

THE

GRIT

Sandia Heights Homeowners Association

Oct 2008

## President's Message by Sy Caudill

Have you ever wondered why we don't have "Neighborhood Watch" signs posted all over Sandia Heights? This occurred to me the other day as I was driving around and the only conclusion that I can come to is that there has not been a need for them in our area. I would suggest that one of the primary reasons we don't need them is the excellent security service provided by Sandia Heights Services. This service is provided by them, but at a cost to members subscribing to the service. If you subscribe, it is only a few dollars a month, then they will provide checks on your house when you are away, pick up the papers, respond to alarms, coordinate with the Sheriff's Department when an event occurs and respond to events such as wild animals or other unusual happenings. As I've mentioned before I was out of town, and at midnight my alarm company called and notified me of an alarm--now what to do? So with Sandia Heights Security cell number in my address book, I called and they checked the entire perimeter and notified me that it was a false alarm. Needless to say I felt much better and I didn't have to do one of those midnight calls to my neighbor to check on the house. I don't know where you can get such service at such a reasonable price. Those of us who subscribe receive the benefits of such service, but non-members do not. So please be sure to sign up before you need it. Those who are not members need to know that it is a separate service from your water bill charges and is

not included in your Sandia Heights Homeowners Association dues. Non-members may benefit as I have mentioned as we don't have to have "Neighborhood Watches" and a marked patrolling car provides some deterrent to crime for everyone. I would encourage each homeowner to take a look at your Sandia Heights Services bill and if you are not a member, please consider signing up for this great service. We all benefit and the only way to keep the patrol cars on the road is for all of us to support our local Security Patrol. Next time you see them in your area, wave, say hi and think about what you would do if your alarm company called while you were on vacation to notify you of an alarm at your home.

## Security Patrol Reminder

The Security Patrol would like to remind everyone 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.

In the upcoming autumn and winter months with our cooler mornings, don't "warm up" by leaving your vehicle unattended. There is a spike in auto thefts every year during these months in the Albuquerque area for this reason alone. If you must warm up your vehicle, lock it and use a secondary key to regain entry to your vehicle. ~ John Pickering

# What is a CIP Project?

~ Alyson Clark

The full name, Bernalillo County Infrastructure Capital Improvement Project, (CIP), refers to work projects designed to benefit the residents of Bernalillo County. They are administered by the Bernalillo County Board of County Commissioners and funded by General Obligation Bonds, Federal Grant and State Appropriations. Although SHHA may contribute seed money to a particular CIP project, as it did to Little Cloud and Jackson Parks, funding and project management basically do not come from SHHA. CIPs could also be for libraries, improvements, utility systems and roads.

The process for filing a CIP is described on the web page: [bernco.gov](http://bernco.gov), under A-Z Services, Capital Improvement Projects and then links in the right column. The CIP form has a place for the project description and parameters such as location, scope and expected benefits. You are not expected to know the cost. Although an individual resident may submit a CIP, the county prefers that requests be accompanied by evidence of "substantial neighborhood support." There is a county evaluation committee that prioritizes the CIP requests based upon various criteria. Applications for CIPs are taken every two years. SHHA does submit many CIP requests for improvements. A list of these requests is available at the SHHA office and has been published in the GRIT.

Another matter, Capital Outlay Funding, is important because it is paying for the resurfacing of various roads in Sandia Heights. The monies for road maintenance and other projects come from the State and are a result of work done by SHHA with our state legislators, with whom we meet

regularly. Capital Outlay is a slightly different process from the CIP activity although we duplicate the road resurfacing request in the CIP process.



## Letter to the Editor:

Let me start out by saying that I was a member of the San Rafael traffic committee several years ago tasked with the responsibility of coming up with the best solution to keep the streets safer for our residents. It was not an easy task, however we looked at traffic calming devices and the most effective that we were able to come up with were the speed humps.

Some residents were upset and some were quite pleased when they found out that the humps were going to be installed. Most of those that were upset were concerned with the response time of emergency vehicles. Although I found that hard to believe, as most of these people were longtime residents and moved into Sandia Heights to "get away" from the maddening crowd and thus had already distanced themselves from emergency services. I also noted that the majority of those that were against the speed humps did not live directly on one of the main thoroughfares into Sandia Heights such as Tramway Lane, Live Oak, San Rafael, etc, but rather off on one of the side streets. They did not have to deal with cars speeding past the front of their homes on a daily basis as the rest of us did.

Obviously, there is little concern by these dissenters for those of us and our children that live on these main thoroughfares.

~ Frank DiMaggio, Sandia Heights resident

## August 2008 Treasurer's Report ~ Ed Tull, Treasurer

CASH FLOW		ACCOUNT BALANCES	
		<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
<b>INFLOWS</b>		CD #2	\$37,042.21
ACC income	\$100.00	CD #3	\$15,364.33
Tram Pass Deposits	\$450.00	CD #4	\$103,845.77
GRIT Advertising	\$0.00	Money Market	\$3,503.36
Membership Dues	\$13,463.01	Checking	\$6,902.57
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>\$14,013.01</b>	Cash Accounts	\$2,615.43
		<b>Total Bank &amp; Cash</b>	<b>\$169,273.67</b>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>			
ACC	\$9.57	<b>ASSET ACCOUNTS</b>	
Community Service & Membership	\$4,227.50	Miscellaneous	\$1,379.21
Communications and Publications	\$2,468.93	Office Equipment	\$4,973.06
Executive Committee	\$377.88	Office Furniture	\$5,651.99
Insurance	\$677.00	Software	\$932.34
Parks & Safety	\$394.80	<b>TOTAL Asset Accounts</b>	<b>\$12,936.60</b>
Office Expense	\$8,997.89		
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$17,153.57</b>	<b>Liability Accounts</b>	
		Improvements & Legal Reserve	\$146,592.00
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$3,140.56</b>	<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$35,618.27</b>

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES:

- **Office hours:** Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm. Notary services free to members. Please make an appointment.
- The office will be closed on Monday, October 13, in observance of Columbus Day.
- SHHA Board Meeting – Wednesday, October 8 at 7pm in the SHHA Office.
- Committee meeting dates and times are posted on the website: [www.sandiahomeowners.org](http://www.sandiahomeowners.org) under the News and Information page.
- The Tram will be closed for maintenance from Friday, October 17 through Thursday, November 6. It reopens Friday, November 7 at noon.
- **Safety Vests for sale** in the SHHA office. \$2 per vest for members and \$4 per vest for non-members.





**Executive Committee**

President – Sy Caudill  
Vice President – Andy Anderson  
Secretary - Marsha Thole  
Treasurer – Ed Tull

**Board Members**

Phil Abshere  
Andy Anderson  
Kerney Bolton  
Bruce Childs  
Alyson Clark  
Frances Desonier  
Pete Heinstejn  
Jim Irving  
Phyllis Moore  
Suzanne L. Popejoy  
Burt O’Neil  
Mona Lee Schilling  
Steve Walsh  
Mike Winokur

**Office Staff**

Betsy Rodriguez –  
Administrative Assistant  
Sheraz Saint-Lôt –  
Administrative Assistant

**SHHA Office**

2-B San Rafael Avenue  
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](mailto:shha@sandiahomeowners.org)

**GRIT Editorial Policy is:**

- Attempt to publish both sides of every issue, including constructive criticism; no abusive or insulting remarks.
- Reserve the right to edit any submission.
- Not to print any unsigned letters or articles.



**Stats and more from the Sandia Heights Security Patrol**

Month of August Call Type	# of calls	Month of August Call Type	# of calls
Breaking & Entering	1	Suspicious person	25
Alarms	53	Suspicious vehicle	9
Car accident	3	Salesman Problem	4
Construction site burglary	1	Theft	3
Neighbor dispute	1	Utility Co. assist	4
Fireworks complaint	1	Special request	1
Fire	1	Customer assist	9
Front office	1	Dumped/spilled material	1
Lost/Found item	1	Parking problem	5
Lost/Found pet	2	Vandalism	3
Motorist assist	7	Wildlife report	4
Motorcycle nuisance	1	Newspaper pickup	18
Open door/window	2	Homeowners on vacation	235
Pet nuisance	3	Special patrol	21
Snake call	14		
Speeding Vehicle	1	<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>435</b>

If you have questions regarding these stats, please call Security at 856-6347. Security is a subscription service and is not included with membership in SHHA. Please call Security to confirm your membership with them.

**TRAM CLOSURE**

The Tram will be closed for maintenance from Friday, October 17 through Thursday, November 6. It reopens Friday, November 7, at noon.



Fall/Winter Tram hours: September 1 to May 25 9am to 8pm, except Tuesday: 5pm to 8pm.

SHHA has tram passes available through mid-November 2009. For details on how the tram passes work please go to the website: sandiahomeowners.org.

## Autumn Bear Alert

You may be aware that we had several bear sightings this summer in Sandia Heights. We had a pretty dry spring and natural food sources were meager, so the bears came down into our area looking for food. Two bears were trapped and relocated by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. This may sound like a good thing, but many people are unaware that this is often the beginning of the end for the bear. A trapped bear is tagged, and if it gets tagged two or sometimes three times it is destroyed. These bears are hungry and stressed, and if you release a stressed bear in a different mountain range, it is not likely to survive an attack by the dominant bear in that area. Some displaced bears try to return to their home territory and will die crossing highways. It's a pretty harsh fate for a bear that is only looking for food. It's our responsibility not to leave food accessible to bears.



Now, late summer and early autumn, the bears are becoming eating machines. They're biologically programmed to eat as much as they can in preparation for their long winter nap. We have had pretty good rain this summer and the acorns should be plentiful. But because bears need to gain so much weight before they den, they might venture down into our neighborhood looking for food – especially if they have found easy food here before. Here's what you can do to keep bears from becoming habituated and thus becoming problem bears:

- Keep all garbage in your garage.
- Put garbage out only on the morning of your trash pickup day.
- Don't 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.

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 there and will always investigate them for food. We're 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 don't do anything to unintentionally feed 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.**



**ATTENTION - ATTENTION!!**  
October is the first month that the SHHA GRIT publication will be posted on our web site. Be sure to go to our URL address <http://www.sandiahomeowners.org> and read the history-making GRIT online. Enjoy all the benefits of the internet and view the GRIT in color. This is an alpha version and has only internal links. Each month will see additional improvements. To this end, we are interested in any comments. Send your comments via e-mail to: [shha@sandiahomeowners.org](mailto:shha@sandiahomeowners.org).

## ACC Activity Log

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

15 Juniper Hill Loop – Re-stucco. Approved

67 Pinon Hill Place – Repair & re-stucco wall. Approved

80 Juniper Hill Place – Replace fence with wall, add garage bay. Approved with conditions

82 Juniper Hill Place – Landscaping. Approved

112 White Oaks Drive – Convert fence to free-standing wall, replace doors, re-stucco. Approved

164 Juniper Hill Road – Landscaping. Approved

549 Black Bear Road – Replace windows. Approved

553 Black Bear Road – Replace windows. Approved

726-33 Tramway Vista Drive – Awning. Approved

736 Tramway Lane – Replace windows & doors. Approved

760-10 Tramway Lane – Paint house and free-standing walls. Approved

760-12 Tramway Lane – Refinish garage door. Approved

793-795 Tramway Lane – Replace entrance signage. Approved

992 Lynx Loop – Rebuild façade & build patio. Approved

1117 Rockrose Road – Photovoltaic energy system. Approved

1456 Bluebell Drive – Replace roof. Approved

1541 Eagle Ridge Place – Canales. Approved

1918 Quail Run Drive – Replace roof & landscaping. Approved

1925 Quail Run Drive – Replace windows. Approved

1926 Quail Run Drive – Replace roof & re-stucco. Approved

2028 Quail Run Drive – Walls. Approved

2307 Calle de Rafael – Replace garage door. Approved

2714 Tramway Circle – Replace window glass. Approved

2829 Tramway Circle – Replace roof, re-stucco. Approved

7722 Cedar Canyon Court – Add window. 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.*



## Community Events Bulletin Board

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

### **Sandia Heights 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Artist Studio Tour**

**Saturday and Sunday, October 25 and 26, 2008 1-5 pm**

Featuring works in watercolor, acrylics, oils, stained glass, gourds, fabric and mixed media. All Sandia Heights residents and their guests are welcome. Maps of the tour will be available in October at the Sandia Heights Homeowners Association office. For more information: [www.sandiahomeowners.org](http://www.sandiahomeowners.org) click on the News/Information tab and scroll down to view the two pages.

The Festival of Trees kicks off the Albuquerque Holiday Season with a display of 100 trees and wreaths elaborately decorated by Albuquerque's top designers to benefit the more than 22,000 Carrie Tingley Hospital special needs children from across New Mexico.

The event begins with a Gala on Friday, November 21, where the sponsored trees will be auctioned off. All proceeds go to the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation. The Festival of Trees will be on display, free to the public, from November 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites Hotel. If you would like to purchase tickets to the Gala or sponsor a tree, please call Kate Honegger at 797-1292.



### **Sandia Heights Wildflower Club**

The Sandia Heights Wildflower Club cordially invites you to attend the November 19, 2008 meeting featuring Tish Resnik as the guest speaker. Tish is the new owner of Great Outdoors Nursery, 10408 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW. She will speak on special features and services of the Nursery, including living Christmas trees, fountain rocks, native and unusual plants, gift shop. The meeting will be held at SHWC President Dan and Jacqué Caudillo's home at 2744 Tramway Circle NE (tel. 856-6617) at 7:30 pm. Prospective members and guests are always welcome.

Future events for the Sandia Heights Wildflower Club:

January 21, 2009	Meeting
March 18, 2009	Meeting
May 16, 2009	Progressive Dinner
June 13, 2009	Garden Walk



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

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## **PHOTO CONTEST!**

We are accepting entries for our annual photo contest for the 2009 Sandia Heights Resident Directory. Submissions are due to the SHHA office by November 15. If you are the lucky winner, your photo will be featured on the cover of the 2009 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 2008 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 the photo.

All entries may be picked up at the office once the Directory is published. Be creative and good luck!

