



THE GREEN

SANDIA HEIGHTS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION FALL ~ 1996

ELECTION
ISSUES
INSIDE



President's Message



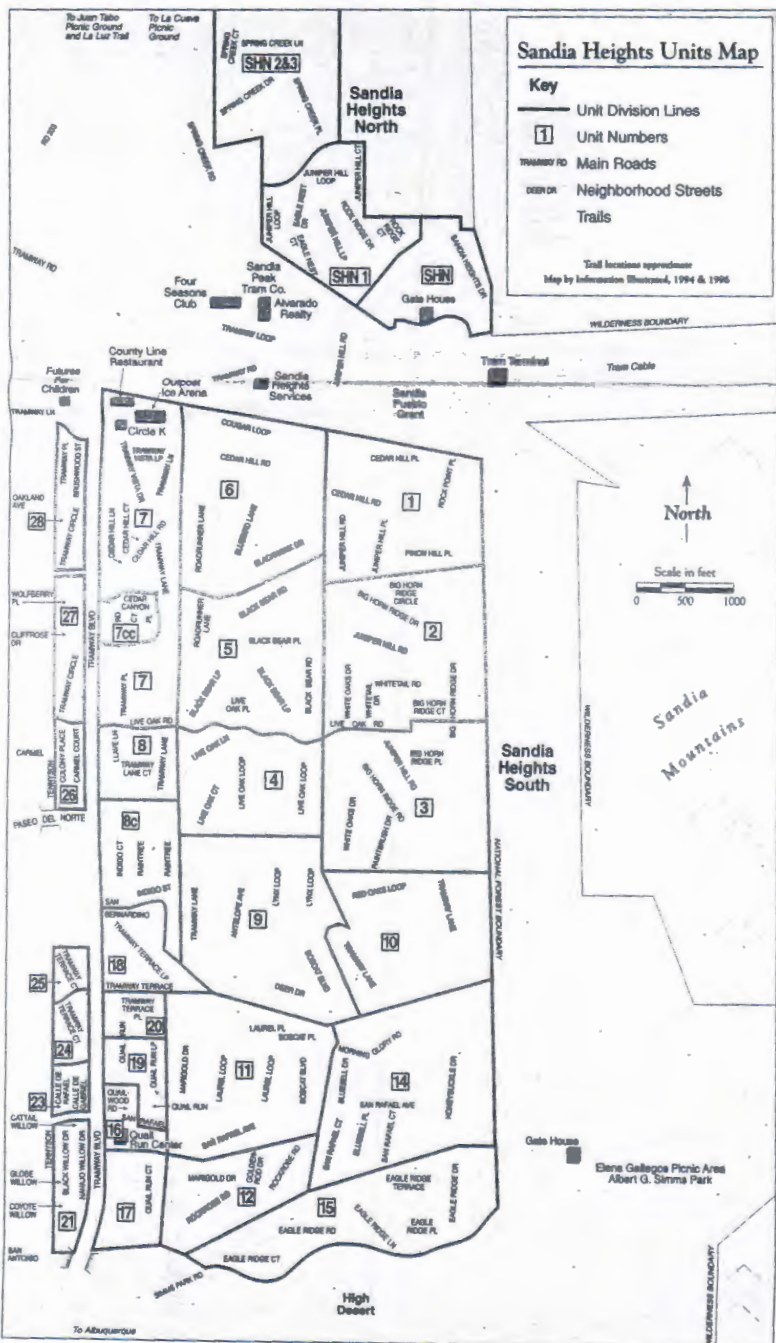
The Albuquerque Public Schools Boundary Committee has submitted its recommendations for changes to existing school boundaries to Peter Hroschak, the APS Superintendent. He will now review the Committee's work and either forward their recommendation to the School Board, revise it or submit his own recommendation. The next event in this lengthy process will be a Public Hearing on October 30th. As at previous meetings, SHHA will present testimony on behalf of the residents of Sandia Heights. Since all recommendations thus far have kept Sandia Heights within the boundaries for La Cueva High

School and had Middle School students attending either the new Mid School or the current Eisenhower School, our role has been to support the recommendations and to convey the fact that our area is vitally interested in the outcome of the process. Although the public hearing will have occurred by the time you read this, several Board Members and hopefully others will have attended to monitor and respond to the proceedings.

when the issue comes before the APS Board. My understanding is that the issue will be considered and a decision made at that meeting. Although the process has been favorable to Sandia Heights so far, it's important not to become complacent. Now that the Boundary Committee has done its part, the recommendations could be changed by either the Superintendent or the School Board. Please be alert to newspaper articles that differ with proposals described above. And join us at the School Board meeting November 6th. It's very important that all decision makers realize Sandia Heights residents are vitally concerned about the education of our children.

The next important date is November 6th

Continued on page 3...



Learn Your Unit Number AND Your Covenants

by Don Aunapu - SHHA Covenants, Chair

A lot of SHHA attention is being directed to compliance with the covenants. Sandia Heights is divided into 30+ "different" units and the Association only has 6, non-paid committee members to cover them all. You can be assured that each of these volunteers takes their position very seriously and is making a concerted effort to ensure that everyone in the community is in compliance with their particular unit's covenants.

As a result of covenant complaints from residents as well as potential violations noted by committee members, there are 89 active cases as of the last report. Each violation is reviewed by a committee member and a friendly letter sent to the residents. In many cases, there is a simple lack of awareness of the covenants and once notified residents correct the violation. In some cases, however, there is a dispute and the process may lead ultimately to legal action, after careful consideration. Because the violations are numerous, please be aware that the process takes time. So don't expect the situation to be corrected as quickly as you, and we, might like.

To give you a sense of the committee workload and to let you know you're not alone if you've received a letter, here are some statistics by category of complaint.

- Unscreened air-conditioners, satellite dishes 53
- Weeds, debris, trash 8
- Campers, boats, trailers, RVs 12
- Trees, landscaping 7
- Signs 7
- Unapproved construction 2

These numbers do not include complaints which have been amicably or otherwise resolved, and these complaints are in various stages of notification and resolution. As you observe violations, please feel free to report them to the SHHA office at 296-1412.

You should also be aware that covenants for every unit in Sandia Heights are not identical. Your neighbor just across the street may be in a different unit and therefore their covenants may not be the same as yours. For example, you may be restricted in your use/parking of a Recreational Vehicle while your neighbor's covenants may not even mention an RV. It only takes concurrence of 75% of the residents in your unit to change your covenants. And in some cases this may be the answer. Working toward a unified set of covenants for all of Sandia Heights can become a future goal of SHHA. Please let us know what you think of this idea. If there is enough interest we may attempt this monumental task.

Remember that maintaining the beauty of our area and increasing property values through covenant enforcement is everyone's job as a resident - and part of being a good neighbor.

Check out your Unit Number on the Map and then make sure you have the covenants for that Unit. Call the SHHA office for replacement sets.

THE GRIT

THE GRIT
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as the official newsletter
of the

**SANDIA HEIGHTS
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 20021

Albuquerque, NM 87154-0021

Phone: 505-296-1412

Fax: 505-296-2620

E-mail: SHHA@nmia.com

Homepage: <http://www.nmia.com/shha>

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Call: 505-856-1868 Fax 505-856-1792

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ROUNDHOUSE REPORT

Brief Summaries of the Proposed Constitutional Amendments
Appearing on the November 5th Ballot

The following is a condensed version of the legislative council service publication entitled "Constitutional Amendments Proposed by the Legislature in 1996 and Arguments For and Against."

Proposed Amendment 1 would change the state's formula for spending the \$7 billion in New Mexico's two permanent funds and the money earned from investing those funds. It would also change the way in which money in one of the funds could be invested. Supporters argue the changes are necessary to protect the long-term value of the funds against inflation. Opponents argue the proposed changes are financially risky.

Proposed Amendment 2 would allow school districts to, in effect, borrow money by entering into "lease-purchase" agreements for education technology equipment without voter approval. Supporters argue that change is necessary because paying cash for computers and other technology is often impossible. Opponents argue that voters should always be able to approve or disapprove questions of whether to borrow money.

Proposed Amendment 3 would establish a procedure by which elected county officials could be recalled from office. Supporters argue that voters must have some method of removing elected officials from misfeasance or malfeasance. Opponents argue that elected officials can be removed at the next election, and even if they need to be removed earlier, the process set out in this proposal is too cumbersome.

Proposed Amendment 4 would create a new way to amend the New Mexico Constitution - by allowing an independent commission to propose amendments that could include broad changes to the constitution. Currently, only the legislature can propose amendments, and those proposals must be narrow. Supporters argue that many parts of the state constitution need to be changed and an easier method of making those changes must be developed. Opponents argue that the prohibition against "logrolling," or forcing voters to approve or reject several constitutional amendments at once, should never be changed.

Proposed Amendment 5 would raise the per diem and mileage allowances for legislators from \$75 per day and \$.25 per mile, respectively, to standard Internal Revenue Service rates for the city of Santa Fe, which is currently \$124 per day and \$.28 per mile. Supporters argue the change is necessary to fairly compensate New Mexico's unpaid legislators for their lodging and travel expenses. Opponents argue that voters should retain direct control over legislative per diem and mileage allowances.

Proposed Amendment 6 would combine the appointed Public Utility Commission and the elected State Corporation Commission into a single, elected Public Regulation Commission. Supporters argue that the two commissions share duties so similar they should be combined. Opponents argue that the State Corporation Commission does far more than just regulate some utilities; it regulates the insurance, trucking and pipeline industries and should remain separate from the Public Utility Commission.

Proposed Amendment 7 would allow county governments to borrow money, subject to a vote of the people, to purchase open space and buy the equipment necessary to build roads and bridges. Supporters argue the amendment would give counties the flexibility needed to pursue sound policies while preserving the voter's right to approve borrowing. Opponents argue that government shouldn't borrow money to buy land or construction equipment.

Kip Nicely
State Rep/District 31
296-9277

Tom Wray
State Senator/District 21
856-1450

Frank Bird
State Rep/District 23
823-5770



Wednesdays 10am - Noon

November 6th

Jo Cheney
1461 Bluebell NE
821-4493

December 11th

Carol Treat
301 Spring Creek Place NE
856-6388

January 22nd

Carol Fleury
15 Juniper Hill Loop NE
856-0732

Open to all residents of Sandia Heights. Men and women welcome!

Contractor Evaluation Program Needs Your Referrals

by Erin Frinkman - SHHA Administrative Assistant

One of the benefits of SHHA membership is the use of the Contractor Evaluation Program. When a member needs some type of work done on their house, they may call the SHHA office for information on evaluations that have been submitted by Sandia Heights residents on contractors in that area of expertise. However, we need to build up the number of completed forms in our files. If you have recently used a contractor and would like to inform your neighbors of the type of service you received, please fill in the form enclosed in this issue of The Grit and return it to the SHHA office at the address given on the form.

We especially need forms on handymen, house cleaning people, general yardworkers, electricians, tile installers and plumbers. We welcome evaluations in all other fields as well.

If you need references on contractors, more info or additional blank forms, call SHHA at 296-1412. The more information we have, the better we can assist our members in obtaining quality contractors.

FILL OUT THE FORM YOU FIND IN THIS ISSUE
OF THE GRIT AND RETURN TO SHHA OFFICE!

Contractor Evaluation Form	
Contractor Information	
NAME OF CONTRACTOR	Address
Phone	City
Business Hours	State
Specialty	Zip
How long have you used this contractor?	How many times have you used this contractor?
1-3 months	1-3 times
4-6 months	4-6 times
7-12 months	7-12 times
13-24 months	13-24 times
25+ months	25+ times
How would you rate the contractor's work?	How would you rate the contractor's customer service?
Excellent	Excellent
Very Good	Very Good
Good	Good
Fair	Fair
Poor	Poor
Very Poor	Very Poor
Other	Other
Comments	Comments
<p>SHHA - P.O. Box 20021 - Albuquerque, NM 87154-0021 - 505-296-1412</p>	

President's Message

...continued from page 1

Thanks once again to our hardworking and effective Boundary Committee representative **Donna Mazzei**, who has played a key role in the favorable recommendations for our community.

Speaking of hardworking individuals, **Bill Stabler**, a longtime SHHA Board Member and former President has resigned. Bill served most recently as Chairman of the Architectural Review Committee. He spent countless hours ensuring compliance with our covenants and will be sorely missed. Fortunately, **Don Hooper**, another longtime Board Member has agreed to become the new Chair of the ARC. He will be assisted by **Toni Seidel**, a former Chairperson who will rejoin the Board and provide her technical and historical perspective to the Committee.

Long overdue recognition has come to former Board Member, Vice President, Communications Chair and park activist - **Janey Brink**. Without her most recent efforts, the San Bernardino Park would not exist. Her name was submitted to the Neighborfest Committee as a "Friend of the Neighborhood," and she was honored at the county-wide banquet of neighborhood organizations. The GRIT had also been submitted for recognition in the Neighborhood Newsletter category.

Anne Yegge

The jungle gym equipment from the old Sandia Heights Park has finally arrived at its new home - SHHA Park on San Bernardino and Tramway. Little Grant Ritterbush of Tramway Lane happily gives it a test run.



Resident Volunteers Honored at NEIGHBORFEST Banquet

By Carolyn Hindel - GRIT Editor

NEIGHBORFEST's Sixth Annual Neighborhood Recognition Banquet was held at the Marriott Hotel on October 19th. Presented by the League of Neighborhoods, the event recognizes outstanding volunteers, neighborhood projects and communication efforts that not only benefit their communities but are an inspiration to all who work to improve the quality of life in their areas.

Honored as Outstanding Individual was **Janey Brink** of Quail Run Drive, who has served on the SHHA Board from 1990-1996 as Secretary, ARC committee member, Vice President and Communications Chair. She most recently has volunteered to work



(L. to r.) Janey Brink is honored as an Outstanding Individual at Neighborfest '96; Carolyn Hindel, editor, holds a Certificate of Recognition for The Grit Newsletter; and Ruth Friesen, SHHA Secretary, accepts Bob Kemble's award for excellence as an Association representative to the City/County.

with County Parks and Recreation to make sure Sandia Heights has park facilities for its residents and their children. She was present at the dinner along with her husband, Chuck; SHHA Secretary Ruth Friesen and husband Dee; and Carolyn Hindel, Grit editor and husband Fred. Sandia Heights received a NeighborFest Award Certificate for The Grit.

Also honored, but not in attendance, were incumbent Senator **Tom Wray** as a Friend of Neighborhoods, for being instrumental in obtaining funds for the new Sheriff's Station; and **Bob Kemble**, who was placed on the City Council/County Commission Honor Roll for his impressive efforts as association representative of Sandia Heights over the last year.

Anita Miller for State Senate

We have supported Anita's tireless efforts to save Sandia Mountain for everyone. Let's have our neighbor in the legislature!

- Lynne Behnfield, Former President, Sandia Heights Homeowners Assoc.

A GOOD BUSINESS WOMAN

Endorsed by the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce

A TOUGH ATTORNEY

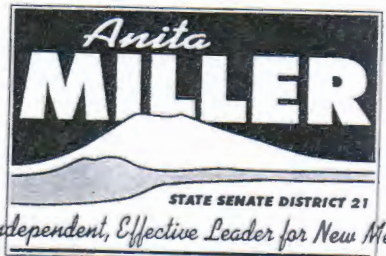
Endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police

A GOOD EDUCATOR

Endorsed by New Mexico Educators

Anita Miller's energy, intelligence, and proven commitment to the well being of this community will make her a superb legislator! She's not interested in political posturing, but in bringing people together to find common sense solutions.

- Martin Chavez, Mayor of Albuquerque



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Sandia Presbyterian Church



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Sunday School:
All ages; 9:00am

Rev. Dewey Johnson, Pastor

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from 8:00am-noon
Discovery Time (ages 4-10)
available at both worship services

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Continuing Education classes
offered in Spanish, computers,
signing, and other topics;
call for more information

Very active youth program and
extensive adult activities

10704 Paseo Del Norte NE, Alb., NM 87122
(just east of Eubank),
856-5040

County Of Bernalillo Autumn Report



There will be a series of Bernalillo County Bond Issues on the November 5, 1996 General Election ballot. Government Issued Bonds are one method of financing major County projects.

The seven local Bond Issues on the far right side of the ballot represent community infrastructure projects that are part of Bernalillo County's long-range planning and the result of 18 months of public hearings. These projects were identified as the most critically needed in our community.

BOND ISSUE #1: \$8,870,000

New road construction and repair, bike paths and trails.

Each area in the County is slated to receive important improvements.

BENEFITS TO COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4: District 4 road projects include \$1.2 million for widening and other improvements to Paseo del Norte from Wyoming to Tramway and \$1 million for Eubank Corridor improvements.

BOND ISSUE #2: \$2,130,000

Storm sewers and wastewater systems would be expanded into most areas.

These funds will also provide sewers and initial development of water supply systems in rural areas.

BENEFITS TO COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4: Projects include storm sewers for Sandia Heights and North Albuquerque Acres.

BOND ISSUE #3: \$2,000,000

All library branches will receive updated books and other reference materials.

Internet access will be available to all branches as a quality educational resource.

BENEFITS TO COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4: These funds will be used to stock books and materials for our new library branch at Barstow & Harper NE.

BOND ISSUE #4: \$2,000,000

Public Health Facilities are a mandated service of county government and provide vital immunization and health services. This funding will replace the Stanford Public Health Office which is in dire need of upgrading.

BENEFITS TO COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4: Public health clinics affect EVERYONE - remember Hanta virus!

BOND ISSUE #5: \$3,450,000

Parks and Recreation Facilities including the re-development of playgrounds throughout Bernalillo County. A very large-scale project in the works is the new regional Mesa del Sol Recreation Complex.

BENEFITS TO COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4: Approximately \$.5 million is targeted for playground and park development in District 4.

BOND ISSUE #6: \$1,000,000

Expansion of the Juvenile Detention Center will meet demands for housing the growing numbers of youthful offenders.

BENEFITS TO COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4: Buying available land at the existing facility now will avoid the need for expensive satellite facilities. Expansion is needed to keep pace with overcrowding.

BOND ISSUE #7: \$2,550,000

Sheriff's Command Centers located throughout the County will provide protection and security for all residents. Funding will also continue efforts to place a much needed communications and response system.

BENEFITS TO COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 4: Bond funds will be used to complete a state-of-the-art communications and dispatch center located at Eubank and Holly NE.

Since Bernalillo County is retiring existing bond debt, we can approve all seven Bond Issues without increasing our property tax rate. While it is true we could see a tax decrease if we did not approve these Bond Issues, it would be a very slight annual tax savings. We will not have another opportunity to approve critical capital improvement projects until November of 1998. We truly need to move forward with these important improvements to our community infrastructure.

Thank you for your continued support. I feel so privileged to serve as your County Commissioner and look forward to our next four years together.

Barbara J. Seward

Bernalillo County Commissioner
District 4



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Wildlife Rescue: A Group You Should Know

By Carolyn Hindel - Grit Editor

In the last issue of The Grit, I detailed some of the dubious escapades of "Dufuss," our wild and crazy cat guy. It was he who lead me to the summer digs of Wildlife Rescue of New Mexico. Stuffed into the vacant spaces of the Natural Resources Center at the State Fairgrounds, this non-profit organization of volunteer animal caregivers is a find indeed. For anyone who has come across wounded or orphaned fauna in our unique foothills and froze at the thought of what to do... there's help.

Wildlife Rescue, Inc. started in 1980 with a group of technically-trained rehabilitators who accepted injured wild creatures of all kinds; reared them, restored them to health and returned them to the wild. Since then, around 1,000 protected, threatened and endangered animals are cared for and over 9,000 calls handled annually.

The organization works in conjunction with NM Game & Fish and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the number of volunteers varying depending on the season.

When not at the Fairgrounds, animals are nursed back to health in individual homes depending on the species. This year to date, 75% of the visitors have brought in injured birds like sparrows, doves, hummingbirds and starlings. But they've rehabilitated squirrels, prairie dogs, weasels, marmots, coyotes, porcupines, turtles, lizards, deer, bobcats and snakes. (And several of us kitty owners helped them start a baby bunny hutch!) Hawks, roadrunners,

crows and owls get tender loving care - and costs per day to feed and medicate these creatures would surprise you.

A newborn nestling will stay with Wildlife Rescue for about 6 weeks before release into the wild - cost: anywhere from \$9 for a House Finch to \$83.00 for an American Robin. That's because a robin's food and care requirements are far more complicated. Hawks can cost up to \$79 for a 6 week stay. And the bunnies that Dufuss offered? Desert Cottontails only need \$12 of attention before they're ready for the world.

Wildlife Rescue is supported by private donations, as well as a grant from the the NM Game & Fish "Share with Wildlife" Program. You can help them as well as our wildlife in several ways. You can train to be a rehabilitator or volunteer to answer phones, do filing or give educational talks. You can



Wildlife Rescue volunteer feeds an injured bird as a feathered friend watches from a cage.

BABY BIRDS

If you find an injured bird or animal, put it in a cardboard box (not a cage), cover it and put it in a warm, quiet, dark place. Then call Wildlife Rescue for further instructions on how to reach one of our rehabilitators. 344-2500.

Most baby birds do NOT need to be rescued. Lack of information causes people to "kidnap" uninjured babies, which greatly reduces their chance for survival. **NESTLINGS:** Put back in the nest! It needs to be fed frequently and the mother will not reject it because of human handling. **FLEDGLINGS:** Put the bird back where it was found. It's much better off in its natural habitat. Keep Try to keep other animals away.



If injured - call Wildlife Rescue immediately.

also become a member and support their efforts with your dues - and get The Fledging newsletter to keep informed about wildlife issues and events.

RON GRENEYMER
Agent



12408 Menaul N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112
Bus.: (505) 293-3734

- 18 Year Sandia Heights Resident
- 15 Year State Farm Agent
- 10 Years at Tramway & Menaul

I can provide you with
"Good Neighbor" service.
Just call me at
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Vote "For" BOND ISSUE B

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Bond Issue B will:

- Provide \$26.5 million to build, update, and equip classrooms in 62 school districts around the state.
- Grant the University of New Mexico \$2 million for instructional facilities upgrades.
- Build a \$3 million service and operations center at Albuquerque TVI.
- Finance capital improvements at 12 other state institutions of higher learning, and secure \$11 million in matching federal funds for such facilities.

Invest in the future of New Mexico

Ensure a brighter future for our children

Vote "FOR" Bond Issue B • Election day, Nov. 5, 1996



SANDIA HAPPENINGS

NEW DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Expansion and Remodeling of the Outpost Ice Arena

The Outpost Ice Arena has submitted plans for an addition, a parking structure and remodeling. The owner, Bob Martin, has made two presentations to the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association in the last few months. A summary of the proposed work is below.

Currently the Ice Arena has 36,344 sq. ft. The proposed addition will expand the facility to a total of 66,850 sq. ft. to be built on what is the now the paved parking area to the south of the existing entrance (see drawing). This addition would accommodate another rink and increase seating for spectators from 680 to 891 seats. The project also includes a new 1-1/2 story parking structure; the second floor having a half wall to screen cars, but no roof. From drawings provided, it appears to SHHA that the structure will be no higher than 15 ft. above average existing grades. There are currently 84 paved parking spaces on-site and 100 spaces in an unpaved lot just to the south of Circle K. The new parking structure will have 260 spaces, and the other paved area to the back (north) of the Arena will have another 100 spaces, increasing parking capacity by 170 spaces.

In response to initial neighborhood concerns expressed at Board meetings, Bob Martin has agreed to modify 3 parts of his plan:

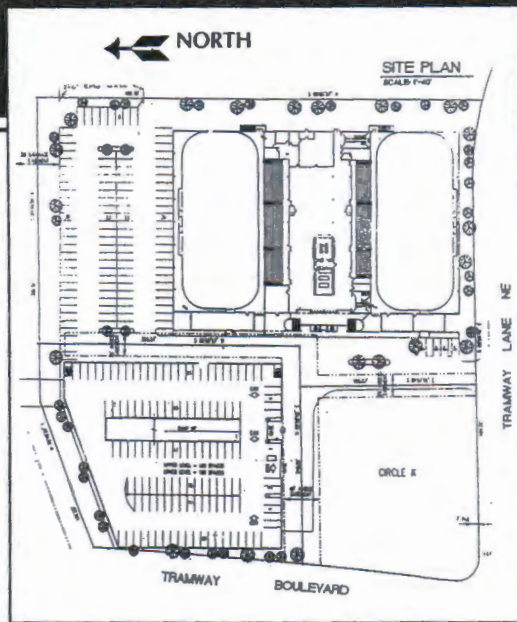
1. A bridge will be built across the arroyo, linking the County Line Restaurant parking area with the Arena's new garage. Cars can exit onto Tramway Lane as well as the County Line parking area to head north on Tramway Blvd. Both establishments have signed a joint use agreement to share the new parking structure.
2. An 8' high, block wall will be built along the east property line for the length of the on-grade parking

area to screen it from the view of neighboring condominiums.

3. All outdoor lighting will be of the lowest intensity acceptable for security. Mr. Martin will review all lighting with the Association prior to proceeding.

A traffic analysis study was done by the firm of Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc. on behalf of the Outpost. It states that the additions will have "only minimal impact on traffic during peak hours," and that increased traffic associated with the proposed facility will not result in substandard operations on streets in the immediate vicinity. Their check of traffic signals indicated that the two-way stop signs at the intersection of Tramway Blvd. and Tramway Lane can remain and should continue to operate satisfactorily.

The SHHA New Development Committee has received calls from surrounding residents concerned about the additional traffic through the neighborhood, pollution and noise. At present we have not formed an opinion pro or con regarding the project. The plans appear to meet our covenants. However, the Board has voted to do further research and obtain a second opinion on the traffic situation. We feel that the Barton-Aschman study may have been geared to assess the impact on the intersection at Tramway Blvd. rather than on vehicles taking shortcuts to exit through the neighborhood. The County Line Restaurant traffic may



indeed exit more vehicles onto Tramway Lane than the study projects - especially since it is known that the State Transportation Board has the right to close off the restaurant's access to Tramway Blvd.

The New Development Committee recommends that concerned neighbors form their own ad-hoc committee and draft a consensus (either pro or con) for their own presentation to the County when the time comes. It should also be presented by one representative to the SHHA Board, which will then vote on its recommendation to the County.

Questions can be directed to SHHA Committee member Chris Harmon at 856-1953.

HOLIDAY CHEEPS!

Enjoy one-stop shopping for gifts that make a positive difference in the lives of people you care about.



Wild Bird Center
Your ultimate backyard nature store™
The Promenade Shopping Center
SPAIN & ELBANK NE
(5200 Elbank Blvd. NE - Suite B-8)
Albuquerque, NM 87111
33-BIRDS (332-4737)

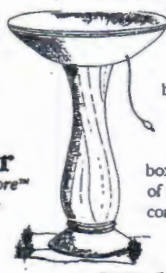
Give a hobby

Backyard bird feeding is the second-fastest-growing outdoor hobby in the U.S. Choose a feeder with a lifetime warranty, and enjoy the satisfaction of giving a gift that gives back through the years.



Give a sanctuary

Add food, water, and shelter to any backyard habitat, and you can create a wildlife sanctuary. We have bird-baths (with and without heaters), nest boxes, roosting boxes, and feeders of all sizes and configurations so your gift can help create a sanctuary.



Give a respite

For those whose interest in the birds is diminished by their battles with the squirrels, we have squirrel-resistant feeders and feeding systems for almost every situation. And for those who prefer the line of least resistance, we have squirrel feeders.



Give a passion

Birding becomes a way of life, and identifying the birds soon becomes a passion. We carry a full line of field guides, audio cassettes, CDs, and videos for identification, as well as high-quality birding binoculars in all price ranges for everyone from the casual backyard enthusiast to the professional naturalist.

Give an education

We offer an assortment of books, audio cassettes, videotapes, CD-ROMs, games, and puzzles that teach students of nature from ages 1 to 100.



Give "More Birds"

Scientific tests show that the Dr. Geis Mesh Feeder attracted 68% more birds than competing models. Plus, since MoBi Mesh is cut from solid steel, it's much more durable than wire mesh and comes with a lifetime warranty.





Massage therapist, Linda Chandler, relaxes a shopper.

SHHA Events Update

By Claire Wilcox - SHHA Community Services, Chair

Autumn Arts & Crafts Bazaar

It was a BIG happening held Sunday, October 20th, at the Sandia Heights Academy. By now we can call this delightful show "an Annual Event," since Sandia Heights homeowners have had a Craft Fair for 8 or 9 years now. Hope you all had a chance to attend and see the many diverse offerings. With the holidays around the corner, the Bazaar was a boon for early shoppers and a wonderful opportunity to see neighbors and friends either displaying their wares or buying gifts. If we missed you, there will be another SHHA Crafts Bazaar next October. Watch for dates in The Grit.



▲ Event coordinator, Claire Wilcox and husband Dave check out Mother's Garden treats.

◀ Resident Lucy Russell proudly displays her handmade greeting cards.



3rd Annual Wine Tasting - Saturday, March 8, 1997



It looks like our Annual Wine Tasting in March will be the next SHHA affair. Pat Vogel, spokesperson for National Distributing, has once again graciously offered to provide the wide variety of wines that has made this event so popular for both the connoisseur and novice.

At present, the time and location have not been determined. Last year the event was held in the evening, but we're considering a change to late afternoon, between 4-6 pm, so participants have a chance to go out for dinner afterwards. There are no known conflicting sports or tourist events occurring on Saturday, March 8th, so plan now to invite friends and attend. If you have suggestions for a location, please call 856-6282. Your help with ideas would be very much appreciated.



Sandia Heights residents enjoy the October coffee with hostess Celeste Loughridge (left).

Longhorn Sheep Delayed

By Margo Roberts - SHHA Board Member

Back in the May '96 Grit there was an article on the proposed reintroduction of the native Rocky Mountain Longhorn Sheep in the Sandias by this fall. According to Ray Churan of the New Mexico Chapter of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS), this high priority project has been postponed until the Department of Game and Fish (DGF) completes a statewide plan that will outline strategies to increase the number and distribution of Rocky Mountain Sheep in New Mexico.

Meanwhile, the United States Forest Service (USFS) continues to improve sheep habitat in the Sandia and Manzano mountains. A water development project at the Piedra Lisa Springs in the Sandias, to which FNAWS has contributed \$2000 cost share money, is currently underway. These improvements will benefit all wildlife. Despite the months of delay, Mr. Churan, who gave a lecture on the project at the ABQ Open Space Fireside Chat Series at Elena Gallegos in August, says that FNAWS wants to see longhorn sheep in the Sandia mountains for future generations. They will continue to work with DGF, USFS, Sandia Pueblo and other cooperating agencies in meeting this objective.



Residents attend one of the Fireside Chat Series on Bighorn Sheep sponsored by ABQ Open Space at Elena Gallegos.

Spring Baseball Game

Family fun! Why not? Plan on taking them out to the Ball Park for an evening game - time and date to be announced. During one of the innings, the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association will be announced and we can all stand up and cheer. Hollering and hooting is allowed. So start thinking hotdogs and peanuts and stealing bases, and we'll make this event a homerun for our residents! More later.



Special Interest Groups

We've talked about "special interest groups" before, but there are many newcomers to Sandia Heights, so we need to update our invitation. Many folks are interested in a particular topic or activity and would love the chance to meet others with the same proclivity. Would you like to join a book reading/discussion group? How about quilting? Wildflower identification? Hiking? Gourmet Cooking? Creative writing? Birding? A women's singing group or a Once-A-Month-Out-For-Lunch Club? Just call Holly at 821-7204.

Who's Holly? Holly Wilkenfeld moved to Sandia Heights in April and after getting her house in order began looking for an art group in the community. "With all the talented people living up here, I can't believe that there aren't a lot of interest groups for me to choose from," she said. It motivated her to become a contact person for anyone wanting to start a special group.

Holly has a degree from Parsons School of Design in New York and has been involved in teaching, oil painting, horticultural illustration, art therapy, gardening, nature hikes and a host of other areas related to her love of art. She's looking for a group of like-minded souls with whom she can recharge her artistic batteries, perhaps rent a model, and paint together. Artmania aside, Holly has volunteered to help in the formation of any interest group, so give her a call and start having a great time with others.

Sandia Heights Wildflower Club

presents

Robert DeWitt Ivey

Noted botanist and author of

Flowering Plants of New Mexico

speaking on

"Our Native Grasses"

Wednesday, November 20 - 7:00 pm

Home of Susan Cook Teresi

1480 Morning Glory Rd.

856-1669

Discussion, questions, refreshments

Also Fall seed exchange - bring your favorites

Prospective new members welcome!

Native American Holiday Crafts Market at "Futures"



1996 Special Edition "Buffalo" Ornament from Futures for Children.

A Native American Arts and Crafts Market will be held on Saturday, November 30 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Futures For Children Learning Center at 9600 Tenryson, NE.

The market will feature handcrafted work from many of the American Indian reservation communities served by Futures for Children's community education programs. More than 30 silversmiths, potters, jewelry makers, beadworkers and other artisans will present a wide array of items perfect for holiday shopping. Native American foods and homemade desserts will also be offered for sale. A portion of the event's proceeds will benefit Futures for Children.

Futures for Children is a private, non-profit organization that has been working effectively with Native American children and their families in the Southwest for the past 28 years and in Latin America for 35 years. The market is being hosted by the Friends of Futures/Albuquerque, a local volunteer group.

"Futures' Native American Arts and Crafts Market will provide a unique opportunity to support both individual artists and a dynamic local organization that serves their communities", says Carolyn Donald, Co-Chairperson of the Friends of Futures. "It's a nice convenience, too", she adds. "We're creating a 'mini-portal of the Palace of the Governors' in Sandia Heights.

For more information call Carolyn White at Futures for Children 821-2828.



A View from the Ranger's Station

Effective November 1, 1996, there will be a charge for parking at all of the developed parking areas on the Sandia Crest National Scenic Byway (NM 536) in accordance with the Demonstration Fee Project. It is a three year test to see if our stakeholders and forest users can support the maintenance of our developed sites. The charge is \$5 for cars and trucks; \$10 for vans or busses with capacities of 15 passengers or more. We also will offer an annual pass for \$30 that will be valid from January 1 to December 31 of the year of purchase. These passes should be available by November 1st and will be valid from the date of issuance to December 31, 1997.

Another project about to start is the annual Christmas Tree Sale-By-Mail program. Applications for cutting personal use Christmas trees will be available November 7th at some local post offices and Sears in Albuquerque. Again the program is for the Santa Fe and Cibola National Forests. We offer over 5,000 trees each year on the Jemez, Pecos/Las Vegas and Cuba Districts of the Santa Fe National Forest and Mt. Taylor, Magdalena and Mountainair Districts of the Cibola National Forest.

Call Neel Marsh or District Ranger Floyd Thompson at the Sandia Ranger Station for more information - 281-3304.

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November 1, 2 & 3
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Friday, 10AM-9PM
Saturday, 10AM-8PM
Sunday, 10AM-6PM

One Day General Admission \$4.00
Free Admission for children under 12
Food Coupons are \$10 each

Special Events Include:

- ★ Celebración Olé
Friday, 7PM-12AM
Black Tie Ball, Dinner & Silent Auction
- ★ Samantha's Ice Cream Social*
Saturday, 1PM & Sunday 11AM
An American Girl's Event
- ★ Hyatt Holiday Olé
5K Fun Run/Walk
& 1K Kids Run/Walk
Sunday, 9AM



proceeds fund community projects of the Junior League of Albuquerque, Inc.
For more information call JLA - 681-0199

What's Odorless, Colorless and Can Invade Your House?

By Claire Wilcox - SHHA Community Services Chair

No, it's not a ghost! But it could be RADON. Creeping into homes from the underlying soil through cracks and holes around ground pipes, radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas. A by-product of decaying uranium which is found all over the United States, radon is more common in some states than in others. The main concern is radon's link to cancer. This link, while dependent on many variables, has lately been the focus of much research and publicity.

A \$6.00 test kit available from the Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department can be used to check for radon in your home. The kit will give you a complete explanation of how it works; but basically, the measuring ingredient is activated carbon which is placed in the lowest livable area of your home for 4 or 5 days. It measures the radon in the air and is 90% accurate.

Why isn't a radon test done before homes are built? Because it won't do any good. Radon enters the house due to the negative pressure inside - walls and closed windows create a slightly negative atmosphere which encourages radon to seep up into the house. Today, radon resistant construction is achieved by laying down a layer of gravel and stones below the concrete slab.

Remediation for radon already in the house is to create a positive inside pressure. This can be done professionally and is done automatically when you use swamp coolers in the summer. Since a closed house encourages the rising of radon, fall and winter are the best times to test for radon since concentrations tend to be the highest and therefore provide the most accurate test results.

To purchase the kit go to: the 5th floor of Plaza del Sol or 3rd floor of One Civic Plaza, or Call Nick at 924-3670.



Recycling Is ♻️ N Again

By Claire Wilcox - SHHA Community Services, Chair

Once again our recycling program seems to be moving ahead as planned. The county has agreed to supply the truck every month as on previous Recycle Saturdays and so far has been true to their word. I know many of you were worried that recyclables were going to the dump and not being recycled. But Richard Brusuelas, the County Director, assured me that this happened only once and that was due to a strike by the prisoners normally handling these materials at the city dump. So keep the faith... and the papers, aluminum, cardboard, etc., coming!

In October members of the North Albuquerque Acres 4-H Club, under the leadership of Sandia Heights resident Andrea Carvey, participated in our recycling program and will receive credit for their community work. They had a fine time "squashing" aluminum cans so they would be easier to pack in the truck. If you would like to help our efforts, you can have the same job! It's a stress reliever, and only takes one good stomp. Or you can help in any other way on the first Saturday of the month from 9 to noon. Call Claire Wilcox at 856-6282.

We all owe many thanks to the following volunteers for their time in the past months:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| In September | In October |
| Bill Stabler | Jay Hartfield |
| Margo Guerra | Sally Churan |
| James Grossman | Mary Henderson |
| David Wilcox | Andrea Carvey |
| | Emily Carvey, 4-H |
| | Laura Tichy, 4-H |



4-H members, including troop leader Andrea Carvey (l.), daughter Emily and Laura Tichy have a smashing good time stomping cans.

Recycling - Or What's in Your Neighbor's Garage

Ever wonder what your neighbor is storing in his garage? Well, it all came to light during the Bernalillo County Hazardous Waste Recycling day Saturday, September 28th. Here is a compilation of what our neighborhood disposed of.

- Total pounds collected: 6,519 pounds
- Number of cars participating: 66
- HAZARDOUS WASTE collected**
- Flammables: 1,405 pounds (paint, enamels)
- Poisons: 470 pounds (pesticides, herbicides, malathion)
- Flammable material: 387 pounds (charcoal lighter, gasoline, paint removers)
- Corrosives: 350 pounds (toilet bowl cleaners, tamish removers, batteries)
- Antifreeze: 400 pounds
- Oils: 175 pounds
- SOLID WASTE collected**
- 6,000 pounds (furniture, trash, bicycles, car parts etc)

It's all good news too. First of all, recycling these products through the proper channels keeps it out of our ground water and secondly, the recyclers make a blend of the flammables and use it to generate power for their recycling plants. The solid waste goes up to a landfill site in Colorado and the hazardous waste goes to EPA permitted sites in Utah or Oklahoma. Jim Casaus, the Environmental Scientist who generated these numbers said that the county is going to offer this outreach recycling program two times a year - Spring and Fall. For further information (or to say thanks), contact Jim at 924-3650.

If you can't wait till Spring there is a permanent facility for free recycling of household hazardous waste at RINCHEM, Inc. 6133 Edith NE.

SANDIA HEIGHTS SECURITY PATROL RESPONSES January - September 1996

TYPE OF CALL:	NUMBER:
Alarms	474
Open Door/Window	46
Motorist Assist	127
Breaking & Entering	8
Attempted Breaking & Entering	10
Construction Site Burglary	2
Vehicle Burglary	18
Suspicious Vehicle	142
Suspicious Person	60
Peeping Tom	6
Theft (Larceny)	28
Animal Control Assist	26
Lost/Found Pet	41
Pet Nuisance	16
Snake	18
Family Dispute	8
Neighbor Dispute	7
Loud Disruptive Party	13
Fireworks Complaint	7
Vandalism (General)	75
Mailbox Vandalism	54
Mailbox Stolen	6
Lost/Found Items	6
Deer Hunters	0
Speeding Vehicle	10
Assault /Battery (Fight)	4
Death Threat	5
Unusual Special Request	41
Salesperson Problems	13
Phone Problems	7
Car Accident	15
Motorcycle Nuisance	6
Fire	33
Rescue	38
Utility Company Assist	36
Construction Sites	12
Vacant Houses (For Sale, etc.)	22
Specials (Extra patrols/observation)	31
Homeowners on Vacation	1895
TOTAL CALLS	3395
Total Mileage	37250
Days Security Vehicle in Shop	4.5

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RESIDENT PROFILE: Sandia Heights Pioneer Is Hard At Work

"Saving The Past For The Future"



Jim Walker and cat Violet enjoy the view from the rustic deck of his North Sandia Heights home. He is the Southwest Regional Director for the Archaeological Conservancy, a national organization that is preserving historical sites.

By Carolyn Hindel - Grit Editor

If you want to know about the early days of Sandia Heights, Jim Walker's furrowed brow will crinkle and his mind's eye will go flitting back to the days of Ben Abruzzo and Bob Nordhaus and their vision of a unique community in these mesmerizing foothills. They were successful in negotiating a 40-acre parcel from the Forest Service and building the original tram and a desert botanical garden just to the south.

Jim has lived up here since 1972, when his parents Wanda and James Walker bought one of the acre lots offered in the first subdivision that would

become North Sandia Heights. They were living on what was considered the outskirts of Albuquerque at the time - Louisiana and Montgomery - and jumped at the opportunity to live amidst the boulders, vegetation, wildlife and incredible views of the Sandia Mountains.

Jim was 20 at the time and a junior at UNM majoring in Anthropology. He designed the 2000 sq. ft. wood home that was to be built with the national forest as its back yard. And 24 years later, he's adding on an addition and renovating the kitchen, still keeping the warm rustic feel of his original plans.

Being first in new territory is also true of Jim's fascinating career. He is the Southwest Regional Director for the Archaeological Conservancy, a first of its kind, non-profit organization dedicated to acquiring and protecting important historical sites located on private land throughout the country. It's further goal is to help establish archaeological preserves for public education and future research. How he came to this position is an interesting saga of many life directions converging into one.

Fascinated by the southwest culture, Jim sought his BA in Anthropology, encompassing ethnology (living cultures); archaeology (past cultures); linguistics (language & origin of cultures); and physical anthropology (genetics). He took his first job in 1973 at The School of American Research in Santa Fe as a lab supervisor. But a lack of career expansion there sent him back to school for his MBA in 1975. In an effort to broaden his financial horizons during that time, Jim got a real estate license in 1978 and successfully sold property in the Northeast Heights until 1981, when 17% interest rates put the housing market into a tailspin.

It was then that Jim ran across an ad in the Journal looking for someone with an MBA, real estate license and degree in anthropology. Whoa. Thus began his new job with the Archaeological Conservancy which was founded in California in 1979 by concerned archaeologists and preservationists, including former Secretary of the Interior, Stuart Udall. His son Tom Udall is NM Attorney General. The national headquarters moved to Santa Fe in 1980 and then to Albuquerque 4 years ago with regional offices in Ohio, California and Georgia. There are 12,000 members nationwide, with 1000 in New Mexico. But the number is growing as people begin to find out what this special organization is doing. A new national magazine may soon visualize its mission.

Laws have long been in place to protect historic sites on federal/state land. But there are no restrictions on privately held land, except for a Burial Law (no disturbance of human remains) in some states. Looting of burial sites, removal of artifacts from non-grave sites, encroaching development, as well as excavation by legitimate sources are contributing to a major loss of cultural resources. Walker believes the only ruins left in 25 years will be those that have been systematically protected.

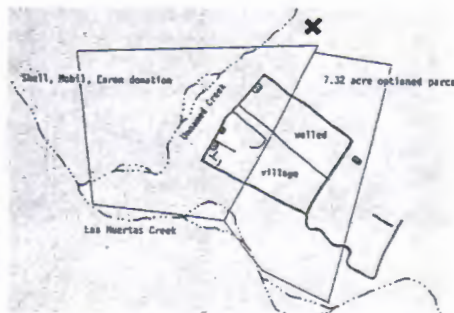
Archaeological sites on private land usually survive only by the whim of the landowners - they can preserve it or they can destroy it says Jim. As the Conservancy's regional director, he works closely with them to create situations where everybody wins. By donating sites, landowners get a tax break, local homeowners gain open space and archaeologists have undisturbed sites for future research when technological advances afford greater insights and capabilities. "Archaeologists destroy a site when they excavate. The placement of clues is crucial to the overall interpretation and they can never get all the clues back in the same order again." Jim stresses that research is allowed on acquired sites, but managed in such a way as to leave a major portion of it intact. "Our goal is to have the best sites preserved as city, county or national parks. Right now the government is

not in the mood to expand its park systems, but 50 years from now that mood may change," he says.

One of the most important sites to be donated to the Conservancy was the Spanish Colonial Village of San Jose de las Huertas (The Gardens), located at the northern end of the Sandias near Placitas. In 1767, the Spanish governor of Santa Fe issued a royal grant of land for the town and by 1779 the village consisted of a fortified wall surrounding houses, stables and gardens with an irrigation system nearby. It is a relatively pure, single-component site from this period, rare because most have been destroyed by development or altered significantly by continuous occupation.



Several Pueblo pots excavated from a kitchen floor at San Jose de Las Huertas (map below).



The Conservancy also uses the monies from membership and donations to purchase sites, when donation or bequest is not a possibility. A Preservation Fund is set up to use funds over and over again as acquisitions are reconveyed for public use. Among its New Mexico holdings are a number of pueblo ruins, such as San Marcos near Santa Fe, believed to be the largest in the nation; San Felipe near Socorro, site of the vanished Piro culture; and Henderson-Bloom near Roswell, the easternmost pueblo ever discovered. Another Conservancy property overlooking the Rio Grande is believed to be the campsite of Coronado's party during their first foray into what is now the United States in the winter of 1540-41. The site was found during the widening of NM 528. Most recently, Garduño contacted the Conservancy offering to preserve an historic site found on its West Side restaurant development.

Over 16 years, 125 preserves have been created in 24 states. And for Jim, this means 50% of his time on the road, covering Arizona, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas. But the fruits of his labor are truly rewarding and he always finds his little piece of Sandia Heights a joy to come home to.

The Archaeological Conservancy offers tours of many sites, as well as guided trips to Mexico and Central American Indian ruins. For an information packet, call 266-1540.



▲ Jim inspects pottery sherds at San Jose de Las Huertas near Placitas.

◀ Scarring from an underground pipeline can be seen behind the group touring a house mound within the 17th century Spanish village site.

Living with Wildlife in Sandia Heights

By Robert L. Harrison, Ph.D.

Research Assistant Professor of Biology, UNM



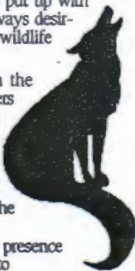
Mule deer grazing in the gathering sunset, coyotes howling on a clear cold night, tracks of a bobcat in an arroyo following a summer storm. Living close to wildlife fills us with a sense of beauty and wonder at the natural world. But feelings change when we're asking "Where's Rover?" or "What happened to my tomatoes?" When pets disappear or gardens are eaten, appreciation quickly gives way to frustration and anger.

In exceptionally dry years, natural food supplies in the mountains will fail. When Albuquerque was very small, bears and other animals migrated to the Rio Grande bosque until the dry times passed. Now miles of homes stand in the way and hungry animals are not always welcome. Residents on the city's edge have a choice: get rid of offending species or learn to coexist with them.

Mankind has not always chosen to coexist with wildlife. Concerns of western cattlemen in the late 1800's led to extensive government trapping, poisoning, and hunting campaigns against predators. The grizzly bear and wolf were eliminated, and mountain lion populations were severely reduced. By taming the wilderness and destroying the dangerous animals, the success of the American expansion across North America seems to have left us with the notion that we should never have to put up with troublesome animals. But it is not always desirable or even possible to eliminate wildlife from our midst.

In Sunderbans, an area on the border of Bangladesh and India, tigers eat about 75 people every year. There have been no campaigns to wipe out tigers and the people do not hate them. They see the tiger as an integral part of their religion, and thus of their lives. They see themselves and the tiger as parts of a larger whole.

Coyotes have thrived in the presence of humans, despite decades of efforts to



eliminate them. Ironically, the destruction of their chief predator, the wolf, has allowed coyotes to expand into areas where they had not been before. It is essentially impossible to keep coyotes out of Sandia Heights. The coyote has won and it is we who have to adapt.

Coexisting with wildlife does not have to be a battle, if we take the time to learn the needs and habits of the species involved and take a few relatively simple actions to prevent conflict. For example, the Masai people of eastern Africa maintain a pastoral lifestyle, herding cattle in the midst of lions, leopards, and hyenas. Knowing that the predators hunt primarily at night and will not attack in the presence of people, the Masai use a simple solution to protect their cattle: young boys guard the cattle by day and bring them into safe enclosures by night. Cattle are never simply turned loose to fend for themselves as done here in the West.



Coyotes, mountain lions, black bears, and deer may enter Sandia Heights when their normal fear of humans is overcome by hunger. All of these animals are normally most active during dusk, night, and dawn, but may be active during daytime when hunger has driven them from their normal habits. Coyotes and mountain lions may seek prey, such as rabbits and deer, in areas near houses. Black bears and deer will seek fruiting plants and gardens. Coyotes and bears are very attracted to garbage. Coyotes, mountain lions, and black bears will attack pets, even in the presence of people. Typically they use bushes, trees, and darkness to conceal their presence. These animals will occasionally attack people, especially children. Based on these facts, here are a few suggestions to avoid conflict with wildlife:

- Keep children and pets indoors or in a safe enclosure, especially at night. Realize that allowing any child or pet to run loose without an adult in close proximity is taking a risk.
- Eliminate hiding places near your home; such as open spaces below porches or decks and those low hanging branches.

• Install outside lighting equipped with motion detectors. However, lights in Sandia Heights must not shine directly into other residences.



• Put a "covenant approved" electric fence around gardens, compost piles, fruit trees, beehives, garbage cans, or any other potential food source. These fences are very effective without being harmful. Check with the homeowners' Association first.

- Take in ALL birdfeeders at night.
- When walking with dogs or children, avoid likely places for animals to be, such as deep arroyos, brushy areas, and areas with berry bushes or prey like rabbits. Stay close to children. * Learn to identify the tracks and signs of resident species.
- Carry a canister of pepper spray when walking.
- If you do encounter a large predator and it does not run from you, back away slowly, facing the animal. Do not run, which is what prey would do. Avoid cornering the animal.

• Try to understand why the animal is not running. Is there food or young nearby? Do not get between a bear and cubs.

- Avoid staring at the animal—a sign of aggression.
- Collect small children and pets into your arms.
- Yell firmly and throw sticks or stones.
- If a coyote or mountain lion attacks you, Fight! Humans can fend off these animals. If a bear attacks you, play dead for a minute, curling up and protecting your head and neck. If the bear continues the attack, it may intend to eat you, so fight!

If an animal is seen repeatedly in the same area and causes problems, it may be necessary to call the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (841-8885). Keep in mind that trapping and relocating an animal may only result in a temporary solution, because many animals will return. Animals that can't return usually die from lack of familiarity with their new homes or conflicts with residents.

If you have questions or concerns about wildlife, you can call Dr. Harrison at the UNM Biology Department - 277-3411.

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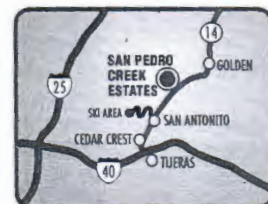
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Residents Spinning a Good Yarn

By Charlotte Zerof - SHHA Communications, Chair

For the past twenty-five years, the New Mexico State Fair has been the home of a unique exhibit, **Sheep to Shawl**. From its origins on a platform in the center of the old sheep and dairy barn to its spacious, air-conditioned spot at the entrance of the remodeled dairy barn, it remains the largest volunteer demonstration of wool crafts in the world both in numbers of participants and numbers of days.

Jointly managed by the New Mexico Wool Growers Auxiliary and the Las Aranas Spinners and Weavers Guild, Sheep to Shawl is exactly that—a demonstration of the entire process of turning raw wool into finished products. It all starts with the sheep, and each day several will be shorn in front of the dairy barn. Spectators are able to observe the shearer's technique and the sheep's reaction as the wool is quickly and painlessly removed. After some sorting, the wool is ready to be washed and dyed. The first stop inside Sheep to Shawl is devoted to dye pots, many con-

taining the native plants that have been used for generations. Next the wool must be carded to prepare it for spinning. A drum carder and occasionally hand cards or combs are used to arrange the fibers. Then comes spinning. There are usually three or four spinners practicing their craft, often on different types of spinning wheels. All are happy to share their expertise and answer any questions the fairgoers may have. Once the wool has been spun into yarn it is woven, knitted or crocheted into cloth.

An eight-harness floor loom is used to demonstrate turning fiber into a patterned fabric of exquisite colors. Finally, everyone is encouraged to visit the Sheep to Shawl shop where beautiful handmade clothing and accessories are offered for sale. If a visit to Sheep to Shawl has piqued an interest in learning some of the craft, there are also beginning spinning, weaving and knitting kits, along with raw fiber, dyes and yarns available. If you missed us this year, mark your calendar for the next State Fair and join us at Sheep to Shawl.

Las Aranas meets monthly. For further information call Sandia Heights residents Charlotte Zerof, Mary Colton, Sylvia Inkelas or Norma Keith or write to: Las Aranas Spinners and Weavers Guild, P.O. Box 91225, Albuquerque, NM 87199-1225.

Master Spinners (l. to r.)
Alice Greybill, Norma Keith, Charlotte Zerof and Mary Colton.



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Let Linda do your housework. She's already done the homework.



The Fall Harvest: Wreaths For All Reasons

By Shirley Medina—Master Gardener

Fall is my favorite season of the year. September, October and November are busy, festive months filled with many activities in anticipation of Winter and the holidays to come. This is the time for the gardener to finalize harvesting and prepare the landscape for the cold season.

Mild temperatures in the Fall make these garden preparations more pleasant. First, all the beds should be cleaned of debris, and any dead wood should be removed. Bulbs, pansies, and chrysanthemums can then be set out. New mulch or compost is essential to protect some shrubs such as roses. Place it around the base of the shrub. Fine needles make a fine mulch. Many trees and shrubs can still be planted through November, but be sure to check with your favorite nursery for the best variety. Remember to continue watering, but on a less frequent basis.

Cleaning the landscape can also be a creative and profitable venture. A friend and I like to set a work table outside, along with some tea and goodies, and then gather materials from the various gardens in our yards to make wreaths. We snip interesting pieces of herbs, everlastings, native plants, pods, seeds and berries to use in our creations. Each plant cutting is bundled separately for easy identification. The foliage is used immediately to make the base of the wreath. Completion of several bases at once saves time. Plants such as salvias, strawflowers, gomphrena, and lavender will be hung upside down in our garage to air-dry. The roses, daisies, and sunflowers will be dried using silica gel. These will be glued to the wreaths at a later date when they've dried.

Air-drying is the simplest method to use. Strip two inches off the stems of the flowers and wipe off any moisture. Gather them into bunches and tie them with a very tight rubber band. Hang them upside down in an airy dark place to dry. The drying time will run from one week to one month, depending on the individual flower.

Silica drying is more complicated but is faster. Place one-inch of silica gel in a shallow plastic or tin container. Place the flower head (leaving a one-inch stem) face down on the gel, covering all exposed parts with more gel. Flowers should not touch each other. Check for dryness after two days. The petals should feel like dry paper. Use a slotted spoon to remove the flower from the gel, and a fine artist's brush to wipe off any excess.

To make the wreath, buy several 8-inch straw forms at the hobby store. Attach a hanger to the form before beginning. Completely cover the tops of the form with foliage. Herbs such as mint, artemesia, basil or rosemary work well. Attach clumps of these to the form using florist's twine or strong wire, wrapping the wire completely around the form. Continue adding the herbs, and attaching them in such a manner as to hide the exposed stems, until they have totally and densely covered the wreath form. Any "holes" should be filled in. Allow the wreath to dry for a week, laying flat. When your flowers have dried, glue them on to the herb base with a glue gun. Place different types and colors of flowers at different intervals around the wreath to get the best effect. You might want to design an arrangement that is aesthetically pleasing to you on newspaper first before gluing the flowers onto the wreath. Put on finishing touches with buds, berries, leaves, or ribbons. Spray with sealer to protect the flowers from shattering.

Wreaths can be a reminder of Spring to come. Each one will be your own unique creation – a cornucopia of harvested materials and boundless imagination. Enjoy them yourself, or give them as gift. Happy holidays!

ABQ Area Master Gardening Classes Begin
Wednesday, January 15th and continue for 12 weeks.
Contact Ron Weisenborn at 292-0221 for info.

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PLANT OF THE SEASON

Maximilian Sunflower (*Helianthus maximilianii*) is one of the most outstanding. Late-season blooming perennials available to the New Mexican gardener. Blooms from this cheery perennial reach their climax of color just in time to greet the Balloon Fiesta visitors as our "goodwill ambassadors" to the Land of Enchantment.



Maximilian Sunflower
Helianthus maximilianii

(south, east and west exposures). Plants are available for sale in the spring.

Planting: Dig a hole twice the size of the root ball and mix 1 part planting mix with 1 part native soil. Build a berm with soil around the base of the plant. Fill the basin twice with water to insure a deep soaking. It is important to keep the plant moist. After the first year, deep soak it every two weeks during the summer, and monthly during the rest of the year.

Recommended use: It can be used alone to create a colorful perennial screen or mixed with other perennials or shrubs. Due to its height, be sure to plant it behind plants shorter than 6 feet tall. Maximilian Sunflowers look striking when planted in front of an adobe or stucco wall or along a coyote fence – giving a "Santa Fe" look. Flower stalks can be cut along with other flowers from your garden to create a lovely fall bouquet.

A related species to the Maximilian Sunflower is the Common Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*). It is an annual where as the Maximilian is a perennial. Both sunflowers provide a natural food source for wildlife, are very cold hardy and can be planted anywhere in New Mexico.

If you have any questions regarding this plant, please call Dan Caudillo at 856-6617

By the end of summer, clumps are 4 feet wide with tall, angular stalks 6-8 feet tall. Dozens of bright yellow, daisy-like flowers appear along the stalks in "hollyhock" fashion. Blooms last from September through October. In the winter when the stalks and seed heads turn brown, be sure to leave them, as they provide an excellent food source for songbirds, finches and small animals. Then in three to four weeks prune the stalks to the ground.

The Maximilian Sunflower's native range is from the midwest all the way down to the southwest. It is cold hardy to -40 degrees F. Plant in full sun to partial shade



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Mail-In-Ballots Re: Open space

By Paul Willems — ABQ Open Space Division, Director

A proposal asking city voters to raise the sales tax by one-fourth of one percent for just two years to buy nearly 9,700 acres of open space was introduced by City Councilor Vince Griego. This would raise the \$34-\$40 million needed to buy 24 pieces of property located in all quadrants of the city and Bernalillo County (including the 140-acre Anderson Field in the North Valley); and improve 25 existing city parks.

Councilor Griego has introduced two bills that will put the issue on a ballot to be mailed later this year and tallied January 14, 1997. The bills are co-sponsored by four other councilors — Sam Bregman, Steve Gallegos, Angela Robbins and Alan Armijo. The full City Council will meet at the Los Altos Community Center on October 21st to finalize plans, including a list of the properties and dates for the election. The proposed special election would be held by mail, the first such election in history. The tax would pay for open space in all quadrants of the metropolitan area, with the NW having 11 of the 24 sites. A recent amendment to the Bill would provide for development of 150 acres of city-owned parklands in neighborhoods throughout the city.

Councilor Gallegos hopes the proposal is supported because open space is needed. "In the short term, it might not look like we need it, but long term, we do. Anytime you go to great

cities you see that open space makes them livable. We need to have some space where people can get away."

Councilor Bregman agreed, "We should always try to do what we can to protect our vital natural resources. I personally believe that one of those vital resources is Anderson Field. We should make sure that the next generation has places like that to truly enjoy." Mayor Martin Chavez also supports the effort to acquire more open space. "I'll be voting yes," he has said.

The quarter-cent sales tax generates about \$20 million a year in Albuquerque and translates into an average of \$65 a household. The city's sales tax has been 5.5625% since January 1st. If voters approve the proposed hike, it would return to 5.8125% — the rate paid from 1988 through 1995 while the "quality of life" tax was in effect.

The proposed properties located in the Northeast Heights include: Tres Pistoles, 106 acres at Tramway & I-40; Balloon Fiesta Park, 60 acres on Alameda west of I-25; and portions of South Pino & La Cueva Arroyos, 25 acres north and south of Paseo del Norte between San Mateo & Tramway.

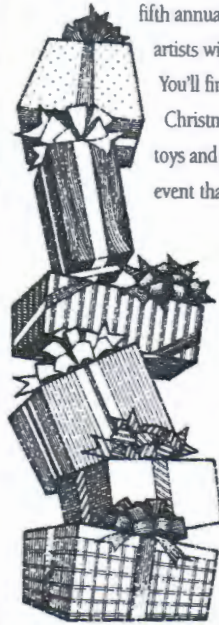
Another important proposed land acquisition is 80 acres of Tingley Beach that the city wants to develop as a park near the new aquarium, zoo and botanic gardens.

Reprinted from Trail Watch News—October

W

rap up your holiday gift list with us.

Beat the holiday shopping rush at The Montebello's fifth annual Holiday Craft Bazaar. 35 talented, local artists will offer their one-of-a-kind gift creations. You'll find everything from clothing, jewelry and Christmas ornaments, to handmade stationery, toys and etched glass. So come out to this festive event that's sure to delight the whole family.



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BERNALILLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT NOTICE:

Crossing Guards Needed at Double Eagle School

If you love the outdoors, like working with children and are interested in safety on our streets, Bernalillo County has two positions open for Crossing Guards servicing the new Double Eagle Elementary School on Lowell NE. Detailed information on qualification, responsibilities and salary can be obtained by calling John Lyngen at the Sheriff's Department - 768-4375. Here is a brief summary of what the job entails.

POSITION: Work under the direction of a supervisor at assigned intersections to ensure the safety and protection of children crossing roads on the way to school.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Stop oncoming traffic and escort children across streets. Place and remove related traffic signs before and after shift.

QUALIFICATION: Any combination of education and experience which provides the know-how required to carry out duties; e.g. learn basic traffic laws, follow written instruction, communicate with children, work with minimal supervision, use good judgement.

SCREENING: Employees must successfully complete a medical and background examination, comply with County safety guidelines, have a means of transportation and pass an oral board exam.

WORKING CONDITIONS: Worker will be exposed to natural and sometimes adverse weather conditions, intermittent traffic noise and exhaust fumes. Work surfaces may be dirt or concrete, possi-



bly inclined, and subject to wet, dry and at times icy conditions. Work hazards include traffic and fumes.

EQUIPMENT: Traffic control signs, safety vests and whistles.

People with physical or mental impairments that will not interfere with the performance of job duties are welcome to apply and be considered for special accommodation.

Other Job Positions Open: CALL BERNALILLO COUNTY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

POSITION: Before & After School Clerk Typist (Part-Time Temporary). A junior level clerical support person in an office with several other staff under close supervision of an assigned supervisor.

QUALIFICATION:

1. High School Diploma or GED certification.
2. One year of experience in an office setting.
3. Must be able to communicate in oral and written English.
4. Ability to file, type (40 WPM), use a word processor and computer.
5. Ability to handle a multi-line phone system.

POSITION: Before & After School Program Coordinator (Part-Time Temporary) to work under the direction of the Parks & Recreation Assistant Director on Grant Program Recreational activities.

QUALIFICATION:

1. A combination of education and experience equivalent to a bachelor's degree in physical education or recreation plus two years experience in the coordination of school programs.
2. Working knowledge of necessary forms submitted to the Children, Youth & Families Department.
3. Ability to develop and implement a comprehensive program of recreational activities.

4. Knowledge of budgeting and administrative procedures.
5. Ability to train and supervise others.
6. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, subordinates, co-workers and the general public.
7. Ability to communicate effectively in both oral and written English.

To apply for these positions, obtain the SCREENING requirements or further information: Contact the Bernalillo County Personnel Department, One Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor. Open 8am -4:30pm, Monday - Friday.

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- University of New Mexico: Master of Business Administration, 1981. J.D. Law Degree, 1984.
- State Senator, District 18, Albuquerque, 1989-1992. Judiciary Committee. Conservation Committee. Interim Committee on Courts, Criminal Law and Justice.
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New ABQ BioPark Looking for A Few Good Volunteers

By Catherine Hubbard - BioPark Education Curator

The Albuquerque Aquarium and Rio Grande Botanic Garden will open to the public on December 5, and the citizens of Albuquerque are eagerly awaiting this special event. The aquarium features naturalistic Gulf Coast exhibits, a real shrimp boat, a beautiful coral reef tank and a huge, dramatic shark tank. The botanic garden has two unique conservatories, one on the desert and one on the Mediterranean climate, lovely walled gardens including rose and Spanish-Moorish, and a changing demonstration garden. These two new facilities, along with the Rio Grande Zoo, make up the Albuquerque Biological Park. If you'd like to get involved at the beginning of this exciting project, you can join us as a volunteer!

We are currently recruiting Greeting Team members. Aquarium/Botanic Garden Greeters will act as hosts and hostesses to help visitors plan their stay, answer general questions and provide a friendly, customer-oriented service to the thousands of anticipated visitors. If interested, potential volunteers are encouraged to come to an informational meeting on Saturday, November 2 from 11:30 - 12:30 at the Aquarium/Botanic Garden Education Building, located at the 2601 Central Ave NW construction site. Job descriptions will be available at this time, and questions will be answered. The next Saturday, November 9, will be the one day training, from 9:30 - 4:30. Anyone over 16 years old is eligible to become a Greeting Team member. The skills needed are flexibility, enthusiasm, communication, dependability and a customer-service orientation.

For more information, call BioPark Education at 764-6245, or just show up at the informational meeting on November 2nd. We hope you decide to join us and help us make this environmental park the very best educational resource it can be.

Bottled Water Clear Up the Facts

By Alyce DeGravelle
- Bernalillo County Environmental Health



The drought may have us all drinking from the bottle soon - the water bottle, that is. Trouble is... bottled water may not always be as safe as it looks.

It all depends on where the water comes from. Some bottled water comes from protected wells and springs and is not very likely to be contaminated. Other bottled water comes straight from the tap. According to the Environmental Working Group, a nonprofit research organization in Washington D.C., many of these municipal water systems have poor monitoring techniques. Combined with lax federal

regulations, the result is contaminated water that may be bottled and placed on the grocery shelf for sale.

However, regardless of the source, certain purification processes can remove most harmful organisms. Reverse-osmosis is one process which filters out color, taste and contaminants like lead, asbestos, mercury and disease-causing organisms like cryptosporidium. Distillation also purifies water by using heat to remove harmful organisms.

The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) recommends contacting the company directly to find out whether their water comes from a protected source. If it's from a municipal water supply, be sure that reverse osmosis, distillation, or "one-micrometer" filters are used to treat the water. If not, find another brand. Most bottle labels list the bottler's phone number. If not, the IBWA (1-800-928-3711) can provide assistance.



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UPDATE:

Initial Ruling Made on Pueblo Land Claim

By John Thomas - Sandia Mountain Coalition

Judge Harold Green, the US District Court judge in the lawsuit between the federal government and Sandia Pueblo, has ruled to stay all further briefing on the Pueblo's motion for summary judgement. This is the first ruling in the case, which began on December 7, 1994. At that time, Sandia Pueblo filed a complaint against the Department of Interior, seeking a "corrected patent" that would add the west face of the Sandia Mountains to its original holdings. The area amounts to approximately ten percent of the Cibola National Forest. The lawsuit also sought to have the Department of Agriculture refrain from the transfer of 9,480 acres to the Pueblo.

This first ruling officially halts further input into the land claim case involving the Pueblo and three branches of the government: the US Forest Service/Dept. of Interior; the Departments of Justice and Agriculture; plus the Sandia Mountain Coalition (SMC) and the Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners, until the court rules on the United States' motion to dismiss the case for lack of jurisdiction. "We hope this order is an indication that the court is actively considering the US government's motion to dismiss and may soon rule on it," said SMC co-chair Anita Miller, the Coalition's local attorney and chair of the SMC Legal Committee.

The government filed its motion to dismiss on March 24, 1995. In that motion, government attorneys pointed out that the government could only be sued under provisions of the Quiet Title Act, which sets a 12-year time limit on such land claims. Since the Pueblo had not acted on the land claim in over 12 years, the attorneys said, the US District Court did not have either jurisdiction or authority to hear the case. Judicial reaction to this position is still pending, along with motions from Bernalillo County and the Coalition to be allowed to testify in the case, should it come to trial.

Because the federal government's motion to dismiss has been pending in US District Court for well over a year, Coalition attorneys have requested a conference on all pending motions to determine their status. The request was made on June 26, 1996. Interestingly, says Miller, Sandia Pueblo attorneys suddenly filed for a summary judgement, requesting that the court decide the claim in its favor. "What is noteworthy about the Pueblo's new motion is that it raises no new facts, no new law, no new anything," said Miller. "This might mean that the Pueblo's attorneys have run out of ammunition." The judge's stay on further briefings regarding the case could mean that the judge is ready to rule on the motion to dismiss. While this gives the SMC cause for optimism, Miller said, it is still too early to "count our chickens."

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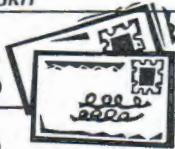
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LETTERS



TO THE EDITOR:

Please direct any articles, comments or correspondence to The Grit Editor, 1124 Marigold NE

Claire de'Roos

I'm glad the house wasn't any darker the night I started up to bed and half noticed something in the corner of the stair. I stopped automatically. I wanted to look but didn't at the same time. Probably a piece of...what? I could tell it was a dark object and wasn't moving. I wasn't even sure if it was alive, but a sixth sense told me it was. I bent down and squinted a bit to see better.

It was fearful. Flat, dark and menacing... about four inches long with claws like a crab and a tail curved over its back ready to inflict damage to anything that disturbed it. It was alive. I blew on it and it turned toward the disturbance. I had never seen anything like this before and I knew instinctively it was dangerous. Probably poisonous.

I ran to the kitchen and retrieved a jelly glass to plop over it until I could gather the courage to kill it. But then I thought maybe I had discovered something really unusual.

I found out that I wasn't alone; that I had been invaded by something from a monster movie and that many of you have probably seen the same thing in your homes. My invader was a Vinegaroon or American Whip Scorpion. They're related to spiders and true scorpions, which usually are small and live beneath stones, logs or leaf debris. But the Vinegaroon has adapted to the arid climate of New Mexico (and apparently to the coziness of my house!)

Anita Miller's the Ticket

Every neighborhood and community has outstanding members who have given countless hours to make a difference where they live. I would like to give my support to Anita Miller for Senator/District 21(D) as a laudable member of our community, a good neighbor and qualified professional. She has been on the Governor's Task Force/ Groundwater; an adjunct professor at UNM School of Architecture and School of Law; and a law partner at Miller, Lucero & Associates, involved with land use and zoning. Anita takes great pride in this place we call home and is known for her hard work on issues that will benefit every New Mexican.

Janey Brink - Sandia Heights

Cry Wolf?!

Several residents living on San Rafael near Rock Rose have spotted a wolf while walking, jogging and driving in the area. A retired ranger living nearby identified the animal prowling around backyards as a full-blooded wolf. Be on the lookout! (Perhaps they got tired of waiting for their big re-introduction into New Mexico.)

It is usually nocturnal and is often found moving about on summer evenings after a rain. And it DOES NOT TOLERATE HARASSMENT. Although not deadly, it can pinch vigorously and can spray an irritating solution of acetic acid (vinegar) accurately more than a yard away, with enough juice for eight or more shots. It is not poisonous.

The Nature Center has one in captivity and though not much is known about the Vinegaroon's eating habits in the wild, in captivity it eats wood lice, centipedes, cockroaches and other kinds of insects.

I took a long look at this grotesque creature under the jelly jar and decided a pardon was in order. Besides, with their dietary requirements and knowing what I had in the house, its menu and my ability to supply it were not in sync. So I put my guest Vinegaroon outside... far away from the house.

Claire Wilcox - Sandia Heights



Sandia Tram Closes for Repairs Nov. 4

The Sandia Peak Tramway will close for a week November 4th - 8th as maintenance workers replace one of the hauling cables that move the tram gondolas up and down the mountain.

Then in the spring starting April 1, the tram is scheduled to close for nearly two months as all four "track ropes" from which the cars are suspended are being replaced for the first time since the service was opened in 1966. Officials have picked these times to take advantage of light ridership between ski season and summer tourist season.

FEBRUARY '97 GRIT
Deadline for articles, advertising,
classifieds, letters to the editor:
JANUARY 15, 1997!

Gobble! Gobble!

By Patricia Aaron - Home Economist
Cooperative Extension Service/NM State University

After the BIG meal, most of us are faced with leftovers. Food poisoning can result in handling leftovers incorrectly. From the time you take the turkey out of the oven: you have two hours to serve it and then refrigerate or freeze the leftovers, the turkey, stuffing and gravy. In just two hours bacteria that cause food poisoning can multiply on food left at room temperature.

Large quantities of food should be divided into smaller portions and stored in several small or shallow covered containers. Food in small amounts will get cold more quickly. Keep leftover turkey in the refrigerator for 3 to 4 days only. Stuffing and gravy should be used within 1 to 2 days. Bring leftover gravy to a rolling boil before serving.

For longer storage, package leftovers in freezer containers and freeze them. This will prevent "freezer burn," those white dried-out patches on the surface of food that make it tough and tasteless. Date containers and use the older ones first. Frozen turkey, stuffing and gravy should be used within one month. Hope you enjoy the following recipes for those holiday leftovers.

From all of us here at the Bernalillo County Cooperative Extension Service, we wish you and yours a most delicious and food-safe Thanksgiving.

TURKEY & DRESSING CASSEROLE

- 1 (10-1/2 oz.) can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 3/4 cup milk
- 3 cups cut-up cooked turkey
- 1-1/2 cups leftover stuffing
- 1 Tbs. grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 1-1/2 qt. baking dish. In a 2-qt. saucepan over medium heat, combine soup with milk; heat until soup is dissolved. Stir in turkey. In a greased dish, layer turkey mixture and stuffing twice, ending with turkey mixture. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake 20 minutes or until heated through. Makes 6 servings.

TURKEY TORTILLA SOUP

- 2 Tbs. canola oil
- 4 corn tortillas, cut in 1/2 in. strips
- 2 tsp. minced garlic
- 1 onion, finely diced
- 1 Jalapeno pepper, seeded, minced
- 6 cups turkey broth
- 3 cups diced, cooked turkey
- 2 tomatoes, chopped
- 1 Tbs. cumin
- 2 tsp. chili powder
- 2 Tbs. chopped cilantro
- Salt to taste
- Grated Cheddar cheese
- Tortilla chips

In a large skillet, heat oil and sauté tortilla strips until soft. Add garlic, onion & jalapeno; cook 3 minutes. Add turkey broth, turkey, tomatoes, cumin, chili powder, cilantro & salt. Simmer 30 minutes. Garnish with cheese and serve with tortilla chips.



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THE GRIT

SANDIA HEIGHTS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION FALL ~ 1996

Many Important Issues Affect Sandia Heights - VOTE November 5th!

by Charlotte Zerof - SHHA

This issue of the GRIT, so close to the General Election, has some important election news. Your votes will have a major impact on many of the projects affecting Sandia Heights. State Senator Tom Wray has provided information on the Proposed State Constitutional Amendments that will appear on the Ballot, so please check out the Roundhouse Report on page 2. Bernalillo County Commissioner Barbara Seward has written a report on the important County Bond Issues on page 4. Below you will find information on where our precincts are located in Sandia Heights AND where to vote.

This is a particularly complex ballot. In addition to the candidates seeking election or retention, all of the New Mexico House and Senate Seats are up for election as well as the District, Appeals and Supreme Court Judges. There are 7 State Constitutional Amendments, 4 State Bond Issues and 7 County Bond Issues.

There is also an important Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA) Bond Issue to provide \$20 million in funds for improving and reconstructing its flood control system over the next four years. There are three candidates seeking the two seats up for election there.

The State Bond Issues range from A to D. State Bond Issue A, if passed, will fund senior citizen facility construction, improvements and equipment. State Bond Issue B addresses capital improvements for educational institutions throughout the state. Bond Issue C would provide funding for upgrading the NM State Fairgrounds facilities. Bond Issue D would provide funds for upgrading the

★ LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ★
★ Candidate Forums ★
★ on Cable Channel GOV 14 ★
★ County Clerk Candidates ★
★ District Attorney Candidates ★
★ County Treasurer Candidates ★
★ will air in succession ★
★ Friday, November 1st ★
★ 8:00PM ★

Juvenile Correction Center and construction of a new facility for violent juvenile offenders. Legal text and pros/ cons to the State Bond Issues are available in The League of Women Voters' free Voter's Guide for Bernalillo County. You'll find it at the libraries, Smiths, Furr's, WalMart or Circle K. For more information call LWV at 884-8441.

If you vote a straight party ticket look at the whole ballot before you pull the BIG LEVER. Look for the candidates who are not clustered under the party lever. Try to vote the whole ballot and don't miss those important Bond Issues - plan to take advantage of early voting at the Four Hills Shopping Center - Tramway & Central. It started October 16th and will continue through November 2nd. There is no time limit on early voting, so you can take a snack and take your time. Other early voting booths are in place at Coronado Shopping Center - Menaul & Louisiana, The Atrium - Second and Osuna, Rio Bravo Plaza - Rio Bravo and Coors, and of course at the Bernalillo County Clerks Office - One Civic Plaza, Mammets & 5th, from 8:00AM to 5:00 PM.

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On November 5th, the polls open from 7AM to 7PM. If you're registered in Precincts 539 or 569, vote at Fire Station #5 on Paseo del Norte. Precincts 537 or 560 vote at Church of the Good Shepherd on Tennyson NE. Don't know your precinct number? Check your registration slip or call the County Clerk at 768-4085.

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