

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

August 2008

Newsletter Contact: uhanews@yahoo.com

ANNUAL UHA BLOCK PARTY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.

You are invited to this year's UHA Annual Block Party! This year's celebration will be held at the 100 block of Harvard on Saturday, September 6 from 3-6 pm. We will have a number of community and city groups join us including the City of Albuquerque Parking Services to issue on street parking permits from 3-6 pm. For on street parking permits please bring proof of residency and vehicle registration -- for further details please read the insert provided in this newsletter.

Stop by for food and entertainment! Food will be generously donated by our local UHA restaurants. This year we are taking requests from local artists and musicians who would like to sell and share their talent.

Request for Artists and Musicians:

Artists who live or work in University Heights are invited to show their work at the neighborhood block party, Saturday, September 6 from 3 to 6pm. Please provide your own set up. UHA is also requesting musicians for our neighborhood block party, acoustic only, no amplification. Please call Joseph at 220-0384 to schedule a time.

"GREEN CONDOS" OUT OF SCALE WITH HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD

Numerous members of UHA participated in months of discussions with others from surrounding neighborhoods and the developers regarding a proposed 4-story, 46-unit condominium project at 2000 Gold, SE, which has been a parking lot for many years.

The conclusion of the large majority of those people was that the building was too tall (more than 20 feet higher than allowed) and had too many units (more than three times the maximum allowed). A lower, smaller development compatible with the surrounding Silver Hill historic neighborhood and consistent with the zoning requirements was suggested many times, but the developers refused. The developers said that the building would be a "green" LEED certified project consistent with the City's plans for having more people near mass transit like on Central Avenue. On that basis, they requested a zone change

IMPORTANT UHA DATES

September 2.
Board of Directors Meeting

September 6.
UHA Annual Block Party

October 7.
Board of Directors Meeting

Please see calendar of events for more details Page 5

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and site plan approval from the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC). That body denied the requests, and the developers appealed to City Council. On June 16, the City Council agreed with the neighborhoods that the project was too tall and too dense, upholding the EPC decision on the site plan. However, the Council approved the zone change, because it was deemed more advantageous to the neighborhood than a parking lot.

The developers now have the options of submitting a new site plan for a lower density project to the EPC – hopefully first discussing it with the neighborhoods – or continuing to use the parking lot.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday August 5th was National Night Out, a crime prevention & community/police partnership event held once a year in August to encourage community members to meet with each other and their local police officers. For the first time ever the University Heights and Nob Hill neighborhood associations had a combined ice cream social at the APD substation in the triangle park at the intersection of Girard and Central.

Neighborhood residents met and talked to Albuquerque police officers including Chief Ray Schultz, and Southeast Area commander Murray Conrad. The event featured ice cream donated by Cold Stone Creamery in Nob Hill, and had informational tables from APD's COAST program and Albuquerque Safe City.

Safe City is a partnership between APD and neighborhoods along Central from University to San Mateo, and is intended to provide residents and business owners in the corridor a way to stay informed and communicate with APD about public safety and crime issues.

To find out more about the Safe City program or become a member, you can go to <http://www.safecityabq.org/>.

LEAD AND COAL AVENUES UPDATE

Implementation of elements of the "New Vision for Lead and Coal Avenues" is now on a fast track. The City Department of Municipal Development has proposed relatively immediately resealing both streets and then re-striping them per the recommendations of the "New Vision" report. Currently, the plan is to start this work in September.

The re-striping will: 1) make both streets 2 lanes continuously from Washington to Broadway 2) where possible create a bike lane on both streets; and 3) in the Huning Highlands neighborhood (I-25 to Broadway) create on-street parking along one side of each street.

The "New Vision" for Lead and Coal Avenues includes a continuous bike lane on both streets from Washington to Broadway, as well as preservation and enhancement of existing on-street parking. Unfortunately, conditions between Yale and I-25 may allow, in this phase of the project, a bike lane OR current on-street parking, but not both.

The City and the project contractor, Wilson and Company are finalizing plans for a community information meeting. The Lead and Coal citizens task force, which represents all of the neighborhoods along the corridor, continues to meet with them to inform and guide the project.

The "New Visions for Lead and Coal Avenues " report is available on the Department of Municipal Development page of the City's web site: <http://www.cabq.gov>.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's that time of year again, an unusually wet and stormy Summer is starting to make way for Fall, and as I write this we've already had the first couple of cooler nights of the season. No doubt soon the scent of chile roasting will fill the air from the Smith's and the Albuquerque Produce Exchange, another sure sign of the changing seasons.

Summer's end in our neighborhood also means that people return home from their summer vacations, and students and Professors return to UNM for the fall. Some of you may be here in the University Heights for the first time, while others I know are long time residents. That can make for some interesting new neighbors and one of the things I have always liked about the UHA is how such a diverse group of people all seem to get along despite their differences.

For those of us who have been in the neighborhood a while, it's a chance to help those newly arrived to adjust and feel welcome here. Take the time to say hello to someone who's just moved in, even if they may seem different than you, or 15 years younger. You never know when the newcomer college student may stay here after graduation, buy a house, become a long time resident. Who knows, they may even wind up as neighborhood association President one day. That's my story, and I think the story of many of us who have been in the neighborhood a while. We liked it here and never left.

When people ask me what the University Heights Association Board does, I often tell them one of the things we do is to find ways to build community, and build relationships between people and City agencies, to help get things done that benefit the residents of our neighborhood. We often succeed, but there's always more work to be done.

There's more information on the block party including the date and time elsewhere in this newsletter, but what I want to get at right now is that it's a great excuse to come out and meet people you might not otherwise meet. Meet me and tell me face to face about whatever issues you think need work in the neighborhood. But watch out - I might even ask you to help me fix them.

We've also worked hard this year to get a number of community groups out to the event, so if you want to find out who, you'll have to come and see. Find out about what's going on in the neighborhood, and what's to come.

I invite you to come and celebrate what a great neighborhood we live in, because as I've said before, the UHA begins with you.

Ben Roberts, President 2008

UHA 2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Ben Roberts

benrobertsabq@earthlink.net

Vice President

Sherry Smith

Secretary/Treasurer

Don Hancock

Board Members

Joseph Aguirre

Marlene Brown

Greg Gould

Lanny Heinlen

Madi Lerche

Nina Simbana

Questions or Comments about the UHA Newsletter

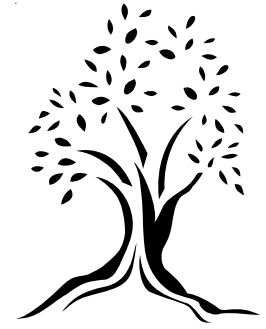
Contact:

**The UHA Newsletter
uhanews@yahoo.com
or call 507-5143**

MORE UHA UPDATES

26 properties in the UHA area benefited from the last money we received from the state legislature for tree trimming and removal. The money can be used in the public right of way areas nearest the street. If you had a tree removed, Fall is the ideal time to plant a tree in its place.

Due to the positive response to the latest neighborhood clean-up, we will have on street large item and bulk pick-up for Fall clean-up. The response from the city's Solid Waste Department was tremendous. Several trash trucks were in our neighborhood, one of which only picked up appliances. Volunteers for the clean-up collected trash from the alleys and left trash accessible for city trucks follow and pick up. The Solid Waste Department allows us 2 clean-ups per year. Please think about joining us for the fall clean-up to help keep our neighborhood trash free.



JOIN THE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION!

-Give To Your Community-

Send Completed Form and Dues to:
Don Hancock, UHA Treasurer
2210 Silver SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Please retain for
your records

2008 UHA
Membership
Dues

\$ _____ paid

University Heights Association Membership

Yearly Dues: Neighborhood - \$2/yr Business - \$15/yr Student or Senior - \$1/yr
 Sponsor - \$10/yr (This sponsorship is for those who want to make a special contribution)

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

Email _____

You **do not** have to be a property owner to belong to UHA.
Anyone who resides in or has an interest in the University Heights area is welcome.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2.

UHA Board of Directors Meeting
Southwest Research & Information
Center - 105 Stanford SE - 7pm

September 6.

UHA Annual Block Party
100 Block of Harvard SE - 3-6pm

October 7.

UHA Board of Directors Meeting
Southwest Research & Information
Center - 105 Stanford SE - 7pm

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Dial 311 for non-emergency city inquiries and services

Emergency	911
APD Non-Emergency	242-2677
DWI Hotline	#DWI (394)
APD Crime Prevention	924-3600
Southeast Substation	256-2050
Fire Non-Emergency	833-7300
Animal Control	768-1975
City/County Information	768-2000
Graffiti Hotline	768-4725
Landlord/Tenant Hotline	256-9442
Housing Code Enforcement	924-3450
Solid Waste	761-8100
Large Item Pickup	761-8113
Weeds and Litter	857-8060
Illegal Dumping	761-8100
Abandoned Cars	768-2277
Zoning Violations	924-3850
Parking Enforcement	924-3950
Parking Permits	857-8680
Transit Departments	724-3100
Pothole Hotline	768-4653
Mayor's Office	768-3000

University Heights Neighborhood website:
www.uhanm.org

City of Albuquerque website: www.cabq.gov
Bernalillo County website: www.bernco.gov

Government - Your Elected Officials

US Congressional District 1
Heather Wilson 346-8015
ask.heather@mail.house.gov

State Senator District 16
Cisco McSorley 268-7000
cisco.mcsorley@state.nm.us

State Representative District 18
Gail C. Beam 266-5191
gail.beam@state.nm.us

City Council District 3
Isaac Benton 768-3100

County Commissioner District 3
Deanna Archuleta 768-4100
sdanciger@bernco.gov



UHA Annual Block Party

Saturday, September 6
3 - 6 pm

Bricklight District - 100 Block of Harvard Dr SE

Enjoy free food, drink, music and good company!
Food has generously been donated by Saggio's, Frontier
Restaurant and many more.

**Meet your neighbors and the
University Heights Association Board!**

Call to Artists and Musicians:

We are seeking talented people to share their art and music with their neighbors.
Artists please provide your own set up. Musicians please call Joseph at 220-0384

**The City of Albuquerque Parking Services will be joining us from 3 - 6 pm to
issue parking permits to residents who live on streets requiring permits.**