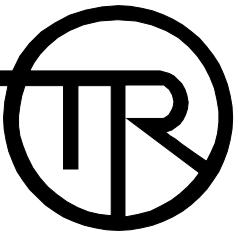


MESA MESSENGER



Newsletter of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Vol 30 No. 1 Jan. 2009

"Our mission is to promote, preserve, and improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch" ~ TRNA Bylaws



President's Message

Patsy Rippo, President,
TRNA

Hello My Friends,

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and the New Year brings you health and happiness.

We had our TRNA Holiday Luncheon at the Whisque Grill. It was a great affair with a terrific turn out. Brett Lopez did such a nice job of putting the luncheon together. Kudos buddy.

City Councilor Michael Cadigan held his "District 5 Winter Meeting" at the Taylor Ranch Community Center. It was a very positive event with a number of guest speakers including Commander Steve Warfield of the APD.

Gary Gudell is still looking for additional volunteers for the Taylor Ranch Civilian Patrol. Please read his article in this newsletter. He is only one man. He can't do it by himself. We need to support him and help him increase the number of people doing patrols.

And as a reminder... Please check the expiration year on the mailing label of this issue of the Mesa Messenger. If your membership expired December 2008, you need to renew now as to not miss the next issue.

Please remember... "Our mission is to promote, preserve and improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch". The larger our membership, the more successful our mission will be. Don't be shy, ask a friend or neighbor to join.

Thank you, Patsy Rippo. ®

Crime Prevention Update

Gary Gudell, Director, APD Liaison

I wish you all, our friends and neighbors, a very Healthy and Happy Holiday.

As you know, the TRNA Civilian Patrol is a volunteer effort to prevent crime within our boundaries. Two

persons drive through our community for a two-hour shift, identifying problems and notifying home owners or the police of the problems, as appropriate. The presence of the vehicle with an identifying sign and flashing yellow light lets folks know someone is watching. Volunteers are asked to take at least 2 shifts per month.

APD requires that at least one of the two persons patrolling must be certified by APD. The next Civilian Patrol certification class will be held at the Police Academy off Montaño on 2nd street on January 24th, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

The class is not limited To Taylor Ranch, it is for the whole City. There is no cost for the training.

If you wish to take the training class for Civilian Patrol, contact APD by e-mail or phone, preferably by e-mail, to register.

E-mail: pgelabert@cabq.gov. (Pete Gelabert) or
wjackson@cabq.gov (William Jackson) or

Phone: 839- 6424

Include in your e-mail: Full name, home address, phone number and that you belong to the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association.

You may also contact me for additional information: 710-5191.

I am hoping for a good turn-out for the class in January from Taylor Ranch. Lets show the rest of the city that we really care about Crime Prevention!!

Keep up the good work and thanks! Gary Gudell. ®

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Beautification News

Don MacCornack, Director, Beautification

Hope everyone had a great Christmas and a happy and safe New Years. If one of your New Years resolutions was to become more involved in your local community, please consider helping with the park cleanup. It only takes an hour or so, once a month and you will feel great afterwards. I want to thank everyone who helped make the park beautification project a success last year.

Our next park cleanup is scheduled for **January 17th** at 9:00 am at the Mariposa Basin Park entrance. Trash bags and gloves will be provided. This park is used by many in our community, so we need to keep it beautiful. Please come out and make some new friends. ☺

Land Use Update

Rene Horvath, Director, Land Use

This month was very busy and it doesn't seem to be slowing down any time soon.

1. La Orilla/ Wal-Mart/ Bernalillo County Commission Appeal hearing/ Feb. 24th: The County planning Commission heard all four appeals on Dec. 3rd. The appeals case began at 10:00am and lasted for three hours. All four appellants did a good job presenting their case. At least 20 people showed up from the Taylor Ranch community, and they also presented very good testimony. Testimony included that the 1994 SU permit was approved illegally, the conditions placed on the SU permit are not being followed, the Coors Corridor and the Westside Strategic Plan adopted by the City and County plans are not being followed. The public asked why concerns over the impacts to the neighborhood were being ignored, and why only minimal conditions were placed on the site plan. They also asked questions related to traffic concerns and the design of the La Orilla roadway. The County attorney told the Commissioners they did not have to answer. Some of the Commissioners did seem sympathetic but relied on the County attorney for his recommendation.

At the end of the hearing the County Planning Commission voted to uphold the Zoning Administrator's decision. All four groups: (Alban Hills, Rio Oeste, Taylor Ranch, and the Campbell's) are now in the process of appealing the CPC decision. **The next hearing before the Board of County Commissioners is currently scheduled for February 24th at 5:30 pm at the City Council Chamber at One Civic Plaza. We need Taylor Ranch residents to show up, we encourage you to attend. A petition opposing the site plan is being distributed. If you are interested in signing the petition or collecting signatures, please call me at 898-2114.** Also, take time to

write letters expressing your concerns to the County Commissioners. Mr. Alan Armijo is Chairman of the County Commissioners.

2. Sun Cal/ EPC: The EPC approved Sun Cal's development proposal on December 18th. The development is located along the southern portion of Petroglyph National Monument, near 98th street and I-40. The proposal was deferred several times in the last year because the City Planner continually expected Sun Cal to either revise their plans or provide more specific detail about their plans. Ultimately, the planner recommended approval if 34 conditions were incorporated into the plan. It took 8 hours for the EPC to review and discuss all the conditions. Four people gave public testimony. The National Park Service gave testimony about which areas in the project should have single loaded streets (houses facing the Monument instead of backing up to it.) The Park Service also expressed concern about soil erosion and drainage issues along the border of the monument. The Park Service recommended that each housing development proposed adjacent to their boundary be reviewed and approved by the Park Service before it is presented to the DRB (Development Review Board). The Park Service is very concerned about erosion problems that could occur not only to the Monument but also to future development. The Park Service also supported having trails near the single loaded residential streets to keep residents on the trails and away from archeological sites.

The TRNA representative testified that walled communities are dominating the Westside landscape. Walled communities are making the Westside look monotonous with large houses on small lots displaying the same look and setback, they lack attractive architectural design and variation. This type of development should be avoided next to the National Monument. More effort should be focused on designing the development to preserve the natural landscape. Developments near the Sandia Mountain have accomplished this. This kind of development would blend better with the natural landscape of the Monument and custom homes could be built to provide more variety. Sun Cal came into this meeting proposing 2,417 housing units. One year ago their proposal was for 1,500. Keeping density levels to no more than 1,500, would allow a more natural, contoured landscape to exist. The EPC compromised and allowed 1,600 units. Other TRNA comments included setting aside land for commercial/ office development between the two proposed parks along the main arterial (Tierra Pintada). This would allow desperately needed services for the community, rather than adding only houses to an already saturated residential area.

(Continued from page 2)

Neighborhood commercial in the Taylor Ranch area has been very beneficial and convenient for the residents of the Taylor Ranch community. Unfortunately, no commercial zoning was approved.

Two gentlemen from neighborhood associations in the area of the proposed development testified that they had a good relationship with Sun Cal, and that Sun Cal representatives attend many of their meetings. They supported the development proposal as it was and took a vote at their neighborhood association to have no commercial development across the street from them.

I should point out that two and a half years ago Sun Cal organized a Charette, or community workshop, promoting new urbanism style development that would be a very walkable, sustainable, and very sensitive to the Monument. As it turns out we ended up with more of the same type of walled community. On the positive side, the development will have a bigger landscape buffer of 50-75 feet along Tierra Pintada and Arroyo Vista Blvds. It will also have some single loaded streets along the Monument and be limited to 1600 dwelling units. Although Sun Cal did not want to be prevented from having gated communities, the

EPC stipulated that there would not be any gated communities except for the Country Club/Community Center. Architecture will be Northern New Mexico, Territorial, and/or Pueblo styles. The EPC ended the hearing for this case at midnight.

3. Lee's Bosque: Located on the east side of Coors Blvd. between Bosque Meadows road and the Goodwill shopping center. Lee's Bosque was to be reviewed by the EPC December 18th, but ran out of time to be heard. The proposal is to build 41 town homes on the 7-acre site zoned R-D. The applicant wants to change the zoning to SU-1 for PRD (Planned Residential Development). The reason for the zone change request is to allow deviation from the zoning code requirements. The applicant has requested reduced setbacks, lot widths, and street widths. This allows them to vary the layout of the subdivision. They also requested a variance in parking requirements, and to build a few two story homes. The planner would like all the building heights to comply with the Coors Corridor view regulations. So far there is no opposition to the town homes. TRNA would like the project to turn out well, have enough common space for the occupants, follow the

(Continued on page 4)



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January 24, 2009

January 31, 2009

9:00 - 11:00 am

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Suzie Castilleja at
Bosque School, 898-6388*

Call for a free
information packet or
to schedule a visit.

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DEADLINE**
FEBRUARY 6, 2009

Join us for a
Bosque School
Information Session
Tuesday, January 13, 2009

(Continued from page 3)

view regulations in the Coors Corridor plan and keep the natural landscaping along Coors. TRNA will also recommend setting aside space at the northern end of the project to eventually provide future road access to the shopping center to the north, in the event the City should sell their two-acre site. The case will be heard in January by the EPC.

4. Coors Corridor Plan Update: The Coors Corridor

Plan update has come up again. On December 16th, the City Planning department held a small group meeting in their conference room to give an introduction to what they have drafted so far. A few representatives from the west-side neighborhoods and from the development community were able to attend. Tim Tetherow from Denver, who was hired by the city to come up with new view regulations, gave a slide presentation of the proposed view analysis along Coors Blvd. There was a lot of discussion and disagreement over how the current regulations are being interpreted by the development community versus the neighborhoods. There is also disagreement between the neighborhoods and the development community over whether the required 15 ft. to 35 ft. landscape buffer along Coors can include a subdivision wall in the middle of it. It was a lively debate.

Currently, there is no draft of the new Coors Corridor plan to review. The meeting introduced some of the changes that will be proposed, mainly pertaining to the views regulations. Only concepts were presented, no specific view regulations. The City is proposing a 30/70 percent rule, which looks very similar to their last proposal in 2007. The focus of this new rule is to preserve a view of the upper portion of the mountain, instead of the current regulation that maintains a panoramic view of the mountain, bosque, and city. The development community feels the proposed new view regulations might work better but is still too restrictive. They would like a draft plan to review before they decide. I've been told that developers have a right to develop their land and the current view regulations are restricting them from doing so. TRNA maintains that the current regulations still allow development and has worked well in the past. This is evident along Coors, where the older developments preserved the views much better compared to the new developments that haven't. The view regulations force the development community to put more thought into how they designed their development to protect views by placing limitations on the height of structures. They can still build if they follow the regulations in the existing Coors Corridor Plan approved in 1984. City Planner, Jon Messier, who was one of the original planners who worked on the 1984 Coors

Corridor Plan has been preparing the draft of the revised plan. He will be retiring on December 31, 2008. City Planner, Carmen Marrone, will be in charge of the plan in the future. We should be hearing more about the Coors Corridor Plan in 2009.

If anyone wishes additional information on any of these issues, call me at 898-2114. Rene Horvath ☎

APS/CNM Election February 3rd

(Taken from the County Clerk's website)

Voter Registration for the APS/CNM election ended on Tuesday, January 6 at 5:00pm. To update your voter registration, contact the County Clerk at 468-1291 or clerk@bernco.gov.

Absentee voting for the February 3, 2009 APS/CNM election will be conducted as follows:

Request an **Absentee Ballot Application**. Applications Ballot Applications may be requested from the County Clerk via: **Phone:** (505) 468-1291 **Email:** clerk@bernco.gov **Fax:** (505) 768-4631 **In Person:** 1 Civic Plaza, NW – 6th Floor **Mail:** PO Box 542, Albuquerque, NM 87103-0542

Ballots will be mailed to voters who have returned a complete absentee ballot application.

Absentee In Person voting for the February 3, 2009 APS/CNM election will be conducted 8:00—5:00, Mon.—Fri. from Jan. 9th through Jan. 30th at 2 locations:

- 1) Clerk's Office Annex Downtown : 620 Lomas, NW
- 2) APS City Center: 6400 Uptown Blvd., NE

Election Day will be February 3, 2009. Voting will occur at one of 134 consolidated precincts in Bernalillo and Sandoval County. A complete listing of Consolidated precincts/polling locations can be found on the internet at:

http://www.bernco.gov/upload/images/clerk/aps_cnm_2009_consolidated_polling_locations.pdf

Check with the Bernalillo County Clerk for more information: 468-1291 or clerk@bernco.gov . ☎

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Michael & Lily Andrews

High School Scholarships

Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association is now accepting scholarship applications from high school seniors who reside within our neighborhood association boundaries. Each spring TRNA awards \$500 scholarships to community-service-minded students planning to continue their studies at a college, university, or post-secondary school in the fall.

The application form is on page 6. Deadline to submit the application, along with two letters of recommendation, is March 1, 2009. You can also add an additional page of information you think would help your chances of being granted one of the scholarships. ®

Thanks for Your Membership!

Just by being a member, you strengthen our representation to City, County, and State governments. Whether you just stay informed or whether you share your ideas, help plan an event, get involved in a project, or help on a committee, your membership matters. If you have already renewed for 2009, thank you very much! If not, please renew today. We need you! You can save money and reduce our processing time and errors by renewing for multiple years. You might also consider giving one of your members a gift membership. For more information, contact our membership chair, Patsy Rippo, at 306-2244 membership@trna.org or the membership database administrator, Ceil van Berkel, at 899-2738 ®

KEEP THIS GUY OUT OF YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!



Help us deter, observe, and report possible criminal activity in Taylor Ranch. Eyes, ears, a car, and only 2 hours a month are all that is needed to help us make Taylor Ranch a safer place to live.

JOIN THE **TAYLOR RANCH CITIZEN PATROL**

Organized by the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association

Call **710-5191** or **412-5141** for more information

2009 TRNA Scholarship Application

Application Deadline: March 1, 2009

Applicants for the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association's \$500 Scholarship must meet all four of the following criteria:

- 1) Reside within the boundaries of the Association (north/south boundaries: Paseo del Norte and Western Trail; east/west boundaries: Rio Grande and West Mesa Escarpment);
- 2) Submit this completed Scholarship Application form and two (2) letters of recommendation, postmarked no later than March 1, 2009, to the address at the bottom of this form;
- 3) Demonstrate community involvement and service through school-wide and extracurricular activities, church and/or other organizations; and
- 4) Enroll at a college, university, or post-secondary school for Fall 2009.

Scholarship awards will be presented to the school business office or bookstore of the selected students' choice. Please note that late applications will not be accepted.

Name _____ Soc. Sec. # _____ - _____ - _____

Street Address _____

Albuquerque, New Mexico, ZIP Code _____ Telephone Number _____

Is your family a member of TRNA? _____ Yes _____ No (Membership is not required)

High School _____ Cumulative GPA (including Fall 2008) _____

Please briefly describe your educational plans following your high school graduation: _____

Please describe your extra-curricular activities and community involvement: _____

(You may attach one additional page of description.)

Please provide TWO letters of recommendation to complete your application. Recommendation letters may be attached to this form or mailed separately, but must be postmarked by the March 1 deadline.

All information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I consent to the release of information concerning my application to the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Scholarship Committee.

Signature _____ Date _____

Send your application to: Scholarship Committee, Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 66288, Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288.

Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Membership Registration

Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Date: _____
 Address: _____ E-mail address: _____

- I'm interested in the following:
- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Calling | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Prevention | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/ Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Check your expiration date on the mailing label.

If your membership expires December 2008, please renew now!

Enclose a check made out to TRNA in the amount of:

Resident: \$18.00 (Thru Dec 2009) \$34.00 (Thru Dec 2010) \$48.00 (Thru Dec 2011)
 Business: \$50.00 (Thru Dec 2009) \$90.00 (Thru Dec 2010) \$125.00 (Thru Dec 2011)

Call Patsy Rippo at 306-2244 if you have questions or need more information.

Please mail this form with your check to: **TRNA Membership, P. O. Box 66288, Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288**



12/08

TRNA Board of Directors and Other TRNA Contacts

President:	Patsy Rippo.....	306-2244	president@trna.org
Vice-President:	Brett Lopez.....	836-7831	vicepresident@trna.org
Secretary:	Alice Demi.....	899-0027	secretary@trna.org
Treasurer:	Don MacCornack	897-1593	treasurer@trna.org
Director/ Zoning, Social:	Brett Lopez	836-7831	zoning@trna.org
Director/Police Liaison:	Gary Gudell	710-5191	police@trna.org
Director//Land Use:	René Horvath.....	898-2114	land@trna.org
Director/Westside Coalition:	Walter Sala	890-7035	wscr@trna.org
Director/Education:	Jane Webster	792-1087	education@trna.org
Director/Membership:	Patsy Rippo.....	306-2244	membership@trna.org
Director:	Dave Waters	412-5141	director2@trna.org
Director:	Hanna Sorrells	294-7042	director1@trna.org
Director:	Ray Shortridge.....	688-4057	director3@trna.org
Historian:	Fred van Berkel.....	899-2738	historian@trna.org
Web Site:	Ceil van Berkel.....	899-2738	webmaster@trna.org
Newsletter editors:	Ceil van Berkel.....	899-2738 .. Rae Phillips.....	editor@trna.org editor@trna.org

IMPORTANT DATES

- Jan. 14—Board Meeting
- Jan. 17—Park Clean-up
- Jan. 24—Patrol Training
- Feb. 3—APS/CNM Election
- Feb. 24—Walmart Hearing
- Mar. 1—Scholarship Deadline
- Mar. TBD—Annual Meeting

March Annual Membership Meeting

The TRNA annual membership meeting will be held in March. Six Directors will be elected, the Board will present a financial report for the past year and ask us to approve the budget for next year, speakers will be invited to bring us up to date, and we will have a chance to meet and greet our neighbors. Check next month's newsletter for the date of the meeting.

If you have been thinking about becoming more involved in TRNA, this is your chance to volunteer to be nominated as a director. Directors attend the monthly

board meetings and assume responsibility for some area of concern. If you would be willing to serve, or would like more information, contact one of the officers or other directors listed above and let them know of your interest. If you decide to accept a nomination, you will be introduced to the membership at the March meeting and your name will be on the ballot.. If only six or fewer than six persons are willing to run, the election will be by acclamation. Think about it! We need your ideas and enthusiasm to build a better Taylor Ranch. ®



Newsletter Email Address: editor@trna.org

Web Site <http://trna.org>

Send your items of community interest to the Mesa Messenger! Submissions must be received by the 22nd of the month. Digital media preferred (email) / Please include author and phone number / Include SASE for photo returns. TRNA reserves the right to edit or reject submissions. Copyrighted material requires written permission to reprint.

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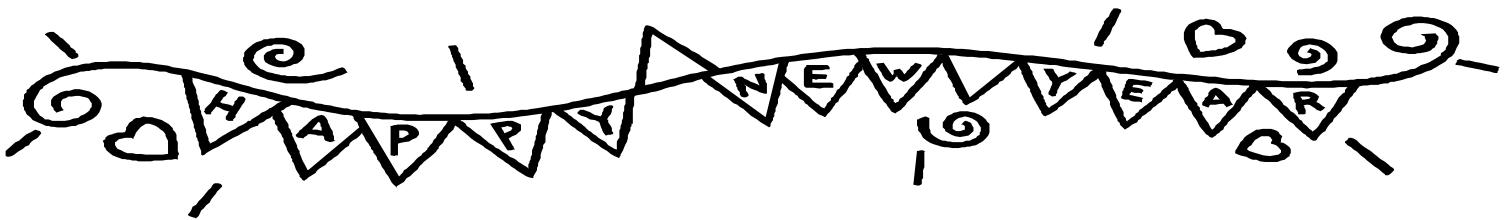
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**Does your mailing label say Membership Expired December 2008?
If so, Please renew today! Use form on page 7.**



Our mission is to promote, preserve, and improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch"