

THE GREAT

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

August 2006



SANDIA HEIGHTS PICNIC

The annual SHHA Community picnic is scheduled for Sunday 13 August from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at the Sandia Heights Four Seasons Pool and Tennis Club, off Tramway (look for signs.) There will be swimming, a live 50's and bluegrass band, – something for all ages! The Albuquerque Police will fly in with their security helicopter for all to see. A conservation group will be bringing their live wolves at 3:30. SHHA will collect aluminum cans and newspapers at the picnic.

Please bring a dish to share. SHHA will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, buns and drinks. If you'd like to help or have any questions, contact Vicki Criel at vcriel@comcast.net or 615-3333.

SHHA Coffeehouse News – Santa Cruz River Band in Concert

Save the date – Saturday evening, September 30th - when the Santa Cruz River Band will return from their annual concert tour in Europe to play our Coffeehouse. 7:30 PM, Church of the Good Shepherd.

Band members are Michael Ronstadt (Linda Ronstadt's brother), Ted Ramirez and Gilbert Brown. Read about them and check out their music on the web at santacruzriverband.com. Performing in English, Spanish and Native American, they deliver a powerful musical program filled with history and the mystical lore of the Great American Southwest.

The Sandia Heights Coffeehouse concerts offer a relaxed venue with great entertainment, good talk with friends and neighbors, and delicious snacks. Coffee, teas and desserts will once again be provided by the Church of the Good Shepherd Youth Group. The evening will be alcohol free and open to all ages. Suggested donation: \$15 (all donations go directly to the artists). Contact: Linda Bolton, 856 7100, nlightsmgt@aol.com.

Cell Phone Tower Update

A year ago I was contacted by Futures for Children about a Cell Phone Tower request from T-Mobile. After several discussions with Futures I was left with the impression that the requested tower would be approximately slightly higher than the existing cluster of power poles at the North West corner of Futures. The issue was discussed on several occasions at the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association (SHHA) board meetings and at the SHHA Executive Committee meetings. Based upon those discussions, I wrote a letter to Futures stating that the SHHA board had no objections to the tower if it was appropriately camouflaged. In hindsight, a poll of the surrounding residents should have been taken.

Now we learn that the requested tower is 65 feet high and disguised to look like a light pole. Many residents have spoken up and find this proposed tower very objectionable. As a result of these inputs from residents, I am rescinding my letter of support for the tower. There is a County public hearing scheduled for September 6 at the Bernalillo County Government Center Office at 5th and Marquette and I would encourage concerned residents to attend. Information on the specifics of the hearing will be posted on our web site when available and/or may be obtained from the SHHA office.

Ed Whitten, Past President of SHHA



Halloween 2005

SHH Aweeen



SHHA Wine Tasting



SHHA Jazz Nite



Comments from the Annual Meeting:

Dick Cline, President

Community Discussions/Suggestions:

Suggested topics from Sandia Heights

Residents: mandatory membership, barking Dog nuisance, speed bumps, speed traps on Friday and Saturday, improve the existing wall, emergency response, Little Cloud Park, and covenant enforcement.

Communications & Publications:

- Communications via e-mail and interactive website is being working on.

Community Service and Membership:

- Why don't we have mandatory SHHA membership? It was stated that individual units could pass their own amendments for mandatory membership; this might be a faster way to get full membership.
- "Why can't we get special pick-ups in our community, like we do for special trash pick-ups?" A recycling group is being formed; watch the GRIT for updates.

Covenant Support Committee:

- There have been repeated complaints relating to barking and howling dogs. Noise nuisances, particularly animals, are governed by county ordinances. You are encouraged to, first, talk to your neighbor with the offending dog. If that doesn't work, then you have the right to call the County.
- The question was raised as to why the name of the complainant has to be put on a covenant complaint. Covenant enforcement is for SHHA members, that's why a name is required. Also, the reason for requiring the name of the complainant is to make sure the complaints are coming from bona fide neighbors and not from drive-by residents, etc.

Parks and New Development:

- The turf grass request at Little Cloud Park is not consistent with the original Xeriscape plans. It was recommended to stay with a low water usage grass and that the current buffalo grass was acceptable.
- Common areas, deteriorating walls, subdivision signs; The P&ND Committee is

looking into the sign issue. The association's attorney is currently researching the matter of common areas and who owns what. It was originally intended that the residents in the various units would take care of their own common areas.

Traffic and Safety:

- It was suggested that surveys be geographically oriented. The sound wall was an example. That is, people on the west side of Tramway may want a sound abatement wall, while those east of Tramway may not want a wall because of view obstruction.
- Caution should be used when using cell phones to call 911. It is recommended that a landline be used for emergencies. GPS coordinates are provided to the 911 Center from your cell phone, however, sometimes the GPS feature does not work indoors.
- Your property should have reflective house numbers to help the responders find the home quickly. , displayed in a prominent place in front.
- There is a difference of opinion regarding speed humps. This points up why a survey to residents will be useful to the board. The speed hump issue is a county process and decision. Speed humps affect response times of emergency vehicles.
- Safety - pedestrians are advised to be responsible and take precautions. An article for the GRIT was suggested.
- Why can't we get some speed traps on Tramway on the weekend? Residents are encouraged to call the Sheriff for policing. Suggestion made for a speed trap on Friday and Saturday--use the \$50,000 (special funding that State Representative Bill Rehm obtained) allotted to us for a Sheriff patrol.
- Noise abatement wall was briefly discussed and the location issue was mentioned.
- Front right-of-way pathways need to be trimmed. Sandia Heights North has boulders in the right-of-way. The county is trimming corners for visibility, however homeowners are also encouraged to do so.



Executive Committee

President – Dick Cline
Vice President – Ed Tull
Secretary* – William McCall
Treasurer – Ed Whitten

Board Members

Kerney Bolton
Sy Caudill
Gene Church
Thomas Coyne
Vicki Criel
Larry Desonier
Jim Irving
Bill Johnson
Deborah B. Liebner
Suzanne L. Popejoy
Burt O’Neil
Frank Soper
Marsha Thole
Sue Tombaugh
William Wiley
Mike Winokur
*William McCall was elected as secretary at the July Board Meeting.

Office Staff

Lena Martinez – ACC
Administrative Assistant
Sheraz Saint-Lôt – Publications & Communications Editor

SHHA Office

2-B San Rafael
Albuquerque, NM 87122

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, but neither abuse nor 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:

Introducing this month’s featured security officer: George Mora has worked for Sandia Heights Security both fulltime and parttime for the last 14 years. He is currently working full time. He and his wife, Molly, have 13 (yes- 13) children!

SECURITY STATS for June 2006 provided by Sandia Peak Services, Inc.:

Call Type	# of calls	Call type	# of calls
Attempted breaking and entering	2	Suspicious person	18
Alarms	34	Theft	2
Assault/Battery	1	Utility Co. assist	6
Car accident	2	Special request	1
Fire	1	Customer assist	20
Fireworks	2	Dumped/spilled material	3
Lost/Found pet	5	Parking problem	3
Motorist assist	8	Vandalism	12
Open door/window	12	Wildlife report	10
Loud disruptive party	2	Vehicle Burglary	1
Rescue assist	1	Newspaper pickup	27
Snake call	5	Special Patrol	15
Salesman problem	6	Homeowners on vacation	246
Suspicious vehicle	11	Total Calls	456

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



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.

45 Cedar Hill Place – Tear down existing house and build new house. Neighborhood review completed. New drawing under evaluation.

88 Juniper Hill Loop – Patio shading structure. Project approved.

111 White Oaks Drive – Install radon reduction system. Project approved.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

175 Big Horn Ridge Drive – Install fence. Proposed area of enclosure excessive. Revised plan submitted. Neighborhood Review completed. Approved.

367 Big Horn Ridge - Wall & patio. Approved.

426 Live Oak Lane – Replace cooling equipment. Approved.

437 Live oak Loop – Landscaping. Approved.

444 Live Oak Loop – Landscaping. Approved.

507 Black Bear Loop – Landscape by adding a garden wall and gate with patio and plantings inside. Approved.

524 Live Oak Place – White roof. Project completed without prior written ACC approval. Owner in process of recoating with color to match house trim. Trim color LRV exceeds ACC design guideline of less than 60. Owner submitted new color chip to match stucco. All visible surfaces to be recoated with new color to match stucco. Project approved.

665 Roadrunner Lane – Porch improvements. Approved.

725-11 Tramway Vista Loop – Re-roof & re-stucco house. Approved.

726-23 Tramway Vista Drive - Deck, window replacement, construct a small roof over outdoor cooking area, and re-stucco house and wall. Neighborhood Review completed. Approved.

727-5 Cedar Hill Lane – Extensive renovation. Approved. Letter of Notification sent to neighbors.

1021 Tramway Lane – Landscaping. Approved. Austrian pines disapproved, height at maturity would exceed 26 feet.

1113 Goldenrod Drive – Addition. Neighborhood Review completed. Approved.

1164 Laurel Loop – Landscape area within existing walled & fenced areas. Approved.

1836 Tramway Terrace Loop – Additions, re-stucco, window replacement, replace fences with

walls. Approved. Letter of Notification sent to neighbors.

1939 Quail Run Loop – Re-stucco & re-paint trim of house. Approved.

2020 Quail Run Drive – Back yard fence enclosure. Project completed without prior written approval by the ACC. Project determined to be in compliance. Approved.

2179 Cattail Willow Drive – Replace cooling equipment. Approved.

2703 Tramway Circle – Replace fence and gate, replace garage door, re-roof house. Neighborhood Review completed. Approved.

2801 Tramway Circle – Changes to previously approved window replacement. Redesign one window and enlarge one window. Approved.

2814 Tramway Circle – Replace existing fence, re-stucco & re-roof house. Approved.

2821 Tramway Circle – Replace short section of existing fence with a wall. Approved.

2865 Tramway Circle – Storage shed. Approved.

7715 Cedar Canyon Court – Re-roof. Approved.

7738 Cedar Canyon Court – Addition. Previously reported Neighborhood Notification Letters were not sent out in error. Letters sent as soon as error was detected.

8213 Indigo Court – Replace an in-ground spa with a fountain. Approved.

8232 Raintree Drive – New house. Neighborhood Review in process.

9110 Lynx Loop – Re-roof & re-stucco house. Approved.

Is there construction in your neighborhood? Do you want to know what is going on? 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.

Community Service & Membership

Committee: Vicki Criel, Chair

Playgroups: For more info. on weekly playgroups contact Jennifer Salerno, jlsalerno@yahoo.com. For info. on weekend playgroups contact Lisa Veres at Lisa@nmelite.com for more info.

Recycling: A new group is being formed. A collection kickoff will occur at the annual picnic. Bring aluminum cans and newspapers. Contact Cheryl Ferguson at 856-1403 or Cheryl@nmpolicymatters.com for more info.

Art in the Heights: If you are an artist who would like to network with other Sandia Heights artists, please contact Kathleen Landreth at ktlandreth@aol.com or Lynda Burch at lyndaburch@aol.com. Some of the artists will be displaying their art for Sandia Heights residents on **Sunday, September 24**. Pick up maps at the SHHA office.

Book Club: Another book club is being formed. Contact Vicki Criel at vcriel@comcast.net or 615-3333.

Cork and Fork: Gourmet Club 2006-2007 kickoff Sunday, September 17. Contact Larry Anderson at 821-3158 or andersnm@aol.com.

Wildflower Club: The Wild Flower Walk scheduled for August 5th has been cancelled. If you have a green thumb or would like to learn how to have one, contact Ray Ching at 822-1489 or raytlching@netscape.net.

Car Club: If you have a unique car, or you just enjoy cars, contact Sy Caudill at 822-1489 or a1200c@netzero.com.

Teens: If you are a teen in Sandia Heights, and would like to help design and build an obstacle course for the SHHA Halloween party, contact Vicki Criel at vcriel@comcast.net or 615-3333.

Singles and Hiking: The first singles mini-get-together was held at the July Jazz Nite. Some people got together so they could accompany each other to future SHHA events. Some younger Sandia Heights singles mingled over beverages and decided to form a low-level hiking group.

Feel free to contact Community Service and Membership Chairperson Vicki Criel about any of the above listed groups. She can be reached at 615-3333 or vcriel@comcast.net.

Letter to the Editor

The comments and opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the views of SHHA.

Dogs Run Amok in Sandia Foothills

On an early morning walk, our stride was abruptly interrupted a Dalmatian plunged at my friend and took a bite of flesh out of her thigh. Wide-eyed, I stood there in disbelief. The owner, who had the dog on a leash, reined her in and profusely apologized and exclaimed, "She has *never* bitten anyone before...ever."

I am quite fond of animals. Some people even think of me as the neighborhood dog "auntie" since I often walk my neighbors' dogs. But after witnessing my friend get bit, and for no apparent reason, I am more skeptical of unknown animals.

You may think your pet will never harm anyone, but you do not know for certain. Your "gentle" dog may feel the need to protect you from strangers. And the hiker may have a fear of dogs.

I ask all dog owners in the Sandia neighborhood to be more considerate in sharing the trails. Keep in mind that not everyone loves dogs. You cannot know with one-hundred percent certainty that your pet will always be on its best behavior. If you wish to let your dog roam free, at least carry a leash with you, call and control your dog when you see other people on the trail. And please, pick up your dog's messes.

Covenant Support Committee:

- Gene Church

The SHHA office receives numerous calls regarding barking dogs. This situation does not constitute a covenant violation except as an annoyance or nuisance. A much more effective way to handle this type of complaint is to contact the Bernalillo County Department of Animal Control and Protection. They may be reached at 314-0280 or 873-6706. Inform them that you wish to make a complaint under the Bernalillo code of Ordinances; Section 6-49, Animals Disturbing the Peace, and Section 30-120, Animals and Fowl. My experience has been that they are very responsive.

Those residents with dogs that bark a lot, in consideration of your neighbors, might think about investing in a no-bark device available at local pet stores.



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

PRESORTED STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #375
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

SHHA Announcements

- The classified ads can be found on the website
www.sandiahomeowners.org
- **Summer Office hours** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 to 3pm. ***Wednesday 9 to 6 pm.***
- Please note: when you send an email to Sandia Heights Homeowners Association, be sure to put your address in the 'subject' line. We get a lot of spam email and do not want to inadvertently delete your email. Thank you.
- Please be reminded to put your trash out no earlier than the night before it is to be picked up. It is best to put it out on the morning of your schedule pick-up to avoid animals getting into it.

Church of the Good Shepherd
7834 Tennyson NE
856-1004

Come join the fun and great music of
Celtic Coyotes
Saturday 8/5/06 at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$25 Raffle Tickets:
Children ≤18 free 6 for \$5 or \$1 each