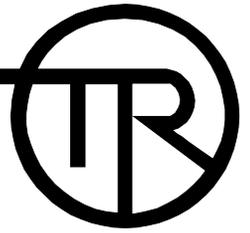


# MESA MESSENGER



Newsletter of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Vol. 31 No. 3 March 2010

"Our mission is to promote, protect, and improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch" ~ TRN A Bylaws

## President's Message

Patsy Ripppo, President, TRNA

Hello Folks, Our Chairperson for the TRNA Nominating Committee, Jolene Wolfley, is still taking suggestions for Board of Director membership. We are still in need of volunteers. Please help out if you can.

Our annual General Membership Meeting is just around the corner. Please come join us on March 24th at 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Don Newton Community Center. We'll have a host of wonderful speakers. Please see the agenda for the meeting in this issue.

Please remember... "Our mission is to promote, protect 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 Ripppo president@trna.org. ☺

## Social Committee Report

Our next big event will be the Easter Egg Hunt - April 3, 10:00-1:00, Mariposa Park. Bring your children and grandchildren to the Park for a fun event: food, games, and an Easter egg hunt with lots of prizes! We still need volunteers willing to be there at 8:00am to help set up and run the services. There are never enough volunteers, so get involved: call June or Ken at 898-5447.

Also, if you or your group are able to help with filling the 5,000 eggs needed for the hunt - call June at 898-5447.

Also let's all hope for good weather. That's something we can't control.

We will hold our scholarship fundraiser Flea Market in May 2010. See your next newsletter or the TRNA website for the exact date. Social Committee, social@trna.org ☺

## Education News

Jane Webster, Education Director, TRNA

This is a big month for the Standards-Based Assessments in our schools. Remember to prepare your students at home so they can be ready to do their best at school. I've

discussed this before, but nothing can replace adequate rest and balanced nutrition to help your kids perform their very best.

Looking over my district test results from January, it occurs to me that the students who have high absenteeism, attitude or behavior issues, or struggle to make up assignments are the ones showing the least growth on these tests. Students who struggle with a need for large amounts of attention, or struggle to manage their behavior or materials need help to be successful. Parents can help by organizing backpacks, books and completed work at home so that tomorrow at school the child won't continue to be bewildered when on their own trying to cope. While it's a frustrating experience to do this with your child, it's very hard for young people to get to school and not be able to locate their materials. The time you spend doing this will help your child be more organized and confident. Do it regularly and your student learns how important it is and how to do it on their own.

My LBJ students had great reading test scores. As a middle school English teacher, this is the expectation. Some students were already doing well when they came to me this year. Others worked hard to improve their scores and are so proud of - themselves now. It's a valuable process to discuss test scores with students so they are able to recognize how their hard work shows up in individual, school and district results. It's a great moment to see the delight in a student's face when you tell him that his score improved twenty-three points and that he now has reached proficiency. I will remember it always. He will remember the spontaneous outbreak of applause by his classmates. It is important to discuss these things at home so that your student understands your academic expectations and how to improve.

At the other end of this spectrum are the incredible high school students preparing for graduation and life beyond high school. The TRNA Scholarship Committee will be meeting to consider the recipients for this year. Our winners will be announced at the TRNA General Meeting on March 24 at the Don Newton/ Taylor Ranch

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**Board of Directors Meeting —Wednesday, Mar. 10—6:30 pm—DN-TR Community Center**  
**General Membership Meeting —Wednesday, Mar. 24—6:30—DN-TR Community Center**

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Community Center. I hope you will join the board of directors as we present our progress to you and answer your questions.

If you would let me know what your child's Taylor Ranch school is doing, I would be happy to promote it in this column. Please contact me at education@trna.org. I look forward to hearing from you. ®

### Beautification News

Dave Waters, Director, Beautification

Hello everyone! First our thanks go out to the volunteers that helped clean the park in January. Mary Stuart, Juanita Coulter, and my better half Carol. Thank you for all of your good work guys.

The city had a crew with some people doing community service at the park last month and they did a super job. I called the Parks superintendent and thanked them. I also told them anytime they need some community service worked off they were welcome to come back.

It's finally starting to warm up so we can expect the wind to return as usual in the Spring. That means we will be very

busy every third Saturday of the month. We are still meeting at the park from 9:00 AM until 10:30 and we can always use more help.

We provide the garbage bags and good cheer and would love to see more of you, even if only for a short period. We don't have to stay there for an hour, any amount of time is welcome.

Have a great spring, warm weather is just around the corner. David Waters beautification@trna.org ®

### Land Use Update

Rene Horvath, Land Use Director, TRNA

There are two important issues that have come up since our January newsletter. The first one is WalMart. The second one is Volcano Heights.

**1) La Orilla Grocery Store/ WalMart:** We recently received notice from Cadigan's Law firm that Judge Huling, who was reviewing our case, denied our appeal on the County's decision on WalMart. Mr. Cadigan thought the Judge's evaluation was thorough and that the Judge found the County had acted inappropriately on several

(Continued on page 3)

# LISA W. ARNHART, DDS, PC

## Family and Cosmetic



A Taylor Ranch mom is celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her dental office. Her practice emphasizes gentle, preventive care for the entire family and accepts most dental insurances. She is a Delta Dental Premier provider. Dr. Arnhart's hours are Tuesday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

**DIAL 89-SMILE (897-6453)**

8521 Golf Course Rd NW, Suite 116, Albuquerque, NM 87114

### TRNA Special!!!

FREE Home Bleaching Kit upon completion of a new patient exam visit and x-rays. Fees apply to exam and x-rays. For new patients only. Limited-time offer—get your bleaching kit while supplies last!

*Please bring your coupon to redeem offer.*



(Continued from page 2)

issues brought up in the appeal, but it was not enough for her to over turn the County's decision. Although disappointed, TRNA feels we did the best we could do. Over the years, many residents had expressed their concerns about this development due to its location; 24 hours of operation; proximity to existing homes; traffic congestion; not following the County's adopted plans and policies; and approval of a special use permit without neighborhood notification in 1994. These issues could not be ignored. Our Neighborhood Association, along with two other Associations (Alban Hills and Rio Oeste) and Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, put a lot of effort into this process to address the situation. We learned a lot about the County's plans and policies and a lot about their public processes by getting involved. We again thank everyone for supporting their neighborhoods by writing letters, gathering petition signatures, attending numerous hearings and testifying before the Commission. We also thank Mr. Cadigan for representing our case. We cannot thank everyone enough!

**2) Volcano Heights Plan:** Four years ago TRNA participated in public hearings on the Volcano Heights Plan. Volcano Heights is a sector development plan for the top of the mesa. It was approved by the City Council on September 6th 2006. The Volcano Cliff property Owners appealed the City Council decision, which took it to court. The Volcano Cliff property owners were unhappy because they thought the plan was too restrictive for development. Recently the Judge made the decision to remand the Plan back to the City. The Judge gave two reasons: 1) The plan needed to have an air quality analysis done for the area. 2) The development review process was not followed properly. It had been pulled out of EPC and sent to City Council before EPC had completed their review. The Plan will now go back through the planning process again, starting with the EPC, LUPZ (Land Use Planning and Zoning), and then City Council.

The Volcano Heights Plan covers 3,532 acres on top of the mesa. It is a comprehensive plan trying to address many issues. This began six years ago, on Oct. 4, 2004, when the City Council initiated a study for the Volcano Cliffs area on top of the mesa, located west of Taylor Ranch. The study was known as the Volcano Heights Study. A one year moratorium on development for that area went into effect. Because the area is unique to Albuquerque the goal was to develop a plan to address transportation, open space and preservation issues, jobs/housing balance, school issues, design issues, and amenities such as parks, trails, and views, etc. A public meeting was held in 2005. The public was to select one of three

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scenarios for the Volcano Heights study: Current Trends, Village Center, and Town Center. Current Trend would develop in the usual manner, with 12,000 residents and 2,000 jobs. The Village center scenario offered 8,000 residential units, with only 500 jobs. The Town Center scenario proposed 12,000 residential units, with 18,000 jobs in an urban style setting at Paseo del Norte and Unser. A majority of attendees were Volcano Cliff property owners. They liked the Town Center concept. The Taylor Ranch residents that attended liked the Village center concept; it was less dense and blended with the natural landscape better. A vote was taken at the meeting and the Town Center was selected. As the plan developed it became a Sector development plan to address the unique character of the mesa top and to address transportation issues.

Once the Plan was remanded back to the City by the Judge, the Planning department decided to change it from a Sector development plan to an Area plan. An Area Plan is less restrictive and only provides policies to guide development, but not regulate it. A Sector Development Plan has regulations in it, and zoning which has the force of law. The Area plan will have no zoning, until parcels of property will come up for development review. The

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Planning Dept. will keep some design guidelines that were in the Volcano Heights plan. They will keep the trails portion of the plan and the Town center. The open space portion of the plan is in question. The Area plan will have to follow the Northwest Mesa Escarpment Plan. The Volcano Cliff property owners are in a steering committee working on the Volcano Heights plan. They like the Town Center, but they do not like the public open space. The Planning dept. is working on a draft and is planning a public meeting for the Community within the next month. TRNA still has concerns about traffic congestion in our community and the bottleneck at the river crossings. There are things that TRNA has liked about the plan and we don't want deleted such as: creation of Open Space; preservation of the natural arroyos and rock outcroppings; view protection; trails; and quality transportation planning and architectural design.

We will let you know when the public meeting will be held. René Horvath, land@trna.org

## Call for Nominations for Directors

One person can make a big difference in their neighborhood. We just need four of you.

The Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association (TRNA) is seeking four residents willing to serve on the Board of Directors. Elections will be held at the annual meeting March 24, 2010, 7 p.m. at the Don Newton-Taylor Ranch Community Center.

The goal of the neighborhood association is to improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch. Some of the things TRNA does are:

- Host an annual Easter egg hunt and games at Mariposa Park
- Provide scholarships to 2 high school seniors each year
- Host spring and fall flea markets
- Review all proposals for development and zoning changes
- Run a citizens' patrol to reduce crime
- Coordinate with City Hall on any matters of importance to the neighborhood
- Represent the neighborhood at the Westside Coalition of neighborhood associations

This is a great opportunity for you to make a difference in your community and to meet your neighborhood. You may have a way that you think life in Taylor Ranch could be improved and serving on the TRNA Board would be your chance to do it.

Members of the Board of Directors attend monthly meetings the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8:30 pm, at Don Newton - Taylor Ranch Community Center.

If you would like to nominate yourself or anyone else, or if you have questions, please contact: Jolene Wolfley, Chair,

TRNA Nominations Committee 2010, 890-9414, sagehome@live.com

## West Side Coalition of Neighborhood Associations Report—Jan, Feb 2010

Larry Walsh, WSCN Director, TRNA

*Here is what happened at the meeting held on January 6:*

APD Commander Steve Warfield reported that ground had been broken on the new Northwest Substation, which should be completed by the end of this year. Warfield also reported a sharp decline in auto burglaries, which are down by 53 percent. Much of the credit for this success goes to the active and vibrant neighborhood watch organizations.

The state legislators all discussed the state's budget shortfall of \$500 to 600 million. Moe Maestas explained that we can either cut services, increase revenue, or both. One option not mentioned is to increase productivity among those working in government (in other words, reducing the cost of government without cutting services). Tom Anderson reported that no one on his side of the

(Continued on page 5)



### HYATT REGENCY ALBUQUERQUE

**\$89.00** Easter Family Egg'srtavaganza

**Hippity, Hoppity, Easter's on its way!**

Celebrate a Spēggtacular evening with the Easter Bunny, while enjoying a variety of activities with your family. This special offer includes overnight accommodation, one free movie in the room, 20% off Easter Brunch and wristbands to get into the Easter Egg'srtavaganza. Special activities include fun food, inflatable jumper, crafts, movie, picture with the Easter Bunny and other fun activities. For every room booked Hyatt will contribute \$10.00 to a Charitable organization.

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**HYATT**  
REGENCY  
ALBUQUERQUE

(Continued from page 4)

aisle (Republicans) will vote to raise taxes. Bernadette Sanchez supports cuts to state employment, junk food tax, alcohol tax, and cigarette tax.

District 5 (which includes Taylor Ranch) Councilor Dan Lewis reported that \$5 million has been allocated for the northern Unser Extension. The project at Universe and McMahon should be completed this summer. Councilor Lewis invited those present to a coffee at his home the morning of January 30.

Tito Madrid, representing the Mayor's Office, mentioned that Mayor Berry received more comments during the election about lack of access to city executives than any other topic. The mayor's response to these comments was to elevate the office of Constituent Services to department level. Madrid is the new director of this department. Madrid states that there are lots of opening in various city boards and that interested persons can go online to apply.

WSCONA President Brett Lopez presented a resolution expressing the desire of Westside communities for the state government to take action for ethics reform. Unexpectedly, this resolution drew much debate, mostly regarding technicalities and procedures of the Coalition approving such a resolution. Representative Anderson expressed concern over the wording of the resolution. No action was taken, but Lopez agreed to meet with Anderson to work out differences.

APS administrators Brad Winter, Kizito Wijenje and board member Robert Lucero delivered a presentation in support the school bond election held February 2. Lucero stressed that passing the measure was crucial not only to education, but to our community's economy, stating that more than half of construction slated for Albuquerque in the next couple of years was school construction. A rejection of the bond issue would result in many construction and related workers being unemployed.

*Here is what happened at the February 3 meeting:*

At this meeting, the annual election of officers was held. The chair of the election committee was Barbara Blazer.

Candidates running for president were incumbent Brett Lopez (Taylor Ranch), Laura Horton (Ventana Ranch), and Matt Archuleta (Westgate Heights). Each candidate had a few minutes to speak. The election ended in a tie between Lopez and Horton, so a runoff was held, which resulted in a victory for Horton. She and all officers serve for one year.

Vice-president candidates were Candy Patterson and Anthony Segura. Patterson won.

There were no candidates for secretary, so Joe Valles decided to run, and he was elected by acclamation.



## Come Worship with Us

Sunday Services at 8:45 & 11:00 AM

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**Welcome to our newest Associate Business  
Member: First Presbyterian Church**

The two candidates for treasurer were incumbent Joan Jones and Patrick Chapman, with Jones being re-elected to the position.

Councilor Ken Sanchez (District 3) stated that the grand opening for CVS Pharmacy at Unser Crossing has been pushed back to April 11, citing delays and issues with the economy. Lowes, at the same location, is expected to break ground in October. Sanchez also reported that the council voted to use red light camera funds to finance a badly-needed new fire station in his district.

Councilor Dan Lewis (District 5) discussed the upcoming District 5 meeting and urged attendance. He also reported at the coffee held at his house on January 30 was successful.

Jack Lord (not the Hawaii Five-0 guy) from the Mid-Region Council of Governments presented an interesting set of data, graphs and maps illustrating population history and projections for the region. If anyone would like to see this powerpoint presentation, he can be contacted at

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leaving their cars running with the garage door wide open. 2:00-3:30 PM

Fellow Taylor Ranchers, we need your help to observe and report problems in our community and to warn our neighbors about their vulnerability! Call 899-2738 if you have an hour or two per month to help patrol your neighborhood! Fred van Berkel, Patrol@trna.org ☎

## Public Library News

Ceil van Berkel, Chair, Library Advisory Board

### Taylor Ranch Library Hours

M - Th 10 AM - 8 PM

F - Sat 10 AM - 6 PM

Sun 1 PM - 5 PM

**Branch Manager:** Linda Morgan Davis

**Library Phone:** 897-8816

### Special Programs

Wednesday 3/17- 4:30 PM

#### Happy Trails-author talk and book signing.

Author Stephen Ausherman points you in the right direction for enjoying New Mexico's stunning landscapes on hiking trails located within a hop and skip away from Albuquerque's city limits and the surrounding area.

His guidebook, 60 Hikes within 60 Miles: Albuquerque, includes many diverse trails that are kid and dog friendly, and wheel-chair traversable.

### Ongoing Events

#### Winter Olympics - past and present

Memorabilia from the collection of Lou Lafrado

#### A Good Yarn

Fridays @ 2:00PM – 3:30 PM

If you enjoy knitting, crocheting or other needle craft, join our drop-in stitch group. All ages and skill levels welcome.

A skilled knitter will be on hand for instruction and questions. Feel free to come when you can and leave as needed.

#### Storytimes

TUESDAYS (1/12-4/13)

10:30 AM or 1 PM

Family Storytime with Curious George

Same content at both programs. Stories, songs, poems and games.

THURSDAYS (1/14-4/15)

10:30 am

Early Birds -a lapsit storytime for ages 0 - 2 Stories, learning games, songs, puppets, movement activities and fun for everyone!

#### 2010 Reading Group

Monthly, 2nd SATURDAY

New members welcome.

3/13: The Hummingbird's Daughter by Luis Alberto Urrea

4/10: Mrs. Astor Regrets: The Hidden Betrayals of a Family Beyond Reproach by Meryl Gordon

5/15: The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

6/12: The Shipping News by E. Annie Proulx

### Computer Classes

Sign up today for one-on-one instruction. Training computers use the Windows XP operating system. Participants must have a SmartCard for public computer access. Call 897-8816 for more information.

#### Internet 101

This hands-on class will help you learn your way around the web.

Successfully navigate a website

Print pages accurately

Email basics and web searching covered as well

#### PC 101

Learn how to work with files, folders, and programs on your computer, personalize your desktop wallpaper and screensaver.

#### Mouserobics

Become familiar with the basic functions of a mouse.

Online games and tutorials are introduced to help you become familiar with clicking and interacting with the computer.

#### Word 2003 Basics

Basic word processing including customizing font, using bullets, cutting and pasting, and examining page layout options. ☎

### AARP Driver Safety Program

The AARP Driver Safety course will be offered once each month at the DN-TR Community Center . The complete class will run from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm on a Saturday morning. Cost for the class per person is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Please pay by check when you arrive at the class. To find out the next available date and to reserve a place, please call the instructor, Mr. Dan Bravine, at 892-4827. ☎



# ***Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association***

## **Annual General Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 24th, 2010 / 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

This is it! The annual meeting. Come enjoy refreshments and door prizes, become informed, ask questions, visit with your neighbors, and vote for the directors and budget for your association. YOU are the association!

<b>6:30 pm</b>	Meeting Called to Order Pledge of Allegiance Welcome & Introductions
<b>6:40 – 6:45</b>	Tito O. Madrid – Office Of The Mayor
<b>6:45 – 6:50</b>	Councilor Dan Lewis – District 5
<b>6:50 – 6:55</b>	Cmdr. Steve Warfield – APD NW Area
<b>6:55 – 7:00</b>	Officer Gerald Sandoval – CPA Coordinator
<b>7:00 – 7:05</b>	Kimberly L. Selving – Open Space Center
<b>7:05 – 7:10</b>	TBD – Tax Lighting
<b>7:10 – 7:15</b>	PNM Presentation
<b>7:15 – 7:20</b>	TBD – PRC Commissioner Jason A. Marks
<b>7:20 – 7:30</b>	Treasurer – Ray Shortridge Presentation of Financial Report for Apr 2009—Mar 2010 Motion to approve budget for Apr 2010—Mar 2011
<b>7:30 – 7:35</b>	Westside Coalition of NA—Larry Walsh
<b>7:35 – 7:40</b>	Education Director – Jane Webster
<b>7:40 – 7:50</b>	Land Use—Rene' Horvath
<b>7:50 – 8:00</b>	Secretary/Patrol/Historian—Fred van Berkel
<b>8:00 – 8:05</b>	Parks & Recreation—Dave Waters
<b>8:05 – 8:20</b>	Election of Directors 2010-2012—Jolene Wolfley Presentation of slate Nominations from the floor Election
<b>8:20 – 8:30</b>	Old Business / New Business –
<b>8:30 –</b>	Meeting Adjourned

# Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Membership Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Active Participation       Sustaining Member (Newsletter Only)

I'm interested in helping with the following:

- Beautification       Board of Directors       Crime Prevention/Patrol       Education
- Environment       Membership       Newsletter       Parks & Recreation
- Social Activities       Transportation/Traffic       Land Use       Zoning       Other \_\_\_\_\_

Check your label to see if it is time to renew. If not, pass this form on to a neighbor!

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

- Resident:  \$18.00 (Thru Dec 2010)       \$34.00 (Thru Dec 2011)       \$48.00 (Thru Dec 2012)
- Business:  \$50.00 (Thru Dec 2010)       \$90.00 (Thru Dec 2011)       \$125.00 (Thru Dec 2012)



03/10

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>Hanna Sorrells</i> .....294-7042	vicepresident@trna.org
Secretary:	<i>Fred van Berkel</i> .....899-2738	secretary@trna.org
Treasurer:	<i>Ray Shortridge</i> .....688-4057	treasurer@trna.org
Director/Land Use:	<i>René Horvath</i> .....898-2114	land@trna.org
Director/Parks, Beautification:	<i>Dave Waters</i> .....897-5771	beautification@trna.org
Director/Westside Coalition:	<i>Larry Walsh</i> .....401-0965	wscn@trna.org
Director/Education:	<i>Jane Webster</i> .....792-1087	education@trna.org
Director:	<i>Vacant</i>	
Director:	<i>Vacant</i> <b>WE NEED BOARD MEMBERS!</b>	
Director:	<i>Vacant</i>	
Membership Chair:	<i>Patsy Rippo</i> .....306-2244	membership@trna.org
Social Committee Chair:	<i>June Newman</i> .....898-5447	social@trna.org
Crime Prevention Chair:	<i>Fred van Berkel</i> .....899-2738	patrol@trna.org
Historian:	<i>Fred van Berkel</i> .....899-2738	historian@trna.org
Webmaster:	<i>Ceil van Berkel</i> .....899-2738	webmaster@trna.org
Newsletter editors:	<i>Ceil van Berkel</i> .....899-2738	editor@trna.org
	<i>Rae Phillips</i> .....899-1273	editor@trna.org

## Dates to Remember

- March 20:** Mariposa Basin Park Cleanup 9:00 am
- March 24:** Annual Gen Membership Meeting, 6:30 at the Community Center
- April 3:** Easter Party & Egg Hunt 10:00—1:00, Mariposa Basin Park
- May:** Saturday TBD Flea Market



## TRNA.ORG

Did you know that membership forms, scholarship application forms, and information about upcoming events are all available on the TRNA website? If you're looking for any information about the Association and can't find your newsletter, just look online. You'll be amazed at what's available!

The members only section of the website is available to members. We print the ID and Password at the bottom of this page each month. ID: member PW: 5trna4. We will change the password in April 2010. ®

## DIGITECH OFFICE EQUIPMENT

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*Michael & Lily Andrews*

*Thank you for printing this newsletter  
each month!*

Send your items of community interest to the Mesa Messenger! Submissions must be received **by the 22nd of the month.**

**Newsletter Email Address: editor@trna.org**

**Web Site : http://trna.org - ID: member PW: 5trna4**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

President's Message  
Social Committee Report

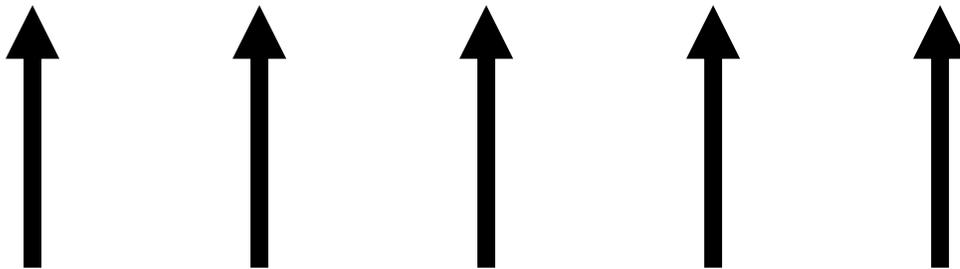
Education News  
Beautification News  
Land Use Update  
WSCNA Report

Crime Prevention Update  
Public Library Update  
Gen. Membership Mtg. Agenda

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**Check your label.**

**Did your membership expire December 2009?**

**If so, please renew today! Otherwise, this will be your last newsletter!**



**Annual General Membership Meeting**  
Wednesday, March 24th — **6:30 pm (Earlier starting time!)**  
Don Newton—Taylor Ranch Community Center

**Our mission is to promote, protect, and improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch”**