



Los Ranchos Village Vision

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spring chickens!

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Mayor's Update

My miniature daffodils are sprouting and will be blooming soon, a sure sign that spring is on its way!

At 9:00 am on January 2, I took my oath of office and was sworn in as mayor. I immediately went to work and haven't stopped. There was a full house for the second swearing-in ceremony at 2:00 PM to welcome Jenn Kueffer and Frank Reinow as our newly elected Trustees. We take our oaths and our commitment to serve very seriously.

We hired a new Village Attorney, Bill Chappell from the Chappell Law Firm. Bill previously served as Village Attorney from 2004 to 2018 and not only has great experience with the Village but is an outstanding legal expert. Additionally, Vincent J. Ward has come on as litigation counsel. Welcome to both.

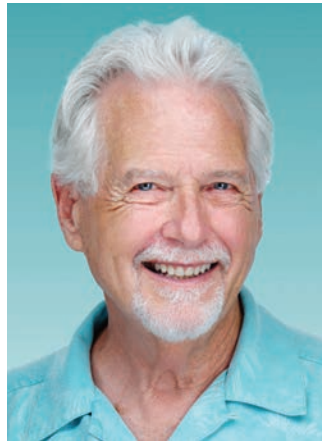
The Los Ranchos Historical Society is moving forward with meetings to preserve and protect our village history. They are working to preserve our written, oral, and built environment history. The history of Chavez and Osuna Roads has been published in the Los Ranchos Village Vision magazine. Planned projects include work on the Historic Rio Grande Corridor with the famous John Gaw Meem houses, collecting oral histories of our village, and planning a speakers' series to address the unique archeological and cultural history of our Village.

Members of the Los Ranchos Historical Society also toured our new Open Space Acquisition, the Anderson Home at the Buffalo Curve on Rio Grande. It's a spectacular house, with stunning views of the 25+ acres which are a great addition to our Agri-Nature Center.

Along the lines of our history, we are asking the question of what our current village is and are planning to bring in a national community planning firm.

High-density and cluster developments have dominated our conversations for the last couple of years and will continue to be addressed.

Looking toward the future we are hoping to acquire more open space with a legislative request. Our roads and traffic issues are also a top priority. We are looking into the needs of




the various areas of Los Ranchos. In addition to neighborhoods, this includes our schools, our destination businesses, and our natural environment. We are also requesting funding for an event planner to help with planning successful events in the future.

Several events are being planned. The Village is working with Music from Corrales to hold another concert in the barn this fall. The annual Mantaza will be held in February, and the Lavender Festival in the summer. In late January, Jennie Schulte held an event to raise funds for our historic Schulte House.

Our Public Safety Officer Fred Radosevich and I have been working on "high tech" public safety with cameras that can identify at-issue vehicles and tie in with the City and County systems. Additionally, Fred is working on speed bumps and speed tables for our east/west corridors to help slow down our traffic. And we haven't forgotten the noise control issues. NMDOT completed the Paseo del Norte study. Noise levels were off the chart. We will also work on noise and traffic control for other major roads.

Did I tell you my miniature daffodils are going to bloom? So is our Village!




Mayor Joe Craig



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Village Vision General Information

The Los Ranchos Village Vision is an official publication of the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. Its primary mission is to promote the "Spirit of Los Ranchos," while informing Village residents of events and activities taking place in and around the Village. The Village Vision is published seven times per year, and distributed free of charge to Village residents and businesses. Non-residents and other interested parties may subscribe to the magazine by visiting the Village Vision web page, or by contacting the Village Vision. Price, including S/H, is \$20.00 per annum.

ADVERTISING

The Village Vision Media Kit contains all the information you need to place an ad in the Village Vision: dimensions, rates, deadlines, and more. It also includes the "advertising purchase request form," which needs to be submitted in order to purchase advertising space. You can find it online at www.losranchosnm.gov/village-vision-magazine.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Articles of general interest about the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque are always welcome. Please contact the Village Vision with your ideas or to submit your article for consideration.

VILLAGE VISION ONLINE

More information, the Village Vision Media Kit, and back issues, can be found at www.losranchosnm.gov/village-vision-magazine.

CONTACT THE VILLAGE VISION

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COVER PHOTO: "CHICKENS AT THE AGRI-NATURE CENTER" BY SHEILA TER BRUGGEN

PHOTO CREDITS

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Chickens are Fun!
Read all about raising them in your own backyard on page 24.



Spring is here and it's time to get gardening! See which plants to grow to benefit pollinators on page 14, and get inspired to connect with nature with Willy Carlton on page 12.

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Roadway Improvements, Edgewood Park, Old Village Hall, and More

4TH STREET PHASE 2 | A public information meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 6:00pm in Village Hall on the final design and engineering of Phase 2A, from Pueblo Solano to just north, and including, the intersection of Ranchitos Road. The utility phase is ongoing to include coordinating with all utility providers to locate, identify, and resolve conflicts with the proposed project design. Right-of-Way mapping and potential property acquisition for project improvements is also ongoing. The Village is anticipating the opening of a 4th Street Project Office in the Phase 2A area in early March.

CHAVEZ ROAD MULTI-USE TRAIL | The Village has reviewed the recently completed reports of existing conditions and has authorized Parametrix engineering to proceed with preliminary scope alternatives to present to the public in February 2024. Please check the Village website for the date of the meeting. Public input will be invaluable in ensuring that the goal is met to provide a trail that improves the safety of all users in a manner that respects the culture, environment, and quality of life of the Village. The Village is in contract with Parametrix in the amount of \$347,349.54 for preliminary engineering and design services with an anticipated completion date of July 31, 2025.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALKS ON CHAVEZ ROAD | The construction of two raised crosswalks/speed tables are complete west of the intersections of the two Caballero subdivisions and west of Neighbor Road.

ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FY23-24 | The Village has been awarded NMDOT COOP funding of \$603,690.00. The environmental review phase has begun on the project and is anticipated to be complete in February 2024. The project includes the following roads for repaving (pulverize, subgrade prep., asphalt): El Paraiso Road, Guadalupe Trail-Chavez to Tyler, Charles Place, Ortega Road east of 4th Street. Particular attention will be paid to maintain the current road grade to prevent issues on the roadway shoulder and adjacent properties. The project also includes crack seal on the following roads: Los Poblanos Place, Los Poblanos Court, Chavez Road-west of Rio Grande Blvd., Los Ranchos Road, Vineyard Road, Rio Grande Lane, Place, and Court. We anticipate construction to begin in early spring.



AGRI-NATURE CENTER ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 2 | A Request for Quotes (RFQ) under a State Price Agreement for Construction was issued January 16, 2024 for completing the roadway paving and handicapped parking space improvements. This project must be completed by June 30, 2024. The Village was awarded \$500,000.00 of State of New Mexico Capital Outlay Overruns funding.

EDGEWOOD PARK | Construction on Edgewood Park is underway and almost complete! The project was awarded to Accent Construction, and they began construction on the park on January 15th. Upon listening to the feedback from the neighborhood, all the park equipment and sidewalk are restricted to the northern side of the park to allow for more open space. We are excited to complete this project and use this park soon!

OLD VILLAGE HALL | The Village received a grant for \$1.2 million to renovate Old Village Hall. We are in the process of design and then we will go out for RFP for construction. We are excited to have a new meeting space for our Village.

AGRI-NATURE CENTER GRANTS | We received two new grants for the Agri-Nature Center. We were awarded the Specialty Crop Block Grant from NMDA for new kitchen equipment for our indoor kitchen, and we were awarded a National Fish and Wildlife Grant to build a raised bed plaza in front of the warehouse that will be accessible for all abilities.



.....
 At top: Recent flooding of the road leading into the Agri-Nature Center illustrates the need for a new roadway there. Above: Construction activities at Edgewood Park

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Winter Markets Going Strong

By Sue Brawley



Winter Growers' Markets
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from 10AM to Noon

Dec. 9, 2023, Jan. 13, 2024
Feb. 10, 2024, March 9, 2024
April 13, 2024

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT LOS RANCHOS GROWERS' MARKET 



MARCH/APRIL | In March and April there are a lot of eggs and various greens such as arugula, chard, spinach, Napa cabbage, bok choy, kale and lettuce that they are growing in cold frames or green houses for the winter. For St. Patrick's Day celebrations, try making vegetable shepherds pie with the tasty winter veggies, or with local beef. In honor of Dr. Seuss, try various greens cooked with eggs. In April, the growers will begin selling plant starts for your garden. At the March 9 and April 13 markets one may find various types of greens, root vegetables, dried fruit, honey, eggs, jams/jellies, pies, beef, indoor plants, some seedlings, and herbs.

Vendor Profile: Lewandowski Farm

Steve and Cathy Lewandowski are starting their 27th year at the market. For Cathy and Steve, gardening is a yearlong on-going operation. They use organic methods (not certified organic) and sequential planting. November and December are seed ordering months as well as the time they start their lettuces. In January they start seeds under grow lights (160 seedlings of 15-20 varieties of tomatoes and 150 sweet and hot pepper seedlings). Starting February 15th, pea seed is planted directly in the garden, and about 4600 onion slips are directly planted at the end of March. Next up are potatoes, which are planted directly in the soil during the first week of April. Leeks are planted in Mid-April.

As the seedlings grow, they are potted up to larger containers and moved into a sunroom that has natural light, and then, as weather permits, they are either planted in the garden under row cover (usually cabbage and spinach for the March or April markets), or planted in one of their two 8'x12' greenhouses (e.g. tomatoes for July market). The rest of the seedlings are often transplanted into larger containers prior to direct planting in the garden.

Based on weather and average growing times, they direct seed carrots, turnips, summer and winter squash, melons, and other veggies to provide a wide variety of produce throughout the regular season.



Are You Interested in Selling Extra Produce at the Market?

As you are planning your backyard garden, you and/or your children may want to plant a little extra to give away, or to sell. Whether you have a basket of peaches or several heads of lettuce, the Growers' Market encourages "backyard growers" and students to sell at the market. If you would like to sell at the market on an occasional basis or regular basis, call Colene Montoya at 505-610-9591 or send an email to montoya4664@hotmail.com.

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31ST SEASON LOS RANCHOS GROWERS' MARKET

WINTER MARKET
SECOND SATURDAYS
DECEMBER-APRIL

10AM - NOON



Green Waste Cleanup

April 15-19, 2024

There is no added charge for Los Ranchos residents. Must schedule your collection before April 12.

Call to Schedule: **505-224-1639**

Total volume (per household / per pickup) is limited to an area measuring 4' x 8' and 4' tall (or about 20 bags). Tree limbs must not exceed 4' in length.

Los Ranchos Resident Willy Carlton

AN EXTRAORDINARY RESIDENT GARDENER

By Joshua O'Halloran, Agriculture Program Manager

Willy Carlton is a unique Los Ranchos resident. With over two decades of experience farming and gardening, he has farmed in Albuquerque and northern New Mexico, growing a variety of vegetables for market using regenerative and organic practices. He also served as co-editor of *Edible New Mexico* for roughly a decade.

Willy earned a PhD in History, specializing in environmental history, and is the author of the award-winning *Fruit, Fiber, and Fire: A History of Modern Agriculture in New Mexico*. He is a forager, writer, and educator, dedicated to helping aspiring gardeners and farmers hone their skills and deepen their connection to the land.

THE HEALING LAND

One of Willy's offerings this year is a year-long course called "The Healing Land: Finding Sacred Connection Through Gardening" which is currently being held at the Agri-Nature Center. This course is both practical and philosophical. It delves into the nitty gritty technical questions of gardening, but uses these questions to explore larger inquiries about people's relationship to all of life.

Willy firmly believes that the way we treat the land is a reflection of how we treat ourselves. As our planet reels, and as we accumulate the stresses of our current collective moment, we can find healing in reconnection.

Drawing from a wide range of traditional, permaculture, and regenerative practices, the Healing Land course encourages students to deepen their approaches to gardening through practical information, deep inquiry, and intuitive knowledge.

Although it is unfortunately too late to join the class, a demonstration garden will be constructed at the Agri-Nature Center as a part of this course. We encourage everyone to drop by and check it out. Get inspired to start your own garden!

IMMERSION IN NATURE MEDITATION PRACTICE

Available to join through Willy Carlton's School of the Desert Garden are periodic gatherings to immerse in nature together.



His "Garden and Forest Bathing" meetings facilitate largely self-guided meditation practices at different locations in the Albuquerque area each month. This connective and healthful meditation practice focuses on deep listening and deep noticing of the natural world around us.

A HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE

On March 23rd, Willy will present a lecture on the History of Agriculture at the Agri-Nature Center. He will focus largely on presenting material from his own research and book, which means an emphasis on the 20th century, the dynamics between small-scale and larger scale agriculture as well as some stories around the production of apples, cotton, and chiles.



Learn more about Willy Carleton and his courses at www.schoolofthedesertgarden.com/

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Providing for Pollinators

POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY GARDENING TIPS

By Kaitlin Haase, Pollinator Conservation Specialist, Southwest Region
Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

As spring approaches, there are many growing season marvels we look forward to. Fresh seasonal fruits, floral scents on the air, and a multitude of wildflowers bringing color back to our landscapes. These natural wonders exist thanks to the relationships between plants and their pollinators. To reproduce and grow seed, over 85 percent of the world's flowering plants rely on animals for pollination. These plants attract pollinators with colorful flowers, strong scents, sugary nectar, and protein-packed pollen. The pollinators, like bees, butterflies, and moths to name a few, rely on flowers as a food source, which then become the fruits and nuts that feed people and wildlife. To maintain the plants that make the growing season colorful and nourishing, providing for pollinators is a must.

We can provide the elements of pollinator habitat in our own yards, farms, and open spaces by planting a diversity of native flowering plants, creating undisturbed nesting and overwintering areas, and protecting these areas from pesticide use. These are actions that anyone can take to make our landscapes a bit more pollinator friendly.

Delay Spring Garden Clean Up

A timely tip, waiting until after tax day to tidy up gardens is a good rule of thumb to prevent disturbing pollinators still in winter dormancy. Pollinators use last year's leaf litter and plant stems to protect themselves from the cold and hide from predators. If those winter homes are disturbed and moved before the thaw, those insects may not survive to see the growing season. Leave the leaves, stumps, sticks, and grasses a little wild to protect pollinators and other insects over the winter. See Xerces' [Nesting and Overwintering Habitat Guidebook](#) for more ideas!



Grow Native Flowering Plants

There are over 1,000 native bee species and over 300 native butterfly species that call New Mexico home. This diversity of pollinators is dependent on the native plants that they evolved with, and vice versa. Some pollinators are specialist species and can only exist with the host plants they rely on, such as the monarch butterfly and milkweed (*Asclepias*). While some non-native plants like lavender are attractive to generalist pollinators, a diversity of native plant species will support the greatest diversity of pollinator species. Plus, native plants are well adapted to our climate and soils, often requiring very little water once established!

Ensure Blooms are Available from Spring to Fall

Some pollinator species are active just in one season, while others like bumble bees are active throughout the entire growing season. To feed the whole pollinator community that is active in spring, summer, and fall, it is essential to have plants that bloom during each of those seasons. Pay special attention to those shoulder seasons, spring and fall, when blooms are less abundant on the landscape. Threelobe sumac (*Rhus trilobata*) is a great spring resource, while chamisa (*Ericameria nauseosa*) is great for fall!

Include a Diversity of Plants

Pollinators can be picky, some preferring one plant over another. Specialist bees only collect pollen from one type of plant, like cacti for cactus bees or squash for squash bees. Some caterpillars of butterflies and moths only eat certain plants. To feed all these picky pollinators, pollinator plantings need to include a diversity of native plants like primrose,



asters, legumes, grasses, mallows, roses, to name a few. Don't have space to grow many different plants? Don't worry! Native annual sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*) will feed the most pollinator species in the southwest and are easy to start from seed. See Xerces' [Pollinator Plant Lists](#) for the most appropriate species in the region!



ensure plants, soils, mulches, and other garden material are not contaminated with pesticides, and practice integrated pest management when a pest issue occurs. See our [Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management Guidance](#) for homes and gardens to learn more!



Prevent Pesticide Exposure in Pollinator Habitat

Many pesticides are harmful to pollinating insects, including organic pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides. Even if pesticides aren't directly sprayed on flowers, applications of systemic pesticides like tree injections and soil drenches still expose pollinators to their harmful effects. Avoid any use of pesticides in areas designated solely for pollinator habitat,



The *Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation* is an international non-profit organization that protects the natural world through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitats. More information at www.xerces.org.



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Andrea Maloney
MSN, FNP-BC

Caring for Sheep

A GUIDE TO KEEPING YOUR FLOCK HEALTHY AND HAPPY

By Dominic Tomba, Animal Control Officer/Animal Husbandry Program Manager

Sheep are a popular choice for many farmers and homesteaders because of their hardiness, adaptability, and ability to produce wool and meat. However, to keep your sheep healthy and productive, it's important to provide them with proper care, including vaccinations, farrier work, and shearing. In this article, we'll cover the basics of sheep care and provide tips for keeping your flock healthy and happy.

Vaccinations

Sheep are susceptible to several diseases that can be prevented through regular vaccinations. Some of the most common vaccines for sheep include: clostridial vaccines, which protect against diseases like tetanus and enterotoxemia. Foot rot vaccines, which protect against bacterial infections that can cause lameness. Pasteurella vaccines, which protect against respiratory infections. Chlamydia vaccines, which protect against bacterial infections that can cause abortions. It's important to work with your veterinarian to develop a vaccination schedule that meets the specific needs of your flock.

Ferrier Work

Sheep need regular hoof trimming to prevent overgrowth and infection. A professional farrier can help with this task, or you can learn to do it yourself with proper training. Some tips for



farrier work include: use sharp, clean tools to prevent injury and infection. Only trim the outer edges of the hoof, avoiding the sensitive inner parts. Regularly check for signs of lameness or infection, such as swelling or heat in the hoof.

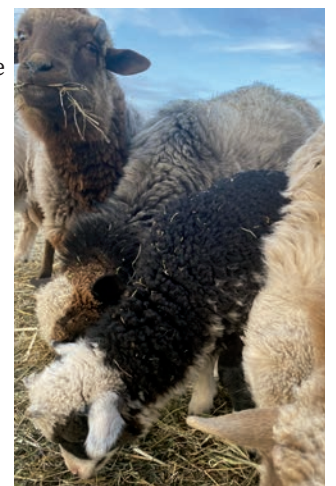
Shearing

Sheep need to be sheared once or twice a year to prevent overheating and other health problems. Shearing can be done by a professional or by the shepherd with proper training and equipment. Some tips for shearing include: use sharp, clean shears to prevent injury and infection. Start at the neck and work your way down, carefully avoiding sensitive areas like the udder and genitals. Regularly check for signs of skin irritation or infection, such as redness or swelling.

By providing your sheep with proper care, including vaccinations, farrier work, and shearing, you can keep your flock healthy and happy. Work with your veterinarian and other professionals as needed to ensure the best possible care for your animals.

Questions about something animal-related? Contact Dominic!
(505) 977-4830 or dtomba@losranchosnm.gov.

Or go see him at his office at the Agri-Nature Center, Monday through Friday, from 8AM to 5PM.

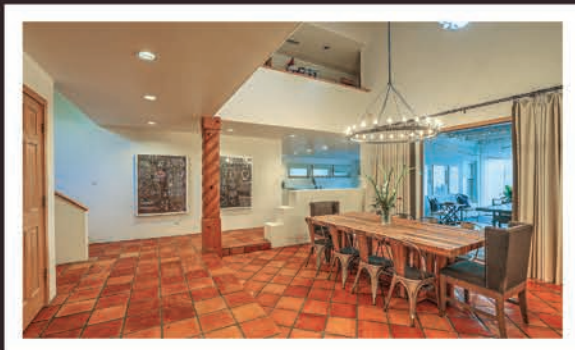


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LEFT
More than 28 concepts featuring an array of local cuisine and international trends inside Sawmill Market.

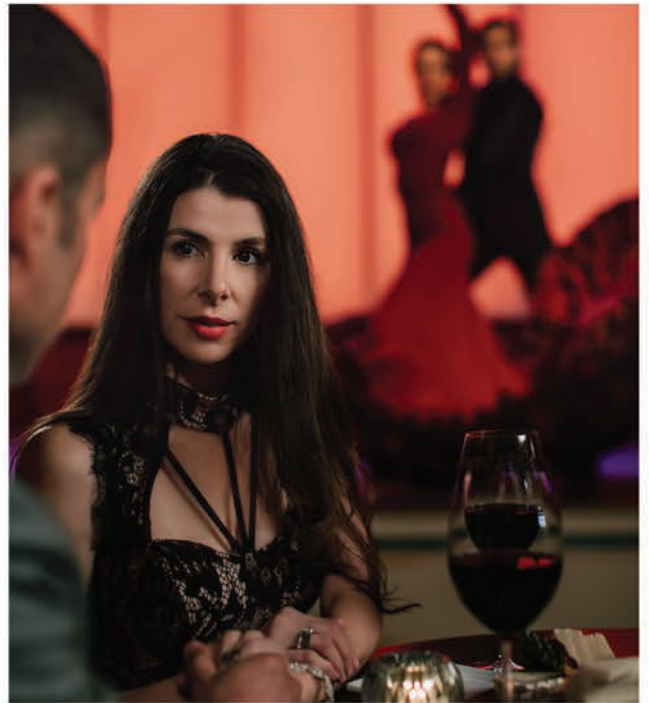
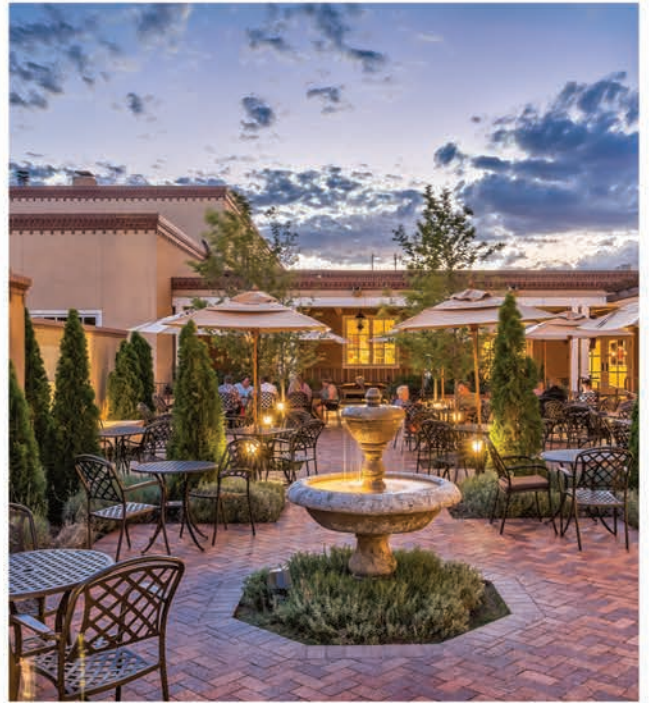
RIGHT
Hotel Chaco featuring the Spa at Chaco, Level 5 Rooftop Restaurant, Crafted Tasting Room, Gallery Hózhó, Rubber Rabbit Speciality Boutique, Dakkya Boutique, and Country Club Men's Salon.

FAR RIGHT
Garduños Restaurant at Old Town, Tablao Flamenco, and QBar Lounge inside Hotel Albuquerque.

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Los Ranchos^{THE} ART MARKET

Winter Markets (January-April)
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6718 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

A Call to Artists!

APPLY TO SELL AT THE LOS RANCHOS ART MARKET

By Pamela Armbrecht & Gordene MacKenzie

There are many wonderful artists who live in and around Los Ranchos who might be missing out on a great opportunity to showcase their art locally. The Los Ranchos Art Market (LRAM) is a non-profit and artist-run juried market committed to providing a broad range of high-quality artwork to and from its community and beyond.

As an artist, there are many reasons to consider the Los Ranchos Art Market:

1. The location is great! We are in the heart of the beautiful Village of Los Ranchos, surrounded by cottonwood trees and blue skies, next to a park with plenty of parking close by. Artists can easily load in and out in their assigned spaces.
2. We are a great group of talented artisans who work well together.
3. Fees are very reasonable.
4. Scheduling is flexible. Artists can choose between Full Time (eligible to attend every market), Half Time (eligible to attend twice a month) or On-Call (eligible to attend up to 10 markets that fit into the artist's schedule). Full and Half-Time artists are typically assigned to the same space for the entire season. Schedule changes are easily accommodated.
5. The Los Ranchos Art Market is the only year-round art market in the greater Albuquerque area. The market runs every week from the first Saturday in May through the third Saturday in November from 8 am to noon and twice a month during the winter (Jan. - April) from 10 am to noon.
6. There is also a growers market, music, food, as well as a loyal customer base.



The artwork of some of our current Art Market artists. To the left: stone ring by JR Barela, Penny Faux's Fused Glass Aspens, Leah Person's Blue Flower Bowl. At top: Holly Kuehn's Mosaic Turtle, Rabbit/Pottery/Flower Vest by Susie Mazur-Proo, Fabric Art Baskets by Pam Armbrecht.

Hopefully, you are intrigued! We select all the artists for each season prior to the start of the season. Our selection process for the 2024 season, opening on May 4, is happening now.

It is easy to apply! The first step is an online submission including photos of some of your work and information about you as an artist. All products for sale must be made by the artist. Following the review of all online submissions, you might be invited to participate in in-person jurying which takes place in early April. This is where you bring your art for jurying by other artists who judge on quality and how well it fits with our current mix of artwork. We look forward to meeting you and seeing what you have to offer to make the Los Ranchos Art Market even better.



HOW TO APPLY

- Find application details at thelosranchosartmarket.com
- Email losranchosartmarket@gmail.com or call (505) 220-2345 with any questions.

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Spring Clean Your Mind!

Spring cleaning is typically associated with houses but you can also spring clean your life and mind! By clearing out the activities and thoughts that are not for your highest good you will make space for a whole new life experience.

Use this spring cleaning mantra anytime you need extra encouragement to make the adjustments in your life: *I am creating the space for the life I want.*

Here are some easy ways to do that.

Learn your YES and NO threshold

Have you ever said yes to something but there's that little feeling in your gut telling you you don't really want to do this? Start honing in on these intuitive feelings and do a "gut check" prior to saying yes. Here are a few questions to ask yourself to discover what you really want:

1. What was the first feeling I felt when asked to do this?
2. Is there something (anything!) I would rather do more?
3. Am I only doing it to make the other person happy?

Cancel any plans you don't want to do.

The next logical step is to cancel any plans you don't want to do. Cancel those plans you've been dreading. It's okay.

Unsubscribe from emails

This actually feels really good. Every time you check your email, instead of just deleting the garbage, take the extra seconds to unsubscribe. Before long you will notice a decrease in your mental load while checking emails.

Set boundaries at work with how much you take on

When I worked as a nurse I was totally a "yes man." This attitude burned me out. I had to set realistic expectations both with my boss and myself.

Stop spending time with people that bring you down

When I left nursing and made the switch to coaching and hypnotherapy, I was suddenly surrounded by positive and like-minded people. Instead of friends that you can be miserable with, find friends who do the activities you love. Your outlook on life will improve.

Cancel any subscriptions you are no longer using

Do you have any apps on your phone you don't use but are still paying for? What about streaming subscriptions, meal delivery services, or gym memberships? If you're not using them they are a waste of space and money.

Take breaks from social media and the news

Limit what and how much you ingest. YOU are in charge of what you put into your mind and body. There are no rules that say you have to look at Facebook every day or be current with news.

Go to bed a half an hour earlier

By giving yourself more time to unwind you are giving yourself more space to relax and process the day.

By making all of these small adjustments you'll notice that you have more time and energy for the things you love. So grab a proverbial broom and get to spring cleaning!



Lark Ericson works with adults and teens to develop confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. She is a hypnotherapist who focuses on building confidence and joy by releasing unwanted behaviors and emotions.

Reach her at larkericsoncoaching.com or larkericsoncoaching@gmail.com.

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Small Backyard Livestock

KEEPING BACKYARD CHICKENS

By Joshua O'Halloran, Agriculture Program Manager



Above: Cute Little Chicks. Opposite page: Joshua's "Chicken Tractor"

Have you been thinking about getting chickens, but just don't know how to get started? I grew up on a farm, and keeping livestock was always a very easy thing to do because we had endless space on which to keep them. Upon moving to a city with a small backyard, it took some adjusting to learn how to keep animals in a healthy and humane way in a smaller space. This article will give you some of the tips that I have learned through this process.

It can be difficult to start something new without the necessary knowledge. Keeping chickens can be very low maintenance. You just need to have the right equipment and space. And you need to ask yourself why you are thinking of getting chickens. Are you getting them for eggs, meat, or just for the social aspect of having animals?

Here are some other possible considerations:

- Being able to provide food for your family, and knowing exactly where that food came from and how the animals were treated is truly incredibly rewarding.
- The price of eggs and meat is increasing at the grocery store. If you do it right, you can offset your grocery bill a bit by raising your own.
- Not only that, with chickens inadvertently comes an excess of eggs. Selling some can provide a source of additional income.
- They are fun pets!

HOW MANY AND WHAT BREED?

The next step is deciding what breed of animal to purchase. There are a variety of breeds of laying hens and broiler (meat) chickens that are perfect for the backyard. These are easy to find at a feed store as chicks in the spring. If you chose to get them as chicks, you will have to keep them inside for the first four to six weeks under a heat lamp to keep them warm while

they grow their feathers. During this time, they will need bedding, food and water which will have to be refreshed daily.

Chickens are social animals, so it is recommended to get at least two to three. The number of animals you choose to acquire will depend on the space you have as well as your ability to use all of the manure they produce.

SPACE FOR YOUR ANIMALS

You will have to provide a space for your chickens that is safe and clean. These animals need a minimum of three square feet inside, but thrive on having more open space to move around in outside. The smaller the space, the more frequently you will have to clean it to prevent disease. Many people like to let their chickens have a "run" outside of their pen or coop. Personally, I allow mine to roam the entire backyard during the day and only put them in their coop at night.

An added benefit to letting your animals "free range" your backyard is that they are very social! They like to come up on our back patio and look in our glass door if we are inside and wait for my kids to come out and play. Of course, this can lead to a lot of clean up on our patio... (Consider blocking off any areas in your yard that you like to keep clean!)

Keeping your animals safe is also important. Depending on where you live, you may deal with coyotes, raccoons, or birds of prey as predators for your small livestock. Having a safe, predator-proof place for them to go at night is crucial

Chickens need a coop with a roost for them to sleep on and nesting boxes where they can lay eggs. To minimize the amount of manure build-up, I use what is called a "chicken tractor." I built my chicken coop on wheels so that it can easily



be moved around the backyard. This way, there is no buildup of manure, and we can fertilize the whole area evenly.

FOOD/DIET

We feed our chickens and rabbits from large 50-pound bags of feed from a local feed store. (Please buy local!) Depending on if you are raising them for meat or for eggs will determine the type of feed you use. Meat birds require a higher protein feed. We try to limit feed to ¼ pound per chicken per day. Save money by only feeding them what they need, plus, that way you don't have mice coming to steal the remaining feed at night. We also like to save all our kitchen scraps and feed them to the animals. They will eat almost anything except for coffee grounds and citrus. This will make them healthier also. They make great compost and reduce our waste.

FINAL NOTES

- Make sure your chickens have some dirt available for dust baths. This will help prevent mites.
- If you get broilers, they will have to be processed in 10-12 weeks.
- Roosters can be aggressive. I would avoid them unless you want to hatch your own chicks.
- If the shells of the eggs you're getting seem fragile, give your chickens a calcium supplement.
- If you have a garden, let your animals clean it up in the Fall. They will eat the bugs and clean up anything left in the garden.

Spring is here, now is the time to go get your animals!



Seasonal Recipe: Omelet with Greens

Depending on how many servings you would like to have, there are various ways of making eggs with greens. For example, a quiche made with or without a pie shell can serve 4-6 persons. An egg bake or a frittata will have a various range of servings depending on the size of the frying pan. For two people, a simple omelet works well.

Ingredients

- ¼ onion, diced
- 2 slices of bacon, diced
- 2-3 sliced mushrooms
- 2 C shredded spinach
- 3 eggs
- 3 Tbsp milk
- grated cheese

Start with the filling: sauté the onion with the bacon. Add the mushrooms and the spinach. Cover pan and cook on low until spinach is wilted. Feel free to use ham or chicken instead of the bacon, or eliminate the meat all together. Other veggies, like thinly sliced bell peppers and chard or kale can be also be used. In a bowl, whisk 3 eggs with two tablespoons of milk. Pour the egg mixture onto a warm, greased griddle or non-stick fry pan and swirl it around to even out the mixture. Cover the eggs and cook on low until the eggs have set. Once the eggs have set, put the filling on half of the eggs, and gently fold the other half of the egg over the filling. Top with grated cheese. Serve with toast, roasted potatoes, or biscuits.

Recipe by Sue Brawley of the Los Ranchos Growers' Market

THE BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT PAGE GIVES LOCALLY-OWNED BUSINESSES IN THE VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS DE ALBUQUERQUE A PLACE TO TELL THE WORLD WHO THEY ARE AND WHAT THEY OFFER.



Dan's Boots & Saddles

Dan's Boots & Saddles is a third generation, family-owned business. Started by Dan Christensen, the store's namesake, on the Navajo Reservation at Rock Point Trading Post in Arizona, the business was moved to Gallup in 1938. Here, most of the trading was done on the barter system, trading silver and turquoise jewelry, hand woven rugs and baskets, and other crafts for groceries, clothing, hardware and other necessities. Many life-long friendships developed with Navajo and Apache families during these years, and many of their descendants are customers at the store today.

In 1953, Dan's Boots & Saddles opened its first store in Downtown Albuquerque on Central Avenue. Then, in the early 70's, the store moved to its current location in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. It has done well here, and currently boasts around 20 employees.

After Dan's retirement, one of his sons, Jay took over operation of the store and added the feed and animal health supplies division. Current owner Larry Christensen is Jay's son. He took the reins in 1995.

Dan's Boots & Saddles has evolved into a unique one-stop shop for western lifestyle shoppers. They carry saddles, bridles and chaps for both English and western disciplines, and stock tanks,

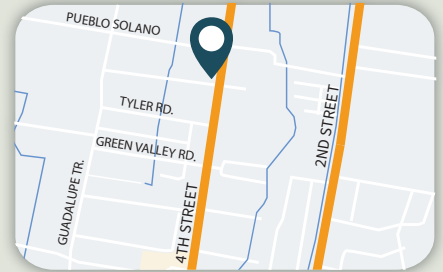


gates and panels. They also carry men's, women's, and children's western wear, as well as boots and hats. Dan's is also a feed store and carries the highest quality feed for horses and every other critter imaginable in addition to a complete line of animal health care products, grooming and pet supplies.

With such a diverse range of inventory, it is no wonder that Dan's customers run the gamut. Some come in to shop for clothes, or gifts, others to stock up on feed. Many of their customers live in the Valley area, but they also have a lot of regular customers who live in other parts of the state. They also get visitors from around the country and even overseas.

In Larry's words: "We have quite a few customers whose parents, grandparents and great-grandparents have shopped here through the years. We enjoy getting to visit with our regular customers and getting to know new people. We have a real sense of community here."

Find Dan's Boots & Saddles



- ▶ 6903 4th St. NW
- ▶ (505) 345-2220
- ▶ dansboots.com



Photo at top: Karen Truelock (owner), Lisa Erickson (staff), Larry Christensen (owner), Denise Marino (staff), and Marty Norlin (general manager).
 Photo to left: Dan's Boots in the 1970s.
 Photos to right: a selection of Dan's inventory.

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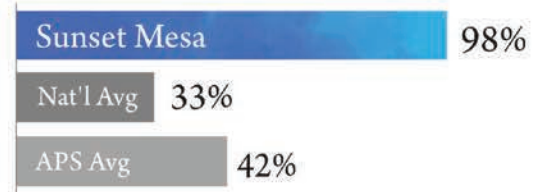
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Adobe Theater in Full Swing

By Marcelle Cady

Productions are in full swing at The Adobe Theater. While one is on stage, another one is in rehearsal, and another one is auditioning!

THE ODD COUPLE (FEMALE VERSION) | On stage March 1 - 24 is Neil Simon's revision of his highly successful play *The Odd Couple*, which sees the lead characters transformed into Olive Madison (played by Stephanie Jones) and Florence Unger (played by Gloria Goodman). The play is directed by Georgia Athearn.

Olive and their group of girlfriends are enjoying their weekly Trivial Pursuit night in Olive's messy and ill-equipped apartment. As the game continues, Florence arrives, fresh from being dumped by her husband. Fearful that the neurotic Florence might attempt suicide, Olive invites her to move in as her roommate. However, Olive and Florence have VERY different personalities. Where Olive is messy, untidy, and unconcerned about the state of her apartment, Florence is obsessively clean, tidy, and obsessed with hygiene. Olive's easy-going outlook on life soon clashes with Florence's highly-strung neurotic tendencies, testing their friendship to the limit.

When Olive organizes a double-date with the Costazuela brothers (you will recall the delightful Pigeon sisters in the original play), their differences come to a head and sparks fly. Be sure not to miss



Stephanie Jones as Olive Madison and Gloria Goodman as Florence Unger.

this hilarious contemporary comic classic. Supporting the leading ladies are Kristin HerrNSTein Cooper, Kimberley Peters, Mary Kay Riley and Jennifer Benoit as the game players. Yannig Morin and Isaac Dean Carrillo play Manolo and Jesus Costazuela.

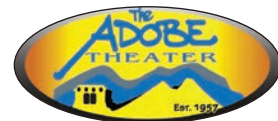
VANYA & SONIA & MASHA & SPIKE | Continuing The Adobe's theme of lighthearted plays, opening April 19 and running through May 12 is *Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike* by Christopher Durang. Middle-aged siblings 'Vanya' and 'Sonia' live in the family home in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Named after Chekhov's characters by their theater-enthusiast professor parents, they have not had to grow up. After spending their adulthood looking after their now-dead parents, neither has a job, and money is provided by their movie star sister 'Masha', who owns the house and pays the bills. Masha pays them a visit and threatens to sell the house. The cast includes Yannig Morin, Megan McCormick, Robin Havens-Parker, Emily Cox and Matthew Van Wattering.

Adobe Theater

9813 4th St. NW | www.adobetheater.org

▶ (505) 898-9222

▶ info@adobetheater.org



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- ▶ Thursday March 14th at 5:30PM *Grapevine Pruning Workshop* with Bill Shen
- ▶ Thursday March 23rd 5:30PM *History of Agriculture* with Willy Carleton
- ▶ Thursday April 11th 5:30PM *Dahlia Workshop* with Bill Shen
- ▶ Thursday April 25th 5:30PM *Water-Bath Canning 101* with Amber Benson-Lehmer
- ▶ Saturday April 13th *Planting your Spring Garden* with John Garlisch
- ▶ Saturday April 20th **Earth Day** "Acequias – The Legacy Lives On" with Aracely Chapa Screening & *Planting your Spring Garden Workshop* with John Garlisch

All workshops are \$5 unless otherwise stated. Check the next issue of the Village Vision for workshops and events happening after April.

▶ **More information and registration at www.losranchosnm.gov**

Email Sabrina Apodaca at sapodaca@losranchosnm.gov with any questions.



The Kromer House

A PEEK INTO ITS HISTORY
& THOSE WHO LIVED IN IT

By The Los Ranchos Historical Society

Recently, members of the Los Ranchos Historical Society (LRHS) were given a tour of the historic Kromer house in the Village of Los Ranchos. The LRHS plans to visit different historical landmarks throughout the Village to better understand our Village history and learn how to preserve and protect our unique historical, cultural, and archeological past.

In order for a structure to be listed in the National Registry of Historic Places there are a number of qualifications which include examining the “property’s age, significance and integrity.” The property must be at least 50 years old and resemble the way it looked in the past. Criteria for being listed include whether the property is associated with “events, activities or developments that were important in the past,” and whether the lives of the people who lived in the house were important in the past. Further, it asks if the property contains significant architectural history, landscape, engineering achievements, or archeological information.

The Kromer house more than meets these criteria. It is an excellent example of traditional New Mexican adobe architecture used by the Southwest tribes and Hispanic



builders. It was originally constructed of terrones, and featured wood vigas. Located on El Pueblo NW, the home is an architectural landmark that dates back to the 1880s. Legend has that it was placed on the National Historic Registry during the construction of the Paseo Del Norte highway as an attempt to preserve it from future development.

In the 1982 Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places, Harvey Hoshour noted that “the house today owes its austere and simple beauty” to the work of the probable original builder Ramon Garcia whose name is on an 1899 deed. Jacob Lucero, another early owner, most likely was the one who enlarged the house to its present size. In 1934, the house was sold to A.A. Archuleta, who purchased land and mortgages during the Depression years.

By 1937, the house was in a semi-ruinous condition when writers Tom and Janet Kromer bought it. Tom is the author of the primarily autobiographical novel *Waiting for Nothing*, a work that shows the great divide between the classes. In it Tom writes of hopping trains, being laughed at when he asked for work and standing in long soup lines during the Depression. Both Tom and Janet wrote for the Federal Writers Project, a part of the Works Progress Administration. Both were active in workers and anti-fascist causes where they befriended Louis Drypolcher, a teacher, and his wife who rented their house during a period when Janet taught at various pueblos where she and Tom lived.

When they returned, they hired pueblo workers who restored the house. Tom, disabled by tuberculosis and self-medicating, became a recluse. Janet later became the “Women’s Page” editor at the *Albuquerque Tribune* and was a correspondent for *Life and Time* magazine. Sadly, due to health issues, the home once again fell into decay. When Janet died of lung cancer, Tom’s family from West Virginia brought him back to his home state. Janet is buried in an unmarked grave at Sunset Memorial Park.





Top Left: Mrs. Drypolcher in front of a fireplace in the Kromer House, Christmas, 1946. Top Right: The same fireplace is one of five remaining fireplaces in the home today. Above Left: The Kromer home in 1960. Above Right: The renovated Kromer home today.

Opposite page. Top: Louis Drypolcher in front of Kromer house in 1946. Bottom: The Kromer House in 1980 showing a modernist blending of steel and glass among the historic pueblo architecture.

.....

In 1962, Harvey and Lise Hoshour bought the property. Harvey, an award-winning architect, was known for his modern sleek and geometrically balanced designs. He was affiliated with two very important 20th century modernists: master architect Mies van der Rohe, and Alexander Girard, a textile artist and interior designer. Lise Hoshour, a French artist, taught at UNM. Her modern art collection exhibited in the Hoshour Gallery attracted international attention. With the help of expert craftsmen from Santa Ana Pueblo, they restored the Kromer house, decorating the adobe interior with ultramodern steel and glass furniture. Dick McAlpin, writing in the *Albuquerque Journal* in 1966, observed that "A marriage of the old and new is strikingly compatible." The historic adobe house with modern furnishing was featured in a number of national magazines. Lise's father came from France and handcrafted the wooden doors for the arched adobe doorways. Later, Harvey, a professor of Architecture at UNM, collaboratively designed The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, UNM Health Sciences Library and many other buildings in New Mexico.

Historic Los Ranchos

There are so many other stories yet to be told. Currently, two authors are working on books about Tom and Janet Kromer. There are so many other stories yet to be told, including the stories of the pueblo people who once lived here. There are other historic houses and structures in Los Ranchos, some that are listed in the National Registry of Historic Places. Maybe you know about historic houses, sites, and persons in the Village. If so, the Los Ranchos Historical Society would love to hear from you.

We are currently collecting oral histories and historical photographs of the Village. If you have photos to share we can digitize your historical photos on site, so they never have to leave your house.

If you are interested in learning more about and/or becoming a member of the Los Ranchos Historical Association you can contact us at info@LosRanchosHistoricalSociety.org or visit our website at losranchoshistoricalsociety.org.

Sustainability Tips for Greener Spring Cleaning

By Anne Spitz, Media & Communications at WM

Let Fresh Air In – Improving indoor air quality naturally by opening the windows is a no-brainer, just be sure to clean the outdoor screens before you throw open the windows. Rather than adding scents that may contain toxic chemicals to air out the house, try boiling lemons in water or herbs such as rosemary, mint, lavender, or sage.

Allow Indoor Plants to Do Their Thing - Adding the right plants to your home or can reduce airborne toxins while adding a touch of greenery to your décor. Among the best plants for the job are reportedly aloe vera, snake, and spider plants.

Repair Rather Than Replace – Whether it's a small appliance, a piece of furniture, or an architectural feature in your home that's not working quite right, living a more sustainable existence involves rolling up our sleeves and figuring out how to fix some things ourselves. When in doubt, search the internet for how-to instructions or creative ideas.

Donate to Declutter – Investing the time to pack up and donate things no longer wanted or needed is a greener choice than tossing items. You might even make a few dollars if you try to resell online, at a yard sale, or through a consignment shop.

Green Up Your Trash Bags – It's estimated that the average American household uses 100 trash bags a year which equates to 12 billion trash bags across the country annually. Switching to biodegradable or compostable “plastic” trash bags will make a bigger impact than you may think.

Try Eco-Friendly Cleaning Products: Whether you shop for eco-friendlier cleaners or give non-toxic homemade formulas a try, you will be doing your part for the health of the planet and your household. Recipes are abundant online. Tried-and-true options include vinegar in water as a window cleaner; plant-based dish soap and vinegar as a kitchen degreaser, and baking soda sprinkled on the carpet as a deodorizer.

Employ Rags and Reusable Cloths: Forego reams of paper towels for your cleaning tasks. Simply rip up old T-shirts or bed sheets to get the dirty jobs done. Rags can, of course, be washed for repeat use. Purchasing reusable cleaning cloths and mops with washable pads is also wise. Don't hesitate to repurpose old toothbrushes to scrub cracks and crevices.

Hang Laundry Up to Dry – Sunshine is reported to be a natural sanitizer that destroys micro-organisms and thus squelches smells on fabrics. Additionally, line drying or investing in a drying rack saves energy. According to the U.S. Department of



Energy, an average household can save about \$100 annually by air-drying their clothes instead of using the laundry dryer.

Fix Drips and Leaks - Fix leaky faucets, dripping shower heads and toilets that run to reduce water use. Don't run the dishwasher unless it's full. And, if you like to clean your dishes before stacking them in the dishwasher for sanitizing, try pre-soaking the dishes rather than scrubbing them under running water.

Recycle Right – Do a spring refresh of the basic rules for the local curbside recycling program. Only recycle clean paper, cardboard, metal beverage and food cans and plastics that are shaped like bottles, jugs and jars. Glass is not accepted in curbside carts in Los Ranchos. For more info on how to recycle, visit wm.com/RecycleRight.

Dispose Responsibly – It's important to never dispose of medications, hazardous household waste or electronic in trash or recycling bins. These materials can be harmful to the environment. Contact your pharmacy for medication drop-offs and check for local e-waste events. Typical household hazardous waste can be disposed of by dropping them off for free at Advanced Chemical Transport located at 6137 Edith Boulevard NE, in Albuquerque.

Participate in Local Green Cleanup – Los Ranchos has four community Green Cleanups scheduled for 2024 aimed at collecting yard waste. There is no added charge for residents. The next cleanup dates are April 15-19. To participate, residents must schedule a collection for their home before April 12 by calling 505-224-1639. Remember the total volume (per household / per pickup) is limited to an area measuring 4' x 8' and 4' tall (or about 20 bags). Tree limbs must not exceed 4' in length.

For more info about recycling and sustainability, please visit wm.com/RecycleRight.



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Farm Camp at the Agri-Nature Center

By Tara Henderson, Director of Education, Explora



“My camper was able to teach our family about pollinators with so many details! She enjoyed the activities - especially building a "real" bee hotel and watering/cool spot - she told me she felt like she was able to help the pollinators with these tools she built herself!” It's clear she came away from these activities with a sense of pride in creating and helping.”

“...[My child] loved her pet snail and the friends she made while at camp. She also loved going on a “field trip” walk to a farm and picking radishes!”

These are just a few of the many discoveries campers made as part of farm camps at the Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center. Since 2018, Explora and the Village of Los Ranchos have partnered on organizing Farm Camps which occur during spring break, five weeks in the summer session, and at fall break. Camps are offered for kiddos in pre-K through 8th grade.

In Farm Camp, campers can explore a variety of topics from plants, soil health, pollinators, farm-to-table, compost, and more! For example, in the Soil Discoveries camps, campers explore the local area learning about the different compositions of soil. After looking at compost systems already in place, they create their own starter composts which they take home with them. Campers also create their own aquifer models using different types of soil as they experiment and engineer different types of aquifer systems as they learn about the life that water brings to agriculture. Older youth have even been able to code Raspberry Pis, a computer the size of a credit card to create an automated watering system. Campers also visit farmers to learn about different irrigation systems in place locally and then engineer their own irrigation systems.

A key component behind the success of Farm Camp is the collaboration with community members. In the Pollinator camp, campers created their own bee hotels after meeting local beekeepers and learning about their craft. In another camp, campers have been able to work with Master Gardeners and Three Sisters Kitchen to learn about seed to table.

Not only are campers having fun, and possibly getting dirty, they are learning about possible careers, as well as gaining hands-on experience with STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) subject areas of biology, geology, hydrology, chemistry, and applied engineering and math.



Explora plans to continue collaborating with the Village of Los Ranchos to offer Farm Camp. Together, we will continue to build interest and awareness of STEM learning in agriculture, and introduce children to the science of agriculture, both modern and traditional.

For more information about Farm Camp

www.explora.us/programs/camps/

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PREP**

PreK - 10th grade

June 3 - July 12

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Academics Skills

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photo courtesy: Elizabeth Wells

JOIN US AT THE TABLE.

We are eagerly anticipating this spring's exciting dining events at La Quinta.

MARTIN WOODS WINE DINNER *Saturday, April 6*

Join us for an unmatched culinary experience showcasing one of our favorite winemakers from the Willamette Valley, Martin Woods Winery. Guided by sustainable, holistic principles, Martin Woods' wines express the voice of the vineyard and an authentic sense of place. This dinner will feature a beautifully crafted menu designed by the Los Poblanos culinary team that will specifically showcase the remarkable selection of fine wines.

MOTHER'S DAY AFTERNOON TEA *Sunday, May 12*

As the historic Los Poblanos gardens burst into bloom, join us for a very special afternoon in celebration of Mother's Day, with a magnificent tea service and an immersive guided experience around the property. Enjoy lovely organic teas from Taos' small-batch, handcrafted tea company, tea.o.graphy, a sweet and savory menu prepared by Campo's award-winning culinary team.

*Visit lospoblanos.com/events-calendar
for more information and tickets.*



LOS POBLANOS
HISTORIC INN & ORGANIC FARM

March/April

► **March and, especially April are the windiest months.** April is also hay fever month, with the highest pollen count. And it is the month with late freezes. The average last freeze is April 18th in the Heights, but frost can occur anytime through the first week of May in town, especially in the Valley.

► **Finish cleaning your garden beds** and transplant volunteer seedlings of perennials and hardy annuals to where you want them to grow.

► **Move plants** to different locations in your garden, if desired. It's the perfect time: the ground is soft enough to dig, and most plants are just starting to break dormancy.

► **Empty winter compost bins,** remove un-composted material, and work it into the soil where you want to plant annuals or vegetables. Return incompletely composted material to the bin and add chicken manure or another high nitrogen source.



► **Add compost, balanced fertilizer, and/or super phosphate to flower beds.** The organic approach includes a blend of blood, fish, and bone meal. Mix into the soil to feed plant roots.

► **Remove heavy mulches** from planting beds by the end of March.

► **Divide clump-forming perennials** such as daylilies and chrysanthemums.

► **Fertilize trees** or amend the soil with compost and other organic matter such as composted manure or bone and cottonseed meal as leaves appear.

► **Cool season grasses:** aerate, dethatch if needed, fertilize with a high nitrogen, and increase watering.

► **Try to keep up with the weeds** enthusiastically welcoming spring. Pull weeds and be sure to discard them in the trash. If you drop them on the ground or in the compost pile, some of them will reseed and bless you later with another crop.



► **Get some pansies:** they come in a beautiful range of colors and are hardy enough to survive our unsettled and windy spring weather.

► **If you have drip irrigation,** examine the lines and emitters to be sure everything is working.

► **Increase watering** to 3 to 4 times a month if temperatures are consistently over 50 degrees.

► **Finish pruning fruit trees and summer-flowering shrubs.** Start pruning roses and grape vines late in March. Prune spring-flowering shrubs as they finish blooming. Finish pruning roses and grapes by April 15th.

► **Continue seeding or transplanting salad greens** and greens for cooking.

► **Plant seeds of cool season growers** like radishes, carrots, beets, turnips, onions, kohlrabi, parsnips, peas, endive, lettuces, spinach, Swiss chard, and turnips.

► **Plant potatoes** from mid-March to mid-April.

► **Plant cool season (typically blue grass) lawns in April.**

► **Plant hardy herbs** like parsley, sage, thyme, dill (later in April), and tarragon (harden off small nursery-bought plants).

► **Ready, set, grow! It's off to the nurseries!** Buy your perennials now and get them in the ground before it gets hot. Wait until May to plant anything tender.

► **Tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and chiles** set out in April will need frost protection.

► **Ants and aphids go together.** Ants drive away aphid predators. Control ants in and around the garden, and you'll increase natural predators. On trees, a band of Tanglefoot™-type barrier will help keep ants at bay.

► **Lawn grub damage** is most noticeable now, but insecticides are almost useless this time of year. Wait until the soil temperature of your lawn is over 55 degrees and the soil is moist to apply a treatment of Nematodes, microscopic worms that carry bacteria lethal to grubs, or milky spores. Neither is harmful to beneficial insects, humans, or pets.

► **Treat Powdery Mildew** (on roses— see below— lilacs, and some vegetables) by reducing the amount of moisture in the environment, the frequency of watering, or the time of day it's applied, and by increasing the amount of air circulation around the infected plants. Diluted whole milk works as a treatment with some pants. Sulfur is another option.



This information is brought to you by the Albuquerque Master Gardeners. For more information visit abqmastergardeners.org. Have questions? Call the Master Gardeners Hotline at (505) 243-1386 or the Bernalillo County Extension Service at (505) 243-1386.



WITH TIM TOURVILLE

The Different Types of Driveways for Your Home

Whether you're considering selling your home or investing in home improvements, you're likely among the many Villagers who understand the importance of curb appeal. Although plenty of focus is placed on features like landscaping, windows, and garage doors, there's another vital element of the exterior that sometimes falls by the wayside.

The driveway is one of the most used portions of your entire home — interior and exterior alike. It's the path that leads you to your home, where your guests can park, and the wide area that provides your family with additional room to work and play. Let's look at the different types of driveways that can meet your needs and those of potential homebuyers. [nsite](#).

As with other home improvement projects, there are a several factors to consider when choosing a driveway material:

Appearance - Ultimately, you want your driveway to look good. Make sure you select a material and design that complements your home's aesthetic. If you're not sure, consult a professional.

Functionality - However, a great-looking driveway is useless if it's not functional. Make sure the material you choose is ideal for our climate. We can have drastic changes in temperature in just one day so make sure the material will

withstand the expansion and contraction.

Budget - Aside from initial costs, some materials will require additional expenses to keep them looking good. For example, gravel may need to be replaced and asphalt resealed.

Maintenance - How much work do you want to put into maintaining your driveway? Some materials are more maintenance-free than others; make sure you understand the long-term commitment before choosing a material.

Regulations - Homeowners must be aware of the potential rules or regulations that prohibit the use of some driveway materials. Your HOA may have certain rules and regulations that prevent you from using certain types of driveway materials.

The driveway welcomes you and your guests to your home — make sure it looks exactly the way you've always dreamed. There are many options available when choosing a material for your driveway, some of which are affordable and easy DIY home improvement projects. Consider the following ten driveway materials:

1. **Concrete** - One of the most popular driveway materials is also one of the most affordable and durable. Although it can be hot and sprawling can occur if not laid properly.
2. **Asphalt** - Asphalt is another favorite choice for homeowners because it is pliable and functions better in our colder climate than some other materials.
3. **Gravel** - This low-cost material is ideal for driveways of large or uneven dimensions, especially those in the Village's sloped areas. Pea gravel is quite popular here, and some folks like the sound and feel as you walk across it.
4. **Pavers** - A great way to improve the appearance of your home is to install a paver driveway that can enhance your curb appeal.

5. **Brick** - For years, brick has been a classy choice for homeowners who want a respectable-looking driveway that can be customized. Check out a local brickworks where you can see and feel a wide variety of products.
6. **Crushed Stone** - Crushed Stone or Crusher Fines function like gravel but provide a slight increase in style, perfect for a homeowner with a mid-range budget who wants a little more "wow" for a lot less money.
7. **Crushed Shell** - Alternatively, the crushed shell is another beautiful yet cost-effective material.
8. **Cobblestone** - This type of paver has come a long way. They now come in lightweight sheets, are easy to lay, and can be Eco-Friendly. Riccobenne cobblestones were used on the 4th Street Revitalization Project, so you can physically go and check them out.
9. **Glass** - Made from tumbled glass that's sealed with a resin, a glass driveway is a unique choice.
10. **Eco-Friendly** - Another environmentally conscious driveway choice is to allow grass to grow through specific sections of the driveway. Geo-grid material allows grass to grow above the driveway's solid surface. They are permeable, so the water will recharge our aquifer as opposed to running into the sewer and/or river.

Upgrading your driveway can be fun and financially smart when you choose the right materials. You'll improve the value of your property, spruce up the Village, and get a pleasant, satisfied feeling every time you come home.

.....



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Friends of Los Ranchos is an evolving organization of people working together to preserve our Village, land, wildlife, culture, and heritage. Our goal is to encourage a sustainable lifestyle while fostering kindness and a sense of community that respects every person and includes every voice.

Our officers:



Marsha Adams
President



Marcia Smiley
Vice President

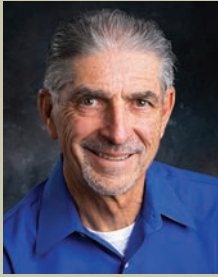
Open space acquisition

Historic preservation

Agri-Nature fundraising



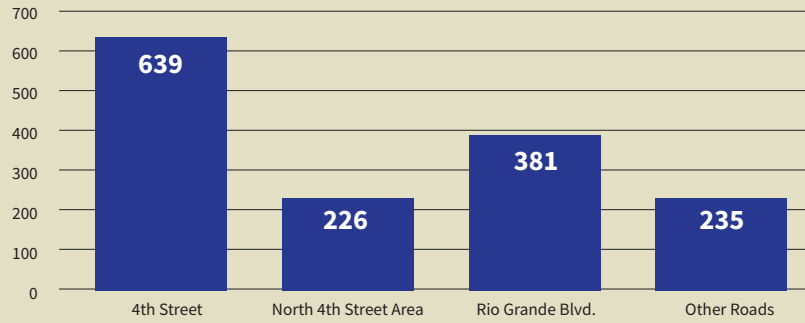
FROM THE SAFETY OFFICER



Safety Officer Fred Radosevich

The Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office provides all law enforcement services for the Village of Los Ranchos under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Each month the sheriff's office provides a list of all calls within the Village. The Public safety advisor provides a monthly report to the Board of Trustees which includes a recap of calls in the Village. During the calendar year 2023, the Sheriff's Departments handled 6,923

1481 TRAFFIC STOPS CONDUCTED IN THE VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS IN 2023



calls in the Village. During 2023 they responded to 19 auto burglaries, 36 auto-thefts, 37 commercial burglaries, 25 residential burglaries, 108 larcenies, and 3 robberies. They also responded to 278 alarms, 408 disturbances, 125 motor vehicle crashes, 296 suspicious persons and or vehicles and 41 vandalism calls. Deputies conducted 1477 welfare checks, which are when deputies are proactively patrolling specific areas of the Village.

Deputies conducted 1481 traffic stops in the Village during the year. 639 on 4th street, 226 in the area of north 4th street, 381 on Rio Grande and 235 on other roads in the Village. The Village and Bernalillo County Sheriff's office work hard on making sure the Village is a safe place to live and shop. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact me at publicsafety@losranchosnm.gov

Summary of Residential Property For Sale in the Village of Los Ranchos

Listing#	Street#	Street Name	Listing Price	ApxSqFt	BR	BA	G	Lot Acr.	Listing Office	Office Phone	Listing Member
1024201	7028	Rio Grande	\$2,698,800	LAND				6.8	Berkshire Hathaway	(505) 798-6300	Juan Duran
1039404	5111	Rio Grande	\$2,500,000	7,388	5	6	4	2.65	Keller Williams Realty	(505) 271-8200	Susan Feil
1040628	7622	Rio Grande	\$2,500,000	2,748	3	2	2	4.24	Sotheby's International Realty	(505) 982-6207	Marsha Adams
1032914	4900	Rio Grande	\$2,400,000	3,600	3	5	2	6.92	Hanna Commercial, LLC	(505) 332-0522	Richard Hanna
1043317	1600	Padre Roberto	\$1,675,000	6,559	6	5	3	1	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 293-3700	Patricia Culp
1029433	520	Sandia View	\$1,400,000	LAND				2.72	The M Real Estate Group	(505) 247-1002	Thomas Mestas
1044468	8421	Guadalupe	\$1,380,000	4,352	4	3	3	1	Keller Williams Realty	(505) 271-8200	Alicia Feil
1054598	6508	Caballero	\$1,199,000	3,165	4	3	2	0.68	Realty One of New Mexico	(505) 883-9400	Celeste Pacheco
1053631	801	La Senda	\$1,169,000	3,610	3	4	3	0.74	Simply Real Estate	(505) 308-3800	Evan Sanderson
1039106	8209 A	Guadalupe	\$1,100,000	3,181	3	3	2	2.08	Kate Southard Real Estate	(505) 264-9586	Kate Southard
1043157	8617	Rio Grande	\$1,100,000	3,118	4	4	2	1.42	Maestas Real Estate Services	(505) 463-3565	Anita Maestas
1054406	8523	Rio Grande	\$1,075,000	3,786	3	4	3	1.84	Keller Williams Realty	(505) 897-1100	Team Blunier
1044308	1122	Ortega	\$995,000	3,900	4	4	2	0.7	Keller Williams Realty	(505) 271-8200	Dana Slade
1042830	629	Solar Rd	\$950,000	4,628	4	4	4	0.45	Welcome Home Realty	(505) 400-0091	Susan Blackwell
1042295	1118	El Pueblo	\$899,900	2,282	3	3	0	1.03	The Maez Group	(505) 718-4980	Joseph Maez
1055785	4300	Rio Grande	\$699,500	3,269	4	3	0	0.75	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 292-8900	Timothy Tourville
1043875	825	San Juan	\$659,000	LAND				1	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 293-3700	Suzanne Kinney
1055267	501	El Paraiso	\$619,900	1,897	3	2	4	0.45	Realty One of New Mexico	(505) 883-9400	Patricia Homburg
1042336	6405	Guadalupe Place NW	\$589,000	2,425	4	3	2	0.27	Realty One Group Concierge	(505) 318-1111	Maria Candelaria
1053900	436	Sandia View	\$300,000	1,324	3	1	0	0.25	Realty One of New Mexico	(505) 883-9400	Brooke Ekstrom
1027246	7220	Zia View	\$299,000	LAND				0.56	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo
1027247	7201	Zia View	\$299,000	LAND				0.55	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo
1027248	7200	Zia View	\$299,000	LAND				0.56	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo
1027249	7221	Zia View	\$299,000	LAND				0.55	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo

The information herein is deemed reliable, but not guaranteed from SWMLS compiled on or before January 22, 2024 by Tim Tourville, Coldwell Banker Legacy.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY*

January 9, 2024 7PM/Regular Meeting (DRAFT MINUTES)*

Location: Warren J. Gray Chambers

Commissioners Present: JT Michelson, Chair; Mary Homan, Vice-Chair; Connie Barrow; Shelleen Smith; Robert Martinez, John Edward, Gwenn Baldwin

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ▶ Camille Varoz – 427 El Paraiso Rd. NW, David Baird – 8211 Guadalupe Trail

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of October 10, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. *The motion carried with changes 7-0.*

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPLICATIONS

A. SDP 19-01 Amendment; A request by David Newman for a minor amendment to an existing approved Site Development Plan for modifications to authorize building additions of less than twenty percent (20%) of the existing building area, an alternate landscaping plan, outdoor seating area, and changes to the off-street parking layout as allowed by § 9.2.25 (D)(6) Minor Site Plan Amendments. The property is located at 7203 4th St. NW (a.k.a. 7201 – 7209 4th St. NW; the NW corner of 4th St. & Roehl Rd. NW), Los Ranchos NM, 87107, and is legally described as Lot 7, Zia View Subdivision, Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. The property contains .5227 acres, more or less.

- ▶ Director Rubin gave the planning report with recommendation of approval with conditions.
- ▶ Speakers: David Newman – 504 Mary’s Way NW (Applicant), Zac Hulme – 2926 Camilo Lane NW (In Favor), Nancy Starr – 513 Roehl Rd NW (Opposed), Carl Starr – 513 Roehl Rd NW (Opposed), Camille Varoz – 427 El Paraiso (Opposed)
- ▶ Motion: Commissioner Baldwin moved to approve with staff findings and conditions plus adding signage requirements returning traffic to 4th Street rather than into the neighborhood and encouraging this and future shared parking agreements to be enforced.
Second: Commissioner Homan seconded the motion with an amendment adding some kind of noise abatement structure around the outdoor patio seating area. *The motion carried 7-0.*

B. V.23-08; A request by John Moser for a variance from § 9.2.10(E)(2)(a) requiring a 10-foot side yard setback distance to allow an addition

to an existing single-family dwelling to be 5 feet, ½ inches from the side property line. The property is located at 415 Pueblo Solano Rd.

NW, Los Ranchos, NM, 87107, and is legally described as Lot 5, Pueblo Solano Addition, All of Lot 5 Excluding the West 50 Feet. The property contains 0.5969 acres, more or less.

- ▶ Director Rubin gave the planning report with recommendation of denial.
- ▶ Speaker: Mark Harmon – 415 Pueblo Solano (Applicant Representative)
- ▶ *Motion to deny carried 7-0.*

NEW BUSINESS

A. Adoption of Resolutions for 2024

1. Adoption of Resolution 2024-1 Planning & Zoning – Open Meetings Act. *The motion carried (6 - 1) by roll call vote:* Commissioner Homan – yea, Commissioner Barrow – yea, Commissioner Smith – yea, Commissioner Martinez – yea, Commissioner Edward – nay, Commissioner Baldwin – yea, Commissioner Michelson – yea

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Have a Question?
for the Mayor, Trustees, the Ag-Center,
Animal Control, the Village Administrator,
or someone else?

ASK!

Send your question to
magazine@losranchosnm.gov!

A selection of questions (and answers)
will be published in the next
issue of the Village Vision.



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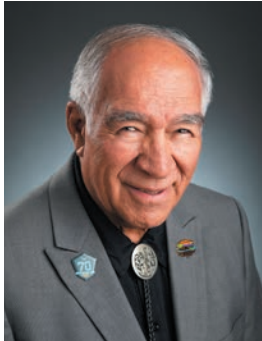
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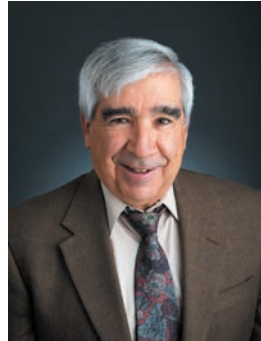
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SUMMARIES



Donald T. Lopez
Mayor



Sandra Pacheco
Mayor Pro Tem



Gilbert Benavides
Trustee



George Radnovich
Trustee

DECEMBER 13, 2023 7:00PM/Regular Meeting (Draft minutes)*

Location: Warren J. Gray Chambers and streamed on the Village Website and via Zoom
Present: Mayor Donald T. Lopez, Trustee Benavides, Trustee Radnovich, Trustee Pacheco

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Discussion and Approval of LL 23-03 A request by Still Spirits, LLC, of 120 Marble Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87102, for approval of a Craft Distiller Liquor License with on-premises consumption with patio service for the property located at 7201 4th St. NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM, 87107, (NW corner of 4th Street & Roehl Road) within the C-1 Zone of the Fourth Street Character Area, and legally known as Subdivision Plat of Lots 1-7 Zia View, Projected Section 21, T 11 N, R 3 E, N.M.P.M., Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, NM. The property contains 0.5227 acres in area, more or less.
Public Comments: Dru Tagliapietra, 312 Nuevo Hacienda NW (oppose), Tom Donelan-6668 Edgewood Drive NW (in favor), Gwyneth Parker, 538 Chamiso Lane (in favor), Glenn Fellows, 530 Chamiso Lane NW (in favor), Nick Parker, 538 Chamiso Lane NW (in favor), Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (otherwise), Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (otherwise)
Motion to Adopt with Added Condition of no Amplified Sound after 10PM Passed 3-0
- B. Discussion and Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 298; An Ordinance Amending the 2013 Codified Ordinances of the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Chapter 2, Article 1, Administration/Officers, Adding Section 9, Runoff Election for Mayor, § 2.1.9 – An Amendment Opting Pursuant to Article VII Section 5 of the New Mexico Constitution, and Section 1-22-16 NMSA 1978 to Hold a Top-Two Runoff Election for Mayor Commencing with the Next Election Cycle.
Public Comments in Opposition: Dru Tagliapietra, 312 Nuevo Hacienda NW, Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Drive NW, David Gutzler, 629 El Paraiso Road NW, Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW. (David Montoya, 517 Pueblo Solano NW -not present)
Motion to Adopt Carried 2-1 by Roll-Call Vote: Trustee Pacheco-Yes, Trustee Benavides-Yes, Trustee Radnovich-No
- C. Discussion and Approval of CDSP 23-01; A request by Chavez Guadalupe, LLC for a Conservation Development Standards Permit as allowed by §9.2.27. The request is for a residential development in the A-1 Zone in the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 6535 Guadalupe Trail NW and is legally described as a tract of land situated within the Elena Gallegos Grant, projected Section 29, Township 11 North, Range 3 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, within M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, being all of Tracts 36-A-1-E-2, 36-A-2-E-2, 36-A-3-E-2, 36-A-1-F, 36-A-2-F, 36-A-3-F, 35-A-2-A and 62-8-2-B, M.R.G.C.D. MAP NO. 29. The property contains 9.2682 acres more or less.
Public Comments in Opposition: Bonnie Kelly, 6900 Rio Grande Blvd NW, Joe Craig, 505 Calle del Pajarito NW, Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Jane Selverstone, 620 El Paraiso Road NW, Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Drive NW, David Gutzler, 620 El Paraiso Road NW, Emilie Sederholm, 617 El Paraiso Road NW (Michelle Smiley, 623 El Paraiso Road NW-not present)
Motion to Adopt Carried 2-1 by Roll-Call Vote: Trustee Pacheco-Yes, Trustee Benavides-Yes, Trustee Radnovich-No
- D. Discussion and Approval of SDP 23-05; A request by Chavez Guadalupe, LLC for a Preliminary Site Development Plan as allowed in §9.2.27. The request is for a residential development in the A-1 Zone in the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 6535 Guadalupe Trail NW and is legally described as a tract of land situated within the Elena Gallegos Grant, projected Section 29, Township 11 North, Range 3 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, within M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, being all of Tracts 36-A-1-E-2, \

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*COMPLETE, APPROVED MINUTES AT [LOS RANCHOS NM.GOV/BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS](https://losranchosnm.gov/boardoftrusteesmeetings)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SUMMARIES,* *continued*

36-A-2-E-2, 36-A-3-E-2, 36- A-1-F, 36-A-2-F, 36-A-3-F, 35-A-2-A and 62-8-2-B, M.R.G.C.D. MAP NO. 29. The property contains 9.2682 acres \ more or less.

Mayor Lopez requested the Trustees state if there was any conflict of interest regarding the item or any ex parte communication.

COI/EX PARTE DISCLOSURE: Trustee Pacheco-No, Trustee Benavides-No conflict of interest/Yes, ex parte communication with Mayor Elect Craig, Trustee Radnovich-No, Mayor Lopez-No

Public Comments: Bonnie Kelly, 6900 Rio Grande Blvd NW (deferred), Joe Craig, 505 Calle del Pajarito NW (opposed), Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (opposed), Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (deferred), Jane Selverstone, 620 El Paraiso Road NW (deferred), Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Drive NW (opposed), Michelle Smiley, 623 El Paraiso Road NW (not present), Emelie Sederholm, 617 El Paraiso Road NW (not present), Marcia Smiley, 623 El Paraiso Road NW (opposed), Diana Clark, 601 El Paraiso Road NW (opposed)

Motion to Adopt Carried 2-1 by Roll-Call Vote: Trustee Pacheco-Yes without additional conditions, Trustee Benavides-Yes, Trustee Radnovich-No due to lack of additional conditions, though agreed applicant met compliance

- E. Discussion and Approval of S 23-05; A request by Chavez Guadalupe, LLC for a Preliminary Plat for a Major Subdivision as allowed in §9.2.27. The request is for a residential development in the A-1 Zone in the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 6535 Guadalupe Trail NW and is legally described as a tract of land situated within the Elena Gallegos Grant, projected Section 29, Township 11 North, Range 3 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, within M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, being all of Tracts 36-A-1-E-2, 36-A-2-E-2, 36-A-3-E-2, 36- A-1-F, 36-A-2-F, 36-A-3-F, 35-A-2-A and 62-8-2-B, M.R.G.C.D. MAP NO. 29. The property contains 9.2682 acres more or less.

Mayor Lopez requested the Trustees state if there was any conflict of interest regarding the item or any ex parte communication.

COI/EX PARTE DISCLOSURE: Trustee Pacheco-No, Trustee Benavides-No conflict of interest/Yes, ex parte communication with Mayor Elect Craig, Trustee Radnovich-No, Mayor Lopez-No

Public Comments: Bonnie Kelly, 6900 Rio Grande Blvd NW (deferred), Joe Craig, 505 Calle del Pajarito NW (opposed), Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (opposed), Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (deferred), Jane Selverstone, 620 El Paraiso Road NW (not present), Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Drive NW (opposed), Michelle Smiley, 623 El Paraiso Road NW (not present), Jennifer Kueffer, 722 Mullen Road (opposed), Emilie Sederholm, 617 El Paraiso Road NW (not present), Marcia Smiley, 623 El Paraiso Road NW (opposed)

Motion to Adopt Carried 2-1 by Roll-Call Vote: Trustee Pacheco-Yes, Trustee Benavides-Yes, Trustee Radnovich-No due to lack of additional conditions, though agreed applicant met compliance

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2023-12-02; A Resolution Approving a Fourth Amendment to the Residential and Commercial Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services License between the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, New Mexico and Waste Management of New Mexico, Inc. to address a Recycling Processing Fee. (Correction to Resolution No. 2023-10-02)

Motion to Adopt Carried 3-0

- B. Discussion and Approval to advertise and begin the Request for Proposals (RFP) process in January 2024 for Legal Services. The Village of Los Ranchos will be requesting sealed proposals from qualified law firms for legal services to oversee and assist in managing all Village related legal matters, ensuring maximum protection of legal rights and continued operation consistent with federal, state and local laws.

Motion to Adopt Carried 3-0

- C. Discussion and Approval to advertise and begin the Request for Proposals (RFP) process in January 2024 for Planning and Engineering Services for the Middle Rio Grande Levee Improvements.

Motion to Adopt Carried 3-0

- D. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2023-12-03; A Resolution extending the Moratorium on Pilot Project and Conservation Development Standards Permit Applications.

Public Comments: Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (otherwise), Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW (deferred)

Motion to Adopt Carried 2-1 by Roll-Call Vote: Trustee Pacheco-No, Trustee Benavides-Yes, Trustee Radnovich-Yes

- E. Discussion and Approval of accepting Amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Bernalillo County Fire Department.

Motion to Adopt Carried 3-0

- F. Discussion and Approval: In accordance with the Village of Los Ranchos 2013 Codified Ordinances Chapter 9; §9.2.2 Planning and Zoning Commission. (A) MEMBERSHIP: The Commission shall consist of seven (7) members who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the members of the Governing Body.

Planning & Zoning Commissioners for 2023/2024: John Edward and Gwenn Baldwin.

Motion to Confirm Carried 3-0

continued on next page...

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SUMMARIES,* *continued*

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Approval of the October 2023 Cash Report.

Unusual or Significant Items:

The Village received \$525,000.00 reimbursement from the State of New Mexico for a capital appropriation to acquire open space.

The Village paid Affordable Services \$4,351.46, check #3213, for work on Bauer Property for claim #2024031304.

The Village paid Arbor Valley Nursery \$7,825.00, check #3215, for tree for the PDN Infrastructure project on the Paseo Del Norte open space property.

The Village paid Bernalillo County \$120,199.97, check #3100, for quarter 2 of EMS & Fire Services per our IGA agreement with the county.

The Village paid Bernalillo County Planning \$17,500.00, check #3177, for clerical services, record storage, maintenance, and CE services.

The Village paid Brennon William \$6,795.00, check #3181, as a contractor for P&Z consulting services for September 2023.

The Village paid DML Inc. \$26,290.95, check #3186, for new surface on the pickleball courts at Old Village Hall.

The village paid Franken Construction \$28,071.25, check #3188 for work on the Agri-Nature center driveway project.

The Village paid JR & Sons Fence Company \$10,300.15, check #3116 for fence project completion at Old Village Hall.

The Village paid Power Ford \$40,608.00, check #3200, for purchase of new Ag truck.

Motion to Approve Report Carried 3-0

B. Discussion and Approval of the November 2023 Cash Report.

Motion to Approve Report Carried 3-0

C. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2023-12-01; A Resolution Approving a Budget Adjustment Request; FY 2023/2024;

Recommending mid- year budget revisions related to the General Fund (101).

Motion to Approve Carried 3-0

D. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2023-12-04; A Resolution Approving a Budget Adjustment Request; FY 2023/2024;

Recommending mid-year budget revisions related to the American Rescue Plan Act Fund (260).

Motion to Approve Carried 3-0

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Phillips, 605 Schulte Road NW, Joe Craig, 505 Calle del Pajarito, Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail, Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Place NW, David Montoya, 517 Pueblo Solano NW, JT Michelson, 5001 Rio Grande Blvd NW, Jennifer Kueffer, 722 Mullen Road, Loretta Smith, 536 Chavez Road NW, Frank Reinrow, 1144 Ortega Road NW

DECEMBER 18, 2023 5:00PM/Special Meeting (Draft minutes)*

Location: Warren J. Gray Chambers and streamed on the Village Website and via Zoom

Present: Mayor Donald T. Lopez, Trustee Benavides, Trustee Radnovich, Trustee Pacheco

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2023-12-05; A Resolution designating a Village Representative to communicate to and with the Village's Legal Counsel the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque's position and direction on outstanding and potential litigation involving the Friends of Los Ranchos and Joe Craig; recommending retention of special litigation counsel for such litigation.

Public Comments: Opposed: Joe Craig, 505 Calle del Pajarito NW, Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Drive NW, Marcia Adams, 1008 Acequia Trail, David Montoya, 8831 4th Street, Hank Kelly, 6900 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Gordene McKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Michael Bryce, 6610 Las Placitas Court NW

Trustee Discussion: Trustee Pacheco addressed her concerns regarding the damaging costs the Village may sustain.

Trustee Benavides echoed similar concerns as Trustee Pacheco and understood that ultimately pleading guilty would not remedy future pending litigation.

Trustee Benavides emphasized his role in representing both the public and the Village as an institution and maintaining being a neutral party. His focus on the current resolution is noted, urging the listening public to consider a broader perspective beyond solely the resolution's details. Trustee Benavides emphasized both his and Mr. Craig's (as Mayor) fiduciary duty to the Village.

Trustee Radnovich cited that materials were issued during the campaign trail from Mr. Craig raised several red flags for him and felt it would compromise the Village, with the implications made of terminating the project entirely. He inquired if there were additional legal aspects beyond finances.

Trustee Radnovich expressed concerns about the resolution and its potential impact, and inquired if the resolution could be removed by the Mayor-elect.

Attorney Winter responded that it would be the prerogative of the next administration and require Trustee approval.

Motion to Adopt Carried 2-1 by Roll-Call Vote: Trustee Pacheco-Yes, Trustee Benavides-Yes, Trustee Radnovich-No

* COMPLETE, APPROVED MINUTES AT [LOS RANCHOS NM.GOV/BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS](https://losranchosnm.gov/boardoftrusteesmeetings)



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OLD VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

During the Fall of 2023, the Village of Los Ranchos applied for a Quality of Life grant through the State of NM for funds to revitalize “Old Village Hall.” In December of last year, we were awarded this grant for \$1.25 million! These are funds that the State received from the Federal Government to improve the quality of life of residents. We have a tight turn around to expend these funds, so the Village is working with our on-call architects on the design for this renovation.

The renovated Old Village Hall will provide a space with

- Windows to the sport courts
- Lockers for storage for the Boy Scouts and for sport court users
- A Coffee Bar
- An area for tables to play cards
- An area for classroom-style furniture to accommodate neighborhood meetings
- Bathrooms that have an exterior entrance for sport court users

The Village process will include:

- Preliminary design with schematic drawings and 3D views
- Final design with all of the building details
- Bidding and permitting phase
- Construction phase

The Village is planning to have these funds expended within the year! Our goal is to complete construction on our new community meeting space by this time next year! Stay tuned to see these improvements and to see how you can use this new Village amenity.

Best Cinnamon Role? Right Here In Los Ranchos!

Albuquerque the Magazine recently announced its 19th annual Best of the City winners. The public decided: Los Ranchos Bakery has the best cinnamon rolls in Albuquerque! They actually beat Frontier Restaurant, which has held the title for many, many years! Congratulations to our Los Ranchos business!

