

# HUNING HIGHLAND GUARDIAN



The newsletter for the Huning Highland Historic District Association, Albuquerque, NM since 1977 *March/April 2009*



## Contact Information

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## **Neighborhood Meeting** **Tuesday, April 7, 6:30 PM** **Preservation Station, 601 Coal SE**

The next neighborhood meeting will be at the old Horn Gas Station at the corner of Coal and Walter. This old gas station is the home of The Albuquerque Conservation Association (TACA) and is soon to become the community center for the Huning Highland Historic District Association (HHHDA). Please come and see our new neighborhood space! The Board has been working closely with TACA to make the space useable—like adding heat and running water again. Please come join us for the inauguration of the Huning Highland Community Center—aka The Preservation Station.

## **Joaquin's Corner by Joaquin Garofalo**

Happy Spring to everyone!!!! We would like everybody to know we have had a busy winter organizing our association. The board has been preparing for another wonderful year in the Huning Highlands Neighborhood. There are a few fantastic developments happening that we would like everybody to participate in. First we have been allowed to use the T.A.C.A. gas station on Coal as our new community center. The Station will be nicknamed "Preservation Station". We intend to use it as our meeting place for all future neighborhood meetings as well as socials, community projects



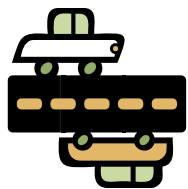
and fundraisers. Our neighborhood meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm, we encourage all to come and participate in making our neighborhood a lovely place to live. Second we have created a mission statement for the hood as well. Our mission is, "Creating an historic community for now and the future". How fantastic is that?!!!! Third we have decided to change distribution of the newsletter to the last month of every quarter. We have been challenged in construction and distribution of the newsletter. If anybody would like to volunteer their time to help us with this or

help us with an e-mail newsletter, please contact myself or any of the Board members. We've also been working on a Victorian Ball, the annual Easter egg hunt, parking permits, seasonal socials and work days, the Lead and Coal task force and many other projects throughout the winter. We live in one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in Albuquerque. Join us as we continue to dote on it. Please feel free to send suggestions, email addresses, letters to the board, articles to the paper or anything you may want to contribute to [jgarofalo@hotmail.com](mailto:jgarofalo@hotmail.com).

## Lead Coal Task Force Update by Bonnie Anderson & Manuela Mondloch

The Lead and Coal Task Force met in February and March to discuss the current developments of the corridor project, specifically the impact of the interim striping and planning for the design of the corridor, especially landscape architecture. The landscape architects who have been hired to work on the Lead/Coal project are planning, above all else, to enhance safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and cars. Their second priority is to beautify the corridor and enhance neighborhood identity and social interaction. Here is their ambitious list of goals (in no particular order):

- Safe and accessible pedestrian circulation
- Pedestrian-scale lighting
- Neighborhood entry signs
- Seasonal banners
- Water harvesting in planted areas
- Drought tolerant and low



- maintenance plantings
- Low allergen plantings
- Site furnishings with cohesive style and materials throughout (benches, trash receptacles, lighting, bus shelters)
- Public art
- Pocket parks and gathering spaces
- Community garden plots
- Plan for block parties and special events
- Traffic calming
- Way-finding and directional signage
- Contribute to neighborhood identity
- Plantings with year round color and interest

The landscape architects also provided a list of all the trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, and groundcovers currently located in the corridor and will be considering input from neighborhoods regarding “favorites” and “plants to be avoided.”

The vision for Huning Highland includes significantly more plantings (all irrigated), neighborhood welcoming signs on Coal, near Broadway and on Lead, near I-25. Bulb-outs will be added and traffic lanes reduced to 11 feet. Crosswalks made of a different material may be added. The landscape architects are also working with the City to redesign the spaces on Lead and Coal that intersect with I-25. There is no plan to add parking space interim striping in Huning Highland; nor are there any identified encroachment problems in our area.

\$25 million will be spent over the next 10 years, with \$4 million in the first two years, ending December 2009. There is approximately \$3 million left in this first phase of the bond cycle. Until Wilson completes its priority plan by the end of April, it is not clear how much of this funding will be available for actual construction.

## April 11—Save the Date By Marina Hillard

It is that time of year again. Dust off your Easter baskets and join us on Saturday April 11, 2009 for a morning of Easter egg hunting, bunny hopping, and good fun with your



neighbors. We will meet at the top of Highland Park at the entrance of the Press Club just above the corner of Gold and Elm Streets Southeast. We will start the festivities at

10:30AM. Tell your little ones that special guests will join in the activities. We hope to see all of our Huning Highland's children that morning.

## Fall Work Party Wrap Up By Amberly Pyles

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers!

On Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, teams of volunteers went through the neighborhood picking up trash and weeds. Others helped weed front strips, spread pecan shells,



and plant plants. After working in the morning, we all gathered at the gas station on Coal and Walter for pizza, a plant swap, and a pecan shell giveaway. In all, we supplied pecan shells for 8 front strips throughout the neighborhood. A very generous neighbor donated over 20 trans-

plants, which were then distributed to neighbors. Many neighbors also chose to plant bulbs and drought tolerant plants. While this fall's event was quite a success, we want to work to get more people involved in the landscaping of the neighborhood.

**HUNING HIGHLAND  
HISTORIC DISTRICT ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS**

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Grand Victorian Ball  
&  
Franz Huning's Feast**

In 1885, the railroad finally arrived in Albuquerque thanks to the work of entrepreneurs like Franz Huning. We are celebrating Mr. Huning's neighborhood that welcomed the railroad and its employees. Balls and Cotillions were favored events during the Victorian era. Take a step back in time and join us for Franz Huning's Feast and a Victorian Ball!

You will learn historic dances such as the Grand March, the Virginia Reel, the Spanish Dance, various Quadrilles and many more from Dance Mistress Sharon Guli. *Partners are not necessary, and all ages are welcome. All dances are taught, no prior experience necessary.* Sharon will lead from the stage while her husband Mike moves among the dancers in his role of Floor Manager, helping folks get situated into the proper formations, finding partners for single ladies, and educating people on how to tell their right hand from their left.

The Feast will be catered by the **Slate Street Café** and will feature a choice of Grilled Salmon Fillet or Chicken Piccata. Delectable desserts will be served during intermission at the Ball. A cash bar will be available serving beer, wine and sodas.

**Schedule of Events:**

**Victorian Dance Class:**  
6 to 8 PM, Friday, May 1st, *Free to all—no prior experience needed*

**Franz Huning's Feast:**  
5 to 6:30 PM, Saturday, May 2nd, \$40/person

**Grand Victorian Ball:**  
7 to 11 PM, Saturday, May 2nd, \$40/person

All events will be held in the Community Hall at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 306 High St. SE, Albuquerque, NM

**Reservations Required by April 20, 2009**

Name		
Address:		
City	State	Zip
Phone		

Dinner Only # _____ x \$40 = _____	Dance Only # _____ x \$40 = _____	Dinner & Dance # _____ x \$70 = _____
# _____ Chicken Piccata	# _____ Grilled Salmon	# _____ Vegetarian Option

Make Check Payable to: Huning Highland Historic District Association and postmark before April 20, 2009 and mail to Grand Victorian Ball, c/o Kay Adams, 816 Silver Ave. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102. For questions or more information, contact Kay at 505-417-9519 or 505-224-9535.

**Attire:**

**Ladies:**  
Victorian-style Ball Gown  
White Gloves

**Men:**  
Victorian-style Coat & Tie  
White Gloves

**Some Great Sources for Victorian-style Clothing:**

<http://www.recollections.biz>  
<http://www.gentlemansemporium.com>  
<http://www.bustledress.com>  
<http://www.premierclothing.com>  
<http://www.riverjunction.com>



## *Spruce Park and Huning Highlands Mother's Day Tour*

Join the Spruce Park and Huning Highlands neighborhood associations May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 12-4 for the premier dual neighborhood Mother's Day tour of historic homes and exceptional properties. Spend the day with your family and friends touring beautiful homes and gardens in the east downtown and university area. Designated homes will supply food and beverages and neighborhood children will run lemonade and refreshment stands throughout the neighborhoods. Please contact Amberley Pyles ([apyles505@msn.com](mailto:apyles505@msn.com) or 505 573 5544) or Carol Belcher ([belcarola@yahoo.com](mailto:belcarola@yahoo.com) or 505 803 8506) for further details or to purchase advanced tickets. \$15 donations will be accepted.

## **Volunteers For Mother's Day Tour** By Amberly Pyles

We are looking for volunteers for our 2008 Mother's Day tour on May 10<sup>th</sup> from 12-4 pm. Do you have a beautiful garden or a house that you'd like to show off? Please volunteer it for the tour!



We also need volunteers to lead guests through houses, to coordinate food making and food donations, and to help with advertising.

Please contact me at 573 5544 or [apyles505@msn.com](mailto:apyles505@msn.com) to volunteer.

## **Work Day at The Preservation Station** By Amberly Pyles

On March 28<sup>th</sup>, from 9-1 pm, we'll be hosting a work party at our new community center, The Preservation Station on Coal between Walter and High SE.

One of our goals for 2009 is to create a community center where we can hold neighborhood meetings, host neighborhood events, swap historic materials and ideas about preservation and renovation, and gather with our neighbors in a vibrant outdoor space.

One project that we'll be working on is the creation of an outdoor space to the east of the building. We'll be digging out a section to create a



level space. Please bring gloves, shovels, picks and building materials to help us create this amazing community space.

We're looking for bricks, pavers, chunks of concrete, railroad ties, large pieces of wood and rock, etc.

Another area of focus will be the cleaning of the inside of the station. We'll need volunteers to help us dust, mop, wipe down walls and a wide array of other jobs to spiff up the building.

If you have extra plants or transplants, please bring them to the station to swap with neighbors or to

help beautify our outdoor community space.

We need as much help as possible to make this a truly great space for our community, so please bring your unique skills, special knowledge, and/or overall willingness to continue making our neighborhood one of the best places to live in Albuquerque!

NYPD will be providing lunch. For questions or suggestions, please contact me at 573-5544 or [apyles505@msn.com](mailto:apyles505@msn.com)

## **Website Assistance** By Amberly Pyles

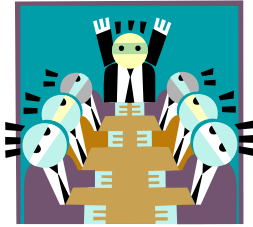
We are looking for someone to help us establish a great website for our neighborhood so that we can make information more readily available. If you would like to volunteer your skills,



please contact me at 573 5544 or [apyles505@msn.com](mailto:apyles505@msn.com).

## Meeting Minutes By Bonnie Anderson for Karen Doty

The Board convened at 6:40 PM on March 3, 2009, at the Huning Highland Preservation Station and Community Center on Coal Street. Minutes from the last meeting on February 3 were approved.



President Joaquin Garofalo reminded the Board that the deadline for the next newsletter is March 13 and that newsletters will be ready for volunteer distributors to pickup at his house on March 20. The next monthly meeting of the Board will be on April 7 at 6:30 at the Community Center on Coal and the neighborhood will be invited. While the current signage on this building will remain, TACA will allow us to add a smaller sign for the Community Center. Extra chairs will be available and neighbors are encouraged to bring their ideas for neighborhood improvement. Joaquin encouraged all Board members to be present for this meeting.

After a discussion about interest in starting a community garden for the neighborhood, the Board agreed that this work would more appropriately be handled by a separate group from the Board. This group would need to address a wide variety of issues including location, responsibilities and access fees for participants, fencing, water supply, and tools.

Lauren Austin reported on the results of a recent brainstorming session with some Board members and other interested community residents on parking problems in the area around Edith and Central. The Board encouraged Lauren and her group to continue to research two of the issues raised by the group: (1) parking stickers for residents paired with signage that would allow up to two hours of parking without a sticker for customers of local businesses and visitors to residences; (2) working with the appropriate City employee to expand use of the Arno parking garage to allow parking on an hourly fee basis. Ann

Carson provided the background on how the landscaped parking area at Arno and Silver came about and the Board discussed how we might be able to encourage owners of vacant lots being used for parking to beautify

those areas. Joaquin volunteered to find out whom to call at the City when residents notice cars parking on bare dirt vacant lots in the neighborhood. On a related issue, a majority of the Board reiterated its opposition to a downtown arena.

Kay Adams updated the Board on the Grand Victorian Ball on May 2. Since the last meeting, details of "Franz Huning's Feast" have been arranged. Slate Street Cafe will cater the Feast, offering a choice of chicken, salmon, and vegetarian entrees. Guests may purchase a Feast ticket for \$40 or a combination Feast and Ball ticket for \$70. If guests prefer to attend only the Ball, the \$40 ticket will include the dance class the night before, as well as a dessert served at intermission during the Ball. Beer, wine, and sodas will be available at a cash bar. Flyers for the Victorian Ball will be mailed in mid-March to former Dickens guests and Victorian Ball enthusiasts from neighboring states. Out-of-town guests will be offered special rates at Steve and Kara Grant's bed and breakfast. Kay will be recruiting a decorating committee soon.

Jerry Smith reported on the Lucc work session he attended recently featuring new information about various replacement windows in all historic Albuquerque neighborhoods. He said that the Lucc will be making decisions on requests coming before them based on the historically appropriate appearance of the replacement window rather than on its materials.

Joaquin reported that he met with current webmaster and former Board member Salley Trefethen. Salley agreed to continue to make minor changes in the neighborhood website. If major changes are needed, the

Board will have to find a new webmaster and host.

The mission statement drafted by the Board at its last meeting was approved: Creating an historic community for now and the future.

Amberley Pyles reported that the Silver Hills neighborhood wanted to do a Mother's Day tour of historic homes and the Board asked her to discuss the possibility of sharing the tour with them. In other words, a tour guest could purchase a ticket for entry to perhaps five homes in Silver Hills and five homes in Huning Highland.

Cindy Carson asked the Board for advice on the next step for implementing sign toppers to advertise Huning Highland. Jerry agreed to help Cindy analyze the technical details of attaching the proposed sign topper to the wide variety of intersection street marker signs in the neighborhood.

Bonnie Anderson reported on the landscaping plans for the Lead/Coal project and asked the Board for input on any plants they would like to see featured or prohibited in new plantings along Lead and Coal. The Board agreed to recommend that prickly pear and other thorny species low to the ground be excluded because they collect windblown litter that is difficult to remove.

A clean up and plant exchange day is planned for March 28. Joaquin, Ann, and Cindy agreed to make a list of clean up activities needed around the Community Center for volunteers to work on that day. A neighborhood yard sale will be postponed until the fall.

Bonnie Anderson agreed to work with Ann, Cindy, Joaquin, and Amberley to explore ideas for an outdoor space adjacent to the Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

## Classified Ads



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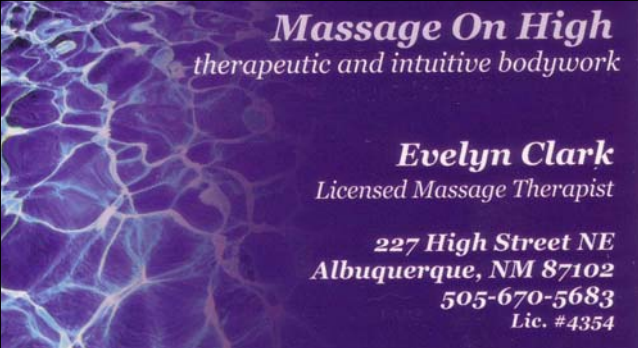
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**March 28** — Work Party, Preservation Station, 9 AM to 1 PM.

**April 7**—Neighborhood Meeting, 6:30 PM, Preservation Station, 601 Coal SE.

**April 11** — Easter Egg Hunt, Highland Park, 10:30 AM.

**May 1** — Grand Victorian Ball & Franz Huning's Feast, Greek Orthodox Church, 5 PM to 11 PM.

**May 11** — Mother's Day House



Tour, Various Locations, 12 to 4 PM.

If you have a Community Event you would like to publicize, please send information to the Editor at [adamssmith@msn.com](mailto:adamssmith@msn.com). Information must be received by the 15th of the Month to ensure inclusion in the next newsletter. There is no charge for this service. All events will be added on a "space-available" basis.