

# The Heritage East Herald

Volume XXIV, Issue I February 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!

Wow, that was fast! 2013 has come and gone and we are already a month into 2014. Last year was a good one for HEAR and I hope it was good for your family as well.

As I am sure you have noticed, the landscaping gravel has been completed along the Venture Blvd. parkway from Harper to Palomas. Thanks again for the support from Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association and Cherry Hills Civic Association, and to Councilor Brad Winter for appropriating the funds to do the project. This is one step to improve the streetscape of our neighborhood. The next step is to upgrade the median landscaping and to replace some of the older Heritage East neighborhood entrance signs. HEAR has appointed a committee for this purpose, please contact Ann Crandall if you are interested in this project.

HEAR membership remained steady in 2013, topping out at nearly 580 members, one of the largest in the City. Annual dues notices will be arriving by mail shortly and you are urged to join or renew. For \$25 HEAR provides a security service, seasonal weed and trash pickup by school kids, regular and informative newsletters, general membership meetings with guest speakers, as well as special projects as suggested by membership. HEAR also represents your neighborhood at District 4 coalition meetings and has a meet and confer status with Councilor Brad Winter. We work hard to keep your neighborhood safe and beautiful, and thank those hard working volunteers that assist HEAR by sharing their time and providing expertise to the association.

We have also re-established our website in 2013 at [www.hear-online.org](http://www.hear-online.org). It is an interactive site and input and ideas are all appreciated. Many thanks to Cynthia and Karl Benedict for getting it up and running. Cynthia is our newsletter editor and she also coordinates the Mail Chimp notifications for e-mail subscribers.

Elections were held last October and the HEAR Board remained unchanged with the exception of the addition of Dave Mulder as our new secretary. Dave is a long time resident and we appreciate his willingness to step up for the neighborhood! Dave replaced Stephanie Goodrich who move out of Heritage East. A big "thank you" to

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## HEAR General Membership Meeting

City Councilor Brad Winter will host HEAR's next General Membership Meeting. Light refreshments will be provided. Door prizes too! All Heritage East residents are invited and encouraged to attend!

Date: Thursday April 17th

Time: 7:00 p.m. (join us at 6:30 p.m. for a meet and greet)

Location: North Domingo Baca Multi-Generational Center, 7521 Carmel NE (west of Wyoming, just north of Paseo del Norte).

### Aluminum Recycling Report

Sept/October 2013–120 lbs. aluminum and 84 lbs. of other metals, \$102.65

November 2013–110 lbs., \$66.00

December 2013–64 lbs., \$38.40

January 2014–101 lbs., \$60.60

Next recycling date:

Saturday March 1, 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**



### Did You Know?

HEAR receives many inquiries from residents regarding the following:

- Auto repair is not allowed in a residential zone. Residents may change oil or do minor work on their own cars, provided that such work does not leave the vehicles inoperative for more than a few days. Inoperative vehicles are not allowed outdoors or on any part of your property.
  - All accessory buildings require zoning permits. Accessory buildings less than 80 square feet and less than 6 feet tall may be placed anywhere in your side or rear yard. Larger accessory buildings may not be located within 10 feet of any dwelling, or 5 feet of any other accessory building.
  - Dogs must be kept on a leash when being walked. Dog waste must be cleaned up by the dog owner on their property and well as when exercising or walking a dog.
  - Home occupations allow a resident to have a home office and do some limited service and sales from the home. Such businesses may not generate inordinate traffic or be conducted outdoors.
  - Shoveling snow on sidewalks is the responsibility of the adjoining property owner. This includes the side or rear of the property, as well as the front sidewalk.
  - RV vehicles may be parked on the street for up to 72 hours, but then must be relocated.
  - City Weed and Litter has notified us that the legal owners of the properties backing San Francisco, Jacobo, Palomas, Ventura, Holbrook, or any other street are responsible for all weed and litter removal in these areas. These areas are not maintained by the City. Owners may receive a citation if areas are not kept clean and free of weeds and debris.
- Ann Crandall**, Beautification and Zoning Committee

# 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

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**Beautification and Zoning Committee – Working for you!**

Our Beautification and Zoning Committee continues to work hard to ensure that we have a beautiful neighborhood that is in compliance with our Heritage East Covenants and City Zoning Regulations. You may be surprised to learn the following:

Over the last ten years, our committee has mailed or posted over 225 written notifications to residents for a variety of reasons. Most complaints are reported to HEAR by neighborhood residents. HEAR committee members check the property and determine what action to take. HEAR has been fortunate that most property owners quickly comply to our requests. Those that do not respond will be turned over to the City for enforcement.

Common violations that we respond to:

- Poorly maintained landscaping (excessive weeds on property or in area between sidewalk and curb.
- Inoperative vehicles on property.
- Bushes and other growth obstructing sidewalks.
- Dumping yard waste, pet waste, grass clippings, or weeds over backyard walls.
- Not picking up dog waste at residence, Rotary park, or other locations.
- Domestic animals at a residence exceeding more than 6 cats, or 4 dogs and 2 cats
- Inappropriate business run from a home.
- Boats, trailers or vehicles parked illegally.

Please contact your neighbor before reporting an issue to HEAR. In many cases, a neighbor does not realize he or she is violating the regulations and will comply with a

request if they are made aware of the problem. Report egregious violations to 311 or the Mayor’s office at 768-3000

Please do YOUR part by keeping your property free of weeds and debris

–**Ann Crandall**, Beautification and Zoning Committee

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### HEAR President’s Report(continued)

Stephanie for her many years of service as a HEAR Board members!

As I have said in the past, a strong neighborhood association requires a strong and active board. Our semi-annual meeting will be held on April 17 at the North Domingo Baca Multi-generational Center. City Councilor Brad Winter has agreed to host this year’s meeting, so mark your calendars early and I hope to see you there.

-Doug Crandall, HEAR President

**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](mailto: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

### 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 October 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013.

- burglary: 11(1 house, 10 auto)
- auto theft: 1
- vandalism: 3
- traffic accidents: 0
- disturbance: 0



**Source of information:** [crimeview.cabq.gov](http://crimeview.cabq.gov)



### 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>



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## HEAR Security

One of the benefits provided by HEAR is regular neighborhood security monitoring. Currently, that service is provided by U.S. Security who patrols a portion of our neighborhood three times each night. We have added additional patrols during other times when needed. With over 1240 homes to monitor, this is a challenging task for our security team.

This security service is also expensive. HEAR is one of the very few voluntary neighborhood associations in the City that offers any type of security program through neighborhood patrols. It is meant to act as a deterrent, but it cannot substitute for personal vigilance and the Albuquerque Police Department.

The security team is unarmed. Their mission is to patrol and offer a presence. If they see criminal activity taking place, they immediately call the police. The security team does not break up parties or respond to specific neighborhood disputes. They are informed when we receive word of suspicious people or activities in our area. Residents are encouraged to call the security team and the police if you see anything suspicious. If the security team is available, they will act as first responders until the police arrive. Patrol times are limited by our budget. Each round is highly varied nightly by area and time. Regular reports are provided to the HEAR Board regarding any unusual situation.

Unquestionably, the most common action taken by the security team is to notify residents of open garage doors. During any given week, there may be up to two dozen garage doors left open and apparently unattended during night time hours. This is an open invitation to crime. It is very time consuming and detracts from patrol time throughout other parts of the neighborhood. Our Security Team has been a great asset to the neighborhood near Rotary Park, as they check the park on their patrols. Complaints regarding park issues have reduced considerably since HEAR contracted with a security service.

Heritage East has one of the lowest crime rates of any un-gated community of its size in Albuquerque, but it is not crime free. Your dues help to pay for added security, but the most important things any of us can do is be a good neighbor; watch for signs of unusual activity or suspicious persons, leave your front lights on at night, and make sure that all of your doors, including the garage, are locked and secure, especially after dark. Please feel free to attend any HEAR general membership meeting to discuss security and patrols in Heritage East. –**Doug Crandall**, HEAR President



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### For The Birds

Here it is, Winter again, cold and windy, and drier than most other winters. At the time of this writing (January) there is no relief in sight, but we are not alone. The entire western United States is suffering from extreme drought. When it is not too cold, or the wind is not blowing too hard, the bird species I am seeing in the yard these days are Lesser Goldfinch, White-winged Dove, House Sparrow, House Finch, Dark-eyed Junco, American Robin, Western Scrub Jay, American Crow, Bushtit, Northern Flicker, Downy and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, Cooper’s Hawk, Rock Pigeon, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, an occasional Ruby-crowned Kinglet, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Townsend’s Solitaire, plus a fairly rare White-throated Sparrow. Recently, there has been an unexpected early influx of American Robins and Cedar Waxwings cleaning up juniper and pyracantha berries.



If you are a cat owner, please remember to keep your cat indoors. Cats are non-native predators which retain their hunting instinct even when well-fed at home. They kill millions of birds each year when allowed to roam freely. Adult cats which as kittens were kept indoors usually show no desire to venture outside. Following are seven tips from the American Bird Conservancy to ensure that your cat enjoys an indoor life:

1. Provide window shelves so your cat can monitor the outdoors from the safety of your home.
2. Play with your cat each day. Paper bags, tissue paper, and cardboard boxes are sources of unending delight when you are away. Letting him chase an uncatchable beam from an inexpensive laser pointer will provide fun for both of you when you are at home.
3. Plant kitty grass (available in most pet stores) in indoor pots so you cat can graze.
4. Clean litter boxes regularly.
5. Spay or neuter your kitten as early as eight weeks of age.
6. Provide routine veterinary care, including annual checkups and vaccinations.
7. If you can, provide a safe outdoor enclosure, such as a screened porch.

Have a safe, healthy rest-of-the Winter, and take care of and enjoy your yard birds.

**Bob Buttery**



**Amy McGuckin**

Associate Broker

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## Why Dogs Bite

There are several reasons a dog will bite, and many of them having nothing to do with being mean. More often than not, a dog will bite out of fear, rather than aggression. Dogs that feel threatened, unsure, or challenged will respond by biting as a self-defense mechanism. Dogs that haven't been spayed or neutered may display aggressive behavior related to their sex drive. Dogs are territorial creatures and will protect their turf. So a dog may bite if its food, toys, or pups are bothered. A surprised dog will bite. If you approach a dog unexpectedly or he doesn't hear you coming, his instinct might be to bite out of fear. Dogs that haven't been properly behavior-trained and socialized are more likely to bite.

### The Correct Way to Approach an Unfamiliar Dog

- First get the "ok" from the owner
- Hold out your hand, fingers closed, palm down, slowly toward the dog. Allow the dog to approach your hand and sniff it.
- Wait for the dog's "ok". If he wants your affection, he will lower his head, perk his ears, or even come closer to you. If the dog puts his ears back, flat on his head, or growls, or cowers, don't pet him.
- Pat the dog on the head, or along his back. Avoid touching his belly, tail, ears, or feet.

### The Wrong Way to Approach an Unfamiliar Dog

- Running towards an unfamiliar dog
- Getting eye-level, very close, and smiling. When you smile at a dog, he thinks you are "bearing your teeth" at him. That's an invitation to fight.
- "Surprising" a dog (sneaking up on her or startling her while she's sleeping). Often, the dog's defense mechanism will kick in, and she will bite you in self-defense.
- Ignoring their warning. If a dog barks ferociously or growls when you approach his territory, bed, etc. and you continue, that is an engraved invitation to get bitten. They are warning you that they don't like that and to stop. Listen!
- Inappropriate touching. Dog's generally don't like their ears, tail, or feet tugged. Some don't like being inverted and rubbed on their belly. This is a position of submission and an aggressive dog will resist this "challenge" vigorously.

### What to Do If Threatened By an Aggressive Dog

- Remain calm and still. Don't run. This is a race you will not win. If you are alone, back away slowly. Do not turn your back.
- If you are on the ground, curl into a fetal position, cover your head with your arms, and keep your fingers curled in a fist.
- Avoid eye contact. Remember, staring an aggressive dog in the eyes is a challenge.
- Do not smile at the dog.
- Use a soft, soothing tone of voice. Loud, angry-sounding words and screaming only spur on the dog.
- If he bites you, DO NOT PULL AWAY. This only spurs the dog on. Remain calm. Try to put something between you and the dog like your purse, jacket, bicycle, backpack, etc. Don't hit the dog. Again, it just makes the situation worse.



Excerpt from CBS news June 22, 2010 <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/if-aggressive-dog-threatens-you-know-what-to-do/>

**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.



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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

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(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