

# NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATOR



FEBRUARY 1999

A major construction project to widen I-17 and improve traffic flow through the heart of Phoenix began in January. Over the next 21 months, the \$79.4 million project (the largest freeway construction contract in state history) will rebuild the Glendale and Camelback interchanges, add new HOV (car-pool) lanes, construct auxiliary lanes between the on and off ramps, and build noise-reduction walls. The project will also install traffic monitoring cameras, variable message signs, ramp meters, lighting and traffic-counting equipment. The project work area will encompass eight miles of the freeway between Peoria Avenue and Thomas Road.

## I-17 FACTS

Average Daily  
Traffic Through  
Construction Area  
**180,000  
Cars/Day**

Amount of Rebar  
Used In  
Construction  
**2,900 Tons**

Amount Of  
Concrete Used  
**120,000  
Cubic Yards**

Amount Of  
Crushed Granite  
Used In  
Landscaping  
**35,000  
Square Yards**

Number Of  
Shrubs/Trees  
Planted  
**4,500**

Miles Of  
Utility Pipe  
**7.5 Miles**

The I-17 Design-Build project is significantly different than standard freeway jobs. Usually the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) contracts an engineering company for the design, and then contractors submit bids to build it. For the first time on a major urban freeway project, ADOT has authorized the use of a design-build contract to accelerate construction. That means the project's design and construction will be performed by one project team under the same contract. If changes need to be made during design or if problems arise during construction, they can be addressed and resolved quickly since all the companies involved will work as a single construction unit. This approach can significantly reduce the estimated time for construction compared to standard methods.

"This project will have a major impact on traffic", said Darryl Goodson, Project Director for Granite Construction, who with Sundt Construction has formed a joint venture for the project. "With the plan we have for construction, we should be able to significantly reduce the time it takes to complete the job. To accomplish this there will need to be some ramp closures and occasional nighttime and weekend closures of I-17. The goal is to complete the work as soon as possible without causing too many headaches for drivers and the business area."

The project's first major construction will occur on the freeway entrance and exit ramps at Peoria and Northern Avenues. This will require the closure of the ramps on the south side of Peoria and all four ramps at Northern. Freeway traffic lanes will be restriped and shifted toward the median. At night, new lighting will be installed. Once these ramps are reconstructed, they will reopen and work will begin on reconstructing the four ramps at Dunlap Avenue. There will be restrictions near the work zones at night so drivers should go slowly and watch out for highway workers.

An on-site public information office has been set up to answer questions located at 4550 North Black Canyon Freeway (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Thursdays until 8 p.m. A telephone hotline (602/246-3060) for construction and road closure information is available as well as an Internet website ([www.interstate17.com](http://www.interstate17.com)).

## I-17 SCHEDULE

**South of Peoria**  
Mid January To  
Mid April

**North & South  
of Dunlap**  
Mid May To  
Late July

**North & South  
of Northern**  
Mid January To  
Mid May

**North & South  
Of Glendale**  
Late January  
To Mid May

**The Bridge Over  
I-17 At Glendale**  
Early May To  
Late September

**North & South Of  
Bethany Home**  
Mid August To  
Mid October

**The Bridge Over  
I-17 At Camelback**  
Mid May To  
Mid October

**Camelback To  
South Of  
Indian School**  
Early April to  
Mid July



# In This Issue

- 1 I-17 Construction Widening
- 2 Minute To Minute
- 3 Nominees Needed
- 3 Crime Stats 1998
- 3 Calendar Events
- 4 General Meeting/Winner
- 4 Connie's Corner

The Bel Air Neighborhood Association publishes the Bel Air Neighborhood Communicator monthly. Many thanks to all of the volunteers in Bel Air that make this project possible.

Bel Air  
Neighborhood  
Association  
4235 N. 16th Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85015  
392-8338

## ASSOCIATION BOARD

### President

Anna Blevins (2000)  
4225 N. 15th Drive  
266-6340

### Vice President

Jeannie Garcia (2000)  
4110 N. 16th Drive  
264-6413

### Treasurer

Jack Redmond (2000)  
1722 W. Devonshire  
241-1633

### Secretary

Betty Dales (2000)  
4235 N. 16th Drive  
265-4856

### Members

Stacey Ayers (1999)  
Tom Bentley (2000)  
Todd Brueshoff (1999)  
Bill Heedy (1999)  
Rich Jackal (2000)  
Maureen Kelly (2000)  
Bob McBane (1999)  
Laurel Moran (1999)

## Minute To Minute

By  
Betty Dales

The January 9, 1999 Board Meeting was held in the Fireside Room, 1830 W. Glenrosa.

Minutes from the December Board Meeting were approved as written. Treasurer's reports for the General Fund and 301 Grant were approved as submitted.

**Meth House Update** - The third and fourth defendants were sentenced on January 5 and 6, 1999. We have no report on the exact sentence but it was expected they would receive probation.

**Curbside House Number Painting** - Jeannie Garcia reported that the project is on or ahead of schedule to be completed by March 1999.

**New Neighbor Packets** - Stacey Ayers reports that the new packet info has been printed in enlarged type. We are waiting for the envelopes to be printed, which should be in the next couple of weeks.

**301-1999** - The committee has not met again but Jeannie Garcia has been gathering information regarding alley lighting, which will be the focus of our 1999 grant. The committee will have the application completed and submitted by the February 5, 1999 deadline.

**January 19th General Meeting** - The committee has been very busy. Local businesses have donated many home, personal and vehicle safety items to be used as door prizes. In addition to the fire and safety presentation, nominations for new board members will be accepted. (Please consider donating time to your neighborhood. Nominations will be accepted until March 12, 1999,

contact any Board member for information or to submit nominations.)

**Other** - We still need a place to store neighborhood supplies and equipment. Bill Heedy will notify Air Touch Cellular to discontinue service for the Block Watchers On Patrol cell phone. Through a national grant we have received a free cell phone and air time. The cell phone is programmed to only make calls to 911, Crime Stop, and the Squaw Peak Precinct office.

**Open Discussion** - Reminder that three of the Board members whose term expires in May have already been elected for two consecutive terms and are not eligible for re-election this year. We need new faces on the Board.

The next meeting will be Saturday, February 13, 9:00a.m. at Bill Heedy's home, 4130 N. 15th Avenue.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38a.m.



## Attention Attention

The Bel Air Neighborhood Association will be spraying weeds and grass growing in streets and sidewalks the last half of February. Be advised that we will be using a chemical weed killer. If you do not want the weeds sprayed in front of your house, leave your name and address on our hotline before February 15.

## Bulk Trash Pickup

*Put trash out between Feb 6 - 21*

*Make sure all vegetation is less than 4 feet in length and 12 inches in diameter*

*Do not place trash on the sidewalk*



## Help!!! Nominees Needed Desperately!!

Your neighborhood and The Bel Air Association needs you! We need new Board Members. There are 6 vacancies for the April 24 Election and so far we only have 3 nominees. If you want this Association to survive and thrive, please help us find neighbors to fill these vacancies. The two year position requires attendance at monthly Board Meetings held the second Saturday of each month at 9am. You are allowed 3 missed meetings a Board Year as long as they are not consecutive misses. You would help decide the direction the Association will take in the future, projects and events and get to know a lot of nice people that live right here in Bel Air. A commitment, such as joining the Board is a big decision. Everyone knows that. You made a big commitment when you purchased your house here. Now commit to help us make this neighborhood a safe pleasant place to live. For more information on these positions or to nominate yourself or someone you know call any Board Member or the Hotline at 392-8338. These nominations must be submitted before March 12, 1999.

**The deadline for submitting articles  
for the March Newsletter is  
February 21**

## BUSINESS AS USUAL

*By Anna Blevins*

### Should this column continue??

Let us know by calling the  
Hotline or any Board Member

## NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME STATS

Once again, we remind you that this information is not current. These stats are for the entire year of 1998. This information is given not to scare you, but to alert you to the problems facing our neighborhood.

Our area is 19th Avenue to 15th Avenue between Indian School Road and Campbell Avenue. From January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1998 we had 0 homicides, 0 sexual assaults, 3 aggravated assaults and 5 robberies; this equals a total of 8 violent crimes last year. We have had 74 burglaries, 36 thefts, 24 auto thefts and 0 arson; equaling 134 property crimes. We had 23 drug crimes, 0 gang related crimes, 25 domestic violence crimes and 93 traffic crashes. All total we had 1,449 calls for service in 1998.

Generally we had fewer crimes in each category than our adjacent neighborhoods. We had 165 total crimes, the neighborhood to the south had 172, to the north 364, to the west 620 and to the east 254. Of these five neighborhoods we were second in number of traffic crashes.

Fax Net (the provider of these figures) no longer ranks neighborhoods in regard to total crimes committed.

Remember to report any suspicious activity. Call 911 for emergencies, call Crime Stop at 262-6151.

## ARE YOU PAYING FOR FLOOD INSURANCE?

If you pay high flood insurance premiums and would like to see if as a neighborhood we might be able to correct the situation, please call Jim Antill at 943-0228 or Bill Kinnerup at 279-1328.

We would like to schedule a meeting with interested neighbors and the proper authorities to inform us of possible alternate choices.

## CALENDAR EVENTS

**Feb 4-7, Jaycee's Parada Del Sol Rodeo Week** - Rodeos, major dances, concerts, live Country Western music, children's activities, Scottsdale 502-1880 or 990-3179

**Feb 6-March 28, 11th Annual Arizona Renaissance Festival** - Hundreds of costumed participants recreate the atmosphere of a 16th century "European Market Faire" with activities that entertain, educate and involve. Apache Junction 520-463-2700.

**Feb 12-21, 44th Annual All-Arabian Horse Show** - 2,000 of the world's most beautiful Arabians, Half-Arabians and National Show Horses. Scottsdale 515-1500 or 483-8800.

**Feb 13-15, Arizona Statehood Celebration** - Live entertainment, fireworks, clowns, face painting, kids' games and contests, prizes, desert cookout, live County Western music. Rawhide, Scottsdale 502-1880.

**Feb 26-28, 21st Annual Great Fair** - Continuous entertainment, hot-air balloons and carnival in Fountain Park, more than 400 artists display on the Avenue of Fountains. Fountain Hills 837-1654.



### Surplus Auction - Feb 20th

If you're in the market for a used car or truck, the Phoenix Surplus Auction could be the place to find a bargain.

The Feb. 20 auction at the city auction yard, 2820 S. 22nd Ave., will include a good supply of vehicles of all types.

Gates will open at 7:30am and the sale will begin at 9:00am. Items that will be on the auction block may be inspected at the yard from 9am to 3pm, Thursday, Feb. 18 and Friday, Feb. 19.



## WINNERS ABOUND AT GENERAL MEETING

Our Tuesday, January 19 General Meeting featured Board Nominations and presentation on Fire and Crime Prevention devices. Carol Adamson from 16th Avenue, Todd Brueshoff from Glenrosa and Laurel Moran from Monterosa all accepted their nominations for Association Board Members. Elections will be held April 24.

Captain Jeff Heltzel from the Phoenix Fire Department spoke to neighbors about ways to prevent and survive house fires. Detective Vince Bruno from Squaw Peak Precinct discussed crime prevention devices and ways to make your home a less desirable target for criminals. The following door prizes were won by your neighbors. The Club was won by Janis and Harold Leach from Westview Drive, Dianne McChesney from Montecito and Tony Rodriguez from 17th Avenue. Georgia Thomas from 17th Avenue won the Pepper Spray. Deborah Dumone from Montecito won the Sliding Glass Door Locks. The Carbon Monoxide Detector was won by Tim Blevins from 15th Drive. Stacey Ayers from Monterosa, Todd Brueshoff from Glenrosa, George Downey from 17th Avenue, Rick Jackal from 15th Drive and Barb Redmond from Devonshire all won smoke detectors. The winners of the "Peephole" Installations were Carol Adamson from 16th Avenue, Jeannie Garcia from 16th Drive, Peter Martin from 17th Avenue and Beth Rockwell from 17th Avenue.

Please thank the following neighborhood business for their donation of door prizes: Checker Auto Parts, Pep Boys, Auto Zone, NAPA, Capital Electric, Target, Walt's Ace Hardware and WalMart. We thank the William Ross Family of MacKenzie for their cash donation to help purchase safety devices and Al

Heaps for his donation of one cent stamps.

Your Association received \$19.10 in donations at this meeting and sold one neighborhood T-shirt for \$10.00.

We regret that our meeting (scheduled in November) conflicted with the State of the Union Address. We thank everyone who attended and participated in our meeting.

### Hi Neighbors!

I am pleased to announce that I am your neighborhood **SHAKLEE** distributor.

Call me for vitamins, herbs, skin care products, and safe effective household cleaners.

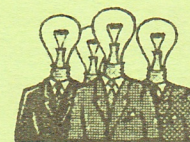
All products are 100% guaranteed—you'll love them or your money back!! Also call me for an exciting and lucrative business opportunity.

**SHARON BARGER 274-0230**



**\$250.00  
Donation  
Received**

The Westwood Community has generously shared a donation they received from PriceRite Grocery Store with surrounding neighborhoods. Bel Air and several other local neighborhood associations each received a check for \$250.00. Westwood is using the remainder of their donation for their neighborhood park. We would like to thank Westwood and PriceRite for their generosity.



## Deregulated Electricity

The Arizona Corporation Commission has scheduled deregulation of the state's electric utility industry.

Before deregulation, the consumer couldn't choose who generated their electricity.

After deregulation, the consumer can choose the source that generates their electricity. The transmission and distribution of that electricity will still be regulated.

This means the power plant where the electricity is produced is now deregulated but how the electricity is transported to you is still regulated.

Choice comes first to Arizona's largest electricity consumers on January 1, 1999. These customers include major manufacturing facilities, large hospitals, office buildings and shopping centers that use 1 megawatt and above.

Mid-sized businesses can combine their loads to reach at least 1 megawatt to allow additional customers to enter the deregulated competitive market.

Gradually, about 4 percent of residential customers will be phased in before the market opens completely on January 1, 2001.

### Connie's Corner Quips, Quotes & Questions

*Things turn out the best for those who make the best of the way things turn out.*