

# THE GRIT

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

July 2011

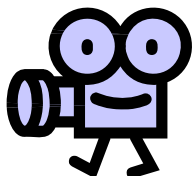
## **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**

Mark your calendars:  
Saturday July 9, 2011

SHHA will be hosting our first *family movie night!* Come gather with your neighbors and have some summer fun as we watch a family movie under the stars.



Bring the kids, blanket, and drinks. We will provide the Big Screen and Popcorn. This will take place at Jackson Park (Cedar Hill and Tramway) at 7:00 p.m.



## **President's Message**

~ Kate Fry

Many thanks to all of you who came to the Annual Meeting on June 11. We had a great turnout for the meeting and for the Town Hall Meeting that followed, with 76 households attending. Your Board of Directors and committee volunteers worked hard to put the meeting together, and everything went off without a hitch. I think everyone was impressed by the hard work of the dedicated Board and committee volunteers and by how much we have accomplished this year. We really appreciate your concern and support for our community that you demonstrated by attending the meeting. Special thanks go to our incredible office staff, Betsy and Sheraz, who organized the Annual Meeting and made sure everything went smoothly. Their professionalism and dedication are unmatched, and we would be lost without

them. They are the "face" of SHHA, and I am sure you know they are happy to assist you in any way they can and to answer your questions.

I am pleased to introduce your new officers for 2011-2012. I am honored to continue as President, and former president Andy Anderson will serve as your Vice President. Andy also chairs the Covenant Support Committee. Michele Munson has agreed to serve as Secretary for another year. Dick Wavrik has been an active committee volunteer and board member for the past three years and will serve as Treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee. We had no new board members nominated for confirmation at the Annual Meeting, but we expect to confirm additional directors at the July board meeting.

We are losing five board members this year. Jon Cashwell served on the Board this past year and was a member of the Covenant Support Committee. Bruce Childs was active on the Board since 2008 and served on the Communications and Publications Committee and the Community Service and Membership Committee. Your past president Phyllis Moore ably served the community as a board member since 2008 and also served as Vice President. She was also a longtime volunteer on the Community Service and Membership Committee. Under her leadership, SHHA was able to bring several new benefits to our members and to the community.

*Continued on page 2*

*Continued from Front Page*

Ed Tull was a member of the board since 2006 and has done a first-rate job as Treasurer for the past three years. Ed also served as chair of the Finance Committee. Sadly, as you know, Mike Winokur passed away in December. Mike was an active board member since 2006 and was a member of the Architectural Control Committee as well as chair of the Community Service and Membership Committee. We will miss all of them, and I extend my sincere thanks for their service to SHHA and to the Sandia Heights community.

Your Association exists to support you, the members, and to uphold the standards that make Sandia Heights such a unique and beautiful community. But we need your help! Please consider volunteering for one of our committees or for the Board. Two committees that really need members are Community Service and Membership (CS&M) and Covenant Support (CSC), but we will gladly accept volunteers for any of our committees.

We welcome your calls and emails expressing your concerns. You may call the SHHA office at 797-7793 or send us an e-mail at [shha@sandiahomeowners.org](mailto:shha@sandiahomeowners.org), or you may call me at 828-9618 to let us know your thoughts and ideas. I look forward to serving you in the coming year.

The amended SHHA Bylaws that were approved at the 2011 Annual Meeting are now on the website.

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**SHHA wishes everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July!**



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## **Grab a swim or round of tennis at the Four Seasons Club!**



Free swim and tennis passes are now available at the SHHA office for Association members, their families, and house guests.

- Up to 4 persons per visit, 3 visits per season
- Up to 16 persons per day, no deposit required
- Get your passes in advance or the same day, space permitting

Not a member? Join now and take immediate advantage of the many benefits offered by the association.

Visit the SHHA office or [sandiahomeowners.org](http://sandiahomeowners.org) for complete details. This is another great benefit from your Community Services and Membership Committee.

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## **SHHA congratulates the following WINNERS of our 2011 TREE LOTTERY PROGRAM...**

Ken Bell, Bill & Ann Haltorn, Tania Lohnes, Leonard Ruggiero, Dennis Puddefoot, Elizabeth & Michel Messeca, Mary Moriarty, Herbert Friedman, Bob Bartel, Claudia Regan, Nancy Turbett, Bill Endres, Berg Keshian, Susie Fisch and Richard Warren.



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## UPCOMING COFFEEHOUSE

Put September 10 on your calendar for the next Coffeehouse Concert with great young bluegrass band Spring Creek, from Lyons, Colorado. They have performed at some of the largest roots festivals in the country, including the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, Merlefest and Strawberry Music Festival. Listen to their music on [www.springcreekbluegrassband.com](http://www.springcreekbluegrassband.com).

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**TRAM PASSES:** *There are 6 corporate tram passes per day!* Please call the office or visit our website for all the details: [www.sandiahomeowners.org](http://www.sandiahomeowners.org).

## SHHA member benefits

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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.

Check out the entire SHHA Member Benefits Program at [sandiahomeowners.org](http://sandiahomeowners.org) and enjoy discounts at our supporting local merchants.

The SHHA Merchant Benefits Program includes the following current participating merchants:

**Asian Café**  
**Bair Medical Spa**  
**Best Way Carpet**  
**Black Diamond Taekwondo**  
**Bob's Painting**  
**Chiropractor, Mark L. Schwartz DC**  
**County Line of Albuquerque**  
**Curves**  
**Dance Fitness Party**  
**Granite Transformations**  
**High Finance Restaurant**  
**Sandiego's Mexican Grill at the Tram (\$1 parking fee will be reimbursed with purchase of lunch)**  
**Jade Enterprises**

**Los Equipales**  
**Massage Envy**  
**The UPS Store**  
**Yoga with Marcy (Closed until September)**

## Sheriff's Department On Traffic Safety

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The Sheriff's Department will be around to ensure the recreational and traffic safety of vehicles, cyclists, dog walkers, etc. in Sandia Heights. Several complaints have been received by the Sheriff's Department about the stop sign on Deer & Bobcat Blvd. Deputy Hopkins from the Sheriff's Department also made the suggestion that joggers and pedestrians carry a form of identification & emergency contact information with them in case of an emergency.

## SECURITY ALERT

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The office has a security email alert that can be emailed to all of those people whose email addresses are in our database. If you would like to receive such an email please call the office at 797-7793 or email us at [sandiaheights@comcast.net](mailto:sandiaheights@comcast.net). Also, if you have changed your email address please notify us so that we can update the database. Thank you.

## Siberian Elms: What They Look Like and Why We Do Not Want Them

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What is all the fuss about Siberian elm trees in Sandia Heights? They are green and they provide shade. Why does SHHA want us to get rid of them?

The Architectural Control Committee and the Covenant Support Committee frequently hears questions like these from homeowners in Sandia Heights.

*Continued on Page 7*



**Officers**

President – Kate Fry  
Vice President – Andy Anderson  
Secretary – Michele Munson  
Treasurer – Dick Wavrik

**Board Members**

Phil Abshere  
Ana Acosta  
Bob Bower  
Sandra Brown  
George Connor  
Pete Heinstein  
Burt O’Neil  
Joe Pappé  
Michael Pierce  
Sarah Pirkel

**Office Staff**

Betsy Rodriguez – ACC  
Administrative Assistant  
Sheraz Saint-Lôt –  
Publications &  
Communications Editor

**SHHA Office**

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Albuquerque, NM 87122  
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Fax: 505-856-8544  
Web site:  
www.sandiahomeowners.org  
Email:  
[shha@sandiahomeowners.org](mailto:shha@sandiahomeowners.org)

**GRIT Editorial Policy is:**

- Provide information on subjects of interest to the community.
- 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 May Call Type	# of calls	Month of May Call Type	# of calls
Alarms	28	Open door/window	1
Animal control asst.	3	Parking problem	0
Breaking & entering	2	Pet nuisance	3
Assault/Battery	0	Rescue assist	0
Car accident	0	Salesman problem	1
Customer assist	1	Sheriff office assist	0
Dumped/spilled material	1	Snake Call	5
Family dispute	2	Special request	1
Fire	0	Special (extra patrol)	16
Fireworks complaint	1	Speeding vehicle	0
Front office	5	Suspicious person	6
Loud music/party	0	Suspicious vehicle	20
Lost/found pet	3	Theft	1
Lost/found item	0	Threat/personal	1
Mailbox vandalism	0	Utility Co. assist	9
Motorcycle nuisance	0	Vandalism	7
Motorist assist	6	Vehicle burglary	0
Neighbor dispute	0	Wildlife report	1
Newspaper pickup	16		
Noise complaints	1	<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>141</b>

**Security Tip:**

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.

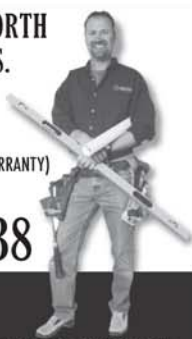
It is vacation season. We urge our subscribers to please call us before leaving town so that we may add your residence to our vacation watch list. For those of you who are not subscribers, now is a good time to subscribe. Please feel free to visit our website at [www.sandiaheightsservices.com](http://www.sandiaheightsservices.com). You can also call us at 856-6347.



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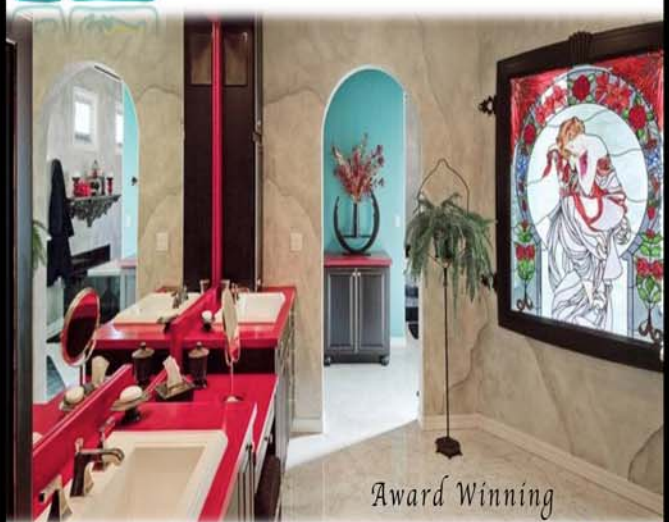
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For those of the SHHA residents that have not seen or read about the Noise and nuisance complaints on the SHHA website, we are repeating it below:

## **MAY 18 WEBPOST – LATEST ABOUT BC NOISE ORDINANCE**

SHHA office received the following information on Tues. May 17, 2011 from Bernalillo County.

Hello neighborhood leaders,

For those of you that are following the Noise Ordinance, there is some confusion regarding the minutes of last Tuesday's BCC meeting that are posted on the web. The minutes reflect that the action taken was a deferral. This is INCORRECT, the motion was indeed to table this agenda item. Our IT department is working on this correction. Thanks for your patience!

*Bernadette Miera*, Neighborhood Program Coordinator, Public Information Department

*(Note from George Connor, SHHA Special Task Force for County Line noise nuisance: I talked with Commissioner Wiener's Assistant, Darrell Dady, the evening of May 17<sup>th</sup> and he confirmed the above information as coming through him from Commissioner Wiener. Darrell also committed that it is Commissioner Wiener's intention to table the noise amendment for "a long time". Having been a computer programmer before retirement, I understand about new computer software specification errors and that is exactly what this appears to me to be – not a conspiracy to put the noise ordinance on the June agenda when people are on vacation and no*

*opposing speakers are at the Commission meeting. We in SHHA will look at the website and BCC agenda the 1<sup>st</sup> week in June and update this web posting if anything has changed.)-- Nothing has changed and the noise ordinance amendment is not on the June 14<sup>th</sup> BCC meeting agenda.*

\*\*\*\*\*

EMAIL sent from SHHA to Bernalillo County officials on Thursday, May 12, 2011, regarding **enforcement of Noise Ordinance** at County Line Concerts

TO: County Manager Zdunek - My name is George Connor and I am a Board Member of the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association (SHHA). I am also responsible for Covenant Violations regarding nuisance and annoyance activities in SHHA South Unit 7, in which the County Line is located. I saw at the Tuesday BC Commissioners meeting that you were tasked to work out noise enforcement efforts with Environmental Health manager Mr. Schroeder. We in Sandia Heights appreciate you working on enforcement of the BC Noise Ordinance.

We observed that a notice was posted on the Albuquerque NM County Line website last night or this morning announcing their 1st spring concert. Details about the concert and performance are on the web at <http://www.countyline.com/AlbuquerqueMusic.html>

SHHA has been discussing with County Line owner, Mr Miller, during the last month or so, ways he can mitigate the annoyances caused by traffic, illegal parking, litter, and fire danger when he sponsors the Thursday night Concerts. **However, we are depending on Bernalillo County**

**personnel to enforce the Noise Ordinance**, whether it is the one we have had for 40 years or a new Amended Noise Ordinance we might have in the future.

*Thank you in advance for working the Noise Ordinance enforcement issue with regard to the County Line Concerts.*

FROM: *George Connor*, SHHA Board & Covenant Committee member email: [connor87122@gmail.com](mailto:connor87122@gmail.com) tel -821-4349

\*\*\*\*\*

## **A message from the UNM Hospital**

UNM Hospitals is the safety net hospital for the state, providing care for the most vulnerable populations throughout the state. UNMH is the state's only Level 1 care center, treating New Mexico's most serious illness and injury. In addition, it has the only dedicated pediatric emergency room, the only pediatric infusion center and a nationally designated cancer center. UNMH is also home to 13 pediatric subspecialties, offering the highest level of intensive care for children and premature infants in the state.

In 1954, the University of New Mexico Hospitals became operational as the Bernalillo County Indian Hospital. In the early 60s the UNM School of Medicine began its collaboration with the hospital as a teaching facility. The hospital's name change to Bernalillo County Medical Center in 1968 stemmed from its growth in scope of services. The University of New Mexico

began operating the hospital in 1969 as result of a joint powers agreement between the UNM Regents and the Bernalillo County Commissioners, and began using the facility as a teaching hospital. In 1979 the name was changed, in conjunction with the hospital's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to The University of New Mexico Hospital.

In following years, the hospital would continually increase its services, widen its continuum of care, and eventually be a specialty destination in statewide healthcare. In 1994 the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center was established as the largest academic health complex in the state. Located on the University of New Mexico north campus, the HSC combines four mission areas - education, research, patient care and partnership - to provide New Mexicans with the highest level of health care.

As an organization, UNMH strives to keep community members well informed about new and existing services available at UNMH, and various programs, initiatives, finances and statistics as well. UNMH wants the community to know how we are working to better serve you and your families. If you would like more information or know of a group that would be interested in becoming more informed about UNM Hospitals, please contact me at [mpsalaz@salud.unm.edu](mailto:mpsalaz@salud.unm.edu) or 272-4388. This presentation is not aimed at acquiring new patients; rather, it's geared toward informing the community about what happens at UNMH, and what services your funding provides. Thank you very much!



Continued page 3

Here is some information that will help clear up this issue.

One restriction that appears in every single one of the Sandia Heights Unit Covenants states that “No Chinese elms, cotton-bearing cottonwood trees, or Bermuda grass shall be maintained on any lot”. The nomenclature in the Covenants is incorrect: Siberian elms are often mistakenly called Chinese elms, but true Chinese elms (*Ulmus parvifolia*) almost never appear in New Mexico. Therefore, SHHA has consistently applied this restriction to the Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*).

Siberian elms were planted by the thousands in Albuquerque during the 1930s, and have since become invasive. Despite the large number of Siberian elms in the city, they do not make very good ornamental trees, as they are fairly short-lived, have brittle wood, and usually look pretty ragged after several years. They certainly do not belong in the native foothills vegetation in Sandia Heights. But they are extremely energetic when young and resistant to drought and severe cold, which is why they are so difficult to get rid of. Young trees must be dug out by the roots, and larger tree stumps must be treated with a systemic herbicide after the tree is cut down. If the tree is simply cut, it will sprout many vigorous shoots from the stump. It is best to remove them when they are very small. Bernalillo County will remove elm trees from the County right-of-way at the front of your property if you request it. You may call 848-1503 to submit a work order. For elm trees elsewhere on your property, we invite you to have them removed and then submit the invoice to the Tree Lottery. Information about the tree lottery can be found on the SHHA website [www:sandiahomeowners.org](http://www:sandiahomeowners.org).



© 2008 Arbor Day Foundation

Siberian Elm Drawing.jpg



Ulmus\_pumila\_leaves.jpg



## **BEARWATCH**



Early and mid-summer is the time the bears have come out of hibernation, and they are hungry. This is also when the mama bears kick out the 2-year-olds, who then have to find their own territory. These young bears often wander into our neighborhood because they remember where they have found easy food. Here is what you can do to keep bears from becoming habituated and thus becoming problem bears:

- Keep all garbage in your garage or a sturdy shed.
- Put garbage out only on the morning of your trash pickup day.
- Do not leave pet food outside.
- Bring hummingbird feeders inside at dusk (and take them inside for the winter in October).
- Fill bird feeders with only enough seed to last half the day (better yet, don't feed the birds at all for a while).
- If you have fruit trees: pick fruit as it ripens, and keep fallen fruit picked up.

Continued on page 11



## ACC Activity Log

*Summary of Approved Projects activity since the last GRIT:*

- 13 Juniper Hill Road – Deck Replacement
- 43 Cedar Hill Place – Mailbox Replacement
- 54 Rock Point Place - Reroof
- 511 Roadrunner Lane – Fence Repair
- 644 Cougar Loop – Driveway Repair
- 725-8 Tramway Lane – Swamp Cooler Relocation
- 726-12 Tramway Vista Drive – Garage Door
- 726-23 Tramway Vista Drive – Garage Door Replacement
- 760-12 Tramway Lane – Window Replacement
- 967 Antelope Ave. - Garage Door Replacement
- 981 Antelope Ave. – Trim
- 1025 Tramway Lane – Landscaping
- 1137 Marigold Drive – Recoat Roof
- 1169 Laurel Loop – Restucco & Trim
- 1823 Tramway Terrace Loop – Landscaping & Mailbox
- 1867 Tramway Terrace Loop – Reroof
- 1933 Quail Run Loop – Reroof
- 2770 Wolfberry Place – Reroof
- 2817 Tramway Circle - Reroof
- 2884 Tramway Place – Window & Door Replacement
- 12629 Carmel Court – Wall Repair

*Go to the website: [sandiahomeowners.org](http://sandiahomeowners.org). to read about all projects currently under ACC management*




## THE ACC POSITION ON PORTABLE STORAGE CONTAINERS

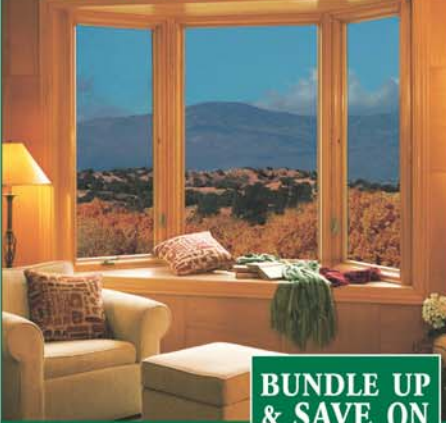
Over the past year or so, the ACC has noted that the popularity of Portable On Demand Storage (PODS) containers, as well as storage containers from other suppliers, has resulted in an increased presence of these containers here

in Sandia Heights. These containers provide on-site secure storage for personal items and are not to be confused with the large dumpsters that are sometimes used during construction for temporary storage and removal of trash and debris associated with the construction activities. In most cases, the secure storage container or containers are located in the front portion of the property where they are being used, usually in association with some form of short-term home remodeling or repair activities when contents such as furniture, etc., need to be temporarily removed from the home during the remodeling. Along with the increased use of these containers within Sandia Heights comes, as expected, an increase in complaints from residents who can see them from their respective properties. When applying to the ACC for additions or remodels to the exterior of a residence, the application form should state whether or not one or more of these secure storage containers will be used in conjunction with the construction. The ACC will modify the current application form to include this information. The intent is not to deny the usage of the containers but to understand exactly how long the containers will be located on the property and to be able to address neighborhood complaints. If the ACC determines that the containers have exceeded the timelines for expected usage on the property as stated in the original ACC application, the owner will be contacted to either modify the application or to have the containers removed. In the event that one or more of these secure storage containers are needed for interior modifications that are not subject to prior ACC approval, property owners are asked to notify the SHHA office staff of the presence of the containers. Complaints regarding these containers will be handled by the Covenant Support Committee (CSC) since ACC approval and involvement are not required for home modifications that do not affect the exterior appearance of the home.





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Holy Eucharist &  
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*Continued from page 7*

Bears are very intelligent. They remember any place they have ever found food and return unerringly to it. They know what trash cans and bird feeders are and will always investigate them for food. We are asking all Sandia Heights residents to be tolerant, understanding, and proactive.

Enjoy the sight of a bear if you happen to see one, but please do not do anything to unintentionally feed them or injure them.

Please feel free to call your BearWatch Sandia Heights Wildlife Steward (Kate Fry, 828-9618) or BearWatch (Jan Hayes, 281-9282) at any time if you have questions.

## **Community Event Bulletin Board**

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

**Open Space Summer Series at the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area.** There are weekend events throughout the summer. Please visit the website to view the schedule: [www.cabq.gov/openspace](http://www.cabq.gov/openspace). Running June, July and August, it is a great program of Saturday night open air entertainment and Sunday morning hikes.

**Sandia Heights Artists:** Save the Date: September 10-11, Sandia Heights Art Tour. Seventeen neighbor artists in 12 homes: watercolors, acrylics, oils, water media, collage, wheel thrown pottery, hand built ceramic sculpture, mixed media, handmade books & journals, stained glass, gourd art, baskets, bead weaving, beaded jewelry, landscape and travel photography, batiks, fiber arts, abstract, southwest landscapes. See our growing web sites: [sandiaheightsart.com](http://sandiaheightsart.com) and [sandiaheightsartists.org](http://sandiaheightsartists.org). Artists: please attend the July 13 meeting, 7:00 p.m. at Carol Kaleko's house to proofread the tour map and flyer.

**A Peaceful Habitation:** Seeking donations of toiletries (shampoo/conditioner, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste) paper goods (paper towels, toilet paper), cleaning or laundry supplies for APH is a half-way house for recently released women prisoners, with a faith-based approach. Women are taught life skills, given opportunities for rehabilitation in areas needed, encouraged in their faith walk, and helped to move to independent and successful living. APH also is seeking mentors (females only) if anyone might be interested in short-term mentoring of one of the women at APH. For donations or more information call Terri Roseth at 856-6964.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES:**

- **Office hours:** Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm.
- **Office closure:** Monday July 4
- **Board Meeting:** July 13 at 7pm in the SHHA office. Open to SHHA Members
- **Notary, copies and faxes** free to members. **Tram passes** free to members. **Swim and Tennis passes** – see page 2 for details.
- **Contractor Evaluation binder** free to members. We are in need of evaluations for Handymen, Propane and Septic Tank Contractors.
- **SHHA membership cards:** do not forget to go to the website to get a full listing of the companies that offer a discount!



Sandia Heights Homeowners Association  
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## PHOTO CONTEST!

We are accepting entries for our annual photo contest for the 2012 Sandia Heights Resident Directory & Guide. Submissions are due to the SHHA office by Friday, November 4. If you are the lucky winner, your photo will be featured on the cover of the 2012 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 2011 Directory).
- Photos must fit reasonably on the cover without loss of the composition.
- Photos must be in color, and may be submitted digitally 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.