



President's Message

~ Andy Anderson

As your new president, I would like to express my gratitude for the large turnout at our SHHA Annual Meeting and the Town Hall Meeting. The numbers really exceeded our expectations, with 90 families attending. Your SHHA Board of Directors and volunteers worked hard to provide you with a meaningful and professional meeting, which went off without a hitch. We had to call in reinforcements to add to the food and I think everyone got their fill in spite of the electrical breaker issue with the coffee pots.

For those who were not able to attend, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to your new officers and board of directors for 2009 – 2010. Your new Vice President is Phyllis Moore, who joined the board last year. Phyllis accepted the challenge to chair a new committee, Community Relations Committee, that provides a direct interface between SHHA and our county and state representatives and government decision makers, ensuring our Sandia Heights desires and needs are communicated and understood. Ed Tull has done an excellent job as Treasurer last year and has volunteered to continue to serve as your Treasurer this year. Ed also serves as the chair of the Finance Committee. Your new Secretary is Frances Desonier who has been an active board member for several years. Frances also serves as the chair for Parks and Safety Committee.

We have two board members that have fulfilled their terms and are not returning this year. Your past president, Sy Caudill, served as your board president for the past two years and provided the leadership that brought several new benefits to the membership and community. Sy will be a tough act to follow and I will call on him in the future for sage guidance. We also lost Kerney Bolton who has led the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) for the past six years and has streamlined our guidelines, processes and procedures enabling your ACC requests to

get through the system faster with a more even-handed approach. They will both be missed and I thank them both for their service to the Association and our SHHA community. I am pleased to announce that we have three new board members to help fill in the gap. Larry Desonier returns to the board after sitting out for about a year. Larry previously served on the Board for six plus years and we welcome him back. Also, we are adding two new volunteers to the Board, Dick Wavrik, who served as a volunteer on the Covenant Support Committee (CSC) last year, and Michele Munson. We welcome all of them to the Board of Directors. In addition to the Board and volunteers, I would like to recognize our dedicated and professional office staff, Sheraz and Betsy, who keep us out of trouble and serve as your immediate day to day interface to the Association. They are there every day to assist in any way they can and answer your questions and I strongly recommend you call upon them as needed.

Your Association is here to support you and the community in retaining the unique environment we all enjoy and take for granted. However, we really do need more volunteers, both on the Board and to serve on Committees, to keep us a viable organization. Our bylaws require fourteen board members to conduct business, and with our three new volunteers we have a grand total of fifteen, just on the ragged edge to accomplish our mission. I would again encourage each of you to consider helping the Association in whatever capacity you can to take the burden off of the handful of volunteers who are doing the work for Sandia Heights community. Two committees which are really in need are the ACC and the CSC, however, volunteers for any committee will not be turned away. If you would like to serve, please contact Sheraz or Betsy and they will take it from there. I look forward to serving you in the coming year and my goal is to continue to make Sandia Heights a community you want to come home to.

Save Sat., Sept. 12, for the next Sandia Heights Coffeehouse Concert....

Master autoharpist Bryan Bowers, who was inducted into the Autoharp Hall of Fame in 1993, will be our guest performer. For nearly three decades he has been to the autoharp what Earl Scruggs was to the five-string banjo. He is also well known as a singer/songwriter, and increasingly also as a storyteller. Listen to music from his CD “Bristlecone Pine” on bryanbowers.com.

Concert will be at Church of the Good Shepherd at 7:30 p.m. For more information, or to volunteer to help, please contact Linda Bolton, 856-7100, nlightsmgt@aol.com.

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NOTICE: The County held a hearing regarding the granting of a liquor license to the new CVS pharmacy on Tramway. The hearing officer ruled in favor of the CVS liquor license over the objections of 15 Sandia Heights residents.

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A Note from Your Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

Are you planning a home improvement project soon? If it will change the exterior appearance of your property, you must submit an application to the ACC. Please make sure that your application is completely filled out and submitted in a timely manner; so that the Committee can do its job for you as quickly as possible.

It is important that you understand the covenant restrictions on your property before you plan a project. As a first step in planning your project, you need to read your covenant and the applicable ACC design guidelines. Both are available in hard copy at the SHHA Office or on the SHHA website at

sandiahomeowners.org. Most disapprovals by the Committee could be avoided if these steps were taken first.

The ACC processes between 300 and 400 applications per year. Approximately one-half of these applications are to replace roofing, windows and doors or to re-stucco. The ACC usually processes these within a week. However, projects such as new house construction and additions, walls and fences, landscaping, and planting trees sometimes take up to a month to process after all the required information is received. If your project is like one of these, please take extra care to see that the ACC gets the information it needs and that you will be available to meet with an ACC volunteer to walk your property and explain the project. These projects usually require a plot plan that shows the location of your house and project relative to your property lines and either drawn to scale or carefully dimensioned. The plot plan that you received with your deed is a good starting point. The ACC cannot begin to process your application until these application steps are completed.

Please do not ask the Committee to expedite your application so your contractor “can start your project next week.” The Committee works very hard to handle your application in a fair and professional manner and needs adequate time to do its job. Starting a project before you receive the written approval of the ACC is a violation of your covenant and puts you and your contractor at risk if the Committee is unable to approve part or all of your project. With a little advance planning and the timely submittal of your application, you can avoid these difficulties.

Remember, the ACC encourages you to have the ACC look at your project in the early planning stages to check for covenant compliance. Please take advantage of this service if you have any doubts and avoid future problems. A little advance planning will go a long way to improve your experience building your project and your future enjoyment of it!



Stats and more from the Sandia Heights Security Patrol:

Executive Committee

President – Andy Anderson
Vice President – Phyllis Moore
Secretary – Frances Desonier
Treasurer – Ed Tull

Board Members

Phil Abshere
Bruce Childs
Larry Desonier
Pete Heinsteinst
Jim Irving
Michele Munson
Burt O’Neil
Mona Lee Schilling
Marsha Thole
Dick Wavrik
Mike Winokur

Office Staff

Betsy Rodriguez – ACC
Administrative Assistant
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& Communications Editor

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GRIT Editorial Policy is:

- Attempt to publish both sides of every issue, including constructive criticism; no abusive or insulting remarks.
- Reserve the right to edit any submission.
- Not to print any unsigned letters or articles.

Month of April Call Type	# of calls	Month of April Call Type	# of calls
Breaking & entering	2	Suspicious person	7
Animal Control Assist	2	Suspicious vehicle	16
Alarms	34	Theft	3
Car accident	1	Threat/personal	1
Family dispute	1	Utility Co. assist	4
Fire	3	Special request	3
Front office	2	Customer assist	3
Loud music	3	Noise complaints	1
Lost/found pet	6	S. O. assist	1
Motorist assist	9	Parking problem	4
Motorcycle nuisance	1	Vandalism	6
Open door/window	20	Wildfire report	1
Pet nuisance	2	Newspaper pickup	24
Snake call	11	Special patrol	23
Speeding vehicle	1	Homeowners on vacation	253
		Total Calls	448

Community Service & Membership

Remember to sign up at the office for your free Tram Passes and Four Seasons Swimming Pool Passes.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS
for SATURDAY, July 25, 2009,
SHHA Office Meet ‘N’ Greet,
11am to 2pm

Join with your friends and neighbors at the SHHA office, 2B San Rafael.

Enjoy our delicious hors d’oeuvres; learn more about SHHA and . . . Mr. Joran Viers, Horticulturalist Agent for the Bernalillo County Extension Service, will be present from 12:30 to 1:30 pm to share information about trees.



Hosted by your SHHA Community Service and Membership Committee.

PARKS & SAFETY

~ Frances Desonier

Howdy, Neighbors! Hope all of you are enjoying our beautiful surroundings this summer. It was such a joy to see so many familiar faces at our annual meeting last month.

This article is just going to be a reminder about many of the safety topics the P&SC has been promoting for the past couple of years. As you know, the county has been wonderful about trimming the edges of our roads, which has increased visibility for our pedestrians and drivers. However, we must remember that it is the homeowners responsibility to maintain the easement.

Please trim tall bushes on either side of your driveways and along the roadside to increase the visibility of cars entering and exiting your drive, particularly for low profile cars, and to allow a space for walkers to step off of the road when danger approaches. We are aware that many of you have been trimming the easement yourselves and it is beginning to make a real difference in our community. Thank you! If you are unable to maintain your curbside yourself or want to report particularly dangerous spots for drivers or walkers in our community, please don't hesitate to contact the SHHA office at 797-7793.

We have also recently become aware of problems emergency responders and visitors sometimes experience when trying to find addresses of homes in our community. Many street signs are incorrectly oriented or are in poor repair and many home address numbers are not easily visible from the road. In addition, although most of our fire hydrants are now clearly marked by brown posts with blue tops (the international sign for fire hydrants), there are still a few that remain hidden. This is a potential danger in case of fire! Please take the time to walk or drive by the nearest fire hydrant to your home and report it to SHHA if it not clearly marked or cannot be easily seen from the street.

The P&SC is also happy to report that we sold another dozen or so reflective vests at our annual meeting. While these vests may not be needed when walking our streets during the day, they become particularly important during evening hours when daylight begins to fade and visibility is decreased. We will continue to have these safety vests available in the SHHA office for purchase at a mere \$2 for members and \$4 for nonmembers.

The P&SC also wants to commend those neighbors who have been more conscious about the speed of their cars on our roads. The county has been very diligent about conducting speed studies to determine safe speed limits and have installed speed bumps where it was felt they were needed. It is our responsibility as good neighbors to be aware of and to obey the posted speed limits and to be vigilant in watching for pedestrians and pets on our roads.

By the way, **Mark Chavez, (Cell#: 934-6367)**, of the Bernalillo County Parks and Recreation Dept, has notified SHHA that there will be improvements made to Little Cloud Park this summer. They will be replacing the playground equipment with new equipment of roughly the same size and will install swing sets, replace most of current sand with engineered wood and add a few adult exercise stations (like sit-up bench, etc.) He would like input from interested homeowners regarding the selection of these improvements. **Please call him as soon as possible** to discuss these matters, as this is a project funded for this summer.

Pedestrian Safety Reminders

- Walk **Facing** Traffic
- Wear brightly-colored clothing
- Wear a reflective vest and/or carry a flashlight while walking at night (avoid shining it into eyes of oncoming drivers).
- If you are walking a dog, keep the dog to your **left**.
- As cars approach, walk **single file** and make eye-contact with the drivers.

Let's all have a fun and safe summer!

BEARWATCH Early and mid-summer is the time the bears have come out of hibernation, and they're hungry. This is also when the mama bears kick out the two-year-olds, who then have to find their own territory. These young bears often wander into our neighborhood because they remember where they have found easy food. Here's what you can do to keep bears from becoming habituated and thus becoming problem bears:

- Keep all garbage in your garage or a sturdy shed.
- Put garbage out only on the morning of your trash pickup day.
- Don't leave pet food outside.
- Bring hummingbird feeders inside at dusk (and take them inside for the winter in October).
- Fill bird feeders with only enough seed to last half the day (better yet, don't feed the birds at all for a while).
- If you have fruit trees: pick fruit as it ripens, and keep fallen fruit picked up.

Bears are very intelligent. They remember any place they have ever found food and return unerringly to it. They know what trash cans and bird feeders are and will always investigate them for food. We're asking all Sandia Heights residents to be tolerant, understanding, and proactive. Enjoy the sight of a bear if you happen to see one, but please don't do anything to unintentionally feed them.

Please feel free to call your BearWatch Sandia Heights Wildlife Steward (Kate Fry, 828-9618) or BearWatch (Jan Hayes, 281-9282) at any time if you have questions.

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ACC Activity Log

The following is a summary of your Architectural Control Committee's activity since the last GRIT.

- 29 Sandia Heights Drive – Replace windows & doors. Approved
- 223 Spring Creek Lane – Addition. Approved
- 623 Cedar Hill Road – Replace roofing, add gutters. Approved

- 642 Cougar Loop – Refinish trim & wrought iron. Approved
- 694 Bluebird Lane – Replace roofing & repair parapets. Approved
- 725-11 Tramway Vista Loop – Install HVAC and over-the-roof ductwork. Approved with conditions.
- 727-17 Tramway Lane – Replace windows. Approved
- 940 Bobcat Boulevard – Refinish deck & trim. Approved
- 1009 Tramway Lane – Replace windows. Approved
- 1049 Red Oaks Loop – Repair & replace damaged concrete. Approved
- 1164 Laurel Loop – Replace windows & doors. Approved
- 1204 Marigold Drive – Replace fence with wall. Approved with conditions
- 1529 Eagle Ridge Drive – Retaining walls, walls & landscaping. Approved
- 1713 Quail Run Court – Pool, spa, & fence. Approved
- 2703 Tramway Circle – Refinish trim. Approved
- 2717 Tramway Circle – Replace & add windows. Approved
- 2750 Cliffrose Drive – Replace fence with wall, add planters. Approved
- 2865 Tramway Circle – Replace windows. Approved
- 2868 Tramway Circle – Replace windows. Approved
- 2882 Tramway Place – Refinish garage door. Approved
- 7715 Cedar Canyon Court – Refinish trim and doors. Approved
- 7729 Cedar Canyon Court – Refinish trim & garage door. Approved
- 8207 Indigo court – Increase wall height. Approved with conditions
- 12609 Colony Place – Re-stucco Approved
- 12618 Carmel Court – Patio cover. Approved
- 12705 Carmel Court – Refinish garage door. Approved

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Community Event Bulletin Board

*Not all of these groups are sponsored by SHHA.
Information is provided to keep residents informed*

Sandia Heights Wildflower Club

Sandia Heights Wildflower Club members enjoyed a festive Progressive Dinner on May 16th, at the homes of Lori Templeton, Dan and Jacque Caudillo, and Jenison Klinger and Bill Dawes. The Slate of Officers for the 2009-2010 Club Year was presented during the Business Meeting: Charlie McDonald, President; Connie McDonald, Vice President; Sharon Chism, Secretary; and Margaret Samuelsen, Treasurer. Installation will take place at the annual Pot Luck Dinner September 19 at the home of Phil and Beverly Abshere. The next Club event will be a Field Trip to Great Outdoors Nursery, 10408 2nd Street NW (Ph. 590-5311), hosted by Tish Resnik, new owner of the Nursery. Club members will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Nursery for a Tour of the Site and the Gift Shop. A Field Trip to Shady Lakes will take place in August, and a Wildflower Walk will be led by Charlie McDonald in September, details forthcoming in the August and September GRITs. For further information, contact club President Dan Caudillo, 846-6617.

Sandia Heights Artists News ...

Save these dates! Saturday July 25, 11am-2pm, SHHA Meet n' Greet. Come to the SHHA courtyard to meet some of the artists, with their artwork, who are participating in the September Sandia Heights 6th Annual Artists Studio Tour. Sat. & Sun., Sept. 26 & 27, 1-5pm, the much anticipated Sandia Heights 6th Annual Artists Studio Tour featuring works in watercolor, acrylics, oils, ceramics, stained glass, gourds, fabric, jewelry and mixed media. Calling all angels—not an artist but love and support the arts? Come to the Sandia Heights Artists social July 28, 7pm, 923 Tramway Lane if you would like to volunteer as a helper (art angel) during the 6th Annual Artists Studio Tour. (See dates listed above.) Can't come to the social but you'd like to volunteer? Please call Carol at 321-3368. Check out our website: www.sandiaheightsarts.com where you can find participating artists and a map of the tour to come.

Join Jade Enterprises for a Green-Remodeling Seminar

Learn ways to improve the indoor air quality and energy efficiency of your home. See how *fast renewable* and *recycled products* can save the environment. Talk with a tax accountant for more on your eligibility to receive energy tax credits.

Continental Breakfast, Juice and Coffee

Jade Enterprises gift bags (limit one per household)

Saturday July 11th from 9 am-11 am at Jade Enterprises, inc office at Quail Run

Shopping Center

\$20.00 per person at the door, limited to the first 50 sign-ups **SHHA members FREE**

Please RSVP by July 7th to: Jade Enterprises, inc at 856-5233



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

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PHOTO CONTEST!

We are accepting entries for our annual photo contest for the 2010 Sandia Heights Resident Directory & Guide. Submissions are due to the SHHA office by November 6. If you are the lucky winner, your photo will be featured on the cover of the 2010 Directory, and you will be acknowledged as the photographer. Submission criteria:

- You must be a member of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association and you must be an amateur photographer.
- Photos must be related to the Sandia Heights area (see the 2009 Directory).
- Photos must fit reasonably on the cover without loss of the composition.
- Photos must be in color, and may be submitted digitally, as a hardcopy or by email to sandiaheights@comcast.net.
- The resident must submit a statement that the photograph is an original taken by the homeowner, that he/she is not a professional photographer (in business as a photographer), and that you grant permission to SHHA to use your photo(s) in the Directory or on our website.

All entries may be picked up at the office once the Directory is published.

Be creative and good luck!