



North Park Central Neighborhood Association

APRIL 2008

Our goal is to work together as a friendly community to maintain and improve the appearance, safety, and property value of our neighborhood, thereby creating a better place to live, grow, and raise our children

Intruder on Amelia Caught at Post Office – On the evening of Wednesday, April 2, during the late night news cast residents were interrupted by the sound of police sirens and helicopters. A man broke in to a house on Amelia using the owner's own ladder to climb into the back yard. Luckily the woman at the house was smart and strong enough to wedge her body between the bed and the door and he could not get into her room. He then fled the scene and Police brought out the K-9 units and searched through the neighborhood. An e-mail alert was sent out to North Park Central Neighborhood residents via our e-mail alert system and residents were asked to stay inside so that the dogs could do their job. The man was apprehended around 10:30 p.m. at the Post Office just across 7th Avenue.

The weather is great outside and we tend to leave doors and windows open. There are many ways to secure windows and doors preventing easy access for criminals. Also unsecured sheds make easy hiding places for unwanted guests.

This is exactly why we have our e-mail alert. We need to watch out for each other and it is just one of many reasons why we have a Neighborhood Association so that we can share this type of information with each other. This is also a good time to tell you that we need more participation on our neighborhood board.

If you have internet access and are not yet on our e-mail alert list, join the more than 75 households that rely on this information. Also, if you are already on the alert list and something is happening in your part of the neighborhood, let us know so that we can e-mail our residents.

To sign up, just send an e-mail to Mail@NPCNA.com and let us know.

No Solicitors Please... I don't do business at the door. – If you are like many residents, you do not want to be bothered by people knocking on your door trying to sell something, wanting to fix something on your house or asking you for money.

Last Wednesday, April 2nd, a man was knocking on doors in the neighborhood soliciting for something and asking for money. Later that afternoon, police stopped the man, talked to him for a long time and then took his "folder" and let him go.

It is very easy for someone like this to trick us, scam us or try and gain entry into your house. It is a sign of the times that we can not trust people who knock on our door. To eliminate this, I simply do not do business at the door. If I want to buy a magazine, I go buy it, or order it. If I need my roof fixed, or house painted, I find a reputable person and hire them. If I want to join a church or give to a charity, I find and decide who to donate to. I do not wait at home for some

person, who I do not know to knock on my door and tell me he can fix my roof cheap, sell me a magazine cheap, or ask for money to keep a kid off the street to go to camp.

I simply say "I do not do business at the door, thank you." I then close the door. This way I won't get swindled or become a victim in some way. It is very effective....give it a try sometime.

Two Historic and Resource websites about Chris-Town Mall and Arizona Museums and other cultural institutions. Chris-Town Mall opened on August 24, 1961. Many of you who live here will remember the photos and shops that occupied the mall when it was first built. www.barbarastew-art.com/christown.html It is a great look back at Chris-Town mall with many great pictures and a history to go with it. I wished we had something like that for Park Central Mall when it was first built.

Kelly Lambert, one of our residents and Phoenix College Librarian, let us know of another great link. It is an online source for many archives, museums and other cultural institutions in Arizona. Check it out at: http://azmemory.lib.az.us/cdm4/colln_dir.php. The Arizona Memory Project is hosted and maintained by the Arizona State Library. This is a work in progress but already has a ton of content. There is a small section for Phoenix College as well. "The Arizona Memory Project is an online effort to provide access to the wealth of primary sources in Arizona libraries, archives, museums and other cultural institutions. This initiative provides the opportunity to view some of the best examples of government documents, photographs, maps, and objects that chronicle Arizona's past and present," says Kelly.

If other residents have informative links that they would like to share, send them to mail@NPCNA.com

Are You at Risk? St. Joseph's Offering Cancer Genetic Risk Assessments - The Comprehensive Cancer Center at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center is offering genetic risk assessments to Valley residents who have cancer or a family history of cancer. The initial consultation is free and a physician referral is not required. The risk assessments currently focus on breast, ovarian, colorectal and melanoma cancers. Participants meet privately with a genetic assessment nurse at St. Joseph's for a consultation to review their family history of cancer. Genetic testing education is provided and recommendations are discussed. If genetic testing is recommended, participants will undergo a comprehensive blood test that is covered by most insurance companies. To schedule a genetic risk assessment consultation at St. Joseph's Comprehensive Cancer Center, call 602-406-6621.

Foreclosure Information – Foreclosure rates are high in Arizona and across the country. Many Arizonans have family or friends in fear of losing their homes. A feeling of powerlessness is common among these homeowners, who may feel there's nothing they can do if they start to fall behind on their mortgages. If you or someone you know is in this situation, please take a minute to learn about steps that can be taken.

First and most importantly, **people falling behind should call their mortgage lender** to talk to them about possible options. Many borrowers are afraid to call their mortgage lenders

when they start falling behind. They shouldn't be. Calling one's mortgage lender is probably the most important step a borrower in trouble can take to help avoid losing a home to foreclosure.

Most lenders would rather re-negotiate a mortgage to find a fixed rate that allows a borrower to pay what he or she owes, rather than force a borrower into foreclosure. This way, the mortgage lender continues to be paid, and the homeowner stays in his or her home. We have seen a high success rate when borrowers take the initiative and call their lenders – so it's important that those falling behind take this critical step.

There is some other help available to borrowers falling behind. There are credit counselors at the HOPE NOW program who are available through the hotline at **1-888-995-4673**. These credit counselors can talk to homeowners about their situation and their options.

Of course, people who take these routes will still have to pay their mortgages. But they may be able to find help in keeping their mortgage rates affordable, and therefore keeping their homes.

This information comes from the Governor's office. If you have questions or need help, call the Governor's Office of Constituents Services at 602-542-1318. Information on HOPE NOW is available at www.hopenow.com.

West Nile Virus Hits Early - The West Nile Virus already been confirmed for this year. The victim, a man in his 60s from the southeast Valley. This is an early warning for everyone to not let pools go stagnant or allow water to stand where mosquitoes can breed. The West Nile Virus is transmitted to humans through bites from infected mosquitoes. Symptoms for West Nile Virus include headache, fever, chills, body aches, nausea, vomiting, swollen lymph glands and skin rashes.

Movie Under the Stars at Steele Indian School Park

The 2007 schedule for Moonlight Movies in the Park is as follows:

Friday, April 13 - All About Eve --- Saturday, May 19 - Napoleon Dynamite Saturday, June 16 - The Goonies --- Saturday, September 22 - Jurassic Park Saturday, October 27 - It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown and Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Block Watch Grant For the third time, the Neighborhood Association has applied for a Block Watch Grant. We were successful in writing and receiving two grants so far. In 2005 we applied for a Block Watch Grant on our own and in 2007 we coupled with Squaw Peak Police Precinct. This year we are applying for grant money to extend our dusk-to dawn alley lights, help pay the maintenance agreement for the copy machine that we and 17 other neighborhoods use to print our newsletters, funds for a bulk supply of copy paper for all 18 neighborhoods to use for newsletters and flyers and to pay for our website. Also in this grant we are applying for funds for a laptop computer, software and computer classes. It is our hope to increase the board membership and to send 1-2 board members to web design classes to help with the update and maintenance of our website. We will be notified this spring if our grant request will be approved. At that time, we are looking to increase our board membership and to send someone to computer classes. If this is something that you are interested in and would like to attend a college computer class, please call a board member and let us know.

School News – Encanto and Clarendon will hold a joint Spring Fling on Friday, April 18 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. North Park Central Neighborhood residents are welcome to join them for an evening of fun.

Many Houses in the Neighborhood For Sale

There is some movement in home sales for North Park Central. Six houses dropped their prices this month. Two homes went into pending status, one reverted to a rental and one home sold.

Address	SqFt	Bed/Bath	List Price	Sale Price	Price per SqFt
825 W. Mitchell Dr.	1,110	3/1	\$224,900	Active	\$202.61
840 W. Whitton Ave.	1,641	4/2	\$244,000	Active	\$148.69
1012 W. Weldon Ave.	1,777	3/1.75	\$224,900	Active	\$126.56
842 W. Clarendon Ave.	1,162	3/1.75	\$215,000	Pending	\$185.03
1001 W. Clarendon Ave.	1,840	3/2	\$218,997	Active	\$119.02
1008 W. Clarendon Ave.	1,436	3/1	\$185,000	Active	\$128.83
817 W. Indianola Ave.	1,178	4/1.75	\$200,000	Active	\$169.78
847 W. Indianola Ave.	1,271	3/1.75	\$235,000	\$224,000	\$176.24
822 W. Indianola Ave.	1,622	4/2	\$299,900	Active	\$184.90
812 W. Fairmount Ave.	1,570	3/2	\$210,000	Rental	\$133.76
832 W. Fairmount Ave.	1,223	3/2	\$219,000	Sold	\$179.07
848 W. Fairmount Ave.	2,075	4/2	\$192,910	Pending	\$92.97
3615 N. 8th Ave.	1,506	3/2	\$209,500	Active	\$139.11
3635 N. 8th Ave.	1,088	3/1	\$210,000	Active	\$193.01
3837 N. 8th Ave.	1,600	5/2	\$179,000	Active	\$111.88
3441 N. 8th Ave.	1,185	3/1.5	\$229,000	Active	\$193.25

If you want to see pictures and expanding listing information, send an e-mail to mail@NPCNA.com and ask to be added to the home sales e-mail list to receive the “Buyers Page” courtesy of Realtor Juan Medina at *HomeSmart*, 602-430-6895. All e-mail addresses will be kept confidential and are not given to any realtor.

Contact Information

North Park Central Neighborhood Association

Board Members

Nancy Joplin – Acting President (602) 367-4480
 Nancy Joplin – Information Officer (602) 367-4480
 Erica Hoekstra – Secretary/Treasurer (602) 277-3905
 Barbara Herren (602) 279-3635
 Helen Kennelly (602) 274-4483
 Rosemarie Lewis (602) 265-9887

Thank you to Neighborhood Services for printing costs. Your support is appreciated!

Check out our new website at
www.NPCNA.com

To contact any board member, send an e-mail to: Mail@NPCNA.com .

Like to paint? We are looking for volunteers to help remove graffiti in our neighborhood.

Community Phone Numbers

City of Phoenix Administration Services	(602) 534-5033
Graffiti Busters hotline	(602) 495-7014
Graffiti Detective reward hotline	(602) 262-7327
Report property blight violations	(602) 262-7844
	<i>blight@phoenix.gov</i>
Grocery Cart Removal	(800) 843-2278
Illegal Signs	(602) 534-7100
Landlord/Tenant Counseling	(602) 262-7210
General Information, city	(602) 534-6262
Police Crime Stop	(602) 262-6151
To report a crime in progress	9-1-1
Dave Chambers, Police Comm. Action Officer	(602) 534-2637
Tom Simplot, District 4 City Councilman	(602) 262-7447
Ken Chevront, District 15 State Senator	(602) 926-5325
City of Phoenix Water Services	(602) 262-6251
Arizona Public Service	(602) 371-7171
Southwest Gas	(602) 862-1999
Cox Communications	(623) 594-1000
City of Phoenix Sewer Dept.	(602) 262-6222