

SHHA Purchases Playground Equipment



Committee Plans "Year of the Park"

New play equipment for younger members of the Sandia Heights community soon will be installed at Sandia Heights Park as the first event in our Year of the Park activities, announced Rainer Schelp, Director of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association Parks and Recreation Committee.

The modular system will include a spiral slide, four foot and five foot platforms, a chain and spiral climber, and a vertical ladder. The \$4,860 expenditure for the system was approved by the SHHA Board of Directors at their December Board meeting.

"There's been a need for additional equipment at the park for a long time," says Lisa Stewart, member of both the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Sandia Heights Babysitting Co-op. Lisa reports that there are currently 53 children participating in the co-op's activities. "We've been forced to schedule co-op functions at various city parks, because the equipment at Sandia Heights Park wasn't geared to younger children. Speaking on behalf of all the residents in Sandia Heights, a hearty

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Association Pursues Covenant Enforcement

**Lou Mande, Esquire
SHHA Legal Advisor**

Within the past year the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association has become more directly involved with the prosecution of covenant violations in Sandia Heights. As a new member of the Board of Directors who now has reviewed a number of years of the Board's minutes, it appears that different issues seem to take precedence at

different times. There is no question that the issues of covenant and architectural control have been aggressively discussed by homeowners and Board members since I began serving on the Board in June, 1990.

I have had the opportunity in the past six months to speak to many of the homeowners in Sandia Heights. It has come as no surprise to me that one of the primary reasons people have chosen to

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See What You've Been Missing!

This issue of The GRIT newsletter was mailed, compliments of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association, to each of the community's non-SHHA member residents as part of the SHHA's annual membership drive.

Why miss out any longer? For just \$3.50 per month, you can enjoy the newsletter and other valuable member benefits.

Call the SHHA office to join or get more information.

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association
275-9112

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

THE Grit

The GRIT is the official newsletter of the SANDIA HEIGHTS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. Box 20021 Albuquerque, NM 87154-0021

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Message From The President

-- Bill Stabler, '90-'91 SHHA President

Are you mad as #*!#?

We are! The officers and directors of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association are frustrated at the expenditure of Association funds necessitated by covenant problems in our community.

You know whom I'm talking about. The residents -- SHHA members and nonmembers alike -- who feel that the Declarations of Restrictions don't apply to them. These are your neighbors with boats and campers in their driveways month after month; the residents who installed satellite discs and didn't bother to screen them; the homes with wire fences and wire dog runs; the do-it-yourselfers who keep piles of construction debris around their houses; the families who park inoperable vehicles at their houses for years; and the people who construct walls, fences, and additions without going through the architectural review process.

There also are the property owners of our community who design houses and additions that don't comply with the covenants and then pressure the SHHA Architectural Control Committee for approval to build them.

Six months into this fiscal year, the SHHA already has spent several thousand dollars on covenant enforcement. The time and expenses for monthly covenant inspection tours, clerical time and expenses for preparing an average of 30 covenant violation letters per month, postage and copying costs, and attorneys' fees not only consume a substantial percentage of members' dues but also a tremendous amount of time and mental energy of the Board of Directors. This is time, money, and energy that could be expended on community beautification, park improvements, or other projects to enhance our quality of life in Sandia Heights.

Still, what's the main reason cited by residents for not joining the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association or for resigning their membership? It's their perception of the SHHA's failure to "do its job" in the area of covenant enforcement. The Sandia Heights Homeowners Association is a non-profit New Mexico corporation comprising residents who voluntarily join and then elect 15 members to serve on the Board of Directors. The formation and existence of the SHHA is not stipulated in the Declaration of Restrictions. Consequently, it follows that the Association is not required to perform any specific duties (including architectural review and covenant enforcement). Many a time the Board of Directors has asked itself why the SHHA has agreed to take on these disagreeable and thankless tasks.

Over the years, the SHHA has cleared up numerous covenant problems, altered many construction plans to meet the community's covenants and design standards, and mediated a wide variety of conflicts between neighbors. But the problem is obvious. Covenant enforcement for a community of 1,500 residents is not a job that can be successfully handled by 15 volunteer Board members and one Executive Assistant to the homeowners association. It's a task that requires community participation and cooperation in order to be effective and successful.

Continued on page 4

BULLETIN

BOARD

- Sandia Heights Recycling Saturdays over the next three months are scheduled for February 23, March 23, and April 27. Bring all currently acceptable recyclables (see story on page 12) to the Quail Run Center, corner of Tramway Blvd. and San Rafael, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. If you're interested in joining the SHHA Recycling Committee or helping with Recycling Saturdays, call Bill Heflin at 291-0489.
- There will be no refuse collection on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27 or on Independence Day, Thursday, July 4. If your regularly scheduled pickup falls on these dates, your refuse will be collected on the following day.
- Planning already has begun for the 1991 Holiday Craft Bazaar. If you want to get involved in the planning and organizing of this annual fund raising event to benefit our County Volunteer Fire Department, call Bazaar Chair Lucy Russell at 294-3583 or SHHA Board Member and Direct Services Chair Sara Warford at 293-4367.

Year of the Park

Continued from page 1

'thank you' to the homeowners association for its investment in our children and grandchildren and our community."

"It seems that every time I go to the park in Glenwood Hills I see families from Sandia Heights," says Stephanie Brinker, also a member of the Parks Committee. "This new park equipment is going to be a great addition to the amenities that Sandia Heights has to offer."

Rainer reports that the Committee met with a number of different equipment representatives and looked at quite a few systems. Final selection of the system was based on price, durability, and versatility. Since it's a modular system, the community can add other components as the need arises.

Besides new park equipment, Rainer reports that the Committee also has put the park maintenance contract out for bids. "Expenses for park maintenance and water represent a significant part of the SHHA's annual budget," Rainer says, "and we want to be sure that we're getting the best possible service for the lowest price. The Committee also is keeping a close watch on park water usage. "We're checking into the installation of moisture sensors so the watering schedule can be based on the actual moisture level in the grass,"

Rainer says. The sensors have been installed at a number of city parks with good results in assessing water needs more accurately and reducing consumption.

Other priorities set by the Committee are repair of the park's drinking fountain and moving the SHHA bulletin board that's currently by the Outpost Ice Arena over to the park. This would allow the Association to post the park reservation schedules for Sandia Heights soccer and little league teams and other group activities.

In response to the Sandia Heights residents who ask, "What does the Association do for me?" Lisa reports that the SHHA Parks and Recreation Committee answers, "Take a look at Sandia Heights Park." Without the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association there would be no park in our community. Even if you don't have children or grandchildren, the park is a community asset that enhances all of our property values.

Other activities planned during the Year of the Park include a dedication ceremony for the new equipment and an SHHA membership drive centered around park activities and improvements.

Members of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association can reserve the park for group activities by calling the SHHA office at 275-9112. ■

SHHA Neighborhood Coffees

Meet new neighbors and see "old" friends at the neighborhood coffees. Mark your calendar and notify your hostess if you plan to attend so that she can plan accordingly! Call Connie Krelle at 299-0116 if you would like to have a coffee or if you need a ride.

Everyone is welcome!

Wednesday, March 6
10 a.m.-12 noon
at the home of Audrey Gray
1465 Bluebell Dr.
299-0430

Wednesday, April 10
10 a.m.-12 noon
at the home of Sydney Gray
215 Spring Creek Pl.
299-9380

Wednesday, May 15
10 a.m.-12 noon
at the home of Shawn Fronterhouse
1543 Eagle Ridge Pl.
293-7288

Special thanks to Marianne Tregembo, Barbara Narath, and Jean Sullivan who hosted our coffees in December, January, and February.

"THE GRIT" ADVERTISING RATES

Non-commercial ads (baby sitting, house sitting, etc.) FREE to members of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association.

Business card size - \$35 per three (3) issues

Commercial ads - minimum of \$35 per 1/4 page
(\$65 per half-page, \$125 per full-page)



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Deadline for the May "Grit"

The deadline for submitting ads or information for the May issue of The GRIT is Monday, April 15, 1991. Please submit all materials to Sherry Lombana, 14201 Encantado Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123, 275-9112.

"Grit" Circulation

This issue of *The Grit* was mailed to all 1509 residents of Sandia Heights.

President's Message

Continued from page 2

If you receive notification regarding a covenant issue, please take care of it promptly. Don't waste the community's time and money by becoming a covenant violator. These are the very same covenants that were in effect when you decided to purchase or lease your property. Won't you now take the necessary steps to help preserve the unique character, visual appeal, and quality of life that first attracted you to Sandia Heights?

If you're uninformed about the covenants in your subdivision (Sandia Heights currently has 32 subdivisions and 32 different sets of covenants), get a copy

of the applicable covenants for your area and read them. There also are several articles in this issue of The GRIT to inform you about various legal issues and new procedures pertaining to covenant enforcement.

If you have a covenant problem in your area, take the initiative to talk to the homeowner or tenant in a neighborly fashion about the issue. All too often we hear, "My neighbors don't seem to care, so why doesn't the Association get off my back?"

If you're not a member of the Association, become a member and get involved. The \$3.50 per month dues are really a small price to pay for all of the services (in addition to architectural

review and covenant enforcement) that the Association provides including this quarterly newsletter, the residents directory, Homeowners Referral Program, maintenance and improvements at Sandia Heights Park, neighborhood recycling program, social activities, and much more. Your involvement is needed in many areas of the Association's work such as helping out with neighborhood covenant inspection tours, organizing activities at social functions, loading recyclables at the community's recycling Saturdays, or planning fund raising activities.

What's the bottom line? The SHHA needs your financial, manpower, and moral support to do the job at hand!

Judges Name Holiday Lights Contest Winners

"With the judges festively piled into a four wheel drive vehicle, we cruised the snow covered streets of Sandia Heights to select winners of the 1990 SHHA Holiday Lights Contest," reports Rich Bando, member of the SHHA Parks and Recreation Committee and one of the contest judges.

Even though there were only seven official entries in the contest, Rich says any home that the judges passed that had decorations was considered as a potential prize winner.

Winner of the luminaria category was 18 Juniper Hill Loop, the home of Andy

and Judith Anderson. Andy reportedly braved the elements to set out and light 250 luminarias.

In the traditional lights category, the winner was 569 Black Bear Rd., the home of Kathy and Gary Williams. Gary says he spent eight hours decorating his home, and it was time well spent according to the judges.

Second place winner in the traditional category was 483 Live Oak Loop, home of Ina and William Swantner.

The Andersons and the Williamses each received \$75 award checks from the

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association and the Swantners received a \$25 award.

Honorable Mentions in the traditional lights category were James and Susan Smuda, 955 Antelope Ave.; Paul and Isabelle Bradley, 33 Cedar Hill Pl.; George Johnson and Rachel Garcia, 802 Tramway Ln.

Thanks to all participants and judges in this year's Holiday Lights Contest. The SHHA Parks and Recreation Committee looks forward to increased participation in 1991.

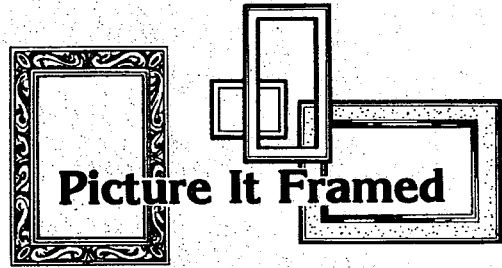
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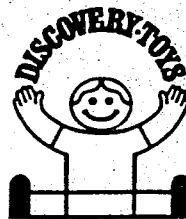
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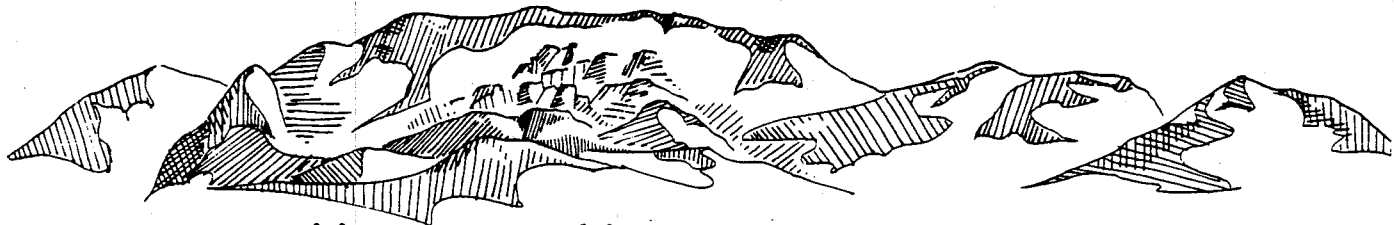
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Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

February 1, 1991

Dear Sandia Heights Resident,

You've selected a remarkable place to live! Yet our records show you're not a member of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association (SHHA), the nonprofit organization that works to protect the value of your property and represents our community's interests at the city, county, and state levels.

Preservation of this unique neighborhood is the responsibility of all its residents and the primary goal of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association. From lobbying efforts and architectural review to maintenance and improvements at Sandia Heights Park and a wide variety of community projects, the Association strives to maintain Sandia Heights' reputation as one of New Mexico's premier communities.

SHHA members also receive the following benefits reserved exclusively for Association members:

- The GRIT Newsletter (published quarterly and mailed to SHHA members only).
- Sandia Heights Residents Directory (published annually and distributed to SHHA members only).
- Architectural Plan Review (only SHHA members are eligible to review plans for new home construction and home additions in their neighborhoods).
- Homeowners Referral Program (a file of rating forms submitted by Association members covering a wide range of contractors . . . from carpenters and masons to plumbers and roofers. Available to SHHA members only.)
- Sandia Heights Park (only SHHA members can reserve the park for private parties).

Take time to review all of the membership benefits and community services that the Association provides. I think you'll agree that the \$3.50 per month dues are a sound investment in this remarkable community.

To join or to get more information, call the SHHA office (275-9117). Your monthly membership dues will be included on the bill you receive from Sandia Heights Services. I welcome your attendance at the Board of Directors' meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at the fire station on Paseo del Norte. Come and get involved in the activities of your Association!

Sincerely,

Bill Stabler, '90-'91 SHHA President

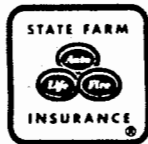
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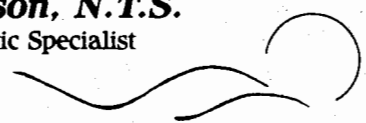
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Covenant Enforcement

Continued from page 1

live in Sandia Heights is the quality of life offered. We have the late Ben Abruzzo to thank for his vision for this community. Ben's vision is reflected in the covenants which control each subdivision within Sandia Heights.

The covenants control many aspects of one's rights in respect to use of the land and architectural design. Many people would say that our covenants are overly restrictive and burdensome; however, hopefully those people decide not to live in Sandia Heights. Virtually everyone who lives here loves the natural landscaping and uncluttered views which are among the areas protected by the covenants. In that regard we have agreed by purchasing or leasing a residence in Sandia Heights that we shouldn't have to view either the mountains or the city lights over a recreational vehicle or a boat in someone's yard. There are many places in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County where permanently parking boats and RV's on one's lot is perfectly acceptable, but not in Sandia Heights.

It must be understood that the covenants are the laws which control certain activities in each individual subdivision or unit within Sandia Heights. Violations of those covenants are prosecutable in court. The present Board of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association has made covenant control one of its highest priorities and has recently adopted a formal procedure for enforcement of the covenants. The procedure begins, at first, by merely notifying a homeowner or tenant by letter of a possible violation. If the violation is not corrected the resident could, after ignoring subsequent notices, eventually find himself or herself as a defendant in a law suit.

You may be asking how to determine if a restrictive covenant is being violated. Good question. Everyone should have received a set of covenants when purchasing or leasing a residence in Sandia Heights. A review of the covenants should let you know whether the questioned action is a violation. In the event you do not have a copy of the covenants which pertain to your

property, and you wish to obtain a copy, please call Sherry Lombana at the SHHA office (275-9112). Sherry is the Executive Assistant to the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association, and she will provide you with a set of covenants for the nominal fee of \$1.00.

As you know, the homeowners association is a volunteer organization which is anxious to do a good job for the homeowners, but we need some help from the community. If you suspect that a covenant is being violated, please notify us by contacting Lenora Austin at 296-

7312. Lenora is Vice President of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association and Director of the Covenant Support Committee. Or you may call Sherry at the SHHA office.

The homeowners association attempts to maintain and, if possible, improve the quality of life for the residents in Sandia Heights. We are hoping that notification of this issue will encourage cooperation among neighbors so that everyone can enjoy the beautiful area in which we have chosen to live. ■

RV's/Boats/Campers Top Covenant Violations List

A total of 25 letters was mailed out in the month of December notifying Sandia Heights residents about covenant problems, violations, and possible initiation of legal action.

Following is a composite list of those violations:

- Boats, RV's, Trailers, Campers
 - 16 violations
- Wire/Chain Link Fences
 - 3 violations
- Unscreened Satellite Discs
 - 2 violations
- Unscreened Propane/Butane Tank
 - 1 violation
- Unscreened Air Conditioner
 - 1 violation
- Unapproved Home Renovation
 - 1 violation
- Unapproved Fence Construction
 - 1 violation

Covenant Support Representatives are being sought for each of the subdivisions in Sandia Heights to assist the SHHA Board and the Covenant Committee in preserving the unique visual appeal and quality of life in Sandia Heights. If you have a little time to make a tour of your neighborhood once each month to perform this valuable community service, please call Covenant Support Director Lenora Austin (296-7312) or the SHHA office (275-9112).

Architectural Issues

As a reminder, the Declarations of Restrictions for all Sandia Heights subdivisions require Architectural Committee review and approval prior to making any exterior changes on your property. Failure to submit plans and get Committee approval before starting construction or making changes is an automatic violation of the covenants and is subject to appropriate legal action.

Following is a partial list of items that require Architectural Review Committee approval: New home construction; home additions; walls/fences; swimming pools; dog runs; fencing to hide campers, RV's, boats from view; tennis courts; basketball goals and courts; satellite disc antennas; equipment installations including evaporative coolers/air conditioners, solar panels, duct work, propane/butane tanks; restuccoing, painting, reroofing if it involves a color change from existing; landscaping plans and dirt work; decks, porches, gazebos, patio covers.

To receive forms and instructions for submitting items for Architectural Committee review and approval, please contact Sherry Lombana at the SHHA office (275-9112). You also may contact the SHHA office to verify if a construction/renovation project in your area has received Architectural Review Committee approval.

Lost Your Covenants? Never Had A Copy?

Don't panic! Copies are available from the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association. Send your name, address, and \$1 to cover copying and postage to SHHA, 14201 Encantado Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123.

Composting Lets Nature Do The Work

Bill Heflin
SHHA Recycling Director

Editor's Note: The Association's Recycling Committee has set community education as one of its primary goals. The following article is the first in a series on various recycling topics.

Nearly 30 percent of garbage in the United States consists of yard or garden waste and kitchen scraps. This amounts to some 24 million tons of waste each year which, if composted and returned to our gardens as humus, would enrich the soil and save millions of cubic yards of land fill.

Composting is simple and nature does most of the work!

To start, a composting pile or pit is needed. Dr. Lynn Doxon, a local garden columnist and consultant, recommends that a pit be used here in our dry climate. However, the compost process requires air circulation to work properly and a pile that can be turned from time to time will permit more air to circulate and may be easier to handle. For the Heflin household, I made a three-section composting bin out of 2X4's, galvanized hardware cloth, and removable 1X4's in the front openings. Each section will hold about a cubic yard of material. I treated the wood parts with a preservative. The materials cost about \$130 and took about six hours to build.

Composting is a process that occurs constantly in nature as vegetation falls to the ground, slowly decays, and returns the minerals and nutrients needed by the soil, plants, and small creatures. Aerobic composting speeds up the process which can take as little as two or three weeks or as long as a year depending upon the care given. The Portland, Oregon booklet, The Art of Composting, says that rapid decomposition results from a combination of the following ingredients:

Raw organic material (including a good source of nitrogen, such as grass, weeds, manure, and bloodmeal), moisture, air, heat (generated through

rapid decomposition), and organisms present in the soil.

In the composting process, bacteria and other organisms attack plants and other organic material. Bacteria break organic matter into a dark-brown substance called humus. Humus, rich in nutrients and minerals, is an excellent soil conditioner. Humus increases a garden's productivity by breaking up heavier soils and improving fertility. It also contributes to a plentiful harvest.

The compost pile should be built in layers. This helps ensure a proper mix of nitrogen and carbon-rich carbohydrates (which later aid in air circulation). The first layer should be absorbent material to prevent juices from running out the bottom of the bin. Sawdust or crushed dry leaves are good for this. Add successive layers of at least three different materials, with one layer being a material rich in composting bacteria and enzymes (garden soil or manure). Other layers should alternate between green matter like grass clippings and leaves and carbon-rich carbohydrates like shredded prunings, small twigs, branches, and dried leaves. Each complete pile should be at least three cubic feet in size to guarantee sufficient heat generation.

Kitchen scraps can be introduced with the carbon material. This will prevent the scraps from smelling during the initial composting stages.

Between each completed system of layers, water should be added to maintain sufficient moisture content. The pile should not be soaked, but watered to the consistency of a wrung-out sponge. While the material should be moist, it should still crumble when balled up in your fist. Wood ashes can be added to each system of layers -- about one coffee can by volume per layer. Kitchen scraps, pet hair, vacuum sweepings, and other organics also can be added to completed layers.

The frequency of turning compost piles depends on how soon the compost is needed. Fast composting can take as little as two weeks using the aerobic

composting method. Slower composting usually is done during the winter months and requires much less turning. With any system, however, turning the pile periodically is essential to maintain the air supply to the aerobic bacteria working on the material.

Aerobic composting can heat as high as 180 degrees in the center. This may be noted by thrusting a broom handle into the compost pile. Let it stay a few minutes and withdraw. The handle will feel quite warm to the touch when the pile is working properly.

Albuquerque Solid Waste Management has a project to use sludge from the waste recovery plant and organic materials to produce humus. The plant is located on the West Mesa near the Double Eagle Airport. It is expected that the City Parks Department will use most of the humus produced, and none will be offered for sale within the near future. Solid Waste will also send out a copy of the Portland booklet on composting that was previously mentioned if you give them a call at 761-8176. The booklet gives more information on composting along with drawings of several composting piles that can be used by the householder. Reading this booklet, you also will discover how liberally I borrowed from it for this article.

**Sandia Heights
Homeowners
Association**

**Board of Directors
Meetings**

**2nd Wednesday
of
Each Month**

7:30 p.m.

**Paseo del Norte
Fire Station**

Everyone Welcome!



SANDIA HEIGHTS ACADEMY

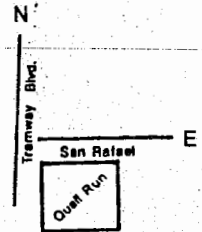
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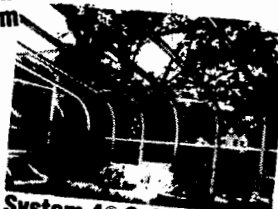
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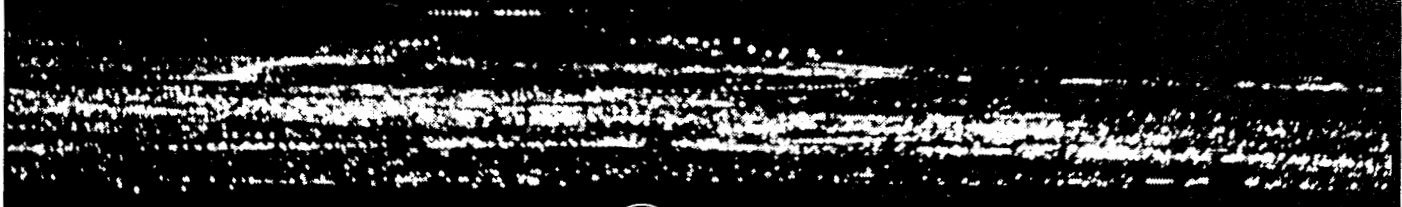
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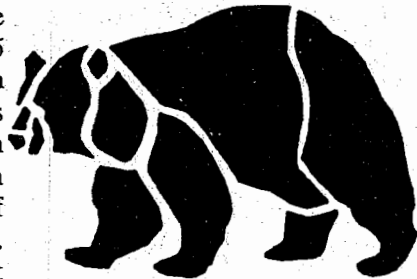
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Bears in the Brush

Among the other amenities, our intriguing neighbors help make Sandia Heights a stimulating place to live. Down in heavily-brushed canyons on the east slope of Sandia Crest as far away from people as possible, the black bears live. *Ursus americanus* is now found only in North America but ages ago used to live in Europe. They're usually not very visible, but during the drought summer of 1989 they began to pop out all over the map, about 20 bears showing up in Albuquerque back yards, climbing trees in Algodones, several getting hit by cars on I-40. They produced some memorable photo opportunities. Most of the bears we saw were young adults, shoved out of their territories by the big bears who were ranging far afield in search of scarce food.

According to Frank Hayes, Cibola National Forest biologist and a leader of the Bear Task Force (organized for bear and bear habitat management after the 1989 bear furor), there may be as many as 45 black bears living in the Sandia Mountains north of I-40, each needing about a square mile and a half of elbow room. Normally, you won't see them even if you're out looking for them; their preferred home is on the east slope of the mountains and is accessible by few roads. They avoid open land whenever possible and are fond of tall brush where they can be undisturbed. Their food is grasses and grasslike plants in the spring, berries in the summer, and acorns and juniper berries in the fall.



They also like the tunitas of the prickly pear and sometimes will range out to eat this delicacy.

In 1989, many people were worried about the possible extinction of nearby bears as human activities get closer to their home land, but Frank says not to worry. The Sandias provide some ideal habitat, and they will likely continue to thrive unless conditions change drastically. Hunting is not a threat to their population; only one Sandia bear has been taken in the past four years by the archery-only sport hunting, the only kind allowed. Though there probably were few cubs born in 1990 because of the poor condition of the mothers, 1991 may well be a cub year, and any population loss likely will be made up.

People are always concerned when a big animal like a bear suddenly appears where, according to the people, it should not be. They're no problem when you don't see them, but as more people encroach on bear territory there are bound to be more encounters. There is little evidence of bear encounters in normal years by backpackers and hikers in the Sandias, though there is potential impact by the humans on the bears. Hikers should avoid key habitat zones (canyon bottoms, water sources, known feeding sites).

There are legitimate concerns about bear encroachment on human habitat and human encroachment on bear habitat. When bears develop unusual behavior which impinges on humans, the Forest Service classes them as nuisance bears. Nuisance bears come in two types: Garbage bears and beggar bears, both a concern in our national parks. In Glacier National Park, it is an offense with a stiff fine to even leave a picnic basket on the table after lunch that might attract a bear. And, of course, feeding bears is now strictly forbidden (though one of my cherished memories is the evening feeding of the bears on a visit to

Yellowstone when I was a tiny child).

We're not likely to see bears in Sandia Heights unless there are unusual circumstances; the west side is mostly too open for them, but we who live at the edge of the wilderness might want to be careful how we handle our garbage, caged animals, and bee hives which might be an open invitation to lunch for a bear forced out of his normal range. Relocation is the way the New Mexico Game and Fish Department tries to deal with problem bears, but it is difficult, costly, and occasionally not successful. Bears are redoubtable travelers and can go as far as 125 miles to return to their chosen homes.

It's nice to know that we have such intriguing neighbors, but they value their privacy. Let's hope they get the cooperation they need to continue to prosper as more and more people use the Cibola National Forest.

-Jean Heflin

Sandia Heights Wildflower Club



Slides of New Mexico's beautiful Beardtongues -- a native wildflower in the Penstemon family -- were shown by Jean Heflin and Erma Pilz at the club's meeting on January 21.

Gardening to attract wildlife will be the topic of the next meeting to be held in late March or early April. Call Mary Colton (294-5510) or Bev Grady (275-0798) for information on club activities.

Remember The Children



**SLOW
DOWN**

Please!

Coalition Appeals Master Plan Approval

Approval by the County Zoning Commission of the Master Plan for the proposed Primrose Pointe subdivision has been appealed by the North Albuquerque Sandia Heights Coalition (NASHC). The Coalition's appeal was presented at the January meeting of Bernalillo County Commission (see editor's note below).

The Coalition, which comprises residents from both the North Albuquerque Acres and Sandia Heights communities, retained Herb Denish & Associates, a real estate consulting firm, to present their objections regarding the Primrose Pointe Master Plan to the County Commission.

Bob Williams, SHHA's Director of New Development and a member of the Coalition, said that the Coalition's objections to the Primrose Pointe Master Plan centered around the development's proposed housing density, the probability of assessments within the North Albuquerque Acres community to pay for the construction of water and sewer lines, height of the homes within

the development, drainage concerns, and traffic flow within and around the Primrose Pointe subdivision.

Bob reported that the City of Albuquerque Utility Development Division now has specified that sewer line extensions for the Primrose Pointe development must be designed and constructed to accommodate future use by the entire Sandia Heights community. Residents in Sandia Heights who joined the NASHC expressed concern that all the recent negative publicity about septic tanks may bring City sewer service sooner than anyone had anticipated, along with sizeable assessments to property owners to cover the cost of line extensions.

Editor's Note: Since the Bernalillo County Commission meeting occurred after The GRIT's publication deadline, results of the Coalition's appeal were not available for this issue. SHHA members who want information about the meeting's results may contact Bob Williams (292-4949) or the SHHA office (275-9112).

"There is no central machinery to provide a substitute for the good neighbour."

-- King Edward VIII

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Sandia Heights Supports Community Recycling Effort

Some 1800 cu. ft. of paper, cardboard, and aluminum were collected at Sandia Heights' first Neighborhood Recycling Saturday on November 24, 1990 at Quail Run Center. Three pickup loads of glass and one pickup full of plastic also were collected.

Six members of the Association's Recycling Committee, along with SHHA President Bill Stabler, reportedly had a steady flow of depositors from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Inclement weather forced the cancellation of December's Recycling Saturday, but the Committee hopes for cooperation from Mother Nature for future events (see Bulletin Board on page 3 for upcoming collection dates).

Current Recyclables

Following is a list of currently acceptable recyclables, but it's important to keep in mind that demands in the recycling market are in a constant state of flux. However, the SHHA Recycling Committee is working with several recycling sources to minimize these fluctuations. Call Recycling Committee Member Gina Waller (299-9192) for information or clarification.

Aluminum Cans - rinsed, crushed or whole

Glass - rinsed, separated by color, not broken, all metal attachments removed

Steel Cans - rinsed, crushed or whole

Plastic Milk, Water, and Soda Containers - rinsed, crushed or whole, not cut up, caps removed

Newspaper - whole or bundled, advertising inserts that come with paper only

Cardboard - Broken down, corrugated only, no cereal boxes

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Stargazers Guide --Helen Moncure

Winter is one of the best times of the year for stargazing. Our Sandia Heights' skies are crisp and clear, and the weather's not too cold. So bundle up, and go out for a look.

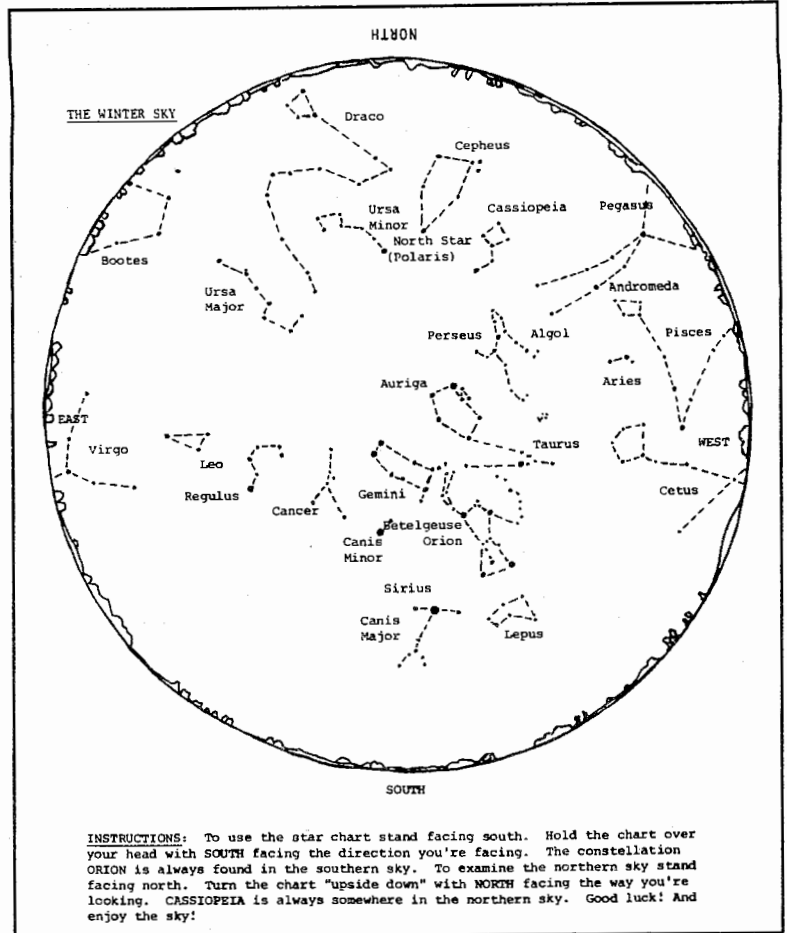
Looking south, the most familiar starry sight is the great Hunter, the constellation Orion. He is easily identified by the three stars in his belt. The bright star in his right shoulder is named Betelgeuse (pronounced Beetle-juice!). This star is a very cool (compared with our Sun) red supergiant which may have swallowed up its small companion star. If Betelgeuse were where our Sun is, its edge would reach to the orbit of Mars.

The bright blue star in Orion's left knee is Rigel (Ri-jel). Rigel is also a supergiant star but many times hotter than our Sun. Both of these stars of the winter sky are about 1400 light years away from us. A light year is the distance light travels in one year, about 6 trillion miles.

Just to the right (west) of Orion is the easily identified constellation, Taurus, the Bull. The V-shaped pattern you see represents his face. The brightest star is Aldebaran (al-deb'-run), a giant orange star not as old as Betelgeuse but older than Rigel. Aldebaran represents the fiery eye of the Bull. It's bright mostly because it is only 60 light years away. The red planet, Mars, is just north (above) Aldebaran. If you don't have a telescope, hold some binoculars steady and look at Mars. It doesn't seem to twinkle like the stars.

Part of this constellation is a tiny group of faint stars shaped like a little "dipper." See if you can find these stars. They are called the Pleiades or the "Seven Sisters". Look very hard to find all seven. With a telescope or binoculars, you may see even more than seven. Since the only time you can see Orion and Taurus is in the winter, go see. The sky is free.

Editor's Note: Helen was director of a planetarium in Newark, New Jersey where she taught astronomy lessons to students from elementary school through high school. A member of the Albuquerque Astronomical Society, Helen and her husband, John, are new residents in Sandia Heights.



From The Desk Of Chief 5

The 1990 SHHA Holiday Craft Bazaar raised a "whopping" \$476.76 for the District 5 Bernalillo County Fire Department.

A big "thank you" goes out to Bazaar Chair Lucy Russell and her able assistants Jane Stabler, Marianne Tregembo, Ken Russell, Sally Churan, Barbara Boedeker, Barbara McGill, Marilyn Christensen, and Janie Mullins who volunteered their time to plan, organize, and also work at the Bazaar.

The department appreciates all of the artists who so generously donated a percentage of their proceeds and also the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association for sponsoring the event and providing free advertising in The GRIT.

I can assure you the department appreciates your efforts, and your donation will be put to good use!

*Clark "Sparkie" Speakman
Fire Chief, CVFD District #5*

SHHA To Sponsor Spring Fling Picnic

Don't miss the annual Spring Fling picnic sponsored by the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association (SHHA) on Memorial Day -- Monday, May 27, 1991 -- at Sandia Heights Park.

Activities for all ages are planned from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. under the supervision of the SHHA's own expert grill chefs, Brad and June Prince.

The picnic is free to all members of the SHHA. Sandia Heights residents who are not members of the Association and other guests also are invited and welcome at a cost of \$2.00 per person.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy delicious food, get better acquainted with your Sandia Heights neighbors, and try out the new play equipment at Sandia Heights Park. The park is located just west of Juniper Hill Rd. between Tramway Rd. and Cedar Hill Rd.

Volunteers are needed to set up and supervise the games and activities. Call Sara Warford 293-4367.

Non-Commercial Advertising

Ads in this section are published free and are accepted only from members of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association. Non-commercial ads are limited to Services (babysitting, house/pet sitting, yard care); For Sale (secondhand household items); Lost/Found; and Wanted. Ads in other categories are accepted at the discretion of the newsletter staff. Service ads will run throughout the calendar year, unless cancelled by the advertiser. All other ads must be renewed each issue. Call 275-9112 to renew your ad.

Services

AAA BABY SITTER, house sitter, pet sitter. Please call Michelle Munson at 299-1400. Experienced, references.

ALL AROUND GOOD QUALITY WORK. I do all sorts of odd jobs such as baby sitting, yard work, pet care, etc. Call Marcus Aaron (age 13) at 298-3843.

BABY SITTER for children, pets, or plants. Experienced, responsible with references. Please call Elisabeth (Izzy) Brown at 299-5560.

BABY SITTER NEEDED? Call Jennifer or Emily James. You're bound to get a baby sitter because you're reaching two sitters at once! Girls are 14 and 15. We've both taken the Red Cross baby sitting course and many others. Call us at 296-2582.

DOUBLE 'L' BABY SITTERS. Lindsay Worth and Lindsay Bostick. Dependable, experienced 14 year olds. Love kids of all ages. Lindsay Worth at 298-6135. Lindsay Bostick at 299-0343.

EXPERIENCED AND RELIABLE BABY SITTER and house sitter when you are out of town. I do plants, animals, walk dogs, and other jobs, and I'm experienced with babies. Call Karen Truesdell (age 14) at 293-5451.

EXPERIENCED BABY SITTERS, plant waterers, etc. Tamara Eyer, age 16, and Jamie Eyer, age 14. Call 298-4288.

FREE MARINE SAFETY INSPECTION of your boat by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Call Bill Stabler at 298-8525.

GOING AWAY FROM HOME? I will water your plants, take care of your animals, and let you leave worry free. I am a responsible Albuquerque Academy senior and Sandia Heights resident. Call Aaron at 294-8464.

GOING OUT OF TOWN and need a house sitter? Someone to pull your weeds? Mow your lawn? Take care of your dogs? Call Richard Truesdell, age 12, at 293-5451 (reliable and caring).

HOUSE SITTER. Responsible UNM student will take care of your home, children, pets, plants, etc. Sandia Heights house sitting references available. Christel Foster 296-4567/298-2487.

HOUSE SITTER will take care of your house, plants, kids, etc. while you're out of town. Responsible, reliable UNM student and Sandia Heights resident. References available. Contact Erin at 275-0459.

HOUSE SITTING. College student, resident of Sandia Heights. Reliable, references. Call Ann Piasecki at 296-1342.

HOUSE CARE SERVICE including house plant watering; outside watering; mail and newspaper; feeding cats, dogs, and fish (no snakes). The prices vary depending on services. Experienced. Call Todd Randall at 298-2695.

NEED A BABY SITTER? Call Jenny Fisher (age 13) at 294-0264. Experienced and reliable! Are you going out of town? I can take care of your pets and house.

NEED AN EXPERIENCED BABY SITTER? Call Jennifer Kosse (age 14) at 293-5096. Will water plants, take care of dogs, take in mail, etc. Have worked as councilor-in-training at the YMCA.

PET AND CHILD LOVER will take care of your pets and kids. I will walk and wash or feed and water your furry, feathered, and finned friends. Or baby sit. I have lots of experience in both and have taken the Red Cross baby sitting course. Call Jennifer Atkins (age 13) at 292-0621.

PET LOVER AND HOUSE KEEPER. Do you need your pets walked and/or fed each day? Call on Jeff Fisher at 294-0264. I will also take care of your house and yard while you're away.

QUALITY KID CARE by caring kids. We don't just baby sit, we entertain and help out. Just call Jamie at 299-8803. Jennifer at 293-1409. Heidi at 292-0936. Stacy at 293-4901.

RELIABLE, EXPERIENCED 13 year old will do child sitting (age 3 and up), house watching, outside watering, collecting mail and paper. Contact Nathan (lives on Roadrunner Ln.) at 292-8792.

RELIABLE, RESPONSIBLE BABY SITTER. Experienced with babies. Call Mary Richardson at 298-3770.

RESPONSIBLE HOUSE SITTER. Will care for plants and animals. 18 years old. References available. Call Amy Steiner 298-2810.

ZZZZ TERRIFIC TEENAGE TWOSOME available for baby sitting bambinas. Call Pamela (age 16) or Naomi (age 13) Havlen at 293-9253.

Wanted

ANYONE interested in forming a play group for 15-month-old children. Call Kathy at 296-8071.

BRIDE TO BE? New parent? New citizen? Just moved? Having a 25th or 50th wedding anniversary? Welcome Wagon has a basket full of useful gifts for you. Call Karrie at 275-3366.

PLAYMATE WANTED for my nearly-four-year-old son. I'm interested in exchanging home visits with another mom who wants her child to have one-on-one time with a friend. Call 299-1768.

VOLUNTEERS to set up and supervise games and activities at the annual SHHA Spring Fling on Memorial Day, May 27, 1991 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sandia Heights Park. Call Sara Warford at 293-4367.

SANDIA HEIGHTS BRIDGE CLUB

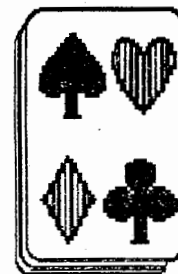
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Couples Evening Bridge

1st Saturday
2nd Saturday
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There are new groups forming each week; if you would like to play in any group or join a new group, call Sara Warford at 293-4367.

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For the year (or other period) beginning on 1/15/90 and ending on 12/31/90

Label
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Use IRS label
 Otherwise, please print or type
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For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notices, see instructions.

Presidential Election Campaign
 Do you want \$1 to go to the fund? Yes No
 If joint return, does your spouse want \$1 to go to this fund? Yes No

Filing Status
 1 Single (See page 10 to find out if you can file as head of household.)
 2 Married filing joint return (even if only one had income)
 3 Married filing separate returns. Enter spouse's social security no. above.
 4 Head of household (with qualifying person). (See page 10.)
 5 Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child.
 6a Yes/No If your parent (or other dependent) is a taxpayer, enter the child's name here. b Questionnaire attached to this return.

Exemptions
 (See instructions on page 10.)
 a Spouse b Dependents c Other

Income
 7 Taxable income from Form 1041-1043
 8a Taxable income from Schedule B if over \$400
 8b Taxable income from Schedule C if over \$400
 9 Dividend income (also attach Schedule B if over \$400)
 10 Taxable refunds of state and local income taxes, if any, from worksheet on page 14
 11 Alimony received
 12 Business income or (loss) (attach Schedule D)
 13 Capital gain or (loss) (attach Schedule D)
 14 Capital gain distributions not reported on line 13 (see page 14)
 15 Other gains or (losses) (attach Form 4797)
 16a Total IRA distributions 16b Taxable amount (see page 14)
 17a Total pensions and annuities 17b Taxable amount (see page 14)
 18 Rents, royalties, partnerships, estates, trusts, etc. (attach Schedule E)
 19 Farm income or (loss) (attach Schedule F)
 20 Unemployment compensation (insurance) (see page 16)
 21a Social security benefits 21b Taxable amount (see page 16)
 22 Other income (list type and amount—see page 16)
 23 Add the amounts shown in the far right column for lines 7 through 22. This is your total income

Adjustments to Income
 24a Your IRA deduction, from applicable worksheet
 24b Spouse's IRA deduction, from applicable worksheet
 25 One-half of self-employment tax (see page 9)
 26 Self-employed health insurance deduction, if any
 27 Keogh retirement plan and self-employed
 28 Penalty on early withdrawal of savings
 29 Annuity paid Recipient's SSN #
 30 Add lines 24a through 29. These are your adjustments.
 31 Subtract line 30 from line 23. This is your adjusted gross income

ANN MARIE CALE, CPA
9101 LYNX LOOP
293-1949



Mark Napolin

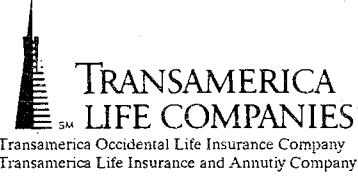
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