

The Heritage East Herald

Volume XXIV, Issue II June 2014



HEAR's Mission: Heritage East Association of Residents is committed to preserving and enhancing the beauty, safety, and enjoyment of our neighborhood.

President's Message - HEAR Working for You!

You may notice a theme in this edition of the Heritage East Herald. The theme is this: What has HEAR done for you and what can you do to help.

There are 1240 homes in Heritage East, making it one of the largest and most successful neighborhood associations in Albuquerque. Last year, approximately 47% of you paid your HEAR dues. Although this is a large percentage of members for any volunteer neighborhood association, it is still not enough.

What does HEAR do for you for \$25 per year? For starters, we are one of the very few voluntary neighborhood associations to provide a security service. That service costs about \$12,000 per year for three, 30 minute, daily patrols. We also hire local teens to pick up trash, twice a month in the spring, summer and fall, and once a month in the winter. The cost - about \$2,000 a year. We publish three newsletters at a cost of over \$3,000 per year, and we do beautification projects such as painting the walls at Ridgefield and Redmont, costing several hundred dollars for each wall and upgrade signs to neighborhood entrances. Not to mention our two annual meetings at a total cost of around \$500.

How does that add up? 580 members x \$25 annual dues = \$14,500 income. Expenses, however, are over \$18,000 a year. We are fortunate in that HEAR still has almost \$20,508 in assets, but that figure will fall dramatically if we don't increase our membership.

HEAR Has A Website—Check It Out !!



In 2013 the Board worked with one of your neighbors to develop a new website at a new web address for HEAR. The new website is routinely updated with:

- ◆ news for the neighborhood
- ◆ digital collection of past newsletters
- ◆ upcoming events
- ◆ contact information for key City offices and HEAR Board members
- ◆ Membership information

<http://hear-online.org>

Not everything HEAR does costs money. We have no paid staff, but we have a great team of board members and volunteers that work hard for HEAR. The Beautification & Zoning Committee has sent out over 150 violation notices over the past few years, and HEAR worked with the Rotary Club and the City of Albuquerque to upgrade Rotary Park at no cost to us.

We also worked with Councilor Brad Winter to upgrade the Ventura Boulevard Parkway, and to provide us with the Heritage East sign on San Francisco, again at no cost to HEAR. We also send regular neighborhood updates by e-mail to keep our members informed of the happenings in Heritage East.

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Aluminum Recycling Report

January-101 lbs., \$60.60
February-57 lbs., \$31.20
March-135 lbs., \$81.00
April-90 lbs., \$54.00
May-68 lbs., \$40.80
June-85 lbs., \$55.25
Next recycling date:
Saturday July 5, 2014



Please save your recyclable aluminum (cans, foil etc.) for HEAR's monthly recycling collection every first Saturday of the month from 8:30-11:00 a.m. at Rotary Park (7725 Quintana Dr.). All proceeds benefit HEAR. If you can't make it to the park, call Susan Tackman, HEAR Recycling Chair at 822-8761 to arrange an alternative way to donate your aluminum.

Thanks to everyone who participates in our recycling program! -**Susan Tackman**

Take a Wildflower Walk Along the Domingo Baca Arroyo - wildflower photos from your neighbor Barbara



Scarlet Globemallow

Neighborhood Security Update

You may or may not know that, as of March, this year, HEAR has hired a new security company to patrol our neighborhood. They are "TRU Security". As with our prior security company, TRU Security is patrolling seven nights a week between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. They will be patrolling three times per night. Also, as before, during certain times of the year we will switch to daytime patrols.

TRU Security patrols using white, unmarked, Ford Crown Victoria police style cars, with black push-bars on the front of the vehicle. The cars do not have a rotating amber light on top, but do have standard police style internal multicolor flashing lights in front and back. They will only turn on the flashing lights when they stop to investigate an incident, or when they stop to do a "walk-up" to a home to report an open garage door.

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SOLD

Once you make the decision to buy or sell a home, you should call a trusted agent with experience. Dianna has 25+ years' experience and has been trusted by over 150 Heritage East homeowners.

Dianna Johnson

Dianna@JohnsonTeam.com

798-9222



Words of Wisdom

Folks are usually about as happy as they make up their minds to be.

Abraham Lincoln

HEAR Annual Spring Meeting a Success!

Many HEAR residents joined the HEAR Board of Directors for our Annual Spring Meeting held on April 17th at the Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center. The meeting was hosted by City Councilor Brad Winter, who provided snacks and beverages to those in attendance. Councilor Winter gave an informative presentation regarding our neighborhood and the City, as well as updating us on the Paseo del Norte and I-25 upgrade and the plans for expanding the multigenerational center. The Board thanked Councilor Winter for his help in providing funds to upgrade the parkway along Ventura. Councilor Winter addressed questions from our residents, and will be reviewing the City response time to 311 calls - several residents had concerns as to why it takes up to six weeks for the City to respond. He is also working diligently with the City Council and the Mayor to address the issues at APD.

Captain Joey Rodriguez, TRU SECURITY, gave a short presentation regarding their nightly security patrols for Heritage East Residents. Captain Rodriguez responded to questions, and provided a contact number for TRU SECURITY (**505-515-0067**) for non emergency issues. His company has also posted TRU SECURITY signs throughout the neighborhood.

Thanks to all of our HEAR residents that took the time to support our neighborhood and attend this meeting!

Doug Crandall, HEAR President

Neighborhood Security Update - cont. from pg 2

There are several noteworthy difference between TRU Security and our prior security company:

1. TRU hires officers who are former and retired police and military personnel.
2. TRU patrol officers are armed with guns, tasers and pepper spray. Also, they have have lapel video cameras which they use to record any incident they encounter. The security company's first line of defense is to call the police! They will only draw/use a weapon as a last resort if they are severely threatened and in immediate personal danger.

Note: **For emergencies call 911**. For **non-emergency** incidents TRU Security can be contacted, day or night, at **505-515-0067**.

*For more in-depth information about TRU Security, please refer to their web site: <http://www.trusecurity.org/index.html>

TRU Security is providing HEAR with weekly incident reports. Aside from two incidents involving teens smoking pot in their cars near Rotary Park (police and parents were called), the majority of incident reports are of open garage doors. Thankfully, there seem to be fewer garage door reports then in the past.

As TRU Security is still quite new to HEAR, we have been evaluating their service, and, thus far, The Board of Directors is very happy with their performance!

HEAR is currently the only neighborhood association that offers this invaluable security service! And, as TRU Security hires only experienced law enforcement professionals, their service comes at a higher monthly cost, which the Board believes is more than worth it! Please talk to your neighbors and let them know of this service the association provides on their behalf. And, if they are NOT yet members of HEAR, please encourage them to join and help fund this valuable service.

Neil Schwartz, HEAR Vice President

HEAR President's Message (continued)

All of what we do improves the value of your property and makes Heritage East a clean, attractive and safe place to live. And, all of this is accomplished by your neighbors, who volunteer their time to maintain and improve our neighborhood.

Elections for the HEAR Board take place at the fall meeting each October. I have had the privilege of serving three terms as HEAR President and I appreciate all the hard work, dedication and voluntary time spent by our committed board of directors and committee members. I will not be running again. Many current Board members have also spent considerable time on the Board (one board member has served 10 consecutive years) and would also like to pass the torch. Please consider being part of our HEAR Board. If you are interested in serving, please contact me or any board or committee member listed in this newsletter.

The success of HEAR is entirely dependent upon its willing volunteers and dues paying members. Please be sure and pay your dues this year and every year so that we may continue to offer the amenities found in few other Albuquerque neighborhoods. And, please consider giving a small amount of your time and help to keep HEAR strong for many years to come.

Thanks again for your support and THANK YOU to those members that have paid their 2014 HEAR dues!

Doug Crandall, HEAR President



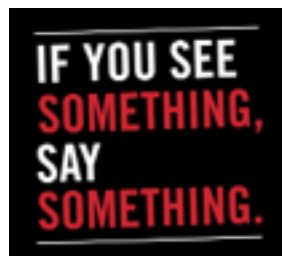
Stemless Evening Primrose

Crimeview Community

APD provides an online tool that average citizens can use to see what crime incidents have been reported in their neighborhood by type and date range. For Heritage East, there were 15 of the following incidents reported between January 1, 2014 and May 31, 2014.

- burglary: 7(4 house, 3 auto)
- drugs/narcotics violations: 1
- vandalism: 2
- traffic accidents (no injuries): 3
- disturbance: 1
- disorderly conduct: 1

Source of information:
crimeview.cabq.gov



Did you know? Heritage East sends out periodic updates via email to residents who have provided us their email address. The purpose of the emails is to pass along helpful information regarding things like lost and found animals, suspicious activity etc. Sending an email to HEAR at hear.newsletter@gmail.com about suspicious or criminal activity should not take the place of calling 242-COPS for non-emergency Police issues, and 911 for Emergency calls.– Cynthia Benedict

HEAR Needs Your Support!

Since HEAR is not a Home Owners Association with residents paying mandatory association fees, we must rely on voluntary annual dues from our members. Our funds go directly to support our neighborhood, and are administered by an unpaid and voluntary board of directors that work with dedicated committee members. We have committed Heritage East residents that spend many hours of their time attending meetings and making decisions to ensure that we have a beautiful and safe place to live. Our neighborhood projects are proposed by our residents at our board and general membership meetings and voted on by the entire board. We encourage all residents to provide input regarding our projects.

Your HEAR Neighborhood Association makes a difference in your quality of life, property values, and safety for you and your family.

Your participation in HEAR is critical. Please help us support our neighborhood by becoming an active and participating member of HEAR!

Please consider volunteering as a Board or Committee Member. If you are interesting in serving, contact any board member. Board Member Elections will be in October, 2014.

HEAR Accomplishments

- Since 2009, HEAR has contracted with a security company that patrols the entire neighborhood several times per night, 7 days per week. This greatly assists in keeping our homes, neighborhood, and Rotary Park safe.
- HEAR has issued over 150 letters/personal contacts to residents to enforce neighborhood covenants and zoning laws, to keep our neighborhood free of junk cars, weeds, illegally parked trailers, and ensure that home business occupations are in accordance with City regulations. We have an excellent response to our contacts (85% compliance). Those residents that do not comply are reported to the City of Albuquerque or Bernalillo County for enforcement.
- HEAR keeps our residents informed through newsletters, regular e-mail updates, a web site, and two general membership meetings per year.
- HEAR worked closely with the City to upgrade Rotary Park. Over \$500K of City funds were spent to install new equipment and landscaping at the park.
- HEAR requested and received City funds to upgrade Ventura from Palomas to Harper with rock landscaping and an installation of weed barrier. This project is still in progress.
- HEAR worked with affected residents and the City to stop the building of town homes on De Vargas Loop - we were successful.
- HEAR volunteers open and close Rotary Park gates daily.
- HEAR painted entrance walls at Ventura Estates and Ridgfield and installed a new entrance sign on San Francisco. Upgrade of entrance signs at Yorktown and Freedom Way is underway.
- HEAR actively represents our residents in the District 4 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations.
- HEAR installed plastic bag dispenser boxes for dog waste at Rotary Park and on our walking trails. Boxes are filled with reusable plastic bags by residents and HEAR volunteers. HEAR volunteers pick up dog waste and trash at Rotary Park and on walking trails on a daily basis.
- HEAR works with APD and Criminal Nuisance Abatement at the City to resolve vacant housing and criminal abatement issues.
- In 2010, HEAR contracted with a local landscaping company to clean and remove weeds backing San Francisco, Jacabo, Giddings, Ventura, etc.
- HEAR contracts with neighborhood students to clean up trash and debris on local arterial streets and Domingo Baca Arroyo on a regular basis.

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● HEAR provides a VOICE for YOU at our General Membership meetings! Our speakers for 2013-2014 have included Mayor RJ Berry and City Councilor Brad Winter.

● HEAR volunteers provide a monthly recycling effort for collecting recyclable aluminum.

● HEAR board members have a "meet and confer" status with Councilor Brad Winter for new neighborhood projects as well as requesting assistance to resolve neighborhood issues.

Ann Crandall, HEAR volunteer

For The Birds

“Summertime, when the living is easy”. These words from an old song hold true for birds as well as people. The birds don’t need any help from us to make a living in summer, but we can make living easier for them by providing water, good habitat, and a little feed. Migration is over and nesting is in full swing.

In May, a pair of Bushtits fledged a nest full of young in a hanging nest in a pine tree over our driveway. The young are now chasing their parents around the yard insisting to be fed.



Scarlet Gaura

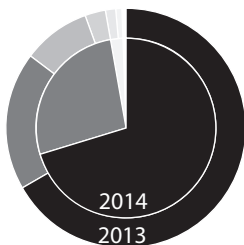
I haven’t located it yet, but there is a Black-chinned Hummingbird nest somewhere in our yard. All during May, the male was making courtship dives above the nest area. They may visit your yard if you put out a sugar water feeder filled with a solution of 1 part sugar to 4 parts of water. Don’t use honey, and no red dye is needed in the water. Honeysuckle and a bed of flowers are even better. Happy Summer and enjoy your backyard birding.

Bob Buttery

Treasurer’s Report

- 2013 membership: 588 out of 1,240 homes
- 2014 membership (to date): 382
- Current checking account balance: \$19,784

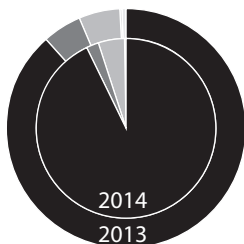
Expenses



- Misc.
- Meeting snacks & supplies
- Dues and Fees
- Website
- Volunteer Dinner
- Beautification
- Newsletter
- Security Patrol

2013 (total): \$19,509.84
2014 (to-date): \$5,343.11

Revenue



- Misc.
- Interest
- Newsletter Ads
- Recycling
- Membership Dues

2013 (total): \$13,887.33
2014 (to-date): \$9,508.84



Amy McGuckin

Associate Broker

(505) 263-2519

amymcguckin@aol.com



LEGACY

10400 Academy Rd NE
Suite 100
Albuquerque, NM 87111
(505) 293-3700

A Lifetime Resident of Albuquerque with 27 years of Real Estate experience. I live in Heritage East and know the area well, I strive to represent my clients in the manner that I would want to be represented if I were **buying or selling** my own home.

**Please call me
First about
Real Estate!
263-2519**

HEAR Clean Up Team



On the left is Miles Metz and right is Weston Metz.

This is HEAR's new clean-up team. Miles and Weston Metz. They did their first round of the neighborhood on Sunday, May 25th. They will be cleaning up our neighborhood twice a month during the summer months and once a month the rest of the year. They will pick up debris on the main streets as well as the areas behind homes when the homeowners haven't gotten to it yet. Thanks, Miles and Weston, for stepping up to the plate to help keep our neighborhood clean! Just another great thing our HEAR Neighborhood Association does with it's money. When

you see them out there, give them a big "Thank you"! (Also, thanks to mama, Vicki Metz, for driving them safely thru the neighborhood).

Contributed by Stephanie Goodrich

ZONING AND BEAUTIFICATION

Your Zoning and Beautification Committee has been working hard to keep your neighborhood beautiful and our residents in compliance with our covenants. This requires diligent efforts by members of the Committee to respond to the concerns of our residents. Committee members must review and research each complaint, and when applicable, contact property owners by letter or phone for request for compliance. In some cases, issues are forwarded to the City. Some recent resolutions are highlighted below:

- Jacobo, NE - Bad weeds, unkempt yard, contacted owner, resolved, October 2013
- Lew Wallace NE - Debris in Curb and Gutter - Owner contacted and issue resolved November 2013
- Don Thomas, NE - Fifth Wheel Parked in Driveway - non-compliance with Zoning Code regulations - Resolved October 2013
- Freedom Court, NE - vacant property issues, weeds in yard, etc. Turned over to City December 12, 2013, resolved January 2014
- Calhoun, NE - Weeds, poor landscaping - Sent to City for enforcement, resolved April 2014
- General Kerney NE - illegal utility trailer, unkempt yard - resolved April 2014
- Meriwether, NE - trailer parked on street for long period of time - resolved May 2014
- * Macallan/Palomas - vacant house, weeds. On-going problem after numerous attempts by HEAR and the City to resolve a permanent weed problem with the property owner. Currently working with City officials for resolution to this issue. May require meeting with Mayor Berry and/or City Council staff.
- Palomas, NE - Block wall in bad condition. Resolved in April 2014

With Spring here, please do your part by keeping your shrubs, trees and lawns trimmed, and your rock landscaping weed free! The area between the curb and sidewalk is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain, NOT the City!

If you have specific questions for zoning information, contact Doug Crandall, HEAR President.

Ann Crandall, HEAR Volunteer

HEAR Officers & Committee Chairs

Doug Crandall–President 294–5243

Neil Schwartz–Vice President 856–7956

Dave Mulder–Secretary 821–0050

Jeff Figiel–Treasurer 856–0042

Ann Crandall–Membership Questions
294–5243

Susan Tackman–Recycling 822–8761

Cynthia Benedict–Newsletter
Coordinator hear.newsletter@gmail.com

Email updates: If you would like to receive new updates between HEAR newsletters via email, please send a valid email address to Cynthia Benedict at: hear.newsletter@gmail.com. Also, please let her know if your email address has changed.



This is your neighborhood newsletter. Please Read!

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 1893
Albuq. NM

Time-Sensitive Material. Deliver Promptly.
Postmaster: Please deliver by June 26



If you have already sent in your dues for 2014, Thank You! You may use this form to renew or new members may join now!

Heritage East Association of Residents (HEAR) Membership Form

Last Name(s): _____

First Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Email Address: _____

(please distinguish between the number "1" and the letters "l" and "L", and the number "0" and the letter "O")

Membership dues are \$25.00* per household per calendar Year.

Please mark the appropriate box: Membership Renewal or New Member

Please make check or money order payable to HEAR and mail it along with this form to:

HEAR
PO Box 92465
Albuquerque, NM 87199–2465

* We welcome additional funds if you wish to contribute more to HEAR for neighborhood improvement projects