

# Quintessence Neighborhood News

**Annual Issue**  
**April 2016**

Quintessence Neighborhood Association

## A Message from the President

One of our primary accomplishments this past year was to reconcile with the City's interpretation of Albuquerque Code of Ordinances, Chapter 9 *Health, Safety and Sanitation*, Article 8 *Weeds*, Section 4 *Growth or Accumulation*. A big mouthful of words, and a hard one to swallow if it affects your property. Many of you may remember the vegetation that grew out this past Summer onto Quintessence and Holbrook Roads. It was a safety hazard as well as an eyesore. The City's position is that maintenance of that overgrown vegetation is covered under the weed ordinance, and is the responsibility of the adjacent Quintessence property owners. The QNA Board supports any and all City rules designed for the protection of public health and safety. However, the Board concluded that we could not sit by idly and wait for the City to work it out with the adjacent residents. We had sufficient funds in the QNA Treasury; so, the Board voted to pay a landscaping company to do the job. That is to say; we used QNA members' resources to take care of a potentially disgraceful City problem.

It has been my habit to say something in this annual message about the occurrence of criminal activity within Quintessence. I still believe we have one of the lowest crime rates of any neighborhood in the City. However, I have come to realize that it may be worse than I thought. Criminal elements are casing and stalking our neighborhood on a daily and nightly basis. Come to the Annual General meeting (AGM) on April 21<sup>st</sup> and see for yourself. The time and place are given elsewhere in this Newsletter. There is something we can do about it. Come listen and watch the presentation on home security. There is a way to make Quintessence a place that thieves would rather avoid.

The realities of dissolving the neighborhood association have weighed heavily on the Board these past few weeks. A while back, I sent a plea by e-mail to all of my Quintessence neighbors asking that you consider taking not only an active role in QNA, but a necessary role in the very existence of our neighborhood association. I am relieved to tell you that we had a couple of responses. QNA members likely will have a full slate from which to choose officers at the AGM. This time.

I am concluding my fourth year as your QNA President, and I am willing to serve a fifth year if elected by the members in attendance at the AGM. However; don't be content with allowing a few dedicated individuals to carry the load. Such is not what neighborhoods are supposed to be about, and cannot be sustained by a viable neighborhood association.

Two months ago Quintessence lost a friend, neighbor, QNA Board member, community activist. I could fill this column with superlatives and remembrances; but still not do justice to the memory of him. On the day of his passing, my wife Sue stated the epitaph that bests all others: Wim Kramer was a good man.

Sincerely,  
Gary Stephens, QNA President



**QNA**

**General Meeting**  
**April 21, 2016**  
**@ 7:00 pm**

Grace Lutheran Church  
7550 Eubank NE

### Inside this issue:

General Meeting Details  
QNA Committee Descriptions  
ABQ Clean-Up Day  
Telephone Scam Awareness  
Recycling Basics  
Disposal of Yard Waste  
Reporting a Crime  
North Domingo Baca Multi Center  
Emergency Vehicle Courtesy

### QNA Membership Dues

April 2016 - March 2017

\$20 per household  
per year

## QNA Communications

If you would like to receive updates via e-mail about neighborhood happenings, send an e-mail to [qna.abq@gmail.com](mailto:qna.abq@gmail.com). If you change e-mail addresses, be sure to let us know. Recipients will be bcc:'d so your e-mail address will not be visible to everyone who receives the e-mail. We will NEVER share your email with others.

## QNA General Meeting

**When: Thursday, April 21, 2016**

**Where:** Grace Lutheran Church  
7550 Eubank Blvd NE

6:30-7:00pm—Sign-in & social time  
(drinks & snacks provided)

Meeting starts promptly at 7:00pm

### Invited speakers/Topics:

-Shranne Press, APD, CABQ Position on Home Security

- Craig Zellner, QNA resident, Installing a Home CCTV Security System

As part of our general meeting, we will elect board members and officers. If you are interested in volunteering to serve, please send an email to [qna.abq@gmail.com](mailto:qna.abq@gmail.com).

You may also make nominations the night of the meeting. Nominees must be members of QNA, and must give consent to the nomination either verbally or in writing.

## Give Back to Your Neighborhood

Your neighborhood and our Association are what you make it. Please consider volunteering time to support activities of our committees:

**QNA Board Member/Officer:** No experience needed! Meets every 2 months (6x/yr) for decision making on enhancements and issues that affect our neighborhood. Plan events and keep members informed on interactions with city and county.

**Dogi-Pot Maintenance:** The Dogi-pot waste stations need to be maintained every 4 or 5 days and twice a week during the summer.

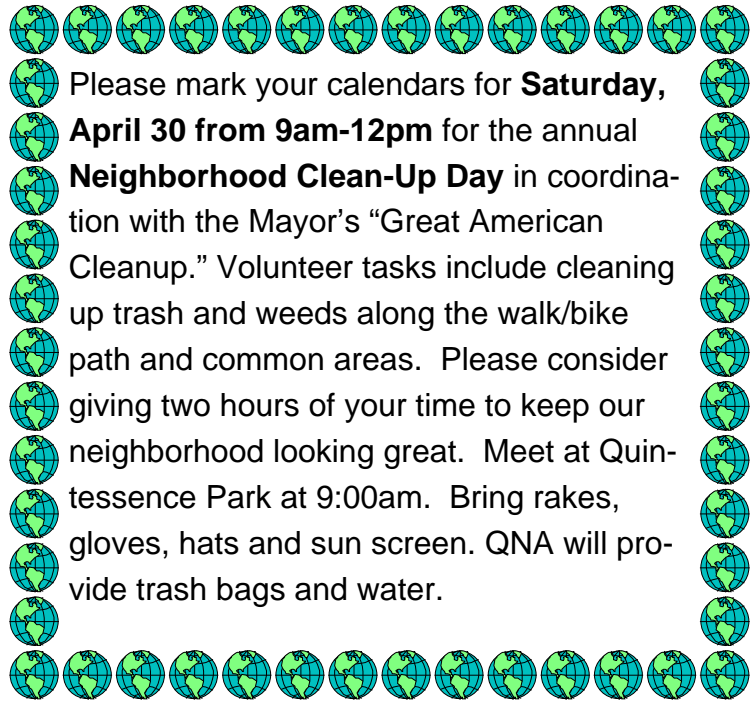
**Neighborhood Watch:** Residents of a one block area (20-25 houses maximum) may form a neighborhood watch. APD staff attend an organizing meeting to discuss residential burglary prevention and home security with particular attention to doors, windows, and other potential points of illegal entry. By selecting a Block Captain to function as a neighborhood leader in crime prevention, the organized neighborhood may then purchase NOAC (Neighborhood Organized Against Crime) street signs featuring the "Watching Eye."

**Architectural Control:** Knowledgeable about City codes and covenants, they review all new construction and remodeling projects within QNA.

**Beautification:** Assist organizing and participate in neighborhood events for clearing trash and weeds from common areas.

**Membership:** Volunteering during QNA events, they register new and returning members of QNA, create welcome packets for new members and answer questions.

**Outreach:** Plan special events such as holiday parties and assist at general meetings. Includes coordination of food, supplies and games for children.



Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 30 from 9am-12pm** for the annual **Neighborhood Clean-Up Day** in coordination with the Mayor's "Great American Cleanup." Volunteer tasks include cleaning up trash and weeds along the walk/bike path and common areas. Please consider giving two hours of your time to keep our neighborhood looking great. Meet at Quintessence Park at 9:00am. Bring rakes, gloves, hats and sun screen. QNA will provide trash bags and water.

## Thanks QNA Board & ACC!

Thank you to the following Board and Committee Chairs who contributed their time to support QNA during the past year.

**President:** Gary Stephens

**Vice President:** Don Noack

**Treasurer:** Vacant (Gary Stephens Acting)

**Secretary:** Barbara Cohen

### Board of Directors

- Judi Wahe
- Jaye Bullington
- Brian Hehr
- Judy Henderson
- Don Wencewicz

### Committees:

- **Beautification:** Judy Henderson
- **Outreach:** Judi Wahe
- **Webmaster/Newsletter:** Jaye Bullington
- **Email Correspondence:** Andrea Landaker

### Architectural Control Committee

- Jerry Wahe
- Dennis Houston

*This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of a special QNA neighbor, Wim Kramer. He was QNA Treasurer, Board Member, prolific volunteer and a friend. His position can be replaced but his contributions will never be forgotten.*



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*by Laura 06/6*

★★★★★ **“Quality Work. Highly Recommended! A well mannered and experienced crew that did a great job in a very short period of time. They will be invited back the next time we need work done. Thanks, Andy.”**

*by Michele P.*

★★★★★ **“Andy's Painting is a great company to work with. Scheduling is prompt and the painting is amazing! Great attention to detail and matched paint colors perfectly. No need to remove outlet covers and no mess to clean up after, they take care of it all from start to finish. Highly recommend them!”**

*by Connor King*



## Telephone Scam Awareness

Hundreds of scam phone calls are being made to Albuquerque residents every day and it appears these calls continue to be on the increase. The callers claim to represent a variety of interests, ranging from important governmental services, court proceedings, promises of riches and family members in trouble. They attempt to catch us off guard and provoke worry, hesitation and action. The threat of jail, financial destruction and the demise of a family member tend to get our attention. The scammers have a fundamental goal – separate you from your money. They disguise this attempt in a variety of ways. However, there can be a very easy way to avoid becoming a scam victim in today's world. If someone initiates a call to you and they want to give you a prize or demand money for any reason that is the beginning of a scam. We can no longer trust an incoming call as legitimate. Review the following information and learn to control the telephone and reduce the possibility of becoming a scam victim.

### Recently Reported Telephone Scams

- IRS/US Treasury – The caller claims you are delinquent in your taxes and must pay by a prepaid cash card, credit card or through Western Union immediately to avoid arrest, deportation, loss of license, etc.
  - The IRS and/or the U.S. Treasury will never call you directly if problems exist with your taxes. They will never use scare tactics or threatening language. If you feel like looking into the matter, call your tax preparer or contact the IRS at **1-800-829-1040** for accurate information.
- Failure to Appear for Jury Duty – The caller demands you pay a court issued fee to settle a warrant for your arrest. They demand you purchase a prepaid cash card for restitution or you will be arrested.
  - Jury duty obligations will always be sent to you. If you want to officially check your status contact Metro Court at **505-841-8151** or District Court at **505-841-8400**.

- Hi Grandma/Grandpa, I'm in Trouble – Caller claims to be a grandson or granddaughter who have been arrested or detained. The location refers to Mexico, Canada or states a long distance away. Callers will pose as the family member or as an official representative of the reported jurisdiction. They will ask you not to contact the child's parents. The reason for arrest varies but the scam attempt is the same – money must be sent immediately to post bail and/or to pay court costs.

- Verify the jurisdiction and initiate a call to them. Always contact parents to confirm the child's location. Never offer names of grandchild, rather ask for their name and a fact that only they would know.

### Related Issues

- Never send money or provide credit card information based on a telephone call. Always verify first.
- If a caller claims you have won a prize, but you must pay a fee, discontinue the call immediately.
- If you don't recognize a telephone number, don't answer the phone. If a message is left from an unknown number, do not return the call.
- If you get a scam call, report it to the NM Attorney General Office at **1-800-678-1508**.
- If you think you have been a victim of a scam call the following numbers:

- Albuquerque Police Department Telephone Report Unit at **505-768-2030** to file a police report.
- Contact your bank or credit card company if these accounts are involved.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission at **1-800-269-0271**.
- Contact one of the Credit Reporting Agency's to place a Fraud Alert on you.
- Equifax at **1-800-525-6285**.
- Experian at **1-800-397-3742**.
- Trans Union at **1-800-680-7289**.

These are currently the most common telephone scam attempts. There will undoubtedly be different ones in the future. Stay alert and remember if you receive a call from an unknown number and they want money immediately for any reason – this is the start to a scam. Control your phone and don't be a victim.

Call the APD Crime Prevention Unit at **505-244-6644**.





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## Goal: Recycle 3,200 Tons/Month

Help the city achieve the goal of recycling 3,200 tons each month. Reaching our goal means preserving natural resources and creating a better tomorrow for Albuquerque residents.

1. Recycle in every room of the house! We're usually really good about recycling in the kitchen, but remember, recyclables can be found in other rooms of your house too. Making sure recycling bins are strategically located around the house will make it easier for everyone in your family to remember to recycle.
2. Make the trash bin your LAST option. Always consider recycling before you throw something in the trash. Learn the items that can be recycled and stay up to date on newly accepted items at <https://www.cabq.gov/solidwaste/recycling>
3. Make recycling a habit. It'll become routine if you recycle every day and set out your recycling cart every week.
4. Rethink your purchases. Before you buy consider whether the product or its packaging is recyclable. Avoid products that cannot be recycled in the City's Recycling Program.



## Disposal of Residential Yard Waste

Please note that this program is for City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Management **Residential** Customers only.

**This year's Spring Green Waste collection program will be Monday, May 2 to Friday, May 13, 2016.**

Green Waste is collected two times per year - once in the spring and once in the fall. At other times of the year, customers may take green waste to the Convenience Centers. During the two collection periods, please follow these guidelines:

- Residents must place their green waste (leaves, grass, and brush) in trash bags not weighing more than 40 lbs. each on the curb.
- Items must be placed 5 ft. away from the automated trash container. Branches must be cut to 4-ft. lengths and bundled securely.
- The City will not pickup dirt, construction debris, gravel, or any other landscape material.

5. Get everyone in your house involved. Now that you know how to recycle right, spread the word to your friends and family. Teach and encourage them to recycle in every room of the house.
6. Solid Waste Management Department Residential Customers may recycle the following in their blue carts each week:

### Paper

Newspapers, Magazines, Junk Mail  
Office Paper, Corrugated Cardboard  
Cereal/Cracker Boxes, Milk and Juice Boxes  
Phone Books, Books  
Brown Paper Bags, Paper Egg Cartons

### Plastic

#1 - #7 Plastics Bottles/Tubs/Containers  
Rigid Plastics

### Metal

Aluminum Cans Tin Cans  
Aluminum foil & Pie Pans  
Small Electronics  
Pots & Pans  
Small Appliances



## Reporting a Crime

### Emergency 911 and In-Progress Calls

An emergency call is defined as a situation where a person's life or property is in danger or threatened. In-progress calls are where crimes are being committed at the time of your report.

### Non-Emergencies: 505-242-COPS (2677)

A non-emergency call is for a situation where a person's life and/or property are not in immediate danger. Included in this definition are crimes against property, crimes against persons when the victim is not injured and offenders are not at or near the scene. However, a police officer is needed to respond to investigate and take a report.

### How to be a good witness

When describing a suspicious person or an offender, consider the following features: begin with general information like man/woman, tall/short, approximate and skin color. If possible, include color of clothing, layered clothing, color of hair, facial hair, tattoos, glasses, head coverings and any unusual features.

NEVER place yourself in harm's way. Always report what you see from a safe and secure environment and never personally challenge a suspicious person or offender. Report what you see and let the police make the contact.



## Did you know about NDBMC?

- **North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center** is located at 7521 Carmel NE, near Paseo del Norte and Wyoming.
- Multigenerational Centers are for seniors, youth and the entire community age 6 and older.
- It has a computer cafe, computer room, game room, classrooms, outdoor decks/patios, aerobic room, card/table games room & community rooms.
- It has FREE high speed wireless Internet access (WiFi).
- Classes include martial arts /self defense, strength & cardio, yoga & Pilates, arts & crafts, dancing, language and MORE.
- Full menu breakfast served Mon-Fri, 8:00–9:00am
- Lunch served Mon-Fri, 11:30am-1:00pm for <\$8 (reservations required)
- Looking for help with computer lounge/computer lab, front desk, game room, coffee/smoothie bar, and light maintenance.
- Classes, support groups, monthly newsletter of presentations, activities/trip schedules, and lunch menus available from their website: <http://northdomingo.weebly.com>

### Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday - 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
 Saturday - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday - Closed  
 Fitness Center Closes weekdays from 1:30pm-2:00 for cleaning

### Memberships & Fees

- Center memberships cost \$13/year.
- Seniors (age 50+) have access to the senior and multigenerational centers.
- Members ages 6-50 have access to the multigenerational centers.
- Additional fees may be charged for certain classes, activities, and trips.
- Youth memberships (age 6-17) are not available online. Please visit your nearest multigenerational center with a parent or guardian to register.



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## Emergency Vehicle Courtesy

### What Counts as an Emergency Vehicle?

Emergency vehicles could be any of the following:

- Ambulances
- Fire trucks
- Police vehicles
- Privately owned vehicles used by firefighter or life support agencies

If any of these vehicles are behind you and have their sirens activated and lights on, you need to clear a path for them.

**Always be alert** - there could be more than one emergency vehicle approaching.

- **Never:** There are a few things you should avoid doing in this situation. Don't pull over or stop somewhere if there isn't enough room for you to do so safely. You should also never follow an emergency vehicle or try to pass one. Remain a minimum of 500 feet behind a moving emergency vehicle that has its lights and siren on.

### What If I See a Stopped Emergency Vehicle?

If this is the case (for instance, emergency responders are helping individuals involved in an accident), you should reduce your speed and move over a lane if you can. If you're unable to

change lanes, you will need to slow down and proceed cautiously. This is known as the "Move Over Law," and it applies in all 50 states.

### The Steps You Should Take

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) provides a set of steps under the acronym SIREN to help drivers understand what they should do in this situation. The SIREN protocol is as follows:

- **Stay Alert:** As a driver, this is something you should be doing at all times anyway, but there is special emphasis on listening to your surroundings so that you can hear emergency vehicle sirens or horns. This means paying attention to the road, keeping the music down in your car, and possibly even driving with your window cracked to better hear outside the vehicle. When you hear an emergency vehicle's sirens, look to see where it is on the road.
- **Investigate:** Look in your rearview mirror as well as to the sides of your car to gauge how fast the emergency vehicle is going and to figure out what you will do next.
- **React:** Pull over to the side of the road safely, signaling as you do so to alert the driver of the emergency vehicle of your intentions. Though it's important to react quickly, you shouldn't put yourself or anyone else in danger. After pulling over, wait until the emergency vehicle has passed, and look for others—there may be more than one on the way.
- **Enter:** Next, re-enter the roadway. Be sure it is safe for you to get back on the road, then signal and merge with traffic. If you are on the side of the highway, be extra careful as you will need to get up to freeway speeds.

# SOLD

Once you make the decision to buy or sell a home, you should call a trusted realtor with experience. Dianna and Amy have over 40 years combined experience and have been trusted by hundreds of Albuquerque homeowners to handle their real estate needs, including many in Quintessence. Trust us with your next move—you'll be glad you did!



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798-9222



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Judson and Sharon work as your real estate agent, counselor and consultant. They have developed a meticulous follow-up system to keep you updated every step of the way. On a timely basis, they inform you of their progress and outline the next steps they will take towards meeting your goals. It is comforting to know exactly where you stand at all times.

To learn more about Sharon and Judson's real estate service call today for a free consultation on how to sell your home or buy a home.

*You will find it is a pleasure to talk with a real estate agent who sees things from your point of view.*

**Sharon & Judson Continue to Promote and Support Top Values in Quintessence**

### History of Home Sales Value in Quintessence

AVERAGE SOLD PRICE 2015:	\$390,170	\$/Sq.Ft=\$152
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE 2014:	\$372,722	\$/Sq.Ft=\$153
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE 2013:	\$364,821	\$/Sq.Ft=\$145
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE 2012:	\$394,167	\$/Sq.Ft=\$136
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE 2011:	\$360,232	\$/Sq.Ft=\$149
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE 2010:	\$344,459	\$/Sq.Ft=\$149
AVERAGE SOLD PRICE 2009:	\$402,279	\$/Sq.Ft=\$166
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Irbid Rd. NE



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Please send all newsletter comments  
or contributions to:

[qna.abq@gmail.com](mailto:qna.abq@gmail.com)

## Quintessence Neighborhood Association (QNA)

Last Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

First Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email allows us to keep you informed on activities which affect our neighborhood. We will not share your information.

Membership dues are \$20.00 per household per year. Memberships run from April to the following March and are not prorated.

- New Member  
 Membership Renewal

Please make check or money order payable to QNA and mail together with this form to:

**Volunteer Opportunities**  
*QNA needs you! There are many opportunities to get involved in promoting a better neighborhood. Please check a committee in which you'd like to be involved:*

- QNA Board  
 Neighborhood Watch  
 Architectural Control  
 Beautification  
 Membership  
 Outreach  
 Other (please specify)

**QNA**  
**P.O. Box 22033**  
**Albuquerque, NM**  
**87154-2033**