

# **BelAir Neighborhood Communicator**

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/phoenix/belair/>

## **UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

### **BelAir Neighborhood Clean-Up Days**

October 14 & 15, 2006

Join your community & Clean up your own yard!

Dumpsters will be placed throughout the neighborhood

(See inside for details and map of neighborhood)

### **G.A.I.N. Event Old Fashion Block Party**

Saturday, October 21, 2006

4:30pm to 8:00pm

West Mackenzie Drive between 17th & 18th Ave.

Bring a chair, a side dish to share,  
and a neighbor!





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The BelAir Neighborhood Association publishes the *Neighborhood Communicator* monthly.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who make this project possible.

# SPEED LIMIT IN NEIGHBORHOOD

## 25 MPH

### Minute by Minute BelAir Board Minutes

September 7, 2006; Meeting began at 7:10pm.

**In attendance:** Susan Thompson-McHugh; Jaime Canedo, Sherri Gallagher, Jonathan Massey, Jeannie Garcia, Betty Dales, Mark Day, Steve Armenta, Charles Wilfong, Aaron Goldman, Scott Stevens, Lisa Hubbard-Higgins. Approval of August 2006 minutes with corrections. Board appointed Virginia Anders as additional board member to fill a vacancy.

**Treasure's Report:** 301 Grant - Board voted and approved \$60 expenditure to install last security door. General liability insurance for BelAir Neighborhood Association was \$903 for the year.

**Committee Reports:**

**Preservation Committee:** Jonathan will talk to Lisa Higgins about illegal signs on businesses. Barbara Stockton will be a speaker at our GAIN event to talk about the Historic Survey. Jonathan worked on the BelAir Website and made it current. We discussed putting past issues of the newsletter on the website. BelAir Clean-up Days (see dumpster placement on page 3 of Newsletter). Probation workers will be available to help with Alley Clean-up on alleys between 15th Ave & 15th Dr. and Indian School & Monterosa. We proposed placing banners on

the dumpsters that read "BelAir Clean-Up Days" and will revisit buying signs at the October board meeting. Mark got a quote from one of the sign making businesses in our neighborhood.

**Block Watch:** Crime Packets were distributed to all neighbors in August. Lisa Higgins brought up that residents are concerned about recent crime in our neighborhood, especially break-ins. Block Watch is going to host a Front Yard meeting with the 2nd Lieutenant and Sergeant from Squaw Peak Precinct to discuss Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. Look for a flyer about the Front Yard Block Watch meeting on crime in the upcoming months. Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol training was September 16th and one resident attended the training. We need an additional resident to attend an upcoming training to start our BelAir Neighborhood Patrol. Contact a board member if you are interested. **Newsletter:** October issue will focus on preservation and the GAIN event in October. Meeting minutes will be included also. Articles are due September 20th to Sherri. Boyd has the newsletter delivery maps.

**Old Business:** General Meeting - good feedback on the Crime Stop and 911 speakers at the meeting. The board will complete an inventory for the Neighborhood Association as we prepare for the GAIN Event. **New Business: Traffic Report:** Scott Stevens & Lisa Hubbard Higgins (Neighborhood Services). A new committee has been formed to assist with speeding in our neighborhood which will be headed up by Scott Stevens. Scott Stevens discussed concerns about speeding and cars driving on neighbor's lawns. He proposed conducting a traffic survey. Before a survey can be conducted, neighbors will have to sign a petition stating that they want a traffic survey conducted. The traffic survey will determine whether we qualify to have speed humps to be placed on certain streets in our neighborhood. Traffic engineers will observe the neighborhood to determine the need for Stop and Yield signs at certain intersections. If the results of the traffic survey determine that our neighborhood qualifies for speed humps, residents on those streets will have to again sign a statement that they approve placement of speed humps in our neighborhood. Councilman Tom Simplot is interested in (cont. pg. 4)

**Graffiti Busters**  
602-495-7014

**Blight**  
602-262-7844  
[blight@phoenix.gov](mailto:blight@phoenix.gov)



## Neighborhood Clean-Up By Jonathan Massey

We would like to remind all of you about the Neighborhood Clean-Up happening the weekend of October 14th and 15th. It will be getting much cooler outside, and there's no better opportunity to clean up our properties before the holidays come and take away our free time. Three 40 Ft. dumpsters will be placed throughout the neighborhood for all BelAir neighbors to use that weekend.

The dumpsters will be placed in the following locations (see map below):

- \*Glenrosa between 15th Avenue & 15th Drive
- \*17th Avenue between Heatherbrae & Glenrosa

\*18th Avenue between Heatherbrae & Glenrosa

These dumpsters are not provided for commercial loads of bulk trash, but for BelAir neighborhood use only.

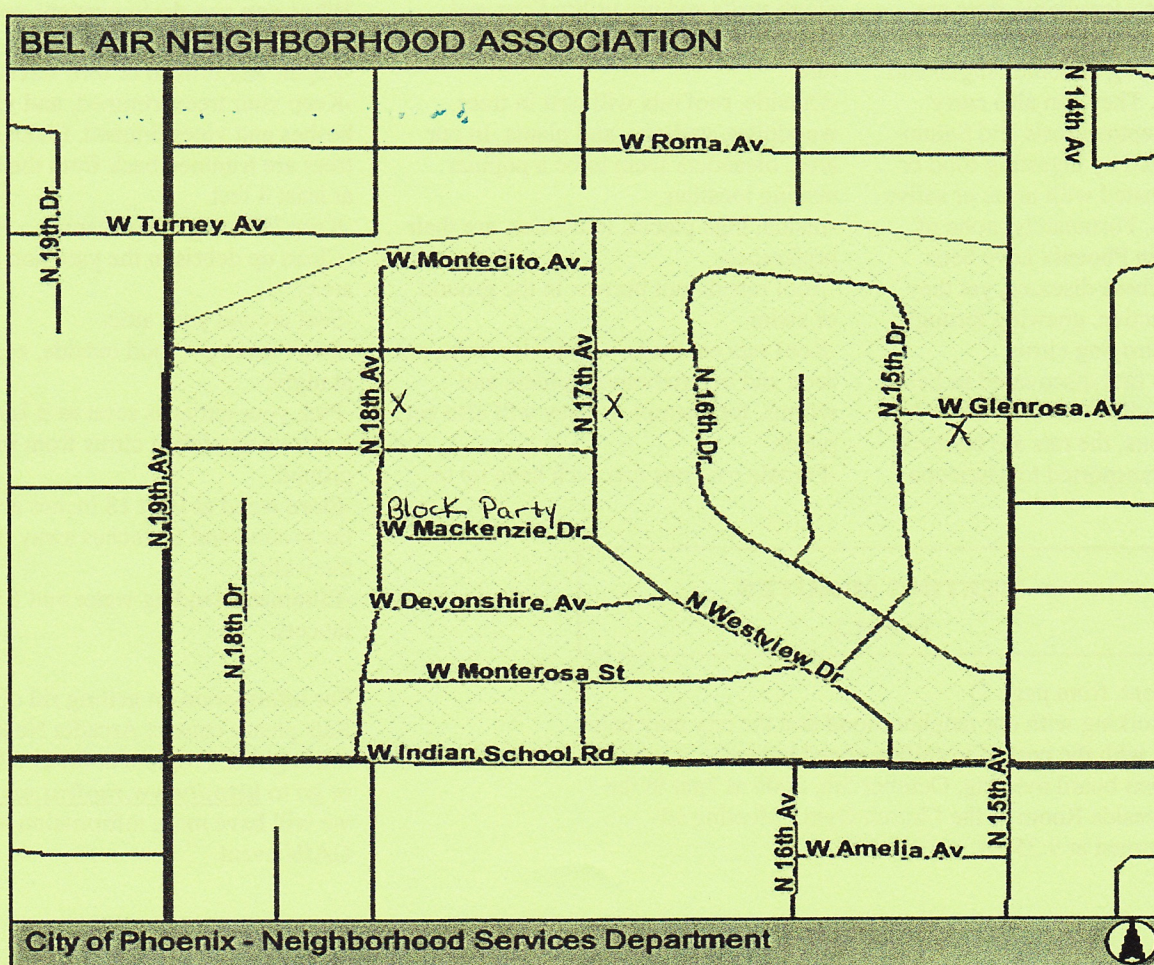
Please note also that the following items are NOT acceptable for placement in these dumpsters:

- \* antifreeze, paint, oil, and car batteries
- \* pool chemicals
- \* brake-transmission-power steering fluid/degreasers
- \* varnish/turpentine/linseed oil/solvents/adhesives
- \* pesticides/herbicides
- \* fire extinguishers/compressed

gas cylinders

- \* Freon based refrigerators/freezers/water coolers
- \* air conditioners, heat pumps
- \* computers/electronics
- \* washers/dryers/water heaters
- \* evaporative coolers
- \* stoves/dishwashers
- \* other residential appliances
- \* stereos/audio equipment
- \* televisions
- \* road tires

Please consult the "Notes" insert in your monthly water bill for times, locations, and information on household hazardous waste collection days hosted by the city.





## President's Message

By Susan Thompson - McHugh

### Dear Neighbor,

I was outside on a Saturday night watching the rain when I spied a dark little critter running down the utility line. At first site I thought it was a squirrel which would be common where I grew up in the Midwest. Hold on. We don't have squirrels. We do have roof rats. This little pest was using the utility lines as his own personal freeway through the neighborhood. I had read roof rats will venture from their nest in one neighbor's yard to seek food in another neighbor's yard.

The Roof Rat, *Rattus rattus*, is also known as the black rat, even though its more brown than black. Adults average 13 to 18 inches long, including its tail. The long tail is actually what drew my attention in the first place. Unlike other rats, a Roof Rat's tail is longer than the rest of its body. Roof rats are sleek, slender, agile and have large ears. The Roof Rat and it's inevitable fleas are capable of carrying a variety of human diseases, including bubonic *plague* and murine typhus. They can also carry diseases like Leptospirosis and Salmonella, transmitted by ingesting food or water contaminated with urine or saliva of infected rats. Fortunately, none of the rats tested in Phoenix have been found to have these diseases, yet they are very destructive, gnawing through wiring and destroying citrus. Roof rats were first discovered in East Phoenix's Arcadia District in 2002. Not native to Arizona, the rats are believed to have been transported to Maricopa

County from one of our neighboring coastal states. In 2004, roof rats were spotted in cities and towns all over the Valley. This confirmed to the County that the rats were being transported unknowingly either through residents moving from one home to another or perhaps from residents moving into the Valley from our neighboring coastal states.

### What else you should know about roof rats

- Roof rat droppings are long and cylindrical.
- Roof rats are nocturnal.
- Roof rats can transmit diseases like the bubonic plague and typhus. At this point, none of the roof rats captured and tested in Maricopa County have been diseased.
- Roof rats will enter homes and buildings. They only need a hole the size of a quarter to gain entry.
- Roof rats are good climbers. They can climb walls and use utility lines and fences to travel from structure to structure.
- Outside, roof rats will nest in trees, woodpiles, garbage, and plants. In our area, oleanders seem to be a popular nesting location.
- Inside, high places, like attics, are their preference.
- Roof rats do not burrow in the ground or swim.
- Roof rats eat fruits, vegetables, nuts, pet food and invertebrates (spiders and worms, for example). They will also eat paper.
- Female roof rats can each have up to

four litters a year, each containing five to eight young. In urban areas where they have no natural predators, the survival rate of the babies is high.

-If you have the following items around your home, you may be more prone to attracting roof rats: palm trees, yucca plants, pampas grass, honeysuckle, Italian cypress trees, any heavy shrubbery, wood piles, and storage boxes.

### How to tell if you have roof rats

If you have citrus trees, and you notice hollowed-out fruit on the ground or in the trees, this is an indicator that roof rats are present. If you hear gnawing or scratching sounds in the attic or in the walls, you may have roof rats. Pay attention to any droppings in attics and storage areas. If you notice oily rub marks on the house, or small holes in the screens, you could have roof rats.

### What you can do to prevent roof rats from moving in

- Repair any broken or torn screens.
- Keep your trees trimmed, and your bushes and vines thinned. Make sure trees are trimmed back from the house at least 4 feet.
- Keep lids on garbage cans.
- Clean up debris in the yard and storage areas.
- Seal around your attic.
- Don't leave pet food outside, especially at night.
- Pick your citrus as soon as it is ripe.- Remove any fallen citrus from the ground.
- Store wood at least 18 inches above the ground and 12 inches away from the walls.
- Eliminate standing water and fix leaky faucets.

### MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

(cont. from page 2)

working with our neighborhood and the city may help us with the cost of installing speed humps. Next board meeting, October 5th, 2006 at 7pm in the Fireside Room in the Church Gym. Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

For information on getting rid of Roof Rats please contact Arcadia Neighbor to Neighbor Program at (602) 273-0435 or go to <http://www.roofrat.net>. Also we will have more information at our GAIN event.



## **G.A.I.N. (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods)**

Sherri Gallagher & Jeannie Garcia

Our G.A.I.N. Event this year will be an **Old Fashion Block Party** and will be held on **Saturday, October 21st from 4:30pm until 8:00pm on West Mackenzie Drive between 17th Avenue and 18th Avenue** (refer to map on page 3 of Newsletter).

At 4:30pm, we will have a short General Meeting. At 5:00pm, we will have a speaker from the Historical Society, Barbara Stocklin, who will talk about the Post

WWII Historical Survey. From 5:30pm until 8pm, we will be serving up hamburgers, hot dogs, cold drinks and any additional food donated by local businesses. There will be a raffle for donated goods from local businesses (i.e. 3 month supply of home-made dog biscuits from Wag N Wash). We will also have children's activities during the event.

We are also having a Cake Walk...well actually a Cake/

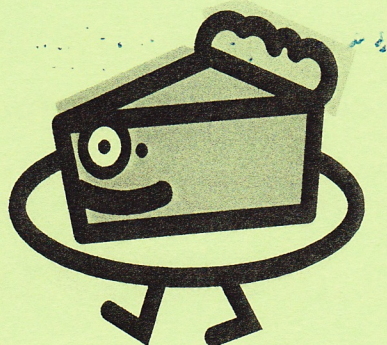
Pie Walk as we call it in BelAir because some residents don't like cake (right Ana?). We are asking residents to donate cakes and pies which will be raffled off during the event. So come join the fun. Bring a chair, side dish, cake/pie, and a neighbor. See you there!

### Schedule of Events:

4:30pm General Meeting

5:00pm Speakers

5:30pm-8:00pm Food, Activities, and Social time



### **Vector Control**

To Report Mosquitoes or Stagnant Water visit:  
<http://www.maricopa.gov/ENVSVC/WATER/VECTOR.ASP>

OR

Call 602-506-6616

Maricopa County Environmental Services  
Vector Control

3343 W. Durango, #3911  
Phoenix, Arizona 85009  
(602) 506-0700 (Office)

FOR SITUATIONS THAT DO NOT  
REQUIRE

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

**Crime Stop 262-6151**

After the fact report calls such as: burglary reports, theft or stolen vehicles reports, non-urgent traffic problems, complaints of loud parties

**WITNESS 948-6377**

Reporting information on unsolved felony crimes



## OUR SPONSORS

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Treat yourself to a relaxing experience that will leave you feeling & looking fantastic! If you want the latest cut, hottest color, or coolest perm, you can get it at Katy's Place. Massage Therapists on staff....call today for an appointment.

We also offer waxing, facials, manicures & home of the \$25 pedicure. We offer Mary Kay Products & have a Consultant available for your convenience. \$10 haircuts for the guys on "Men's Mondays"



4438 N 19<sup>th</sup> Ave Phoenix AZ

602-264-7657

### **B.A.Y.F.** (BelAir Young Families)

Calling all families in BelAir that have children 12 years old and younger. Our purpose is for families with young children who live in BelAir to enjoy fun, food, play and ideas with each other. We are currently planning a "Fall Cookout". If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Roshelle Johnson at 602-437-0734.

**David L. Brown**  
*Owner*

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#### **ADVERTISE IN THE BELAIR NEWSLETTER**

Small Ad: \$7.00 (Business Card Size)

Large Ad: \$14.00 (Double Business Card Size)

Announcements: \$7.00 (Births, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Neighborhood Events)

Procedures for Submitting Ads:

1. Submit the ad by email, diskette, or printed form to Sherri Gallagher or Jonathan Massey. It must be exactly as you want it to appear in the newsletter.
2. Contact Sherri or Jonathan about how to submit your payment.