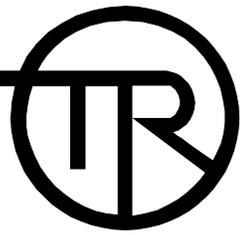


MESA MESSENGER



Newsletter of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Vol 30 No. 2 Feb. 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,

The Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association will be holding our Annual General Membership Meeting on the 11th of March at 7:00pm. As usual, we will meet at the Don Newton Community Center. We will have special guest speakers and refreshments. It's important that not only you attend, but that you ask your neighbors to attend as well.

In addition to special guest speakers, we will also have on the agenda the election of Board members and our annual budget. More information is available on page 4 of this issue.

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to Ceil van Berkel and Rae Phillips for their wonderful work on the TRNA Newsletter. Ceil is also our under-appreciated webmaster. Check out "www.TRNA.org" !

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. ®

Beautification News

Don MacCornack, Director, Beautification

WOW! Saturday was a great day. Weather was warm and a small army turned out to help with the park cleanup. The January Community Heroes are Marianne Billiot, Ray Shortridge, Carol Waters, Dave Waters, Dwane Lane, Juanita Coulter, Don Smith, Conni Smith, Paul Smith and Lynn MacCornack.

The park cleanup is important because of something known as the broken window theory. The theory goes that if a broken window is not repaired soon all the windows in the building are broken. If we allow litter in the park it sends a message that the community does not care and the criminal element is attracted. Park cleanup only takes an

hour or so, once a month, and you will feel great afterwards. I am grateful for everyone who has helped make the park beautification project a success.

Now for more Mariposa Basin Park trivia. The park contains over 50 acres. Construction started in the summer of 1991 with the first phase opening in September of 1992. TRNA worked hard for the creation of this great community asset.

Our next park cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, **February 21, 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. ®

History Corner #10

Fred van Berkel, Historian, TRNA

We are resurrecting the History Corner!

Over the last couple months I have been working on the archives of TRNA. There is still a lot of historical data missing, but we are now in the possession of three more boxes of documents (about two thousand pages) from years past..

I am thinking about writing a chronology of something like "the issues of the year in Taylor Ranch". But we still have large gaps. I could use minutes of meetings, newspaper clippings, the first few issues of the newsletter, etc. Please give me a call (899-2738) or send me an email (historian@trna.org) if you have anything that might be useful. Life is good! Fred ®

350-0773

CHAD'S TREESERVICE

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- Pruning
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Board of Directors' Meeting —Feb. 11th —6:30-8:30 pm—DN-TR Community Center

Education News

January/February 2009

Jane Webster, Education Director, TRNA

As our Taylor Ranch schools continue to prepare for testing in the spring, please support their efforts with positive encouragement for our students. Test familiarity is a key to testing success. You may see that the look of your student's work is different to attempt to familiarize students with the format and structure of the mandated testing. Teachers and parent groups will begin encouraging adequate rest and nutrition for optimal testing environments. Sleepy and hungry kids have a difficult time concentrating and doing their best work anytime, not just during high-stakes testing.

Remember that these test scores follow your students through high school.

Taylor Ranch continues to experience vehicles speeding through school zones. Please watch out for our kids on the streets, and in school zones. Many residents have witnessed parents dropping kids off for school in areas not designated for drop-offs. Several people have mentioned seeing parents dropping off their kids at the traffic light on Homestead and Taylor Ranch Road or in school parking lots. I've seen this several times myself! The traffic light was green and kids were piling out of the vehicles in an open roadway. Don't let this be you! Schools have designated plans to keep children safe. Follow the plan. Let's protect all our children.

The LBJ Advanced Orchestra has been honored by the NM Music Educators Association as the All-State Honors Orchestra. Taught by Karen Schindwolf of Taylor Ranch, these young people performed on January 8, 2009 at Popejoy Hall at UNM. What a wonderful success! Thank you, Mrs. Schindwolf and students, for all your hard work. ☺

WSC Report - January 7, 2009

Walt Sala, WSC Director, TRNA

The West Side Coalition of Neighborhood Associations met in January, after enjoying a December holiday with no meeting.

Councilor Michael Cadigan announced his intention to run for mayor, an excellent decision, in my opinion.

He indicated that a 10% reduction is needed in the ABQ operating budget. He suggested that unfilled positions not be filled at this time, it would not hurt our services in this way. Each counselor gets \$1,000,000 for his district, and suggestions should be directed to each counselor. Some parks are not going to be updated, although the Golf

Course Rd project will be finished as money was already allocated.

Robert Lucero, Westside school board member, had been happy that the Westside was going to get additional board members. Unfortunately a lawsuit has deprived us of this voter approved addition. This has forced some of us to want out of the ABQ school district, and have our own school district where we get true representation. One third of the ABQ students are on the West Side, but we have only one representative on the school board. I think it is time for us West Siders to act!

The school budget for lunches has gone into the red badly due to parents not paying for lunches. The school board decided that those who should pay and don't, their kids would only receive a cheese sandwich. If on the other hand the child cannot afford to pay, the parents would fill out a form with this information, and the child would get the regular lunch.

Some of the no-pays are claiming that this is discrimination. Of course they could pay-up or fill out the form, but they don't. I think they are they are too lazy or too cheap and then they expect someone else to pay. I say, "Shame, Shame"!

Representative Moe Maestas indicated that the West Side does not have adequate representation. We have over 25% of the population and over 33% of the school age children in ABQ, and something should be done. He indicated that something must be done, when only 44% of the kids graduate from high school. What happened to the other 56%? Maybe giving the kids a reason to stay in school would improve the numbers.

Rep. Maestas also said that criminal justice in New Mexico is an unknown and what passes for it, is criminal! He would like to see ethics laws enacted.

County Commissioner Mallory is retiring and his replacement will be Bernadette Mier.

Bernadette Sanchez, State Senator, felt that APS should be having pre-apprenticeship programs in high school, keeping students in school and getting them ready for a decent paying job, rather than crime, drug using or selling drugs.

State Rep. Tom Anderson indicated that there is over \$3,000,000 that has been approved for projects, but is not being used, and could be put into the general fund. He also felt very strongly about getting some gang laws on the books.

Jeff Armijo, CNM board member, indicated that CNM needs to focus on four important areas: 1. Access, 2. Affordability, 3. Accountability, 4. Ethics. ☺

News from the Taylor Ranch Library

5700 Bogart NW 505-897-8816

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Hours: Monday | 10 AM - 8 PM |
| Tuesday | 10 AM - 8 PM |
| Wednesday | 10 AM - 8 PM |
| Thursday | 10 AM - 8 PM |
| Friday | 10 AM - 6 PM |
| Saturday | 10 AM - 6 PM |
| Sunday | 1 PM - 5 PM |

Special Events Scheduled for February:

Wednesday 2/18 10:30 AM-Noon

Street Smarts: Personal Safety at Home, in Public, and while Driving

Steve Sink, APD Crime Prevention Manager, will talk about how we may be viewed as targets and opportunities for crime. He will address topics such as auto theft; what to do if you are being followed while driving; how to prepare your home for vacation; how best to handle door-to-door solicitation.

Be proactive about your personal safety! Sign up at the Information Desk and increase your street smarts with advice from a professional.

Saturday 2/28 3:00-4:30 PM

Hanging with Bats: Ecobats, Vampires, and Movie Stars Author Karen Taschek will be joining us for a book talk and signing. Taschek will discuss what to do if a bat gets in your house, building bat houses, and how to imitate bat "talk." This book is written for children and this is a Family program.

Current information can always be found at the Branch's website:

<http://www.cabq.gov/library/TaylorRanch.htm> ®

Taylor Ranch License Plates



Once upon a time, the developers of Taylor Ranch gave a special license plate to folks who bought a home in the new master-planned community.

In response to popular demand,

TRNA has reissued these plates in the original brown and gold design. They are available from Ceil van Berkel (899-2738) or at the Community Center. \$10.00 for one plate, \$15.00 for two plates. They make great thank you gifts for your neighbors. Show your community pride by putting one on your vehicle. Proceeds benefit the TRNA scholarship program. ®

Save Yourself This Tax Season

Call an Enrolled Agent

An enrolled agent (EA) can be a real lifesaver at tax time. Unlike other tax preparers, enrolled agents are federally licensed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. They specialize in taxation and go through strict testing and application procedures and continuing education to achieve the unmatched expertise they offer you today. So, before you get in over your head, put an enrolled agent on your side.

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March General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, March 11th, 7:00 pm
Don Newton—Taylor Ranch Community Center
Kachina and Taylor Ranch Road

Agenda

Guest Speakers

Reports from the President and Directors

Financial Report for April 1, 2008—March 10, 2009

Proposal for Budget for April 1 2009—March 31 2010

Membership Vote on Proposed Budget

Membership Report

Introduction of Nominees for Director

Election of Directors

Questions from Members

Refreshments and Socializing

Our TRNA Business Members support us — Let's Support Them

| | |
|--|----------|
| 7-Eleven Store on Taylor Ranch Road..... | 922-0214 |
| ARCA..... | 332-6700 |
| Bosque School..... | 898-6388 |
| Cake Fetish at Montaña and Coors..... | 899-2425 |
| Chad's Tree Service..... | 350-0773 |
| Homestead Hills Shopping Center..... | 304-4516 |
| J. Martin Realty Services, LLC..... | 850-3570 |
| KANDU Plumbing, Inc. | 899-8944 |
| Paper Pusher Bookkeeping..... | 898-9539 |
| Patsy Rippo, Keller Williams Realty..... | 306-2244 |
| Robert Bye, Prepaid Legal Services, Inc..... | 410-4631 |

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 editor@trna.org. ®

Community News Notes

AARP Income Tax-Aide Services at TRCC:

The AARP Tax-Aide program was created to help low- and middle-income taxpayers prepare and file their income tax returns with the IRS, free of charge. Trained and certified volunteers will prepare federal and New Mexico tax returns at Taylor Ranch Community Center (TRCC) 1:00 to 5:00 PM Thursday, from **February 5 through April 9**. To schedule an appointment call TRCC at 768-6006. If necessary, arrangements can be made to assist shut-ins and homebound disabled persons at home or at special sites, such as hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, etc.

Summer Science Program for HS Juniors:

What:: A six-week residential enrichment program in which gifted math & science students learn enough astrophysics, calculus, and programming to observe a near-earth asteroid and calculate its orbit.

Where: Two campuses: New Mexico Tech and Ojai, CA;

36 students at each.

Cost: Free to New Mexico residents; a state government grant will pay the \$3,750 program fee

Application deadlines: **Feb. 20** (first round) and March 20 (final).

Get all the details at www.summerscience.org

St. Pius X High School Information Night:

High school students and their parents are invited to the St. Pius X High School information night at 6 p.m. on Thursday, **February 19** at the Don Newton (Taylor Ranch) Community Center. Teachers, administrators, and students will be on hand for the information session and to answer questions about admissions for the 2009-2010 school year. Information regarding financial aid will be available. St. Pius X is a co-educational institution of over 900 students in grades nine through 12. The school welcomes students of all faiths. For more information, contact Jo Salway at 831-8406 or jsalway@spx.k12.nm.us.

Land Use Update

René Horvath, Land Use Director, TRNA

I have no report this month because I have been working hard to prepare for the January 27th appeal of the County zoning at La Orilla and Coors. I will report on the outcome of our hearing next month.

Thank you all for your help with the petitions. It may just make the difference. Everyone did a good job!

Thank you, Rene.' ®



Happy Presidents' Day!

Many Thanks to

DIGITECH OFFICE EQUIPMENT

For printing for this newsletter each month

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4310 Paseo del Norte, Suite D; Albuquerque, NM 87113

<http://calldigitech.com>

Michael & Lily Andrews, owners

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"/> Active Participation | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member (Newsletter Only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Prevention | <input type="checkbox"/> Calling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/ Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Committee |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Center |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Check your expiration date on the mailing label.

If your membership expired December 2008, please renew now!

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

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| Resident: <input type="checkbox"/> \$18.00 (Thru Dec 2009) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$34.00 (Thru Dec 2010) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$48.00 (Thru Dec 2011) |
| Business: <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 (Thru Dec 2009) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$90.00 (Thru Dec 2010) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00 (Thru Dec 2011) |



02/09

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 | police@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 |
| Historian: | <i>Fred van Berkel</i> | 899-2738 | historian@trna.org |
| Web Site: | <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 |

IMPORTANT DATES

- Feb. 11—Board Meeting
- Feb. 21—Park Clean-up
- Mar. 1—Scholarship Deadline
- Mar. 11—Annual Meeting
- April 11—Easter Egg Hunt



TRNA Board Members Needed!

Election of Directors will take place at the March General Membership Meeting on March 11th. Board members whose terms are expiring this year are Patsy Rippo, Don MacCornack, Alice Demi, Walt Sala, Gary Gudell, and Ray Shortridge. Patsy, Gary, and Ray have agreed to be nominated for another two year term. We need at least 3 additional nominees for these positions.

Directors must be available to attend board meetings at the Community Center on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and be willing to assist with the work of the association. If you are willing to serve yourself, or if you

know of someone who would be a good nominee, please email president@trna.org or call Patsy Rippo at 306-2244.

Why serve as a director? To use your talents for the good of your community; to solve problems that bother you or your neighbors; to influence decisions that will affect us all for years to come; to bring the power of numbers to bear on city decisions; and finally to preserve TRNA, because if no one serves, the association dies. You receive no pay for your services, but are richly rewarded knowing you are making a difference in the lives of your family, neighbors, community, and city. ®

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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December was Renewal Time

Please check your mailing label above to see when your membership expires. If it expired in December 2008, it is not too late to renew. Use the form on page 7.

If your membership expires next year or later, then you do not need to renew at this time. Thanks for your continuing membership! We're happy to have you as a member!

Clever idea for 2009: encourage your neighbors to join! Or give them a gift subscription for the 2009!

Annual Membership Meeting — Wednesday, March 11th — 7:00 pm

Don Newton—Taylor Ranch Community Center



Your vote is necessary to elect directors and approve the budget for the coming year!

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