



FROM THE CHAIRS:

Happy November, Woodlea Melrose!

Grace: I would like to start with a warm welcome for all new neighbors! You have officially joined the most inclusive, fun, connected community there is and I can't wait to meet you all!

This is such a fun time of year in the neighborhood with so much to look forward to! We just had the neighborhood BBQ on 11/5, and we're now ready for all the wonderful holiday events such as Merriment in Melrose and Luminaries! And we are still taking nominations for the 2023 Board. If you want to volunteer for your community, it's an amazing way to get involved!

As many of you know, I made a career shift in August with more hours and responsibilities. In this transition, I appointed a Co-Chair, Peter Schirripa, to help assist us in keeping the board running smoothly. Peter, thank you for your support and for taking the time to formally introduce yourself here!

Peter: Reporting in from Turney Ave, I am thrilled to announce my role in supporting Grace in her role as Chair through the end of the year. I've been living in the neighborhood for exactly one year and it already feels like a lifetime. I've enjoyed learning firsthand about the uniqueness and togetherness of Woodlea Melrose.



I look forward to meeting more people, understanding goals and desires, and doing all I can to support. Thanks for making me feel so welcomed. Onward!

Look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming events!!

Cheers,
Grace McKone Shivka &
Peter Schirripa

HAWK!! (High-Intensity Activated Cross Walk)

By Scott Reid

The Melrose Mile just received their 4th HAWK Crossing signal at 7th Ave. and Turney, the most in any city mile zone. The HAWK lights provide a walkable and more connected neighborhood. This new feature provides enhanced safety and visibility of pedestrians in the intersection and reminds drivers to slow down and yield to our neighbors and area visitors out shopping and dining. Please remember 'RED ALWAYS MEANS STOP', then proceed when clear.





Penny's Ride

By Erin Schwald

We moved to Woodlea Melrose in 2014 and couldn't be happier to be a part of this vibrant and welcoming community. We've met so many wonderful neighbors in the past eight years and in 2022, had the good fortune to meet Penny Schneck.



Penny lived on Heatherbrae and was a WM resident for many years. She was looking for someone to help her with some IT problems and Rebecca from Turney recommended my husband, Erich. Rebecca let Erich know that Penny had received a terminal diagnosis and was getting her affairs in order. He went over to help and while he was there, noticed she had equine art and horse figurines in her home. He was able to help her out and learned a bit about her. She was active in the Phoenix Bonsai Society, loved learning and adored horses. Erich mentioned that we have horses and her eyes lit up!

Penny and I started texting about horses, and I could feel her passion. I asked her if she'd like to come to meet Olivia, our Thoroughbred mare. She was delighted and we made plans to go out to the barn!

On January 30, 2022, we stopped by Penny's house and picked her up. She was quite sick by this point, but she radiated kindness and warmth. We arrived at the barn, and she was in heaven. She commented on how much she missed being around these beautiful animals and soaked it all in. She helped me groom and saddle Olivia and we headed out to the arena. We helped her get in the saddle and for the next 20 minutes, she walked around on Olivia in pure bliss. Olivia was perfectly behaved and took great care of Penny.

As a horse-crazy person myself, I will remember Penny's smile for many years. There's nothing comparable to the freedom and peace that can be found on horseback. Often, when we hear others are suffering, ill, or struggling, we wish we could do something to help. Through this wonderful community of neighbors, we connected with Penny and were able to give her a sunny January morning filled with horses and joy.



Sadly, Penny passed away on July 13, 2022. We miss her tremendously and will always be grateful for our short friendship. This experience also emphasized how lucky and blessed we are to live here. Many other neighbors pitched in at the end of Penny's life, providing everything from estate planning to meals to friendship. Thank you to all of you for being such upstanding humans.

Penny, I think of you often when I'm at the barn.



How I Met Your Neighbor

Matty Thorton and Justin Bowen

Matty + Justin: Introduce yourself, your cross streets, when you moved into the neighborhood and anything distinguishing about your home or yourself, you'd like the neighbors to know:

Matty: Matty Thornton, cross streets in between 11th and 13th on THE Glenrosa, 4.5 years ago, for a handful of months out of the year we have a Notre Dame and Michigan flag hanging in front of the house.

Justin: I'm Justin Bowen, basically across the street from Matty, I moved in in 2014, and my house currently has huge fuzzy spiders on the porch.

Matty: How long have you known Justin?

Three and a half years probably!

Matty: Describe what Justin does for a living.

Umm, so I know it's kind of I.T. stuff-ish, but..... I know that if I have to go to a hospital, all of the nurses' technology stuff will be up and running.

Justin: What does Matty do?

Matty sells Google cloud services, but to look at him you'd think he runs a t-shirt screen printing company or he's in advertising for Run DMC.



Justin: In your words, tell us about how you two met.

The first time I talked to Matty was at the toolshed where he thought that's where tools go to get hammered. After that, we met through neighborhood friends and events like Front Yard Friday.

Matty: Anything you'd like to add?

Yes. It is true I met Justin at the toolshed, looking to get hammered.

Justin: If you could describe your friendship in three words what would they be?

Good hang time.

I: If you could describe your friendship in three words what would they be?

Brothers gotta hug.

Matty: If you called up Justin to hang out, what's on the agenda?

Depending on the Friday, if it's a FYF we're usually the first ones there to start the mingle. If it's any other Friday, possibly some Budweiser lights and a possible jeeter.

Justin: What do you want people of the neighborhood to know about Matty?

If you've met him, you already know he's a righteous dude. If you haven't, you should make that a top priority.

Matty: What do you want people in the neighborhood to know about Justin?

Justin's great to hang around because of his eclectic knowledge of music and Internet facts.

What is one thing you would want non-neighbors to know about Woodlea/Melrose?

Matty: After living in other neighborhoods in Arizona and never getting a real sense of community, the night we moved in was the night of the luminaries. Going from not knowing any of my neighbors to now having a Woodlea/Melrose family.

Justin: To echo what Matt said, the sense of community is the primary reason for living here. Recently a lost dog was found by a neighbor who was dog-sitting for another neighbor, and then several other neighbors banded together to comfort the pup and locate the owner when traditional means weren't working. This all happened within the space of less than a day, and it's a great example of what community looks like in WM.



N.O.W. UPDATE

By Kathy Tucker

As 2022 ends, the N.O.W Team would like to revisit what we've accomplished this year. We started with the following initiatives:

1. To survey neighbors to identify areas of concern, interest, and preferred methods of communication.
2. To share knowledge, facts, education, and resources in effort to prevent crime.
3. To collaborate as a neighborhood and build a street representative team.

And created this purpose statement:

The Woodlea Melrose Neighbors on Watch is a neighborhood protection effort that calls upon residents to participate in a collaborative approach to create a sense of security. We accomplish this with effective, respectful communication and efforts that honor the diversity of the community we live in.

The Woodlea Melrose Neighbors on Watch Coordinator and assigned team assist and lead communication efforts, liaison with community partners, create and drive strategies to support purpose initiatives.

Here's what we accomplished:

- We surveyed neighbors and found that lack of lighting, speeding/traffic and loitering/trespassing/ encampments were the biggest concerns in the neighborhood.
- We hosted a "Spring Into Action" event which focused on providing resources to support feeling safe as well as how to take steps to mitigate crime on your property.
- We shared home safety checklists, created new N.O.W yard signs and began a solar light program through the neighborhood grant initiative.
- We introduced our neighborhood Community Action Officer Ben Harris, Detective Brian Kornegay, and Neighborhood Specialist Stacie Beute, throughout the year to provide crime statistics, neighborhood safety updates and to serve as points of contact.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Important dates:

Front Yard Friday & Kids' Party

December 17, starting at 6pm. There is no FYF in November because of the barbecue, but the December event will be hosted by Rebecca Wagner at 914 W Turney starting at 6pm, with a special kid-friendly event from 6-7pm (see next page). This is the night of the lighting of the Luminaries.

Luminaries

December 17, noon to 9pm. Neighborhood wide luminary distribution, lighting and gathering, including the Front Yard Friday event above. Please email wmboardphx@gmail.com if you'd like to help.

Bulk Trash Pickup

Placement: Dec. 17, Pickup: Dec. 26
The city has fallen behind in pickup, so unfortunately, our bulk trash pickup has been moved to Dec. 26, with allowable placement on your property starting on Dec. 17. ***Please note that we hope neighbors will not start putting out bulk trash for a few days until our neighborhood has had a chance to enjoy the luminaries!*** Per city regulations, trash should be on ***your property***, not in the street or on the sidewalk.

Need tools? Want to save money?

The Woodlea Melrose neighborhood Tool Shed is a shared community resource with everything from wrenches, hammers, and screwdrivers to shovels, drills, and saws. Contact John Woodland at 541-425-1710 to rent a tool from the Toolshed. Check out the list of community tools on the Woodlea Melrose web site, woodleamelrose.org.



- We engaged the city traffic services department and requested a traffic survey on Heatherbrae and Mackenzie. The results of the survey provided us with a new four-way traffic stop on 9th Avenue and Heatherbrae.
- We have also engaged the city to conduct a street light analysis. They will identify if there is an opportunity to upgrade the current lights.
- We created a Street Rep program. This program will allow a more individualized and comfortable approach to neighbors and support specialized crime and safety needs

Thank you for the opportunity to collaborate this year. Wishing you a safe and joyful Holiday Season!

Download the APP "myPHX311" to:

- Report non-emergency crime
- Request a new trash container, report overflowing trash
- Report weeds or dead plants, street maintenance, graffiti, homeless encampments and more

Board Nominations and Election

We're still accepting nominations for the Neighborhood Association Board. Please submit any nominations by Dec. 2 to wmboardphx@gmail.com, and we'll have an email election (or adoption by consent if there aren't competitive positions) starting on Dec. 7 by electronic voting. We'll make the announcement of how to vote through the regular neighborhood email and on the Facebook page.

Luminaries

If you'd like to help with setup, write to wmboardphx@gmail.com with your name, address (so we know who to send you to), phone number, and email. Also, please remember to delay placement of bulk trash until sometime after Dec. 17, so your trash doesn't interfere with the luminaries.

T-Shirt design contest

Submit any design ideas by the end of the year to wmboardphx@gmail.com and we'll try to have a new T-shirt available by the Melrose on Seventh Avenue Street Fair. Submit the design however you'd like, even a photo of a hand drawing, and we'll have someone touch it up and make it look more professional, so you don't have to sweat the details!

Future meetings

Because the new board has not been elected yet, we don't have dates for upcoming board and general meetings in 2023. When they're available, dates will be posted on the web site and Facebook page, and sent by email.

Get our emails and follow on Facebook

The neighborhood association regularly sends out notices by email to all residents. If you're not receiving them, be sure to write to us at wmboardphx@gmail.com and we'll be sure to include you on the list. Write to the same email address to request an invitation to join the Facebook page.



Save the Date!

OLAF COOKIES & PJ'S PARTY

DATE Saturday December 17
TIME 6:00-7:00pm
LOCATION 914 West Turney
DETAILS

Once the neighborhood is lit with luminaries, join the snowman Olaf from the Frozen movie for a children's meet and greet, photos, cookies and cocoa! Wear your holiday PJs to stay cozy and warm.

This event is immediately followed by the Front Yard Friday meet-up at the same location. Everyone is encouraged to wander the neighborhood looking at the luminaries before, during or after!

First Annual Sunflower Contest

By Scott Reid

Sunflower meanings include happiness, optimism, honesty, longevity, peace, admiration, and devotion, interestingly, the same virtues make for a strong, united, and supportive community. The sunflower possibly surpasses all others in terms of its universal power to bring joy to people. It was delightful to walk the neighborhood and see so many homes displaying their sunflowers during our first annual summer, Sunflower contest. Congratulations to Murray and Jaelyn at 1322 W. Heatherbrae for their award-winning display planted from the sidewalk to the front door of their charming home. We all look forward to seeing more Sunflower-power for next year's contest.

