

August 2007

President's column

-Sharon Eastvold

City "311" and City Zoning

I bet most of us have no idea of the huge number of ways we can use the City's great new 311 information and reporting service. And most folks also could use a little brushing up on neighborhood zoning.

Well, our next meeting will give you ample opportunity to learn about both.

We're very fortunate to have as our first speaker the General Manager of the City's 311 Citizen Contact Center, Esther Tenenbaum. Did you want to know the hours of the City Zoo or Biological Park? How about making a complaint on the dog that's been barking for hours? Or getting graffiti removed, or abandoned vehicles towed away? Friendly, polite 311 operators are waiting to help you 24-7, 365 days every year.

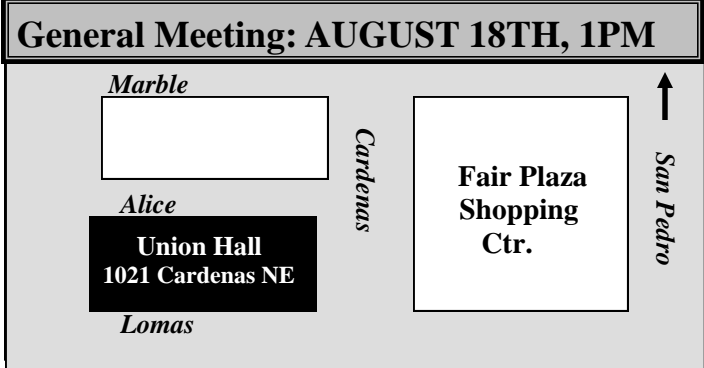
And we're equally lucky to have Ty Jameson, the City Zoning Code Enforcement Officer for our area. If you are planning any significant additions or changes to your property, Mr. Jameson can explain what your zoning allows by way of setbacks, building

and fence heights, etc. Otherwise, you could waste a lot of time and money. He also can explain the City's new regulation limiting vehicle parking in residential front yards. Most folks haven't heard about this.

So come and learn how to effectively use these City services your taxes pay for.

Scott Salvas of the San Juan/Chama Project also will be on hand to answer your questions (cf. "Alvarado Wrap-Up" on page 4).

Mark your calendar now: August 18th, Saturday, 1 PM at Carpenters Union Hall. I'll look forward to seeing you!



"311 and Zoning Enforcement"

Saturday, August 18th, 1-2:30 pm, Carpenter's Union Hall, 1021 Cardenas NE

This excellent program will help you understand what the function and uses are of the Citizen Contact Center, 311. You will also learn what the zones in Fair Heights mean, and how zoning helps to protect your safety, quality of life and property values. Come and get answers to your questions on how the zoning code is enforced, how the city zoning hearing process works, how you can report violations and any other questions. Finally, Scott Salvas of the San Juan/Chama Project will answer your questions about the "Alvarado Wrap Up (p.4)."



FHNA Calendar

<p>General Membership Meetings: Saturday, August 18th, 1-2:30pm Carpenter's Union Hall 1021 Cardenas NE</p>	<p>Future General Membership Meetings: October 27, 2007 Fair Heights Fest February 23, 2008, To be announced</p>	<p>FHNA Board Meeting: October 1, 2007 February 4, 2008</p>
--	---	--



Helmets for Life!

By Sharon Eastvold

The State has passed a law requiring children under 18 to wear helmets while riding tricycles, bikes, skates, skate boards and scooters.

In a recent Journal article (6-26-07), it was noted that “more than 362,000 kids ages 14 and under are treated yearly for bicycle-related accidents, while 176,000 are treated for accidents involving skateboards, scooters and skates...In places where helmet laws have been passed, they have seen about a 45% decrease in brain injuries across the board for all ages.”

Imagine your child not seeing an oncoming car, or not being seen by a driver. Head injury can result in paralysis, learning problems, seizures, mood swings, even rage, to name a few. Although these impacts may reduce over time and the person may find ways to compensate, what if they simply wore their helmet in the first place?

I applaud the parents who are caring and loving their children enough to ensure their safety. Teaching children to wear a helmet is a gift of life.

Getting To the New Sunflower Market

By John Vaughan, FHNA Planning & Zoning Chair

November is the target date for opening the new Sunflower Natural Foods Market, Wecks Restaurant & Catering, and other retail shops on the southwest corner of San Mateo and Lomas. You probably have noticed all the construction going on.

Walking or riding a bike to this exciting new commercial area from our neighborhood, however, is downright scary. The San Mateo/Lomas intersection is a forbidding barrier, and pretty ugly. Crosswalks currently are poorly marked. They need conspicuous, permanent marking. The “Walk” mode on the traffic lights is on a very short 25-30 second fuse, not allowing enough time to safely cross six lanes, especially for the elderly. Medians are narrow and even broken in some places. They need to be wider and have pedestrian cut-throughs to allow wheelchair, baby stroller, and bicycle use. Bus stops on Lomas need real bus bays set back like the ones on San Mateo. All the bus stops need trash containers and functioning shelters.

If you would like to work on making our intersections safe, please volunteer at our next FHNA meeting August 18th; or call: 255-7679.

High Desert Auto Wholesale

Buy Sell Trade

Tom Robles

Automobile Consultant

Cell: 907-7047

5601 Lomas NE * Albuquerque, NM 87110

Phone: 232-8439 * Fax: 265-5687

**Clip Ad and SAVE \$100.00 OFF PURCHASE
PRESENT AD UPON TEST DRIVE**



Please support the businesses that support FHNA. Their ads make this newsletter possible. Thank You!



Open Mon-Sat
Breakfast 7-10:30 am
Lunch 11-4
Dinner 4-8

1400
San Pedro NE

Please call
255-4740
for takeout



UNIQUE CAKES
BY *Karyn*

1100 SAN MATEO NE. SUITE 22
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110
(505) 268-2998
WWW.UNIQUECAKESBYKARYN.COM

MAIL STORAGE

• UPS • POSTAL • FEDEX • AIRBORNE & MORE
• UPS AUTHORIZED SHIPPING OUTLET •

**We Can...PROFESSIONALLY
Wrap-It • Pack-It • Ship-It • Store-It**

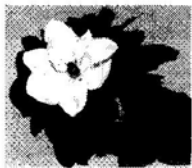
SPECIALIZING IN:

- Electronic Equipment
- Pottery China
- Fine Art
- Hi-Value Items
- Wood Crates Made to Order
- Antiques
- Collectibles & Estates

PICK-UP AVAILABLE • Member AAIMC

Directly across from Western Bank • OPEN 7 DAYS: Mon - Sat 8-6 • Sun 10-5
1208 San Pedro NE • FAX: 268-9958 • 268-9798

A Touch of Therapy



Day Spa

When calling to schedule your appointment, mention this ad and receive your first massage at only \$35!

505-681-8616

5907 Alice Ave. Suite B, Albuquerque, NM 87110
Massage, Hot Stones, Salt Glows, Paraffin, Pedicures/Manicure



In Our Midst: Carpenters Union

By Betty Muench, FHNA Treasurer

Have you wondered how the FHNA can afford to meet at such a nice place as the Carpenters Union Hall? Since our neighborhood association was formed in 1993, the Carpenters Union Local #1319 has supported our work in the community by granting us the use of their hall without charge. It's hard to imagine what we would have done without their generous help. We are very grateful to them.

However, the Union will move to a much larger, more prominent location at I-25 and Comanche sometime in 2009. Their new 100,000 square foot facility will contain a training center, classrooms, and offices for Local #1319 and the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters that is financing the project.

Originally chartered in 1902 by The United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Local Union #1319 has been our neighbor since 1958 at their current 1021 Cardenas NE address. They offer training and education necessary for apprentice and journeyman status in the construction industry, support livable wage levels, and offer health and welfare benefits.

Local #1319 President, Robert Garcia (above left), and Financial Secretary, Dave Barber (above left), have discussed with us possible future uses of their one-acre property that might continue to benefit our neighborhood and the larger Near Northeast Heights area. We will sorely miss their thoughtfulness, even thinking of our welfare as they prepare to move. We thank you Carpenters Union Local #1319 for exemplifying the meaning of 'good neighbor.'



Surf's up at Alvarado Lake!! Drainage problems, caused by Alvarado paving are being ad-

Alvarado Wrap-Up

By Ike Eastvold, FHNA Vice-President

After three months of mud, dust, noise, road closures, and more, everyone was pleased the last week in June to see the beautiful job of repaving Alvarado done by the San Juan/Chama Drinking Water Project contractors: Albuquerque Paving, ASCG, and ERS.

Then the rains started the first week in July, and we noticed a lot more runoff racing down the east side of Alvarado, spreading out into a sheet as it approached Summer. Little water was crossing over at Alice, Marble, and Mountain. And, after the rains were finished, a huge pool --named "Alvarado Lake" by some-- remained at the northeast corner of Alvarado and Summer.

There was only one explanation for these changes in normal drainage: the crown of Alvarado mistakenly had been paved through every intersection, thereby forming a kind of dam to flows coming from the southeast that wanted to cross and continue generally moving northwest toward storm drains on San Mateo.

Everything in Fair Heights drains on the streets. Most heads northwesterly toward the low spot at Summer, then turns north on La Veta, and proceeds west on El Encanto toward Madeira and the San Mateo Noise Wall where, all totaled, there are seven storm drains, the only ones in the interior of Fair Heights. Flows intercepted by the crown of Alvarado were unnaturally concentrated into this lower leg, thereby increasing the risk of flooding damages to property from a really big rain event, particularly

along short stretches on the north sides of Summer and El Encanto.

As we go to press, ASCG, Inc., engineers on the project, are meeting with representatives from the City Construction Services Division to finalize a plan for restoring normal drainage patterns.

It appears that there may be agreement to construct "Valley Gutters" at Marble, Mountain, and Summer before the end of August. These are cement aprons that will channel the rainwater through the intersections so it can follow its normal path. Fair Heights currently has two Valley Gutters: one at Cardenas and Marble, and the second at Cagua and Summer. Addressing these drainage issues is at the very top of ASCG's "punchlist" of tasks that need to be done before the San Juan/Chama construction is really finished.

Other major categories of tasks on the punchlist include: 1) repair of damaged landscaping by August 24th; 2) repair of various sidewalk, curb and gutter damage by August 31st; 3) removal of all numbers & letters spray painted on the sidewalks (91 groups in all) by September 21st; and, 4) repainting curb address markers uniformly for the length of Alvarado, also by September 21st. The yellow "No Parking" curb markings near the intersection with Lomas also will be repainted.

Damaged street signs already have been replaced, portions of Summer and Rosemont pavement have been patched, and some initial clean up of debris has been done by laborers and street sweeping machines.

The FHNA has communicated and coordinated intensively with San Juan/Chama project contractors for over a year in order to come out of this difficult construction project with no residual damages to the neighborhood. In retrospect, we can be proud to have maintained a good working relationship with all parties.

The presentation by Scott Salvas, ASCG Project Engineer, at our August 18th meeting will mark the fourth meeting of our membership--open to everyone, members or not--where we have had important dialogue. Please feel free bring your questions and comments to Mr. Salvas. I look forward to seeing you!



Your Pet and the New Law

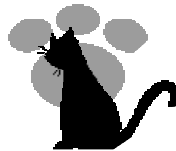
By Ike Eastvold, FHNA Vice President



Did you know that in Albuquerque over 30,000 animals are impounded yearly, 15,000 are euthanized, and 13,000 find a home? Also, the City last year received 5,311 calls for investigations of animal cruelty.

The new City law, H.E.A.R.T for Humane and Ethical Animal Treatment, addresses these statistics in several ways.

- 1) Dogs and cats over the age of 6 months must have been spayed or neutered and microchipped by April 10th of this year.
 - 2) Animals kept intact for breeding must have a \$150 per animal permit. No person shall have over four intact pets in a household. An additional \$150 litter permit fee is required for each female dog or cat breeding up to two litters a year.
 - 3) A litter permit is required to advertise any animal under 6 months for sale, gift or other transfer of ownership. Puppies and kittens can only be sold from the location listed on the litter permit and cannot be sold on public or commercial property.
 - 4) Albuquerque residents can now own up to six pets, no more than six cats or four dogs and two cats. All six must be spayed or neutered.
 - 5) Chaining animals for longer than one hour in any 24 hour time period is unlawful.
- For more information on the HEART ordinance, call 311 or 768-2000; or go online to www.cabq.gov/pets.



FHNA OFFICERS & VOLUNTEERS

FHNA Board of Directors

President:	Sharon Eastvold 255-7679
Vice-President:	Ike Eastvold
Secretary:	Carole Kalich
Treasurer:	Betty Muench
Civic Betterment:	Margaret Young
Public Education:	Vacant
Fundraising:	Susan De Rosa
Zoning & Planning:	John Vaughan
Social Committee:	Vacant
Newsletter Designer:	Vacant: Sharon Eastvold filling in
Web Master:	Vacant: www.fairheights.org

Street Captains

Wendy & Tim Ashby are the Coordinators for signs and newsletter distribution.

Sylvia MacGregor.....	San Pedro
Tom Schellenbach.....	Cagua
Anne Mae Gold.....	Cardenas
Jerry Camuglia.....	Valencia
Linda Marchiando.....	El Encanto & Constitution
Celinda & Russ Hall.....	Mountain
John Rhodes.....	Marble
Elvie Lopez & Patrick Scott.....	Alvarado
Katie Harms.....	Alice
Kenneth Miller.....	Rosemont, Summer & Madeira
George Chavez.....	Lomas
Toppin Hodge.....	Marble Offices
Caroline Monie.....	Granite

FHNA, 1208 San Pedro NE #103, Albuquerque, NM 87110
To volunteer, please call 255-7679

Fair Heights Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work/Alternate Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Resident—Resident Memberships per voting member is \$5.00. Business—Business Membership per business is \$15.00.

Please make check payable to "Fair Heights Neighborhood Association" or "FHNA." Enclose with this form and mail to the address below. **Thank you!**

Fair Heights Neighborhood Survey

Your comments and concerns will be the basis for the direction this Association takes over the months to come.

1. What are your main neighborhood concerns? _____
2. A Street Captain is responsible for distributing information in a timely manner to one street (2-3 blocks). Would you be willing to be a Street Captain for your street? Yes No
3. Please check the Committees which you would be willing to help:
 Social Zoning & Planning Public Education Civic Betterment Fundraising
4. What are some topics for general membership meetings that would be of interest to you? _____

Mail to: FHNA: Membership, 1208 San Pedro NE #103, Albuquerque, NM 87110

Special Invitation

*Members of
Fair Heights Neighborhood Association
are invited to become members of
Rio Grande Credit Union!*

*Join Rio Grande Credit Union today and experience
the credit union difference!*

YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF:



FREE Checking Accounts



Direct Deposit



Savings Accounts



19,000 ATM's



Great Rates on Loans



Plus, Much More

RIO GRANDE CREDIT UNION

1401 San Pedro NE (Between Constitution & Lomas)
20 First Plaza, Suite 200 (Corner of 2nd & Copper)
485 Coors Blvd NW (Corner of Coors and Los Volcanes)
1501 San Pedro SE, Bldg T-62 (at the VA Hospital)

www.riograndecu.org
(505) 262-1401, or toll free (877) 761-5136