



Los Ranchos *Village* VISION



**Seed Saving: A Root
of History for Modern
Sustainability**

**Steel Bender Brewery
Celebrates Five Years of
Business in the Village**

**El Camino Real National
Historic Trail Development
Concept Plan**

YOUR PROPERTY • MY PRIORITY



SOLD

223 Sierra B. C & D



SOLD

6217 Harper Dr NE



SOLD

29 Pine Haven. Tijeras

924 Ortega NW. Los Ranchos

FOR SALE \$475,000
complete remodel with attached
guest house on .51 acres



Serving Northern New Mexico

with MLS memberships in
GAAR and Santa Fe



FOR SALE

2262-B 38th St. Los Alamos



275ac

FOR SALE

275 acres in Cuba



6ac

FOR SALE

6 acres in Jemez Springs

Call TIM for INFO

505-604-8468 / Your Trusted Expert in the Village

TIM TOURVILLE / Coldwell Banker Legacy / 505-292-8900 / TimTourville.REALTOR@gmail.com



Mayor's Report



Springtime in the Village

I've always enjoyed springtime in Los Ranchos. It is a time of hope and optimism as we see the daylight stretching longer, the fields begin to green up, and the cold melts away. I have optimism about the state of our Village as well, especially when we can all work together.

At the time of this writing, we are in the middle of a historic legislative session with tremendous funding opportunities for infrastructure projects. Thanks to the many residents who made calls to our Legislators. I know that makes a big difference. As you may know, our number one project is and will be to finish 4th Street. Having that corridor be seamless, safe for pedestrians and motorists, and supportive of new economic development opportunities is critical.

The second key project is to build an outdoor kitchen classroom at the Agri-Nature Center. This addition will allow us to better integrate our fields and demonstration gardens with our education programs. It also will give us a venue for other outdoor, COVID-safe programming, such as evening lectures, farm to fork cooking classes, and events like the first-ever Los Ranchos Matanza held on February 19th. We will keep you updated with the results of the 2022 Legislative Session and other infrastructure funding.

The Village is taking road safety seriously in 2022. We have heard from residents that parking on key arterials is causing concern so we will be installing No Parking signs in key places on Chavez Road. We will be installing Parallel Parking Only signs on Rio Grande in front of Village Hall and Hartnett Park, and possibly other high-traffic areas. In response to concerns about speeding throughout the Village, we will install a three-way stop at Guadalupe Trail and El Pueblo, speed humps on Ranchitos and Guadalupe Trail, and new portable speed boards Village-wide.

The Board of Trustees adopted the 2022 Regional and Los

Ranchos Hazard Mitigation Plan at the January Board of Trustees meeting. Most of the work on this plan, including public input meetings, occurred in 2020 with drafting, FEMA review, and revisions in 2021. The Plan is an update of the previous five-year plan and comes with suggested mitigation actions. One such action, which the Village took on in September, was a tabletop exercise on mitigation of a levee failure scenario. An outcome of that exercise was the development of a multi-jurisdictional Levee Task Force to plan for and mitigate issues related to levee safety. I am proud that the Village is looking carefully at protecting its residents from hazards.

I am pleased to say we are moving forward with the Village Center. You will begin to see some changes on the property at 4th Street and Osuna in the coming weeks that signify the beginning of real progress towards this future mixed-use development. The trailers will be removed, and we are scheduling demolition of the storage facility and other structures. The future looks bright for this exciting project.

I am most pleased when we Villagers can come together and agree on solutions to our most pressing issues. It's not always easy—especially as the pandemic hangs around creating stress and division. My hope for this springtime is for us to celebrate what unites us—the ability to live in the most beautiful place in New Mexico, the Village of Los Ranchos.

Handwritten signature of Donald T. Lopez, PE.

Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque

6718 Rio Grande Blvd. NW | (505) 344-6582

Donald T. Lopez, Mayor
PE, CMO
(505) 977-2119
mayordonaldtlopez@losranchosnm.gov

Sandra Pacheco, Mayor Pro Tem
spacheco@losranchosnm.gov

Gilbert Benavides, Trustee
gbenavides@losranchosnm.gov

Allen Lewis, Trustee
alewis@losranchosnm.gov

George Radnovich, Trustee
gradnovich@losranchosnm.gov

Diane Albert, Municipal Judge
dalbert@losranchosnm.gov

Will Fisher, Treasurer
wfisher@losranchosnm.gov

Ann Simon, Village Administrator
asimon@losranchosnm.gov

Danielle Sedillo-Molina, Village Clerk
dmolina@losranchosnm.gov

Tammy Silva, CFO
tsilva@losranchosnm.gov

Amelia Hinojos,
Administrative Assistant/Front Desk
Receptionist
ahinojos@losranchosnm.gov

Tiffany Justice, Planning & Zoning Director
tjustice@losranchosnm.gov

**Jennifer Schilling, Coordinator & Records
Information Manager**
jschilling@losranchosnm.gov

Helen Ganahl, Planning & Zoning Intern
hganahl@losranchosnm.gov

**Keen Heinzelman, Public Facilities
Manager**
kheinzelman@losranchosnm.gov

Dominic Tomba, Animal Welfare Officer
(505) 977-4830
dtomba@losranchosnm.gov

**Thomas Sanchez, Code Enforcement
Officer**
(505) 539-6350
tsanchez@losranchosnm.gov

**Joshua O'Halloran, Agriculture Program
Manager**
johalloran@losranchosnm.gov

Sabrina Apodaca, Administrative Assistant
sapidaca@losranchosnm.gov

**Fred Radosevich, Public Safety
Liaison/Advisor**
(505) 991-3990
publicsafety@losranchosnm.gov

Maria Rinaldi, Special Projects Manager
mrinaldi@losranchosnm.gov

Parks & Streets Staff
Derrick Aldridge
Mark Garcia
Ramona Carrillo

Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office
NON - EMERGENCY ONLY (505) 798-7000

Greg Perez, Bernalillo County Fire Chief
(505) 977-4834 or gperez@bernco.gov

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 activities, both public and governmental, currently in progress throughout the Village. It is published seven times per year and distributed free of charge to residents and Village businesses. Non-residents and other interested parties may subscribe by contacting Los Ranchos Village Hall at 344-6582. Price, including S/H, is \$20.00 per annum.

ADVERTISING

Please visit our website to download the Village Vision media kit, advertisement request forms, and to view rates, ad dimensions, and deadlines. For more information email magazine@losranchosnm.gov or by calling Village Hall at (505) 344-6582.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Material of general interest about the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque is encouraged. Please submit all communications to the coordinator. Articles should be sent by Word attachment and photographs are best received in jpeg format. To submit material please email magazine@losranchosnm.gov to receive a material submission form.

The Los Ranchos Village Vision takes every precaution to ensure the accuracy of all published works. However, it cannot be held responsible for the opinions expressed or facts supplied herein. Factual inaccuracies brought to the attention of the Village will be corrected, when possible, and in a timely manner. If you wish to notify us of an error, you may contact us at 344-6582 or email us at magazine@losranchosnm.gov.

Editorial Committee

Publication Coordinator & Editor - Jennifer Schilling
Editor- Ann Simon

Find The Village Online

Website
losranchosnm.gov



facebook.com/LosRanchosNM/



twitter.com/LosRanchosNM

Now on Instagram!



[@villageoflosranchos](https://www.instagram.com/villageoflosranchos)

info@losranchosnm.gov

Join the Village Vision Community

The Village
Vision
Magazine is
about the Village,
for Villagers,
by Villagers. We
are looking for
contributors for
photographs,
fresh recipes, and
other feature
stories.

Issue No. 3 will
focus on sunshine!
Have articles and
photos submitted by
March 22, 2022 to be
featured in this issue.

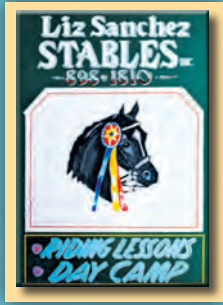
Email [magazine@
losranchosnm.gov](mailto:magazine@losranchosnm.gov) for
more information, or
visit [losranchosnm.gov/
village-vision-magazine](http://losranchosnm.gov/village-vision-magazine)

Contents

- 3** Mayor's Report
- 8** Capital Projects Update
- 10** Highlights from the Los Ranchos Growers' Market - Sue Brawley
- 12** Spring Forward: A new growing season in Los Ranchos - Fergus Whitney
- 16** El Camino Real National Historic Trail (NHT) Development Concept Plan (DCP)
- 18** The Real Estate Market: Why the Low Supply of Homes in the Village - Tim Tourville
- 19** Summary of Residential Property for Sale in the Village of Los Ranchos
- 20** Seed-Saving: A Root in History to Modern Sustainability - Joshua O'Halloran
- 22** Business Highlight: Steel Bender Brewery Celebrates Five Years of Business
- 23** Welcome New Businesses
- 24** The Fitness Column with Lisa Knighton
- 26** The Life Expectancy of an Irrigation System - 505 Outside
- 28** Rediscover the Village: Busted! Pandemic Adventures in Los Ranchos - Dave Bexfield
- 30** Can Art Heal? - Gordene MacKenzie, Los Ranchos Arts Market
- 32** New Business and Economic Development Advisory Committee
- 34** Planning & Zoning Commission Summary Minutes
- 36 & 38** Board of Trustees - Summary of Actions
- 40** Village Adversely Affected by Litter
- 40** Los Ranchos Resident & Historian Publishes Children's Book
- 42** The Middle Rio Grande Community Soil Health Lab is Going Live - Gabriella Coughlin, MRGCD



Coverphoto by Lillian Derwelis, *A Bushtit on Althea Bush*



Time To Unplug & Reconnect

Come Enjoy This Season on Horseback!

For Children & Adults

Visit Our Website for Our Covid-Safe Practices
www.lizsanchezstables.com

505-898-1810

7622 Rio Grande, NW • Albuquerque, NM
All credit cards accepted



Los Ranchos Agri-Nature Center 2022 Spring/Summer Workshop Schedule

All workshops are \$5 unless otherwise stated. You may pay online at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or at the door with cash. Email sapodaca@losranchosnm.gov for questions.

MARCH

- 3/3/22 PROPAGATION WORKSHOP WITH WES BRITTENHAM 2PM
- 3/5/22 FRUIT TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP WITH DR. MARISA THOMPSON 9:30AM
- 3/24/22 CONTAINER GARDENING WITH SELF-WATERING PLANTERS WITH TED SCHREIER 6PM
- 3/26/22 GRAPE PRUNING WORKSHOP WITH DR. GILL GEISE 9:30AM

APRIL

- 4/7/22 SPRING BEEKEEPING WITH JOSHUA O'HALLORAN 6PM
- 4/14/22 HANDS-ON SOIL SCIENCE ACTIVITIES WITH GABRIELLA COUGHLIN 2PM
- 4/23/22 EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

MAY

- 5/5/22 EARTHLY DELIGHTS OF GARDENS WITH WES BRITTENHAM 6 PM
- 5/14/22 SAN ISIDRO DAY CELEBRATION
- 5/19/22 FLOWER GROWING WITH MAXFIELD BERVIG: FARM MANAGER AT LOS POBLANOS 6PM

FRIENDS of
LOS RANCHOS INC.
Preserving Our Village

FIND US,
LIKE US,
JOIN US!



@FriendsofVLR

Capital Projects Update

During the August 25, 2021 Special Board of Trustees' Meeting, the Trustees ranked Road Safety Enhancements as one of its top priorities. Since then, Village staff have been working on several road enhancement safety projects which include pedestrian safety, speed reduction and safely controlling the flow of traffic. Many of these projects have been discussed for years but funding exists today, and the time is right to improve road safety in the Village.



4th Street Pedestrian Crossing Improvements Issues:

- Numerous complaints from pedestrians/businesses about unsafe conditions at cross walks
- Visibility issues with in-pavement lights during daylight
- Inadequacy of signage (size of signs)

Proposed Project: The Village will replace existing signage, install hawk signals at pedestrian crossings, and install 25mph pavement striping.

Guadalupe Trail from Schulte to Los Ranchos Road Issues:

- Numerous complaints about speed
- Numerous complaints about increased traffic
- Increase in pedestrian and bicycle traffic

Proposed Project: The Village will install nine traffic humps on Guadalupe Trail and include a 3-way stop at the intersection of Guadalupe trail and Los Ranchos Road.

Chavez Road from Guadalupe to Rio Grande Issues:

- Increased traffic on Chavez Road
- Numerous complaints about speeders
- Numerous complaints about parking and congestion during events

Proposed Project: The Village will install “No Parking” signs at strategic locations, increase the use of portable speed boards, and crosswalks, and signage at intersections. In addition, the Village has applied to NMDOT for \$470K for the design of trail improvements from 4th Street to Rio

Grande to mitigate many of the issues identified above.

Ranchitos Road from Guadalupe Trail to Rio Grande Issues:

- Numerous complaints about increase in traffic and speeders
- Numerous traffic crashes in the area resulting in injuries and property damage

Proposed Project: install speed humps and signage on the east and west sides of the ditch.

Guadalupe Trail and El Pueblo Intersection Issues:

- Numerous complaints about speeding on El Pueblo
- School bus turning onto Guadalupe Trail before school and turning onto El Pueblo after school
- Congestion before and after school with parents dropping off or picking up children

Proposed project: install a 3-way stop at Guadalupe Trail and El Pueblo along with crosswalks, signage, and portable speed boards.

The Mid Region Council of Governments (MRGCD) conducts traffic counts on main roads throughout the Village of Los Ranchos every few years. The counts help us identify where to allocate resources, especially in corridors where we see an increase in commuter and residential traffic.

Below, please find traffic counts for Village roads from 2018, 2018. 2019, and 2020:

Mid Region Council of Government Traffic Counts:

2010 4th street-21,800, Chavez-3900, Ranchitos- 1600 and El Pueblo-3800

2018 4th Street-14,000, Chavez-4500, Ranchitos-1800 and El Pueblo- 2800

2019 4th Street- 14,100, Chavez-4800, Ranchitos-1800 and El Pueblo- 2800

2020 4th Street-9900, Chavez- 4800, Ranchitos-1300 and El Pueblo- 2100

FLORA



mexican inspired cuisine
now open for full dinner service



inside sawmill market

Wed-Sun 4PM-9PM | 1909 Bellamah Ave. NW, Albuquerque

SawmillMarket.com

Highlights from the Growers' Market

Sue Brawley

Vendor Profile: Randy Shamlian

Randy Shamlian, a long-time Los Ranchos resident with over 30 years experience in the food industry, has been a growers' market vendor since 2008. He is known for his pies, focaccias, fruit crumbles, and fudge. As much as possible Randy uses seasonal market produce in his delicious pastries and breads. If you would like to special order a pastry, call Randy at (505) 401-1724, or email him at randyshamlian@gmail.com.



In addition, Randy is a published author. His first book, a culinary memoir, "A Slice of Apple Pie", that is often times tongue-in-cheek about his life growing up in New Jersey and California and his exposure to a variety of cultural foods which influenced his career choices as a baker, pastry chef and business owner. He is writing a "Murder in the Kitchen" trilogy with the first two books already published: "Deadly Recipe" and "Deadly Essence".

29th Growers' Market Season

The Winter Markets are the 2nd Saturday of each month from December to April from 10 am to noon. Several of the growers will have 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. At the March 12 and April 9 markets one may find various types of greens, root vegetables, dried fruit, honey, eggs, jams/jellies, pies, beef, indoor plants, some seedlings, and herbs. Visit our Facebook page (Los Ranchos Growers' Market) for local product information and to view pictures.

Want to be a Vendor?

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 610-9591 or send an email to montoya4664@hotmail.com.

Randy's Recipe:

In light of the onset of spring and the Easter celebration, Randy thought the following recipe for red chile honey glazed ham would be good. He suggests serving the ham with green-chile cornbread, peas, baby carrots, mashed potatoes and a good pinot noir. And, for dessert a cherry pie might work well.

Red Chile Honey Glazed Ham

- 6 lb. smoked ham (bone-in)
- 1/3 cup red chile
- 1 Tbl sea salt
- 2/3-cup clover honey
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1 Tbl orange zest
- 6 Tbl butter - softened



Preheat the oven to 325°F. In a small bowl, stir together the red chile, sea salt, honey, orange juice and zest. Score the entire length of the ham with 1/2 inch deep and 1/2 inch apart cuts with a sharp knife. Place in baking pan, dab with softened butter and bake by basting every 15 minutes with the red chile honey mixture for 1 1/4 hours until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the thickest part registers 150° F. Remove the ham from the oven and let rest for 10 minutes.





Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque
GROWERS' MARKET

29TH GROWERS' MARKET SEASON

WINTER MARKET
2ND SATURDAYS
DECEMBER
THROUGH APRIL

10AM - 12PM




THE Los Ranchos ART MARKET

Find us on facebook

WINTER MARKET HOURS (January-April)
2nd Saturday of the Month, 10AM to Noon
@ 6718 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Jewelry, Pottery, Origami, Signs, Mosaics, Metal Art,
Wind Chimes, Paintings, Fused Glass, Walking Sticks
Leather, Needlecraft & Fabric Art, Soaps, and more!





PRESCHOOL & GRADES K-5

A Very Smart Start!


Where the love of learning begins.

Accepting Applications for 2022-2023 School Year



Sunset Mesa School
Excellence in Preschool & K-5 Education

505-298-7626 | NE Heights
sunset-mesa.com | Morris & Candelaria



Spring forward: A new growing season in Los Ranchos

Fergus Whitney - SAOL Agriculture Solutions

After a very successful 2021 season for growing and agriculture in Los Ranchos, the water shortage which was expected didn't come to pass. Thankfully we got water up to September. Los Ranchos also had a very successful fruit year with an abundance of apples, peaches, apricots, and many others. On my own farms, I had an abundance of sunflowers, cantaloupe, pumpkins, and tomatoes to mention a few. As we look forward, we see that the issue of water may arise once again, and we need to look at secondary water sources to ensure our crops are successful in 2022. We may look at leaving some of the lands fallow or put in a low water use cover crop. Now is a good time to think ahead and put a plan in place for the eventuality of water being scarce this year. As we look to plan for the new season here are some key considerations.

Water

What does my farm look like if water is a concern this year? Do I have access to a well and have I considered drip irrigation in my budget? If I don't have a well, do I want to bring in water tanks to my farm as a backup. With supply issues in the distribution chain, it was noticeable throughout the year that certain irrigation parts were not as accessible at local irrigation stores. If we continue to see these problems in 2022, do we need to use alternative suppliers who may sell packages that include all irrigation parts needed. This sorts out a lot of the issues and allows for more efficiency when working on the system. Another approach is to continue to support local and become creative developing a system with a can-do attitude. A few episodes of MacGyver may get the mind ready for some problem solving on the farm. Develop your farm plan with low water use crops where you can. Adding compost and mulching may be other ways to hold in the water when watering.

Seeds

We love browsing through the seed magazines to see if there's anything exciting to grow on the farm for the upcoming season. What will set my farm apart from others when it's time to do sales. When considering seeds, my advice is to seed save where possible every season. You are developing a seed that has acclimatized to weather and soil conditions on your land. If that's not possible I recommend some reputable seed companies which have organic non-GMO standards. I am not going to state companies in the article but feel free to reach out for recommendations. This year I will be using a mix of saved



seeds and purchased seeds. I would recommend anyone who must purchase seeds locally or online to do it early as the demand for seeds has increased with more people growing. Another consideration for seeds is whether you are going to do starts in the greenhouse or direct seed into the soil. My farm got off to a late start last year, so I did direct seeding and it worked out great. If doing direct seeding I suggest you do it with the larger seeds or root crops.

Composting

At my farm I have added a compost pile to my infrastructure. I developed it after removing the debris off the fields. I made a brown pile (Carbon) and a green pile (Nitrogen) and then I create a pile in the middle between these two to layer them. At the bottom of the middle pile I put light branches to allow the pile to aerate. Each week I add another layer of both carbon and nitrogen and water it to keep it moist. Each Thursday I use the tractor to turn the pile. Last year I bought a load of compost from a local company. My goal for this season is to use my own which will cut out an additional cost for this season. When the compost is ready in March/April I will add a new layer of compost to the existing beds which is a common method of feeding the soil. A very well-known grower who grows very successfully in Europe says that we don't grow plants, we grow soil and in turn the plants grow because the soil is good. Compost is the farmers gold. I think in New Mexico, we can also say water.

Nature will dictate how our season goes in 2022. I look forward to the blue skies but also hope for rains at night like in 2021, which were a blessing on our fields and crops. Los Ranchos will once again be a hive of activity of all things agriculture.



HERITAGE

HOTELS & RESORTS, INC

RETURN TO TRAVEL



TAOS
El Monte Sagrado Resort & Spa

SANTA FE
Eldorado Hotel & Spa
Inn and Spa at Loretto
Hotel St. Francis
Hotel Chimayó de Santa Fe

The rooftop pool at Eldorado Hotel & Spa in Santa Fe.

ALBUQUERQUE
Hotel Chaco
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town

LAS CRUCES
Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces

877.901.7666 | HHandR.com

Healthy Skin For a Lifetime

Now accepting patients!

Albuquerque's Top Dermatologists

Dermatology of New Mexico's team of medical professionals is here to address all of your skin care needs in a centrally located area of Albuquerque. Our team of doctors and physician assistant has over 30 years of medical experience. Dr. Suraj Reddy and Dr. Shilpa Reddy are both **Albuquerque Journal Readers Choice** recognized "Top Dermatologists" in our community.

Suraj Reddy, M.D. FAAD

Dr. Reddy was born and raised in New Mexico. He specializes in surgical and cosmetic Dermatology and is board certified.



Shilpa Reddy, M.D. FAAD

Dr. Shilpa Reddy is a board certified dermatologist and practices general, surgical and cosmetic dermatology.



Sabrina Johnson, PAC

Sabrina was voted best health care provider in Valencia County and serves as a clinical instructor in the UNM Physician Assistant Program.



Dermatology of New Mexico continues to keep our patients safe during the COVID19 pandemic. We practice all precautions as laid out by the New Mexico Department of Health and CDC to keep you and your loved ones safe when visiting our practice.

Schedule your next appointment today!

505.225.2500

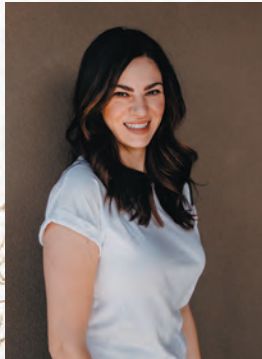


DERMATOLOGY
OF NEW MEXICO

OUR FULL SERVICE CLINIC INCLUDES:

- **Medical Dermatology:** Skin checks, mole checks, mole removal, acne, rashes, psoriasis, eczema, warts
- **Surgical Dermatology:** Skin biopsies, Cryotherapy, and Skin Cancer Surgery
- **Cosmetic Dermatology:** Botox, Filler injections, Microneedling, and laser treatments
- **Esthetic services include:** Facials, Chemical Peels, and Microdermabrasion
- **Skin care products:** Skinceuticals, Latisse, and Elta

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED SKINCARE BOUTIQUE PROUDLY *Pampering* LOS RANCHOS DE ALBUQUERQUE & BEYOND



WAXING | FACIALS
PEELS & MORE



BOOK TODAY!
CELUNASKINCARE.COM
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

@CELUNASKINCARE @CELUNASKINCARE

9300 4TH ST NW
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87114

BODYWORK
by lauren drake



manual and energetic bodywork

MASSAGE
REIKI
CRANIOSACRAL

P: 505-633-5953
WWW.BODYWORKBYLAURENDRAKE.COM

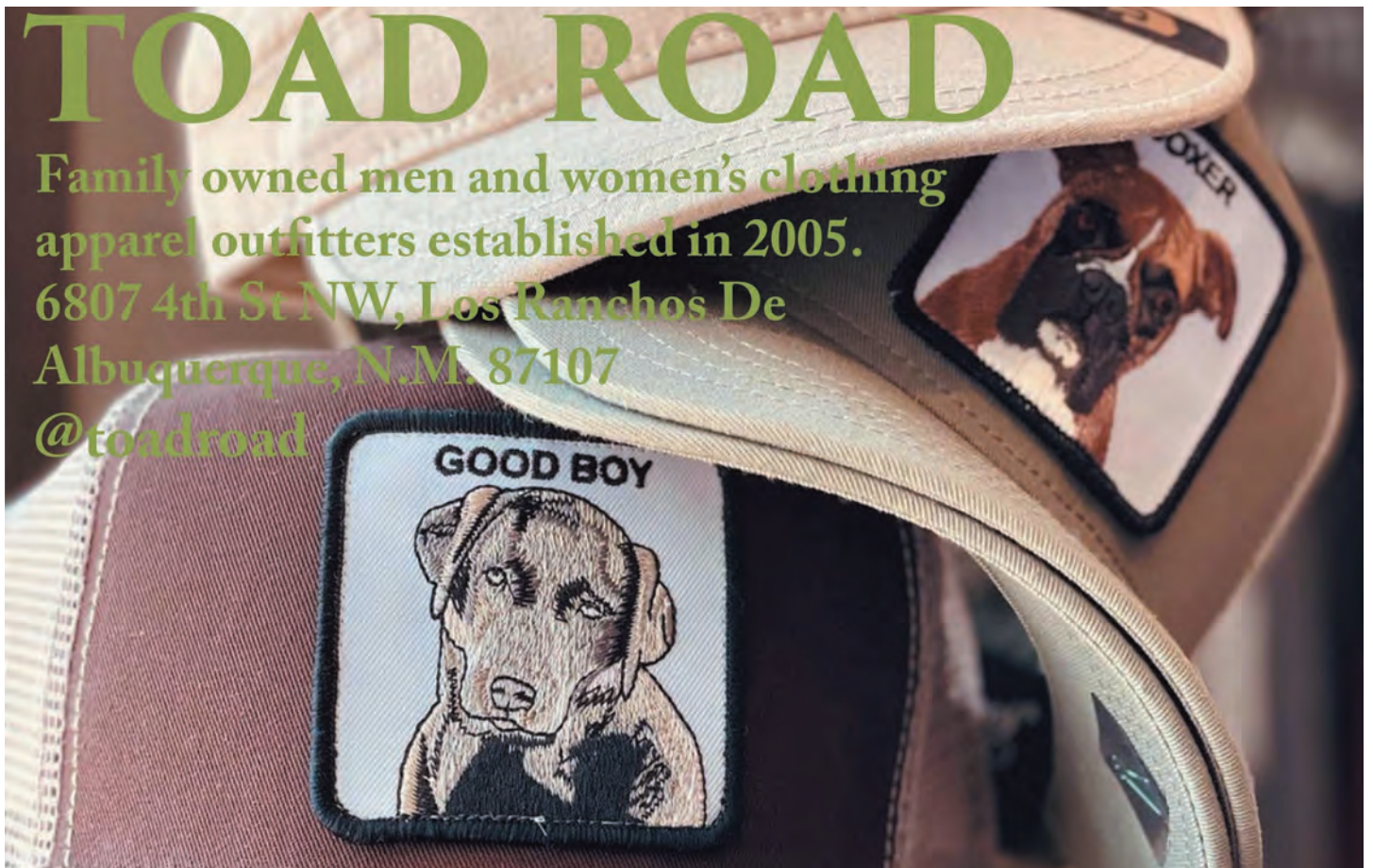
6501 4TH ST NW, SUITE E
LOS RANCHOS DE ALBUQUERQUE

TOAD ROAD

Family owned men and women's clothing
apparel outfitters established in 2005.

6807 4th St NW, Los Ranchos De
Albuquerque, N.M. 87107

@toadroad



El Camino Real National Historic Trail (NHT) Development Concept Plan (DCP)

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, the “Royal Road of the Interior,” is the earliest Euro-American trade route in the United States. Linking Spain’s colonial capital in Mexico City to its northern frontier in distant northern New Mexico, the route spans three centuries, two countries, diverse tribal lands, and 1,600 miles. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro is a refinement of traditional Indigenous trade routes that, with the arrival of Spaniards, grew into an expanded global trade network. Starting in Mexico City, the frontier wagon road brought settlers, priests, soldiers, Indigenous and Mestizo guides, and servants into what is now Texas and New Mexico. Once travelers crossed the arid lands above Ciudad Chihuahua, they followed the wide Rio Grande Valley north, terminating at the sister Pueblo villages of Ohkay Owingeh and Yúngé Owingeh, located at the confluence of the Rio Grande and the Rio Chama. Many of the historic parajes (campsites) and early settlements established by the Spanish colonists in the late 16th and early 17th centuries became the Rio Grande Valley’s modern cities.



Chapel, Los Ranchos, New Mexico, Courtesy of the Palace of the Governors Photo Archives (NMHM/DCA), Negative No. 009546

The story of this trail is about many things to many people, from violence and oppression, to the exchange of goods, practices, and beliefs. All of these stories are essential to the understanding of El Camino Real and its role, for better or worse, in the settlement of the Rio Grande Valley. The designation of El Camino Real as a National Historic Trail speaks to the multicultural connections and interactions, the long-established trade routes, and the coming together of Indigenous, Mexican, Black, Spanish, and other European cultures then and now.

Bernalillo County, City of Albuquerque, Village of Los Ranchos, UNM and other stakeholders have joined with the National Park Service to retrace the Camino Real through the Middle Rio Grande Valley as envisioned in a Development Concept Plan. The project creates an excellent opportunity to showcase the rich history of the Village. The historic alignment follows Rio Grande Boulevard north and south through the Village and along Edith Boulevard on the east side of the North Valley. Opportunities for east and west connections are identified. A number of projects are recommended to be built in and near Los Ranchos to include interpretive elements. These include:

- Accessible walking path along Rio Grande Boulevard with **trail signage**
- Interpretive plaza at Harnett Park
- Trailhead with interpretive signage at Alameda/ Bachechi Open Space
- Trailhead at Shining River Open Space with public art
- Accessible trail along Griegos Drain through Los Poblanos Open Space

For more information on the El Camino Real National Historic Trail plan, go to www.camino-bernc.com.

Harroun, Dorothy. Historical Buildings of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Courtesy of the Fray Angélico Chávez History Library. New Mexico History Museum, Graphics Collection, New Mexico Centennial Project.

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro led to the exploration, conquest, colonization, military occupation, and settlement of a large part of what is now New Mexico and the far western part of Texas. Though the trail is responsible for making a significant contribution to the people, culture, language, and agricultural practices that make up New Mexico’s unique modern-day culture, it was also responsible for the subjugation and enslavement of the region’s Indigenous people. The colonization that occurred along El Camino Real forced the resettlement of many Indigenous communities, suppressed their religion, and oppressed their culture.

WEST

COCKTAIL & WINE BAR



CRAFT COCKTAILS, WINE BY THE GLASS, SMALL SHARE PLATES, & SUNDAY BRUNCH

INSIDE SAWMILL MARKET

WED-SAT 4PM-9PM & SUN 11AM-4PM | 1909 BELLAMAH AVE. NW, ALBUQUERQUE

SAWMILLMARKET.COM

The Real Estate Market

Tim Tourville

Why the Low Supply of Homes in the Village?



Main: 505-292-8900
Cell: 505-604-8468
timtourville@comcast.net



As I'm sure you've noticed, there has been an uncommonly low supply of homes for sale in the Village over the past few years. As I write this, there are only 6 houses listed for sale in the Village; whereas, this same time in 2010 there were over 60 houses listed for sale. Both buyers and sellers are asking me, "Tim, why has it changed?" My answer, "We've seen a lot of change over many years..." and the discussion continues.

Over the past several years, the National Association of Realtors' historical data has shown that homeowners are staying in their homes longer. The average is now nine years, up from four to five years, back around 2010. Relatively speaking, this is a considerable change. Why the change and what is the impact on the market? There are several factors contributing to the inventory change, and unfortunately it has created a perfect storm resulting in an extremely low supply of homes. Here are just a few:

MARKET CRASH of 2008 - In the mid-2000's, home prices took a big hit, reducing the amount of equity in homes throughout the country. Many homeowners were faced with little to no equity, leaving them no choice but to remain in their home. This single event caused the five-year homeownership average to increase.

AGING DEMOGRAPHIC - The length of homeownership among younger families, who typically relocate about every five years has not caught up with older generations, who live considerably longer in their homes.

HOME SIZE - For the last 40 years, the size of homes has

been increasing while family household sizes have been getting smaller. This has reduced the need to keep moving up to larger homes. Many find that after several years of owning the same home, their needs are still satisfied.

LOAN vs EQUITY - Today, some homeowners are not anxious to give up a comfortable loan balance with a good interest rate after having benefited from good appreciation and historically low interest rates. Staying where they are is more appealing.

LACK OF ADEQUATE OPTIONS - Some homeowners who may have an interest in selling are discouraged by the lack of supply of homes to buy and not being able to find a suitable replacement residence.

MORTGAGE QUALIFICATIONS - Today's credit standards are tighter, making qualifying for a mortgage more difficult. Especially for those who need to sell in order to buy another home. When homeowners are less likely to qualify for a new mortgage, they are more likely to have to stay where they are, contributing to the average length of homeownership in the market.

Many factors influence a decision to stay or not stay in your home. If you are considering buying or selling a home, call a real estate professional to help you navigate these waters so you can make a decision best suited to your wants and needs. Next month I will be writing my annual spring article detailing real estate statistics in the Village for a more close to home look at the low supply.



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

Listing Number	Address	Listing Price	Square Feet	BR	BA	G	Lot Acres	Listing Office	Agency Phone	Listing Member
1004862	520 Sandia View	\$895,000	1,692	1	1	0	2.74	NM 24K Real Estate Group, Inc.	(505) 292-2424	Catherine Buck
986592	721 Chavez	\$2,200,000	5,464	3	4	2	2.01	Keller Williams Realty	(505) 690-2225	Feil Cabinet Team
1003106	518 Pueblo Solano	\$1,339,000	5,400	4	5.00	30.00	1.50	EXP Realty LLC	(505) 554-3873	Michelle Mann
1001127	1600 Padre Roberto	\$1,595,000	6,559	6	5.00	3.00	1.00	Sotheby's International Realty	(505) 982-6207	Joshua Goss
1007284	924 Oretga	\$475,000	1,539	4	2	0	0.51	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 292-8900	Timothy Tourville
910246	6930 Rio Grande	\$2,200,000	Vacant Land				6.92	Sotheby's International Realty	(505) 261-6469	Marsha Adams
981897	840 El Pueblo	\$325,000	Vacant Land				1.13	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 269-4076	Richard Jackson
1006982	7108 4th Street	\$420,000	Vacant Land				0.87	Red Sky Realty	(505) 247-3414	George Kantor
981897	840 El Pueblo	\$325,000	Vacant Land				1.13	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 269-4076	Richard Jackson
998155	7221 Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.55	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo
998647	7201 Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.06	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo
998648	7220 Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.56	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo
998646	7200 Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.56	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo

The information herein is deemed reliable, but not guaranteed from SWMLS compiled on or before January 27, 2022 by Tim Tourville, Coldwell Banker Legacy 292-8900.



Morgan Stanley

Park Square Group at Morgan Stanley

Please join us for a Third Thursday market outlook event hosted by and sponsored by Park Square Group:

Dates:

09/16/2021–11:30 a.m.
10/21/2021–11:30 a.m.
01/20/2022–11:30 a.m.
02/17/2022–11:30 a.m.
03/17/2022–11:30 a.m.

Event Location:

RSVP for more information on how to participate

RSVP to:

Jan Frank, Portfolio Associate
505-889-2867
janis.frank@morganstanley.com



Cody Bower

Financial Advisor
6565 Americas Parkway,
Suite 400
Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-889-2886
cody.bower@
morganstanley.com



Rosalind Milloy

Financial Advisor
150 Washington Avenue,
Suite 301
Santa Fe, NM 87501
505-988-7736
rosalind.milloy@
morganstanley.com

Seed Saving: A Root of History to Modern Sustainability

Joshua O'Halloran, Agricultural Program Manager

It is spring! With the warming temperatures and new growth all around us it is time to move some dirt and begin our spring gardens. The U.S. is experiencing a gardening renaissance during this time of the pandemic. Many people have had more time on their hands, realized the short comings within the supply chain and have decided to grow some of their own food, or maybe just started growing food for the therapeutic benefits of gardening and being outside in the dirt. Whatever your reason may be, as you begin your spring garden you are confronted with the question of what plants you should grow this season. In this article I want to delve a little into the seeds that we select and use to grow and the importance of saving seeds and preserving genetic diversity.

Why Save Seeds

1. **Preserve Genetic Diversity:** Saving seeds and the selecting of which seeds to save has largely become the domain of a few large companies in recent years and is no longer done by gardeners and farmers as much as it used to be. This means that we are losing the genetic diversity of seeds that we used to have. The Global Seed Network found loss of genetic biodiversity within a few crops between the years 1903 and 1983. The problem with this is that we may need the traits of a variety we have lost at some point. Whenever we experience a problem within a crop due to changing climate or pest or disease pressure, we go back and look for the genetic material to breed a variety that is resistant to that pest or disease.
2. **Save Money:** Seed purchases can add up fast if you are an avid gardener. If you are saving your own seeds, you can use them again and also trade them with others for the seeds they saved.
3. **Connect with Your Ancestors:** Many varieties have been passed down for

generations within cultures or families. By saving seeds you can preserve some of these varieties and connect with your culture or with the varieties your ancestors have been growing for generations.

4. **Become More Self Reliant:** In troubling and difficult times it is always good to learn new skills, such as seed saving, to become more self-reliant!
5. **Adapt Seeds to Your Garden:** By saving seeds from the best plants in your garden, you can slowly adapt varieties that are best suited for your specific conditions. By selecting seeds from the best plants, you are gradually making improvements and you are selecting for a variety that will be best suited to your soil and climatic conditions.

6. **Help Pollinators:** By allowing plants to flower and go to seed, you are providing flowers with pollen and nectar for all our pollinators out there!

How to Save Seeds

Saving seeds can be very scientific and difficult to do which makes it overwhelming for many people. However, there are some plants from which it is easy to save seeds, and with a few steps you can get started without much difficulty. The first thing you need to know is what kind of plant you have. You need to start with plants that are from open-pollinated and not hybrid seeds. This will ensure that the seed you save will come true and look like the plant that it came from. The other thing to know when you start is which plants can reproduce together. For example, if you have a cucumber and a melon that are the same species, then if you grow them together you can get a cross and the seeds you plant the following year will be a cross between a cucumber and a melon. The second thing you should do is start with easy plants, like peas, beans,

STARTING A LOS RANCHOS SEED LIBRARY

The Village of Los Ranchos would like to start a seed library here at the Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center! If you have any extra seed that are leftover from your plantings or if you are looking for some free seed for your garden then we have some for you! We are taking donations to start a seed collection here with the goal of opening in mid-April. If you are interested in helping out then let us know and happy seed saving!



lettuce, and tomatoes. Those are self-pollinating so that you do not need to isolate them from other crops, and they reliably produce seed. By growing plenty of plants you maintain some genetic diversity and you can harvest from several plants. Lastly, collect your seeds! You want to wait until your plants have matured completely so that the seeds are mature. Then you harvest the seeds by opening dried bean pods or by taking the seeds out of a tomato and drying them on a paper towel. Seeds last best when they are completely dried and then stored in a dark, cool, and dry place.



INTRODUCING

LOCAL NEW MEXICO PRODUCTS
TO **RONDEÑA MARKET PLACE**



THE **RONDEÑA MARKET PLACE** IS EXPANDING!

Featured Items: We are proud to welcome The Chocolatesmith, Heidi's Raspberry Farm and Whoo's Donuts & Bakery, sure to exceed your expectations.



Steel Bender Brewery Celebrates Five Years of Business

March 15, 2017, Steel Bender Brewery opened its doors in the Village of Los Ranchos, but the story of Steel Bender began in the early 1900s. The owners (Brothers Ethan Chant, Chris Chant, and Greg Chant) are third-generation New Mexicans. Their grandfather, Lloyd Chant (Lloyd's 3 O'Clock Kolsch's namesake), came to New Mexico after catching the Spanish Flu; the climate proved beneficial for his health. In the 1930s he worked at electric company, *Huning Electric*, which he later bought and broadened to be a full construction company, *Chant Electric*. "This was during National Prohibition; these hard-working, bright engineers would build small personal distillery systems out of scrap metal found in the construction yard...for their own consumption after a hard day's work", said Shelby Chant, co-owner and Marketing Director. The Chants have continued in construction and commercial development since Lloyd Chant's days, building the first license brewery in the Village.

"In construction, we transform (or bend) cold hard materials, like steel, and hopefully create something beautiful and warm. In brewing, you take simple ingredients (water, grains, hops and yeast) to create a myriad of styles" explained Ethan. The relationship between craft brewing and architecture is evident in the Chant's business. When entering the Brewery, visitors can see the exposed steel, brick, and wood. "The taproom and production brewery buildings are designed to celebrate, not hide, the materials used in construction. We wanted to try to show the beauty in steel, brick, wood and concrete", Ethan said.



Tap Room, 2018



local growers has always been an important part of my decision making in crafting recipes....our barrel aged beers have benefited greatly from the addition of Los Ranchos fruit over the years. Aside from the flavors and aromas normally associated with the various fruits, the ambient microflora contributes to the overall character of the beers through their contribution to the fermentation."

Sourcing locally saves produce from going to waste and builds relationships with farmers and businesses. Working with local orchards Bob says they have been "able to improve the management and harvesting of the apples resulting in some fine, dry cider."

At any one time, Steel Bender Brewery has around 25 beers and ciders made on-site including "seven house beers plus rotating and seasonal beer, barrel-aged beers, the house Steel Bender Cider and heritage ciders," said Shelby. "The business has grown larger and more quickly than we could have imagined. We currently employ about 70 individuals. We are distributing our



beer all across the state in restaurants and in package at retail and grocery locations," said Ethan. Steel Bender also has a full kitchen serving up hearty pub fare, which has earned its own awards.

"Our brand is about paying homage to the hard-working craftsman, builder, teacher, innovator, parent, doctor, artist, farmer... anyone who 'bends steel' each and every day and has earned a quality, hand-crafted 'reward' at the end of the day because they worked

hard, and they worked brilliantly," said Shelby.

The last two years, under the ever-changing sway of the COVID-19 pandemic, have been challenging for every person and business worldwide. "Watching our staff hold each other up has been incredibly rewarding, because it shows that we have done what we set out to do: surround ourselves with enthusiastic, hard-working, strong, agile, creative thinkers. Our 'mantra' these last two years, 'stronger because we're bending steel together' is in our blood," said Shelby. "Our crew has gone above and beyond...They say that hard times reveal someone's true character, and their resilience is extraordinary," said Ethan.

This month marks five years of bending steel as a local brewing company and restaurant. The Chants, Bob Haggerty, and all their team members will be celebrating this accomplishment with their patrons and community March 13-17, 2022.



**BREWED IN THE VILLAGE.
AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT NEW MEXICO.**

Use the BEER FINDER on our website.

8305 2nd St. NW   steelbenderbrewyard.com



sarabande

a little gift can
say a lot

@sarabandehome • 505.344.1253



@sarabandebnb • 505.348.5593

every day is a
chance to say
"you're special"

**Welcome
New
Commercial
Businesses**

NNCT CDL Training
6713 4th Street NW

Luxe Hair Studio
7005 4th Street NW

Arbor Valley, LLC
6145 2nd Street NW

The Hippie Dayz Brew, LLC
Mobile Food Unit at the Growers' Market

Simply Sinful Donuts
Mobile Food Unit at the Growers' Market



The Fitness Column

Lisa Knighton

Let's Talk More About Bones Part Two: Scoliosis

In a recent column, I wrote about osteoporosis and how this bone disorder can affect quality of life, posture, and ease of movement. I shared lots of information about how there are indeed ways to alter the trajectory of osteoporosis through well-designed exercises, balance training, and attention to nutrition and habits. For more information about osteoporosis, please feel free to reach out to me, or you can refer to issue no. 6 of the Village Vision, 2021.

In this column, we'll consider another bone-related disorder, scoliosis, and how it too can impair function and well-being. Scoliosis is a curvature of the spine, and it creates areas of tension or shortness throughout the body while leaving other areas over-lengthened. In other words, the myofascial tissues within the entire body have imbalances in relation to the bones. This imbalance can lead to pain, postural changes, and over time, possibly a change in the shape of the bones.

X-rays can help greatly, giving the trainer or therapist a view into the current placement of the bones in the torso. Also, Body Reading, a technique created by Tom Myers during his development of Anatomy Trains work, may assist with creating exercises. Body Reading is performed by a skilled practitioner trained to notice why the bones and soft tissue are in a curving pattern, allowing for the development of an integration story during treatment.

After the assessment, special tools and specific, well-intentioned exercises are developed for the curves. Both short and long-term strategies can then be used to create a difference in the body. With frequent exercise practice, someone with scoliosis patterns may begin to unwind the spine and restore tensegral relationships in the body. The exercises are often taught in a series of 4-6 sessions and use expansion breath-work, traction, passive corrections with small pads and wedges, and both standing and all-fours core training. Many of these exercises can be incorporated into a home-based routine.

It's important to note that scoliosis can't be cured. However, the frequent use of the exercises can create a greater awareness of the body's form and posture, and if someone is experiencing pain from scoliosis, the exercises may offer some relief.

If you have noticed a change in your posture or if you have scoliosis, consider seeking out the assistance from a practitioner trained to offer exercises using the Schroth Method, or someone trained in other forms of myofascial work.



Scoliosis is often diagnosed in young people, and more often in girls. There are many types of scoliosis, but for the purpose of this article I'm going to focus on DLS, Degenerative/Adult Lumbar

Scoliosis. This form of scoliosis occurs in over 35% of older adults, some beginning around the age of 50, and the percentage of those affected rises with increasing age.

Without delving into the specifics of diagnosing scoliosis, there are current therapy methods that may be helpful, many based on the exercises created by Katharina Schroth beginning in the 1920s, and later in her clinic. These exercises are now widely known as the Schroth Method. Today, practitioners use Schroth exercises to assist with unwinding the curves of scoliosis and restoring the tensegral relationships of the bones and the soft tissue.

Think about the curves in scoliosis and where they occur—they're sideways or lateral curves, or curves that are in the frontal plane. Consider, too, that soft tissues are often involved in maintaining the position of the skeletal geometry. Before starting on a journey of adding exercises for improving scoliosis, assessing current posture is necessary, and current

Lisa, CEO of AtHomeBeFIT, ACE certified personal trainer, and Gen Xer, seeks to improve how the world ages with her exercise programs, both in-person and live-streaming. She's known for her methods, which change the lives of women who are dedicated to improving their fitness and overall health. When she's not teaching, she's tending to her 36 chickens, reading, or walking along the ditches of the North Valley. She can be reached at Lisa@athomebefit.com

Spring on the farm

There's nothing quite like the way spring awakens our little corner of the North Valley. As the days lengthen ever so slightly and our dedicated farmers germinate vegetables, herbs and flowers in the greenhouse, there are countless ways to enjoy this magical season with us.

Our tranquil property embraces a philosophy that celebrates a balance of wellness, indulgence and relaxation for optimal living. From seasonal spa treatments and award-winning menus to our beautifully-appointed guest rooms and calendar full of stimulating cultural experiences, you're sure to find restoration and inspiration on the farm. Visit lospoblanos.com for additional details and to reserve.

photo: Maura Jane Photography



LOS POBLANOS
HISTORIC INN & ORGANIC FARM



**CREATING
AMAZING
RESULTS FOR
OUR CLIENTS,
COLLEAGUES
AND COMMUNITY.**

- Retail
- Office
- Industrial
- Multifamily
- Investment
- Property Management

**Serving Los Ranchos de
Albuquerque
and the Greater
Albuquerque Area.**

**Inquire to learn more.
Walt Arnold, CCIM,
SIOR
505-269-9358
www.waltarnold.com**

The Life Expectancy of an Irrigation System

While a subsurface drip irrigation system can last from twelve to fifteen years, especially if it is maintained well, some of the system's components may need to be replaced or repaired through the years.



A controller, for example, is subject to UV degradation

if it is installed outside. Controllers need to be properly sealed and monitored for any inside moisture that can corrode the system's components. Older controllers (pre-2000) can be difficult to set and have limited choices for how to water, which can make watering inefficient when using these controllers. Since Water Sense Smart Technology controllers are more efficient, we recommend switching to this technology. We offer rebates to help you make that upgrade.

Drip irrigation tubing is also known to degrade when exposed to UV light. According to landscape professionals in the Albuquerque area, you can expect the tubing to last for about ten years if it is buried. If tubing is placed on the surface of the ground, it generally won't last a decade due to several factors, including exposure to UV light and an increased risk of freezing and splitting.

Emitters have various lifespans. Button emitters tend to clog less but need replacement when that happens. Flag emitters clog more often from mineralization but can be flushed.

Another reason for emitter and drip line failure is damage from humans, dogs, rabbits, ground squirrels and pack rats.

Regular maintenance is the best way to increase the lifespan of an irrigation system. For our free irrigation checklist to help keep your system in tip-top shape visit <https://www.505outside.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Irrigation-Maintenance-Checklist-2021.pdf>

Author: Richard Perce, Irrigation Efficiency Specialist with the Water Conservation Department for the Water Authority.



ALWAYS ON TOP OF IT

NATIONAL ROOFING

RESIDENTIAL DIVISION

COMMERCIAL QUALITY
ROOFS NOW AVAILABLE TO
NEW MEXICO HOME OWNERS.

LOCAL COMPANY. NATIONAL NAME.

nationalroofing.com

505.883.3000

Rediscover the Village

Dave Bexfield

Busted! Pandemic Adventures in Los Ranchos

By the time you read this, it will have been a full two years that we Villagers have been coping with Covid-19. As the virus winds down—IT'S REALLY WINDING DOWN THIS TIME, RIGHT?!—I thought I'd reflect on my own rollicky pandemic adventures. And then, as I added up all the times that I had ventured outside our comfortable little community of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, it dawned on me that this column might only be a few sentences long. Number of times I've left the state: zero. Dined at a restaurant not named Campo at Los Poblanos: zero. Crossed into the seedy* hamlet of Corrales: zero. Heck, I've contracted more urinary tract infections in the past two years than the number of times I've ventured outside the metro area. (Okay, I've had a lot of UTIs lately, but that's an unbelievable story for another day.) It's been virtually ALL Los Ranchos ALL the time. Which has worked out, predictably, rather brilliantly....



literally. The betrothed had misplaced the marriage license! Thankfully, after an exhaustive search, it turned up in the least likely of places: the dresser drawer where it was stashed away for safe keeping. (Although I do not hold any other powers in this department, I do enjoy calmly taking the hands of two unsuspecting, unwed friends and watching their eyes bulge when I solemnly intone, "By the power vested in me..." Never. Gets. Old.)

Then there was Laura's 50th birthday party, which turned out to be a genuine surprise as Delta had canceled the catered celebration... that is before I sneakily resurrected it, only it was now BYO everything (including your own folding chairs) with a guest list that had been ruthlessly trimmed. To avoid looking like even more of a skinflint than Montgomery Burns to those who were ultimately invited, I arranged for something appropriately over the top: a full-on flamenco show. In our driveway. Under the stars. Floodlit, with amplified music. And to preserve the surprise, no neighbors were warned.

So that's how the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department became part of our household's pandemic lore. You know you've thrown a successful party if the cops were called to your home when you live in such a bucolic, peaceful place as Los Ranchos. (Note: No laws were actually violated and no one spent the night in hoosegow.) Next time, though, I promise to invite our wonderful neighbors! It is another brilliant day in the Village.

*Corrales grows lots of vegetables and stuff, which are produced from seeds, hence "seedy." Profuse apologies if anyone from Corrales misinterpreted that statement and took offense.

Photos by Laura Bexfield



My wife Laura and I have never spent so much time outdoors at our home, ever. And thankfully, friends and family have been amenable to joining socially distanced backyard gatherings (it doesn't hurt that we live in the middle of the country in the middle of the city). All told, we've entertained more than 50 guests, some dozens of times.

For conversation. For games. For convoluted, made-up games that involve alcohol—specifically suspect, dusty bottles of alcohol that had been left untouched for years, unearthed only because "someone" wanted to clean out the "godforsaken" pantry to take advantage of one of our 104 free weekends. Hence, "Rotgut Roulette" was born out of necessity.

There have been other memorable highlights, like the outdoor wedding on our back patio, complete with the requisite wedding drama, made even more pressing as I was the officiant. Gulp. It nearly went without a hitch,

Loyall Life® Super Premium Pet Food is expertly formulated, wholesome nutrition.
NO CORN, WHEAT OR SOY.



Feed your dog the very best with Nutrena's Loyall Life.® Find it at Dan's!

SERVING NEW MEXICO'S
 WESTERN WEAR AND
 TACK NEEDS SINCE 1953
 (505) 345-2220



6903 4TH STREET NW
 LOS RANCHOS DE ALBUQUERQUE
 (4TH JUST NORTH OF OSUNA)

Precision
 LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING
 Los Ranchos, New Mexico
 Full Service Property Maintenance
 Residential / Commercial
Based in Los Ranchos

- Fertilization / Weed Control
- Sprinklers / Irrigation
- Licensed & Insured
- Mowing / Edging

*Best price on monthly maintenance
 GUARANTEED!*

505-350-3040
 precisionlawnabq@outlook.com

HOME ALONE PETSITTING



MOLLY

-Licensed-Bonded-
 -Insured-
505.730.4358
 abqhomealone.com

Can Art Heal?

Gordene MacKenzie

Current research on Art and healing confirms that making art reduces anxiety and stress levels, improves the mind and body connection, and reworks established neural pathways creating new ways of thinking, seeing and experiencing. Employing expressive Art in health and healing has proven to benefit patients, their caretakers, and their families. The simple act of viewing art has been found to promote health and healing. You don't have to be an artist to reap the benefits.

Los Ranchos Art Market Winter Hours January through April are the second Saturday of every month from 10:00 am to noon.

Paula Ness

New Mexico native Paula Ness, a former art teacher at APS, is a jeweler who casts parts of nature. Southwest plants are her muse. Each of her unique designs, cast in sterling silver, has a name that sounds like poetry. Goat-head Earrings, Sunflower Pendant, Grapevine Tendril Ring, Calendula Seed Pod Pendant, Yucca Pod Pendant, Hoya Wax Plant Flower Bracelets, and the Grapevine Tendril Elm Twig Pendant "Out-on-a-Limb." Inspired by photographs of botanicals while a student at UNM in the 90s, Paula took a small metals jewelry class and fell in love with the process of making jewelry. She continued to learn jewelry fabrication, and then took a Casting class, and learned the process of casting wax objects, leading to her experiments with 'organic casting.' "Once I started the process of casting real flowers, twigs, tendrils, and pods...it became an obsession...the more I cast, the more I wanted to cast!" In the casting process the real flower, twig, tendril or pod is burned out creating a cavity that is filled with molten sterling silver. After undergoing cooling and cleaning, the original organic form is replicated by an exquisite, textural, sterling silver "cast," which Paula transforms into necklaces, pendants, earrings, bracelets, rings and more.



Ashley Ward

Ashley Ward has been drawing longer than she can remember. She loves the sound of the pen scratching on paper. A busy homeschooling mom of three, her art is her go-to therapy and meditation. "Regardless of how hectic my life gets, I always feel settled when I sit down to create." Ashley finds inspiration for her art in nature, geography, and her own experiences. Her beautiful pieces evolve from complex ideas or images that she filters down to a simple set of lines. Working in black and white allows her to focus on what is essential and remove the excess. Ashley describes her art as "minimalist that evokes themes of peace and harmony." After drawing an image, she uses wood carving tools to create a block stamp for printing. She then inks and presses the stamp onto fabric and paper to transfer the image. She creates functional art pieces that inspire an appreciation of nature. Whether it is a T shirt with the Sandia mountains and the river, tote bags with ponderosa pines, or greeting cards and journals with a map of Los Ranchos or an image of the volcanoes, Ashley says, "It's very important to me that my art is both beautiful and useful." Her hope is that when someone purchases a piece of her art it will bring the calming effects of art and nature into their lives.

Family Law Experts

PROUDLY SERVING THE LOS RANCHOS COMMUNITY
IN ALL AREAS OF DIVORCE AND FAMILY LAW



TERRY &
DE GRAAUW
FAMILY LAW FIRM

1801 Rio Grande Boulevard NW, Suite B
Albuquerque, NM 87104
P: (505) 206-5044
F: (505) 206-5048
www.tdgfamilylaw.com

Unmatched visual appeal.
Unrivaled choices...



Builder, Modern Dwellings LLC

Photo is courtesy of Etherdox Photography by Pam Christison



PLEASE VISIT OUR SHOWROOM:
314 El Pueblo Rd. NW
Los Ranchos de Albuquerque
505.897.9985
www.pinonwindow.com

...with Andersen Architectural
Collection wood windows & doors.

- 50 Standard Exterior Clad Colors
- Custom Sizes and Colors
- 8 Factory Applied Interior Stains
- Full Service Department
- Excellent Product Warranties



"Andersen" and the AC logo are registered trademarks of Andersen Corporation

COVID-19 Tests Available

The Village of Los Ranchos is offering free at-home COVID tests to its residents (limit two kits per household). Please stop by Village Hall to pick up your tests. Limited quantities, first come first serve. Masks are required.



COFFEE TEA
ESPRESSO
PASTRIES
BREAD
SPECIAL ORDER
CAKES & PIES



6920 Fourth Street NW
505-859-4727
LosRanchosBakery.com

New Business and Economic Development Advisory Committee

The Village held the first meeting of a new Business and Economic Development Advisory Committee on January 19, 2022. The meeting was very productive and positive with the intent to find ways to boost up 4th Street and businesses in the Village. The discussion among the participants was how to creatively increase visibility of Los Ranchos, create a destination for 4th Street businesses, embrace the rural character of the Village and lean into its eclectic authenticity and imperfections. The group discussed tangible ways to do this including:



- Create/order better signage/directions to Los Ranchos.
- Develop marketing material—a story, perhaps, on what makes Los Ranchos unique.
- Promote a regular event—like a weekly/monthly food truck night at the 4th Street parking lot, or movies/music events in the park and elsewhere, or parades—like the low rider parade.
- Marry the rural nature of Los Ranchos with 4th Street through AgriTourism.
- Market 4th Street as “North Fourth.”
- Work to create paper and/or digital (downloadable) hikes/walks/horseback rides/experiences.
- Encourage Los Ranchos businesses and residents to support Los Ranchos businesses and use Los Ranchos services whenever possible.
- Help recruit micro businesses to the new Village Center.
- Look for resources to do business development through the National League of Cities, NM Municipal League, NM True, and other resources.

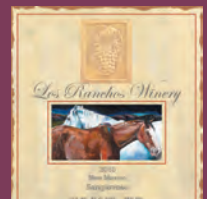
The Committee will gather again in mid-March. To participate, please contact Ann Simon at asimon@losranchosnm.gov.



Celebrating 20 years in Los Ranchos
Pottery • Classes • Wine • Food

KELLYJODESIGNS.COM/KELLYJODESIGNSBYWINE.COM

505-341-1893



MELISSA
Forster

Meet The
WINEMAKER

**SCAN AND
WATCH
VIDEO**



Discover how Melissa dedicates her talent to craft award-winning wines. This spotlight reveals her passion as one of New Mexico's premier winemakers.

901 RIO GRANDE BLVD. NW | (505) 317-3998
LESCOMBESWINERY.COM | f i t



Planning & Zoning Commission

Commissioners:

Commissioner Drew Seavey, Chair
Commissioner Dan Gay, Vice Chair
Commissioner Karen Christensen
Commissioner JT Michelson
Commissioner Shelleen Smith
Commissioner Connie Barrow

Staff:

Tiffany Justice – Planning & Zoning Director
Ann Simon – Village Administrator
Jennifer Schilling – Records Info. Manager
Nann Winter – Village Attorney
Kiko Jeanette - IT Specialist

*Meetings held by Zoom Video Conferencing
Streamed on www.losranchosnm.gov, Facebook, and Zoom*

January 11, 2022 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m., January 11, 2022 via Zoom video conference, by Chairman Drew Seavey. A quorum was present. The agenda was approved unanimously (6-0) by roll call vote. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously (6-0); no changes were made to the December 14, 2021 minutes. There were no speakers for the public comment period.

Public Hearings:

- A. V 22-01 A request by Roger & Georgia Eaton for a Variance from §9.2.25(E)(1)(b)1 “Bed and Breakfast establishments must be operated by the property owner or otherwise authorized resident, living on site” to allow for off-premises operators for a Bed & Breakfast in the A-1 Zone in the North Rio Grande Character Area was approved with conditions (4-2, with Commissioners Gay and Christensen voting against the motion).
- B. BB 22-01 A request by Roger & Georgia Eaton for a Bed & Breakfast Permit as allowed by §9.2.25(E)(1) in the A-1 Zone in the North Rio Grande Character Area was approved (5-1, with Commissioner Gay voting against the motion).
- C. SDP 21-01 A request by Matthew Herrera for preliminary review and recommendation to the Board of Trustees of a Commercial Site Development Plan for a development in the GD zone in the Fourth Street Character Area. A motion was approved (6-0) to forward the application to the Board of Trustees with recommendation of approval with conditions.

New Business: There was no New Business

Old Business: There was no Old Business.

Reports: Director Tiffany Justice presented the Planning & Zoning Department Report.

Informal Discussion: Commissioners held informal discussion.

Adjournment: Chairman Seavey adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

The February Regular Meeting was Cancelled.

The next Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2022.

ARE YOU READY FOR SPRING!

CALL PLUMA CONSTRUCTION TODAY!

(505) 345-0755

BATHROOMS,
KITCHENS,
OUTDOOR LIVING,
METAL BUILDINGS



CARPORTS, PATIOS,
FLOORS,
OUTDOOR AND INDOOR
FIREPLACES,
CABINETS

LOCAL, NORTH VALLEY CONTRACTOR
NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL
REMODEL OR GROUND-UP

WWW.PLUCYS.COM



MENTION THIS AD
VILLAGE RESIDENTS 5% DISCOUNT
VETERANS 10% DISCOUNT

Same cooler,
Luxury Living

Roadrunner Comfort™



made in Los Ranchos NM

Add Continuous Comfort
to your swamp cooler
in minutes!

RoadrunnerComfort.com

Board of Trustees - Summary of Actions

*Meetings held by Zoom Video Conferencing
Streamed on www.losranchosnm.gov, Facebook, and Zoom*

Board of Trustees Special Meeting, October 6, 2021

1. Mayor Lopez called the special meeting to order at 4:00p.m.

2. Roll Call: Trustee Rael- present, Trustee Lewis-present, Trustee Pacheco-present, Trustee Riccobene-visibly present, (audio connection issue).

3. Approval of the Agenda. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-nonverbal affirmation; for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

4. Presentations:

- A. Nann Winter, Village of Los Ranchos Attorney
- B. Mel Eaves, ESQ.
- C. Katy Duhigg, State Senator District 10

5. New Business

A. DISCUSSION WITH CONSIDERATIONS RELEVANT TO THE CANNABIS REGULATION ACT AND THE IMPACT ON THE VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS DE ALBUQUERQUE. PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 282; AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 273; REGULATING THE GROWTH, SALE, AND PRODUCTION OF RECREATIONAL CANNABIS AND CANNABIS PRODUCTS PURSUANT TO THE CANNABIS REGULATION ACT OF 2021.

- A. OPTION 1: PROHIBITED IN RESIDENTIAL; ONLY RETAIL SALE IN COMMERCIAL
- B. OPTION 2: PROHIBITED IN RESIDENTIAL; REGULATED IN COMMERCIAL
- C. OPTION 3: REGULATED IN RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL

Public Comment:

- Peter Weinreb, 6509 Poza Rica Ct. NW, Los Ranchos
- Santiago Aceves, MArch, Realtor, 5112 Drake Ct NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114
- Jessica Beecher (No address listed) jessica@selectnm.com; Owner | Broker C. 505.401.9633/O. 505.265.5111, RE/MAXSELECTNM.COM
- Seth Beecher (No address listed), Seth@selectnm.com; Director of Opportunity C. 505-710-5095/O. 505-265-5111, RE/MAXSELECTNM.COM
- Michael Byrd, (No address listed) byrd137@icloud.com

No action was taken-informational meeting only.

6. Trustee Informal Discussion

7. Mayor Lopez adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, October 13, 2021

1. Mayor Lopez called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call: Trustee Rael- present, Trustee Lewis-present, Trustee Pacheco-present, Trustee Riccobene- present.

3. Approval of the Agenda. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

4. Public Comment: Camille Varoz, 427 El Paraiso Road NW, Los Ranchos, Jerry Dixon, 801 El Alhambra Circle NW, Los Ranchos

5. Presentations: None

Continued on Page 38

For complete set of previously approved minutes please visit losranchosnm.gov/boardoftrusteesmeetings



The sexy way to treat **sleep apnea & snoring**

While it can be scary to receive a **sleep apnea** diagnosis, the good news is that it's treatable. And for most, treatment makes an enormous difference in the way they feel, both mentally and physically.

22 million Americans suffer from **sleep apnea**, a sleep disorder in which your **breathing pauses** for 10 to 20 seconds anywhere from 5 to 100 times per night. Other symptoms: **snoring, morning headaches, daytime drowsiness and headaches.**

OPTISLEEP is a custom-designed oral appliance prescribed by your dentist to treat snoring or mild/moderate obstructive **sleep apnea**. It is also recommended for patients with more severe **OSA** who are unable or unwilling to tolerate **CPAP** therapy and/or surgery. The two-piece appliance is designed to prevent apneas by keeping the upper airway open. The lower jaw is moved forward comfortably to relax the tissue at the back of the throat and prevent the base of the tongue from collapsing and blocking the airway.

Custom

Digital design ensures high level of accuracy, no impressions needed.

Effective

90% of patients reported improvements regarding a reduction of snoring and apneas.

Durable

Lightweight and extremely durable material.

Comfortable

Extremely slim design is especially comfortable to wear.

Free Movement

Allows mouth to open and close naturally.

Compact

Stores easily in a small pocket size case ideal for home and travel.

Superior Quality

Is a Class II Medical device manufactured using the highest quality materials and 510(k) cleared.

Feeling better is one call away!



LoPOUR & ASSOCIATES DDS
SMILES BY DESIGN
smilesbydesign.biz
505.298.7475



5110 Masthead St NE, Suite A, Albuquerque, NM 87109 | Check Us Out On Social Media!



6. Consent Agenda:

A. Minutes-August 25, 2021; Special Meeting

B. Minutes-September 8, 2021; Regular Meeting - Trustee Rael moved to approve the Consent Agenda with a correction to A. August 25, 2021, page 11 of 156 the vote should reflect 3-1, not 3-0. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

7. Departmental Reports

A. Mayor's Report, B. Administrator's Report, C. Agri-Nature Center Manager's Report, D. Planning And Zoning Director's Report, E. Project Manager's Report, F. Public Safety Liaison's Report

8. Financial Business

A. Discussion And Approval of Cash Report-October 2021

Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

9. Public Hearing: None

10. Old Business

A Chad Rennaker, Palindrome Communities, Village Center Update.

11. Announcements

A. 2021 Regular Local Election Information.

12. New Business

A. Discussion And Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 282; An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No. 273; Regulating The Growth, Sale, And Production of Recreational Cannabis And Cannabis Products Pursuant to The Cannabis Regulation Act Of 2021. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Written Comments received from the following residents: Peter Weinreb, 6509 Poza Rica Court, NW, Los Ranchos Mel and Mary Ann Eaves, 721 Chavez Road NW, Los Ranchos

Verbal comment from the following residents: Camille Varoz, 427 El Paraiso Road NW, Los Ranchos, Randy McKee, 749 Chavez Road NW, Los Ranchos, Loretta Chavez Smith, 536 Chavez Road NW, Los Ranchos, Mel Eaves, 721 Chavez Road NW, Los Ranchos

Mayor Lopez asked Trustee Pacheco how she would like to proceed with the motion.

AMENDED MOTION: Trustee Pacheco amended her motion to defer approval of Ordinance No. 282 to the next meeting in November 2021. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

B. Discussion And Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 283; An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of The Village of Los Ranchos De Albuquerque, New Mexico General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

C. Discussion And Approval of Resolution No. 2021-10-01; Participation In State Of New Mexico Department of Transportation Fund 89200 Capital Appropriation Project. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

D. Discussion And Approval of Resolution :32 p.m. No. 2021-10-02; Participation In Transportation Project Fund Program Administered By New Mexico Department of Transportation. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

E. 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. 1.)Connie Barrow

Verbal comment from the following resident:

Loretta Chavez Smith, 536 Chavez Road NW, Los Ranchos

Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene for; **Motion Carried 4-0.**

13. Trustee Informal Discussion

14. Mayor Lopez adjourned the meeting at 9:32 pm

For complete set of previously approved minutes please visit losranchosnm.gov/boardoftrusteesmeetings



CURIOUS

About Albuquerque Academy?

Hear from Anna and other Academy students.



“When I step onto campus, I feel elated. I know I have multiple people who will support me.”

~Anna '26

Albuquerque Academy students are defined by their curiosity. They are eager to learn. They question, engage, and challenge. They lead, solve, and invent, and they have endless opportunities to explore. Find out how your child's curiosity can benefit from our community at aa.edu/admission.

It's not too late to explore admission.

Visit aa.edu/admission.
(505) 828-3208 | Grades 6-12



ALBUQUERQUE
ACADEMY

Village Adversely Affected by Litter

In just 4.4 square miles, the Village of Los Ranchos contains a robust agricultural scene and a thriving commercial corridor along 4th Street. The Village is bounded by the City of Albuquerque and Unincorporated Bernalillo County. There are alpacas grazing along the same road as busy antique shops. With all this activity, trash and debris can become loose and cause a myriad of problems from unsightly distractions to harmful contaminants. According to Toss No Mas NM “45% of litter is accidental and comes from debris falling off trucks or other unsecured loads.”¹

Loose trash and debris have been reported and seen in the Village. Last October a resident called Animal Control concerning a snake that was caught in loose garden mesh. The snake was a Red Racer (or Coachwhip) snake; one of the fastest snakes in the US,

with speeds up to 10 miles per hour². This snake had found itself trapped in the mesh, and likely out of fear, wove itself deeper until it could not move. Its skin was rubbed raw, and for the fastest snake in the US, it was defeated and lethargic. It took Dominic Tomba, animal welfare officer, and Mark Garcia, a member of the maintenance crew, nearly half an hour to remove the mesh from the animal. This is only one example of how trash and debris can harm wildlife.

Other risks to wildlife caused by trash and debris in the Village include animals

eating plastics mistaken for seeds or smaller bugs, and unsafe terrain caused by broken glass or shards of metal. You can help protect animals, both wild and domesticated, from unintentional harm caused by litter. If you see litter, pick it up and throw it away, or call our office and let us know so we can help. A clean home for us and a clean home for nature brings our unique urban and rural community into better harmony.

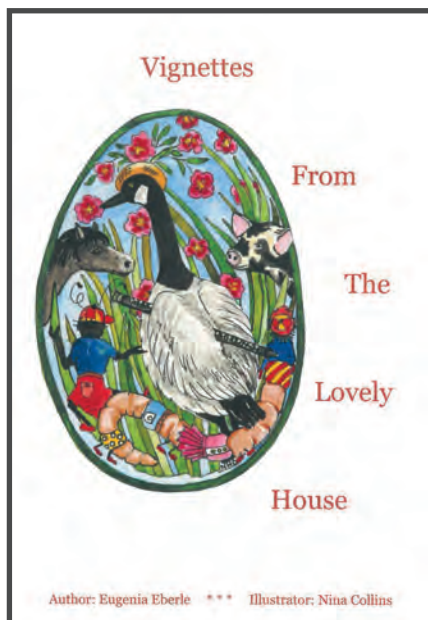


To reach Animal Control or Facilities Maintenance, call (505) 344-6582.

¹ tossnomasnm.com/#trashfacts

² aaanimalcontrol.com/blog/fastestsnake.html

Los Ranchos Resident & Historian Publishes Children's Book



Eugenia Eberle, a long-time resident of the Village of Los Ranchos, and Nina Collins of Bryn Mawr, PA were friends in middle school 65 years ago. Recently reunited, they came together to write and illustrate *Vignettes From the Lovely House*. The children's book highlights ten true stories about animals with an emphasis on education.

Eugenia began her stories after an invasion of ants in her kitchen required intervention from a pest control company. “As a writer, my thoughts became alive with a possible story,” said Eugenia, “Then one story after another began to materialize.” Eugenia’s home and experiences in Los Ranchos inspired many of the stories in *Vignettes From the Lovely House*, including *Gaggle Geese*, *The Two Colts*, *Rennie*, *Edgar*, *The Bale of Turtles*,

and *The Warren of Rabbits*. Each of the stories were written to teach young readers new words, art appreciation, and bits of wisdom.

Prior to moving to New Mexico and her work as a local historian, she lived in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with her husband, Charlie. Charlie was Chief of Orthopedics at the King Faisal Specialist Hospital between 1976-1982. Afterwards the Eberle’s moved to Illinois, then Albuquerque, and finally Los Ranchos.

Eugenia has a Master’s degree in Public History. She currently serves as the historian for Caballero South neighborhood in the Village, which was founded fifty years ago by the late balloonist Maxie Anderson. *Vignettes From the Lovely House* is available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

Not what to think. How to think.

A blend of contemporary and traditional education allows students to think creatively, critically, and without limits.



SANDIA  PREP

Apply today at sandiaprep.org

Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy Sandia Preparatory School shall admit students of any race, color, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial aid and loan programs, and other school-administered programs.

BUILD YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Explore our flexible, dynamic, and innovative K-12 summer programs, which continue to be voted best in Albuquerque.

Register today! bosqueschool.org

2018 2019 2020 2021

Albuquerque READERS' CHOICE WINNER
Albuquerque READERS' CHOICE WINNER
Albuquerque READERS' CHOICE WINNER
Albuquerque Journal READERS' CHOICE WINNER

BOSQUE SUMMER

The Middle Rio Grande Community Soil Health Lab is Going Live

Gabriella Coughlin, MRGCD Agronomist/Agroecologist

For those of you following the buzz around the new soil health laboratory (lab) located at the Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center, we have some exciting news to share.

Starting Saturday, March 26th, the Middle Rio Grande Community Soil Health Lab will be open to the public for soil, water, compost testing services, and more. You can find the complete list of services, pricing, and hours of operation at www.mrgcd.com.

What is a Soil Health Lab?

The Community Soil Health Lab is here to raise awareness about the science of soils, and the critical roles these soils play in agriculture, food and water quality, climate change, ecosystem health, and our everyday lives. Through our regional testing and assessment services, we help gardeners, farmers, ranchers, and the everyday person better understand how to use and manage their soils.

Why are we starting this laboratory?

Since the closure of New Mexico State University's soil testing lab several years ago, New Mexicans have been shipping their soil samples out of state to various labs across the country. Every sample has come back with different report formats, recommendations, and charts that are hard to translate into action, especially for our unique valley growing conditions. As a result of this, we do not have a good understanding of the health of our soils and how to improve them.

As interest in soil health and conservation grows in Central New Mexico, a group of dedicated partners, researchers, neighbors, and friends are leveraging their time, talents, and resources to bring soil health home to

all Middle Rio Grande Valley (MRGV) residents.

What makes this Soil Health Lab different than others?

Well, our name for one. While "The Middle Rio Grande Community Soil Health Lab" isn't your typical snappy company name; it does, however, pack a punch to the traditional soil lab model, and here's why.

It's not a business. It's a community service supported by a network of public and private partners who work on behalf of the communities they serve, including the Village of Los Ranchos, the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, Coronado, Ciudad, Valencia, Socorro Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and New Mexico State University.

While we will accept samples from landowners outside of the MRGV, the lab's primary focus is on understanding the soils of the MRGV, how our soils function physically, chemically, and biologically and how that translates into greater watershed resilience and nutritious foods for our unique ecosystem.

To make soils and agricultural sciences more accessible, we will conduct monthly grower workshops on how you can perform your own soil health assessments, collect soil samples, and other essential field measurements. Think of these workshops as soil health and fitness boot camps. Workshop participants will have access to the tools, tips, and tricks to create healthy soils on their own farmland or backyard.

As more people become engaged in tracking and improving the health of their soils, we, in turn, will build a stronger body of knowledge that

our communities can leverage into increased funding, tools, and resources that address our often underserved needs.

Next is the "Lab" portion of our name. Most people associate labs with stuffy white lab coats, mundane tasks, and sterile environments. Good news is, this lab will not be like that.

This lab will be a place where hands get dirty and science and common-sense solutions come to life. Our principal success metric will be how well we serve our Middle Rio Grande Valley communities. Your success is our collective success. Period.

We are committed to making this lab an aspirational reflection of the diverse people and soils we serve. And like our soils, we want our people to be healthy, happy, resilient, and supported.

What you can expect from this lab

- Access to grower-focused information and solutions
- Accurate soil health testing
- Timely turnaround of results
- Career exploration and training
- Hands-on exhibits and demonstrations

All of this might sound like a tall order to fill for a first-of-its-kind program, but we are constantly amazed by the people who choose to show up for New Mexico soils and agriculture. We know you will too.

For more information on the lab and how you can get involved, contact Gabriella Coughlin, MRGCD Agronomist/Agroecologist, at soilhealth@mrgcd.us.

for sale

721 CHAVEZ ROAD

Listed Price: \$2,200,000

5,464 sq, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms

homes on



- **Hardwood Floors**
- **Plantation Shutters**
- **High Ceilings**
- **All Bedrooms En-Suite**
- **Situated on 2 Acres**
- **Gated Property**

Los Ranchos village specialists for over 40 years.

More listings online at ExperienceAlbuquerque.com

Alicia Feil 505 235 9398
Susan Feil, CCIM, CIPS, CRB, CRS, RSPS 505 690 2225
ExperienceAlbuquerque.com

kw
KELLERWILLIAMS
505 271 8200



VILLAGE VISION
DEADLINE

Issue No. 3
Materials due
March 22, 2022
Email magazine@
losranchosnm.gov

Next issue to arrive in
mailboxes approx.
April 29- May 2, 2022

Community Meetings & Events

Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, March 9, 2022; 7:00 pm
Wednesday, April 13, 2022; 7:00 pm

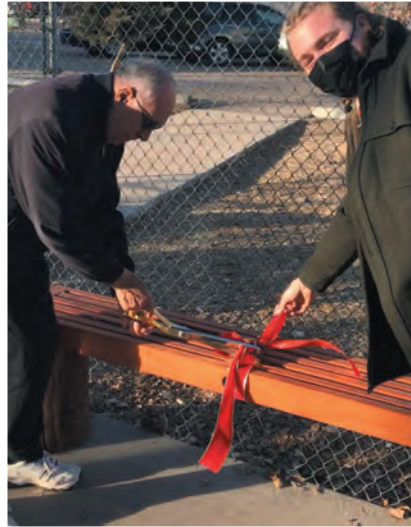
Planning & Zoning Meetings

Tuesday, March 8, 2022; 7:00 pm
Tuesday, April 12, 2022; 7:00 pm

Any changes or cancellations for Board of Trustees' and/or Planning & Zoning Commission meeting will be publicly noticed.

Growers' & Arts Markets

Winter Markets are the 2nd Saturday of the month, 10 am – noon: Jan. 8, Feb. 12, March 12 and April 9, 2022.



We cut the ribbon in December on these beautiful hand-made benches at the Pickleball courts. The benches were part of an eagle scout project and were made by Mason Matteson of Troop Nine. We are very appreciative of this gift to the Village and the hard work from Mr. Matteson.



January 3, 2022

The Village swore in the newly elected officials. Shown here Mayor Lopez, left, stands with Trustee George Radnovich, Judge Diane Albert, and Trustee Gilbert Benavides at Village Hall.