

October, 2003

**General Meeting:
October 20, 7 PM
Mitchell
Elementary**

www.swcp.com/sgana/

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**REMINDER:
Please, for our
children's safety,
obey the posted
speed limit. Also,
to avoid vehicle
vandalism, make
an effort to park
in your driveway,
especially at
night.**



SAN GABRIEL AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Message from SGANA President

"It is fun to build a community." This simple idea has been the basis of many of our activities this year. One of our most effective and fun events is the Ice Cream Social that was held on the twenty-third of August.

The number of people attending the event increased from last year. The Board, in turn, was able to meet with and discover the individual concerns of many more people. Hopefully as well, the interaction will reduce the number of strangers in the neighborhood. It is difficult to do the little extra things that our neighborhood has asked of you as member of the community if your neighbors are strangers.

Speaking of those "little extra things", we have been very impressed by the neighborhood's improved appearance. Problems remain, of course, but overall our community is looking better.

So many of you have

taken the time and expense of fixing your yards and homes. In recognition of two families that went above and beyond, we are presenting gift certificates. First place and a lunch for dinner for two at Garduno's goes to the family residing at 10009 Hendrix Avenue. Second place and a \$25 gift certificate from Plants of the Southwest is awarded to the family at 10212 San Luis Rey. There were some close contenders. Thank you winners for doing such a fabulous job on your homes.

Yes the community is doing better but all is not well here. A noticeable increase in burglaries has occurred. There was also a report of a peeping tom that was actually chased away by members of the victim household on Hendrix Avenue.

The Association is still waiting for someone to come forward and volunteer to be a chairperson for the Crime Committee.

The goal of establishing an effective Neighborhood Watch Program remains to be realized. Please contact a Board member if you would be able to assist the neighborhood in its efforts to prevent crime. The city has programs that will train the Committee members and offers other assistance as well.

The General Meeting for the San Gabriel Area Neighborhood Association will be held on Monday, October 20 at 7:00 PM at the Mitchell Elementary School cafeteria. Election for the Board of Directors for the next year will be held at that time. We will also have a speaker that we hope will be helpful to members of our association. In addition to you getting a chance to vote for the Board of Directors and getting a chance to voice your concerns in this gathering you might also win a gift certificate from Dion's Pizza or Le Peep Restaurant or a number of other door prizes.

Carl and Jean Chavez

JEAN CHAVEZ OF
RE/MAX ELITE
(620-5326) AND
CARL CHAVEZ
OF HOME ONE
MORTGAGE
(620-3685)
SPONSORED
THIS
NEWSLETTER

Committee News

Events Committee

The Events Committee sponsored its 2nd Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale on June 21, which has doubled in participation from last year. We had a table set up for the National Night Out on August 5 with bottled water. A few neighbors stopped by to talk. We also had our Annual Ice Cream Social on August 23. The company JR Sound pro-

vided the music for the event via a great sounding system. The Association wants to thank them for their generosity.

Two police officers were also on hand to discuss neighborhood issues. It was quite a success.

Due to a heavy work schedule, I will have to give up my seat as the Events

Committee Chairperson. It has been inspiring and fun. If there is anyone that would like to take on this wonderful challenge, please contact me at 271-0005 or e-mail me at [e-dchavira@comcast.net](mailto:dchavira@comcast.net).

Debbie Chavira,
Committee Chair
(We are very appreciative of Debbie's hard work for the Association.)

Board of Directors

President: Carl and Jean Chavez, 292-4907
carlcbowls@cs.com

Vice-president: Dan Jones, 299-1677,
abqdanj@swcp.com

Secretary: Joan Reynolds, 293-0180,
reynoldsjo@aol.com

Treasurer: Debbie Chavira, 271-0005,
e-dchavira@comcast.net

Director at large: Mark Webb, 299-6675
mwtennis@swcp.com

The Crime Committee and the Events Committee need chairmen. Please make an effort to contribute to your community.

Welcoming Committee

The members of the Welcoming Committee are Joan and Clint Parker, Carol Lynch, Joan Rice, Margaret Johnson, Shirley Shipman and Mary Snyder. We will be calling or e-mailing neighbors to remind them of the up-coming General Meeting on October 20th.

We have new neighbors at 9812 and 9816 San Gabriel and at 10306 Theresa NE. Please welcome them if you are walking by.

Joan Reynolds, Committee Chair

Traffic Committee

We have received several complaints about traffic cutting through the neighborhood to avoid the intersection of Montgomery and Eubank. The San Gabriel Area Neighborhood Association requested the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program to study the traffic on Pitt Place and Pitt Street, the route generally used for this bypass activity. The City counted 387 vehicles with 83 traveling more than 5 mph over the speed limit on Pitt Place and on Pitt Street they counted 472 vehicles with 142 traveling more than 5 mph over the speed limit. Because of limited resources, the City must deal with those streets with the greatest need. The City must find that a local residential street carries more than 500 vehicles per day going more than 5 mph over the speed limit to qualify for speed humps. Therefore, neither street in our study currently qualifies at this time. However, the City noted that recent construction near the intersection of Eubank and Montgomery probably exacerbated the situation in the short term.

We will continue to work with the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program to explore other traffic control alternatives.

Dan Jones, Committee Chair

It must also be noted that some members of the community voiced their concern of the noise and traffic coming from Montgomery. In response to this concern made in an earlier neighborhood meeting, City Councilor Sally Mayer was able to include it in the General Obligation Bond Program that will be a part of the October ballot. The Montgomery Noise Wall proposes \$50,000 to "Plan, conduct and complete a feasibility study of solutions to traffic noise problems along Montgomery

Traffic Committee (continued)

Blvd. (between Morris and San Mateo) to protect adjacent neighborhoods.”

In another development, Councilor Mayer has indicated that she will work to direct some funds toward the design and construction of median improvements on the Montgomery median that borders our neighborhood association.

Our present Board of Directors was not in office when the chance came to submit a proposal to improve the Montgomery median. We essentially missed out on the present improvements being made. It is easy to see how the last Board missed the opportunity since we almost did the same. We have seized the initiative presently to landscape the medians as soon as is administratively possible. Councilor Mayer has been instrumental in finding a way to get many of these projects funded and put on the table. We thank her for her efforts on our behalf. Dan Jones has also contributed by his propitious observation and in his bringing the median situation to the Board's attention so that we could make requests of the City and Councilor Mayer in a timely manner. His work on the neighborhood's behalf is also very much appreciated.

This is just another example of how you can make a difference in the neighborhood and the city if you attend a neighborhood meeting and voice your concerns.

Carl Chavez

Youth Committee

Current adult members of the Youth Committee are Jean Chavez, Carol Driscoll and Debbie Chavira and the youth members are Veronica Correa and Jessica Pollock. We are always looking for new members particularly among our neighborhood's youth. If you wish to join the group and/or write an article for this newsletter, contact one of the members. The young people in this community matter and can make a positive difference.

Members of our Youth Committee purchased games and prizes for the kids for the Ice Cream Social. They also set up and supervised the games at the Social. Come and help us with ideas for our next event.

Jean Chavez, Committee Chair

Business Support

We would like to thank the following businesses for providing support to the Association: Garduno's Restaurant, Plants of the Southwest, Dion's Pizza, JR Sound and Le Peep Restaurant. Your patronage of these establishments will pay dividends for our Association.

Newsletter Sponsorships

If you would like to help pay for this newsletter in the future, please contact Carl Chavez. Your name and business will be mentioned. Consider that this newsletter is distributed to approximately 500 families. For advertising, it is hard to beat.

Community Service
looks great on college
applications

Please send us your e-mail addresses. Send to carlcbowls@cs.com. We will then be able to keep you informed of neighborhood events and other information in a timely manner.

Membership Dues

Membership dues are voluntary. Dues are \$10 per household per year. Donations of more than \$10 are gratefully accepted. Mail to: Carl Chavez, 4109 Pitt NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Make checks out to SGANA.

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Halloween Safety

(The following article was provided by the Albuquerque Police Department Crime Prevention Unit and is being printed with their permission.)

The time for monsters, super hero's and ghosts has arrived again. Halloween is a wonderful part of the changing seasons and we should do every thing possible to ensure the night remains a wonderful experience for our children. Most folks are aware of the need for cautionary steps on this haunted evening, particularly in regard to altered treats and safety. Unfortunately, there are dangers associated with this annual goblin festival. The following tips should be considered by all adults and children as a guide to protect our little cherubs during a night of trick-or-treating.

For Parents:

1. The safest place is a sponsored event at a mall, school, church, or neighborhood event.
2. Accompany young children on the route.
3. Send older children out with friends, a watch and flashlight.
4. Agree to the route and an expected arrival time prior to departure.
5. Always check your children's treats prior to consumption.

For Children:

1. Wear light-colored clothing or costumes.
2. Use make-up instead of a mask for better visibility.
3. Make a map of the route for you and your parents.
4. Carry a flashlight or light stick.
5. Stay in your own neighborhood.
6. Be respectful of other people and their property.
7. Stop only at well-lighted houses.
8. Have a parent check the treats before you eat them.
9. Start early and end early.
10. Use sidewalks or walk facing traffic.
11. Always keep a safe distance between you and moving vehicles.
12. Stop, look and listen at corners or before crossing the street and walk, don't run.
13. Don't go between parked cars or crisscross back and forth across the street.
14. Never go inside a stranger's house or apartment, no matter what anyone says.
15. Don't carry sharp instruments and never carry a lighted candle or open flame.

Any incident involving injury or violations of the law should be reported to the Albuquerque Police Department by calling 911 (Emergency) or 242-COPS (Non-Emergency).

APD Crime Prevention @ 924-3600

