



North Park Central Neighborhood Association

Happy St. Patrick's Day - MARCH 2008 - Happy Easter

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

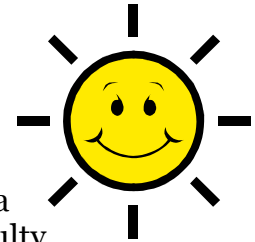


St. Patrick's Day Parade March 15 The 25th annual St. Patrick's Parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 15. Marching bands, step dancers, bagpipers and floats will highlight the parade on Third Street at Virginia Ave. and moving south to Hance Park at Culver Street where there will be an Irish Faire featuring food, drinks, arts and crafts, inflatable rides, pony rides, a petting zoo, face painting, a climbing wall and a stage for children's entertainment. The parade is free, but the faire will run you \$10 per person 12 and older and \$1 for children 6 to 12 and free for children under 6. For more information, visit phxirish.org or call 602-280-9221.

LET'S LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE!

By Helen Kennelly

We've all done our share of complaining about the problems in and around our neighborhood; right? Of course right!* I'd like to remind ourselves about some of the positive reasons we chose to buy here. It is a great neighborhood! We have good schools on all levels, with caring faculty and counselors to work with our children. Most of our homes are in good repair, including many that have been enlarged and upgraded. Many trees and flowers are here for the enjoyment of all. Think of all the Phoenicians who have to drive many miles and hours to get to their place of employment—say from far west side to Scottsdale, Mesa, Chandler (or vice versa) and then back home in the evening. Rush hour? That is definitely a misnomer! Just try to rush anywhere between 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.



We are close to several museums, library, churches of most denominations and restaurants serving every kind of delicious food. We can feel safe walking in the area, and watching a ball game at the school. We are close to many medical facilities including a wonderful hospital. When the light rail is completed it will be close enough to use without bringing much noise and disruption to our way of life. If you haven't been to Steele Indian School Park you should really make plans to go to "Target" day at the park March 9th when the Phoenix Symphony entertains along with many other groups, and plan to picnic before it gets too hot. And, of course, we also have NPCNA to keep us in touch with each other and aware of any problems so we can work on solving them.

**I enjoyed a wonderful performance of "A Fiddler on The Roof" at the new Arizona Broadway Theater and can't get the songs out of my head!*



Target Days at Steel Indian School Park – March 9th

The Phoenix Symphony and Target are giving back to the local community with a fun-filled outdoor musical event on Sunday, March 9th 2008 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. at Steel Indian School Park. The fourth annual Target Music in the Park is a free event designed for families and music lovers of all ages showcasing a variety of music including Broadway tunes, African hand drumming, jazz and Latin funk.

Welcome to the Newest Indianola Residents!

By Barbara Herren

Meet Ernie Martinez and Teresa Meza who recently purchased the thoroughly remodeled and landscaped house at 847 W. Indianola. Ernie is a Phoenix Firefighter and Teresa is a teacher for a non-profit organization. They both enjoy working and living in the downtown area, which is fortunate since they both also grew up in the area. They had been house hunting for quite a long time, before finally deciding between this house and another, more historical house. Recently, Ernie was seen mowing his lawn with a push lawnmower. That is loving lawn care. I wonder if they know there is a buried swimming pool in their back yard. Ernie and Teresa are very pleased to be a part of the North Park Central neighborhood and we are very glad to have them.

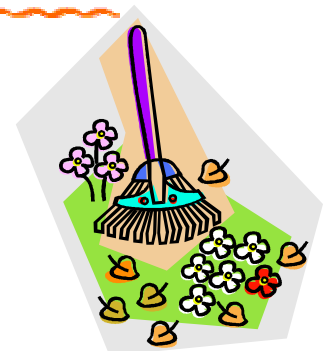
(If you are new to the neighborhood and would like to help us welcome you to the neighborhood and get acquainted, give any board member a call.)

Encanto Church Holds Youth Yard Sale April 12th

By Erica Hoekstra

The Encanto Community Church located at 2710 N. 7th Ave. will be holding their annual Youth Yard Sale on Saturday, April 12, 2008. Right now they are welcoming your donations of any gently used items that you may have lurking in your closets, garages, patios, and back rooms. Donations can be received on any Sunday after church or by making arrangements with Kathy VanEtten at 602-395-9796. This event will be an all-day affair that will include not only the rummage sale, but also a bake sale, a hot dog concession, and perhaps, even a 50-50 raffle. Please remember that *all* monies earned from the yard sale are used to benefit their Youth Camp Fund. To help the kids....donate now and check out the sale on April 12th. Thanks for all of your support!

It's Spring Cleaning Time – With spring brings our beautiful weather and an opportunity to do some spring cleaning. A quick check around the neighborhood and it is easy to see we could use a little sprucing up. It is also a good time to check ourselves for blight and neighborhood preservation. The goal of Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance and Code Enforcement is to promote the health, safety and welfare of residents by protecting neighborhoods from blight. A neighborhood with blight issues is a



neighborhood in deterioration. A neighborhood in deterioration leads to a neighborhood with crime. The eight most common blight issues are:

Vegetation – Property owners are responsible for maintaining their properties, the adjacent right-of-way of dead and dried vegetation, weeds and tall grasses, shrubs, trees and palm fronds. All weeds/tumbleweeds, lawn grasses should be maintained at 6 inches or shorter.

Inoperable vehicles – Inoperable vehicles must not be seen from beyond the bounds of the property line. An inoperable vehicle is a vehicle that is not equipped with all parts that are required to legally and safely operate on public streets and/or cannot be driven under its own power. Car covers, tarps, bamboo, shades and other similar types of materials are not acceptable screening.

Junk, litter and debris – Junk, litter and debris cannot be left in the yard. They must be disposed of properly. This includes junk auto parts, appliances, furniture, tires, building materials and landscaping materials. Litter such as discarded paper, cardboard, plastics, tree trimmings and other items must also be disposed of properly.

Open and vacant buildings and structures – The property owner is responsible for maintaining buildings, structures and grounds of a property. Windows, doors and other openings must be kept secure so they cannot be opened from the outside. Storage sheds and garages must also be secured.

Outside storage – Outside storage on properties zoned as residential that can be seen from beyond the bounds of the property line is not allowed. Generally, any equipment, building or landscaping materials, auto parts, appliances or any scrap items may not be visible. Boats, campers and other similar personal items may be stored in a limited area of the rear yard.

Fences in disrepair – Fencing and screening walls must be sound and made from the same materials. They also must be weather-tight and free from deterioration and blight. Fences in residential zones cannot be higher than three feet in the required front yard and six feet in the required rear yard.

Parking – There are limits to the amount of residential yard area that may be used for a driveway or parking. As a general gage, only 1/3 of your front yard can be used for parking. Parking vehicles anywhere other than these designated areas may be a violation. Designated parking areas must be dust-proofed. There is no parking on the front lawn. And at no time should a semi tractor be parked in the driveway or yard of a residential property.

Graffiti – Graffiti must be removed from all sidewalks, walls, fences, signs and other structures or surfaces visible from beyond the bounds of the property. This is the responsibility of the property owner. Paint and graffiti removal supplies are available from the Graffiti Busters program at 602-495-0323. For 24 hour Graffiti Hotline call 602-495-7014.

These are very easy ordinances to follow and every resident has the right to expect the neighborhood to comply with these simple city ordinances. It not only promotes safety, it is a common courtesy that we can extend to each other to eliminate blight in our neighborhood and maintain property values. The enforcement process begins when a blighted property is reported. A case is opened and assigned an inspector. An inspector comes to the resident of complaint. While in the neighborhood the inspector looks for other blight violations in the immediate area. If a violation is found, a Notice of Violation is issued. The property is re-inspected at the expiration of Notice of Violation. If the violation has not been corrected, the city may pursue civil or criminal action. Blighted properties can be reported by calling 602-262-7844 or by logging on to phoenix.gov/NSD, click on “Preservation Division.”

If you find yourself in a hardship situation and in violation of one of these codes, please give one of the board members a call. We have an abundance of resources and services we can call upon to help you.

Many Houses for Sale

Fifteen houses are for sale in our neighborhood. We did have one sale last month on W. Indianola Ave. Prices continue to drop as much as \$50,000 in this slumping housing market. To help aid the houses for sale and to help maintain our own property value, we as a neighborhood can improve “curb side appeal” by keeping our properties maintained, our lawns cut and our carports clean.

Address	SqFt	Bed/Bath	List Price	Sale Price	Price per SqFt
825 W. Mitchell Dr.	1,110	3/1	\$250,000	Active	\$225.23
840 W. Whitton Ave.	1,641	4/2	\$255,000	Active	\$155.39
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	Active	\$185.03
1001 W. Clarendon Ave.	1,840	3/2	\$275,000	Active	\$149.46
1008 W. Clarendon Ave.	1,436	3/1	\$185,000	Active	\$128.83
817 W. Indianola Ave.	1,178	4/1.75	\$210,000	Active	\$178.27
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	Active	\$133.76
832 W. Fairmount Ave.	1,223	3/2	\$229,000	Active	\$187.24
848 W. Fairmount Ave.	2,075	4/2	\$192,910	Active	\$92.97
3615 N. 8th Ave.	1,506	3/2	\$245,000	Active	\$162.68
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	\$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

Congratulations to Board Member Rosemarie and husband Scott Lewis on the arrival of baby Emma.

Check out our new website at

[**www.NPCNA.com**](http://www.NPCNA.com)

To contact any board member, send an e-mail to: [**Mail@NPCNA.com**](mailto: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