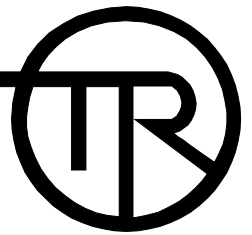


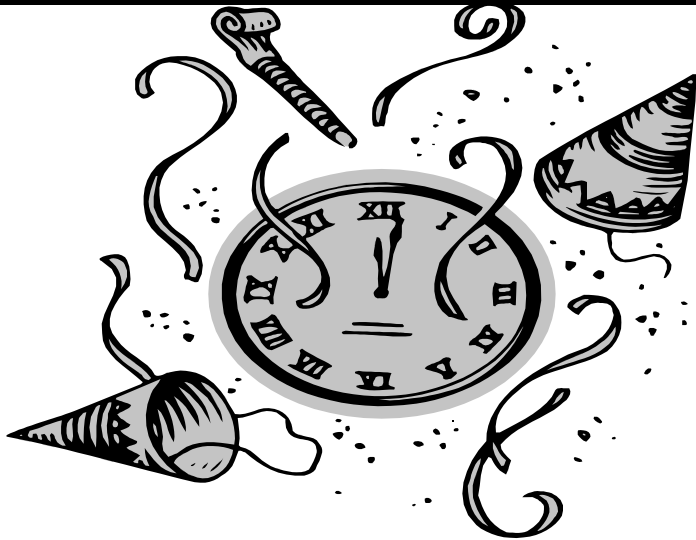
MESA MESSENGER



Newsletter of the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Vol. 33 No. 1 January 2012

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



President's Message

Dave Waters, President, TRNA

I am writing this on the last day of 2011 and as I look back it has been a mixed bag of good and bad. First, what a pleasure and honor it has been to serve as the president of TRNA. When I first moved to Taylor Ranch I never dreamed my life here would include all of these meetings with government agencies. There are some wonderful people that serve on the board of TRNA and I have learned that to preserve our West Side quality of life, it takes a lot of work. Many of the board members have been actively involved with the association for decades and without their hard work Taylor Ranch would be a very different place. Now the work continues as we oppose the building of a big box store at Montañó and Coors. In yesterday's *Albuquerque Journal* there was a front-page article on the most congested traffic corridors in the City and the intersection at Coors and Montañó is one of the most congested in the city as are all of the other river crossings. This is more ammo for our upcoming meeting with the Environmental Planning Commission, planned for January 19th at 3:00 PM at the Convention Center downtown. I hope everyone comes, although I know it will be difficult for some because of the location and time.

Our Christmas party was a great success and we need to

thank the folks at the **Outback Steakhouse** on Coors for catering the event and especially Ken Newman and his family. Ken and June and Bret Lopez have done this every year I have lived here and I don't think it is an easy task. It was fun to see everyone dressed up in their Sunday go to church clothes and enjoying each other's company.

I am sorry that Dan Lewis and the Mayor didn't show up but they were probably busy with city business.

We welcome Terri Spiak as our new board member and treasurer, and my wife, Carol Waters, is now maintaining the membership list. Again, I will ask for volunteers to serve on the board next year. Without board members our association will just fade away. That would be a bad thing for Taylor Ranch.

Well, I hope everyone has a happy and safe new year, and 2012 should be a good one. president@trna.org ®

Social Committee

Ken Newman, Social Committee Director, TRNA

It was nice as always to see everyone at the Christmas Luncheon. Thanks to all those who attended, provided deserts to share, and donated non-perishables for our food baskets.

I would like to thank all those that helped make this a great event from setting up, cleaning up, greeting guests, to serving the food. Thanks to Justin and Jessica from the **Outback Steakhouse** and the staff of the Don Newton Taylor Ranch community Center. Thanks to the Horvath family, Lopez family, Freelin family, Jane Webster, George Keck, Peggy Minich and Alice, David, de Steiguer, Bryn Whisenhand and Jonathan Rodriguez. Without volunteers these events could not happen.

Your donations provided enough food for six (6) needy families that we delivered to Marie Hughes Elementary School on December 14th. Thanks to Albertsons (Dan Szych) for donating the turkeys to complete these food baskets.

(Continued on page 2)

Board of Directors Meeting —January 11, 2012—DNTR Community Center at 6:30 pm

(Continued from page 1)

This is a note from Fran Perko, School Counselor, Marie Hughes:

What a wonderful organization! It is always wonderful to be associated with people that have their hearts and minds in the right place. Many people would just talk about doing what you do and never get it done. Your organization made this happen because you are doers not just a bunch of talkers. Thank you so much for the Christmas baskets. Six families have good food for the holidays because of your efforts. Thank you all.

NOTE: As you know June & I have been involved in the Social Activities Committee for the past 24 years. We would like to step aside from this committee so we can devote time to other things. As always we will be available to support and assist the TRNA and community in any venture. The most time-consuming event is the planning for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Not that it is difficult – it's because there are numerous entities that you need to coordinate with. The other events from the Flea Markets to Christmas Luncheons are easy. So the next Easter Egg Hunt in April will be our last one. If Taylor Ranch is going to continue these events, someone needs to step forward and volunteer to do it. I will be more than glad to assist anyone in getting started. Feel free to contact June or myself at 898-5447 or e-mail social@trna.org. ®

Think Positive!

Terri Spiak, Treasurer, TRNA

In these challenging times we live in, the day to day struggle to survive can sometimes get us down. Recently I found a verse by artist Sally Huss and wanted to share it with you:

“A happy person makes a happy home. A happy home promotes a happy neighborhood. Such a neighborhood affects a city, which in turn inspires a state. A happy state touches a nation. A happy nation helps create a happy world. So, being a happy person is the most important thing in the world.”

It is a simple sentiment. When we envision our own lives having an impact on the world at large, the small day to day acts of kindness, hard work, perseverance, keeping the home, and raising families become ever more important. Contributing to our community using our individual gifts and talents, life can take on a greater meaning, and we can each indeed be happier. Taylor Ranch Neighborhood is a

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great place to live. Be happy and see the blessings of everyday life. Get involved with organizations you believe in. Help someone else in need or seek help if you need it.

Let's share this" happy attitude" to make the world a better place! treasurer@trna.org ®

Secretary's Update

Felix Franco, Secretary, TRNA

A New Year: I can't believe that 2011 has come to an end. It's been a remarkable year and as I write this update, I'm reminded about the accomplishments that so many volunteers have contributed. Our monthly park cleanup, Easter egg hunt, flea market, No Big Box Store meetings, Petitions, Christmas Banquet, Board meetings, and the list goes on. My point here is that not one of these events could have been accomplished without the help and passion from such wonderful people. People that really care about their community –that is what makes Taylor Ranch so unique. I especially want to thank my fellow board members: Rene, Dave, Ken & June, Lily, Derald, Terri, Ray, and Hannah. It is truly a



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rewarding experience to learn from you and to be part of such an active and caring group that really make a difference in this community. As we begin a new year, I want to challenge each neighbor to think of ways to enhance Taylor Ranch. Let us know your ideas and we'll certainly try to make them into reality. Here's wishing you a wonderful New Year!

Thank You Cub Scouts Pack 121 – Mariposa Park Never Looked Better: The TRNA board recently recognized the Pack 121 cub scouts for helping with their efforts cleaning Mariposa park. The idea was initially proposed to Michael Gonzales, Pack 121 Cub Scouts 2nd master, a year ago. Michael ran with the idea and he organized volunteers from the pack, which included several family members. The group has been consistently volunteering their time on Saturdays. Many thanks to the team from helping TRNA with our purpose “to Promote, Protect and Improve the Quality of Life in the Taylor Ranch Area.” Special thanks to the following volunteers: Jack Rosazza, Ryan Rosazza, Louis Sanchez, Maria Sanchez, Michael Gonzales, Valerie Gonzales, Alexander Gonzales, Jeremy Gonzales, Evan Clegern, James Clegern, Shannon King, Colleen Saavedra, Teresa Masciantchi, Ethan Masciantchi, Josh Lopez, Tomas Lopez, Austin Kelly, Josh Jones, Ethan Jones, Tyler Wharton, Thomas Wharton, Patrick Gardener, Gabriel Gardener, Rebecca Dematina, Christine Naus, Sky Jenkins, Dylan Jenkins, Adelaida Gutierrez, Aaron Gutierrez, Bryan Mick, Christian Gonzales and Family, Thade Hauge, Tristen Hauge, Dylan Hauge, Tyrone Kaisal, James Luckett, James Luckett Jr. **If you would like to help with this effort, the group meets the 3rd Saturday of the month –mid morning at Mariposa Park.** The group will be on hiatus in January and begin their efforts again in February.

Pictured to the right, Board Members Dave Waters and Ken Newman present the Michael Gonzales and the rest of the pack with special thank you recognition pizza party.



treasurer@trna.org ®

Land Use Update

René Horvath, Land Use Director, TRNA

1. Walmart EPC hearing has been changed from January 5th to Thursday, January 19th, 2012, 3:00pm at

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the Albuquerque Convention Center: I am sure by now most of you have already heard about this change in the EPC hearing date. We can thank the Mayor and participants at the Westside Coalition meeting on December 7th. The Mayor was asked at the meeting to check to see if the EPC meeting could be deferred to a later date due to the holidays. The Mayor checked with his legal staff and followed up with a request to the City Planning department for the deferral. Recently, Walmart submitted a new site plan to the City Planning Dept to address previous comments made by the City Planners. TRNA also received the new site plan a few days ago. Moving the meeting back will help to give everyone more time to review the new site plan and to prepare for the EPC hearing. **The EPC hearing will take place at the Albuquerque Convention Center in the San Miguel Room, on the upper level in the east Convention Center building, on 401 Second Street, NW at 3:00PM.** I am told that there are 700 seats in this room. This is a very important hearing, so we urge everyone to attend. As

(Continued on page 4)

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(Continued from page 3)

time grows near, TRNA will send out e-mails and put notices on the Taylor Ranch sign boards to announce the EPC hearing date.

2. Westside Coalition: The Mayor attended the December 7th Westside Coalition meeting held at the Taylor Ranch Community Center to discuss any hot topics for the Westside. The audience brought up many topics which included LED signs, traffic congestion, Volcano Heights, and most of all Walmart. In response to the questions from the audience, he began addressing the LED sign issue. He said it was never his intension to ban LED signs in Albuquerque. He felt regulating them was the best option and a compromise. The audience mentioned that there was a problem enforcing the regulations. He agreed that it takes time and money to pay for inspectors to enforce the regulations and it will have to be worked out over time.

In response to traffic; he felt that more jobs were needed on the Westside and that they are looking into the BRT system (Bus Rapid Transit) along Central, and that the City is looking to find funding for the Paseo Del Norte interchange. In regards to the Walmart; the Mayor said he could not take sides but wanted to ensure that the proper process was being followed for this issue.

3. Walmart Rally: A second Rally was held on a very cold and wintry day on December 6th at Coors and Montañó between 3:00 and 5:00 PM, to protest the proposed Walmart. Despite the cold temperature, over 100 residents from surrounding communities and Bosque School came out to say 'NO' to the proposed Big Box development. Homemade signs were in abundance with messages saying 'NO' to more traffic congestion, and crime, save our Bosque, and promoting a more sensitive

and pedestrian style of development. Channel 4 news ran a story on the Rally that evening. The Albuquerque Journal later ran a story the following week to let the public know that there was a change in the EPC hearing date.

4. Coors Corridor Update Transportation meeting/ December 6th: After the Rally, many of the participants attended the Coors Corridor Transportation meeting at 6:00pm to hear the discussion on the different transportation options that were being proposed for Coors Blvd. Each option had pros and cons attached to it. Here is a review of the options:

A) Expand Coors to 8 or 10 lanes. This would allow a brief period of good traffic flow, but this would not last long until being congested again. Traffic would still have to funnel onto the already congested river crossings. Ten lanes would be very costly, and it would have to take out some houses along the roadway. Either plan would not be pedestrian friendly. It would be like a freeway.

B) Mass transit was the preferred option, but it was unclear which method for mass transit would work the best. One option is to add BRT or Bus Rapid Transit lanes to Coors so that only a particular type of bus could travel within these lanes. The BRT lanes would either be located on the outside lanes of Coors or inside the medians along Coors. It would be more difficult for pedestrians to get to the lanes in the middle of Coors. There would be difficulty for vehicle traffic to make left hand turns at some intersections because of the BRT guide way lanes. The other option is to use regular buses.

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C) Create flyovers at the Paseo and Coors intersection.

D) Provide a grade separation at Coors and Montañó. Montañó would have to go under Coors to get to the Montañó Bridge.

Note: There was a good article on Dec. 29th on the front page of the Journal that discussed the five most congested corridors in the City. Alameda was number 1; Montano was number 2, Paseo was number 3.

5. Volcano Heights December 8th workshop meetings:

The City Planning department organized a very good workshop to discuss the Volcano Heights Plans. Developers, consultants, property owners, the National Park Service and neighborhood representatives attended the workshop, from 7:30 am to 1:30pm at City Hall. There were panel presentations on land use with transportation/transit planning, infrastructure needs, and planning for “form base code” urban design standards. The City Planning Dept is still awaiting comments from the participants in response to the latest Volcano Heights draft plan. They will organize another meeting similar to this one, to discuss parks, trails and open space issues.

6. **Credit Union approved by EPC December 8th:** The EPC approved the US New Mexico Federal Credit Union planned to be built at Coors Blvd. and Learning road. land@trna.org ®

Membership Renewal Time

Editor, TRNA

Please check the date on your mailing label on the back page. If it says “membership Expires December 2011, your membership has expired and we ask you please to renew your membership this week. Consider a multi-year renewal: it saves you a little money and saves us labor!

You might also consider giving a neighbor a gift subscription for one year. Just let us know that it is a gift when you send in your check and the registration form for your neighbor. Your membership keeps TRNA a strong force for good in the community. Thank you for your membership. ®

Library Update

Ceil van Berkel, Library Advisory Board

Taylor Ranch Library

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Sun.: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

January Special Events:

Tuesday, Jan 10, 2012: Every Child Ready to Read: Family Storytime. 10:30 am & 1 pm: Stories, songs, poems and games. Same content at both programs.

Thursday, Jan 12, 2012: Every Child Ready to Read: Baby Storytime. 10:30 am: A lapsit storytime for ages 0-2. Stories, learning games, songs, puppets, movement activities and fun for everyone!

Thursday, Jan 12, 2012: Gizmo Garage. 4-6 pm: Want to meet e-Readers and learn how to borrow e-Books & e-audiobooks from the library? Visit our Gizmo Garage for hands-on experience with the Kindle, Nook, Sony eReader, and iPod Touch.

Wednesday, Jan 25, 2012: Peanuts At The Circus: Music and Movement. 10:15 am: Theatre and rhythmic movement for ages 0-5.

Regularly Scheduled Programs:

Fridays, 2:00—3:30: A Good Yarn .

If you enjoy knitting, crocheting or other needle craft, join our weekly drop-in stitch group. All ages and skill levels welcome. A skilled knitter will be on hand for instruction and questions. Feel free to come when you can and leave as needed. For more information call (505)897-8816.

Fiction to Go:

Remember, the TR Library is a Fiction to Go location. What is Fiction to Go? The Friends for the Public Library sells slightly used, recently published fiction titles for \$2 for hardbacks and \$1 for paperbacks. Like all funds that our Friends receive, all proceeds from Fiction to Go sales benefit the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Libraries!

(Continued on page 7)

2012 TRNA Scholarship Application

Application Deadline: March 1, 2012

Applicants for the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association's \$750 Scholarship must meet all four of the following criteria:

- 1) Reside within the boundaries of the Association: north/ south boundaries: Paseo del Norte and Western Trail; east/ west boundaries: Rio Grande (river) and West Mesa Escarpment;
- 2) Submit this completed Scholarship Application form and two (2) letters of recommendation, postmarked no later than March 1, 2012, to the address at the bottom of this form;
- 3) Demonstrate community involvement and service through school-wide and extracurricular activities, church and/ or other organizations; and
- 4) Enroll at a college, university, or post-secondary school for Fall 2012.

Scholarship awards will be presented to the school business office or bookstore of the selected students' choice. Please note that late applications will not be accepted.

Name _____ Soc. Sec. # _____ - _____ - _____

Street Address _____

Albuquerque, New Mexico, ZIP Code _____ Telephone Number(s) _____

Is your family a member of TRNA? _____ Yes _____ No (Membership is not required)

High School _____ Cumulative GPA (including Fall 2011) _____

Please briefly describe your educational plans following your high school graduation: _____

Please describe your extra-curricular activities and community involvement: _____

(You may attach one additional page of description.)

Please provide TWO letters of recommendation to complete your application. Recommendation letters may be attached to this form or mailed separately, but must be postmarked by the March 1 deadline.

All information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I consent to the release of information concerning my application to the Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Scholarship Committee.

Signature _____ Date _____

Send your application to: Scholarship Committee, Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 66288, Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288.

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 working on the following:

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

Renewal and New Member Rates:

- Resident: \$18.00 (Thru Dec 2012) \$34.00 (Thru Dec 2013) \$48.00 (Thru Dec 2014)
- Business: \$50.00 (Thru Dec 2012) \$90.00 (Thru Dec 2013) \$125.00 (Thru Dec 2014)



**Please mail this form with your check made out to TRNA to:
TRNA Membership, P. O. Box 66288, Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288**

1/2012

TRNA Board of Directors and Other TRNA Contacts

- President: *Dave Waters*.....897-5771 president@trna.org
- Vice-President: *Ray Shortridge* 604-3908 vicepresident@trna.org
- Secretary: *Felix Franco*..... secretary@trna.org
- Treasurer: *Terri Spiak*879-4995 treasurer@trna.org
- Director/Land Use: *René Horvath*.....898-2114 land@trna.org
- Director/Westside Coalition: *Derald McPherson*.....898-6489 wscn@trna.org
- Director at Large : *Hanna Sorrells*294-7042 director@trna.org
- Director/ Social Committee: *Ken Newman*.....898-5447 social@trna.org
- Director at Large: *Lily Andrews*..... 270-5100 director.2@trna.org

- Crime Prevention Chair: *Felix Franco*..... crimeprevention@trna.org
- Patrol Coordinator : *Fred van Berkel*899-2738 patrol@trna.org
- Facebook Administrator: *Wendy Dial* facebook@trna.org
- Webmaster : *Ceil van Berkel*.....899-2738 webmaster@trna.org
- Newsletter editor: *vacant*..... editor@trna.org
- Historian: *vacant*..... historian@trna.org
- Membership List Administrator: *Carol Waters*897-5771 memberdata@trna.org

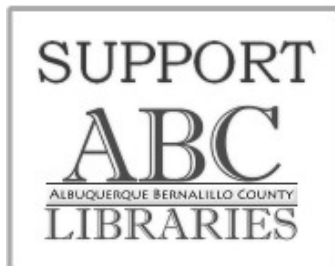
Upcoming Events

- No Park Cleanup in Jan.!
- Jan 10th—Board Meeting
- Jan 19th — Walmart Hearing
- Mar 1st —Scholarship deadline
- April 7th—Easter Egg Hunt



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Michael & Lily Andrew

*Thank you for printing this newsletter
each month!*

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

Newsletter Email Address: editor@trna.org

Web Site : <http://trna.org> - ID: member

PW: 99trna4

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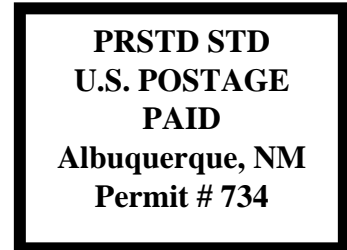
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Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 66288
Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288

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**Look at the mailing label above the fold on this page.
If it says **Membership Expires December 2011!!****

then it is time for you to renew your membership. Please fill out the renewal form on p. 9 and mail it in with your check. Save money with a multiple year membership.

NOTE:

Walmart EPC hearing changed to January 19th, 3:00 pm at the Convention Center (see p. 3)

TRNA offers college scholarships to TR High School seniors who have been active in community service. See p. 6 for application.

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