

THE

GRIT

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

May 2010

SHHA ANNUAL MEETING & TOWN HALL for SHHA Members

Church of the Good Shepherd on Tennyson, 10 AM – 12:30 PM, June 12, 2010

Doors open at 9:15 a.m. Drinks and refreshments available.

Come and make your input known. Business to be conducted includes:

- Ratify proposed amendments to the bylaws (go to the website for full information)
- Introduction of new officers elected by the Board
- Presentations by the SHHA committee chairs and officers
- Election of new board members
- Town Hall Meeting following the annual meeting for members to express their concerns
- Door prizes – tickets will be given to members who sign in *before* 10 am. Must be present to win door prize. Tree Lottery Drawing.

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

President's Message by Andy Anderson

Please mark the above date and time on your calendars and give at least a few minutes of your time to help us make the quorum requirements. There will be door prizes with the drawing to be held during the annual meeting. It only takes an hour or so of your time and we need your participation to meet our bylaw requirements.

We are in desperate need of volunteers and board members. We need a minimum of 14 to conduct business, counting the members that are leaving and the new proposed members we will have 16 board members. Even though we have a few new potential board members we could still use a few more to fill vacancies. We are always in need of volunteers to serve on the Architectural Control Committee and Community Service and Membership Committee. If you have an interest, please consider volunteering as a board member or just volunteer to serve on the ACC or CS&M for a year to help your association in an area where we need your support. You do not have to be a building expert to serve on the ACC--we need folks who care and are willing to volunteer for a few hours each month--give us a call at the office. See you at the annual meeting!

The officers were elected at the April board meeting: Phyllis Moore as President, Kate Fry as Vice President, Ed Tull as Treasurer and Michele Munson as Secretary. The following is a list of candidates to be voted on at the annual meeting.

New Board Member nominees:

Ana Acosta, 935 Bobcat Blvd., Unit S9

Sandra Brown, 1411 Bluebell Place, Unit S14

George Connor, 8227 Raintree Drive, Unit S8C

Sarah Pirkel, 2007 Quail Run Drive, Unit S20

To view the new board member nominees biographies', please go to page 2.



New Board Member nominees:

Sandra Brown has been a resident of Sandia Heights since October of 2009. She has come to love our community, and would enjoy being an advocate and representative for the other Sandia Heights members. Sandra works full time as a Registered Nurse, has been married for fifteen years, and is the mother of three wonderful girls. As a board member, she would work for the continued improvement of our neighborhood as well as the safety of Sandia Heights.

George Connor has been a resident of Sandia Heights for 16 years and served one term on the SHHA board 2000-2003. He has also been a volunteer the SHHA board a few times since leaving the board in 2003. His primary volunteer work with SHHA has been associated with Parks and Open Space acquisition (still a work in progress). He believes we all live in a wonderful neighborhood and will work vigorously and with purpose to help maintain beauty of Sandia Heights and our nearby surroundings.

Sarah Pirkl returned to New Mexico 17 years ago, and has volunteered at the Indian Cultural Center, Coronado State Monument, & Placitas Volunteer Fire Brigade. She served as board member for the Dennis Chavez Foundation, La Mesa Homeowner and Architectural boards, founding member of the National New Deal Preservation Foundation. Pan American Round Table state director. Sarah believes she is fortunate to be living in the Sandia Heights community with the Association, Staff and Security; believing it is important to participate.

Ana Acosta and her family moved to Sandia Heights from Portland, Oregon in June 2009. Although she has only been a resident of Sandia Heights less than a year, she loves the area for its natural beauty, peacefulness, and proximity to the mountains and of course the daily sun! Ana is excited to be a member of the board and looks forward to being an advocate and representative of our community. She is a stay-at-home mom with two young children (ages 1 and 5). She enjoys an array of outdoor activities and finds this the place to be. Before being a stay-at-home Mom, she worked as a consultant in the microenterprise/asset development field and holds an MA in Intercultural Communications.



BYLAWS COMMITTEE

The proposed amendments to the bylaws will be available on the website by May 18 or earlier. If you have any questions, please contact the office. There will be an information session on Wednesday, May 19, from 11 a.m. to noon at the SHHA office for those interested in learning more about the proposed amendments or who have questions.



Bernalillo County Open Burn Advisory Hotline The Bernalillo County Open Burn Advisory Hotline number has been changed to **468-7200** and is now in English and Spanish. This is to better serve the needs of the public. While the County has a restrictive ordinance on open burning for certain materials, covenants in Sandia Heights prohibit burning. They generally state: “No trash shall be burned on the premises except in approved incinerators located indoors or within service yard. No garbage shall be burned. Garbage shall be placed in covered containers, said containers to be concealed from public view by an attractive enclosure. No barbecue or other outdoor cooking facility shall be located thereon nearer than ten feet from either side of lot line unless made a part of the residence.” To check your covenants you may look them up online at www.sandiahomeowners.org in the Covenants folder.



2010 Volunteer of the Year

SHHA instituted a Volunteer Recognition Luncheon a couple of years ago in an effort to attract new volunteers for SHHA. In conjunction with the luncheon, nominations would be accepted to award volunteers whom had had a large positive impact on SHHA and whom had demonstrated an extraordinary amount of work and skill. Drop by the SHHA office sometime and study the wall plaque commemorating these extraordinary volunteers.

SHHA held it's Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at Sandiango's at the base of the tram on Saturday, April 10. Thirty-two volunteers gave tribute to Jim Irving, the Volunteer of the Year. Jim served as a director on the SHHA board for 5 ½ years. During that time he worked on the Covenant Support (CSC) and on the Bylaws Committees. Jim's legal background assisted the CSC in solving a number of difficult complaints. During this same time, he also functioned as a quasi assistant chair on the Bylaws Committee.

Honorable Mentions were also given at the annual 2010 volunteer luncheon to Kate Fry, Bob Bower and Frances Desonier for their years of service to SHHA. Kate and Bob have been invaluable members on the ACC for two years and were instrumental in developing a measuring system for determining the actual height of objects as they relate to view obstruction. They have also served as directors on the SHHA board for the past year. Frances is finishing a three year term as a director; she has served on the Parks & Safety and on the Community Services & Membership Committees.

Your organization is in desperate need of new volunteers for the board and for its various committees. Please seriously consider offering your time and energy to the service of your community by serving SHHA as a director or as a volunteer on one of the many committees.

SHHA Membership Cards & Merchant Benefit Program

Your SHHA member benefits and services include: office and notary services, annual classified ads, Coffeehouse Concert Series, Sandia Tram Passes, covenant enforcement, no-fee ACC applications, and discounted safety vests.

The SHHA Merchant Benefits Program includes the following current participating merchants:

Bair Medical Spa - Best Way Carpet - Black Diamond Taekwondo - Bob's Painting - Chiropractor, Mark L. Schwartz DC - County Line of Albuquerque - Curves-Granite Transformations - High Finance Restaurant & Sandiango's Mexican Grill at the Tram - Jade Enterprises - Massage Envy - The UPS Store - Yoga with Marcy

To see the discounts offered by each merchant visit our website:
www.sandiahomeowners.org.



SHHA SPRING FLING Meet 'N'

***Greet* on SATURDAY, May 22, 2010
SHHA Office, 11am to 1pm**

A bedding plant will be given to the first 20 members to arrive!



Come join with your friends and neighbors at the SHHA office, 2B San Rafael and enjoy a delicious lunch.

Special features: Sandia Heights Artists Group (SHAG) will set up exhibits for show and sell and Dan Caudillo from the Wildflower Club will be speaking about New Mexico Wildflowers. Come and learn more about SHHA and the various committees and services.



Officers

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

Board Members

Phil Abshere
Bob Bower
Bruce Childs
Larry Desonier
Kate Fry
Pete Heinstejn
Michele Munson
Burt O’Neil
Melissa Puckett
Mona Lee Schilling
Marsha Thole
Dick Wavrik
Mike Winokur

Office Staff

Betsy Rodriguez – ACC
Administrative Assistant
Sheraz Saint-Lôt – Publications
& Communications Editor

SHHA Office

2-B San Rafael Avenue
Albuquerque, NM 87122
Office Hours: M-F, 9am-4pm
Phone: 505-797-7793
Fax: 505-856-8544
Web site:
www.sandiahomeowners.org
Email:
shha@sandiahomeowners.org

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.



Stats and more from the Sandia Heights Security Patrol:

Month of March Call Type	# of calls	Month of March Call Type	# of calls
Alarms	32	Noise complaints	0
Animal control asst.	1	Open door/window	8
Breaking & entering	2	Parking problem	1
Assault/Battery	0	Pet nuisance	2
Car accident	2	Rescue assist	1
Customer assist	6	Salesman problem	1
Dumped/spilled material	1	Special patrol	16
Family dispute	0	Special request	5
Fire	0	Speeding vehicle	1
Fireworks complaint	0	Suspicious person	5
Front office	2	Suspicious vehicle	16
Lost/found pet	4	Theft	10
Lost/found item	4	Sheriff Office assist	1
Mailbox vandalism	2	Utility Co. assist	7
Motorcycle nuisance	0	Vandalism	5
Motorist assist	1	Vehicle burglary	1
Neighbor dispute	0	Wildlife report	1
Newspaper pickup	22	Total Calls	160

If you have questions regarding these stats, please call Security at 856-6347. Please be reminded that Sandia Heights Security is a subscription service separate from Sandia Heights Homeowners Association membership. Membership in SHHA does not include SHS membership. You can call Security to confirm your membership with them.

Recycling: If you have not signed up for the recycling pilot program please contact Sandia Heights Services at 857-8924 or visit their website at www.sandiaheightsservices.com



Please be reminded to keep your garage door closed if you are not in close proximity. Recently a Sandia Heights homeowner had his vehicle and several items stolen from his garage while he was inside his home.

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- Weed & Leaf Cleanup
- Tree Trimming & Pruning
- Bed Maintenance and Bark
- Shrub Trimming & Removal

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES:

- **Office hours:** Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm. The office will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observance of **Memorial Day**
- **Notary and office services** (faxes – copies) free to members.
- **Tram passes** free to members
- **Contractor Evaluation binder** free to members.
- **Mother's Day** Sunday May 9
- **SHHA Board Meeting** – Wednesday, May 12 at 7pm in the SHHA Office.
- **Spring Fling Meet n Greet**, May 22, 11am – 1pm in the SHHA Office.
- **Annual Meeting** – Saturday, June 12.
- **Classified ads**, free for members, can be found on the website under the News and Information page.
- **Safety Vests for sale**

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REPORT FROM DISTRICT 4
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
MICHAEL WIENER

The past few months have been an especially challenging and busy period for Bernalillo County Government. In an effort to "tighten our belts" the County Commission enacted a Hiring Freeze that began on February 1st. This will stay in place until July 1st when we will re-assess our currently "anemic" financial picture. The Commission also just passed sweeping new Ethics Legislation; holding elected officials to an even higher standard of conduct.

As you know, the Commission unanimously appointed Manny Gonzales to be our new Sheriff - succeeding and completing the term of Darren White. Sheriff Gonzales has pledged to work even more closely with the Commissioners, to respond to our concerns and to address a number of the issues that his predecessor was not responsive to.

The Commission also passed the first of my MDC Enterprise Programs to have inmates at the Metropolitan Detention Center sew their own uniforms, mattress pads and other textiles. Soon this program will begin and taxpayers will see significant annual savings; while teaching inmates valuable work skills. Once this program is up and running, I will introduce the next two programs at MDC to have inmates raise their own vegetables hydroponically and establish a tilapia fish farm. These and many other programs exist throughout the nation in county jails and have all proved successful while saving millions of taxpayer dollars.

In February, I, along with three of my fellow commissioners, met in Washington, DC with our U.S. Senators Bingaman and Udall and with U.S. Representatives Lujan, Teague and Heinrich to impress upon our

congressional delegation the importance of our federal funding requests for \$160 million in infrastructural improvements in Bernalillo County. I also lobbied our Washington delegation for the need to rebuild the Paseo Del Norte/I-25 interchange. This enormous intersection improvement will require \$325 million in additional funding to complete and will need to be prioritized for it to become a reality.

I have established a Coalition of District 4 Neighborhood Associations (all of the Presidents of the Neighborhood associations throughout my district) as well as a District 4 Legislative Coalition (the 16 state representatives and senators who share parts of Commission District 4). We have had two meetings thus far and plan another two hour session on April 14th when we will discuss the recently concluded Legislative session and the CIP (Capital Improvement Program) funding requests. This is a very valuable opportunity for me to hear from our neighborhood leaders and legislators and for everyone to learn from one another and to work more closely together.

There has been a slight delay in the groundbreaking for the Eubank widening project due to condemnation proceedings. A neighborhood meeting is now being scheduled for late May or early June to announce the awarding of this contract and then finally the construction on this \$25 million/ 11 month project will commence. Watch for announcements in the weeks ahead as to the exact date for this neighborhood meeting. You can track the progress of the Eubank reconstruction project on the <Bernco.gov> website.

It is my pleasure to represent you on the Bernalillo County Commission. If I can assist you in anyway, please feel free to contact my assistant Darrell Dady at: 468-7010. You can always email me at: michaelw@bernco.gov or call me on my cell phone at 688-0004.



ACC Activity Log

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

- 1 Juniper Hill Road – Garage Door Replacement. Approved
 - 31 Juniper Hill Loop – Window Replacement. Approved
 - 155 Juniper Hill Road – Enclose Patio Addition. Approved
 - 174 Big Horn Ridge Drive – Re-stain and Trim. Approved
 - 576 Black Bear Road – Replace Door and Refinish Trim. Approved
 - 652 Cougar Loop – Window Replacement. Approved
 - 726-30 Tramway Vista Drive - Repaint Trim. Approved
 - 1115 San Rafael Ave. – Window Replacement. Approved
 - 1172 Laurel Loop – Re-stucco and Window Replacement. Approved
 - 1446 Honeysuckle Drive – Stucco repair. Approved
 - 1461 Bluebell Drive – Re-roof. Approved
 - 1533 Eagle Ridge Drive – Re-roof. Approved
 - 1563 Eagle Ridge Drive – Re-roof. Approved
 - 1903 Quail Run Road – Replace Fence. Approved
- Check the ACC Project Log at the Sandia Heights Homeowners (SHHA) website sandiahomeowners.org. Click on THE A.C.C. then on Architectural Control Committee Project Log and read about all projects currently under ACC management.*



Covenant Support Committee

As the weather gets warmer the leaves come out as do the RVs, camper trailers, boats, and an assortment of other trailers. All of the Unit covenants prohibit these trailers on the property or common areas. In the past

SHHA had several legal actions which upheld the definition of a house trailer to include RVs, camping trailers, etc. When you moved to Sandia Heights you agreed to abide by the covenants for your Unit. In fairness to your neighbors please move your toys to a storage facility.

The CSC does not patrol or selectively look for violations but will act only on written complaints from neighbors. Thus you may see trailers that have been parked but no written complaint has been filed while your trailer has a complaint. Once a complaint is filed it will be investigated and if valid you will be asked to move the trailer. Failure to comply can result in legal action.

This may sound harsh, but the CSC is committed to maintaining the quality of Sandia Heights while protecting each homeowner's rights as defined by their covenants.



Tree Lottery News – Your Tree Removed At No Cost to You?

Sandia and Isleta Casinos – Eat your heart out!! We have **Tree Lottery** odds that even the loosest slots will never match. We know that many of you are planning to enter the tree lottery but have not yet done so. But as of this writing, if the lottery were to be held tomorrow every tree entered to date would be paid for in full – now there are some really good odds!!

Eighty-nine percent of our residents have stated that they were either very or somewhat concerned with undue obstruction of views by trees* Now is the time to act on our convictions and do our part to curtail, reduce, and reverse the otherwise relentless advance of trees into our distant mountain and valley views. **The SHHA Tree Lottery** now provides an excellent chance for all Association Members to have all or most of their tree removal costs paid for by the Association!

Continued on page 11

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Community Event Bulletin Board

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

Church of the Good Shepherd Looking for a church that “offers a warm Welcome, has inspiring Music, thoughtful Sermons, and is a caring Community?” Look no further! Join us at Church of the Good Shepherd for either their 8:30 or 10:30 services on Sunday located at 7834 Tennyson Street NE. For more information call 856-1004.

Sandia Heights Artists News... It’s May—only four more months until the greatly anticipated, widely acclaimed, wildly enjoyable Sandia Heights Artists Studio Tour! Our group is growing. Last month we welcomed two new members. If you’re an artist living in Sandia Heights we hope you’ll join us. Call Carol at 828-9426 to let her know you’re interested.

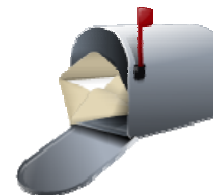
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Now is the time to take advantage of potentially great odds and get rid of you nuisance trees. Are any of your trees interfering with your enjoyment of Sandia Mountain or the Rio Grande Valley? Are they interfering with the views of your neighbors? If the answer is yes, now is the time for action. Plan to have them removed before the SHHA Annual Meeting in June 2010 and enter the Lottery for a chance to have your cost reimbursed. Please see the SHHA website at sandiahomeowners.org or drop by the SHHA office for complete Lottery eligibility, entry, and rules.



MAIL THEFT

Mail theft is a continuing problem! We advise that you take your outgoing mail to the Post Office. If the option is available it might be best to have sensitive information like checks, insurance and mortgage papers sent to your bank branch and you can pick them up from there, rather than having them sent to your house. Likewise, consider opening a post office box and have your mail sent there. Otherwise, keep your eye out for the postman and get your mail out of your box quickly.



Secure Mailboxes Available

The UPS Store located at the corner of Tramway & Academy has mail boxes available. Some of the benefits of a mailbox at our store vs. the Post Office are:

- 24 hour access to your box.
- Package acceptance from all carriers: We’ll hold your packages-even oversized ones-in a secure location for pickup.
- You receive a real street address, not a P.O. Box.
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