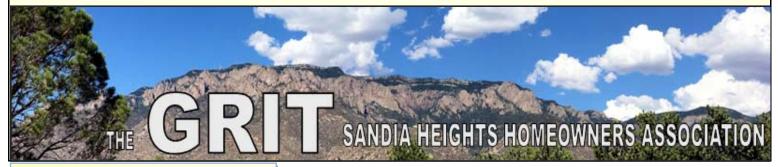
Vol. 33 – No. 4

April 2017



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SHHA Office

2-B San Rafael Avenue NE Albuquerque, NM 87122 Office Hours: M-F, 9am-4pm Phone: 505-797-7793 Fax: 505-856-8544 Website: www.sandiahomeowners.org Email: shha@sandiahomeowners.org

Committee Chairs

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A Note from the Vice President~ Emily Rudin

We sincerely appreciate the interest and participation of all of the SHHA's members who attended the Annual Meeting February 4th.

It's important to know that your SHHA Officers, Board, and Office staff are actively committed to the well-being of our community all year round. In addition to carrying out the chartered functions of SHHA, we monitor and convey information on an array of evolving issues that affect our community. These include Bernalillo County lighting ordinances, zoning and planning, and road improvements; safety; and new construction.

As SHHA members, you are welcome to share questions and concerns with us at any time, not only at our Annual Meeting each February. In addition, please feel free to let the Office know if you wish to attend a Board meeting, held at 7 pm on the second Wednesday of each month (except February). Or ask us about joining one of our committees; it's an excellent way to get to know your neighbors, learn about issues we care about, and contribute to the quality of life we all enjoy here in Sandia Heights.

An aware and engaged membership benefits us all. We look forward to seeing you throughout 2017.



SHHA Secretary Report ~ By Bob Bower

The questions and comments received at the 2017 Annual and Town Hall Meetings have been reviewed and approved by the Board at the March 8, 2017 meeting. The questions, comments and answers have been posted on the SHHA website as part of the Annual and Town Hall minutes and will remain on the website until the end of May 2017. In addition, the Annual Meeting PowerPoint Presentation Slides have been posted to the website and will remain on the website through the end of May 2017.



Gardening in Sandia Heights – Springtime

by Marion Simon, 20 year resident and gardener by trial and error



Springtime is a wonderful time to get out and clean up your spent flowers from last fall and find your spring bulbs blooming underneath. Since we are having an exceptionally early spring it is a great temptation to start pruning – DON'T. Roses in particular need to wait until April 15 – remember that date! I learned that from the Rose Society annual lectures at Tony Hillerman Library. Watch for the announcements, since they have several pruning sessions. Roses thrive in our high desert climate, especially when pruned and fertilized and watered correctly.

Most trees and shrubs tolerate selective pruning at any time, except pinions which might bleed to death when you attack them as the juices flow (do it in late fall).

Another great temptation is buying your annual and perennial flowers and vegetables as soon as they hit the local nurseries or big box stores. Unless you have a greenhouse you are headed for disappointment. Remember, most of those plants come from California. Our climate is subject to frost until sometime after Easter. If you buy plants, keep them in a sheltered area or inside the house until all frost has past. It has snowed on Easter in Sandia Heights.

If you are looking for new plants, choose only the drought hardy variety. There are lots of flowering wildflowers that survive our intense heat, dry climate and sun: gaillardia, blanket flowers, lavender, cone flower, evening primrose, four o'clock, desert marigold and globemallow.

Some of my wisdom comes from Judith Phillips book <u>Southwestern Landscaping with Native</u> <u>Plants</u> which is a wonderful resource for old timers and newcomers alike. It also has valuable advice on landscaping (remember your neighbors like their views as well). Another resource is <u>Growing Desert Plants from</u> <u>Windowsill to Garden</u> by Theodore B. Hodoba.

Stay tuned for follow up articles for summer, fall and winter gardening. If you have input, that would be welcome as well: just email, visit, or call the SHHA office.



Just Not Enough Time by Jo Ann Hamlin, SHHA Member

The highlight of the day for my two Dachshunds and me is our daily walk. On this day while they are busy sniffing on leaves, plants, rocks and the dirt, I look up at the Sandia mountain, the foothills that I have been privileged to live in for over forty years and the incredible city of Albuquerque. The air is filled with snowflakes drifting slowly down to earth.

I was bundled up in my warm coat and my new walking shoes that my daughter had given me for Christmas. The bright colored stripes on them are what I love the most. They are beautiful.

I looked up and let the snowflakes fall on my face leaving a wet trail behind them. Aaaah---the joy of living in Sandia Heights.

And then, it happened. Something under my feet felt funny. Instead of the hard pavement, my new shoes were sinking into something soft. I didn't wonder what it was, I knew----dog poop. I looked down---down at the soft, brown pile oozing over the side of my new shoes.

I don't swear very much, but I used every swear word stored in the swear word compartment of my brain. I tried to think of reasons why a dog owner would fail to pick up his/her dog's poop.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Didn't have time---I understand how our days can be so full of things to do that we can't cram anything else in. But, I decided to see just how long it takes to pick up a pile of dog poop. I looked at the second hand on my watch, took a roll of poop bags out of my pocket and tore one off. I looked at my watch again--- four seconds. I opened the bag---well, I tried to open the bag. I just can't believe they can put a man on the moon but they can't make a plastic bag that is easy to open. I was lucky this time; I opened it in twenty seconds. I picked up the offending pile and tied the top of the bag, ten seconds. I had a total of thirty four seconds involved in this task. Throwing the bag in the trash after I got home was another two seconds. So a total of thirty six seconds, less than a minute, that would have left our roadside pristine and beautiful and our fellow walkers serene and happy to enjoy a walk that many people feel is a true privilege.

There was one more reason I could think of that people might not pick up after their dogs. They just didn't care. But, I can't imagine we have anyone who thinks like that living in Sandia Heights.



Pack Rats: Our Sandia Heights Residents [Part 1]

Pack Rats share our property and arroyos, which may not be beneficial to us. Below is more information about your mammalian neighbors:

Properly called the White-throated Wood Rat, these animals are common in New Mexico, and are nocturnal in nature. They are up to fifteen inches long and weigh up to ½ pound. Their coloration is a



dark gray-brown on top with a lighter underbelly. Adult pack rats are solitary: only one adult per nest. They are active diggers and skilled climbers. Their primary foods are cactus, but they will eat almost anything and do not need a water source.

Females give birth to two to three young every six to eight weeks with a life expectancy of two years.

Since they must have shelter, nests are built in any protected area including: cacti, bushes, trees, rock crevices, pool heaters, spas, car engines,

ceiling voids, gas grills, under sheds, and wood piles. They will fortify the nest with additional material including cactus, rocks,



sticks, dog droppings and just about anything else they can find; the presence of additional fortification material is the telltale sign that distinguishes a pack rat nest from that of a squirrel or other rodent.

The problems created by pack rats are that the nests harbor blood sucking kissing bugs (conenose bugs), fleas, lice, brown spiders, scorpions, and mice. The nests attract snakes, skunks, foxes, coyotes and bobcats. The nests damage and destroy landscaping. Nesting areas include cars, pool equipment and even get in to the ceiling voids of homes. They enjoy chewing on and through wires in cars, attics, spas and pool heaters, causing fecal and urine material to accumulate.

Lastly, nests are vectors for disease including:

- Allergic reactions from kissing bugs
- Hantavirus from mice
- Plague from fleas
- Infections from Brown Spider bites.

<u>The Solution</u> will be covered in Pack Rats: Part 2! To be continued in the May GRIT...or...follow this link:

https://sandiahomeowners.org/images/do wnloads/Pack Rat Article 2017.pdf

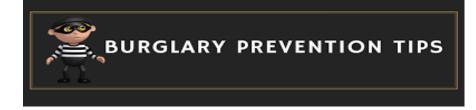




FEBRUARY SECURITY CALLS FROM SANDIA HEIGHTS SECURITY PATROL

The following statistics are the latest provided by Sandia Heights Security since the last GRIT. If you have questions regarding the following, please call Sandia Heights Security 856-6347, mobile 263-4654.

February 2017	# of		# of		# of calls
	calls		calls		
Alarms	16	Mailbox vandalism	0	Snake call	0
Animal control Assist	0	Miscellaneous call	2	Special (extra patrol)	6
Assault/battery	0	Motorcycle nuisance	1	Special request	153
Breaking & entering	0	Motorist assist	0	Speeding vehicle	1
Car accident	0	Neighbor dispute	0	Suspicious person	6
Customer assist	1	Newspaper pickup	7	Suspicious vehicle	11
Dump/spilled material	1	Noise complaints	0	Theft	6
Family dispute	0	Open door/window	6	Utility Co. assist	0
Fire	0	Parking problem	0	Threat/personal	0
Fireworks complaint	0	Pet nuisance	0	Vandalism	1
Home burglary	0	Rescue assist	0	Vehicle burglary	0
Lost/found item or pet	1	Salesman complaint	1	Wildlife report	0
Loud music/party	0	Sheriff office assist	0	Total Calls	220



WHAT BURGLARS SAID WERE THE BIGGEST DETERRENTS, WHAT DIDN'T STOP THEM AND HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOUR HOME

by Kyle Iboshi, KGW Senior Investigative Reporter, Portland Oregon

KGW's investigative team sent letters to 86 inmates currently serving time for burglary in the Oregon Department of Corrections. The inmates were asked to respond anonymously to 17 questions detailing how they broke in, when the crime occurred and what they were looking for.

What they learned could help you keep your home safe from burglaries. You can find the complete list of questions at the following link: <u>http://www.kgw.com/news/investigations/we-asked-86-burglars-how-they-broke-into-homes/344213396</u> or pick up a copy at the SHHA office. Although this survey was performed in another state, <u>*CRIME HAS NO BOUNDRIES*</u>. The survey is informative and provides insight into how burglars think and how you can better protect your home.

Burglars stated that they prefer breaking in early morning or afternoon, between 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. Most inmates broke in through an unlocked door or window. Several burglars kicked the door open but most would leave if an alarm system was in place. Burglars suggested homeowners should always leave a TV or radio on and most avoided homes with alarm systems.

Get to know your neighbors and call Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office at 798-7000 if you see anything suspicious.





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Covenant Support Committee (CSC) SANDIA HEIGHTS LIGHTING

Among the many pleasures of residing in Sandia Heights are the dark skies which allow stargazing, watching the moon rise over the mountains and enjoying the distant sparkling night lights of Albuquerque. These activities are possible in large part because of the light regulations of both Bernalillo County and our Sandia Heights Unit Covenants.

Per the North Albuquerque Acres and Sandia Heights Light Pollution Ordinance of the Bernalillo County Code, all exterior light fixtures shall be aimable, shielded fixtures so that excessive light does not cross into adjacent properties, equipped with motion sensors or automatic timing devices, and remain off between 11:00 p.m. and sunrise except for illuminating walkways or driveways. More detailed information can be found at:

https://www.municode.com/library/nm/bernalill o county/codes/code of ordinances?nodeId=BEC OCO CH30EN ARTVILIPO.

The various Unit Covenants may have different wording but all are trying to accomplish the same purpose: the minimization of the effects of outdoor lighting on one's neighbors. Covenant documents for each Unit may be found at: http://sandiahomeowners.com/unit-covenants.

When planning new or assessing your current outdoor lighting, in addition to consulting the above regulations, think about what impact your lighting will have upon your neighbors. Will it shine into their windows or onto their patio? A little consideration can avoid a complaint to the Covenant Support Committee and/or to Bernalillo County. We have a wonderful, unique neighborhood - let's keep it that way!



Covenant Support Committee SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Spring is here. Unfortunately, also returning are the boats and RVs. When you bought or rented in Sandia Heights you agreed to follow your Unit covenants which have restrictions on parking your recreation vehicles on your lot. SHHA does not look for violations, but rather investigates complaints submitted by your neighbors whose names are not divulged. After investigation, if there is a violation, you will receive a letter asking you to correct the problem.

PROCEDURES FOR PROPERTY OWNERS TO AMEND THEIR UNIT COVENANTS

The Sandia Heights Homeowners Association (SHHA) cannot modify or change any unit covenants. Any covenant changes or modifications can only be done by the property owners within their individual unit. SHHA recognizes the rights of property owners to amend the covenants of their units in accordance with procedures set forth in the covenants of each unit. SHHA has developed information to facilitate that process and to ensure that a proposed amendment is in agreement with established covenants. To avoid potential conflicts with the existing covenants, it is suggested that the proposed amendment(s) be presented to the SHHA Board of Directors for review prior to initiating a petition signature effort.

The information and steps to initiate a covenant amendment are available on the home page of the SHHA website or the following link: <u>https://Procedures for</u> <u>Property Owners to Amend Unit</u> <u>Covenants.pdf</u>. A copy may also be obtained from the SHHA office.

MARCH 2017 SUMMARY OF ACTIVE CSC VIOLATIONS:

Unit No.	Type of Suspected Violation				
S5	No Prior ACC Approval				
SHHA Court Action					
S5	No Prior ACC Approval				

3 Files Closed Since the Last GRIT

Movie Reviews by "The SHHA Couch Potato"

The Marvel Cinematic Universe has a lot of moving parts, including television series and even new comics, but the heart of that universe is the series of interlocking feature films that have been a staple of the movie business over the last decade. The Marvel superheroes have so far been kept busy fighting evil in the physical world, but with the release of the newest Marvel superhero flick "**Dr. Strange**", Marvel's universe has now opened a branch office in the world of mystical powers and astral projections. And no, I'm not talking about Santa Fe: Dr. Steven Strange's headquarters are found at 177A Bleecker Street in New York City.

This newest of the Marvel superhero flicks offers plenty of big fun. A movie about magic requires a myriad of special effects, and Dr. Strange delivers the cinematic goods with a host of color-coded spells, mass urban warping effects that are more complicated than the mind- and city-bending effects from "Inception", and even a scene-stealing levitation cloak that deserves an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Cardigan. Between the amazing special effects and the breakneck pace of the movie's first hour, don't plan on getting up off the couch for a sandwich!

The cast of "Dr. Strange" has more star power than a typical Oscars' award ceremony. Stephen Strange is perfectly over-played by Benedict Cumberbatch, and the exquisite Tilda Swinton portrays Strange's teacher and spirit guide. Swinton, as always, steals the show as The Ancient One (and yes, that's her name as listed in the credits). Rachel McAdams is cast as Strange's ER-medic-colleague-and-mainsqueeze Dr. Christine Palmer, and the alwaysdependable Chiwetel Ejiofor plays the Master of Mystic Arts Karl Mordo, who becomes Strange's capable sidekick in the climactic battle against timeless evil. Said evil is delivered by Mads Mikklesen as Kaecilius, a fallen angel of the mystic realm.

This couch potato has been losing faith lately in the Marvel movies, because each new movie seems to be motivated by the mantra of "more noise and less story". Whether it's Captain America or Iron Man or even The Avengers franchise, the early stories are just more fun and less ponderous than the sundry sequels. With "Dr. Strange", Marvel has clearly set the stage for new movies starring this master of mysticism, and here's hoping that those future episodes will be as enjoyable as this initial installment.



ACC Activity Log

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

39 Rock Ridge Drive - Reroof

91 Juniper Hill Road – Window and Door Replacement

444 Live Oak Loop - Driveway Extension

514 Black Bear Loop – Photovoltaic Panel Installation

513 Roadrunner Lane – Replace Concrete Sections of Back Patio and Driveway

523 Black Bear Loop – Patio Cover

531 Roadrunner Lane – Stucco Repair

636 Cougar Loop – Parapet and Stucco Repair 688 Blackhawk Drive – Carport Addition with Deck

711-23 Tramway Place – Window and Door Replacement

725-11 Tramway Vista Drive - Reroof

801 Tramway Lane – Exterior Light Fixtures

1433 Honeysuckle Drive – Roof Repair

1701 Quail Run Court - Door Replacement

2303 Calle de Rafael Photovoltaic Panel Installation

12701 Carmel Court - Restucco

Visit the website: <u>www.sandiahomeowners.org</u> to read about all projects currently under ACC management.



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981 Antelope NE \$399,900 • MLS# 877627



12709 Colony Place NE \$329,900 • MLS# 884763

Pending & Sold in Sandia Heights!

Unique, Custom, SW Style Casa on private view lot. Breathtaking Sandia Mountain Vistas! Sunken greatroom w/custom Kiva style fireplace & curved Adobe walls, spacious kitchen w/raised T & G ceiling, 3 large bedrooms; Private MBR w/ custom Kiva style fireplace & curved Adobe walls, 2 baths, 2 car garage. Curved driveway, covered patio w/T & G ceiling & privacy wall w/Banco. Offered by Sharon McCollum

Heights, situated on a quiet, serene,

panoramic Sandia Mountain & city

or 2+study/office, Éat-in Country

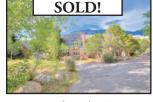
custom fireplace, Spacious MBR Retreat. Breathtaking city & sunset

Expansive

Offered by Sharon McCollum

Kitchen,

views!



1518 Eagle Ridge Terr NE \$599,900 • MLS# 843495



1484 Morning Glory Rd NE \$479,900 • MLS# 847878

One-of-a-Kind, Spacious Two Story Quality Custom on 1+/- Acre View Lot! Serene pond setting, 5 BR, Separate MBR, FLR, FDR, FR/entertainment area, Gourmet kitchen, view patios, 4 door/4 car carriage house garage, service room with desk. Walk in Pantry. Custom cherry cabinetry. Genuine hardwood flooring. Three custom fireplaces. Privacy, views, space! Offered by Sharon McCollum

Southwest Contemporary Custom, Partial Adobe, on a City & Mountain View Lot. Courtyard entry. 4 BR or 3+study/office; master with FP & private view deck, 3 baths, spacious greatroom, dining room, family room, gourmet country kitchen, butler's pantry, den, gazebo & an oversized 3 car garage. Panoramic vistas surround!

April 2017

Offered by Sharon McCollum

Sharon & Judson Sell Sandia Heights Homes

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1053 RED OAKS LP. NE



4,914 SQFT - 5 BR - 3 BA - 3 CG - .75 AC LOT

This stunning custom Parkwest Sandia Heights home offers 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 Living Areas + a Rec Room & Den, a Study, and a Loft off the Master Suite! The Kitchen is a Chef's dream! Featuring granite counters, beam celling, a large center island with a gas cook top, and tons of cabinet space for storage. Upstairs you will find the spacious Master Suite with a huge walk-in closet, a private covered balcony with stunning views of the Sandia Mountains & City Lights, as well as a spa like Master Bath. The spacious Family Room offers a Kiva fireplace, and opens to the Kitchen which is ideal for entertaining. The private backyard offers both covered and open patio space as well as unobstructed views of the Sandias.

Offered At: \$850,000

538 BLACK BEAR RD. NE



2,805 SQFT - 3 BR - 2 BA - 3 CG - .64 AC LOT

Absolutely stunning single level Sandia Heights custom Nick Garcia adobe home featuring a new membrane roof, stucco, and septic tank. This home offers breathtaking views of the Sandia Mountains from most rooms in the house. The kitchen has been very tastefully updated with Hanks House cabinets, granite and corian counters, a subzero fridge, built-in wine rack, and an adjacent morning room complete with a Kiva fireplace. Featuring brick floors throughout, as well as tons of storage. Huge flex space that would make a great office/study, exercise room, or even a home theater. Extremely private backyard w/ a sparkling in-ground pool as well as several patios for entertaining. The 3 car garage offers a work bench, & an adjacent potting room.

> UP TO FOUR FREE TRAM PASSES are available from me every day. Call early to reserve your passes, they are available on a first come, first served basis. Email or Call Greg Today! Greg@GregLobb.com or 505.269.GREG (4734)

1059 RED OAKS LP. NE



3,269 SQFT - 3-4 BR - 4 BA - 2 CG - .79 AC LOT Situated on a large, heavily wooded, premium view lot in Sandia Heights, you will find this custom, Santa Fe style home. The living room offers an expanse of windows that show off the 360° views, as well as bathe the room with natural sunlight. The updated kitchen boasts Jenn-Air appliances, beautiful granite, and ample cabinet and counter space. The owners' suite offers a custom kiva fireplace, a huge walk-in closet, a private courtyard with pond access, as well as an attached sitting room and workout room/office/nursery. Decks in every direction, a large covered patio, and a tranquil pond that runs from courtyard to courtyard are all perfect for taking in the beauty surrounding this home. This is Sandia Heights living at its finest.

176 BIG HORN RIDGE DR. NE



3,152 SQFT - 4 BR - 4 BA - 3 CG - .60 AC LOT Enter the home via the private courtyard with large fountain. Upon entry of the home you are immediately greeted by the luxurious Living Room, complete with gleaming hardwood floors. The large light/bright kitchen is located just off the Family Room, making entertaining a breeze. Features include a gas cook top with hood, large bar top, a butcher block center island, and a bright breakfast nook. The Master Suite offers lush carpeting, a separate sitting area with built in shelving, private access to the backyard. The backyard offers stunning views, fireplace and and a built-in BBQ.



Community Event Bulletin Board

None of these groups are sponsored by SHHA. Information is provided to keep residents informed.

Sandia Heights Artists: Call for artists! Interested Sandia Heights artists are invited to participate in the 14th annual Sandia Heights Artists' Studio Tour (September 9 & 10, 2017). Come to our April meeting – we'd love to welcome your participation. Call Nancy Matter 856-6313 or Marta Burckley 798-1765 for date, time and location. Check out our website at <u>www.sandiaheightsartists.com</u>



Do you have a child who loves to sing?

The New Mexico Symphonic Youth Chorus is holding auditions each month for young singers in Grades 4 through 12. Music Directors, Marilyn Thomas Bernard and Louise Loomis, are experienced music educators, who have been providing professional instruction and choral performance opportunities in Albuquerque for over 20 years. NMSYC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit division of the NM Symphonic Chorus. For general information, go to <u>www.nmsyouthchorus.org</u>. To schedule an audition, please call (505) 263-1445.



Holy Week and Easter Services for St. Chad's Episcopal Church, 7171 Tennyson Street NE

Tenebrae (Wednesday)	April 12	7 pm Service of Shadows
Maundy Thursday	April 13	7 pm with Foot Washing
Good Friday	April 14	Noon Stations of the Cross; 7 pm Liturgy with Passion
Easter Celebration	April 16	8 & 10 am Holy Eucharist



Announcements & Notices:

- Office hours: Monday Friday 9am 4pm.
- Board Meeting Wednesday, April 12th at 7pm in the SHHA office.
- Notary, copies and faxes, email alerts and contractor evaluation binder free to members.
- Committee meeting dates are posted on our website calendar: <u>www.sandiahomeowners.org</u>.
- 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. Cash or check.
- Tram Passes: for sale in the SHHA office. \$6 per ticket for members. Cash or check only.
- **SHHA membership cards:** remember to go to the website to get a full listing of the companies that offer a discount!

SHHA MEMBER BENEFITS:

Check out the entire SHHA Member Benefits Program and the discounts offered to SHHA members at <u>www.sandiahomeowners.org</u>, under the *Notice and Information* Tab. Each merchant participating in the Member Benefits Program offers a discount to SHHA members. The following is a list of participating merchants:

ABQ Dream Homes by Veronica Gonzales/ Keller Williams Realty Albuquerque Natural Health Center **About Face Medical Spa** Alarm Research Inc. Albuquerque Custom Tint and Glass **Avis/Budget Car and Truck Rental Balanced Physical Therapy & Wellness Blue Lotus Spa Service Bair Medical Spa Brown & Brown Insurance of NM Domino's Pizza Jade Enterprises** Lovely Nails and Day Spa Chiropractor, Mark L Schwartz DC **PCM Electrical Roofing USA**

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