



NEIGHBORHOOD

COMMUNICATOR

March 2005

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, March 8th

District 4 City Elections

Please vote YES for Propositions 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5!



Thursday, March 10th

BelAir Block Watch Meeting

7pm @ American Evangelical Lutheran Church Gym
North Side of Glenrosa/ East of 19th Avenue

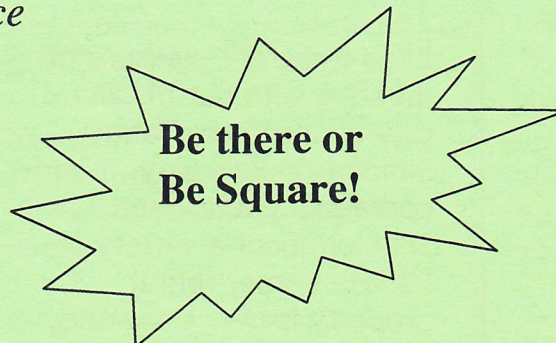
Saturday, March 19th

Community Service Day

9am @ American Evangelical Lutheran Church Parking Lot

We need help installing fence slats in the church fence. It is important for the safety of our children. This is your opportunity to do something active in the community and help a loyal friend to the neighborhood. There will be fun and food!

*fun * food * fence*





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The BelAir Neighborhood Association publishes the *Neighborhood Communicator* monthly. Many thanks to all of the volunteers in BelAir who make this project possible.

\$

Balances as of 3/1/05:

BelAir General Acct - \$1,187.18

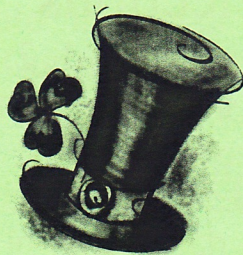
BelAir & Am. Ev. Lutheran Church

Grant #62 - \$1,025.42

BelAir Grant #50 - \$746.83

\$

Happy St. Patrick's Day



March 17, 2005

Message From the President...



Help Phoenix help us.

I had the great pleasure of meeting with our District 4 City Councilman, Tom Simplot, in February. I had contacted Councilman Simplot about a variety of issues: crime, rental property issues, sidewalks,

and overall, insight into the city's plan for the future.

Unfortunately, as you may have read in the news, the city is facing an almost \$70 million budget shortfall for the next fiscal year, and is considering some fairly drastic cuts to save money. These cuts may include closing libraries on Fridays, delaying neighborhood improvements such as sidewalks and alley paving, and delaying the opening of new fire stations. Hopefully, as in years past, the city will keep cuts in police and fire staffing and support off the docket. Councilman Simplot, still in his first term, feels the frustration and impact of these cuts as well.

One thing that we can all do to help the city close the budget gap is to VOTE in the city's Special Election on March 8th. By voting YES on Propositions 1,2,3,4 & 5, we can pump some additional revenue into the city's coffers. The Mayor and City Council all voted for and approved these franchise agreements with utility companies, and they need our support to approve them.

Councilman Simplot is committed to making BelAir a better place to live. As a jogger, he frequently runs down the Grand Canal and through the neighborhood, and knows the challenges we face. We discussed the

need for additional police officers and resources to reduce property crime, and he is hopeful that the city's budget concerns will be fixed soon.

We also discussed the need for a Rental Code for rental properties in the city, and Councilman Simplot will be advancing this cause during the next year. The Rental Code would be written to ensure that absentee landlords (of which we have too many already in BelAir) would be held to a higher standard than they are now.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to discuss BelAir, please drop me a line or stop me around the neighborhood.

Yours in commitment,

Hugh Lander

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sun 3/6 – 3/12
BelAir Litter Free Week
Keep BelAir Beautiful by keeping the area around your home free of trash and debris.

Tue 3/8
DIST. 4 CITY ELECTIONS
Please vote!

Thu 3/10
7PM BELAIR BLOCK WATCH MEETING @ CHURCH GUYM

Sat 3/19
COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY
@ The Church & PHOENIX
NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL TRAINING
Call Hugh Lander @ 602-309-2097 for details.

MINUT E BY MINUTE



BelAir Board Minutes
February 10, 2005

Meeting Began 7:05 pm
In Attendance: Hugh Lander, Roshelle Johnson, Boyd Puffer, Charles Wilfong, Jonathan Massey, Marney Redmond

Block Watch Grant Update
The 2005 Neighborhood Block Watch Grant application was completed, sent and received by the Phoenix Police Department. Approval is pending.

Items requested were 10 security doors (including installation), board association notebooks, insurance and newsletters. The amount totaled \$6,000.

The committee will continue to exist throughout the year .

Newsletter

We discussed the need to increase advertising for added revenue.

The pricing from Alphagraphics went up, but we are still discounted and pay less than what other companies have quoted.

Delivery issues were brought to our attention. Action – discussion will happen with deliverers to see if they need assistance or want to be replaced.

Board decided neighborhood meetings will be scheduled after the 10th of the month. If they are before then, fliers will be created and delivered.

Community Update

Two thousand children attended Kids Street Park Christmas Party. The next one is scheduled for 3/26 for Easter.

Circle K raffle raised funds for fallen policemen.

Old Business

Lighting at church was installed but it is not showing up on the bills. Hugh is also going to look into having it swung around to shed light on the correct area.

We have block watch signs. Installation is pending the approval of specific homeowners.

Next general meeting is April 14, 2005 at 6:30pm. General elections for the board will be held.

9AM on March 19th is Community Service Day at the church. Susan to approach Phoenix Christian students for added support.

(Continued on Page 4.)

New Business

There will be a rummage sale in April. We will request a \$5 donation for advertising.

Adult probationers are coming back to the neighborhood to complete clean up.

Next board meeting is March 3.

Meeting Adjourned 9:15pm

FYI

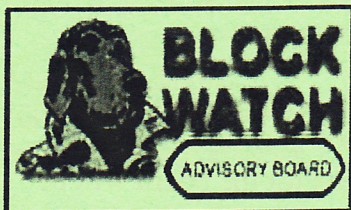
**The church playground
is available to all
neighborhood residents
after 6PM Monday -
Friday and anytime on
the weekends.**

DO YOU HAVE A FERAL STRAY CAT PROBLEM?

I'm certified by Maricopa County as an "Operation FELIX" coordinator.

Call me if you would like to discuss a solution to the problem of howling, fighting, spraying, unwanted kittens, etc.

Hugh Lander 602.309.2097



In Partnership With

Phoenix Police Department

By Hugh Lander
*All stats come from the
Phoenix Police Crime*

*Statistics website at
www.faxnet1.org. Our
grid is "BH25". "BH25"
covers 15th Ave. to 19th
Ave., Indian School up
to Campbell north of the
canal, which means it
covers all of BelAir and
the area just north of
the canal.*

We had a great February Block Watch meeting. We're moving forward with the BelAir Phone Tree, which we are going to try to "activate" in April or May. Our next meeting is on Thursday night, March 10th at 6:30 pm. It will be in the Fireside Room in the Church School gym. Please come join us!

One of our residents missed seriously injury to his family, but suffered vehicle and property damage this month. A drunk driver speeding up 15th Avenue from Indian School at approximately 55 mph lost control and crashed into a parked car at 15th Ave. & 16th Drive. Again, we are thankful that no one in the house was hurt in this crime.

Looking at the statistics for November and December combined, we had three violent crimes, all robberies (I think these all occurred north of the canal); plus 7 burglaries, 9 thefts and 13 auto thefts for a total of 33 property crimes. This compares with a total of 29 property crimes just for October – a good decrease. However, when I compare against November / December 2003, the auto theft rate more than doubled.

Please remember to always lock your vehicle, use a theft deterrent such as a steering wheel lock, and be sure to have motion sensing lights in your carport or near your garage. Call me and I'll help you put together a plan to make your house safer.

If you have any questions, please contact me at belairblockwatch@hotmail.com or call me at 602.309.2097. Remember to report any suspicious activity. Call 911 for emergencies, or call Crime-Stop at 262-6151 for all other police matters.