



Los Ranchos *Village* Vision



**RIO GRANDE COMMUNITY
FARM INCUBATOR PROGRAM**

**BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT:
CANVAS & COFFEE**

**LARRY P. ABRAHAM AGRI-NATURE
CENTER: 2021 YEAR END REVIEW**

Valle Caldera Getaway

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Mayor's Report



As we turn the corner to 2022, I am prepared for new times and challenges ahead and we have a lot to look forward to. We have two new Trustees, Gilbert Benavidez and George Radnovich and I am certain the Village will be well served. We are preparing for the legislative session and will be requesting help for three critical projects: 4th Street Phase 2, an outdoor classroom at the Agri-Nature Center, and a levee safety study. See our capital projects update for more. And, we look forward to seeing Village Center finally begin to blossom.

I also want to take time to reflect on the prior year and all our accomplishments. In 2021 we made important policy decisions on big topics such as cannabis and short-term rentals. We adopted an ordinance on cannabis in March, ahead of the Cannabis Regulation Act from the state, and revised that ordinance in November to better comply with the new Act while adding protections for residents.

After over a year of public input and staff work, in June of 2021 we adopted an ordinance on short-term rentals that filled a gap in our code on these home rentals. Village staff have been working since then to get existing operators licensed. In addition, we updated our film policy and permit process to streamline and simplify it for film applicants and provide protections for neighbors, including better notification and, when necessary, signatures of approval.

On a more technical note, our Planning & Zoning Commission worked with staff to revise and clarify our requirements for variances, which are permitted exceptions to our code.

We moved forward with a plan to improve access and parking at the Agri-Nature Center and got the plan out for design. We are building a greenhouse to extend our growing season so that we have more educational opportunities year-round on the farm. This also will allow us to demonstrate different growing techniques and provide plant starts to others in the Village. We put sheep on the property, implementing a long-

term goal to add livestock and do rotational grazing. And we are collaborating with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District in building and staffing a soils lab at the Agri-Nature Center. This community soils lab will benefit farmers and gardeners in the Village by providing testing for soil, water, and compost as well as provide feedback for ways to improve management practices. This will also allow us to better map the soils in the region. All these projects build on the concept of a Center of Excellence for Regenerative Agriculture.

Our facilities crew worked hard all year but especially last month in making the barn and park on Rio Grande look magnificent. We will be expanding our holiday decorations to 4th Street in the coming year.

Public Safety Officer, Fred Radosevich, has been working with Enchanted Valley, Dietz Farm, Tinnin Farms, and other neighborhoods to address community concerns. We are very lucky to have Fred and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office serving the Village.

I have to say goodbye to our two outgoing Trustees, Pablo Rael and Tom Riccobene. After 20 years of serving together on the Village of Los Ranchos Governing Body, I am sad to say goodbye to Mayor Pro Tem & Trustee Pablo Rael. Trustee Rael retires from the Village Governing Body effective December 31, 2021 and I wish Pablo many years of a happy retirement. Likewise, Tom Riccobene is leaving the Village of Los Ranchos Governing Body effective December 31, 2021 and I wish him all the best in the coming years.

Happy New Year to all our residents and friends.

Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque

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Village Vision General Information

The Los Ranchos Village Vision is an official publication of the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. Its primary mission is to promote the "Spirit of Los Ranchos," while informing Village residents of activities, both public and governmental, currently in progress throughout the Village. It is published seven times per year and distributed free of charge to residents and Village businesses. Non-residents and other interested parties may subscribe by contacting Los Ranchos Village Hall at 344-6582. Price, including S/H, is \$20.00 per annum.

ADVERTISING

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

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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

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Editor- Ann Simon

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Suraj Reddy, M.D. FAAD



Dr. Reddy was born and raised in New Mexico and attended the Albuquerque Academy. He attended Emory University and the University of New Mexico School of Medicine before completing his Dermatology residency at the University of Texas Health Science Center. He has been recognized as one of the best Dermatologists in the region and was voted "Top Dermatologist" by Albuquerque the Magazine. Dr. Reddy specializes in surgical and cosmetic Dermatology and is board certified.

Shilpa Reddy, M.D. FAAD



Dr. Shilpa Reddy completed her undergraduate education at Washington University in St. Louis followed by medical school at the University of New Mexico where she graduated first in her class. She then completed a dermatology residency training at UNM. She is a board certified dermatologist and a fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology as well as a member of the New Mexico Dermatological Society and past president. She practices general, surgical and cosmetic dermatology and is pleased to offer her services.

Sabrina Johnson, PAC



Sabrina is a native New Mexican. She attended Texas Tech University and The University of New Mexico School of Nursing. She attended the Physician Assistant program at UNM where she finished at the top of her class. She was voted best health care provider in Valencia County and serves as a clinical instructor in the UNM Physician Assistant Program. She enjoys sharing her expertise in all aspects of general and cosmetic Dermatology.

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



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Cover Photo by Sabrina Apodaca. Shown: A volunteer at the Agri-Nature Center uses a broad fork, used to breakup dense soil while maintaining the structure.

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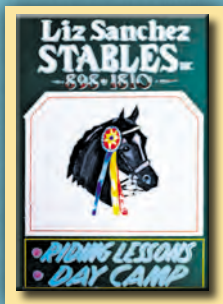


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Capital Projects Update

This update is all about the capital outlay request the Village is making to the New Mexico State Legislature. The request can be summarized as follows:

- \$3,000,000 for Phase II Construction of the 4th Street Revitalization Project (ICIP priority #1);
- \$300,000 for improvements to the Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center –specifically an outdoor classroom and demonstration kitchen (ICIP priority #2); and
- \$250,000 for inundation mapping of the Village reach of the Middle Rio Grande Levees (Action item identified in Mayor’s tabletop exercise with Army Corps of Engineers, Bernalillo County, New Mexico Department of Homeland Security, and the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District).



Phase 1 provided ADA sidewalks, on-street parking, storm water systems, lighting, landscaping, and street furnishings along 4th Street

1. Phase II Construction 4th Street Revitalization Project - Pueblo Solano Road to Ortega Road

Project Cost: \$5,000,000

Funded: \$1,970,000

2022 Appropriation Request: \$3,000,00

Engineering is funded to 100% and will be complete by September 2022. This request is for construction funding.

4th Street’s origins as El Camino Real, U.S. Highway 66, and later US Highway 85 left behind infrastructure suited for a highway, with a distinct lack of curb between right-of-way and private property. Through the implementation of a road diet from four to three lanes, Phase I of the project added a streetscape design, the first in our community. By utilizing the available right-of-way, we installed pedestrian, storm water management, and landscaping improvements. The approximately \$8.181 million, 0.5-mile stretch was completed in 2020 and over 85% was funded by the Village of Los Ranchos. Phase I has provided a safe and aesthetically pleasing business and pedestrian environment in an area where there were no

sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, or crosswalks. Phase II will continue that goal northward 1.5 miles from Phase I’s terminus of Pueblo Solano Road, over the Paseo del Norte (NM 423) bridge, to the Village limits just north of Ortega Road.

2. Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center Outdoor Classroom and Demonstration Kitchen

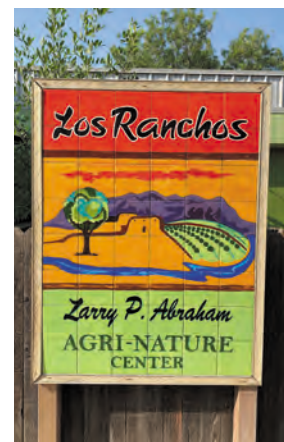
Project Cost: \$350,000

Funded: \$50,000

2022 Appropriation

Request: \$300,000

In 2010 the Village of Los Ranchos purchased the 23-acre Anderson Winery at 4920 Rio Grande Boulevard to showcase agriculture in the Village and to preserve the viewshed and greenbelt adjacent to the City of Albuquerque’s Los Poblanos Open Space. The Village has developed the Agri-Nature Center as a Center of Excellence in Agriculture through experiential education, research, and





development. This vision aligns with the 2035 Los Ranchos Master Plan, agriculture plans of New Mexico State University (NMSU), and New Mexico First. Recognizing that agriculture crosses boundaries and is part of a collective network, the Center partners with a variety of agencies, such as iExplora!, through its Farm Camp, Los Ranchos Elementary School’s Code of the West program, Albuquerque Public Schools, the NMSU Arrowhead Center



for Entrepreneurship, the Bernalillo County Cooperative Extension Service, and the Thornburg Foundation.

The addition of the outdoor classroom and demonstration kitchen will add even more potential for integrated agricultural activities and education programming despite the restrictions due to COVID-19.

3. Middle Rio Grande Levees Study- Los Ranchos Village Boundaries

Project Cost: \$250,000
 Funded: \$62,500
 2022 Appropriation Request: \$187,500

The Village wishes to secure professional services to study the conditions of the stretch of levee within our incorporated limits.

The Rio Grande Levee Task Force was created by Senate Memorial 18 at the NM Legislature during the 2009 Regular

Session. Six reports were presented to the Water and Natural Resources Committee between 2009-2014 for the Middle Rio Grande Levees from Bernalillo to the San Marcial Railroad Bridge in Socorro County. Projects and further studies of this stretch are in varying degrees of completion, but do not include the Village of Los Ranchos. The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Hazard Mitigation Plan (March 2021), of which the Village is a participating local government, identifies the structural integrity of the levees as “in question.” It further identifies that some deteriorated conditions exist throughout the system which has left areas susceptible to flooding should the levees be overtopped or fail. We propose to study the safety of the levee through inundation mapping in preparation of a potential catastrophic failure or breach.

Highlights from the Growers' Market

Sue Brawley

29th Growers' Market Season

Winter Markets are the 2nd Saturday of the month, 10 am – noon, Dec. 11, 2021; Jan. 8, Feb. 12, March 12 and April 9, 2022. Several of the growers (we average ~20-25/market in the winter) will have greens such as arugula, chard, spinach, and lettuce that they are growing in cold frames or green houses for the winter. At the January 8th and February 12th markets one may find onions, various types of greens, leeks, root vegetables, dried fruit, honey, eggs, jams/jellies, pies, indoor plants, and herbs.

Want to be a Vendor?

If you would like to sell at the market on an occasional basis or regular basis, call Colene Montoya at 610-9591 or send an email to montoya4664@hotmail.com.



Vendor Profile: Jump Start Farms – Linda Cronk



Linda Cronk, a long-time north valley resident, has been selling at the market for over 7 years. Linda grows a wide variety of vegetables and herbs. Some of customers' favorites are her salad greens, summer squash and squash blossoms, and tomatoes. She is recognizable at the market with her distinctive squash blossom farm logo. Linda's delicious hot mustard and pesto complement her fresh offerings.



Favorite Recipes

Submitted to the market over the years

LEEK AND POTATO SOUP

Mary Arrowsmith

Mince the white part of 3 medium leeks and 1 medium onion. Stir and sauté them for 5 minutes in 2 tablespoons of olive oil. Peel and slice 4 medium sized potatoes. Toss with the leek onion mixture. Add 4 cups chicken stock. Simmer the vegetables, covered for 15 minutes or until tender. Put everything in a blender. Return to pot and add 1 to 2 cups of cream. Can be eaten hot or cold. For a variation, add cooked chicken breasts after the mixture is blended. Then the name changes and you have cock-a-leekie soup.

ROASTED WINTER VEGGIES

Cathy Lewandowski

You can use whatever winter veggies you have such as carrots, leeks, winter squash, parsnips, turnips, etc. Cut the veggies in 1 to 1 ¼ inch cubes. Place on a baking sheet, drizzle with olive oil, and sprinkle salt, pepper and your favorite herbs over the veggies. Bake at 350 degrees for about 45 minutes, until the veggies are fork tender.



Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque
GROWERS' MARKET

29TH GROWERS'
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WINTER MARKET
2ND SATURDAYS
DECEMBER
THROUGH APRIL

10AM - 12PM



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The Rio Grande Community Farm Incubator Program Workshop Series

Bruce Milne, Board Member, Rio Grande Community Farm
Jamie Welles, Executive Director, Rio Grande Community Farm

Rio Grande Community Farm is developing an Incubator Program to train beginning small farmers. With support from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – NM-CTA grant, we conducted our first workshop November 13, 2021 for eight earnest farmers. The Village of Los Ranchos Agri-Nature Center hosted the event. The workshop, “Discover Your Great Big Holistic Farm Life: Setting Priorities, Land & Climate Challenges, and Finding Opportunities”, covered a wide range of topics designed to help RGCF staff identify students’ needs and expectations.

The free day-long experience introduced students to agriculture in the Middle Rio Grande Valley, including environment, community organizations, markets, and farming goals. Activities included an on-farm tour, and an engaging expert panel discussion about farming options in the Middle Rio Grande Valley, climate trends, principles of regenerative agriculture, and crop choices matched to consumer demand in local markets, ranging from CSAs to commercial and municipal entities. Participants self-assessed their attitudes about farming as individuals and as members of family and community, thereby identifying gaps and goals for improvement.



Short breaks during the day afforded opportunities to mingle and meet new people with shared interests. We are grateful to many expert presenters from Agri-Nature Center, UNM, MRGCD, Three Sisters Kitchen, Three Sisters Refugee Farmer Project, Walatowa (Jemez Pueblo), and RGCF staff.

Entry and exit surveys revealed students’ learning needs, expectations about farming, and reactions to the workshop. We discovered: (1) Students want to learn more about technical aspects of managing their business, (2) Their current expectations for profit per hour (\$36/hr) and profit per acre (over \$11,000/acre) will inform design of our project-based teaching strategy; (3) During the workshop, students were surprised to discover that there are networks of technical and financial resources in our community that would support their farming efforts; (4) Students increased their curiosity about everything from networks of resource providers to soils, finance, and climate; (5) Students enjoyed all aspects of the workshop; and (6) Students expect to return for a future workshop and would be equally enthusiastic about recommending it to their friends and colleagues. The survey results will guide design of the full three year-long Incubator Program curriculum.

A second workshop will be held in February aiming to attract upward of 30 students. Free registration will be online through our website, riograndefarm.org. The detailed agenda will reflect outcomes of the first workshop, but RGCF envisions four general themes to include:

- Small Farm Infrastructure – Choosing Affordable Equipment, Hoop Houses, and Irrigation
- Principles of Regenerative Agriculture – Savings from Cover Crops, No-till, and Biodiversity
- Lean Best Practices for Efficiency, Profit, and Product Diversity
- The Business of Sustainable Farming – Farmer, Family, and Financial Security

Our approach of using client-centered design, whereby we meet students where they are in their development and design a curriculum to serve their needs, suggests some interesting scenarios. On one hand, students’ expectations about high profits obtaining from low labor do not compare well with small farm norms in Albuquerque. Yet, by designing small farms around traditional principles of mutual aid complemented by diversified enterprises of high value crops and added value products, it may be feasible to meet our clients’ expectations. Ideally, the Incubator Program is ultimately a cauldron for cooperative learning and enterprise, given Rio Grande Community Farm’s resources of land, irrigation, infrastructure, skill, and valuable partnerships with Agri-Nature Center and many other local entities. Ultimately, success for our community will be based on the most human of technologies, namely sympathetic cooperative relationships that span across generations anchored to this land, this place.





EL MONTE S A G R A D O

TAOS



Los Ranchos' 4th Street Took a Step Back in Time for the Los Ranchos Low Rider Cruise October, 23, 2021.



Lu Sanchez

In late October classic cars, like this low-rider, cruised up and down 4th Street. With improvements made to 4th Street, the promenade gives way to an Old Route 66 experience with twinkling string lights and glowing neon (and modern safety features). At 25 miles per hour, 4th street offers ideal cruising speeds for classic cars and the everyday shopper checking out any of the 300 commercial businesses in the Village.

Bernalillo County Fire Department Year-End Remarks



Fire Chief Greg Perez

How quickly time flies, as I reflect back on 2021 I see a number of similarities to 2020. We have all now learned to, or made adjustments to our lives in a second full year of COVID-19. Our firefighters continue to deliver the highest quality of care possible while continuing to navigate the challenges of a pandemic. We as a county continue to try to grow our department, over the course of this year we have managed to stay on schedule with a number of large projects that will enhance our department readiness to respond. We will be breaking ground on a state of the art joint training facility along with our partners from the Sheriff's department in March of 2022. This joint facility will allow both agencies to train together regularly. We will also be breaking ground on our newest

fire station which will be located on the west side of the county near Atrisco Vista and I-40. This area has seen steady growth with the recent addition of Amazon and other large industries. We continue to keep our fleet up to date and staffing numbers consistent with the growth we are experiencing.

We continue to do great things as a department to provide quality service to our community. On behalf of your Fire Department, County Manager Julie Morgas Baca, and our County Commissioners, we look forward to serving you proudly in 2022. May this New Year bring health, happiness, and a return to normalcy in all you set out to achieve this year.

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Business Highlight

Canvas & Coffee

Canvas & Coffee, located on the corner of 4th Street and Schulte, catches the eye with its bright murals and welcoming atmosphere. A two-pronged business, a sip and paint on one hand, and on the other a retail space, offers customers the delight of getting creative and the thrill of finding a new treasure to take home.



Owners Terry and Steve DeWitt (above) first opened their business in 2009 as an antique and repurposed furniture, and garden art studio. In 2014 the business transitioned into a paint-and-sip studio offering coffee and treats. Walking into the space, each part of the business' past and present creates a uniquely cozy studio space for artists of all levels.

Terry began teaching children art in California when her children were in elementary school there. Today her "Arty Parties" for kids and adults, and art camps for kids aged 6-12 years, are her specialty. During art camps, the kids are welcome to stroll the grounds of Plants of the Southwest,



just across Schulte from the studio, where they learn about art in nature. At Canvas & Coffee "we wanted to bring creativity and connection to our community through art" Terry said.

The business also offers team-building classes, sometimes with a creative twist such as rotating seats so that everyone



paints a little part of a canvas, creating something uniquely team made. "Everyone has a great time. I've seen a lot of people connect and get to know people" said Terry. Individuals from her team-building classes have often been repeat customers, either for themselves or for their kids.

Like many businesses along 4th Street, the revitalization project took some adjusting to during construction, and just as Phase I came to completion the world over got to know COVID-19 and the global shutdowns that accompanied it. Terry and Steve persevered. In addition to a strong relationship with the property owner to navigate the challenges of rent, the DeWitts began offering Art-Kits-to-Go. The kits include pre-traced canvas, color photos with instructions, paint and pallet and range from \$12.00 to \$35.00. "We've hung in there, through thick and thin" said Terry.

A favorite quote of Terry's is from Winston Churchill who said "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." She said Canvas & Coffee is "a true calling... I feel I've made a huge difference in the lives of many people."

Things to keep an eye out for:

- » In the coming months, Canvas & Coffee will begin offering classes like silk screen printing
- » Art Camp will pick back up in the spring

Canvas & Coffee
6700 4th Street – Suite B
Los Ranchos, NM 87107
abqcanvasandcoffee.com

The Village Vision's motto is "About the Village, for Villagers, by Villagers. In that pursuit, the Business Highlight column takes a closer look at our business community. Any business within the Village of Los Ranchos municipal boundaries may participate in the business highlight column. If you are a business owner or representative of a registered Los Ranchos business in good standing, and would like to be featured, please email magazine@losranchosnm.gov. We look forward to sharing your stories.

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Trunk Show for the month of Nov. with handcrafted works by Thunderbird Hats

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Larry P. Abraham Agri-Nature Center 2021 Year End Review

Joshua O'Halloran, Agricultural Program Manager

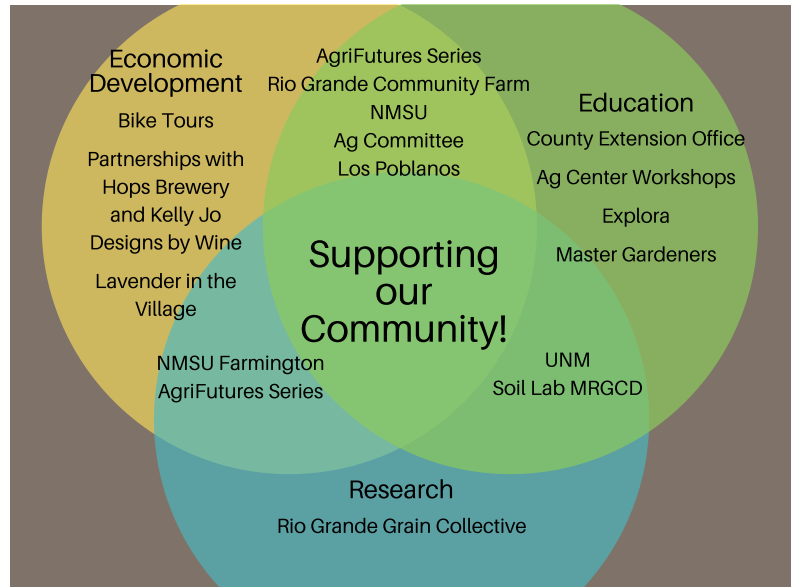
As we start a new year, it is a good time to reflect on the previous year to see what we have accomplished and look to build on the successes and learn from the hardships. Everything that we do on the farm is made possible through the efforts of so many volunteers and partnerships with other organizations. It would not be possible without the help of all of you, so thank you!

As we continue to clarify the mission of the Agri-Nature Center, it is becoming clear that our mission can be summed up under three main categories: education, research, and economic development. I am including a Venn diagram that is a work in progress but gives a bit of a visual to show these three areas and the partners who work with us to help make this happen. As you can see, the goal in all of this is to support our community, especially our agricultural community by working in these areas.

Education

As we continue to navigate the covid pandemic, finding creative ways to continue our educational efforts has been one of the challenges of this year. Through collaborations with our partners, we have continued to promote regenerative agriculture to all ages. We held farm camp this year through the summer and during spring and fall break with Explora. We had to reduce the numbers to 50%, but they were able to continue, and it was great to have kids out on the farm. Additionally, we partnered with a homeschool cooperative to bring their group to the Ag Center for educational outdoor activities.

This Fall we had a workshop series every Thursday evening



on different agricultural topics. This was made possible by our wonderful presenters! We had presenters from the Master Gardeners program, MRGCD, Los Poblanos, Farm to Table, NMSU Extension, and local Los Ranchos farmers.

We partnered with our neighboring farms of Los Poblanos and Rio Grande Community Farm (RGCF) for educational field days this year. We held a healthy soils day on these three farms as part of our AgriFutures program. We then partnered with RGCF for the Maize Maze event where we had many workshops on various agricultural topics. Additionally, we worked with RGCF to hold a day long workshop for beginner farmers on regenerative agriculture that will continue into the coming year as a farmer incubator program.



Economic Development

As it continues to be a difficult time for small businesses during the pandemic, we have worked to support local businesses and farmers as much as we can. The Lavender Festival this year had a local business passport program to support our businesses, and at the Ag Center we held a week long lavender U-pick to help bring people into the Village.

Our AgriFutures program continues to have a group dedicated to economic development in the Village and is working to identify the needs of local businesses so that we can better address them.

We continue to partner with Hops Brewery as part of our hops growing research program. Hops Brewery is using the hops grown at the ag center to brew some of their beers and advertise their use of local ingredients. They have also come to the Ag Center to perform brewing demonstrations and to sell beer and educate about locally grown hops. This has helped bring more public awareness to their business as well.

Kelly Jo's Designs by Wine has collaborated with us this year as a new partner. The Master Gardeners program continues to make wine from the vineyard at the Ag Center, and we are now aging that wine at Kelly Jo's Designs by Wine where it will also be bottled and marketed in the coming year. Additionally, we held a farm bike tour this year to bring awareness to our local small farms as well as educate about our local food system.

Research

We have a couple of exciting new research projects this year! We are working with the Rio Grande Grain Collective to grow out some ancient grain varieties. We are trying to see which grains are best suited to our region and increase the seed bank so that we can provide more ancient grain seed to local farmers.



Another new endeavor is a community soils lab at the Ag Center. We are collaborating with MRGCD to build and staff a soils lab that will serve our local community. This will give us the ability to test soil, water, and compost and give recommendations to local growers to help them address their needs. We also plan on taking soil samples around the region so that we can begin to map out the soils in the middle Rio Grande area.

This year our hops research has continued, and we were given some new unnamed trial varieties from North Carolina State University to see if they are more suited to our shorter days at this latitude. NMSU Farmington was generous enough to bring their hops harvester down here for us to use and we collaborated for the first time with CNM's brewing class to provide them with hops to be pelletized with their students.

Thank You!

I am sure there is plenty that I have missed, but it has been a great year on the farm! Thank you so much to all of our partners and volunteers on the farm. We cannot do it without you! I am sorry if I missed someone, but we are so appreciative for all of those who have worked with us in any way. I look forward to working with all of you next year as we continue to strive to serve our community as best we can!



The Real Estate Market

Tim Tourville

Smart-Home Technology - The Future is Here

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It's 2022 and there's really no better time to embrace technology and make your home smart. Let's take a look at a few reasons why.

Today's smart phones can make some of life's responsibilities easier to manage. Their ability to interact with home automation tools has contributed significantly to the rise of Smart Home technology. By making the move to this increasingly innovative tech, homeowners can reap significant benefits. It's not unusual to come across listings these days promoting Smart Home as one of the several features of a home or a condominium residence.

Control at the Touch of a Button

Smart appliances create an unprecedented level of control that simply makes life easier. Take for example something like an oven. Let's say you were in the middle of baking a great meal for your family or friends but you forgot an essential ingredient, forcing you to head to the store. Instead of worrying whether or not you turned the oven off and having

to waste valuable time by turning back, just turn it off at the touch of a button. The same idea applies for your HVAC system. You may want to turn it off completely when you're not home, or perhaps adjust the temperature a couple of degrees when you're on your way home, so when you arrive, your home is just the right temperature.

Better Safety and Accessibility

In addition to making sure ovens don't stay on, your security is dramatically improved. With a smartphone, you can see who is at your door when someone rings the doorbell, you can lock your doors remotely, or even keep track of when certain people in your home come and go such as when children arrive from school or when an elderly relative is picked up. Speaking of the elderly, voice commands make it much easier for them to perform simple tasks such as turning on the lights, reducing the risk of injury while attempting to fumble for the light switch in a dark room.

Energy Smart

Modern smart appliances have advanced enough that they use minimal electricity. Today's cooktop stoves, for example, are intelligent enough to know that heat should only be applied when there is a metal pan placed on top. With this intelligent technology, homeowners can potentially save money on their electric bill.

Money Savings

The US Environmental Protection Agency published a study a few years back showing that using smart thermostats resulted in as much as thirty percent in energy savings for homeowners. When evaluated over a long-term period such as five years, that's quite the chunk of money being saved. It's also worth noting that if and when it comes time to sell your home, Smart Home technology may significantly improve the resale value of your home and catch the eye of a buyer looking for something that offers modern conveniences.

Transitioning towards a fully Smart Home equipped home may require a significant investment up front, but again, the long-term rewards outweigh the initial costs. Consider incorporating smart technology in 2022.





INTRODUCING THE NEW BOTANICAL CANDLE COLLECTION

We are delighted to present our all-new, reimagined Botanical Candle Collection, inspired by aromatic botanicals from our farm and scents reminiscent of New Mexico. Each profile was thoughtfully refined in partnership with our talented, longtime fragrance consultant to capture a nuanced and balanced essence. Hand-poured locally, each candle blends pure essential oils and natural soy wax for a clean burn.

As we welcome a new year, it's the perfect time to relax and renew. Light a candle, sit back for a few quiet moments and allow the aromatherapeutic benefits to gently move through your home. And with Valentine's Day right around the corner, these candles make a lovely gift of well-being to show how much you care.

Visit the Farm Shop and explore the beautiful retail space inside the renovated, historic dairy barns at Los Poblanos. The Farm Shop offers an array of artisan products ranging from our lavender apothecary collection and our Farm Foods line to Native American jewelry, local ceramics, books and housewares.

The Farm Shop is open daily 9-6, or visit us online.

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

Listing Number	Address	Listing Price	Square Feet	BR	BA	G	Lot Acres	Listing Office	Agency Phone	Listing Member
1003106	518 El Pueblo	\$1,550,00	5400	4	5	3	1.5	EXP Realty, LLC	(505) 554-3873	Michelle Mann
986592	721 Chavez	\$2,400,000	5464	3	4	2	2.01	Keller Williams Realty	(505) 690-2225	Feil Cabinet Team
999778	6823 Guadalupe	\$1,550,000	4406	4	4	2	1.58	Kate Southard Real Estate	(505) 264-9586	Kate Southard
1003010	1118 El Pueblo	\$745,000	2411	3	3	0	1.03	RE/MAX SELECT	(505) 433-5600	Kim Jensen
1002395	508 Ortega	\$725,000	3200	4	4	6	1.26	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 293-3700	Sandi Pressley
970968	980 Bonita Rosas	\$1,695,000	6584.00	5	7.00	4.00	1.47	Kate Southard Real Estate	(505) 264-9586	Kate Southard
1003106	518 Pueblo Solano	\$1,550,000	5400.00	4	5.00	30.00	1.50	EXP Realty LLC	(505) 554-3873	Michelle Mann
995780	8202 Guadalupe	\$219,900	1267.00	1	2.00	0.00	0.13	Realty One of New Mexico	(505) 883-9400	Robert Pimentel
1002138	4678 Los Poblanos	\$1,850,000	6408.00	4	5.00	4.00	1.20	Keller Williams Realty	(505) 983-5151	Christianna Martinez
1000500	4608 Los Poblanos	\$1,650,000	6199.00	5	5.00	4.00	1.24	Realty One of New Mexico	(505) 883-9400	Tracy Denton
1001127	1600 Padre Roberto	\$1,650,000	6559.00	6	5.00	3.00	1.00	Sotheby's International Realty	(505) 982-6207	Joshua Goss
1001480	601 El Pueblo	\$590,000	2858	3	3	4	0.56	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 292-8900	Tim Tourville
910246	6930 Rio Grande	\$2,200,000	Vacant Land				6.92	Sotheby's International Realty	(505) 261-6469	Marsha Adams
981897	840 El Pueblo	\$325,000	Vacant Land				1.13	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 269-4076	Richard Jackson
989526	6502 Fourth	\$400,000	Vacant Land				0.5	Victus Real Estate & Development	(505) 220-3470	Kristina Pulliam
981897	840 El Pueblo	\$325,000	Vacant Land				1.13	Coldwell Banker Legacy	(505) 269-4076	Richard Jackson
998155	7221 Zia View	\$350,000	Vacant land				0.55	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo
998647	7201 Zia View	\$350,000	Vacant land				0.06	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo
998648	7220 Zia View	\$350,000	Vacant land				0.56	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo
998646	7200 Zia View	\$350,000	Vacant land				0.56	Absolute Real Estate	(505) 604-8291	Leola Robledo

The information herein is deemed reliable, but not guaranteed from SWMLS compiled on or before November 30, 2021 by Tim Tourville, Coldwell Banker Legacy 292-8900.

Morgan Stanley

Park Square Group at Morgan Stanley

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

Dates:

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

Event Location:

RSVP for more information on how to participate

RSVP to:

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janis.frank@morganstanley.com



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The Adobe Theater

Marcelle Cady

The Adobe Presents Another Texan Comedy by Jones, Hope Wooten; West End Productions Presents One of Noel Cowards's Best Loved Comedies

Four years ago, the Adobe Theater presented the hilariously funny comedy, *Doublewide, Texas* to SOLD OUT audiences - and well folks, they are back!

The Adobe Theater is proud to present the sequel, *Honky Tonk Hissy Fit*, where the tiny town has gotten crazier than ever! The town has grown to seventeen mobile homes and a weekend farmers' market. But the rug is pulled out from under them once again. It appears their vacation rental trailer has drawn unwanted attention from a mega-corporation in Austin, Texas. Come on down and watch the tiny town of *Doublewide, Texas* takes on the Big City of Austin, Texas. Most of the original cast from *Doublewide, Texas* will be reprising their roles and re-unite with director, Georgia Athearn. This production's cast include Lacey Bingham, De Anna Gonzales, Maria Herrera, Timothy Kupjack, Margie Maes, Diana Segara Mahony, Joel Miller, Ruben Muller and Elisa Nelson. Production team includes Caedmon Holland (Stage Manager), Linda Wilson (Set Designer) and Rhonda Backinoff (Costume Designer); pictured below.



Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, collectively known as JONES HOPE WOOTEN, enjoy the reputation of being three of the most popular and widely-produced playwrights in the United States. They specialize in writing laugh-out-loud comedies and creating vivid strong roles for women. Because of their commitment to and support of local theatres across the nation, they've built a following with legions of loyal fans and have been dubbed "America's Playwrights." The Adobe also enjoyed a very successful run with their hilarious *The Savannah Sipping Society*.

Opening January 28 and running four weekends - Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sunday at 2:00 PM. There will be a Pay What You Will on Thursday, February 17. The Adobe is taking special precautions to insure the health

and wellness of our patrons. We are NM Safe certified through the NM Department of Health. In addition to our normal sanitization practices and using HEPA filters between performances, we will also be using Path-Guard Dry-fog technology. The dry-fog machine has been proven effective against pathogens of fungal, bacterial, viral, and yeast origin including COVID-19 and influenza. Ticket holders will need to show proof of COVID vaccination (or negative test result) and picture ID at the door. Patrons can send proof ahead of time by email (image of COVID document and picture ID) to covidsafe@adobetheater.org.



For more information and to purchase tickets, check our website www.adobetheater.org or call 505-898-9222.

Further south on N. Fourth Street at VSA North Fourth Arts Center, WEST END PRODUCTIONS has been presenting top quality theatre, with a primary focus on writers from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales past and present - from the classical repertory, as well as showcasing the most contemporary of playwrights. Also adhering to COVID guidelines, their next presentation is quintessential Noël Coward - *Hay Fever* opens LIVE on Friday February 25 to Sunday March 13. (Fridays and Saturdays at 7.30pm, Sundays at 2pm). Written in 1924, a cross between high farce and a comedy of manners, the play is set in an English country house in the 1920s, and deals with the four eccentric members of the Bliss family and their outlandish behavior when they each invite a guest to spend the weekend. Directed by Mario Cabrera, better known for his acting performances (recently 'Salieri' in *Amadeus* and 'John Barrymore' in *Barrymore*), British-born (and founding member of West End Productions) Colleen Neary McClure plays the leading role of 'Judith Bliss'. Other members of the cast are Mark Danley, Caleb Ramsell, Paige Underwood, Fawn Hanson, Eric Werner, Ashley Reid, Nick Fleming and Patricia Thompson.

For more information, Covid guidelines and tickets, go to www.westendproductions.org or call 855-937-8505.

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Are Artists Born or Made?

Gordene MacKenzie

Are Artists born or made? The jury is still out on that question. Recent test results that looked at artists' brains debunked the theory that artists only use the right side of their brain finding that artists use both sides. What we do know about artists is they use their imagination which is fueled by a passion to create. They fall in love with a particular medium to express themselves and work hard to develop, expand, and perfect their style of art.

Winter hours at the Los Ranchos Art Market from January through April are 10AM to Noon.



David Merriman

Handmade Tuned Wind Chimes

David's creative spirit first emerged when he began designing and fixing things. He visited the Land of Enchantment in the 1970s where he and his wife first met. Originally from Texas, David returned to study the emerging field of Laser-Optics and engineering at Texas State Technical Institute. After helping to design engines for the space shuttle in California he returned to New Mexico to help set up the new Rockwell facility at Kirtland Air Force Base. David has always loved playing with metal. His love of the medium inspired David to design and make metal yard pieces for his wife. Later he created metal mobiles and simple chimes. David said his "first chimes sounded terrible." A true artist, he applied his engineering experience to his art and "found the right way to hang the pipes to resonate with the metal, creating the perfect notes." Today each of his wind chimes are tuned to a musical note. David's chimes hang all over the United States and in several other countries. Customers appreciate the sleek lines of his chimes, along with the perfect notes when they are energized by the wind.

Alicia Sosa-Provencio

Expressionist and Abstract Paintings

Alicia Sosa-Provencio, a local artist in the North Valley, remembers as a child always changing the color of the paint on her bedroom walls. When Alicia found canvas "it was a smooth transition. I love layering on (acrylic) paint. I love the colors that belong to the earth that are found in the trees and sunsets." A dancer for many years, Alicia finds inspiration in the subtle movement of clouds and leaves. A year and a half ago during the pandemic, like many of us Alicia felt depleted. She realized she needed to start painting again. And paint she did! After she completed eleven expressionistic and abstract paintings, Alicia's eight-year-old son asked her what she was going to do with them. This led her to start a small local business to sell her paintings. Alicia's art is inspired by her three children, and local animals she encounters, particularly the roadrunner. Her high resolution colorful giclee prints (that use paint instead of ink in the printing process), greeting cards and stickers capture every shade of her gorgeous original work. Many of her paintings depict ballet folklorico dancers, breastfeeding Virgen De Guadalupe, roadrunners, and more. "My subjects are influenced by my New Mexico traditions, deep cultural connections and always guarantee a bright dose of color!"



Romance perfectly paired.

DID YOU KNOW?

"Our Rosé is crafted from 100% Syrah grapes from Block Five in our family-owned vineyard. The grapes are lightly pressed and ferment at a cooler than average temperature using specially imported French yeast. All the finest details help to carefully preserve the fresh strawberry fruit character, natural crispness, and lovely aromatics in this French-style Rosé."



The Fitness Column

WITH LISA KNIGHTON

Strength Training 101

Strength training goes by a few names. Some call it resistance training, or weight training. Others go off to the gym to pump iron. Regardless of how you say it, let's learn why we all should be doing it at least twice a week.

First, let's define strength training.

Strength training is using weights or resistance bands during movement to increase strength and size of the muscles. Resistance loops and tubes, an assortment of free weights, and even your body-weight are all forms of weight that can be used to perform the work.

When a new client meets with me, I ask if she has free weights at home. If she answers no, I encourage her to begin shopping for three sets: one set each of fives, eights, and tens. It's also common that when I mention the ten-pound weights her eyes narrow, and she looks at me with skepticism. I smile and say, "That's only the beginning."

Everyone benefits from strength training. In my studio and with live-streaming sessions, the classes where we lift weights, use resistance bands, and perform multiple exercises using body-weight are, by far, the most popular I teach. It's no secret that we all enjoy weight training, especially my younger clients.

Second, don't waste your time, please.

It's indeed a little harder to convince my Gen Xers and others to pick up the next set of heavier weights. Let me be honest, there is a real problem if you're lifting weights that are too light, too little. The problem is—you're wasting your time.



Remember, your body adapts to what you do and to get stronger you must ask it to do more. Lift heavier weights. This may mean you add one more pound to the barbell, or pick up the set of twelve pounders when the ten pounders really do feel easy.

Lastly, when you lift heavier weights, you increase your strength, and this improves your muscle mass. Sarcopenia (muscle loss) is often associated with aging. But well-designed workouts where a combination of body-weight moves, the addition of free weights, and the use of an assortment of resistance bands provides stimulus to increase muscle mass. Just because you're getting older doesn't mean you have to age like your grandparents may have.

Lifting weights is a way to increase bone density. Bones lay down more cellular structure in response to exercises performed with free weights, or by using body weight to move up and down from the floor.

Pumping iron improves mood, and it lessens anxiety in general. Other benefits include improved blood pressure, and reduced fat around the peri-cardium. A study from 2019 published in JAMA Cardiology found that previously inactive adults who participated in weight-lifting for 45 min 3x week for 12 weeks had a reduction in the fat that sits around and close to the

heart. Another study which followed participants in a resistance training program for one full year discovered that women who were overweight but otherwise healthy had improved in overall health measures.

And one more thing—avoid using exercise machines, especially if you have osteoporosis. It's imperative that you learn to use good form and improve your balance and posture while you're building muscle and improving bone health. For your bone mineral density to improve you must load the bones.

If you're new to exercising with weights or resistance bands, I advise seeking out a skilled exercise professional, someone who can guide and work with you to develop a program suited to your needs. I hope you're intrigued and plan to give strength training a try.

*It's always advisable to let your physician know what you're doing to improve your general health. Nowadays, there's a refreshing move to use exercise as preventative medicine.



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

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

November 9, 2021 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m., November 9, 2021 via Zoom video conference, by Chairman Drew Seavey. A quorum was present. Commissioner Connie Barrow was sworn in as a new commissioner by Attorney Winter. The agenda was approved unanimously (7-0) by roll call vote. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously (7-0); no changes were made to the October 12, 2021 minutes.

Public Comment Period: Mr. Chris Reedy, Mr. Dan Gay

Public Hearings:

- A. BB 21-09 A request by Janine Mahon for a Bed & Breakfast Permit as allowed by §9.2.25(E)(1) in the SU-1 PRD Zone in the Fourth Street Character Area was approved with conditions unanimously (7-0).
- B. SDP 21-01 A request by Matthew Herrera for a Sketch Plat Review for a Commercial Site Development Plan for a development in the GD Zone in the Fourth Street Corridor and Character Area. There was no action taken on this item.
- C. BB 21-11 A request by Ryan Bromberg for a Bed & Breakfast Permit as allowed by §9.2.25(E)(1) in the SU-1 PRD Zone in the Guadalupe Trail Character Area was approved with conditions unanimously (7-0).
- D. BB 21-12 A request by Maria Montoya & Kristopher Houghton for a Bed & Breakfast Permit as allowed by §9.2.25(E)(1) in the A-1 Zone in the North Rio Grande Character Area was deferred. No action taken.

New Business: There was no New Business

Old Business: There was no Old Business.

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

Informal Discussion: Commissioners held informal discussion.

Adjournment: Chairman Seavey adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

The next Planning & Zoning Commission Meetings are scheduled for January 11, 2022 and February 8, 2022.

Correction to the Planning & Zoning Summary Minutes in Issue 2021, No. 7: Missing public hearing item: September 7, 2021 Special Meeting: Public Hearings, Item F

- F. BB 21-04 A request by Michael Bernal for a Bed & Breakfast Permit as allowed by §9.2.25(E)(1) in the R-3 Zone in the Fourth Street Character Area was approved with conditions unanimously (5-0) by Commissioners Christensen, Benavides, Gay, Seavey, and Michelson.

Meeting packets, minutes, and information on upcoming hearings can be found at losranchosnm.gov/planning-and-zoning-meetings.

Watering in the Winter

505 Outside

Baby, it's cold outside. Or is it? How do you water during the cold and dry winter season?

The weather predictions are in, and we are headed into a very dry La Niña winter season. This means we need to water our plants this winter in order to keep them healthy. Due to our freezing temperatures we recommend turning off your irrigation system for the season and using your hose to water once a month during the middle of a warm winter day.

Watering Tips:

For cool season grass lawns, thoroughly water every other week.

For deciduous and evergreen trees, lilacs, photina's, euonymous, rose of Sharon, spirea and forsythia, water once a month to 24" deep.

When watering by hand remember to make sure your hose has a shut off valve or nozzle on the end of it. One hour of hose watering at a trickle is a good rule of thumb. for trees check out this link. To find out how deep you are watering read more here.

Author: Richard Perce, Irrigation Efficiency Specialist with the Water Conservation Department for the Water Authority. Research: Farmers Almanac, Drought Watch New Mexico State.

For more information or if you have any questions on ways to conserve water or landscaping ideas, please email AskAnExpert@abcwua.org or sign up for 505 Outside's newsletter at www.505outside.com



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Board of Trustees - Summary Minutes



Mayor
Donald T. Lopez



Trustee Pablo Rael
Mayor Pro Tem



Trustee
Allen Lewis



Trustee Tom
Riccobene



Trustee Sandra
Pacheco

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

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, September 8, 2021

Summary of Action Items

1. Mayor Lopez called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Trustee Rael-visibly present, Trustee Lewis-present, Trustee Pacheco-present, Trustee Riccobene-present.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Trustee Rael-lost connectivity, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for;
Motion Carried 3-0.

4. Public Comment Period:

Written Comments submitted to the Clerk prior to the meeting:

- None

Participants who spoke:

- Loretta Chaves Smith
- Camille Varoz

5. Presentations:

- A. Representative Dayan Hochman-Vigil, District 15A.
- B. Katie Snapp, Lavender in the Village
- C. Andrew Stone, Community Solar
(Trustee Rael regained connectivity)

6. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of August 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

7. A.-F. Departmental Reports.

8. Financial Business

- A. Approval of the Cash Report-August 2021. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Continued on Page 36

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

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Happy New Year!

Wishing you a prosperous
year, filled with health,
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prosperity in 2022!



Walt Arnold, CCIM, SIOR
505-269-9358
Walt.Arnold@svn.com



B. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2021-09-01; Budget Adjustment Request (BAR), budget line addition, Account 48080. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

C. Discussion and approval of resolution no. 2021-09-02; Budget Adjustment Request (BAR), American Rescue Act Funds. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

D. Discussion and Approval of Resolution No. 2021-09-03; Signature Authority for the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

9. A. Public Hearings: None

10. A. Old Business: None

11.A. Announcements: None

12. New Business:

A. Discussion and Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 280; An Ordinance Amending Agricultural-Commercial Zone Approval Process to the Zone Map Amendment Process. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

B. Discussion and Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 281; An Ordinance Amending Chapter 9, Article 5, Section 1 of the Village of Los Ranchos Codified Ordinances Regarding Adoption of the Building Code. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

C. Discussion and Approval to Adopt Ordinance No. 282; Repealing Ordinance No. 273; Regulating the Growth, Sale, and Production of Recreational Cannabis and Cannabis Products Pursuant to the Cannabis Regulation Act Of 2021. Trustee Rael-For, Trustee Lewis-For, Trustee Pacheco-For, Trustee Riccobene-For; **Motion Carried Unanimously for deferral to the October 2021 Board Meeting.**

D. Discussion and Approval to Advertise Ordinance No. 283; An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, New Mexico General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

E. In Accordance with the Village of Los Ranchos 2013 Codified Ordinances Chapter 9; §9.2.2 Planning and Zoning Commission. (A) Membership: The Commission Shall Consist of Seven (7) Members who Shall be Appointed by the Mayor with the Advice and Consent of the Members of the Governing Body. 1) Shelleen Smith. Trustee Rael-for, Trustee Lewis-for, Trustee Pacheco-for, Trustee Riccobene-for; **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

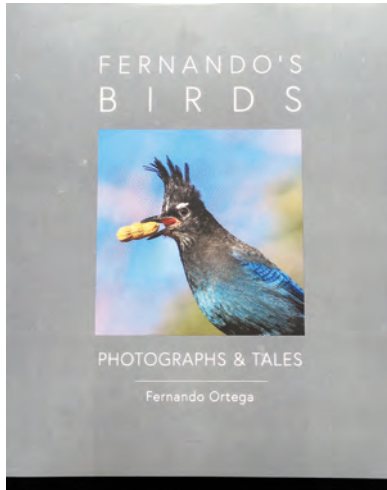
13. Trustee Informal Discussion.

14. **Mayor Lopez adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.**

*Next Scheduled Meeting:
Regular Board of Trustee Meeting-Wednesday, January 12, 2022; 7:00 pm*

Fernando's Birds: A Book Review

Ellen D. Hey



If you know the name Fernando Ortega, you will know his recordings of contemporary religious music. Now he has published his first book, *Fernando's Birds, Photographs, and Tales*. His exceptional gifts of storytelling, photography, and bird watching have given us a rhapsody of tales and pictures

which, surprisingly, results in an autobiography. comes as the author allows the reader to discover what each picture brings to mind. In this way, Ortega reveals his personal view of life and often his values and emotions, through memories of his family and happenings in his life, thereby creating a delightful autobiography which invites the reader to sit down and get acquainted.

The book is not just a reference book with information about birds. As the reader you will be pleasantly surprised to find yourself in a conversation with the author – and laughing out loud. For example, his thoughts about the misuse and mispronunciation of words; “There is a disturbance in The Force that is causing these language discrepancies.”

Fernando's *Birds* is an intelligent and charming look at birds and at life. It is available at both locations of Wild Birds Unlimited in Albuquerque and at www.fernandoortega.com.

which, surprisingly, results in an autobiography.

The book is a collection of photographs taken by the author himself. The photographs are clear and colorful and often capture a bird in its daily routine, unaware of being observed by human or camera.

At first glance the reader expects to find a page of information about each particular bird, but the surprise

Ellen Hey is a Los Ranchos resident and retired Albuquerque Public Schools educator.

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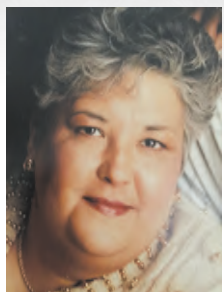
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In Memory of...

Aggie Lopez



Agatha “Aggie” Lopez passed away unexpectedly on December 6th, 2021, at the age of 74. Aggie was a lifetime resident of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. She is survived by her husband Colonel Donald T. Lopez, Mayor of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. Daughters Debra Nilsson-Cortesi and Denise Lopez-Dixson; Son-in-laws Craig Cortesi and Matt Dixson. Grandson Max Nilsson and

Granddaughter Ava Dixson; Brother Melecio Martinez and Sisters Louise Greenwalt and Elizabeth “Liz” Thompson; together with several nieces, nephews, extended family members and treasured friends. Aggie was the daughter of Melecio and Tomasita Martinez.

Soon after graduating from Valley High School in 1964 her life changed forever. At age 18 Aggie's best friend introduced her to her future husband and fellow Valley High School Alum Donald Lopez. Aggie and Don quickly fell in love and were married on January 7th, 1967, Aggie's 20th birthday. Aggie quickly became a mother. Debra Eileen was first. Then Donna Louise, who sadly passed just a few weeks after birth. So, it was with renewed joy when Denise Elizabeth joined the family. Aggie loved being a mom. She would dress her daughters in the newest fashions and made sure that they always had the latest gadgets.

Education was a top priority, and the girls were also active in multiple sports teams and extracurricular activities. Aggie prepared her daughters by making sure they were given every possible opportunity to succeed in life. Aggie was passionate about education. While working as an Educational Assistant Aggie saw firsthand the inequities in childhood education along both cultural and economic lines. These inequities bothered Aggie and at the age of 46 she ran for Albuquerque Public School Board and won her election. Aggie was a hard-working member of the APS School Board from 1993-2001 and she served as APS School Board President for 2 of those years. For 8 years Aggie worked and fought to improve public education. Aggie believed that every child has great potential if only given an equal chance.

Aggie loved spending time with family and friends. She and Don were frequent hosts of various parties, most holiday get-togethers, birthday celebrations, random BBQ's and football watching parties. Aggie loved watching the children of the family grow and mature. She was so happy about all the impressive accomplishments the children of the family achieved. Aggie was most proud of her Grandchildren Max and Ava. Luckily, she was able to have spent a lot of time with them both in recent months. She most enjoyed cooking for Max and spending time each day talking or visiting with

Ava. Aggie was selfless and always made sure her family had everything they needed. She will be greatly missed.

Celebration of Aggie's life took place Tuesday December 21st at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. A rosary was recited, followed by a Funeral Mass. Aggie was laid to rest at Gate of Heaven Cemetery located at 7999 Wyoming Blvd. NE, 87109.

Erlinda L. Rael



Erlinda (Earlie) Lucille Chavez Rael (b. 1938) passed away at home, surrounded by her family on Monday, November 22, 2021. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Pablo Rael [Village Mayor Pro Tem]; children: Paul, Leslie (Michael), Jennifer, Joseph (Jodie); brother Richard Chavez (Christina); grandchildren: Marisa, Andrew, Matthew, Esperanza, Noah, Marina, Josiah,

Isaiah, Olivia, Catori, Joshua, Kayla, Gabriella; great-grandchildren: Marlee, Rylee, as well as her adopted children and grandchildren: Regan Foster-Chavez, Zac Foster, Nick Chavez, and Nic Meyer.

Earlie had a long and loving life. She loved cooking for her family and friends, playing poker, dancing with Pablo and spending time with her many grandchildren. While she was taken from her family too soon due to Alzheimer's, she will forever be remembered by those whose lives she touched.

Erlinda's Life Celebration began with a Rosary recited on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Shrine of the Little Flower St. Therese of the Infant Jesus Catholic Church located at 3424 Fourth St. NW, 87107. Mass took place on Thursday, December 2, 2021 also at the Shrine of the Little Flower St. Therese of the Infant Jesus Catholic Church. Erlinda was laid to rest following the Mass at Mount Calvary Cemetery located at 1900 Edith Blvd NE, 87102.

The family has asked that any contributions be donations made to the Alzheimer's Foundation, so that a cure may one day be found.

To view Erlinda's online guestbook please visit www.salazarfunerals.com

Originally published by Albuquerque Journal on Nov. 30, 2021.

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Rediscover the Village

DAVE BEXFIELD

Chilling Out in Los Ranchos



It has now been confirmed by science: Los Ranchos de Albuquerque is officially cool. I mean, we Villagers already knew that, obviously, because we exude coolness, and not just because some of us shop for boots at Dan's or browse for eclectic funk at the Twig or down an Imperial pint at the Breweryard. It turns out our stately trees are the vintage Ray Bans on Tom Cruise circa 1983's Risky Business. Our cottonwoods, ashes, and, ahem, elms, make us literally one of the coolest areas in the Albuquerque area.

That's what the CAPA Strategies discovered this past summer, according to their recently released report on the Urban Heat Watch program in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The group organized 65 volunteers who collected 67,662 temperature and humidity measurements during the morning, afternoon, and evening on the particularly toasty day of July 9, 2021. They found vast temperature differences throughout the city, varying as much as 16.9 degrees between locations, with a high of 105.9 degrees.

You'll notice that the more heavily paved areas of Downtown and the near Heights glow a darker red, with the grid of streets forming the outlines of a crimson Tic-Tac-Toe board. But generally, the Valley is awash in lighter colors at all times of day. You'll also notice that the Far Heights and Foothills are even chillier, but that's to be expected with the elevation difference of nearly 1,500 feet. And the frosty demeanor of the people who live there. Oh, I joke! Ish....

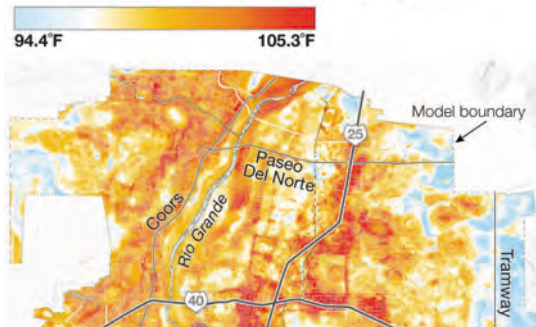
In my experience, afternoon rides in the Village on my handcycle exude what makes it so pleasant to live here: people wave and smile and chat. But if I get near Tramway, the attitude seemingly shifts. Probably because folks up there are a tad bitter about the winds that come off the Sandias. Disheartened at the lack of shady trees. Jaded by the longer commute. Soured by the shorter growing season for their tomatoes. Bummed by the dearth of good restaurants, which they are reminded of every time they try to choke down overcooked vegetables at Heights locales. I guess who wouldn't be at least a little bit frigid living in the nosebleeds?

Now, it's not all rosey in Los Ranchos all the time, at least according to our Heat Map. The two kidneys of Caballero are noticeably redder than other areas of the Village in the afternoon hours. Odd. Perhaps we could chalk it up to the cavalcade of riding mowers who were participating in an unannounced makeshift parade that July 9th. But more than likely, it probably was just residents of the Far Heights driving their cars around Caballero, daydreaming of being able to someday relocate to the friendly confines of Los Ranchos.

Oh, to dream! Only we just need pinching, because we already live here. It is another brilliant day in the Village.

AFTERNOON AREA-WIDE PREDICTIONS

Temperature data gathered on July 9, 2021 from 3-4 p.m.



Albuquerque
New Mexico



CAPA
strategies
HEAT
WATCH
Report



CURIOUS

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The Story of the Village's Ditch Dog

Dominic Tomba, Animal Welfare Officer

In the first week of November the Village Animal Control department was alerted to a stray, male, purebred English Bull Terrier roaming the area of Osuna Road and the Chamisal Lateral. I went out to investigate. The dog seemed to be lost but had found refuge for the moment amongst the piles of dead tree limbs and leaves that scattered the drained ditch. With no water or food in sight, and with temperatures beginning to drop, it was urgent that he be caught and relocated to a safe environment. I began tracking the dog and planning how to safely capture him.



The dog was spotted numerous times and initially evaded capture by muscling his way out of a brand-new coyote live trap. That was the Village's only large live trap! We had to call in the big guns. The Village found a rescue organization, Team Frijoles Lost Pet Recovery, who willingly donated their time and efforts in the help of capturing the dog. Angela Shomin, a member of Team Frijoles met us out on the Chamisal Lateral to observe the dog's demeanor and patterns. The dog initially seemed extremely skittish around people, but otherwise seemed to enjoy the company of other dogs as he seamlessly jumped the six-foot chain link fence to the adjoining property with two dogs. Shomin suggested that we utilize Team Frijole's "Missy Trap" to safely capture the dog.



Shomin and two members of Village staff spent the majority of a day setting up the Missy Trap; a near indestructible, escape-proof dog trap consisting of horse fence panels and can be triggered with a variety of methods including hanging bait, a pressure plate, and an electromagnet release. Once the trap was assembled, we baited it with some irresistible dog food, and set wireless connecting game cameras in multiple locations near the trap in hopes of capturing the dog on camera entering it.

Unfortunately, our plan failed as the dog seemed to have moved on from the location on the Chamisal Lateral. A few days had gone by with no sightings of the dog. Our spirits were low and all we wanted was to help the poor dog out. At that point I found myself sitting in front of my computer making multiple internet postings for the lost dog. Lo and behold, my efforts paid off. A North Valley resident replied to a posting claiming the dog was frequenting an abandoned house next to her property. The property was approximately two miles south of the Chamisal Lateral. What a relief it was to hear that someone had eyes on the dog!

The following day Shomin and I disassembled the Missy Trap. The goal was to assemble it on the property of the abandoned house and start the process of baiting the trap all over again. Shomin was determined to capture the dog that night because it had been three weeks of the dog living outside in the elements

and without regular food or water. By that evening we successfully and safely rescued the dog.

The dog, now named Turner, went directly to Bernalillo County's new animal shelter and received a full medical exam and vaccines. Turner was then transferred to Cross My Paws rescue where he is now currently seeking a foster home.

What we know about Turner: he seems to be very friendly and affectionate to people given his prior circumstances. Neighbors and those walking on the ditch reported him jumping into yards (note fence jumping for placement) to play with other dogs. He was in a yard with stray/feral cats sharing eating and watering spaces.

Turner



Looking for a
ADOPTED
Foster Family

Turner was adopted just before this issue went to print! If you have questions about fostering or adopting a pet, reach out to Dominic Tomba with the Village Animal Control department. 505-977-4830 dtomba@losranchosnm.gov

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VILLAGE VISION DEADLINE

Issue No. 2
Materials due
January 25, 2021
Email magazine@
losranchosnm.gov

Next issue to arrive in
mailboxes approx.
March 4-5, 2022

Community Meetings & Events

Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, January 12, 2022; 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning Meetings

Tuesday, January 11, 2022; 7:00 pm

Tuesday, February 8, 2022; 7:00 pm

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

Agri-Nature Center

Home Composting Basics: Jan 6; 6pm

Improving Desert Garden Soil: Feb 3; 6pm

For more information visit:

losranchosnm.gov/agri-workshops

Growers' & Arts Markets

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

New Mexico Forestry Division Conservation Seedling Program

Ordering for seedlings from the NM Forestry Division Conservation seedling program for Spring 2022 begins December 6, 2021, and orders will be accepted through April 15, 2022. Distribution of seedlings begins March 7, 2022. The last day of distribution will be on April 22, 2022. You may order on-line at: <https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/sfd/seedlings/>. You may mail in an order form with payment (order forms can be downloaded and printed from the website, call 505-660-0412 if you don't have computer access to print a form). Since many species are limited in availability it is recommended you order on-line if possible. We accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover for on-line orders and check for mail orders. The cost of seedlings is \$80.00 per 49 small container seedlings and \$57.00 per 20 large container seedlings (limited species availability for large container) See website for availability. Also, please note there is a \$5.00 handling fee and for each lot of seedlings ordered that are shipped UPS there is a \$10.00 shipping fee.



Happy New Year from the Village of Los Ranchos

