



North Park Central Neighborhood Association

December 2006

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



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

We wish you all a heartwarming season of joy. As another year will shortly be a memory, our heartfelt appreciation goes out to all of you who have taken the time and trouble to support the neighborhood association and block watch. Thank you for making our neighborhood safe, blessed, and wealthy with good neighbors and friends.

Special thanks go out to all the board members and newsletter deliver volunteers. Without your countless hours of support, we would not be able to accomplish all the great things that we have throughout the years.

Extra thanks to the City of Phoenix and Neighborhood Services for supporting our endeavors. Many thanks to Phoenix College and the Alumni for partnering with us on the Wall Project. Thanks to Osborn School District for writing letters of support and for both Encanto and Clarendon Schools their continued support.

The Great Wall Project

The project continues, but in the mean time we will be seeing some progress. At last weeks meeting Tom Simplot brought news of the City's proposed plan to work on the sidewalks, entrances and to find and repair the old waterlines that support the trees along the sidewalk. Neighborhood Services is also going to paint the existing wall.

There has been much discussion on the complications of the logistics of the wall. Grants and funding resources depend greatly upon where the wall is situated. Whatever the result, it would have to be agreed upon by 100% of all the homeowners along 7th Ave. As you can see, a simple project of building an eight foot wall to protect and define our neighborhood can get complicated very fast. If you live along 7th Ave. and have any questions or suggestions, please call Dennis at 602-279-5674. This will require support and participation of every homeowner along 7th Ave. for this project to continue. We will be setting up meetings and discussion to move forward.

In the mean time, there was also discussion about bring some awareness and energy along the wall in the way of First Fridays. Linking the Melrose neighborhood to Phoenix College and then on to downtown. The group brainstormed and residents Scott and Rosemary Lewis came up with a catchy phrase, "The 7th Avenue Stretch." Local artist Joe Willie Smith who attended last weeks meeting agreed to use the phrase and design a logo and to meet with other local artists to see if there is any interest in hanging their work along 7th Ave. on First Fridays.

In regards to the theme for the Wall Project with artist Eric Fischl, most residents agree that as long as the theme represents our neighborhood and is in good taste, they would be happy. So, looking at the first meeting's information that residents provided and combining our neighborhood's history of being the dairy farm fields between the density of the city and the desert, I am going to propose a theme "The Desert Meets the City." This theme encompasses nature, the desert, animals, our history, desert landscaping, urban evolution, old meets new and Phoenix growth. It blends the old with the new. Imagine the desert animal and wild horses rushing together racing towards a growing city. If you are in agreement, we can move forward. If not, call a board member and let them know your suggestions by January 15.

Our next step is to take the proposed theme and get individuals interpretation of what that means to them. We will be setting up focus group interviews and filming of 1-3 individuals at a time to get their thoughts on what "The Desert Meets the City" means to them.

Neighborhood Alert

A home in the 800 block of Mitchell Drive was recently burglarized. It happened during the day between the hours of 10am to noon. If you see any suspicious activity, please call the police at crime stoppers 262-6151. Better to be safe than sorry! If you see a crime being committed, call 911 immediately!

Community Action Officer Dave Chambers was called about the growing number of transients living in the alley behind Amelia Ave. Patrols came out and disbursed 12 people living in the alley and arrested 2. If you see transients sleeping/camping or just hanging out in the alley way, call crime stoppers at 262-6151 to report it. This is a growing problem that we would like to stop.

Also, if you have been a victim of a crime or attempted crime, regardless of how small, please report it. The police are tracking criminal activity and you are their link to what is happening in our neighborhood.

It is very important for our neighborhood to watch out for each other. It is especially important during the holidays. Sometimes it is easy to get caught up in our own worlds. It is also the time were we like to think better of people and tend to let our guard down.

School News (call *Rosi Mackey at Clarendon School 602-707-2200 for more information.*)

Winter Break - A reminder to parents that the last day of school before winter break is Thursday, December 21, 2006. There is no school on Friday, December 22, 2006. School resumes on Monday, January 8, 2007.

Food Drive - The annual Clarendon Cougar canned food drive for St. Mary's Food Bank began Monday December 4th, 2006. In the past Clarendon has donated over 1000 cans of food for people who would have not eaten. Each can provides one meal for someone who would not have eaten that day, week, or ?? Student Council would like to exceed last year's goal. They would like to collect over 1200 cans for St. Mary's Food Bank. They will conclude the canned food drive on December 21st, 2006.

State Tax Credit - Arizona Law now allows Arizona State income tax payers (parents and non-parents) who are filing jointly to donate up to \$400 (\$200 filing singly) to a public school of their choice and receive a state tax credit. Single taxpayers may also file for up to \$200. See insert for more information.

This money is used for Clarendon School to support extra curricular/after school programs to enhance education such as: Music/art programs, field trips, sport activities and after school educational activities.

Please send or bring checks no later than December 31, 2006 to take advantage of this on your 2006 tax return. Checks are made payable to "OSBORN SCHOOL DISTRICT"

Send to: Osborn School District, 1226 W Osborn Road, Phoenix, AZ 85013

Clarendon School Music - In late October, 4th and 5th grade classes were visited and introduced to the violin by Scott Tran. Mr. Tran holds a BA in violin performance from ASU, and has been pursuing his serious interest in violin pedagogy in the greater Phoenix area. He was game to test the appetite of Clarendon students for real work – and 30 of them jumped to the challenge. Two classes have been organized on Wednesday afternoons through the remainder of the school year. Violins are being rounded up and refurbished to replace the "imaginary" instruments of the first few lessons, so prepare to hear some amazing new sounds soon!

This would be a great chance to donate money or instruments to Clarendon School to provide the lifetime chance to learn to play an instrument with the violin instructor or the band instructor. Any useable instruments would be welcome.

Passport Requirement Change for Travelers to Mexico

The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 requires that by January 1, 2008, travelers to and from the Caribbean, Bermuda, Panama, Mexico and Canada have a passport or other secure, accepted document to enter or re-enter the United States. In order to facilitate the implementation of this requirement, the Administration is proposing to complete it in phases following a proposed timeline, which will be published in the Federal Register in the near future.



In the proposed implementation plan, which is subject to a period of initial public comment, the Initiative will be rolled out in phases, providing as much advance notice as possible to the affected public to enable them to meet the terms of the new guidelines. The proposed timeline will be as follows:

- **January 8, 2007, ALL persons, including U.S. citizens, traveling by air between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda will be required to present a valid passport, Air NEXUS card, or U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Document.**
- **January 1, 2008, ALL persons, including U.S. citizens, traveling between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda by land or sea (including ferries), may be required to present a valid passport or other documents as determined by the Department of Homeland Security. While recent legislative changes permit a later deadline, the Departments of State and Homeland Security are working to meet all requirements as soon as possible. Ample advance notice will be provided to enable the public to obtain passports or passport cards for land/sea entries.**

This is a change from prior travel requirements and will affect all United States citizens entering the United States from countries within the Western Hemisphere who do not currently possess valid passports. This new requirement will also affect certain foreign nationals who currently are not required to present a passport to travel to the United States. Most Canadian citizens, citizens of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda, and to a lesser degree, Mexican citizens will be affected by the implementation of this requirement.

To get information about how to get a passport, renew a passport and other facts, go to: www.travel.state.gov/passport

Home Sales information will resume in the next newsletter.

To see updates, pictures and current prices on the web of these homes, join our e-mail list and you will be sent the “Buyers Page” and “CMA Page” which is comparable market analysis courtesy of Realtor Juan Medina at *HomeSmart*, 602-430-6895. Send an e-mail to mail@npcna.com and ask to be added to the home sales e-mail list. All e-mail addresses will be kept confidential.

Contact Information

North Park Central Neighborhood Association

Board Members

Dennis Newcombe – President	(602) 279-5674
Nancy Joplin – Information Officer	(602) 367-4480
Erica Hoekstra – Secretary/Treasurer	(602) 277-3905
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Thank you to Neighborhood Services for printing costs. Your support is appreciated!

Do you want to be notified about breaking neighborhood news that affects you?

If so, please send an email to Mail@NPCNA.com and be added to our distribution list. Your email address will only be used for notification purposes.

Community Phone Numbers

City of Phoenix Administration Services	(602) 534-5033
Graffiti Busters hotline	(602) 495-7014
Graffiti Detective reward hotline	(602) 262-7327
Property blight violations	(602) 262-7844
	blight@phoenix.gov
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