ceilings made of saguaro cactus ribs, packing crates, and whiskey barrel staves with remnants of imported wallpaper and gold-leaf moldings

Shops

Monday - Saturday 9:30am to 5:30pm

Sunday 11am to 5pm

Monday - Saturday 10am to 4pm

Sunday 11am to 4pm

La Cocina Restaurant

Tuesday - Saturday 8am to 10pm

Sunday & Monday 9am to 3pm



On Broadway and around the world, WICKED has worked its magic on critics and audiences alike. Winner of 35 major awards, including a Grammy and three Tony Awards, WICKED is “Broadway’s biggest blockbuster” and “the defining musical of the decade” (The New York Times).

Broadway in Tucson’s debut season opened in September 2004 with the Arizona premiere of Movin’ Out. And since that first season, Broadway in Tucson has brought more than 425,000 Southern Arizonans to downtown Tucson again, with crowd-pleasing events like Chicago, Evita, Riverdance, Avenue Q, Mamma Mia! and Disney’s High School Musical.

In 2006, Broadway in Tucson broke box office records with six wildly successful weeks of performances of Disney’s The Lion King. More than 83,000 people attended performances downtown at the Tucson Music Hall, making The Lion King the most well-attended, longest-running production in Tucson theatre history! In 2010, Broadway in Tucson partnered with UApresents for a three-week, sold out engagement of the blockbuster musical Wicked at UA Centennial Hall.

**The Rio Nuevo District Board wants to hear
from you!**

Please contact us at:

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