

# FUTURES FOR CHILDREN WILL JOIN THE SANDIA HEIGHTS COMMUNITY

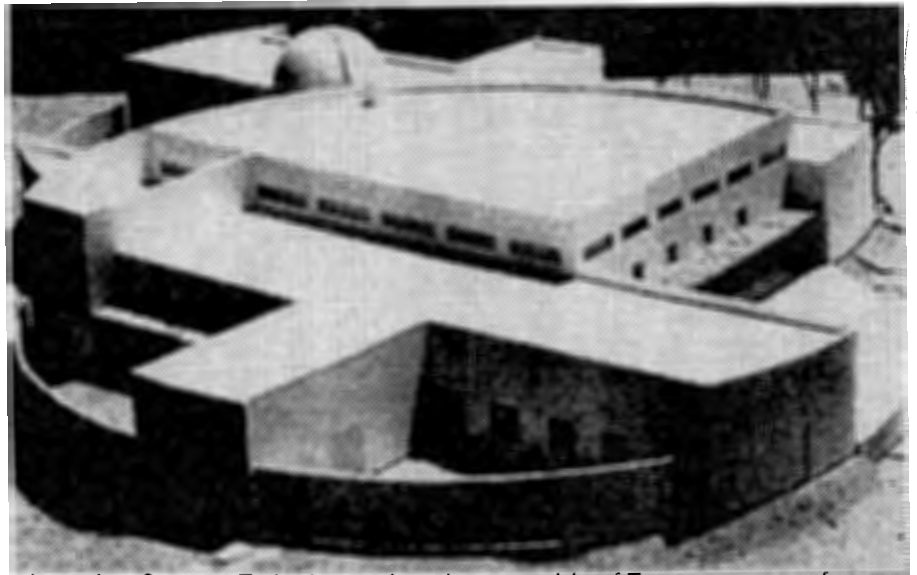
Futures for Children is a non-profit international organization that will soon call Albuquerque's Sandia Heights their home. Futures has purchased four acres of land at the base of the Sandia Mountains in the 9600 block of Tramway Boulevard, near the Sandia Pueblo Grant. The architecture firm of Flatow, Moore, Bryan, Shaffer, McCabe Inc., has been hired to design a 16,000 square-foot office building and learning center for the site. The square building will have the appearance of a Kiva because of the addition of several patios. The staff, composed primarily of native Americans, helped in the design of the building. Construction is scheduled to begin in September.

The Futures organization was founded over 30 years ago in the recognition that a shared concern for children is a powerful force that uplifts the quality of life of the entire community. The center will be a place for adult Native Americans from all New Mexico tribes and other tribes and communities to come and learn for themselves, through seminars and training sessions, the proven techniques of self-help. Futures has motivated Indian groups to start, plan, get funded, and finish hundreds of exciting projects. Dr. Richard P. Saunders, founder of Futures for Children, says, "People everywhere will do remarkable things when asked to work together for their children's future. Futures works with American Indian communities and communities of the poor in Latin America to channel that concern for children into action."

The Board of Directors is composed of 19 members from across the nation, including six New Mexicans and an Advi-

sory Council of 11 members, which include five New Mexico residents. Glen T. Randolph, Chairman of the Board of Directors, says, "Futures' challenge for the 1990s is to create a learning center where the combined talents of staff and

expert volunteers will promote effective strategies for community self-help. This facility will meet the challenge and give permanence to our mission: To improve the quality of life for future generations of children."



*The Learning Center - To be located on the west side of Tramway across from the County Line Restaurant.*

## SHHA ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

Saturday, June 5, 1993  
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*

# THE Grit

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

**EDITOR:**

Lee Miner  
7213 Carson Trail NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87120  
899-8611

**PUBLISHER:**

MICRODATA inc.  
c/o Harry Criel  
326 Paintbrush NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87122  
247-4011

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## Seeking SHHA Board Nominees

A Nominating Committee for the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association (SHHA) Board of Directors has been appointed, and the committee is now seeking nominees and soliciting candidates to serve three-year terms on the SHHA Board of Directors.

Nominating Committee members are Mary Colton (294-5510), Robin Otten (298-7244), and Ed Whitten (296-1884).

The annual members' meeting and elections for the SHHA Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, June 5 at 10 a.m. at the Paseo del Norte Fire Station, 11700 Paseo del Norte NE. The annual meeting will feature brief reports by each committee chair on activities throughout the past 12 months, as well as a report by SHHA Treasurer Robert Chenhall on income and expenditures for this fiscal year. Nomination and election of new Board members will immediately follow.

This is your annual invitation and opportunity to get actively involved in the decision-making body of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association. Members of the SHHA Board of Directors are elected from among the active members of the Association. All residents (homeowners, tenants) and owners of vacant properties whose membership dues are paid to date are eligible to vote and to serve on the Board. In accordance with the by-laws of the Association, one vote is permitted per residence or property. However, no active member is entitled to cast more than one vote regardless of the number of properties owned.

Members of the Board of Directors are elected for three-year terms by a plurality vote of the active members who attend the annual meeting. Board members are required to attend monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at the fire station on Paseo del Norte. Directors must also serve either as an officer of the Association, as an active member of one of the Association's committees (Recycling, Member Services, Parks & Recreation, Covenant Support, New Development, Architectural Review, Government Liaison, Tramway Improvement), or as a district representative. Officers of the Board -- consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer -- are elected by the Directors at their first meeting following the annual members' meeting.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving our community in this very important role, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members listed above or Lee Miner at the SHHA office (899-8611) by Friday, May 28.

Even if you can't be involved on a regular basis in the programs and activities of your homeowners association, please take the time to come and cast your ballot for the neighbors that you feel will best represent your interests in the Sandia Heights community. Then join your friends and neighbors for the annual SHHA Spring Fling Picnic at Sandia Heights Park immediately following the annual meeting (see Spring Fling invitation in center of this issue).

# ULLETIN

## BOARD

- ❑ It's time to start thinking about the SHHA Annual Holiday Crafts Bazaar. This year, Sandia Heights Academy has offered their facility to house the bazaar. The date is October 17, 1993 so mark your calendars. Anyone interested in helping to organize the event and/or artisans who are interested in selling their work should contact Barbara Bensonhaver at 298-5770.
- ❑ The Recycling Committee Co-Chairs Janey Brink and Kristy Kawal report that it is still organized and hopes to have a local option for the Sandia Heights Community in the future. Efforts have been made to co-ordinate with the City of Albuquerque and the other local option for recycling services from the Sandia Peak Tram Company. At this time the SHHA has not been successful with these operators, and our residents are still on their own with their recycle materials. We encourage our community to continue to recycle and hope for a local solution soon.
- ❑ **WOMEN ON THE MOVE AWARD** honors Patricia Cassidy. Former County Commissioner "Pat" Cassidy was recently honored by the YWCA-1993 Women on the Move Awards Dinner. This awards dinner honored women for the outstanding work they have done for their community. Patricia Cassidy was sponsored by the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association in the Government category. Elected twice to represent District 4, she served on the Bernalillo County Commission from 1984 through 1992. The Association thanks "Pat" for the many years of outstanding service to our community.
- ❑ **SANDIA HEIGHTS SERVICES REFUSE COLLECTION.** Reminder--For those of you who have a Monday refuse collection day, there will be no collection on Monday, May 31, 1993, Memorial Day. Refuse will be collected the following day.
- ❑ **KLOTHES KOLLECTION DRIVE TO BENEFIT NEEDY AND ENVIRONMENT.** In conjunction with Keep Albuquerque Beautiful Month and Keep America Beautiful Month the Klothes Kollection Drive will begin April 1 and run through May 31, 1993. All sizes of sweaters (infants to adults) will be donated to the School Clothing Bank and the Salvation Army to help the city's need and divert the clothing from the area landfills.

Take your donated sweaters to any of the following cleaning establishments between April 1 and May 31.

Comet Cleaners (all locations)  
 Scotch Cleaners (all locations)  
 Fashion Cleaners and Laundry (all locations)  
 The Cleanery (all locations)  
 One Hour Martinizing (all locations)  
 Holiday Park Cleaners (all locations)

For more information call KAB at 761-8100 or ONC at 768-3790.

- ❑ The Sandia Heights Homeowners Association has joined with neighborhoods and associations in the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County to form the League of Neighborhoods. This effort joins together into a common body of all Homeowners Associations in the City and County. The issues that are important in one section of the County many times are also of interest to associations in another part the City or County, i.e., The Truck By-pass, Gangs, Traffic, and Graffiti. Serving from North Bernalillo County is Janey Brink, Vice-president of League of Neighborhoods and Sandia Heights Representative, and Darryl Millet of North Albuquerque Acres.

## "THE GRIT" ADVERTISING RATES

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

BUSINESS CARD SIZE:	Two (consecutive) issues	\$30.00
	Four (consecutive) issues	\$55.00
DISPLAY ADS:	1/4 page - one issue	\$45.00
	1/2 page - one issue	\$85.00
	Full page - one issue	\$155.00
	1/2 page back cover - one issue	\$155.00

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**PAYMENT MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH ARTWORK**

Call for information on ad sizes and requirements (899-8611)

\* Advertising Artwork and Layout Services Available - Call 247-4011

## Deadline for the August GRIT

The deadline for submitting information for the August issue of *The GRIT* is Thursday, July 15, 1993. Please submit all materials to Lee Miner, 7213 Carson Trail NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120, 899-8611. Advertisers should note that ad space is limited and is reserved on a first come, first served basis. Payment must accompany ad space reservation.

## GRIT Circulation

This issue of *The GRIT* was mailed to the 1093 members of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association.

## From The Desk Of A. Norman Gaume

Contrary to what has been reported previously to Sandia Heights residents, the only element of the draft final Ground Water Protection Policy and Action Plan (GPPAP) pertaining to use of septic tank liquid waste disposal systems in Sandia Heights is the requirement to measure the ground water quality effects that have occurred to date. Available information clearly indicates more stringent controls on septic tank systems are needed in the valley areas but much less information is available regarding their impact on ground water quality in Sandia Heights.

Therefore, the draft final GPPAP calls for a special ground water quality monitoring program over the two years following policy adoption to determine how historical use of septic tanks systems in Sandia Heights has affected ground water quality. Concurrently, a two-year demonstration program will demonstrate the cost and performance of alternative on-site liquid waste disposal system. In the third year following policy adoption, information obtained from the special ground water quality monitoring program will be used to reevaluate the minimum lot size and maximum density requirements for use of conventional septic tank system and to develop a county wide master plan for human waste disposal in areas not currently served by waste water collection and treatment systems. This will include identifying areas where housing density is great enough that waste water collection and treatment systems should be installed to protect ground water quality.

If the ground water quality in Sandia Heights indicates that historical use of septic tanks has not degraded the ground water quality to an unacceptable degree, there will be no reason to change anything. On the other hand, if the ground water quality has been significantly contaminated by use of septic tanks, it will indicate the need to control human waste disposal more effectively so that it does not render the ground water unfit for consumption. The proof will be in the data collected following policy adoption and before the imposition of any changes to current practice.

Chairman, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County  
Ground Water Protection Policy  
Coordinating Committee

## From The Community Services Chair

Spring is here and it's time for **Spring Fling**. Once again, the festivities will follow the annual board meeting on Saturday, June 5. We've been working hard to bring you a fun-filled day. We are planning activities for kids of all ages. In addition to the barbecue and games, we are looking for any musical groups who would like to share their talent. We also need volunteers to help organize the sporting events (baseball, volleyball, basketball, races), and to set up and clean up.

The Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held at the Sandia Heights Academy on October 17. Mark your calendars. Anyone wishing to participate or help with the organization, let me know.

The neighborhood coffees continue every month. Come out and meet your neighbors! It's a great way to learn your way around Sandia Heights. If anyone would like to be in charge of setting up locations and dates, please call.

Last of all, the Eisenhower Middle School Neighborhood Collaborative Committee continues to come up with programs for mid-school students. Currently, we are working on the program for next year. Look for a newsletter called CHOICES and encourage your children to participate.

If anyone would like to help on any of the above, please call me at 298-5770.

--Barbara A. Bensonhaver



# Sharon McCollum



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## FROM THE TRAMWAY IMPROVEMENT CHAIR

The trenches and orange barrels on Tramway north of Montgomery show the progress of the Tramway Landscaping project along the reconstructed roadway. Irrigation systems will be installed first to be followed by the plantings. Baca's Trees, the landscape contractor, has 180 working days from mid-January to complete the job. When the contractor finishes, neighbors will be invited to a seed planting day; we will plant six kinds of wild flowers in designated stretches of the roadside as a final touch.

A small park corner is being added to this phase of the landscaping. The former roadway left when the San Bernadino-Tramway intersection was moved north will become an enclosed park area with shade, children's play equipment, and a water fountain at the Tramway end for hikers and bikers. Bohannon-Huston is designing the park area at the County's request; several community members have seen preliminary plans and have made suggestions.

In early April, Phase III of the Tramway construction - Paseo del Norte to Tramway Road - has just been advertised. Construction is expected now to begin in June. Funds for landscaping Phase III are not included in the construction budget. However, the County has authorized continuing landscape design so that if funding sources are found, the County will be ready to apply for them. The Tramway Landscape Task Force is also keeping track of progress and watching for funding opportunities.

—Mary Colton

## SHHA COMMUNITY COFFEES

Meet your new neighbors and get reacquainted with your established neighbor-friends at the monthly community coffees. Mark your calendar and notify your hostess if you plan to attend so that she can plan accordingly. Call Barbara Bensonhaver (298-5770) or Janey Brink (291-8910) if you would like to have a coffee or if you need a ride. Everyone is welcome!

The SHHA Board of Directors is looking for an outgoing person to coordinate the community coffees. This is an important Association service and an opportunity for newcomers to get acquainted with their fellow Sandia Heights residents. If you would like more information, call the SHHA office (899-8611).

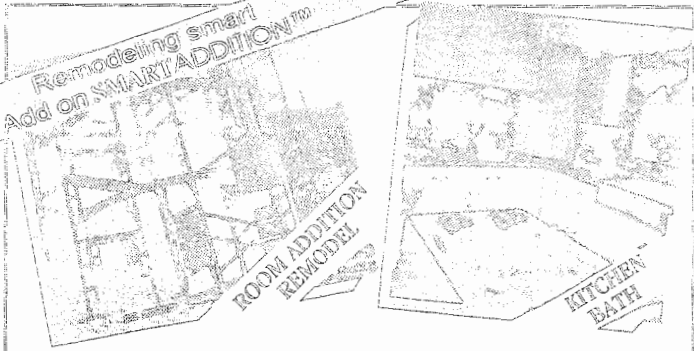
Wednesday, May 19, 1993 - 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
at the home of Pat Falcomer, 641 Cougar Loop  
296-3034

Wednesday June 9, 1993 - 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
at the home of Bobi Chenhall, 149 Whitetail Rd.  
293-3399

Wednesday, July 14, 1993 - 10a.m. to 12 noon  
at the home of Frayda Oston, 9116 Lynx Loop  
275-7415

Special thanks to Billye Gamsby, Ardis Asbell, and Denise Jones who hosted our February, March, and April coffees.

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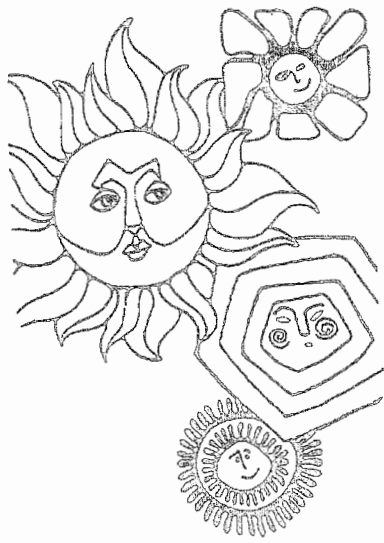
## FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION CHAIR

Please be reminded that the SHHA is in possession of softball equipment (bats, balls, gloves, catchers equipment, etc.) as well as basketballs and soccerballs. This equipment is intended for your use and is available for checkout. Please contact Ed Whitten (296-1884) if you need this equipment for parties or family use.

Volunteers are still needed to help work on bike and hiking trails. These work parties are supervised by the forest service as part of their "Adopt a Trail" program. If interested, please call Ed Whitten (296-1884) of SHHA or Jane Cropp (281-3304) of the Forest Service.

The Sandia Heights Park is on an automated timer for watering. The system is currently set for 6 am on Monday and Thursday, lasting for approximately one and a half hours. This schedule will increase to three to four times a week as the weather turns warmer. If you observe the system running at times other than early morning, for prolonged times or otherwise acting abnormal (such as visible leaks), please call Ed Whitten (296-1884). Every year water leaks and a faulty system operation cause considerable unnecessary expense (over \$3,000 last summer alone). Early detection can be a big help.

—Ed Whitten



Join The Fun at The 10th Annual Sandia Heights

# SPRING FLING PICNIC

THE SANDIA HEIGHTS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
invites you to the ANNUAL SPRING FLING

FREE For All Members of SHHA  
Guests are welcome for a cost of \$2 per person.

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 5, 1993

**WHERE:** SANDIA HEIGHTS PARK  
(Just West of Juniper Hill Road, between  
Tramway Road and Cedar Hill Road)

**TIME:** 11:00 am - 2:30 pm  
Following The Annual Meeting

**MENU:** Barbecue 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm  
Hamburgers and Hot Dogs  
(with all the trimmings)  
prepared by our own esteemed chefs:  
State Senator Tom Wray  
State Representative Kip Nicely  
and Don Kawal

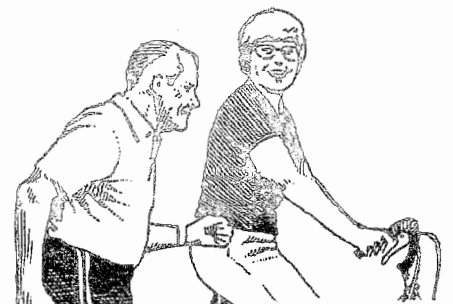


plus other munchies



**FUN:** 11 am - Noon Baseball (6 - 9 year olds)  
Noon - 1 pm Baseball (10 - 12 year olds)  
1 pm - 2 pm Relay Races For Kids of All Ages  
1 pm Volleyball  
1 pm Basketball

**and MORE:** Face Painting  
Balloons  
Giveaways  
Door Prizes



### 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.

Security Tips:

Notify Security Patrol before leaving on your vacation. They will check your home, pick up your newspapers and watch for vehicles that are not supposed to be there while you are away. Remember to leave emergency phone numbers with Security, just in case.

Do not leave newspapers in your driveway. This invites burglaries. Always notify at least one neighbor when you are going on vacation. You can never have too many eyes watching your home.

**Sandia Heights Security Patrol Responses  
Jan.-Feb., 1993**

Type of Call	#
Alarms .....	84
Motorist Assist .....	22
Breaking & Entering (B & E)* .....	4
Attempted B & E* .....	4
Construction Site Burglary** .....	0
Suspicious Vehicle .....	16
Suspicious Person .....	14
Barking Dog .....	5
Lost Pet .....	11
Found Pet .....	11
Snake .....	1
Family Dispute .....	2
Neighbor Dispute .....	2
Loud/Disruptive Party .....	2
Motorcycle Nuisance .....	4
Fire Works Complaint .....	0
Vandalism (General) .....	8
Mailbox Vandalism .....	8
Speeding Vehicle .....	3
Unusual Special Request .....	34
Salesman Problems .....	4
Phone Problems .....	1
Car Accident .....	2
Fire .....	8
Rescue .....	9
Utility Co. Assist. ....	11
Construction Sites .....	0
Vacant Houses (For Sale, etc.) .....	0
Specials (Extra Patrol/Observation) .....	19
Homeowners on Vacation .....	230
<b>TOTAL CALLS .....</b>	<b>519</b>

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

### SAN BERNADINO TRAILHEAD TRAMWAY PARK

The progress report on the Trailhead Park is very positive. The County, AMAFCA, SHHA and the Tramway Project are all working together to convert the old San Bernadino right of way into a small toddler park and bike access to the Tramway Trail from San Bernadino and Tramway Lane. The members of the Landscape Project, Mary Colton, Arnold Ronnebeck, Janey Brink and Ed Whitten are working together with the engineers on the design and future of the park. The Board heard a report from the design firm Bohannon-Huston at the April meeting. The plans for the 1.5-acre park will include a shelter, tables, water fountain, toddler play equipment along with a grass area and stroller access. The bike trail will be along the channel to the trail from San Bernadino. We look forward to this addition to Sandia Heights.

--Janey Brink

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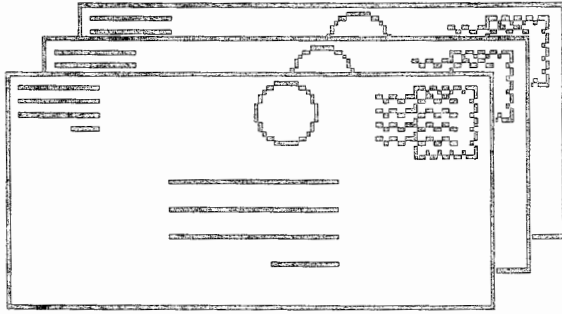
**MAY 21-22-23**

STATE FAIRGROUNDS  
Friday, 10am - 9 pm  
Saturday, 10am - 6 pm Sunday, 10am - 6 pm

Admission \$3.00, Children under 12 free



# Gritty Letters



THE GRIT welcomes brief, original letters concerning current topics of interest to Sandia Heights' residents. Letters must include full name and signature of the author, address, and telephone number (though these can be omitted from the printed copy, if requested). The Editor reserves the right to edit or condense any letter. Send letters to: THE GRIT, 7213 Carson Trail NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

Dear SHHA:

I would like to commend your Board and editor of "GRIT," Sherry Lombana, for the outstanding insert provided in the recent GRIT article on National Forest Trails. I really appreciate this gesture of public service.

We will be continuing to finalize this trail system in 1993. We are currently working with your District 4 County Commissioner, Barbara Seward, on watershed issues. Commissioner Seward has impressed us as an avid supporter of quality resource management and closer governmental coordination. With her support we will be studying with AMAFCA what options are available to improve watershed conditions on the National Forest as they may affect the arroyos through Sandia Heights.

One additional point should be emphasized in your next edition of GRIT. The National Forest contains many evidences of past historical uses which are part of the rich cultural heritage of the Sandia Foothills. Many of these areas may still be active cultural sites for our neighboring American Indian Pueblos. Please be sure your residents are reminded to respect these cultural sites and to tread lightly and quietly as they traverse the landscapes of the Cibola National Forest.

Floyd A. Thompson, III  
District Ranger  
Sandia Ranger District

*Editor's Note: Thank you to Ken Comer and Ed Whitten on their contribution to the recreational map.*

Dear SHHA:

What can we do as an organization to insist that pet owners carry pooper scoopers as they walk Fido? From twenty to thirty dog owners walking one, two or three dogs pass by our house every day. Many love to leave their droppings right in the middle of our driveway waiting for us to drive through it or pick it up ourselves. There appears that there is no concern for property owners.

With the warmer months approaching and the increase of homeowners and pet "poopulation" no doubt the problem will double. It is hard to believe that some pet owners can be so inconsiderate.

Can the covenants include the necessity of a pooper scooper when walking pets? Can the organization sell them using the profits for covenant reinforcement? Can there be a fine imposed (say the equivalent cost of purchasing a scooper) to be put towards the benefit of neighborhood improvement? There must be some way to fight this pollution. Something should be done.

Jill Shoemaker

<p>Sandia Heights Homeowners Association</p> <p>Board of Directors Meetings 2nd Wednesday of Every Month 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Paseo del Norte Fire Station</p> <p>Everyone Welcome!</p>
---

## Architectural Review Committee Chair

The advent of Spring has brought a number of new requests for construction of residences as well as additions and modifications to existing structures. The Architectural Review Committee has one month from submittal of a complete set of plans to review and comment on each. Property owners are required to request any required variances at the time of submittal and each Committee member is required to personally view each of the properties. Each set of plans is assigned to a Committee member who reviews the plans and presents the plans, along with their recommendations, to the Committee. In the case of each new construction or modification except for those considered by the Committee chair to be minor in nature, adjoining property owners are notified. The opinions of each adjoining property owner are requested at one of the two regularly scheduled meetings of the Committee. While each opinion is of interest to the Committee, the plans are judged based upon compliance with the covenants of the appropriate subdivision.

This last sentence summarizes the major problem encountered by the Committee--the Committee has no authority or ability to legislate "ugly" or other issues not defined in the covenants. The Committee may directly approach a property owner to convey Committee or neighbor concerns or might note these concerns in the official correspondence. Following approval, the assigned member is requested to inspect the construction site at least once every two weeks to ensure compliance with the final plans.

Current problems encountered by the Committee, in addition to a heavy workload, are due to the number of "architecturally challenging" lots currently proposed for construction, increased drainage setback requirements required by the County, and an ever-increasing average structure size. Within the letter of the covenants, the Committee attempts to ensure that the quality of life for which we all chose Sandia Heights is maintained. The Committee members who donate their time to these activities currently include Janey Brink, Scott Collins, Toni Seidel, and Bill Stabler.

-- Jon Cashwell



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## THE VIEW FROM JACKRABBIT HILL



**A Pretty Horror**

Not long ago I had a conversation with a woman who was highly incensed when I suggested that a beloved tamarisk could be a problem. There is no doubt about its beauty but neither is there doubt about its threat. Tamarisk (salt cedar) was brought in from Eurasia in the 1850's and it did so well in the arid west that it became a "natural," a subject for painters, producing its graceful pink blooms where little else would grow. And it grew, and grew, and GREW. By 1920, tamarisk had spread to some 100,000 acres of water ways and floodlands. Today, it covers over 1,000,000 acres in the west and it's still spreading.

It grows so well in arid lands because of its unique characteristics: Seeds that germinate readily and are too small to be eaten by birds or rodents, fast growth that crowds out native plants, no local insect pests, resistance to herbicides, leaves unpalatable to grazing animals, and the ability to regrow like mad if cut back. The glands in the leaves secrete salt which, falling to the ground, poison soil and water and makes native trees and shrubs disappear. Tamarisk is largely shunned by wildlife as well. These qualities would make it a pest even if it weren't for its water hungry habits. Its roots extend down to the water table, even if this may be several hundred feet, and a large tree uses some 200 gallons of water a day, enough for a small family.

The Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge has spent some five years trying to reduce the number of these trees within their 57,191 acres. They are doing it with root plows followed by rakes to eliminate the broken roots (they're root sprouters), then burning. If you look at the almost impassable thickness of the salt cedar in what used to be open drainage in the San Marcial area nearby, you can understand what an ecological horror this plant can be.

Les Crowder, who raises bees in Bosque, says the tamarisk produces lots of honey, but it is dark and strong flavored and not favored by most of his customers. In answer to a question about its use as firewood, he tells the story that he has heard several times. Years ago when the Socorro public schools were still heating with firewood, they had a contractor supply juniper and pinon for their stoves. One year, the supplier could not get into his usual cutting areas so he asked NM Tech to check the wood. They found it produced more BTUs in burning than pinon or juniper. Les says also it makes good fence posts, providing it is dry. Otherwise, the posts may root! One problem is that it is difficult to axe because the wood shreds; it has to be sawed. Still, we might try encouraging the use of tamask as firewood.

If only it were ugly like a tumbleweed, perhaps it wouldn't find its way into New Mexico urban landscapes. Pretty is as pretty does, said our grandmothers. This pretty one is a monster.

\*\*\*Thanks to "Nature Conservancy News," Oct./Nov. 1986 for the data in this article.

--Jean Heflin

### **From the Covenant Support Chair**

The Covenant Support Committee is on a new tack with the approval of the recommendations of the SHHA Planning Task Force. These recommendations were based on the understanding that the covenants represent a set of agreements AMONG the homeowners, rather than the dictates of a central organization TO the homeowners.

Therefore, rather than SHHA doing inspections to look for violations, SHHA will act to assist those homeowners who have complaints. Since January, the Covenant Support Committee has been acting only when it has received a signed complaint from a homeowner. Following verification of the violation, SHHA sends a letter to the homeowner who appears to be in violation; this letter includes the name of the complainant. If the violation continues, the Covenant Support Committee takes action according to the Covenant Enforcement Procedures approved by the SHHA Board in January 1991.

By acting as a mediator among neighbors, SHHA Covenant Support can avoid the "big brother" image while facilitating the preservation of our unique neighborhood.

--James Nachbar

### **Sandia Heights Wildflower Club**



The Sandia Heights Wildflower Club met March 17 at the home of Susan and Joe Teresi. Judith Phillips spoke on gardening for wildlife. Officers for the new year were elected. Maxine Jackson will serve as president.

The Wildflower Club dues are \$5.00 per family and are due in September. If you are new in the area, this is a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and learn about successful Sandia Heights Gardening.

The fourth annual garden tour is scheduled for June 5th from 9 am until 12 pm. Carol Treat (296-8124) is in charge of arrangements. This is an excellent opportunity to visit some of Sandia Heights' outstanding gardens.

# Roundhouse Report



A Summary of The Legislative Session By  
Your State Representatives And Senator

You have probably read all the headlines and stories of the 1993 Legislative Session in the past few months, so we'll try to fill you in on some of the holes that the press may have missed.

The Session started off with a thunder: HB101--"The New Mexicare" Health Care Bill, which finally died after extensive hearings, debate, and propaganda. Few will argue that we need re-work in our entire health care process--from pharmaceutical companies to litigious attorneys to insurance companies to citizen fraud to health care provider costs--BUT, this bill was and is not the answer. The premiums to be paid to the State to manage our health care were outrageous--and who wants the State to administer any more than they already do. (If you like the DMV, you'll love "New Mexicare!")

Next, we addressed DWI. Literally thousands of calls/letters/suggestions poured into our office (about as many as there were against the New Mexicare Bill)--and the general consensus is that we, at a minimum, strengthened portions of the law and tried to tackle the repeat offender problem. But, again, there are tougher laws, penalties, and measures that need to be enacted, and the emphasis and funds need to go toward the VICTIMS, not the perpetrators!!!

We also looked at the tax increases, fee hikes, etc. for a state bureaucracy with "programs" that have a never-ending appetite. In total, the majority party (we three are in the minority party) pushed through an astounding \$86,000,000 in new taxes, fees, permits, etc., etc. and eliminated about \$20,000,000 in tax rebates!!!!

Teachers finally got a raise (4 - 6%) in this year's budget, and, in fact, education received a larger slice of the pie than in recent years. However, efforts were made to water down the competency exam, lower the basic requirements of graduates, and find any excuse known to man to "raise" the level of education, and most importantly, the "expectations of our youth"-- by bringing them to the lowest common denominator in the name of "fairness." Ladies and gentlemen of this District, one cannot reach the true definition of equality and fairness and excellence by pulling down those at the top to the level of those near the bottom--one does it the other way around!!!

In closing, a sincere word of thanks--many times over--to all of you. We are elected as representatives of you, and in all fairness, trying to get a large percentage of residents to respond and provide input has been a huge task. This year changed all that....in fact, the phone system shut down for two days in Santa Fe during the Session due to an overload of calls from you. It was a beautiful sight--public outcry in action! We still have a great deal of work ahead of us, and we ask you to join us in making New Mexico a place where we can all be proud to live, with minimal governmental interference, in a place called home.

Mark Caruso  
State Representative, District 23

Kip Nicely  
State Representative, District 31

Tom Wray  
State Senator, District 21

## From the Desk of Barbara Seward

As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, representatives of AMAFCA, the U.S. Forest Service, Open Space Task Force, Soil Conservation, and association members from Sandia Heights and North Albuquerque Acres met with me on April 8 to follow up on discussions held late last year regarding drainage issues in your area. Senator Tom Wray was also in attendance, and his active support in these matters is greatly appreciated. The FEMA study is still underway and we continue to await its findings.

Robin Otten was present at the meeting and plans to make a report to the Board and arrange for AMAFCA, the Forest Service and the other participating entities to attend an upcoming Board meeting to make a presentation similar to the one we received on April 8.

The first two public input meetings on the Commercial Vehicle Network for the Albuquerque Urban Area have taken place. Within a few weeks, a recommendation on the plan will go to the first of many decision-making bodies which will review the document. In the weeks ahead, I will try to keep you apprised of developments. I would remind you again that Tramway Boulevard is not designated as a truck route in the Draft Plan.

The Commission is currently reviewing the County Manager's proposed budget for FY '93/94. The \$64 million budget represents a 2.75% increase in total expenditures, which is less than the inflation rate, with no reduction in services and no tax increase. Hearings will continue on April 21, with a final mark-up to occur on April 26.

County Commissioner of District 4

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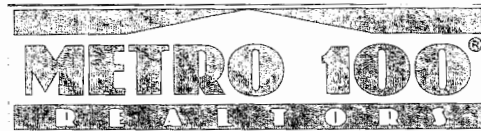
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Ads in this section are published free and are accepted only from members of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association. Non-commercial ads are limited to Services (babysitting, house/pet sitting, yard care); For Sale (secondhand household items); Lost/Found; 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 899-8611 to renew your ad.

## For Sale

**1980 BMW.** 320i. 2-door automatic. Original owner - 146,000+ miles \$3,800. Call 291-8910.

## Services

**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.

**BABY SITTER** for children, pets, or plants. Experienced, responsible 14 yr. old with references. Please call Elisabeth (Izzy) Brown at 299-5560.

**BABY SITTER.** Experienced fifteen year old who loves children. Call Laura Christopher at 293-7232.

**CARING AND EXPERIENCED BABY SITTER.** I am responsible and caring and have references. Took Red Cross babysitting course. Call Meredith Goodman (age 15) at 294-8222.

**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 17) at 293-5451.

**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 15) at 299-0661. Can drive occasionally. References available.

**EXPERIENCED BABY SITTER & HOUSE-SITTER.** I have references and can drive. Call Tamara Eyer, age 19, at 298-4288.

**EXPERT HOT TUB AND SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE.** Call Ben Wright (age 16) at 298-3361. Quality work based on 5 years of noteworthy experience. Babysitting, house care, pet care and yard work also available. References provided upon request.

**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 15, at 293-5451 (reliable and caring).

**HEY PET LOVERS.** Need someone to help with your pet? Just call Keeley Sigel at 293-3866.

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

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

**JESSE'S HOUSE SITTING SERVICE.** Responsible 12 year old will water plants, care for pets, mow lawns, etc. Very reliable. Reasonable. Call 292-3666 and ask for Jesse.

**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.

**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.

**ZZZZ TERRIFIC TEENAGER.** Available for babysitting. Call Naomi Havlen (age 17) at 293-9253.

## Wanted

**AUDUBON ADVENTURES.** Active, interdisciplinary environmental education supplement for grades 3-6 published by National Audubon Society. Donations needed by end of May. For information call 299-1768.

**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.

**BRIDGE PLAYERS.** Persons interested in ladies' daytime bridge or couples' evening bridge. 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.

**FULL-TIME BABYSITTER.** 8:30-5:30 pm. Your house if you live in the O'Keeffe school district or my home. Children ages 2, 5, & 8. Starting in late June. Call Kathy 298-4047 after 7:00 pm or leave a message.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS** of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County NE Heights Unit meets 2nd Wednesday at 9:15 am at Montebello, 10500 Academy NE. One more unit will be held on May 12th before summer break. Clara Levy at 299-2715, unit membership chairman submitted by Charlotte Zerof 275-7547.

**VOLUNTEER ADULT READERS** desperately needed to read the Albuquerque Journal two hours per week in the A.M. for Newline for the Blind. For information call Susan Moss at 841-8862.

**VOLUNTEER FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!** Wanted women 21-44. Call the Junior League of Albuquerque 247-1800 ASAP. New to the area or want to get involved? Call the JLA.

## 1993-94 Directory To Be Published

The Sandia Heights Homeowners Association will publish the 1993-94 Sandia Heights Directory in August. Sandia Heights Directories are distributed only to SHHA members (free of charge) as a benefit of Association membership. Directories cannot be purchased nor are they available to non-SHHA member residents or persons who do not reside in Sandia Heights.

The information to be printed in the directory is shown on the mailing label of this issue of the GRIT. Please take a moment to look at your mailing label and verify that the information is correct. Any changes or corrections should be sent to SHHA, 7213 Carson Tr. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120, no later than June 15, 1993.

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