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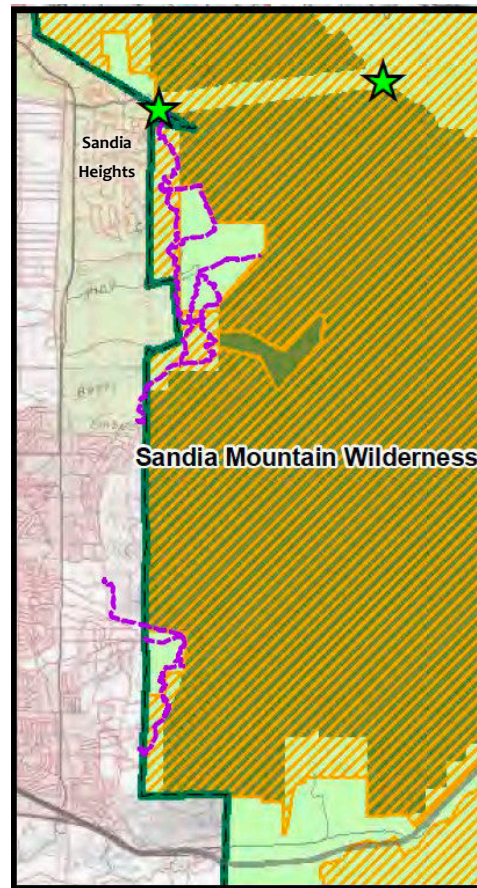
Office Staff
 Betsy Rodriguez – Lead Administrator
 Anna Diaz – Administrator

SHHA Office
 12700 San Rafael Avenue NE, Ste. 3
 Albuquerque, NM 87122

Office Hours: M–F, 9 AM – 4 PM
Closed on federal holidays
Phone: 505-797-7793
Fax: 505-856-8544
Website: www.sandiahomeowners.org
Emails: sandiaheights@comcast.net
shha@sandiahomeowners.org

Unprecedented Fire Season—Please Be Careful!

We’re all aware of the devastating fires in the Sangre de Cristo and Jemez Mountains, Gila and Carson National Forests. To help keep our area from becoming a statistic, the Sandia Mountain Ranger District is **CLOSED** to the public until July 18. Unless we see some significant rain, we expect the closure to be extended. You may ride the tram, but must stay on the observation deck or in the tram house and Ten3 restaurant. In the foothills, Trail 365 and associated secondary trails are open south of the tram and outside of the wilderness. Please see the map. Also, the Tijeras Pueblo interpretative walk near the Tijeras Ranger Station is open, but visitors must stay on the trail.



- Tijeras Pueblo Interp. Trail Open
- Sandia Tram Facilities Open
- Non-Wilderness Foothills Trails Open
- Restricted Area



And remember, **fireworks are NOT permitted in Bernalillo County.** Leave the 4th of July displays to the licensed pros. The very last thing we want is for our tinder-dry neighborhood to be incinerated because someone just had to shoot off a firecracker or bottle rocket.

Memories from the SHHA Members Appreciation Event on June 5th



Dogs, Dogs, Dogs...

Barking dogs. The Covenant Support Committee (CSC) receives complaints about barking dogs. However, this is an issue over which the SHHA and CSC have no jurisdiction. Dog barking can carry a long way through the neighborhood, from one Unit to the next. Incessant barking—day or night—can be very annoying, and negatively impacts the quality of life, which is indeed something the CSC tries to help maintain. Incessant dog barking is also a violation of Bernalillo County Code of Ordinance 6-47, which states that *“it is unlawful for a person to allow an animal to persistently or continuously bark, howl or make noise common to their species or otherwise disturb the peace and quiet of inhabitants of the county.”* Residents should submit their complaints about incessant barking directly to Bernalillo County, either by phone (505-468-1382) or by email (compliance@bernco.gov); alternatively, a phone call directly to Animal Care Services can be made, 505-468-PETS (505-468-7387). Historically, responses by the County have been quick, even within a day, but response time during Covid is possibly slower.

Be aware of hot feet & paws. With our summer temperatures comes hot asphalt. Asphalt can be 40–60° hotter than the surrounding air temperature. So, a 100+ summer day can mean walking on a surface as hot as 160°F. When walking your dog, please be aware of the temperature on their paws. At 125°F, skin damage and burns can occur in 60 seconds...and 125°F asphalt can occur with only 77°F air temps! Press the back of your hand firmly against the asphalt for 7 seconds to verify it will be comfortable and safe for your dog.

When the air temperature is this...	... the asphalt temp can be as much as this
77°	125°
86°	135°
95°	145°



BECOME A HOST FAMILY



The MVPs of the NM Ice Wolves are the families that welcome players into their homes and community for the hockey season. The NM teams are made up of some of the best 17-20 year old players from across the country and around the world who play in the NAHL and NA3HL to further their goals of getting NCAA college scholarships and even to the pro ranks.

To learn more about becoming a host family, please visit NMIceWolves.com and click on the “Become a Host Family” tab or contact Jerry Hancock at: HOSTFAMILIES@NMICEWOLVES.COM

BernCo Open Space Division Community Events—Coming Soon

Last chance to see the exhibit, *Nuestras Acequias: Remembering our History, Irrigating our Crops, Nourishing the Future of our Community!* Come for a guided tour of the exhibit, Saturday, July 9th at 11:00 AM, followed by a reception with music and refreshments. Located at the Gutierrez Hubbell House (6029 Isleta Blvd SW). For more information, see the website [Event Registration - Community Services \(bernco.gov\)](http://Event Registration - Community Services (bernco.gov))

Mark your calendar for the August workshop, *Drip Irrigation Repair for Homeowners*. Saturday, August 13th, from 9–11 AM at the Gutierrez Hubbell House (6029 Isleta Blvd SW). For more information, see [Event Registration - Community Services \(bernco.gov\)](http://Event Registration - Community Services (bernco.gov)).



MAY CALLS TO SANDIA HEIGHTS SECURITY PATROL

The following statistics are the latest provided by Sandia Heights Security since the last GRIT. **Please be reminded that Sandia Heights Services (they provide water, sewer, trash and recycle collection, and security services) is a subscription service separate from Sandia Heights Homeowners Association membership.** Also, Membership in SHHA does not include Sandia Heights Security membership. You can call Security to confirm your membership with them. If you have questions, please call **Sandia Heights Security** at (505) 856-6347, **mobile** (505) 263-4654.

May 2022	# of calls		# of calls
Alarms	15	Salesman Complaint	1
Attempted Breaking & Entering	1	Special Request/Vacation	98
Car Accident	1	Suspicious Activity	4
Customer Assist	2	Suspicious Person	1
Customer Inquiry	1	Suspicious Vehicle	6
Fire/Smoke	3	Threat/Personal	1
Lost/Found Item	1	Utility Co. Assist	1
Lost/Found Person	2	Vehicle Burglary/Break In	1
Motorcycle Nuisance	2		
Newspaper/Package Pickup	2	Total Calls	143

Useful Numbers: Emergency Police/Fire/Rescue: 9-1-1 (Be sure to let the operator know you are in Sandia Heights – an unincorporated area of Bernalillo County) **Bernalillo County Sheriff Non-Emergency:** (505) 798-7000 **Bernalillo County Fire Department Non-Emergency:** (505) 468-1310 **SHS Water/Sewer Emergencies (M-F 7AM – 4PM):** (505) 856-6345 **SHS Water/Sewer Emergencies After Hours:** (505) 888-5336 **NM Gas Co. Emergencies:** (505) 697-3335 **PNM Outage & Emergencies:** 1-888-342-5766

Announcements & Notices:

- **Office hours:** Monday – Friday 9 AM – 4 PM.
- **Board Meeting:** scheduled July 13, 2022, at 6:30 pm via Zoom.
- **Office Closures for Holiday(s)** Monday, July 4, 2022, in observance of Independence Day.
- **Notary services (except on Fridays), copies (20 per month) and faxes, e-mail alerts, and contractor evaluation binder** are free to members. **Also, voter registration in the office.**
- **Committee meeting dates** are posted on our website calendar: www.sandiahomeowners.org.
- **Classified ads** can be found on the website on the top bar menu under Notices and Information/Classifieds.
- **Safety vests for sale** in the SHHA Office. \$2.50 per vest for members, cash or check only.
- **Tram passes for sale** in the SHHA Office. \$7.50 per ticket for members on a **first-come, first-served basis**. Cash or check only. Tickets purchased must be for one date at a time per residence. To view the Tram Pass Procedures for SHHA Members go to <http://sandiahomeowners.org/notices-and-information/notices-and-information/96-tram-passes>.

ACC Color Reference Guide is available to borrow in the SHHA Office for up to 30 days. \$20 refundable deposit is required. Cash or check only.

SHHA Member Benefits:

Check out the entire SHHA Member Benefits Program and the discounts offered to SHHA members at www.sandiahomeowners.org, under the **Notices and Information** tab. Each participating merchant offers a discount to SHHA members. The following is a list of currently participating merchants:

Criel and Associates, LLC
HelpTek – Computer Services
Jade Enterprises Inc.
O’Briens Realty LLC
Remax Select – Pete Veres
Tutor Doctor
Waterstone Mortgage



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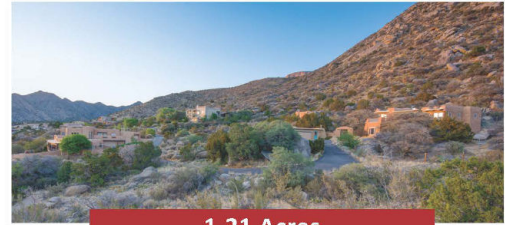
Homes for Sale
Homes Under Contract
Market Stats and more!



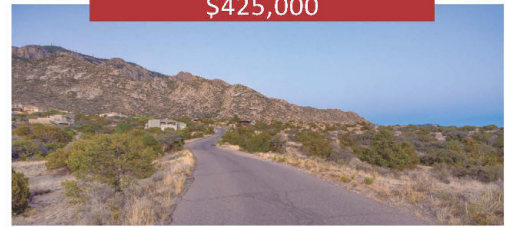
“Tierra Monte Lot”



Just Listed



1.21 Acres
Backs National Forest
\$425,000



9 La Luz Trail

Sandia Heights
Year to Date
Market Stats

Closed Sales

43

-28% from 2021

Average Sale Price

\$705,515

+ 23% from 2021

Total New Listings

57

-21% from 2021

Avg Price per sq.ft.

\$264.79

Year to date comparison 1/1/2022 - 6/12/2022 to same time period in 2021

listed single family homes

Are We in a Housing Market Correction?

A market correction implies home values are declining. We are not seeing that, we are still seeing moderate growth in home values across the market. Although it is still strong for home sellers, we are seeing signs of a “MARKET SHIFT” which is attributed to rising interest rates and other economic factors. It is highly likely we will continue to see positive home value appreciation due to the lack of supply making the market favorable for home sellers.

“The housing market is at a turning point... We’re starting to see signs of a new direction, but the ball is still in sellers’ courts in most housing markets”

- Danielle Hale, Chief Economist

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market analysis of your home 505.440.8956

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smminabq@aol.com | (505) 822-0080

Sharon continues to Promote and Support Top Values in Sandia Heights

Sandia Heights Home Sales Continue with good values for sellers. Interest rates are very affordable. Buyers are looking for great Sandia Heights homes with views Homes in all sizes are selling in Sandia Heights If you would like an update on Sandia Heights home sales give Sharon a call/text 269 6217 or email Sharon at Sharon@sharonandjudson.com or smminabq@aol.com.

She will be happy to give you an update.

Sharon McCollum Sells Sandia Heights Homes!
Referrals Appreciated Call, Text, or Email Sharon today



1405 San Rafael Pl NE



1195 Bobcat Blvd NE



8210 Indigo Court NE



54 Rock Ridge Court NE

Sharon McCollum Believes in Doing What's Right for You When it Comes to Sandia Heights and Albuquerque Real Estate!

Sharon McCollum Approaches Real Estate Service from a Different Point of View. . Yours

Sharon McCollum knows that thoroughly understanding your prospective is the key to achieving results when she helps you sell or buy a home. That's why she listens, truly listens, to your goals and immediately develops an open line of communication that continues throughout your transaction. Sharon then prepares a plan tailored to your unique goals and enact the plan with energy and positive results.

It's comforting to work with someone who has your best interest in mind.

Sharon works as your real estate agent, counselor and consultant. She has developed a meticulous follow-up system to keep you updated every step of the way. On a timely basis,

Sharon informs you of her progress and outlines the next steps she will take towards meeting your goals. It is comforting to know exactly where you stand at all times. To learn more about Sharon's real estate service call today for a free consultation on how to sell your home or buy a home.

You will find it is a pleasure to talk with a real estate agent who sees things from your point of view.

Sharon McCollum works hard to make sure your goals are achieved, and makes sure your best interests are protected at all times.

FAMILY FIRST- SHARON BELIEVES IN DOING WHAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WHEN IT COMES TO BUYING AND SELLING REAL ESTATE

Sharon McCollum is ready to sell your Sandia Heights Home using her local expertise and worldwide reach in prospecting and marketing. She has a long list of satisfied Sandia Heights families: this is because Sharon promotes top values in Sandia Heights. She offers you a full service, comprehensive and aggressive "Marketing Plan to get your home SOLD fast"! Sharon's marketing plan includes intense investing in internet marketing and up to date prospecting and marketing technology systems promoting your home to all buyers for Sandia Heights Homes. Check out home sales near you by contacting Sharon today CALL OR TEXT 505 269 6217.

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Snakes and You

By Kate Fry, Sandia Heights resident

Even in mid-summer, snakes need to sun themselves and forage for food. SNAKES? Sandia Heights residents have mixed feelings about snakes—some people like them and some people don't. So, by speaking in defense of snakes, I hope that folks will see snakes in a different light. Humans seem to be hard-wired to be afraid of snakes, even if they have never seen a snake. Living in Sandia Heights, we share habitat with several kinds of snakes, the most common being bull snakes (also called gopher snakes) and rattlesnakes. Only the rattlesnake is venomous, but all snakes are vital to controlling the rodent population. So please try to see snakes as good. If you can't bring yourself to like snakes, at least leave them alone and think about how many more mice would be trying to get into your house without them. Understandably, you may not want a rattlesnake taking up residence outside your back door. If this happens to you, please call Bernalillo County Animal Control at (505) 260-7450.

Rattlesnakes and bull snakes will be the only two mentioned in this article, because bull snakes are often mistaken for rattlesnakes. Rattlesnakes and bull snakes have similar coloring, with black and brown markings on their backs. This is no accident. Bull snakes try very hard to look and act like rattlesnakes. When threatened, they may coil and raise their heads, hiss, and rustle their tails in dry leaves to mimic a rattle. However, they are non-venomous constrictors that kill their prey by squeezing, and they pose no threat to humans or pets. One fool-proof distinction is the shape of the pupils of the eyes (rattlesnakes have vertical, football-shaped pupils and bull snakes have round pupils), but most people don't want to get anywhere near close enough to tell the difference that way! The easiest way to tell the difference is to look at the head: a rattlesnake has a distinctly triangular head with pronounced eye ridges and a neck that is narrower than the head, while a bull snake's head is roughly cylindrical and the same diameter as its neck. The other obvious difference is the body shape. Rattlesnakes are larger in diameter relative to their length and are fattest in the middle of the body, with a blunt tail ending in several rattles in adult snakes. Bull snakes are more or less the same diameter the entire length of their body. A five-foot-long rattlesnake may be three or four inches in diameter in the middle of its body, while a five-foot-long bull snake is probably about an inch and a half. These photos show the differences very clearly:



Bull snake (gopher snake), *Pituophis catenifer* (photo by Colorado State University)



Western diamondback rattlesnake, *Crotalus atrox* (photo by Arizona Sonora Desert Museum)

Both bull snakes and rattlesnakes are shy and try to avoid people. They usually know you're approaching from the ground vibration and, given the chance, they will usually crawl away. They won't chase you! If you see a snake, it's probably stretched out on the pavement or on a sunny trail catching rays. Snakes are reptiles, and the only way they can regulate their body temperature is by moving to a warm area (like sun-warmed asphalt) to get warm and to a cool area (under a tree or in the shade of a rock) to cool off.

This affinity for getting warm by stretching out on pavement gets many snakes killed by cars. Unfortunately, some people go out of their way to run over snakes. Please don't let this be you! If you see a snake basking on the road, try to drive around it. If you encounter a snake while walking, you can jump up and down or stomp your feet to create vibrations that the snake will feel. Then just wait until the snake moves away. But if a rattlesnake responds by coiling and rattling, it's best to take a detour! In other words, never put your hands or feet any place you can't see. If you follow

ACC Activity Log

Summary of **Approved Projects** activity since the last GRIT:

11 Juniper Hill Loop – Re-stucco
29 Rock Ridge Drive – Construction of a Deck
34 Cedar Hill Place – Landscaping
112 White Oaks Drive – Landscaping
301 Spring Creek Place – Reroof
352 White Oaks Drive – Re-stucco
514 Black Bear Loop – Seal Areas Around Roof Vents, Re-stucco Chimney, and Miscellaneous
451 Live Oak Lane – Re-stucco
657 Roadrunner Lane – Roof Mounted Photovoltaic Panels Installation
688 Black Hawk Dr Ne – Replace existing HVAC unit
760-9 Tramway Lane – Reroof
939 Bobcat Blvd. – Roof Mounted Photovoltaic Panels Installation
981 Antelope Avenue – Build Storage Unit
988 Lynx Loop – Installation of In-ground Pool, Deck and Extension of Block Wall
1140 Marigold Drive – Roof Mounted Photovoltaic Panels Installation
1182 Laurel Loop – Reroof
1524 Eagle Ridge Drive – Repair/Resurface Asphalt Driveway
1570 Eagle Ridge Drive – Replace Windows/Doors, and Add a Window
1570 Eagle Ridge Drive – Re-stucco
1924 Quail Run Drive – Landscaping
2002 Quail Run Drive – Replace Exterior Lighting Fixtures
2014 Quail Run Drive – Extend Two Angular Areas of Fencing
2019 Quail Run Drive – Replace Windows and Replace Siding with Stack Stone
2751 Cliffrose Drive – Reroof
2775 Wolfberry Place – Re-stucco House and Walls
7732 Cedar Canyon Road – Repaint Garage Door
7736 Cedar Canyon Road – Reroof

7736 Cedar Canyon Road – Roof Mounted Photovoltaic Panels Installation
7744 Cedar Canyon Road – Replace Swamp cooler with Refrigerated AC System
9502 Sandia Vista Drive – Reroof
12629 Carmel Court – Lattice Patio Cover
12713 Carmel Court – Roof Repair and Coat with Tan Silicone

Visit the website: www.sandiahomeowners.org to read about all projects currently under ACC management.

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MY SOMEWHAT CLOUDY CRYSTAL BALL ABOUT OUR REAL ESTATE MARKET

Clients and readers have asked me if this historic run for the housing market is sustainable, or if it could be another shoe to drop if the economy falters in the months/years ahead. To answer that question, I think it's important to understand what's driving housing market strength in the first place. Here are three factors that I think are important:

1. LOW INVENTORY of HOMES

Like any market, housing prices are determined by supply and demand, and there is currently a very low supply of homes relative to the number of buyers looking. Following the 2008 Global Financial Crisis- which was spurred in part by a collapse in the housing market-new-home construction in the U.S. plateaued. As a result, the lending giant Freddie Mac estimates that the U.S. is about 3 million homes short of what's needed. At the end of April 2022, there were only 1.03 million homes for sale in the U.S. which is about a two-month's supply-about 50% less than historical averages. Homebuilders trying to ramp up production have faced issues, from labor shortages to wild swings in commodity markets, which make the prices of building materials and other inputs hard to predict. But there is another headwind to the inventory issue: baby boomers are living longer and many don't want to move. The incentive to relocate is also fading, as interest rates move well above the rates many people secured by refinancing last year. (3% vs. 5.5% now)

2. Record Low-Interest Rates

Part of the Federal Reserve's plan to boost the economy during the pandemic involved becoming a large-scale purchaser of bonds backed by agency mortgage loans from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The Federal Reserve created a massive demand for mortgage securities, which pushed yields down and generated the lowest mortgage interest rates in history by the end of 2020. Interestingly enough, historically low rates also coincided with a massive influx of new buyers, which is the third factor.

3. A New and Ongoing Wave of New Buyers

In 2019, millennials surpassed the baby boomers as the largest living adult generation in the U. S. But being the biggest group had not necessarily translated into a massive wave of new homebuyers. Leading up to the pandemic, millennials had seemed to prefer living in urban centers, renting, and delaying family formation. COVID-19 changed that. In 2020, millennials accounted for more than 50% of all home-purchase loan applications for the first time ever, By 2021, millennials made up 67% of first-time home purchase mortgage applications and 37% of repeat-purchase applications, a rising trend that appears likely to continue. The largest segment of millennials just turned 30 this year, which is younger than the median first-time buyer age of 33. In other words, this wave of new buyers may only just be beginning. The pandemic led many companies to allow people to work from home entirely, or on a hybrid schedule with some days in the office and some days at home. This trend has encouraged many would-be homebuyers to invest in a bigger space with a home office, which is also a trend that does not appear to be going away.

Bottom Line

The Federal Reserve is raising rates and has announced plans to trim its balance sheet and drastically reduce-and eventually end-the purchasing of mortgage securities and other bonds. Mortgage interest rates have already shifted higher as a result, with rates moving up over 2% from November 2021 through today - the sharpest six-month increase in decades .

COMING SOON!



\$700,000

1036 Red Oaks Loop NE
4BR + Study 2.75BA 2,867 SQFT

Sandia Heights! Situated on a large lot with Gorgeous VIEWS! This incredible home offers 4 bdrms + study & 2.75 baths. Cedarwood inside and out. Separated primary suite offers a large VIEW DECK of the Sandias & City Lights. Oversized two car garage. Private drive. Very Nice Home!



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Data for all homes. Information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed from MLS.

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Sandia Heights Sales 1.2020 – 5.31.2022

Listings Sold 37, Down 34% from 2021
 Price Per Sq. Ft. \$263/sq.ft, Up 25% from 2021

**The Market is starting to Change
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 Market Update



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SOLD SANDIA HEIGHTS SOLD



21 Cedar Hill

Road NE

List Price \$585,000

2961 Square Feet
 4 Bedrooms
 2.5 Baths
 2 Car Garage



11108 Bobcat

Place NE

List Price \$675,000

2488 Square Feet
 4 Bedrooms
 3 Baths
 3 Car Garage



133 Juniper Hill

Road NE

List Price \$750,000

3468 Square Feet
 4 Bedrooms
 3.5 Baths
 3 Car Garage



1014 Tramway Lane NE

List Price \$409,000

1.89 +/- Acre Lot



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... continued from page 7

this advice, you won't step on a rattlesnake and you won't get bitten.

In the unlikely event you are bitten, don't panic! Call 911 and keep the bite area lower than your heart to slow the spread of venom. Snakebite kits are useless and may even make things worse. Rattlesnake venom is a potent toxin that kills nerves and tissue, so the best thing you can do is to get to a hospital as quickly as possible where you can get antivenin. Dogs sometimes get bitten because they are curious and will put their face right up to a snake to see what it is. If this happens, get the dog to the veterinarian as fast as you can. It's another good reason to keep dogs on a leash when you walk them on streets or trails. If you see a snake near your house, please leave it alone—you'll probably never see it again. Rest assured it will gobble up mice and other rodents and keep the population under control. There's never a good reason to kill a snake—they are an essential part of our wildlife habitat.

SH Tips & Hacks:

Keeping Your House Cool in Summer

Even if your air conditioner will keep ice from melting, you want to try to reduce the load on it. And if you have swamp coolers, these tips are even more important. Here are some ways to keep you home cool during these hot, hot months.

- Keep your blinds closed on the sunny sides of your house. Not only can you save money on your electric bill, doing this one thing can lower the indoor temperature by up to 20°F.
- Close off rooms that aren't frequently used. This prevents cool air from entering during the hottest part of the day. And remember to shut vents in these rooms as well if you are using AC.
- Put a bowl of ice in front of a fan. It acts a bit like a tiny and very cool swamper.
- Change out the sheets on your bed with cotton sheets. Cotton breathes easier and stays cooler.
- Set your ceiling fans to rotate counter-clockwise. Counter-clockwise creates a cool downward airflow. Do the reverse in winter.
- Avoid cooking indoors. It's time to use that grill to avoid overheating your home with indoor heat sources like the oven and cooktop. Beware sparks!
- Open your windows in the evening, letting in the cool night air. Be sure to close them in the morning before the outside air becomes warmer than the inside air.

Monthly Fun Fact

Did you know that New Mexico has been producing wine longer than anywhere else in North America? In fact, since the early 1600s! Spanish padres needed wine for communion. But a Spanish law prohibited Spanish grapes from being exported and planted in foreign soil. In 1629, Fray García de Zuñiga and Antonio de Arteaga smuggled vines out of Spain and planted New Mexico's first grapes in a field just south of modern-day Socorro. The variety that was planted is currently known as the Mission grape and is still grown in New Mexico today.

Your editor has a friend who makes wine from 100+ year old Mission vines near Placitas. (And, ahem, it's not particularly good... but, hey, it's different!)



This Year's Directory Available

There are a few 2022 *Residents Guide & Directories* available to members. Stop by the office if you would like one—first come, first served.

Letter to Mayor Keller on Elena Gallegos Expansion

SHHA will send the following letter to Mayor Keller and the ABQ Open Space Division based on the results of the residents' survey on the City's proposed plans for Elena Gallegos.

From: Sandia Heights Homeowners Association
Roger Hagengruber, President
To: Tim Keller, Mayor,
City of Albuquerque & Open Space Staff

Re: Opposition to Elena Gallegos development

Sandia Heights Homeowner's Association (SHHA) recently became aware of the feasibility study and potential development in the Elena Gallegos (EG) open space adjacent to our neighborhood, which would include 4 main aspects: 1) development of a new 5-6000 sq ft "education center," 2) widening of the Simms Park entry road, 3) a new parking lot on the NE side of Tramway and Simms Road in the Pino Arroyo, and 4) maintenance/improvements of the trails and current EG infrastructure. Details are at https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/documents/eg_os_education_center_feasibility_study_3-4-2022_final_draft_w_appendix.pdf

We appreciate the email of June 10 from Open Space superintendent Langan-McRoberts stating that the most contentious aspects of the study, the parking lot, a new building, and street widening, will undergo further discussion and study this summer and fall. Until that time, we want to make our position clear.

We have surveyed our SHHA members and received clear and consistent feedback from over 370 residents, showing over 75% oppose both the proposed building and parking lot development, and 55% of them oppose the widening of Simms Road. A majority (~75%) of our residents do support improvements to the existing trails and infrastructure, if done appropriately within the current EG usage (e.g., no night use, with trash and crime prevention). We shared preliminary results with CABQ Open Space staff in early May, and have toured the proposed sites with them to make sure we understand the consultant's recommendations. We do not take our position lightly, and support education and open access for the public to explore nature on City lands. However, we do not feel a building or new, greatly expanded parking lots are necessary or appropriate for this area. Our residents are upset, angry, and very concerned that the three areas in debate are being considered. It will destroy the very thing it purports to value—open space! Other than the trail/infrastructure maintenance, we believe this project will increase crime, fire risk, noise, and damage to the natural setting, along with other deleterious effects, including to the wildlife in the area.

If the desire is truly to appreciate open space and nature, and to adhere to the original deed stipulations agreed upon when the area was sold to the City by the Albuquerque Academy, **we encourage the City to leave the area as it is, with only necessary maintenance and update to the existing natural habitat and trails.** A new structure is not necessary to enjoy the outdoors or for education, and a Tramway/Simms Road parking lot will only create an eye-sore that will undoubtedly be misused. We look forward to working with the City in any constructive and positive fashion to improve use of the area, but will oppose any development of a building, parking lot, or widening of Simms Road that negatively affects our residents.

Please contact our offices at 505-797-1193 or email shha@sandiahomeowners.org if you have any questions or wish to discuss this further. Thank you for your consideration.

Roger Hagengruber
President SHHA

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A Few of Last Year's Submissions for the *Directory* Photo Contest



Cynthia Meindl



John M. Brabson



Michael Avery



Kirk Conrad



Connie Welty



Julie Rochman



Travis Rich

Community Events Bulletin Board

These groups are not sponsored by SHHA. Information is provided to keep residents informed.

Sandia Heights “Cork & Fork” Dining Activity: We are happy to announce that Cork & Fork has resumed our bimonthly dinners. We gather in the homes of our members. Each small dinner group is typically 6–8 people, including the hosts. The host decides the menu theme and prepares a main dish, with attendees contributing to some part of the meal—along with a wine to go with their dish. The emphasis is on food and fun rather than formal elegance. Though most of the dinners are smaller, there are 2 whole-group dinners during the year. All adult Sandia Heights residents are welcome. To inquire or join any time of year, call Rene Kessel at (505) 504-3886 or email at rene.kessel@cblegacy.com.

Sandia Heights Artists Tour: September 17 & 18, 2022, 10 AM–5 PM daily. Denise Sanchez (bead designs), Sharon Arendt (ornaments & tiles), Jonna James (paintings), Eric Guenette (paintings), and Kathleen McCaughey (jewelry), look forward to meeting you during our annual art tour. Thirty-six artists will be at more than a dozen locations to display their artistic creations. A flyer with a map will be coming soon.

Notice: Any corrections to the printed version of the GRIT can be found on the website: www.sandiahomeowners.org. We always welcome Letters to the Editor and your response to articles in *The GRIT*. Email us at thegritshha@gmail.com.



Photo contest. It’s time to start thinking about photos to submit for the annual photo contest. The winning photo will be on the cover of the 2023 *Sandia Heights Resident Guide and Directory* and the photographer will be acknowledged. Subject matter should reflect something about living in Sandia Heights. To see some past submissions, please see p. 14. Submission deadline is November 4.

Submission criteria are as follows:

- 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 2022 and earlier *Directories*).
- Photos must fit reasonably on the cover without loss of the composition.
- Photos must be in color and may be submitted digitally to shha@sandiahomeowners.org or as a hardcopy print to the office. All hardcopy entries may be picked up at the office once the *Directory* is published.

The resident must submit a statement that the photograph is an original taken by the homeowner, that they are not a professional photographer (in business as a photographer), and that they grant permission to SHHA to use their photo(s) in the *Directory* or on the SHHA website and *GRIT* newsletter.





Sandia Heights Homeowners Association
12700 San Rafael Ave. NE Ste. 3
Albuquerque, NM 87122



**The SHHA Office
will be closed on
Monday, July 4th
in observance of
Independence
Day.**