



## Cactus Wren Neighborhood News

(Fight Back area includes Dunlap to Peoria and 35th to 43rd avenues)

Volume 33

July 2008

**No Meetings During the Summer Months**  
**Watch for next meeting date in September**

### From the Newsletter Committee.....

Human Services Division of Maricopa Association of Governments

Times are getting tough for everyone. With record home foreclosures, restrictions in the credit market, & increasing gasoline & food costs, many people need a simple way to access information about resources and assistance available to them in the community. Gov. Napolitano's office in partnership with United Way and other community partners, has developed an informational campaign - *"Feeling the Economic Crunch? Find the Financial Help You Need."* Many people have never been in situations like this before and don't know where to turn. They've developed a brochure with an overview of where individuals can find information & assistance, including debt and financial assistance, saving on household bills and gas, and health insurance or counseling. Information is available on Housing, Employment, Family Stress & Wellness, and Paying the Bills. Visit the new and improved [www.AZ211.gov](http://www.AZ211.gov) to find details on this campaign and a lot of other information. It contains links and phone numbers to resources that may be helpful.



Phoenix has also launched a website to help more residents hold onto their homes. It provides advice on how to contact a lender, information on how neighbors can fight the blight that often results from foreclosed homes and a list of counseling agencies that provide services, often free of charge, to homeowners at risk of defaulting. It also provides information on home ownership opportunities. Go to the City of Phoenix homepage at [www.phoenix.gov](http://www.phoenix.gov) for more information on these programs.

### Keep Your Neighborhood Beautiful Tip....

People that live on corner lots have additional responsibilities. Besides taking care of the front and back yards of their homes, they also need to maintain the sides of their property. Usually, this is along a street and often, on the outside of a fenced area. Keeping this area neat and clean, will add value to your property.



## 2 Crime Stats for May 2008 (our square mile).....

City of Phoenix Police Dept. Website

	CI 19	CH 19	CI 20	CH 20	
	Peoria-Mt.View	Mt. View-Dunlap	Peoria-Mt.View	Mt. View-Dunlap	
	39 Av-43 Av	39 Av-43 Av	35 Av-39 Av	35 Av-39 Av	Total

Drug Crimes	0	0	0	1	1
Aggravated/Sexual Assault	1	0	0	0	1
Burglary	3	2	1	5	11
Theft	0	0	2	3	5
Auto Theft	0	1	1	2	4
Robbery	0	1	0	0	1
Arson	0	0	0	0	0

## Garbage, Recycling Days Change....

City of Phoenix Website

During the week of July 14th, Phoenix will reroute its fleet of 200 collection vehicles to add an additional regional service center. Collection days will change for our neighborhood as follows:

**Garbage will be picked up on Mondays**  
**Recycle will be picked up on Thursdays.**

This is the opposite of what it is now. Everyone should receive a notice by US mail very soon.

## CFL Bulb Recycling....

Home Depot just announced that they will be accepting used, non broken, Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFL's) at all of their stores nationwide to help homeowners in their recycling efforts of these bulbs. They're getting very popular because of the significant savings in electricity that they provide over the incandescent bulbs, but they do have a small amount of mercury in each bulb. Just take them to the Customer Service counter at any store for recycling.



## Propane Tank Warning....

CPCA July Newsletter

Methamphetamine cooks are buying propane tanks from the exchanges at Wal-Mart, Circle-K, Kroger, etc., and emptying them of the propane gas. Then they fill the propane tanks with anhydrous ammonia, which they now have a recipe to cook Methamphetamine. After they are finished with the propane tanks, they return them to the store. The stores refill the tanks with propane gas, unknowing to them the improper substance that was inserted in the tanks and sell them to their consumers.

Anhydrous ammonia is very corrosive and weakens the structure of the tank. It can be very dangerous when mixed with propane gas and hooked up to a grill, recreation vehicle, etc. You should inspect the propane tank for any blue or greenish residue around the valve areas. If there are evidences of these substances, do not purchase the propane tank and advise the vendor of your findings.

The information was researched, and you should check out the following website for more details. They also have pictures for you to view. <http://www.npga.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=529> . . . ☺

## Safely Dispose of Unused Medications.....

We've all ready recently about the traces of medications found in municipal water. Phoenix had a very good report about out tap water, so we don't need to fear drinking the water. That's not to say that we shouldn't all be more aware and careful about how we dispose of unused or unwanted drugs. For years, we've been told to flush them down he toilet. Well, guess where that water goes. This can, over time, have a harmful effect on the groundwater and ultimately, the water that we drink. We can all lessen the impact of these risks by disposing of drugs in a responsible way:

- Do not put unused or unwanted medication down the sink or toilet.
- Check to see if your pharmacy has a drug recycling program that disposes of these drugs in an environmentally safe manner.
- If you can't find a pharmacy that will take them, take them out of their original containers.
- Mix the drugs with an undesirable substance like coffee grounds or kitty litter and put them in impermeable, plain containers such as empty cans or sealable bags.
- Throw the containers in the trash.

## Top Ten Ways to Use the Phoenix Library From Home.....

City of Phoenix Website

Want to save gas and not leave the comfort of your home? Phoenix Public Libraries offers it's customers 24/7 access to terrific databases for kids, teens, students and adults. The best part is, it's all free. All you need is a Phoenix Public Library card and a home computer with internet service. Visit the following site for all the details.

<http://phoenix.gov/NEWSREL/2506library.html>

## Call 811 Before You Dig...

Southwest Gas



Blue Stake used to be the company to call to find out where all the utility lines were located. Now, by calling 811, you reduce the risk of unintentionally hitting underground utility lines while working on digging projects. Every digging project requires a call - even small projects like planting trees or shrubs or installing a mailbox. Don't make the mistake of not calling before you dig. This oversight can be life-threatening or costly. If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, disrupt service to the entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs.

## Garage Sales....

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How many yard/garage sales can I have per year? The Zoning Ordinance limits the number of yard/garage sales at any residential property (house, condominium, apartment development, etc.) to two sales within a twelve month period. Each yard/garage sale may not exceed three consecutive days. You can not use the sidewalk or street for your yard sale.

What items can I sell? The purpose of a yard sale is to allow residents to dispose of household items, clothing, furniture, etc. Residents may not use yard sales to sell vehicles, new or commercial items not intended for household use.

Who can I call if my neighbors are having frequent yard/garage sales? Complaints can be reported to the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department at 602-262-7844 or email [blight@phoenix.gov](mailto:blight@phoenix.gov). . . ☺



**FREE CCC-CPR class** - Learn Continuous Chest Compression CPR on Thurs., July 17 from 7-9 p.m. at Midwestern University, 19555 N. 59th Ave. To reserve a spot or learn more go to <http://azshare.gov/>

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Cactus Wren Website

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