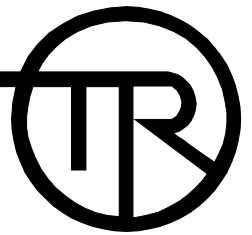


MESA MESSENGER



Newsletter of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Vol. 33 No. 4 April 2012

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

President's Message

Dave Waters, President, TRNA

This will be my last letter from the president and I feel a bit melancholy about that. First I want to thank everyone in Taylor for giving me the privilege of representing the Association as the president for the last two years. It has been an honor and is hard to believe two years have passed already. My wife will join me in retirement next month and we both look forward to enjoying some down time in Taylor Ranch and the rest of the country.

I am leaving with one big issue unresolved and we all know what that is. The intersection of Coors and Montano will be a focal point of the board for years to come and I truly hope it is resolved in our favor. I have as much to lose as anyone in Taylor Ranch if a big box 24-hour store is built at that location. Traffic congestion, nighttime light pollution, crime and all the other things that go along with a large store like that are all a concern of ours. We need to accept that our opposition to a store like this is not unanimous. I have been told by some of our members that we are starting to look like an anti-business and not-in-my-backyard organization. I feel we have to pick our battles carefully or our city, county and state entities will soon ignore us. Folks, in my opinion, this is the big one for Taylor Ranch and the rest of the West side of Albuquerque. For those of you who have to commute to the East side every day, this is an understatement. Even now, before Volcano Heights is developed and Unser is not yet connected through Paradise Blvd., there is a daily backup at Coors and Montano. Just think about a 24-hour big box at that intersection with the added traffic to come. I think many people will want to move away from those problems.

The people at West Bluff lost their battle with Walmart and look at what has transpired since. The citizens of Albuquerque had to help pay for the intersection of I-40 and Coors to alleviate the traffic jams turning off of the freeway. The traffic study prior to the construction of that Walmart insisted the traffic would not be affected to that level. WRONG. Millions of dollars later we have a new

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 7, 2012

10 am—12:30 pm

Mariposa Park

Bring your kids and grandkids and enjoy a TRNA day of fun events! Hopefully we will have a nice day for the egg hunt which will be in age groups, 3 & under, 4-6, 7-8, and 9-10. We will again have all the characters: Easter Bunny, Tweetie, Sylvester, Sparky and more. There will be games and food. Should be a great family day and a chance to meet your neighbors.

Ken Newman, Social Committee Chair, TRNA

spaghetti intersection. This new Walmart will not just effect Taylor Ranch. Trucks exiting the store will have to turn right on Coors and continue on to Alameda to get back to the Freeway. Does that sound good to anyone? The effect on the Bosque will be irreversible. I think even the Mayor, with his vision of the Bosque bike and walking trail, can be convinced of that. I hope that we can successfully convince them that it would be a mistake to build their store at this location.

The Easter Egg Hunt is coming up and I look forward to that because it is the end of lent and I can pick up my bad habits again. Ken Newman will be coordinating the activities again this year but he will need to be replaced next year.

If this newsletter reaches you in time, please attend our annual general membership meeting on March 28th at 6:30 PM at the Don Newton community center. We will be electing new board members. Terri Spiak, Ray Shortridge and Ken Newman have another year in their terms, but we will need six new board members. Please consider serving! But keep in mind you don't need to be on the board to be active in our association; you can serve your community in

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Board of Directors Meeting —April 11, 2012—DNTR Community Center at 6:30 pm

(Continued from page 1)

many different ways. We will also be voting on our budget and hope to have many good speakers there as well. We hope to see you all there.

I hope everyone has as great a summer and enjoys our West side lifestyle, as do I.

Dave Waters

president@trna.org



Land Use Update

René Horvath, Land Use Director, TRNA

1. Walmart/ March 15th EPC hearing/ deferral request:

The Walmart hearing was postponed. Tierra West requested a 60-day deferral for the EPC hearing. The deferral request still had to be presented to the EPC Commissioners on March 15th in order for the deferral request to be approved. Two members for the Applicant and ten members from the Community, including the Attorney for TRNA, were present at the hearing. The Planning Staff recommended that the 60-day deferral request be changed to a 60-day continuance for the May 17th EPC hearing. Staff explained that based on the amount of public testimony and comments that has been received by the Planning Dept. it would make better sense to do a continuance rather than a deferral. The EPC commissioners discussed the difference between a deferral and a continuance. A continuance would keep the public record from the January 19th EPC hearing intact. It would also allow additional comments based on new information to be added to the record for the May 17th EPC hearing. With a deferral, the existing public record could then be discarded and the public process would start all over again. The applicant can still make major changes to the plan but Ron Bohanon, representing Walmart, said that the changes would not be significant, and they were planning to make the plan more pedestrian friendly. The TRNA Attorney supported the recommendation for continuance and asked that the applicant turn in their new revised plans by March 31st, so that the public would have time to review the revised plans. Ron Bohanon said the revised plans could be ready by April 5th. After much discussion, the EPC found that a continuance was more appropriate than a deferral and therefore voted to “continue” the Walmart hearing to May 17th rather than defer it. They also gave a deadline of April 9th to have the revised plans submitted. The hearing will start at 9:00am at the Convention Center.

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(Behind Homestead Hills Shopping Center
and Across From LBJ Middle School)

www.taylorranchselfstorage.com

TRNA will send out a notice as time grows near the hearing date.

2. Walmart-TRNA Appeal hearing for 5 year extension of the 2005 Site Development Plan / April 4th, 9:00am/ Council Committee Room on the 9th floor of City Hall: The Land Use Hearing Officer will hear TRNA’s appeal of the five year extension on Wednesday April 4th at 9:00am in the Council Committee room on the 9th floor. In last month’s newsletter, I mentioned that TRNA appealed the extension of the site development plan for subdivision at Coors/ Montano. The extension of the site plan came up at the January 19th hearing. EPC approved the extension because there was no opposition to it. Unfortunately, no one was aware of the proposed extension until the time of the hearing and therefore no one was prepared to comment on it, and did not expect it to be approved separately from the prior proposals made by Walmart. TRNA appealed the EPC decision in order that a thorough evaluation is performed to address the current traffic conditions, transportation improvements and compliance with City plans and policies for the Coors and Montano site plan before it is approved.

(Continued on page 3)

3. Senate Bill 9/ State Legislature: The first public speaker at the January 19th Walmart hearing testified that the State Legislature was reviewing Senate Bill 9 during the 2012 legislative session. Senate Bill 9 would require out-of-state based corporations who conduct business in New Mexico to start paying state income tax to New Mexico. Local businesses already pay state income tax. Big box retail stores do not. These corporations who operate their stores in New Mexico benefit from our local services and facilities as well as our local businesses. The Albuquerque Police Department doesn't receive extra funds from out-of-state corporations to pay for their numerous police service calls to big box stores. If our small retail businesses go out of business due to competition from big box stores, then we have lost revenue for the state due to unfair competition. The state legislature approved Senate Bill 9 at the end of the legislative session. Governor Martinez vetoed it, saying she was concerned that it would negatively impact jobs. We plan to have someone speak about this issue at the TRNA General meeting.

land@trna.org



News & Views

Terri Spiak, Treasurer, TRNA

Chamiza Elementary News

On April 11, 2012, from 9:00am to 10:30am, Chamiza Elementary School staff will conduct a "Walk-Thru" during the school day. This is a rare opportunity for prospective new families to see this wonderful neighborhood school in operation firsthand. Be sure to be on time!

A special Kinder registration will take place at Chamiza Elementary on April 25, 2012 from 3:30pm to 6:30pm. If you cannot make it that day, you may call the office at 897-5174 to get more information. Or, come to general registration, which takes place from 9:00am to 3:00pm after April 25.

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Treasurer Notes

The Land Use Fund recently established by TRNA is off to a great start. Over 20 donors have provided \$3,325.00 that is available to use for the cost of land use advocacy issues regarding the "Big Box" large retail development application at Coors and Montano. If you would like to donate to this fund, there is a link at www.trna.org for a form to be mailed to POB 66288, Albuquerque, NM 87193. Keep in mind, while we welcome your donation, as a 501(c)(4) Non-Profit, donations to TRNA are NOT tax deductible. Email treasurer@trna.org with any questions!

Citizenship 101

Whether it is the TRNA General Meeting to be held March 28th at 6:30pm or whether we look toward the days to come in local, state, or federal elections, we need to take an interest in the issues that concern us. It's not enough to talk around the dinner table, or express our views over coffee. Appreciate the gift we've been given as Americans to have our voice be heard - get out there and vote!

People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote - a very different thing. ~Walter H. Judd

Kiwanis Kite Fiesta

Sunday, May 20, 2012

10 am to 4 pm

Mariposa Basin Park



The plans are coming together for this fun family event. There will be games, contests with prizes, a Key Club Bake Sale and more!

Mark your calendar and plan to enjoy a day at Mariposa Basin Park with the entire family!

This is one day we should hope for windy weather ... But not TOO windy!

To volunteer, email Jim Cross, West Side Kiwanis Club at crossroadsx@juno.com.



treasurer@trna.org



Crime Prevention Update

Fred van Berkel, Patrol Coordinator, TRNA

The TRNA Civilian patrol members are the eyes and ears of the Albuquerque Police Department in Taylor Ranch. We patrol from the river to Unser; from Calle Norteña to Western Trail/ Namaste. We work in two-person teams, one of whom must be certified by APD.

TRNA provides:

- Magnetic signs for the sides of your patrol vehicle identifying the patrol
- Revolving orange light for top of vehicle
- Other equipment for use while on patrol
- Monthly patrol calendar and patrol member list
- A partner, so you never patrol alone
- Information from APD, including the schedule of certification classes

What TRNA expects of patrollers:

- They patrol at least two hours per month
- They are enthusiastic about working to lower the crime rate in Taylor Ranch
- They plan to attend an APD certification class, when one is available
- They have fun and get to know fellow patrollers and their community
- They patrol in their own vehicles or the vehicles of their partners
- If they drive their own vehicles, they have a valid driver's license and auto insurance
- They patrol at your own risk
- They call 242-COPS or 911 if they see anything or anyone suspicious (eyes & ears!)
- They report any graffiti to 311
- They do not carry a weapon and do not confront anyone
- They do not enter private property
- They take care of the provided equipment and deliver it to the next team after their patrol

For more information or to join this elite team, contact: patrol@trna.org



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Library Update

Ceil van Berkel, Library Advisory Board

Taylor Ranch Library

5700 Bogart St. NW

Albuquerque, NM 87120

(one block west of Unser Blvd and two blocks south of Montaña Road)

505-897-8816 taylorranch@cabq.gov

Lillian Richardson, Area Manager

Hours: Mon. – Thurs.: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Fri. – Sat.: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sun.: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Borrow a Kindle from Your ABC Libraries!

Are you curious about eReaders? Thinking of buying one, but want to try it first? Do you want to get a feel for eBooks? Borrow a Kindle from your ABC Libraries. Lending begins April 1st. Request one today!

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Featured Databases (you'll need your library card number and pin to login at <http://libguides.cabq.gov/eresources>):

- **Learning Express Library:** A comprehensive, interactive online learning platform of practice tests and tutorial course series designed to help students and adult learners succeed on the academic or licensing tests they must pass. You'll get immediate scoring, complete answer explanations, and an individualized analysis of your results. Includes online practice exams for GED, GRE, Civil Service, Military, and professional licensing and certification.
- **Live Homework Help:**TM An innovative after-school program that connects students to expert tutors in math, science, social studies and English. Resources for adult learners includes ProofPoint for reviewing business documents and resumes. Available daily from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Roadrunner Food Bank

Taylor Ranch Library is a Roadrunner Food Bank donation location. Donate non-perishable food items in the bin in the entryway.

April Special Programs

Saturday, April 7, 2012, 10:30am - 12:00pm: Plant Swap! It's garden time at Taylor Ranch Library! Bring your extra seedlings and take home new plants and fresh ideas! Adopt a homeless plant today. Swap plants, seedlings, plant thinnings, seeds, extra tools/ books and ideas. Get advice from Master Gardeners and make a garden craft, too! The swap will be held on the library's side patio or, in case of inclement weather, in the rear of the children's room.

Saturday, April 14, 2012, 10:00am - 3:00pm: Master Gardeners. Master Gardeners will be at Taylor Ranch from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. to answer your gardening questions.

Tuesday, April 17, 2012, 10:30am - 11:30am: Dia de los Ninos, Dia de los Libros. Celebrate Dia de los Ninos with a performance for the whole family by Indiana Bones!

Thursday, April 19, 2012, 6:30pm - 8:00pm: Primary Sources: Poetry Workshop. Celebrate National Poetry Month @ Taylor Ranch! Your next poem is in our book stacks. In this workshop, we'll investigate ways you can use the library and library materials to stimulate, inspire, and interact with your poetry writing process.

This is an interactive and participatory event open to all levels of writers.

Funding Update:

The State Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, a General Obligation Bond bill which, if approved by the voters in November, will provide ABC Libraries with about \$867,000 in funding for materials purchases during the 2013-2014 calendar years. This is higher than the amount provided by the 2010 bond for 2011-2012, but substantially less than 2005-2006 levels.

In addition, the Severance Tax Bond Projects bill, as passed by the Governor, currently includes \$397,000 to help pay for the construction of the new Library at Central and Unser and \$40,000 for renovations at the South Valley Library.

Bernalillo County will also propose a Library General Obligation Bond in November. If you have a chance to speak with our Commissioner, Michelle Lujan Grisham (468-7027, BCCDistrict1@bernco.gov) you could encourage her to include \$2.3 million for library materials and automation in the County General Obligation Bonds for November. She held one meeting on the Bonds on March 26th at Don Newton Taylor Ranch Community Center. She will hold another on April 2nd at 6:30 PM at the Raymond G. Sanchez Community Ctr. (9800 4th Street NW, just north of Alameda Blvd.)

In 2010 the Commission proposed a \$1.5 million Library bond to the voters, and over 70% of the voters said "yes." If we can increase that amount this year, it will help compensate for the lower state bond funding that has been proposed in recent years and to adjust for higher purchasing costs.

The library has to purchase many different formats of materials today: not only paper books, magazine and newspaper subscriptions, dvd's and cd's, but also audio books, e-books (for kindle, for nook, for generic readers) and database subscriptions. The library also needs to increase the number of public computers and update them because of the increasing demand for them.

To learn more about how our library is funded, visit <http://SupportABCLibraries.org>, where you can also sign up to receive email updates about current library funding activities.

Park Cleanup

Cub Scouts Pack 121 will be picking up trash at Mariposa Basin Park on April 14th, 10:00—11:00 am. Join them in keeping our neighborhood park looking great.

This used to be a task done by just a few of our willing members volunteering to keep our local park looking good. We are so grateful the Cub Scouts Pack 121 has taken this project on for the year. If you are in the park that day and see them, be sure and walk over to thank them for doing such a great job.

Of Public Interest

The Downtown Neighborhoods Association is holding its biennial **Mothers' Day Historic Home Tour, Sunday, May 13, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.** Come tour some of the oldest and most beautiful houses in Albuquerque. Eight homes will be on the tour. Architectural styles range from Queen Anne to Victorian to bungalow. Food and drinks will be available for purchase by some of the best food trucks in town at Mary Fox Park (13th St and Roma Ave NW). Tickets for the tour are \$15.00 and go on sale at Mary Fox Park starting at 10:30 AM or buy them early online for \$12.50 at www.abqdna.com. Price includes a coupon to the restaurant bRgR for a free burger. For parking and more information visit our website at www.abqdna.com or call Lindi Anderson at 238-8291.

A series of **Five Educational Elder Care Workshops** for family caregivers is being offered to the public by New Mexico Association for the Continuity of Care (NMACC) in association with CNM Workforce Training Center. Led by local experts in the field of aging, these five workshops will be held on **consecutive Saturdays beginning April 14th**, 9—11:30 am, and cost \$15.00 each. Attend any one or all five. Designed to assist caregivers through the maze of eldercare information, printed materials and resource guides will also be provided. Students are welcome to bring laptops and recording devices.

Class location: CNM Workforce Training Center, 5600 Eagle Rock Ave, ABQ, NM 87113. For more information, contact **505-224-5200**. **Register online** at cnm.edu/wtc (Click on **“WTC Classes”** then Click on **“Eldercare Series”**) Details on classes can be found on the website.

Open Space Visitor Center

Fourth Annual Open Space Recycled Art Fair

Saturday, April 21, 2012, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

The City of Albuquerque is celebrating its annual [Spring Clean-ups](#) with the Fourth Annual Recycled Art Fair. Please join us to see how this amazing art form is evolving and becoming a sustainable alternative for “shopping at the mall.” Recycled Art, also known as Upcycle Art, has been of immense diversity in our four years’ experience. There are artists who have used discarded materials for years and achieved wide acclaim but are not known for the source material, those who repurpose into creations that have no resemblance to the original material and those who make us clever, useful objects to make our daily life easier and prettier. This immense diversity led to our decision to divide the show into the Juried Art Exhibit and the Recycled Art Fair with sales booths. We have also added a “sustainable business” component that has slightly different criteria from the art submissions. If you have a sustainable business you would like to promote, please tell us what you do and we will find a place for you.

CONTACT: Kim Selving, Parks & Recreation Dept., Open Space Division, 505-897-8831, kselving@cabq.gov
Please note that artists hosting a booth must pay a **\$40.00**.
Check out more details at cabq.gov/openspace.

Tentative Schedule includes:

- Music with Juniper Hill and others
- Learn about the City of Albuquerque’s expanding recycling program with Keep Albuquerque Beautiful
- Sustainable, healthy food with the “Chopping Block”
- Awards to volunteers who found the “most interesting trash” at Spring Clean-ups
- Art workshops:
 - Tin punch aluminum, art with Art Street, Styrofoam block printing, creative garden tools, paper-making and more.
 - “Recycling” workshops:
 - Basic Composting, Worm Composting, Water Harvesting, Waterwise Gardening, Seed Saving and Repurposed Material Garden Tool-making! Get ready to garden sustainably.
- Juried Art Show awards and Opening Reception
- Meet environmental heroine Rachel Carson via Anne Beyke’s chataqua presentation

Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Membership Registration

Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ E-mail address: _____

- Active Participation
- Sustaining Member (Not able to work on committees at this time)

I'm interested in working on the following:

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

Renewal and New Member Rates:

- Resident: \$18.00 (Thru Dec 2012) \$34.00 (Thru Dec 2013) \$48.00 (Thru Dec 2014)
- Business: \$50.00 (Thru Dec 2012) \$90.00 (Thru Dec 2013) \$125.00 (Thru Dec 2014)



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

4/2012

TRNA Board of Directors and Other TRNA Contacts

- President: *Dave Waters*.....897-5771 president@trna.org
- Vice-President: *Ray Shortridge* 604-3908 vicepresident@trna.org
- Secretary: *Felix Franco*..... secretary@trna.org
- Treasurer: *Terri Spiak*879-4995 treasurer@trna.org
- Director/Land Use: *René Horvath*.....898-2114 land@trna.org
- Director/Westside Coalition: *Derald McPherson*.....898-6489 wscn@trna.org
- Director at Large : *Hanna Sorrells*294-7042 director@trna.org
- Director/ Social Committee: *Ken Newman*..... 898-5447 social@trna.org
- Director at Large: *Lily Andrews*..... 270-5100 director.2@trna.org
- Crime Prevention Chair: *Felix Franco*..... crimeprevention@trna.org
- Patrol Coordinator : *Fred van Berkel*899-2738 patrol@trna.org
- Facebook Administrator: *Wendy Dial* facebook@trna.org
- Webmaster : *Ceil van Berkel*.....899-2738 webmaster@trna.org
- Newsletter Editor: *Rae Phillips*..... 899-1273 editor@trna.org
- Historian: *vacant* historian@trna.org
- Membership List Administrator: *Carol Waters*897-5771 memberdata@trna.org

Upcoming Events

- Mar 28-ANNUAL MEETING
- April 4th—Walmart Hearing
- April 7th—Easter Egg Hunt
- April 11th—Board Meeting
- April 14th—Park Cleanup
- April 21st—Recycle Fair
- May 17th—Walmart Hearing
- May 20th— Kite Fiesta

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Michael & Lily Andrews

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each month!*

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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: 99trna4

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COME JOIN US!

TRNA EASTER EGG HUNT

April 7, 2012

10 am—12:30 pm

Mariposa Basin Park

Food & Games

Prizes

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