

# HUNING HIGHLAND GUARDIAN



The newsletter for the Huning Highland Historic District Association, Albuquerque, NM since 1977

July-September 2009



Contact  
Information

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V. President - Amberley Pyles,  
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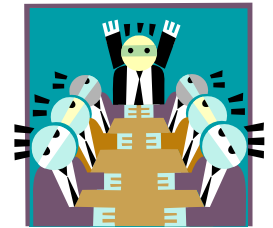
Secretary – Karen Doty, KBD,  
HHHDA@gmail.com

Treasurer - Ann Carson, a\_j\_  
carson@comcast.net

## Neighborhood Meeting

**Tuesday, October 7, 6:30 PM**  
**Preservation Station, 601 Coal SE**

The next regular 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!



## Annual Meeting - Elections and Pizza! by Joaquin Garofalo

It is time for the Annual Meeting and Elections of the Board of Directors. Once again, we are having a Pizza Party **at the Press Club on Saturday, September 26th at 4:30 pm**. Pizza will be supplied by New York Pizza Department—the best in town! Refreshments will also be available. Elections will be held following dinner. Listed below is a list of candidates. In addition, nominations will be taken from the floor, should you know someone who would like to serve

the neighborhood for a two-year term. This meeting is the **ONLY** meeting we are required to have per our Bylaws so please plan to attend and to participate. We hope to see you on the 26th!

The slate for 2009 is as follows:  
Lauren Austin  
Ann Carson  
Kathy Grassel  
Ryan Bronberg  
Karla Thornton  
Vacant-Nominee/Volunteer needed  
Board Members with 1 year

remaining in their terms are:  
Kay Adams  
Bonnie Anderson  
Karen Doty  
Joaquin Garafalo  
Steve Grant  
Amberley Pyles  
Lee Spittler

Per our Bylaws, officers will be selected at the October Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 7th at 6:30 p.m. at the Preservation Station at Coal & Walter. All neighbors are welcome to attend.



## Biannual Mother's Day Tour By Amberley Pyles

The mother's day tour was a great success—we made over \$1500! Thank you to everyone who opened their homes



and helped sell tickets. Next year, the home tour will be hosted by the Downtown Neighborhood Association, so please visit

their beautiful neighborhood. In 2011, we'll be the hosts again, so please consider opening your home for this great fundraiser.

## Community Garden News *By Bonnie Anderson*

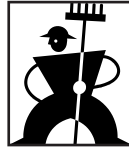
### Are You Interested?

Several neighborhoods in Albuquerque have community gardens. They say it is a good way for neighbors to get to know one another and, at the same time, provide a space for growing fruits and vegetables. Now that the blacktop has been removed on the east side of the new/old Huning Highland community center (the Horn gas station on Coal), the Board is considering putting in some great soil and a watering system in part of that space. Depending on interest, we could have as many as seven

30 foot rows. That would still leave room for an outdoor meeting and event space, and a small children's area.

Before we invest in setting up this new garden space, we want to determine if there is interest from neighbors. Although it is too late to grow vegetables this season, we want to get the soil and water system set up this fall so we would be ready to go next spring.

It is estimated that each row gardener would pay about \$10



per month during the growing season to help defray the water and start up costs of the garden. Each row would have a laser drilled drip line stretching along the center of each row. We are collecting ideas from other community gardens in Albuquerque and want to know what you think. Are you interested? If so, please call me and leave a message at 242-8848. The next step will be a meeting at the proposed site.

Everyone who expresses interest will be invited!

## Dickens of a Dinner is back with a Twist! *By Kay Adams*

Our annual Dickens of a Dinner will be returning this year on December 12th. We will offer house tours, a traditional Victorian meal, and our twist – a Victorian Ball! Guests will meet and follow their guides on a tour of restored Victorian homes. Following the house tours, dinner will be catered and served at St. George's Greek Orthodox Church and the Ball will follow. For those that attended our May

Victorian Ball – you know how much fun we had! This annual event is the sole source of money for our neighborhood and provides an opportunity for others to experience the charm that our old homes have to offer.

We will need the following help to make this event successful:

1. Homes for the house tours – must be decorated for the holidays (we'll help, if you need it)

2. Waiters, servers, and runners – this year you'll all get to work in one place!

3. Decorators – willing to climb ladders to decorate the Church's hall for the dinner and ball.

4. Guides for house tours – must dress in Victorian costume.

If you are interested in helping out in anyway, please contact Ann Carson (242-1143) or Kay Adams (417-9519).

## Fall Neighborhood Yard Sale *By Amberley Pyles*

On Saturday, October 3rd -8:00 am, the weekend of the Greek Festival, we are sponsoring a neighborhood wide yard sale. A \$10 fee puts your address on our map and helps pay for advertising. Additionally, we will have a neighborhood fund raising booth at the Preservation Station. We are asking everyone in the neighborhood to donate one item big or small, including trans-

planted plants, to our fundraising booth. The neighborhood association will use the proceeds to continue work on our community center at the Preservation Station. We are looking for volunteers to help us organize the event, do advertising, and work at the preservation station on the day of the event. Money for the yard sale should go to

Joni Neutra at 621 Wlateral St SE. Please make the check out to HHHA and have it in by Sept. 19th.

Please take part in this fall event—we could really use your support!

Contact Joni @ 508-0501 / jonineutra@gmail.com and me @ apyles505@msn.com / 573 5544.

## Revitalizing Highland Park By Amberley Pyles

Our neighborhood has a beautiful, historic park called Highland Park. In talking with neighbors, we believe that the park is underutilized for various reasons, including maintenance issues. Parks all over the city are updated every year, and city officials have advised us to assess the park's strengths and weaknesses in order to create

a media/written presentation outlining the issues and offering ways to improve the park. We will use this presentation to approach our elected officials for renovation funds.

Replacing the playground equipment and sand, adding landscaping, and replacing benches and trash cans are just some of the ideas that we're

considering. To make this project a reality and create a beautiful park that all residents enjoy frequenting, we need volunteers to help us create a proposal, approach elected officials, and seek funding sources. Please contact me at [apyles505@msn.com](mailto:apyles505@msn.com) or 573 5544 to volunteer, share your ideas, or pose questions.



## Press Club In Desperate Need Of Repair By Ann Carson

The Fire Department has reduced the club's occupancy to 49, due to failing foundation problems which also threaten the structural members and create a dangerous situation. The club board is frantically trying to locate funding sources that can remedy these problems.

This building is an important landmark for the city. It was built in 1903 for Charles Whittlesey, a well known Chicago architect who was employed by the AT&SF railroad to design Fred Harvey hotels along their

route. Whittlesey had just designed the Alvarado Hotel here in Albuquerque and was experimenting with his design for the El Tovar Hotel at the Grand Canyon. The Press Club building was to be his private home. Because he was experimenting, the design is unusual. Every room is on a different level - possibly one of the first split-level plans.

Through the years the house was filled with important people. When it was decorated with Native American crafts, neigh-

bors would knock on the door and ask if they might show the house to their visiting friends and relatives.

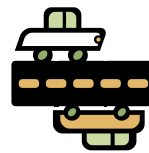
This house needs to be saved and restored. Whittlesey's Rioridan House in Flagstaff, which closely resembles the Press Club, is now an Arizona State Park. The Press Club building has a rich important history. Let's join the fight to save it for future generations. If you have ideas or suggestions call me @ 242-1143 and I will pass the info on to the Press board.

## Lead-Coal Project Update By Bonnie Anderson

Six years ago when a task force was formed to consider a new vision for the Lead/Coal corridor, between Washington and Broadway, nobody thought the City would put more money into the section of the corridor that passed through Huning Highlands. Most people thought that since the City had recently upgraded our section of the corridor, there would be no more progress.

Amberley Pyles was one of the neighborhood voices on the original task force and, after

the recent announcement about stimulus funding for the project, Amberley is delighted. Twenty-five million in stimulus money will go toward meeting the total cost of redevelopment, with the City contributing another seven million. Redevelopment for our part of the corridor will mean narrower traffic lanes, wider sidewalks with more lush plantings, 30 foot decorative street lights (replacing the current 40 foot cobra head highway



type lights) and safer crosswalks.

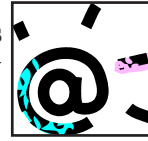
Stimulus funding means that the entire project will be compressed into a couple years, rather than the original ten year plan. Amberley notes, "This is really going to make a lasting positive impact on our neighborhood." Construction is expected to begin by the end of this year.

If you want to review the history of this project, go to <http://www.cabq.gov/municipaldev/pdf/NewVisionforLead-CoalAvenues.pdf>

## Building Blocks by Paco Thornton Gonzalez (Pacolad.f@gmail.com)

Ernest Doty's Cirq Gallery and Boutique, at 712 Central Avenue SE, (the large graffiti covered building West of the old fish and chips and the old memorial hospital) is a place for art, not for commercialism. Ernest's biggest concern is for people to realize that his gallery/boutique is not just about buying paintings and cool shirts, it's there for the local

artist to have their own space. Cirq is even removing most of its boutique (which includes such articles such as t-shirts and sweaters designed by Mr. Doty himself, and other clothes, skateboards, and purses designed by other local artists) because Ernest wants to have more room



for local art. Also, coming soon will be graffiti classes for those little tykes 15 and under! On the first Friday of every month, there is an opening that includes B-Boy battles, Live Rap and Beat Boxing!

You can reach Ernest at:  
505.242.3970

## New Business - Highland Autoworks Interview by Joni Neutra

Recently during a walk to Roosevelt Park I passed a new business at 820 Coal and I-25, Highland AutoWorks. I was glad to find a mechanic in the neighborhood and stopped in to make an appointment to have my Toyota serviced. I was pleased with the results and happy to meet the affable, Adli Yacoub.

The following is an interview between us.

**Joni:** I understand you have moved here recently, where did you move from and why Albuquerque?

**Adli:** I lived 31 years in San Francisco but it never felt like home. I have passed through New Mexico many times and thought it beautiful and I am the outdoorsy type so it seemed a good fit. My mental health has been the better for it.

**Joni:** When did you arrive and where do you live?

**Adli:** I moved about a year and four months and first lived with a friend on North Edith. Once I discovered this neighborhood I wanted to stay, it is

a real gem. So, I began looking for a location for the business. I now live at Silver and Walter Streets.

**Joni:** Tell us about your business and auto experience.

**Adli:** I have been open for about two months and work on German Japanese and domestic cars but have specialized in VW and Audis and have twenty years experience. We are very customer oriented and offer rides to our customers while their cars are being serviced. Also, soon, we will be a U-haul pick up and drop off center.

**Joni:** What kind of car do you drive?

**Adli:** '95 Audi because my other was in a wreck.

**Joni:** What is your fantasy car?

**Adli:** If I could afford a toupee and gold chain a red corvette. Just kidding.

**Joni:** Any further comments?

**Adli:** I am lucky to have stumbled into this neighborhood and invite everyone to stop by and

introduce yourselves. I know no one has left unhappy.

**Joni:** Thanks so much and welcome to the neighborhood!

jonineutra@gmail.com

Highland Autowork


(505) 503-8717

www.highlandautoworks.com



If you have a Community Event you would like to publicize, please send information to the Editor at neutra@gmail.com. There is no charge for this service. All events will be added on a "space-available" basis.


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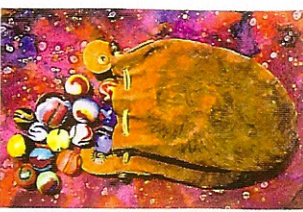
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**Adli Yacoub**  
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