

New Board Kicks Off a New Fiscal Year



Marshall Aungier - SHHA President

The SHHA Annual Meeting was held on June 6, with a large turnout of members interested in hearing the presentation by their attorney, David Campbell of Campbell, Hoffman, Vogel and Weher, P.C.

In the purpose of the (covenants) for each of the 35+ units and gave general guidelines for residents to follow when amending their covenants. The authority to amend the covenants rests with the property owner(s) of record within any given unit; the SHHA has no authority or responsibility to do so. Mr. Campbell distributed

copies of general guidelines for property owners (copies can be obtained by calling the SHHA office at 296-1412). He pointed out that in instances where there are two property owners (such as husband and wife), both owners of record must sign. He suggested that the originals of the Voting Roster and the Ballots be kept on file at the Association office strictly for purposes of continuity. Where amendments will require responsibilities to be assumed by the SHHA, it is suggested that you discuss with the SHHA its willingness to accept the responsibility prior to processing any amendments.

Also on the agenda for the Annual Meeting was an update on the 25,000 sq.ft. commercial property on Tramway Boulevard north of the Kicks 66 station, which is now in the process of leasing suites. See the New Development report elsewhere in this issue for the latest information.

Other items of interest that were discussed were the proliferation of Siberian Elm trees members of the board are working to educate Sandia Heights residents on identifying and removing them, and getting Bernalillo County to remove them from roadways. Several members in attendance were interested in having speed humps and deer crossing signs installed on their streets. Information on the procedures for obtaining these items can be obtained by calling the SHHA office at 296-1412.



Departing Board members, Ruth Friesen and Don Hooper display plaques of appreciation.

Seven new members of the Board of Directors were elected at the Annual Meeting (biographies are on page 5). We are fortunate to have so many talented people in our midst who are willing to give their time to preserve the unique character of our neighborhood. Many thanks to the outgoing board members: **Ruth Friesen**, 1998 Chair of the Covenant Support Committee and Board Secretary; **Chris Harmon**, 1998 Chair of the Architectural Control Committee; **Don Hooper**, Past Chair of the Architectural Control and New Development Committees; **Rob Loughridge**, Treasurer and Past Chair of Traffic, Safety & Signs Committee; **Bob Thomas**, Member of the Covenant Support Committee.

Six members of the Architectural Control Committee are returning members, and will be joined by new member, **Deborah Griswold**. The ACC is well staffed with several engineers and architects, and **Jim Wise** has agreed to continue as chair of the committee.

The New Development and Government Liaison Committees previously were two separate committees, but because of the large overlap, we decided to try combining them this year. Items that they will be working on include the new commercial development proposed at Paseo & Tramway; Kicks 66 lighting; the residential subdivision proposed for SW corner of Cedar Hill & Tramway to be developed by **Joe Santangelo**; and the Day Spa planned at San Rafael & Tramway.

We will have an active Traffic, Safety & Signs Committee, chaired by **Irene Middleton**, who will be keeping tabs on the widening of Paseo del Norte, any changes affecting Tramway, other road improvements, speed limits in Sandia Heights and replacement or repair to signage for which the SHHA has responsibility. As always, the Covenant Support Committee, to be chaired by new member **Susan Carlow**, has their work cut out for them. I'm sure many of you join me in appreciating the difficult job they do.

Claire Wilcox will return as chair of Community Services, Membership & Communications. Her committee will continue to work to increase membership, coordinate community events, and oversee the Grit and Directory of Residents. Claire is also Vice President of the SHHA and the Board's liaison to the North Albuquerque Acres Homeowners Association. The wonderful job she does is greatly appreciated.

The Board has also designated a liaison to Bernalillo County on the North ABQ Acres/Sandia Heights Drainage Study. There's a lot going on as SHHA begins a new fiscal year serving our community. We welcome your involvement.



Attorney David Campbell discusses covenants at the Annual Meeting.

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Nancy Norem 821-3368
Bill Waters 821-7262
Deborah Griswold 856-5968
Bill Stabler 856-7532

The SHHA Board wishes everyone a great Pumpkin Day and a happy and plentiful Thanksgiving Holiday this Fall!



THE GRIT
is published quarterly
as the official newsletter of the
**SANDIA HEIGHTS
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**
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Coffee Corner

Wednesday, Oct 7th
EVENING COFFEE !!!

**Y2K - YEAR 2000
COMPUTER GLITCH AND
PROBABLE EFFECTS ON
SANDIA HEIGHTS**

Sandra & Ron Cline
1503 Eagle Ridge Road NE
856-7908

7:15 PM

TOP ISSUES

BOARD NEWS:



By Debbie Miller - SHHA Secretary

In the last three months
the Board has:

- Hosted the Annual Meeting
- Elected new Board Members and Officers
- Conducted Board orientation and Chair responsibilities
- Addressed the Siberian elm issue
- Discussed publicized warnings about plague
- Published an approved list of stucco colors
- Posted all the covenants on our web site
- Continued to await the court decision on RV parking
- Discussed roadside chamisa with the County
- Processed many ACC requests

• Heard a presentation on Y2K/Year 2000 and what it could mean for our community, given by software expert and resident Ron Cline. Will there be lights, water, power, mail, security, air travel? Find out at a Special SHHA Evening Coffee, hosted by the Clines on October 7th at 7:15 pm.



**All Sandia Heights
Covenants are now
available on the
SHHA web page.**

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

**Just enter your
Unit number!**

To find out which Unit you are in,
check the map on page 43 of your
new 1998-99 Directory of Residents.

**BOARD MEETINGS ARE THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF
THE MONTH AT THE LT. SIBRAVA SHERIFF'S
SUBSTATION ON EAGLE RIDGE & HOLLY NE:**

SEPT. 9TH
 OCT. 14TH
 NOV. 11TH

Plague-Infected Pet Diagnosed in Sandia Heights

WHAT is it?

Plague is a naturally-occurring, flea-transmitted disease of rodents and rabbits caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. Infected rodents usually die, leaving plague-infected fleas which then find new rodent or human hosts.

WHERE has it been found in Bernalillo County?

Plague-infected animals and human cases have occurred mainly in mountainous eastern Bernalillo County and in the western foothills of the Sandias. No infected animals have been found in the valley. A majority of the human cases have been contracted around the home rather than on a picnic or hike.

HOW is it contracted?

Humans can contract plague in three ways: by the bite of a plague infected flea; by handling plague infected tissues of sick or dead animals; and by inhaling infected droplets from a pneumonic patient.

WHEN is plague season?

Human cases have occurred throughout the year, but the majority of them occur during the warm months of May through September when rodents, fleas, and people are most active outdoors.

ANIMALS of concern:

ROCK SQUIRRELS; other rodents such as chipmunks, woodrats, prairie dogs, gophers, mice; wild rabbits; domestic dogs and cats.

HUMAN types and symptoms:

There are three forms of human plague: BUBONIC, SEPTICEMIC, and PNEUMONIC.

BUBONIC plague, the classic form, is contracted from flea bites or direct contact with infected animal tissue. Symptoms, which develop after a 2-6 day incubation, include: feeling sick all over; headache; chills; high fever; and pain and swelling in the lymph nodes (buboes) of the groin, armpit, or neck area.



SEPTICEMIC plague has the same incubation period and symptoms as BUBONIC plague without the lymph node swelling.

PNEUMONIC plague may result from BUBONIC or SEPTICEMIC or if proper treatment is not sought.

YOU CAN HELP prevent plague!

Clean-up woodpiles, uncovered garbage, unused appliances, scattered pet food, and rock piles around your home. Keep pets confined and dust pets weekly with approved flea powder. Make sure rodents can't get into your home through openings. Remove any trash from vacant lots.

Contact Insect & Rodent Control for flea or rodent control procedures. County Environmental Services will pick up sick or dead animals (Mon-Fri) for testing. You may take any animal to Animal Control near Wyoming & Lomas.

PLAGUE IS CURABLE if promptly diagnosed and treated by a physician.

Call 768-2600 if you find a sick or dead animal!

NOTE: DO NOT call about ordinary field mice. Resources are limited to handle pick up and testing. Set traps if you suspect a problem. Use gloves, shovels, disinfectant and plastic bags to dispose of carcasses.

Siberian Elm Reseeding at Alarming Rate

By Claire Wilcox - SHHA Vice President



Joyce Harkwell and Claire Wilcox trade elm tree tips at the SHHA Annual Meeting.

From seedling to tree in five years



Leaves are dark green, smooth, non-glossy, 3/4 - 2" long, 1/3 - 1" wide. Tree flowers in spring, produces papery, winged seeds.

The Siberian elm has been the subject of much concern for the last several months and was the lead article of the Spring Grit. It's been called the "weed tree" because it grows rapidly (30 feet in 5 years!) and reseeds easily, overtaking native trees and plants. It is especially obnoxious in places like Sandia Heights where considerable value is placed on the natural landscape. These elms have been banned in the city of Albuquerque because of their pollen.

Getting rid of the Siberian elm is most successfully accomplished when they are seedlings. **Cut the seedling and treat the stump immediately with brush/stump killer to keep it from sprouting again.** (Within hours of being cut, the stalk can seal and become immune to chemical inhibitors.) It's been suggested that driving copper nails into the stump may also kill it. The cuttings can be tied or bagged and put out in your regular trash collection. Remember, there's a limit of 10 bags per collection and none weighing over 40 lbs. Larger trees require careful, professional extraction, especially if they are close to your home.

Siberian elms spread out more horizontally than the upright Chinese elm. But both trees are problems and proliferate in the same manner. If you have any questions about the identification of the Siberian elm, call the SHHA office at 296-1412 for the name of a volunteer Sandia Heights resident who has offered to come to your home and identify the offending trees.



Concerned Sandia Heights residents gathered at the home of Joyce Harkwell for an SHHA coffee and talk on the Siberian elm proliferation.



Charles and Alice Saunders, arborists with Respect A Tree Service discuss how to deal with saplings and mature trees that are causing problems.

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Architectural Control

By Jim Wise – SHHA Architectural Control Committee, Chair



Once again, I am taking this opportunity to provide an update on the latest happenings involving the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). The committee has really been busy this summer in particular with re-stucco and re-roofing projects. Our twice monthly meetings have had to go into overtime to ensure that all projects are reviewed on a timely basis. Hats off to the committee members who have persevered.

REVISED APPROVED STUCCO COLOR LIST

The most significant event this summer has been the revision to the list of approved stucco colors. You may remember that the last issue of the Grit had a list of approved colors. Since that printing, the list has been revised, due to complaints we have received regarding the finished color of some of the previously approved stucco colors. After application, some stucco will cure out much lighter than the color shown on the typical color charts. In one instance involving painting of an existing stucco, we found that the paint supplier used color pigments to match an outdated color chart. We subsequently spent a great deal of time with the technical representatives that supply El Rey and Sto stuccos (the brands most commonly used) and were successful in obtaining large sized samples which give a better representation of the many stucco colors. The result of our extensive review has resulted in the revised list below and was included in a recent billing from Sandia Heights Services.

STUCCO:

El Rey Adobe (116)
El Rey Buckskin (106)
El Rey Cottonwood (115)
El Rey Driftwood (111)
El Rey Fawn (117)
El Rey La Luz (125)
El Rey Suede (118)
Sto Abiquiu (01002)
Sto Adobe Brown (01004)
Sto Amarilla (3003)
Sto Cimmaron (4180)
Sto Chamisa (01010)
Sto Mesa del Sol (01016)
Sto Mesilla (2207)
Sto Pecos (01001)
Sto Pueblo (01005)
Sto San Antonio (1465)
Sto Sandia (1616)
Sto Santa Fe Mocha (1003)
Sto Suede (01006)
Sto Tumbleweed (01011)

ELASTOMERIC: El Rey Buffalo (PF806)
SYNTHETIC El Rey Dry River (PF817)
PLASTER: El Rey Earth (PF816)
El Rey Rio Bravo (PF825)
El Rey Saddle (PF271)
El Rey Tierra (PF272)

Please note that written approval by the Architectural Control Committee is required, even for approved stucco colors, prior to commencement of work.

ATTACHED RESIDENCES

One difficult problem that confronts the ACC are situations involving re-stuccoing and/or trim painting of attached residences that are individually owned. The ACC policy is to approve only colors to match those of the adjacent units. We find that some of these homeowners do not know the original color used for stucco or trim colors and quite often rely on the contractor to match the color(s). This is difficult, but it can be done with some effort by the contractor, who must mix color tones and test samples until there is a match. Of course, the homeowner must clearly state the need for an exact match up front so there is a clear understanding of what is expected. A mismatch of color will likely be upsetting to the adjacent neighbors. Variations in color can be significant and may result in the need to re-color the stucco to provide the necessary match. The ACC can be very helpful in assisting the homeowner to prevent such situations, but can only do so if the proper procedures are followed in submissions to the ACC prior to the start of work. There are occasions when the work has been accomplished without approval and we are asked by neighbors to resolve the problem. This creates a very difficult situation for both the ACC and the homeowner.

EXISTING HOME ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

It is very important that a homeowner carefully read their Declaration of Restrictions (covenants) when planning an addition or alteration to their home. There are some covenants that specifically preclude the ACC from approving any additions or alterations to a residence once the original construction is completed. The ACC considers all structures, whether attached or detached from the residence, as an addition, even if the proposed addition meets other covenant requirements such as setbacks, heights, etc. In those units, we cannot approve these projects, unless covenants are changed and properly recorded with Bernalillo County.

UNAPPROVED PROJECTS

The committee continues to become aware of projects in progress that have not been submitted and approved by the ACC; such approval is required by each and every set of our covenants. In most cases, these projects are reported to the

committee by a homeowner, who may or may not identify themselves. It is committees policy to either call, send a letter, or visit the site to verify the project and determine its status. However, we often encounter projects that are not in compliance with the applicable covenants, most commonly involving colors. If the color is found not to be in compliance, changes may have to be made, possibly resulting in added costs to the homeowner. With the new streamlined procedure we recently implemented for re-stucco, re-roofing and trim painting, ACC approval can be given very quickly, provided the proposed color is on the approved list. Other colors by other manufacturers can be submitted for review, but this may delay approval. This offers the homeowner an opportunity to comply quickly and easily. Some residents consider our involvement meddling and may be very upset with the committee or one of its members. We understand this reaction, but please be aware that these situations can be prevented by following the proper procedures for review. The ACC charter is to assist homeowners to achieve compliance with their covenants and we appeal to each of you to help us in this endeavor.

WHITE ROOFING

This has continued to be a problem, again, when a project is begun prior to being submitted for approval – principally regarding elastomeric/foam/synthetic roofing materials. Unless otherwise specified, the finish coat for these will be white, which does not comply with covenants and will not be approved. This can easily be resolved by requiring the contractor to color-tone the finish coat with a color from the manufacturer's list as approved by the ACC. Please be aware that a white roof is very reflective and can be offensive to neighbors who may look down on it. Although many don't complain, they may "suffer in silence." Please help maintain the quality of life for all residents by following the proper procedures.

Thanks for the opportunity to share these current events with you.



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SHHA Welcomes New Board Members

(L to r) Jim Neely, Deborah Griswold, Lucille Bryant, Charlie Pechewlys, Melanie Christman, and Martin Inkelas are six of the eight new Board members.



DON AUNAPU - Don spent 30 years active duty in the U.S. Air Force, flying both fighter and bomber type aircraft. Since his retirement he has been employed as a contractor for both the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy. He is presently a Senior Project Manager and Facility Security Officer at GRAM, Inc. Don and wife Margrit, 7 year residents of Sandia Heights, have two sons, Sven and Kevin. He is a returning board member, having served on the Architectural Control and Covenant Support Committees.

LUCILLE BRYANT - Lucille is a licensed registered nurse with an undergraduate degree in Business. She also holds an M.P.A. from the University of Washington. In addition to hospital nursing, she has practiced medical case management for the Boeing Company, served as an evaluator for the U.S. General Accounting Office, and currently is a partner in a small business, participating in all aspects of its operation. She and her husband Jim are native New Mexicans, returning home to New Mexico two years ago. They have grown children. Lucille would like to channel concerns from her neighborhood to the Board as well as deal with the more encompassing affairs of Sandia Heights.

SUSAN CARLOW - Susan, married to Thomas Carlow, M.D. for 31 years, is a mother of three and 20 year resident of Sandia Heights. A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, She holds a BA. from Mercy College of Detroit and a B.F.A. degree from UNM. Since 1983 Susan has been the Executive Director of the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, a medical, educational nonprofit organization. She's interested in working to assure continued preservation of the natural beauty and quality of life of our community.

MELANIE CHRISTMAN - Melanie and husband Bob moved to New Mexico two years ago after living in New Jersey for 36 years and raising three children. Her interests include hiking, biking, gardening and quilting. She has managed real estate and operated a custom knitting business. Melanie would like to do her part to preserve the natural beauty and quality of life that brought them to Sandia Heights.

DEBRA GRISWOLD - Debra is currently employed by the Department of Energy as a Team Leader in the Environmental Restoration Division, responsible for overseeing the clean-up work at Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories, the Pantex and Kansas City Platts, and the South Valley Superfund Site. Before returning to her home state of New Mexico, she worked for the EPA in Dallas, supervising Superfund clean-ups in New Mexico and Oklahoma, which included experience in review and approval of design drawings and oversight of large scale construction projects. She was honored by the Dallas Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers as their 1993 Engineer of the Year. She received her Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from NMSU in 1984. Debra helped establish a homeowners association at her previous residence in Texas and was an officer in that organization for several years. She and husband Robert are 3 year Sandia Heights residents.

PATRICK HUTTON - Patrick has lived in Albuquerque since 1949 and as a resident of Sandia Heights since 1993. He retired from PNM after 30 years in various positions in operations and personnel. He has served approximately 50 charitable organizations in capacities ranging from fundraising to president. Patrick has also been president of a homeowners association. He and wife Marilyn have five children.

MARTIN INKELAS - A retired M.D., Martin and wife Sylvia have lived in Sandia Heights for 5 years. Martin has served as an officer or board member for various organizations including the California Medical Society, the American Society of Internal Medicine, hospital staff organizations and a homeowners association in Bear Valley, CA. He would like to see volunteer groups formed to pick up roadway litter.

JIM NEELY - Jim has an extensive background in business ownership, real estate, financial, and insurance services, as well as teaching. He has a B.A. in Social Sciences and a Masters in Education from Fort Hays State University, and has done master/doctoral work in Early Modern History. He also attended Foreign Studies University in Grenoble, France. He has served on several boards in the arts and education fields and insurance commissions. Along with wife Joyce, he now sells real estate. They are 3 year residents of Sandia Heights. Jim is a returning board member, having been appointed in '97 and serving on the Covenant Support Committee.

CHARLES PECHEWLYS - Charlie and his wife Debbie have been residents of Sandia Heights for ten years. He is an attorney and consultant in private practice specializing in public contracts, general commercial business matters and employment law. He is also a faculty member with the University of Phoenix. Prior to private practice, Charlie spent 5+ years as Manager, Corporate Administration and General Counsel for ORION International Technologies, an Albuquerque based small business. He retired from the Air Force as Judge Advocate and has a Master of Law and Juris Doctor from George Washington University, as well as a Master of Science in Management and Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is a returning board member, appointed in 1997 and serving as Legal Advisor and committee member on New Development.

MARY WESTPFAHL - A six year Sandia Heights resident, Mary is concerned with recent accelerated development in our corner of Albuquerque. She has more than 15 years of experience providing communications support to government agencies, commercial industries and educational institutions. Mary holds degrees in English and in Technical Communications and is currently a senior technical writer with Tech Reps, Inc. She and husband Dave are active in fundraising events for the Carrie Tingley Hospital and Explora Science Museum. In addition, they diligently try to keep pace with their two sons, Jason, 21, and Jarrett, 16.

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Considering the fact that Jesus had his doubts, why can't you?

If you believe in God, but still have doubts and questions, we invite you to visit us at Sandia Presbyterian Church. We don't have all of the answers either.



Come join us Sunday Morning!

Sandia Presbyterian Church

Worship Services: 8:10am, 10:30am
Sunday School, all ages; 9:00am
Nursery available all services

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extensive adult activities.
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to the community.

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

Community Services, Membership & Communications

By Claire Wilcox – SHHA Vice President and



Arts & Crafts Bazaar October 18th 11am-4pm

The Community Services Committee is beginning plans for the Sandia Hts Homeowners Arts and Crafts Bazaar. This is an opportunity for you to sell your home made crafts and shop for novelty items from your neighbor's displays. It is a non-juried, just-for-fun event. Each display space will be \$20.00. This year we have reserved a large room at **Futures for Children on Tennyson NE**, across from Circle K. The space is more than adequate for our craft displays and our parking needs.

Reservation forms will be sent to all previous participants, so if you haven't been in the Crafts Bazaar before and want to receive an entrance form or want more information, call Claire Wilcox at 856-6282.

Clearing Chamisa

Chamisa!! One of the beauties and one of the beasts of Sandia Heights. The cool green colors and yellow autumn blooms are very enjoyable, but chamisa becomes a problem when it overtakes your property, blocks your view at intersections or grows up around local fire hydrants.

Here's what to do:

1. If chamisa is a problem on your property, cut it and bag or tie it, and put it out for your regular garbage collection.
2. If chamisa is obstructing intersection views in Sandia Heights, call Bernalillo County Road Maintenance at 848-1503 and fill in a work order for them to come and cut back the chamisa.
3. If chamisa is growing around the fire hydrants, it will be cut back by Sandia Heights Services. No need to call, this is on their priority list and will be done by the end of August.

North ABQ Acres Board Issues of Interest

- Eubank Corridor Study
- Kicks 66 lighting
- Nearby property build up
- Mormon Temple
- La Cueva Sectional Development Plan

Membership & Communications

This committee is especially active given its broad focus. If you haven't visited our new web page (www.nmia.com/shha) you'll be surprised at the information now available online – from individual unit covenants to a chat page. SHHA Secretary **Debbie Miller**, our internet guru, has dedicated a great deal of time and talent to its creation and upkeep.

Our committee has also been concerned with maintaining membership in the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association and are working to establish a list of Sandia Heights activities, such as hiking, biking, book and garden groups. We can use your help! If you know of an existing group or would like to participate in a new one, call any member of the committee.

INTEREST GROUPS
Sandia Heights Wildflower Club
Call Susan Cook-Teresi – 856-1669
Informal Daytime Hiking
Call Melanie – 856-7636 

Cedar Canyon Chamisa Cleanup

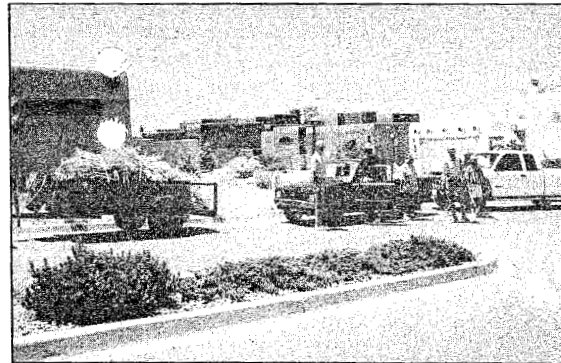
By Melanie Christman – SHHA Communications Committee

Like many of our neighborhoods in Sandia Heights, the Cedar Canyon subdivision had an excess of chamisa, juniper and weeds growing out into the roadway. It not only was becoming a safety hazard, (narrowing the street and obstructing the view of the intersections) but it was making the entrance to the subdivision look shabby and unkempt.

All it took was a phone call from SHHA Board member **Jim Wise** to several men in the neighborhood. The next morning they came armed with rakes, pruners, shovels and brooms.... even a chain saw... ready to attack! In a few hours, six pick-up trailer loads of debris were loaded and taken to the dump, and the street was clean, safe and inviting again.



(L to r) satisfied neighbors Lorrie Rice, Jim Wise, Bob Christman, Chuck Mikkelsen, Lorraine Schneider, Mike Corless and Howard Schneider. Dave Bachman is not shown.



The effort was so successful and satisfying that it's been decided to make it a semi-annual event – a "Spring and Fall" clean-up – and next time a well earned luncheon will complete the job! This was a perfect example of what folks can do when they work together. If there's something that needs attention in your neighborhood, pick up the phone! You'll be amazed at how willing your neighbors are to help the cause.... and it's a good chance to get to know each other a little better!

**Truckloads of chamisa are accepted at:
Eagle Rock Convenience Center
6301 Eagle Rock Rd.
(1 block north of San Pedro & Alameda)
Open Wed-Sun (Closed Mon-Tues)
Dumping fee: \$3.15 per load**

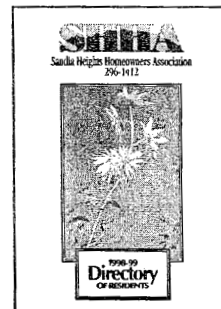
Little Cloud Park Dedication October 24th - 10:30 am

October 24th will be the opening and dedication of Little Cloud Park, located in Sandia Heights on the corner of San Bernardino and Tramway. It grew from the remnants of the old SHHA park off of Juniper Hill where the water tank is now. Its successful relocation and upgrading is mainly due to the effort of resident and ex-board member, **Janey Brink**, who is now supervising the purchase of a special piece of art to be incorporated into the park design. **Melanie Christman** has been the eye behind the camera recording the developments at Little Cloud Park.

Watch for an announcement in your Sandia Heights Services water bill.

1998-99 Directory

The SHHA Directory of all residents, has been mailed to all active Association members. It includes an updated map of Sandia Heights' roads as well as an Individual Unit map. If you are an SHHA member, one additional copy can be purchased from the Association office for \$5.



Y2K Brewing

Does the Y2K computer glitch mean trouble for our community on New Year's Eve, 2000...?? Find out at a special evening coffee hosted by **Sandra & Ron Cline** on **October 7th at 7:30pm**. We need to be prepared for a possibly chaotic event. **856-7908**.

ANNUAL EVENT!

SHHA Arts & Crafts Bazaar


Gifts you can smile about!

**Sunday
October 18th
11am - 4pm**

**At Futures
For Children
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(across from Circle K)**

Homemade crafts,
clothing, jewelry,
toys, paintings,
ornaments & more

856-6282
for space or info



SANDIA HEIGHTS
**RESIDENT
RECIPES**
FROM THE
4TH ANNUAL WINE TASTING

From the kitchen of Kit & Larry Anderson
**TAPENADE-STUFFED
CHERRY TOMATOES**

Ingredients:
1 cup - black olives
4 - flat anchovy fillets
1 Tbs - fresh lemon juice
1 clove - garlic
1 Tbs - olive oil
1 tsp - prepared mustard
1 - hard-boiled egg
1/8 tsp - ground black pepper

Scoop pulp from 30-35 cherry tomatoes. Fill with tapenade, using squirt icing gun. Garnish with parsley leaves. If tapenade is too thin, it may be thickened with wheat germ.

.....

From the kitchen of Linda & Mike Douglas
GREEN CHILE SPREAD

Ingredients:
2 (8 oz) - pkg cream cheese
2 (4 oz) - cans chile or equal amount frozen
1 cup - Miracle Whip
2 Tbs - Worcestershire sauce
2 Tbs - dried onion flakes
1/4 tsp - garlic powder or salt

Beat all ingredients together, add Tabasco to taste. Spread on pumpernickel or dark bread.

From the kitchen of Linda Caldwell
PINON PESTO SPREAD

Ingredients:
1/4 cup - pesto sauce
1/3 cup - pine nuts
1 Tbs - butter
2 Tbs - olive oil
1 (8 oz) - pkg cream cheese

Saute pine nuts in butter and oil till brown. Drain on paper towel. Spread pesto over block of cream cheese and top with the pine nuts.

A Vote for STEVE BACA is a VOTE FOR


- ✓ EDUCATION
- ✓ ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT
- ✓ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and the ENVIRONMENT
- ✓ PUBLIC SAFETY

A Vote for STEVE BACA is a VOTE AGAINST

- ✗ SPECIAL INTERESTS (STEVE is not accepting gambling contributions.)
- ✗ POLITICS AS USUAL (STEVE is not supported by Political Action Committees.)



"This district deserves superior representation in Santa Fe. I commit to you to provide exceptional public service, in partnership with you, to meet our community needs."



As your neighbor in Sandia Heights for 20 years, Steve shares your concerns. He will meet with you, listen to you, and represent you in Santa Fe. Call him anytime evenings and weekends at 856-1401, or send him E-mail at "ssbaca@computer.org".

VOTE FOR STEPHEN BACA
"Exceptional Public Service—Not Special Interest Politics"



stephen BACA
STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 23

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Stephen Baca, M. R. Baca, treasurer.

New Development / Parks / Gov't Liaison



Committee Chair, John Kelly answers questions at the SHHA Annual Meeting

By John Keller
SHHA New Development, Chair

As of this new fiscal year, the New Development Committee has been combined with Parks and the Government Liaison Committees. Board members include: John Keller, Barbara Rosnagle, Mary Westpfahl, Melanie Christman, Charles Pechewlys, and George Hight.

According to discussions with County Commissioner Seward's office, funds have been appropriated and two vendors identified, to provide the **light measuring equipment** needed to ensure compliance with the recently approved Lighting Ordinance. As soon as the equipment is purchased, testing will be carried out at the Kicks 66 on Tramway and other questionable locations. We will continue to pursue this matter.

The agent for the developer of the **shopping mall** to be built on property adjacent to the Kicks 66 station, said that the project was proceeding on schedule. Tenants are expected to fit the profile discussed at the SHHA annual meeting - bank, haircare, dry cleaners, financial service, restaurant/deli. The developer has also agreed to construction that is more representative of southwest-style architecture than was originally proposed. Present plans call for building to commence this fall, with occupancy of initial tenants by the end of 1998. Preliminary designs are expected in the next few weeks. When received, they can be made available to interested parties. Contact a committee member for more information.

Thanks to **Melanie Christman** for photo documenting the ongoing construction of **Little Cloud Park** on San Bernardino and Tramway. The new park is awaiting a bronze sculpture entitled "Close Quarters," by renowned artist Dan Ostermiller, to be unveiled at the dedication on October 24th at 10:30 am. Ex-Board member and resident **Janey Brink** has worked with the County to obtain this wonderful piece of art. SHHA Board Member **Littleville Bryant** represented the Association in the selection process, looking for something that would especially delight the community's children.

Birth of Little Cloud



Workers begin clearing the land for planting and picnic areas.



David Crossno, Construction Lab Technician for the County Public Works Division supervises the landscaping.



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nobody knows Sandia Heights longer or better!

Pat Lenzer

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**PARK
& SCULPTURE
DEDICATION:
OCTOBER
24TH
10:30 AM!**

Finishing touches are still being added as the dedication approaches. Stringent child safety laws and the location of the park bordering a concrete arroyo on the south and private land on the north, made fencing a necessity.

Treasurer Report

By Charlie Pechewlys - SHHA Treasurer

Some members have expressed concerns about the apparent growth in the surplus that the SHHA has available. This was raised both at the annual meeting and by letter (see Letters to the Editor in this issue). While I became your Treasurer only this June, I have been on your Board of Directors since October of '97 and offer these thoughts.

I am in agreement with those who believe that dues should be in line with current expenses. That said, neither total revenues to the association nor expenses are steady-state each month. Revenues from all sources vary based on things like how early/late we receive the collected dues (minus their fee) from the Tam Company, and whether there is a Grit or annual Directory to generate advertising dollars. Expenses vary as well - \$3,737 in April '98, but \$6,572 the previous April, for example. This past May and June, legal fees alone were \$4,564, primarily because of a covenant enforcement law suit.

Our operating balance over the "long term" should be the indicator of whether or not our Association is building an unneeded surplus. On July 31, 1997, our balance was \$23,808; while on June 30, 1998 (July figures not yet available), it was \$27,440. But a month earlier on May 30, it was at \$24,454.

My personal thinking, having been active in homeowners' associations for over 21 years, is that maintaining an operating balance of a few months expenses plus a reserve for the unexpected is reasonable. A homeowners association has no credit lines or other means to immediately get cash, and, having experienced it elsewhere, going to the members on short notice is not a good back-up plan.

In the next issue of the Grit, I will report on the monthly revenues, expenses, and the operating balance since the dues increase a few months ago. Together, we will all assess the financial health of our Association. Meanwhile, please feel free to contact me (or any Board member) for more information or to express your thoughts.



NEW
HOMEOWNERS
IN SANDIA
HEIGHTS ~1998

91

Covenant Support

By Susan Carlow - SHHA Covenant Support Committee, Chair

The SHHA Covenant Support Committee would like to take this opportunity to highlight three of the most pervasive covenant complaints: **yard debris, white roofs, and unscreened heating/cooling equipment.**

Debris - better known as trash, rubbish, noxious materials and yard clippings - is unsightly, degrades our neighborhood and diminishes individual property values. This debris attracts possible plague infected rodents and vermin like a magnet. It's also a fire hazard, and when piled in arroyos can impede natural water flow and cause flooding into unwanted areas. The remedy is simple. Sandia Heights Services provides the weekly removal of up to 10 bags of refuse, 5 of which can be 4'x2' tied bundles, each weighing less than 40 pounds. For an additional \$25, Sandia Heights Services will pick up and remove large items like furniture and appliances. To make an appointment call 857-8924. Summer is the season to enjoy our yards and the special beauty of Sandia Heights. Let's make it a time for all to comply with the "No Debris Section" of the covenants.

A white roof is a white roof, and there's no mistaking it for anything else! If you live under one, or are planning to install one, please be advised that the Covenants and the Architecture Control Committee request that your white roof be tinted an earth tone. Get a head start on any roof project by having your color choice approved first by the ACC.

Last, but not least, is the ubiquitous, unscreened cooling/heating equipment issue. The photos shown to the left - of screened versus unscreened evaporative coolers - are pictures worth a thousand words! Without question, a well built and/or maintained screen, can greatly enhance the beauty and value of your home. For the names of contractors or handymen who can help you achieve this home improvement, call the SHHA office at 296-1412.

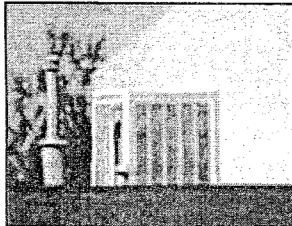
A FINAL IMPORTANT UPDATE: SHHA is speeding ahead on the "Information Superhighway." Thanks to **Debbie Miller and Ruth Friesen**, all 37 of the Sandia Heights Covenants are on the SHHA web page for your summer reading pleasure! Debbie spearheaded the development of our web site, and has added a new feature for filing "covenant complaints." This new digital form is easy to fill out, and your inquiries about possible violations in your neighborhood will be addressed quickly and efficiently. Give it a try at <http://www.nmia.com/shha>

Screened vs Unscreened

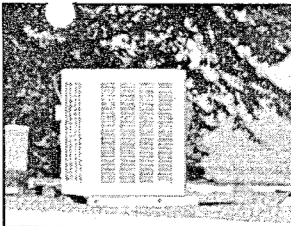
YES!



YES!



NO!



NO!

As a resident of Sandia Heights, if you were to look through all the reported Covenant Violations on file, the unscreened A/C leads the list. Frank Lloyd Wright once said, "...a house should have a sense of unity ... that makes it part of its site... it graces its environment, rather than disgraces it." I agree.

Jtm Neely - Covenant Support Committee

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RESIDENT PROFILE: A New Mexico First For

By Carolyn Hindel – Grit Editor



Gale Stewart, President of New Mexico's first full service Speaker's Bureau, takes a break in her "garden sanctuary."

Gale Stewart has never shied away from a challenge. So starting the first Professional Speaker's Bureau in the state of New Mexico with her husband Rod caps a long list of daunting accomplishments and major life changes.

Born Raythea Gale Davis in Poteau, Oklahoma in 1943, she lived with her mother and five siblings on welfare. The family took in laundry and grew their own food to survive, and Gale babysat her brothers and sisters from the time she was in the 4th grade. Her childhood was shaped "mostly by a rigid religious upbringing," says Gale. And getting married at 15, pregnant at 17. "Having a last name of Pickle probably did some shaping as well." She collected pickle jokes for many years – her favorite delivered by her youngest son from the school bus – "Hey Pickle, don't get jarred!"

It wasn't till 1968 that she passed her GED for a high school diploma with one of the highest scores ever. She remembers her stepmother and a dear friend saying over and over, "You need to go to college," even though she was 35 and had four children at home. "I've been hungry for something all of my life," says Gale, "always curious, and I liked learning." New Mexico State University-Grant's Campus was located nearby, and she had already taken some art classes there. But it took her friend applying for a full scholarship in her name, to finally convince her. "Lucy Bell Ma, a missionary who taught Bible as Literature at the college just could not stand to see me wasting my potential," said Gale. "So when all I had to pay for were books... I became a freshman." Her interest in art soon gave way to more pragmatic goals and a switch to the University of New Mexico.

Eight years later – including five years of driving 200 miles a day to UNM from Bluewater Lake; balancing part time jobs interning in Grant's mental health department and painting "little rocks for souvenir clocks;" and nursing her oldest daughter through a stressful kidney transplant – Gale received her Bachelor's in Psychology and a Master's in Counseling. She also got divorced. Thus at the pique of vocational reverie, there was chaos once again.

▶ Gale and Rod's unassuming entrance opens to a beautiful array of eclectic art, antiques and exotic personal interests – like the 110 gallon, 6ft. long salt water aquarium (below right) that separates the kitchen from the living room.

▼ Rod's office (below left) provides quite a handsome "indoor" retreat.



"When God closes a door, He opens a window somewhere else." Gale wholehearted believes in this little bit of wisdom as she conveys the next chapter of her life – an offer from her sister to live with her in New York City and get her Ph.D. Great! Gale sold all her belongings and threw fate to the wind. But before she arrived in the Big Apple, her sister had decided to get married.

Homeless, Gale immersed herself in writing, junk reading and traveling to derail a breakdown. She went to Nevada, Texas, Japan and China. She thought she might teach English abroad, but homesick for the desert skies, she returned to New Mexico during our incomparable fall colors... and found a new job. It was December, 1992.

The Outreach Coordinator for Sandoval County's Victims of Domestic Violence had to develop a program of services and then take it to the people. Gale had offices in Torreon, Jemez, Rio Rancho, Cuba and also the Navajo reservation to the southwest.

Over 2000 miles a month went on the odometer (UNM... peanuts!), as Gale traveled to towns educating and counseling both the abused and the offenders, doing PR work, giving speeches at support groups like Alcoholics Anonymous, and being on call for domestic problems 24 hours a day. She remembers receiving a phone call from the police warning her that they were seeking the husband of one of her clients, whom she had also counseled; he had a gun and if he came to her office, she was to call them immediately. "I was lucky," Gale said, "he didn't show up and I never saw him again." The job was exhausting, but she loved it.

But the tragic death of a daughter in June of '93, broke her heart and her passion for her work. Rod Stewart, a career Navy officer and part time minister whom she had met at a conference in San Diego, sang at the funeral. Rod had recently lost his wife Beverly, and shared pain and understanding soon evolved into affection and renewed life. Ah, the breeze from that window once again.

inded by Sandia Heights Twosome



Rod gets a big hug from Gale at his 70th Birthday "Roast," where many a fellow speaker and friend became Seinfeld for a night.



Rod retired from the Navy after 30 years with the rank of Captain, is now enjoying his career as an "edutainer."

Gale began marketing a few of Rod's friends through KOB Radio and the National and International Directories of Speakers. A flood of inquiries ensued and about 70 speakers registered within a few weeks. After that... interested parties found Gale.

She joined Meeting Professionals International and now serves as VP of Education for its NM Chapter. Her days are filled with screenings, tapes, videos and promotion kits of vintage and potential talent. She makes daily cold calls to meeting planners to share her list of clients and fit one or more of them into a future seminar, convention, banquet, training program or retreat. Gale maintains and updates an informational Internet web site on the company and its services - rodstewartspeakers.com; writes and produces "Speakeasy," a bi-monthly newsletter; and keeps in touch with business contacts through e-mail and postcard mailings. Fees for speakers can range from \$500 to \$20,000 (for celebrities). She once tried to book Colin Powell for an engagement in NM, but found he has an exclusive with the Washington Speakers Bureau and that, as they say, was that.

She checks out new talent when they come to town, and will not recommend unscreened speakers. "They have to touch me here," says Gale gesturing to her heart. "She runs a tight ship," Rod muses. He admits to being kept busy with *his* expertise: Communication, Leadership, Managing Change, Personal Quality, Team Spirit, and Creativity. Together they are working on Rod's latest offering - "The Y2K Problem." Gale also follows up every job with feedback on the performance to pass on to her clients. That includes Rod! "Feedback is extremely important. The speaker has to click with the audience." A highly paid talent does not necessarily get called back. It's the person that connects that is in demand. On a recent getaway to Puerto Villarta, Mexico, Gale heard a fascinating guru give a talk on physics, psychology and meditation - subjects that fill the nightstand next to her bed. He'll be in New Mexico next April. It's an exciting chance for her to bring an important message to others. She thrives on that.

So... as liaison between speaker and meeting planner until a performance is complete and coordinator of all payments and expenses involved, Gale finds sitting next to St. Francis of the garden a transcending and necessary part of the day. In fact, you'll find both Rod and Gale, hoses and spades in hand, expanding their quiet refuge when the phones are not ringing.

If you or your business needs motivation, the number is 822-1113, the name is Rod Stewart & Associates, the woman who answers is part of one dynamic duo *~*

Rodney L. Stewart is an Albuquerque native who moved into a Bill Biffle home in Sandia Heights in 1980. He spent 30 years in the Navy assigned to eight ships - as both Executive Officer and Commanding. He served in Japan, England, Norway and Belgium, where he was special assistant to General Alexander Haig. Retiring with the rank of Captain, Rod, who doesn't believe in slowing down, embarked upon several new careers: in the hi-tech industry with BMD Corporation, in education as VP of Parks College, and in construction as Personnel Director for Jaynes Corporation. But by 1988 he was "growing up out of his hair" and realized it was time to do what he *really* wanted. He joined the National Speakers Association and found his greatest calling... professional speaker, seminar leader and "edutainer," as he likes to call himself. It's where his many talents and personalities can come to play, educating and motivating his audience with a humorous flair. Let's face it, "Rod's a ham," says Gale lovingly. He also volunteered for a myriad of very worthwhile, non-profit organizations - Kiwanis Club (past President), Navy League of the United States (National Director), Albuquerque Sister Cities Foundation, Albuquerque Tips Club, and Navy Recruiting District Assistance Council. For the last 10 years Rod has coordinated Kiwanis and Optimistic Club volunteers for Parking & Admissions at Balloon Fiesta. Somewhere he also found time to serve on the SHHA Board, and become Santa Clause for the children of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and anywhere else he's needed. Whew!

While Rod added to his list of accomplishments, Gale was being honored as the First Cibola County Woman of Achievement and one of the 30 Outstanding NM Women in 1991. A perfect match, I'd say. They would agree, and marriage vows were exchanged in June of 1994.

Gale's move to Sandia Heights was a bit of a shock. She loved the house and the rugged high desert, but her maturing spirit missed "green" and seemed to crave more "soft." She could tell by the terraced spots out back that Rod was feeling the same way, so they conspired to build a "garden sanctuary" where all the stress of the day could be drained into a beautiful rock waterfall and grassy respite. "Somewhere to go barefoot," they say. There was no master plan, an earlier placement of boulders and trees defined the space. But little by little, the dream grew into a delightful retreat, with walkways through a xeriscape of sages, cholla and cow's tongue cactus; a vegetable patch of radishes, lettuce and purple pod beans; and a bevy of roses that attract butterflies, birds and bees. Two bronze cranes were an anniversary present last year and a statue of St. Francis appropriately welcomes all visitors to this very special place.

Gale began helping Rod to market his speaking engagements and soon realized that New Mexico simply did not have a full service Speakers Bureau - just a smattering of individuals working on their own or in small groups to get work. They saw the window... and stuck both heads in... incorporating and setting up shop in home offices with a view of the "sanctuary."

Gale beams at Bernadette's Boutique in Grants (1990), after a day of booksigning her collection of newsletter articles entitled "A View From My Window."



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County Of Bernalillo

Fall 1998 Report



THE BERNALILLO COUNTY FILL ORDINANCE: WHY DO WE HAVE ONE?

As is the case with other environmental health ordinances, the purpose of this fill ordinance is driven by a need to protect the citizens in the county from the adverse effects of improper placement of unacceptable substances during the act of filling property. This ordinance also addresses the need to preserve the alignment and capacity of natural drainage paths.

The ordinance specifically identifies unacceptable fill that should not be placed on private or public property. These types of substances are:

1. Organic materials including coal tar products, wood of any kind and plastics.
2. Hazardous and toxic waste.
3. Any liquid, gaseous or solid waste that would pollute any waters.
4. Garbage and rubbish.
5. Commercial, institutional, industrial and recreational waste.
6. Yard waste.

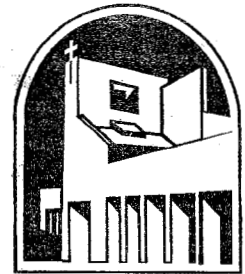
Individuals intending to fill private or public property, must obtain a permit from Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department. It can be obtained by filing a written application with the Department accompanied by a fee of \$50.00 and must include:

1. Applicant's name, mailing address, telephone and date.
2. Legal description of the property where fill is to be placed.
3. Characteristics of existing soil conditions.
4. Depth of ground water
5. Flood potential based on the 100 year storm.
6. Direction of ground water flow.
7. Delineation of on-site liquid waste within 100 feet of proposed fill.
8. Contour map showing topography before and after proposed filling.
9. Storm water drainage patterns before and after proposed filling.
10. Types of fill material to be used and method of placement.

For additional information or answers to questions, please contact the Bernalillo County Environmental Health Department at 924-3650. For proposed fills greater than 500 cubic yards, contact the Bernalillo County Public Works Department at 845-1500.

...til next time...

Barbara J. Seaward
Bernalillo County Commissioner
District 4



Church of the Good Shepherd

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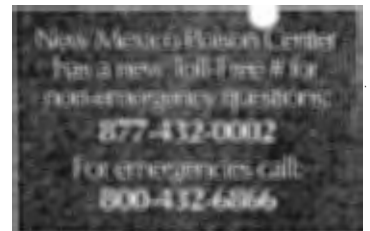
Jesus often confronted situations of fear and intolerance. In response, he brought the healing waters of Love to the arid desert of life.

We strive to follow Him as stewards of the whole of creation; faithful to God, witnesses for Christ and led by the Holy Spirit.

Join us in our Faith Journey.

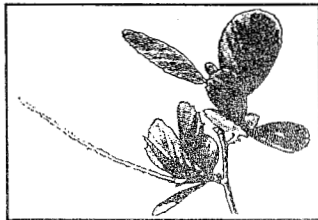
Sunday Worship; 10:30 AM
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(505) 856-1004 (Next to Taxway)



PLANT OF THE SEASON

Curly Leaf Mahogany (*Cercocarpus ledifolius*). A handsome evergreen shrub or small tree that grows 6-10 ft. tall and 3-8 ft. wide. It has an open growing habit that is naturally multiple-stemmed, but may be trained to have a single trunk. It has reddish-brown bark that is lightly furrowed and light gray branches. Aromatic, leathery foliage is dark green above, white beneath, and the leaf edges curl under.



Curly Leaf Mahogany
Cercocarpus ledifolius

This plant is a native found on various mountain ranges and adjoining foothill regions throughout the western US, and can be seen growing in the foothills and elevations of the Sandias. Cold hardy down to -30°F, it may be planted anywhere in New Mexico up to 10,000 ft.

Planting: Plant in full or half sun at least 6 ft. away from the spread of other plants. No soil amendment is needed as long as the soil is well drained (that's everywhere in Sandia Heights). Dig a hole the size of the rootball and set the plant in. Build a berm of soil 2-3 ft. around the base and fill the basin twice with water to ensure a deep soaking. For the first two weeks you must keep the plant moist. As time passes, decrease the frequency of watering but increase the amount of water given. When to water depends upon many factors, but an established plant only needs a deep soaking every 3-4 weeks.

Recommended Use: Anywhere a drought tolerant shrub or small tree is needed.

A good plant for narrow planting areas or for containers. Moderate growth rate that will eventually form a thicket providing a cover for small animals and birds. Use as a medium-sized windbreak. Two related species are Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*), a medium size deciduous shrub and Littleleaf Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus intricatus*), an evergreen that looks like a miniature version of Curly-Leaf Mahogany.

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

One Perfect Garden

By Shirley Medina – Master Gardener

After years of designing and redesigning my own garden, I've arrived at the conclusion that most gardeners are rarely content with the results they have achieved. There is always the longing for the bigger, better tasting tomato, or the larger, more perfect rose. Each year renews our chances of producing an even better garden. I, personally, move plants around as if they were furniture, trying to produce the perfect visual effect and complement of plants. This is my attempt at designing one perfect garden... one perfect *xeric* garden.

The first step I took in my design effort, was to create a list of requirements that a plant in my perfect garden should have. My first requirement was that the plant I chose must be included in the City of Albuquerque's "How to Xeriscape" guide and approved plant list. It is interesting to note that *only native plants do not a xeriscape make!* In other words, a the xeriscape guide includes a wide spectrum of plants which are not limited to native plants.

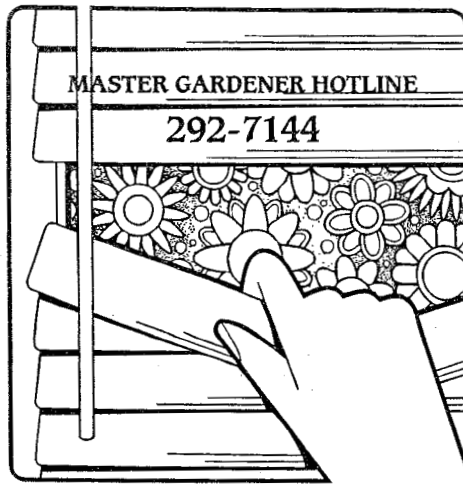
The second requirement on my list included plants which can thrive in drier soil. This means that they do not require much amendment of the soil, and will benefit from low to medium water. The other requirements included: 1) whether it has interesting texture and/or color; 2) whether it is a good ground cover or border plant which would help retain moisture; 3) whether it has a good fragrance or aroma; 4) whether it has a use – such as being edible or good for dyes or crafts; and finally, 5) whether it attracts pollinators such as bees, butterflies or hummingbirds. All the plants I chose meet the first and second requirements, and meet three or more of the remaining requirements.

My perfect garden begins indoors with potted dwarf citrus trees such as Calamondin (*x Citrofortunella mitis*) which can be used to make marmalade and can be grown on a tabletop; *C. limon* which produces about a dozen lemons annually; *C. aurantifolia* which grows to about eight feet in pots and produces about a dozen limes annually; *C. x paradisi* which grows to about seven feet indoors, and produces five to ten grapefruits annually; and *Fortunella spp.* which produces twenty-five to fifty kumquats annually. This indoor garden then opens to my outdoor beneficial xeric garden. The landscape continues just outside my door with a patio surrounded by more dwarf and semi dwarf fruit trees, especially *Prunus americana* (plum) and *Prunus armeniaca* (apricot). The trees are surrounded by border and groundcover plants, with the taller plants in the background and the lower plants in the foreground. These plants feather out to the thyme lawn (*Thymus spp.*) which weaves its way through the flagstone patio centered in this perfect garden.

Interestingly, many of the plants I selected include herbs: Rue (*Ruta graveolens*), Borage (*Borago officinalis*), Lavender (*Lavandula spp.*), Garden Sage (*Sabia officinalis*), and Southernwood, wormwood, tarragon, fringed or prairie sage (*Artemisia spp.*). Other plants, added mostly for color include: Iris (rhizome and bulb types), Coreopsis (*Coreopsis verticillata*, *C. lanceolata*), and

Rose (*Rosa rugosa*). To make this garden complete, I would add trellises with climbers or a hedge of New Mexico Olive trees (*Forestiera neomexicana*) for privacy. Finally, I would edge my perfect garden with a number of vegetables or edibles such as melons, sunflowers and beans grown from native seeds.

If you have been able to envision this garden, there are enough plants to make a dense habitat which is not only inviting, but also helps retain the little moisture it is given. It's also an attempt to incorporate some permaculture concepts into a xeriscape. The perfect garden will always have more than one purpose. My perfect xeric garden is attractive, beneficial and ecologically sound. Hopefully, these ideas will help you to design yours.



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Sue & John

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SANDIA HEIGHTS **RESIDENT RECIPES**
FROM THE 4TH ANNUAL WINE TASTING

From the kitchen of Kit & Larry Anderson
TAPENADE-STUFFED CHERRY TOMATOES

Ingredients:
1 cup - black olives
4 - flat anchovy fillets
1 Tbs - fresh lemon juice
1 clove - garlic
1 Tbs - olive oil
1 tsp - prepared mustard
1 - hard-boiled egg
1/8 tsp - ground black pepper

Scoop pulp from 30-35 cherry tomatoes. Fill with tapenade, using squirt icing gun. Garnish with parsley leaves. If tapenade is too thin, it may be thickened with wheat germ.

.....

From the kitchen of Linda & Mike Douglas
GREEN CHILE SPREAD

2 (8 oz) - pkg cream cheese
2 (4 oz) - cans chile or equal amount frozen
1 cup - Miracle Whip
2 Tbs - Worcestershire sauce
2 Tbs - dried onion flakes
1/4 tsp - garlic powder or salt

Beat all ingredients together, add Tabasco to taste. Spread on pumpernickel or dark bread

From the kitchen of Linda Caldwell
PINON PESTO SPREAD

1/4 cup - pesto sauce
1/2 cup - pine nuts
1 Tbs - butter
2 Tbs - olive oil
1 (8 oz) - pkg cream cheese

Saute pine nuts in butter and oil till brown. Drain on paper towel. Spread pesto over block of cream cheese and top with the pine nuts.

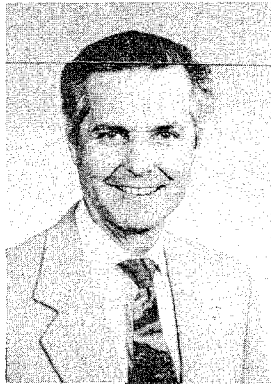
A Vote for STEVE BACA is a VOTE FOR

- ✓ EDUCATION
- ✓ ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT
- ✓ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and the ENVIRONMENT
- ✓ PUBLIC SAFETY

A Vote for STEVE BACA is a VOTE AGAINST

- ✗ SPECIAL INTERESTS (STEVE is not accepting gambling contributions.)
- ✗ POLITICS AS USUAL (STEVE is not supported by Political Action Committees.)

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"Exceptional Public Service—Not Special Interest Politics"



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**BERNALILLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:
Sheriff's Swat Team is #1**



(l to r) Captain D. Linthicum, J. Johnston, V. Eldredge, M. Gonzales, Sheriff Joe Bowdich, J. Gonzales, and F. Ortega at award ceremonies in Aiken, SC.

Bernalillo County Sheriff's SWAT Team has taken the top honors, two years running, as "Local Law Enforcement Team of the Year" at a recent Department of Energy (DOE) Security Police Officer Training Competition at the Savannah River Site in Aiken, South Carolina. In addition, the Bernalillo County Team swept a number of other competitive events, including "Local Law Enforcement Officer of the Year."

"What these awards mean to the community is we are assured that the Sheriff's SWAT Team remains among the best of the best teams in the country. Our track record proves that. Our training standards are high, which is reasonable because we expect more from those who take on the commitment and responsibility to safeguard our neighborhoods," said Sheriff Joe Bowdich.

DOE established the annual training competition to foster excellence and professionalism among its security forces and to demonstrate the readiness of those forces at DOE facilities across the nation. The national competition includes non-DOE agencies, such as the B.C.S.D. The Sheriff's SWAT Team works closely with the DOE and regularly goes through a rigorous tactical training exercise at DOE's Central Training Academy on Kirtland Air Force Base.

Named "Local Law Enforcement Team of the Year" for the second consecutive year, the Bernalillo County SWAT Team got a perfect score in the competition. The South Carolina Highway Patrol placed second. The team competition is a test of skill in events including firearms, physical fitness, tactical skills, leadership and teamwork. Honors included:

- Local Law Enforcement Officer of the Year**
 1. Deputy Fermin Ortega
 2. Deputy James Gonzales

3. Deputy Jay Johnston
 Deputy Van Eldredge -12th
 Deputy Manuel Gonzales -17th
- Law Enforcement Tactical Handgun Phase 1**
 1. Deputy Fermin Ortega
 2. Deputy James Gonzales
 3. Deputy Jay Johnston
 Deputy Manuel Gonzales - 6th
 Deputy Van Eldredge - 22nd
- Law Enforcement Tactical Handgun Phase 2**
 1. Deputy Fermin Ortega
 2. Deputy James Gonzales
 4. Deputy Jay Johnston
 Deputy Van Eldredge -21st
 Deputy Manuel Gonzales -29th
- Law Enforcement Tactical Handgun Phase 3**
 1. Deputy James Gonzales
 2. Deputy Jay Johnston
 3. Deputy Fermin Ortega
 Deputy Manuel Gonzales -23rd
- Law Enforcement Tactical Handgun Phase 4**
 1. Deputy James Gonzales
 2. Deputy Fermin Ortega
 3. Deputy Jay Johnston
 4. Deputy Van Eldredge
 6. Deputy Manuel Gonzales
- Law Enforcement Tactical Handgun Phase 5**
 1. Deputy James Gonzales
 2. Deputy Fermin Ortega
 Deputy Jay Johnston -8th
 Deputy Manuel Gonzales -14th
- Law Enforcement Tactical Handgun Phases 1, 2, 3, 4**
 1. Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department (perfect scores in all four phases)

SANDIA HEIGHTS SECURITY CALLS JANUARY - JULY 1998

TYPE OF CALL:	YTD:
Alarms	304
Open Door/Window	15
Motorist Assist	59
Breaking & Entering	5
Attempted Breaking & Entering	3
Possible Breaking & Entering	1
Construction Site Burglary	6
Vehicle Burglary	9
Suspicious Vehicle	63
Suspicious Person	22
Peeping Tom	1
Theft (Larceny)	9
Animal Control Assist	13
Lost/Found Pet	29
Pet Nuisance	10
Snake	8
Family Dispute	2
Neighbor Dispute	3
Loud Disruptive Party	6
Fireworks Complaint	5
Vandalism (General)	13
Mailbox Vandalism	22
Mailbox Stolen	0
Lost/Found Items	6
Deer Hunters	0
Speeding Vehicle	2
Assault/Battery (Fight)	3
Death Threat	1
Unusual Special Request	19
Salesperson Problems	10
Phone Problems	2
Car Accident	9
Motorcycle Nuisance	0
Fire	8
Rescue	11
Construction Sites	19
Vacant Houses (For Sale, etc.)	13
Specials (Extra patrols/observation)	26
Homeowners on Vacation	1357
TOTAL CALLS	2154
Total Mileage	27,493

**Security's mobile number:
263-4654
The office is still 856-6347.**

New Mexico Zoological Society's
RENDEZVOUS AT THE ZOO
 "A BLACK AND WHITE AFFAIR"
 Saturday, September 19, 1998
 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Rio Grande Zoo

Exotic food, entertainment, live and silent auctions.
 \$50 per person, \$500 for a table of 10
 For more information call 505-764-6280

Sponsors: Magic 99.5 FM, KHFM & Printer's Press

**Rendezvous at the Zoo
for a "Gala Extraordinaire"**

On September 19th, the New Mexico Zoological Society will co-sponsor a gala evening to benefit the Rio Grande Zoo. Other sponsors include Printer's Press and Magic 99.5 FM, KHFM. The "Black & White Affair" will feature exotic French foods, a live auction, silent auction, music of the '50s and '60s by the Hubcaps, and dancing under the stars. Chris Schueler, host of the Emmy Award winning Adventure Rio children's TV series will be emcee and auctioneer. Black and white attire is encouraged. **Tickets are \$50 per person and must be purchased by September 15th** (\$25 of each ticket is tax deductible). Corporate tables for 10 are available for \$500. To order, call the NM Zoological Society at 764-6280.

The 1997 Rendezvous raised \$20,000 toward the renovation of the Rainforest exhibit at the zoo. NMZS is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote the development of our zoo, foster community interest and assist in education and fundraising for capital improvement.



ABQ Meals On Wheels Needs A Few Good Cogs

Albuquerque Meals on Wheels can use some volunteers at Northside Presbyterian Hospital on Monday and Tuesday as coordinators, to act as liaisons between the kitchen preparing the meals, the drivers picking up and delivering the meals, and the MOW office.

Coordinators are very important people, responsible for (1) letting drivers know the additions or cancellations of clients on their delivery route; (2) reporting information from the drivers to the MOW office; and (3) preparing part of the meal packages for the next day. They work from approximately 11am - 1:30 pm one day per week. If you would like to participate in this worthwhile endeavor, or would like more information, please call the Meals On Wheels office - 291-2060.

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Traffic & Safety Report

By Irene Middleton – SHHA Traffic & Safety, Chair

A very productive meeting recently took place between members of the Traffic & Safety Committee, County Commissioner Barbara Seward, and various representatives of the Bernalillo County Public Works Department. We are hoping to achieve an open line of communication with the proper authorities so that our concerns can be addressed in a timely manner. Some of the issues discussed:

1. Speeding and the resulting "traffic calming devices"
2. Speed hump policy and stop sign warrant studies
3. Timing of signal lights on Tramway Boulevard
4. Repaving and striping of roads
5. Clearing of chamisa that is blocking roadways

Commissioner Seward stated that our roads would not conform to the guidelines being set for today's developments. Of course, our meandering, hilly roads are part of the community's charm. But it is also this characteristic that increases the danger for automobiles, pedestrians and bicycles.

Excessive speed seems to be the paramount concern of many of the residents. Ironically, it is OUR RESIDENTS who are speeding. There was a lengthy discussion on the procedure necessary to install speed humps on certain streets. Martin Garcia, Director of Public Works, agreed to look into special consideration for installation of speed humps on some of our main thoroughfares. To apply for a speed hump on your road, contact the SHHA office at 296-1412 for a County application. If you feel that there are traffic/safety concerns in your area, please contact a member of this Committee listed on the front page of the Grit.

To improve the quality of life in our special neighborhood, let's stop speeding!! Thank you.

WALKING PATHS ALONG MAJOR ROADWAYS?

National funding may be available for pedestrian walkways along some of our major Sandia Heights thoroughfares with easements already in existence. Interested parties should call Irene Middleton at 821-6343

Sandia Heights
Wildflower
Club

"Penstemons"
with speaker Jean Heffin

Wednesday, November 18

7:30 pm

at the home of

Judith Appenzeller
1559 Eagle Ridge Road
822-0269

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

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

SPEED LIMITS IN SANDIA HEIGHTS.

At the Annual Meeting one homeowner raised the issues of the speed limits in Sandia Heights and how to enforce them. Probably without meaning to, he also brought up the issue that perhaps the present limits are too low, since he implied that "two times the present limits might be OK, but that three or four times is too much."

Maybe that is a good part of the problem. If the present speed limits are perceived as unreasonably low, people may then not only ignore the advice value of the signs but feel that anything goes. Speed limits, like any other law, tend to be better observed if people agree they are needed and are fair and reasonable. There will always be drivers who regard winding roads as challenges to their Grand Prix abilities, but I suspect the majority of residents are guided by common sense.

Some of our roads have very limited lines of sight due to curves, narrowness and roadside shrubs and trees. On a road like that, I naturally tend to drive around 15 mph with no need for signs to remind me of official limits. Roadrunner Lane is one of those roads, and I am not aware that there is even a sign on it. Then there are other roads – like Live Oak and Cedar Hill. For reasons that are not clear, Live Oak has a 25mph limit, whereas Cedar Hill from Tramway Blvd. to Tramway Lane – which is one of the widest and straightest streets in Sandia Heights – is limited to 15mph. Note that this stretch of Cedar Hill does not even have individual driveways off of it, whereas Live Oak has at least a few.

There are other roads signed for 25mph (San Bernardino, for example), so it seems someone has made a value judgement about the proper limit for each street. But what indeed were the reasons for the decisions between 15mph and 25mph? Was 15mph based on technical considerations of the individual road? If the decisions were only capricious, then I think even those who try to be law abiding may feel they are hurting no one by driving "two times" the limit. (As an object lesson, take a right east off Tramway Blvd. on Cedar Hill, and see what speed you reach based on an appraisal of road hazards and safety of the street rather than obeying the speed limit.)

To summarize, we have a hodgepodge of speed limits in Sandia Heights with no apparent "real world" logic. No wonder the speed limits are often ignored by even responsible drivers. I suggest that setting limits in tune with reality – accompanied with justification to allow community ownership of them – may be a step in the direction of having "actual" speeds within Sandia Heights and our territory more in line with safety.

SHHA SURPLUS FUNDS

The 1997-1998 Annual Report for SHHA indicates that we will have a budget surplus of \$9,000 to \$10,000 for the fiscal year about to end. That means a sizeable increase in SHHA's uncommitted cash position from \$18,000 to \$27,000 or more. I believe this is mainly due to the increase in monthly SHHA dues which started in January.

At the Annual Meeting, I asked what the Association was getting for the increase in dues. Two examples volunteered by the Board were that over-budget legal fees could be covered and that the Architectural Control Committee no longer charged for certain reviews. Based on the 1997-98 Treasurer's Report, I suspect that these expenses would most likely have been covered by underspending in other budget items.

With all respect, it should be noted that when the vote was taken at the 1997 annual meeting, the reason for suggesting that the Board consider a raise in dues was for a very specific purpose (i.e., possibly buying the land just east of Paseo del Norte at Tramway Blvd.). I was against that particular project and so voted, but at least there was logic in raising dues for a specific purpose. As it is, we now have dues 40% higher than a year ago and all we have to show for it is to have covered two minor over-budget items and a large addition to surplus.

I submit that dues should be in line with current expenses and therefore reduced until the time some meaningful project comes along to require an increase. I would rather hold on to my money than send it to SHHA, Santa Fe or Washington for representatives to spend because it is in the "surplus."

James F. Sauvage

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SANDIA HAPPENINGS By Carolyn Hindel - Grit Editor



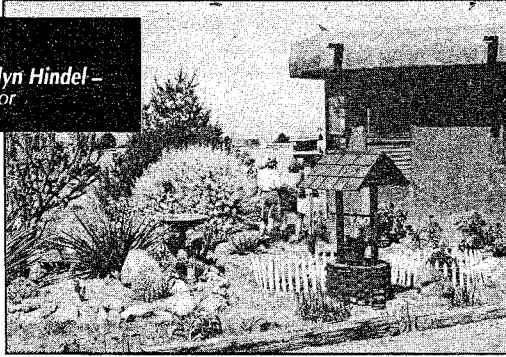
Living in the foothills of the Sandias gives us a front row seat for some of nature's most spectacular storms. It also puts us in the middle of some potentially dangerous electrical phenomena. While working on this issue of *The Grit* during a heavy rain with no apparent lightning, a deafening explosion and white flash occurred inside the studio of our home that knocked my husband and me out of our chairs. The computers went dead along with the lights. We were in shock but unharmed. Extremely lucky, I'd say.

What appears to have happened, was a power surge from a lightning strike either directly on the house or very nearby. We thought all of our equipment was connected to surge protection devices, but our phones were not and the message machine was plugged directly into the wall outlet. The strike blew up one phone and traveled through the phone lines to another phone, frying the circuitry and causing the "sonic boom" that was heard by our neighbors down the block. We now realize we could easily have been killed had one of us been talking on the phone. In fact, statistics attribute most lightning-strike deaths not to people on the golf course, but to people on their phones. Scary.

So if you haven't put your electrical devices (and that includes TVs, stereos, toasters, etc.) on surge protectors... do it! You can buy strips that accommodate both electrical and phone wires. Talk to your local supplier about what you need to be safe. I'm glad we're still here to share this experience... *and* this Grit.

The Sandia Heights Wildflower Club Garden Walk on May 30th was a delightful event this year, organized by gardening enthusiast and Board member, Nancy Norem. This annual spring tradition is a great opportunity to view some of our community's unique back yards. Wildflower Club meetings are held once a month and are open to residents who want to learn more about our wealth of native flora.

Garden Walk greets from this year's event: (top to bottom) Jim & Mary Lou Furaus of Lynx Loop; A.G. & Sara Warford of Laurel Loop; Jill & Carolyn McAdoo of Spring Creek Court; Don & Jean Washburn of Marigold Drive; and Gil & Bev Grady of Bobcat Boulevard.



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Fresh Bread - Great Taste

New Mexico's Own Red Chile Ristras

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

From mid-September until frost, green chile matures and turns deep red. New Mexicans have traditionally harvested and strung red chile into colorful strings called ristras. The chile is allowed to dry in New Mexico's warm sun for use during the winter months.

To make a chile ristra, select freshly picked, mature red chile pods. If the chile still has a light green coloration, place it in a cool, dark and well ventilated place two to three days. This will help it finish ripening and turn it a bright red. Green chile is not acceptable for making ristras. Because it has not reached maturity, green chile will only shrivel and turn a dull orange color as it dries.

Allow red chile pods to set two to three days after picking. This allows the stems to lose some of their moisture. In the ristra tying process, stems often break if they are too fresh. If fresh chile is bought in closed containers or plastic bags, take the chile out to avoid spoilage.

Materials needed to make a chile ristra are one bushel of red chile, lightweight cotton string and baling wire or twine. Begin by tying clusters of three chile pods on the lightweight string. To tie clusters, hold three chiles by their stems. Wrap the string around the stems twice (Figure 1). Bring the string up between two of the chiles and pull tight (Figure 2).

Make a half hitch with the string and drop it over all three stems; pull the string tight (Figure 3). Pick up three more chile pods and tie another cluster about three inches above the first cluster. Continue until there are several clusters of three chiles. Break the string and start again; continue tying until all the chile has been used.

Suspend the baling wire or twine from a door knob. Make a loop in the loose end of the wire or twine to keep the chile clusters from slipping off (Figure 4a). You can use a wooden dowel at the end of the wire or twine to keep the chile in place (Figure 4b). Beginning with the first three chile pods (one cluster) tied to the lightweight string, braid the chile around the wire or twine.

The process is like braiding a girl's hair; the wire serves as one strand and the stems of two chiles in the cluster are the other two strands (Figure 5). As the chile is braided, push down in the center to make sure of a tight wrap. Position the chile to protrude in different directions- If this is not done, empty spaces can develop along one side of the ristra. Continue braiding until all the chile clusters are used.

Hang the finished ristra in full sun where there is good ventilation. The chile can turn moldy and rot without proper air circulation for final drying. This causes discoloration which detracts from the ristra's natural beauty and would preclude using the chile as food. Chile pods from ristras sprayed with plastic, shellac or insecticide are not edible and are to be used for decorative purposes only.



Fig. 1: Wrap the string around the stems of 3 chiles.



Fig. 2: Pull the string up tightly between 2 of the chiles.



Fig. 3: Make a half hitch over the 3 stems, chiles.

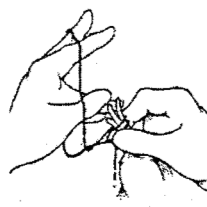


Fig. 4: Make a loop at the end of the wire (A) or fasten it to a peg or dowel (B).

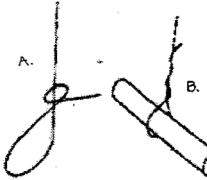
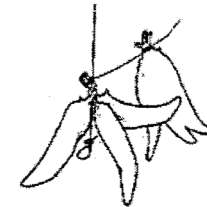


Fig. 5: Braid the clusters of chile around the wire.



RED CHILE SAUCE

Prepared from your dried chile pods.

- 1 cup Chile Puree, below
- 1 cup water
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed oregano leaves

In a saucepan, combine Chile Puree, water, garlic, salt and vegetable oil. Simmer gently (10 min.) stirring frequently. Add oregano and simmer another 5 - 7 min. Makes 1 pint.

Chile Puree:

Select dry chile pods in optimum condition. Do not use pods with signs of mold, insect infestation, signs of disease or decay.

Remove stems, seeds and yellow veins from pods. (12 to 14 large chiles yield about 1 pint of puree.) Leave the veins if a hotter sauce is desired.

Wash pods in warm water, lifting them out and changing water several times. Place pods in a pan and cover with warm water 30 min. to 1 hour to rehydrate. Add warm water as needed. Simmer pods and water 10 min. until pulp is soft, thick and separating from the skin. Place pods and some of the water in a blender and puree until smooth. Press through a sieve or colander to remove any peeling bits.

De Merry Olde Christmas Faire



Thanksgiving
Weekend

November 27, 28, & 29

Manuel Lujan Exhibit Complex
NM State Fairgrounds

This year's special arts and crafts fair will feature over 250 exhibitors from around the nation. Dickens characters will be there to host a **Costume Parade and Contest on Saturday, November 28th, at 12 noon.** Olde English, Victorian or Olde Christmas are the themes and costumed patrons will be admitted free. Santa and Mrs. Clause will be at Santa's Village and Christmas Carols will sung by various High School Chorale Groups. It's "A Dickens of a Faire" with gifts and gourmet foods to foster ye olde Christmas spirit. Attendance supports several local charities.

For more information - call Sandia Heights resident **Pauline Breidenbach**, who has coordinated this event for many years with **Jeanne LeMon**, at 856-1970.

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Judge Greene Rules in Favor of Pueblo Claim

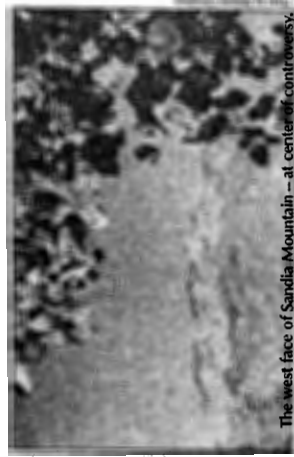
by Jack Walker - Sandia Mountain Coalition, Co-Chair

We have just received notice that Judge Greene has rendered an unfavorable decision remanding the Sandia Pueblo case to Secretary Babbitt for action consistent with his finding (and order), which concluded that the Department of Interior violated the Administrative Procedures Act when they refused the Pueblo's claim to the west face of the Sandia Mountain.

While this is a major disappointment, we in the Sandia Mountain Coalition (SMC) and many US Government and local officials still believe the claim is without merit and that we should not give up the fight just yet. It's too early to know if the Justice Department will appeal this ruling to a higher court but we do believe that officials in the Interior and Agriculture (Forest Service) Departments are as surprised as we are by this ruling, and that they will continue to resist the Pueblo's claim. The SMC and Bernalillo County have already filed their intention to appeal the case to a higher court.

Since Judge Greene's deliberation was limited, he did not consider the most recent evidence suggesting that "expert opinions" offered to support the Pueblo's claim in court were based on a mistranslation. In 1866, of an apparent, fraudulently altered copy of the original 1748 Spanish land grant document. In a report prepared for the Forest Service, Dr. Stanley Hordes (former New Mexico Historian - one of the nation's most noted on the Spanish era) found that the mistranslation "...has several key misrepresentations, using language not contained either in the original Spanish documents or in the translator's own translation from the archaic Spanish handwriting to modern Spanish letters." He cites an eyewitness report found in the archives from the 18th century, describing how a copy of the land grant document, obviously used for translation, was altered fraudulently. Dr. Hordes shows that the Pueblo received more, not less land, than was intended. You can obtain a copy of his report from the Forest Service office at 2113 Osuna or call 846-2650.

The SMC will continue its efforts to preserve the mountain for everyone and encourage you to speak up now if you want to support this position. In spite of the Pueblo's insistence that the land will remain open to the public, any future Tribal Council can decide differently as a "sovereign nation," with little public recourse. Please contact Senators Domenici and Bingaman, Representative Wilson, Governor Johnson and Mayor Baca and tell them to act immediately to preserve this priceless open space for us and for future generations. Ask that they demand of Interior Secretary Babbitt, consideration of the Hordes evidence and that the Justice, Interior and Agriculture Departments appeal Judge Greene's ruling.



The west face of Sandia Mountain - at center of controversy.

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