



Cactus Wren Neighborhood News

(Fight back area includes Peoria to Dunlap and 43rd to 35th avenues)

Volume 44

March, 2014

**Next Meeting - April 17th at 6:30 p.m.
Cactus Wren Elementary School - 9650 N. 39th Ave.**

The next Cactus Wren Neighborhood Meeting will be on April 17th. Several updates are scheduled including some requested by neighbors. Councilwoman Williams will let us know how the budget process is going, update us on Metrocenter and Cortez Pool as well as other items of importance. Wade Niver, our Community Action Officer, will talk about fireworks and be available for questions. Aaron Jensen of the Streets Dept. will provide an update on the retrofit improvements that are planned along Dunlap and 43rd avenues. This project has been in the works for a very long time and we're hoping that it's finally coming to fruition. David Mohler of the Neighborhood Services Dept. will be on hand to discuss blight. Fred May will provide an update on the improvements planned for the intersection of 35th and Dunlap Ave. And finally, representatives from the Library will talk to us about digital access to library materials and programs for the whole family. Find out about books, music, movies and magazines that can be downloaded to your computer, iPad, tablet or other digital device.

The meeting begins at 6:30, but please come a little early to sign in and enjoy some light snacks as you visit with neighbors. We will also have a 50/50 raffle for those that are interested in participating. It's very important for neighbors to get to know one another, and this is one way to do this.

Keep Our Neighborhood Beautiful Tip....

Cactus Park Precinct March Newsletter

Is Your Pool Safe? Pools and enclosures: lock them up– it's the law!

36-1681. Pool enclosures; requirements; exceptions; enforcement. A swimming pool, or other contained body of water that contains water eighteen inches or more in depth at any point and that is wider than eight feet at any point and is intended for swimming, shall be protected by an enclosure surrounding the pool area.

[Click here](#) to get information you need to comply with the law and make your pool or water feature safe for everyone.

Upcoming District 1 Public Budget Hearings

City of Phoenix Website

City Manager Ed Zuercher has released the 2014-15 Trial Budget. Creation of this document is the first step in the budget process, which concludes with final Council action on May 20, 2014.

The Trial Budget is designed to start the community dialogue, get feedback and identify alternatives. The public is invited to provide feedback at community budget hearings scheduled over the next few weeks. The two following meetings are those scheduled for District 1 residents. There is talk of closing some community centers, some pools and reducing other services. Please plan to attend if you are interested in providing your input. You may also email Councilwomen Williams at council.district.1@phoenix.gov to let her know your thoughts.

Joint Budget Hearing with District 5

When: Tuesday, April 1 @ 6:00 PM

Where: Helen Drake Community Center, 7600 N. 27th Ave.

District 1 Budget Hearing

When: Thursday, April 10 @ 6:00 PM

Where: Beuf Community Center, 3435 W Pinnacle Peak Rd

- **Visit the Budget and Research Department website to view the Trial Budget**
- **Get information about the community budget hearings**



Nextdoor is a tool for neighbors to use to share information about crime, crime prevention, safety updates, events and notifications. We now have over 120 neighbors in our square mile signed on to this unique social networking media. It seems that most that are on it, feel it is very valuable. The Phoenix Police Department, Neighborhood Services and Public Works are all participating and using this as a means of getting information out to residents. This is a private website for individual neighborhoods where you can ask questions, get to know one another and keep up with what is happening in your area. It has been highlighted on 20/20, and Fox News 10. Please consider signing up by [clicking here](#).

Coffee with a Cop....

Meet the men and women that protect your neighborhood. The Police Department provides this opportunity for residents and police officers to meet in a casual setting. Have coffee or breakfast while getting to know officers of the Cactus Park Precinct. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, April 2 at Ronnies Café located at 4323 W Cactus Rd. at 8:00 a.m.

New Police Program to Deal with Increased Trespassing by Transients....

District 1 Newsletter, 3-14-14

The Cactus Park Precinct Commander outlined a program that involves the community and the police working together to resolve this issue. He has assigned two officers dedicated full time to working transient issues. The key is community support. Local businesses must contact the police whenever transients are on their property and must post "No Trespassing" signs on their properties.

Neighbors need to let store managers know that they are uncomfortable with transients on business property and to request that the managers contact the police to "trespass" those persons. Neighbors need to call whenever they see transients on private residential property or acting suspiciously. "Peaceful panhandling is legal; criminal trespass is not" is the essence of the decision by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals when it overturned the Phoenix city ordinance that made panhandling illegal. This has resulted in a dramatic increase in panhandling especially near the I-17 freeway. But the increase in transients has led to other problems. Neighbors near the freeway are reporting increasing problems of transients moving into the neighborhoods, hopping fences to steal items, and even camping out in back yards.

The police realize that the real problem is with those persons who have criminal records and are "troublemakers." The police have identified about 90 individuals who have excessive criminal records, some having been arrested 30 or 40 times. Initially, their primary focus will be the area from Peoria to Camelback Road, 35th Avenue to I-17.

Commander Robinson noted that the community needs to be persistent, to keep calling. This way the police have evidence in the record of calls, which help them build a case. He said, "If you do not get a response from the officers, just call the precinct and leave your number for me to call back." He did caution, however, that if an officer has to choose between a burglary or a trespass case, he has to follow-up on the more serious crime first.

Please consider adding the number for Crime Stop into your cell phone – 602-262-6151. The main phone number for the Cactus Park Precinct is 602-495-5009.

Council District 1 Community Breakfast....

Date: Friday, March 28, 2014

Time: 7:30 a.m.

Location: Deer Valley Airport Restaurant – 702 West Deer Valley Road

Speaker: Arnold Kohl, Deputy Constable, Maricopa County – Deputy Kohl will discuss how the Constables of Maricopa County provide the public with an efficient and timely service of process issued through the Justice Courts.

Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. and the speakers will start around 7:45 a.m. Breakfast will be available for \$4.99, not including tax or gratuity, and the District 1 office will pay for your drink. All are welcome!

This 'n That....

Composting. Residents can dispose of yard waste by using a composter or mulcher. City of Phoenix composters (constructed from old garbage cans) can be obtained at a city [disposal facility](#) for \$5. Call 602-262-7251 or 602-262-6598 for more information. Also, check out more information below:

- [Compost in your backyard! Download compost instructions.](#)
- [eHow.com "How to Compost in the Desert"](#)

National Take-Back Initiative. The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. Events are sponsored by the DEA with the participation of local police departments. The next event is scheduled for April 26, 2014 - 10AM to 2PM. [Click here](#) after April 1 to get a list of locations.

Help with feral cats. The Animal Defense League of AZ has a grant to provide free spay/neuter of feral cats for our zip code. This uses the trap/neuter/return program which is proven to be the most successful way to control cat colonies. If you have free roaming cats in your neighborhood please take advantage of this program. Ignoring the situation will only increase the number of cats. Schedule an appointment and get further information by calling 602-265-spay or 602-265-7729. Find more information on their website at www.adlaz.org.

Household Hazardous Waste. Household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronics collection events are for City of Phoenix residential refuse customers only. Proof of City of Phoenix refuse service is required. Bring your current water bill showing solid waste fees and a matching photo ID. The next HHW event takes place on Thursday, April 10, through Saturday, April 12, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Paradise Valley Park located at 17642 N. 40th Street. The event entrance will be on 40th street near the community center. [Click here](#) for information on additional events, acceptable and unacceptable items as well as alternative methods of disposal.

Metro Center "Walk 'n Talk" Walkers Club. Come walk at Metro Center in a fun, healthy, convenient and safe environment. Informational presentations are provided monthly on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. On April 3 the topic will be "Continuum of Care" – transition to independent, assisted living, memory care communities and residential care homes. Free blood pressure checks are also available. Meetings take place in the community room which is located in the Food Court area.

Phoenix Public Library Hosts Digital Bookmobile. The Library will host the OverDrive Digital Bookmobile, a high-tech update of the traditional bookmobile at the Cholla Library, 1050 Metro Parkway E, on Wednesday, March 26 from 12 – 6 p.m. Explore the library's digital media collection and learn how to download e-books, e-audiobooks, music and videos. The digital media collection can be accessed from your home computer and is free with your Phoenix Library card. For more information call 602-262-4636 or visit phoenixpubliclibrary.org

Recent Home Sales....

This information is provided to our neighbors by Jim Nuth, PLC , AZ Designated Broker, **eXp Realty**, for the period 10/7/13 through March 21, 2014.

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602-525-3224 Cell

www.SellsAZ.com

Address	Sales Price	Type	Days on Market
4236 W IRONWOOD DR	109,000	Bank Owned	105
3852 W. MALAPAI DR	122,000	Regular Sale	32
4231 W MISSION LN	129,900	Regular Sale	108
4248 W CAMINO ACEQUIA	135,000	Regular Sale	31
3524 W IRONWOOD DR	135,000	Regular Sale	3
3529 W BROWN ST	138,000	Short Sale	121
3614 W COCHISE DR	141,000	Bank Owned	46
9823 N 37 TH DR	149,000	Regular Sale	49
4216 W EVA ST	152,500	Regular Sale	128
3730 W NORTH LN	152,900	Regular Sale	37
3810 W COCHISE DR	159,900	Regular Sale	9
4016 W CARON ST	160,000	Regular Sale	42
3858 W MALAPAI DR	162,400	Regular Sale	71
3729 W IRONWOOD DR	164,000	Regular Sale	45
3624 W CARON ST	166,900	Regular Sale	63
10022 N 36 TH AVE	168,500	Regular Sale	58
4202 W VOGEL AVE	189,000	Regular Sale	80
4146 W BERYL AVE	195,000	Regular Sale	5
3650 W BERYL AVE	202,000	Regular Sale	9

Important Phone Numbers....

Frank Steinmetz, Chairperson	fsteinmetz@msn.com
Dan & Barbara George, Newsletter	cactuswrennews@hotmail.com or 602-938-5742
Crime Stop	602-262-6151
Officer Wade Niver, CAO	wade.niver@phoenix.gov or 602-534-6988
Blight	blight@phoenix.gov or 602-262-7844 or MyPhxAz app on smart phones
Illegal Dumping	602-262-7251
Graffiti	graffiti.busters.nsd@phoenix.gov or 602-495-7014
Loud Parties	602-262-6151
Neighborhood Speeding	602-534-SPEED
Street Light Outage	ClickHere
Speeding Vehicle Hotline	602-534-SPEED
Cactus Park Precinct Main Number	602-495-5009
Abandoned Shopping Carts	602-CRT-PKUP
Vector Control (Green Pools)	602-506-6616
Trash Containers	602-262-7251
Spay Neuter Hotline	602-265-7729 or www.spayneuterhotline.org