

# THE GRIT

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

September 2010

## President's Message by Phyllis Moore

Well, here we are emptying our rain gauges, having our windows washed naturally, and enjoying cooler temperatures for a while until the kids return to school. However, the yellow buses will be rolling again soon, and we need to be aware of children out near our roads and again watch our speed as all of this will begin even before you receive this GRIT message.

Since our annual meeting in June your President and Vice President and Treasurer have met with key personnel regarding the services needed and provided, in order to keep our community effectively working every day. We have met with Dave Mitchell, Director of Operations and Maintenance for Bernalillo County, regarding our roads and streets and the services the department provides. After all the rain, I have already observed the street sweeper out and about, trying to clean up all the loose gravel and sand as result of our recent downpours.

This time of year also has produced some bear sightings. We have sent out one e-mail alert so far regarding bear sightings in the Juniper Hill area. If you are not on our e-mail alert roster, you may want to call our SHHA office and sign up. Again, if you have a need to talk with someone about bear activity, please contact our Bear Watch Sandia Heights Wildlife Steward, Kate Fry. You can call Kate at 828-9618 or Bear

Watch (Jan Hayes, 281-9282) at any time if you have questions regarding bear activity and sightings.

Also I am pleased to report that all six issues that surfaced during our Town Hall meeting in June have been addressed and/or researched with the appropriate agency or department. Topics were identified in my August GRIT message. The one regarding vendors on Tramway Blvd will have to be dealt with when caught in action this fall/winter, but we now know who to contact if this reoccurs.

With summer activities behind us we have two events in September that I strongly recommend you support and attend. Your Association will sponsor another Sandia Heights Coffeehouse Concert at Church of the Good Shepherd on 18 September. Specific details were on page 3 of our August GRIT and are on page 3 in this September GRIT. We know we have gained new residents over the summer and we want to cordially invite them and all of SHHA residents to attend our next SHHA-hosted Meet and Greet on Saturday, 25 September. Stop by and meet our new Board members and volunteers. They have been busy since our annual meeting getting integrated and established with their chosen committees. Again, all of us are working to protect and preserve our unique, natural community.



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## Motorcycle Noise on Tramway

If a Sandia Heights resident is having trouble with excessive motorcycle noise on Tramway Blvd. or any other road in Sandia Heights, call the BC *Sheriff and Fire Dept. non-emergency number at 798-7000*. Tell the person that answers the call that you want to report a non-emergency. Briefly describe the problem and location where it occurred. Give the person your name, telephone #, and address, and request to *be contacted* by the sheriff deputy after they check out this problem. The last step is very important in case the deputy sent to check on the problem arrives after the problem has gone away. By requesting that you be “contacted” the deputy insures that the *incident will be “officially recorded”* as an actual incident when the deputy was too late to catch the offender(s). Correctly identifying the deputy’s trip to Sandia Heights in “official reports” as a failure to catch the offender motorcyclists can lead to more proactive BC Sheriff patrols in Sandia Heights and on Tramway Blvd.

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## BEAR SIGHTINGS:



There have been possible bear sightings in Sandia Heights. Bear sightings should be called in to NM Game and Fish at either 222-4700 or 222-4719. The call will be logged and NMG&F will determine the appropriate action to be taken, which may be trapping and relocating. If the bear is threatening persons or pets, please call the emergency number. That number is (505) 827-9372. **This number should be called ONLY if a bear is actively threatening persons or pets.**

Also, remove any ripe fruit from trees, bring bird feeders (including hummingbird feeders) and pet food inside at night and do not leave your trash out. Problem bears become problems because people make food available!

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## Help Eliminate Roadside Elm Trees

We’ve all seen the elm trees and saplings that seem to thrive along the edges of our roads. We certainly do not want them there, but that is where the rainwater drains. We need to be vigilant about removing them to keep the natural foothills vegetation look that we love about Sandia Heights.

The Bernalillo County Code requires that we homeowners trim dead vegetation, clear weeds, and maintain the natural landscaping in our easement areas (the part between the edge of the road and the property line within the public right of way). This includes removing those rogue elm saplings from the entire easement area. It is much easier to do this when the elms are very small, as they quickly grow deep roots. The County will do their usual mowing of the first few feet on either side of the road, but we all know that simply cutting off an elm sapling only stimulates it to grow into a thicket.

The only way to permanently remove an elm tree or sapling is to dig it out. If property owners are having a hard time with elms that have gotten too big for them to handle, they may call 848-1503 for only the trees in front of their homes (not their neighbors’) and make a work order request directly to the County Road Supervisor. He will help out as best he can for trees in the right of way on an individual request basis.

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## **TRAM PASSES**

**SHHA has purchased 6 corporate tram passes per day!** We cannot make your reservations over the phone but you can call the office and find out if passes are available for the date you want.



## **SHHA Membership Cards & Merchant Benefit Program**

Your SHHA member benefits and services include: office and notary services, annual classified ads, Coffeehouse Concert Series, Sandia Tram passes, tree lottery, 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 (\$1 parking fee will be reimbursed with purchase of lunch) - Jade Enterprises - Massage Envy - The UPS Store - Yoga with Marcy**

To see the discounts offered by each merchant visit our website:  
[www.sandiahomeowners.org](http://www.sandiahomeowners.org).



## **SHHA Meet 'N' Greet on SATURDAY, September 25, 2010 in the SHHA Office, 11am to 1pm**



Come join your friends and neighbors at the SHHA office, 2B San Rafael and enjoy delicious hot hors d'oeuvres.

Special feature: George Schroeder, Bernalillo County Office of Environmental Health will be speaking about the new County septic system regulations. Space will be limited. **If you plan to attend, please call the office at 797-7793 prior to September 17<sup>th</sup> to reserve your space.** Come and learn more about SHHA and its various committees and services.

Hosted by your SHHA Community Service & Membership Committee.



## **The Sandia Heights Coffeehouse Concert Series**

will present a spirited evening of bluegrass with Steve Smith and Chris Sanders on Sat., Sept. 18. Steve Smith (mandolin, vocals,



guitar) and Chris Sanders (guitar, vocals) have been performing together for 5 years as a duo and in the Las-Cruces-based group Steve Smith and Hard Road. Their award-winning songwriting has landed them both best gospel and best instrumental at the New Mexico Music Awards. Check them out at [desertnight.com](http://desertnight.com). They will be joined by bassist Anne Luna.

The concert will be at Church of the Good Shepherd at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open for members at 6:45 and for non-members at 7. Admission for SHHA members and their houseguests will be free, and general admission will be \$15/adults, \$10/teens & seniors 60+, \$5/12 & under, under 5 free. For more information, or to volunteer to help, please contact Linda Bolton, 856-7100, [nlightsmgt@aol.com](mailto:nlightsmgt@aol.com).



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**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:**

Month of July Call Type	# of calls	Month of July Call Type	# of calls
Alarms	50	Noise complaints	3
Animal control asst.	0	Open door/window	8
Breaking & entering	1	Parking problem	1
Assault/Battery	0	Pet nuisance	6
Car accident	2	Salesman problem	2
Customer assist	3	Snake Call	4
Construction site burglary	0	Special (extra patrol or observation)	15
Dumped/spilled material	0	S.O. assist	0
Family dispute	1	Special request	4
Fire	0	Speeding vehicle	1
Fireworks complaint	4	Suspicious person	12
Front office	1	Suspicious vehicle	28
Loud music	0	Theft	1
Lost/found pet	1	Threat/personal	2
Lost/found item	0	Utility Co. assist	5
Mailbox vandalism	2	Vandalism	3
Motorcycle nuisance	1	Vehicle burglary	11
Motorist assist	9	Wildlife report	6
Newspaper pickup	18		
		<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>205</b>



**Security Reminder:**

Fourteen cars were recently vandalized in one weekend in July.

Proactive tips to reduce your car from being targeted:

- Make your home look occupied ALL the time
- Use motion lights: please make sure they meet the County light ordinance.
- Park your vehicles in the garage
- If your car is left in the driveway, DO NOT leave the garage door opener in it.
- Do not leave your car unlocked.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES:

- **Office hours:** Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm.
- **Office Closed** on Monday, September 6 for Labor Day.
- **Notary** free to members.
- **Office services** (faxes – copies) free to members.
- **Tram passes** free to members.
- **Contractor Evaluation binder** free to members.
- **Classified ads**, free for members, can be found on the website under the News and Information page.
- **September 18 - Coffeehouse**
- **September 25 – Meet ‘n’ Greet**

### Architectural Control Committee - A short reminder on project applications

If your roof suddenly develops a water leak during this time of heavy rains, go ahead and get the roof fixed and then submit an application. If you eventually want to replace the entire roof, then you will need to submit another application so the ACC can review your proposal for the new roof.

In addition to roof repairs and new roofs, remember that you must submit an application to the ACC for any project that changes the external appearance of your residence. Some examples are the addition of a new room, installation of solar panels, restuccoing, replacing doors or windows, painting trim, and landscaping. Correcting after-the-fact changes to your property causes aggravation and is often expensive. Save yourself the hassle of this kind of situation by applying to the ACC for approval before you undertake a project!

In emergency situations such as repair of broken or clogged water or sewer lines, repair or replacement of septic systems, or other situations where the urgency of the situation requires quick action in order to minimize

property damage and inconvenience to the homeowner, the ACC does not want to stand in your way. If a situation like this arises, just let the SHHA office know that you will be tending to an emergency situation and, if applicable, that heavy equipment for excavations may be required. This information will help the office answer questions from your neighbors who may be inquiring about what is going on at your home.



### Covenant Support Committee

Sandia Heights comprises 37 units, each of which has its own set of covenants. The Covenant Support Committee (CSC) is committed to preserving the beauty and property values within Sandia Heights while protecting each homeowner's rights as defined by their covenants.

Do you know what your covenants are? Are you familiar with them? What unit do you live in?

To find out, you may look in the SHHA Directory to discover what unit you live in.

You may also go directly to the website, [www.sandiahomeowners.org](http://www.sandiahomeowners.org). Click on "Covenants – CSC" and then "Unit Covenants", where you will find the full text of all the covenants listed by unit, with any addendums.

Please familiarize yourself with your unit covenants. If you have any questions please call the office and we will direct your questions to the appropriate party. Help us maintain the quality of our neighborhood.

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## ACC Activity Log

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

10 Eagle Nest Drive – Re-stucco, Window Replacement, Re-stain Deck. Approved  
140 Big Horn Ridge Road – Swamp Cooler Replacement. Approved  
358 Big Horn Ridge Drive – Fence and Re-roof. Approved  
369 Big Horn Ridge – Re-stucco. Approved  
435 Live Oak Loop – Landscaping. Approved  
506 Black Bear Loop – Patio Cover. Approved  
619 Cedar Hill Road – Window Replacement. Approved  
642 Cougar Loop – Landscaping. Approved  
684 Blackhawk Drive – Landscaping & Patio Cover. Approved  
725-17 Tramway Vista Drive – Garage Door Replacement. Approved  
726-8 Tramway Vista Place – Re-stucco and after-the-fact Re-roof. Approved  
726-23 Tramway Vista Drive – Re-roof & Replace Skylights. Approved  
788 Tramway Place – Detached garage. Approved  
841 Llave Lane – Paint Door. Approved  
867 G Tramway Place – Re-stucco and Trim. Approved  
882 Tramway Lane Court – Replace Carport Door. Approved  
889 Tramway Lane – Re-roof. Approved  
902 Tramway Lane – Swamp Cooler Replacement & Wall. Approved

923 Tramway Lane – Awnings. Approved  
939 Bobcat Blvd. – Re-stucco. Approved  
971 Antelope – Re-roof. Approved  
1044 Red Oaks Loop – Parapet Repair. Approved  
1160 Laurel Loop – Photovoltaic Panel Installation. Approved  
1165 Laurel Loop – Re-stucco. Approved  
1204 Marigold Drive – Re-Roof. Approved  
1429 San Rafael Ave. – Patio Cover Replacement. Approved  
1478 Morning Glory Road – Stucco Repair. Approved  
1510 Eagle Ridge Road – Gutters. Approved  
1697 Quail Run Court – Garage Door Replacement. Approved  
1823 Tramway Terrace Loop – Re-roof. Approved  
1908 Quail Run Drive – Retaining Wall. Approved  
2017 Quail Run Drive – Solar Panel Installation & Swamp Cooler Replacement. Approved  
2502 Tramway Terrace Court – Re-roof. Approved  
2705 Tramway Circle - Re-roof. Approved  
7726 Cedar Canyon Court – Gate Replacement. Approved  
12629 Carmel Court – Window Replacement. Approved  
*Check the ACC Project Log at the Sandia Heights Homeowners (SHHA) website [sandiahomeowners.org](http://sandiahomeowners.org). Click on THE A.C.C. then on Architectural Control Committee Project Log and read about all projects currently under ACC management.*



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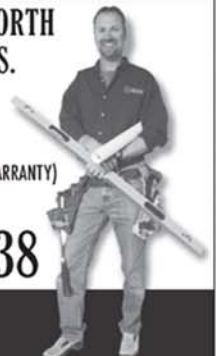
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## Community Event Bulletin Board

*Not all of these groups are sponsored by SHHA. Information is provided to keep residents informed*

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**Church of the Good Shepherd** consists of a wonderful group of diverse young children and a group of volunteers eager to share exciting activities with one another and the community. Sunday School classes will begin for youth ages 4-12 on September 5, 2010. The Annual Youth Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2010. The youth participating in the summer Sunday School program have developed lovely puppets and will share their insights on all of the great information they garnered this summer on reducing, reusing, and recycling as part of caring for God's creations and earth. The teen program for youth ages 13-19 will begin on Sunday, September 19, 2010. We are particularly excited about the advent of this program and the prospect of growth in order to support the teens in our community to make healthy choices while feeling supported to communicate in a structured and caring environment. Visit [www.goodshepherdunitedchurch.com](http://www.goodshepherdunitedchurch.com), stop by the church at 7834 Tennyson NE, or call the office @ 856-1004 for more information.

**Sandia Heights Artists News...** Some of the artists participating in the September 25 and 26 Sandia Heights Studio Tour will be displaying works for sale at the Coffeehouse Concert Saturday, September 18, 7:30 pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd. We hope to see you there.

GOOD NEWS!---the wait is over! The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Sandia Heights Artists Studio Tour is here. Mark your calendars: Saturday, Sept. 25 and Sunday, Sept. 26 (last weekend in September) 11am-5pm each day. The tour features a record 21 Sandia Heights artist-residents. This talented group of artist-residents cordially invite all Sandia Heights residents and their guests to tour their studios. Check out our website <http://sandiaheightsart.com> where you can find examples of participating artists' work and a map of the tour. A map of the studio sites and artists' work will also be available at the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association office, 2 B San Rafael Ave. NE. We look forward to seeing you September 25 and 26.

**Fall Festival, and Ministry Fair, St. Chad's Episcopal Church.** On Sunday September 19, 2010, St. Chad's will be hosting a breakfast and Fall Ministry Fair. It's a great time to learn more about opportunities to serve our community that are supported by the various ministries of St. Chad's. There will be prizes for the kid's, and a bake sale. Please consider stopping by for a visit with your neighbors at St. Chad's. Open between 9AM and 11:30AM on Sunday, September 19. St. Chad's Episcopal Church, 7171 Tennyson Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122,  
Phone 505-856-9200

**NEW MEXICO "GOOD READS"** . . . Are you interested in reading many of the terrific books about New Mexico, fiction and non-fiction, and then talking about them? Maybe "field trips" to some of the locales? I am starting such a group. If you would like to join, please email or telephone Marcia Secord 797-0985, <[marciasecord@earthlink.net](mailto:marciasecord@earthlink.net)> (If I don't respond to your email in a couple days, telephone since I've had issues receiving some emails). Plan on an initial meeting on Thursday September 16 at our home: 7737 Cedar Canyon Road, 87122 7:00 PM





Sandia Heights Homeowners Association  
2-B San Rafael Ave NE  
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**PRESORTED STD.**  
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## **PHOTO CONTEST!**

We are accepting entries for our annual photo contest for the 2011 Sandia Heights Resident Directory & Guide. Submissions are due to the SHHA office by Friday, November 5. If you are the lucky winner, your photo will be featured on the cover of the 2011 Directory, and you will be acknowledged as the photographer.

### Submission criteria:

- You must be a member of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association and you must be an amateur photographer.
- Photos must be related to the Sandia Heights area (see the 2010 Directory).
- Photos must fit reasonably on the cover without loss of the composition.
- Photos must be in color, and may be submitted digitally, as a hardcopy or by email to [sandiaheights@comcast.net](mailto:sandiaheights@comcast.net).
- The resident must submit a statement that the photograph is an original taken by the homeowner, that he/she is not a professional photographer (in business as a photographer), and that you grant permission to SHHA to use your photo(s) in the Directory or on our website.

All entries may be picked up at the office once the Directory is published.