



November 2020

Vol. 36 – No. 11

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Now is the Time for All Good Folks to Come to the Aid of Their HOA

By Susan McCasland, Nominating Committee Chair

Yes, we’re looking for people who would like to serve on the SHHA Board of Directors. At this point you may be casting your eyes to the left and noticing quite a few names. What that list doesn’t show is that several Board Members’ and Officers’ terms expire soon and some are term-limited out. We hope any interested person will apply (application is on the website or call the office). In particular, the Board could use more pre-retirees and people with children still at home. Board meetings are on one Wednesday evening a month so as to not conflict with most people’s work schedules.

It is also important for the Board to reflect the concerns and cultures of the varied areas of Sandia Heights. The current Board Members live in the following units: North 0 and 1; South 1, 8C, 11, 14, 17, 18, 20 and 23. If you live in an unrepresented unit, think about throwing your name in the hat in the next month. We will interview all applicants. Successful applicants will be voted on by the SHHA members attending the (probably virtual) annual meeting in February 2021. But names of nominated Board Members need to be announced 60 days prior to the meeting, so don’t procrastinate too long.



Thank You, Tramway Adoptive Parents

A very special “thanks” goes to those residents of Sandia Heights who chose to spend an hour or so on September 26 picking up trash, thereby fulfilling an SHHA obligation since we have “adopted” a section of Tramway Blvd. Social distancing and mask wearing made taking a photo difficult—so we didn’t! Those donning safety vests and toting trash bags were Roger Hagengruber, Robert Hare, Ginger Rich, Emily Rudin, Ron Vigil, and Cheryl Wieker. **We thank you!** We’ll do it again in about 6 months, so if you missed it this time, don’t despair.

Invasive Trees and the CSC

By Bob Thomas, CSC Chair, and Kate Fry

There is a growing awareness in Sandia Heights that trees as they grow, proliferate, and mature, are causing a gradual loss of our valley and mountain views, contributing to water usage and septic system maintenance costs, and decreasing our property values.

Our covenants limit houses to 1 or 2 stories in order to be in harmony with surroundings and not obstruct views. Now some Siberian elms tower over 2-story houses. There are hundreds, soon thousands, of saplings rapidly growing to join them. (Although the covenants specifically prohibit Chinese elms; all of the invasive elms in Sandia Heights are technically Siberian elms.) It is prudent for us to be aware of this condition and consider actions to control this growing threat to our views and quality of life.



Every year, the Covenant Support Committee (CSC) receives complaints from homeowners citing a neighbor's elm tree that has grown to 25–30 feet and is now obstructing their views. The relevant language in most unit covenants states, “No Chinese elms, cotton-bearing cottonwood trees or Bermuda grass shall be maintained on any lot. No grouping of trees shall be planted to constitute a screen.” Landscaping projects require approval from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) and this language in a broad sense forbids planting these invasive trees.

However, how does this covenant language apply to existing, mature invasive trees? A typical situation is that a new homeowner finds a 25-foot elm tree in their yard, 30–40 years old, and now a neighbor files a complaint that the tree is blocking their views. It is important to note that the cost of removing this large tree will be hundreds, perhaps thousands, of dollars. (A question that needs asking is why didn't the neighbor take notice when the tree was 5 feet tall, and request removal then? This does require some insight and cooperation between neighbors.)

The word “maintain” is the focal point in this covenant language, specifically as to its legal meaning. Does it mean ownership or stewardship? If it means ownership, then when a complaint is filed the fact that the tree exists on a property renders the complaint valid. Alternatively, if it means stewardship, implying some measure of care and feeding, then when a complaint is filed but the homeowner is not fertilizing or watering the tree, the complaint would not have merit. It

is the opinion of the SHHA attorney that the word “maintain” is subjective, that is, not sufficiently defined and subject to interpretation, and as such it is questionable as to how the courts would judge. Experience has shown that the cost to SHHA to get a case before a judge is around \$30,000. The SHHA cannot gamble thousands of dollars on a court's coin flip for each of the hundreds, soon to be thousands, of these trees. Therefore, the CSC will not enforce removal of mature invasive trees.

The CSC encourages neighbors to work together to find a satisfactory resolution to the invasive tree problem. A good starting point is to destroy early on the saplings. This involves communication between neighbors and possibly sharing costs to remove a large tree. An intermediate solution with potentially lower costs may be to significantly trim the tree. The CSC can, if asked, act as a facilitator to this end.

Sandia Clouds

By Ruth Baird Pollard, SHHA member

On any given day, the view from my living room window is fantastic. My windows look out on the magnificent Sandia Mountains with a direct view of Sandia Peak. On sunny days I can see the sun shining on the tram cables and tram cars that ascend over 4,000 feet from the altitude of my house to the peak. The view of the mountain constantly changes depending on the weather or the time of day. Many days at sunset, they turn a lovely shade of pink. The Spanish called them the Watermelon Mountains, but The Tiwa Pueblo name for Sandia Mountains is *posu gai hoo-oo* or “where water slides down arroyo.” Since I hadn't lived near a mountain before I moved to Albuquerque about eight years ago, I thought mountain views would be pretty static. I didn't think they would change much from hour to hour and day to day. I was wrong!

I once witnessed a most unusual and beautiful cloud formation. A long bank of clouds moved quickly under a larger formation of clouds, like a slithering giant eel. Other fluffy clouds formed underneath the eel-like cloud, with long, spiky tendrils, like bony hands, reaching down to another smaller group of clouds. From this smaller group, more long spiky tendrils were reaching up to the fluffy clouds as if they wanted to be rescued from extinction. The wind was gently blowing the tendrils back and forth and these tendrils were being taken up into the larger cloud, like a resurrection of wraiths. I watched this fantastic cloud ballet for at least fifteen minutes. It was like nothing I had ever seen before.



Security Camera Considerations

By Joe Boyce, SHHA Board Member

Security is near the top of the list of SHHA residents' concerns. To determine if security cameras at neighborhood entry points would help improve our community's security, a sub-group of SHHA Board members recently evaluated options and issues and provided a recommendation to the Board. After detailed review, we concluded that encouraging individual homeowners to install security cameras is the best approach. Below is a summary of our findings. *Please also note many previous articles in The GRIT about improving security, showing the importance of neighborhood watch and basic home-security measures.*

Do community gates help improve security? Surprisingly, there is no clear evidence that community gates improve security much, despite their significant costs, support requirements, and "hassle factor." This was not further considered.

Do cameras help improve security? Yes, cameras work for both prevention and prosecution/recovery. Much research shows that well-placed security camera systems (with signs) measurably reduce crime. And, video or still-imagery helps after a crime, especially if it shows clear license plate numbers.

How much are we willing to spend? It depends. With 18 entrances to SHHA (8 on the east side of Tramway, 10 on the west), it is expensive to cover every entrance, even with low cost cameras. If we add in providing power (solar panels or batteries), control and storage of images, and maintenance, the costs can be thousands of dollars per entry. Commercial systems can cost \$2400/camera/year. One system would provide license-plate reading, installation including solar, and networked monitoring at an annual cost of about \$43,000—not including SHHA support time or other costs.

Where would cameras be located? They must be placed in safe, supportable, functional locations near entry points, and with adequate power and protection against weather and vandalism. They need good lighting and network connectivity or access for storage retrieval. Each entry would likely require a new pole with a raised camera and solar panel. Local ordinances/regulations need to be considered, along with liability and public and private legal issues.

How would we monitor? Having a full-time person for monitoring the cameras is not feasible. Real-time monitoring by a security service is expensive. Local image storage requires staffing to manually retrieve images, verify the systems are working, and change batteries. Access to images would need to be carefully controlled for security and privacy reasons.

License plate reading (LPR) capability. Even with this capability,

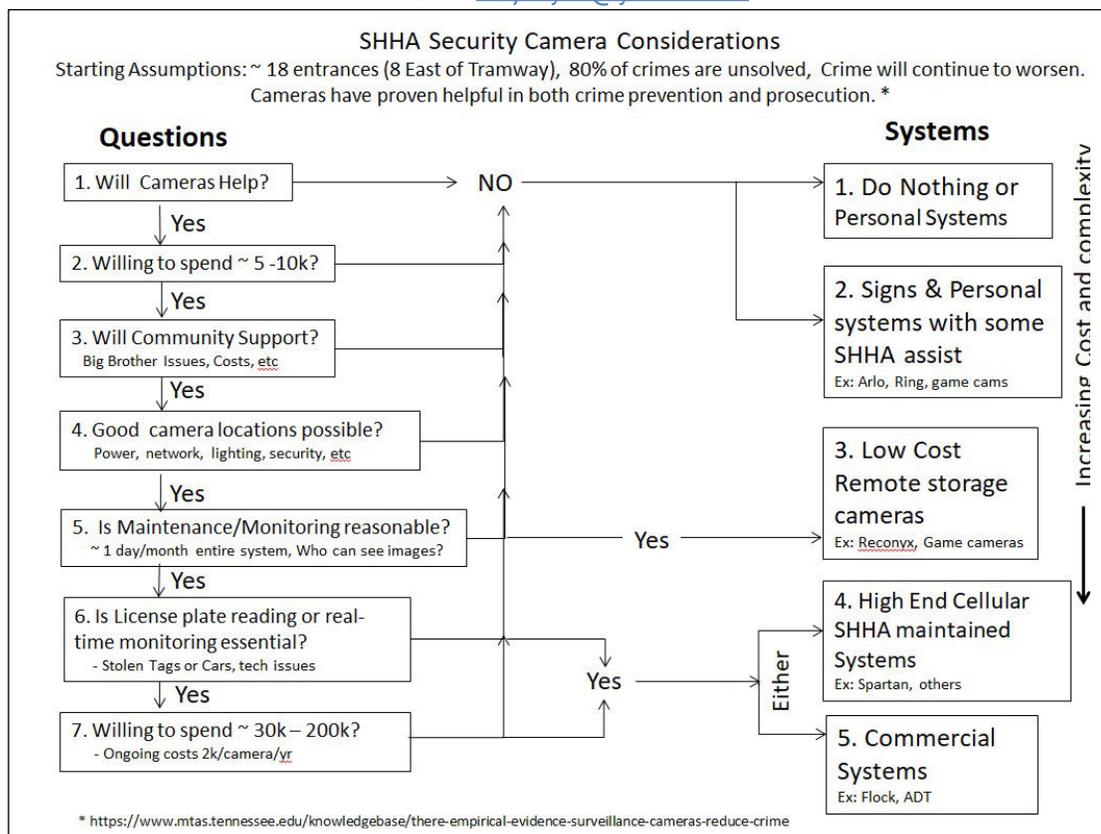
some criminals steal tags or cars. While LPR is one of the most useful and admissible pieces of evidence, it requires significant effort to filter out criminals from temporary workers and that can only be done by local law enforcement. Basic camera systems don't have high enough resolution to read license plates reliably. Glare and lighting are challenges, and the privacy of residents and their guests will always be a concern.

Cost and value. It would require a significant increase in association fees to provide this capability, and not all residents even now join our neighborhood association. Would SHHA-placed cameras improve the monitoring over current residents' systems enough to be worth thousands of dollars? Would we use LPR or real-time monitoring to respond to crimes effectively?

Will the community support it? Although homeowners have a clear right to protect and monitor their property, community-owned systems incur privacy concerns: Who can see the images? How are they stored, and how long? Why aren't non-SHHA members paying their share? The Board doubts there would be broad enough support to finance and implement such a system.

Given these findings, the Board does not support installing SHHA-owned or supported entry camera systems at this time. Instead, our team recommends we continue to rely on private systems and encourage residents to install their own security camera systems, especially those who live near entrances to the neighborhood. SHHA might be able to help with recommendations or specifications for best-value systems and camera placement. We might also install "Smile, you are on camera" or equivalent signs at entrances to get the message to would-be criminals and possibly deliver much of the intended prevention.

We hope this information helps you understand the issues and considerations for this complex topic. We've provided a decision tree to show how we came to these conclusions. Contact Joe Boyce with any constructive recommendations or information at mkjboyce@yahoo.com.



SEPTEMBER 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 856-6347, **mobile** 263-4654.

September 2020	# of calls		# of calls
Alarms	20	Special Request/Vacation	65
Attempted Breaking & Entering	0	Speeding Vehicle	1
Customer Assist	4	Suspicious Activity	3
Dump/Spilled Material	1	Suspicious Person	5
Fire/Smoke	1	Suspicious Vehicle	2
Lost/Found Pet	0	Theft	1
Mailbox Vandalism	0	Utility Co. Assist	1
Newspaper/Package Pickup	3	Vandalism	0
Salesman Complaint	1	Vehicle Burglary/Break In	0
Snake Call	1	Welfare Check	0
Special Extra Patrol	3	Total Calls	112

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:** 798-7000 **Bernalillo County Fire Department Non-Emergency:** 468-1310 **SHS Water/Sewer Emergencies (M-F 7AM – 4PM):** 856-6345 **SHS Water/Sewer Emergencies After Hours:** 888-5336 **NM Gas Co. Emergencies:** 697-3335 **PNM Outage & Emergencies:** 1-888-342-5766

Announcements & Notices:

- **Office hours:** Monday – Friday 9 AM – 4 PM.
- **Board Meeting:** scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 7 PM via Zoom.
- **Office Closures for Holiday(s):** Wednesday, November 11, in observance of Veterans Day. Thursday and Friday, November 26–27 in observance of Thanksgiving.
- **Notary services, copies (20 per month) and faxes, e-mail alerts, and contractor evaluation binder** are free to members. **Also, voter registration in 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 per vest for members. Cash or check only.
- **Tram passes for sale** in the SHHA Office. \$7 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 participating merchants:

Abel Plumbing & Heating
Barnett Aldon Iron Works
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Jade Enterprises Inc.
Marc Coan Designs
Remax Select – Pete Veres
Sandia Realty Inc.



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HOW WILL THE 2020 ELECTION AFFECT REAL ESTATE IN ALBUQUERQUE AND IN THE NATION?

Whether we're ready for it or not, the 2020 presidential election is happening.

As if this year hasn't brought enough uncertainty, an election could be causing people to question their buying and selling plans...again. Rocky political environments can create instability in the stock market, causing consumer confidence to drop. But the real estate market isn't rocky...it's rock solid! And delaying plans could mean you are missing out on once-in-a-lifetime affordability.

The Real Estate Market Might Slow Down, But Not for Long

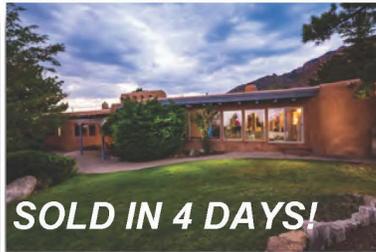
Historically speaking, home sales typically slow down in the fall following the spring and summer rush. BTIG, a research and analysis company, looked at new home sales from 1963-2019 and noted an average decline of -9.8% in November compared to October. In that same report, they noticed that this decline becomes slightly more exaggerated in presidential election years, dropping as much as -15% from October to November.

So, why the decline? Buyers and Sellers are just becoming more cautious during that time. This caution is temporary, and ultimately results in deferred sales, as the economy, jobs, interest rates and consumer confidence all have far more meaningful roles in the home purchase decision than a Presidential election result in the months that follow. Considering the current state of real estate across the country, we can anticipate that while a slow down may occur, its effects will only be temporary. Home sales have remained strong throughout the last couple of winters, and the competitive nature of today's current market suggests this year should be no different.

The First Year After an Election is the Best for Real Estate

While presidential election years may cause consumer weariness, another study looked at how the housing market performs after too. Meyers Research and Zonda, a leading real estate research firm, found data that the year following an election can be the best of the presidential term for home sales.

While this is definitely not your typical election year (understatement of the century), experts believe that once the election is over, we could see the real estate market perform even better in the months following. I'll keep you informed.



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MLS# 971804



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1173 Laurel Lp. NE
4 Bedrooms • 2 Bathrooms • 2,743 SF •
MLS# 976120



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2710 Tramway Circle NE
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MLS# 978308



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* Please do not donate items in glass containers or items that have been opened. Please ensure that all food donations include complete ingredient information.

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Into the Clouds, Part 2

The Short, Tragic Flight of TWA 260 & the Aftermath

By Hugh Prather, SHHA Member

Less than 2 miles due east of the Sandia Heights boundary with the Sandia Wilderness, but 4 steep, uphill miles by trail from the tram terminal, a hiker encounters the debris field of the tragic TWA accident that took the lives of 16 people and spawned a series of myths and legends. Here's the second part of the real story.

Flight 260 was underway right on time. As it began its course to the north on its climb to 9000 feet, it passed over Wyoming Boulevard, and a young man standing there with his Air Force officer father looked up at the plane as it disappeared into the clouds on a northeast heading. He was the last person to see Skyliner Binghamton intact.

The folks waiting for the deplaning passengers in Santa Fe at 7:25 that Saturday morning began to realize by 7:45 that something was amiss. Air traffic controllers in Albuquerque were as well as there were no responses from the cockpit to any of the calls for "TWA 2-6-0 please give us your location." By 9:00, airline authorities and aviation officials knew a crisis was at hand. By 10 AM search and rescue teams were being assembled and deployed.

The Sunday morning *Albuquerque Journal* banner headline read, "Air Liner Search Continues: 16 Aboard TWA Plane Feared Down in Wild Country North of Here." The story explained a search had begun the previous morning. Hundreds of calls from all over northern New Mexico were reporting an aircraft, an explosion, a low-flying plane, but to no avail.

That morning, January 20, Jim Bixler, chief pilot for Carco



Air Service had a hunch as he flew north from the airport en route to Los Alamos. He made a northeast swing toward the western edge of the Sandia Moun-

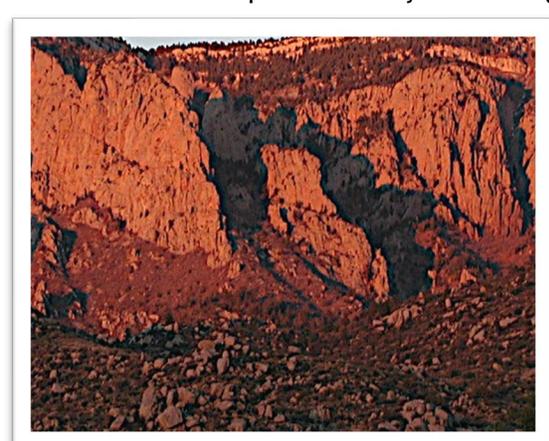
tains and there, atop a pinnacle known later as the "Dragon's Tooth," he spotted the empennage—tail assembly—of Skyliner Binghamton hanging precipitously over the eastern edge. When he radioed this information in, all the search and rescue efforts refocused to this single spot in the Sandias. What had been a search and rescue effort became a recovery of the 16 bodies from the crash site. Crews from Sandia Base and volunteers from New Mexico Mountain Club made the arduous climb down from the Kiwanis Cabin to the Dragon's Tooth to begin the painful process of transporting 16 body bags down to waiting ambulances.

The 45,000-pound aircraft traveling 230 mph exploded and burned on impact. Most of the aluminum wreckage and both engines were scattered across the top of the pinnacle. Debris had been thrown completely over the pinnacle and landed in the canyon west of the Dragon's Tooth, while about one third of the debris had fallen into the eastern canyon immediately below the pinnacle—now known as TWA Canyon. The tail section was the largest intact piece.



On March 24 and 25 of 1955 the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) conducted a series of hearings in Albuquerque to determine what had happened that led TWA 260 to its fateful and fatal collision with the Sandia Mountains. CAB investigator Philip Goldstein had been to the site multiple times. He reported that the recovered instruments were too severely damaged to provide any meaningful data. At this time, there were no flight-data recorders on commercial aircraft, so no "black box" could be recovered to aid in determining what had precipitated the accident

Goldstein did report one very interesting anomaly, how-



ever: it was clear from the position of the empennage and the debris that the plane was heading almost directly back toward the airport—a southwest

heading away from the mountain—as it impacted the east side of the pinnacle, not the west. It was flying **away from** the mountains, **not into** the mountains. What was never brought to the attention of the CAB panel were the detailed weather conditions in the immediate area of the mountain that morning nor, surprisingly, was testimony solicited from two other TWA Constellation pilots who had been discussing weather conditions with Spong and Creason before takeoff that Saturday.

So, what had led TWA 260 approximately 10 miles off course and into the face of a granite pinnacle?

[Part 3 next month, "The Crash Determination Controversy"]

Don't Let Your Water Pipes Freeze!

By Bob Bower, ACC Chair

We may have a mild winter this year, but who knows? It's always helpful this time of the year to remind you of ways to protect your water pipes from the effects of very cold weather. Most of the local experts on this subject generally agree that steps need to be taken to protect water pipes if temperatures are expected to drop below 21 degrees Fahrenheit. A broken water pipe inside your home can cause a lot of extensive and expensive damage!

Let's start with the outside of your home. Disconnecting water hoses and protecting outdoor water faucets are very important. Water that freezes in outdoor hoses connected to faucets causes a buildup of pressure on interior plumbing that can result in a rupture of the interior pipes if the pressure is too high. Damage to these interior pipes near an outdoor water faucet is often difficult to repair due to the inaccessibility of these pipes. Disconnecting hoses from outdoor faucets and protecting the faucets with hard-foam insulating cups are good ways to reduce the chances of damage to these water pipes that extend through your exterior walls. These inexpensive foam cups can be purchased at home improvement or hardware stores and are easy to install. I've also found that it is wise to wrap outdoor faucets with some insulation prior to placing the foam cup over the faucets, particularly if any of the faucets are located on the north side of your home or are located in an area that does not receive any winter sun. Also, if you have any water pipes that are located outside your home that are exposed to the outside temperatures, you should consider using insulating tubes or heat tape around these exposed pipes.

Now, let's consider the inside of your home. If Albuquerque experiences a spell of extremely cold weather where temperatures, particularly at night, drop below the 21°F "benchmark," leave the water supply line on at a very slow drip rate somewhere inside your home. Water in slow motion in a pipe is much less likely to freeze than water that is motionless. A faucet located far away from where the water enters your home is the one that you should use for this purpose. The cost of water used is insignificant compared to the cost of repairing damage caused by a broken water line inside your home. Normally, these very cold spells don't last long so leaving an indoor faucet dripping for a few days and nights should get you through these spells until warmer temperatures return. If you are away from your home during the cold season, make sure that there is adequate heat inside your home to prevent internal pipes from freezing. Even when trying to save energy costs, don't turn the heat too far down (experts recommend no lower than 55°F) and don't turn the heat off altogether unless you have all of the water lines properly drained. Believe me, I have seen the damage caused by pipes that have not been properly drained and have subsequently burst inside a home where the heat had been turned off. It's not a pretty sight!

One final note for those of you who have swamp coolers. If you have not already done so, be sure to drain the water reservoir and disconnect and drain the water supply line. It doesn't take much of a freeze to damage these cooler components. And don't forget to wrap or cup any swamp cooler faucets.

Have a great winter!!

ACC Activity Log

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

53 Rock Ridge Court – Stucco Repair
125 Whitetail Road – Roof-Mounted Photovoltaic Panel Installation
140 Big Horn Ridge Drive – Roof-Mounted Photovoltaic Panel Installation
190 Big Horn Ridge Drive – Replace Driveway Border and Raise Back Patio Wall Height
413 Live Oak Loop – Replace Gravel Driveway
419 Live Oak Court – Replace HVAC Units
508 Black Bear Rd – Playhouse Installation
617 Cedar Hill Road – Deck Installation and Landscaping
664 Roadrunner Lane – Sunroom Replacement
688 Blackhawk Dr – Replace HVAC Platform and Vents
727-21 Tramway Lane – Replace Retaining Wall & Landscaping
780 A-D Tramway Place – Reroof Four Units
1025 Tramway Lane – Build Storage Unit
1051 Red Oaks Loop – Roof Maintenance
1138 Marigold Drive – Fence and Gate Installation
1199 Bobcat Blvd. – Replace Skylights, Stain Driveway and Retaining Wall
1209 Marigold Drive – Roof-Mounted Photovoltaic Panel Installation
1216 Rockrose Road – Replace Asphalt Driveway, Replace Concrete Walkway, and Miscellaneous
1538 Eagle Ridge Place – Stucco Repair
1565 Eagle Ridge Court – Replace Front Door
1565 Eagle Ridge Court – Remove & Replace Roof on Storage Addition. Install Stone Tile as Top Patio Surface
1840 Tramway Terrace Loop – Replace Window
2019 Quail Run Drive – Replace Windows/Doors and Replace Siding with Stacked Stone
2715 Tramway Circle – Enclose Existing Patio Cover
2719 Tramway Circle – Repair Fence
2824 Tramway Circle – Re-stucco
7712 Cedar Canyon Place – Install Drip System and Repair Courtyard Concrete and Drainage
12622 Colony Place – Re-stucco
12622 Colony Pl – Repaint Trim, Door, Gates, and Pergola

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

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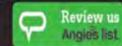
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Sandia Heights MARKET UPDATE PAST YEAR 10/2019 to 10/2020

10 Larger homes For Sale Over 2400 sf on Larger Lots Avg price/sf \$193.00

9 Pending Avg Asking Price/sf. \$181.00 | 50 Homes Closed past year to date Avg Sold Price/sf \$195.89

Smaller homes on smaller lots :3 for sale Avg asking Price/sf \$193.60

11 pending Avg Asking Price \$187.83 p/sf | 42 closed past year to date Avg Sold Price /sf \$184.88

Note Price is always based on condition, updates, location and views

Current Interest rates hovering around 2.875% for 30 year conventional & 2.75% 30 year VA!



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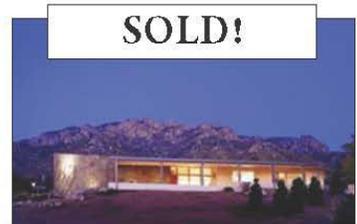
8210 Indigo Court NE



54 Rock Ridge Court NE



617 Cedar Hill Road NE



79 Juniper Hill Place NE



Community Event Bulletin Board

None of these groups is sponsored by SHHA. Information is provided to keep residents informed.

Sandia Heights “Cork & Fork” Dining Activity: Due to the pandemic, dining activities are cancelled per directions of the Governor’s Office. When the situation resolves, we will again meet on the second Saturday of every other month, hopefully starting sometime next year, gathering in the homes of our members. Each small dinner group is typically 6–8 people, including the hosts. We try to switch up the groups, with everyone rotating (host/attendee) as the year progresses. 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, one a September kick-off, and an end-of-season gathering in July. The dinner group was started in September 2005, with 15 interested couples from Sandia Heights. Adult Sandia Heights residents are welcome. To inquire or join any time of year, call Paula Baxter at (505) 330-1518.

Notice: Any corrections to the printed version of the GRIT can be found on the website: www.sandiahomeowners.org

Monthly Fun Fact

By Matt Pedigo, SHHA Member

Albuquerque historically received most of its water from underground water tables, some of which are over a mile deep. These aquifers are recharged by runoff from the mountains north and east of town. Ground water now makes up only about 40% of the city’s water. A second water source is the San Juan Chama Project, which involves a series of tributaries that form the Colorado, San Juan and Chama rivers. Additional water is taken from the Rio Grande River. Sandia Heights’ water comes from wells drilled at the base of the Sandia Mountains. These wells only provide water for our community. You can see the water storage tanks just uphill from the tram house.

Correction

The September GRIT contained an article entitled “Legal Bow Hunting in Cibola.” The article cited a rule of NM Department of Game and Fish: “It is unlawful to discharge a firearm within 150 yards of a dwelling or building without the permission of the owner or lessee. Bows are considered a firearm.”

An alert resident of Sandia Heights accurately pointed out that technically, a bow is not a firearm. In order to minimize the risk of misleading someone or creating confusion, a correction is appropriate. Technically, bows are not firearms; however, using a bow for hunting game is subject to the same rules of hunting as are firearms.

Free Gardening Webinar Series by Elizabeth Edgren

NMSU’s Cooperative Extension Service is offering a great free webinar series that I tried out recently. It’s called “Ready, Set, GROW!” and covers a variety of topics related to home gardening, both vegetable and landscape gardening. I attended one on Pollinator Habitat for the Fall/Winter Garden and was inspired to make or protect homes for the pollinators in our area. The presenters are experts in their fields and usually give opportunity for Q&A time at the end of their presentation.

Webinars will continue on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 3:00 PM through March 2021. It’s easy to sign up, and even if you can’t watch the Zoom webinar “live,” if you do sign up, you can later access the slides and information presented. Upcoming webinars include:

Nov 4 – Planting Trees in the Fall

Dec 2 – Gardening Gift Ideas

Nov 18 – Taking Care of Winter Landscape

Dec 16 – Grapes & Holiday Wine Pairings for NM

To learn more or sign up, go to <https://aces.nmsu.edu/desertblooms/ready-set-grow.html>



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



The SHHA Office will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2020, in observance of Veterans Day.

The SHHA Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 26-27, 2020 in observance of Thanksgiving.

