

THE GRIT

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

April 2006



COMING SOON!

Lisa McCormick in Concert

**Church of the Good Shepherd
7834 Tennyson NE**

Saturday, April 29th, 7:30 p.m.

A Membership & Community Services Committee Presentation

Vermont singer/songwriter Lisa McCormick is in town for a performance at Bosque House Concerts, and the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association is fortunate to be able to present her in a special concert for Sandia Heights residents on Saturday, April 29th.

Friends and relatives of Sandia Heights residents are welcome to attend, along with members of the Church of the Good Shepherd's congregation. Our concert will only be advertised in the GRIT, the Church of the Good Shepherd newsletter, and via flyers at the church and local businesses.

About Lisa.... Vermont singer/songwriter Lisa McCormick lights up the room with an unforgettable performance of spicy upbeat originals on acoustic guitar and vocals. Her seasoned ease on stage and sharp sense of humor complement her finely-tuned songwriting, with influences ranging from Bossa Nova to Contemporary Folk/Pop. Her newest CD, *Mystery Girl*, reflects recent travels in Europe and Latin America. Her songs are playfully bohemian, and richly infused with sultry jazz and spicy Latin stylings. Lisa has won two grand-prize songwriting awards and frequently opens for Jonathan Edwards. Check out her website and listen to her music at www.lisamccormick.com.

A donation of \$15, \$10/seniors & teens, \$5 children (under 6 free) is suggested, and attendees may contribute what they can afford. Money collected will go to the artist, who is taking a chance on our generosity.

The Church of the Good Shepherd Youth Group will provide coffee, teas and dessert items, which they will sell for a token amount to raise a little money for their activities. This will be an alcohol-free event that may be enjoyed by people of all ages.

We can use a few volunteers to help the day of the show. Please contact Coffeehouse Chair Linda Bolton at 856-7100 or nlightsmgt@aol.com. Kerney Bolton can use a couple of volunteers with strong backs to help set up sound. Contact Kerney at 856-7120 or kernarch@aol.com.

This will be the second Sandia Heights Coffeehouse, taking advantage of national and international artists' appearances in Albuquerque. Please join us for a wonderful evening!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ed Whitten

Capital Outlay request.

Our efforts to acquire funding for various improvements in Sandia Heights have been very successful. Our State Legislators, Representative Bill Rehm, Representative Kathy McCoy and Senator Kent Cravens worked together to get a bill passed in the recent legislative session which will fund most of the items that the SHHA board had requested. Bill Rehm and Kathy McCoy attended our monthly Board meeting in March and gave the following summary of what they were able to achieve (note that only item 5. was vetoed):

1. \$450,000 for road resurfacing in Sandia Heights
2. The State (Highway Department) has agreed to resurface Tramway Blvd with rubberized asphalt (noise abatement asphalt)
3. \$200,000 for a noise abatement wall on Tramway (this may not be desirable and item 2. may be an adequate solution to the noise from Tramway)
4. The state has agreed to work with us to address signs at the major entrances to Sandia Heights.
5. \$10,000 to install better turf at Little Cloud Park (**Vetoed**)
6. The State (Finance Authority) has agreed to fund a waste water study (sewer feasibility study)
7. \$50,000 for a special "Community Policing Rapid Response" program for special policing issues just for the unincorporated North East heights (i.e. Sandia Heights, North Albuquerque Acres, etc.)

This program will start July 1. We will provide more information on the specifics of this program in the next couple of months.

On behalf of the BOD and all the residents of Sandia Heights, I would like to thank our State Representatives Bill Rehm, and Kathy McCoy, and State Senator Kent Cravens, for their efforts to help our community improve. Both Kathy and Bill reminded us that they are up for re-election this year.

I also would like to thank those board members who have worked hard to prepare the Capital Outlay requests and the upcoming county Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) requests that are due in May. Help on the latter is still needed.

One project request that has been suggested to improve pedestrian safety is the following: Widen some of the major artery streets by four feet (likely only two feet on each side) and place a white stripe on one side (with possible rumble caps) to allow a four-foot path. The streets being suggested are: San Rafael, Tramway Lane, Juniper Hill Road, Live Oak, and Cedar Hill Road. The SHHA board does not want to move forward on this CIP request without community feedback. If you have concerns or suggestions, please contact the SHHA office.

Nominations for Board Directors Needed

Bill Johnson, Vicki Smidt, Bill McCall
- Nominations Committee

New directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting on Saturday June 3, 2006. We need YOU to replace those who are retiring. Board members are elected for 3-year terms. To preserve the Sandia Heights we all enjoy and love, serving as a member of the board is a rewarding opportunity. We need representation from all of the units on

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the board and we urge you to consider taking this opportunity to become a board member. The next few years will be an exciting opportunity for you to help plan the future of our association. Please review the beige pages of the 2006 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 Bill Johnson at 821-5696, or by email at wjohnson119@comcast.net and submit a short resume reflecting your experience and interest in working on the Board of Directors.

Often potential candidates inquire as to the time commitment required as a board member. There is a monthly board meeting that is approximately 2-3 hours. Each board member is expected to serve on one or two SHHA committees. The time dedicated to committee service varies from committee to committee. Some committees, such as the Architectural Control Committee, are more time consuming than others. Thus, your selection of committee dictates time expended. Clearly, none of the committees require an unreasonable amount of time on the part of a member. Committees usually meet once a month and demand several hours of time commitment.

PARKS & NEW DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Ed Tull, Chair

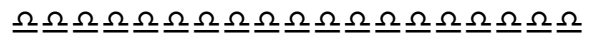
School Bus Stop Improvement Competition

In the December and February GRIT, the SHHA announced that \$200 had been allocated to improve a school bus stop in Sandia Heights so that children could have a safer and more pleasant wait every morning.

Congratulations to Aidan Thompson and Ann Desing! Their collaborative proposal to

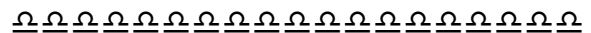


install a park bench at the northeast corner of Marigold Drive and San Rafael was selected to receive the \$200 award.



BREAK IN NOTICE

On March 14 at approximately 5 AM the SHHA office was broken into. The primary computers were taken but fortunately nothing else was. If anyone happened to see anything please contact the office.



NEW CLASSIFIED ADS

► Looking for someone to do grounds maintenance at the Quail Run Shopping Center at San Rafael. Call Dan at 304-4516.

► For Sale: Terracotta brick paver tiles, 3-3/4"x7-3/4"x1", removed from 1970-80 Sandia Heights home (~2000 bricks 420 Sq. Ft.), \$0.50 each. Not available from suppliers. Call Bob or Susan at 856-2739.

► I like to cook and bake. Looking for a few others who like to do the same. If interested in meeting to discuss it further contact Lea Wilson at 856-5523 or email at leaw212@msn.com.

W. L. JACKSON PARK – FINAL PHASE

Bob Christman

It is a pleasure to inform everyone that the engineering work has begun on the final phase of construction to complete this park. All the funds required have been approved.

Just to refresh your memory, the basketball and bocce court will be added, along with another picnic table in the shade structure. The bocce court will have a 50-foot sidewalk on each side of the court. Also, there will be additional benches located along some of the trails, a permanent park sign and some other park furnishings.

Many people have commented on how everyone does their share in keeping the park clean, including cleaning up after their pets. The county has provided two doggie depots and three garbage cans conveniently located, which helps the cause.

The schedule for construction is not yet available, but our best guess would be this summer. We will keep you advised as this project progresses.

COMMUNITY SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP

Vicki Criel

The Sandia Heights Book Club has a few openings for new members. We meet from 7-9 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at member's homes. Books chosen include fiction and non-fiction. Upcoming selections for the next few months are: *Middlesex* by Jeffery Eugenides, *East is East* by TC Boyle, *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls and *Madame Secretary* by Madeline Albright. If you are interested in a monthly evening of lively discussion among friendly, avid readers call Joan March at 323-6784 or email her at jmarch@thinkwellassociates.com.

Art in the Heights

The Art in the Heights committee met to reorganize its purpose and structure. A follow-up meeting is scheduled at the SHHA office, San Rafael, on Monday, April 24, at 7 PM. All Sandia Heights artists are encouraged to attend. The annual art tour is scheduled for Sunday, September 24, and plans are underway! The committee also needs volunteers to help with parking, security in the artist's homes, set up, etc. Please call Vicki Criel at 615-3333 or email her at vcriel@comcast.net if you wish to assist in any way.

Recycling in Sandia Heights

A group is being formed to organize recycling activities in Sandia Heights. Please contact Cheryl Ferguson at 856-1403, or email Vicki Criel at vcriel@comcast.net, if you are interested in assisting in this task.

Playgroups

Children's playgroups are, once again, being organized in Sandia Heights. Please call Vicki Criel at 615-3333 or email her at vcriel@comcast.net if you would like to get more information on the various schedules. These groups are being structured for both working and stay-at-home parents.

Cork and Fork

The Sandi Heights gourmet club is up and running, and enjoying delectable goodies. The group will re-open for new members this fall. Please email Vicki Criel at vcriel@comcast.net if you are interested in hearing more about this group.

Annual Wine Tasting Event is scheduled at Futures for Children on Saturday, June 17. We need lots of volunteers so that each person is assigned a small task so that he/she may also enjoy the event! A planning meeting is scheduled at the SHHA office, San Rafael, Monday, May 1, 7 PM. Please attend this meeting, or call Vicki Criel at 615-333 or email her at vcriel@comcast.net if you can assist at all.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

Kerney Bolton

ACC Activity Log

The following is a summary of your Architectural Control Committee's activity since last month's GRIT. Committee actions include applications approved or disapproved; requests for variances and deviations granted or disapproved; and covenant enforcement for construction projects that have no prior written ACC approval.

225 Spring Creek Lane: New residence landscaping. Project approved subject to receipt of retaining wall sectional drawings stamped by a NM registered engineer.

621 Cedar Hill Road: Rebuild and expand existing patio in backyard fenced area. Project approved.

788 Tramway Place: Repaint stucco. Project started without ACC approval. Homeowner stopped work. Color disapproved. New color selected and project approved.

1118 Rockrose Road: Add dirt fill and retaining walls to create a level playing area outside of existing backyard enclosure. Project started without ACC approval. Stop work issued. Homeowner immediately complied and submitted application. Neighborhood Review in process.

1141 Marigold Drive: Enlarge patio and build patio cover. Neighborhood Review held. Project approved.

1815 Tramway Terrace Loop: Window and door replacement. Project approved.

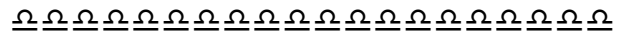
2416 Tramway Terrace Ct.: Garage door replacement. Project approved.

2744 Tramway Circle: Garage addition. Neighborhood Review held. Project approved

2881 Tramway Place: Patio improvement completed without ACC approval. Patio awning. Neighborhood Review held. Both projects approved.

7707 Cedar Canyon Place: Patio repair & residence re-stucco. Projects approved.

Is there construction in your neighborhood? Do you want to know what is going on? The ACC Project Log is still available 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.



Your Architectural Control Committee (ACC) Needs a Few More Good Volunteers

Do you enjoy meeting and working with new people? Do you share our Community's passion for impartial, fair, and firm covenant enforcement? Can you spare a few hours each week for Sandia Heights? Your ACC needs you!

A desire to help and a willingness to learn (training provided) are the main ingredients for success as a member of the ACC. There is no need to understand construction or read plans, (if you do, that's a bonus.) The Committee shares that expertise among its members. You can make a significant difference to the quality of life in Sandia Heights!

Please contact Kerney Bolton if you are interested. Phone 505 856 7120, email kernarch@aol.com Thank you!

SHERIFF'S CRIME PREVENTION

I would like to tell you about a past experience that will help you with crime prevention in your everyday life. My name is Ray Chavez and I am currently a Detective with the Community Policing Unit. I have been with the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department for over 7 years.

One day on patrol I made a car stop on a vehicle that had been reported stolen. The driver of the vehicle was arrested and I had started my interview with the offender. He said he was down on his luck and he had no place to stay for the night. He expressed that he was not a bad person and did not have a violent history. He said he was walking down a residential street and noticed a long dark driveway, and he noticed a vehicle at the end of the driveway, parked in front of the residence. He walked to the vehicle and to his surprise the door was unlocked. The offender said it was cold and he wanted to sleep in the car for the night. When he sat down, he leaned the seat back to get comfortable. The offender said he felt something on the floorboard and lifted up the mat. It was the keys to the car. He was not going to take the car but thought it could be his shelter for future cold nights, so he started the vehicle and left the area.

The offender was charged and prosecuted for the crimes he committed. Stealing is stealing and it is wrong no matter what the circumstances are! I ask you, what if the residence had a motion light? What if the motion light came on when the car thief approached the dark driveway? What if the doors of the vehicle were locked or if that extra set of keys were not underneath the mat? Would it have made a difference? Absolutely!

A few things to remember. Always lock your car and the doors to your home, even if you are to be away for a just a few minutes. If you have an alarm system, always activate it. Install motion lights and keep your house well lit. Stay alert and take action *before*, not after something happens. You live in a good neighborhood and the Sheriff's Department is committed to keeping it that way. Report suspicious activity to **798-7000**, and in case of an emergency, dial 911. Feel free to contact me at my office if you have any questions or concerns 314-0038.

Detective Ray Chavez 314-0038



Executive Committee

President – Ed Whitten
Vice President – Thomas Coyne
Treasurer – Dick Cline
Secretary – Marsha Thole

Board Members

Kerney Bolton
Mark Boslough
Gene Church
Vicki Criel
Larry Desonier
Jim Irving
Bill Johnson
William McCall
Victoria Smidt
Frank Soper
Ed Tull
William Wiley

SHHA Office

2-B San Rafael Ave, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122

Phone: 505-797-7793

Fax: 505-856-8544

Web site: www.sandiahomeowners.org

Email:

shha@sandiahomeowners.org

*For the complete listing of Classified ads please go to our website.

Crime Prevention Tips from the Sandia Heights Security Patrol:



Crime exists. Your vulnerability should not be ignored. Threat assessment is a means for you to calmly evaluate your risks.

- ✓ Never hide house keys under the door mat or a rock near your door. Most burglars know that trick. Instead, give your key to a trusted neighbor.
- ✓ All outside doors to your house should be metal or solid wood.

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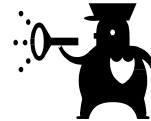
SECURITY STATS provided by Sandia Peak Services, Inc.:

Security Incidents for February 2006:

<u>Call Type</u>	<u># of calls</u>
Breaking & entering	1
Alarms	24
Car accident	3
Fire	4
Fireworks complaint	2
Front office	2
Lost/Found item	3
Lost/Found pet	1
Mailbox vandalism	1
Motorist assist	16
Motorcycle nuisance	1
Open door/window	5
Pet nuisance	2
Rescue assist	2
Suspicious person	10

Suspicious vehicle	21
Salesman problem	7
Theft	0
Utility co. assist	4
Special request	1
Customer assist	5
Dumped/spilled material	1
Noise complaints/suspicious	1
Vandalism	5
Wildlife report	1
Vehicle burglary	1
Newspaper pickup	40
Special Patrol	6
Homeowners on vacation	139
Total calls	324

If you have any questions regarding these incidents please call Sandia Heights Security at 856-6347.



GREAT IDEA.

Develop a unique residential community in the foothills of the Sandia Mountains.

That was a bold concept in 1965 when the first unit in the Sandia Heights Subdivision Got underway. And to preserve the integrity of this stunning environment, the first set of covenants was also established. But additional land was purchased “piecemeal” over a long period of time. As new units were developed new guidelines were enacted as needed. Unfortunately, established guidelines were never updated. This explains the numerous versions of covenants now controlling the Sandia Heights Community.

Does the system work? IT’S BROKEN. LET’S FIX IT.

Not easy but necessary. *Unified Covenants* are standard for every community that recognizes the overall benefits and positive impact on property values for homeowners. Because of its unique evolutions, not all Sandia Heights units are created equal. A restriction in one unit may not apply to a neighbor across the street. Confusing. Frustrating. The time to resolve the issue is long overdue, and the SHHA has worked tirelessly to finalize and approve a *Declaration of Unified Covenants*. The next step is to bring the matter to the residents for a vote this year. To learn more about covenants and Sandia Heights history, visit the SHHA website at www.sandiahomeowners.org. Additional information regarding the voting procedures, timing and related event will be available soon.

**COVENANT
UNIFICATION**



**VOTE YES
IN 2006**



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

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