



Cactus Sweetwater Neighborhood



Community Group Block Watch February 2015 Newsletter

*This newsletter is part of a Crime Prevention Program
That is funded by tax dollars granted under the
City of Phoenix Neighborhood Block Watch Grant Program*

Volume 15

Issue 2



Desert Horizon Precinct
Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 8 am
Coco's Restaurant
4514 E. Cactus Rd (just south of PV Mall)

Black Mtn Precinct
Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 8 am
Deer Valley Airport Restaurant
702 W. Deer Valley Rd., 623-582-5454

Shadow Mountain Little League is a not for profit league who is dedicated to encouraging children to play and develop skills in baseball. We implant the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority and one's peers, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger, happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens.

We are currently seeking volunteers.



Please visit our website at
www.shadowmountainll.com

**Spring registration is
currently open**

January 2015 Meeting Highlights

Jim Nace opened the meeting and lead the group in the pledge of allegiance. Jim turned over the floor to Officers Pat Dewell and Mark Miller presenting the K-Nine partners providing tactical support. The dogs can be a mix of German Shepherds, Dutch Shepard's and Belgian Malinois. Facts of where the dogs are purchased, trained and the cost of each dog was discussed. The dogs the group was able to interact with and watch demonstration are used for patrol.

After the K-nine demonstration our new CAO Officer Tim Mitten introduced himself along with Sgt. Jerry Peterson of Black Mountain Precinct. Officer Mitten gave us a run down as to what in going on in Phoenix right now and encouraged the neighbors to get involved.

After a quick break of networking Jim welcomed neighbors attending for the first time. He welcomed the McKnoewn Family, Jay Bramwell and Anthony Bumgarner. The floor was given to Sandy Hennigan of Larkspur Elementary PTSA announcing the school's rummage sale in February.

Jim reminded everyone at the end of this season he and Jeff Houtcooper are stepping down and would like to have volunteers to step up to help with the block watch so they can be mentored for the new season.

Meeting adjourned, see you all in February.

Special Notes:

2nd Saturday November through May Produce on Wheels is at the Genesis Church, 13625 N. 32nd Street (SE corner of 32nd St. and Thunderbird). Pick up 60 # of produce for \$10. Next distribution is February 14, 2015.

Cross in the Desert UMC March 7, 2015 from 9 am to 3 pm is making blankets for "Warm Hearts". Can't attend the church would love your fabric donation. The blankets are made for local kids through the police and fire departments, schools and non-profits that help children.

**CACTUS SWEETWATER NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY GROUP BLOCK WATCH
2014 MEETING SCHEDULE—MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

February 10, 7 pm Cross in the Desert UMC SE Corner 32nd St and Sweetwater Fellowship Hall	March 10, 2015 7 pm Cross in the Desert UMC SE Corner 32nd St and Sweetwater Fellowship Hall	April 14, 2015 7 pm Cross in the Desert UMC SE Corner 32nd St and Sweetwater Fellowship Hall	May 12, 2015 7 pm Cross in the Desert UMC SE Corner 32nd St and Sweetwater Fellowship Hall
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Meetings and Events



**Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol
Training
Saturday, May 09, 2015**

Registration begins at 7:30 am and class will last
until approximately 12 noon.

To be held at the Mt. View Precinct community
room located at 2075 E. Maryland Ave (between
Glendale Ave & Bethany Home Rd).

RSVP to Officer Brian Kornegay at 602-256-4303/
email: brian.kornegay@phoenix.gov or
Officer Deb Iodice at 602-495-0597/email:
deborah.iodice@phoenix.gov

Seating is limited to 45 people

2015 Training Dates

All Saturday dates PNP Training, usually conducted at
the Mtn View Precinct, 2075 E. Maryland.

July 11, 2015—Begins at 7:30 am—Noon.
August 29, 2015—Begins at 7:30 am—Noon.
November 7, 2015—Begins at 7:30 am—Noon.



Save the Dates

Saturday, February 21, 2015 at Larkspur Elementary School—Community Rummage Sale from 8 am—1:00 pm located at the parking lot 2430 E. Larkspur Drive.

- Space are \$10 for 1 space and \$15 for 2 spaces
- Gates open at 7 am

All fees to benefit the Larkspur Elementary School PTSA...Monies collected by sales are kept by the individual merchandise will go to the space registrant.

To reserve a space call Sandra Lenny @ 602-762-9119 or Sandy Hennigan @ 480-678-2298.

Please make checks Payable to Larkspur PTSA

Saturday, March 21, 2015 at Cross in the Desert UMC located at the SE corner of 32nd Street and Sweetwater in the Fellowship Hall at 6PM Chili Cook Off Tickets \$5 each for an evening of sampling and fun. Western Music. Good Food and Great Neighbors.

Ticket available at the door or the administration building prior to the cook-off.

In Cooperation with the Phoenix Police Department



**BLOCK
WATCH**

To Report Suspicious Activity Call Crime Stop 602-262-6151

EMERGENCY 9-1-1

**If I Don't Call...
My Neighbor Will**

Every Block Watch starts with one person and their concern for the safety and well-being of themselves and their families. Their motivation may be to meet or get to know their neighbors to protect the children, to keep property values up by eliminating blight and graffiti, to stop speeding on the streets by installing speed bumps to protect the children, to have peace of mind by discouraging barking dogs and loud parties, and to be safe from crimes like burglary, theft and assault.

We all want to live in a safe and secure environment. If you are interested in the same common goals, join us the second Tuesday September through May at 7 pm at Cross in the Desert Church to accomplish the goal of keeping our neighborhood safe.

DONATION REQUEST

Want to help the Block Watch and can't attend meetings or volunteer? We are seeking a donation of \$5 per household to help with expenses to further serve the neighborhood providing Safety and Crime Educational classes and materials. Please contact Jim Nace @ 602-482-8328 for pick up or drop off information.
Thank you

We are still collecting Donations for the police conference room. Items used: 16.6oz bottled water, 12oz canned sodas, individually packaged snacks, toilet paper, boxed facial tissues. Bring the items to the block watch meeting or call Jim Nace 602-482-8328 and he will be glad to pick them up. **Don't forget to bring non-perishable food donations to the Block Watch meetings for the Paradise Valley Emergency Food Bank. Hunger does not stop please call Jim Nace for pick up.**

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K-Nine Demo at January 2015 Block Watch Meeting
 Officers Pat Dewell and Mark Miller



MISSION

The purpose of our Neighborhood Block Watch is to make our community a safe and appealing environment for all residents by communication, encouragement, and to help one another.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency 911

Non-Emergency - Crime Stop

602-262-6151

Police General Information

602-262-7626

Black Mountain Precinct

602-495-5002

Community Programs Officer

Officer Rebecca Tiger

602-495-5189

rebecca.tiger@phoenix.gov

Community Action Officers:

Squad Sgt. Jerry Peterson #5907

602-495-5112

jerry.peterson@phoenix.gov

Ofc Tim Mitten #5279

602-495-5238

tim.mitten@phoenix.gov

Ofc Manny Valenzuela #7480

602-495-5213

Manuel.valenzuela@phoenix.gov

Desert Horizon Precinct

602-495-5006

Community Programs Officer

Officer Matt Makinster

602-534-0347

matt.makinster@phoenix.gov

Community Action Officers

Squad Sgt. Mike Dwyer

602-534-1896

mike.dwyer@phoenix.gov

Officer Butch Titus

602-534-1747

butch.titus@phoenix.gov

Officer Dawn Vaughn

602-534-7096

dawn.vaughn@phoenix.gov

Mayor Greg Stanton 602-262-7111

District 3 COUNCILMAN - Bill Gates

602-262-7441 counil.district3@phoenix.gov

Chief of Staff—Laura D. Etter J.D.

602-261-8623 laura.etter@phoenix.gov

City of Phoenix General Info

602-262-6011

Complaints on Mosquitoes

602-506-6616

Drug Complaints Lines

602-534-1895

Graffiti Busters—602-495-7014

Graffiti Hotline—602-262-7327

Or email: blight@phoenix.gov with details

Barking Dog—602-262-6466

Illegal Dumping—602-262-7251

Poison Control—602-253-3334

Neighborhood Services

602-262-7344



TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME

Phoenix Block Watch Advisory Board

- **February 24, 2015**
- **6:30—8:30 PM**
- **Location to be announced**

Topic—Taser International

For further info visit:
<http://www.phxblockwatch.org/>

Cactus Sweetwater Neighborhood

Cactus Sweetwater Neighborhood Community Group Block Watch

Serving the neighborhood 28th to 36th Streets, from Cactus to Sweetwater
The purpose of our Block Watch is to provide a better environment, to preserve, protect and contribute to the quality of life in our community.

Come to the February 10, 2015 CSNCGBW Neighborhood Meeting

**The monthly meeting of the Cactus Sweetwater
Neighborhood Block Watch will be Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at
7:00pm. We meet at Cross in the Desert Church in the Fellowship Hall
at 32nd and Sweetwater Street. Neighbors interested in making our
neighborhood the best in the city will be at the meeting.**

**Speaker: Jacob Steinbach, Community Prosecution Specialist
Presenting Victim Services Advocacy.**

**We are looking for new faces to step up and help keep our block watch going.
This meeting and every meeting is for you and your family. Come and help
us stay safe and voice your concerns, help us fight crime, become active,
chair a committee, lend a helping hand.**

**Hope to see new faces with the neighbors that come every month to help
make this neighborhood the best and safest in Phoenix.**



SHOP PHOENIX
The sales tax
Helps funds
City Services!

CRIME TIPS

Hanging Up on Cell Phone Scams

Telephone scams have been around as long as there have been telephones, and new technology has created new opportunities for thieves to try and separate you from your money.

"We are starting to see a lot of submittals involving cell phones," said Michael Gingold, Chief of the MCAO's Fraud and Identity Theft Enforcement (FITE) Bureau. "Several involve scammers approaching victims asking them to purchase a phone for them."

In one such scenario, thieves approach a victim outside a cell phone store wearing fake but official looking badges indicating they work for Verizon. "These scammers will give cash to victims and invite them to use a portion of the money to purchase a phone as part of a 'mystery shopper' program," said Deputy County Attorney Gregory Cecilia, who handles such cases. The scammer lets the victim keep the extra cash, but what they don't say is that by purchasing the phone, the victim is also signing a contract with a phone service provider.

While the scammer walks away with a new cell phone, the unwitting victim gets stuck with service fees that accumulate as part of the contract they didn't realize they signed. If they try and cancel the service, they're required to pay termination fees totaling much more than what they received from the scammer.

"Before participating in any supposed 'mystery shopper' program, go to an actual retail store and confirm with a manager that such a program exists," Cecilia advises.



The Year that Was - Imposter Scams and Frauds

Imposter scams dominated the news in 2014 and also appeared frequently in AARP's Fraud Watch Network scam tracking map. Here are a few examples.

IRS SCAMS

How it works: Tax season will be soon upon us, and scammers posing as IRS officials continue to call, saying you owe taxes and better pay up. They threaten to arrest or deport people, revoke a license, or even shut down a business. How do they do it? By rigging caller ID information to appear as if the IRS is calling, and sometimes even making a follow-up call claiming to be the police or the DMV.

What to do: But remember, the IRS will not call you on the phone; if they need to start a conversation with you, they will do it by official paper mail. However, if you owe — or think you owe — federal taxes, call the IRS at 800-829-1040 or go to irs.gov; IRS workers

can help you with your payment questions.

Grandparents Scam

How it works: We also heard a lot this year about the "grandparent scam." That's when you get a phone call from someone saying that your grandchild or another loved one is in trouble. The con artist exploits the love and generosity of the grandparent by pretending to be a grandchild or someone helping the grandchild in need of emergency funds. The fraudster convinces the grandparent that they are helping a grandchild pay for transportation home from a foreign country, for medical treatment, or bail.

What to do: Don't fall for it. Independently check on the status of your family member first; don't provide any personal information; and don't wire any money. If you have gotten a call like this contact your local Attorney General's Office (naag.org).

Happening at the Rock @ 32nd Street

Holy Yoga Classes at The Rock at 32nd Street (13625 N. 32nd Street, Phoenix, AZ 85032)

Holy Yoga is a wonderful, Jesus-centered discipline that engages body, mind and spirit. The Rock now offers three class times: Tuesdays at 9:15am, Wednesdays at 10am, and Fridays at 10am (Friday class is gentle yoga). Classes are donation based and open to all levels! For more information about Holy Yoga, check out www.hollyyoga.net

U Rock Career Center at The Rock at 32nd Street

Are you looking for work and need to update your resume? Wanting to sharpen those interview skills? Know someone who could use some coaching in the vocational arena? Why not connect with the U Rock Career Center 4:30pm to 6pm every Wednesday? Just show up or schedule an appointment at [602-354-5712](tel:602-354-5712). For additional questions about career counseling, email urockcareercenter@therockat32ndst.com

Single Parents Life Group, New at Genesis Church!

Genesis Church is beginning a brand new life group specially for single parents to get together and provide support, encouragement, fellowship, and spiritual growth! Contact Robbie Brooks at r.brooks@genesis-church.com for more information on upcoming events!

Grief Share at Genesis Church

Beginning in February on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. If you have lost a loved one, it may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. You've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions about things you've never faced before. *Grief Share* groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. If interested, please email r.brooks@genesis-church.com.

MoneyLife Personal Finance Study: Crown's new small group study, the *MoneyLife Personal Finance Study*, might be the best course you will ever take! This study is inspirational, biblical, practical and highly relational. Steve Brooks will host and facilitate this study on Monday nights in his home. This 10-week home Bible study will be beginning on January 26, 2015, 7:00-8:30 p.m. and ending on April 6, 2015. The cost is \$49.95 for the workbook (a couple can share a workbook). The registration deadline is January 23, 2015 and the class will be limited to the first 12 people to register. If you would like more information and/or to register, email or call Steve Brooks at sbrooks@crown.org or [\(602\) 743-9113](tel:602-743-9113).

Managing Our Finances God's Way: The Bible is packed with wise counsel about your financial life. In fact, Jesus had more to say about money than about heaven and hell combined. In this seven-week, video-based small group study, you will hear from five renowned experts on the subject of biblical financial management. The class will be facilitated by Steve Brooks. There will be a "student orientation" on Sunday morning, February 1st from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the Lounge at Genesis Church (13625 N. 32nd Street, Phoenix, AZ 85032). This orientation will answer your questions about the study. The actual seven lessons will begin on Sunday, February 8th from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. For more information or to register, contact Steve Brooks at sbrooks@crown.org.

The MCAO Citizens Academy



An inside look at the criminal justice system in action.

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office Citizens Academy is a free, one-day program of presentations and activities designed to educate members of the public about the unique role a prosecutor plays in the criminal justice system. Participants will experience firsthand the process of prosecuting a felony offense, from the initial investigation through final sentencing. The program is designed around a series of immersive events in the county justice complex in downtown Phoenix and provides an insider's view of the nation's third largest prosecutor's office.

At the MCAO Citizens Academy you will:

- Learn how a case is submitted, reviewed, and charged
- Observe a courtroom in action
- Take a tour of the County Jail
- View a crime scene reconstruction
- See how a cold case is investigated
- Decide how to charge a mock felony case
- Learn about crime prevention programs

Who should attend:

- Private citizens interested in criminal justice
- Neighborhood watch and community groups
- Business and civic organizations
- Trade and professional associations
- Students and educators.
- Elected officials and public service professionals.

The MCAO Citizens Academy is held once a month from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. A light breakfast, lunch and validated parking are included for all participants. The 2014 MCAO Citizens Academy will be held on the following dates:

Thursday, February 26 at 8 am—4 pm

Located at 301 West Jefferson

MCAO Citizens Academy (Application Deadline 2/12/15)

Sign up at: The Maricopa County Attorney's Office Citizens Academy is a free, one-day program of presentations and activities designed to educate members of the public about the unique role a prosecutor plays in the criminal justice system. Learn More and Sign Up: <http://www.maricopacountyattorney.org/academy>

Admission to the MCAO Citizens Academy is by application only.

Applications due two (2) weeks before class date.

Print and mail or fax your application to:

Maricopa County Attorney's Office

Citizens Academy

301 W. Jefferson St., 8th Floor

Phoenix, AZ 85003

Secure Fax Line: (602) 594-7394

Questions? Contact us at (602) 506-3411

2014: Crime Drops **Cop Next Door from Phoenix Police Department**

As the first month of 2015 comes to a close it's natural to reflect on the previous year's accomplishments. We have devoted a lot of time and energy on our Super Bowl events but I want to assure you that our focus is, and always will be, providing the safest community possible year round. As a police department, one of the ways we evaluate our effectiveness is through analysis of the annual crime statistics. Though it's no surprise to the very hard working men and women of the Phoenix Police Department, citizens may be unaware of just how much crime was reduced last year. Overall, crime dropped 5.6 % in 2014 compared to 2013.



Violent Crimes are down 7.9%
Homicides are down 6.5%
Burglaries are down 14.5%
Aggravated Assaults are down 15.1%
Robberies are down 8.7%

As always, the Police Department owes much of the credit to each of you, our partners in crime fighting. We will continue our efforts in 2015 making Phoenix even safer and strengthening our relationships with our community. Our outreach through organizations like the Community Engagement Taskforce, the Citizen Police Academy, Silent Witness and Coffee with a Cop are just a few of the programs that help us understand each other and work together.

Please continue to stay informed by following us on Nextdoor.com, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Phoenix.gov/police.

Stay Safe,
Joe Yahner

Twitter.com/phoenixpolice
Facebook.com/phoenixAZpolice
YouTube.com/phxpd

