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*Neighbors Creating A  
Better Neighborhood*



# PIERSON PLACE TIMES

Volume 9

Edition 4

Winter 2015

## QUARTERLY MEETING!!!

Guest Speakers:

### Councilwoman Laura Pastor

Speaking about: current city happenings

### Matthew Heil

Public Information Officer, Public Transit Dept.

Speaking about: The Citizens Committee on the Future of Phoenix Transportation and development of a citywide transportation plan.

Plus: **Aimee Knight-Fogel and Mario Lozano,**  
our Community Action Officers

**Lisa Hubbard,** our Neighborhood Specialist

Plus: **Annual Election of Officers and Board**  
Join in and help with crime prevention, civic affairs, Block Watch grants and neighborhood events. You can nominate and/or volunteer. The time commitment is very small, the rewards are huge, and everyone is welcome.

Date: **JANUARY 28TH, 2015**  
**6:00 pm: MEET AND GREET**  
**6:30 pm: GENERAL MEETING**

At: **HOTEL 502**  
**502 W. CAMELBACK RD**  
602-264-9290, hotel502.com

Hosted by: **Joyride Taco House**  
5202 N Central Ave  
602-274-8226  
joyridetacohouse.com

Many thanks to Southern Rail for providing hors d'oeuvres at our last meeting. Enjoy excellent food and atmosphere at this great restaurant located at 300 W Camelback Rd, Suite 2 602-200-0085 southernrailAZ.com

**Pierson Residents Rock! Shop Local!**

## NEW YEAR, NEW ROOTS, NEW YOU

By Anna Chotzen, IRC/New Roots Coordinator

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is an organization that responds to humanitarian and natural crises around the world, and supports people in their transition from crisis to the rebuilding of their lives. In 22 offices within the United States, and 40 countries worldwide, the IRC is at the forefront of humanitarian work in many capacities. Here in the Phoenix office, IRC is dedicated to providing refugees with all the necessary services and support to thrive in Arizona.

*Farmers and volunteers working at the garden on Indian School & Central*



As part of the International Rescue Committee's (IRC) Community and Economic Development Department, the New Roots program supports refugee farmers to become self-sufficient through their farming practices. Through technical assistance, training, small-business consultation and outreach services, New Roots and IRC staff support farmers from around the globe who have been resettled in the Phoenix area and are seeking to integrate their native farming practices with farming customs in Arizona, in order to provide sustainable, fresh food to local Phoenix residents.

Through the farmer-run Gila Farm Cooperative, established in 2011 with the support of IRC, farmers operate a small community supported agriculture (CSA) program, sell at farmers' markets, and will soon sell to restaurants and convenience stores in food desert areas across Phoenix. With Gila Farm's strong emphasis on community engagement, the farmers believe that by providing healthy, sustainable produce throughout Phoenix, they are simultaneously supporting and being supported by their new community. This mutually-beneficial relationship is essential to their success in the United States.

There are several ways for community members to get involved in New Roots and Gila farm. The first and most direct is to become a member of the CSA. By purchasing a CSA subscription, members receive a \$25 bag of fresh, organic produce every week, for a value of at least \$35. CSA is a fantastic way to have a dependable source of

nutritious produce, and membership includes access to recipes and cooking tips in order to learn to incorporate the consumption of fruits and vegetables into your diet. Make a New Year's resolution to eat healthy food, and sign up for a CSA membership today! And remember, the money you invest in your health through the CSA goes directly to refugee farmers in your own community who have overcome extremely difficult and harrowing experiences and are now working tirelessly to integrate and thrive in their new home. There are several pick up points around town including the Duck and Decanter on 16<sup>th</sup> street and Camelback, as well as the Phoenix Public Market in downtown Phoenix.

In addition to purchasing a CSA share, New Roots and Gila Farm are always looking for new volunteers. Our garden at Central Avenue and Indian School always needs more helping hands, and we are also currently looking for a volunteer or two to help with CSA on Wednesdays. For more information about volunteering or New Roots and Gila Farm in general, please do not hesitate to contact Anna, the New Roots Local Foods Program Coordinator, at [anna.chotzen@rescue.org](mailto:anna.chotzen@rescue.org) or at (602) 433-2440 ext. 198. To sign up for the CSA, visit [www.gilafarm.org](http://www.gilafarm.org) and click on **Join CSA** in the top right-hand corner.



## EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

**If you see anything suspicious...**

**Please make ONE call:**

**Emergency: 911**

**Non-emergency: (602) 262-6151**

**Or, call our Community Action Officers**

**Aimee Knight-Fogel or Mario Lozoya**

**602-534-1745**

**[Aimee.Knight-Fogel@phoenix.gov](mailto:Aimee.Knight-Fogel@phoenix.gov)**

**or [Mario.Lozoya@phoenix.gov](mailto:Mario.Lozoya@phoenix.gov)**

# PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

by Charley Jones

Wow! Can you believe its 2015 already? Seems like just yesterday we were making plans for 2014. Amazing to think we created a stunning logo, planted "14 trees in 2014", transformed our website, started a Nextdoor site, christened The Newton, applied to the Federal Historic Register, installed poop bag holders, supported the Hotel502 renovation, hosted a street party GAIN event, found new parking for Hula's, won a Silver Medal for our newsletter, broke ground on upscale apartments, distributed tons of crime prevention items, and hung a holiday banner with our logo on Central Ave. Whew, what a great year for Pierson Place!

So now..., how do we top that? The starting point is great people. We always say this neighborhood is all about people who care, and that couldn't be more true. Without them, great things would not have happened. Which brings us to the board election at our next meeting (see front page for details). Our goal is to cultivate folks with ideas and interests that will help the neighborhood, and fervently invite them to join in and get involved. Volunteer a few minutes a month and make something happen in your neighborhood. Put in as much or little as you like, with no strings, commitments or hammer; just contribute whatever is best for you. Contribute is the key word.

Let's look at some of the 2015 projects already in play. Things like painting address numbers on curbs and alley fences, hosting a booth at the 7th Ave street fair, designing our entrance to Canalscape, getting more residents on Nextdoor, obtaining Federal Historic District status, distributing door viewers, driveway alarms and solar lights, producing the newsletter, hosting neighborhood meetings with great speakers, completing a traffic study, and nurturing new construction in and around our neighborhood. Whew, what a list! And that's just for the 1st quarter!

Most importantly, we should do everything possible to keep crime very, very low. The most effective way to do this is by reporting everything that looks even remotely suspicious. We are the eyes and ears for the cops; they can't be here all the time, but we are.

## Cherry Tree Smokehouse BBQ

1923 E. McDowell Rd Phoenix AZ 85006 \* 602-252-2493



cherrytreesmokehouse.com

cherrytreesmokehouse@yahoo.com

They ask us to call in everything that looks suspicious, smells or just seems odd. The information becomes puzzle pieces in tying together crimes and criminals. So please, if you see anything suspicious... MAKE JUST ONE LITTLE CALL. For suspect things call 602-262-6151 or our Community Action Officers, for crimes in progress call 911.

Speaking of Community Action Officers, we start the year with two new ones, and we urge you to contact them about anything suspicious. In fact, get to know them, make them your friends. They track a broader picture of the whole neighborhood, and are in good position to help the most. They are Officers Aimee Knight-Fogel and Mario Lozoya. Call them at 602-534-1745, or email them at [aimee.knight-fogel@phoenix.gov](mailto:aimee.knight-fogel@phoenix.gov) and [mario.lozoya@phoenix.gov](mailto:mario.lozoya@phoenix.gov). Let them know about anything suspicious you see, hear or smell in the neighborhood. And even when you think something is too small to report, report it. If we do our part, our crime rate will remain one of the lowest in the city.

At some point we'll stop writing 2014 out of habit. We will find a groove and see just how much potential we have this year. Think about this - many people who care, doing many things that matter, can result in many improvements in a year. It's always about people. It's always about change. It's always about improving quality of life in Pierson Place. Hope to see you on the 28th!



4700 N Central Ave. ~ Pierson Place Historic District's retail & restaurant hub.



Visit our website for up to the minute community information and news.

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

### G.A.I.N. STREET PARTY

A HUGE thank you to all our neighbors and the local businesses that supported our G.A.I.N. event on October 18th. We had a fantastic turn out for our BBQ and pet themed block party.



Thank you to our local fire department and resident, Grant, for bringing the fire truck, to the Police K-9 unit, and to JPG Home Security for talking about home security.



Many thanks also to Safeway and residents Dave and Tom for the ribs, to Wag 'n' Wash for the raffle gift certificates and Bethany Animal Hospital for their prize of annual exam, pet bed, vitamins, dog food and gift certificate. Please show your support for these businesses by shopping/using their services.



Last, but not least...many thanks to our neighbors: Bob for selling raffle tickets, Chris for taking photos and

coordinating street closure, Frank for set up and tear down, manning the block watch table and contacting vendors for prizes, Henry for photos and tear down, Pam for lending us chairs and ice chests, Randy for lending us his yard, supplying water for our four legged friends, set up and tear down, Robert for set up and ice, Warren for music, Donna for lending us tables, chairs and canopies, and Roland for tables, canopies, cornbread, chili, beans and for being our very own grill master, and all of you who came and joined the party – thank you for making Pierson Place Historic District such a special place to live.

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### Crime Statistics

by Andy Mezulis

#### September 12th – December 20th, 2014

- 9/16 - 100 block W. Highland: Burglary
- 9/20 - 300 block W. Hazelwood: Burglary
- 9/22 - 500 block W. Pierson: Burglary
- 10/07 - 0 block W. Mariposa: Burglary
- 10/10 - 500 block W. Coolidge: Burglary
- 10/20 - 600 block W. Pierson: Burglary
- 11/8 - 300 block W. Highland: Burglary
- 12/17 - 300 W. Highland: Burglary
- 12/20 - 100 W. Pierson: Robbery

Total PPHD: 9

Total zip code 85013: 124

## PHOENIX CHINESE SCHOOL

By: Jianhua Hilgaertner, PPHD Resident

Phoenix Chinese School is part of Chinese United Association of Greater Phoenix, and has provided Chinese Language education to the greater Phoenix area since the 1980's. The non-profit school was previously located on 3928 N. 24th Ave and had over 100 students, but now moved to 734 W. Elm St with less than 20 students. Many people from the surrounding communities who are interested in learning Chinese are not aware of the existence of this Chinese school. Highly enthusiastic, competent support staff are volunteers with the actual teachers making a low salary to cover their efforts, so the tuition is low.

It is one of the oldest Chinese schools in the Valley and has classes for both adults and children. They teach classes both in Mandarin and Cantonese and are the only school to have both languages. Mandarin and Cantonese classes use the same text books because the written symbols are largely the same for both languages, the two languages mainly differ in pronunciation.

For people living in a modern society, learning a second language gives them access to more

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economic development, and access to public and social groups and networks relevant to the language. Additionally, second language acquisition provides intellectual stimulation for children.

Though it's still controversial, many educators believe that people who speak Chinese use different part of brain from English speakers. There are many linguists who support the concept of a distinctive language modules in the mind, for different languages. People who are interested in learning Chinese language can learn it conveniently inside the neighborhood.

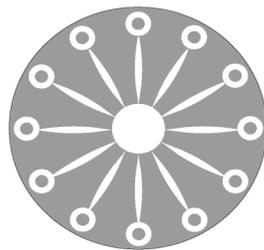
In addition to language classes the school also provides Chinese painting, Chinese calligraphy, Kung Fu and adult cultural and conversational classes. If there is enough interest they will have classes for Chinese traditional dance, Abacus use and Guzheng (a Chinese plucking instrument). Most classes have less than 10 students, so students are fully involved in their learning.

For more details please contact Principal Zengqi Cui at 602-285 5670 [phoenixchineseschool@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixchineseschool@gmail.com) or Jianhua Hilgaertner 520-548 3348 [jianhuaw@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jianhuaw@email.arizona.edu)



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## Annual Election of Officers and Board

Join in and help with crime prevention, civic affairs, Block Watch grants and neighborhood events. You can nominate and/or volunteer. The time commitment is very small, the rewards are huge, and everyone is welcome

# PIERSON PLACE HISTORIC DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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We want to thank Ron and Alan at *A-1 Mailing Service* for the excellent graphics, printing and mailing they provide. Shop local, and call them for all your printing/mailing needs.  
602-266-3160

## QUARTERLY MEETING

**JAN 28TH, 2015**

**6:00 pm: MEET AND GREET**

**6:30 pm: GENERAL MEETING**

**Hotel 502**

**502 W. CAMELBACK RD**

602-264-9290, [hotel502.com](http://hotel502.com)

**SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, March 7th**  
**The 13th Annual Melrose on 7th Avenue**  
**Street Fair Returns!**