

**TALAVERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (TCA)
SPRING CLEAN-UP AND POTLUCK
Held March 28, 2008, 6:05pm-7: 21pm
At the Talavera Substation of Las Alturas Fire Station**

Next Regular Meeting: June 2008
Type of Meeting: Membership Meeting

The TCA Board apologizes for not mailing the Newsletter to remind you of the Spring Clean-up and Potluck meeting in a timely manner. We are sending the Minutes for your information. To receive the TCA Minutes and notices by email, please email Janet Honok at janet@snapforward.com.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM SHERIFF ABOUT BREAK-INS:

In the last couple of weeks we have had almost twenty burglaries in the Soledad Canyon area that we suspect have been committed by the same people. We would like to request assistance from residents in watching for the following vehicles in their neighborhoods.

A red pickup truck and a light brown pickup truck, probably occupied by at least two male suspects and possibly up to four or five male suspects between the hours of 11:00 am and 3:00 pm. They usually kick in the front door and target specific items in the residence. Then they vandalize the house, breaking glass and destroying property. Suspects are considered to be armed and dangerous, so use caution when observing them. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO APPROACH OR APPREHEND THESE SUSPECTS.** If you spot these vehicles or any other suspicious activity in your neighborhood please be our eyes and ears. Call 911 and give the dispatcher the following information if you can get it: Closest address of the suspects present location, description of vehicle or vehicles, license plates, noticeable body damage, number of suspects, suspects descriptions and activity. If at all possible, please remain on the phone with the dispatcher. All of this information will assist us in capturing these criminals. **BE A GOOD OBSERVER AND A GOOD WITNESS!!! DO NOT ATTEMPT TO APPROACH, CONFRONT, OR APPREHEND THESE SUSPECTS.**

Hopefully, with all of us working together we can put a stop to these attacks on our community. Thanks for the help.

Alan Franzoy, Deputy Sheriff, Dona Ana County Sheriff's Office

I. Greetings and welcome: Larry Cottingham, TCA President. Larry welcomed the gathering of neighbors. Thank you to the 19 people who participated in the clean up. Great job!!

II. Jill Johnson Democratic candidate for County Treasurer. Ms. Johnson urged all residents to vote in the June 3 election. She outlined some of her ideas to invest with local banks, manage employees, and provide open reports, plus more ways to bring integrity and ethics to the County Treasurer office.

III Talavera Flood Map Committee. Mike Park, Chairperson, and John Smith.
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been flood mapping and upgrading maps in and through the Dona Ana county flood commission for inclusion in the National Flood Insurance Program. Once maps are final, lending institutions must (mandatory) ensure that home-owners located in the flood maps zones buy flood insurance. If a homeowner does not comply, the lending institution must foreclose the property.

Our Talavera area has been mapped in the study known as the Fillmore/Tellbrook Arroyos study. Legal contractual errors have been found in the contract for

the study conducted by URS. Study procedural and science application errors are being reviewed.

As one example, the report states, "no rainfall data was required for this study." Instead the report considered the Houston rainfall data of 3.8 inches in 24 hours.

Property owners can challenge this skewed federal/county partnering process, but only if we act and speak as a single voice. We are exploring the possibility of filing a class action suit in Federal Court. We need to hear from you. A special flood meeting will be called in the near future.

For more information, or to be placed on the list for updates, contact: Mike Park, Flood Committee chairperson, 521-4368, mdpark@hughes.net or John Smith, 521-3201, american1776@msn.com

IV. ETZ Committee.
Please visit our Talavera Community website, <http://www.talaveraca.org>, for the ETZ Committee recommendations.

V. Neighborhood Watch.
There have been several break-ins in our area. On house was violently trashed. All the outside doors were

kicked in until one failed and provided entry. DASO responded promptly and reports are they are gathering evidence.

Although some neighbors have suggested installing a gate on Soledad Canyon or hiring a Security Patrol, the best defense is your neighbor. Know your neighbors. Know when they are home and when they are out of town. Let's be sure to watch out for each other.

VI. Financial Report Tom Smith, Treasurer. Our bank account has \$2730.24 as of 03/30/08. Our sole source of income is your membership dues. Dues are \$25, unless you would like to contribute more. Use the tear off sheet and send to:

**Talavera Community Association
P. O. Box 1057
Mesilla Park, NM 88047**

VII. Community Garage Sale

Interested in another Community Garage Sale at the Firehouse? Contact Larry to get on the Community Garage Sale committee!

VIII. Talavera Community Park John Smith, Chairperson. The County is providing \$20,000 this year for the Talavera Community Park located next to the Firehouse. It will be developed in several phases. The jogging trail has been marked and will be prepared with a gravel path. John would like more community input on what you want in the park. Please contact John Smith, 521-3201 or american1776@msn.com.

IX. Other Issues - Your Comments and Inputs Are Always Appreciated, Larry Cottingham. Your feedback is appreciated to help make future issues useful to you and inclusive of the latest community

events. If you have suggestions on how to improve newsletter format or content, or you would like to suggest community news items to be included in the next issue (new issues expected every three months, in line with our TCA meeting schedule), please send them to larry@larryc.com. Any corrections are also appreciated.

• TCA Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President: *Larry Cottingham*
Tel: 521-0409
Email: *larry@larryc.com*

Vice President and Chairman of the Parks Committee: *John Smith*

Email: *american1776@msn.com*

Secretary: *Janet Honek*

Email: *Janet@snapforward.com*

Treasurer: *Tom Smith*

Tel: 521-4431

Email: *Tom@fastwave.biz*

Member-at-Large: *Helen Foster*

Tel: 522-1206

Email: *HMF@zianet.com*

Member-at-Large: *Steve Fischman*

Email: *stephen.fischmann@gmail.com*

Road Committee Chair: *Kent Foster*

Tel: 522-1206

Email: *kentfoster@zianet.com*

Membership Committee Chair: *Helen Foster*

Tel: 522-1206

Email: *HMF@zianet.com*

Flood Map Committee Chair: *Mike Park*

Tel: 521-4368

Email: *mdpark@hughes.net*

Enclosed are my Membership dues of \$25 per year, please add me to the membership list:

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

March 2008

Please send mail and dues to:
Talavera Community Association
P.O. Box 1057
Mesilla Park, NM 88047