



North Park Central Neighborhood Association

JULY 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



JULY 4th WILL BE HERE SOON – REMEMBER “CELEBRATE SAFELY – SHOUT – DON’T SHOOT”

Fabulous Phoenix 4th at Steele Indian School Park on Friday, July 4th from 6 – 10 p.m. Fireworks begin at 9:30 p.m. Come to the park to celebrate. There will be kids’ rides, activities, local entertainment, food and drink vendors for all to enjoy.

Block Watch Grant Rejected – Many of the long standing neighborhoods had their Block Watch Grant rejects by the Block Watch Advisory Board this year. The City of Phoenix has one opportunity through the Block Watch Grant Program to help neighborhoods help the City. Neighborhood Associations support the City through countless volunteer hours. Now in a time when residents are finding it hard to put food on the table and gas in their vehicles, we look toward the Block Watch grant opportunities for financial help with the most basic of needs. We were asking for \$9,135 to fund our basic needs this year. This money was budgeted for paper for our newsletter and 17 other neighborhoods in our surrounding area, to pay the maintenance agreement for a copy machine that is housed in an office paid for by the community used by Neighborhood Service, maintain dusk-to-dawn alley lighting, support for our website, computer class for a member to learn website design, and a computer for technology support to name a few.

I was greatly disappointed with the process and with the way that the evaluations were allowed to be conducted this year. If not funded elsewhere, 18 neighborhoods and a City office will now have to go without a copy machine. Our re-distribution of vital City information alone saves the City thousands of dollars. As the Neighborhood Association President, I am the only resident in our neighborhood that receives Neighborhood News, Sex Offender Notifications and Block Watch Newsletter to name a few. For postage alone, it would cost the City \$31,752 to send out just one item once a month for a year to those 18 neighborhoods. Is the City prepared to mail this information to the 6,300 households that were going to be supported by our Block Watch Grant?

I have sent a very letter to Mayor Phil Gordon and Councilman Tom Simplot outlining my disappointment with this year’s process and asking them to take another look at all the Block Watch Grant requests and to re-evaluate them and to take a look at process for approval. The letter can be found on our website www.NPCNA.com.

District 4 Town Hall Meeting - On June 17 Councilman Tom Simplot talked about the reversible lanes on 7th Ave. Tom felt that the study was flawed because many accidents occurring during reversible lane hours are not being reported. Our neighborhood experienced the same problem a few years back when looking for accident reports at 7th Ave. and Clarendon to justify moving the light pole that hinders our vision to oncoming traffic.

Also on the agenda were the successful results of the Violence Impact Project, which took place on May 21 and May 22. This was a concentrated Police effort involving the area from 19th Avenue to Interstate 17, from Indian School to Northern. There were 178 arrests, 21 prostitutes & 43 soliciting prostitution arrests, 5 drug arrests, 43 towed cars and 121 traffic citations.

Tom gave us an update about the Light Rail. The final paving of the streets has started and they will begin testing the trains later this summer. The weekend of December 27 and 28 will be the Grand Opening of the Light Rail. Tom reported that there are no federal funds for operating the Light Rail, it will be subsidized by the city and 29% of the budget will come from rider ship. A Valley Metro representative mentioned that the extension north of Bethany Home on 19th Avenue will start in the near future because the city has started buying up some of the private properties and fencing them off.

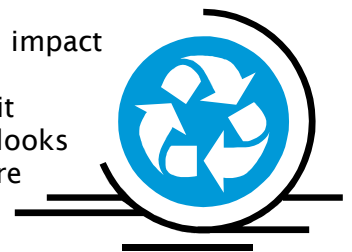
Animal Control approached the city council asking for a new city ordinance, which will allow Animal Control to neuter or spay any cat or dog that was picked up by any of their units, before the animal can be returned to their owner.

Neighbors expressed their concerns regarding the Yellow Pawnshop that opened up last week at 1018 E. Indian School Road. Community Action Officer, Dave Chambers and Neighborhood Services already paid a visit to the establishment.

Other concerns are the prolific stealing of recyclable materials. One neighbor mentioned that people were stealing the manhole covers from the alley. Another neighbor mentioned that some car owners had the catalytic converters stolen. If you see someone stealing car parts or manhole covers, call 911 immediately.

Another topic discussed was the development on the south west corner of Central and Camelback. The developer met with the neighbors about raising the height from 250 foot to 400 foot and the neighbors rejected the proposal. People also wanted to know what was happening on 11th Avenue and Camelback and 7th Avenue and Camelback and Tom mentioned that he is not aware of any action taking place at those sites.

Should You Recycle? You Bet Your Trash You Should! - How does recycling impact you and your wallet? There are many reasons to recycle. Recycling saves our resources and cuts down on what we put into landfills, but did you know that it saves you money on your monthly water bill? The City of Phoenix continually looks for vendors to purchase our recycled products. The more you recycle, the more money the City makes. The more money the City makes, the less you have to pay for solid waste services. The money received from our recycle program directly impacts the amount you pay for solid waste services on your monthly water bill. So everyone needs to do their part and recycle. Recycling Changes Everything! Things you can recycle and place into the blue trash bins are: plastic bottles, plastic jugs, glass bottles and jars, magazines and phone books, cardboard and food boxes, aluminum and metal cans and newspapers. Things you can not recycle are: plastic bags (take these back to a grocery store to be recycled), grass, yard waste, food waste, diapers, shredded paper (use this in your composting), wet strength boxes like soda or beer boxes, and clothing. For more information on the recycling program call 602-262-7251. For a closer look at the problems of plastic and what happens if we do not recycle, Barbara Herren has provided the following information.



- In 2006, Americans drank about 167 bottles of water each, but only recycled an average of 23 percent. That leaves 38 billion water bottles in landfills. If you put all of them end-to-end, they would circle the Earth 217 times.
- According to the Beverage Marketing Corp, the average American consumed 1.6 gallons of bottled water in 1976. In 2006 that number jumped to 28.3 gallons.
- It takes over 1.5 million barrels of oil to manufacture a year's supply of bottled water. That's enough oil to fuel 100,000 cars.
- Eight out of 10 plastic water bottles become landfill waste.
- In 2007 we spent \$16 billion on bottled water. That's more than we spent on iPods or movie tickets.
- Plastic bottles take 700 years before they *begin* to decompose in a landfill.
- If everyone in NYC gave up water bottles for one week they would save 24 million bottles from being landfilled; one month would save 112 million bottles and one year would save 1.328 billion bottles from going into the landfill.
- Americans throw away 2 million plastic bottles an hour.

Expanded Neighborhood Referral List by Rosemarie Lewis - As Promised, here are the additions to last month's neighborhood resource list of businesses that residents have hired and have given a favorable response. If you would like to share your resources with us, mail to mail@NPCNA.com and we will add them to this list. This is also available on our website at www.NPCNA.com. The Neighborhood Association is not endorsing these businesses, we are sharing resources from neighbors to neighbors. Thanks for your help in supporting the neighborhood.

Painter Will Heisler 602-377-6699

Home Repair service Casey's Plan "B" 602-550-4485

Windows & Doors Replacement Wholesale window & doors 602-200-8911

Fencing company Pinnacle Fencing Solutions 602-451-0035

Roofing Irma's Roofing 602-253-1801

Concrete Driveway, Patios, Block Walls, Stucco BBQ Mr. Saul Castillo 602-881-1057

Lawn and yardwork, Hauling **Dominico of Dominico's** 602-677-9885

Interlink Mechanical custom heating and cooling Dan Smid 602-672-2941 or Rick 602-769 0833

7th Avenue and 7th Street Reverse Lane by Erica Hoekstra - On June 10, 2008 the Street Transportation Department of the Phoenix hosted a public information session on the 7th Avenue and 7th Street Reverse lane study where they and ASU presented the results of their traffic studies. The reversible lane on 7th Avenue started in 1979 and starts at Northern and ends at McDowell Road during AM hours and reverses during PM hours. The 7th Street started in 1982 and goes from Dunlap to McDowell Road.

The city used information from ADOT and compared the crash rates with 19th Avenue and 16th Street from Northern to McDowell. Kevin Wilcoxon, the Street Transportation Department Engineer, presented the facts about the study. Before he started his presentation he did mention that Tucson did away with their reversible lanes and that the results were very favorable. The study looked at capacity analysis, average travel time and compared it with travel time during peak hours. They looked at pedestrian crashes and estimated future traffic on those streets. The study did notice that the majority of reversible lane users on those streets live in zip codes 850202, 85021, 85022. The study also talked about the cost involved in four different scenarios of operational alternatives and a notation was made that there currently is no budget for any change. At the end of the presentation Kevin Wilcoxon mentioned that, when he appears before the city council, his recommendation will be to leave those streets unchanged.



Vacant Houses Alert - Please watch the vacant houses on your block. They can fall victim to burglary of copper, air conditioners, appliances and fixtures. If you see a vacant house in our neighborhood that has been broken into, call 911 or Crimestoppers at 602-262-6151 to report it.

No sales this month. Many of the home prices stayed the same except for slight decreases on three.

Address	SqFt	Bed/Bath	List Price	Sale Price	Price per SqFt
825 W. Mitchell Dr.	1,110	3/1	\$224,900	Active	\$202.61
1017 W. Mitchell Dr.	1,454	3/1.75	\$175,000	Active	\$120.36
840 W. Whitton Ave.	1,641	4/2	\$244,000	Active	\$148.69
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	\$130,000	Active	\$110.36
848 W. Fairmount Ave.	2,075	4/2	\$192,910	Pending	\$92.97
815 W. Piccadilly Ave.	1,275	3/1.75	\$185,000	Active	\$145.10
821 W. Amelia Ave.	1,584	3/2	\$219,900	Active	\$138.83
3441 N. 8th Ave.	1,185	3/1.5	\$224,900	Active	\$189.79
3615 N. 8th Ave.	1,506	3/2	\$209,500	Active	\$139.11
3635 N. 8th Ave.	1,088	3/1	\$162,400	Active	\$149.26
3837 N. 8th Ave.	1,600	5/2	\$159,000	Active	\$99.38

For pictures and expanding listing of homes for sale, 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 Clarendon School 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 need volunteers....we need YOU!

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