NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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Get out and meet your neighbors!—attend a monthly neighborhood meeting. For information:

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/chandler/amberwoodnorth

CALL A NEIGHBORHOOD AMBASSADOR:

Pamela Culp- Section 1 ph. 480-782-5895 tpjculp@msn.com

Stacy Coomer- Section 1 ph. 480-855-1697

Dawn Rusnell- Section 2 ph. 602-410-5092 dawnsavon1@cox.net

<u>Judith Garner</u>- Section 3 ph. 480-560-7842 judithgarner@qwest.net

<u>Dale Xavier</u>- Section 3 ph. 480-332-3253 DALE3132002@yahoo.com

New Town Hall Meeting Series Is Successfully Up & Running

-By Judith Garner

The first Town Hall meeting generated purposeful two-way communication with ofChandler representatives and Amberwood North's residents regarding solid waste service issues. The Town Hall meeting was held at the Sirrine Elementary School gymnasium on April 4, 2006. The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. and lasted until about with 8:40 p.m. neighborhood residents in attendance.

Amberwood North neighbors planned the Town Hall meeting with Chandler's Municipal Utilities Department to specifically address the upcoming alley trash dumpster changes and to prepare our neighborhood for the Trash Collection Service Surveys that will be conducted by the City of Chandler in several phases during 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Stefanie Garcia, Neighborhood Programs Administrator with the City Manager Office of Neighborhood Programs, helped coordinate use of the school's gymnasium and she brought refreshments for the attendees.

Pamela Culp, volunteer Ambassador in neighborhood Section 1, welcomed everyone to the Town Hall meeting. Pam informed the audience about how the Town Hall Meeting Series has been developed, and then she introduced officials with Chandler's Municipal Utilities Department:

Dave Siegel, Director Municipal Utilities Ph. 480-782-3800

Sheree Sepulveda, Environmental Programs Education Coordinator Ph. 480-782-3430

Peggy Clemens, Solid Waste Services Specialist Ph. 480-782-3518

Several weeks in advance of the Town Hall meeting, a volunteer committee of residents formulated a comprehensive list of our neighborhood's questions and concerns. The list

(continued on page 2)

Abandoned Shopping Carts Are An Eyesore For Residents -By Judith Garner



Are you tired of looking at discarded shopping carts? You're not alone! Abandoned carts are found scattered everywhere in the neighborhood—on the sidewalks, in the alleys, at the park— Let's do something about it...

(see page 3)

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First Town Hall Meeting Focused On Solid Waste Service Issues

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was forwarded to the City's representatives in order for them to prepare for the meeting.

Next, volunteer neighbors delivered Town Hall meeting notices door-to-door, with the March/April neighborhood newsletter. There was also a meeting notice posted on the calendar at our neighborhood's website:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/ chandler/amberwoodnorth

The topic for the first Town Hall meeting first came about when neighbors got together and started talking to each other! During a monthly neighborhood committee meeting, some residents mentioned that they had received surveys from the City of Chandler regarding trash collection services. After further discussion, it became apparent that other residents had not received surveys and were not aware of the issue.

A neighborhood Ambassador called the City and spoke with Sheree Sepulveda, Municipal Utilities Department, and learned that only one area of the neighborhood received the surveys in February 2006. Sepulveda said that the other areas of the neighborhood will receive the survey during separate phases in 2007 and 2008.

Sepulveda reiterated that in June 2005, the Mayor and Council voted to convert containers for alley trash collection from metal to plastic. Thereafter, Solid Waste Services was instructed to survey residents prior to implementing the change. The City's survey asks residents which type of service they prefer: alley trash collection or curbside trash collection.

As a result of the survey, entire trash routes will either remain with the current alley trash collection or change to curbside trash collection, based on a majority of the responses received within each individual trash route surveyed.

At the Town Hall meeting, we learned that the Phase I Survey, which covers households north of Mesquite to Elliot Rd., and Alma School east to Evergreen St., has

already been completed. Phase I, by a large majority, responded to keep their alley trash collection service. The only change these residents will see, is that the metal alley containers will be removed and replaced with new 300-gallon plastic containers in the alleys within the next few months.

Amberwood North's organization of neighbors voted that this topic should be the subject of our first Town Hall Meeting Series because the surveying process by the City of Chandler will eventually affect everyone in our neighborhood. The rest of the neighborhood is slated to be surveyed in two separate phases during 2007 and 2008.

It is important that everyone knows the City is conducting a trash collection survey and helpful to understand the process, timeline, and criteria the City is using. The knowledge gained about the issue, will help residents make more informed decisions come survey time!

Thank you to Dave Siegel, Sheree Sepulveda, and Peggy Clemens, with City of Chandler's Municipal Utilities Department, for coming to our Town Hall meeting. We appreciate the questions they answered and the information they brought to our neighborhood about this process.



For more information visit our website: www.neighborhoodlink.com/chandler/amberwoodnorth

<u>Go to</u>: Community Pages

Click on: Town Hall Meeting 4/4/06

- Town Hall Meeting Recap
- Neighborhood Meeting Announcement
- Changes To Type Of Container Used For Alley Collection Questions and Answers
- Q & A- Future Changes To Alley Trash Collection Service
- Map Of Trash Routes And Survey Phases

Neighborhood News Page 3

Are Barking Dogs a Disturbance of Peace?

-By Pamela Culp

According to the City of Chandler, yes, barking dogs are a disturbance of peace. It is unlawful for dog owners to harbor a dog that barks or howls on a consistent basis and disturbs the peace of neighbors.

Within <u>Chapter 30 of the City of Chandler Ordinances</u>, the following is included when it comes to barking or howling dogs:

Disturbing the peace prohibited. No person shall disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of any neighborhood by creating therein any disturbing or unreasonably loud noise.

30-5.1.

<u>Disturbing noises designated</u>. It is the intent of this chapter to prohibit all noises which are disturbing or unreasonably loud.

Keeping, harboring or having custody within the City any dog which barks, howls or makes noises by day or night which disturbs the peace and quiet of any person or family in the neighborhood.

When faced with neighborhood dogs that bark excessively, consider discussing the concerns and issues with the dogs' owner. Many times the owner is not aware of the barking because they are either away, or at work. Many times the dog is simply lonely. Other options include:

Dispute Resolution

For help resolving a neighborhood dispute (480) 732-7296 or visit: www.theleadershipcentre.org (click on Solve-it!)

City Animal Control

For barking dogs, vicious dogs and dead animals (480) 782-4130.

There are a variety of options available to help dog owners, as well. Behavioral training is becoming more available at many veterinarian offices and/or pet stores. More products have come on the market to deal with barking dogs, from collars that zap to products that screech in order to stop the dog from barking.

Keep in mind, as a dog owner it's your responsibility to investigate why your dog is barking. Owning a dog, or any other pet for that matter, takes responsibility and commitment. Please be a courteous and respectful neighbor.

Discarded Shopping Carts Blight In Neighborhood

(continued from page I)

SHOPPING CART RETRIEVAL ~ NUMBERS TO CALL ~

Fry's Grocery Store
Ph. 480-813-7388
*ask for on-duty store manager

Target
Ph. 480-899-7986
*ask for on-duty store manager

Wal-Mart
Ph. 480-786-0062
*ask for on-duty store manager

Abandoned shopping carts are a blight in our neighborhood. These discarded carts also create hazards for pedestrians, automobile traffic, and children who like to play on them.

DID YOU KNOW?

- At a cost of approximately \$100 for each shopping cart, businesses must pick up the tab for the lost carts a cost that ultimately gets passed on to consumers via the price of goods.
- Fry's grocery stores spend more than \$1 million per year in Arizona to buy, repair and retrieve stolen carts.
- Many big retailers actually hire cart retrieval companies to pick-

up carts for them. (Fry's Grocery and Target hire a shopping cart retrieval service. Wal-Mart uses its own personnel to collect wayward carts.)

 A shopping cart law in Arizona, prohibits people from removing a shopping cart from a store, having a cart in their possession, or tampering with one by removing or altering serial numbers.

The best way to get the shopping carts removed from our neighborhood is to contact the store whose name appears on the cart. We can help keep the streets, alleys and park free of abandoned shopping carts by making a call to our local stores when we see their carts in our area.

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Use Caulking To Keep Bugs & Water Out Of Your House

-By Dennis Coggins (retired General Contractor)



Hello neighbors! I'm sure you all read about roofing in the last newsletter and all your roofs are ready for the monsoon season. The next best way to seal your house is with caulking and you can even get a tax credit!

Caulking is the easiest and most cost effective way to seal against air and water. Use caulk to fill cracks between wood trim and your walls, inside the house and outside. First we need to know about the different types of caulking.

TYPES OF CAULKING:

A number of factors must be considered when choosing caulking. They include durability, flexibility, whether the caulk can be painted and, of course, price.

The most expensive caulk is not always the best product for every job, so you should carefully consider which product is appropriate to your situation. Read product labels and manufacturers' literature, and ask your salesperson for his or her recommendation.

Here is a list of common caulks and their characteristics. Different types of caulking are designed for different applications, and quality can vary among different brands of the same type because of different formulations used. Always read and follow the manufacturer's directions.

Oil-Base Painter's Caulk

(1-2 yr. life) - Not very elastic. Dries out easily. Paintable after curing. Lowest cost.

Latex

(3-10 yr. life) - Use mostly indoors. Goes on easily. Low elasticity. Sticks to porous surfaces only. Easy water cleanup. Low in cost. Paintable.

Butyl Rubber

(3-10 yr. life) - High elasticity. Sticks to most surfaces. High moisture resistance. Flexible when cured. Most difficult to work with as it is very sticky.

Acrylic Latex

(10 yr. life) - Good elasticity. Sticks to most surfaces. Reasonable moisture resistance. Paintable. Good for around doors and windows. May not be used below freezing.

Silicon-Latex Blend

(20+ yr. life) - Good elasticity. Excellent weathering ability. Medium shrinkage. Adheres to most surfaces. Some cannot be painted. May not be used below freezing.

Silicone

(20-50 yr. life) - Excellent elasticity. Sticks very well. Excellent moisture resistance. Needs solvent to clean. Strong odor possible while curing. Low shrinkage. Generally not paintable, but available in many colors. May not be used below freezing. May be applied to wood, asphalt or metal, but not vinyl or masonry.

Urethane

(20-50 yr. life) - Excellent elasticity and adhesion. Excellent moisture resistance. Easy cleanup. Strong odor possible while curing. Low shrinkage. May not be used below freezing. May be applied to wood, brick, asphalt, metal, vinyl or concrete.

Elastomeric Copolymers

(50+ yr. life) - Excellent elasticity and adhesion. Will stick to damp surfaces. Can be applied below freezing. Cleanup with lacquer thinner. May be applied to wood, brick, asphalt, metal, vinyl or concrete.

Polyurethane Foam Sealant

(in aerosol can) - A specialized expanding foam product useful for filling large gaps. Expanding foam may be tricky to apply because of the amount of expansion but has excellent sealing and insulation qualities.

Caulks are commonly packaged in 10-oz. tubes for standard caulking guns, but 1-qt. builder's tubes, 5-oz. squeeze tubes and rope caulk are also available. Approximate coverage for 10-oz. tube is 400 linear feet with a 1/4" bead, 200' at 3/8", 100' at 1/2".

Most caulks should not be used on cracks larger than 3/8" or more than 1/2" deep (check the instructions). Fill large cracks with flexible foam backer rod, or oakum (twisted hemp treated with tar). These items can be purchased in different diameters based on the size of the joint that needs to be filled. Glazing compound can be used as a seal between a window and the window frame

WHERE CAULKING CAN BE USED:

Caulking can be applied to any gap where air, moisture or insects may penetrate the structure, including the following common locations:

- Joints between foundation and siding
- Joints between roof overhang and house
- Joints between window/door and siding

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How-To Use Caulking To Fill Joints & Cracks In Your Home

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- At any penetrations into the house (i.e., telephone wires, TV cable, electrical conduit and gas and water pipes)
- Dryer, bathroom and kitchen vents
- Joints between the siding and chimney
- Joint where two different surfaces meet (like drywall to wood base)

STEPS:

Now that you know what caulking to select and where is can be used, let's learn how to finish the job.

Clean the area to be caulked, removing dirt, loose paint and old caulk. Hint: Clean the joint with a solution of trisodium phosphate, commonly called TSP - it doesn't require rinsing and it's cheap!

Be sure the area is dry before you begin.

Load a tube of caulk into a caulking gun; making sure it's well seated at both ends.

Use a utility knife or single edge razor blade to cut the tip of the spout. Cut off as little as possible, taking into consideration the size of the 'bead' of caulk you need. Make the cut further from the tip to caulk wider joints, or make it closer to the tip to caulk narrow joints.

Some people like to cut the spout at an angle, while others cut it straight; it doesn't make a big difference. I like to cut the tip at a 45-degree angle, making it easier to caulk corners.

If using caulk that comes in a tube, look for a seal at the base of the spout. Insert a nail, stiff wire, or awl through the cut end of the spout to puncture the seal.

Load the tube in a caulking gun and turn the tube so that the longest point on the nozzle is up and away from the handle. Hold the gun at a slight angle. If you're filling a crack, insert the spout in the crack or run it at the surface.

Pull away from the bead slightly as you squeeze out the caulk, rather than push into it, which can be very messy. Start applying the caulking - by squeezing the handle or the tube - as close to one end of the joint as you can. Point the opening of tube into the midpoint of the gap you are sealing, and hold the back end of the tube or gun toward the direction you are moving in.

Use just enough caulk to do the job. The long point on the nozzle will smooth the bead as you go. The object is a smooth, even bead. Bunched-up caulking means that you are squeezing it out too fast for the speed you are moving along the joint. Squeeze less, or move faster, or do some of each. Gaps in the bead show that you are not squeezing it out fast enough for the rate at which you are moving the tube. Squeeze harder and slow down a little. When you are ready to stop, stop squeezing and lift the tube away and release the caulking gun pressure by pressing the lever on the back of the handle or by turning the hooked end of the plunger up, or both.

As you gain experience you may become skilled enough to lay a smooth bead with the tube. Until then, you may want to smooth the bead after you apply it. Use a wet finger - seriously - to do that. If you need to do it in stages, clean the excess off your finger with a rag, wet the finger again, and smooth another section. You can also use your finger to gently press the caulk into a corner.

If you want to save the remaining compound, squeeze out a small amount of caulking and cap it with anything that will seal it.

Let the bead cure for a day or so if you can. Each type of caulk should have set time and cure time stated on it.

TIPS:

If you need to re-caulk a joint where the bead has failed, remove as much of the existing caulking as possible. One of my favorite tools for this is an old-fashioned drink can opener - the one with a hooked point on one end, sometimes referred to as a "church key." Just start at one end of the old bead, or at a point where the seal has completely failed. Set the hook into the joint and pull along the joint. A putty knife can be used to remove the balance of the old caulking.

To have perfect caulk edges, tape the top and bottom edges of the area you are caulking before applying the caulk. Use painter's tape for easy removal, and remove the tape before the caulking sets.

Another trick to get a smooth caulk joint is use a Popsicle stick. The end of the stick is the perfect shape for getting a uniform and smooth bead.

Congratulations! Now that you are all now professional caulkers, you can fill all the cracks and joints in your home, keep water and bugs out, and save money on the electric bill.

The Crime Report

Chandler Police Department Unveils New Community Program: "The Communicator!"

-Chandler Police Department Website-What's New

The police department has a new tool to facilitate the communication of important information to the community in emergency and non-emergency situations. The tool is a computer system called "The Communicator!"

- The database includes phone numbers listed within the City of Chandler
- Not included in the database are non published numbers, unlisted numbers, and phone numbers where the service provider is a small company that hasn't provided the information to Dialogic (the company that manufactures the equipment and gathers the database information.

THIS SERVICE IS FOR CHANDLER RESIDENTS ONLY! PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOUR PHONE IS SET-UP TO BLOCK UNIDENTIFIED CALLERS, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION CALLS FROM THIS SERVICE.

The system is used to notify the community about upcoming beat meetings and other city/police department events/meetings. New this year, the system is being used to send crime prevention tips to specific neighborhoods based on statistics and trends which are monitored daily by the Crime Prevention Unit.

The system is also used for emergency evacuations, emergency notifications (e.g. an armed suspect is on foot in the area, please lock your doors and windows and remain inside your home) and will be utilized for massive employee callouts in cases of natural disasters or other emergencies.

WE DO NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO DIVIDE THE DATABASE FOR EMERGENCY ONLY CONTACTS. IF YOUR PHONE NUMBER IS REMOVED AT YOUR REQUEST, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY NOTIFICATIONS, EMERGENCY OR NON-EMERGENCY.

For additional information call:

Officer Velma Anderjeski Ph. (480) 782-4533

or email her at: velma.anderjeski@ci.chandler.az.us

Mark your calendar to attend the Chandler Police Department's Quarterly Community District Meeting:

- You will meet the police officers that patrol your neighborhood.
- You will be informed of the latest crime statistics around your home.

Please check before the meeting to ensure there have been no changes to date, time, location by calling:

 $\underline{\text{Crime Prevention General}\,\#}\,(480)782\text{-}4521$

<u>District 4 Lt. Tollefson #</u> (480)782-4210

~ COMMUNITY DISTRICT MEETING ~

(Previously Known As Beat Meetings)

Chandler Police Department Community Room 250 East Chicago St.

June 22, 2006 6:00 p.m.

-Directions-

Arizona Ave. & Chicago St. (in downtown Chandler)
East on Chicago St. to CPD which is located between
Colorado & Delaware streets

The Streets Report



Intersection Improvement Projects Update

-By Judith Garner

<u>Arizona Avenue/Elliot Road</u> Improvement Project Update:

Construction started on the \$3 million Arizona Avenue and Elliot Intersection Improvements Project. The City of Chandler awarded a contract to Nesbitt Contracting Co., Inc. to improve the intersection. Improvements include adding dual left turn lanes, through lanes, dedicated right turn lanes, new curb, gutter, sidewalks, street lighting, retention basins, bus bays and shelters.

On April 10, 2006 Nesbitt Contracting started physical work on this project. The initial clearing and earthwork started in the southwest quadrant of the intersection. The project is slated for completion in October 2006. Construction work hours are 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; hours vary with seasonal changes. Construction crews will work weekends, if needed.

24-Hour Construction Hotline: (602) 264-6416

Alma School/Warner Intersection Improvement Project Update:

This project was scheduled for construction in 2005, but unexpectedly high construction bids have required the project to be redesigned in an attempt to reduce costs. The project will be re-bid in 2006, with a new construction target date set for early 2007. The intersection improvements will consist of adding dual left turn lanes, dedicated right turn lanes, through lanes in each direction, plus new curb, gutter, sidewalks, bike lanes and landscaping. For details or to participate in a project Stakeholder Group, contact Bob Soller, Project Manager, at (480) 782-3306.

For more information on road construction projects in Chandler, please contact:

Jim Phipps, City of Chandler Public Information Officer (480) 782-2225

CHANDLER TO WIDEN MORE INTERSECTIONS

The City of Chandler started its fourth intersection project, widening the intersection of Arizona Avenue and Elliot roads.

Cities often would like to widen congested streets but it is expensive to buy land along miles of a road. Another way to speed up traffic without buying so much land is to widen major intersections. Chandler decided this approach can delay, or maybe eliminate, widening miles of roads.

According Jim Phipps, city spokesman, by widening four-lane roads to six lanes at intersections, the City can increase capacity by 5,000 vehicles a day. In the next five years, Chandler will widen these intersections:

- Arizona Avenue and Ray Road
- Alma School and Warner Roads
- Dobson and Warner Roads
- Dobson Road and Chandler Blvd.
- Alma School and Ray Roads
- Alma School and Chandler Blvd.

Automated Speed Limit Signs

-Mary Young recently emailed Martin Johnson, Transportation Studies Manager, City of Chandler

Question: Just out of curiosity, I was recently driving in Gilbert and saw an automated speed limit sign. The sign states the speed limit, and just below the speed limit, electronically produces the speed the driver is going. The sign also produces a SLOW DOWN message, if the driver is traveling over the posted speed limit. Does Chandler have those? If so, has there been any study to see if that reduces speeds?

<u>Answer:</u> The City of Chandler has just ordered two of those signs for Chandler Boulevard near Chandler High School. They are extremely expensive (\$5,000+ each). We have not discussed allowing them for residential use yet because we do not know how effective they really are. It will also be hard to justify the expense when a speed hump is far less expensive and they have proven to be effective.

MESQUITE STREET SPEED HUMP EFFORT IS STILL UNDERWAY...Look for a new update in the July/August Neighborhood Newsletter.

Did You Know?

Maintaining Premises And Alleyways

A Chandler ordinance states that property owners or persons in control of any private premises are responsible for maintaining their entire premises, including any abutting right-of-way up to the curb or street (or the edge of the pavement where curbs are not present). Owners are also responsible for maintenance to the center of their alleys. These areas should be free of grass or weeds in excess of six inches in height. Landscaping should not obstruct public rights-of-way—including streets, sidewalks, signs, fire hydrants and traffic signals. Trees and shrubs should be trimmed back to avoid these situations.

The City of Chandler's Tool Bank Program allows the Neighborhood Services Unit to lend basic hand tools, lawn-mowers and weed eaters to Chandler residents for the purpose of property maintenance. This service is provided free of charge and tools are delivered to the residence.

For more information about Chandler's vegetation maintenance regulations, or to utilize the Tool Bank Program, contact the office of Neighborhood Services (480) 782-4320

Neighborhood Meeting <</p>

Amberwood North Neighborhood Committee holds regular monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

<u>Time</u>- 7:00 p.m.

<u>Location</u>- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Church (southwest entrance). The church is located across the street from Sirrine Elementary School at the northwest corner of Hartford and Mesquite Streets.

Please check before each meeting to ensure that there have been no changes to dates, times or locations by calling an Ambassador or check the Community Calendar online:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/chandler/amberwoodnorth

City of Chandler Frequently Called Phone Numbers

Animal Control	(480) 782-4130	Hazard Waste Disposal	(480) 782-3510
Block Watch	(480) 782-4528	Hospital, Chandler Regional	(480) 963-4561
Building Permits	(480) 782-3000	Information Line	(480) 782-4636
Bulk Trash Pick-up	(480) 782-3510	Tool Bank Program	(480) 782-4320
Chandler Fire Department	(480) 782-2120	Traffic Engineering	(480) 782-3454
Chandler/Gilbert YMCA	(480) 899-9622		, ,
Chandler Parks	(480) 782-2727	Solid Waste/Garbage Pick-up	(480) 782-3510
Chandler Police Department		Senior Center	(480) 782-2720
Emergencies	9-1-1	Solve It! Mediation Program	(480) 732-7174
Non-emergency	(480) 782-4130	Special Events Hotline	(480) 782-2735
Chandler Recycling	(480) 782-3510	Street Light Repair Hotline	(480) 782-3460
Code Compliance	(480) 782-4320	Sirrine Elementary School	(480) 472-3600
Dial-a-Ride	(480) 633-0101	Hendrix Jr. High School	(480) 472-3300
Graffiti Hotline	(480) 782-4322	Dobson High School	(480) 472-3000