

THE
LITTLE



Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

May 2005

SHHA ANNUAL MEETING

Church of the Good Shepherd on Tennyson, 10 AM – 1 PM, June 4th 2005

Coffee, tea, hot chocolate and various refreshments will be available.

There's a lot going on lately in Sandia Heights, from the possible development of the Mhoon property at Paseo del Norte and Tramway, the ice rink expansion, to the issue of speed humps. Come and make your input known. Business to be conducted includes:

- Introduction of new officers elected by the Board.
- Presentations by the SHHA Committee Chairmen and Officers.
- Election of new Board members to replace outgoing Board members.
- Voting on changes to SHHA's Bylaws. Our bylaws require a minimum of forty members including a majority of Board Members to enact business.
- Town Hall Meeting for residents to express their concerns.

The Board of SHHA needs to know the concerns of the community. Please plan on attending and making your input known. Democracy means involvement!

President's Message by Ralph Rudolph

It's been a busy year for SHHA and its committees. Several ad hoc committees continue to actively work on issues relating to commercial development along Tramway and to obtain petitions relating to blocking such development, such as the Mhoon property at Tramway and Paseo del Norte. A San Rafael speed hump committee is continuing to work to get additional humps on the upper roads as well as those currently installed.

Our Traffic & Safety committee, working with the County, has finally gotten the speed humps installed on lower San Rafael to alleviate the speeding problems, making that part of our community a bit safer. The Architectural Control Committee is busier than ever, handling a record number of new homes, landscaping and upgrades in a professional manner. The Covenant Support Committee, working with a subcommittee, finally has the proposed Unified Covenants in a form that can soon be submitted for voting by residents. It is a vast improvement on the sometimes ambiguously worded original covenants. The new Cedar Hill Park, with input from our Parks & New Development Committee, is almost complete and is being enjoyed by our residents. The Membership Services Committee is encouraging active input from our residents and is developing many new activities to bring us closer as a community. And, our finances are in great shape.

The Board now has committee charters in place plus several new policies and standardized procedures and is functioning smoothly. Problems with our database and file sharing have been (we hope) eliminated and office procedures have been streamlined and updated.

The Board, at it's April meeting, reelected Ralph Rudolph as President, elected Ed Whitten as Vice President and Glen Cheney as Treasurer for 2005-2006.

TREASURER'S REPORT
By: Cheryl Iverson – Treasurer

CASH FLOW – March 31, 2005	
RECEIVED	
ACC	\$355.00
Wine Tasting Income	\$3,615.00
Member Dues	\$12,621.42
Total Received	\$16,591.42
EXPENSES	
<u>Committee Expense</u>	
Communications	
Little Grit	\$374.55
Legal	\$11,320.00
Traffic & Safety	\$706.69
EC Magazine	\$258.00
Total Committee Expense	\$12,659.24
<u>Office Expense</u>	
Comcast	\$59.62
Electricity	\$140.64
Office Lease	\$952.54
Postage Meter Rental	\$519.00
Supplies	\$359.96
Security	\$23.22
Telephone	\$209.20
Website updates	\$960.75
Copier Cost	\$394.98
Total Office Expense	\$3,619.91
Office Staff	\$3,791.47
Sandia Services	\$1,118.51
Total Disbursed	\$21,189.13
Received less disbursed	(\$4,597.71)

Condition March 31, 2005	
Cash in Banks	
Checking	\$56,098.79
CD	\$34,495.82
CD 2	\$10,053.47
Petty Cash	\$157.08
Total Cash in Bank	\$100,805.16
Other Assets (at Cost)	
Computers & software	\$5,023.46
Due from Advertising Sold	\$0.00
Event Signs	\$164.54
Holiday Decorations	\$77.25
Inv Glass/Mugs	\$309.54
Office Accessories	\$1,207.06
Office Furniture	\$5,396.44
Postage in meter	\$404.90
Postage Bulk	\$1,034.97
Prepaid Rent	\$991.10
Security Deposits	\$1,075.75
Total Other Assets	\$15,685.01
Total Assets	\$116,490.17
Liabilities	
Prepaid Advertising	\$16,268.39
Legal Reserve	\$50,000.00
Total Liabilities	\$66,268.39
Cash in Banks less liabilities	\$34,536.77

PARKS and NEW DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- Wendy Wells

We are seeking design proposals for placing a sign at the entrance of Sandia Heights North on the NE side of Tramway where it intersects with Juniper Hill Road. The sign is intended to be directional, marking a major entrance into the community.

Design proposals must include a detailed sketch or model of the design as well as a description of the materials used (rock, flagstone, metal, etc.) The material selected can vary but the choice must take into consideration the harsh exposure to the elements. We are looking for durability. The design should also reflect the unique environmental aspects of the community. We have extended the time frame for submissions until the month of JUNE. Proposals must be submitted to the Parks and New Development Committee. If your design is selected, you will receive a payment of \$250.00. The design may also be used at other locations within Sandia Heights in the future. For further questions, please call the SHHA office at 797-7793.

RECORD CROWD AT 11th ANNUAL SANDIA HEIGHTS WINE TASTING EVENT

- Vicki Criel

Almost 270 people attended the 11th annual wine tasting at Bien Mur on Sunday evening, April 3rd. Participants were able to shop at the elegant displays of jewelry, rugs and pottery (30% discount that evening), sway to live classical and light jazz (at a decibel where people could still talk), listen to a world renowned expert on Indian jewelry authenticity, listen to Star Woman perform, and observe a silversmith in action.

Wines were served from all over the world, and each of the five tables had a different theme. 30 varieties of wines were served (compared to 7-9 in past years), along with fine micro beers.

As with any event of this size, a number of people were involved behind the scenes. Sue Caudill, Ralph Rudolph, and Cheryl Iverson washed goblets prior to the event. 57 platters

of fabulous hors d'oeuvres were delivered by residents, and served throughout the event by resident teenagers Robb Foxx, Becca Benson, Jaime Criel, Marshall Hastings, Tray Iafeta, Megan Economides, Daniel Criel, and Daniel Rosales.

Damon Runyan, Bill Johnson, Sue Posler, Sue Caudill, Mona Lee Shilling, Marsha Thole, Hanna Sorrells, Lena Martinez, and Sheraz Saint-Lot handed out goblets, nametags, gift bags, raffle tickets, and silent auction items. Most of these volunteers did not have a break throughout the evening. Happily, we already have more volunteers committed to next year's wine tasting!

The silent auction was a big success with many more elegant items this year. Bien Mur donated a Santa Clara pot, a large Daniel Smith sand painting, and a carved glass eagle sculpture. Featured guest silversmith Vernon Jojola donated one of his breathtaking chains and pendants. Bill Johnson donated Albuquerque Little Theater season tickets, a ceramic bowl, and a Weems poster. Linda Garretson donated two Petroglyph batiks by Placitas artist Dorothy Bowman. Kevin Fleming donated a handmade wooden ornament. Whole foods donated a shopping bag full of its trademark 365 food items and a \$25 gift card. Ralph Rudolph donated software, his homemade wine, and one of his own sculpture reliefs. Kit Anderson signed and donated her book on organization skills and techniques. The Mechanic donated a lube and oil change, and Ben and Helen Collins donated a gift basket of local salad dressings. Vicki Criel donated 8 tram tickets. Premier Limousines donated a limo ride, and Just Fine Ballooning donated a hot air balloon ride.

The committee wishes to publicly thank Nancy Mendez and her colleagues from Bien Mur. They could not have been more cooperative and generous.

The wine tasting event has outgrown this venue. The committee plans to hold the 12th annual wine tasting event at a larger forum where the tasting tables can be more accessible. Plane tickets and a cruise are already reserved for next year's auction items!

New and Returning BOD Member Nominations

The following is a list of BOD candidates for 2005/2006 from the Nominations Committee. Please take a moment to review the candidate profiles to be ready to vote for new Board Members at the SHHA annual meeting in June.

Dick Cline, Unit 14: Mr. Dick Cline is a retired Air Force veteran with experience in building construction and human resources. He flew many types of military aircraft and after Air Force duty was with American Airlines. As a Director of a Texas homeowners association he coordinated the updating and revision of the 15-year-old homeowners regulations.

James S. Irving, Unit 20: Mr. Irving is a retired attorney, had a 33-year career as an FBI agent and as a Deputy District Attorney in California. He has been a Sandia Heights resident for 15 years. He served on the Board of Directors of a Peace Officers Association and was president of the Rio Grande Jazz Society for two years.

William Wiley, Unit 20: Mr. Wiley is a Vietnam veteran with many years experience as a financial advisor. He has served as a volunteer on seven civic association Boards of Directors. He desires to help enforce the covenants, keep SHHA responsive to members and increase membership, and maintain the natural environment we all enjoy.

Bill Johnson, Unit 8: Mr. Johnson is retired from a long career in health care management, including CEO of UNM Hospital. He currently serves as a Board member of six volunteer organizations. He is interested in assisting SHHA in the areas of finance and community service & membership.

Ralph Rudolph, Unit 10: Mr. Rudolph has served the SHHA Board as Vice President and is the current President. He has served on quite a few other Boards over the years, including that of American Mensa (8 years). He is a retired senior engineer with considerable experience in project planning and supervision, which is reflected in his ability to direct the functions of the SHHA Board. He also served as Chair of the Bylaws Committee, which rewrote our Bylaws in 2003, and on two other committees. He desires to be reelected to the Board so he can serve the SHHA as President for the coming year, since he was reelected to that position by the current board.

Because of the deadline to get the Little GRIT to print, there may be some names that are not on this list. We apologize for any omissions. Orientation meeting for new board members will be held on June 8th at 7pm.

Proposed changes to SHHA Bylaws to be voted on at Annual Meeting:

Since the new Bylaws were voted on at the June 2003 Annual Meeting, several problems have been found and the Board has proposed corrections. A full copy of the Bylaws may be found on the [Bylaws link](#) on the BOARD page of our website www.sandiahomeowners.org. Or a copy can be picked up at our office. Only changes and explanations are shown below:

Section 3.6 Elections of Directors: Add a sentence at the end. "It should be noted that nominations "from the floor" are not permitted." **Explanation:** Section 3.5 spells out how candidates for the Board are selected. This clarifies that procedure.

Proposed changes to SHHA Bylaws to be voted on at Annual Meeting **continued**

Section 3.11. Business Transactions: Change “The Board shall establish an agenda...” to “The President shall establish an agenda...” **Explanation:** The Board has never established an agenda and has no means to do so.

Section 3.12 Voting: Change last sentence to read, “A valid proxy vote must be signed and dated no more than one month in advance by the absent member, must designate how the vote(s) are to be cast, and must designate the person to whom the proxy vote is assigned. **Explanation:** This prevents continuing proxy votes.

Section 3.14 Resignations and Removal of Directors: *Second sentence:* Change the word “and” to “or” following “New Mexico Non-Profit Law or these Bylaws...”

Explanation: Corrects a simple oversight.

Section 5.1 Standing Committees: Change the first sentence to read “Standing Committees are those established in Sections 5.3 to 5.10...” **Explanation:** This makes room for a new Section 5.2 explained below.

Change third sentence to read “No officer as defined in Sections 4.4 to 4.7 except for the Treasurer who automatically heads the Finance Committee and the President who automatically heads the Executive Committee, may serve as a Chairman of a Standing Committee. **Explanation:** We forgot to list that the President heads the Executive Committee.

Change fourth sentence by inserting the word “other” before “Standing Committees. **Explanation:** Clarification of how Standing Committees elect Chairmen.

Change sixth sentence to read, “Decisions and actions of all Standing Committees must be reported at each Board meeting and may be subject to Board review except those of the Architectural Control Committee.” **Explanation:** The Covenants do not allow for reviews of ACC decisions.

Section 5.2 Special Status of Architectural Control Committee: This is a new section. “Although the Architectural Control Committee is herein defined as a Standing Committee of SHHA, it is also a separate entity deriving its powers from the various Units’ Declaration of Restrictions, dating to the direct transfer of responsibilities from the prior ACCs. It should be understood that should SHHA (for unknown reasons) cease to exist, the ACC would continue to exist.” **Explanation:** Clarifies the dual nature of ACC.

Renumber Previous Sections 5.2-5.10 to become Sections 5.3 – 5.11.

Section 5.6 Architectural Control Committee: Change to read, “The Architectural Control Committee shall consist of a minimum of five (5) SHHA members, at least two (2) of whom must be Board members, excluding ex-officio members. For each Unit in Sandia Heights for which the ACC has responsibility, it shall perform the duties and functions set forth in the applicable Units’ covenants relating to the approval or disapproval of plans for new construction and exterior changes to existing buildings and property as well as other functions set forth in its charter. At least one member of the ACC, who must be a Board member, shall serve concurrently on the Covenant Support Committee.”

Explanation: The ACC believes it needs members with particular expertise, which is not always available in Board members. It should be able to select non-Board members who have such expertise.

Section 5.11 Other Committees: Change the first sentence to read, “the Board may appoint other ad hoc or Standing Committees consisting of Board or non-Board members with a Board member as liaison, with such powers duties and functions as the Board shall specify...” **Explanation:** The requirement that a Board member chair such committees was removed. Our current ad hoc committees are working just fine with only a liaison.

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

By Vicki Criel

The newly formed Membership and Community Service Committee met on Wed, April 6. Activities were divided primarily into committee-wide events and smaller special interest groups. Sub-committees were then formed.

The outdoor fitness and movement sub-committee includes David Barthel, Claudia Lawrence, and Lori Templeton. This group will plan Sandia Heights picnics, fitness and game events.

Two small neighborhood events are planned for the year. Kit and Larry Anderson, Kathy Aas, Les Lebo, and Vicki Criel are coordinating a clean-up and grill day and a holiday neighborhood get-together. These will be set up in each unit throughout Sandia Heights. The committee is hoping to have at least one contact from each unit to help with these activities. Note: Your unit # is typically the first one or two digits of your address.

A welcoming sub-committee was formed to welcome new residents to Sandia Heights, and to gather gifts and discounts for all SHHA members. This group includes Vicki Criel, Claudia Lawrence, Christine Doughty, Linda Garretson, and Joani Granger. The committee will be listing new residents in the Grit, and coordinating neighborhood unit welcome coffees. Again, the committee is hoping to have one person from each unit to act as that area's initial contact.

The Music and Speakers sub-committee include Vicki Criel, Jim Irving, Andrea Carvey, Linda and Kerney Bolton, Les Lebo, Carol Cowan, Bill Johnson, and Linda Garretson. A number of Sandia Heights residents have volunteered to show off their musical talents and to speak on various topics for the community.

Special interest groups and databases are being assigned. Kit and Larry Anderson will be coordinating a Sandia Heights Gourmet Club. Some residents have written requesting a Book Club, a Playgroup and younger family database, a Car Group, a hiking group a recycling forum. . If you have an interest in any of these topics, please contact Vicki Criel at vcriel@comcast.net or 615-3333.

Bill Johnson and Mona Lee Shilling have volunteered to coordinate Sandia Heights trips and discounts to the Opera, the theater, and the symphony. Please keep an eye in the Grit for future events.

The goal of this committee is to increase SHHA membership, increase involvement and caring in the community, provide opportunities to meet neighbors, and to have fun in Sandia Heights! The committee needs many more volunteers willing to take on small tasks to make these events successful. Our next planning meeting will be at Sandiagon's, at the bottom of the tram, on Wed, May 18 at 6:30 PM. Please contact Vicki Criel, chairperson, if you have ideas or want to be involved but are unable to attend the next meeting. She can be reached at vcriel@comcast.net or 615-3333.

THE PERILS OF BEING TOO SUCCESSFUL

– By **Ralph Rudolph, President**

Our many past wine tastings were held at Futures for Children and were always a success, drawing about 170 residents for a relaxing and pleasant afternoon chatting with neighbors. When this year’s wine tasting was planned, we found that Futures for Children was not available and we had to find an alternative venue. Vicki Criel, our Membership Services Chairman, selected Bien Mur and both Bob Francis, our former president, and I visited it. To our eyes, it looked suitable. And perhaps it could have been if we did not have the unexpected “success” of attracting over 300 residents instead of our normal 170.

Bien Mur clearly proved too small to handle 300 people with any degree of comfort, and it was plainly difficult to get to the too few wine tables and food. As a result, more than a few residents expressed anger and frustration at money poorly spent on what we had hoped would be a gala event. **On behalf of SHHA, I offer our sincere apologies and promise that this won’t happen again as long as I am on the Board. It has not helped our community building efforts to have had this happen. We will learn from experience.** I sincerely hope that this rare failure to please will not harm future attendance at wine tastings, although I suspect that it may.

“It’s not the number of breaths we take, but the number of moments that take our breath away”

SECURITY STATS provided by Sandia Peak Services, Inc. :

	March	YTD
Attempted B & E	0	2
Breaking & Entering	0	1
Animal Control Assist	0	0
Alarms	27	69
Assault/Battery	0	0
Car Accident	0	2
Deer Hunters	0	0
Fire	1	2
Fireworks Complaint	2	2
Front Office	1	16
Loud Music	4	4
Lost/Found Item	0	2
Lost/Found Pet	4	11
Mailbox Vandalism	2	10
Motorist Assist	15	43
Motorcycle Nuisance	0	2
Open Door/Window	3	7
Peeping Tom	0	0
Pet Nuisance	4	7
Loud Disruptive Party	2	3
Rescue Assist	2	5
Snake Call	0	0
Speeding Vehicle	3	8
Suspicious Person	4	15
Suspicious Vehicle	20	67
Salesman Problem	1	4
Theft	1	4
Threat/Personal	0	0
Utility Co. Assist	4	5
Special Request	8	25
Vandalism	3	44
Wildlife Report	0	1
Vehicle Burglary	0	5
Vehicle Burglary – Tram	0	0
Newspaper Pickup	18	48
Subtotal of Calls	129	414
Special (Extra patrol or observation)	14	28
Homeowners on Vacation	150	271
Total Calls	293	713

U GOT GAME CAFÉ & Mhoon's Property

- Don Wortman, Special Liaison
Committee

In the March issue of the "Little Grit" I reported that one of the businesses to be in the building we call "Frontier Village" (official name is Pinon Square) was to be a coffee shop. This new building is on Tramway between Paseo and San Bernardino. My report was based on conversations with Peter Pineda of Maestas and Ward Commercial Real Estate. I was shocked to learn, on March 17, from Exhilda McKinley, Commissioner Cummins' assistant, that a building permit request had been submitted for a video arcade/café at that site called "U Got Game Café." The drawings called for 20 video games, 2 pool tables and an air hockey table along with a lunch counter and a few tables.

The County quickly advised them that such an entertainment complex is not permitted under the C-1 zoning for that property. C-1 zoning does permit up to 4 games and that includes pool tables. On April 13, our committee, along with other officers of SHHA, met with the owners of the "U Got Game Café," Amy and Ron Camden, and advised them that we would not support a zoning variance for them to have a video arcade. They are now examining their options. I think they would prefer to get out of their 5-year lease.

Robert Mhoon, who owns the 10 acres immediately east of the "T" intersection where Paseo dead ends onto Tramway Blvd., presented to the County his rationale for why he should be permitted access at that intersection in order to build a shopping center there. Some of you will

remember that SHHA mounted a successful effort to oppose that when he first proposed it five years ago. By letter dated April 4, 2005 from the County Manager, Thaddeus Lucero, Mr. Mhoon was advised that he was mistaken and that he is not entitled to access at that intersection.

In 1990, the County elevated Paseo del Norte to form the "T" intersection with Tramway and to provide an overpass over Tennyson. Mr. Mhoon, with other adjacent property owners, sued the county for "loss of view, change in grade and **loss of access**" to Tramway Blvd. They won that suit, and in 1991 he was paid over \$200,000. Because he has already been compensated for this loss of access and because of the increased traffic volume on Tramway, the County's letter states it is unwilling to support his request.

This committee, along with the Parks Committee, chaired by Wendy Wells, is pursuing a strategy to have that land acquired as "Open Space." Stay tuned.

Neighborhood Announcements:

- SHHA May Board Meeting – May 11th
- SHHA Annual Meeting – June 4th
- SHHA New BOD Orientation Meeting – June 8th
- Contractor Evaluations are a helpful tool for our residents, please come in and fill yours out
- Notary public services are free to members only. Please call to make an appointment.
- Classified ads are also found on our website, free to members
- Check out the SHHA website at: www.sandiahomeowners.org for updates and neighborhood resources

SHHA MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

These ads are also published on our website (free for SHHA members as space allows)

<p>Excellent Housekeeper: Has some days available. Dependable and hard worker. Call Maria at 831-5358</p>	<p>For house cleaning & ironing call Dora 294-4860. References available upon request.</p>	<p>FREE TO GOOD HOME! Two affectionate, spayed, vaccinated, declawed housecats living with allergic family. Call Nancy at 856-6737 if you can help.</p>	<p>SUMMER TUTORING Services available through a licensed, 3rd grade, elementary schoolteacher with 11 years teaching experience. Tutoring available in reading, writing and math. If interested please call Wendy at 823-9181.</p>
<p>Retired Hospice Nurse Available for pet care. Call Anne @ 856-6896</p>	<p>Experienced Pet Sitter Hardworking, positive attitude, 15 yr.-old. Loves pet sitting & odd jobs. Call Andy: 821-0482</p>	<p>WANTED: Female running partner. Please call Kippi 858-3406</p>	<p>Excellent house cleaner. References available. Call 332-9155.</p>
<p>Need House Sitting, Odd Jobs? Call Patrick: 856-1283</p>	<p>Call Heather for babysitting Reliable, have transportation & references. 796-0601</p>	<p>Acoustic guitar player looking for others to play with. call 797 3000</p>	
<p>Experienced 15 yr.-old worker. Available for odd jobs. Call Jordan: 856-1483</p>	<p>FOR SALE: Stainless Steel Cart on wheels, 3 shelves, 37¼”H x 35 ¼” W x 20 1/8” D, \$225; Heavy Duty adjustable steel work support w/roller, holds 2000 lbs., \$85; ¼” thick premium rubber sheeting, \$295; 20 heavy duty steel/rubber casters, brand new, \$75; Contico heavy duty plastic shelves, \$65; (4) 12”woodworking clamps, new, \$35. Call 858-3406</p>		<p>FOR SALE: Sears Kenmore Elite King Size capacity (27-inch wide) gas dryer (white) with Evenheat, Wrinkle guard II, almost new! \$150.00. Please call Amy 417-4248</p>
<p>FOR SALE: 2000 Pontiac Bonneville SSEI – supercharged V-6, 60,000 miles, brand new tires, sunroof, on –star , leather, AM/FM/Cassette/12 CD changer, dual memory heated seats, garaged, traction control, Kelly Blue Book \$15,850 asking \$14,900. Call Dave at 288-1695</p>		<p>FOR SALE: 2 occasional skirted chairs, rust velvet \$200 each, 2 blue secretarial, office chairs, excellent cond. \$35, Footlocker w/key \$50, Footlocker w/o key \$40, lovely European 6-light chandelier brass w/ceramic \$100, letter size file cabinet \$25, two-tiered brass/glass tea cart \$35. Please call 828-2839</p>	
<p>FOR SALE: 2 occasional skirted chairs, rust velvet \$200 each, 2 blue secretarial, office chairs, excellent cond. \$35, Footlocker w/key \$50, Footlocker w/o key \$40, lovely European 6-light chandelier brass w/ceramic \$100, letter size file cabinet \$25, two-tiered brass/glass tea cart \$35. Please call 828-2839</p>		<p>LOST & FOUND: found at Big Horn Ridge a towel, orange bathing suit and swim glasses. Contact the SHHA office for further details 797-7793.</p>	
<p>Pet Sitting: 14 yr old boy available to pet sit and walk your animals. Please call 858-3304</p>	<p>NOTICE: We have some platters left over from the wine tasting event. If you are the owner please come by the office to claim yours.</p>		



Sandia Heights Homeowners Association
2-B San Rafael, NE
Albuquerque, N 87122

PRESORTED STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #375
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

Here's to all our mothers:
**HAPPY
MOTHERS
DAY!**



Have a wonderful day