



North Park Central Neighborhood Association

JANUARY 2008 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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

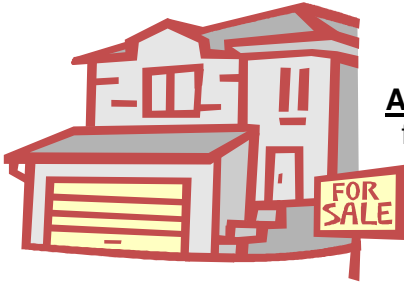
Goodbye 2007...Hello 2008...Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great holiday season and ready to welcome 2008! There is a feeling of excitement when the New Year greets you. There is a promise that you can become better and make a difference in your life and your family's lives. Volunteering is a great way to improve your life, your community and volunteering in your neighborhood can directly improve your surroundings. We are in need of people willing to make a difference. Willing to step forward, willing to leap beyond complaining about the neighborhood to doing something to improve it. I recently talked to a resident that was holding a 20 year grudge against their neighbor. In doing so, they also held a 20 year grudge against the Neighborhood Association. I thought to myself, what a waste of energy to hold on to such anger. What a missed opportunity to make your surroundings better. I cannot speak for past leadership, but this leadership and group of volunteers are working to improve our neighborhood. We are looking for ways to bring in services where they are needed. We work hard to remove crime. In 2007, we had two drug and prostitution houses on Amelia Ave. that brought an abundance of crime into the neighborhood. The Association with the help of neighbors, Police and Neighborhood Services worked very hard for months implementing criminal abatement on the two properties which lead to removing the criminals. While this happened behind the scenes to some residents, to many neighbors, this affected every minute of their day. The entire neighborhood benefited when these criminals were removed. We continue to bring new programs and services to light by featuring them in our monthly newsletter. We have a neighborhood website at www.NPCNA.com where residents can review the neighborhood history and read past newsletters on line. Our neighborhood e-mail alert system has grown to over 50 households and had directly aided police tracking crime trends and chasing criminals through our neighborhood. Our volunteer board members meet monthly to tackle issues that affect our neighborhood. Our newsletter delivery volunteers bring this newsletter to your door every month. The key here is that volunteers make all of this happen. Please join me in giving thanks to each and every one of them who contribute to our neighborhood.



It is by working together as a unified neighborhood that we have strength. We are a neighborhood that needs more of its residents to stand up and volunteer. We need you! Call any board member if you are interested in volunteering or attending our monthly meetings and volunteering. Don't stand on the sidelines and hope that others will volunteer. If you want more services from your Association, we need more volunteers.

Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market The corner of 7th Ave. and Indian School Road look much different since the demolition of the corner bar and strip mall making way for this new grocery store. To check out some Phoenix locations, a picture of the store, and career opportunities, visit www.freshandeasy.com.

Motoring Through Time at Heritage and Science Park The Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department invites the public to take a step back in time and enjoy a piece of history while viewing beautifully restored historic vehicles from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2 at Heritage and Science Park. Visitors will marvel at these automotive jewels and vintage travel trailers at this free event staged in the perfect setting – Historic Heritage Square. Visit <http://phoenix.gov/newsrel/3112hersqr.html> for more information.



Avoid Foreclosure – call FHA If you're a homeowner worried about foreclosure, you may want to contact the Federal Housing Administration and ask about FHASecure. FHASecure is a refinancing option that gives credit-worthy homeowners, who are making timely mortgage payments before their adjustable rate mortgage (ARM) loans reset but are now in default, a second chance with an FHA-insured loan product. To qualify, homeowners must have a non-FHA insured ARM that has reset, have sufficient income to make the mortgage payments and have a history of on-time mortgage payments before the loan resets. By refinancing into an FHA-insured mortgage, you can expect to pay lower mortgage payments. For more information, call 1-800-225-5342. You can also review information by logging onto faq.fha.gov.

Program Offers Grants to Those Behind on Mortgage Payments There is a glimmer of hope for some people who are struggling to catch up with their house payment. There is a new program by Money Management International that is offering grants of up to \$5,000 to help people bring their mortgage current. The program is called PHASES. It stands for Preserving Homeownership and Savings Education Strategy. It's designated to help people who have faced a temporary financial setback get on their feet again. It is open to people who are at least one month behind on their mortgage but not more than two months. That means it won't be helpful to people who are facing foreclosure. Qualifiers have to prove that once the delinquent house payments are brought current, that they'll be able to make their next payment and they will also have to go through 12 months of debt and credit counseling. At the end they'll hopefully see how their credit score has improved. For questions and to apply call 1-888-589-6959. One word of warning. As soon as scammers hear about this, they're going to start calling people pretending to be a part of this program. The real program will not charge fees and they won't call you first.

Renters Become a Homeowner The "Home In 5" mortgage revenue bond program offered by the Industrial Development authorities of the City of Phoenix and Maricopa County is turning renters into homeowners by providing competitive mortgage loan interest rates and down payment assistance grants. The program has more than \$400 million available for first-time homebuyers throughout Maricopa County with special incentives for purchases made in targeted areas in Phoenix. Homeowners who purchase within the targeted areas receive a competitive 30-year fixed mortgage interest rate with a **6% non-repayable grant for down payment and closing costs** assistance. To qualify for the program, homebuyers cannot have owned a home in the past 3 years and must meet program income limits. Veterans and homebuyers purchasing in the priority lending or targeted areas are exempt from the first-time homebuyers requirements. For more info call the Phoenix IDA Bond Program Hotline at 602-262-6602 or the Maricopa County IDA Mortgage Loan Line at 602-506-7294.

St. Joseph's Hospital Community Update

Need a physician? A family physician is a doctor who specializes in the health of the entire family. Family physicians provide preventive care, acute care and ongoing care for people of all ages from newborns to the elderly. Call 602-406-3153 if you are looking for a physician.

St. Joe's offers childbirth classes for expectant parents. The classes focus on the stages of labor, relaxation tips and caring for newborns. Cost is \$90 and pre-registration is required. Call 1-877-602-4111 for upcoming date.

ResourceLink for physician referrals Subspecialty care is available at Barrow Neurological Institute, Heart & Lung Institute, all pediatric subspecialties and selected oncology services. Call the ResourceLink at 1-877-264-4362.

Free nutrition education for residents with cancer The comprehensive cancer center at St. Joe's is offering outpatient nutrition education for residents with cancer. Participation is free and a physician referral is not required. You will meet privately with an outpatient oncology dietitian to develop a nutritional plan based on your form of cancer, dietary habits and treatment plan. The dietitian offers patients information about weight management and helps maintain good nutrition during cancer treatment. Call 602-406-6621 to schedule a nutritional consultation.

Underage Drinking Hotline 1-877-NOT-LEGL 1-877-668-5345

Now you can confidentially report the possible sale or consumption of alcohol that involves people who are less than 21 years of age. Provide the business name (when applicable), street address, and a brief description of your concern when you call. The Department of Liquor Licenses and Control will follow up quickly. Thank you for taking this step to stop underage drinking.

Sex Offender Listing www.azsexoffender.com There are **10 sex offenders in 85013 and 90 sex offenders** in surrounding zip codes. To see a complete list with pictures, visit the website above. The Association was notified of two new sex offenders near our area. These are individuals who have been convicted of a sex offence and the community needs to be notified. They are not wanted by the Phoenix Police Department at this time. These notifications are not intended to increase fear; rather, it is to inform our residents. Both offenders are level 2 and have relocated nearby.

James A. Schutzius, 351 E. Thomas Rd., #D208, Phoenix, AZ 85012. He is 29, 6'1", 175 pounds, brown hair and blue eyes. Mr. Schutzius was convicted in 2004 of sexual conduct with a minor. He was sentenced to one and a half years in prison.

Jesus Rico, 1831 W. Mulberry Dr., #243, Phoenix, AZ 85015. He is 49, 5'8", 195 pounds, grey hair and brown eyes. Mr. Rico was convicted of Attempted Child Molestation. During the offense, the offender engaged in sexual conduct with a 2-year-old female who was known to him. He is not currently on probation or parole.

Third Annual East and West Valley Neighborhood Summit, February 23rd The Maricopa County Attorney's Office along with Valley police departments will be presenting a series of classes designed to better inform citizens about some of the most important issues in the fight against crime. The West Valley Summit will be held on Saturday, February 23rd at the Crosspoint Christian Church, 8600 West Glendale, Glendale, AZ Registration begins at 7:30 am, Classes at 8:00 am to Noon. Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be provided to all summit attendees. Everyone is invited to attend the summit where you will learn about the roles of various agencies involved in detecting and prosecuting criminal activity. This year they are also introducing a separate learning and activities area for youths aged 5 to 11 and ages 12 to 17 so the entire family can participate. Call to 602-506-7564 to sign up.

Bulk Trash Collection The next quarterly scheduled collection is on February 18th. You can begin placement curbside on February 9th. For information on appliance and electronic recycling, plastic bag and shredded paper and the cardboard recycling program, call 602-262-7251. Remember, bulk trash crews do NOT pick up loose grass, leaves, weeds and twigs, house hold hazardous waste such as antifreeze, pool chemicals, oil, batteries and paint, building material such as bricks, concrete, rocks, asphalt or roofing shingles. They will also not pick up any type or size of tires, glass such as windows, shower doors, or mirrors. For household hazardous waste drop off dates and collection areas, call 602-262-7251.

Need a New Garbage Bin? Over time, our trash collection bins break down. If you need a new trash bin because the lid is broken, holes in the side or wheels are broken, simply call 602-262-7251 and let them know. They will ask you to leave the old empty bin out at curbside so it can be picked up and in turn they will leave you a new bin.

Help Keep Phoenix Graffiti Free Graffiti is costly and destructive, and sends a message that the community is not concerned about the appearance of the neighborhood. Graffiti is against the law. Did you know that there is a graffiti vandal catching /reward program? This is a special Police Department graffiti hotline. If you believe you can provide information leading to the arrest of a graffiti vandal, call 602-262-7327 to make a report. You don't have to give your name or other identification, and you could receive an award up to \$250.

To have graffiti removed, call 602-495-7014 and give them the address and general area of the graffiti.



Home Sales Still Down

Home sales spiral down for the 10th month. Here in the neighborhood, two homes sold in Nov/Dec and two homes came off the market since the last newsletter. Prices dropped for three of the homes and one home at 848 W. Fairmount Ave. fell \$100,000 which brought it to the lowest listings per square foot in the neighborhood. 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.

Address	SqFt	Bed/Bath	List Price	Sale Price	Price per SqFt
845 W. Whitton Ave.	1,088	3/1	\$239,000	Not active	\$219.67
1001 W. Clarendon Ave.	1,840	3/2	\$275,000	Active	\$149.46
847 W. Indianola Ave.	1,271	3/1.75	\$274,900	Active	\$216.29
822 W. Indianola Ave.	2,017	4/2	\$314,900	Active	\$156.12
812 W. Fairmount Ave.	1,570	3/2	\$210,000	Active	\$133.76
832 W. Fairmount Ave.	1,223	3/2	\$279,000	Active	\$228.13
848 W. Fairmount Ave.	2,075	4/2	\$250,000	Active	\$120.48
815 W. Piccadilly Rd.	1,275	3/1.75	\$225,000	Not active	\$176.47
3635 N. 8th Ave.	1,300	3/1	\$210,000	Active	\$161.54
3615 N. 8th Ave.	1,506	3/2	\$245,000	Active	\$162.68
3441 N. 8th Ave.	1,185	3/1.5	\$239,000	Active	\$201.69

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 .

We are looking for good people to volunteer...give us a call if you are interested in joining other volunteer board members and newsletter delivery volunteers who make our neighborhood a better place to live.

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
	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