

Notes from the President

Hello FQ Story! I hope you fared better than I did in abstaining the diabetic coma that is Valentine's Day. I'm glad the weather is getting better and I'll try to work some of it off.

Block Watch – With the uptick in break-ins, we as a neighborhood should probably take a more active role in trying to protect our and our neighbors' property. This can be done in several ways. First, spread the word if you see anything suspicious. I think we do a decent job of this already, so keep it up! Also, note that PHX PD cannot see posts on NextDoor that they don't initiate. They aren't allowed to monitor our posts, so contact our Community Action Officer, Ben Harris, directly if you have questions. Second, if you have a break-in, file a report. There have been many times we bring up reports we hear from NextDoor to Officer Harris and he is unaware of them. Without proper reporting, the City can't collect accurate crime statistics, which prevents a proper solution. Third and final, it may help to deploy some preventative measures. Keep doors and windows locked, consider surveillance systems and post deterrence signage. I posted Block Watch signs and flyers on NextDoor to print. If you don't have access to them and would like copies, we'll have some printed so give me a call and we'll get one to you. If you have any questions about the Block Watch Program, contact Jean Barnhart (1101 W. Portland St., jeankb@aol.com, (913) 484-4293).

Traffic Calming Research – The City of Phoenix was contacted by residents about traffic issues caused by cut through traffic and events held at the Fairgrounds. The Steering Committee will be holding a small group with residents from across Story to determine what, if any, ideas can be collected on possible resolutions to benefit all FQ Story. City personnel will provide a status at the next Steering Committee meeting March 14th.

Story Spring Cleaning Yard Sale – So you've cleared out your closets, priced up the items you've decided you can do without and now just wait for the 4th for people to scoop it up. I'd be willing to guess that up to 20% of the items bought or given away probably just moves to another part of the neighborhood. I wish you the best of luck in selling more than you buy. ☺

2017 Elections & Annual Picnic – A reminder that the Steering Committee Elections are coming up in April. Contact Maureen Towne (info in the contact and email section) to request absentee ballots. We will be delivering them with self-addressed stamped envelopes so you can drop them in the mail, call to have them picked up or drop them back off to Maureen. Here are important dates to keep in mind:

March 15 – Last day to request an absentee ballot

March 16 – Absentee ballots will be mailed/delivered as requested

March 30 – Absentee ballots must be postmarked by this date to ensure delivery

April 1 – Last day to collect/drop off absentee ballots in person

April 2 – Election and Annual Picnic at 11th Ave & Lynwood

As always, please contact me if there's anything I can help with.

Will Denney (w_denney@yahoo.com/(602) 291-7637)