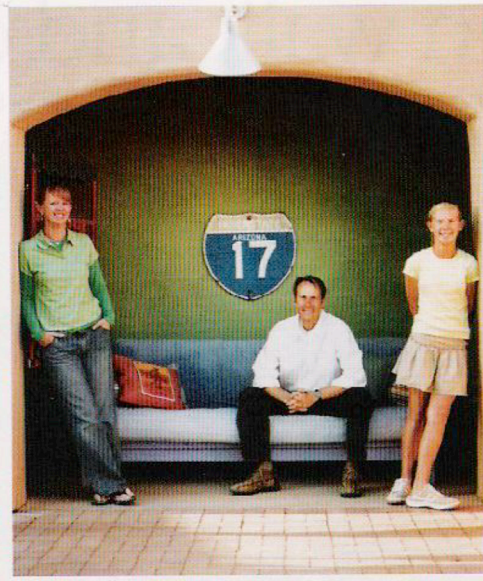


■ **HANGOUTS** The best hangout is actually a roundabout—the extensive walking and bike path circling Civano—but there's also the schoolyard where kids congregate, two solar-heated pools, and a productive but laid-back community vegetable garden. And you might stand in line at Los Pijos, a cart selling Mexican hot dogs: wieners wrapped in bacon, snuggled in a bun, and loaded with refried beans, salsa, tomato, guacamole, cheese, and grilled onions.

■ **THAT EXTRA SOMETHING** Nearly every yard has native and drought-tolerant plants set in sand-colored gravel much like the surrounding desert hardpan. Front yards are gardened right to the street, so neighbors out for a walk can enjoy flowers, tangled vines, cacti, Kokopelli statues, the trickle of fountain water, or a bright purple gate.

■ **JUST A SHORT DRIVE** In six minutes by car, not all that much longer by bike, Civanoans can be in Saguaro National Park, beneath the Rincon Mountains just north of the neighborhood. Easy trails climb into a Sonoran Desert landscape of ocotillo, cholla, and, of course, the tall saquaro cacti, arms raised like green candelabra. ■



**THE CALHOUN FAMILY: DEIRDRE, SCOTT, AND DAUGHTER ZOË**

## MEET THE NEIGHBORS

■ **Scott and Deirdre Calhoun** live in Civano with their 13-year-old daughter, Zoë. Scott runs a garden design business, Zona Gardens, while Deirdre, formerly in the software business, teaches at the Civano school.

■ **Their cottage** Scott and Deirdre built their 1,580-square-foot adobe abode. The 14-inch-thick mud-brick walls keep the house cool in summer, warm in winter. The Calhouns open the windows at night—what Scott calls “old-fashioned Arizona air-conditioning.” In scorching June and July, they turn on an AC unit, but even then their bill is a skimpy \$75 a month.

■ **What they love about the neighborhood** Scott likes “knowing my neighbors across the way.” It helps that the “way” is a shared swath of penstemon, brittlebush, and other native Sonoran Desert plants. Deirdre loves that Zoë can take ballet and piano lessons without needing to be driven anywhere, and Zoë likes that her whole family can walk or bike to work or school.

■ **Where you'd likely find them** When they're not sitting under the backyard wire-mesh ramada by the pomegranate tree, the Calhouns frequent the community vegetable garden and nearby park, where they're sure to show up on Sundays for the farmers' market.

■ **Features:** Easy-care concrete floors, stucco over frame construction, breakfast nook, extra insulation, solar hot water, low-e windows. Visit [tucsonproperties.net/subdivision/Civano%20I.htm](http://tucsonproperties.net/subdivision/Civano%20I.htm) for current listings.

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