



# Los Ranchos Village Vision

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## Meet Your Mayor & Trustees

A more  
personal look  
at your  
Governing  
Body

## New Year's Resolutions

Why we make them -  
why we break them  
And why they have  
such appeal

### PLUS

- ▶ PREPARING YOUR GARDEN FOR SPRING
- ▶ AGRIFUTURES PROJECT UPDATE
- ▶ ANIMALS IN THE VILLAGE PHOTO SPREAD





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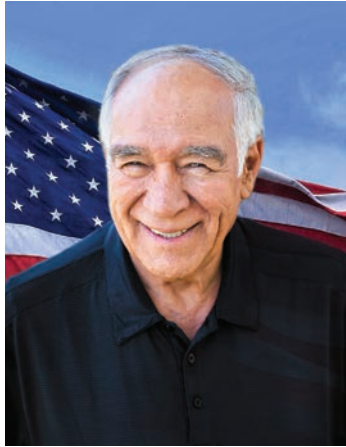


# Mayor's Report

Happy New Year to all our Village residents.

2023 is going to be an exceptional year. We have a lot of projects on the horizon and look forward to completing them in the next 6-12 months.

**Agri-Nature Center:** The Agri-Nature Center will have a new roadway, new gardens, an outdoor kitchen classroom, and a plaza with raised beds. We will be introducing more livestock and hosting a new series of workshops open to the public. We also look forward to festival events, the first of which will be a Matanza in February or March. Please visit our website regularly for announcements about these fun, community-wide events.



**Roads:** The Village is continuing to take care of the many small roads in our neighborhoods. At the end of last year, we took care to “crack seal” Green Valley, Ranchitos Road, Dietz Farm Circle, Dietz Farm Loop, and Willow Road. When the weather gets warmer, we will fully resurface Tyler Road on both sides of 4th Street and give that road some needed storm water drainage mitigation.

**Levees:** We will be starting a new project to study the efficacy of the levees along the Rio Grande, from Alameda to Montano. This scoping project is the result of a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) in partnership with the New Mexico Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Bernalillo County and the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District will be assisting with the required local match. The study will give us information on the best mitigation measures to offer protection from flooding.

**4th Street:** We will design the remaining 1.5 miles of 4th Street from Pueblo Solano to Ortega Road and raise funds to construct as much of the corridor as possible. Look for opportunities to participate in this project in the coming months.

**Edgewood Park:** After much public input, we are excited to move forward with a new playground and other

improvements at Edgewood Park. The design includes play structures, walkways, benches, and picnic tables. We plan to improve the parking, plant new trees and fence the property. Thanks to the neighbors and interested residents who provided valuable feedback.

**Del Norte:** Before the next growing season we will have a new irrigation system, trimmed trees, and other improvements at the del Norte Open Space. That project is being financed with a loan from the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District and will provide needed upgrades to that very special property.

**Legislative Session:** The New Mexico Legislature convenes on January 17th for a 60-day session. We hired Ms. Kim Legant to work with me in Santa Fe to help lobby for funds for the Village. We have already met with Representative, Day Hochman-Vigil, and Senator Katy Duhigg to go over our critical infrastructure needs.

On a personal note, I have received an appointment from the Board of Directors of the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA) to serve on the Authority's Technical Customer Advisory Committee. I am proud of this appointment and will bring my 49 years of Professional Engineering water resource experience to the position. The ABCWUA provides Water and Sewer service to the Village and approximately 700,000 regional customers.

I am mourning the loss of my good friend and our Village of Los Ranchos Municipal Judge Diane Albert. I first met Diane over 20 years ago when she was serving on the Los Alamos County Commission. She moved to Ranchitos Road near my home and served on the Village Planning and Zoning Commission for four years. I knew Diane very well and will miss her terribly. Her passing was the result of a senseless tragedy.

Moving forward, it is an honor to serve you as your mayor in our beautiful Village. I encourage you to come see me with any questions or concerns.

Mayor Donald T. Lopez, PE, CMO





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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.

### 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](http://www.losranchosnm.gov/village-vision-magazine)

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**COVER PHOTO:** "MALE LESSER GOLDFINCH IN SNOW" BY LILLIAN DERWELIS. *Lesser Goldfinches can be spotted in Los Ranchos year-round. They are attracted by bird seed socks with Nyjer seeds or feeders with small seeds. LILLIAN IS A LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER AND SERIOUS BIRDER.*

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as you have never  
seen them before!  
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where you never know  
who you might encounter:  
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residents are everywhere!  
Sometimes, in the most  
unexpected places.  
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## Judge Diane Albert

*From speech given by Phil Cheves during memorial service for Diane Albert, Dec. 6, 2022.  
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We would like to welcome you all. My name is Phil Cheves and on behalf of the family and friends of Diane Albert we would like to thank all of you for gathering tonight to honor and celebrate her life. Everyone gathered here in person, virtually and those that could not be with us tonight appreciate that Diane was a truly exceptional person who was taken from us all too soon. [...] Diane touched so many people, not only through her exceptional legal career culminating in her serving as a Municipal Court Judge in the Village of Los Ranchos, but her countless civic contributions in the North Valley. Her love for people was seen by all who came into her presence and the love that she had for her animal companions was evident and heartwarming. Additionally, Diane was passionate about bicycling and gave generously with her time as President of the Bike Coalition of New Mexico advocating tirelessly for the rights of cyclist in our communities.

Diane was from Ohio and graduated from Riverdale High School in 1975. She received her BA in Mathematics Education from The Ohio State University in 1979 and a BS in Metallurgical Engineering from The Ohio State University, cum laud, in 1982. From Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, she received a Master of Engineering in Materials Science and Engineering in 1987, and a PhD in Materials Science and Engineering in 1991. She then worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, New Mexico from 1993-2004. She attended UNM Law School, graduating with her JD in May 2007. She specialized in intellectual property law. Diane possessed an inquisitive mind with a desire to always continue learning. Diane was currently taking classes in French and Accounting Statistics at UNM.

Diane loved visiting the National Parks, her pugs, chickens, ducks and bunnies. She was intensely proud of her family and her rural Ohio roots.

As we enter this time of reflection, let our minds center on the special relationship that each of us had with Diane. Throughout this service, as we honor the memories of Diane, our prayer is that we experience strength in our sorrow and to find comfort and peace from the precious moments that we spent with her.

Phillip Cheves

“We are heartsick hearing of the untimely death of Diane Albert, our elected municipal judge. She was a longtime Los Ranchos resident, a brilliant mind, and a friend. We can't ignore that this happened on the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women. Our thoughts go out to her family and all those affected.”

Donald T. Lopez, Mayor | Ann Simon, Village Administrator



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# 4th Street, Roadway Improvements and the Agri-Nature Center

## 4TH STREET-PHASE 1 (SCHULTE TO PUEBLO SOLANO)

The first phase of the 4th Street project is almost complete with the Village conducting a final walk-through.

## 4TH STREET—PHASE 2 (FROM PUEBLO SOLANO NORTH)

The Village has solicited a planning proposal from the firm Parametrix to conduct a three-day value planning session to advance the remaining phases of the 4th Street Revitalization Project from Pueblo Solano to the northern Village limits. The result of the value planning exercise will be recommendations to add value, reduce costs without reducing benefits, construction phasing, and to provide direction of potential funding avenues.

The session is expected to occur in early January and will include an opportunity for public participation. We will provide further information and a schedule upon acceptance of the proposal from Parametrix.

## ROADWAY INTO THE AGRI-NATURE CENTER

The Village received two cost estimates for the project exceeding funding. We are currently negotiation with Franken Construction for a reduced project scope within the funding

amount of \$379,000.00. The roadway will provide better public access to the facility and will add ADA parking, among other improvements.

## PLAZA AND OUTDOOR KITCHEN CLASSROOM

The Village has issued a task order to landscape architecture firm MRWM under an existing professional services contract for the design of an outdoor kitchen classroom and raised bed garden plaza in front of the warehouse at the Agri-Nature Center. We are excited to move forward with this plan and design that will take shape in concert with the new roadway.

## ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

On November 17, 2022, the Village awarded contracts to two vendors for road improvements funded through the New Mexico Coop Program, a cost-sharing program from the New Mexico Department of Transportation and matched with a 25 percent local share.

- ▶ Between December 12, 2022 and January 27, 2023, GM Emulsions will perform crack seal on Green Valley, Ranchitos Road, Dietz Farm Circle, Dietz Farm Loop (to include Avenida Las Campanas and Dietz Farm Place, and Willow Road.
- ▶ Between January 15 and March 30, 2023 (weather permitting), Albuquerque Asphalt will be pulverizing and repaving Tyler Road on both sides of 4th Street. The total project cost is \$372,828.00.

Agri-Nature Center Plan



PHOTOS ABOVE | The current entrance into the Agri-Nature Center





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# Winter Growers' Markets

By Sue Brawley

## Los Ranchos Growers' Market

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**JANUARY AND FEBRUARY** | The Los Ranchos Growers' Markets averages approximately 20 to 25 vendors during the winter months. Several of the growers will have greens such as arugula, chard, spinach, bok choy, and lettuce that they are growing in cold frames or green houses for the winter. At the January 14th and February 11th markets one may find onions, various types of greens, leeks (buttered leeks recipe below), root vegetables (including carrots, parsnips and turnips), local beef, dried fruit, honey, jams/jellies, pies, pasta, indoor plants, and herbs. Musical entertainment will be provided by guitarist Rob Roman.

## Vendor Profile:

### Euro Cooking – Elena Bobonea

Elena has been part of the market for over eight years. She and her husband, Ion, have a small farm/garden and grow the veggies and fruits that they sell including tomatoes, various greens, fresh herbs, apples, and peaches. Their chickens produce great eggs that she sells. Her dry pastas include both egg noodles and spinach noodles. Her jams and veggie spreads are enjoyed with her breads all year long. Each week there is a variety of breads and sweet and savory baked goods. Baklava is one of their specialty sweet goodies, cabbage rolls are one of their savory items.

Pre-order from Euro Cooking for pick-up at the market by calling Elena at (505) 507-3544.



#### WANT TO BE A VENDOR?

If you would like to sell at the market on an occasional or regular basis, contact Colene Montoya at (505) 610-9591 or [montoya4664@hotmail.com](mailto:montoya4664@hotmail.com).

### Buttered Leeks

Cathy and Steve Lewandowski are known for their delicious leeks, which they sell primarily in the late fall and winter months (October – February). This easy recipe makes a wonderful side dish using only four ingredients!

#### Ingredients

- Leeks
- Butter
- Thyme
- Salt

Sauté sliced leeks in butter until tender (about 10-15 minutes). Add salt and fresh thyme to taste.

*Recipe by Lewandowski Farm*







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# BODYWORK By Lauren Drake

Massage therapist Lauren Drake has been practicing bodywork and massage therapy for a little over ten years. She has been in private practice for four years, the last two of which here in Los Ranchos. The slower pace of life, spaciousness of the area, as well as its access to open spaces are a perfect match for her practice, which helps people slow down and expand into stillness. Bodywork by Lauren Drake is a one woman show, unless you count Millie, her dog, who can often be found in the office, curled up in a corner while Lauren is working.

### When/how did your interest in bodywork begin?

"My interest in bodywork began in college when I was studying dance. I knew I wouldn't become a professional dancer or be able to make a living from dancing, but studying the body in that way was the only thing that made sense



to me at the time. It [...] was a portal to somatic inquiry and expression. I received my first ever massage around the same time and was struck by how much it increased my body awareness, even as a dancer who was already really in tune with her body. I had the sense that there was really something much bigger at play—that bodywork wasn't just a luxurious treat to feel good, but that it was a way to deepen my understanding of myself and the world."

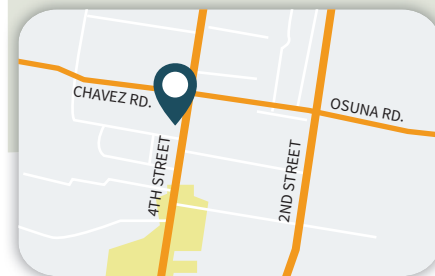
### What led you to seek a professional career in this area?

"After college, I moved to New York City with the intention of continuing to study dance. When I got there, an old neck injury surfaced, and my nervous system nose-dived. My body was really suffering, and I needed a lot of help. I wound up in the office of biodynamic craniosacral therapist and I honestly feel like it saved my life. I learned how sensitive I was, and while owning and navigating that sensitivity (especially in NYC) was bumpy at first, I knew that if I could harness it, I could leverage it as a gift to really help people. I decided massage therapy was a good place to begin my educational foundation of bodywork, and it was around then that I enrolled in a two-year 1,000 hour massage program at The Swedish



### Find Me

- ▶ 6501 4th St NW Suite E
- ▶ lauren@bodyworkbylaurendrake.com
- ▶ bodyworkbylaurendrake.com



Institute in Manhattan, and began my healing path."

### What makes your practice different from that of other massage therapists?

"I think every practitioner is unique in their own right. I do massage, yes, but my touch also holds the knowledge of all the other modalities I've studied—shiatsu, biodynamic craniosacral work, Reiki, SourcePoint Therapy, etc. All these modalities are languages in a sense, and because I'm versed in them, I can communicate with people's systems in the "language" their system might best understand. So in that sense, I think of my work as a conversation or a dialogue with someone's system, and I use the tools and gifts I have to meet people where they are."

### What is the most rewarding aspect of your work?

Gosh, so much is rewarding about this work. I love helping people feel good in their bodies! I cannot tell you how rewarding it feels when someone says "I'm pain-free for the first time in I don't know how long" or "I've never felt this good in my body." Chronic pain is physically and emotionally exhausting and it's heartbreaking to me that people live their lives in unending states of pain. People don't know that not only is it possible to feel pain-free or even just fine in your body, it's possible to feel great, blissful even. Being able to usher people into blissful states is such a gift. My body is my favorite place to be, and I feel like part of my life's work is to help others love being in their bodies too.



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# AgriFutures Project

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A CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR  
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

By Joshua O'Halloran

We are now into our fourth year of the AgriFutures project! This is an amazing accomplishment, and it is incredible to look back at the past three years and see what we have accomplished with volunteers in the community and a willingness to get things done!

The AgriFutures project began in 2019 to help develop the Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center into a center of excellence for urban sustainable agriculture. Since that time, we have worked with over 100 people from all over the state, and have even had participants from Wyoming and Vermont. This has brought partnerships together from many different organizations that have impacted our community in concrete measurable ways.

## WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED

Over the past four years, our AgriFutures teams have accomplished many projects on a variety of different topics. The beauty of the AgriFutures model is that it allows people to come together, develop their own projects that they are interested in with like-minded people, and accomplish something in a timely manner.

Some of the projects we have worked on include:

- Creating a virtual binder covering School Gardens for teachers and staff
- Expanding Agri-Nature Center offerings for Explora Museum's Farm Camps



- Converting used shipping containers into a wash and pack station
- Securing grants to introduce arid-climate cover crops to build healthy soil
- Test planting new hops varieties in collaboration with local brewers
- Hosting a Healthy Soil Workshop that also included exhibits at Los Poblanos and Rio Grande Farms
- Establishing demonstrations of different ways to successfully compost organic waste matter
- Partnering with the Rio Grande Community Farm to start an equipment share program for new farmers
- Developing a soil, water, and compost testing facility in collaboration with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
- Starting a community garden
- Annual bike tours of farms and agricultural businesses in the Village

It is fun and rewarding to get together with like-minded people to work on a project that you are passionate about. Come join us!

## WHAT WE ARE DOING THIS YEAR

If you are interested in getting involved, we are continuing this year with three teams that are working on projects related to education, research, and economic development/agri-tourism. We meet monthly on the first Monday evening of every month on Zoom until May when we will celebrate the completion of our projects.

This is a fun opportunity that brings members of the community together around issues of common concern. It is a change of pace from meetings that do not have a clear ending point or goal. Each team's discrete task ends in a specific event, product, or project. Best of all, it continues to enrich the Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center as a center of excellence and resource for the Village and the entire region.

To be added to the AgriFutures email list, send a message to [sapodaca@losranchosnm.gov](mailto:sapodaca@losranchosnm.gov).

PHOTOS | Above: Tour de Los Ranchos 22 in September | To the Left: Bob Martinez and Henry Shoner spreading compost in the Community Garden



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# New Year's Resolutions

WHY WE MAKE THEM, WHY WE BREAK THEM  
AND WHY THEY HAVE SUCH APPEAL

By Patricia Martinez Burr, PhD, LPCC, NCC



Every new year, the dreaded time to make New Year's Resolutions falls upon us. Well, that is one way to look at it.

The practice of making New Year's Resolutions started centuries ago as a way to give thanks and pay an indebtedness people felt toward the GODs of their provision. In today's world, many of us continue to view a New Year Resolution as a symbolic debt to rid ourselves of, such as extra pounds, exercise more frequently, or self-improvement in one form or another.

The phenomenon to promote self-growth, development and improvement is part of an emotional system that is shared by all mammals, including humans. According to Panksepp (Panksepp, 2012) in his studies of neuro-evolutionary origins of the human emotions, the human brain is wired to constantly restore homeostasis, or balance in life. Panksepp referred to this as the "seeking system" that is wired in our brain, and motivates us to explore, learn, and grow while maintaining balance in doing so. The "seeking system" provides us with enthusiasm, interest, and motivation.

## "...all is good and well until we consider the attitude we typically have when trying to achieve these resolutions"

So, when we think about making a New Year's Resolution, we are in effect motivated in a positive and natural way. And all is good and well until we consider the attitude we typically have when trying to achieve these resolutions. We push and pressure ourselves into submission with negative self-talk, self-castigation or some sort of psychological self-flagellation to meet set goals.

This tendency toward self-judgment, pressuring, and pushing ourselves into submission is a learned behavior that is based on the belief of perfectionism: *The only way I can be "good" is if I strive for and achieve perfection* (which, by the way, does not exist). Or, stated another way, *I must be superhuman and reach my goals perfectly without fail or I am subhuman if I do not.*

This is a fear-based belief. The truth lies in the middle: *I am human—not superhuman or subhuman. Just human. I desire a goal, I seek it, and do my best to strive for it—imperfect as I am.* We seem to believe we must beat ourselves up in order to successfully meet our New Year's Resolutions.

Do we really have to? No, we do not.

Thanks to current neuroscience and brain studies, we now have actual data that shows that, when we indulge in negative self-talk, our brain, mind and body reacts to such negative energy and responds accordingly—even down to the cellular level. There is good news here, because the opposite is true as well. When we think and believe in a positive vein, our brain, mind and body—yes, even at the cellular level—respond in-kind to this positive energy force (Lipton, B. 2005).

What is not busy dying (cells) is busy thriving. In effect, when we think and feel positively toward ourselves, we are creating an encouraging and nurturing environment in our mind, brain, and body so that our whole self on all levels begins to create what we desire. This positive environment creates a natural, healthy state of homeostasis.

I suggest we add one more to our list of New Year's Resolutions. A Resolution that will likely help us achieve our goals more successfully: be loving and kind to yourself (and others), be encouraging, and engage in positive self-talk. This will take us further along in a much more healthy and productive way toward reaching our goals now and throughout our lives. Join me, won't you?

Patricia Martinez Burr works with adults in individual therapy. She specializes in relationship issues with self or others, including relational trauma and recovery. She is located at 6666 4th Street, NW, Suite H in Los Ranchos, and can be reached at (505) 463-0472.





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# Preparing for Spring

By Camille Matton, *Plants of the Southwest*

If you're like me, with your garden, then you're probably dreaming of spring and wishing you could be out there already, growing things to your heart's content. However, there is plenty we can do now to prepare for the coming months. Start by taking one job off your to-do list...

## MULCH

If you haven't already disposed of them, consider keeping all of that wonderful free fertilizer your trees have been dropping: the leaves. Save yourself the job of raking and bagging all of that precious material. There is a seemingly never-ending list of benefits to letting the leaves decompose in your yard, or at least waiting until the apples and pears have finished blooming in spring.

With our dry winters, those leaves will help keep the moisture in the ground, making the cold task of winter watering less vital. Come spring, leaf mulch maintains cooler temperatures on your flowering perennials so you won't lose those blooms to late frosts. If you're not keen on the appearance of the leaves, you can condense them into areas around the base of your trees where they can break down to feed the soil that feeds your plants. Aside from all of these benefits, another very important aspect of utilizing your own leaves for mulch is the habitat it provides for a very key part of our ecosystem.

## INSECTS

You might already be wondering how best to stop the pests from eating everything in your garden, really promising yourself that you'll be on top of the squash bugs this year, and devising master plans to keep them at bay. Another fairly simple strategy is to ensure that there are actually more insects in your garden overall. This is because "natural ecosystems, (e.g., tall grass prairies) rarely see pest outbreaks:



a diverse group of predators and parasites responds quickly to growing pest populations to quash potential outbreaks" (The Xerces society guide; *Farming with Native Beneficial Insects*). Leaving your garden "waste", i.e. leaves, pine needles, stems, fallen sticks, and seed pods, provides warmth and coverage for insects. Adult Mourning Cloak butterflies actually overwinter under garden debris. If they don't have a place to overwinter or lay their eggs, they will move on to other more nature-inviting places.

The idea is to create layers of an ecosystem that you can control, and let the snowball effect take over for you, which ultimately means less demanding work required to have a beautiful haven of your own. Now that you have extra free time not worrying about garden tidying or the coming onslaught of pests, you can put more intention into the design of your garden.

## DESIGN

Winter is the perfect time to think, observe, and plan. Do some research into what plants are going to do well here. Feel tired of battling to keep certain plants alive? There is almost always a beautiful alternative to well known garden plants that is native to New Mexico and will grow very happily for you whilst also being better for our native pollinators.

We are always told to start with planting trees, or begin by amending your soil, both of which are good suggestions. However, one of the smartest ways you can go about transforming your garden is by starting with observation. Observe your sun, water, wind, and traffic patterns as you walk your yard. This will help inform you in the next step of the process: design. Putting forethought into your yard will save you time, effort, and money both immediately and in the long run.

.....  
 PHOTOS | Above: Dried leaves. | To the Left: Bumble bee in leaf litter. Most of our native bees are ground nesting and enjoy the extra layers of protection from our garden debris to survive the winter.



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WITH LARK ERICSON  
LIFE COACH, RN, LF

## What Kind of Life Do You Want To Create?

The beginning of the new year can be such a hopeful time. None of us has ever experienced 2023 and now we are given the opportunity to decide what we want to do, be, and feel. This is such a precious gift. We can be deliberate in our choices going forward and live life intentionally.

We don't have to be the same person we were last year. We can grow and change at any age. This is the question I pose to you: for the new year, what do you want to create?

Imagine you are a painter, an architect, or an inventor and then design your life. Or conversely, you can create a new life just by letting go of that which no longer serves you. We can choose to bring the old baggage along with us, dragging our old habits, our shame, our regrets into the new year, or we can choose to start fresh and just put the old stuff down.

Here are some practices to help you live your life intentionally.

**Practice 1: Creating a Life You Desire**  
Go through each of these categories of life and apply the following desires to each one:

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Desire Something That</u>
Relationships	Fills you with joy
Career	Benefits others
Spirituality	Makes the world a better place
Health	Elevates body and mind

**Practice 2: Letting Go in Order to Grow**  
Things you can let go of:

1. A random thought of something you did or said a long time ago but that loves to pop up occasionally to make you

feel bad. Choose one of these thoughts, thank it for its intention to protect you, and then let it float away. Look at the thought straight on, realize that you are the only one still thinking about this, perpetuating it, and keeping it alive. I hope you can laugh a little at the silliness of dragging this useless thought around for so long.

2. Make a list of things in your life that you don't enjoy. Maybe things you didn't agree to but are a part of your life anyway. Have the conversations you need to have in order to be happier in your everyday life.

3. Is there anything that just bugs you? I had this stinky wood pile in my living room for over a year. Every day, it bothered me, but I didn't do anything about it because you're "supposed" to have wood by the fireplace. Finally, I moved the wood pile outside. Just like that, my house smelled great and I was no longer annoyed. Now why did I let this situation go on for so long? What has been eating at you? Now go change it.

### New Year's Mantras

*This is my year. Every day I am growing and evolving. I release what no longer serves me. I will not waste this year.*

### New Year's Meditation

*Take a deep breath and breathe in all of the life that surrounds you. Let your gratitude for what you have envelop you. Now imagine your future self, one year from now.*

*What have you created in the past year? What is new and wonderful? What have you let go of? Feel yourself being a year wiser and more fulfilled than you were a year ago.*

*Now look back at yourself today. What would your future self say to you? What words of encouragement do you have for yourself?*

.....  
Lark Ericson works with people who have low self-esteem and struggle to love their lives. She helps develop self-esteem, energy, and resiliency. You can find her at [larkericsoncoaching.com](http://larkericsoncoaching.com), and reach her at [larkericsoncoaching@gmail.com](mailto:larkericsoncoaching@gmail.com).

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# Meet Your Mayor and Trustees

A MORE PERSONAL LOOK AT YOUR GOVERNING BODY

Of course we all know their names: Mayor Lopez, Trustee Lewis, Trustee Pacheco, Trustee Radnovich, Trustee Benavides. We've all seen their official portraits on the website and at the back of this magazine accompanying the summary minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings.

But who are these people, really? Where did they come from? What makes them tick?

We figured it was time to find out, and asked each Trustee *and* the Mayor to introduce themselves to you—not as politicians, but as people.

Los Ranchos  
de Albuquerque

I was born in Albuquerque. As a youngster, my family moved to San Francisco for four years. When I returned to the Albuquerque/old Los Ranchos area of the North Valley, I attended Los Ranchos Elementary, Taft Jr. High, and Valley High School. I started my civil engineering career with the New Mexico Department of Transportation, received my BSCE from NMSU, as well as an MSCE from UNM. I then returned to the San Francisco Bay Area to attend post-graduate school in Berkely.

I joined the US Air Force during the Vietnam War and served over 30 years. I retired in 2000 as a Colonel.

I was first elected in the Village of Los Ranchos to the position of Trustee in 1992. I was reelected seven times to Trustee positions, served as mayor pro-tem for 18 years until I became the mayor in 2018. I was subsequently elected as mayor in November 2019 to a four-year term.

I am engaged in all aspects of Village of Los Ranchos activities, particularly maintaining our Village Agricultural Heritage with all the work going on at our magnificent Agri-Nature Center. I am most proud of my initiation of the Village Agri-Futures Program over four years ago.

My hobbies are reading about national and international politics, US and military history, and I am a huge fan of the San Francisco 49ers.

Recently, in early November 2022, I traveled with my family to watch the 49ers play the LA Chargers at Levi's Stadium. A photo of myself, My Daughter Denise, My Granddaughter Ava and my Grandson Max in Downtown San Francisco while visiting for the Game is presented here.

I have lived in the Village on Rio Grande Blvd. for about 38 years, and I treasure our beautiful landscape and lifestyle here.

Mayor Donald Lopez





I have lived in New Mexico for most of my life. I grew up in the Village of Agua Fria, outside of Santa Fe. My parent's families lived a mile apart from each other. I remember being able to walk to have breakfast with one grandma, and, on the same day, having lunch with my other grandparents. Both sides of my family's heritage go back over 300 years in New Mexico.

I studied Communication and Professional Writing at UNM where I received my BA degree. I was awarded a full scholarship to the University of Phoenix and received my MA degree in Organizational Management. I received my certification as a wine executive from the University of California Davis, and a level one Certified Wine Sommelier. My husband and I have lived in the Village for nearly 30 years where we raised three children. We are the proud grandparents of two beautiful boys and the proud in-laws to some wonderful people. We spend as much time as we can with our family. My husband and I are also active members of Sagebrush Community Church.

On most any day, I can be found taking a walk along the Village acequias to think and to clear my head while enjoying the vast beauty of Los Ranchos. My husband and I love seeing and visiting new places. . This past summer we took up kayaking and have visited some beautiful New Mexico lakes. We have been talking about taking up dancing lessons. My husband insists that I feel the need to lead when we dance. I beg to differ.

Mayor Pro Tem/Trustee Sandra Pacheco



I first visited New Mexico when I was 10 years old. I very vividly remember a field of wild iris in Taos, the high desert landscapes of Albuquerque and Santa Fe, and our state's churches and plazas.

When it came time to decide on continued education and college, I picked the University of New Mexico because of those fond memories. My degree was in architecture, and I worked as an architect for a couple of years, but always oriented my work to sites and not buildings. I then went to work for Yonemotos in Los Ranchos, and moved to landscape architecture. Over the years though, I have worked as a chef (for John Denver, the singer), a wine purveyor, I owned a greenhouse company and then founded Sites Southwest, a landscape architecture and planning firm.

My wife and I have lived in Los Ranchos for 25 years and we love our lifestyle and life here. We wouldn't choose another place to live. I have always been politically active. I co-founded New Mexico Public Interest Research Group, marched against the war in Vietnam, and have been appointed to many boards and commissions in our state. I have no free time—kidding! In my free time I draw, fly fish, and enjoy cooking, hiking, and traveling.

Trustee George Radnovich





I was born and raised in Albuquerque, although I did spend some time in California. My ancestors are from small towns such as Bosque, Peralta, Anton Chico, and Carrizozo. My wife, Linda, is from Alameda. We have a son and twin daughters who are married, and each have a child of their own.

I attended Albuquerque schools St Francis Xavier, McKinley, and Del Norte High School. I studied Mechanical Engineering at UNM because I thought it was interesting and I wasn't sure if I could do anything else. After UNM, I attended and graduated from Stanford University. I then returned to New Mexico to work at Sandia National Labs and eventually settled in Los Ranchos when I was 29 years old. I moved next door to an elderly man named Dr. Lyle, who taught me how to grow tobacco and make wine. I no longer grow tobacco, but I planted a small vineyard and make wine to this day. Besides grapes, I grow Sandia Hot green chile. Recently, I started writing short stories for our grandchildren so that they might know something about New Mexico and their heritage.

I was never interested in politics until later in life. It took me years to understand that politics are everywhere: it's unavoidable. Politics are both deeply flawed and critically essential. What I have learned is that it is much more productive to influence political discourse than to obstruct it.

Trustee Gilbert Benavides



I was born here in Albuquerque. My parents moved here from Iowa, where both my parents grew up on farms in the southern part of the state. In 1960, we moved into the Village of Los Ranchos on Green Valley Road. We lived on an acre and a half and raised cows, chickens, horses, and sheep for 4H. We lived almost directly across the street from the old Village Hall. My Dad used to just walk over to attend Village meetings. I attended Los Ranchos Elementary School and used to walk to school from Green Valley down Guadalupe to school every day.

From there, I went on to attend Taft Middle School and Valley High School (Class of '71). I attended the University of New Mexico where I studied Business Administration. In the mid 70's, I got married and we had three daughters, two whom are twins.

Today, they and their husbands all live in Dallas, Texas. I have always had a love for agriculture. As I mentioned earlier, I grew up raising animals and being involved in gardening and farming. In the late 80's, I owned a five-acre piece of land in Mesilla, NM, where, with help from the people who started Gruet Winery here in New Mexico, I planted a vineyard. I grew Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes. When we harvested, all grapes were sold to the Gruets.

In 1999, I re-married, and my wife and I built our home in the Village. I enjoy hiking, rafting, golf, and working in our garden and with our pecan trees.

Trustee Allen Lewis





# Celebrating The Holidays

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GETTING FIT



WITH LISA KNIGHTON

# This Year, Put Yourself First

Several years ago, I had the great fortune to attend a small, weekend-long meditation retreat led by the nuns and monks of Thich Nhat Hanh's Magnolia Grove Monastery, a Buddhist community in Mississippi. In attendance were ordinary middle-aged folks with families and aging parents, and young women and men looking for balance in their lives, and older people exploring their new retirement. Although we all had differing backgrounds and varying plans for our futures, we all were eager to learn better how to care for our physical and spiritual selves.

While sitting indoors on a Saturday afternoon with one of the monks as he led a Dharma talk, we were sheltered from a cold, late-spring wind that tossed the tops of the maples and pines outside. Near the back of the room a woman attendee raised her hand and asked a profound question. "How do I make time for myself?" she began, her voice energetic and curious. She told the group that she and her husband had full-time jobs, that they joined in the making of meals for themselves and their family, and that they were active in the lives of their children. "We're good parents, and we're very busy." Then she shared something deeper. "I want to make time for myself. I want to get more exercise. I want to take better care of myself, eat better, sleep better." She paused, took a deep breath. "What I mean to ask is, how can I stop feeling guilty about wanting to make these personal things important?"

The monk leading the talk had listened intently to the woman, as had all of us, and as she finished speaking, he nodded and closed his eyes. He was silent for some time then opened his eyes, bowed, and said, "You must take care of yourself first, put yourself first, because you must make yourself a mountain. When you make yourself a mountain you become strong. When you are strong and like a mountain then anyone in your family can lean upon you."

Over the years since this meditation retreat, I recall this Dharma talk often and share it with many clients who struggle to put their physical health and wellness first, especially after the overdoings, or the indulgences, that often accompany the long weeks of holidays leading up to the end of the year.

It's also worth mentioning that putting yourself first is not about being selfish. Putting yourself first is about making good effort to take care of yourself—your body, your mind, your spirit.

Reflecting now, post-holidays, consider making the days of 2023 about putting

your physical, mental, and spiritual needs and wants first. Come up with ideas on how to nurture your health and wellness and consider making it not about resolutions that are punitive but more about adding in things that truly give you joy.

Indulge in nurturing self-talk that elevates. Indulge in going to bed and getting up at the same time each day. Nourish your physical body with movement often. Use the days of the new year to nurture habits that satisfy and sustain you, creating in the coming months a mountain of yourself. Take the time to put your needs first so that when your loved ones need someone to lean upon, you'll be the strong mountain.


.....  
Lisa, CEO of AtHomeBeFIT, and ACE certified personal trainer, seeks to improve how the world ages with her exercise programs, both in-person and live-streaming. The methods she uses change the lives of women who are dedicated to improving their fitness and overall health. She can be reached at (706) 340-7989 or by email at Lisa@athomebefit.com.

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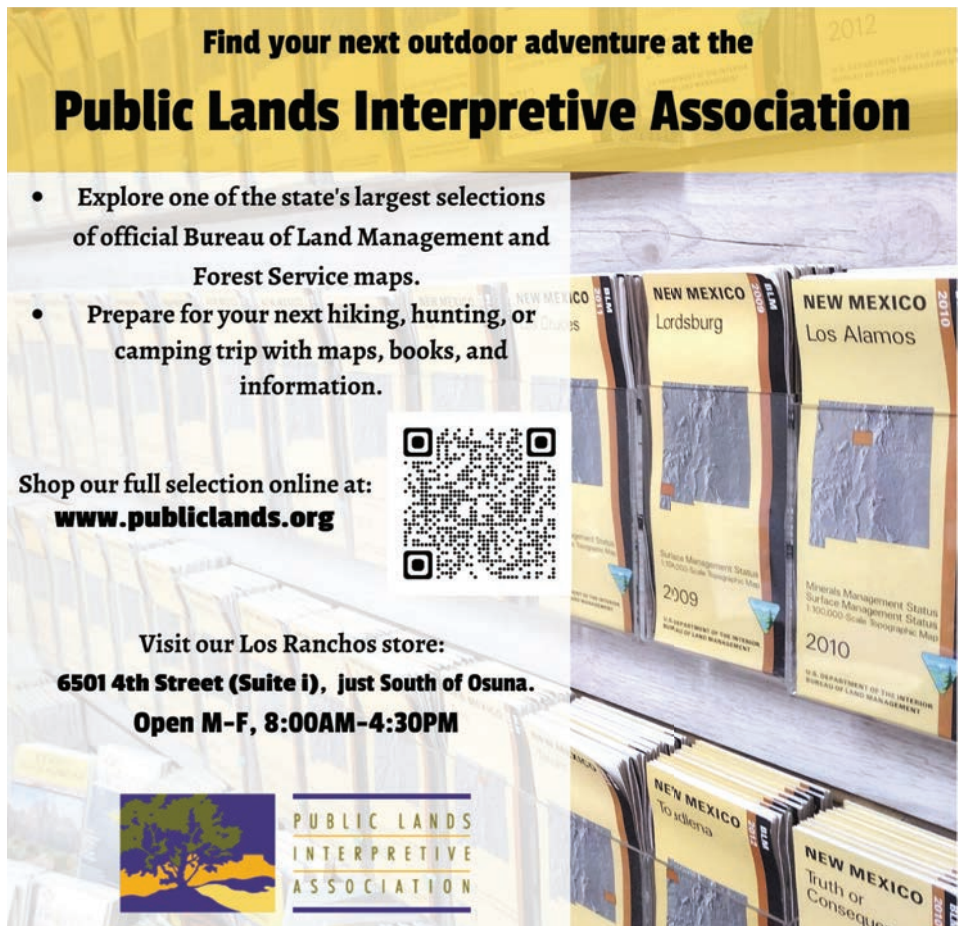
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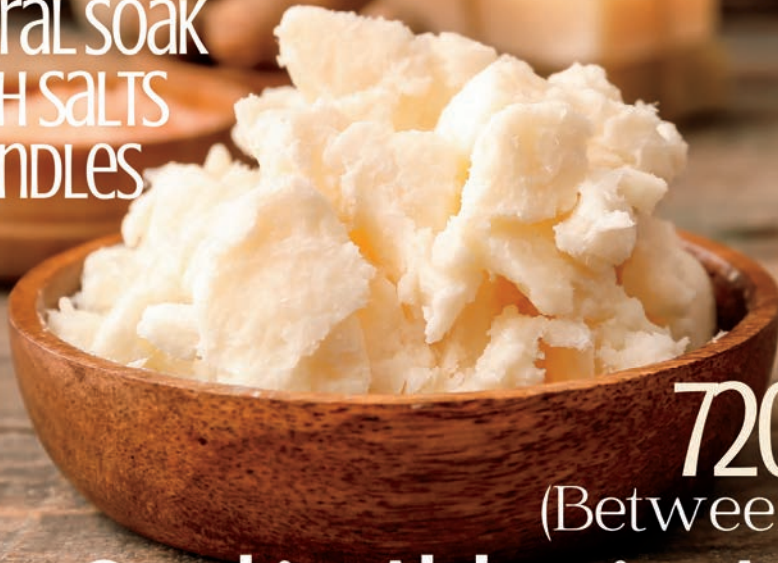


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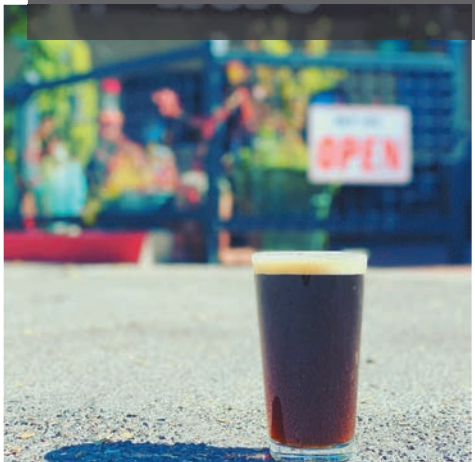
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# The Dresser and The Dinner Party

By Marcelle Cady

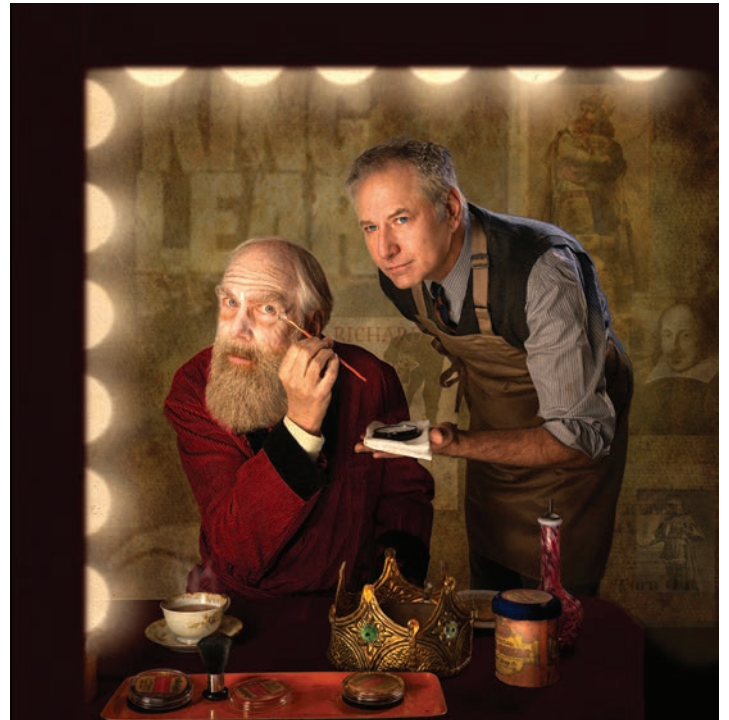
Well, we have “rung out the old” and now we begin to “ring in the new!” What better way than a couple of good plays.

**THE DRESSER** | West End Productions opens Ronald Harwood’s *The Dresser* at North Fourth Art Center on January 13th for three weekends until January 29th. Peter Shea Kierst plays Sir’ and Keith Allen West plays his dresser, ‘Norman.’

True to WEP’s mission to bring to British entertaining, thought provoking and heart-touching productions to Albuquerque audiences, *The Dresser* is a bracing, heartbreaking drama set backstage at a theatre in the English provinces during WWII.

Director Colleen Neary McClure says she has always been fascinated with what happens behind the scenes and in an actor’s mind in theatre and film. “As an actor myself, I know the struggles that actors go through. Losing one’s nerve can be devastating. Laurence Olivier lost his nerve as a stage actor at the age of 64. ‘Sir,’ played by Peter Shea Kierst, is in the same predicament. It is up to the dresser ‘Norman,’ played by Keith Allen West, to get ‘Sir’ through his breakdown and on stage.”

Other members of the cast are Neil Faulconbridge, Levi Gore, Fawn Hanson, Versai Knight, Yannig Morin, Jessica Osbourne, Parker Owen, and Philip J. Shortell.



**THE DINNER PARTY** | One week later, on January 20th, the Adobe Theater begins its 2023 season with a wonderful comedy. It runs three weekends (nine performances) through February 5th. Neil Simon calls *The Dinner Party* his little “gem” all about relationships and reconciliation. It is a one-act comedy about marriage and divorce.

This was Simon’s thirty-first play—it was first produced in Los Angeles in 1999. This contemporary farce, set in a swanky Parisian restaurant, moves deftly from over-the-top comedy to heart-stopping realism. The play revolves around people at a French dinner party. There is an air of mystery because the diners do not know why they have been brought together. As it turns out, the dinner is about their damaged relationships and whether or not they can reconcile.

Director Lewis Hauser says “*The Dinner Party* has become my favorite Neil Simon play. It successfully blends the elements of French farce and realistic drama. The appeal is the realistic view of marital relationships in all its joy and sorrows. Through the brilliant writing of Neil Simon, audiences experience the ups and downs of the characters at this very special dinner party. The audience becomes a part of it all.”

Certainly sounds like an entertaining evening. The dinner guests are played by Tim Crofton, Clair Gardner, Carolyn Hogan, Sarah Kesselring, Ludwig Puchmayer and Harry Zimmerman—many of these fine actors have delighted audiences with their acting skills before at The Adobe.



## West End Productions

4904 4th St NW  
westendproductions.org  
▶ 1 (855) 937-8505  
▶ info@westendproductions.org

## Adobe Theater

9813 4th St. NW  
www.adobetheater.org  
▶ (505) 898-9222  
▶ info@adobetheater.org







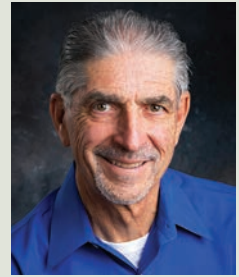
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FROM THE SAFETY OFFICER



Safety Officer Fred Radosevich

Bernalillo County Sheriff-elect John Allen has made his selections for undersheriff for his administration that will take effect on Jan. 1, 2023. Lt. Aaron Williamson and Sgt. Johann Jareno will be appointed to the positions of undersheriff. In addition, retired Sgt. Hollie Anderson will be appointed to the position of major, which is new to the Sheriff's Office. Williamson, Jareno, and Anderson have over 50 years of combined law enforcement experience in multiple areas.

Aaron Williamson has served the citizens of Bernalillo County first as a volunteer in the reserve division, and then as a full-time sworn member for over 20 years. Johann Jareno emigrated from Chile and became a U.S. citizen with the goal of becoming a deputy with the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office in 2009. Hollie Anderson has 19 plus years with the Albuquerque Police Department where she retired as a sergeant. Anderson will be the highest-ranking female in agency history.

"I am confident in the skills and leadership of these individuals to accomplish the mission and goals I have set forth for the agency, while being a clear representation of the community we serve," says Sheriff-elect Allen. "Williamson's experience in administrative services and supervisory roles are a perfect combination to bring fluidity to the agency. Jareno's multicultural experience, community engagement and background in the private sector will bring a much-needed change to the agency. And Anderson's background and outside perspective will be invaluable as the Sheriff's Office moves forward to restore trust with the community and provide superior law enforcement services to the citizens of Bernalillo County."



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# Los Ranchos THE ART MARKET

Winter Art Markets  
 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month, 10-noon  
 6718 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

## Grateful for our Awesome Customers

AN ODE TO THOSE WHO FREQUENT THE MARKET

By Gordene MacKenzie

At the beginning of this new year, and on behalf of all artists and artisans of the Los Ranchos Art Market, I would like to take some time to thank our wonderful customers. Customers who have become collaborators in custom designs. Customers who have become friends. Customers who share their stories with us, who inspire us. Thank you!

Most of us create our work in isolation. When we get together at our Winter Art Markets on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 10-noon at 6718 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, we are excited to see other artists and our customers. As we unpack and start setting up our displays, I often steal away to peek at new art our neighbors have made. I look longingly at Pam's gorgeous Day of the Dead quilt. I marvel at Kathy's well-dressed "selfie" ravens. Further down Moe's brightly painted walking sticks make me smile. Karen's wild lazy susans remind me of fractal mandalas. I ask Trish to hold one of her magical all natural face creams for me. Gwenyth is already surrounded by customers; the mosaic I wanted is gone. On my way back I grab a pair of Janelle's heart-shaped beaded earrings before they are sold out. Quickly, I try on the magnificent tulle and raven jean jacket that Susie makes.

Los Ranchos Art Market is a non-profit art co-operative. It is run by a community of artists and artisans who volunteer their time.

Back at my booth, a favorite customer picks up her turquoise and spiny oyster hummingbird necklace and shows me a picture on her phone of a hummingbird nest near her front porch.

We hope to see you in the New Year to share our arts and crafts and to exchange stories.







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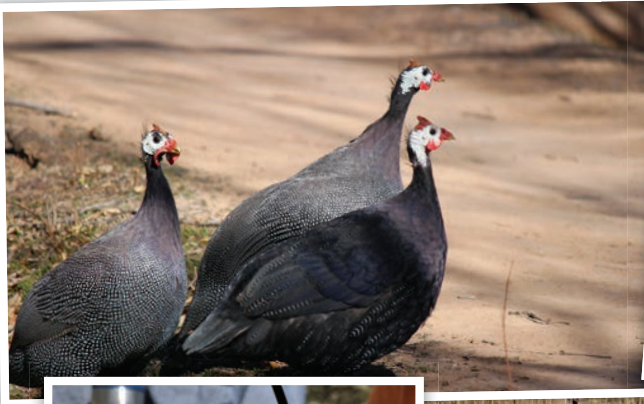
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WITH TIM TOURVILLE

## Ten New Year's Resolutions for Your Home

Every year I come up with a multitude of ways to improve my living by resolving to give up some things or do more of other things that will improve my life and/or the lives of those around me. Without fail, about halfway through the year my wife Lorraine, takes great pleasure in pointing out the fact that I have failed to “do” or “not do” all of my resolutions. So, this year I am taking a slightly different approach. I firmly resolve to make my home a better place to live.

Here is a list of items to consider that can have a positive effect on your home environment:

- 1) Plant a tree. The simple act of planting a tree helps in so many ways. Talk to the folks at Plants of the Southwest right here in the Village as to which trees do best here, before making your selection.
- 2) Stop clutter. Make a rule for your home that every time someone brings something into the house, an item of equal or greater size goes out the door. Buy a new book, jacket, toy, etc.; find an old one to donate.
- 3) Install low-flow or high efficiency toilets. The differences in performance may seem trivial but switching from a standard to a low-flow toilet can save thousands of gallons of water per year.
- 4) Expect a guest. Keep the living room and kitchen clean enough that you wouldn't be embarrassed for guests to show up unexpectedly.
- 5) Conduct a home energy audit. These are offered by private consultants or local utility companies. An energy audit will tell you exactly what you can do to

- 6) Go paperless. Cut back on the never-ending stream of paper. Enrol in online billing and banking. Call catalog companies to get off their mailing list. Scan important documents into electronic files, and shred the paper.
- 7) Install a home security system. According to the Rutgers School of Criminal Justice, an electronic security system is the most effective deterrent against criminals. A security system is not just for protection of the home, but of the family as well. Look into joining an electronic neighborhood watch app, like Nextdoor.com. They are a good way for neighbors and communities to share information and concerns.
- 8) Increase the value of your home. Install new energy efficient windows. Remodel the kitchen and/or baths. Create outdoor living spaces. Contact a local Realtor to get free advice as to what will give you the best return on your investment.

- 9) Clean green. Use earth-friendly cleaning products and feel good about helping the earth. These types of products also reduce the risk of accidental poisoning.
- 10) Support the Village of Los Ranchos. Take the Village of Los Ranchos Events Calendar and upload the dates on your personal calendar. Put “Shop in the Village” on your to-do list. Insist on being recognized as the Village of Los Ranchos, not Albuquerque.

Can you see how these things would improve your living? Are you feeling a sense of déjà vu? The list may seem like a lot, but remember, Rome wasn't built in a day. I say that for my Italian wife who helps me write this article each month. Thanks Lorraine!



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### 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
1024698	5425	Eakes	\$5,900,000	10259	5	8	7	2	The Maez Group (MAEZ01)	(505) 718-4980	Joseph Maez
1018334	7515	Rio Grande	\$3,500,000	4401	3	4	10	5.82	Keller Williams Realty (KWLR01)	(505) 271-8200	Dominic Serna
1023711	5816	Padre Roberto	\$3,200,000	7980	4	5	3	1.04	Berkshire Hathaway NM Prop (PGRE02)	(505) 798-6300	The Schnoor Team
1020207	5301	Rio Grande	\$2,800,000	7060	3	6	6	3.7	Keller Williams Realty (KWLR01)	(505) 271-8200	Dominic Serna
1019706	7622	Rio Grande	\$2,800,000	2785	3	2	2	4.24	Berkshire Hathaway NM Prop (PGRE02)	(505) 798-6300	Patricia Field
1024201	7028	Rio Grande	\$2,795,000	Vacant land				6.8	Berkshire Hathaway ALLSTAR (ALST01)	(505) 994-8585	Juan Duran
1019883	8817	4th Street	\$2,750,000	Vacant land				7	Coldwell Banker Legacy (CBLR14)	(505) 292-8900	Nichole Bronstorp
1026198	1422	El Portal	\$1,600,000	6103	4	5	3	1.15	Realty One Group Concierge (CLLC01)	(505) 318-1111	Catalina Soltero
1025420	6928	Guadalupe Tr.	\$1,599,000	4915	3	4	4	0.94	Coldwell Banker Legacy (CBLR09)	(505) 293-3700	Giulia Urquhart
1019061	7821	Guadalupe Tr.	\$1,299,000	4705	7	5	0	0.71	RogerCox&Assoc Prop. Mgmt, LLC (RCAI03)	(505) 268-2800	Brian Anderson
1023718	1020	Ortega	\$1,295,000	3382	4	5	3	0.5	Ida Kelly Realtors (RAMC01)	(505) 888-1000	Channing Kelly
1024775	1600	Francisca	\$1,250,000	3749	4	4	3	1.08	Keller Williams Realty (KWLR01)	(505) 271-8200	Faithe Real Estate Group
1018256	7829	Rio Grande	\$1,200,000	5168	4	5	5	1	Coldwell Banker Legacy (CBLR14)	(505) 292-8900	Timothy Tourville
1024852	6823	Guadalupe Tr.	\$989,000	4406	4	4	2	1.58	Kate Southard Real Estate (KATE01)	(505) 264-9586	Kate Southard
1019033	707	Calle del Pajarito	\$600,000	4139	5	4	3	0.47	Absolute Real Estate (NINV01)	(505) 681-8578	Michael Schlichte
1025535	308	Enchanted Valley	\$450,000	2058	4	2	2	0.37	Realty One of New Mexico (RONM02)	(505) 883-9400	R. Jean Duran
998155	7221	Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.55	Absolute Real Estate (NINV01)	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo
998647	7201	Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.55	Absolute Real Estate (NINV01)	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo
998648	7220	Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.56	Absolute Real Estate (NINV01)	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo
998646	7200	Zia View	\$320,000	Vacant land				0.56	Absolute Real Estate (NINV01)	(505) 681-8578	Leola Robledo
1024524	322	Nara Visa	\$250,000	Vacant land				0.46	Berkshire Hathaway NM Prop (PGRE02)	(505) 798-6300	Steve Soto

Some listings may have changed realtors—please ensure all listings have a permit for the current brokerage.

The information herein is deemed reliable, but not guaranteed from SWMLS compiled on or before November 28, 2022 by Tim Tourville, Coldwell Banker Legacy.



# PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY

## October 11, 2022 7PM/Regular Meeting

Location: Warren J. Gray Chambers

Commissioners Present: Drew Seavey, Chair; JT Michelson; Shelleen Smith; Mary Homan

Commissioners Absent: Dan Gay (Excused); Karen Christensen (Excused); Connie Barrow (Excused)

Staff Present: Maida Rubin, Planning & Zoning Director; Ann Simon, Village Administrator; Michelle Austin, Administrative Assistant; Juan L. Flores, Village Attorney; Kiko Jeanette, IT Specialist

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy Smith, Community School Coordinator – Los Ranchos Elementary

### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPLICATIONS

**A. V 22-07 A request by Norman P. Becker & Janet R. Garcia-Becker for a Variance from §9.2.7(E)(1)** “The minimum lot area shall be one (1) acre (43,560 square feet)” to allow for a lot of approximately 0.94 acres in the A-1 Zone in the North Rio Grande Character Area. The properties are located at 1104 and 1110 Green Valley Rd NW and are legally known as certain tracts of land known and described as the Westerly and Easterly Portions of Tract 202C3B2 as shown on Map No. 29 of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, projected section 20, T. 11 N., R. 3 E., N.M.P.M., Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico. The properties contain 0.5 and 0.49 acres more or less.

► Director Rubin gave the planning report with recommendation of approval with conditions.

► Sworn in speakers for discussion in order of presentation:

Norman Becker 907 Los Prados de Guadalupe, Los Ranchos--Applicant

► Motion: Commissioner Smith moved to approve with conditions. *The motion carried unanimously.*

**B. BB 22-06 A request by Cynthia A. Clark for a Bed & Breakfast Permit as allowed by § 9.2.25(E)(1) in the R-3 Zone in the 4th Street Character Area.** The property is located at 316 Del Aker Road NW Los Ranchos De Albuquerque and is legally known as Land of CF X Lena M Bishop 2 ADD TR V. The property contains 0.18 acres more or less.

► Director Rubin gave the planning report with recommendation of approval with conditions.

► Sworn in speakers for discussion in order of presentation:

Cynthia A. Clark 316 Del Aker, Los Ranchos	Applicant
Joyce Lyngen 326 Del Aker, Los Ranchos	In opposition
Darlene Lyngen 326 Del Aker, Los Ranchos	In opposition
Virginia Martinez 318 Del Aker, Los Ranchos	In opposition
Tim Martinez 320 Del Aker, Los Ranchos	In opposition
Gloria Martinez 320 Del Aker, Los Ranchos	In opposition

► Motion: Commissioner Michelson moved to deny the application. *The motion carried unanimously.*

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## November 11, 2022 7PM/Regular Meeting (DRAFT Minutes\*)

Location: Warren J. Gray Chambers

Commissioners Present: Drew Seavey, Chair; JT Michelson; Karen Christensen; Mary Homan; Connie Barrow

Commissioners Absent: Dan Gay (Excused); Shelleen Smith (Excused)

Staff Present: Maida Rubin, Planning & Zoning Director; Ann Simon, Village Administrator; Michelle Austin, Administrative Assistant; Nan Winter, Village Attorney; Kiko Jeanette, IT Specialist

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Camille Varoz – 427 El Paraiso Rd. NW Los Ranchos, Loretta Chavez Smith – 536 Chavez Rd. Los Ranchos, Christian Reedy – 8642 Rio Grande Blvd NW Los Ranchos, Marya Reedy - 8642 Rio Grande Blvd NW Los Ranchos.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPLICATIONS

**A. BB 22-07 A request by John B. Edward for a Bed & Breakfast Permit as allowed by §9.2.25(E)(1) in the A-1 Zone in the Guadalupe Trail Character Area.** The property is located at 16 Applewood Lane NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, and is legally known as Lot 16-A Applewood Valley Estates, S20,T11N, R3E, NMPM. The property contains 1.9442 acres more or less.

► Director Rubin gave the planning report with recommendation of approval with conditions.

► Sworn in speakers for discussion in order of presentation:

John Edward 16 Applewood Lane, Los Ranchos-Applicant

*continued on page 42...*



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## PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY, *continued*

► Motion: Commissioner Barrow moved to approve with conditions. *The motion carried unanimously.*

**B. V 22-08 A request by Valerie Gerard Thompson for a Variance from §9.2.7(E)(2)(a) requiring a side setback of 15 feet in the A-1 Zone.** The property is located at 1009 Green Valley Rd NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, within the Guadalupe Trail Character Area, is zoned A-1, and is legally known as Lot A, Tract 202B1A2, M.R.G.C.D. Map 27, Lands of Miguel Encinias, as filed in the Office of the Bernalillo County Clerk on December 27, 1983, in Vol. B-20, folio 110. The property contains 1 acre more or less.

► Director Rubin gave the planning report with recommendation of denial.

► Sworn in speakers for discussion in order of presentation:

Valerie Gerard Thompson 1009 Green Valley Rd, Los Ranchos	Applicant
Horas Thompson 1009 Green Valley Rd., Los Ranchos	In favor
John Edward 16 Applewood Lane, Los Ranchos	In favor
Camille Varoz – 427 El Paraiso Rd. NW Los Ranchos	In opposition

► Motion: Commissioner Barrow moved to approve. *The motion Passed 3-2 by roll call vote.* (Commissioner Christensen - nay, Commissioner Michelson – yea, Commissioner Barrow – yea, Commissioner Homan – nay, Commissioner Seavey – yea)

**C. V 22-09 A request by 4th & Chavez, LLC for a Variance from §9.2.14(D)(3)(c) requiring a front setback of no more than 12 feet for properties not in the Project Area abutting C-1 or VC property, within the VC Zone in the 4th Street Character Area.** The property is zoned VC and is in the 4th Street Character Area. The property is located at 6561 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, and is legally known as Lot A, Tract 41G, M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, Elena Gallegos Grant, Projected Sections 28 and 29 T11N, R3E, NMPM. The property contains 0.9053 acres more or less.

**D. V 22-10 A request by 4th & Chavez, LLC for a Variance from §9.2.14(E)(3) requiring that “Lots that face Fourth Street shall have buildings along a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the property line/setback adjacent to Fourth Street.”** The property is zoned VC and is in the 4th Street Character Area. The property is zoned VC and is in the 4th Street Character Area. The property is located at 6561 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, and is legally known as Lot A, Tract 41G, M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, Elena Gallegos Grant, Projected Sections 28 and 29 T11N, R3E, NMPM. The property contains 0.9053 acres more or less.

**E. V 22-11 A request by 4th & Chavez, LLC for a Variance from §9.2.18(E)(3) requiring “Parking spaces shall be a minimum of nine (9) feet in width by twenty (20) feet in length except for ADA designated spaces.** The property is zoned VC and is in the 4th Street Character Area. The property is located at 6561 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, and is legally known as Lot A, Tract 41G, M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, Elena Gallegos Grant, Projected Sections 28 and 29 T11N, R3E, NMPM. The property contains 0.9053 acres more or less.

**F. V 22-12 A request by 4th & Chavez, LLC for a Variance from §9.2.14(F)(1) requiring “Excepting for areas within the Project Area parking may be permitted at the side of a building, but may not be located between the front of the building and the public sidewalk.” The property is zoned VC and is in the 4th Street Character Area.** The property is located at 6561 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, and is legally known as Lot A, Tract 41G, M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, Elena Gallegos Grant, Projected Sections 28 and 29 T11N, R3E, NMPM. The property contains 0.9053 acres more or less.

► Director Rubin gave the planning report with recommendation of approval with conditions for V 22-09 through V22-12.

► Sworn in speakers for discussion in order of presentation:

Matt Meyers - 1401 Central, Albuquerque	On behalf of Applicant
Robert Chavez - 324 Enchanted Valley, Los Ranchos	In favor
Joe Craig 505 - Calle del Pajarito NW, Los Ranchos	In opposition
Camille Varoz - 427 El Paraiso Rd. NW, Los Ranchos	In opposition
Ron Chavez – 408 Chavez Rd., Los Ranchos	In opposition and in favor

► Motions were made to approve V 22-09, V 22-10, V 22-11, V 22-12. *All Motions Passed Unanimously.*

\* Keep a look-out for the approved minutes on our website ([LosRanchosNM.gov/Planning-and-Zoning-Meetings](https://LosRanchosNM.gov/Planning-and-Zoning-Meetings)) in the coming months...

MEETING PACKETS, MINUTES, AND UPCOMING HEARINGS AT [LOSRANCHOSNM.GOV/PLANNING-AND-ZONING-MEETINGS](https://LosRanchosNM.gov/Planning-and-Zoning-Meetings)



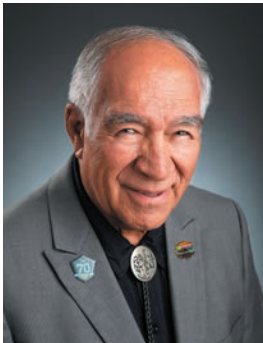
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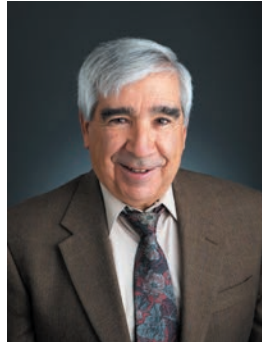
## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SUMMARIES



Donald T. Lopez  
Mayor



Sandra Pacheco  
Mayor Pro Tem



Gilbert Benavides  
Trustee



Allen Lewis  
Trustee



George Radnovich  
Trustee

### OCTOBER 12, 2022 7:00PM/Regular Meeting (DRAFT Minutes\*)

**Location:** Warren J. Gray Chambers and streamed on the Village Website and Facebook page

**Present:** Trustee Pacheco, Trustee Benavides, Trustee Lewis, Trustee Radnovich

**Chair:** Mayor Donald T. Lopez

#### AGENDA APPROVAL

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Verbal comments by Peter Weinreb, 6509 Poza Rica Court NW, Henry Shoner, 6603 Elwood Drive NW, Jennifer Kueffer, 722 Mullen Road NW, David Montoya, 517 Pueblo Solano NW, Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Gordene MacKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Amy Legant, 511 Charles Place NW

#### PRESENTATIONS

Cindy Smith, Community School Coordinator; Los Ranchos Elementary: "What is the purpose of a community school?"

#### FINANCIAL BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval of the September 2022 Cash Report. Administrator Simon presented the cash report. Cash Report for the month of September 30, 2022. Ending cash balance on September 30, 2022, is \$10,622,311.2, which is an increase of \$938,920.06, for this month. YTD deficiency of revenues over expenditures is \$753,918.90. Unusual or Significant Items: The Village received the 2nd half of the American Rescue Act Fund distribution in the amount of \$756,534.50. No other unusual or significant items. **Motion Passed 4-0**
- B. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2022-10-01; A Resolution recommending budget revisions related to the Road Fund Department for the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. **Motion Passed 4-0**

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 290; Granting a Franchise to Public Service Company of New Mexico to construct, maintain and operate electric facilities infrastructure in the public rights-of-way within the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque; repealing Ordinance No. 60. **Motion Passed 4-0**

#### NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and approval of Resolution No. 2022-10-02; A Resolution participating in the Transportation Project Fund Program, administered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation.  
Ms. Rinaldi presented the Resolution.  
Discussion: Trustee Benavides asked why does the scope make it sound like we are doing all those things for that money?  
Ms. Rinaldi replied that this is not a scope, this is the activities allowable for expenditure of these funds. I put this in, so we are covered for all potential expenditures under construction. Trustee Lewis wanted to make sure that we are not committing to this money unless 4th Street is getting built and we are going to use this before June 30th 2025? Ms. Rinaldi replied, that is correct.  
Trustee Radnovich asked if we decided to use that money for something other than the full project on 4th Street, could we? Ms. Rinaldi replied, not this one.  
**Public Verbal Comment:** David Montoya, 517 Pueblo Solano NW  
**Motion Passed 4-0**
- B. Discussion and approval of Resolution No. 2022-10-03; A Resolution accepting a Celebration Permit. Administrator Simon presented the Resolution. **Motion Passed 4-0**

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\* Keep a look-out for the approved minutes on our website ([LosRanchosNM.gov/BoardOfTrusteesMeetings](https://LosRanchosNM.gov/BoardOfTrusteesMeetings)) in the coming months...

COMPLETE APPROVED MINUTES AT [LOS RANCHOS NM.GOV/BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS](https://LosRanchosNM.gov/BoardOfTrusteesMeetings)



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SUMMARIES, *continued*

- C. Discussion and approval of Resolution No. 2022-10-04; A Resolution accepting a letter of agreement and partnership with the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) Traffic Analysis.  
**Public Verbal Comments:** Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Gordene MacKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Loretta Chavez Smith, 536 Chavez Road NW, Jennifer Kueffer, 722 Mullen Road NW, David Montoya, 517 Pueblo Solano NW  
**Motion Passed 3-1 by roll call vote.** (Trustee Pacheco-Yes, Trustee Benavides-Yes, Trustee Lewis-Yes, Trustee Radnovich-No)
- D. Discussion and Approval to Advertise Ordinance No. 291; Granting a Franchise to the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority to provide water and wastewater service in the public rights-of-way within the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque; repealing Ordinance No. 204. **Motion Passed 4-0**

### TRUSTEE INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Roundtable discussion is informal; the Board of Trustees will take no official vote or other official action.

**Trustee Pacheco** Asked Administrator Simon how the barn is being used. Administrator Simon replied that the term of use for the barn is March through October. The barn is very popular, but there are not bathroom facilities, it doesn't really have lighting, it is just a barn, a shelter, despite that, it is exceedingly popular.

#### Trustee Benavides

- About the barn, we can take smaller steps, for example the electrical power. The first thing is to give it high priority for our capital improvement.
- We need a procedure on how to get things on the agenda.
- In the future, before we allocate funding for big projects, it would be prudent that we see a plan.
- There is a huge dip in the road on Roehl Road, on 4th right by Moses. Somebody should look at that.

#### Trustee Radnovich

- Concerned about the B & B code
- The Village has multiple identities, we need to delve deeper into the identity part.

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## NOVEMBER 9, 2022 7:00PM/Regular Meeting (DRAFT Minutes\*)

**Location:** Warren J. Gray Chambers and streamed on the Village Website and Facebook page

**Present:** Trustee Pacheco, Trustee Lewis, Trustee Radnovich

**Excused Absence:** Trustee Benavides

**Chair:** Mayor Donald T. Lopez

### AGENDA APPROVAL

#### FINANCIAL BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval of the October 2022 Cash Report. CFO Tammy Silva presented the cash report. Cash Report for the month of October 31, 2022. Ending cash balance on October 31, 2022, is \$10,809,217.36, which is an increase of \$187,057.72 for this month. YTD excess of revenues over expenditures is \$940,825.14. Unusual or Significant Items: The Village paid the 2nd quarter of EMS and Fire services MOU payment to Bernalillo County in the amount of \$116,724.00, in check register as check #1971. No other unusual or significant items. **Motion Passed 3-0**

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. **Appeal of BB 22-05; An appeal of the July 12, 2022, Village of Los Ranchos Planning and Zoning Commission denial of an application by Mark & Jenny Valencia 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.** The property is located at 7628-1 Rio Grande Blvd NW and is legally known as Lot 1 of Plat of Lots 1 Thru 4 Casas de Los Santos, projected section 20, T. 11 N., R. 3 E., N.M.P.M., Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, as filed in the Office of the Bernalillo County Clerk on April 20, 1994. The property contains 1.2296 acres more or less.  
Mark Valencia, 40 Camino Vega Verde, Corrales, NM 87048      Applicant  
Jenny Valencia, 40 Camino Vega Verde, Corrales, NM 87048      Applicant  
Dawn Volpe, 7628 Rio Grande Blvd NW Unit 1                      Operator  
**Motion Passed 3-0**
- B. **PP 22-01 A request by Chavez Guadalupe, LLC for approval of a Pilot Project Proposal as allowed by §9.2.27 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 known as certain tracts of land known and described as Tracts 35A2A, 36A1E2, 36A1F, 36A2E2, 36A2F, 36A3E2, & 36A3F as shown on Map No. 29 of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, within projected section 29, T. 11 N., R. 3 E., N.M.P.M., Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico. The property contains 9.26 acres more or less.

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SUMMARIES, *continued*

Director Rubin presented an overview of the Pilot Project proposal and stated that the applicant amended their application and reduced the lots from 21 to 16 and is no longer requesting any deviations from the Village code requirements.

**Public Verbal Comments In Favor:** LouAnne Byrd, 4634 Orchards Court NW, Michael Budagher, 4610 Rio Grande Lane NW, Al Lopez, 5401 Eakes Road NW, Paige LoPour, 6691 Guadalupe Trail NW, Tina Otteni, 4639 Orchard Court NW, Crystal Conine, 9717 San Bernadino Avenue NE, ABQ., NM 87122, Greg LoPour, 6691 Guadalupe Trail NW, Nancy Abeyta, 4115 Ravenwood Place NW, ABQ., NM 87107, Alan Bell, 348 Rome Lane, Corrales, NM 87048, Matt Finkelstein, 5431 Eakes Road NW, Shelby Stringer, 7701 Leslynne Drive NE, ABQ., NM 87109, Steve Maestas, 6724 Rio Grande Blvd NW, Dr. Steve Padilla, 6628 Casa Loma NE, ABQ., NM 87109, Dominic Serna, 980 Bonita Rosas Road NW, Mel Eaves, 721 Chavez Road NW

**Public Verbal Comments Opposed:** Andrew Armstrong, 6504 Avenida La Cuchilla NW, Hank Kelly, 6900 Rio Grande NW, Marsha Adams, 1008 Acequia Trail NW, Emilie Sederholm, 617 El Paraiso Road NW, Jennifer Kueffer, 722 Mullen Road NW, Joe Craig, 505 Calle Del Pajarito NW, Charles Eberle, 6501 Meoqui Court NW, Jane Selverstone, 620 El Paraiso Road NW, Randy McKee, 749 Chavez Road NW, Linda McKee, 749 Chavez Road NW, Tom Donelan, 668 Edgewood Drive NW, Marcia Smiley, 623 El Paraiso Road NW, Patrick Hurley, 909 Salamanca NW, Camille Varoz, 427 El Paraiso Road NW, Gordene MacKenzie, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Michelle Smiley, 623 El Paraiso Road NW, Diana Clark, 601 El Paraiso Road NW

**Public Verbal Comments Otherwise:** David Montoya, 517 Pueblo Solano NW

**Motion Passed 3-0**

- C. **Discussion and Approval for Advertisement of Ordinance No. 292; Amending the Village of Los Ranchos Codified Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 4; the Village Treasurer's compensation.** Administrator Simon presented the Resolution, and explained that this proposal is to bring our Treasurer position in line with other subject matter experts. Briefly provided an overview of the role of the treasurer and what he does for the Village.

**Public Comment:** Tom Donelan, 668 Edgewood Drive NW, Dru Tagliapietra, 312 Nuevo Hacienda Lane NW

**Motion Passed 3-0**

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 291; Granting a Franchise to the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Water Authority to provide water and wastewater service in the public rights-of-way within the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque; repealing Ordinance No. 204.

**Motion Passed 3-0**

### NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2022-11-01; A Resolution Extending the Moratorium on Higher Density Residential Development in the C-1 Zone in the Village of Los Ranchos.

**Public Comment:** Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Drive NW, Robert Chavez, 324 Enchanted Valley NW

**Motion Passed 3-0**

- B. Discussion and Approval of the Third 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.

**Motion Passed 3-0**

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Participants wishing to speak on topics that do not appear on the agenda: Dru Tagliapietra, 312 Nuevo Hacienda Lane NW, Tom Donelan, 6668 Edgewood Drive NW, David Montoya, 517 Pueblo Solano NW, Nancy Nangeroni, 7315 Guadalupe Trail NW, Joe Craig, 505 Calle del Pajarito NW

### TRUSTEE INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Roundtable discussion is informal; the Board of Trustees will take no official vote or other official action.

**Trustee Pacheco** Asked what determines where a crosswalk goes?

**Trustee Radnovich**

- Very upset B & B Ordinance wasn't on the agenda
- We need more time from when we get the agenda on Friday and the following Wednesday when we hear these cases
- Pilot Project Ordinance would be worth another look

\* Keep a look-out for the approved minutes on our website ([LosRanchosNM.gov/BoardOfTrusteesMeetings](https://LosRanchosNM.gov/BoardOfTrusteesMeetings)) in the coming months...

COMPLETE APPROVED MINUTES AT [LOS RANCHOS NM.GOV/BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS](https://LosRanchosNM.gov/BoardOfTrusteesMeetings)





homes on



## Welcome to 2023!

Buyers are anxiously awaiting more homes to become available.

People are using their IRA funds to purchase property, often internationally.

Please call to learn what the value is today of your property or to find out more about purchasing outside of the country.

Los Ranchos village specialists for over 40 years.  
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Alicia Feil 505 235 9398  
Susan Feil, CCIM, CIPS, CRB, CRS, RSPS 505 690 2225  
[ExperienceAlbuquerque.com](https://www.ExperienceAlbuquerque.com)

**kw**  
KELLERWILLIAMS  
505 271 8200



## OPEN SPACE BOND

At a Special Meeting on August 29, 2022, the Board of Trustees approved a resolution designed to bring to Los Ranchos voters a proposal to approve an Open Space bond using the following words:

"WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Board that it is necessary and in the best interests of the residents of the Village that there be submitted to a vote of the registered qualified electors of the Village, the questions of whether the Village should issue its general obligation bonds for the purposes hereinafter specified; and  
WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Board that it is necessary and in the best interests of the residents of the Village to provide for the acquisition of property for use as open space within the Village."

Turns out the residents of Los Ranchos overwhelmingly agreed, as the Open Space Bond passed with support from 82 percent of the electorate.

**We LOVE the**

**OPEN SPACE**

**Bond**

**It will not raise your taxes**

**FriendsofLosRanchos.com**

## Agri-Nature Center 2023 Spring Workshop Schedule

**Thursday January 26th at 2:00 pm**

Equipment with Jacobo Sanchez

**Thursday February 9th at 5:30 pm**

Container Gardening with Wes Brittenham

**Saturday February 25th**

Los Ranchos Matanza (see website for pricing)

**Saturday March 11th at 9:30 am**

Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop  
with Dr. Marisa Thompson

**Thursday March 16th at 5:30 pm**

Grape Pruning Workshop

**Thursday March 30th at 5:30 pm**

Making Mead (21+ only)

**Thursday April 13th at 5:30 pm**

Flower Growing with Maxfield Bervig

**Saturday April 22nd at 9:30 am**

Earth Day - Planting your Spring Garden  
with John Garlisch

**Thursday May 4th at 5:30 pm**

Farm to Table Cooking Demo with Jon Young

**Saturday May 13th at 10 am**

San Isidro Day - Free community event

**Thursday May 18th at 5:30 pm**

Sheep Shearing

*To register and find more information, visit the Village website. All workshops are \$5 unless otherwise stated.*

