



SHHA Speaker Series #3:

CODE TALKER by Chester Nez and Judith

Schiess Avila

SATURDAY, October 27, 2012, 9 AM - 11AM

At the Church of the Good Shepherd, 7834 Tennyson NE. This is an RSVP event for SHHA members and their guests. Please call the office at 797-7793.



The best Halloween ever

At eight years old, and in the third grade at Columbian Elementary School, Raton New Mexico, there were not a lot of memories that I would call memorable. Of all the holidays, including Christmas, Halloween was my very, very favorite time. Tricker Treating was the night I lived for. Well, that was about to change, and not for the better.

The Raton School Superintendent, and mighty School Board had decided that Tricker Treating was too dangerous. Can you imagine that! All three elementary schools would have a school carnival. This was terrible news, NO CANDY! This decision was a major disaster and I was not alone. The only bright light shining was there would be a costume contest, and three prizes would be awarded. Now this was of interest to me. I decided that I, Ann Zimmerman, would win first prize in this contest. All my waking hours along with some dreams were spent on what great costume could I make. You certainly remember in 1951 there were NO store bought costumes.

After much thought, I decided that my costume would be Black Beard the Pirate. No one would think of that, and besides no one could make this costume better than my Dad, and me! When Dad came home, after working the swing shift on the Santa Fe Railroad, I was waiting for him with

the news that I had made a decision on “what I would be.” I ran out the door, down the driveway to meet him, and gave him the news about Black Beard the Pirate. Dad was tired, after working twelve hours, but he found some energy in my excitement, and said, “What have you decided.” Of course, I replied with great enthusiasm, “Black Beard the Pirate and you have to keep it a secret from Mom and Norma.” Norma, my Mother’s other daughter was going to be Snow White, how boring.

Dad and I had a week to work on this costumer. He made me a wooden sword, a felt pirate’s hat, a black eye patch, and a red bandana. I had a white shirt and a tattered pair of jeans that we dyed black. Dad made me a large square belt buckle out of some left over tin. The two of us looked and looked for a pirate coat, and finally found a long black coat at the thrift store. It smelled, but Dad said that the smell would make it believable. We hung it outside for several days, and it was wearable.

Everything was coming together until I found a picture of Black Beard. Black Beard had a peg leg. Dad and I discussed this discovery for at least a day, and we just could not come up with how we could devise a peg leg, that I could walk on. Dad thought that the peg leg was not that big of a deal, but he could not convince me. I needed a peg leg to win!

The night of Halloween was upon us, and I did not have a peg leg. Dad looked over at our kitchen table, and said “Oh Ann, I have it! A peg let!” Dad cut the middle leg off our kitchen table, our only table, and made me a peg leg. He attached the table leg to a platform that my leg could be attached to, when bent at the knee. The smelly old coat covered the bent portion of my leg, and yippy, I had a peg leg. The time had come, and off we went to the Halloween Carnival.

Continued on page 2



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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.

Continued from front page

There were witches, ghosts, scarecrows, and Snow White, but mine was the BEST! 8:00 PM arrived, and it was time for the winners to be announced. Third place Tommy Armstrong, cowboy. Second place Ann Zimmerman, Blackbeard the Pirate, and first place Norma Zimmerman, Snow White. I was sure they had us mixed up, second place and first place, but when I questioned them, they said, “No Ann, you are the second place winner.” CONGRATULATIONS! My prize was a ticket to the movies. Norma’s prize was a witches’ hat full of CANDY, of which I got none.

This was my first lesson in recognizing the art and necessity of humility as a quality of good character. Dad’s words to me, as I stomped into the house, were “Ann, winning is not all it is cracked up to be. You need to not only be a good winner, but a good 2nd place loser.”



Announcements & Notices:

- **Office hours:** Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm.
- **Office Closed:** Monday, October 8 – Columbus Day
- **Board Meeting** – Wednesday, October 10, at the SHHA office, 7pm
- **Notary, copies and faxes, tram passes, email alerts and contractor evaluation binder** free to members.
- **Committee meetings** are posted on our website: www.sandiahomeowners.org.
- **Classified ads** can be found on the website on the top bar menu under Classifieds.
- **Safety Vests for sale** in the SHHA office. \$2 per vest for members.



School is back in session:

Please be reminded that schools are back in session now so please watch your speed throughout the subdivision. Speed limits in residential areas unless otherwise posted are **15 M.P.H.** There are numerous school bus stops with children at or near them in the mornings and afternoons. Also please be aware of an increase in bicycle and pedestrian traffic in the subdivision, especially in the mornings.



SHHA membership Cards

Check out the entire SHHA Member Benefits Program at 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 - Bob's Painting - Chiropractor, Mark L. Schwartz DC - County Line of Albuquerque - Curves - Dance Fitness Party - Granite Transformations – Hairstyling by Carlos - High Finance Restaurant - Sandiago’s Mexican Grill at the Tram - Jade Enterprises - Los Equipales - Massage Envy - New Mexico School of Music - Ready Blinds & Shutters – Southwest Propane - The UPS Store - 3B Yoga



Printed GRIT and E-mail Alerts Now Members-Only!

Until now, SHHA policy has been to mail the GRIT to all residents, both members and non-members. Due to the rising costs associated with printing the GRIT, and as a result of evaluating the benefits of membership, **after October we will no longer be mailing the GRIT to non-members.** If you would like to continue receiving the GRIT in the mail, now is the time to sign up for SHHA membership. At only \$10 a month, it’s a great bargain. Even if you take advantage of our most popular benefit—free Tram passes, a value of \$20 per ticket—membership pays for itself very quickly. Add the other benefits of free notary services, free copy and fax services, free Coffeehouse Concerts, the Speaker Series, Easter Egg Hunt, Visit Santa Claus, and discounts at many local businesses, and your \$10 monthly dues is a very worthwhile investment.

Another benefit that will now be available only to members is our E-mail Alert service. You can sign up for this service by emailing sandiaheights@comcast.net. Please put your address in the subject line and a short message

requesting to be added to our email alert system. When you sign up for this service, SHHA will notify you by e-mail of burglaries in your neighborhood and other security alerts, fire alerts, wildlife alerts, and other important information that you need to know quickly. Much of this information comes directly from Bernalillo County sources, and it’s a great way to receive information in a timely manner. If you are a non-member and want to continue receiving e-mail alerts, sign up for SHHA membership today!



Tram Passes

There are 6 corporate tram passes per day! Please note that the Tram will be closed for Fall Maintenance starting Monday, November 5 through Friday, November 16. Please call the SHHA office at 797-7793 for details.



Renters and Membership Benefits

Did you know that people renting houses in Sandia Heights can participate in many of the benefits of SHHA membership? All that is needed is for the property owner to maintain membership in SHHA. Many property owners mistakenly believe that if they move from Sandia Heights and rent their house to another family, they must cancel their membership in SHHA. Not true! Membership dues will continue to be collected as part of the monthly utility bill for that address, whether the property owner pays the bill or the tenant pays the bill. If you as a property owner pay the bill, you are free to pass along the cost of membership to the tenant if you choose. Renters are eligible for all SHHA membership benefits except voting privileges and filing covenant violation complaints. Be sure you maintain your membership so your tenants can experience some of the great “perks” of living in Sandia Heights!



SANDIA HEIGHTS SERVICES (SHS) 10 Tramway Loop: Please be reminded that Sandia Heights Services Tel: 856-6419 (they provide water, sewer, trash and recycle collection, and security services) is a subscription service separate from Sandia Heights Homeowners Association membership. Also, Membership in SHHA does not include Sandia Heights Security membership. You can call Security to confirm your membership with them. If you have questions regarding the following stats, please call Security 856-6347, or mobile 263-4654.

Stats and more from the Sandia Heights Security Patrol:

Last Month	# of calls	Last Month	# of calls	Last Month	# of calls
Alarms	39	Dumped Material	3	Special request	5
Animal control asst.	0	Newspaper pickup	20	Special (extra patrol)	13
Breaking & entering	1	Neighbor dispute	2	Suspicious vehicle	19
Customer Assist	28	Noise complaints	5	Suspicious person	10
Family Dispute	1	Open door/window	2	Theft	3
Fire	1	Parking problem	3	Threat/Personal	1
Fireworks complaint	1	Pet nuisance	8	Utility Co. assist	3
Front office	6	Rescue assist	1	Vandalism	2
Motorist Assist	7	Salesman problem	2	Vehicle burglary	4
Lost/found item or pet	5	Sheriff Office Assist	1	Wildlife report	8
Motorcycle Nuisance	1	Snake Call	23	Total Calls	228

SANDIA HEIGHTS SERVICES NEW TRASH AND RECYCLE BINS DELIVERED

The new trash and recycle bins have been distributed! We delivered over 4,000 new trash and recycle bins to our customers during the week of August 27, and in our first week of service we have seen a significant increase in recycling. Thank you for your patience and support during this huge undertaking, it is greatly appreciated. If you need to change or add to your bin order, please do so via email at customerservice@sandiapeak.com.

As a reminder, the trash bin has the dark brown lid, and the recycle bin has the green lid. **All trash must be bagged within the trash bin with the lid closed.** This will prevent spills and help to keep the bin clean. Lawn clippings and branches need to be bagged or bundled in the trash bin to prevent such items from being blown around and/or scattered. The most important point to remember is to be sure the bin can be emptied, with nothing impeding the contents of the bin (for example large branches). **Recyclables must be placed loose in the recycle bin, not bagged, with the exception of shredded paper.** For those instances when you have additional uncontained trash or appliances, furniture, etc., we will continue to offer the special pickup service on Mondays for a minimum charge of \$20. Additional charges may apply depending on what you have for collection. Simply contact our office at 856-6419 to schedule the special pickup when you need the service. *Also, please do not spray paint or mark the outside of your bin with your address or name. You may mark the inside of the bin or lid with your address to identify your bin, but please do not mark up the outside of the bin.*

Again, thank you for your cooperation and support during the implementation of this new service! If you have any questions please contact our office at 856-6419, via email at customerservice@sandiapeak.com, or visit our website at www.sandiaheightsservices.com.

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Latest update to wastewater issues in Sandia Heights.

At the Bernalillo County Commission meeting on September 11, 2012, the Commissioners were informed by Commissioner Stebbins that she is withdrawing her motion to amend the Bernalillo County Waste Water Ordinance. She stated that upon accumulation of further data and information she may introduce the motion again sometime in the future.

This means that there will be no routine 5 year septic system inspections as originally proposed. However, the County ordinance still contains the implication that advanced systems, containing pumps, air circulation devices, etc., may be required. These advanced systems come with a high price tag and a yearly maintenance contract, and are being promoted by the septic tank - leach field installers.

Homeowners should be advised that only in extreme hydrogeological conditions are such advanced systems required. For example such conditions may exist if there is insufficient acreage to install a leach field, or if a lot has less than a suitable depth of gravel/sand to receive a septic tank or a leach field (i.e. if the property sits on a slab of granite or bedrock).

As a good starting point to question the requirement for an advanced system is the County ordinance, a copy is available for view in the SHHA office or on the SHHA website at sandiahomeowners.org. For example, a primary system (consisting of a septic tank and a leach field) is adequate on a 0.75 acre lot when the total flow into the system is 380 gallons or less per day (GPD) (see Chart I, Maximum Total Flow Rate, Sec. 42-508). The GPD can be obtained from your Sandia Heights Services water bill. It should be obvious that the flow into the septic tank cannot be more than the GPD of water used on a property.

If there are any disagreements about the requirement for an advanced system between a homeowner and the pumper/inspector/installer of septic systems call the County Health Department (505-314-0310). One of their employees is required to come out to your property and determine if an advanced system is indeed required.

It should be emphasized, as stated in the County ordinance, that it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain a functional wastewater system that is not polluting the groundwater. Pumping a septic tank about every 4 years will help maintaining a functional system.



Keep our Sandia Bears Safe!

Bears are still visiting our neighborhoods looking for food, and now, in early autumn, they have become eating machines. Bears are biologically programmed to eat as much as they can in preparation for their long winter's nap. Unlike last year, we have a pretty good acorn crop this year. But because bears need to gain so much weight before they den, they might venture down into our neighborhood looking for their natural food sources, including acorns, piñon nuts, and prickly pear fruit. If they find food humans leave out, like garbage or bird seed, that spells trouble for the bears. Bird seed especially is very calorie-dense, and if bears find it they will keep coming back looking for more. Please stay alert and don't do anything to attract bears to your home. Keep trash indoors until the morning of pickup, bring bird feeders and hummingbird feeders indoors at night, and keep kitchen doors and windows closed after dark. ***Please understand that a trapped bear does not transplant well. A high percentage of bears die after being relocated.*** Simply seeing a bear is not a reason to call Game and Fish. If there is no "junk food" to be found, the bear will probably munch a few acorns and go back into the mountains.



ACC Activity Log

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

- 5 Juniper Hill Road – Reroof
- 16 Juniper Hill Loop – Landscaping
- 91 Juniper Hill Road – Landscaping
- 361 Big Horn Ridge – Fence Replacement
- 419 Live Oak Court - Mailbox
- 440 Live Oak Loop – Rooftop Ductwork
- 547 Black Bear Loop – Landscaping
- 626 Blackhawk Drive – Reroof & Restucco
- 720-3 Tramway Lane – Reroof
- 726-6 Tramway Vista Drive – Photovoltaic Panels
- 884 Tramway Lane Court – Fence Replacement
- 938 Bobcat Blvd. – Garage Addition
- 1105 San Rafael Ave. – Restucco
- 1126 Marigold Drive – Paint Wall
- 1158 Laurel Loop – Wall
- 1167 Laurel Loop - Driveway
- 1199 Bobcat Blvd. – Reroof & Trim
- 1416 San Rafael – Garage Addition
- 1837 Tramway Terrace Loop – Restucco
- 1843 Tramway Terrace Loop – Window Replacement
- 1903 Quail Run Road – Parapet Repair
- 2305 Calle De Rafael – Driveway Replacement
- 2325 Calle de Gabriel – Repaint House
- 2535 Tramway Terrace Court – Enclose Patio
- 2867 Tramway Circle – Window Replacement
- 8218 Raintree Drive – Driveway Replacement

Go to the website: sandiahomeowners.org. to read about all projects currently under ACC management.



RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS



Most residential burglars do not put very much thought into their crime. They usually target a residence based on information known to them at that particular moment. Understanding how burglars choose a target will help mitigate the risks and deter them from targeting you.

Most burglars look for the following:

- Items worth stealing and easily fenced
 - Ease of access
 - Low visibility
 - Homes that are unoccupied
- o Use motion lights
 - o Use automatic timers to turn indoor lights on and off to make it appear you are at home
 - o Park your vehicles in the garage
 - o Keep your yard clean and free of vegetative overgrowth. Areas around windows and entries should be cleared
 - o Keep doors locked when you are at home alone
 - o ALWAYS lock all doors and windows when leaving the house
 - o Do not hide spare keys outside your home
 - o Take discarded boxes which contained items you just purchased, such as televisions, DVD players and other electronics to the city dump yourself. Burglars will take note of boxes indicating recent purchases of high end electronics which are placed in your trash bin on garbage collection days.
 - o Make sure your parking place, driveway and yard is adequately illuminated at night
 - o Ask a neighbor to watch over your home and pick up deliveries while you are away



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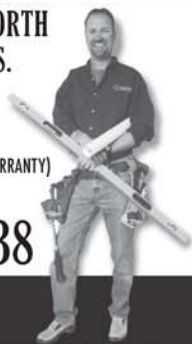
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Sandia Heights Market Activity • 2005 - 2012

How is the Sandia Heights Market? Compare the Past 7 years.

2005 - 2012 MARKET ACTIVITY • SANDIA HEIGHTS DETACHED HOMES ON LOTS GREATER THAN .50 ACRES

There are currently 18 Sandia Heights homes FOR SALE on lots greater than .50 acres. The average asking price per sq.ft. is \$183.72. There are currently 6 Sandia Heights homes PENDING on lots greater than .50 acres. The average asking price sq.ft. is \$169.57. There have been 14 Sandia Heights homes SOLD on lots greater than .50 acres since January 1, 2012. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$145.

- 40 Homes on lots greater than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2011 - Dec 2011. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$161
- 26 Homes on lots greater than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2010 - Dec 2010. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$165
- 25 Homes on lots greater than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2009 - Dec 2009. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$169
- 14 Homes on lots greater than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2008 - Dec 2008. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$193
- 30 Homes on lots greater than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2007 - Dec 2007. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$202
- 39 Homes on lots greater than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2006 - Dec 2006. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$205
- 35 Homes on lots greater than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2005 - Dec 2005. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$170

2005 - 2012 MARKET ACTIVITY • SANDIA HEIGHTS DETACHED HOMES ON LOTS LESS THAN .50 ACRES

There are currently 6 Sandia Heights homes FOR SALE on lots less than .50 acres. The average asking price per sq.ft. is \$151.71. There are 4 homes on lots less than .50 acres PENDING. The average asking price per sq.ft. is \$169.62. There have been 6 Sandia Heights homes SOLD on lots less than .50 acres since January 1, 2012. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$157.61.

- 27 Homes on lots LESS than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2011 - Dec. 2011. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$154
- 29 Homes on lots LESS than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2010 - Dec. 2010. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$158
- 26 Homes on lots LESS than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2009 - Dec 2009. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$161
- 22 Homes on lots LESS than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2008 - Dec 2008. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$171
- 18 Homes on lots LESS than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2007 - Dec 2007. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$189
- 13 Homes on lots LESS than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2006 - Dec 2006. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$179
- 11 Homes on lots LESS than .50 acres SOLD from Jan. 2005 - Dec 2005. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$156

2005 - 2012 MARKET ACTIVITY • SANDIA HEIGHTS ATTACHED TOWNHOMES

There are currently 3 Attached Townhomes FOR SALE. The average asking price per sq.ft. is \$114.35. There are currently 0 Attached Townhomes PENDING. There was 1 attached Townhome SOLD since Jan. 1, 2012. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$115.

- 6 Attached Townhomes SOLD from Jan. 2011 - Dec. 2011. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$115.
- 10 Attached Townhomes SOLD from Jan. 2010 - Dec. 2010. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$120.
- 3 Attached Townhomes SOLD from Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2009. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$144.
- 6 Attached Townhomes SOLD from Jan. 2008 - Dec. 2008. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$140.
- 6 Attached Townhomes SOLD from Jan. 2007 - Dec. 2007. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$147.
- 11 Attached Townhomes SOLD from Jan. 2006 - Dec. 2006. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$151.
- 16 Townhomes SOLD from Jan. 2005 to Dec. 2005. The average sales price per sq.ft. was \$112.



Community Event Bulletin Board

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

Looking for a progressive, friendly, and welcoming church? Search no more! Everyone is welcome at **Church of the Good Shepherd, 7834 Tennyson NE**. Sunday services are at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.; Church School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. For more information go to www.ucccofs.org or call the church office @ 856-1004.

Model Railroad Open House Public Welcome Sunday, October 14, 2012 1:00-5:00 p.m. Al Hovey's 9'X16' "Fremont and Mo Valley" HO Model Railroad 725-18 Tramway Vista Dr NE. Directions: From the County Line Restaurant travel 1 block south on Tramway, turn East on Tramway Lane, take immediate right onto Tramway Vista Dr NE and Al is in the third house on the right. Look for the crossbucks.

THANKS FROM THE **SANDIA HEIGHTS ARTISTS**: Thank you to families, friends, neighbors and community members who gave the Sandia Heights Arts participants an enthusiastic response during the Ninth Annual Studio Tour, Sept. 8-9, 2012. Seventeen artists presented original work at 10 different locations. The art included acrylic, oil, pastel and water media painting, photography, jewelry, woodworking, fiber, pottery, gourds, hand-crafted books and mixed media. The free tour is always a fun time and this year was no exception. We will keep you posted on our website, the paper and the GRIT, and other announcements about our plans for the Tenth Tour next year. Hope to see you again then. For ongoing information, check our updated website at www.sandiaheightsart.com.



Hear ye, hear ye!
...writers of fiction,
sketches or poetry,
scribes of media or plays!

JOIN the 
TABLET GROUP

Contact: Ann: 505-332-4449
Sarah: 505-821-9221

Halloween

Humor:

Q. What does a bird say at Halloween?

A. "Twick or tweet."



Q. What do you call a

skeleton that lies on its grave? A. Lazy bones!



Halloween Trick or Treat Reminder

Please use extra caution as you drive on Halloween and turn off your entry/exterior lights if you prefer not to have trick-or-treaters stop by your home. Thank you



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

PHOTO CONTEST!

We are accepting entries for our annual photo contest for the 2013 Sandia Heights Resident Directory & Guide. Submissions are due to the SHHA office by Friday, November 2. If you are the lucky winner, your photo will be featured on the cover of the 2013 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 2012 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.
- 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.