

## APS Bond Election Affects All of Us VOTE FEBRUARY 1ST

Lily Andrews, Dir. Education/Beautification, TRNA

On Feb. 1, 2005, a special election is being held for the Albuquerque Public Schools. As a voter in the APS District, you have the opportunity to decide whether to invest in our community's educational future. If APS voters approve the Feb. 2005 mill levy and the 2006 G.O. bond election, the state will provide 53 million in matching funds for school construction and renovation in the APS district. This includes \$5.5 million in state matching funds for a new northwest-area high school as well as improvements to existing schools. The new high school would relieve the terrible overcrowding we have at Cibola High School. Everyone with children can understand the need for more schools in our area, but what about those of us that don't utilize public schools? Quality schools are a major concern to many new homebuyers and existing homeowners. I believe that the new high school will increase our property values. *So, I challenge each of you to get out and VOTE on February 1st.* Your vote counts and can make a difference to Taylor Ranch's future! For voting information call the county clerks office at 768-4085.

®

## TRNA Scholarship Opportunity

Lily Andrews, Dir. Education/Beautification, TRNA

The Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association is pleased to offer scholarships to graduating seniors who reside in the Taylor Ranch area. Our Association is committed to education and would like to reward our neighborhood youth for their achievements by offering two \$500 scholarships. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Reside within the boundaries of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, north-south boundaries: Paseo del Norte and Western Trail Rd, east-west boundaries: Rio Grande (river) and the West Mesa escarpment.

...continued on page 2.

## Your Community Needs You

Don MacCornack, President, TRNA

After two years on the TRNA Board, I am totally blown away by how much is accomplished by so few. I am also dismayed by the fact that out of over 8800 homes within the TRNA boundaries, less than 300 households are members. We need to encourage our neighbors to join TRNA. There is strength in numbers.

Don Newton, Taylor Ranch Community Center Director, informs me that there are plenty of volunteer opportunities at the Community Center. The opportunities range from helping at the front desk a few hours a week to teaching others something you are passionate about. The Community Center is a dream come true for Taylor Ranch and now it is time for the community to pitch in and make it the best Community Center in town.

TRNA is also in need of volunteers. Foremost we need someone to chair the Easter party. The event is in danger of being canceled at this point. The Chair person would be given lots of help. The Chair's responsibilities would be to oversee the other volunteers. The Silver Anniversary Fiesta Committee needs volunteers to organize the parade. TRNA has numerous committees, all of which need volunteers. If you have an interest, please contact the director in charge. ...continued on page 7.

## Beautification News

Lily Andrews, Dir. Beautification/Education, TRNA

A big thanks goes to the following individuals that participated in our January 22nd Mariposa Basin Park cleanup: Gene Stone, Don MacCornack, Lynn MacCornack, Duane Lane, Abram Lane, Jenifer Russin, Jessica McClelland, Laura Lakin, Juanita Coulter, Michael Andrews Jr, and Mike Andrews. The park looked great when we were done! There are many Taylor Ranch residents that utilize this beautiful park and benefit

...continued on page 7.

## From the desk of Lieutenant Edmond Perea and Westside Dayshift Patrol

Greetings friends and neighbors,

As most of you are already aware the Coors I-40 reconstruction is in full swing. In the next few months we will begin to see more traffic delays on Coors Road at I-40 as construction progresses. It is important to give yourself extra time when traveling through this area and exercise patience.

We will be posting officers in the area to monitor traffic, especially during the morning rush hours traffic period. Should you find yourself involved in a minor accident where both drivers agree to the events and cause of the accident. Don't hesitate to safely move your vehicle off to the side of the road and wait for police to arrive.

The Highway construction engineers have worked very closely with Public Safety agencies and neighborhood associations to keep us informed of road closures and other developments. If you have any questions on road closures or planned traffic diversions and would like to get placed on an e-mail mailing list. Get a hold of me at [edmundperea@cabq.gov](mailto:edmundperea@cabq.gov).

### HOME LIGHTING:

Our homes are our havens and the hearts of our communities, and lightening is an important safety device in and around our homes. In response to residents,

we want to offer some ideas on the use of out door lighting to help protect you, your family, and your neighbors. Preparation, attention, and cooperation are essential to achieving the best possible outcome.

First develop your lighting strategy by thinking like a criminal might. look at your house and ask, "Where would I break in? Where would I hide to attack someone?" Provide good lighting for all doorways to the outside and provide clear lines of sight by trimming shrubbery and cleaning out alleys. Also just as you regularly test smoke alarms, check your lights frequently to make sure they are working and replace burned out light bulbs promptly.

These are a few tips. for more information on safe home strategies contact me at 831-4705 or Crime Prevention Specialist for the Westside Substation, Ernest Maestas at 831-4705.

If you have any questions that you would like addressed please send me a note at: [EdmundPerea@cabq.gov](mailto:EdmundPerea@cabq.gov)

Keep the faith and Be safe, Ed ,®



...*"Scholarship"* continued from page 1.

2. Submit a TRNA Scholarship Application and 2 letters of recommendation postmarked no later than March 1, 2005. Applications can be picked up from the councilors at Cibola High, St. Pius, Bosque Prep, by calling Lily at 899-9140, or as a PDF file on the TRNA.ORG web site on the News & Events page.

3. Demonstrate community involvement and service through school-wide and extracurricular activities, church or other organizations; and

4. Enroll at a college, university, or post-secondary school for Fall 2005.

Application deadline is March 1, 2005. Any questions or comments can be addressed to the TRNA Scholarship Committee, P O Box 66288, Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288. Lily Andrews, telephone: 899-9140.

Scholarship winners will be announced at the March general meeting. Good Luck Seniors! ®



Since 1986

898-9539

Kathy Falter

[paperpusher.com](http://paperpusher.com)

Owner

[ppb@falter.com](mailto:ppb@falter.com)

For over 18 years, Paper Pusher Bookkeeping has been serving the West Side.  
Our services include :

**TAX RETURNS-INDIVIDUAL/CORP/PARTNERSHIP/SM BIZ**  
Monthly/Quarterly Bookkeeping • QuickBooks Setup/Maintenance  
Payroll Services • Small Business Consulting  
Tax Planning

**Why go to a stranger when you can go to your neighbor? I'm here year around to help with your tax and accounting issues.**

Mention this Ad for  
20% off 2004 Tax Preparation  
E-Filing FREE w/prepared return



## Proposed By-Law Change

Virginia Klebesadel, Secretary, TRNA

At its January 19, 2005 meeting, by an 8-0 vote, with 2 members absent and one vacancy, the TRNA board moved to propose a simple by-law change to reflect what has become a policy by practice since moving to the \$18.00 membership fee December 8, 2001.

Article II, General Membership, Section 3. Membership dues, sentence four currently reads: Any new membership unit joining the association during the calendar year shall be charged dues pro-rated by quarter. The proposed change would delete by quarter and add semi-annually so the sentence would read: Any new membership unit joining the association during the calendar year shall be charged dues pro-rated semi-annually.

At the December 8, 2001, General Meeting, the membership voted to increase the dues to \$18.00 per year. (For a complete transcript of the newsletter/general membership article justifying the change, please call 898-9173.)

Following the dues increase, the membership registration form was published with a semi-annual prorated fee schedule—a policy discussed and accepted by the board. [editor's note: but contrary to the by-laws.] Due to an oversight, the by-laws were not changed at that time. The semi-annual proration change was necessary as large families were joining in the fourth quarter so as to attend the Holiday Party. For example, a family of 6 with 4 children receiving gifts, 4 children's \$3.00 meals, and 2 adult \$5.00 meals, the cost was \$34.00 for which they had paid \$3.00 under the old dues schedule. This practice had become a norm and was costing the Association a great deal of money. Following the published semi-annual proration, that practice subsided and membership steadily increased with no one objecting to the change. It is a policy that has worked successfully for the past three years. When the end-of-year, 15-month prorated dues became a publishing practice, members became confused with many renewing members paying \$22.50 instead of the normal \$18.00 fee.

The proposed by-law change will be voted on at the General Meeting, slated for Thursday, March 24, 7:00 at the TR Community Center. The meeting room will be announced. ®



## More on the Proposed By-Law Change

Michael Skroch, Director, Editor Mesa Messenger

Proposed by-law changes to the left have implications that may deserve additional discussion and thought. Here's what I've been able to collect. Having left the meeting just before this issue was brought up, I was not present at this vote. I asked our President about this a few days later. He said that there was little discussion on the topic and the vote was only to send it to the membership, so the 8-0 vote may not indicate a recommendation by the board. At the least, you deserve more information since you get to vote on it at the General Membership meeting. What is it about? The only thing this affects is NEW memberships. Is that important? You bet. Look at the article on the front page. We have only 300 out of 8800 homes as members. Seems that getting new members is important to TRNA.

**Why is this change bad?** Semi-annual means that NEW members can only pay full or half dues. If they join in May or November, they pay for five months of nothing. Would you join as a NEW member if these were the rules? What about business members paying the higher dues of \$50/year? Right now the by-law rules are *quarterly*, so at most, you pay for two months of nothing if you, as a NEW member, join at the wrong time.

What about the holiday party problem? I think it is a not an issue. Change the membership form to not accept NEW one-quarter dues of  $\$18/4=\$4.50$ . Just shift the dues to require full,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or  $1\frac{1}{4}$  dues in October to December (the \$22.50 fee mentioned to the left). This still meets the current by-law intent, fixes the holiday party problem, and requires no change to the by-laws. Isn't that simpler without having new members swallow paying up to five months for nothing?

**Why is this change good?** Mostly because it makes things easier for the board and it's volunteers. If member dues were like a magazine, your membership would expire a year after you join—any time during the year; however all TRNA dues are annualized to expire in December. I guess this was done to make it easier to manage the membership when we didn't have computers. Even now, tending to a database every month can be overwhelming for your volunteers. The time delay from picking up TRNA mail, delivering it to the membership coordinator, treasurer, etc., can take a month or more, which does delay NEW memberships. Seems that prorating dues quarterly makes sense at that scale. What else? We publish about four different membership forms in newsletters to meet the quarterly by-law requirement. Semi-annual would make things simpler for volunteers and new membership forms. Maybe NEW members can't get five months of nothing, because they can get all past newsletters on TRNA.ORG. Maybe it doesn't matter because joining TRNA the first time should be a contribution to bettering your community resources. Besides, it's

...continued on page 7.

## What's New on TRNA.ORG

Michael Skroch, Director, Editor, Web Site

At three months of age, our web site is maturing into another useful resource and forum for TRNA communication. Faster than a speeding monthly newsletter, the web site can be updated on the spot to let you know about last minute changes to meetings and urgent news for the association members. Scrolling text areas on the home and news/events page can be updated almost instantly by multiple board members. More powerful content than an eight-page newsletter, the web site holds all past publications we have, not to mention additional information, pictures, and forms that couldn't hope to be conveyed economically any other way. We're still in the process of scanning very old newsletters now. Able to leap through links to many external web site resources, such as [cabq.gov](http://cabq.gov), the web site provides you an index of what you need to know about your community and neighborhood association. Even though the web site is a great virtual resource, somehow the mild mannered newsletter is a comforting tactile reference to have coming to your mail box each month.

If you have ideas, comments, or questions about the web site, send an email to [webmaster@trna.org](mailto:webmaster@trna.org)!

This month's username is member and password is 5trna4. These are required to access certain member-only features of our web site. ®

## TRNA Directors to be Elected in March

Ciel van Berkel, Treasurer, TRNA

According to our bylaws, we elect six directors in odd numbered years during our March Annual General Membership Meeting. So far we have four nominees: Don MacCornack, Donna Rigano, Michael Skroch, and Ceil van Berkel. We need at least two more nominees. Would you like to volunteer?

Why serve as a director? To use your talents for the good of your community; to get to know your neighbors; to know what's going on in the city and community; to solve a problem that bothers you and your family; 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.

Directors are volunteers who receive no pay for their services. Each director spends between 5 and 30 hours per month on TRNA activities, depending on time available and responsibilities assumed. Specifically, each director:

1. Assumes responsibility for some aspect of TRNA activities,
2. May serve as an officer (President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Secretary)
3. Accepts responsibility for an area of concern, such as: Newsletter, Education, Social Activities, Youth Committee, Membership, Crime Prevention, Zoning, Parks & Recreation, Transportation, Beautification,
4. Attends TRNA meetings: Quarterly general membership meetings, Monthly board of directors meetings, Annual strategic planning meeting,
5. Represents TRNA members: By voting on issues to establish a TRNA position, by attending and speaking at public hearings and meetings, if able to do so.

Would you like to volunteer or do you know of someone who might be willing to serve? If so, please contact Ceil van Berkel (899-2738) ([treasurer@trna.org](mailto:treasurer@trna.org)). ®

## Gain Free time...

Balancing Act Bookkeeping Service provides bookkeeping for executives, entrepreneurs and individuals.

### Services:

- Pick up/delivery service
- Prompt payment of your bills
- Weekly tracking of your account
- Monthly accounting reports
- Yearly reports

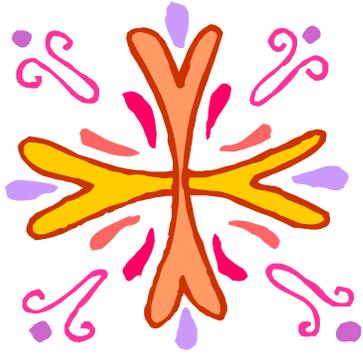
Mention this ad and receive \$75.00 off initial set up cost.



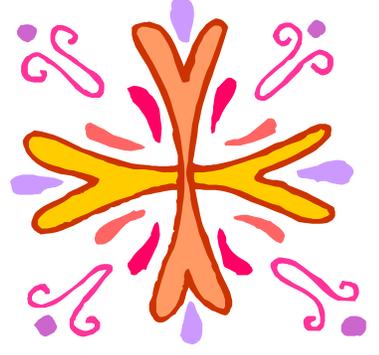
Give Robin a call at  
897-9847 or 350-1867  
Email: [rvact@comcast.net](mailto:rvact@comcast.net)

*"As a busy small business owner my time is limited. Trying to manage the company and the home finances was really getting difficult. We enlisted the services of Balancing Act and have saved 100's of dollars and have turned our personal credit around. If your busy or just tired of the hassle associated with your personal finances I recommend Balancing act. You will not regret it."*

F.M. client



# Oldies Sock Hop!



February 26th, 7 -10 pm

Taylor Ranch Community Center Gym

Adults (21+) only!

\$2.50 per person

Enjoy your favorite music!



Meet your neighbors,



Refreshments and

TRNA 25th Anniversary T-shirts

Available!

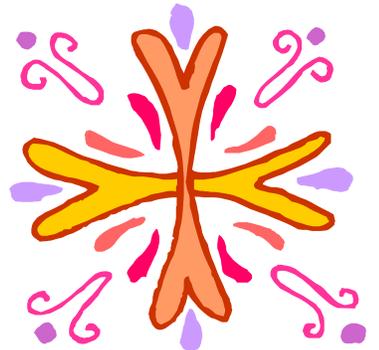
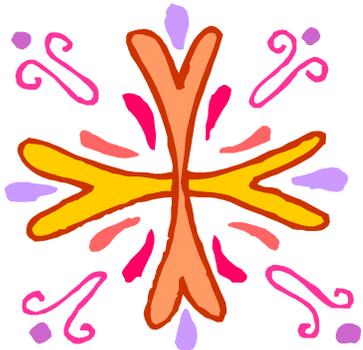


Kick-off celebration for the 25th anniversary of TRNA.

Proceeds will be used to fund the 25th anniversary celebration

to be held in June at the

Taylor Ranch Community Center



## History Corner #7

### The Apartments—Part 1

Fred van Berkel, TRNA Historian

This History Corner article, in three parts, was written by John Hemler, former director of TRNA. John is many things: Lt Col. Ret., US Army; initiator of the TRNA Youth Committee; leader of the TRNA anti-graffiti campaign that was the model for the city's program; member of TRNA for over 25 years, and more. John is uniquely qualified to write about the apartment mess of 1989. He and his wife Miargie watched this drama unfold from their balcony across the street. Thanks for capturing this part of Taylor Ranch history, John!

In mid-May, 1989, as I was returning home from an errand, I saw workmen digging what appeared to be utility ditches at the north west corner of Montañó and San Ildefonso. Since I lived diagonally across the street on Montañó, I was curious and I stopped to talk to one of the workmen. He informed me that they were preparing the utility ditches and foundations for some apartments. I knew that the land was zoned for apartments, and, after several more questions about their height (two-story, within code) and number of units (20), I left. I did not realize then that what I was witnessing would evolve into the most significant and longest crisis ever to face Taylor Ranch residents!

In early June, 1989, TV news reports began to show two rather dilapidated apartment structures being moved from a site near the Presbyterian Hospital, east of I-25. As the days went by, continuing coverage showed the apartments roll onto I-25 and then north to Bernalillo. No destination had been provided by those reporting the news. The apartments approached Bernalillo, crossed the Rio Grande and moved south through Rio Rancho and on to Coors Blvd. City residents watched the coverage with interest, speculating on where they would end up. Finally, on June 12th, they arrived at the north-west corner of Montañó and San Ildefonso!

The Taylor Ranch community was in an uproar! What were these run-down, two-story, recycled hospital housing units doing in Taylor Ranch? The following chronology summarizes what happened next:

1. A 6 foot high chain link fence (city code for renovation sites) was raised around the apartment site and the buildings were placed on foundations.
2. Taylor Ranch residents began picketing the site and gathering petition signatures to remove the apartments.
3. On Jun 16th our City Councilor, Pat Baca, called a meeting of residents and city officials. At the meeting, city officials informed us that the apartment owners had met all legal requirements for installing and renovating the apartments. However, Councilor Baca told us that he would initiate a council resolution to condemn them and the Mayor, Ken Shultz, through his spokesman, assured us he would do all that he could to resolve

the issue. It was a city council/mayoral election year, so, from a cynical viewpoint, we probably got more attention from the media and city officials running for election than we would have normally received. Also, at this meeting an ad hoc committee of Taylor Ranch residents was formed to examine possible solutions and focus the problem.

4. Two lawsuits were drafted by Taylor Ranch neighborhood associations, the first being a request to the courts for an injunction to stop work at the site and the second being a request to declare the apartments a "private nuisance" or "public nuisance" and condemn them. A lawyer, Robert Aragon, who lived in Taylor Ranch provided his services pro bono to the neighborhood.
5. On June 21st, a formal letter to the Mayor requested that actions be taken against the owner of the apartments through condemnation or other proceedings. The letter was signed by the presidents of TRNA and several other neighborhood associations.
6. On June 22nd, a small group of Taylor Ranch residents met informally with several of the owners. At the the meeting, the owners described some of the renovations planned. Several additional renovations were offered, but the residents made it clear that their primary objective remained – removal of the apartments from the site.
7. On July 10th, the Mayor and some of his staff met with several of the apartment owners to determine if a trade for other city property was feasible. The next day, the owners provided their written requirements for such a trade:
  - "a) Trade of property (their one acre plus the apartments) for 9.5 acres northwest of the intersection of Coors Road and Interstate 40 with a change of zoning for this parcel to R-3 which would allow apartments.
  - b) Reimbursement for present expenses in the sum of \$277,000.
  - c) Cost of transporting building to a new site and completion..
  - d) A lease of the apartments for ten years by the city, commencing no later than September 1, 1989, payable at \$5000 a month. The city will take over rental of all such apartments."
8. On July 12th, the Mayor, in a written reply, stated in part that "The terms proposed in your letter are so unreasonable that they do not constitute a legitimate offer on your part... Therefore, due to your unrealistic approach, I do not feel there is a working basis for further discussions."

The issue seemed to be at an impasse! (*Next Month – The Fight Continued*) 



# Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Membership Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

- I'm interested in the following:
- |   |   |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification   | <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member (Newsletter Only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Calling           | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Prevention | <input type="checkbox"/> Education          | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter       | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Education  | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning             | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Committee                     |  |   |

I'm a new member, enclosing my check made out to TRNA in the amount of:

Resident:  \$18.00 (12 mo, to Dec 2005)       \$34.00 (24 mo., to Dec 2006)

Business:  \$50.00 (12 mo, to Dec 2005)       \$90.00 (24 mo., to Dec 2006)

I'm an existing member, enclosing my check made out to TRNA in the amount of:

Resident:  \$18.00 (1 year extension, Dec 2005)       \$34.00 (2 year extension, Dec 2006)

Business:  \$50.00 (1 year extension, Dec 2005)       \$90.00 (2 year extension, Dec 2006)

Our mission is to Promote, Preserve, and Improve the quality of life in Taylor Ranch.

If you have already renewed, pass this on to a neighbor! Call Susan at 897-4684 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**

Feb 2005

## TRNA Board of Directors and Other TRNA Contacts

|                               |                                 |                         |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| President:                    | Don MacCormack.....897-1593     | president@trna.org      |
| Vice-President:               | Brett Lopez.....839-4805        | vicepresident@trna.org  |
| Secretary:                    | Virginia Klebesadel....898-9173 | secretary@trna.org      |
| Treasurer:                    | Ceil van Berkel.....899-2738    | treasurer@trna.org      |
| Director/ Zoning, Social.:    | Brett Lopez .....839-4805       | zoning@trna.org         |
| Director/Beautification/Educ: | Lily Andrews.....899-9140       | beautification@trna.org |
| Director/Gov Affairs:         | Don Newton .....898-2185        | government@trna.org     |
| Director/Land Use, Transp.?:  | Donna Rigano .....899-0910      | tbd                     |
| Director/Parks & Rec:         | Curtis Smith.....899-2696       | recreation@trna.org     |
| Director/Education:           | Gene Stone: .....897-4615       | education@trna.org      |
| Director/At large:            | Vacant.....                     |                         |
| Director/Web Site:            | Michael Skroch.....899-4471     | webmaster@trna.org      |
| Historian:                    | Fred van Berkel.....899-2738    | historian@trna.org      |
| Membership Chair:             | Susan Sisson.....897-4684       | membership@trna.org     |

...*"Your Community..." continued from page 1.*

The time commitments for these projects vary, so there is something for everyone.

Why volunteer? It will make you feel great. Probably the best reason to volunteer is the pride and feeling of ownership that comes from making Taylor Ranch better.

Please remember to vote on February 1st. ®

...*"More on ... By-Law Change" continued from page 3.*

only an issue for the first year. Having semi-annual dues may lead to larger, intense, more effective membership drives twice a year since it will be less likely to get members in Spring and Fall.

So, this issue may be important or it may be trivial. At least it's something to vote on at the General Membership meeting. So think about it, show up and vote! If you've not been there, this is a chance to see the new Community Center!

Have an opinion now? Get involved! You can send email it to all the email addresses above. You can post your thoughts to the TRNA forum on the Community page of the TRNA.ORG web site. Even better, you can volunteer to help make TRNA a better group, help with membership drives and other beneficial activities for your neighborhood! ®



...*"Beautification News" continued from page 1.*

from our efforts. The days are already getting nicer so take a walk around the walking path and enjoy our lovely park and get some fresh air!

Also a special thanks to the Kiwana's club for the large area they cleaned up in front of the part from Montano to Homestead. It makes a difference! The next park cleanup will be Saturday, February 19th at 11:00. Any questions contact me at 899-9140. ®

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

***Inside This Issue:***

**President's Message**  
**APS Bond Vote—Feb 1st**  
**Adult Oldies Sock Hop**

**Beautification News**  
**What's New on TRNA.ORG**  
**TRNA History Corner #7a**  
**From the Desk of Lt. Perea**

**TRNA Scholarships**  
**Proposed By-Law Change**  
**March General Meeting**  
**Board Member Elections**

Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 66288  
 Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288

***Return Service Requested***

**PRSTD STD**  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
**Albuquerque, NM**  
**Permit # 734**

### **UPCOMING TRNA EVENTS**

- Saturday Feb 19, 11 a.m., Mariposa Park Clean Up. Email/Call Lily Andrews.
- Feb 26th: Sock Hop @ TRCC, 7-10 PM. Email/Call Fred van Berkel.
- Thursday, March 24, 7 p.m., General Membership Meeting at TR Community Center  
Refreshments, Door Prizes, Guest Speaker, Board election, By-laws vote
- March 1st — TRNA Scholarship Application Deadline

**“Be the change you wish to see in the world.” ~Ghandi**

***CURBSIEDE RECYCLING NOW OCCURS EVERY WEEK!***