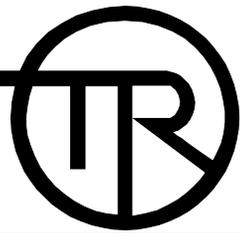


MESA MESSENGER



Newsletter of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Vol. 31 No. 7 Jul 2010

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



HAPPY SUMMER!

President's Message

Dave Waters, President, TRNA

Boy, how fast is this summer going? We just returned from a lengthy trip and it's time for the Mesa Messenger again. Our house and driveway were covered with sand so there must have been some good winds while we were gone. My neighbor was sweeping his sidewalks and the street so I joined in and voilà!, clean again and no city workers to help. Speaking of city workers, as you probably already know, the budget for the city is very thin this year, The more we can do for our neighborhoods ourselves the better it will be. I have noticed a few areas that have their own landscaping at the entrance that have been allowed to fall into a state of disrepair. These areas are begging for volunteers to donate some of their time and help clean up. Just thinking out loud.

Many people are on vacation and out of town this month and next so there is not much to report on this time. There will be **no board meeting for July** so I guess we will get back to work after the dog days of summer. Enjoy them.

Again, if you have any requests for me, please contact me at president@trna.org ®

Land Use Update

Rene Horvath, Land Use Director, TRNA

1. City Councilor Dan Lewis District 5 meeting/ June 22nd: Councilor Lewis held a District 5 meeting at the Taylor Ranch Community Center on June 22 to give an update on road projects on the northwest mesa. Three main projects were discussed. They included:

(A) The Unser Blvd. extension to Paseo del Norte: The City is working on the design of Unser to extend the road from Universe to Paseo del Norte. Once the



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design is completed, the City will begin construction. The design of Unser from Paseo Del Norte to Lyons Blvd. in Paradise Hills will begin in 2011. Unser will start out as two lanes, then eventually be expanded to four lanes.

(B) The Rainbow and Universe Northwest Educational Corridor Study: The City is doing a study for Rainbow and Universe road improvements, known as the Northwest Education Corridor study. The study will look at what kind of road improvements are needed to address traffic and pedestrian travel

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Board of Directors Meeting —Wednesday, Aug. 11—6:30 pm—DN-TR Community Center

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around the school area, and to evaluate intersection improvements at Universe, and Rainbow, on Paseo del Norte.

(C) The McMahon extension to Universe: The City is working to extend McMahon to Universe, which will provide another access connection to CNM.

During the District 5 meeting, residents from Taylor Ranch and Santa Fe Village expressed to the City representatives that **Unser is a 4-lane Parkway**. The design of Unser Blvd. has already gone through numerous hearings in the late 1980's. The end result was the approval of City Council Bill R-455 in 1989 which established Unser Blvd. as a four lane parkway for the protection of Petroglyph National Monument and surrounding neighborhoods. Neighborhood Associations like Santa Fe Village, Taylor Ranch, Paradise Hills, and preservation groups like Friends of the Albuquerque Petroglyphs, worked together to support R-455. Unser south between Dellyne and Ouray, was designed with the parkway design standards. This is why it has natural landscaping for the medians and for the buffer area on the eastside of the roadway with a pedestrian trail and artwork placed along certain walls. The Unser Blvd. R-455 legislation extends from Ouray to the Sandoval County

line (north of McMahon).

Also note that the City will be seeking public input for the section of Unser between Dellyne and Montañó, to make pedestrian, bike, and landscape improvements. They plan to have public meetings to discuss this, possibly this fall.

2. City Council meeting, June 21st: At the June 21st City Council meeting, there were three items on the agenda that are worth mentioning:

(A) Open Space Land Art Project: One of the items on the City Council agenda was the Open Space Art Project. In 2009, a Selection Committee made up of members of the Arts Board, Westside Neighborhood representatives, and Open Space staff spent several months reviewing 15 Land Art proposals from various artists. The art project was to be located at Coors and Bosque Meadows road, which is the entrance to the Open Space Visitor Center. On June 2009, the committee selected the art proposal known as the Fly Way. The Fly Way is a project that will re-use jetty jacks taken from the Bosque. Jetty jacks are the "jack" shaped steel structures wired together in rows along the Bosque. The purpose of jetty jacks is flood protection. They are used to capture tree branches and debris during a flood to slow the water down to prevent destruction of the flood control levees. The jetty jacks helped to create the Bosque by allowing sand to accumulate on the outside edge of the river, providing a place for the cottonwood trees to grow. Jetty jacks are now being removed from the Bosque, for two reasons; they are no longer needed as they were in the past and they prevent access of the fire trucks to put fires out in the Bosque. The "Fly Way" seemed like a very appropriate land art design near the Bosque. Recently, the Finance committee, made up of City Councilors had recommended not to fund the project, even though money had already been earmarked for the project. Members of the Arts Community questioned the Finance Committee's decision to not fund the project at the June 22nd City Council meeting. After taking public comment, it was decided that the case will be heard by the full **City Council on August 2nd**.

(B) Appeal of the West Bluff Shopping Center LED Sign: City Council also had to decide whether to uphold the EPC's decision to allow LED signs at the West Bluff Shopping Center or reject it. The Grande Heights Neighborhood Association led the effort to appeal the EPC's decision in approving a 52 ft. tall bell tower to be constructed in order to hold up

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two huge LED signs at the West Bluff Shopping Center. After listening to the City's legal staff explanation of the appeal and the EPC's decision, City Council decided to hear the case themselves in August. **The City Council will hear the appeal August 16th.**

We will need your support. Please take time to show up for both these two hearings.

(C) LED sign moratorium/ Isaac Benton: Council Benton sponsored a bill that proposed a six month moratorium on LED signs, and would create a task force that would work on zoning regulations for LED signs. At least ten people from the sign industry gave public comment to not support the moratorium. They said that the moratorium would hurt businesses, providing less gross receipts tax for the City, which would in turn affect the City's economy. They also said that there were 33 permits issued that day for LED signage in anticipation of the moratorium.

Three neighborhood representatives (TRNA and the Grande Heights Neighborhood) gave testimony to support the moratorium. They said that bright flashy signs are aesthetically displeasing and are a distraction to motorists, making it a safety issue. The LED signs do not comply with current sign regulation and there has also been no enforcement on the LED signs.

Councilor Benton, Garduño, and Harris supported the moratorium. They said that the moratorium was necessary and that a six month moratorium would not have any affect on the City's economy. Harris also questioned the motives of those who applied for the 33 LED sign permits, feeling they did so to avoid regulations.

Unfortunately, Councilor Winter did not support a moratorium and made a motion to delete it from Benton's bill. The City Council voted 6 to 3 in favor of taking the moratorium out. There will still be a task force to work on the LED sign regulations, but no 6 month moratorium. The task force will be made up of the sign Industry people, business people, and a few community people.

3. Petroglyph National Monument 20th Anniversary, June 27th: Petroglyph National Monument was established on June 27th, 1990. It was a huge effort by the citizens of Albuquerque to create a National Monument for the protection and preservation of the Petroglyphs. One individual that spoke at the Anniversary event was Ike Eastvold. He and his wife Sharon organized the grass roots organization called "The Friends of the Albuquerque Petroglyphs" which lobbied for the establishment of



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Petroglyph National Monument. Ike paid tribute to those who played an important role in this effort. Several have already passed on. They are Doug Farris the Assistant Regional Director for the National Park Service Southwest office, Herman Agoyo who was past Governor of the San Juan Pueblo and Director of the Eight Northern Pueblo Council, Bill Weahkee from Cochiti Pueblo who represented the five Sandoval Indian Pueblos and served on the Petroglyph National Monument Advisory Committee, and Philip Lauriano an elder and religious leader for the Sandia Pueblo. They all gave their time to support the Monument and shared personal testimony on the value of the Petroglyph area, and why it should be preserved and protected. We are extremely fortunate to have such a unique resource at our door step. @

TRNA is on Facebook!

Keep up with Taylor Ranch news on our facebook page. You can post information about events affecting our community and see what others have posted.

Just log into facebook and search for TRNA. You'll see our webpage logo identifying our site, or you can link directly to <http://www.facebook.com/srch.php#!/pages/TRNA/110161285674970?ref=ts>. Many thanks to our

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member Wendy Fox Dial who set up the page and is the primary contributor. Let's make this a community collaboration and post notices of interest to the neighborhood! ☺

Beautification News

Dee Hettick, Director, Beautification

We had no clean-up in June. The July clean-up will be at Mariposa Basin Park on Saturday, July 17th, at 8:30 am. Questions? Email parks@trna.org or call 980-2587. ☺

Membership Update

Larry Walsh, Director, Membership

Someone asked me the other day, "Why should I join TRNA?" The short answer is that TRNA works to make your neighborhood better. Here are just a few things we do:

- Patrol streets and report suspicious behavior
- Advocate for property owners in front of zoning committees and other government officials and entities
- Keep our parks clean
- Organize two neighborhood rummage sales
- Award scholarships to deserving high school graduates from our neighborhood

Here is a short list of some of our successes:

- Helped to design and build one of the most beautiful and heavily-used community centers in the city
- Advocated for the completion of Montañó Bridge
- Worked to establish a fire station in our community
- Fought for the creation of one of Albuquerque's largest and most popular parks
- Assisted in the planning of one of the city's most-used libraries
- Worked closely with APD to reduce crime

Thank you for your help in continuing to promote, protect, and improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch. We need your neighbors to help us, too. Please pass this newsletter on to your friends and ask them to join. There is a membership form on page 7 showing the prorated rates for joining for the rest of 2010. There is also a form you can print at <http://trna.org/join.html>. If they want to join for just the rest of 2010, collect \$9, fill out the form for them, and send it in. For more information email me at

membership@trna.org ☺

West Side Coalition Report

Brett Lopez, Director, TRNA

The May 2010 meeting of the Westside Coalition of Neighborhoods was rather uneventful. President Laura Horton put together an agenda the dealt with green building of residential homes and an update on commercial vacancies.

Avoiding the real issue to split APS. She purposely avoided the real issue facing the NW section of our fair City. The Board members of the coalition have been asking for a meeting that deals specifically with this very, very important issue. This movement spearheaded by a select few whom in my opinion have their own best interests at heart have petitioned the Secretary of Education for the creation of said district.

The New Mexico Home Builders Association gave a presentation on what and how they are going about the process of encouraging member builders to work toward building greener residential structures and the head of Grubb and Ellis spoke about how we need to create more commercial development.....confusing, in that we all drive around and see multiple vacancies in virtually every shopping area you and I go to.

Back to paragraph two. As you may or may not be aware there has been a movement afoot to create a new school district that includes West Mesa, Cibola and Volcano Vista High Schools and their clusters. Sounds, okay on its face. However, when one looks a little deeper there is a new group calling themselves ABQPass. ABQPass is\ was founded by Mr. Dan Serrano, current candidate for county commission and also a developer. I'm sure you have heard his name recently with his involvement with SunCal who is now bankrupt.

The immediate past president of the West Side Coalition made a motion that the June meeting be specifically focused on the APS split issue. The president of the coalition wished to have a community forum to inform the general public of the pros and cons. As of this writing that has not happened. The regular meeting for June of the West Side Coalition has been a moving target. I believe that the current President (a proponent of the split) wishes to avoid a public forum that allows all to be informed and have their questions answered as this will require a vote of the public.

That's about it.....Till next month, Brett
wscn@trna.org ☺

Crime Prevention Update

Fred van Berkel, Patrol Coordinator, TRNA

What is the TRNA Civilian Patrol?

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:

- At least two hours patrolling 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 their 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:

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

Neighborhood Association Patrol Training

Not certified yet? Here is your chance!

Saturday, July 31, 2010, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. (noon),

(Continued on page 6)

LISA W. ARNHART, DDS, PC

Family and Cosmetic Dentistry



A Taylor Ranch mom is celebrating the 4th 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.

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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 5)

Albuquerque Police Academy, 5412 Second Street NW

Please e-mail your registration to Pete Gelabert at pgelabert@cabq.gov and copy patrol@trna.org.

Registration for the workshop will close on **Friday**, July 23, 2010. Include in your registration email: your name, address, telephone number and the fact that you are a member of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association.

If you have any questions concerning the Neighborhood Patrol Training, please contact either Pete Gelabert at **505-897-8803** or Bill Jackson at **505-839-6443**. ☎

Library News

Ceil van Berkel, Chair, Library Advisory Board

Do you know why the Library has cut the loan time for books to 2 weeks? It's because there are such long waiting times for those who have placed holds on new books. The Library materials purchasing budget has been declining over the past 10 years, so the Library is no longer able to purchase enough copies of new books to keep the waiting times down.

City, State and County Library bonds provide the funding for purchasing new materials. The dollar amount of county library bonds was cut from 2 million dollars in 2000 to 1 million in 2002, raised to 1.5 million in 2004, and then dropped to 1 million in both 2006 and 2008. Without a return to the 2 million level, the library will be forced to keep the 2 week loan period.

Right now the County Commission is deciding how much to propose to the voters for the Library Bond to be voted on in November. You can help by contacting your county commissioner to request that a Library Bond of 2 million dollars be proposed to the voters in November 2010. Our commissioner is Alan Armijo. You can call his office at: 468-7185, fax him at 768-4329, or email him at agonzales@berncoco.gov

Library programs are not affected by the bond decreases because they are funded by money raised by the Friends for the Public Library. The Friends sell used books to raise money for activities that aren't funded by the City, County or State. This includes all of the programs held at the Library and professional development costs for staff members. You can help by donating your useful books to the Friends. The TR Library will accept donations or you can drop off large quantities at the back door of the main branch downtown.

You can find a complete list of programs held at the TR Library at <http://www.cabq.gov/library/TaylorRanch.htm>

If you would like to be kept informed about Library funding matters, email SupportABCLibraries@comcast.net and ask to receive email on the topic. ☎

Opportunities to Get Involved

Want to get to know some fun folks who are involved in lots of interesting activities? Volunteer for one of our committees.

Bylaws Committee

If you would like to serve on the bylaws revision committee, please contact Felix Franco (secretary@trna.org or 922-7176) or René Horvath (land@trna.org or 898-2114). There are some provisions in the bylaws that are no longer applicable and should be changed. The more eyes looking at them the better!

Newsletter Committee

Many hands make light work!

Putting out a monthly newsletter is a big job. We need **articles** and we take contributions. Send your articles to editor@trna.org by the 22nds of the month.

The editor tends to travel...so we need a **co-editor** to share the job. We have a template, so it just means cutting and pasting new articles into the old template. You have to like playing with layout to enjoy it. If you are familiar with Word you can easily adapt to Publisher.

Then we have to print and mail the newsletter. Our stalwart volunteers Lily and Michael Andrews print our newsletter for us every month. But then we need to fold, tape and label them and take them down to the main Post Office to the Bulk Mail facility to mail them. If you would like to join the monthly fold/ tape/ label party or be our Bulk Mail go-to person, call Ceil at 899-2738 or email editor@trna.org.

Social Committee

We have a small, fun group of members who organize the flea markets, Easter Egg Hunts, and Holiday Luncheons. You could be one of them! Spread fellowship and get to know some great folks by working with the Social Committee. Contact June and Ken Newman (social@trna.org or 98-5447)

Land Use Committee

Want to know about developments being planned in your community? Want to work with the city and builders to improve new developments? Want to fight to prevent circumvention of approved plans and rules? The Land Use Committee is the place for you. Help René attend all

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 helping with the following:

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

Pass this form to a neighbor! New Member rates for rest of this year:

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

- Resident: \$9.00 (Thru Dec 2010) \$25.00 (Thru Dec 2011) \$39.00 (Thru Dec 2012)
 Business: \$25.00 (Thru Dec 2010) \$65.00 (Thru Dec 2011) \$100.00 (Thru Dec 2012)



0710

Call Larry Walsh at 401-0965 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>Dave Waters</i> | 897-5771 | president@trna.org |
| Vice-President: | <i>Hanna Sorrells</i> | 294-7042 | vicepresident@trna.org |
| Secretary: | <i>Felix Franco</i> | 922-7176 | 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>Dee Hettick</i> | 980-2587 | beautification@trna.org |
| Director/Westside Coalition: | <i>Brett Lopez</i> | 836-7831 | wscn@trna.org |
| Director/Education: | <i>Lily Andrews</i> | 270-5100 | education@trna.org |
| Membership Director: | <i>Larry Walsh</i> | 401-0965 | membership@trna.org |
| Social Committee Director: | <i>Ken Newman</i> | 898-5447 | social@trna.org |
| Director: | <i>Derald McPherson</i> | 898-6489 | director@trna.org |
| Patrol Coordinator : | <i>Fred van Berkel</i> | 899-2738 | patrol@trna.org |
| Historian: | <i>vacant</i> | | historian@trna.org |
| Webmaster : | <i>Ceil van Berkel</i> | 899-2738 | webmaster@trna.org |
| Newsletter editor: | <i>Ceil van Berkel</i> | 899-2738 | editor@trna.org |

AARP Driver Safety Program

The AARP Driver Safety course will be offered once each month on a Saturday morning at the DN-TR Community Center. The dates of the next three scheduled classes are July 10th, and August 14th, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. Cost for the class is \$12 per person for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Please pay by check when you arrive at the class.

To reserve a place, please call the instructor, Mr. Dan Bravine, at 892-4827. ☎

Dates to Remember

- July 17th: Park Clean-Up
- July 31st: Patrol Training
- Aug 2nd: Fly Way Appeal
- Aug 11th: TRNA Board Mtg
- Aug 16th: West Bluff LED Appeal



(Continued from page 6)

the ECP, city council, and facilitated meetings that are the backbone of the system. Contact René Horvath (land@trna.org or 898-2114)

Membership Committee

Have ideas for spreading the word about the great work done by TRNA. Interested in recruiting new business and residential members? Like to drop off fliers as you take your daily constitutional? Contact Larry Walsh (membership@trna.org or 401-0965) ☎

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

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Check out TRNA on Facebook! (p.3)

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