





### COMMUNICATOR

Volume 1 Issue 3

www.belairneighborhood.com

October/November 2013

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

- G.A.I.N. Event
- A Good Lesson
- 2013 –14 Block Watch Grant
- Animal Friends
- Yard of the Quarter
- Community Garden
- Make it: laundry soap
- Candy Corn & Door Prizes
- Outstanding G.A.I.N. Event
- Bel Air Board Accomplishments
- Treasurer's Report

"As you discover what strength you can draw from your community in this world from which it stands apart, look outward as well as inward. Build bridges instead of walls."

- Sonia Sotomayor

### GAIN EVENT OCTOBER 19, 2013

### What is G.A.I.N.?

G.A.I.N. stands for Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods. G.A.I.N. is Arizona's answer to National Night Out (NNO) which is held in August. Because of the soaring temperatures in August, communities statewide decided to observe NNO in October and call it G.A.I.N. This is a great complement to National Crime Prevention month!

G.A.I.N. is a day of celebration for the successes of crime prevention through community involvement. Block Watches, apartment complexes, schools, neighborhood groups, parks, businesses, etc. across Phoenix participate in events to:

- Show support for the efforts of those involved in the fight against crime
- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

The Bel Air Community G.A.I.N. event, from 5pm - 7pm at the American Evangelical Lutheran Church gymnasium, 1830 W. Glenrosa Ave, was great fun. We thoroughly enjoyed pizza from Papa John's and sandwiches **donated** by the new Chick-fil-A location at 16th Street and Camelback. Several neighbors brought desserts to the dessert potluck— we had some amazing treats! We had fun crafts, some of the kids dressed up for the costume contest. It was a great opportunity to learn more about our neighborhood, meet our neighbors, and pick up information from the City to help us make our neighborhood an even safer place to live. We even had a fire truck!

Read more about the G.A.I.N. Event on Page 5.

## A Good, Albeit Unfortunate, Lesson Learned

AII.

You will read below about an experience that is not only unfortunate but also completely avoidable. I have spoken many times to the communities I serve and in almost every case I question why we open our doors for strangers. It seems in almost every meeting I have conducted a few acknowledge their engagement with either door to door solicitors or strangers knocking. Please use this email as a lesson, a lesson to **never trust a stranger at your door especially one with an outrageous story or sales pitch**. I will remind you that your homes are your most prized possession, your home should be considered your private space. Hopefully you have put the barriers in place to better protect you, such as but not limited to, locks, lighting, security doors, camera systems etc. When dealing with a stranger at your home please do not remove your safety barriers, please do not let your guard down, please do not become complacent and please do not open your doors! The alternative to doing so is to speak from within your home while it is secured, decline the services and ask the people or person to leave your property. If you are in a position to obtain a description of the person(s) then do so, call crime stop (602) 262-6151 and report the incident.

What you are about to read is a rare occurrence but unfortunately it is a true story. This email is to educate you on current trends or tactics being used by the bad guys please make a note of this tactic (described below) and keep watch for it in your neighborhood.

"Yesterday two Hispanics came to our door. Said they were from Maricopa County and claimed neighbors had complained about our orange trees overhanging the backyard fence. One of the men took us into the back yard and said he needed both homeowners to see the tree cutting. Kept us in the yard and requested a tape measure and a piece of hose to identify what he intended to do. Finally, I asked for ID. He said he had papers for us to sign and then disappeared. We didn't think much more about it although I did call the police. However, the next morning my wife found that she was missing her watch and a few items of jewelry (approximately \$5000). Apparently when we were in the backyard with one Hispanic, his partner had rifled the house. In hindsight, we were very stupid; however, we were trusting and wanted to cooperate."

"Happy no one was hurt and we learned that trust is a dirty word."

Ben Carro Community Action Officer Mountain View Precinct 602-320-0394 "Policing with a Purpose"

### 2013-2014 Block Watch Grant

Our 2013-2014 Block Watch Grant application has been approved for \$7,876 as requested. The largest portion is \$4,300, which is allocated for our 30 neighborhood alley lights (electricity cost/conversion to LED lighting).

Other authorized items include: facility rental fees, Block Watch/general meeting notices/mailings, newsletter printing, insurance, web site

hosting, miscellaneous Block Watch printings, equipment and supplies, and consumables (ie: paper and ink).

The Neighborhood Block Watch Grant Program (NBWGP) provides an opportunity to enhance the safety and the quality of life in our neighborhood and it helps the Association to prevent and solve crime-related problems in our neighborhood.



#### ANIMAL FRIENDS OF BELAIR

We would like to introduce our friend, a rescued greyhound named Blazin' AZ Jovani. His new name is Joe. Joe won many races but broke his leg on the racetrack, and is now enjoying his retirement with his person, Judah. He was adopted from Greyhound Pets of Arizona. Joe enjoys: Walks around the neighborhood and Indian Steele Park, long naps and beef jerky treats. If you know an animal friend of Belair, who you would like to see featured, please email Melanie:

Melanie.thomson.legendre@gmail.com





CONGRATULATIONS, YARD OF THE QUARTER WINNER!

The Bel Air Neighborhood Association is very pleased to announce our Bel Air Yard of the Quarter recipient! Please join us in congratulating our neighbor, Daniel, as the Yard of the Quarter winner for August 2013. You may notice an array of day lilies in his front yard. He specializes in growing them and is a member of numerous groups who share the same passion. He has literally hundreds of day lilies of all different kinds on his property and is always getting more! He also competes, and his flowers have won numerous awards. Next time you are on a stroll, take a moment to enjoy the display in his front yard. April will be prime-time for the blooms, he reports. Thanks, Daniel, for helping to beautify our neighborhood! He has received an official "Bel Air Yard of the Quarter" lawn sign, to be placed in the yard for the first two weeks after awarded, and a gift certificate generously donated by Southwest Gardener®, a local gardening specialty shop at 15th Ave and Thomas. For rules and nomination forms, please visit our web site at: <a href="www.belairneighborhood.com">www.belairneighborhood.com</a>, or to nominate someone, contact <a href="melanie.thomson.legendre@gmail.com">melanie.thomson.legendre@gmail.com</a>

### **COMMUNITY GARDEN**

When asked to list the vegetables and fruits planted yesterday in the community garden, Jeanne Greene replied, "Your newsletter isn't big enough!" They are always seeking new members and friends.

Email: jeannegreene9@gmail.com

## Home Made Laundry Detergent

I mix the dry ingredients in this recipe and add water as needed to make small batches. All ingredients are available at Walmart or Target. I use it in my HE machine.

Here is a breakdown of how much it costs to make 5 gallons of detergent:

Fels Naptha – \$0.98 per bar, Borax – \$3.29 per box and Washing Soda – \$2.99 per box

**Total investment: \$7.26** I figured it costs me less than \$1.50 per 5 gallons of soap!

**INGREDIENTS:** 

1 bar Fels Naptha Soap (laundry aisle)

1 Cup Washing Soda

1 Cup Borax

really hot water

**SUPPLIES** 

2 gallon pot or very big bowl.

Something to hold detergent (can use emptied old detergent jugs)

Cheese grater

### **Instructions:**

Grate the soap (3 minutes)- coarsely is okay.

Mix it with the powdered ingredients. Store in a watertight container.

When ready, the small batch is 4 tablespoons of powdered mixture to 2 quarts of nearly boiling water. Combine and let cool, mixing every so often. It will be gloppy. There are recipes online that advise to cook the soap with water for a smoother texture, but I don't cook it. It still works and smells great!

Use 1/2 cup per load of laundry!

Have great tips and recipes??? We would like to put them in the newsletter to share with your neighbors. Email me at: <a href="Melanie.thomson.legendre@gmail.com">Melanie.thomson.legendre@gmail.com</a>

## Candy Corn & Door Prize Drawings

Guessing the number of candy corns proved challenging! The guesses ranged from 100 to 2,500. Chris Hopkins won with his guess of 873 as the actual number was 965. He won a newly-designed Bel Air t-shirt and the candy corns.

Door prize drawings also added to the fun!

Chick-fil-a at Camelback & 16th St. proudly donated a very nice gift basket that was won by Maxine Radtke. Two free lunches donated by the Ladybug House of Sandwiches at McDowell & 11th St. were won by Don Hilton and Reuben Guerrero. Charles Butcher won a family 4-pack of passes to the Arizona Science Center, while JoAnn Wilder won a 2-pack of passes.

Newly-designed Bel Air Neighborhood t-shirts were graciously donated by Phoenix Wholesale Printing, which is located in the Bel Air Neighborhood on 19th Ave.

The t-shirt winners were: Angel Montoya, Bob McBane, Michaela Puffer, Tom Sawyer, Holly Trueblood, Kyle Jordre, Mare Sanchez, Jenny Taylor, Sonia Banuelos, Cesar Guerrero, and Brad Bennett.

Kyle Johnlon won a nice G.A.I.N. tumbler. Decks of Silent Witness cards were won by Spencer Taylor and Kamran Johnson.

Thank you to all the businesses for your donations to our neighborhood!



# Outstanding G.A.I.N. Event proves noteworthy!

A Phoenix Fire Dept. crew stopped by with their fire truck to kick off the G.A.I.N. event. Phoenix Police Dept. officers also attended and visited with residents.

The "Safety Patrol" band played live to the delight and enjoyment of attendees!

The recently-opened Chick-fil-A at Camelback and 16th Street graciously donated 75 Chick-fil-A chicken sandwiches for our event!

While dining on Chick-fil-A chicken sandwiches and pizza with various toppings (along with the many delicious desserts neighbors brought), over 75 residents visited with each other. Some also purchased tickets for the 50/50 raffle. At the end of the night, Charles Butcher's ticket won!

In the center of the dining area, one long table was covered with paper. Paint and foam brushes were available. Children and adults creatively worked side-by-side to fill the paper

with great pictures and designs.

In another area of the gym, children could create their own masks and frames as well as receive a bag of goodies and sign up for the costume contest. The goody bags were comprised of many fun and educational items (coloring/activity books, pencils, crayons, magnets, stickers, etc.) that were donated by various organizations and government departments. The friends of the Phoenix Public Library (phxfriends.org) donated the 20 book bags that were used to hold all of the goodies.

Costume contest winners won various prizes too!

There was also exciting zumba dancing! Thank you, Victoria, for adding to the fun!

The G.A.I.N. Event is sponsored by the City of Phoenix' Neighborhood Block Watch Grant Program (NBWGP).

# Bel Air Neighborhood Association accomplishments since 1994

In 1994 there was a pair of articles in the Phoenix Gazette about the frustrations and concerns of Phoenix residents as expressed in a professional survey done that year. They were not unique problems to that time; they are the same problems we struggle with today: graffiti, poorly maintained front and back yards, traffic cutting through neighborhoods, litter in alleys, abandoned and inoperable vehicles parked in yards and on streets, and too many houses converted to rental properties. This last issue was because neither the landlord nor the renters took enough responsibility for maintaining the properties, thus threatening to devalue surrounding properties. A call to action letter was sent to about half the property owners in the Bel Air/Kearnie/Eugene area by a man named Grayson Mont. The letter urged the neighbors to organize and improve the neighborhood by establishing a neighborhood association and taking on the common issues. The first meeting place was May 20, 1994 at the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Since then, our neighborhood has met and faced many challenges. Here is a representative list of some of the activities and projects we've taken on since then.

Ten street lights were established throughout the neighborhood

The association received 301 Block Watch funding for crime prevention activities

Bel Air secured a District 4 Fight Back Grant

24 Neighborhood Identification street topper signs were installed

The irrigation system was repaired

A Night Safety audit conducted with Neighborhood Services and the police department

Crime Prevention presentations held at general meetings

At least 10 neighborhood clean-ups were conducted with the Maricopa County Adult Probation

Implemented the "Keep Kids Alive Campaign"

Bel Air logo with house numbers were painted on street curbs at each house

Purchased pop up tent with logo for events

Established two pedestrian bridges across a west end irrigation ditch

### Who you going to call?

City Council-District 4 602.262.7447 Bus route & schedules 602.253.5000 Light rail information 602.254.7245 Discount fares 602.261.8506 Dial-a-ride 602.253.4000 Barking dogs 602.262.6466 Abandoned vehicles 602.262.7844 Trash in alley 602.262.6151

### NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP DAY

THANK YOU to the neighbors that participated in the Nov. 2nd Clean Up Day! Your efforts are appreciated!

- Virginia Anders
- Judah Cain
- Dan Hancock
- Christopher Keck and child (in wheelbarrow)
- Michael Ramirez and children
- Jan Silverman

## Friends of Bel Air

Phoenix Police Department

Phoenix Fire Department

**Neighborhood Services** 

Neighborhood Leadership

**Block Watch** 

Chick-fil-A (Camelback & 16th St)

Walt's Ace Hardware

Phoenix Wholesale Printing

Southwest Gardener®

Ladybug House of Sandwiches

American Evangelical Lutheran Church

Copper Star Coffee

Papa John's Pizza

Fry's Foods

Food City

My Mother's Restaurant

SRP

Keeping Phoenix Beautiful

friends of Phoenix Public Library

### U p c o m i n g E v e n t

The next Bel Air General Meeting is being planned for Saturday, December 7th at 9am. Save the date!

## Alley Light Out?

If you know of any alley light(s) out in our neighborhood, please e-mail Carrie at carriefraz@aol.com with the location.

## Are You New to Bel Air?

Sign up for e-mail newsletters & e-Alerts at www.belairneighborhood.com. You may also request a free Bel Air Bag (includes a L or XL t-shirt, "Be Aware" notepad, reference card, etc.) by sending a note to carriefraz@aol.com.

BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

GENERAL FUND REPORT

### NEW Bel Air Neighborhood Association T-SHIRT ORDER FORM



T-shirts will need to be ordered and acquired from our supplier.
This may take 2-4 weeks.

Name:					
Address #:	Circle t-shirt colo	Circle t-shirt color:			
Phone #:	White	Green			

YOUTH T-shirt	Quantity	Youth Size				
		XS	s	M	L	
		(		\$10.00		)

Please make checks to: Bel Air Neighborhood Association.

Questions? Email Carrie Frazer at carriefraz@aol.com or call 602-647-2832

## Treasurer's Report

PERIOD CO	OVERED: 8/14/13 - 11/07/13			
DATE	ACTIVITY	EXPENSE	INCOME	BALANCE
8/14/2013	BEGINNING BALANCE			\$1,300.00
	NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE AD	\$38.52		\$1,261.48
	SERVICE FEE - SEPTEMBER	\$5.00		\$1,256.48
	SERVICE FEE - OCTOBER	\$5.00		\$1,251.48
	GAIN MEETING EXPENSES	\$260.60		\$990.88
	YARD SALE PROFIT		\$1.00	\$991.88
	GAIN MEETING - 50/50 RAFFLE		\$24.00	\$1,015.88
	T-SHIRT SALES		\$20.00	\$1,035.88
	T-SHIRTS PURCHASE	\$21.66		\$1,014.22
	CLEAN-UP DAY EXPENSES	\$10.69		\$1,003.53
11/7/2013	ENDING BALANCE			\$1,003.53







### San Diego Medical Clinic

4245 N. 19th Ave.

602-277-8885

walk-ins accepted

M - F 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. And Sat 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Many services, including: Chronic Illnesses \* Physicals \*

\* Diabetes Control

Muchos Servicios: Enfermedades Chronica \* Examenes Fisicos \* Control de Diabetes

# AMERICAN LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL & DAYCARE CENTER

1830 W. Glenrosa Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85015 (602) 275-9978

Monday - Friday, 6:00a.m. - 6:00p.m.

- Nutritious food program for each child
  - Ages 6 weeks to pre-K
  - Christian-based program
    - Creative curriculum
  - DES Approved / DHS LICENSED



Est. 2012

Resale Store

4440 N. 19th Ave Phoenix, AZ 85015 602.247.7767 10% OFF WITH THIS AD Tues-Fri 11a.m.-6p.m. Sat 10a.m.-6p.m.