

SEHNA

Fall 2005

“Serving the Ridgcrest and Hyder Park areas of the Old Southeast Heights”

What is a Neighborhood Association?

A neighborhood association is formed within formal boundaries and is established to respond to current and future issues affecting that segment of the community. Through interaction with its members, residents and the city, a neighborhood association strives to uphold good planning, protect the environment, and promote the community welfare. Membership is open to all persons residing within an association’s boundaries, and to all legal entities owning property or having a place of business with its boundaries. It is a neighborhood association’s responsibility to attempt to inform its members and other eligible participants of issues for discussion. *[Exerts from www.cabq.gov/planning/nbrcoord/manager.html]*

The boundaries of the Southeast Heights Neighborhood Association (see map below) encompass 1500 residents of which approximately 200 have active memberships. SEHNA communicates with its members through the annual newsletter and meeting, but has found that the most effective and efficient means of communication is through the SEHNA website and email. We currently have a listing of 100 SEHNA residents to which we email information on current issues as they arise. We would like to invite each of you to join this email listing and to become active members of the neighborhood association. We also encourage you to contact your association board on issues of concern, and to join the SEHNA board and your neighbors in making the Southeast Heights a safe, beautiful, and welcoming community.

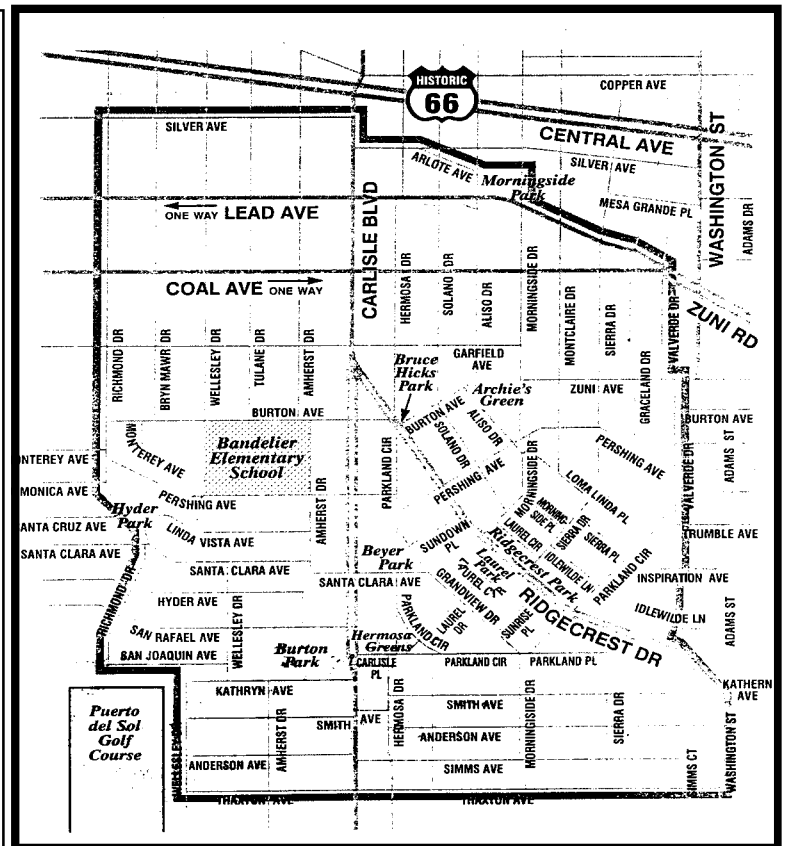
Membership dues are primarily used to cover the costs of printing and mailing of flyers and newsletters. The garage sale revenues and additional contributions from SEHNA residents are used to pay for the holiday luminarias.

Annual Meeting

September 20 @ 6:00 pm
Bandelier Elementary School

Main Focus
Mayoral Candidate Forum

Other agenda items:
SEHNA Board
Board Elections
Business Meeting



Message from the SEHNA President

In this first year that I have been president of your neighborhood association, most of my time has been spent addressing issues of zoning and neighborhood development. There has been a long standing policy of the SEHNA Board to discourage construction that is not in keeping with the City's Zoning Ordinances. Most of the requests we receive for variances to these ordinances are from home owners wanting to build a solid wall in their front yard within required setback. The SEHNA Board once again visited the issue of construction in the front yard setbacks in the neighborhood and reaffirmed its position. It is the intention of the Board to uphold the City Zoning Ordinance on walls and fences over 3 feet high within the setback in the front of homes. Therefore we continue to oppose variances, special exceptions, or conditional use requests. We do this in the spirit of keeping the historical nature of our neighborhood which was designed with broad avenues and houses with a primary orientation toward the street.

However, the reasons for doing this are more than aesthetic: An important element of a good neighborhood is defensibility and the residents' ability to watch activities that occur in the public spaces. Self-surveillance creates safer neighborhoods. Neighborhoods with private active living spaces with a view of the street activity require less martial resources and promote legal activities on the streets. The tall walls facing the street prohibit self surveillance, put the legal activities behind walls, and leave the streets unwatched and consequently less safe. In the same vein, tall walls create a complete visual barrier conducive to burglaries and other undesirable activities while one's neighbors would be unable to see or respond appropriately. Tall walls provide spaces behind which people can hide. Tall walls disturb the sight lines and views down the streets.

Properties in our neighborhood do not generally have special circumstances that would justify a wall height variance. We could understand extenuating situations that may warrant consideration such as houses at intersections of major streets, houses where streets terminate resulting in headlights shining directly in the front windows, or houses subject to constant loud noises abutting commercial or industrial uses. Please consider these concepts when contemplating modifications to your home and let's keep our neighborhood safe and a matter of design.

Southeast Heights Neighborhood Association
John Quinn Pate, President

Great Things are Happening at Bandelier!

Bandelier is pleased to announce our designation as a Community School. This affiliation with the City of Albuquerque Department of Family and Community Services, will allow extended hours of accessibility to the Bandelier facility after school hours, in the evenings and on weekends. Groups wishing to use our space should contact Glenda Armstrong Asst. Principal, 255-8744 or Armstrong@aps.edu. The facility is available for group meetings and activities, but not for private parties. Interested parties would come to the school to submit a building usage request, which is then approved by APS Finance Dept. Usually, there is no charge if the event is community oriented and not a fund raiser.

Construction of our new kindergarten building should begin in October. To our knowledge these new classrooms will be the first addition of classroom space built at Bandelier since the construction of the east wing in the 60's. Having a new kindergarten building, along with our new gym, will not only modernize our facility, but allow our kindergartners for the first time to enjoy cooking and other experiential learning activities which are offered in the newer schools throughout the city.

Many thanks to former City Councilor Hess Yntema and incumbent Counselor Martin Heinrich for the new playground equipment on the Charlie Jones Soccer field. The playground will open in early October. Counselor Heinrich is also sponsoring funds in the October election for shade and seating structures around the field. We urge you to **support the Parks & Recreation bond on October 4.**

Thank you for your support of "our little school." Principal Dennis and I are honored to have the privilege of working in the community in which we live and love.

Glenda Armstrong, Bandelier Assistant Principal

A Note from Martin Heinrich, District 6 City Councilor

Thank you, neighbors, for the ongoing privilege to represent you as your City Councilor. As your elected representative, I have championed a great deal of legislation including bills aimed at mandating renewable energy standards for government buildings, addressing convenience store safety, exempting hybrid vehicles from parking meter fees, regulating the sale of products containing pseudoephedrine (used in producing methamphetamines), purchasing vulnerable open space in the Sandia Foothills, and incorporating high-bandwidth technology into Albuquerque's new development. I was disappointed that our Fair Wage initiative was not approved at the City Council level but I am pleased that a citywide petition drive has placed it on the October 4th ballot for the citizens of Albuquerque to decide.

In regard to funding for improvements in the Southeast Heights area, we are working hard to make improvements that bring our parks up to the kind of quality that our neighborhood deserves. These improvements include the replacement of old garbage cans, benches and playground equipment. We are also working to redo the San Mateo / Gibson intersection, which I know many of you pass through regularly. I was also able to secure funding to initiate a community-based process for updating the Nob Hill Sector Plan (which includes a significant portion of the Southeast Heights Neighborhood Association boundaries), a plan which was last redone in 1987. We have already made significant progress in the area by completing the Central-Highland-Upper Nob Hill Metropolitan Redevelopment Plan and I would like to thank Norm Gagne for his great work in facilitating that agreement. Following in the direction of the Metropolitan Redevelopment Area plan, the Nob Hill Sector Plan will provide the teeth necessary (zoning regulations, design guidelines, etc.) to enact our collective vision for our community's future. I hope that each of you will become involved in the process, much of which will be facilitated by Southeast Heights Neighborhood Association board member Phyllis Taylor with Sites Southwest. As our process begins later this Fall, we will work hard to ensure that the entirety of our community is invited to take part in the update.

Finally, congratulations to our SE Heights Sirolli Project team! Representing the many neighborhoods in District 6, our area's response to a citywide Request for Qualifications won funding to bring a Sirolli Enterprise Facilitation project to District 6, a program that will offer free professional business advice to small businesses throughout our district. A large community kickoff will take place on October 5th, 2005 at 6:30PM in the African America Pavilion of the State Fairgrounds - and this project will undoubtedly bring a fresh community-oriented model of economic development to our district for years to come.

At Your Service, Martin Heinrich, Albuquerque City Council

Off Leash Dog Parks Update

The Parks and Recreation Department in coordination with Department of Municipal Development staff have been concentrating on installing fenced off leash dog areas in parks where neighborhood associations are actively supporting this activity. The following has occurred:

- USS Bullhead – fenced area of existing developed park
- Los Altos – fenced area of existing developed park
- Santa Fe Village – in construction for fenced area of existing developed park
- Coronado (east) - in design for fenced area of existing developed park (eastern portion only)
- Westgate Community Park – in design for fenced area NEW park development (early 2006)
- North Domingo Baca Park – in design for fenced area NEW park development (summer 2006)
- San Antonio Corridor Park – in design for fenced area NEW park development (unfunded)
- Montessa Park (Open Space) - LARGE area fenced for dogs off leash – 25 acres

Last spring the city asked SEHNA to consider having the north side of Burton Park converted into a fenced dog park. However, after meeting with several residents surrounding Burton Park and the SEHNA Board, the city is no longer considering Burton Park nor any park within SEHNA's boundaries as a fenced dog park. However, the option to allow for HOURS for dogs off leash can still be pursued.

The Off Leash Dog Location Committee will continue to dialog with Neighborhood Associations to identify both fenced areas and HOURS option.

Nominees for SEHNA Board 2006-2007

There are five SEHNA members who have been nominated for positions on the SEHNA Board. Four are returning board members (Phyllis Taylor, Glenda Armstrong, Yvette Narath and Debbie Stover) and one new nominee (Dona Upson). Dona Upson has been nominated to fill the position opened with the resignation of Norm Gagne. We wish to thank Norm for many years of dedication and hard work!

Yvette Narath is a native of Albuquerque and lives in the Southeast Heights with her husband and two children who attend Bandelier. As a walker and a mother, Yvette is very interested in keeping our neighborhood safe and maintaining its wonderful sense of community. She plans to spend many years in this neighborhood sitting on her front patio drinking her morning coffee and visiting with her neighbors as they walk by. Professionally, Yvette has helped hundreds of people finance homes that create neighborhoods such as ours.

Debbie Stover is a native of Albuquerque and has lived at her current address for 11 years with her husband, Frank Roth. She has raised four children who attended Bandelier, Wilson, and Highland, all currently living within SEHNA. She works for the Office of the State Engineer as the Drought Programs Manager and prior to that worked for the City of Albuquerque as a Planner. She represents District 6 as a commissioner on the Environmental Planning Commission and has served on SEHNA for the past year. She wants to be a part of the SEHNA board in order to help the neighborhood as it transitions in terms of upkeep and redevelopment. She has a special interest in traffic issues, home owner occupancy, median landscapes and safety.

Phyllis Taylor has been a resident of the Southeast Heights neighborhood since 1987. She is an urban planner and a principal of Sites Southwest, a planning and landscape architecture consulting firm. Phyllis has served on the board for four years and as treasurer of the association for the past three years.

Glenda Armstrong and husband Dan have been long time residents of the Southeast Heights. They are the proud parents of Krista, Daniel, Sarah and Amanda. Glenda has been an educator with the Albuquerque Public Schools for over 20 years, an involved community member and currently serves as the Assistant Principal at Bandelier.

Dona Upson is a Pulmonary and Critical Care (ICU) physician at the VA hospital and an Associate Professor of Medicine at UNM. She has lived in the neighborhood for 11 years. She wants to serve on the SEHNA Board because she cares deeply about the community and wants to help keep the area a great place to live. Dr. Upson has been active in local and state advocacy efforts, particularly regarding tobacco dependence, and worked toward passage of the clean indoor air ordinance for Albuquerque. She ran for City Council 2 years ago.

SEHNA BOARD 2005

John Pate, President	255-2984
Richard Macpherson, VP.....	254-3582
Phyllis Taylor, Treasurer	268-6003
Mary Carter, Secretary	265-4911
Mary Jane Willis	266-2374
Norm Gagne	255-2092
Glenda Armstrong	265-5268
Yvette Narath	256-1562
Debbie Stover.....	266-3144
Norm Gagne	255-2092

Committees:

Mike Klinkmann, Coalition of University Neighborhoods
Debi Dodge, Luminarias
Kim Armano, Planned Growth Strategy
Mary Carter, Wesite
Mary Jane Willis, memberships/newsletter

Traffic Concerns in the Southeast Heights

The main focus of last year's annual meeting was safety. This topic brought up several comments and concerns about *speeding* on the streets within SEHNA. In response to these concerns, the board contacted the city with a request to study specific streets to determine if traffic calming measures would be appropriate. Below are the results of these studies [letter dated February 6, 2005]

- Pershing SE, from Carlisle to Richmond: Studies did not find traffic calming needed at this time.
- Burton SE, from Carlisle to Richmond: Studies found this area qualified for speed humps. However, it is number 275 on a priority list of 336.
- Ridgcrest Drive SE, from Carlisle to Gibson: The segment between Carlisle and Kathryn is a major street that does not qualify for traffic calming. Enforcement is only alternative. Studies found that the segment from Kathryn to Gibson does qualify for speed humps. It is number 75 on the priority list. It may be several years before this area is addressed.
- Parkland Circle SE, from Carlisle to Ridgcrest: studies found this area qualified for speed humps. However, it is number 192 on the priority list.
- Carlisle SE, from Coal to Gibson: This is a major street that does not qualify for traffic calming. Enforcement is only alternative.
- Valverde SE, from Zuni to Ridgcrest: This street already has speed humps. These are the calming devices chosen by the residents along this street.

Streets around Hyder Park: None of these streets qualify for traffic calming at this time.

For a street to qualify for speed humps, it must be determined *that the 85th percentile speed is above 30 mph. The 85th percentile speed is the speed that 85% of the vehicles are traveling at or below.* The city's evaluations have determined that the effectiveness of speed humps that have been installed reduce the 85th percentile speed to about 30 mph. According to Ron Hassett, Manager of Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, there are currently 400 street locations that qualify for speed humps and those with the biggest problems are being addressed first.

When a street segment comes to the top of the list for speed hump installation, the city will send out a mail-in survey to the residents that live along that section or roadway. If 60% or more of the surveys *returned* agree, then speed humps are installed.

SEHNA Yard Sale

June 25 was a beautiful, hot summer day for a garage sale. It was another successful year. We made a good start on this year's luminaria fund.

The SEHNA Board extends our THANKS to all who donated and to those who purchased. We also thank Bandelier for providing a cool, comfortable space in the school gymnasium.

Think of us again next year before you throw out those "unwanted" items.

Luminaria Contributions

If you would like to help out with this year's Luminaria fund, please send your contribution to
SEHNA
P.O. Box 8711
Albuquerque, NM 87198

Make checks payable to SEHNA.
Please enclose a note indicating that it is for the 2005 Luminarias.

Hyder Park Update

Hyder Park volunteers Millie Barnhart, Michael Lentz, and Kathy Haaland have been working with Michelle Herrera, the city's park volunteer coordinator. The group has addressed issues such as trash pickup, maintenance of older trees, and tree care for the new trees (the importance of adequate watering and trunk damage prevention). Michelle has been very responsive to all issues and is currently working with John Garcia on planting new trees that will be more resilient to the growing conditions within Hyder Park. These new trees will replace some of the younger trees that have died or were damaged. New plantings are scheduled for this fall. Additional park volunteers for all of SEHNA's parks are needed to "keep an eye on" the parks so that problems can be identified and remedied quickly. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Michelle Herrera (mherrera@cabq.gov).

Holly Adams, Realtor

Coldwell Banker Legacy

Nob Hill Specialist

Call me at 450-2981 for
a free market analysis

Just Sold!

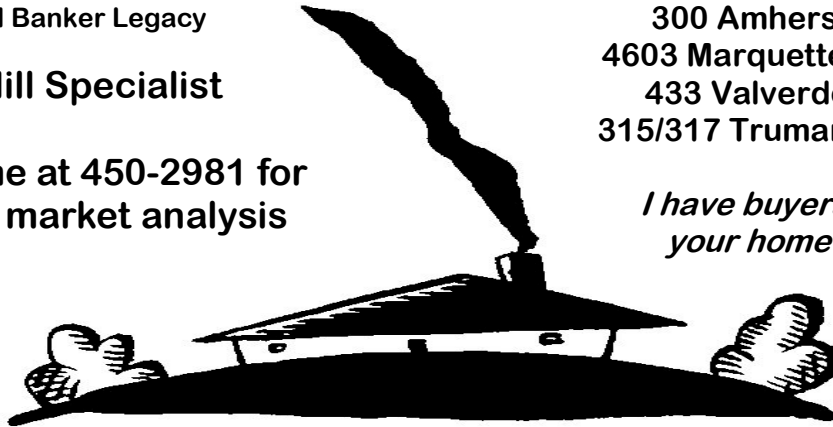
300 Amherst SE

4603 Marquette NE

433 Valverde SE

315/317 Truman SE

*I have buyers for
your home too!*



Search for homes @ www.hollyasellshomes.com

October 4th Election Bonds

To learn more about the various
Bonds that are on the
October 4th ballot,
visit

[www.cabq.gov/cip/
questions.html](http://www.cabq.gov/cip/questions.html)



Website

Learn more about SEHNA

Visit the SEHNA website

www.sehna.org

To receive news and updates about SEHNA,
send an email to mjwillis@comcast.net, subject

SEHNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Date _____

New Membership

Renewed Membership

Learn more about SEHNA

www.sehna.org

- Household (\$10.00)
 Apartment Complex Owner or Business (\$25.00)

For more information contact
Mary Jane Willis, 266-2374

Make checks payable to SEHNA.

Clip and mail this form along with your check to:
SEHNA Membership, P.O. Box 8711, Alb. NM 87198