

THE LITTLE **GRIT**

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

March 2004

2004 **SHHA** WINE TASTING!

The Annual SHHA Wine Tasting is right around the corner! The event will be held April 24th, from 4-7pm at Futures for Children. Come sample some of the best wines from all around the world and socialize with your neighbors. And if good old fashion beer is more your style, the professional servers will have that too. There will also be live music, a silent auction, and appetizers. Proceeds from the wine tasting will be donated to Futures for Children, so take advantage of this unique neighborhood event and an opportunity to give back to the community.

Tickets will not be sold at the door for liability reasons, so fill out the reservation form below and mail or drop it by the SHHA office to reserve a spot on the guest list. If you are interested in making a quality donation for the silent auction or have any other questions please call the SHHA office at 797-7793.

2004 **SHHA** WINE TASTING RESERVATION

Saturday, April 24th, 4-7pm. at Futures for Children, 9600 Tennyson (across from County Line)

\$15 per person. Please RSVP by April 19th

Wine Tasters:

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

I certify that each person is over 21 years of age

Signature _____

Amount enclosed _____

Mail or drop off check to:

Wine Tasting
2-B San Rafael NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122

Fine wine, delicious appetizers,
live music, friends – all right here
in our neighborhood!

Please check
here if you can
bring an
appetizer



Wines

Board Directors Needed

By: Heinz Schmitt, Richard Frederiksen, Chuck McLeod – Nominations Committee

Board President Bob Francis has appointed a nominations committee to provide candidates to replace retiring Directors of Sandia Heights Homeowners Association. New Directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting on Saturday June 5, 2004. We need you to replace retirees.

Why? To improve the community of Sandia Heights.

To get to know your neighbors more.

To be part of designing the future of our “mature” community.

To give back in a way that preserves what you enjoy about living here.

Board members are elected for 3-year terms, serve on at least one and possibly two of the seven standing committees and attend monthly meetings of the Board. Generally it is believed that it takes about four to six hours a week of your time. In order to keep the Sandia Heights we all enjoy and love, being a member of the Board is a very necessary, and rewarding job. We need representation from all of the units on the Board and we urge you to consider taking this opportunity to become a board member. Sandia Heights is essentially a mature Homeowners Association with new bylaws approved last year. Consequently, we will be moving into a new phase of our existence. The next few years will be an exciting opportunity for you to help plan the future of our association. Please review the ivory center section of the 2004 Directory of Residents, which lists the duties of the committees and other functions of the Board. If you are prepared to serve as a Director, we urge you to contact the SHHA office at 797-7793 or any of the Nominations Committee members and submit a short resume reflecting your experience and interest in working on the Board of Directors.

**Don't forget to fill out your SHHA Wine Tasting
Reservation form on the other side!**

THE OBNOXIOUS ECKERD BUILDING

By: Don Wortman, Chair – Special Liaison Committee

You might assume that the company constructing a new building along Tramway in Sandia Heights would want to have the goodwill of the neighborhood before it opened, right? You might assume they would have shared their plans with SHHA, right? You might assume that Bernalillo County zoning and building officials would encourage developers and builders to consult with their neighbors when they are going to build in a residential neighborhood, right? Wrong on all counts. Neither Eckerds, the occupant of the building, or Tricore Southwest, the owner of the building, nor for that matter the County, care about what we in Sandia Heights think.

According to the Albuquerque Journal article on Feb. 27th, Eckerds is building 8 stores in the metropolitan area. (Shades of the confusion we all had about FURR'S, this article states "...J.C.Penny...is negotiating to sell its troubled Eckerd drugstore chain...") It appears that Eckerds will use the same "cookie cutter" design whether the building is in the middle of a commercial area like at Seagull and Academy or in the middle of a residential neighborhood like ours.

Given that the area Eckerds is building on is zoned for commercial development and given that we in Sandia Heights have been shown no consideration, SHHA is focusing on having the three triangular structures (the builder, JAYNES, calls them cupolas) that rise above the roof removed. The President of SHHA has sent letters to both Eckerds and Tricore with this request. We also met with county zoning and building officials on Feb. 26th. Commissioner Cummins has become involved and even though he may not be able to help us on this cupolas issue, he has asked county officials to advise him about further development at this site.

Because of a zoning variance sign posted on the property just north of Eckerds, we have learned that Albuquerque Kwik Lube will be constructing a building at that site. Their request for a zoning variance concerns the size of the sign on the front of the building facing Tramway. We will oppose this zoning variance at the public hearing scheduled for March 9th and request that the plans for this building be reviewed with SHHA. It appears that the traffic to and from the Kwik Lube will have to pass in front of Eckerds. I'm not sure that makes any sense.

I think the only way to "wake up" Eckerds is to boycott their business. The only question in my mind is whether or not we as a community can be sufficiently disciplined to make that effective.

Don Wortman
Chair, Special Liaison Committee, SHHA

Covenant Support Committee Update

By: Frank Soper, Chair - CSC

The SHHA is updating our record of amendments to the Covenants for all Units. The following list shows what amendments we know have been filed. If anyone knows of other amendments, please call SHHA @ 797-7793 with your information.

Unit 7 – Two Amendments

#1 Revised Article III, Sec. 2

#2 Revised Article II

Unit 15 – Two Amendments

#1 Added Paragraph 32

#2 Added Paragraph 33 through 36

Unit 18 – One Amendment

Added to Article V

Unit 23 – One Amendment

Revised Paragraph 4

Unit 24 – Two Amendments

#1 Established Unit 24 Homeowners Association

#2 Revised Paragraph 7

Unit 27B – One Amendment

Replaced Paragraph 8(g) and added Paragraph 32

Unit 28C – One Amendment

Revised Paragraph 9(g) regarding room additions

Our request is good reason for you to check the Covenants for your Unit.

Traffic Safety & Environment News

By: Mark Boslough, Chair – Traffic & Safety Committee

New Stop Signs

At our request, the county has converted four of our intersections into multi-way stops. These corners all have limited visibility, with insufficient line-of-sight for drivers to see oncoming traffic at the speeds people have been driving. Please be extra observant of the new stop signs at the following intersections:

- Tramway Lane & Deer Drive
- Bobcat Blvd. & Deer Drive
- Honeysuckle Drive & San Rafael Ave.
- Eagle Ridge Road & Eagle Ridge Lane

Please contact SHHA if you are aware of other intersections you think could be made safer with additional stop signs.

San Rafael Speed Humps Vetoed by Fire Department

The residents of lower San Rafael Ave. failed in their attempt to get speed humps despite their unanimous agreement and county data showing high rates of speeding that meet the criteria for such control devices. In the final stage of the approval process, the Bernalillo County Fire Department determined, based on emergency response concerns, that speed humps should not be installed on this roadway. We are looking into ways of getting this decision reversed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(The comments and opinions expressed **do not** necessarily represent the views of the SHHA)

Use the Pedestrian Paths on Tramway

To the mom and dad who complained about the speeding white SUV in the last *GRIT*: I am definitely for safe driving and speed control on our overgrown and curvy Sandia Heights roads. But for the life of me, I do not understand the thought process that would take three "training wheeled" children out on these roads and risk their lives to prove a point. We have miles of beautiful paved and wide safe bike paths at the bottom of all our entrances and exits from Sandia Heights. These roads we live on are not wide enough and not cleared enough to allow cars and people at the same time. It would be a different story if we had paths or walkways carved out of our roads and if we did not have the Tramway bike/walker path. I as a mom and grandmother never allowed my children and now my grandchildren the opportunity to get in harm's way. I can't speak for those who choose to walk these roads. Even at 15 mph it takes just a few moments to get to the base of the Heights, park, and enjoy the bike/walker paths without risking not only the children's lives but the driver's too.

-K Belle Conway, Resident

Are Speed Humps Effective?

Regarding Mark Boslough's letter: There never should have been a vehicle behind you when you were walking. When you walk on a road that has no sidewalks you walk against traffic so you can see vehicles coming at you. As for speed humps: we do not need them, they do nothing. Go to Live Oak Road, where there are speed humps and see that people slow down for them and accelerate immediately after, even on the uphill.

I have lived here for seven years and there has never been an accident. We do not need something that is ineffective and annoying.

-Carl Gutman, Resident

A Shift in Perspective for all Holding or Seeking Public Office

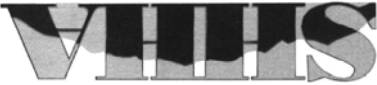
What if all persons currently occupying positions of influence and power, especially those persons seeking to occupy positions of greater influence and power, were to:

1. Examine their motivations for desiring influence and power and determine what they plan to do to improve the plight of all creatures on the Earth.
2. If after examining their motivations for desiring influence and power, they found those motivations to be self-centered, they chose to quiet their minds and allow appropriate motivations to free them from the prison of the limited and limiting restrictions of the ego; and, transport them from the dimension of politicians to the dimension of leadership.

I wonder what the nature of the relationships between people, all over the world, would be if this *What If* became reality?

-Robert Gardiner, Resident

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Sandia Heights Homeowners Associa-
tion
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Albuquerque, NM 87122