

Public Forum Raises Questions And Concerns About Groundwater Pollution And Protection

Some 300 concerned property owners from Sandia Heights and North Albuquerque Acres crowded into the YWCA on Paseo del Norte the evening of April 22 to hear a presentation on the proposed Groundwater Protection Policy and Action Plan (GPPAP) by Norman Gaume, Technical Services Division Manager for the City's Public Works

Water Utilities Division.

Gaume's forty minute presentation had one primary message for area residents: The total number and overall density of conventional septic tank systems in Sandia Heights and North Albuquerque Acres makes the pollution of the area's groundwater at some future date a likely possibility. Gaume also

firmly stated that there has been no evidence of groundwater pollution in the Sandia Heights/North Albuquerque Acres area to date.

A heated question and answer session followed Gaume's presentation. Some objected to the absence of site specific data for the foothills area. Others questioned the accuracy and interpretation of data and argued that the policy and plan were based on unrealistic projections that didn't take all variables into account. A consensus seemed to be reached on one point: The number of variables and quantity of unknown factors involved make predictions on both sides of the issue highly speculative.

GPPAP comprises general policy statements, protection measures, and an action plan. Controversy surrounding the GPPAP centers on the protection measures which, if approved, would prohibit installation of any new conventional septic tank systems in Sandia Heights and North Albuquerque Acres.

While the protection measures proposed in the plan wouldn't apply to systems already in place, newly constructed

Continued on page 10



The SHHA's Annual, not-to-be-missed, memory-making Spring Fling Picnic, Saturday, June 6 at Sandia Heights Park. See center insert for details.

SHHA ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

**Saturday, June 6, 1992
10:00 a.m.**

**Paseo del Norte Fire Station
11700 Paseo del Norte NE**

Plan to attend this important meeting, followed immediately by the Spring Fling at Sandia Heights Park. See page 2 for more information on annual meeting and the enclosed insert for details on Spring Fling.

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

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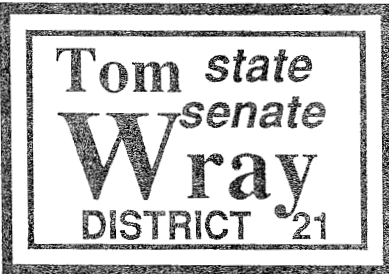
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- Board Member-Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

VOTE FOR BUSINESS
& AGAINST TAXES

**JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST
THE COMING INCREASE IN
YOUR PROPERTY TAXES!!!**

**HELP STOP WASTEFUL
STATE SPENDING!!!**

**HELP EXPAND JOBS IN
THE PRIVATE SECTOR!!!**

***Remember to VOTE on Tuesday, June 2nd!
Don't let others decide for you!***

Paid for by Wray for State Senate, Nancy Cooper, Treasurer

Memories...

...are made of days like this, savoring the pleasures of the season in the company of family and friends.

Join us at Sandia Heights Park (west of Juniper Hill Rd. between Tramway Rd. and Cedar Hill) for the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association's annual, not-to-be-missed, memory-making Spring Fling.

SHHA Spring Fling

Saturday, June 6, 1992 at Sandia Heights Park

11 a.m.-Noon

BASEBALL (6-9 year olds)

Noon-1 p.m.

BASEBALL (10-12 year olds)

Noon

HANG GLIDING DEMONSTRATION FLIGHTS.
By participants in the Sandia Classic National Hang Gliding Competition.

12:30-2 p.m.

BARBECUE

Hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings, grilled by our community's own esteemed chefs, State Representative Kip Nicely and Paul Stewart.

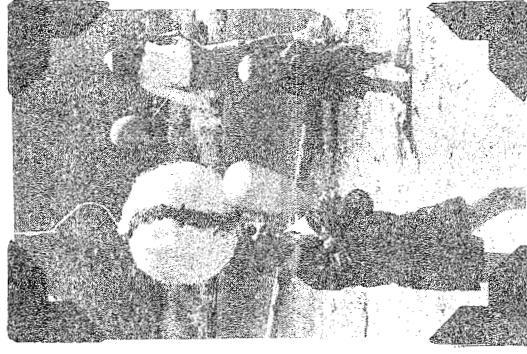
1 p.m.

TETHERED HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES
Sponsored by Tony Bartolotta, RE\MAX Realtors.

2 p.m.

KITE FLYING CONTEST

For children of all ages. SHHA Member Roger Bargas, owner of Fools Paradise, will judge the contest and award prizes for Best Homemade Kite, Smallest Kite That Flies, Highest Flying Kite.



FREE to SHHA Members.
\$2 per person for nonmembers.
Everyone welcome!

FOOD

Delicious Barbecue
Popcorn
Watermelon

FUN

Facepainting
Balloon Rides
Kite Flying
Hang Gliders

PRIZES

Door Prizes
Contest Prizes
Giveaways

S A N D I A H E I G H T S P A R K S & R E C R E A T I O N A L A S S O C I A T I O N B O A R D

- Have you returned your Sandia Heights Park survey? If not, please take a moment to find the bright yellow postcard questionnaire, answer the questions, and drop it in the mail. Results will be reported in the next issue of The GRIT.
- A few dedicated men and women are needed to help with some annual chores at Sandia Heights Park. A park work party has been scheduled for Saturday, May 16 from 9 to 11 a.m. Tasks will range from minor clean-up activities to rebuilding the railroad tie wall at the northeast end of the park. Bring shovel, hammer, wheelbarrow, etc. Call SHHA Parks & Recreation Director Ed Whitten at 296-1884 for information or just show up.
- Due to a change in the collection hours at the City's recycling center, the Sandia Heights Recycling Program now receives materials from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of each month at the Quail Run Center, 12700 San Rafael. Recycling Saturdays for the next three months are May 23, June 27, and July 25. The Sandia Heights Recycling Committee can no longer accept glass (clear or colored) since there currently are no outlets that accept glass for recycling. Persons interested in joining the Sandia Heights recycling effort should contact Janey Brink at 291-8910.
- THANK YOU! THANK YOU! to all of the conscientious residents who so quickly screened their air conditioning equipment and/or painted their basketball goals. What community pride and spirit!
- State congressional re-districting has divided Sandia Heights into two separate districts for the State House of Representatives-- District 31 represented by Kip Nicely and District 23 represented by Mark Caruso. Both of these incumbents are uncontested in the upcoming primary and general elections. The dividing line between the districts is the San Bernadino Channel, with all residents north of the channel in District 23 and all residents south of the channel in District 31. State Senate districts have not changed and neither have the voting precincts. All Sandia Heights residents will vote at the County District 5 Fire Station, 11700 Paseo del Norte NE.
- A Spring clean-up reminder: All brush and weeds must be boxed, bagged, or bundled for regular refuse pick up by Sandia Heights Services. Arrangements for special pick ups can be made by calling 296-9585. There will be no refuse collection on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25. Residents on the Monday pick up schedule will have their refuse collected on the following day.
- The Sandia Heights Holiday Crafts Bazaar, a holiday tradition for many years in the community, is searching for a new location for the 1992 bazaar. Persons who have ideas on possible locations and/or artisans who are interested in selling their work at the bazaar should contact Lucy Russell (294-3583).
- Many residents are fairly certain that the majority of the community's problems with vandalism traditionally can be traced back to our neighborhoods' own youth. Please take time to talk to your children and teenagers about the potentially severe consequences of seemingly harmless "pranks" such as mailbox bashing, graffiti, construction site vandalism (including turning over porto-potties), bottle throwing, disassembling the play equipment at Sandia Heights Park, etc. If you are the victim of vandalism or witness to any vandalism, please be sure to notify the County Sheriff and the Sandia Heights Security Patrol.
- The Sandia Heights Four Seasons Club swimming pool is scheduled to open on May 11. Dave Barthel has joined the Four Seasons Club as the new Tennis Pro, and he has a lot of activities planned for the courts this Spring and Summer. Call Dave at 275-1666 for more information. The tennis and swim club's annual Open House will begin on Saturday, May 23 and conclude with Splash Day on Monday, May 25. All Sandia Heights residents (Four Seasons members and nonmembers) are invited to come enjoy the swim and tennis facilities during open house festivities. Call Lisa (296-0736) for information about Four Seasons Club memberships and activities.
- The second Sandia Classic National Hang Gliding Competition will launch from Sandia Crest on Sunday, June 7 and continue through June 14. Some 60 pilots from throughout the nation will participate in the competition, which is sanctioned by the U.S. Hang Gliding Association. The Sandia Heights Homeowners Association has contacted the coordinators of the event who said that some of the pilots (weather permitting) would do some flights off the crest during the Spring Fling Picnic at Sandia Heights Park on Saturday, June 6 (see Spring Fling insert in this issue for more details). Several times during the week-long competition, the pilots will be landing at a designated landing zone in Elena Gallegos Park and parking their vehicles at the area beside the park's group site.

"THE GRIT" ADVERTISING RATES

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

Business card size - \$40 per three (3) issues

Display ads - \$40 per 1/4 page. \$75 per 1/2 page. \$140 per full page

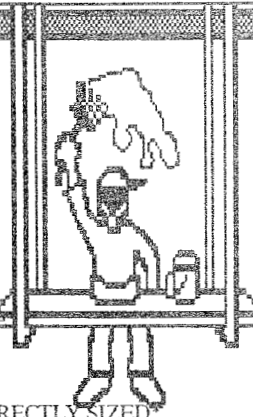
Preprinted inserts - \$125 per issue

ALL ADS MUST BE CAMERA-READY AND CORRECTLY SIZED*

PAYMENT MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH ARTWORK

Call for information on ad sizes and requirements (275-9112).

*Advertising Artwork and Layout Service Available - Call 247-4011



Deadline for the August "Grit"

The deadline for submitting ads, ad payment, and information for the August issue of *The GRIT* is Wednesday, July 15, 1992. Please submit all materials to Sherry Lombana, 14201 Encantado Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123, 275-9112. Advertisers should note that ad space is limited and is reserved on a first come, first served basis. Payment must accompany ad space reservations.

"Grit" Circulation

This issue of *The Grit* was mailed to the 1073 members of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association.

Community Coffees

Meet new neighbors and see "old" friends at the community coffees. Mark your calendar and notify your hostess if you plan to attend so that she can plan accordingly. Call Beth Stoll at 296-4504 if you would like to have a coffee or if you need a ride. Everyone is welcome!

Wednesday, May 20, 10 a.m.-12 noon
at the home of Miriam Friedman
347 Paintbrush Dr.
298-1869

Wednesday, June 10, 10 a.m.-12 noon
at the home of Mary-Jo McCarthy
191 Big Horn Ridge Cir.
299-8485

Wednesday, July 15, 10 a.m.-12 noon
at the home of George & Bonnie Hight
434 Live Oak Lp.
294-2578

Special thanks to Michele Benedict, Rab Freeman, and Julie Drennan who hosted our coffees in February, March, and April.



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Residents Promote Traffic Safety

A number of Sandia Heights residents are pursuing the installation of signs that would limit truck traffic on Tramway Blvd. north of Montgomery to light trucks not exceeding 3 tons. The SHHA also is checking into neighborhood concerns about the potentially excessive lighting at intersections.

The Bernalillo County Sheriff's office is responsible for enforcing speed limits on the portion of Tramway Blvd. that goes through Sandia Heights. However, Sheriff's deputies are thinly spread throughout a large geographic area, and residents can play an important role in

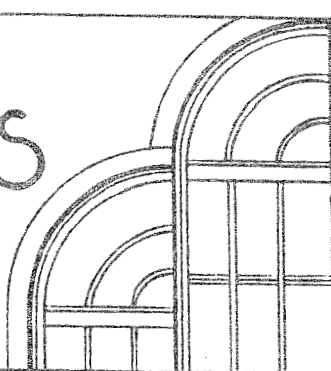
helping to enforce traffic laws in the community. In particular, residents should watch for violations such as heavy trucks (particularly 18 wheelers) which are prohibited from driving on Tramway Blvd., speeding/reckless driving, and excessive vehicle noise.

Call the non-emergency number at the County Sheriff's office (768-4160) to report problems. Be prepared to provide as much information as possible. If the problems persist after several days, residents may call either Captain Dan Houston or Lieutenant Norbert Montoya at 873-6715.

Sandia Heights
Homeowners Association
Board of Directors Meetings
2nd Wednesday of Each Month
7:00 p.m.
Paseo del Norte Fire Station
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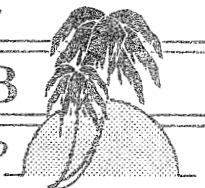
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Sandia Heights Security Report

Do your part to preserve and maintain Sandia Heights as a safe and secure place to live by subscribing to the Sandia Heights Security Patrol. Call the Sandia Peak Tram Co. (296-9585) for information on security services and subscription rates.

Sandia Heights Security Patrol Calls
January - March, 1992

Type of Call	#
Alarms	117
Motorist Assist	42
Breaking & Entering (B&E)*	1
Attempted B&E*	0
Construction Site Burglary**	7
Larceny	0
Suspicious Vehicle	20
Suspicious Person	10
Barking Dog	8
Lost Pet	8
Found Pet	8
Snake	0
Family Dispute	0
Neighbor Dispute	0
Loud/Disruptive Party	8
Motorcycle Nuisance	0
Fire Works Complaint	0
Vandalism (General)	23
Mailbox Vandalism	19
Mailbox Stolen	0
Deer Hunters	0
Speeding Vehicle	6
Simple Assault***	0
Unusual Special Request	48
Salesman Problems	5
Phone Problems	1
Car Accident	10
Fire	8
Rescue	7
Utility Co. Assist	17
Construction Sites	7
Vacant Houses (For Sale, etc.)	9
Specials (Extra Patrol/Observation)	10
Homeowners on Vacation	226
TOTAL CALLS	625

* Recorded by APD Crime Analysis Unit as "Burglary."

** Recorded by APD Crime Analysis Unit as "Larceny."

*** "Simple Assault" is the term used for a verbal threat or attack when there is no weapon and no physical violence.

In The Swim...

Sign-up for 1992 Swim Team already has begun. The Sandia Heights Swim Team is open to youth from ages 5 to 18 whose families are members of the Four Seasons Club.

Interested swimmers are invited to come and join in on the summer fun. Team sponsors have planned a video movie night at the pool, a pizza party, a hamburger cookout, a roller skating

party, a pasta night, and a dance at the end of the season.

Dennis Buzzard, Alyssa Bearcy, and Guy Seiler comprise this year's coaching staff. The team has five home swim meets and six away meets scheduled, with the preliminaries and swim finals scheduled for July 25-27. First swim meet is June 10. For more information, call Lisa at the Four Seasons Club Office (296-0736) or Guy Seiler at 291-6862 and 299-0689.

County Commissioner District 4

Vote for Ed Cassidy

- 30 years in Personnel/Compensation at Sandia National Laboratories
- MBA - Northwestern University
- 25 years Active Republican

Knows the area, Knows the issues
Only candidate 30 year resident of District 4

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Paid for by Committee to Elect Ed Cassidy, Larry Fricke, Treas.

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BRUSHWOOD HOMES

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Groundwater Pollution

Continued from page 1

homes would be required to install low-flow plumbing fixtures and an alternative, or non-blackwater discharging, waste disposal system. Blackwater is waste from a liquid flushing toilet, urinal, or garbage disposal. The bill for installation of an alternative system could run as high as \$700 over current costs to install a conventional septic system, not including the required tests and permits which some predict could be very expensive.

Other key points in the plan call for sewer expansion through creation of Special Assessment Districts, collection of annual fees from owners of existing septic systems, dedicated property or gross receipts taxes to support the GPPAP and associated programs, increased fees and expanded permit requirements for installation of alternative on-site waste disposal systems, and mandatory pumping of septic systems at least annually (a notice in the April, 1992 issue of the PEAK REVIEW erroneously reported a requirement for monthly pumping).

The draft of a new Bernalillo County Liquid Waste Ordinance, which was developed to bring the ordinance in-line with the Groundwater Protection Policy, has become the most controversial issue to date. The ordinance not only calls for the installation of alternative systems in new construction but also in existing homes when the conventional septic systems need repair or modification. Cost estimates for retrofitting an existing home for an alternative split-flow system with a holding tank start at \$7,500 and go up from there. These estimates don't include expenses for purchasing and installing low-flow plumbing fixtures and for pumping the holding tank five or six times a year.

Public opposition to the draft Liquid Waste Ordinance was so great that it has been tabled indefinitely. Trying to approve and implement a new liquid waste ordinance before the policy and action plan were approved was like putting the cart before the horse, stated County Commissioner Patricia Cassidy. GPPAP is in the public input stage prior to the preparation of a third draft and submittal

to the City Council and Board of County Commissioners for review and possible adoption by January, 1993.

The basis for stringent control of on-site wastewater disposal systems is two technical studies and reports by CH2M Hill, an engineering firm contracted to serve as technical consultant to the Groundwater Policy Coordinating Committee. The first study and report, "Vulnerability of Bernalillo County Ground-Water Resources" (May 1990), assesses the probable vulnerability of the groundwater resources in different areas of Bernalillo County based on seven factors -- depth to groundwater; surface water from rivers and arroyos that drain to the groundwater below; aquifer media (sands/gravel/rocks) from which the

groundwater is pumped; type and thickness of soil media; topography; nature of material between the soil and groundwater; hydraulic conductivity (how easily fluids travel through different media).

The second report, "Threat Characterization Report" (June 1990), analyzes the potential for septic tanks to release contaminants into the groundwater based on estimates of amounts of discharged waste. The technical reports and GPPAP are available for review at five area libraries including the Albuquerque Main Library at 5th and Copper and the Wyoming Regional Library at 8205 Apache NE. Comments may be sent to the Groundwater Policy Coordinating Committee, P.O. Box 1293, Albuquerque, NM 87103.

Proper Septic System Care Makes Environmental And Economic Sense

Editor's Note: Septic systems are the primary method of waste disposal in Sandia Heights. Of the some 1,600 residences in the community, approximately 1,000 households have a septic tank and drainfield somewhere on their property. If you are in doubt as to whether you have sewer service or a septic system, please call Sandia Heights Services (296-9585) for information.

"Haven't pumped my septic tank in the 10 years I've lived in Sandia Heights, and it's never given me a bit of trouble. So I leave well enough alone."

Many Sandia Heights residents have either heard or spoken these same, or similar, words many times. The fact is that septic tanks that aren't pumped out regularly may force effluent out of the underground septic tank and into the drainfield before the tank's bacteria had sufficient time to do their work. This increases the chance of dispersing insufficiently treated effluent into the drainfield and raises the possibility that harmful contaminants may be released into the soil and eventually reach the groundwater.

Another common misconception is that regular pumping may harm the balance of bacteria in the tank and create the need for more frequent pumping or even cause system failure. Actually, not pumping out the tank frequently enough can be

a primary cause of system failure and thousands of dollars in repairs. The worst part is the absence of any warning signs before the system fails. So don't make the mistake of presuming that a properly functioning system means that the tank doesn't need to be pumped out.

Basic Septic Tank Chemistry

All the wastewater from your house is received by the septic tank. When liquid and solid wastes enter the tank, the bacteria that live in the tank use the organic materials as food. They, in turn, produce their own wastes which are mostly inorganic materials that can be used as food by plant and animal organisms normally present in the soil.

The bacteria doesn't eat everything that comes into the tank, so there's a slow accumulation of solid material -- or sludge -- at the bottom of the tank. This is the septage that must be pumped out regularly to keep your septic system operating properly.

Drainfield Operation

When new wastewater is received by the septic tank, it forces the effluent that's been in the tank for the longest period of time into an outlet pipe which leads to the drainfield. How long the effluent stays in the tank before going into the drainfield depends on the size of tank, the amount

Septic System Care

Continued from page 10

of wastewater the tank receives, and the amount of sludge accumulation at the bottom of the tank.

The drainfield receives the water (effluent) that overflows into the outlet pipe of the septic tank. Long perforated pipes drain this water into beds of gravel which are buried in long trenches. The effluent seeps through the gravel and into the soil where it is treated by being filtered through the soil particles and where the organisms normally present in the soil devour a portion of the bacteria.

Sludge/Scum Inspection

Septic tanks should be inspected once a year to monitor the accumulation of scum and sludge. When half of the capacity of the tank is taken up by solids, it's time to pump the tank. For a fee, septic tank pumping services will perform an inspection for you. Following are instructions for conducting your own scum and sludge inspection.

To measure the scum accumulation, nail a three inch square block to a pole and poke the block through the scum layer. Carefully move the pole up and down to feel the resistance as you move the block up against the bottom surface of the scum layer. Mark that place on the

pole which is level with the ground. Then feel around for the bottom of the outlet pipe and mark that level on the pole. If the two marks are three inches or less apart, your tank needs to be pumped out.

Next, wrap an old towel around the bottom of the pole and fasten it with string or tape. Push the towel down into the bottom of the tank and twirl it around several times. Mark the pole at ground level. After a minute or so, pull the pole out and measure the distance between the top of the sludge layer (the top of the black material on the towel and the bottom of the outlet pipe). If this distance is twelve inches or less, your tank needs to be pumped out.

Don't Abuse Your Septic System!

Poisoning. Many household items if used excessively can poison your septic system including drain cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners, and other chemicals marked "Poison" or "Caustic". Even bleach can cause problems, although small quantities used in washing machines shouldn't be harmful. Another potential poison is the salt used in regenerating water softeners.

Choking. Another thing that should be avoided is adding solids to the tank that cannot be decomposed by the bacteria. Newspaper, paper towels, rags, and cof-

fee grounds will accumulate and can clog the pipes or force you to have your tank pumped more frequently.

Drowning. Excess water can lead to problems and failure of the tank or the drainfield. Be sure that plumbing fixtures are operating correctly. Even leaking faucets or toilets that don't shut off properly after flushing can cause system failure due to excess water. Surface runoff that drains into the tank and tree roots can also cause the system to fail.

Suffocating. Be very sure where your system's drainfield is located before expanding or adding driveways, patios, pool decks, tennis courts, etc. Drainfields require oxygen to function properly and any nonpermeable material on top of the field (asphalt, concrete) will suffocate the system.

Overworking. If you purchased a home that was previously occupied by fewer people or if the number of people in your home has increased for any reason, you may need to enlarge both the tank and drainfield. Call a company that specializes in septic tank installation and repair if you have doubts about the adequacy of your septic system.

One final warning: Always beware of magic elixirs advertised to revitalize your septic system but which come with no reliable guarantees!

WANTED: Responsible Pet Owners

Many pet lovers in the Sandia Heights community say it's not the dogs and cats that are creating the problems, it's the irresponsible pet owners.

Not only is it against County ordinance to allow your dogs and cats to roam the neighborhood and create messes and nuisances on County right-of-way and/or on other people's property, but it's also unsanitary and inconsiderate. Persons who take their dogs out walking/jogging and then allow them to create messes in yards, on the right-of-way, or in Sandia Heights Park are also creating a health hazard and a nuisance.

Another particular problem is the cats who use the bird and wildlife habitats in other people's yards for their hunting grounds. Not only is this very disturbing for residents who are interested in creating and protecting wildlife habitats on

their property, but it also infringes on their rights. The old "it's just instinct" and "balance of nature" arguments simply don't hold water for someone who finds a covey of baby quail in their yard has been killed by the neighbor's cat.

Residents who are experiencing pet problems are urged to call County Animal Control (873-6706). Persons who fail to comply with the County's Animal Control Ordinance may be fined up to \$300 per instance that they are found in violation of the ordinance. This includes problems with barking/howling dogs and pets that are not restrained on a leash or confined on their own premises. Gentle traps also can be rented for a nominal fee from County Animal Control or Acoma Pet Center on Wyoming Blvd. (268-3391) to capture roaming cats and turn them over to County Animal Control.

Wildflower Club



Mark your calendar for the club's third annual garden tour which is set for June 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Club members have developed a comprehensive list of recommended ground covers, trees, and shrubs for the Sandia Heights area. The list includes a brief description of each item, including their water requirements. SHHA members who would like to receive a free copy of the recommended plant list for Sandia Heights should call the SHHA office (275-9112). If the phone machine answers, simply state that you would like a copy of the plant list and leave your name and mailing address.

For more information on club activities, call Bev Grady at 275-0798. Annual club dues are just \$5 a year, and everyone is welcome to join.

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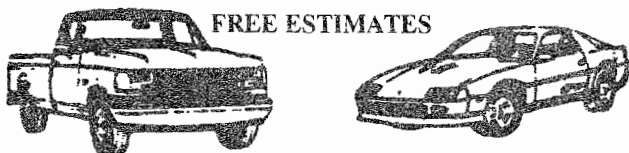
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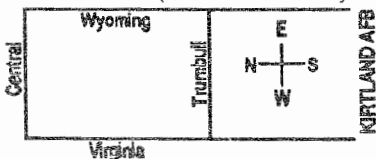


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THE VIEW FROM JACKRABBIT HILL

Drifting Along

There it is again piled up against the fences, clogging the drains, making roadsides prickly to walk along -- it's the pest of the West, tumbleweed. It's so fast growing, so universal, so sticky to pull out, so persistent that in the end it may be the big winner of the battle between man and nature.

The gas company came through Sandia Heights last year and everywhere they went there is a tremendous crop of tumbleweed and/or kochia. The gas company dutifully seeded grama grass, but it had little chance if someone didn't get rid

of the pesky weeds first. Almost every plot of disturbed ground in our area will produce a bumper tumbleweed crop with a little moisture. That's no wonder; a tumbleweed produces up to three million seeds, enough to cover a square mile if all were to live and enough to cover all the U.S. by the third year. (This not-reassuring figure is taken from Sarah Stein's charming and detailed book *My Weeds*.)

Fortunately for us, so far all the seeds haven't managed to grow at once, but like many seeds they can remain in the ground for many, many years before the chance arises to germinate. Often when someone stirs up the ground to plant what he thinks will turn out to be a beautiful garden, the tumbleweeds are the first thing up and outstrip all else.. Experienced gardeners water their garden soil after turning, take out the weeds and then plant their candidates.

Tumbleweed, associated so deeply with the American West, arrived here in the late 1800's from Russia, and its other name is Russian thistle. Look for its red

or purple-stripped stems with spines and deep green alternate, thin, leaves when young. Introduced as well, but not welcomed, are its cousins in the Goosefoot family: Kochia (you know it, the six foot weed that almost looks like a Christmas tree on the new grading of Tramway), lambsquarters, and nettleleaf goosefoot. Marching along in this goosefoot parade are alkali lovers including four-wing salt bush and greasewood.

Tumbleweed can be controlled with patience. Catch it about three inches high in spring and use it in salads or in quiche as a substitute for spinach. New Mexican Hispanics used these quelites in the Spring, though I doubt in quiche!

To reduce its seed production, the weed can be cut back if there's not time to take it all out. Better still, grub it out before it sets seed. And if you think battling tumbleweed is a lot of work, consider that you might be living somewhere you mowed lawns and cut hedges every Spring and Summer weekend!

--Jean Hefflin

Nicely To Represent House District 31 Through 1994

Editor's Note: The Sandia Heights community now is separated into two State House of Representatives Districts -- Districts 31 and 23. Sandia Heights Resident Kip Nicely, the incumbent in State House District 31, is uncontested in the upcoming primary and general election. Incumbent Mark Caruso also is uncontested in the upcoming elections for the District 23 seat.

Legislative Update

By Kip Nicely, State Representative,
House District 31

It's time once again to update you, in capsule form, on the results of the last legislative session and add a sneak preview of things that may be coming our way. Before I do, a reminder to all citizens of Sandia Heights that re-districting has been approved and many of you are now in District 23 for the State House of Representatives.

On the positive side, there were several decent bills worthy of note. One, which

initially looked like "more government" but in reality will probably be excellent for all citizens, is First Lady Alice King's project for a new cabinet agency for families and youth. It consolidates several agencies into one, and my early bet is that it will be a winner. Second, a bill which I sponsored, will gradually (based on certain conditions) reduce the gross receipts tax for research and development companies, finally eliminating the tax totally by 1999. This is a great incentive not only for our in-state high-tech companies but also for firms we are trying to recruit. Third, a bill which will be a revival of FDR's program of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), designed as a Youth Conservation Corps. It is well structured, and should be, at minimum, a partial answer to our ever-growing gang problems.

Naturally there were problems during the session too, and I'll touch on a few of those. Pork barrel projects, landing primarily in Albuquerque's South Valley,

have once again jeopardized public school and college building funds by placing the school capital projects and maintenance match behind the pork projects in the guaranteed funds of the severance tax bonding package. The G.O., or general obligation, bond act is used for these projects, and they can be turned down by the voters.

As we enter into a new legislative session in '93, other issues aside from our budget will arise. We need to see why there are 25-50% increases in the welfare loads in the Human Services Department. There will be a more in-depth look into legislative ethics and/or pay. Term limitation will be reviewed, as well as economic development issues, health care costs, our increasing tax burden, and environmental issues.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your representative in state government and for your ongoing input, advice, and concern. Please call me at 292-5577 if I can help.



A resident of Bernalillo County for over 41 years, Barbara Seward cares about the quality of our air and water. Barbara sees the need for positive growth yet respects the unique qualities of our rural and urban resources.

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- ✦ *American Planning Association/North Albuquerque Acres Forum*

The 1990's will require bold and imaginative leadership. Barbara Seward has a demonstrated record, serving the residents of both Albuquerque and Bernalillo County for over a decade.

Positive Leadership

- ✦ *County Planning Commission (CPC) - Two terms, Chair for two years*
- ✦ *City Planning Commission (EPC) - Two Terms, Chair for two years*
- ✦ *Goals Commission*
- ✦ *Albuquerque Conservation Trust - Founding Trustee and Treasurer*
- ✦ *Businesswoman*

A firm believer in business and economic development, Barbara Seward has also proven her commitment toward preserving our way of life.

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- ✦ *Energy Conservation Forum*
- ✦ *Shared Vision Conference*

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Road Improvement Beats Schedule

By Patricia Cassidy, County Commissioner, District 4

Tramway Blvd. Phase II construction is proceeding ahead of schedule.

The State Highway Department is proposing to furnish funds for the resurfacing of the intersection of Montgomery and Tramway to be added by change order to the current contract. We expect that construction on Phase II will be essentially complete by August or September of this year.

We have designed a watering system for drought resistant landscaping along Tramway. The new Federal Highway Act included funding for Highway enhancement projects. We have made an application for federal funds for landscaping of Tramway Blvd. north of San Antonio. We have not included the City section of this road south of San Antonio because City landscaping is usually much more expensive than we contemplate for Tramway. If we are successful in obtaining funding for this work, we will plan landscaping which is both drought resistant and will require only low level maintenance.

Phase III of Tramway will consist of the reconstruction of Tramway Blvd. north of Paseo del Norte to the 3-way stop at Tramway Rd. where the Sandia Pueblo lands begin. These are now the final stages of right-of-way acquisition. If everything falls in place, we anticipate advertising for bids for construction about September 1992.

I will continue to keep you posted on developments as they occur.

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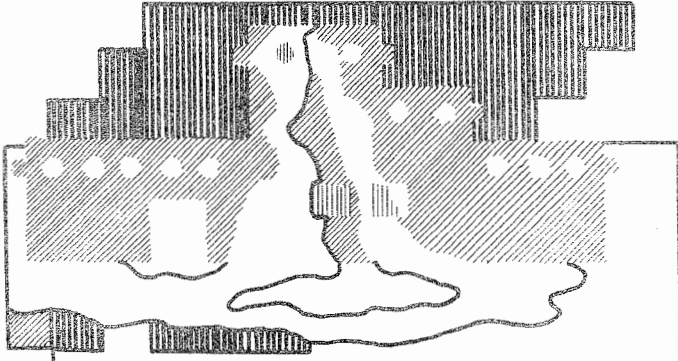
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Non-Commercial Advertising

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		
<p>AAA BABY SITTER. house sitter, pet sitter. Please call Michelle Munson at 299-1400. Experienced, references.</p>	<p>HOT TUB AND SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE. Call Ben Wright (age 15) at 298-3361. Quality work based on 4 years at-home experience. Available for yard work, house sitting, plant and animal care, and babysitting. References provided on request.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>HOUSE SITTER. Responsible 14 year old will care for house, pets, plants, and yard. Will walk friendly dogs and play with pets while house sitting. Call 298-8451.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>ANDREW'S VACATION SERVICE. Andrew will care for pets, plants, houses, etc. so you can enjoy your holiday. Reliable teenager will work in Sandia Heights South. Please call Andrew Harper 294-2814.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>RELIABLE, RESPONSIBLE BABY SITTER. Experienced with babies. Call Mary Richardson at 298-3770.</p>
<p>BABY SIT, HOUSE SIT, CLEAN HOUSE. Fifteen year old can drive occasionally to baby sit. Call Lindsay Worth at 298-1635.</p>	<p>HOUSE SITTING. College student, resident of Sandia Heights. Reliable, references. Call Ann Piasecki at 296-1342.</p>	<p>VACATIONING THIS SUMMER? My daughter wants to house sit for you during June, July, August. She is a responsible, mature, 19-year-old nursing student. Please call Bill at 292-7370.</p>
<p>BABY SITTER for children, pets, or plants. Experienced, responsible with references. Please call Elisabeth (Izzy) Brown at 299-5560.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>ZZZZ TERRIFIC TEENAGER available for baby sitting. Call Naomi Havlen (age 15) at 293-9253.</p>
<p>BABY SITTER. Experienced fourteen year old who loves children. Call Laura Christopher at 293-7232.</p>	<p>LIGHT HAULING AND CLEANING of garage/storage areas. Call John at 296-1342.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wanted</p>
<p>BABYSITTER, PET LOVER, HOUSE SITTER. Responsible 13 year old is able to baby sit your child. Do you need your pets walked and/or fed each day or your lawn mowed? Call on Jeff Fisher at 294-0264. I also will take care of your house and yard while you away.</p>	<p>NEED A BABY SITTER? You'll find a very good one at 298-2695. Her name is Jill Randall, and she loves kids of all ages. She is 12 years old and has experience.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>CARING AND EXPERIENCED BABY SITTER. I am responsible and caring and have references. Took Red Cross baby sitting course. Call Meredith Goodman (age 14) at 294-8222.</p>	<p>NEED AN EXPERIENCED BABY SITTER? Call Jennifer Kosse (age 15) at 293-5096. Will water plants, take care of dogs, take in mail, etc. Have worked as councilor-in-training at the YMCA.</p>	<p>SOUTHWESTERN STYLE HOME with Southwestern style furnishings for feature article in national publication. Home will be professionally photographed. Call Mary-Jo for information 299-8485.</p>
<p>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 15) at 293-5451.</p>	<p>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 14) at 292-0621.</p>	<p>TENNIS PLAYERS. Retiree interested in playing singles or doubles. Call Ed at 293-4818.</p>
<p>EXPERIENCED BABY SITTERS, plant waterers, etc. Tamara Eyer, age 17, and Jamie Eyer, age 15. Call 298-4288.</p>		<p>USED PACKING MATERIALS. Home-based Sandia Heights' mail order company will pick up and recycle your cardboard boxes and left over shipping materials such as foam and "peanuts". Call 299-8485 and ask for Mary-Jo or Marilyn.</p>
<p>EXPERIENCED BABY SITTER. Enjoys infants and young children. If you're looking for a fun baby sitter that your children will ask for again and again, call Shanna McGee (age 13) at 299-0661. References available.</p>		
<p>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 13, at 293-5451 (reliable and caring).</p>		
<p>HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT to do yard work on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Call Keith at 298-2254.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SANDIA HEIGHTS BRIDGE CLUB</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Join Us For Bridge!</i></p> <p>Ladies Daytime Bridge</p> <p>3rd Monday 4th Wednesday 2nd Thursday 2nd Friday</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Couples Evening Bridge</p> <p>1st Saturday 2nd Saturday 4th Saturday 1st Monday 3rd Wednesday</p> <p>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 or June Prince at 275-9824.</p>	



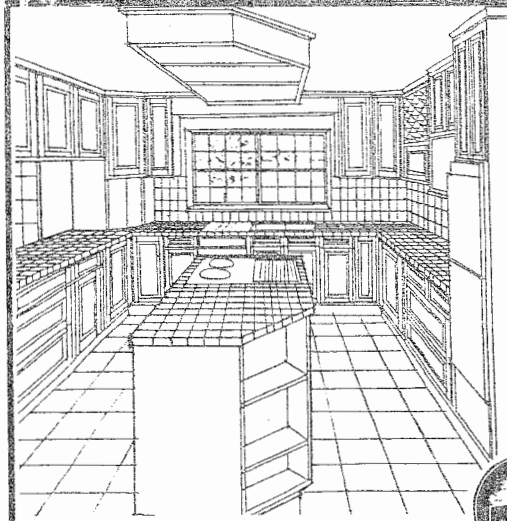
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