



Village VISION

March 2009



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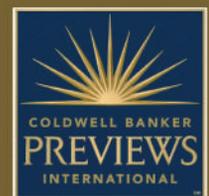
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Ditches with Trails: It's Not Quite that Simple!

by Larry Abraham

As I was looking through my photos for a cover picture for this month's issue, I couldn't help but be reminded of all the public outcry this last month over our coveted ditch/acequia system! With no disrespect to anyone involved, this picture of four baby starlings, taken under a Fourth Street business portal, symbolizes the intensity of our residents when someone mentions "ditches with trails".

I have to admit that we probably did not help matters at all when we put out signs last month, trying to make people aware of how important it is to keep pets on a leash when walking. The signs we installed last month have been in the making for nearly a year now, because so many residents were, and still are, concerned about their safety when meeting dogs without leashes along a trail. This was exacerbated by the numerous serious incidents we have had this past year concerning dogs off leash.

The trail signs we put up throughout the Village were originally designed for our newly acquired open space north of Paseo; they were to be placed next to dedicated public trails. Without ever thinking of the consequences, we in-

stalled these signs along the entryways to many of our ditches throughout the Village. I think the operative word that aroused everyone was the word "trail" on the signs. This is where my Mayor's Report and our ditch system become confusing even to me!

The balance of my Mayor's column is dedicated to trying to better understand our ditches, and the relationship to the MRGCD, and the dreaded word "trails". I will try to explain in simple terms why "ditches with trails" is so complicated.



a) Nearly all of our residents feel that the ditches and acequias are an important and integral part of the rural/agricultural heritage of our Village, and want to maintain the character of the ditches just like they are.

b) Nearly 90% of the irrigation ditches going through Los Ranchos are on, or go through, private property. This is why several residents were very upset that we put up signs that read, "Enjoy our Trails". Their argument that we are bringing attention to trails that go through their private property is a valid one.

The last thing I want to see happen is the unintended consequence that impels land owners to start fencing off their property, thereby blocking the

paths along the ditch which they are so graciously permitting us to trespass on. For this reason we are changing the signs to say "Entering Private Property" in the hope that all of our residents appreciate and respect the fact that they are not walking on a public right of way most of the time. I want to assure the land owners along the ditches that we appreciate the fact that they are "letting" us walk on privately deeded property.

c) We have received several letters of support saying how nice it would be if some government agency would clean up the graffiti and trash along the trails. This again is not as simple as it sounds when the ditches are going through private property. There are anti-donation clauses that state that government can't just improve someone else's private property. And if they did, where do you stop?

d) It appears that the only ditches or laterals that MRGCD possibly** owns are in three places:

The Albuquerque Main canal as it crosses Rio Grande just south of Paseo

The Griegos Drain as it runs south of Chavez through Los Poblanos Open Space

The Clear Ditch that runs year round just east of the paved bike trail.

There is some question as to the Chamisal lateral, regarding which portions are private.

**To complicate matters even more, there is a judicial ruling that states that the actual ownership of the drains/laterals belongs to the Federal Government and the Bureau of Reclamation, not the MRGCD...!

continued on page 6

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April

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May

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Upcoming Events

Deadline: Spring Village Vision

Friday, March 20th

Deadline: June Village Vision

Friday, May 1st

Growers' and Arts/Crafts Market (Saturdays)

March 14th, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Irish Fest! Guest Chef: Matt from Hurley's

April 11th, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Last Winter Markets

May 2nd, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Market Regular Season begins

May 9th, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

May 16th, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Old Vehicle Show, Tailgating Griller

Guest Chef: Kenny the Fishhugger

May 23rd, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

May 30th, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Celebrate our Village Dogs at the Market Dog Event!

Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings

Tuesday, March 10th, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 14th, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 12th, 7:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees Regular Meetings

Wednesday, March 11th, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 8th, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13th, 7:00 p.m.



St. Patrick's Day

Tuesday, March 17th

LRFD Easter Egg Hunt in Hartnett Park

Saturday, April 11th, 10:15 a.m.

Easter

Sunday, April 12th

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10th

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25th

Village Office Closed

Village At-a-Glance

4-H Youth Group Coming to Los Ranchos

4-H is a community of six million young people across America, all learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. 4-Hers participate in fun and hands-on learning activities. The Corrilitos 4-H Club is moving its meetings to Los Ranchos and is actively recruiting new families. Children aged 6 - 18 and adult volunteers are welcomed and encouraged to become members. The next meeting is March 16th at 7:00pm at Village Hall. Contact Shang-Ying Clark at 897-0403 or Shaun Ward at 341-0272.

Market Dates

The last two Winter Growers' Markets of this year will take place on Saturday, March 14th, when the Market will celebrate its first ever Irish Fest, with Irish music and food. Wear green for the occasion! And then on Saturday, April 11th, the Market will join with the Fire Department's Easter Egg Hunt for a Happy Easter Festival. For information, email Sue Brawley at sue@brawleyandcompany.com. Market hours are 10 am to 12 noon.

Easter

This year our annual Easter Egg Hunt, put on by our Fire Department, will be on Saturday, April 11th, at 10:15 a.m. sharp! Bring your kids and watch the Easter Bunny arrive on Fire Engine 12. If you would like to donate to the Easter Egg Hunt, please call Chief Perez at 977-4834. And then come to the Growers' Market to pick up your Bunny Food!

Lost and Found Pets on Website

If you have lost your pet or know someone who has, the first place you should look is on the Village website at www.losranchosnm.gov. We are trying to post pictures of all lost pets on the website. In an effort to keep all lost pets close to home, Town and Country Animal Hospital in Los Ranchos has agreed to keep the lost pets until we can reunite them with their owners. We highly advise micro chipping your pets to insure their safe return.

New Businesses Open

Corner Café and Fat Finch are now open in the Plaza at Rincones de Los Ranchos. And Teri Helmick's recycled furniture store, in the Plaza, will open soon. More information to come.

Porky's to Open a Second Location

Look for the opening of a second location of Porky's Pride BBQ restaurant in late March. Porky's second location will be at 6136 4th Street NW.

Donate Your Old TV's

With the change to digital television our schools can still use your old TV's, especially if they have a built in VCR or DVD player. If you would like to donate a TV that is in good working condition, please drop it off at Village Hall and we will see that it gets distributed to our schools in a fair manner.

Chamber of Commerce

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Los Ranchos Chamber of Commerce, please email your contact information to info@losranchoschamber.com

In This Issue

March 2009

Columnists

Mayor's Report	1
Ditch Writer	7
On Patrol	9
Chief's Corner	11
Birds of a Feather	13
Real Estate FYI	27
School Report	29
Food Column	39
Theatre News	41
Area I&J Report	43

Features

Noteworthy Villagers	5
Destination Los Ranchos	6
Fire Truck Charity	8
Coyotes in the Village	15
Recycling Changes	16
Danse Classique Theatre	17
Black Orchid Couture	19
Match Safes	20
Heeling Hearts Pet Program	22
Boy Scouts' 50th Anniversary	34

In the Village Hall

Planning & Zoning Summary	31
Board of Trustees Summary	35
Advertising Sizes and Rates	40

On the cover

Four baby starlings under the portal of Jeanette Harris' pilates studio on Fourth Street. Photo by Larry Abraham.

On the back cover

The Village's new trail signage on private ditches.



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VILLAGE OFFICE HOURS

M, W, Thur, & F: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tues: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Village Vision

6718 Rio Grande Blvd. NW
Los Ranchos, NM 87107

The *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 monthly and distributed free of charge to residents and businesses. Non-residents and other interested parties may subscribe by contacting Los Ranchos Village Hall at 505.344.6582. Price including S/H is \$20.00 per annum.

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ADVERTISING

The deadline for the next issue is printed in the Calendar on page 2 of each issue. Advertisements must be paid at Village Hall before each deadline, and submitted to the Coordinator. (see above)

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 on a disc. Please call before submitting material to confirm space and suitability.

CONTRIBUTORS

Sue Brawley, Judy Griego, Tim Tourville, Chief Greg Perez, Sgt. Jason Lazo, Sharon Rhutasel-Jones, Chef Jeff Copeland, Lisa Manwill, Randy Shamlan, Phil Bock, Wynette Smith, Rosemary Hall, Linda Seebach, Roberta Beyer, Bob Keers, Steve Quintana, Susan Neal, Penny Rembe, and Annabelle Silvas.

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Sky Dog the Art Space Earns Statewide Acclaim

A Village business is high on an important list! Lori Barrett's Sky Dog the Art Space, an art gallery located at 7103 Fourth Street NW, Bldg. M, has earned a place on *New Mexico Business Weekly's* list of art galleries in New Mexico. And not just any place: Sky Dog has been ranked Number 20 on the list of all galleries in the state!

Now, just consider the number of galleries in Santa Fe alone. Then add in all the galleries in Taos and in Albuquerque, as well as those in the rest of New Mexico, and you'll begin to understand what an honor this is for Lori and the Village.

Have you visited this exciting gallery? If you go, you'll find works by many well-known artists. I asked Lori for some names, and she sent me these for starters: Villager Karl Koenig (gumoil and gravure prints), Juanita Wolff (ceramic and metal sculptures), Leo Neufeld (oil landscapes), Greg Gibbons (oil on board - Joe Wisdom series), and Farrell Cockrum (acrylics). There are many more, and you're sure to find something you just can't live without. Lori also has openings and special events on a regular basis, and you can find news of these in the *Village Vision*, as well as in other publications. The gallery hours are on the website: www.skydogart.com, or call 344-9438 for information. Be sure to check out this latest feather in the Village's cap!

Sky Dog the Art Space

7103 Fourth Street NW, Bldg. M
505-344-9438 | info@skydogart.com



Lori Barrett

Doug Brown Named Dean of Anderson School



Doug Brown

University of New Mexico Provost Suzanne Ortega has announced the appointment of Douglas M. Brown as dean of UNM's Anderson School of Management.

"It is exciting to have someone with Doug Brown's extraordinary public and private sector experience leading our business school. What a great opportunity for our students," said Ortega.

Brown has been the principal in Brown and Brown Ventures, LLC, a holding company for various real estate holdings, an Internet company and several new product activities. A former UNM Regent, Brown was chosen by Governor Bill Richardson to take over as New Mexico State Treasurer in November 2005 and fix a scandal-ridden agency.

Brown was President and CEO of Talbot Financial Services and also served as President and CEO of Tuition Plan Consortium, an association of 275 private colleges and universities subscribing to a prepaid tuition plan named by *Business Week* as the "Best

Product of the Year."

"Doug Brown is an outstanding choice to be Anderson's next Dean," said Amy Wohlert, who has been serving as interim dean. "He will bring extraordinary new talents to the job, including deep insight about running successful organizations. I know that he will be warmly welcomed by the students, faculty and staff - everyone is very excited about Anderson's future with Doug at the helm."

Craig White, Grant Thornton Professor of Accounting and Anderson School Faculty Chair, said the faculty has expressed its strong confidence in the background and credentials Mr. Brown will bring to his leadership of Anderson. "We look forward to him adding his talents in advancing the mission of the school," said White.

Brown will begin his job as Anderson School dean on June 1, 2009.

Destination Los Ranchos

This Month's Destination: The Village of Los Ranchos

by Larry Abraham

Los Ranchos' business climate is better than ever! We have a clear opportunity to build a destination that will not only benefit our businesses, but create a distinct community for all of our residents. All one has to do is stroll up and down Fourth Street to see new and exciting businesses, from shopping plazas, art galleries, and antique stores, to restaurants, and more. The Corner Café has just opened with great home-style cooking, with The Fat Finch bird shop right next door. We are very fortunate to have Rob and Terri Helmick committed to creating a distinct shopping and eating destination to replace the Hacienda Home Center. We have two great new galleries with Sky Dog and Alumenart. If you are looking for a unique and inexpensive gift, you owe it to yourself to stop in at Alumenart or The Fat Finch. I guarantee you will be pleasantly surprised.

Additionally, Los Ranchos is very fortunate to have the members of the Baird family, who have created a unique shopping plaza. We all look forward to the exciting changes planned for Vernon's, Calico Café, and SonRisa Blooms in The Village Shops at Los

Ranchos. When you combine our existing businesses such as Sadie's, Dan's Boots and Saddles, Casa Rondeña Winery, Casa Benavidez, The Fruit Baskets, Z-Coil, Pharmacy Plus, Ezra's, Route 66 Bowling Alley, and others with our newly opened businesses, Los Ranchos is truly creating a shopping and eating destination. Thanks to Kelly Jo Designs, you can now shop Nordstrom's right here in Los Ranchos! Once again, Kelly Jo will be providing Nordstrom's with some of her ceramic designs for its spring collection.

These are exciting times for Los Ranchos, but for us to keep growing as a community, I have outlined several areas that I think are vital to the future of our businesses.

First and most importantly, our residents must support our local businesses. In order for our business community to survive during these challenging economic times, our residents must make every effort to support Los Ranchos businesses.

Second, our business community must form an alliance and build off each other's synergy to make everyone stronger. Now more than ever, I think our businesses must once again organize a Chamber of Commerce. I have

pledged to the business community that I will help in every way I can to insure its success. I am committed to helping build a Chamber of Commerce organization that will provide a strong foundation. For anyone who would like to help with the Chamber of Commerce, please send your contact information to info@losranchoschamber.com.

In order to help promote our business community, we will be creating an online business directory. This will provide businesses' contact information, as well as a link to their websites, and make it easier for our residents to patronize our Village businesses.

Lastly, we must use events like Lavender in the Village, the Los Ranchos Growers' Market, and our 50th Anniversary to help tell our story to the world.

I am excited about the future of Los Ranchos as we enter our second fifty years. Even though these times are challenging, I am confident that because of the strengths and uniqueness of our community, we will emerge stronger for it. For those businesses that can weather the downturn, I think there will be great rewards on the other side.

Ditches with Trails: It's Not Quite that Simple!

continued from page 1

e) **Ditches are Deadly.** The fact remains that the City of Albuquerque has done a very good job promoting its "Ditches are Deadly" campaign. I am not sure that we would want to encourage or endorse trails along our ditches as a safe route to school, or for recreation, as some have proposed. It is the inherent nature of our ditch banks to be unstable through erosion, growing tree roots, and burrowing animals.

There have been several incidents where we have had to pull horses, cars, and dead animals out of ditches because of unfortunate ditch related accidents. As some might remember, there was

even a death of a prominent doctor, who was crossing the Griegos drain on his bike and had an unfortunate accident. The government's response was to spend \$200,000 installing a five-ton limit concrete and steel structure to replace three 2x12 planks!

Our residents fear that government does not always look after the best interests of its citizens, and in this instance, in the south end of our Village, government has sadly urbanized a very rural setting. And, if we take measures to make the ditches safer, it will undoubtedly change their character.

Ditches are sacred. I think Senator Feldman's bill is well intentioned, and

it is getting all of us more acquainted with and appreciative of our ditch system. I think all of the various entities involved in this problem need to discuss it on a regional basis for the good of the public, but with respect for the private landowners and residents of the community. I truly hope that everyone understands that "ditches with trails" is not a simple topic, so let's make sure that we all tread lightly and do not ruin the most beautiful part of our treasured North Valley heritage.

There is probably no bigger advocate of ditches and trails than I, but we all need to educate ourselves as to the long term implications and unintended consequences of our actions.



Girl Scout Cookies at the Last Winter Markets

by Sue Brawley

The Winter Markets are the second Saturday of each month, from November through April, from 10 am to noon, weather permitting. The markets will be held outside in the regular location (tennis court parking lot), except in the case of inclement weather when the market will be held in the adjacent community barn.

On March 14th, Girl Scout cookies will be available. Brownie Troop #59, with representative students from Los Ranchos, Alvarado, Alameda, Mountain Mahogany, and the North Valley Academy, will be on hand to sell you the famous cookies! Yum! The market may also have lots of greens, hot-house tomatoes, goat cheese, bread, pasta, some root vegetables, dried fruit,

honey, cold-weather bedding plants, dried flower arrangements, and arts & crafts.

The last of the Winter Markets will be held on April 11th from 10 am to noon. April is a great time for tender spring greens and some veggie and flower bedding plants. Technically, the average last frost date is April 15th, but the Village has had snow and cold weather as late as mid-May. Vegetable and flower bedding plants can be planted with season extenders (row-cover, water walls, etc.), or in a sheltered place such as a warm courtyard. At the market one may also find hot-house tomatoes, some root vegetables, honey, eggs, spring flowers, and arts & crafts.

The regular season starts on Saturday, May 2nd, from 7 to 11 am.

Special Winter Market Event!

On Saturday, March 14th, the Los Ranchos Growers' Market will present an Irish Fest! Come hear Blarneystones play Celtic folk music! Matt, the executive chef at Hurley's (an Irish bistro), will have Irish leek and potato soup for you to taste!

So wear your green and meet your friends at the Market on Saturday, March 14th, from 10 to 12.

For more information, email Sue Brawley at sue@brawleyandcompany.com



Children's Charity Rally Around Restored Fire Truck

by Bob Keers

Bob Keers, a nearly thirty year resident of the Village, likes to refurbish and/or rebuild things. His largest project was the small 1950 home he and his wife moved into in 1980 that took fifteen years to bring to a very comfortable dwelling. The second largest was a recently completed rebuild of a 1925 Model "T" Ford truck.

The original truck was bought by the town of Estancia and made into a fire truck (Estancia No. 2) by local craftsmen. Keers found evidence of a blacksmith's work because worn iron wagon tires were used for part of the sub-frame.

In 1950, the Ballut Abyad Shrine of New Mexico bought the truck from Estancia, refurbished it, and used the unit to haul Shriners in parades, and children to and from doctor's visits. It has been in countless parades since 1951. About 1983, Keers volunteered to rebuild the rotted truck bed. The unit had been left in a warehouse with a leaky roof, and much of the wood bed was rotted.

In the years since, the unit has spent more days exposed to the New Mexico weather than it should have, and again the wooden bed was rotting. After a group discussion of what to do, Bob forgot to keep his hand down, so once again he was in charge of rebuilding the truck bed.

Four or five Shriners and one member's wife put in over seven hundred hours at Keers' shop, restoring and upgrading the old fire truck. They took off the rotted wood down to the truck frame, including full sized 4" by 8" by eight foot beams. They took off all the sheet metal, including fenders that had metal fatigue cracks, then cleaned, repaired, and repainted the parts. They designed and built a new, longer and wider truck bed using modern tube steel and aluminum tread plate. The bench is now in the center facing the parade viewers. The stainless steel hand rail is now welded into three pieces and properly anchored so it is safe to use to climb on board.

The refurbished and replacement parts were then reinstalled. Thankfully, the engine and drive line had



been redone several years ago so very little work, except replacing the old cracked wiring, was required. Believe it, Ford used color coded wiring in the twenties!

These photos were taken on January 31st, 2009, at a medical clinic the Shrine holds for the children it helps. The doctors fly in from Los Angeles twice a year for close-up and follow-up examinations. Shriners furnish, at no

cost, the best orthopedic and burn care for children under the age of eighteen.

Seeing these children restored to health so they can walk and run is a huge driving force for all Shriners. The care is free to any child who needs help, regardless of station in life. If you know of a child with orthopedic problems, including cleft palates, or who is a burn victim, call the Ballut Abyad Shrine Center at (505) 265-0800, and aid will be forthcoming.



Alarms and Locks Go Long Way to Deter Criminals

by Sgt. Jason Lazo,
Bernalillo County Sheriff's Dept.

While the Village is a very safe place to live, crime is all around us each and every day. It's the things we do to protect ourselves that help to keep crime out of our immediate lives.

Recently, I was advised that several people had been the victims of auto burglary crimes. I also found out that some of these people had not locked their vehicles, and that the offender(s) had just opened the doors and let themselves in. While locking the doors may

not have prevented the thefts, doing so would have served as a deterrent and made getting into the vehicles more difficult and time consuming, while potentially alerting neighbors that something was going on.

Now I'm not going to lie to you; if someone wants your property badly enough, they will surely find a way to get it. Only by making it as difficult as possible do we decrease our chances of becoming victims and increase the likelihood that an offender will be caught. The more time a criminal has to spend trying to get into your home, vehicle,

mailbox, etc., the better the chance that he or she will get frustrated and move on to an easier target, or just leave to avoid being identified and caught.

Auto alarms, home alarms, decorative wrought iron, dogs, neighborhood watch programs (formal or informal), and of course locking your doors all serve to accomplish the goal of keeping ourselves, our property, and our community safe.

Help us (your Sheriff's Department) to help you! Keep safety on your minds at all times.

Bake Sale to Raise Funds for Triathlon Charity Event

On March 14th, from 11 am to 5 pm, Christina Whitaker, DOM, and Ashlie Aragon, food and beverage supervisor for Santa Ana Star Casino, will be holding a bake sale and giving chair massages for donations, in an effort to raise funds for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The money raised will go toward sponsoring these ladies as part of the Team in Training Triathlon event which takes place on May 25th in Austin, TX.

The Triathlon consists of a 1.5K swim, a 40K bike race, and a 10K run. 25% of every dollar raised goes to training and participation in the Triathlon, and 75% goes to the Society to help fund their research.

The March 14th event will take place at The Village Shops at Los Ranchos, Suite D, where Christina has located her office.

For further information, you may contact Christine at 903-0128, or send her an email at Christina@candemedicine.com



Ashlie Aragon, left, and Christina Whitaker



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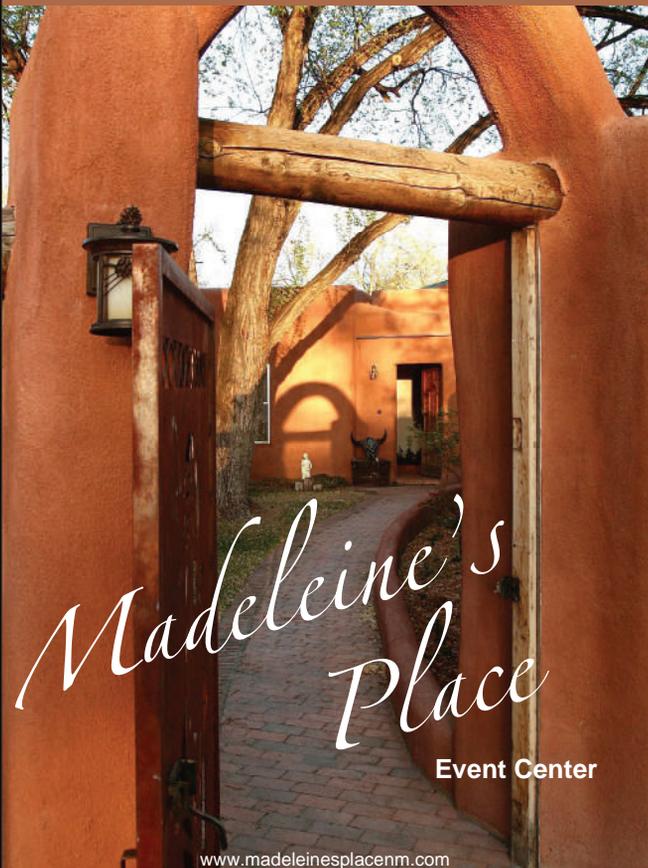
Pet of the Month: Alex

I'm a great guy looking for the right home. I was adopted once already, but the resident cat was not very fond of me, so I was returned to Animal Humane so I could find the perfect family. I'm a one year old Tabby short-haired cat. I promise to be a loving companion. Can you make the same promise?

#5478

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**ESCRIBIENTE Speaker
for March 4, 2009**

TLC of DIP Pens will include Tips, Lots of demos, and the Challenge of these pens at the Wednesday, March 4, 2009, 6:30 pm, meeting of ESCRIBIENTE at Manzano Mesa Center, 501 Elizabeth SE. FREE! Visit! Meet new people! More information? Call Jan at 281-5771. The public is invited.



A Brief History of the Iconic Firehouse Dalmatian

by Chief Greg Perez
Los Ranchos Fire Department

How did that spotty black and white dog known as a Dalmatian come to be associated with fire fighting? Dalmatians have been around for about 600 years. So, to understand how the Dalmatian became the number-one firehouse mascot in England and the United States, we must take a long look back in history.

The exact time and location of the dog's origin are unknown. However, because Dalmatians appear in an Italian wall painting dated about 1360 A.D., and because these spotted dogs were named after Dalmatia, an Adriatic coastal region, one may assume that they originated somewhere in this area. But, it wasn't until 1780 when the name "Dalmatian" was used in the English language.

Weighing 25 to 55 pounds and standing 19 to 23 inches high, the Dalmatian was the perfect size to serve as a coach dog. (In fact, in Great Britain, Dalmatians are still nicknamed "English coach

dogs" and "plum pudding dogs.") The Dalmatian is a very physical breed, with a strong, muscular body, and able to run great distances without tiring.

The Dalmatian also has what seems to be a natural calming effect on horses. This trait about the breed was seen very early on, and soon the Dalmatian was identified with horses. It is during the era of horse-drawn fire apparatus that the Dalmatian becomes forever tied to the Fire Service. These firehouse horses were required to spend hours at a time at a fire scene, or hours inside the firehouse waiting for a call, and despite many misbeliefs, these firehouse horses were not broken down old hags, but fine spirited horses.

The Dalmatian became the horses' pet, as it were, to help keep them calm. There are many reports and stories of seeing a fire team rushing to the scene of a call, with a Dalmatian or two running between the horse teams the whole way.

Once on the scene of the call, the Dalmatian took over as guard dog, insuring that nothing was stolen from the

apparatus. Because of the dog/horse bond, the Dalmatian easily adapted to the firehouse in the days of horse-drawn fire wagons.

Since every firehouse had a set of fast horses to pull the pumper, it became common for each group of firefighters to keep a Dalmatian in the firehouse to guard the firehouse and horses. When the alarm came in, the Dalmatian led the way for the horse-drawn pumper. In this way, the Dalmatian became the firefighters' companion and a symbol of the fire service. Today, Dalmatians are still found in many firehouses in England, Canada, and the United States.

Because of this loyalty, the Dalmatian continued in the Fire Service once the horses were replaced with mechanical apparatus. Today, in many large cities, the Dalmatian is the guard dog of the fire truck while at the scene of fires and rescues. In its long history in the Fire Service, there are also reports of how the Dalmatian has rescued trapped firefighters or victims. Overall, the Dalmatian is a brave and valiant dog.



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Attracting the Birds with Bling on their Wings

by Roberta Beyer

Very soon the beautiful birds of summer will be gracing our yards and gardens. For now we will give you tips on attracting these bejeweled birds to your feeders, and next time we'll give you tips on gardening to attract them.

Hummingbirds, orioles and goldfinches are the easiest birds to attract to your feeders during summer. The first step is to load up on sugar, grape jelly, and nyjer seed.

Hummingbirds

New Mexico hosts many species of these glorious birds in the summer. It's one of the times that we can lord it over the folks back east with their cardinals and all.

Feeders: For hummingbirds, the word is RED. Choose a feeder that is primarily red in color, easy to clean and one that does not leak or drip.

Nectar syrup: Dissolve one part white cane sugar (never use honey or sugar substitutes--hummingbirds aren't diet conscious) in four parts water. This is done most easily by bringing the mixture to a boil. Cool and store in the refrigerator for up to two weeks. Discard nectar any time it becomes cloudy or develops mold. Do NOT add red dye. It is totally unnecessary and is likely harmful to hummingbirds' health. Sugar water spoils rapidly in hot weather, so nectar in your feeders should be replaced every two to three days (in case your hummingbirds aren't consuming it more quickly). Again, watch out for any cloudiness or mold in the nectar. If your hummingbirds stop eating at your feeder, discard and replace the nectar even if the nectar looks okay to you. The birds know best and there's



no sense in arguing with them.

Cleaning your feeder: Feeding birds involves certain responsibilities. It is critically important to keep feeders clean. There are numerous nooks and crannies in hummingbird feeders that will develop mold, even if you are rinsing the feeder each time you change the nectar. Special curved and small brushes help with this chore. If there is any stubborn area in the feeder

that you can't reach with a brush, soak the feeder in a very weak solution of bleach and water. Vinegar water is also a good cleaning agent. Be sure to rinse thoroughly before refilling with nectar.

Ants, Bees and Wasps: If you hang it, they will come. We have nothing against these creatures, but would prefer that they eat elsewhere. In addition to annoying the humans and the

hummingbirds, bugs that get into the nectar spoil it, and the nectar must be replaced.

Ants can be kept out of the nectar by hanging a contraption called an "ant moat" or "nectar protector" above the hummingbird feeder. The moat is a cup that is filled with water. Ants crawling down the tree or the hanger on their way to the hummingbird feeder fall into the ant moat and are not able to get back out. If you use an ant moat, fill it only with water, because other birds will drink from it or even use it as a mini hot tub for bathing.

There are other methods for keeping ants out of feeders including smearing vegetable oil, Vaseline, or some other gooey substance onto the tops of feeders or around feeding ports. We don't prefer these methods because of the chance that birds might get the substance on their feathers. However, one idea is to put the gooey stuff into the bottom of the ant moat and then turn it upside down and hang that above the feeder. Ants get stuck in the goo. But we have good success with the water-in-the-ant-moat method, and water is easier to clean out of the ant moat than goo.

Bees and wasps will land on hummingbird feeders, so the goal again is to keep them from crawling into the nectar. Bees are attracted to the color yellow, so we've never figured out why one of the major hummingbird feeder manufacturers uses yellow parts all over its feeders. Why have a feeder with a bee guard if the bee guard is yellow? There are other excellent feeders which have no yellow parts. These feeders are better at deterring wasps and bees.

Hanging a wasp trap in the vicinity of the hummingbird feeder is a solution, but we prefer non-killing methods. Bees need all the help they can get these days. Try setting up a feeder that has a sweeter solution of sugar water. Bees will prefer it and possibly stay away from the other hummingbird feeders. There are also saucer-type hummingbird feeders that bees and wasps can't feed from because their tongues are too short. After a bit of unsuccessful trying, they'll likely head off to your neighbor's feeder.

Hummingbird Territories:

Some folks get upset that humming-

birds don't like to share. Don't worry about it. Hummingbirds (especially rufous hummingbirds) are true gladiators and there is nothing wrong with that. Just sit back and enjoy the show. It's lots more fun than watching wrestlers on TV. One way to get them to share is to put up additional feeders. This will also please the local wild bird store owner!

Keep your feeders up through the fall. Most hummingbirds will be heading south by the end of September or early October, but there are often stragglers who stay longer or need a re-fueling station on their journey. Besides, they might be just as confused by global warming as we are. The notion that keeping feeders up will delay migration is a myth.



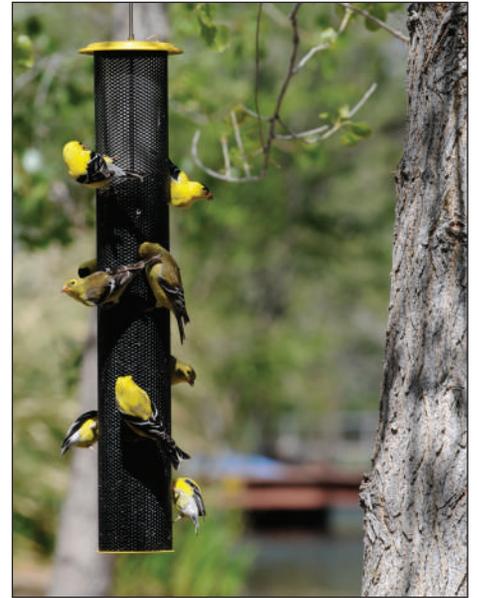
Orioles

These wonderful birds are also sugar freaks and often feed from hummingbird feeders. You can tempt them even more with grape jelly, one of their favorite foods. Also, they are attracted to oranges and the color orange. Cut an orange in half, stab the skin side onto a nail or put it into a cup and set it out for the birds along with grape jelly, and you'll likely attract them. Not surprisingly, there are oriole feeders made especially for serving up a buffet certain to attract orioles. We love the distinctive chatter of these bold birds, especially when they bring their youngsters around to teach them how to find grape jelly in the wild.

Nectar: Some "authorities" suggest making a weaker solution (5:1 ratio) of sugar water for orioles, but it's not necessary. The same nectar made for hummingbirds (4:1) will work fine.

Feeders: Keep the feeders clean---

same as for hummingbird feeders.



Goldfinches

Last but not least are the sweet and glorious goldfinches. These mild-mannered birds twitter about our gardens all year long, but only don their bright yellow coats for summer. The little black seed that is irresistible to goldfinches is nyjer (sometimes spelled 'niger'). It is often called thistle, but technically it isn't thistle seed at all. Nyjer seed comes from a yellow daisy-like plant that grows in parts of Africa and India. The seed that is imported to the US is heat treated and will not germinate or sprout, so nyjer WON'T create a weed problem in your yard. (If an occasional seed sprouts, let it grow and you will have some happy finches.) Nyjer is more expensive than other seed, but a little goes a long way and it is a highly nutritious seed for your birds.

Special mesh feeders, thistle socks, or nyjer feeders are the perfect way to offer this seed.

The current economic crisis is probably limiting your ability to accumulate bling of the gemstone variety, but nature sends flocks of flying jewels to decorate our lives every summer. Unlike the sparklers sported by celebrities, bling-on-the-wing can be attracted by lures as inexpensive as a bit of grape jelly or some sugar water. So take a break from money worries, and spend time watching the chirpy dazzlers that will soon be passing over your home for snacks (and fresh water, of course!).



Coyote Presence Requires Preventative Measures

by Larry Abraham

Please be aware that we have several packs of coyotes in our area. While coyotes play a valuable role in decreasing the rodent population, they can create a problem that is difficult for us to control. Many of the coyotes have become urbanized, and their presence in Los Ranchos can be minimized, but probably not eliminated. Urbanization, or habituation, occurs when a coyote has lost its fear of humans. As a result, increased attacks on pets and livestock may occur.

We can all help by following the suggested guidelines below. Please keep in mind that we live right next to the Bosque, and wild animals are unpredictable, especially when they are trying to feed their young.

- DON'T leave domestic pet food outside. Wildlife will soon depend upon it. Feed pets indoors or promptly remove dishes when pets complete

Many of the coyotes have become urbanized and their presence in Los Ranchos can be minimized but probably not eliminated. Urbanization or habituation occurs when a coyote has lost its fear of humans.

their meal outside and store bags of pet food indoors.

- DON'T feed or provide water for coyotes or other wildlife. This practice attracts coyotes and promotes increased numbers of rodents, birds, snakes, and other creatures that can provide major

portions of the coyote's natural diet.

- DO clear brush and dense weeds from around your property. This deprives rodents of shelter and reduces protective cover for coyotes.

- DO try to educate your friends and neighbors about the problems associated with feeding coyotes. If you belong to a homeowner's association or neighborhood watch, bring up the subject during one of your meetings.

To protect pets and farm animals

Keep small pets (cats, rabbits, small dogs) indoors. Don't allow them to run free at any time. They are easy, favored prey. Coyotes have been seen hunting cats, dogs, chickens, ducks, and geese throughout Los Ranchos.

Most coyotes have been seen an hour before sunrise and early morning in residents' yards and along the ditch banks.

Pets should be brought inside after dark and never be allowed to run loose.

Recycling in the Village: A Guide to the New Rules

by Steve Quintana

Recycling in the Village has recently changed. Waste Management (WM), the Village waste services provider, recently mailed Village residents notification that residential recycling will now be picked up every other week on the same day as trash pickup. The new recycling pickup schedule results in more pickups per year than the old schedule and makes it a little easier to keep track of recycling pickup days. Recycling pickup in the near future will be on trash pickup days during the weeks of March 2, 16, and 30. Please refer to the WM mailer for other dates, or calculate recycling dates on two-week intervals. Mark your calendar or your recycle bin and let's get recycling!

The recent WM mailing included a list of items that can be recycled in the residential recycling bins. Acceptable items include phone books, magazines, junk mail, office paper, newspapers, paperboard, plastics 1 through 7, brown paper bags, steel cans, empty aerosol cans, paperboard, flattened cardboard, aluminum cans, and aluminum pie tins.

Household hazardous material recycling and disposal is not affected by the recent improvements to the residential recycling program. Household hazardous materials, including compact fluorescent light bulbs and tube fluorescent light bulbs, can be disposed of by delivering them to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC). The HHWCC is not far from the Village. It is located at the Rinchem Company, Inc., 6133 Edith Blvd NE (west side of Edith between Montano and Osuna). Household Hazardous Waste Hotline: 345-1650. Open to the Public on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM and Saturday 8 AM - 3 PM. Household hazardous material can also be disposed of for a fee by contacting Waste Management for instructions and special shipping containers.

Glass recycling is through the City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Management Department. Glass and other recyclables can be deposited at most of the City's Recycling Drop-off Sites or Convenience Centers. Some of the nearest locations are:

Solid Waste Main Office

4600 Edith NE (Edith and Griegos)

Smith's (Taylor Ranch)

Golf Course and Paseo Del Norte

Sam's Club

10600 Coors Bypass NW

Wal-Mart (Coors & I-40)

2550 Coors Blvd. NW (Coors & I-40)

North Valley Senior Center (No glass accepted)

3825 4th St. NW

Joanne's Fabrics and Crafts

2240 Wyoming NE (Wyoming and Menaul)

Eagle Rock Convention Center

6301 Eagle Rock NE (505) 857-8318

Wal-Mart

2701 Carlisle NE. Carlisle NE & Claremont NE

E-waste, computers, and related objects, can be recycled in a number of ways. WM will do so for a fee; check their website. Hallmark "The Cable Place" accepts e-waste on the second Saturday of every month. This is a charitable donation and can be used as a tax write-off. New Mexico Technet Computer Reruns, Recycling and Rehabilitation Program will go through the donated products to remove all proprietary data and insure reliability. Working computer equipment will be donated to schools and non-profit organizations in New Mexico. Their computer technicians will salvage everything they can and use it to assemble fully functional machines

Residential recycling will now be picked up every other week on the same day as trash pickup. The new schedule results in more pickups per year and makes it a little easier to keep track.

or distribute parts to schools offering technical vocational training programs for students. Unusable equipment will be disposed of using environmentally friendly practices, using EPA compliant Recyclers. Next computer "dump day" is March 14, 11:00 - 4:00. 4401 Cutler NE, Suite C, Albuquerque,

NM 87110. 265-5801. Recycle contributors get 10% off their next purchase at Hallmark. Other e-waste acceptors include the City of Albuquerque on an occasional basis and various computer vendors (when you buy a new product).

Scrap metal of all kinds comes in many forms, including wire, and are valuable commodities which can be recycled or sold at numerous local scrap metal businesses in the metro area, many on 2nd Street NW. For purposes of this article, W. Silver Recycling of New Mexico, Inc. stated that they pay for metal. They are located at 1800 First Street NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102 244-1508. Check the yellow pages for other scrap metal merchants.

For more detailed information on the recycling and disposal services available to Village residents, visit the following websites:

wm.com/index.asp

under "Our Services" click on "Residential".

cabq.gov/solidwaste/recycling/recycle.

hallmark-thecableplace.com/info.html

“Danse Classique Theatre” is a Family Affair



photo by David Savinski

by Wynette Smith

The curtains were closed. Standing front, beautifully singing Christmas carols, was the Eastern Hills Youth Choir led by Michelle Smith. The audience, consisting of friends and family of the performers, was filing in and finding a seat with a feeling of anticipation.

Behind the curtains the air was electrified with excitement as the dancers, after adjusting their make-up and costumes, were warming up their muscles. The stage crew led, by Los Ranchos resident, Ron Jones, was putting the finishing touches on the sets and props. In the “green room” parents were helping their children get into their costumes and make-up.

As I watched all the activity and preparation unfold, I began to realize that this was very much a family endeavor. Ron’s wife, Patsy, who was dancing the role of Sugar Plum Fairy, stood in the wings watching her husband work

on the sets. Standing behind Patsy was their daughter, Angela, awaiting her cue to go on stage. Once the curtain went up and the stage filled with dancers, I watched Dr. Berry Krakow and his wife, Jessica, dancing together as their son, Jacoby, who was dancing the role of Fritz, gleefully tormented his sister, Sable, in the party scene.

There were three generations of one Los Ranchos family performing throughout the Nutcracker. Zonaidy Abad danced the role of Claire and her daughter, Shaire, danced in the Chinese number. Also in the Chinese number were Liana Jaramillo whose mother, Juliana, was in the party scene, and Angelina Freeman whose father, Travis, danced in the party scene, as well as the role of the wolf. Brother and sister, Dominic and Jocelyn, danced the Russian number together and their mother, Marlene Gunderson, danced in the Flower number.

Mr. Gunderson worked with the stage crew. The whole Gant family

danced in the ballet as well. What a wonderful thing for a whole family to be involved together in an activity such as the Nutcracker Ballet!

That is the essence of Danse Classique Theatre of Los Ranchos. All are invited to participate; no one is too old to be a contributing member of the ballet. The feeling of comradeship and love permeates the company.

Starlet Dance Studio, home of Danse Classique Theatre, takes pride in the family focus of its program. One could go any Saturday morning and see a prime example of parents taking class in one room as their children are taking class in another.

The family unit is an important part of a successful community, and in Los Ranchos this is evident in what we see at Starlet Dance Studio.

Starlet Dance Studio

6528 Fourth St. N.W.

Phone: 505-345-0795

wynettesmith@hotmail.com

Lavender's Uses Are As Rich As Its Fragrance

by Penny Rembe

We all know that plants have played an important role in medicine for thousands of years, but did you know that the lavender plant is called the medicine chest of the plant world?

Lavender has calming effects; try a little spray in your car while you're waiting for traffic or a drop on your pillow to help you sleep. Lavender soothes burns and heals insect bites and calms and protects against germs. Put lavender in your cabinets to keep away the insects and in your drawers to protect from moths.

And that's not all! You can cook with lavender. You can put lavender in ice cream, lemonade, iced tea, and/or vodka. Use a lavender rub on your lamb chops or a pinch in your crême brûlée. I put lavender in our honey to eat with sopapillas. A little lavender goes a long way, so use a light hand.

But the best use for lavender in Los Ranchos is in landscaping. It likes full sun, poor soil that drains well, uses very little water once it's established, and it makes a beautiful border. Cut stems once a year in July and hang the bouquet upside down in a dark place and you have a colorful arrangement which will last all winter. Lavender has been used for centuries and now you know why. Plant some this spring and enjoy all its many uses!

10th Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

In 2009, almost 1,100 New Mexico women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and an estimated 240 will die from the disease. The American Cancer Society will invite thousands of walkers to join the fight against breast cancer at the 10th Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk on Sunday, April 26, 2009.

The walk will begin at Cottonwood Mall and participants will follow a five-mile path on the Bosque Trail along the Rio Grande. Walkers may start anytime between 7:30-10:00 a.m. after turning in their walk paper and donations.

This is the seventh year the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk has been held at Cottonwood Mall and participants have enjoyed the natural beauty and ease of access that the walking path provides. The hospitality of the North Valley continues to inspire those affected by breast cancer in our community.

The walk will result in some temporary street closures and traffic restrictions that will affect residents of the Village of Los Ranchos. These closures and restrictions have been made with feedback from Village officials and are intended to maintain walkers' safety while still providing access to residents. These closures and restrictions include:

- Southbound traffic only on Rio Grande between Alameda and El Pueblo streets will be closed from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the morning of the walk. Traffic needing to head south can access a detour along 4th Street to El Pueblo. Any residents needing to exit or enter the area will be assisted by law enforcement officials.

- One lane of eastbound traffic on Alameda between Coors and Rio Grande.

- One northbound lane of traffic on Coors Bypass between Coors Blvd. and Cottonwood Mall entrance.

- Northbound lanes of traffic on Coors between Seven Bar Loop and the Cottonwood Mall entrance.

We appreciate your feedback and your support of this event. For all ques-

tions and concerns, please contact Enrico Jeantete with the American Cancer Society at 262-6027 or enrico.jeantete@cancer.org. All future updates will be included in upcoming community newsletters.

As the largest non-governmental supporter of breast cancer research nationwide, the American Cancer Society has invested nearly \$352 million in breast cancer research grants since 1972. The funds raised at last year's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk in Albuquerque have helped support the American Cancer Society's research, education, advocacy and patient service programs, such as Reach to Recovery®, a one-to-one visitation program for breast cancer patients, and Look Good...Feel Better, a program where women learn makeup and skin-care techniques to offset the effects of chemotherapy and radiation.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer also affects advocacy efforts throughout the state. Last year, our advocacy efforts in 2008 were very successful. An American Cancer Society initiative doubled our state's investment in the New Mexico Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program to a total of \$1,000,000. This funding will mean nearly 5,000 additional mammograms and diagnostic services for women ages 40-49 who are at extremely high risk of not getting screened because they have no health insurance, and fall below 250% of the federal poverty level. Early detection doubles, and in some cases even triples, a woman's chance for surviving breast cancer, depending on age and other factors.

This event is sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of New Mexico, Wal-Mart and First Financial Credit Union. In addition, our media sponsors are Clear Channel's 100.3 The Peak, KASA Fox 2 and Univision New Mexico.

Last year, over 19,000 walkers joined in the effort to raise funds to benefit breast cancer research, education, advocacy efforts and patient services of the American Cancer Society. Anyone interested in participating or volunteering with the event can call 262-6027.

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It's Funky and Punky at Black Orchid Couture

by Sharon Rhutasel-Jones

How in the world do you get from Pojoaque, New Mexico, to playing drums in a California band to opening a shop called Black Orchid Couture on Fourth Street in the Village of Los Ranchos? The answer is the story of Sara Peña's adult life. Sara's shop, which carries everything from the edgiest of punk, Gothic, and metal styles, to glamorous vintage beaded evening wear, to classic trench coats, is as eclectic as her life.

Everything in the Black Orchid makes a statement. Take the floors. The previous tenants of the building had trashed the tiles. So Sara pulled them up, painted the bare concrete black, and embedded a heavy dusting of green glitter in the paint before it dried—a perfect founda-

Sara Peña caters to "people who want to express themselves through their body and sense of style."

tion for the mixture of treasures that await the shopper at this just-wacky-enough new shop at 8831 Fourth Street.

Fashionable women looking for the perfect little black dress to wear to a formal occasion might choose between a lace and velvet creation from the 50s and a timelessly elegant black taffeta sheath with sleeves created of pleated satin ribbons. The price tag for each: under \$50.00. Girls looking for budget but beautiful prom dresses are likely to find just the right thing as well. Further exploration might reveal a choice of delicately beaded evening bags priced under \$15.00.

Sara collects much of her constantly changing clothing stock from California and local estate sales with an eye to offering an alternative to mall shopping. She caters to "people who want to express themselves through their body and sense of style." Sara is a vibrant personification of self-expression. A tattoo of Medusa in black and green spirals up her left arm; a delicate tattoo of a fairy on her right complements the snake-haired goddess.

The cutting edge, slightly mysterious couture of the Black Orchid shares the shop with one-of-a-kind earrings by America Farley Metals, hand made pillows and dolls, and Mary Janes decorated with whimsical felt designs, all by local crafters. Soon, Vanessa Barney will join Sara and tweak the Orchid's stock with what she calls the "cutesy" offerings of Hey Pretty Cupcake with its line of feminine tees, perfect for layering under a vintage blazer, plus other far from ordinary items that catch her fancy.



The two have other plans as well. Sara, a talented seamstress, has begun to create custom designs for people who can't find just the right item to enhance their wardrobe or, perhaps, to serve as a costume. Sara's interest in costuming goes back to her grandparents. Her grandfather was an actor and her grandmother a costume designer for the original Adobe Theatre in Corrales. She remembers her grandmother's shed full of costumes, some of which she was allowed to play in as a child. Shopping the Orchid has potential for all sorts of unusual, ready-made pieces to serve as costumes, too. Along with designing and making specialty items, Sara plans to enlist Vanessa's aid in developing craft classes in things like jewelry making and beading.

Only at the Black Orchid Couture will Villagers find items as varied as Bloody Mary Hot Sauce, a child's white lace party dress, and gently used Doc Martins; vintage, couture, rockabilly, Gothic, and punk all under one roof!

Black Orchid Couture
8831 Fourth Street NW
Los Ranchos, NM 87114
897 - 3123

Open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 - 5
www.blackorchidcouture.com



Match Safes Offer a Small Glimpse into the Past

Villager and internationally renowned photographer, Karl Koenig, has just published, with Neil Shapiro, editor, an impressive volume of photographs of match safes, objects which Karl has collected for years. Don't know what 'match safes' are? Karl Koenig explains:

"Pocket match safes (small purpose-made boxes with a dedicated striking surface) were devised when friction matches were invented around 1830. Yet, convenient as they were, they were too dangerous to carry in one's clothing without additional protection. Accidental ignition could mean a ruined suit or worse.

Safes were made from virtually every natural and man-made material in an extraordinary variety of forms until they swiftly dropped into obsolescence in the 1930s. During the century they reigned, their design and elaboration became increasingly artful and ingenious as manufacturers and artisans

made them for every taste and social class.

These small cases soon became more than a way to keep matches from exploding; indeed, they became part of the owner's identity, often anchored by a chain of precious metal, where the match safe conveyed a powerful implicit statement to everyone who saw it in use. Makers of fine silver, gold and platinum turned to match safes and there are plenty of examples from such prestigious workshops as Gorham, Tiffany, Cartier, Faberge, and Sampson Mordan."

Karl Koenig and his wife, Frances, are long-time residents of the Village. From 1964 to 1981, Karl held the position of Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry at the University of New Mexico, and from 1981 until 1997, he conducted a private clinical practice. Since retiring from his practice, he has served as a member of the Village's Planning and Zoning Commission, and

has concentrated on his photography, showing and teaching in this country and abroad.

For information on match safes, visit matchsafe.org

To contact Karl Koenig, email him at

www.gumoil.com or
kpkoe@swcp.com

To purchase the book, please write:

Neil Shapiro
International Match Safe Association
128 Lancaster Street
Albany, NY 12210 - 1904
or email: nshapirl@nycap.rr.com

Basic price for the book is \$175.00

Limited edition of 50 sets (two each, signed and numbered) of match safe photo etchings, available for \$150.00 per set, with documentation. Contact Karl Koenig for information.



All photos by Karl Koenig. None are to scale. Clockwise from opposite page:

Pforzheim (German jewelry center city). Match safe and case.

Dogs. All English. The Brits loved dogs. (You rarely see a child on a safe but you often see a dog, a fish, or a bird)

Excellent commissioned portrait of a favored woman. Perhaps a wife. French enamellist, English silver maker.

Grouse. Many safes were made for sportsmen and hunters.

Austrian Jugendstil (Art Nouveau). Made by the famous George A. Scheidt in Vienna.

Geisha Silver Figural. Japanese made, for export.





Healing Hearts Prison Pet Program Flourishes

by Susan Neal

When you are ready to add a special companion to your life, consider adopting one of the dogs trained by the women of the Healing Hearts Prison Pet Program at the Women's Correctional Facility of Grants, New Mexico. Since August of 2007, a special group of dogs have been given a second chance at new lives in loving families. They are rescues from the animal shelter in Grants, selected by Lyn Martin (dog expert) and Cheri Baisdon (shelter director) for health and temperament.

Los Ranchos resident Susan Neal has been working as a therapist for PB&J Family Services for over three years. PB&J's Mission is to help at-risk children to grow and develop to their full potential in nurturing families within a supportive community. Towards

this goal, the organization has developed several prison related support programs to which the Healing Hearts Prison Pets Program belongs.

The program nurtures the daughters, sisters, wives, and mothers of our community who are currently serving time. The ten original members of the program have increased to twenty trainers who must exhibit six months of clear conduct before being interviewed for the coveted job of dog handler. All of the trainers love dogs and are grateful for the opportunity to "give back" by offering trained dogs for adoption to the community.

When the dogs arrive at the prison, many have experienced abuse, neglect, lack of socialization with other dogs or people, and have had no training. Most of them have not been spayed or neutered, and some are pregnant. They

move into the cells and living quarters with the women and they learn how to be loved and cared for. Not only do the trainers and dogs benefit from the pairing but the entire prison gains. A few of the benefits of living with pets listed by the Delta Society include: physical and psychological well being, nurturing behavior, stress relief, decreased feelings of loneliness, enhanced empathy, and positive self esteem.

The percentage of women entering United States prisons in the last 20 years has increased by almost 400%. President Reagan's Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 was aimed not at big drug dealers but at street level users. Mandatory minimum sentences insured a dramatic increase in imprisonment for drug related convictions. The New Mexico Women's Correctional Facility opened in 1989 to

house adult female offenders. On average, 588 women are incarcerated in the facility.

Research has shown that nearly all incarcerated women have had a serious history of trauma or abuse in their lives. As the program trainers work on caring for the dogs, they also learn to care for themselves and each other. Having dogs in prisons is not unique to the Grants facility, but the ongoing therapeutic work is. All trainers are required to attend a weekly two hour therapy group facilitated by Susan Neal. Group topics include: grief, safety in relationships, gossip vs. venting, and respect, teamwork, communication, and conflict resolution. Susan is also available for 1:1 individual work as needed.

An appreciation for the differences in temperament both in themselves, the dogs, and others is fostered. The women bond with "their" dogs and come away with the increased confidence they have learned from the ability to transform neglected or unsocialized dogs into healthy and well adjusted pets. The experience helps them to grow emotionally



as well as challenges them to develop the social skills necessary to work with each other for the good of the group.

In the words of a Heeling Hearts trainer: "to a prisoner who deals with extreme loneliness, despite a sea of people (or perhaps because of it), a little companionship is a solace, a healing balm of goodness and friendship. The dogs forgive you all your transgressions and look lovingly at you when you talk to them. They have touched my heart and spirit in many positive ways and for that I am truly grateful."

The dogs live with the women 24/7 for a minimum of nine weeks. They will stay in the prison until adopted as it would be unbearable to return them to the shelter. Dogs are trained in basic

obedience: "sit, down, stay, heel, come, off, on, and leave it." Most are able to graduate with the American Kennel Club Certificate of Good Citizenship. They are spayed or neutered before being eligible for adoption unless they are puppies. Their vaccinations are also up to date.

Trained dogs are offered to the community for \$150. Partially trained puppies (born in the prison) are \$50. Despite the adoption fee, money is always in short supply. During its first year, the program was funded by grants from various foundations, but these have expired. The city of Albuquerque and Aztec Animal clinic have helped with some of the spay and neutering fees, and the prison (Corrections Corporation of

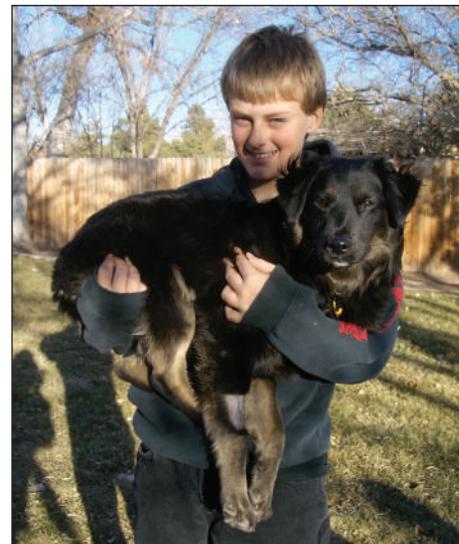
America) pays for the majority of the dog food. But, in addition to spay/neutering, the program has also incurred numerous vet bills for various illness and surgeries, including two mastectomies, and one eye surgery. Presently the women are training two dogs with untreated broken legs. These dogs will need to have a leg amputated before they can regain their health.

To adopt a prison pet, go to the website www.HeelingHeartsNM.org or www.PBJfamilyservices.org. There you can learn more about the program, see the dogs that are in training or currently available for adoption, and fill out an application. Susan and Lyn will work with you to find the perfect dog for you and your family. If you don't see a dog you fall in love with, keep checking the website as new dogs arrive as trained ones are adopted. And if you can't adopt a prison pet but want to support the program, donations are always appreciated.

*Opposite page: Zuzu
Above: Harley
Right: Timmy*



Michelle Exum and Miss Kitty are now taking dog agility classes at Sandia Dog Obedience Club.



12 year old Cole Burge with Laya.



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Restaurant of the Month: Sadie's Cocinita

Sadie's Cocinita, located at 6230 4th Street NW, is a Village landmark. Sadie's is one of those places where you run into friends and family. As you sit at your table, the aroma of chile simmering away fills the air, and you are enveloped in the feeling that you will be well fed. The food here is substan-

tial and satisfying. It is no wonder that Sadie's is a bastion for Northern New Mexican fare. Sadie's is a long standing family run business with roots that run deep here in the Village; it's larger than most restaurants and has something for everyone. So, as you are planning those graduation parties, don't forget

Sadie's. If you haven't been there in a while, don't worry. You are always welcome at Sadie's!

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345-5339

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This property is in the Village of Los Ranchos CRS-1 #02-200

PERMIT

NUMBER _____

ADDRESS _____

This Property is located in the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque and all Village ordinances apply to this property.

Gross receipts must be reported to 02-200 or subject to maximum penalty under the law.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 196 10-12-2005

ADDRESS ML# LIST PRICE LOT SF BR BA G AGENT COMPANY PHONE

ACTIVE

8422-D	Rio Grande Bl NW	615739	\$198,000.00	0.24ac	VACANT LAND					Lauren Austin	The Ingles/Company Realtors	828-1366
	Nuevo Hacienda NW	241357	\$199,000.00	0.218	VACANT LAND					Alexa Knight	Knight Realty & Assoc LLC	299-8343
	Nuevo Hacienda NW	641364	\$205,000.00	0.31	VACANT LAND					Alexa Knight	Knight Realty & Assoc LLC	299-8343
	Nuevo Hacienda NW	641538	\$230,000.00	0.219	VACANT LAND					Alexa Knight	Knight Realty & Assoc LLC	299-8343
	Nuevo Hacienda NW	641700	\$233,000.00	0.218	VACANT LAND					Alexa Knight	Knight Realty & Assoc LLC	299-8343
218-220	Nico Trl NW	617149	\$244,402.00	0.398ac	VACANT LAND					Cindy A Chavez	Prudential Sandia Real Estate	271-5800
512	Green Valley Ct NW	643111	\$250,000.00	0.48	VACANT LAND					Lynn M Johnson	Keller Williams Realty	897-1100
507	Marys Way NW	625184	\$270,000.00	0.501	VACANT LAND					Rebecca Langton	Langton Realty	344-4336
511	Marys Way NW	625182	\$280,000.00	0.501	VACANT LAND					Rebecca Langton	Langton Realty	344-4336
506	Roehl	625919	\$299,000.00	0.688	VACANT LAND					Ger-Kay Sanchez	Infinity Real Estate	281-2596
	Rancho Rd	624583	\$339,000.00	1.005	VACANT LAND					Steve Maestas	Maestas & Ward Commercial	878-0001
	Rancho Rd	624586	\$339,000.00	0.804	VACANT LAND					Steve Maestas	Maestas & Ward Commercial	878-0001
	El Caminito de Guad. NW	625549	\$400,000.00	0.5	VACANT LAND					A. Kay Beason	Reliance Realty & Investment	843-9575
6767	Guadalupe Trl NW	633919	\$425,000.00	1	VACANT LAND					Jim W Shull Jr	Shull & Associates	344-1141
	Roadrunner Ln	636312	\$425,000.00	1	VACANT LAND					Suzanne Kinney	Coldwell Banker Legacy	244-1600
803	El Pueblo Rd NW	636525	\$450,000.00	1	VACANT LAND					Sandi Pressley	Coldwell Banker Legacy	293-3700
7542	Rio Grande Bl NW	610080	\$495,000.00	1.399	VACANT LAND					Jill Levin	New Frontier Realtors	891-7411
	Roadrunner Ln	636314	\$500,000.00	1	VACANT LAND					Suzanne Kinney	Coldwell Banker Legacy	244-1600
13	Guadalupe Estates	494758	\$565,000.00	1	VACANT LAND					Lynn Johnson	Keller Williams Realty	897-1100
	Alma Encantada Ct	507929	\$575,000.00	1	VACANT LAND					Marie Blea	Marie Enterprises Inc.	991-1405
4642	Los Poblanos Cir NW	640740	\$595,000.00	1.02	VACANT LAND					Jim W Shull Jr	Shull & Associates	344-1141
7530	Rio Grande Bl NW	642022	\$1,800,000.00	4.28	VACANT LAND					Marsha A Adams	Coldwell Banker Legacy	293-3700
914	Ortega Rd NW	622809	\$180,000.00	0.5	1369	2-3	2	3		Karen A Gauze	Karen A Gauze	994-8075
604	Ranchitos Rd NW	640553	\$209,000.00	0.15	1283	2	0/1/0	0		Kevin Koppenhaver	Kevin Koppenhaver	301-8909
519	Charles Pl NW	634569	\$280,000.00	0.33	1582	3	2/0/0	1		Lisa Hebenstreit	Lisa Hebenstreit	242-2272
307	Del Aker Rd NW	626804	\$299,900.00	0.27	1700	3	2	2		Dan J Cash III	Dan J Cash III	897-7300
913	El Pueblo NW	642002	\$299,900.00	0.245	1650	3	1/0/0	0		Corrin Martinelli	Corrin Martinelli	828-1000
373	La Chamisal Ln NW	631270	\$325,000.00	7.500	1803	3	2/0/0	2		Linda Carroll	Linda Carroll	410-0085
623	Roehl Rd NW	641676	\$380,000.00	0.069	1674	3	1/0/0	2		Janie Gilmore-Daniels	Janie Gilmore-Daniels	271-8200
7909	Rio Grande Blvd NW	640283	\$485,000.00	0.771	3704	4	3/0/0	2		Keith W MacRae	Keith W MacRae	898-2700
924	Pueblo Solano Rd NW	642623	\$489,990.00	0.76	1990	3	1/1/0	2		James L Hepker	James L Hepker	315-0000
8503	Rio Grande Blvd NW	631501	\$525,000.00	1	1363	2	1/0/0	2		Gary Randall	Gary Randall	343-0700
519	Bledsoe Rd NW	630662	\$545,000.00	1.142	2680	3	2/0/1	4		Thomas J Mestas	Thomas J Mestas	247-0507
2301	Dietz Pl NW	642910	\$575,000.00	0.473	3901	4-5	3/0/1	2		Carol Sauder	Carol Sauder	898-2700
	Nuevo Hacienda NW	641355	\$599,000.00	10890	2828	4	2/0/1	3		Alexa Knight	Alexa Knight	299-8343
816	Mullen NW	634274	\$599,500.00	0.43	2743	3-4	2/0/0	0		Sandy Garrick	Sandy Garrick	244-1600
5720	El Prado NW	635896	\$599,900.00	0.44	4064	5-6	3/0/1	6		Mike Novak	Mike Novak	883-8979
805	El Pueblo NW	630835	\$649,000.00	1	4205	4	2/0/1	4		Sandi Pressley	Sandi Pressley	293-3700
604	Ortega Rd NW	641016	\$659,000.00	1.05	4244	4-5	2/3/0	3		Jer Collins & Associates	Jer Collins & Associates	244-1600
8808	Rio Grande Bl NW	621529	\$699,000.00	0.933ac	4392	4	3/0/1	4		Crystal & Steve	Crystal & Steve	898-2700
724	Ranchitos Dr NW	637342	\$699,000.00	0.467	3362	4-5	2/0/1	3		Cindy A Chavez	Cindy A Chavez	271-5800
6509	Caballero Pkwy NW	642820	\$714,325.00	0.728	4590	4	3/0/0	3		Doni Lazar	Doni Lazar	888-1000
528	Roehl NW	626767	\$725,000.00	1.25ac	2752	4	2/0/1	3		Marsha A Adams	Marsha A Adams	293-3700
1007	Acequia Trl NW	635428	\$750,000.00	0.5	3600	4	2/1/0	2		Robin Riegor	Robin Riegor	898-2700
800	El Alhambra Cir NW	643245	\$759,000.00	0.889	2952	3	2/0/1	2		Arellana Cordero	Arellana Cordero	244-1600
6404	Zapateco St NW	639586	\$780,000.00	0.883	3828	4	2/0/1	2		Judith A Givens	Judith A Givens	883-8979
817	Ranchitos	623213	\$785,000.00	0.99	4328	5	3/1/0	4		Pepper C Poole	Pepper C Poole	301-8909
1016	Acequia Trl NW	639405	\$849,000.00	1.7424sf	3613	4	2/1/0	2		Sandra S Dawson	Sandra S Dawson	797-5555
1013	Salamanca Cir NW	619854	\$899,000.00	0.741ac	4098	3-4	2/0/1	2		Suzanne Kinney	Suzanne Kinney	244-1600
1418	Bonito Suenos Ct NW	611258	\$950,000.00	1ac	5920	4	4/1/0	3		Joe Schifani	Joe Schifani	889-4565
609	Roehl Rd NW	643861	\$985,000.00	1.7729sf	3531	4	2/1/1	3		Wolfgang Rempen	Wolfgang Rempen	321-9564
8633	Rio Grande Blvd NW	641996	\$995,000.00	1.54	3000	4	2/0/1	3		Eve Price	Eve Price	271-8200
1024	Acequia Trl NW	614728	\$999,000.00	0.52ac	3641	3	3/0/1	0		Suzanne Kinney	Suzanne Kinney	244-1600
1116	Salamanca NW	641257	\$999,950.00	1	15-May	4-5	3/1/1	2		Cheryll McDade	Cheryll McDade	271-8200
208	Nico Trl NW	635756	\$999,999.00	0.77	3970	4	2/0/1	4		William Wieser	William Wieser	306-1002
8501	Rio Grande Blvd	642959	\$1,000,000.00	1	5182	4-5	3/1/0	8		Susan m Daniels	Susan m Daniels	865-5500
331	Nuevo Hacienda NW	641348	\$1,050,000.00	10890sf	4200	4	2/1/1	3		Alexa Knight	Alexa Knight	299-8343
919	Salamanca NW	631321	\$1,099,000.00	36590	5600	4-5	2/1/1	3		Michael Brothers	Michael Brothers	292-8192
1007	Acequia Trl NW	635343	\$1,100,000.00	1	3600	4	2/1/0	2		Robin Riegor	Robin Riegor	898-2700
1004	Acequia Trail	636861	\$1,197,000.00	0.5	3800	4	2/1/1	3		Alicia Feil	Alicia Feil	878-0001
4316	Rio Grande Bl NW	627614	\$1,200,000.00	1.690ac	4414	4	2/1/1	2		Eve Price	Eve Price	271-8200
6767	Guadalupe Trail NW	622294	\$1,250,000.00	1.5	4900	5	3/0/1	3		Sandi Pressley	Sandi Pressley	293-3700
700	Mullen Rd NW	642875	\$1,290,000.00	1	4200	3-4	4/0/0	3		Mike D Haley	Mike D Haley	293-3700
6508	Meoqui Ct NW	634608	\$1,290,000.00	0.9	5359	4-5	3/1/1	3		Susie Fairchild	Susie Fairchild	823-6677
1015	El Pueblo NW	641147	\$1,299,000.00	1	4545	4	3/0/1	3		Marion Newman-Wylie	Marion Newman-Wylie	856-3500
8809	Rio Grande Bl #3 NW	521410	\$1,300,000.00	1	4131	3	3.25	5		Fred & Sandra Creek	Fred & Sandra Creek	292-8900
8714	Rio Grande Blvd NW	642506	\$1,350,000.00	2	3815	5-6	4/0/0	3		Pat King	Pat King	269-1148
8415	Rio Grande Blvd NW	630851	\$1,375,000.00	1	4545	4	3/0/1	3		Frank Andreone	Frank Andreone	828-1000
5715	Tinnin	644168	\$1,400,000.00	1.15	6210	5	4/0/1	3		Alicia Feil	Alicia Feil	293-3700
1004	Acequia Trl NW	619407	\$1,419,000.00	0.50ac	3800	4	2/1/1	3		Alicia Feil	Alicia Feil	878-0001
323-331	Nuevo Hacienda NW	641353	\$1,490,000.00	0.6	6900	8	5/1/1	5		Alexa Knight	Alexa Knight	299-8343
8206	Rio Grande NW	642704	\$1,495,000.00	1.2	3601	3-4	2/1/1	3		Suzanne Kinney	Suzanne Kinney	244-1600
323-331	Nuevo Hacienda NW	641353	\$1,590,000.00	0.6	6900	8	5/1/1	5		Alexa Knight	Alexa Knight	299-8343
7542	Rio Grande Bl NW	602053	\$1,600,000.00	43560	4496	4	3.5	4		Jill S Levin	Jill S Levin	798-2530
746	Chamisal NW	503986	\$1,695,000.00	1.13	3442	3	3	3		Marie Blea	Marie Blea	991-1405
971	Bonita Rosa NW	644369	\$1,698,000.00	1.127	6584	5	3/2/2	4		Eve Price	Eve Price	271-8200
4674	Los Poblanos Cir NW	627305	\$1,999,000.00	1.2ac	5269	5-8	3/2/2	7		A.J. Yarbrough	A.J. Yarbrough	328-0044
5405	Eakes NW	635825	\$1,999,500.00	43560sf	4800	4	3/1/1	3		Suzanne Kinney	Suzanne Kinney	244-1600
9001	Rio Grande Bl NW	517691	\$2,099,000.00	1.43	10756	9	4/3/2	7		Jeremiah Collins	Jeremiah Collins	244-1600
970	Bonita Rosas NW	632173	\$2,100,000.00	43560	4937	4-5	2/2/1	4		Bill Christ	Bill Christ	899-0044
5557	Eakes Rd NW	642662	\$2,225,000.00	2.4	6459	5-6	4/1/1	0		Susan Feil	Susan Feil	293-3700
1039	Cottonwood Trl NW	642881	\$2,250,000.00	43560	5753	4	3/1/0	3		Alicia Feil	Alicia Feil	293-3700



It's the Time to Buy and the Time to Re-Fi

by Tim Tourville, CRS

Now is the time to buy!

Have you ever had the opportunity to "buy low", and you didn't pull the trigger? Then kicked yourself in the head later? We've all heard the stories: "I could have bought IBM at five bucks a share", or "I could have bought that acre lot on Rio Grande for \$25k," and on and on. Well, the opportunity to "buy low" in the real estate market is here now!

Existing home prices have been tumbling since July, 2006, and it is looking as though U.S. home prices will reach bottom by the end of 2009. Inventory levels are at a record high, with builders sitting on inventory they need to get rid of and bank foreclosures continuing to flood the market.

The greater Albuquerque Metro area has not been hit as hard as most of the rest of the country, and the Village of Los Ranchos has fared better than

most of Albuquerque. We may have already hit bottom. There are plenty of very good real estate investment opportunities out there right now. Don't look back and say "If only I had ..."

Now is the time to re-fi!

The most common reason for refinancing a mortgage is to save money. To refinance can cost between 1.5% and 6% of the loan's principal, depending on whether it is a VA, FHA, or Conventional loan, and how many points you are willing to pay. Because it will cost you money to refinance, you may want to make sure you'll own the home long enough to realize the savings. How do you do that? Well, you need to figure out your "break-even" period. That is, the period of time over which the interest savings covers the refinance cost. Getting an interest rate at least one point lower than your current interest rate has been the rule of thumb, but let's take a closer look.

The larger the spread between the new interest rate and the rate on your existing loan, the shorter the break-even period will be. The more it costs to obtain the new loan, the longer the break-even period. The general rule is to divide the upfront cost by the reduc-

tion in mortgage payment. For example, if your upfront cost is \$3,600 and your new payment is \$100 less than your old payment it will take three years to break even.

The upfront cost is typically rolled into the loan so you don't have to come up with it at the time of the re-fi. And, since payments are made in arrears, you delay one month's payment. That will approximate the true break-even period only when the term of the new loan is close to the unexpired term on the old loan.

I give you a word of caution. This method does not take into account any differences in the loan duration, like going from a 30 year to a 15 year mortgage, or visa versa.

So ignore all the doom and gloom the media is throwing at you and do something positive and proactive. Take a look at a Buy or a Re-Fi now, or you could be kicking yourself in the head later.

Instead of wrestling with the subject for the next issue's article, I am going to leave it up to you. That's right: just email me questions you may have regarding real estate and I will make the best question the basis of an upcoming article.

COLDWELL BANKER LEGACY
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 timtourville@comcast.net

ADDRESS	ML#	LIST PRICE	LOT	SF	BR	BA	G	AGENT	COMPANY	PHONE
ACTIVE										
5431 Eakes NW	642368	\$2,575,000.00	2	4723	5	4/0/1	3	Alicia Feil	Alicia Feil	293-3700
4610 Rio Grande Ln NW	630824	\$2,600,000.00	3.119	10978	6	7/0/1	9	Lynn M Johnson	Lynn M Johnson	897-1100
5201 Eakes Rd NW	633909	\$3,100,000.00	2.78	5800	5	4/0/1	3	Suzanne Kinney	Suzanne Kinney	244-1600
PENDING										
8020 Rio Grande NW	639924	\$94,900.00	1.89	6414	5	4/1/1	4	Jesus Esparza	Sellstate Asset Solutions Real	896-3694
914 Ortega Rd NW	622809	\$180,000.00	0.5	1369	2-3	2	3	Karen A Gauze	Desert West Proeprties	994-8075
321 Nara Visa Rd NW	621887	\$280,000.00	0.037	1600	3-4	1	2	Judith Campbell	Coldwell Banker Legacy	838-1000
839 El Pueblo NW	640365	\$399,000.00	0.766	1303	2	1/1/0	0	Donna R Stark	Re/Max Masters	883-8979
1105 El Pueblo NW	522333	\$429,000.00	0.78	1775	3	2	0	Christina Ortega	American Realty	897-3657
2420 Arbor NW	620792	\$499,000.00	0.380ac	2796	3-4	2/0/1	2	Sandy Garrick	Coldwell Banker Legacy	244-1600
6915 Guadalupe Trl NW	513279	\$985,000.00	54450	3540	4	3+	5	Jan DeMay	Coldwell Banker Legacy	293-3700

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Mary Quintana
Associate Broker/Realtor®

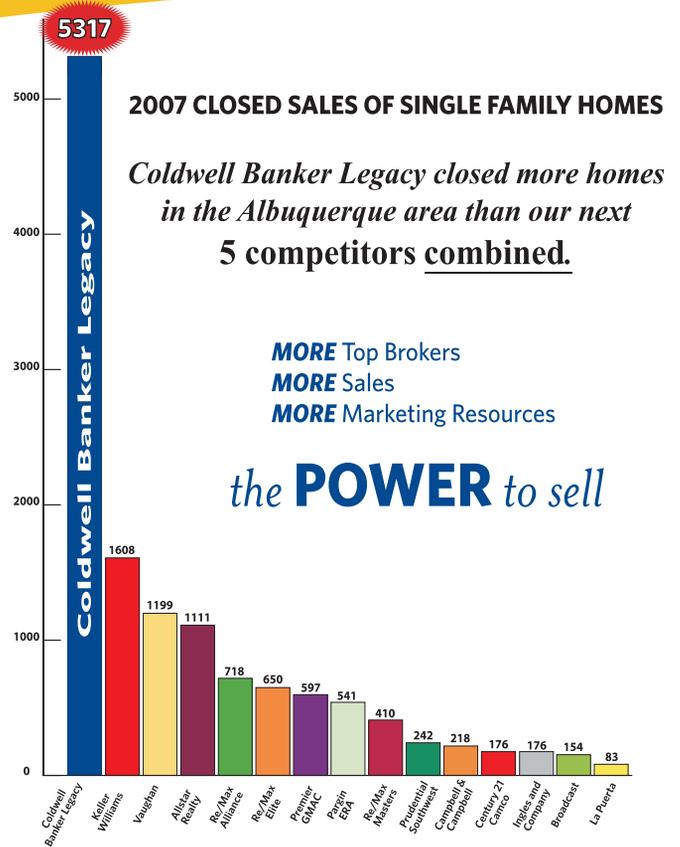
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Information based on data supplied by the SWMLS. Data accuracy cannot be guaranteed and may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.

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Southard

344-4734



Kate Southard Real Estate

Carol
Carpenter

328-4488



Alvarado Elementary School

1100 Solar Road
Albuquerque, NM 87107
344-4412
www.alvaradoallstars.org

March 20th: Jog-A-Thon
March 23 - 27th: Spring Break (no school)

Bosque School

4000 Learning Road NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120
898-6388
www.bosqueschool.org

March 4th and 5th: Writers' Café with young Bosque writers. Call 898.6388 for info
March 16th - 20th: Winterim classes and trips.
March 23rd - 27th: Spring Break.
March 30th: Classes resume
April 9th: Key Club Blood Drive - United Blood Services
April 10th: no classes - Spring Holiday
April 13th: Rivers & Birds Wildlife Festival. Call for info.

Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School

1776 Montaña Road NW, Building 3
Los Ranchos, NM 87107
314-9042

Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School will hold open enrollment periods during the months of March and April, during which eligible students may file an application packet for admission for the following school year.

March 6th: Open House for interested families on
March 1st to 15th: The first enrollment period for new enrollees.

Village Vision

MARCH

March 20th: The first lottery draw will be held.
March 21st – April 15th: The second enrollment period for new enrollees.

Los Ranchos Elementary School

7609 4th Street NW
Los Ranchos, NM 87107
898-3611

March 11: Para Professional Day
March 23-27: Spring Break
April 6: First Day of New Mexico Standards Based Assessment (NMSBA)
April 10: Vernal Holiday
April 22: Earth Day
April 24: NMSBA Ends
April 24: Districtwide Inservice Day

North Valley Academy

7939 Fourth Street NW
Los Ranchos, NM 87114
Website: www.nvanm.org
998-0501

March 18th: 11:30am Early Dismissal
March 18th: 12-2pm OPEN HOUSE (see our ad)
March 19th-29th: Spring Break

Sandia Preparatory School

532 Osuna Blvd Rd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113
505.338.3000 (phone)
505.338.3099 (fax)
www.sandiaprep.org

SummerPrep Registration

Ongoing • Call 338.3000, visit www.sandiaprep.org or email summerprep@sandiaprep.org for information

March 6th: Les Miserables 7:00 PM
March 7th: Les Miserables 7:00 PM
March 8th: Les Miserables 2:00 PM
SPS Theatre. Email: tickets@sandiaprep.org

March 16th – 27th: Spring Break. No school

Taft Middle School

620 Schulte Rd. NW
Los Ranchos, NM 87107
344-4389

March 11th: District Band Festival @ Cibola HS
March 23-27th: Spring Break
March 30th: Standards Based Testing Begins
April 10th: Vernal Holiday - No School / Jazz Festival
April 24th: Inservice Day - No School / State Band Festival

Taylor Middle School

8200 Guadalupe Trail NW
Los Ranchos, NM 87114
898-3666

March 6th: Late start
March 16th – 20th: Spirit week'
March 23rd – 27th: Spring break

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Planning & Zoning Commission Summary

February 10, 2009 - Action Report

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON

TUE., MARCH 10, 2008

a complete official written and audio
version of the minutes is available
online at www.losranchosnm.gov

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

A. Roll call

Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Brawley, Commissioner Hunter, Commissioner McDowell, Commissioner Simon, Commissioner Crawford. Commissioner Radnovich was excused.

B. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved unanimously (5-0)

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Residents may address the Planning and Zoning Commission to comment on issues, problems, or successes on **topics that do not appear elsewhere on the agenda**. Audience members will be given an opportunity to comment on agenda items as they come up. **Speakers must register with Village Staff prior to the beginning of the meeting.**

Planner Seebach read a letter on behalf of Mayor Abraham and the Village thanking Commissioner McDowell for his five years of volunteer service on the Commission.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting - December 9, 2008

The minutes were approved unanimously (5-0).

4. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent agenda and will be considered separately.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPLICATION

A. **V-08-12 A** request by Chris Musello for a variance from the required rear setback of twenty-five (25) feet to allow for a five (5) foot setback for an addition in the A-1 Zone of the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 525 Chamiso Lane and is legally known as Lot 3, Chamisal Addition, a foregoing subdivision of that certain parcel of land situate

in Sections 20 and 21, T11N, R3E, N.M.P.M. Bernalillo County, New Mexico, May 3, 1961. The property contains .5000 acres more or less. THIS ITEM POSTPONED FROM DECEMBER 9, 2008 MEETING. **THIS ITEM HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN.**

B. V-09-03 A request by Chris Musello for a variance from the required rear setback of twenty-five (25) feet to allow for a ten (10) foot setback for an addition in the A-1 Zone of the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 525 Chamiso Lane and is legally known as Lot 3, Chamizal Addition, a foregoing subdivision of that certain parcel of land situate in Sections 20 and 21, T11N, R3E, N.M.P.M. Bernalillo County, New Mexico, May 3, 1961. The property contains .5000 acres more or less.

The Variance was approved by a unanimous vote (5-0).

C. V-09-04 A request by Chris Musello for a variance from the required side setback of fifteen (15) feet to allow for a ten (10) foot setback for an addition in the A-1 Zone of the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 525 Chamiso Lane and is legally known as Lot 3, Chamizal Addition, a foregoing subdivision of that certain parcel of land situate in Sections 20 and 21, T11N, R3E, N.M.P.M. Bernalillo County, New Mexico, May 3, 1961. The property contains .5000 acres more or less.

The Variance was approved by a unanimous vote (5-0).

D. V-09-01 A request by Kodjo Leeds for a variance from the required rear setback of twenty-five (25) feet to allow for a ten foot (10) setback to build a horse barn in the A-1 Zone of South Rio Grande Character Area C. The property is located at 5719 Rio Grande Blvd. and is legally known as Lot lettered A of the platting of Rob-Lee Meadows, a Subdivision in Bernalillo County, New Mexico, as the same is shown and designated on the plat thereof, filed in the office of the Bernalillo County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico on January 24, 1982 in Plat Book c23, Page 23. The property contains 1.44 acres more or less.

A Variance was approved from the required setback sufficient to allow the alleviation of hardship, in order to allow an estimated setback of between 10 and 20 feet after the appropriate rotation of the barn in question. The vote was unanimous (5-0).

E. V-09-05 A request by Lynn Scheller for a Variance from the required fifteen (15) foot side setback to allow for a six (6) foot setback to build a garage/office in the A-1 Zone of the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 7337 Guadalupe Trail and is legally known as A certain tract of land situate within projected Section 20, T11N, R3E, N.M.P.M. designated as Tract 123-a-2 on M.R.G.C.D. Map 27, Bernalillo County, New Mexico as is recorded in the records of the Bernalillo County Clerk, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, November 13, 1998. The property contains .245 acres more or less.

The Variance was approved by a 4-0-1 vote. Commissioner McDowell abstained.

F. S-08-07 A request by Frank and Francynn Martinez, property owners, for Final Plat Approval for Family Transfer Subdivision in the A-1 Zone of the Guadalupe Trail Character Area. The property is located at 8434 Guadalupe Trail and is legally known as Tract number one (1) of Tracts 1,2,3,4 and 5 of the Lands of Flora C. Romero, Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, as the same is shown and designated on the plat thereof, filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico on September 6, 1973. The property contains 1.135 acres more or less.

Final Approval was granted unanimously (5-0).

G. S-09-01 A request by Scott Whittington for a Sketch Plat Review for a major (5 lot) subdivision in the C-1 Zone of the 4th Street Commercial Character Area. The property is located at 6137 and 6203 2nd Street and is legally known as a certain tract of land situate within Projected Section 28, T11N, R3E, N.M.P.M. Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, being Tracts 74-B-1-B and 74-B—2-B of the M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 29, as shown and designated on the records of the Bernalillo County Clerk, June 29, 2006. The property contains 9.9 acres more or less.

Sketch Plat Reviews require no action by the Commission.

H. S-09-02 A request by Patty and Michael Anderson for a Sketch Plat Review for a major (5 lot) subdivision in the A-1 Zone of the South Rio Grande Character Area B. The property is legally known as Tract 6-A-2 of Tracts 6A-2 and 6A-4 of Tracts 6A-1 through 6A-6 Los Poblanos Ranch (being a replat of a portion of Tract 6, Los Poblanos Ranch) situate within Elena Gallegos Grant, projected Sections 30, 31 and 32, T11N, R3E, N.M.P.M., Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico as the same is shown and designated on the Plat thereof, filed October 30, 1995, in Volume 95C, Folio 893, of the Records of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico. The property contains 11.9607 acres more or less.

Sketch Plat Reviews require no action by the Commission.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Master Plan survey for Village Vision

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Adoption of Resolution 2009-1-P&Z (Open Meetings Act)

Adopted unanimously (5-0).

B. Adoption of Resolution 2009-2-P&Z (Rules for the Transaction of Business)

Adopted with a revision to include Appellants in section H (5-0).

C. Discussion and forward to the Board of Trustees a recommendation on an Amendment to Ordinance 221, Site Development Plan

A recommendation of Approval was forwarded to the Board of Trustees.

8. REPORTS

A. 2008 Annual Report

9. COMMISSIONER'S INFORMAL DISCUSSION

A. Discussion concerning proposed Senate Bill 222.

10. ADJOURNMENT

I certify that notice of the Public Meeting has been given in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Section 10-15-1 through 10-15-4 NMSA 1978 and the Open Meetings Resolution 2009-1-P&Z.

Linda Seebach

Director, Planning and Zoning

Boy Scout Troop 9 Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Boy Scout Troop 9 is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year! We will be celebrating at our annual spaghetti dinner, which is our yearly fund raiser for the troop. The dinner will be at Nativity Church (at Fourth and Alameda) on Saturday, April 25th, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Please buy tickets ahead of time, so we know how many to cook for. The troop would enjoy visiting with old members and Scout Masters, and would also like to hear stories about past groups.

The Troop has had fifty - eight Eagle Scouts, with five of them in the last year. Scouting is a good place to learn leadership or to just have fun. We have members from many different schools: Valley High School, Academy, Bosque Prep, Menaul, AMES, Taft, Taylor, Home School, St. Pius, Amy Biehl, James Monroe, Cibola, La Cueva, and NMML.

Troop 9 is a very active troop, with campouts every month. The Troop is sponsored by the Albuquerque Breakfast Lions Club. All boys of ages eleven



to seventeen are welcome to come and visit with their parents, and hopefully join our group. Our meetings are every Tuesday night from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. We meet at the old Community

Building at 920 Green Valley Rd NW. If you have any questions, or you want to buy tickets for the spaghetti dinner, please contact our Scout Master, David Rosprim, at 244-3338.

Stephanie Keyes Good
505.280.5053

a Good set of Keyes is hard to find...

Keller Williams Realty 505.271.8200

photos by kim donald photography



Board of Trustees Summary

February 11, 2009

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON

WED., MARCH 11, 2008

a complete official written and audio
version of the minutes is available
online at www.losranchosnm.gov

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Abraham called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

A. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Rick Quant, 8809 4th Street, NW, commented on the price differences between Waste Management and All American Waste Removal dumpsters. He asked that the Village seek request for bids to receive a better deal from Waste Management. He also mentioned the \$10.00 late fee he had to pay for his business license because of a glitch in the mail system.

James Spigel, 815 El Alhambra Cr. stated that he appreciated the stop signs that were installed on Rio Grande and would like those to stay.

Senator Dede Feldman reported on the solvency packet, capital outlay projects, and gave a summary report on the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) and Senate Bill 222.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes - January 14, 2009

B. Department and Committee Reports

1. Law Enforcement/BCSD
2. Fire
3. Animal Control

The Consent Agenda was approved as presented. The motion carried, 4-0.

4. REPORTS

A. Mayor's Report

Mayor Abraham reported that he is working on the annexation all along El Pueblo. He has met with Mike Roland and they all would be willing to come into Village. Staff will start a 2- phase annexation and send out letters to that group along El Pueblo first, then decide what to do west of 2nd Street, but the priority will be annexing those along El Pueblo.

B. Administrator's Report

Administrator Kelly Ward reported on the following:

- *A memorial will be introduced in the Senate regarding truck traffic on Paseo del Norte. The memorial has a 7.5 million dollar price tag to adjust the height of the bridge and install sound barrier walls.*
- *The Corralitos 4H Club will now be the Los Ranchos 4H Club.*
- *The State Auditor has approved the Fiscal Year 08 audit and it will be presented to the Board at the March meeting*
- *Working with Waste Management on the contract extension because the current contract ends the end of March. He has looked at the merits for an RFP, and based on interviewing other waste haulers we are better off with a contract extension.*
- *The reconstruction on Ranchitos and El Pueblo Roads has been completed. The plan for Los Ranchos Road did not work out due to the road not being wide enough to install a turn lane. The focus will now be on modernizing the traffic signals.*
- *Bids were received for resurfacing Ortega and Osuna Roads -- we are \$57,000 short on Ortega Road and \$28,000 short on Osuna Road.*
- *The plans for the new Fire Department station are almost complete and will soon be ready for review and bids.*

C. Planner's Report

Planner Linda Seebach reported on the following:

- *Two new homes and two barns are under construction.*
- *Anticipate having a new subdivision ordinance in front of the Commission for referral next month and also working on several other old ordinances that need to be repealed.*
- *Had several Code Enforcement cases involving tenants living in substandard housing.*
- *Business registrations are just about complete with about 10 outstanding.*
- *The Village now has a new ortho map.*

D. Legal Report

Attorney Martha King reported on the following:

- *Worked with Ms. Seebach on reviewing applications and ordinances.*
- *Worked with Mr. Ward on administrative matters.*
- *Served as legal counsel on the P & Z Commission.*

E. Fire Dept. Report

Lt. Juan Cordova reported on the following:

- *The Firefighters have completed training on hazmat operations.*
- *This past Christmas, the Fire Department provided clothing and food to five Village families who were in need.*
- *The new rescue vehicle should be in service soon.*
- *The Fire Chief and three other firefighters are in Tucson attending Wildland Training.*
- *The Fire Department had 110 calls and that is up 4 calls from this time last year.*
- *There was an incident at Taft Middle School where one of the teachers opened up a letter that was filled with an unknown powder substance. It turned out that it was a cleaning agent but all precautions were taken.*

5. **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

A. **Cash Report – January**

The Cash Report was approved as presented. The motion carried, 4-0

6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPLICATIONS**

A. **A request by Gene and Aurora Gallegos for a Special Use Permit for an Open Air Flea Market in the C-1 Zone.** The property is located at 300 El Pueblo and is legally known as Tract 140-G1 M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 24, Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, August, 2002 and Tract 140C1 M.R.G.C.D. Map No. 24, Lands of Pompa, Griego and Franco filed in the office of the Bernalillo County Clerk on 8/6/76, Volume D2-A, Folio. The property contains 2.380 acres more or less. SU-08-01. **DEFERRED FROM THE JANUARY 14, 2009 BOARD MEETING**

This item was deferred to the March 11, 2009 Board Meeting. The motion carried, 4-0.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Discussion and approval to adopt an ordinance creating a new Planning and Zoning Action Matrix and repealing Ordinance No. 186**

The Board approved the ordinance creating a new planning and zoning matrix and repealed Ordinance No. 186. The motion carried, 4-0.

B. **Discussion and approval of proposed barn usage rules and regulations**

The Board approved the Barn Usage Rules and Regulations with the condition of adding language that any significant changes must be brought to the Board for approval. The motion carried, 4-0.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Lavender in the Village Festival Committee Presentation**

Kelly Jo Kuchar gave a report on the lavender event, and said that one of the biggest and most expensive issues will be the improvement of transportation.

B. **Discussion and approval of Resolution No. 2009-2-1- Adopting a Policy and Procedure Manual for the Fire Department**

This item was deferred to the March 11, 2009 Board meeting.

C. **Discussion and approval of Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB Americas, Inc) Engineering Services Contract for the Garduño Road Drainage Project**

The Engineering Services contract with PB Americas, Inc. was approved. The motion carried, 4-0.

D. **Discussion and approval of amendment to the Restrictive Covenants of the Prados Tranquilos subdivision located at 6718 Rio Grande Blvd NW**

The Board approved the amendment to the restrictive covenants for the Prados Tranquilos subdivision. The motion carried, 4-0.

E. Discussion of family transfer subdivisions

A discussion was held on family transfer subdivisions. It was decided that staff should present a proposal with new language to the Board.

9. TRUSTEES INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Trustee Rael said there has been talk about setting up a business on side streets. He said this can be done as long as they are within the 300 feet. He said there is a loop hole that needs to be corrected before we have any more of these situations.

Trustee McDonough asked if Ortega Road will be an overlay project or if they are going to remove and replace the asphalt. Administrator Ward stated that it would be an overlay project.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Please note: These are only a summary of the meeting. These are not the final minutes.

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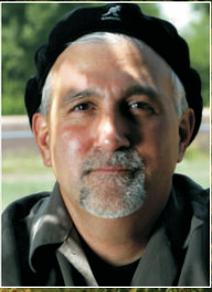
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Tangerine Trees and Streams of Milky White Cream

by Randy Shamlian

A little story of Marmalade Mae...

Marmalade Mae awoke into a dream as the sun shone bright upon her face through candied crystal windows. In spite of her peculiar surroundings, she could not resist a breakfast treat of her marshmallow pillow, so soft and tender, and the Graham cracker bedpost, so buttery and crunchy.

As she stepped onto an almond and chocolate bark path which led into the front yard, she found buzzing jelly bees and whipped cream daisies. Then she looked up at the sky and saw it looked a bit hazy.

Beyond the sweet comforts of home, she soon came upon a babbling stream, flowing with milky white cream, and tangerine trees that spread across the landscape as far as her eyes could see. And when it began to rain, it poured chocolate...all types of white, milk and dark sprinkled in abundance.

She quickly sought cover underneath a tangerine tree and slowly fell asleep. When she awoke again, she was back in her room, and was overjoyed. A wafting aroma of her favorite treat permeated the house: a tangerine milk chocolate almond bread pudding.

She suddenly began to sing of her slumber's journey: "Streams of milky white cream and tangerine trees were all in my dream. Lottie dee da...lottie dee da...lottie dee da," as she ran out the door, grabbing a basket to collect the ripe tangerines that waited to be made into marmalade.

Tangerine Milk Chocolate Almond Bread Pudding

- 2 1/2 cups crème anglaise
- 1/2 cup tangerine juice concentrate
- 1 loaf brioche
- 4 Tbs whole almonds - chopped
- 4 Tbs milk chocolate (chips or shards)

Crème Anglaise

- 1 3/4 cups heavy cream
- 3/4 cup whole milk
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 5 egg yolks

Bring cream, milk and sugar to a rolling boil. Take off fire

and add vanilla. Create a liaison of the cream and egg yolks. Pour the liaison into the rest of the cream, pour back into heated pan, and whisk lightly. Let stand for 4 minutes. Pour through fine sieve.

Brioche

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons active dry yeast
- 2 Tbs sugar
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 cup warm milk (110 degrees)
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter (room temperature)

Bloom yeast in warm milk. Place flour, yeast, sugar and salt in mixer with a dough hook. Knead dough at medium speed until well blended. Remove bowl and hook from machine, cover and let rise for 45 minutes. Place back on machine, with hook, and add eggs at slow speed. Incorporate well. Slowly drop in bits of butter until well blended.

Remove bowl and hook from machine and cover. Let rise for 1 hour. Scrape dough from bowl and roll into a loaf on a well-floured surface. Place in 9-inch loaf pan and cover. Let rise for 2 hours. Egg wash the top and bake in a pre-heated 375 degree oven for 1 hour or until golden brown.

Let cool and remove from pan.

Assembly

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Place toasted brioche slices inside 10" Pyrex pie plate. Combine tangerine juice concentrate and crème anglaise. Chop milk chocolate into shards, or use chips. Sprinkle 1 Tbs of chocolate and 1 Tbs of almonds evenly on top of brioche. Pour crème anglaise over the brioche and let it soak in. Place pie plate in a water bath and bake in oven for an hour, or until a springback occurs.

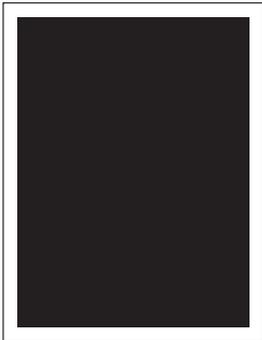
Serve warm and plate with remaining crème anglaise, sweetened whipped cream, mint sprigs, and powdered sugar garnish.

Enjoy!

Randy Shamlian is the author of *A Slice of Apple Pie* and contributor to *Edible Santa Fe*, and screenwriter. He's also at the *Growers' Market* with fresh fruit pies and other baked goods.

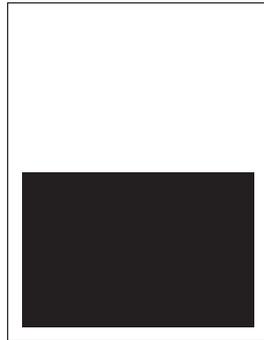
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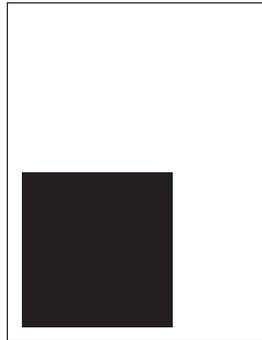
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1/3 Page



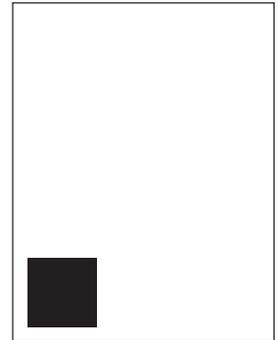
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1/4 Page



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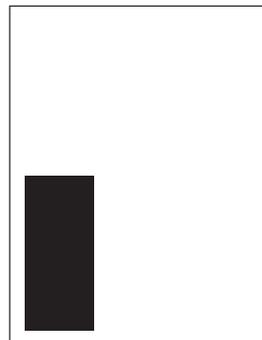


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Village Business

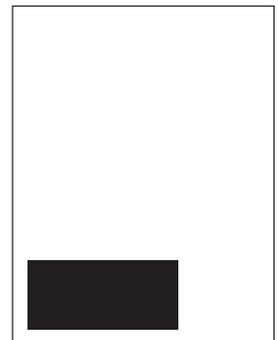
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Non-Village Business, Village Owner

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To place an advertisement, or to receive additional information regarding pricing, contact **Rosemary Hall** at the Village:

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 Phone: 344-6582 | Fax: 344-8978
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Advertisements may be submitted in the following formats: PDF, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, or Adobe Illustrator. Please send completed ads to the Village Vision's layout and graphic designer, **Christopher Shen**, at cshen@losranchosnm.gov, or deliver a CD with the appropriate files to Village Hall at the above address.

If you have questions regarding technical or graphical issues with your advertisement, contact Christopher Shen at the Village:

cshen@losranchosnm.gov
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1/6 page	\$67.50	\$182.25	\$324
1/12 page	\$45	\$121.50	\$216



Sullivan and Gilbert Now Showing at the Adobe

by Phil Bock

“Sullivan and Gilbert,” by Ken Ludwig, will be the March/April production at the ADOBE Theater, opening March 27th for four weekends. A comedy with music by the famed writing team, this show takes place in the Savoy Theater during the final rehearsal of a revue featuring familiar songs from several Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. The Queen (Victoria) is expected to attend so everyone is anxious, and

the authors are, as usual, arguing over many things: Gilbert wants to hear his words, Sullivan is in love with a woman that Gilbert disapproves of, and a Duke (nephew of the Queen) has been placed into the cast although he is quite inexperienced.

Jane and Cy Hoffman (“Sundown,” “GIGI,” and other Adobe musicals) will direct a talented cast of actors and singers. Author Ken Ludwig is also known for his amusing play, “Lend Me a Tenor,” and here he shows that he is

a master of farce.

If you are already a fan of Gilbert and Sullivan, you won’t want to miss this production. If you don’t know their wonderful songs, you will hear some of the very best from shows including Patience, Iolanthe, Pirates of Penzance, and The Mikado.

The show opens March 27th and plays through April 19th. Be sure to reserve early for this delightful romp! Call 898-9222 weekdays. Tickets are only \$14.



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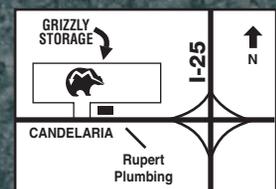
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grizzlystoragecandel@msn.com



Area I&J Electrical Systems Undergoing Testing

by Lisa Manwill

We are wrapping up the electrical portion of the Area I&J Sanitary Sewer project. Installation of electrical components will be complete by the time *Village Vision* is published, and we will be conducting start up/testing of the system.

Once the system has been successfully tested, the Albuquerque/Ber-

nalillo County Water Utility Authority will accept the system for operation and maintenance, and residents will be allowed to connect. Bernalillo County will notify each resident by mail when the system is ready for hook up. The notifications should be mailed out the first week of March, and will outline hook up procedures. Additionally, notification will be published in next month's *Village Vision* and available

on the Village website: www.losranchosnm.gov. If you have questions or require further information, please contact:

Assistant Project Engineer:

Rodrigo Eichwald, P.E.
(rleichwald@bernco.gov) 848-1574

Project Engineer:

Lisa Manwill, P.E.
(lmanwill@bernco.gov) 848-1512

Information on hooking up to the new sewer line will be posted at losranchosnm.gov/public-notices.htm

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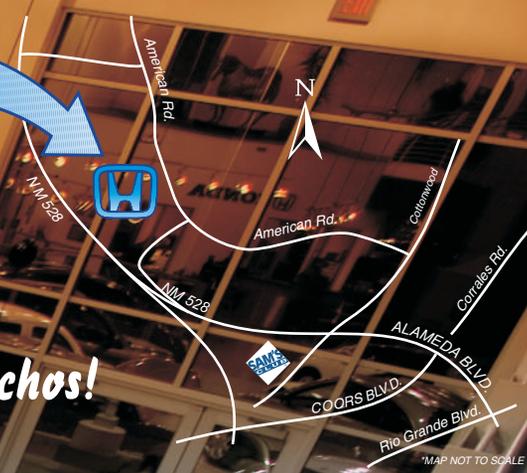
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