

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Comments from the <u>President</u>

~ Andy Anderson

As November approaches, I would like to put in a plug for the kickoff of the recycling pilot program by Sandia Heights Services. Although the homeowner's Association is not involved in the program, it is a major benefit to our community and SHHA fully supports the initiative. November also kicks off a new year of offering Tram passes to our SHHA members and we have increased the number of passes available from four to six per day due to the success of the program. The passes can be obtained at our SHHA office and require a refundable deposit at the time of pick-up.

I am pleased to welcome one of your SHHA neighbors, Melissa Puckett, as a new Board member who will also be serving on the Community Service and Membership Committee and the Covenant Support Committee. We thank Melissa for her service and would welcome more volunteers to serve on both the Board of Directors or as volunteers on our Committees. Please contact our office staff if you are interested in serving.

Our community continues to be a unique area thanks to the support of all our residents and the efforts put forth by our SHHA committees and volunteers. Your Board of Directors also continues to work behind the scenes with the county and our representatives to focus their attention on the needs of Sandia Heights for the maintenance of our roads and to keep our streets safe.

Your SHHA Board recently met with Dave Mitchell, the Bernalillo County Public Works Division Operations and Maintenance Director. The diligent effort of our SHHA volunteers has kept us at the forefront on road maintenance in the unincorporated areas of the County through the timely submission and coordination of our requirements within the County and State budget process. We are looking for assistance to augment our current volunteers in continuing our road maintenance and improvement efforts. Any SHHA members interested in helping out please contact our SHHA office staff.

On behalf of the Board I would like to wish all of our residents the best for the upcoming holiday season.



| CASH FLOW | | ACCOUNT BALANCES | |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| INFLOW | | Bank Accounts | |
| ACC Income | 0.00 | CD #2 | 38,201.32 |
| CD Interest | 0.00 | CD #3 | 15,814.40 |
| Coffeehouse sales | 602.03 | CD #5 | 100,000.00 |
| Membership Dues | 13,193.91 | Checking | 2,207.05 |
| NM Gross Receipts Tax | 0.00 | Cash Accounts | 2,244.53 |
| TOTAL INFLOW | \$14,160.94 | Money Market | 18,982.84 |
| | | Total Bank & Cash | \$177,450.14 |
| OUTFLOW | | | · |
| ACC | 15.06 | ASSET ACCOUNTS | |
| Community Service & | 1,913.82 | Miscellaneous | 1,379.21 |
| Membership | | | |
| Communications & | 2,367.30 | Office Equipment | 4,973.06 |
| Publications | | | |
| Executive Committee | 1,122.19 | Office Furniture | 5,651.99 |
| Community Relations | 12.75 | Software | 932.34 |
| Parks and Safety Vests | 183.25 | TOTAL Asset Accounts | \$12,936.60 |
| Office Expenses | 8,947.27 | | |
| TOTAL OUTFLOW | \$14,561.64 | Liability Accounts | |
| | | Improvements & Legal | 148,042.00 |
| | | Reserve | |
| OVERALL TOTAL | -\$400.70 | OVERALL TOTAL | \$42,344.74 |

September 2009 Treasurer Report: Ed Tull, Treasurer

Announcements & Notices:

- ➢ Office Hours: Monday Friday 9am − 4pm.
- The office will be closed for Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11 and Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, November 26.
- SHHA Board meeting Tuesday, November 10 at 7pm in the SHHA office. Events, Classified ads, Board and Committee meeting dates and times, the GRIT are all posted on our website: www.sandiahomeowners.org.
- ➢ Notary public services are FREE to members.
- > Tram Passes are available for SHHA members. Get yours in advance!
- Safety Vests for sale in the office. \$2/vest for members.
- The next concert in the Coffeehouse Concert Series will be Sat., January 16, with Syd Masters & the Swing Riders playing western music, mainly from the 40s & 50s.
- If you have any information on the sign disappearance from the west entrance of Brushwood, please call Marsha at 856-3352.
- If you notice speeders on Tramway call the Sheriff non-emergency #798-7000 and request that the Sheriff send a deputy to check it AND to make contact with the person that called.



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS for SATURDAY, November 7, 2009 SHHA Office Meet and Greet, 11am to 2pm

Join with your friends and neighbors at the SHHA office, 2B San Rafael. Enjoy our delicious hors d'oeuvres and learn more about SHHA. Sergeant Ray Chavez of the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Dept has agreed to speak to our members from Noon – 1PM.

Hosted by your SHHA Community Service and Membership Committee

TRAM CLOSURE: The Tram will be closed for maintenance from Monday, November 2 through Thursday, November 12. It reopens Friday, November 13, at noon.

Fall/Winter Tram hours: September 8 through May 30, 9am to 8pm, except Tuesdays: 5pm to 8pm.

NEW!!! SHHA will have **SIX** tram passes available each day beginning **Saturday**, **November 14, 2009 through November 14, 2010**. For details on how the tram passes work please go to the website: sandiahomeowners.org or call the office at 797-7793.

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Odds & Ends from Parks & Safety Committee

~ Larry & Frances Desonier

Those who own dogs like to take their dog(s) out for a walk. Remember, county law requires all dogs to remain on a leash when being walked and that a dog's excrement should be picked up by the owner of that dog. Also, those individuals that walk up the Domingo Baca Flood Plain into the National Forest should realize that this trail is on private property – and that they really don't have permission to walk there. It is extremely inconsiderate to let dogs run loose; they run up to houses and get into other's dog food, facing off and antagonizing other's pets, etc. Please, demonstrate courtesy to the home owners and keep your dog on a leash – after all, it's the LAW.

Here is also another reminder that tall chamisa hanging over our already narrow streets causes a significant safety hazard. Homeowners are required to keep brush cut back in the easement. The county can actually fine the homeowner and/or trim the brush and also bill the homeowner for the trimming. As a courtesy the county has agreed to trim the brush back at no charge – and since many homeowners are letting it grow tall, the county is getting more aggressive in cutting it back. If there are any areas that you see as a safety hazard, particularly corners and next to driveways, please call the SHHA office.

Pedestrian Safety Reminders

- Walk **Facing** Traffic; make eye contact with drivers approaching you.
- Wear reflective vest or brightly-colored clothing, particularly in the evening.
- If you are walking a dog, keep the dog to your **left**.
- Whenever cars approach, a group of pedestrians should walk in **single file**.

HOLIDAY PARTY TIME:

It's time to book your holiday party at High Finance Restaurant or Sandiago's Mexican Grill for a group of 20 or more. Call Rorik Rivenburgh at 856-7899. Also, Sandiago's is open daily at 11:00 am...come on up for lunch.



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 Heinstein Jim Irving 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:

| Salesman problem | 33 | Total Calls | 383 |
|-----------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| | | vacation | |
| Speeding vehicle | 2 | Homeowners on | 205 |
| Snake call | 6 | Special patrol | 21 |
| Rescue assist | 1 | Newspaper pickup | 13 |
| Pet nuisance | 2 | Vehicle burglary | 2 |
| Open door/window | 4 | Vandalism | 2 |
| Motorcycle nuisance | 2 | Parking problem | 1 |
| Motorist assist | 4 | S. O. assist | 0 |
| Lost/found pet | 7 | Noise complaints | 0 |
| | | material | |
| Lost/found item | 3 | Dumped/spilled | 0 |
| Front office | 1 | Customer assist | 6 |
| Fire | 2 | Special request | 3 |
| Family dispute | 1 | Utility Co. assist | 5 |
| Car accident | 1 | Threat/personal | 0 |
| Alarms | 24 | Theft | 0 |
| Animal control assist | 1 | | |
| Assault/battery | 1 | Suspicious vehicle | 23 |
| Breaking & entering | 1 | Suspicious person | 6 |
| call Type | calls | Call Type | calls |
| Month of September | # of | Month of September | # of |

Testimonials:

"We are extremely pleased with Sandia Heights Security. They have watched over our property when we have been out of town and, on a few occasions when there have been false alarm incidents, they have responded quickly. During two incidents when our alarm company called the Sheriff's office, the Sandia Heights patrolman interacted very professionally with Sheriff's officers to confirm no intrusion had occurred. We highly recommend Sandia Heights Security to residents of our lovely and unique community. "Tom and Doris Parry

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.

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CURBSIDE RECYCLING WITH SANDIA HEIGHTS SERVICES

Reduce, reuse, recycle! These are the buzzwords we hear so often today with our ever growing concerns as inhabitants of earth to do what we can to protect our precious resources. With curbside recycling being piloted in our community, Sandia Heights Services LLC would like to assist our customers in understanding the recycling process. By educating ourselves about the process of recycling, we hope to make our curbside recycling program a success!

Recycling is the process of taking a product



at the end of its useful life and using all or part of it to make another product. The internationally recognized symbol for recycling includes three arrows moving in a

triangle. Each arrow represents a different part of the recycling process, from collection to re-manufacture to resale.¹

Recycling serves two key purposes:

- It keeps valuable materials, such as aluminum and paper, out of landfills so this material can be reused in other forms and not wasted.
- It prevents hazardous materials and chemicals, such as lead and mercury, from ending up in landfills, where they can contaminate soil and leach into our drinking water.²

As part of our curbside recycling pilot program, it will be important to know what can and can't be placed out for collection. We will accept the following recyclables, which should be placed in clear plastic bags (available at Wal-Mart and Costco). It is not necessary to separate the materials, with the exception of corrugated cardboard, which should be flattened and bundled.

• #1 - #7 Plastic bottles and jugs, rinsed and caps removed-the recycle symbol will appear on the container with a number in middle



of the symbol if it is recyclable.

• Phone books, brown paper bags, cereal boxes, plastic grocery bags, newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, home office paper, aluminum cans, tin/steel cans.

We are not currently accepting glass or Styrofoam containers for recycling. For hazardous wastes such as paint, antifreeze, cleaning supplies, pesticides, poisons, batteries, fertilizers, pool chemicals, fluorescent light bulbs and mercury, you may contact the City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center at 345-1650 for hours of operation and information on disposing of household hazardous waste.

For disposal of used computer hardware, including printers and scanners, you may contact New Mexico TechNet at 343-7612. Their Computer Reruns Program refurbishes re-usable computers that are then given to schools and non-profit organizations in New Mexico. Broken and outdated hardware such as non-working monitors, obsolete PC's and printers will be recycled in an environmentally safe manner.

The curbside recycling pilot program begins on November 2, 2009. For more information visit our website at <u>www.sandiaheightsservices.com</u> or if you have not signed up for the curbside recycling pilot program, contact our office at 857-8924 today! We can all make a difference, one household at a time, one community at a time, to have an impact on the world around us!

¹ Adapted from Earth911.com

² Adapted from Earth911.com

<u>Commissioner Michael</u> <u>Wiener's Message to the</u> <u>Sandia Heights Homeowners</u> <u>Association October 2009</u>

Much has happened in the past few weeks and I welcome this opportunity to update the residents of Sandia Heights.

The County Commission will meet on October 13th in "closed door session" to discuss moving forward with the Proposed Condemnation of the 10 acre **Mhoon Property** at Tramway and Paseo Del Norte, and an updated appraisal is underway. Bernalillo County has never used its powers of condemnation to purchase Open Space before so we would be setting a precedent. I will need to get at least three votes from the Commission and this may be easier said than done as I must convince my fellow commissioners that this is a priority for your neighborhood/my constituents.

Each Commissioner looks to the Open Space fund to purchase properties in their districts. We may need you to contact them to let them know you are paying a heavy property tax burden and want "your share" of the pie.

The County's new Weed Abatement Ordinance which I sponsored is working well and citations are being issued. If you know of any properties in the unincorporated area that have an accumulation or storage of noxious weeds, litter or just need to be cleaned-up, you can report these to the Bernalillo County Fire Marshall's Office at 468-1340. So far over 50 complaints have been filed with notices sent to property owners and irregularities have been mitigated.

Several residents have contacted me concerning the **CVS Pharmacy on Tramway** voicing concerns over the liquor license, and excessive lighting issues. I have instructed staff to address all of your concerns. The liquor license was issued and our legal staff informed me that there was nothing they could do to stop that. We have hired a consultant to analyze the lighting situation and we should have a report within two weeks.

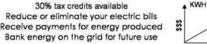
The traffic calming efforts (revised speed hump profiling) have concluded in Sandia Heights. There is still an ongoing evaluation with the Stop signs at Deer Trail and Tramway Lane as it pertains to vegetation and line of sight. County staff learned a great deal from this recent exercise and they have now changed their procedures to require running a State Statutory Speed Resolution Study on every road petitioned for traffic calming to insure that the speed limit study is set correctly. There was some controversy concerning the disparities in cost between City and County speed humps and I can assure you that I investigated this matter thoroughly and have all the data in my office. I am meeting again this week with Sheriff White to enlist his help in speed enforcement, so please slow down and help keep your neighborhood safe!

I heard from some of you, throughout the summer, about the excessively loud music emanating from the County Line Restaurant on Thursdays as they held outdoor concerts there on those afternoons/evenings. Because of these repeated noise complaints and the lack of a permit process for outdoor music, I have authored a new **Outdoor Concert Ordinance** and permit process which will soon be presented to the County Commission for approval.

We now have 125 more parking spaces at the **El Pueblo Rail Runner Station** due to my leadership. The whistles are silent in the North Valley as "quiet crossings" have been installed which I advocated, and the Eubank Boulevard expansion from San Antonio to Paseo Del Norte will soon break ground on schedule as the \$25 million project to widen and greatly improve Eubank moves forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to address you in this newsletter. If you need my help with any county issues or want to speak to me please feel free to contact my assistant, Annabelle Romero at 468-7010.





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<u>Tree Husbandry in</u> <u>Sandia Heights</u>

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 mounting water supply and septic system maintenance costs, and decreasing our property values. Several GRIT articles over the past year have made these points in various ways. At recent SHHA Office Open House Meet 'n Greets the subject for discussion has been the care and control of trees. And at this year's Town Meeting, following the SHHA Annual Meeting, a resident asked what trees should be considered weeds in Sandia Heights and how can they be controlled.

According to Mr. Joran Viers, horticulturalist for the Bernalillo County Extension Service, *Tree of Heaven* and *Siberian Elm* should be considered weeds in Sandia Heights and Siberian Elms are considered the greater present threat.

Siberian Elm

According to Baker H. Morrow, *Best Plants for New Mexico Gardens & Landscapes*, Siberian Elm is "Almost supernaturally hardy; thrives in any soil with little or no water and is not affected by heat or cold." They "Can grow to 80 feet in height, with a 50 foot crown" and "Reseeds itself profusely in early spring."

Our covenants restrict houses to 2 stories or less in order to be in harmony with their surroundings and so as not to create an undue obstruction of views. At present, a few Siberian Elms already tower over 2 story houses and there are hundreds, soon to be thousands, of Siberian Elm saplings rapidly growing to join them. It would be prudent for all of us to be aware of this condition and to consider effective actions to control this growing threat to our views and quality of life.

Mr. Viers advises that when removing Siberian Elm, the trunk should be cut as close to the ground as possible and the stump treated with an herbicide. (Untreated stumps and roots will sprout new saplings.) He recommends the use of Garlon - 4 to treat the stump. The threat constituted by the proliferation of Siberian Elm is one of the very few instances he believes where the use of an herbicide is justified. Garlon-4 can be purchased at Rocky Mountain Pool & Agriculture and applied to the freshly cut stump at any time during the year.



Siberian Elm 2-3 years old

The Siberian Elm invasion in Sandia Heights in many ways is comparable with the Salt Cedar invasion of the Rio Grande Bosque. The salt cedar invasion was allowed to continue far too long. It is now costing enormous amounts of money and effort to rid the Bosque of this weed. If you have Siberian Elm seedlings on your property it would be a lot easier to remove them now rather than deal with them later after they have become very large trees.



Siberian Elm 10-12 years old

ACC Activity Log

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

16 Juniper Hill Loop – Stucco. Approved 48 Rockridge Drive – Window replacement. Approved 53 Rock Point Place – Soffit and fascia board repair. Approved 69 Pinon Hill Place – Landscaping. Approved 140 Big Horn Ridge – Window replacement. Approved 438 Live Oak Loop – Stucco. Approved 508 Black Bear Road - Landscaping & reroof. Approved 566 Black Bear Road – Stucco repair. Approved 613 Cedar Hill Road – Re-stucco and trim. Approved 698 Bluebird Lane – Re-stucco, trim and reroof. Approved 725-17 Tramway Vista Drive – Driveway. Approved 726-6 Tramway Vista Drive – Garage Door. Approved 727-10 Cedar Hill Court – Windows, deck and stucco. Approved 795-O Tramway Lane – Window replacement. Approved 830 B Live Oak Road - After the fact Window replacement. Approved 887 Tramway Lane – Re-stucco. Approved 890 Tramway Lane - Window replacement. Approved 921 Tramway Lane – Re-roof. Approved 987 Lynx Loop – Wall, re-stucco and fascia stone. Approved 1004 Tramway Lane – Re-stucco. Approved 1233 Goldenrod - After the fact Re-roof. Approved 1478 Morning Glory - Re-roof. Approved 1569 Eagle Ridge Court - Re-stucco, trim and door replacement. Approved 1905 Quail Run Drive – Fence, porch coverings and swamp cooler replacement. Approved

2442 Tramway Terrace Court – Re-roof.
Approved
2746 Tramway Circle - Re-roof, re-stucco and trim. Approved
8210 Indigo Court – Re-stucco. Approved
8245 Raintree Drive – Door replacement.
Approved
9109 Lyn Loop – Re-roof. Approved.

Check the ACC Project Log at the Sandia Heights Homeowners (SHHA) website sandiahomeowners.org. Click on <u>THE A.C.C.</u> then on <u>Architectural Control Committee</u> <u>Project Log</u> and read about all projects currently under ACC management.

SHHA Membership Cards & Merchant Benefit Program

SHHA members, you should have received your personal *SHHA membership card* and *key-ring tag*. If you have not received your membership card, please call or come by the office. The membership cards and tags can be used to expedite: admission to SHHA sponsored events, picking up Sandia Peak Tram Passes, access to SHHA Office benefits & services, and for claiming SHHA Merchant Benefits.

Current SHHA member benefits and services include: office and notary services, annual classified ads, Coffeehouse Concert Series, Sandia Tram Passes, Swim 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 & Sandiago's Mexican Grill at the Tram - Jade Enterprises - Massage Envy

To see the discounts offered by each merchant visit our website: www.sandiahomeowners.org. Remodel with a Neighbor... Showroom located in Sandia Heights (in the Quail Run Shopping Center)



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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: The Church of the Good Shepherd is pleased to announce that Reverend William (Bill) D. Ingraham has been called as its pastor. Bill will deliver his first message on Sunday, November 22nd. You are invited to come and experience his warmth, energy and enthusiasm for ministry.

Sandia Heights Wildflower Club

Sandia Heights Wildflower Club will meet on Wednesday, November 18 at 7:30PM at the home of Charlie and Connie McDonald. We will discuss "Native Plants for Your Garden." In September the club held its Annual Potluck Dinner and installed new officers. The new officers are Charlie McDonald, president; Connie McDonald, vice president; Sharon Chism, secretary; and Margaret Samuelson, treasurer. Reminder: Annual dues are due - \$8/individual and \$10/couple. Anybody who is interested in learning more about the Wildflower Club may call Charlie and Connie McDonald at 797-2620.

SOSH (Singles of Sandia Heights) is planning a get-together for

Thanksgiving Day. If you are interested in joining us for a noon-time meal that day, please call Marsha at 856-3352. Whether you are single, divorced, or widowed, you are welcome.

Eight Homes Featured in Upcoming Ooh La La Christmas Home

Tour to Benefit Wounded Warrior Project: Eight homes in Albuquerque area will be open to the public November 7th and 8th as part of a Christmas Home Tour to benefit wounded service men and women. Tickets are on sale now. Ooh La La Christmas Home Tour will feature four homes in Far Northeast Heights and four homes in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. All the homes will be decked out for Christmas and may be viewed over the two-day period for \$20. Active duty military with ID will be admitted free of charge. Ooh La La Christmas Home Tour of New Mexico, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) local charity in its inaugural year; the group is made up entirely of volunteers with no paid staff. Our mission is to help fund and promote awareness of organizations that support the needs of severely injured service men and women. This year we are joining forces with Wounded Warrior Project. The weekend home tour is preceded Friday night, November 6th, with a Patriotic evening of fun, a New Mexican buffet and a live auction inside the hanger at Atlantic Aviation. A representative from Wounded Warrior Project will share his story and the evening will be emceed by Steve Stucker, of KOB-TV. Tickets to the Friday evening event are \$100 per person. All proceeds from both the Kickoff night and Christmas Home Tour will go to Wounded Warrior Project, a national organization founded to help wounded service men and women who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. For more information, to see a map of the Home Tour, or to purchase tickets to the Home Tour and Kick off events, visit www.oohlalachristmas.org or call 856-8582.

Sandia Heights Artists News ... Join your friends and neighbors at the Sandia Heights Holiday Sale Saturday, December 12, 10-5, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 7834 Tennyson NE. A myriad of affordable, unique pieces of art made by fifteen Sandia Heights artists will be available for purchase. Choose from ceramics, paintings, prints, drawings, gourds, water-media, collage, fabric baskets, jewelry, hand-bound books and stained glass. You can do all of your holiday gift shipping with this one stop! Refreshments will be served.



Sandia Heights Homeowners Association 2-B San Rafael Ave NE Albuquerque, NM 87122 PRESORTED STD. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #375 ALBUQUERQUE, NM

