



Ocate Neighborhood Association

April-June Newsletter

www.onateneighborhood.org

Mark Your Calendars Now!

for the

Ocate Neighborhood Association Annual Night Out

6:00 PM until dark on Wednesday, August 15, 2007

at Ocate Park

We're sending this notice now so you can plan ahead. We will send out another notice in late in July, but this may be too late for some folks. We will have entertainment for children and adults alike. Plan to bring your own picnic. We will be providing, probably lemonade and popsicles as we have in the past. Ideas for a guest speaker are welcomed.

New Board Directors

Three new members were added to the Board of Directors at our March meeting. The new members are Joe Capillo, Randy Grimmis, and Sam Juckett. Leaving the Board were Roger Bouwman, J.P. Bowdoin, Truman Hopkins, and David Waymire. Please pass along your appreciation to these individuals for their service to our community.

As of the printing of this newsletter, there is still one open position. If you are interested in serving please contact the president, David Robbins at 237-8641 or d Robbins10@comcast.net.

It only takes about 2 hours a month of your time.

A list of the current Ocate Neighborhood Association Board of Directors is on the website, along with contact information. When the open position is filled that will be added.

Ocate Neighborhood Website Needs Webmaster

www.onateneighborhood.org

We badly need a webmaster to keep the website updated and to post current news, including our newsletters, and other items of interest to the neighborhood. These items would include neighborhood events, notices of drug or crime problems, ideas for helping neighbors who might need aid, and anything else you might think of.

This would be an ideal way for a computer-savvy student to help out the community and get real web experience. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact David Robbins at 237-8641 or d Robbins10@comcast.net.

Can You See Forever?

The city planning department is considering new zoning regulations to prevent billboards and other signs from blocking views of the Sandias, volcanoes, and the bosque. This is part of the Comprehensive Signage Regulation. Although "vacant" signs would be eliminated fairly rapidly, existing commercial signs would be allowed 10 years (!) to go away. For info contact Russell Brito at 924-3337 or rbrito@cabq.gov.

Mediating Problems

In a previous newsletter we mentioned the possibility of using mediation to settle neighbor disputes. Here is some additional information. The Albuquerque Community Mediation Program is available to settle such disputes. This service is free! For more information, call the Alternative Dispute Resolution Office at 768-4500.

More on Identity Theft

We mentioned identity theft in a past newsletter in connection with reports of people rummaging in trash in the neighborhood. Here are a few more tips.

- When you reorder checks, do not have them mailed to your home. Always have them sent to your local bank and pick them up there.
- Do not respond to any spam e-mail, no matter how insulted you are that the spammers consider you a fool who could fall for their sleazy deals. Responding just confirms that they have reached a valid e-mail address. Then—guess what—they sell your address and you suddenly get 100 times the amount of spam that you received before.
- Shred! Shred! Shred!

- Don't give out credit card numbers or any kind of personal information to anyone who calls you on the phone. Don't think that you have to be nice to telemarketers and scam callers. A quick hang-up saves both your and their time.

Weeds and Dogs

Two things common to summer are weeds and barking dogs, and both can be problems when we ignore them.

As much as we all hate pulling, cutting and cleaning up weeds, it is our responsibility as good neighbors to do this on a regular basis. Please keep weeds cleared from your property, even if you a rent.

If you notice a problem or a neglected property, report it. Call 311 or the City's Planning Department at 924-3850. You can also report it on the on the web at; <http://www.cabq.gov/planning/formsvcs/weedlitter.htm>

If you have dogs, please don't leave them outside, unattended for long periods of time. The summer heat can be dangerous and barking dogs are a tremendous nuisance. To report barking dogs call 768-1975 or fill out the form on the web at; <http://www.cabq.gov/pets/barking.html>

Let's all pitch in and help keep our neighborhood clean and pleasant.

The following advertisers help cover the cost of printing your Neighborhood Association newsletter.



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Benjamin Franklin

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