

# PIERSON PLACE TIMES

Volume 3 • Edition 1 • January 2008 • Happy New Year!

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## QUARTERLY MEETING • SAVE THE DATE!

January 30, 2008, 6:30 p.m. at the Red Roof Inn, 502 W. Camelback

### *SPEAKERS! COME, VOLUNTEER, VOTE! ELECTIONS!*

We welcome a City representative to address two related topics critically affecting our neighborhood! They affect not just those closest to the action, but quality of life issues for all Pierson Place.

- Park N' Ride Lot Construction
- Traffic Issues

We elect Officers and fill board positions at this meeting. Time requirements for volunteers are not overwhelming; the board meets quarterly prior to the general meeting, or as needed throughout the year for a couple hours in an evening. Additional duties can be undertaken as your time or interest allows. This year the board assessed, voted on, and did the work related to these projects.

- held 4 general meetings with guest speakers presenting timely information
- completed a written survey of residents
- painted address numbers on curbs and alley fences
- emailed pictures of graffiti to police (attacked graffiti problem)
- distributed porch lights, dead bolts, monogrammed t-shirts & caps
- held a GAIN event
- created our website
- created HP committee to pursue designation on the National Historic Register
- participated in the developments proposed on our borders
- worked on several liquor applications
- worked heavily on the Mariposa cul-de-sac, park n' ride lot, new billboard
- 4 expanded newsletters, increased advertising revenue

***NEW THIS YEAR!!!***

**[www.piersonplace.com](http://www.piersonplace.com)**

*The Pierson Place Website is up and running!* Ray Muench reviewed websites and developers of websites as he collected contributions and ideas to reflect our neighborhood from the dot/com perspective. Thanks to his dedication and diligence, we now have **[www.piersonplace.com](http://www.piersonplace.com)** at our fingertips! ***Check it out!*** Add it to your 'favorites' for the most up-to-date information concerning our neighborhood! This puts updated, interesting, necessary, information where everyone can find it! Share this new neighborhood resource: what a great thing to show family far away, and use to stay abreast of current issues as 2008 gets going.

**Pierson Place Association**

*Neighbors Creating A Better Neighborhood*

**FREE!!!!** Dead bolt locks for your doors, porch lights and Pierson Place "T" shirts and caps.

**Pick them up at the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting!**

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## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

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We hope you had a great holiday season and are ringing in the new year. We have lots of things cooking right now, and our new chant is "Make It Great in Two Thousand Eight"!! Not little things, but great things like a NEW WEBSITE, a new TRAFFIC STUDY, construction of the PARK N' RIDE LOT, the rail station PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE to our neighborhood, and a ramped up BLOCK WATCH program. And, new graffiti cameras, a Block Watch grant application, and our general meeting at the end of this month! No doubt we are ringing in the new year in traditional Pierson Place style (with a bang), and adding special enthusiasm to "Make It Great in Two Thousand Eight"!

Our new website is receiving an average of 800 hits per day! Take a look at [www.piersonplace.com](http://www.piersonplace.com). Tons of kudos to Ray Muench (Pierson St.), our Website Chair, who worked day and night putting it together. It's packed full of neighborhood information, with plenty of links and contacts to help you resolve your wildest neighborhood problem! Tell us what other info is needed; the site is intended to work for you. Again, our hats go off to Ray, thank you for all of the hard work on this project.

Traffic! Traffic! Traffic! You probably noticed a new wave of speeding and cut-thru traffic. Cars flying over speed humps, passing in mid block, and near miss accidents with pedestrians have been reported. This started when the heavy construction on our borders (light rail tracks) was completed, as motorists revised driving patterns when the major arteries opened up. Recognizing this, the city agreed to conduct a formal traffic study in our neighborhood this month. After it's done, we will learn what their expert traffic engineers recommend as viable solutions to these problems. Stay tuned on this one! (How about activating the new traffic signal at 3rd Ave. and Camelback for starters?)

The light rail station continues to grow out of the ground, and construction of the Park n' Ride lot started this month. These projects present concerns for adjacent neighbors, and many interested parties are working to resolve them. The city's commitment to buffer our neighborhood with an 8-foot block wall is really great. We are working on safety issues with the pedestrian access between the station and our neighborhood.

We are planning a big emphasis on Block Watch activities this year. Chris Garland (Mariposa St.) is proposing "meet and greet" events on each street with our Community Action Officer and other city officials. What a great way to get to know the officers who protect our neighborhood, meet other neighbors interested in fighting crime, and personally get involved in reducing crime on your street. Look for tons of crime fighting information delivered to your door this year. We hope you participate in this opportunity to enhance safety in Pierson Place.

Oh, and by the way, the graffiti cameras are working great and the police are using the pics to catch bad guys. The BW grant application deadline is rapidly approaching, so, send us your ideas about crime fighting projects for this year. And of course, we hope you attend our meeting this month. We have important topics and great guest speakers, our annual election of officers and board members, and one heck of an agenda to ring in the new year. Come and meet some of your neighbors, enjoy the comradery, and learn about what's happening in YOUR neighborhood!

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**Teresa Stickler, Rph, CDM**

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## MESSAGES FROM OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

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In this issue your officers and board members offer comments and ideas gleaned through the year. I thank these folks for taking this opportunity to share experiences with their neighbors! [Ed.]

**Bob Adams:**...DUE PROCESS?? We, as citizens of this great city must be ever vigilant in monitoring the results of those we elect to guide our city. A recent result of lack of control of events was the overnight appearance of a HUGE billboard stuck between Third and Seventh Avenues on the south side of West Camelback Road. One single, small variance-request sign posted on Camelback in the heat of August; at a location where no one could stop to read it (remember, W. Camelback Rd. was under heavy construction—one lane each way), was our ONLY warning of what was about to become another intrusion into our neighborhood. I would also mention, that from what I've gathered, our city leaders also modified the variance-request procedure as to distance and number of such signs needing to be posted. All of which makes the procedure of seeking a variance easier for a sign company (and more difficult for the citizens to become aware of; and protest the variance). It seems our city, and light-rail workers, thought trading 3 or 4 smaller (less innocuous) billboards for this one huge monstrosity would be a benefit. I, for one, wish the city/light-rail people had destroyed ALL the billboards, along with all the buildings they found necessary to tear down. POSSIBLE SOLUTION: I'd rather look at a tree than any part of a billboard. I welcome any rebuttal of what I've stated. That's it.

**Steve Bass** writes: "I've enjoyed being Treasurer for the past several months. I've also taken notice of the new advertisements' in our newsletter. The ads help with funding our neighborhood activities and I encourage you to send us a lead or follow up on one yourself with your favorite plumber, landscaper or what have you. Here's hoping that you and yours have a Healthy Prosperous New Year."

**Bev Bodioga** offered: "One major accomplishment for the PPA: Approval by the City of Phoenix for the 2008 Block Watch Grant -\$9,864! The PPA application ranked #62 out of the final 140 neighborhoods receiving grants! WOO HOO! Once again, KUDOS TO CHARLEY JONES!!!"

**From Mary Mitchell:** "... we have been out of town for a great part of this year....I am so proud of the Association. My best to you all. I do want to receive [neighborhood] e-mails and I pass them on to my mother (Barbara). Best wishes for the New Year.

**Ray and Jo Anne Muench:** "In the last year, supported by Block Watch Funding, we have participated in shepherding the Pierson Place Website. To do this, we, along with Charles Jones, contacted, interviewed, and chose a web designer and developer in order to make a top-notch web site. We also were involved with the GAIN Event, delivered fliers, and brought coffee. We attended both general and board meetings as well as other meetings organized to acquaint other neighborhoods with plans for Pierson Place (Light rail and other projects).

**Trish Zemsch** writes: "...here are a few highlights of *my* being a board member: 1. It has made me aware of all the different agencies that are involved with our association and the proper way to deal with them. For instance, the Mariposa cul-de-sac brought me into close contact with all the contractors, metro light rail officials, SRP, city engineers and fellow Pierson Place homeowners. It has been a roller coaster ride from start to finish. It is amazing how the construction is affecting everyday functions such as irrigation. My getting involved with the cul-de-sac has made me so much more aware of all the other issues going on, such as the billboard, stop lights, lighting, fences, transients, etc. One of the best things about the cul-de-sac is that when the parades come to town there is no longer access to Central and we on Mariposa are not longer kept captive in our homes (if we can get there) by parade goers trying to find a good spot to park! 2. The key to being a board member is to just get involved, not just with the issues that affect you directly but with those that affect our neighborhood as a whole.

**Elaine McLean** offers: I have lived in Pierson Place for over 10 years and have had the opportunity to serve on the board from time to time, as my hectic life will allow. Serving on the board and going to community meetings has allowed me to meet many of my neighbors on other streets and learn about what is going on around the neighborhood that I would not have known otherwise. Over the years the residents have worked together on many issues and have made great strides in improving the neighborhood and decreasing crime. I hope that old and new residents join in and give what time that their schedule allows.



Hours:

Mon-Fri 6:30a-6:30p  
Closed for naps 12-2 M-F  
Sat 9a -noon by appt. only  
Closed Sunday

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- January 12
- January 19
- January 26
- February 2
- February 9



[Arizonapartnership.com](http://Arizonapartnership.com)

Classes are \$250 and include 8 hours of training, DVD and the book "The Dog Redeemers". Class proceeds donated to local dog rescues.

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Downtown Dogs is excited to offer over-night boarding as part of our services! After a full day of playing with their best canine buddies, your kids can settle in with full tummies on a warm cozy bed for a restful nights' sleep. Downtown Dogs does board dogs that are not eligible for the social interaction with other dogs on a limited basis. Applications can be downloaded from [downtowndogsdayscare.com](http://downtowndogsdayscare.com) and faxed along with current vaccination records. We will call to schedule an orientation between you and your dog(s). **New dog orientations and facility tours are by appointment only.**

**Mention this ad for 10% discount on boarding & daycare services!**

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## BUSY STREETS IN PIERSON PLACE

*Participants enjoyed a lovely afternoon in October for the GAIN event, coordinated and hosted again by Nancy McMillan. Our Community Action officers joined us as they made the rounds of many events that day. We received this email comment from Andris M. from Hazelwood St. following the party: "Well, today was the second annual 'party', PPA. There was enough warmth exchanged between neighbors to alert Al Gore. Attendees ranged from age four to ninety four. Thanks to our Events Chair, (Nancy Mc Great), and all her helpers."*

**Vendors are welcomed for the 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MELROSE on 7<sup>th</sup> AVENUE STREET FAIR** sponsored by SAMA, City of Phoenix and Tom Simplot to be held Saturday, March 15, 2008 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 pm. Vendor information is available from David Clark 602-279-1443. Applications are available at Figs Home and Garden 4501 N.7<sup>th</sup> ave.

**Friends of transit Tuesday lunch and Thursday after work specials** offer a wonderful incentive to get out of a rut and try new places! For us these are close to home! There are great prize give-a-ways, great food, and the possibilities you will run into someone you know! Make a resolution to take advantage of this program, it is lots of fun.

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# GAIN Event 2007



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## ***BLOCK WATCH ANNOUNCEMENTS and CRIME STATISTICS*** 8/1/2007-10/31/2007

No homicides or sexual assaults were reported for our grid, but 1 each: robbery, sexual assault, and aggravated assault were reported along with 15 burglaries, 7 thefts, 4 auto thefts for a total of 29 crimes. Additionally, the neighborhood experienced 13 traffic crashes, 291 calls for service, no gang related incidents, and 4 domestic violence reports.

**BLOCK WATCH ADVISORY MEETINGS** welcome your attendance!!!

- **January 22, 2008** 7:00pm-9:00pm Four Points Sheraton, 10220 Metro Center Parkway
- **February 26, 2008** 6:30 pm 8:30 pm PLEA office 1102 W. Adams St., Phx.
- **March 25, 2008** TBA
- **April 22, 2008** 6:30pm-8:30 pm PLEA Office, 1102 W. Adams St., Phx.

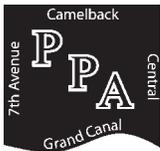
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## ***CALENDAR***

- **January 17, 2008** Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Capitol Mall, 1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix,
- **February 2, 2008** Annual District 4 Crime Summit at the Valley Garden Center 1809 N. 15<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
R.S.V.P. 602-262-7447, or [council.district.4@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.4@phoenix.gov)
- **February 2, 2008** Begin placements for large item trash pick up area 10 [that's us!]
- **February 11, 2008** Large item trash pick up begins.
- **March 15, 2008** 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Melrose on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Street fair 3:00pm to 9:00 pm music, cars, food, vendors, fun!
- **April 10, 11, 12** Hazardous household waste collection at North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Ave.  
information at: 602-262-7251, email [pwserve@phoenix.gov](mailto:pwserve@phoenix.gov), or [phoenix.gov/publicworks](http://phoenix.gov/publicworks).

## ***MORE WEBSITES***

[www.valleyforward.org](http://www.valleyforward.org) for an interactive trail map to plan outdoor activities  
[www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com](http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com) recycle cell phones and support our soldiers!  
[www.azfb.org](http://www.azfb.org) to find local growers and produces of food. Think global, eat local!  
[www.ReUseAZ.org](http://www.ReUseAZ.org) a site to match goods with people who need or want them!



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**Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 30th. 6:30 p.m.**  
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**New Website: [www.pierpersonplace.com](http://www.pierpersonplace.com)**



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