

October 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

Starduster News

The Fight Back Lives On

Inside this issue:

BOPA	2
Police Beat	2
Hidden Hills	2
Zoning	3
Did you Know	3
Health and Wellness	3
Watch your Car	4

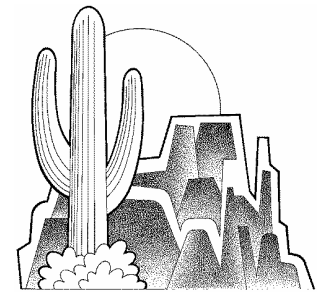
We are still here! Even though the Fight Back has reached an official end, the residents are still involved. We have all worked too hard and for too long to give up. And we still have several issues to deal with. Although there are some within our community who hope we go away, we aren't going to. I am happy to say though that we reached an all time high in crime reduction for a Fight Back. Thanks to the efforts of the residents and Police we show a 31% reduction in overall crime. That is unheard of for a neighborhood group.

Blight and zoning complaints

are steadily dropping as residents clean up.

We still have a few rental units that haven't registered with the City of Phoenix and these are being handled on an individual basis and is an ongoing effort. Due to the enforcement of the Rental Registration Program landlords are being held accountable by the City of Phoenix for any and all problems arising from their properties. This could mean criminal abatement or abatement by the Preservation Department. If you are aware of a rental property that hasn't been registered please let us know.

We are currently exploring



options with the City of Phoenix for further funding. We will also be applying for Non-Profit status which will help in our endeavor to garner more funds.

Thank you everyone for your support and encouragement over the last several years. It has been greatly appreciated.

Special points of interest:

- We are in Area 7 for Bulk Trash Pick up
- Crime is down 31% in our area.
- Dumpsters will be placed in neighborhood quarterly.
- Hidden Hills Garden Club funded for next couple of years.



Bulk Trash

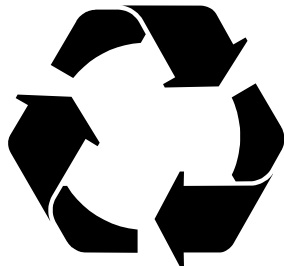
Residents, please remember, we are in **AREA 7**. The map that comes with our water bills can be confusing but we are definitely in **AREA 7**. Please remember that the rules changed a couple of years ago. You can only put

your Bulk Trash out 1 WEEK BEFORE PICK UP. Anything prior to that and you could be cited by the City of Phoenix.. Also remember, they will not take propane tanks, batteries, oil, paint, or appliances containing freon.

Further on in this newsletter will be information on how to handle those items.



BOPA events set for October, November



Phoenix residents can dispose of household hazardous waste and other items at BOPA collections from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. October 13 – 15 at Palmcroft Baptist Church, 15825 N 35th Ave., and November 17—19 at Los Olivos Park, 2802 E. Devonshire Ave.

In addition to batteries, oil, paint and antifreeze, the events will accept five road tires per resident, computers and household appliances, including refrigerators,

stoves, evaporative coolers, air conditioners, washers, dryers and water heaters. Commercial loads will not be accepted.

The city also will pick up household appliances and computers at your home for a fee. Call for a collection appointment. For information, call 602-262-7251, or send an e-mail to phoenix.gov/publicworks.

ALSO!!

TELEPHONE BOOKS !

Used telephone books from Phoenix Recycles participants may be placed in your blue Phoenix Recycles container. For more information, call 602-262-7251. For information on recycling telephone books at commercial locations such as work or school, call 602-207-9900 and press BOOK(2665).



Police Beat

We are the "eyes and ears" for the Police Department. Every resident can help just by making a phone call to report suspicious activity

602-262-6151

We have a new Sergeant in charge of our Neighborhood Enforcement Team. His name is Sgt. Greg Dykstra and he comes to us with many years of experience with the police department. Welcome to the area Sarge!!!! Many of you already know our CAO (Community Action Officer) Officer Santos Robles. He is

still with us and still doing an excellent job of working with the residents. Besides a new Sergeant, our NET squad is full of new faces. We have been fortunate to keep A.J. but everyone else is new. This can be a really good thing for the neighborhood as it is fresh eyes looking at old problems and providing new

solutions. They have already made several arrests and are quickly learning the climate of the area. Say hello when you see them and introduce yourself. Let them know that we are a committed and united neighborhood willing to work with them. Crime stats will be in the next issue.



Hidden Hills Elementary



The Fight Back funded the Garden Club for several years. This is such a worthwhile endeavor. Not only are the kids learning to plant, grow and tend things, they are learning about giving back to the community. Much of the produce they grow goes to help the needy. We funded

this because we learned that the club was going to need to charge a fee to the students interested and we didn't want to see one child left out due to financial difficulties.

We also funded Portable Speed Signs that will be placed out during school hours. We have discovered

that when residents get stopped for speeding they just didn't realize how fast they were going. This should help. You will see them installed shortly.

Zoning

Eight Top Violations

1. Yard Maintenance
2. Inoperable Motor Vehicles
3. Junk, litter, debris
4. Vacant Buildings
5. Outside Storage
6. Fences in disrepair
7. Parking on non-dust proof surfaces
8. Graffiti

We have a little bit of all of these in our area. We've come a long way from where we were several years ago but, we still have a ways to go. The fire danger this year from the weeds and vegetation was extreme. I hope we do better next year. Outside storage, inoperable vehicles and junk scattered around several properties are cur-

rently being addressed by Laurie Allan, our zoning inspector.

Zoning Complaints (602) 262-7844



Did you Know?

Facts you should know about Domestic Violence

- Domestic violence is **very common**. It happens in all types of families.
- Every **9 seconds** a woman in the United States is beaten.
- Not all injuries are visible. Often the most painful **ones can't be seen**
- Domestic Violence is the **single major cause** of injury to women.
- A battering incident usually happens **more than once**. Usually it will get worse and occur more often.
- Stress, alcohol, drug abuse, or mental illness may be associated with domestic violence, but **do not** cause it.

You are not alone, no one deserves to be abused.

It's not your fault.

If you or someone you know needs help, call:

**1-800-799-7233
&
1-800-787-3224 (TTY)**

**NATIONAL 24 HOUR
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE HOTLINE**

**1-800-799-7233
&
1-800-787-3224 (TTY)**

Health and Wellness

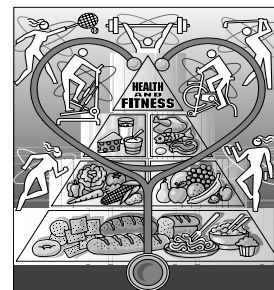
Would you know what to do if someone were bleeding excessively or had lost consciousness? If the answer is no, then you may want to register for the American Red Cross' first-aid and CPR classes to help prepare you for life's unexpected medical emergencies. Visit **redcross.org** and click on "

Health and Safety Services" to locate a Red Cross chapter in the community.



What's in your favorite fast-food meal? Find out by calling (602) 604-5123 to request the Arizona Heart Institute's *Fast Food and Nutrition Guide*.

People who exercise are healthier and have more energy. Exercising also helps reduce your risk for a heart attack. Call (800) 345-4278 to request a free brochure on exercise. (There are several people in the neighborhood who walk at PV mall)



Eat right and exercise!

Starduster Neighborhood

18th Street to Cave Creek
Sweetwater to Sharon

Reminders!

Excessive loud music, suspicious persons, suspicious vehicles, vandalism, non-emergency type illegal activities—call CRIME STOP 602-262-6151

*Crime in progress—car theft, burglary, assault, domestic violence, child abuse—Don't hesitate!
Call 911*

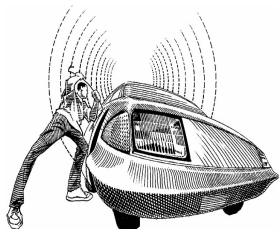
We'll be back on the
World Wide Web Soon!

Important Phone Numbers

911.....Emergency
(602) 262-6151.....Crime Stop
(602) 262-7626.....Police (General Info)
(602) 506-7387.....Animal Control
(602) 262-7379.....Senior Services
(602) 495-5006.....Desert Horizon Precinct
(602) 262-7844Zoning
(602) 253-4000.....Dial a Ride

stardusternews@msn.com

Neighbors helping Neighbors



You can help prevent Auto Theft!

Park in well-lit areas with pedestrian traffic. Lock your vehicle. Roll up the windows and take your keys with you. Hide valuables out of sight in the trunk or under the seat. Consider using a steering wheel locking device. And most of all NEVER, NEVER, leave your keys in an unattended vehicle. Also, take advantage of the next Vin Etch event.

Watch your Car!

Watch Your Car Program

Arizona Automobile
Theft Authority

Many Arizona residents are concerned about the possibility of their vehicle being stolen and taken to Mexico or shipped illegally overseas from a U.S. port. By enrolling in the Watch Your Car program, vehicle owners authorize law enforcement officials to stop their vehicle at any time during the day or night within one mile of the border, if there is a suspicion that the vehicle is being illegally operated. The

Watch Your Car decal alerts border inspectors and law enforcement personnel who watch oncoming traffic at border crossings and ports. Also, by displaying the decals, vehicle owners convey to law enforcement officials that their vehicle is not usually in use between the hours of 1:00 AM and 5:00 AM, when the majority of thefts occur. If a police officer witnesses the vehicle in operation between these hours, they have the authority to pull it over and question the driver. Watch our flyers and newsletters for the date and time of the next opportunity to sign up or

you can contact The Arizona Automobile Theft Authority for the enrollment form. It is free and it's easy.

1-888-668-4433

You can also enroll
on-line at:

www.azwatchyourcar.com

