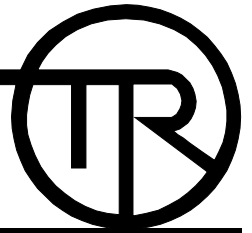


MESA MESSENGER



Newsletter of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Vol. 30 No. 4 Apr. 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 & Neighbors. We held our TRNA General Meeting on March 11th at the Taylor Ranch Community Center. The turnout was terrific. Two hours was hardly enough time for everything on the agenda. Councilor Michael Cadigan spoke and also took questions. He was very informative. We also had two APD officers, Lt. Gonterman & Sgt. Walton, speaking and taking questions. Other guest speakers included Loretta Naranjo Lopez and Jeremy Lawson..

Don MacCornack presented the budget which was subsequently approved. Included in the budget was money for the appeal of the County zoning decision for the SW corner of La Orilla and Coors..

Jane Webster and Councilor Cadigan presented TRNA Scholarships to two outstanding students, Lauren Salvato and Staci Drangmeister.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the BOD members, past and present, especially to Don MacCornack, Walt Sala, and Alice Demi who are leaving the board this month. I want to give special thanks to Ceil van Berkel. Ceil did a wonderful job in preparation for the general meeting.

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 (president@trna.org) ®

Beautification News

Don MacCornack, Director, Beautification

The place to be Saturday was Mariposa Basin Park. The weather was great and we had a great turn out for park cleanup. It was apparent that the park is heavily used. The cleanup team had the park looking great in no time. The March Community Heroes are Carol Waters, Dave Waters, Dwane Lane, Mark Graham, Diane Sirois, Don Smith, Conni Smith, Rene Horvath and Lynn MacCornack. The

February Community Heroes are Diane Sirois, Mark Graham, Carol Staller, Carol Waters, Dave Waters, Mariruth Wittkamp, Don Smith, Paul Smith, Dwane Lane, and Marianne Billiot. The park beautification project is a success because these individuals are willing to give up some of their free time for the community.

Park cleanup only takes an hour or so, once a month and you will feel great afterwards. I am very grateful for everyone who has helped keep the park beautiful. Since it is time to renew our Adopt a Park contract with the City, I would like to hear if this is a program that TRNA wants to continue. Please email me at beautification@trna.org.

Our next park cleanup is scheduled for **April 18 at 9:00 am** at the Mariposa Basin Park entrance. Trash bags and gloves will be provided. This park is loved by many in our community, so let's keep it beautiful. ®

Education News—April 2009

Jane Webster, Education Director, TRNA

2009 TRNA Scholarships: At the TRNA Annual Meeting on March 11 at the Don Newton Taylor Ranch Community Center, I was honored to announce two lucky recipients of the TRNA Scholarships for 2009. **Lauren Salvato and Staci Drangmeister** were chosen as our scholarship winners. Both young women are seniors at Cibola High School. Both winners continue to work hard to demonstrate their commitment to the community and well as being top students. A committee was formed, thanks to the support of Fred and Ceil van Berkel, to study and choose winners for two \$500 TRNA scholarships. The Board of Directors of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association congratulates these fine winners and look forward to hearing from them about their bright futures. Two students were named as Honorable Mentions, Andrea Buckel and David Moore. We wish these two worthy young people much success in the future as well.

Without the support of the Taylor Ranch community to make our two rummage sale fund raisers a success, we would not be able to sponsor these scholarships.

(Continued on page 2)

Board of Directors Meeting —Apr 8th —7:00 pm—DN-TR Community Center

(Continued from page 1)

So while it takes a whole community to raise a child, it also takes a community to support our scholarships. Many, many thanks to all who have donated to the scholarship fund..

High School Mock Trial Regionals: It was just a month ago that I was able to announce in our TRNA newsletter that both the high school mock trial teams from Cibola and Volcano Vista High Schools qualified in the top five schools in the Northern New Mexico High School Mock Trial Regionals. It is with great joy that I want you to know that the Cibola Gold team took first place in the New Mexico High School Mock Trial State Finals during the competition on March 20 - 21. The Cibola Gold team championship was announced at a banquet at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Albuquerque on March 21. These students will now prepare a new case and compete nationally in May. The high school mock trial program for New Mexico student teams is sponsored by the Center for Civic Values, formerly a part of the State Bar Foundation. The CCV supports citizenship education and many worthwhile programs. Taylor Ranch resident, Michelle Giger, is the president and CEO of the Center for Civic Values. It is with her amazing leadership that high school students from around the state come together as a team to learn a case to try in mock court. These students learn a specific case and how to try it with the help of an attorney coach and a teacher sponsor. Each team prepares both a prosecution and defense for the case. Taylor Ranch attorney, Lawrence Zamzok, awards a cash prize to the top student attorney and the top student witness each year. We are once again honored to have such fine student and community support from Taylor Ranch.

The New Mexico Standards-Based Assessment testing begins soon. Please watch for your children's schools to notify you with dates and times of testing. Schools may need help with extra test proctors and snacks for classrooms. Remember to assist your students by making sure they have plenty of sleep and a nutritious breakfast on testing days. These scores stay with your kids for a long time. Please help them to be successful. ☺

WSC Report - March 4th, 2009

Walt Sala, WSC Director, TRNA

The police commanders of the NW side, Warfield, and SW side, Candelaria, explained what is happening and what is in the works for the West Side. Response time has been reduced, and the area is better covered with the additional police now in place.

Councilor Cadigan indicated that the zoning problems that were caused by Manny Aragon when he took the Territorial and Zoning powers away from ABQ because of his dispute with ABQ, should be returned, so that the county and ABQ could work together in solving zoning problems, putting a stop to non-profit administrators using most of the money for themselves. Small businesses would be allowed to have small sandwich advertising boards. He is pushing for a priority on the Paseo del Norte, Jefferson and I-25 project.

Brett Lopez, the new president of the coalition, ran a very business-like meeting, asking for a list of problems each neighborhood association has that should be on the agenda for the coalition to be involved in for this coming year. Some of the problems affecting Taylor Ranch are; APS split off, Parks money restored, Coors Update, Sun-Cal TIDDS, UNM executive salaries vs. programs, right turn lane at NE corner of Montañó and Coors, empty field at Montañó and Coors, Road extension of Unser north to Paseo and then to Paradise, additional roads on the West Side, crime, addition of conference room at TR Library, , etc.

Councilor Ken Sanchez reported a huge shortfall in operating funds. He mentioned that the Unser Crossing project is under way and ground broken, plus a new Library and Fire Station in the Unser and Central area.

This will be my last report, after 4 years of being on the board of Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association. and as the representative to the West Side Coalition. It is time to let someone else have the privilege of representing TRNA. It has been my pleasure to serve all of you. ☺

Crime Prevention Update

Gary Gudell, Director, TRNA/APD Liaison

Civilian Patrol: If you are interested in joining our patrol, keep in mind that a training class will be held toward the end of April on a Saturday not yet determined. For information, call 710-5191 or email patrol@trna.org. Our patrollers still find garage doors left open when no one is around. Thieves grab and run faster than you can believe, so keep your garage doors and gates closed whenever you go in the house for a few minutes.

Crime Statistics: Here is a summary of the police calls for service in Taylor Ranch for selected crime categories for January and February of this year:

Aggravated Assault	11
Auto Theft	26
Burglary, Auto	35

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Burglary, Commercial	2
Burglary, Residential	27
Rape	1
Disturbance	94
Robbery	4
Suspicious Pers/Vehicles	174
Vandalism	30
Total	404

Muggers Caught: We have been informed by the NW Command that muggers using a white car to steal purses from shoppers on the west side were captured last week in a joint effort by the NW and SW commands. ®

History Corner #12

Fred van Berkel, Historian, TRNA

I am trying to track down the history of the scholarships presented by TRNA to high school seniors over the years. If you have any information about a scholarship received, could you let me know the year, name of the recipient and any information you have about how the recipient used the scholarship?

Thanks to Debbie Tatum, we have the following information to get us started.

In 1999 Theresa Chavez, our education director, volunteered to raise money for scholarships by holding a flea market and asked the board to match the funds she raised. She raised almost \$500, so the board matched that with \$500 from the general fund and we awarded two \$500 scholarships that year. Since then I believe we have offered at least two \$500 scholarships each year and awarded over \$11,000, thanks to your generous support.

Scholarship Winners (Help us fill in the blanks!)

1999

Jamie Allen

Robert Dietz, who graduated from UNM in 2003, Magna Cum Laude in Biology; he is currently attending a 7 year MD/PhD program at UNM medical school and will finish in 2010.

2000

Julia Hartmann

Christine Ortiz

2001

Dana Krill

Matthew Jones, who graduated from BYU in 2005, Summa Cum Laude in Neuroscience; he performed a two-tear mission in West Virginia and is currently attend-

ing Medical School at the University of Texas and will graduate in 2012.

2002

Amanda Tatum, who graduated from UNM in 2005 Magna Cum Laude in Criminology & Psychology; she is currently working as a Service Coordinator for Family Living.

Suzanna Lane, who graduated from NMSU in 2007 Cum Laude in Chemical Engineering & Spanish; she is currently working for Chevron as a Process Engineer

2003

Jason Kooi, who graduated from New Mexico Tech in 2006 Highest Honors in Mathematics & Physics; he is currently working in mathematical analysis and will receive a MS in Mathematical Analysis from New Mexico Tech in December 2009.

Elena Griego, who graduated from Stanford in 2007 in Human Biology and is currently attending UNM Medical School, with an emphasis in Pediatrics and will graduate 2011.

2004

Jessica Fay Druxman

Lauren Romo

2005

Rachel Griego, who graduated from Stanford in 2009 in Engineering with an emphasis in Architectural Design; she studied in Spain, moved to England and plans to get a Masters in London.

Charlotte Lane, attending NMS and will receive a Masters in International Business, Accounting & German in 2010.

2006

No information

2007

Tasha Gallegos

Lauren Snyder

Cedric Snowy

Brittany Lopez, attending UNM, studying Biology, with focus on Medicine.

2008

Ashley Freelin, attending UNM, studying Psychology and working as a Police Service Aide

Lauren Spangler

2009

Lauren Salvato

Staci Drangmeister

If you have additional information on these or other scholarship winners, please call me at 899-2738 or email historian@trna.org. ®



Land Use Update

René Horvath, Land Use Director, TRNA

1. La Orilla/ Wal-Mart/ Bernalillo County Commission Appeal: The notice of appeal was submitted to the County of Bernalillo Second Judicial District Court on February 24th 2009. The appellants are the Alban Hills Neighborhood Association, Rio Oeste Home Owners Association, Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association and Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, who own property at Coors and La Orilla. Our counsel, Mr. Cadigan, is representing all four appellants. We appreciate all the financial support we have already received for this appeal. It has been very helpful. If you want to contribute, please send your donations to TRNA, PO. Box 66288, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87193-6288. Thank you for your support.

2. TIDDS/ SunCal: During the final hours of the State Legislative session, the House voted 33-33 on SB249, which led to the failure of the Sun Cal TIDDS bill. This was good news to many Taylor Ranch residents who had concerns about Sun Cal; a California based Development Company who wanted the State to grant them a Tax Increment Development District. This would have given Sun Cal \$408 million over the next 33 years of our tax money to help pay for their roads, utilities and other infrastructure costs. In 2006, Sun Cal the largest community developer in the western part of the United States purchased 55,000 acres of the Atrisco Land Grant from Westland Development Company. Sun Cal agreed to pay \$1 million a year for the next 100 years to the Atrisco Heritage Foundation. In 2008, despite public protest, Bernalillo County gave Sun Cal a TIDD's on 4,000 acres. Advocates for Sun Cal say TIDDS would spark economic growth in the area creating desirable developments and jobs for the Westside. Sun Cal promoted the new urbanist style of development mixing commercial and residential together to make a more pedestrian friendly environment.

Opponents said it was a State tax give away. Developers have typically paid for infrastructure costs for their developments. They should not be allowed to use gross receipts and property taxes to reimburse themselves. TIDDS were envisioned as an incentive to redevelop blighted areas within a city, not new development outside the city. Sun Cal did not propose any new jobs except the usual short-term construction jobs. A recent plan submitted by Sun Cal for the Watershed and Inspiration development near 98th Street proved to be the usual walled subdivision and did not include any retail or office components.

3. \$160 million bond proposal: The City Council has been reviewing the \$160 million budget for capital projects which will go before the voters in the October elections.

Sun Cal proposed donating 45 acres of land for a soccer complex at I-40 and Paseo del Volcan if the City immediately kicked in \$ 8 million for the park. City Councilors had just removed the \$8 million for this project. The Mayor recommended restoring the funding to avoid Sun Cal backing out of the offer. Councilors felt there were not enough details provided on this proposal. The Council will review this issue and the overall capital improvement budget on April 6th.

4. Albuquerque Public Arts Committee: Several land art projects proposed for the northeast corner of Coors Blvd. and Bosque Meadows were evaluated by the committee. The list of proposals was narrowed down to five finalists. Several of the art projects presented to us were too massive and did not comply with the Coors Corridor Plan view regulations.

5. Coors Corridor plan: On March 12th, the EPC voted to defer the Coors Corridor Plan Update to be heard July 9th, at 4:00 pm.

6. Mayoral Campaign: Both Councilor Cadigan and Councilor Debra O'Malley decided to cancel their bid to run for Mayor. They stated that they did not anticipate obtaining the required 3,200 \$5.00 contributions before the deadline expired. This method of campaigning called ethical public campaign reform is new to the Albuquerque area and was supported by Councilor Cadigan and O'Malley and was approved by the Albuquerque voters in 2006. Both Cadigan and O'Malley were good candidates for the Mayors race, and were very knowledgeable about land use issues. Councilor Cadigan has been a tireless advocate for the west side and for Albuquerque. He pushed for the Planned Growth Strategy, impacts fees, expansion of transit services, funding for schools, parks, and open space. He would have continued to provide the kind of leadership Albuquerque needs. We sincerely thank him!

7. Jinja's: The restaurant opened this month. They specialize in Asian food. The restaurant made a few modifications to the original building design to include more east facing windows to take advantage of the mountain views and provide an architectural pleasing design along Coors. People were excited to attend the grand opening, and we look forward to their success. ®



30th Annual TRNA Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11th

Mariposa Basin Park

10:00am to 1:00 pm: Games, Food, Costumed Characters, Easter Bunny

Tons of Fun Jumpers & Train

GAMES: 13 games, everyone who plays wins a prize; cake walk; face painting
Located at the basketball court; One try for one 25¢ ticket;

FOOD:	Hot Dogs	\$1.00
	Chili Dogs	\$1.50
	Frito Pies	\$2.00
	Nachos	\$2.00
	Chips	.50
	Donuts	.50
	Coffee	.50
	Water	\$1.00
	Sodas	\$1.00
	Hot Cocoa	\$1.00

Buy 25¢ TRNA tickets at the park to pay for food and children's games.

Tons of Fun: Commercial supplier whose proceeds do not benefit TRNA

Buy tokens for \$1.00 for the inflatable jumpers and train.

Easter Bunny arrives on Fire truck: 10:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt at the soccer fields: 11:00—3 yrs old and under

11:15—4,5,6 yrs old

11:30—7,8 yrs old

11:45—9, 10 yrs old

Community News Notes

Marie Hughes Scholastic Book Fair: Let's take a Reading Road Trip!! Everyone's invited!! Bring your family, bring your neighbors and get some great books for summer reading fun. Hope to see you there.

Marie Hughes Elementary Library, Saturday April 12, 2008, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm ®

AARP Driver Safety Program: The AARP Driver Safety course will be offered at the DN-TR Community Center in April, May, and June. The sessions run from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm on April 11th, May 9th, and June 13th. Cost for the course per person is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Please pay by check when you arrive at the class. To reserve a place, please call the instructor, Mr. Dan Bravine, at 892-4827. ®

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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 _____ |

Please give this form to a neighbor who'd like to join!

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**

TRNA Board of Directors and Other TRNA Contacts

President:	<i>Patsy Rippo</i>	306-2244	president@trna.org
Vice-President:	<i>Brett Lopez</i>	836-7831	vicepresident@trna.org
Secretary:	<i>Alice Demi</i>	899-0027	secretary@trna.org
Treasurer:	<i>Don MacCornack</i>	897-1593	treasurer@trna.org
Director/ Zoning, Social.:	<i>Brett Lopez</i>	836-7831	zoning@trna.org
Director/Police Liaison:	<i>Gary Gudell</i>	710-5191	tr-apd-liaison@trna.org
Director//Land Use:	<i>René Horvath</i>	898-2114	land@trna.org
Director/Westside Coalition:	<i>Walter Sala</i>	890-7035	wscn@trna.org
Director/Education:	<i>Jane Webster</i>	792-1087	education@trna.org
Director/Membership:	<i>Patsy Rippo</i>	306-2244	membership@trna.org
Director:	<i>Dave Waters</i>	412-5141	director2@trna.org
Director:	<i>Hanna Sorrells</i>	294-7042	director1@trna.org
Director:	<i>Ray Shortridge</i>	688-4057	director3@trna.org
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	<i>.. Rae Phillips</i>	899-1273	editor@trna.org

Assistant Editor Needed!

We currently have two energetic newsletter editors who share the job of editing this newsletter. We need a backup editor to layout the newsletter when they are both out of town.

Are you comfortable with Microsoft Office software? If so, you, too, can join this exclusive club of editors. Contact Ceil (899-2738) or Rae (899-1273) or both via editor@trna.org for more information. ®

Annual General Membership Meeting

March 11th

A group of approximately 40 people, representing 25 membership units and guests attended the Annual General Membership Meeting March 11th. A quorum consists of 23 membership units.

The following volunteers were elected to a two-year term as director by unanimous voice vote at the meeting: Larry Walsh, Patsy Rippo, Roy Shortridge, and Gary Gudell. Dave Waters, who was appointed by the Board to com-

plete a vacant term which expires in 2010, was confirmed in the position by a unanimous vote. This leaves two vacancies on the board. Any member willing to serve on the board should contact Patsy Rippo or Brett Lopez to volunteer to fill one of the vacant slots until the next general membership meeting in March 2010 .

The financial report showed a balance of \$9216.95 as of March 11th. The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2009 projected expenditures of \$8000 and income of \$6300. It was approved by a unanimous voice vote. On March 11th membership stood at 195 Residential, 7 Business, and 23 Courtesy Memberships for a total of 225. ®

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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30th Annual Easter Egg Party and Hunt

Saturday, April 11th

Mariposa Basin Park

(see page 5 for details)

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