

# WOODLEA MELROSE

Neighborhood Association



Live – Play – Grow – Flourish

## **CHAIR NOTES – ERICH SCHWALD (MACKENZIE)**

Hello Neighbors and Happy Spring! The first few months of the year have flown by and we're now in my favorite season in Phoenix. The days are warm, but the mornings and evenings are cool – perfect weather for walking my dogs and sitting outside.

The mild weather brings an abundance of festivals and activities to our area, including Pride and the American Arab Festival, both at Indian Steele Park. Read on for more information on these and for information on something to do each day of the week.

As always, I encourage you to get involved in our neighborhood. Greet the people you see on your walks, talk to your neighbors and attend the WMNA events. Our Annual Crime Summit is coming up on April 4 and I hope to see many of you there.

Enjoy this weather while it lasts and be safe!

# SAVE THE DATE



**2017 Neighborhood Meetings at the Church on  
777 W Montecito @ 7PM:**

**TUE APRIL 4 | TUE JUNE 6 | TUE SEPT 12**

**2017 Front Yard Friday Schedule (subject to  
change):**

**FRI March 31 | Leland & Patrick | 4200 N 11th**

**FRI April 28 | Cynthia & Carlos | 938 W Roma**

**FRI May 12 | Erin & Erich | 1108 W Mackenzie**

**FRI June 23 | Patti & James | 4416 N 9th Ave**

**FRI Sept 22 | Jacqueline & Jason  
4322 9th Ave**

**FRI Oct 20 | Merlevic | 1124 W Roma**

- Bike Registration - SAT APRIL 8
- Shred Fest—SAT SEP 30
- Neighborhood Yard Sale —SAT & SUN OCT 7 & 8
- Neighborhood Cookout—SAT NOV 4
- Luminaria Lighting – SAT DEC 16

**WOODLEA MELROSE**

**Bicycle Registration Event**

**Sat. April 8th / 8am - 10am**



**BULK TRASH DATES: MAY 13 - 22, AUG 12 - 21, NOV 11 - 20**

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our neighborhood meeting on April 4 is out ANNUAL CRIME SUMMIT!  
If you can't attend but would like to ask a question, email [info@woodleamelrose.org](mailto:info@woodleamelrose.org).  
CRIME STOP PHONE NUMBER: 602-262-6151

### ARAB AMERICAN FESTIVAL RETURNS TO INDIAN STEELE PARK – ERIN HAGEMAN (MACKENZIE)



The Arab American Festival will return to Indian Steele Park on April 29th and 30th to celebrate the rich culture and history of the world's oldest civilization. The festival is non-political and non-religious and is targeted to all Americans to create awareness and tolerance.

The festival will showcase more than 50 singers, dancers and musicians from around the Arab world, including Farrah Yousef of Syria, Bashar Kaissi of Iraq and Yasser Darwish of Egypt.

A food court serving falafel, kabob, gyros, hummus and more will be available along with a shopping bazaar and kids' zone.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5, and children under 10 years old are free.

## WEEKDAY ROUNDUP – ERIN HAGEMAN (MACKENZIE)

Every once and while we find ourselves with a free evening during the week. It's rare, but it happens. Next time we find our schedules empty, we'll check out one of these cool local recurring activities instead of watching TV in our underwear.

### Mondays

**Pink Slip Open Mic** – Lawn Gnome Publishing, 8 – 10 pm

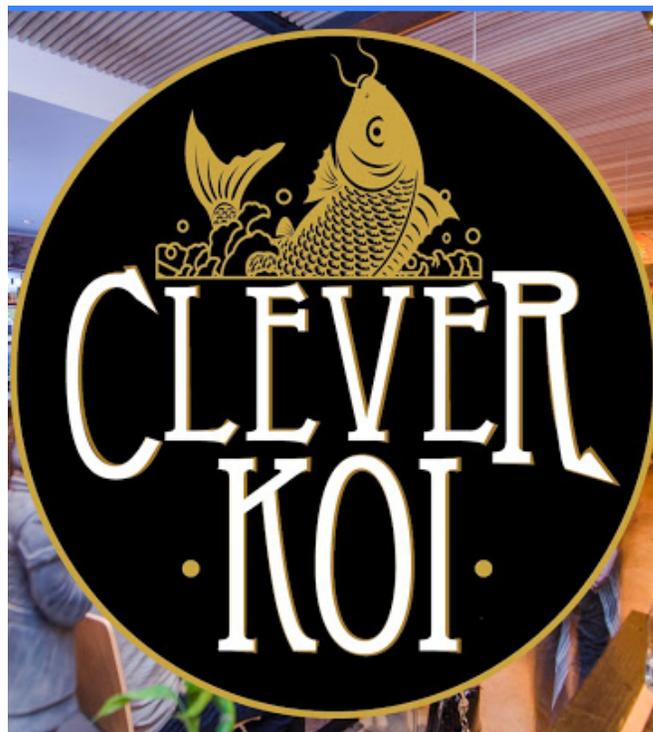
Every Monday at Lawn Gnome hosts the longest running open mic night in Arizona. Poets, emcees, slam poets, comedians, artists, storytellers, ventriloquists, fire performers, burlesque performers and everything in between come out to entertain.

**Free Games All Night** – Valley Bar, all day

In my mind, Monday is synonymous with 'blah'. Shake of the work malaise with free games including pool, darts, shuffle board and skee ball at this hipster haunt. 21 and over.

**It Takes Two** – Clever Koi – Monday AND Tuesday, all night

Grab your best bud or significant other and dig into the best food & beverage pairing in town. Choose any two (2) rice or noodle dishes and pair it with four (4) draft beers for \$40. Or, substitute any four (4) of the cocktails from the "classic" list or a bottle of wine from the BTG list for an additional \$10.



## Tuesdays

Did you really think I wouldn't have Tuesday be all about tacos? How long have you lived here??

**Joyride** – From 2 p.m. to close you can get \$2 tacos in varieties such as braised beef, shrimp, chicken tinga, baja fish, and more. The Tuesday night specials also includes handmade margaritas for \$5 each -- and from 2 to 6 p.m you can double up on deals by taking advantage of the restaurant's weekday happy hour. Those specials include \$4 guacamole, \$6 ceviche, and \$5 Mexican beer pitchers.



**ThirdSpace** – This funky eatery on Grand Ave boasts \$1 street tacos and \$3 house margaritas. Yes, you read that right: tacos for 100 pennies a piece. Start searching those couch cushions.

**Urban Taco** – Get your fill of \$1.50 Street Tacos from 3pm-9pm. If you need something to wash down your tacos, happy hour is daily from 3 – 6pm and has \$5 Margaritas, \$1 off all beer & cocktails and \$5 select wine.

## Wednesdays

Free Art – PHX Art Museum offers free admission every Wednesday from 3 – 9 pm. Admission is also free, though a donation is suggested, on First Fridays, Second Saturdays and Second Sundays.



**Trivia Night** – Carly’s Bistro, 7 pm

Make hump day more exciting by capping it off with Trivia Night. The right answers to questions about movies and music can get first-, second-, and third-place winners some awesome prizes.

**Midweek Mind Tweak** – Co+Hoots, 12:30 pm

Co+Hoots is a collaborative work space that offers midday talks every Wednesday on small business topics, ranging from copy writing to business plans.

## Thursdays

**Trivia Night** – George & Dragon, 9 pm

This pub is in biking distance from our ‘hood and throws down a fiercely competitive and hilarious trivia night. The 40 question game runs straight through, no breaks, for upward of two hours, and winners receive comped bar tabs.



**Bachata Addiction** – DeSoto Central Market, 8:45 pm

Enjoy super cheap Bachata lessons every Thursday from 8:45-9:30pm followed by the hottest Bachata, Kizomba and Salsa in Arizona with DJ Craig Conrad until 12:30am.



**Fridays**

**Firkin Fridays** – Central Kitchen

On the first Friday of the month, Central Kitchen and Phoenix Ale Brewery team up to offer patrons a new, custom brew. The firkin is a 10.8-gallon (or about 80 pints) keg that Phoenix Ale Brewery will use to brew new, custom beers each month exclusively for Central Kitchen's guests to enjoy.



**Third Fridays** – Downtown PHX

We all know about the lively First Friday art walk and street festival, but the Third Friday of the month is also getting some attention. Independent artists and gallerists host wine and cheese receptions on Roosevelt Row and while the air is still festive, it's a bit less crowded.

## WOODLEA MELROSE GARDENER'S CORNER – LORNA SPENCER



It is late March in Phoenix Arizona and that can mean but one thing; that the spring growing season is in high gear! By now everyone should have gotten their tomato, eggplant and pepper transplants in. The next volley of plantings are things to be direct-sown; bush and pole beans; lima beans; melons; squash, herbs and annuals et al.

Given the clay soil here, many gardeners have tremendous success using both raised beds and containers. I am a firm believer in container gardening and grow tons in both stock tanks and clay pots. In particular, there are a few keys to success for container gardening here in Woodlea Melrose: siting your containers; picking the right container (size and material); using a well-draining container mix and selecting the right plants.

**Siting your containers:** Choose a location that jives with the sunlight needs of the plants that you pick. You can squeeze more months out of certain cooler weather herbs when they get partial shade. And some annuals crave bright sun. The best case scenario is for you to map out several areas in your yard or on your patio that can accommodate containers. That way you can observe how much sun each area gets, and can shuffle the containers around to suit. Remember that we are headed into long days. The sun rises earlier and sets later, resulting in more total hours of sun exposure. Plan for this. Consider spots along walls, near trees and shrubs.

**Picking the right container:** Choose containers that are 12" in diameter or larger. Why, you might ask? Because the smaller pots dry out very quickly in our summer heat and the plants may keel over if you forget to water. The larger diameter pots also have more soil volume to keep the plants' roots moister and cooler than smaller pots. The choice of material for your pots is also crucial. Plastic is OK but clay is much better. Clay pots are porous and absorb water, allowing it to evaporate and keep the plants cool. Use metal containers only if they are large enough to have sufficient volume to keep the soil temperatures low. I use 2x2x4 and larger stock tanks.

**Soil mix:** Whatever mixture you ultimately decide on, it must drain well and be nutrient rich. I took a class at the U of A Cooperative Extension on container gardening and have used their recommended mixture ever since: 1/3 peat moss or compost, 1/3 potting soil, 1/3 pumice or vermiculite or perlite. I mix this up and store it in contractor's bags prior to planting.

**Plant selection:** Look for varieties that do well here in low-desert Arizona. In the spring season, find things that either have short growing seasons or are super heat-tolerant. And direct sow plenty of herbs and flowers. Seeds are a cheap option and come up quickly here. Plus, many more varieties are available from seed than as transplants.

Above all, please experiment! Visit the Desert Botanical Garden, take classes and consult books and magazines. Our climate is too wonderful and life too short not to grow something!

## **AGAVE ADVICE – SAM PATEL**



We are very excited to partner with Agave Farms! They will be writing a gardening column for us every issue and we know we will learn a lot from them! Be sure to follow them on Facebook!

With rising demand and low availability water is now considered an expensive and limited resource, hence it is our responsibility as homeowners and gardeners to be judicious in its use. It is often assumed that a great looking garden requires a large amount of water. But the concept of xeriscaping tends to disagree and promotes low water consumption in landscapes while also providing beauty and a sense of place.

It is a common misconception that xeriscapes are always rocky and barren. This is false as it is possible to achieve different landscape designs if the principles of xeriscaping are correctly applied.

Why use Xeriscapes?

Saves Water - Xeriscapes can reduce landscape water use by 50 - 75%.

Less Maintenance - Aside from occasional pruning and weeding, maintenance is minimal.

No Fertilizers or Pesticides – Use of native plants often eliminates the need for chemical supplements.

Improves Property Value - A Good Xeriscape raises property values, hence offsetting the cost of installation, while also drought-proofing the landscape.

Pollution Free - Fossil fuel consumption from gas mowers and other equipment is minimized or eliminated with minimal turf areas.

Provides Wildlife Habitat - Native plants provide habitat for the for the local fauna.

Principles of xeriscaping:

Water Conservation - Establish zones based on sun and shade and group plants with similar watering needs together. Strategically place the larger planting to provide natural heating and cooling. Use the natural contours of the land to incorporate swales and terraces.

Soil Improvement - An ideal soil must drain quickly while also storing water at the same time, this can be done by increasing the amount of organic matter in your soil by adding compost. But in the case of succulents and cacti, native soil is sufficient.

Limited Turf Areas – The size of the turf area must be reduced as much as possible. If one wishes to retain some turf area for open space, functionality and visual appeal a water-saving species adapted to your area can be used.

Native Plants – The use of drought-resistant plants with small, thick, glossy, silver-grey or fuzzy leaves. Use plants which need only a minimum of water for the hot, dry areas with south and west exposure; use plants that like moisture along the north and east-facing slopes and walls.

Mulch – Cover the soil with leaves, coarse compost, pine needles, wood chips, bark or gravel. This helps retain soil moisture and temperature, prevent erosion and block out competing weeds. Mulch need be a few inches thick and no part of the soil needs to be bare.

Irrigate – Avoid overwatering by using soaker hoses and drip-irrigation systems. As they deliver water at a slow rate which encourages root absorption and reduces pooling and erosion, they also reduce evaporation. In general, it's best to water deeply and less frequently.

Maintain – Sometimes it may be necessary to remove the weeds from growing up through the mulch. A thicker layer of mulch can help reduce this.

For a large selection of desert suited shrubs, trees and succulents, you can visit us at: Agave Farms, 4300, North Central Ave, Phoenix.

[www.agave-farms.com](http://www.agave-farms.com)

602-374-6553

## **REAL ESTATE UPDATE – REBECCA WAGNER (TURNEY)**



Home Supply

### **Buyers**

If you are looking to purchase a home now, it has become more of a challenge due to supply of homes on the market. Overall the Valley has a 15% decrease in active listings. However listings under \$200K are down 30% from this time last year and declining, and active listings between \$200K-\$300K are down 10% and not trending to increase. Properties under \$300K comprise 70% of all year-to-date sales, making areas such as the West Valley and Southeast Valley the most frantic and competitive for buyers.

## **Sellers**

Spring time in Arizona is the most active months for home getting under contract and this trend will hold true this year. If you are selling your home, there will be less competition and rising demand, driven by more qualified buyers entering the market. While the total number of listings under contract not increasing due to fewer homes for sale, contracts on listings under between \$200K -\$400K are up 12 percent compared to this time last year and, contract between \$400K -\$800K are up 18 percent. Over \$800K remain comparable to last year level of supply and demand.  
Sourced from The Cromford Report

## **WOODLEA MELROSE 2017**

### **Homes on the Market:**

924 W Roma listed for \$299,999  
902 W Roma listed for \$469,000  
1102 W Turney listed for \$489,000

### **Under contract:**

917 W Heatherbrae listed for \$314,900  
1110 W Heatherbrae listed for \$329,900

### **Sold:**

1109 W Roma 1/20/17  
1110 W Glenrosa 1/31/17

## **A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO ALL OF OUR PET OWNERS...**



## **THANK YOU!**

As always, everyone on the Woodlea Melrose Neighborhood Association is so grateful to all of our neighbors who participate in our events and engage in our community! We truly believe we have one of the best neighborhoods in Central Phoenix and that's all thanks to the people who live here.

THANK YOU TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SPONSORS! REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL!

KHARMA LIFE CENTER  THE HEART OF WELLNESS



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STREET REPS

MACKENZIE: Carrie Dyrek

HEATHERBRAE: Kris Manzanares

GLENROSA: Vacant

9th AVENUE: Krista Whitig

MONTECITO + 11th AVENUE: Angel

TURNEY + 13th AVENUE: Jen Rozar

ROMA + 14th AVENUE: Lucia Kisiel

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WOODLEA MELROSE NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION BOARD

P.O. BOX 33202, PHOENIX, AZ 85067  
The Woodlea Melrose Neighborhood Association Board was founded in 1987 to serve the collective well being of the neighborhood. The Board members are dedicated volunteers elected by the neighborhood every year in December. The WMNA collects dues annually, in the amount of \$10, and/or donations to fund neighborhood events. Your dues and donations are tax-deductible. Meetings are typically held quarterly at the Phoenix Central SDA Church. All residents of Woodlea Melrose are invited to attend. Meeting agendas are made available to all residents through email, Facebook, and at the meeting. The Board encourages all residents of Woodlea Melrose to get involved in the neighborhood. Each neighbor can make a difference by paying your annual dues, making a donation, or becoming a Board member, street representative, or volunteer.

WMNA NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is published quarterly by the WMNA Board and subsidized by Phoenix Block Watch funds. Woodlea Melrose residents are encouraged to submit neighborhood news, tidbits, photos and articles (between 250-300 words). The WMNA is not responsible for nor endorses the editorial content in WMNA Newsletter. Opt out of a paper newsletter and have it emailed instead by going online to [woodleamelrose.org](http://woodleamelrose.org). A copy of the WMNA Newsletter is also posted to the website.

PHOENIX HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
OFFICE

historic@phoenix.gov 602-261-8699

Walk-in hours are 12:30pm to 5pm (sign in by 4:00pm), Monday through Friday at the main office located at 200 W. Washington Street, 3rd Floor. Please visit the Phoenix Historic Preservation website at [phoenix.gov/pdd/historic](http://phoenix.gov/pdd/historic).

CITY NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

City Information

602-262-6011

Neighborhood Services Department

602-534-4444

Graffiti Busters 24-Hour Hotline

602-495-7014

Tenant (Renter) Information

602-262-7210

Blight/Property Maintenance Violations

602-262-7844

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crime Stop (non-emergency)

602-262-6151

Mountain View Police Precinct

602-495-5007

Community Action Officer Aaron Stevens  
aaron.stevens@phoenix.gov 602-361-0043

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

(DISTRICT 4)

Laura Pastor

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602-262-7447