

## Some Words From The SHHA President

By Richard Krumbain - President SHHA

First of all, I want to wish every resident of Sandia Heights a happy and prosperous New Year. 1994 was a good year for the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association (SHHA). Through our membership drives, membership in the Association increased substantially. We can't rest, however. Although they benefit from the SHHA efforts, thirty percent of the Sandia Heights residents are not members of the Association. Through SHHA's efforts and invaluable assistance from our legislators, Tom Wray and Kip Nicely, the New Mexico Legislature appropriated funds to build a sorely needed Sheriff Substation that will service our area. 1994 will also be a sad reminder that our remoteness from the City of Albuquerque does not make us immune from crime. We remember the senseless death of Russell Nelson, the Circle K employee brutally murdered on 29 February. On behalf of the residents of Sandia Heights, we express our thanks to the Circle K Management for taking prompt action to improve safety in the area in the area by limiting hours of operation and through their lighting and surveillance program. Also, Circle K, as exemplified by our Spring Fling, has consistently volunteered time, efforts, and products, to assist our community and deserve our thanks. They are a good example of what a good corporate citizen should be.

1995 presents new challenges for the SHHA. First and foremost concern is the renewed attempts by the Sandia Pueblo to claim rights to almost 10,000 acres of open space, including part of the western side of the Sandia Mountain, Cibola National Forest, Juan Tabo and La Cueva picnic area, La Luz and Piedra Lisa Trails and areas of Sandia Heights North affecting over 120 homes. At the January 11, 1995, SHHA meeting, the Board of Directors unanimously passed a resolution supporting the work of the Sandia Mountain Coalition formed to defend our rights to enjoy the open space left and oppose the Sandia Pueblo's claim. This group deserves our support. We cannot and our children cannot afford to lose the unimpeded access to those areas.

1995 also brings renewed efforts by the SHHA to enforce the Restrictive Covenants. The Association voted to assume responsibility for enforcement of covenants in additional sections, formerly under control of the Sandia Peak Tram Company. These additional units are: N3, Cedar Canyon Subdivision S20, S23, S24, S27B, S27C, S28B, and S28C. The Association has retained the Law Firm of Pelton & O'Brien, P.A. to bring action against covenant violators who refuse to correct violations. Recently, the first two lawsuits were filed to enforce the Restrictive Covenants and one notification of impending legal enforcement. It is unfortunate that the SHHA has to expend resources and resort to legal enforcement. However, the overwhelming majority of the residents have expressed their concerns with the violations and the potential deterioration of our community. Enforcement of the Restrictive Covenants is the primary responsibility of the SHHA, and we will make every effort and take whatever action is necessary to protect the quality of life and property values for all residents. We trust that legal action will be the rare exception and not the rule, and that the violators will voluntarily bring their property in compliance.

The SHHA is your organization. Please give us your inputs and your priorities. Contact your district representative, your officers or me, and let your concerns be known. Thank you for your cooperation and support during this past year.

# THE GRIT

SANDIA HEIGHTS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

WINTER - 1995

## Pueblo Claims Sandia Mountain: A history

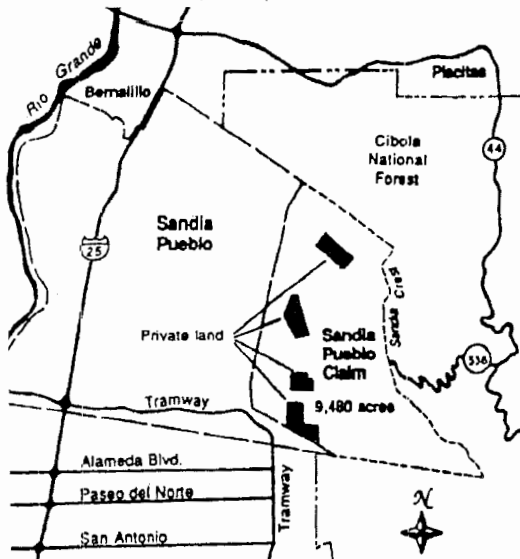
Prepared and donated by Lynfield Writing Services and Aquila Technologies Group.

While Albuquerque slept, representatives of the Pueblo of Sandia filed claim in Washington for some 9,500 acres of Sandia Mountain.

In 1985, most of the west side of the mountain was requested to be added to the pueblo land that now stretches from the Rio Grande to the foothills. Present boundaries were established by law in the 1700's.

The land requested is principally National Forest, State Game Preserve and National Wilderness. The Sandia Mountain Coalition (SMC) believes these recreational open spaces belong to all people, Albuquerqueans and visitors, Indian and non-Indian. The public loss of Sandia mountain, its wildlife and open spaces would be a tragedy to New Mexico. SMC believes that Albuquerque would not be the same city were Sandia Mountain either not accessible or fully developed.

attention than we can give it here. We urge all concerned people, Indian and non-Indian, to become informed. Full reports that include historical and archeological studies, are available at SMC.



A brief, and therefore inadequate, summary of the situation is as follows:

1. SMC members support legitimate Indian rights and claims. SMC has found no evidence that the people now living at the pueblo, nor their ancestors, occupied or used Sandia Mountain land at any time. This particular claim has no legitimacy and does not seem to have the informed support of the 200 or more people now living at the pueblo. The original Sandia Pueblo people disappeared entirely sometime in the 1700's. The ruins were given to a Catholic monk in the 1700's by President Lincoln as a refuge for the converts, who were principally Arizona Hopi Indians. Some converts from Chaco and Isleta are believed to have joined this Roman Catholic group.

Roman Catholic group.

2. Though the pueblo spokespeople say they have no intention of developing Sandia Mountain, no decision of the pueblo is binding. They are free to change their mind at any time.

3. The Forest Service opposes the claim and needs citizens support.

4. The pueblo has expressed concern about protection of its "religious sites" in the Sandias. Any such site would not justify a claim to the Sandias given the current pueblo's Catholic origin. In any event, free access to Forest Service land is allowed, by law, to all Indian people who want to practice religious ceremonies, and such sites are protected. Sandia may designate such sites to the Forest Service, but has not done so.

5. Are the citizens of Albuquerque aware of the possible loss of Sandia Mountain? They have voted repeatedly to spend the money (over \$26 million) to acquire additional open space to supplement the mountain. They believe that a healthy city needs recreational land and they have been willing to pay for it.

(Continued on Page 3)

Perhaps that is why the City Council, the County Commission, the City of Albuquerque Open Space Task Force, and various environmental and outdoor groups have spoken out against any change in the

### NOTICE TO READERS

Due to the significance of this and some other articles, the Board of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association decided to mail the Winter issue of *THE GRIT* to all homeowners.

If you would like to receive it regularly you are invited to join the SHHA by calling 296-1412

mountain's status.

Included in the claim are the La Luz Trail, the La Cueva Picnic Ground, the Piedra Lisa Trail and portions of the access roads to those areas and to Placitas.

This very complex situation deserves more

## THE GRIT

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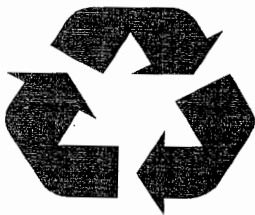


Coffee  
Corner

15 February  
Toni Seidel  
360 Juniper Hill Road  
821-1791  
10AM-12N

15 March  
Linda Caldwell  
234 Spring Creek Lane  
856-5599  
10AM-12N

19 April  
Marla Hursig  
377 Big Horn Ridge  
856-4040  
10AM-12N



THE GRIT, and all other Sandia Heights Homeowners Association Documents, are printed on recycled paper

# Roundhouse Report

## Roundhouse Report

In the last issue of *THE GRIT* we promised a preview of the 1995 legislative session. Since that report, *THE GRIT* readers have a couple of new members on their team in Santa Fe. They are Governor Gary Johnson and Frank Bird, State Representative, District 23.

The Legislature convened on 17 January, 1995 at 12 noon. This should be a very interesting session with 21 new members, 15 Republicans and 6 Democrats of the 70-member House of Representatives. Governor Johnson addressed the Legislature and set his priorities for the fiscal year (beginning 1 July, 1995) in his State of the State address. He focussed on implementing the campaign promises he made to the citizens of New Mexico. We will support his effort to accomplish these goals.

Providing funding for Education is one of the major responsibilities of the Legislature. We will try to redirect dollars to the local classroom and reduce the costs of administration and bureaucracy.

Another top priority will be to build sufficient prison space to get the bad guy off the street. We are committed to reducing or eliminating the good time provision for criminals and obtaining truth-in-sentencing. Governor Johnson is working to have the Duran Consent decree lifted so New Mexico can operate its prison system like other states.

We will be working for tax relief, including the repeal of the 6 cent gas tax and to repeal the gross receipts tax on prescription drugs.

A constitutional amendment to limit the terms of state legislators will be introduced to give the voters of New Mexico an opportunity to decide this issue.

There is a need to have the Legislature conducted according to the state's open meeting law as required by other government organizations. This will require a change to the legislative rules so conference committee meetings are open to the public. The purpose of these meetings is to work out differences between House and Senate bills.

The Supreme Court ruled that Constitutional Amendment 8 on the Lottery and Vide Gambling was unconstitutional. Gambling will be legal at Native American casinos because New Mexico has virtually no power to regulate gambling on Native American lands. The gambling issue will have to be addressed during this session of the Legislature. A Compact with the Native American people would provide some direction on this issue but still leaves many unanswered questions on what other gambling should be permitted in New Mexico . . . if ANY.

Tax revenues continue to grow and are up 11% over the comparable period last fiscal year. Requests to spend this money exceed the amount available many times and the "frenzy" to spend it continues.

This session of the Legislature promises many difficult decisions as we attempt to hold down the growth of state government and ensure that taxpayers receive fair value for their tax money. Let us know how you feel on the issues. During the session we can be reached at (505)986-4600.

Kip Nicely  
State Representative  
District 31

Tom Wray  
State Senator  
District 21

Frank Bird  
State Representative  
District 23

## Notice of SHHA Board Meeting Change of Venue

Association members are asked to note that the board meeting scheduled for 7PM, Wednesday, 8 February, 1995 will be held at *Futures for Children*, at 9600 Tennyson Street, instead of the usual location in the Paseo del Norte Fire Station.

Representatives from the County Public Works Engineering Department and the Roads Department will speak on road repair, safety, etc.

Members input is needed. We look forward to seeing you there.

(Continued from Page 1)

6. News coverage has given the impression that the land claimed by the pueblo belongs to individual homeowners. In fact, less than 2% is in private hands. Loss of open access to Sandia Mountain for all citizens is of immediate concern. This is the basis of SMC, an all volunteer organization. We ask your support now.

**Note from the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association Board:**

All property owners in Sandia Heights are urged to call or write their government officials to express their concerns, and request that they take action to protect the "open access" to Sandia Mountain for all citizens.

When writing to your officials, please include a copy of the above article **PUEBLO CLAIMS SANDIA MOUNTAIN**. The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the government officials to whom you should address your concerns about preserving the "open access" to Sandia Mountain are as follows:

**Senator Pete Domenici**

US Senate, Washington DC 20510  
(505)766-3481

**Senator Jeff Bingaman**

US Senate, Washington DC 20510  
(505)766-3636

**Congressman Steve Schiff**

625 Silver SW, Suite 140, Albuquerque NM 87102  
(505)766-2538

**Commissioner Barbara Seward**

Bernalillo County District #4  
1 Civic Plaza, 10th Floor, Albuquerque NM 87102  
(505)768-4001

**Mayor Martin Chavez**

City of Albuquerque  
1 Civic Plaza, Albuquerque NM 87102  
768-3000

**State Senator Tom Wray — District 21**

c/o Mail Room, State Capitol  
Santa Fe, NM 87503  
986-4368

**State Representative Kip Nicely — District 31**

c/o Mail Room, State Capitol  
Santa Fe, NM 87503  
986-4757

**State Representative Frank Bird — District 23**

c/o Mail Room, State Capitol  
Santa Fe, NM 87503  
986-4450



## From the Desk of Barbara Seward

By Barbara Seward — County Commissioner, District 4

Greetings Sandia Heights Residents: and special thanks for your support. Your board committee structure continues to work well and we have established excellent working relationships with the various chairs.

Sandia Heights has been selected as the site for a pilot county recycling program. This effort was made possible because of the dedication of the community and the willingness to provide volunteers on the collection days. Schedules and other specifics are elsewhere in **THE GRIT**. Give yourselves a pat on the back — this program would not have happened without your help.

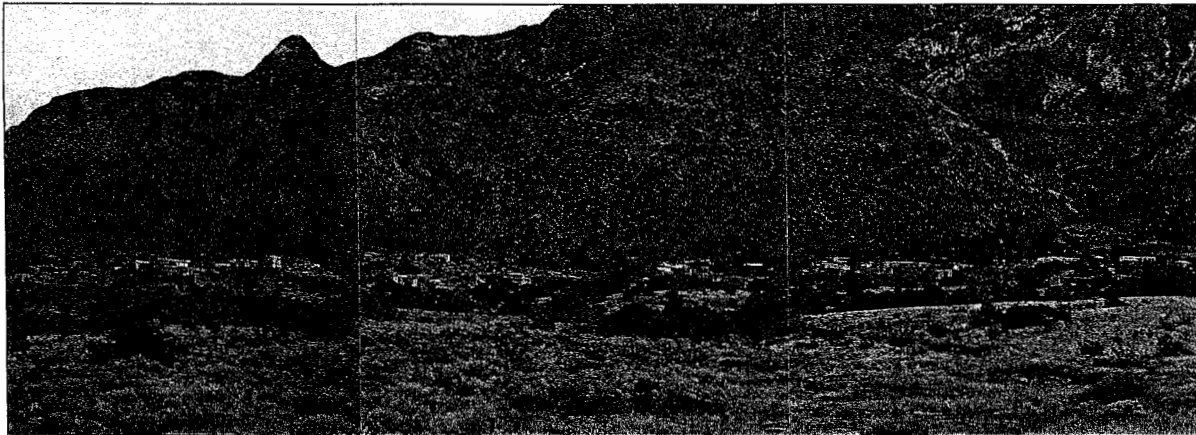
The North Domingo Baca Dam has been selected as the site for our new Sheriff's Command Center. Once again, AMAFCA has been generous to us by allowing the use of their property for this purpose. We owe our thanks to Senators Wray and Paster for this initial appropriation. Additional funding for the project was number one on our legislative priority list and both Senators are aware that we want a facility large enough to accommodate staffing that will create a real presence in the community. The request for proposal for architectural services has been issued and a selection will be made in the next few weeks.

We are painfully aware that the far northeast quadrant of Bernalillo County is the largest population unserved by a library in the State of New Mexico. Land at the corner of Harper and Barstow was donated to the City by a developer to be used as a site for a future library. Through the efforts of many interested citizens, it now appears the library request will be on the City's 1995 bond issue. The dollar amount we are hearing will not complete the project. I will be lobbying our legislators for additional funding and invite you to join me in that effort.

We have recently spoken with Dale Dekker, the architect for our new elementary school. The design phase is complete and a request for proposal for a building contractor will be advertised in February. All agreements have been signed with APS for our wonderful "cafetorium". At last we will have a home for community meetings and opportunities for before and after school programs for our youth. In Dale's design he has included the possibility of a computer terminal in the library which could be used by the community to order books from the main library and have them delivered to the school the next day. We continue our dialogue with APS on this idea. Dale reminded me to ask you please to vote **YES** on the APS bond issues. The requests will not raise your taxes.

We won the "battle of the lights" on Tramway. No doubt you have noticed many lights have been removed and the remaining lights will be lowered. Once again, we enjoy our beautiful dark skies.

We appreciate receiving your calls and letters. Working with your board and committees is a joyous experience. Keeping us informed of your priorities and concerns helps us better serve you.



Looking East from Tramway Road in the general direction of the land grant being sought by the Sandia Pueblo of 9,480 acres. This land includes some residential properties and numerous National Parks recreation areas and trails. SMC and SHHA are fighting the claim.

# Sandia Happenings

By Janey Brink SHHA Vice President

Take a look around. Our community is on the move. The entire North East quadrant of Bernalillo County is reaching critical mass. How are we doing here in Sandia Heights as our rural areas changes before our eyes? Some changes have been in the works for a long time and others seem to explode before us.

Here is a peek at some of the Sandia Peak happenings:

## Recycling Returns

Saturday, 4 March at the Circle K begins our community recycling program (see story elsewhere).

## Park Update

The construction of the water tank was delayed but is now under way. Completion should be in March, 1995. This will delay the refurbishment of the Park. Negotiations are still continuing regarding the lease. We should have more information in the next issue of *THE GRIT*.

## Just Alarming

Heard any good alarms lately? Your SHHA Board was informed about the issue of FALSE ALARMS in our community and were asked "What can you do about it?" Well, we are not sure yet because we want to hear from our community. We have prepared a survey to be included in the next Sandia Peak Utility Bill (thanks to the Tram Company) and we hope to develop a plan of action after the return of our survey cards. So send in those cards folks . . . and thank you for taking the time to respond (see story elsewhere).

## Trails, Trails and More Trails

Where? Tramway and Simms Park Road. The High Desert Development Corporation has given to the City of Albuquerque (Open Space Division) the land North of Simms Park Road. In the works is a soft surface trail that will go through the arroyo, cross South-east over Simms Park Road, onto High Desert Development land and then East on up into the Elena Gallegos Open Space. This will allow horse riders to enter the open space when coming from West of Tramway (under Tramway via Box Culvert) from North Albuquerque Acres. Still time to have input with the city designers and planners. Call Carol Schneider Dumont, Trails Coordinator, 857-8608. She knows us from the prior hang-gliding issue!

## Sandia Mountain Coalition (SMC)

The Pueblo is back again, raising the issue of Sandia Pueblo boundaries. The Coalition is once again organizing and welcomes all Sandia Heights residents to support the SMC position. The SHHA Board passed a resolution at the 11 January, 1995 Board meeting of support for the SMC. The co-chairs are Lynn Bienfield and Anita Miller, 856-6406, both giving tremendous time and energy to this cause (see story elsewhere).

## Public Works, Roads, etc.

Success! Thanks to all who worked on the re-lighting of Tramway. Direct down-lighting is a significant improvement and has improved the neighborhood around these intersections.

Roads, past, present and future, will be a central topic of the 8 February SHHA Board meeting (at Futures for Children) and we want you to attend. If you can't attend we need all residents with a comment on road safety, repairs, traffic, etc to let us know before the meeting. Call Evelyn Patten, 296-1412. The County Public Works people will come and present/listen to our concerns about roads in our community. The contact person is David Stoliker, Engineering Manager, 848-1512.

## Where's Robin?

Our own Robin Otten, Government Liaison, SHHA, has moved on to Santa Fe. We wish her the best in her new cabinet post and thank her for her years of service to our association.

## Juniper Hill Park (AKA Tank Location)

Some of you may have noticed that the work has begun at the site of our small 5-acre park at Juniper Hill and Tramway. The Sandia Peak Utility Company will be locating a new water tank there and will be finished about mid-May. We look forward to restoring the park and entering into an agreement with the County for park maintenance and water. More details later. Toni Seidel, 821-

1791, and Bob Morando, 856-7249, have carried this effort for our community. THANKS!

## THANKS AGAIN!

Many thanks for all the work volunteers do for our community.

## Call for SHHA Board Volunteers

Are you ready to make a commitment to your community? Our community is made up of some of the most talented people around. Why not think about giving the most treasured gift possible, time and effort to preserve and make our community better? The Sandia Heights community, established over twenty years ago, has grown and prospered because people who cared came forward to do what they could to help it along at the right time. Are you willing to give time? Please call and let us know you are interested in serving on the SHHA Board for a three-year term, beginning June, 1995. The nominating committee needs to hear from you and will present the names (9) to the next annual SHHA meeting in June. **Think about it . . . we need you! Call Evelyn Patten, 296-1412 ASAP . . . the time is now!**

## Wine Tasting Scheduled At Futures For Children

By Barbara Bensonhaver - Community Services Chair

This year, SHHA is sponsoring a winter social event. Our new neighbor, Futures for Children, will be the location for a wine tasting social on Saturday, 11 March from 7 to 10 PM. There will be Native American artwork on display for both our enjoyment and for sale. A large variety of wines (over 20) from several vineyards (at least 8) will be available for sampling. National Distributors will be providing the wine and the expertise. The cost for the evening will be \$6 per person plus a favorite appetizer. We will be taking reservations on a prepaid basis only, with a maximum of 200 people. Reservations and money will be due by 25 February, 1995. Please send the money to Barbara Bensonhaver, 9110 Lynx Loop NE. Hope to see you there! (Please note, the Gruet winery party has been canceled).

*My Future*, a sculpture by the late Allan Houser, will greet you at this show, along with other works of art by Native American artists and others, including original paintings, lithographs, sculptures and jewelry. For further information call Isaac Curley at 821-2828.

Don't forget to attend neighborhood coffees. All

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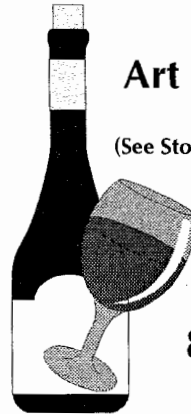
## SHHA Wine Tasting Futures For Children

11 March — \$6/Person

7— 10PM

## Art Exhibit

(See Story on this page)



For Details call Barbara Bensonhaver

856-9110

## Sandia Heights T-Shirts

Adults \$10

Children \$6



Contact Evelyn Patten - 296-1412

# Recycling Returns to Sandia Heights

By Judy Christopher & Jane Goins — SHHA Recycling Committee

Recycling will once again be available to Sandia Heights residents beginning Saturday, 4 March. Through the efforts of the SHHA Recycling Committee, County Commissioner Barbara Seward, other County officials, and Circle K Vice President of Operations, Carl Bottenus, a Pilot Recycling Program will operate on the first Saturday of each month, from 9 AM until 12 Noon at the Circle K.

The program will initially be once a month. Depending on the volume of recyclables. It may be expanded to twice a month.

## Recycling Meeting - Wednesday, 16 February

An important meeting for anyone interested in helping with the recycling program will be held Wednesday, 16 February at the Fire Station on Paseo del Norte at 6:30 PM. This pilot recycling effort will be successful only with the help of volunteers from the Sandia Heights community. Anyone interested in helping is urged to attend. If unable to do so, please contact SHHA Executive Assistant, Evelyn Patten at 296-1412 to leave your name and telephone number, so that the Recycling Committee can contact you prior to 4 March.

Representatives from the County and Circle K will be in attendance to answer questions and explain the pilot program. Strong community support is needed in order to make this program successful. Your participation will be greatly appreciated. Please plan to attend.

As the county does not have available manpower, volunteers are essential in seeing that this recycling program works effectively and efficiently.

The following is a list of acceptable and unacceptable items:

### Newspapers Only

No magazines, phone books, computer paper, envelopes or junk mail.

### Corrugated Cardboard Only

Has to be flattened  
No trash left in boxes  
No cereal, Kleenex, aspirin boxes, etc.

### Plastic

Milk and water containers without caps  
Clear soda bottles, without rings, caps, or black bottoms  
No soap, shampoo, cleaning fluid, etc. bottles  
No colored plastic.

### Aluminum Cans

No tin cans.

### No glass

Items not meeting these requirements will be unacceptable!

We are pleased to be able to offer recycling to the Sandia Heights residents, and look forward to a successful program, with the support of volunteers from the community.

(Continued from previous page)

residents are welcome. If you can host a coffee, please call me at 856-9110.

We are looking for suggestions for refurbishing or replacing Sandia Heights signs. Anyone with ideas or expertise, please contact a board member.

Remember, Sandia Heights T-shirts are for sale. Contact Evelyn Patten, 296-1412, if you need either design.

It's that time of the year again! Volunteers are desperately needed for the Spring Fling. Please call Barbara Bensonhaver at 856-9110.

## Wildflower Group Meetings

By Carol Treat - President Wildflower Group

The Wildflower Group will meet next in Fire Station #5, Paseo del Norte on 15 March between 7:30 and 9 PM. This meeting will elect new officers to take over in May and plan the Garden Tour for June.

If you have an interest in having your garden on tour, or if you'd like to be an officer, call Carol Treat on 856-6388.

Wildflower Group dues are \$5 per annum. Anyone who lives in Sandia Heights can join. This is a great way to find out about landscaping in our areas, meet fellow gardeners and learn about our environment. Send dues to Suan Teresi, 1480 Morning Glory Road NE to join. Men are as welcome as women.

Plan to join us and get ahead of your garden this year.

**TIP** — If we have 1 to 4 inches of snow, you don't need to water for one month. If the ground is frozen (moisture in the soil to make ice) you need not water during winter months, however dry and no snow that month. Water good one day per month only (unless it's pots, then water once per week, or as needed).

*All this struggling and striving to make the world better is a great mistake; not because it isn't a good thing to improve the world if you know how to do it, but because striving and struggling is the worst way you could set about doing anything.*

**George Bernard Shaw — 1886**

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**Sandia Heights Security Patrol Responses January-December 1994**

TYPE OF CALL	NUMBER
Alarms .....	809
Motorist assist .....	142
Breaking & entering .....	7
Attempted breaking & entering .....	11
Construction site burglary .....	13
Suspicious vehicle .....	316
Suspicious person .....	114
Animal control assist .....	18
Lost &/or found pet .....	18
Snake .....	27
Family dispute .....	16
Neighbor dispute .....	9
Loud/disruptive party .....	26
Fireworks complaint .....	8
Vandalism (general) .....	67
Vandalism (mailbox) .....	106
Speeding vehicle .....	18
Unusual special request .....	122
Salesman problems .....	52
Phone problems .....	13
Car accident .....	33
Fire .....	49
Rescue .....	79
Utility company assist .....	55
Construction sites .....	23
Vacant houses (for sale, etc.) .....	34
Specials (extra patrols or observation) ...	140
Homeowners on vacation .....	2,166
<b>TOTAL CALLS .....</b>	<b>4,491</b>

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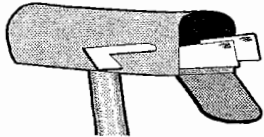
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# The Mailbox

**Letters received for publication in this section must be in writing and signed. For reasons of space conservation, the editor reserves the right to abridge the contents of a letter (without changing the overall message). Authors names will be withheld on request.**

## Dear Sandia Heights Homeowners

I love trees. I enjoy the shade, the green, the growing of fruit and the shelter for birds and other wildlife. Since moving to Sandia Heights, I have noticed that my love of trees has been tempered by their use as screens and devices to block our magnificent views. It seems to me that in our micro environment of Sandia Heights that any tree that I can comfortably sit under for shade or attach a sing to is too tall/big and will be limiting, if not blocking, my neighbors' views. In fact, if a tree is taller than your house, someone's view is probably being affected.

I've been surprised to find that after trees in our area have been established, they continue to be watered beyond survival to encourage rapid continued growth, with no effort to prune or shape them. I have contacted my immediate neighbors to discuss the trees in our area and we have mutually agreed to trim and/or limit growth to protect each others views. Unfortunately some of their neighbors are not as thoughtful and refuse to reciprocate.

We are in the optimum pruning season for deciduous trees (evergreen trees can be pruned after their candles develop) and with some reasonable consideration for our neighbors and a little effort, I think we can protect our views and keep our trees. Fortunately, if neighborliness fails, there are provisions in most covenants against trees used as screens and against undue view interference. In addition, covenants in most areas specifically prohibit Chinese elms, cotton-bearing cottonwoods and poplars.

I live in Sandia Heights because I enjoy the views and the trees. Unfortunately, for many of us, unless our trees are pruned regularly, our views of Mt Taylor

and city lights will be replaced by views of trees.

Anne Yegge  
538 Black Bear Road

## Dear Sandia Heights Homeowners

We in Sandia Heights are fortunate to live above the noise and air pollution that plagues the otherwise magnificent metropolis spread before us. Indeed, most of us moved here specifically in an effort to get closer to the natural, clean beauty of the foothills. Why, then, are we seemingly unconcerned about the pollution we ourselves create?

It used to be when walking in the Sandia Heights a person could relax, enjoy the beautiful scenery and only be concerned about stepping on the occasional lizard or snake . . . or accidentally frightening the small jackrabbits or quail. Not anymore. The roads are in deplorable condition due to litter — litter from household pets deposited during their daily walks. Years ago there was a popular song *Tiptoe Through The Tulips*. We could change that lyric to *Tiptoe Through the Poop* and make it our community's anthem.

This litter is not only an unsightly nuisance to the many residents who love to walk along our beautiful roads. It is a menace to those homeowners who must wade through the mess at the bottom of their driveways in order to get their mail. And because it is common for animals to "mark" an area repeatedly, the quantity of litter can rapidly increase — making it a potential health hazard to all exposed.

There have been articles written previously on this subject that have both asked politely or demanded loudly for this to stop, but to no avail. Let me be perfectly clear in my request. All pet owners should accept their responsibility and pick up their animals' droppings, disposing of the litter properly in a garbage can. **It's that simple.**

We can take back our beautiful area with a concerted effort by Sandia Heights residents to STOP THE POLLUTION. We owe it to ourselves and our neighbors, don't we?

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As Christ had promised, Baha'u'llah inaugurated the "Kingdom of God on Earth" by teaching the unity of all mankind and calling for an end to war.

For more information about Baha'u'llah and His teachings, please call 856-1655.

**The Baha'i Faith**

## Good Things Are Happening in New Development Programs

By Bob Kemble — Chairman, New Development Committee, SHHA

We are pleased to note that our County Public Works Department is following through on their approval of SHHA recommendations regarding reduction of the lighting on Tramway Blvd. In December, fourteen light standards were removed. Still remaining to be done is (1) lowering the remaining lights from 40' to 30' and (2) reducing the intensity (wattage) for those remaining lights. We again thank the many involved and particularly the Public Works Department and our County Commissioner.

Also actively underway, and being pushed by Commissioner Seward, is the detailed planning of the new Sheriff's command center. To be located on 3 acres of land South of the North Domingo Baca Dam site, at the North-East corner of Holly and Eubank. Request for Proposals (RFPs) have gone out to architects. At the Commissioner's request, I am serving on the planning team and believe this project is progressing well. You will recall that last year our legislative delegation (including Senator Tom Wray and Representative Kip Nicely) were able to obtain State capital funding for our SHHA recommendation for the additional substation. Now the task at hand is to design the most effective facility within the budgeted limits.

The central goal is to provide for improved efficiency for the always understaffed Sheriff's Department, while, importantly, assuring a continuous and visible presence of law enforcement in our general area. We are also anticipating that meeting facilities incorporated in the building will be available for our occasional use, as may be appropriate. Several combinations of facilities within the building are being reviewed. I have also personally stressed that flexibility of use and "expansibility" for the future need to be thoroughly considered. I would welcome any suggestions during this planning process.

While on the subject of "Capital Projects" at their January meeting, the SHHA Board began discussion of priorities for capital improvements in order to best advise our legislative delegation during the 1995 session. We welcome your ideas.

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*image*

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Bea Ann is a dedicated wife, mother of three grown sons, and grandmother to three adorable grandchildren. "As a family we have been faced with many great challenges, but BeautiControl has helped me keep a positive outlook, stay focused on the issues at hand, and remain supportive."

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# Local Organization Works With American Youth

By Ian Curley - Futures for Children

Residents of the Pine Hill Navajo community, east of Inscription Rock, picked up paint brushes and made enthusiastic broad strokes to strengthen community pride on a cool November day. Graffiti, knowing no geographic bounds, has found its way into this remote Navajo community as it has in many other Indian communities in New Mexico. Six Pine Hill School students, participating in Futures for Children year-long leadership training, decided that they would "give back" to their community by recruiting others to join them in a graffiti removal project.

The 1994-95 Futures Through Leadership training program, now in its ninth season, brought together 40 eager-to-learn Native American students representing nine different communities including Pueblo, Hopi, and Navajo from the Southwest as well as Warm Springs, Oregon and Ft. Berthold, North Dakota. Over the years, students in training have faced their fears and challenged themselves to go beyond personal comfort zones to become active community leaders who provide volunteer services to the elderly, youth and those taken ill.

Futures' new International Learning Center, located at 9600 Tennyson Street NE, was the site of this year's leadership training kick-off. Although the center occasionally serves as a training site for youth, the facility will primarily serve adults who support services to youth. The 16,000 square-foot center also serves as the headquarters to a staff of 30 who work in four distinct programs.

Dr Richard Saunders, founder of Futures for Children, believed that people possess the ability to achieve remarkable things when they work together for their children's sake. Rather than fund projects, Futures teaches methodologies of self-help to those communities seeking assistance to plan, develop and maintain beneficial projects. In addition to the Leadership Program, Futures works through its International Services and Community Action Services programs to offer hands-on training in self-help to economically developing communities. Future's best know program is its Education program that brings sponsors from virtually every region of the country together with over 2,700 American Indian youth to establish

cross-cultural friendship while encouraging students to stay in school.

One of the keys to longevity for the 33-year-old Futures for Children is its volunteer support. An example of volunteer support within leadership training is its 9 project coaches and 40 mentors who advise student trainees throughout the year. In addition, each student is required to actively involve a minimum of ten other students in their selected project which gives back to their respective community. An impact analysis estimated that over 80,000 Native Americans are served annually by Futures for Children's programs which continue to increase as self-help principles are practiced by both youth and adults.

The State of New Mexico's pride is also heightened with the realization that this unique organization will continually bring people together with its mission to strengthen self-reliance in economically developing communities in the Americas. The unifying force of Futures has always been and will

continue to be the well-being of children which ultimately brings about brighter futures for children.

Futures invites you to find out more about you new Sandia Heights neighbor. For more information, please call Isaac Curley at 821-2828.

*The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter.*

**Thomas Jefferson — 1787**



A student faces his fear by leaping off a 25-foot high pole as part of Futures Through Leadership training




*If you hit a pony over the nose at the very outset of your acquaintance, he may not love you, but he will take a deep interest in your movements ever afterwards.*




**Rudyard Kipling — 1888**

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# SHHA Membership Application

There's a lot happening in our part of the county right now, and you need to be part of determining the long term destiny of this area. That's the reason the SHHA Board decided to send this newsletter — which normally only goes to Association members — to all residents. Read through it, think about some of the issues and decide whether you want to help work them out.

- The Sandia Pueblo has asked the Federal Government to grant them title to 9,480 acres of land on our doorstep, denying access to recreational areas and threatening the long term development future of our cherished open space.
- There are County Park developments, which SHHA has been working very hard to influence, which may not be going the right direction for our needs.
- Covenant control is becoming a larger task as additional homeowners join our community. The SHHA has increased jurisdiction over additional units in Sandia Heights. Most of us came here because we liked the clean, open desert, natural ambience of the place. Not everybody feels that way. We need a strong membership to help us enforce the covenants.
- The all-volunteer board of the SHHA has established excellent relationships with City, County, and State Government representatives and has been effective in influencing legislation which may otherwise have been detrimental to life in Sandia Heights. All residents benefit from these actions, but there's still about 30% of you out there who do not belong. Why?

The cost of membership is small (\$3.50/month, automatically deducted from your utilities bill). The benefits are many . . . this newsletter, an annual homeowners directory, ability to review and comment on plans for building developments in your area, assistance in covenant complaints, and much more. You don't even have to spend 32 cents to send us an application.

To join, simply call SHHA and tell Evelyn Patten you'd like to sign up.

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## A View From the Ranger's Office

By Floyd Thompson, III — District Ranger, Sandia Ranger District

Winter has finally arrived. The season has begun with some usual start-up confusion, but I believe we are on the road to delivering some quality sites for winter recreation. The Crest Highway will receive a little extra attention from a cooperative effort by: Forest Service, State Highways, Bernalillo County, State Police, and the Sandia Peak Ski Area. The Capulin Snowplay Area and cross country rentals are again providing quality settings for these activities. A recent death and several serious injuries point to the reality that winter recreation comes with some risk. Please use extreme caution in your pursuit of fun in the snow, obey safety rules and be "heads up" for other users. I like to use the analogy of being a defensive driver in all activities on the mountain.

I have been reading your many comments and listening to your many concerns as our team has been drafting management plans for the military withdrawal lands and adjoining National Forest. I see a wide variety of opinions on whether to allow motorized uses, expand trail systems, allow access into the area and general concerns of: excluding uses from the withdrawal and the growing influences of the metropolitan area population upon the rural traditions of the East Mountain communities. There are many deeply felt and held hearings which make coming to a workable solution very difficult. Our commitment to you is to give fair weight to all your concerns and look to a point in your desired future condition to where there is the greatest convergence of views. It is no small task, but with your continued cooperation and efforts to seek a solution, I am confident that an answer can be found.

We are about to embark on a much larger effort, similar to the military withdrawal in reassessing the Forest Plan direction for the entire Sandia Ranger District, Cibola National Forest. We plan to kick off the effort with a series of open houses, where we will listen for the issues you would like addressed and present the concepts of ecosystem planning we will be applying throughout the process. The process will run into 1997 and will involve an intensive effort to develop management direction that captures the spirit of preserving this unique mountain ecosystem in the context of a rapidly expanding metropolitan area. We will be looking for avenues to incorporate: community values, rural traditions, and tenured interests as represented in: the diverse Land Grant villages, Hispanic communities, American Indian Pueblos, historic towns, homesteads and a multitude of new, emerging residential developments that are now encircling our mountain. Our first meetings should be announced in the coming months. Look for the location nearest you and come visit with us. We will also be looking to come to your group meeting programs or meet with you individually as best meets effective communication.

Our goal is this — this is a common resource for the American people . . . that's all of us; regardless of race, religion, color gender or age. The concept of "our" national forest is that its fate is in all of our hands. Forest Service employees are only your stewards of the land; charged to enforce and uphold laws passed by your duly elected representatives. We consider you our partners in taking care of this land and helping to serve the people who come to enjoy them. Without your support, the concept of a National Forest is lost. The Sandia Mountain unit of the National Forest System is a unique testing ground for use of all open public areas. People must learn to respect the land and one another if it is to remain accessible to a broad spectrum of activities.

Our job in the planning process will be to arrive at a hierarchy of need and develop management strategies that preserve a sense of freedom and ability to enjoy the land with reverence, without destroying its ability to sustain these values. That includes respect for sacred rights as well as legal rights. It can be an exciting learning process or an agonizing struggle for dominance. If we enter into the process with an attitude of seeking a win/win solution for both humans and nature, then I think there is hope for success. Our National Forest is no longer the great big *out there*. It is here and now. It is in your backyard. It is, in fact, an island with corridors reaching out into all aspects of our communities. Our team of employees welcomes you to the process.



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# ARC Approval Required For All New Construction

By Arlene Riddiford — Communications Committee, SHHA

The SHHA Board would like to express its thanks to all residents by complying with the regulations set up for each unit in the Declaration of Regulations. The Board does feel, however, that some clarifications are needed in a few areas where there have been problems.

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Chairperson Toni Seidel, says the biggest problem is residents making exterior changes to their property without checking the regulations for their specific unit. All units have restrictions to exterior changes. SHHA (Evelyn Patten - 296-1412) can send you a copy of the regulations for your unit if you can't locate one, and can assist in getting the approval procedure started. This will save everyone time, energy and frustration if or when problems occur.

*Any new home construction, home additions or exterior renovations need to go through the ARC approval process. This process covers any solar equipment, air conditioning/heating equipment, antennas, satellite receiver dishes, walls, fences, storage sheds, exterior color changes, patios, decks, or swimming pools. If you are in doubt, please call.*

The Covenant Support Committee works in conjunction with ARC by providing an ongoing adherence to the deed restrictions. This committee spends a great deal of time and effort helping to preserve the character of Sandia Heights which drew all of us here. Letters of non-compliance are sent out on violations with the hope that the resident will comply with the deed regulation and

that no further action will be needed. Jim Nachbar, Committee Chairman, reports that most complaints are about recreational vehicles.

There are 32 units with 32 different Declarations of Restrictions, each with specific regulations for that particular unit. The ARC and the Covenant Support Committee depend on the cooperation and willingness of all residents of Sandia Heights to comply with the restrictions.

*There is no room in this country for hyphenated Americanism . . . The one absolutely certain way of bringing this nation to ruin, of preventing all possibility of its continuing to be a nation at all, would be to permit it to become a tangle of squabbling nationalities.*

**Theodore Roosevelt — 1915**

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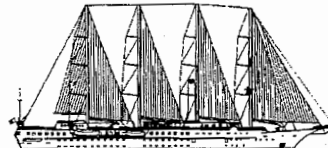
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# Security Alarms Alert

By Jane Goins — Security Alarms Committee, SHHA

In the last issue of *THE GRIT* was an article regarding Home Security Alarm Systems and how owners might reduce their false activations. I think we can agree that listening to a neighbor's security alarm is not a thing to be desired, especially if there is no reason for the alarm to go off. A committee has been formed by the SHHA board to determine the impact of false alarms on residents of Sandia Heights. More specifically, it will determine whether false alarms are perceived to be a minor nuisance or a serious annoyance. Currently, both the Sandia Heights Security Patrol and the Sheriff's Department perform the valuable service or responding to security alarms, whether they are false or not. Their time spent in answering false alarms could be spent performing additional patrol duties. The false alarm committee will seek to determine also whether the unnecessarily lost patrol time due to false security alarms is perceived in our community to be a serious waste of patrol time or simply a negligible cost of doing business. In the period January through December of 1994, the Security Patrol responded to 809 security alarms; during the same period they responded to 18 actual or attempted breaking and entering calls (only some of which were alarm responses). At least 98% of the alarm responses, therefor were unnecessary.

At the end of January, you will receive in your utilities bill, a short questionnaire designed to assess your feelings about false alarms and the need for community actions that might be taken to reduce them. It will be important to the community to know whether there is a perceived problem, and whether it is widespread, or peculiar to certain areas of Sandia Heights. The questions you will be asked will serve also as a good check against the adequacy of your operation and maintenance practices, if you are a security system owner, and whether you are doing everything you might to minimize the annoyance your system causes your neighbor to suffer. For non-owners of security systems, these questions will suggest some potential means for reducing the frequency of false alarms.

If you have a security system we are asking you to think about the following:

- (1) How many times has my security system given a false alarm? Why did false alarms occur?
- (2) How disturbing was my security system to my neighbor?
- (3) What are my expectations when my alarm goes off when I am not at home?
- (4) What do I expect my neighbor to do if my alarm goes off?
- (5) What do I expect of the Sandia Heights Security Patrol when my alarm goes off?
- (6) What do I expect of the Sheriff's Department when my alarm goes off?
- (7) What control device should my security system have on it to prevent prolonged alarms?

If you do not have an alarm system, we are asking you to think about the following:

- (1) How disturbing have false security alarms been to me?
- (2) Have I ever talked to my neighbor at his false alarms?
- (3) What do my neighbors with security systems expect me to do when I hear their alarm go off?
- (4) What are my expectations of the Security Patrol when a false alarm occurs?
- (5) What are my expectations of the Sheriff's Department when a false alarm occurs?
- (6) Was I aware of controls that could be put on security systems to prevent prolonged alarms?

Please feel free to contact any of the following committee members if you have questions or concerns regarding alarms of security systems:

Ben Fealock	856-6785
Jane Goins	856-1847
Doug Nielsen	856-7655
Janey Brink	823-1706

## Construction is a Pain But Consider Your Neighbors

By Toni Seidel — Chair, ARC Committee SHHA

I am sure that most residents of Sandia Heights realize that construction goes on year-round in our neighborhood. Modern technology and efficient scheduling by contractors makes this possible. I realize the economic necessity for this, but I sure miss those few-month construction slowdowns that used to occur in the winter.

The winter months do affect some phases of construction, however. Some exterior finish materials can not be applied if the temperature drops too low, either during the day or overnight. The weather can also affect site and foundation work. What this means for contractors is delays in their work schedule; what it means for surrounding residences is projects that seem to go on forever.

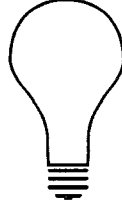
The covenants require construction of all projects to be completed in one year; however we all know of projects that have dragged on longer. What the ARC tries to do in those cases is to facilitate as quick a completion as possible. We recognize that construction can be an inconvenience for neighbors. Besides being an inconvenience, unfinished construction can be an eyesore. I also believe that the scope of the project should be considered when a time limit is set. Some projects do require more than a year to complete due to their size and complexity. However, other small projects do not need nearly so long to complete and we must depend on the owners to get the projects finished in a timely manner. However, the ARC cannot act until a year has expired, at which time we notify the owner of a covenant violation.

I would like to encourage all residents of Sandia Heights, in dealing with problems associated with construction, to be considerate of their neighbors. This means that the owner involved in construction needs to realize that living around a construction site is not easy for his neighbors. It also means that those living close to a site under construction need to realize that each project comes with its own unique set of problems that don't always have a simple, quick solution. Consequently, when the ARC rules on a problem, we are looking for a solution that is best for the neighborhood and all parties involved.

*A man builds a fine house; and now he has a master, and a task for life; he is to furnish, watch, show it, and keep it in repair the rest of his days.*

**Ralph Waldo Emerson — 1876**

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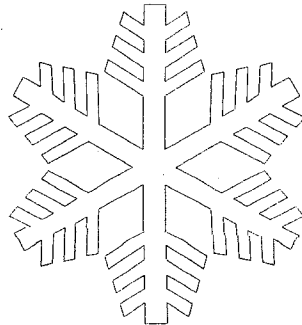
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# THE CURB

SANDIA HEIGHTS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION WINTER 1995

## Resolution

WHEREAS, we are the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association board of directors, we are concerned citizens, including residents of the areas included in the claim of the Sandia Pueblo for 9,480 acres, who recognize the interest of our governmental officials at the County, City, State, and Federal levels in promoting our health, safety, and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, we desire to maintain, as open space with unimpeded access to the public, Cibola National Forest Service lands, including the Juan Tabo and La Cueva picnic sites, the La Luz and Piedra Lisa Trails, and approximately nineteen percent (19%) of the Sandia Mountain Wilderness; and

WHEREAS, an informal coalition has been formed, entitled the Sandia Mountain Coalition, in order to join together to make their position known to the public, our legislative delegation, the Indian Pueblo, the Department of Interior, the Department of Justice, and other Local, State and Federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, we support the City of Albuquerque, in its open space efforts, to preserve the entire Western face of the Sandias;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association that the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association supports the Sandia Mountain Coalition in its activities to oppose the Pueblo of Sandia claim to additional land.

DONE at the County of Bernalillo, New Mexico, at the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association board of directors meeting, this 11th day of January, 1995.



President of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

*Resolution supporting the Sandia Mountain Coalition in their efforts to defeat a Sandia Pueblo claim to 9,480 acres of Sandia Mountain, enacted at the last meeting of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association board meeting*

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