Volume 6 Issue 1 April 1, 2022



# Last Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association & Block Watch

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS





# 'SLOPE FEST & TOUR de SUNNYSLOPE ARE BACK!!



After 2 years of interruptions, delays and postponements— Thank you, Covid— 'Slope Fest & Tour de Sunnyslope are back!

'SLOPE FEST 2022 & TOUR de SUNNYSLOPE

APRIL 2nd / 8:30AM—2PM

Palma Park, 12th St & Dunlap

The premiere Sunnyslope event will have over a 100 vendors sharing information about and

for our community. Including food, music, games, bounce houses, face painting, trick vehicles and more.



Plus, our famous Phoenix Bike Squad will be leading the way for a family friendly bike ride: **Tour de Sunnyslope!** 

All ages are welcome, and onsite registration the morning of, is a must.

For more info:

www.SlopeFestAZ.org



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#### **Special points of interest:**

- \* Huge Drug Busts
- \* Earth Day Tips
- \* Litter on your street
- Special Attention to Gated Alleys

# **Our NEW Community Action Officers:**

As the seasons change, occasionally, so do our Community Action Officers, (CAOs). Please meet Officer Knipp and Officer Zimmerman, both with extensive knowledge of our area. If you have any suspicions, questions or information, feel free to contact them. If referencing a specific site, please have the address available too.

You can find their contact information on our website too:

#### https://www.eastsunnyslope.com/resources

My Name is Savannah Knipp and I am one of the new Community Action Officers for Desert Horizon Precinct. I started at this position in November and I am grateful to be here.

Growing up, I always aspired to be a Police Officer and follow in my Dad's and Mom's footsteps. After living in Japan for a couple of years, where my husband was stationed, I moved back and I was able to join the Phoenix Police Department.

I started with the Phoenix Police Department about 4 years ago. Prior to becoming a Community Action Officer I was a patrol Officer in the Cactus Park Precinct area. I was born and raised in Phoenix and my husband is also a Phoenix Police Officer.

In my off time I enjoy hiking, bike riding, and spending time with my 2 year old daughter and family. I am excited for this opportunity to be a Community Action Officer and I look forward to serving and meeting members of the community!

CAO Officer Savannah Knipp Desk (602)-534-0339 Savannah.Knipp@phoenix.gov

I began my career in Illinois. I served with the Bloomington Police Department for five years, where I was involved with fundraising activities for Special Olympics, including Law Enforcement Torch Run, Polar Plunge, and Guns 'n' Hoses Hockey to name a few. I came to Phoenix PD in 2018 and have worked at the Desert Horizon Precinct in the Sunnyslope community for the last 4 years. I spent the last two years on the Field Training squad, where I was able to train several new officers. Currently, I am working with the Desert Horizon Community Action Squad.

In my spare time, I enjoy several outdoor activities, including hiking, biking, camping, golfing, and boating. I am excited for this new opportunity and I am looking forward to becoming even more involved with community groups and business owners to have a positive impact on our neighborhoods.



CAO Officer Caleb Zimmerman Cell: 602-684-0947 Desk: 602-534-1747

Caleb.Zimmerman@phoenix.gov

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# **Desert Horizon Precinct Update:**

This past January a bust was done near the Desert Horizon Precinct offices, which led to another bust, and then another. This was a joint effort by our Neighborhood Enforcement Team, (NET), our Community Action Officers, (CAOs), and our Bike Squad. At the first bust, this is what was found:

- 1,500 Xanax Pills
- Jaguar 250T Sedan (Seizure)
- Infiniti G35 Sedan (Seizure
- Recovered Stolen Suzuki Motorcycle
- 4.6 Pounds Fentanyl Powder
- 45,000 M30 (Fentanyl) Pills
- 9 FIREARMS (3 Stolen)
- Cash





\$103.364.00 cash

Cash, drugs and guns.

Another of the busts netted an additional 10,000 fentanyl pills and \$3,800 cash. Not to mention some nasty people removed from a nearby neighborhood.

The one astonishing factor from the original bust, was after the arrests, several Police went out to talk to neighbors. A number of the them said they thought something funny was going on. They were suspicious of activities, cars coming and going, and things felt a little "off." **But they never reported it!** Think of what could have been done even sooner had they followed this simple rule:

# \*\* See Something? Say Something! \*\*

Allow the professionals to determine if your tip is the one that makes the case. If you are aware of suspicious activity, report it with as much detail as possible to the non-emergency line: **602.262.6151** or to your Community Action Officers (CAOs).

# **Sunnyslope Village Alliance Update:**

Thanks to efforts of Stacia Hurst, President of the Phoenix Luv Neighborhood Association, the Sunnyslope Village Alliance, (SVA), received a Love Your Block grant. With this grant, the SVA will purchasing three light bollards created by artist Kristin Wesley, of Roosevelt Artworks, LLC. The bollards are created out of repurposed metal barrels and the imagery on the bollards will be abstracted desert land-scape.

The SVA is also excited to receive \$12,000 in Phoenix Block Watch grants that will be utilized to upgrade the existing historic building, located at 755 E. Hatcher, with wi-fi and other technologies so the building can be used by the community for training, neighborhood meetings and education purposes. Contact Caroline Lobo to book: **602.677.3141** 

# theHUB Update:

At a recent City of Phoenix Council meeting, the Council approved funding for the Hatcher Corridor Safety Plan in the amount of approximately \$160,000 for Fiscal Year 2021-22, and \$111,000 for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

The funding will be utilized for street clean-ups and the addition of one Police Assistant position, who will work with other City departments to coordinate and address crime and quality of life concerns. In addition, the HUB received \$12,000 in Phoenix Block Watch Grants that will be used toward continued street beautification and safety projects along Hatcher Road.

# **Earth Day ~ April 22, 2022**

Since the first Earth Day was held in 1970 in the United States, it has grown into an internationally celebrated event in more than 200 countries across the globe. It's the perfect time to remember to appreciate Earth and commit to making changes big and small to protect it.



#### What Can We Do at Home?

- 1. Switch to Energy-saving Light Bulbs
- 2. Eat More Food from Local Sources
- 3. Lower the Temperature on Your Water Heater
- 4. Fix Leaks
- 5. Start a Compost Bin

- 6. Keep Reusable Shopping Bags in Your Car
- 7. Use Earth-friendly Cleaning Products
- 8 .Turn Off Lights and Appliances
- 9. Have a No TV Day
- 10. Plant a Vegetable Garden

#### **Past-Due Bill Assistance**

The Phoenix City Council has earmarked \$5 million to help customers impacted financially by the pandemic pay their utility bills. Customers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic who have a delinquent City Services Bill are eligible for American Res-

cue Plan Act Financial Assistance.

When customers pay one-third of their past-due City Services bill, the City of Phoenix will pay the remaining twothirds of the past-due balance.

Customers with delinquent accounts should call:

602.262.6251 / Monday—Friday / 8AM—5PM

Or visit www.Phoenix.gov/Resources for more information.

#### Litter in the Street?

Is there fast food litter on the street in front of your house? Maybe some debris left over from bulk trash pick-up? Someone should clean that up, right? Guess what, that someone is

> As homeowners, we are responsible for keeping the areas in front of and behind our homes clean. This includes the street to the mid-line in front, and yes, the same general area for the alley behind. Those alleys need to be kept clear of growth and debris to discourage fire hazards, as well as problems like rodents moving in.

Especially those with gated alleys. Without traffic back there, the weeds and brush can grow pretty wild creating a fire hazard. And remember, if you have a gated alley, there is NO pick-up back there by the City. So, please help keep our neighborhood clean and safe by keeping your area clean and safe.

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# **Block Watch Captain Tales**

So many TV shows and movies depict Block Watch Captains as power hungry wanna-be soldiers out measuring property lines in the middle of the night. Or spying on neighbors to resolve whacked-out problems. Not true! None of it. I promise!

If you have an interest in knowing what is going on in your community, especially one as active and diverse as ours, besides attending our monthly meetings, being a Captain is the best choice around.

A Captain's responsibilities may include handing out our quarterly newsletters or an event flyer, attending a meeting once a month, and being available to your neighbors as a source of information.



**Chelsey:** I like being a captain and active in my Block Watch because I can have a direct impact on my community and neighborhood and see positive effects where I'm living. I also have met the best people, who I consider friends and even family! It's so important to have a strong network of support.

We have a direct connection to the Police and our Representatives. A set of our Block Watch Captains, working with our State Senator Kate Brophy McGee, were able to get a state-wide bill passed creating new provisions making it safer to give birth in our state! (Arianna's Law.)

Grace: When there was an issue with build-

ers working without permits, I knew which City Directors to contact and was able to move quickly to correct the violations. The neighbors were amazed and most thankful.

It's OK if you have other commitments. We all work, have families and range in age from young to "not-so-young." And supporting your area doesn't take that much time.

**Cheryl:** I feel like I am making a difference in the neighborhood and making the neighborhood a better place to live. We are building a community of neighbors, not just isolated people.

Bottom line: if you would like to know more about what is going on in your community, would like to help shape your neighborhood now and into the future, live in a cleaner, safer, more inviting area, please feel free to come to one of our meetings or contact us with your questions. It really doesn't take that much effort when we all work together.

Julia: I want to live in a pleasant neighborhood. Being a Block Watch Captain provides me with a proactive means to help my neighborhood become a nicer place. Because I know my neighbors and they know me, I feel more secure and safe in my home.

Come to one of our Captain Meetings and see how we work the magic!

2nd Tuesday of the month / 6:30P

Locations change, so let us know of your interest.

602.888.1879 / essbw16@gmail.com

"It is a mistake to do nothing just because you think you can only do a little."

Karen Duffy, author

# **Keep Phoenix Graffiti Free**



One ongoing program that is not new but has been very effective in fighting blight is the city's Graffiti Busters program. Graffiti Busters work seven days a week to clear graffiti, often responding to reports from residents. The Graffiti Busters cover or remove up to 200 sites of graffiti every day, at no cost to residents or businesses. In 2021, crews used nearly 12,000 gallons of paint and cleaned up nearly 52,000 sites of graffiti around Phoenix.

#### Report graffiti:

• App: myPHX311 (use the TELL THE CITY ABOUT tab)

• Call: 602-534-4444

Email: <u>blight@phoenix.gov</u>
 Call 911 for graffiti in progress

# **District 3 Update:**

As the councilmember for District 3, I am fortunate to represent Sunnyslope—a special part of the district that has diverse neighborhoods and residents who care about their community. Recently, Sunnyslope has been the site of a few, exciting pilot programs in the City of Phoenix:

#### **Gated Alleys**

The Gated Alley Program was piloted in the East Sunnyslope and Royal Palm neighborhoods for safety and security reasons as well as to deter illegal dumping in alleys. After increased interest from neighborhoods, my Council colleagues and I voted to expand the program. More alleys in East Sunnyslope and West Sunnyslope have been successfully gated since.

#### **Cool Pavement**

The Cool Pavement program began as a pilot to test the effectiveness of a lighter, more-reflective treatment that was applied to pavement. Because the cool pavement coating reflects more sunlight, it absorbs less heat, reducing ambient temperatures to help fight the urban heat island effect. Nine locations were selected citywide in areas that were already in need of pavement preservation. In Sunnyslope, cool pavement was applied from Las Palmaritas Dr. to Dunlap Ave. and Central Ave. to 7<sup>th</sup> St. The city partnered with ASU to study the effects of the cool pavement. Researchers found that the reflective pavement surface temperatures are considerably lower than non-cool pavement.

#### **Cool Corridors**

Cool Corridors is the city's initiative to add 1,800 trees citywide in areas of high-pedestrian and -bicycle traffic as well as along public transit routes. At a recent Sunnyslope meeting, Mayor Kate Gallego announced she chose Central Ave. from Dunlap Ave. to Central Ave. as one of her Cool Corridors.

My office is here to help. Don't hesitate to reach out with comments, questions, or concerns by calling 602-262-7441 or emailing <a href="mailto:council.district.3@phoenix.gov">council.district.3@phoenix.gov</a>.

Best Regards,

Councilwoman Debra Stark Phoenix District 3



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#### **Storm Water Awareness**



Did you know stormwater in Phoenix is NOT treated like the wastewater leaving your kitchen, laundry appliances, sinks, showers, or toilet? When stormwater runoff comes into contact with chemicals, trash, yard and pet waste, the pollutants are deposited in nearby rivers, washes and retention basins.

This is the key reason why it is so important to pick up pet waste and loose trash. Your small efforts have a big impact on keeping our waterways clean.

TIP: Sweep, Don't Hose!

# For Your information

# **Block Watch Captains & Board**

#### **QUESTIONS?**

Ideas? Problems?

602.888.1879

essbw16@gmail.com

1108 E. Ruth Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85020

www. EastSunnyslope.com





Jeff Tisot—President / Captain: Diana, Alice \* 10th —12th St /623.759.2881

Chelsey Weaver—Treasurer / Captain: Ruth & Butler \* 12th St to Mtn. 602.748.5680

Andy Sobczak—Secretary / Captain: Orchid \* 8th—10th St / 602.826.5596

Julia Sayre—Captain: Seldon \* 8th St to cul-de-sac / 602.309.9925

Vicente 7 Leticia Garcia—Captains: El Camino \* 10th—12th St / 602.295.3499

Debbie Sosa—Captain: Las Palmaritas \* 12th St to Mtn / 602.330.1835

Linda Tkatchov—Captain: Echo \* 8th St to cul-de-sac / 602.316.9066

Grace Stuckey—Captain: Loma Ln \* 15th St to cul-de-sac / 602.908.3236

Cheryl Hallman—Captain: Orchid Ln \*10th—12th St / 602.413.3333

Gretchen Stetter—Captain: Continental Plaza Condos /8th St 602.403.6643

# **Important Phone Numbers**

City of Phoenix Police (non-emergency): 602.262.6151 Phoenix CARES (Homeless Aid): 602.262.6251

Neighborhood Services Dept: 602.534.4444 City Streets (Pot holes/ Road Issues): 602.534.6440

District 3 (Deb Stark): 602.262.7441 District 6 (Sal DiCicco): 602.262.7491

Report Speeders: 602.534.SPED Animal Abuse: 602.997.7585 ext. 2073

Community Action Officers CAO Off. Savannah Knipp, Desk (602)-534-0339, <u>Savannah.Knipp@phoenix.gov</u> CAO Off. Caleb Zimmerman, Cell: 602-684-0947, Desk: 602-534-1747, <u>Caleb.Zimmerman@phoenix.gov</u>

# **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

#### **GENERAL** Meetings:

Typically the Last Tuesday of the Month @ the North Village Baptist Church 1010 E. Alice

- April 26 @ 6:30P
- May 31 @ 6:30P
- June 28 @ 6:30P

#### **CAPTAIN & BOARD Meetings**

**Open to the Curious** 

Locations vary, so please let us know of your intent to attend.

2nd Tuesday of the month:

- April 12 @ 6:30P
- May 10th @ 6:30P
- June 14th @ 6:30P



# 'Slope Fest 2022 & Tour de Sunnyslope!

Saturday, April 2nd 8:30AM—2PM Palma Park, 12th St & Dunlap



### Tour de Sunnyslope ~ All ages!

Family Fun Ride thru Sunnyslope led by our area's Police Officers. Registration is at 8:30AM @ Palma Park







Community Services & Businesses sharing information to help you and your family



#### **APRIL 9—Inaugural SUNNYSLOPE SCAMPER**

5k Timed Run/Walk or 1 mile Fun Run/Walk



Register at: www.vikingparentclub.com/sunnylslope-scamper



**Did you know?...** Taking a byte out of your wallet: In 1981, 1 GB of storage would've cost you \$300,000.