# La Entrada News

**REPORTED BY THE THE RANCHO VIEJO LA ENTRADA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION** 

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#### La Entrada News

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### **FirewiseUSA Community Cleanup Day**

by Annie McGovern



On May 4, 2019, more than 70 volunteers gathered for our annual cleanup event. Firefighters from Santa Fe County Fire Department worked at Capital Peak, and the La Cienega Volunteer Fire Department worked at Firehearth Place. Both areas had extensive dead fire fuel, which has been greatly reduced thanks to their efforts. FirewiseUSA at Rancho Viejo was awarded a \$500 grant from State Farm again this year and it was given to the La Cienega Volunteer Department.

Many thanks to the sponsors and the team of behind-the-scenes organizers Sally and Paul Dillon, Dave Rasinski, Vince Montoya, Cass Thompson, Laura Corbin, Kathy Brown, Barbara Conkey, the landscapers who drove around picking up all the trash bags, and all those who worked so hard to make it happen. To the many resident volunteers who did the manual labor such as picking up tumbleweed and stuffing it into trash bags (not so easy) and who broke down dead tree limbs and scattered them underfoot, and so on - with bags and gloves in hand filled with enthusiasm, you are the backbone of this endeavor, and we thank you! Your active participation in doing the "dirty work" continues to demonstrate the best principles of community spirit. To Anke Mihalas, who solicited the amazing raffle prizes, thank you! We had another successful event and more than met our annual obligation to FirewiseUSA.

On the day of the event, several volunteers suggested new areas to clear and worked with the firefighters to identify specific areas of concern. Your suggestions are welcome!

## **Rancho Viejo History**

#### by

#### Sarah Henderson

The thoroughfare that was Rancho Viejo throughout much of its history continued to see activity in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and later. Larger events that impacted the area include the Civil War, gold rushes, the American conquest, and the development of railroads. The study that was done by Tigges Planning Consultants (Rancho Viejo, Sitio Antiquo, 2000)



even mentions Zebulon Pike being held by the Spanish in Santa Fe then taken by them down the Camino Real to Chihuahua. Troops that came through the area belonged to Texas Volunteers (Confederates) and Kearny's Army of the West.

Although gold was discovered in the Ortiz in 1828, the true boom was in the 1870s, after the coming of the railroad. As well as gold, there was lead, zinc, copper, coal, and turquoise to be found in the Cerrillos area. The railroad also brought a brief visit by Billy the Kid and Pat Garrett.

The land itself seems to have of water, but sheep were grazed grant period, with their numbers occupation. Eventually much of than owned in common for immigrants from the Basque family, purchased a land grant sheep and cattle. According to "the forerunner of Rancho Viejo".

I will end this synopsis with one "the aspect of the Rancho Viejo with the images of people least 700 years old traveled by Anasazi, Apache, Comanche,



been unsuitable for farming due to lack here often, through the contentious land increasing later during American the area became privately owned rather grazing purposes. One family of region of southern France, the Mocho and subsequently homesteads, to ranch the study, Mocho family lands became

of my favorite quotes from the survey: history that is its best history...comes moving...paths, trails, roads, corridors at nearly always persistent people: and Indians from Mexico who gave

ancient Nahuatl or Aztec names to mountains of turquoise and the coyote" (p.49).

What an interesting thing to be a teeny tiny part of this ancient landscape and history!



## Please Join Us For A Presentation By New Mexico Wildlife Center Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 11:00 am La Entrada Community Park Via Sagrada and Via Punto Nuevo

This program will focus on reptiles and conservation issues, and also feature one of our ambassador birds. The program will last about an hour and leave time for questions and hands on interaction with our reptile ambassadors.

If you need a snake removed from your yard, please call New Mexico Wildlife Center at 505-753-9505



# Kíds Pet Parade & Carníval



11:00 a.m. - Parade line up 11:30 a.m. - Parade 12:00 p.m. - Hot Dogs, Cotton Candy, Lawn Games and More!

Kids *and* adults, come and bring your decorated bikes, scooters, and pets and show off your American pride! Meet at the park on the corner of

Via Sagrada & Punto Nuevo







## **Sheriff's Safety Seminar**

by Kathy Brown

Lock up and call! These actions are the bottom line of a Neighborhood Watch presentation given by Deputy Robert Girmendonk and Detective Jared Modgling of the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office on April 10, 2019. The 44 Rancho Viejo residents in attendance were able to ask questions regarding safety issues in our neighborhoods, particularly recent car break-ins and the discovery of a stolen vehicle and stolen property and narcotics found in a home on Cañada del Rancho. Neighborhood Watchers should refer to Carol Thompson's April 10 email for details.

The officers advised residents to lock their doors and windows even when someone is home, and to remove valuables from their cars and keep vehicles locked when parked on the street. Be alert and if you see anything suspicious, call the Sheriff's Office non-emergency number: **505-428-3720**. Do not hesitate. Installing video cameras in and outside the home will also help to provide descriptions and information to the officers should an event occur. Motion detecting lights afford added security and are allowed in Rancho Viejo.



Other effective deterrents include:

¥ Having a dog deters criminals.

¥ Some residents were concerned that our dark sky ordinance could contribute to crime in Rancho Viejo. The officers suggested that we keep our address lights and front door lights on, as well as inform neighbors if they have a burned-out bulb.

¥ Residents who use the hiking trails were advised to never hike alone as there is safety in numbers. Bring your dog, carry a cell phone, consider carrying personal defense such as pepper spray or a Taser, and trust your instincts.

Other concerns raised dealt with how frequently Rancho Viejo is patrolled, sex offenders and the potential dangers of dog doors. The officers indicated that patrols are conducted randomly during the three deputy shifts, with more patrols taking place on weekends. They noted that the recent burglaries resulted in the Sheriff increasing patrols in our area. Officers make sure that registered sex offenders live where they say they live and drive the vehicle they say they drive, and may do undercover surveillance of offenders. The officers cautioned that, while convenient, dog doors have been used by criminals to enter a home and should be locked when not in use.

Officer Girmendonk shared some of the challenges facing the Sheriff's Office. Due to budget constraints, there is a shortage of deputies which causes safety concerns not only for residents, but also for the officers. The Albuquerque and Rio Rancho Police Departments have had increases in their hourly wages while Santa Fe Sheriff's Office has not. This has caused many officers to leave Santa Fe, and although our county budget provides for 103 deputies, we currently have only 90.

#### Sheriff's Meeting, Continued

While Rancho Viejo continues to be "a pretty sheltered area" with a low crime rate, there has been a significant rise in burglaries in the last six months. There have been thirteen break-ins and this recent spike is possibly due to the increase in Rancho Viejo construction. Residents can access <u>www.Crimereports.com</u> for incident reports and hot sheets which provide a summary of incidents.



Furthermore, residents should familiarize themselves with the See Something, Say Something Program at <a href="https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something">https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something</a>. Joining the Rancho Viejo Neighborhood Watch email list will enable you to receive notifications about safety concerns in our area. Email your request to Carol Thompson, the Rancho Viejo Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinator, at <a href="carolath@msn.com">carolath@msn.com</a> if you want to be added to the distribution list for alerts. Participation in the Citizens Police Academy was also recommended. This ten-week program was described by a Neighborhood Watch Block Captain, Kathy Brown, who has taken the course. The program serves to help citizens understand the challenges facing local law enforcement and helps to promote positive relationships between the community and the sheriff and police.

Rancho Viejo "is a good community" and in order to keep it that way, we need to remain alert, take care of each other and call if we see ANY suspicious activity. The non-emergency number is 428-3720. Our Neighborhood Watch program is working, and you are encouraged to join if you haven't already. Don't forget to tell your neighbors! The meeting ended with Rob Ryan, Chair of the Safety Committee for Rancho Viejo South, presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to the officers as well as a donation of \$400 to St. Baldrick's Foundation.

Many thanks and kudos to the Rancho Viejo folks who made this important event possible:

Rob Ryan, Chair; Kathy Brown; Barbara Conkey; Diane Darby; Kirk Delaplaine, Treasurer; Jeff Hollander; Jerry Janus; Vince Montoya; Julia Salazar; Margaret & Jack O'Toole; Carol Thompson and a special big thank you to Cass Thompson, President of the La Entrada HOA, for obtaining the insurance necessary for the use of the Community Room at the Fire Station.

RVNW YARD SALE - SUMMER 2019 To volunteer contact Carol Thompson at <u>carolath@msn.com</u>

## Join us for a Presentation by The Santa Fe Raptor Center of rescued, rehabilitated, and released raptors.

When: Sun. Aug. 24, 2019 at 5:00PM

Where: IAIA Hogan - 83 A Van Nu Po

The Santa Fe Raptor Center cares for injured birds in order to release them back into their natural habitat.

There will be locally created hand-stamped greeting cards and other items available. Donations for The Santa Fe Raptor Center are greatly appreciated.





#### La Entrada News



Communication Committee June 2019 by Sally Dillon, Chair

The Communication Committee met on May 20, 2019 to plan upcoming events and to work on this newsletter. Information about our upcoming events is in this newsletter. Later events will be described in future issues of the newsletter.

Our Message Centers are now in use. We are still missing the door on the Message Center on the north side of the Rancho Viejo Blvd mailbox area, but one day it will be there! We are aware that there has been fading of the header lettering and we will work on fixing that shortly. Fading from the sun will be an ongoing issue, but we find the Message Centers to be a great way for us to communicate what is happening in our community. As a reminder, any notices attached to the outside of the Message Centers will be removed and discarded. A better option for those notices is to post them on Nextdoor.com as those postings will go to a larger group of people in a wider area. Facebook events is another option.

After the La Entrada HOA the board approved the budget in January, the Community Events Wagon (trailer) was purchased. The items that have been purchased for the wagon include eight 6' tables, 32 folding chairs, two coolers, one trash can and one recycle can, and two canopies with weights. This will help us have necessary items on hand for events we plan without having to rent them. We used some of the items at the recent Firewise event for Rancho Viejo in early May.

On June 1<sup>st</sup> in the La Entrada Community Park, the **NM Wildlife Center** will provide a presentation on reptiles, conservation, and other topics. Flyers highlighting this event have been posted at the Message Centers, and email notifications sent to residents. There will be signage pointing the way to the park. This is a new event for us this year and it should be quite interesting!

Plans are well underway for our newest creation: La Entrada's *Fourth of July Kids Pet Parade and Carniva*l complete with lawn games and cook out. Check out the flyer in this newsletter for details of this fun family event. Should be highly entertaining to see our La Entrada pets prancing along in patriotic regalia and decorated bikes along the parade route. This is an event you do not want to miss!

Later in the summer, we have the Raptor Release on August 24, and in the fall the *La Entrada Community Picnic* on September 7, the *Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Drive* on September 21, and in early winter, our Holiday Party on December 7. Mark your calendar for these events.

At the recent Communication Committee meeting, the Committee worked to plan the June. 2019 newsletter and assign articles to write. The La Entrada Communication Committee meets every other month for purpose of planning upcoming events and organize articles for the La Entrada News.

Our website has the newsletters, calendar of events, flyers, RV Neighborhood Watch Alerts, and updated Homeowner Handbook containing our community regulations and other important information, such as Reserve Studies. A login request button is located on the Home Page of the web site. If you don't have a login, now is a perfect time to get one.

If you have an article you would like to be included in the newsletter, please send it to Sally Dillon <u>arttrek@prodigy.net</u> by the 15<sup>th</sup> of Jan, March, May, July, Sept, and Nov. It needs to be in Word or Pages and <u>completely</u> ready for publishing. <u>"Completely</u> ready for publishing" includes formatting, editing, captions, logos, and active web links, etc. The photos and article need to be attached in an email to Sally by the 15<sup>th</sup> at the very latest.

#### **Committee Reports, Continued**

#### **COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE**

The Communication Committee works as a team in assisting publication of the newsletter, and it will determine if there is room for an article depending upon space constraints and content. The editor and the committee reserve the right to edit submitted articles. If approved by the Communication Committee, the article will go in the next newsletter. If it is submitted after the deadline, it will be placed in the next following issue of La Entrada News unless it is time sensitive content that is now after the fact. The reason for our deadlines is for you to align yourselves with our publishing schedule. We have specific tasks to accomplish and, if a submission is late or not "completely ready for publishing," it throws off what we need to accomplish for publishing.

La Entrada News is published generally around the beginning of the publishing month, and it is also posted on the La Entrada website at <u>http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/home.asp</u>. An email is sent from HOAMCO to residents with the website URL and directions to locate the newly published newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sally Dillon at arttrek@prodigy.net.

#### **DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE**

by Sally Dillon, Acting Chair

Spring is in the air, well maybe not in the mountains, but is usually this is the time of year that residents start thinking about gardening or changes to their yards. La Entrada requires a submittal of a *La Entrada Design Review Committee (DRC) Modification Submittal Form.* Log on to La Entrada at Rancho Viejo at <a href="http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org">http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org</a> and go to <a href="http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/document\_view.asp?id=4">http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org</a> where you will find the form. The completed form should be emailed to Serenity Lucero – <a href="http://www.sueencomto.com">Slucero@HOAMCO.com</a>.



Also on the website is an Approved Plant List located on the website at <u>http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/</u> <u>document\_view.asp?id=3</u> This information should also be in your Homeowner Handbook. If you can't locate either of these, please contact Serenity at 505-945-4479 for the DRC Form and Approved Plant List, and any questions about the process.



# Audra's Corner!

March/April/May Activities



Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> RV Ladies and their guests attended a special **Presentation on Climate Change**. Our neighbor Douglas Dasher, Ph.D. P.E. discussed global and local environmental assessments. There was also discussion on increasing temperatures, diminished snow pack, drought, shift in agricultural zones, and New Mexico's economic risk. If you would like a copy of the PDF from this event and/or additional information with internet links, please email me at Mauied85@AOL.com

Ladies Lunch for April was at **Mucho Gusto** on Paseo de Peralta near downtown. We had about 16 attending on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and covered three tables. Some of the ladies tried the daily specials. I stayed with my favorite dish, the Flautas. The refried black beans were also excellent, creamy and delicious.







The RV Book Club meeting was the next day at Jackie Neel's home. We enjoyed a deep discussion of **Crazy Brave: A Memoir** by Joy Harjo. We also listened to a music CD shared by Wanda Morrison. I very much appreciated the additional information from Wanda as she knows Joy.

#### Santa Fe Style - Trending Hair Accessories



The RV Ladies Group accomplished their second charity event for the year on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Ladies met at **The Food Depot** for a facility tour and work day. Some sorted little tomatoes and some sorted little cucumbers. After a refreshment break we bagged onions and prepared donation bags for a food drive. It was a very special day and a few signed-up to volunteer regularly.





#### La Entrada News



**Cinco de Mayo** was celebrated at 5 pm at the La Entrada Community Park. We had a rainbow of margarita flavors and lots of goodies to eat. The evening was warm and wonderful.





Ladies Lunch for May was on Wednesday the

15<sup>th</sup>. We celebrated an awesome springtime day by eating outside at **The Teahouse** on Canyon Road. The day and place was also paying homage to our dear friend Martha Weston. We had a large party of 19 and were spread between three tables under the apricot trees and umbrellas. Martha's daughter Linda was able to join us that day.

Sally and I hosted a **Crafts Workshop** on Friday, May 17. We were busy as bees – painting rocks with owls and cacti, coloring and stamping art boards for magnets, and decorating little gift boxes. The rocks and magnets will be part of our donation to a fundraiser for The Raptor Center. La Entrada will be hosting a Raptor Release Event in the fall. Sally and I will also have handmade



cards available. All money collected will go directly to the center along with any cards not chosen that day.

Happy Summer!



## **Recycling Reminders**

Paper, clean plastics and cardboard can be mixed together in the cart. However, No **GLASS** should ever be put into the recycle bin. If you wish to recycle glass, you can do so at the Rancho Viejo Recycling Center.



If a specific homeowner does put glass into his recycling cart on a regular basis they will be warned, and, should that practice continue, MCT will no longer provide recycle pick-up at the home. Also please note that the garage cart and recycle cart need to be placed at least 3 feet apart.

In June, recycle pick-ups will be on June 5 and 19, and July pick-ups will be on July 3, 17, and 31.

If you have any further questions, you can call MCT at 505-345-8651 or check out their website at www.mctwaste.com.



## Warm Weather is Here...

By Marylin Morgan

And that means all of us along with the children in our neighborhood will be spending a lot more time outdoors. Many of us may also opt to take our dogs out more often.

With that in mind, we would just like to remind everyone that all dogs **must be on a leash** throughout our Rancho Viejo neighborhoods and <u>open spaces</u>. Even though most of us think our dogs are very friendly and would not harm an adult, child, or even another dog, just having a dog approach them may frighten those you pass by on your walk.

On another note, we also hope everyone with dogs remembers how important it is to pick-up after your dog. There are "poop" stations throughout La Entrada where you can get a plastic bag if you forgot your own and also dispose of any waste. The last thing any of us wants is to step in a pile of dog poop, or our children or grandchildren. It can certainly put a damper on a fun day out in the sun.

Most of all, we wish everyone a wonderful summer packed with activity! And don't forget to check the message boards for events that the Communication Committee will be hosting throughout the summer starting with our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Kids Pet Parade and Carnival.



#### La Entrada Calendar

Board Meeting, 6:00pm Thursday, **TBD** RV Fire Department Community Room 37 Rancho Viejo Blvd.

#### Neighborhood Watch Local Contacts

Carol Thompson Area Coordinator RV Neighborhood Watch Home: 471-9044 Cell: 603-0833 Email: <u>carolath@msn.com</u>

See anything Suspicious? Call County Sheriff's Office: 428-3720. If you wish to remain anonymous, call Crime Stoppers: 955-5050.

#### Large Item Pickup

The date for large item pick up within La Entrada residential areas is the third Friday of each month. The next date of service will be **Friday**, **June 21 and July 19, 2019**.

Residents must call **Serenity Lucero** at **505-954-4479** before the date to arrange for large item pick up. Please provide your address, telephone number and description of item(s). Remember to sign up no later than the Monday prior to the Friday pick up date.

Types of items allowed: furniture, yard waste, appliances.

Not Allowed: Most electronics, oil or household chemicals.



Look at 'em go!!!

## **Trailblazers Times**

by Staci Stevens

#### Thank you for making our race a success!

The Amy Biehl Community School would like to thank La Entrada for its generous support of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Trailblazer run!



It ended up being a beautiful day for the event as about 70 runners hit the trails connecting Rancho Viejo and the Spur Trail behind the Community College. This year's race added new distances including a 10K to challenge more seasoned athletes. We had runners from around the city that participated in the day's events including elite runners, a barefoot runner, parents pushing strollers, and students of all ages.

The day concluded with the most exciting event of the day – the kid's 1K - check out the determination and joy of these pint-sized runners! Thank you to all who participated for helping to encourage an active lifestyle for our students and for supporting your community school!

#### School's NOT out for Summer!

While many families are celebrating the end of the traditional school year, school is not really out for summer. This year, Amy Biehl Community School was chosen to hold an extended learning session during the summer for grades K-5. For Rancho Viejo this means that you can expect drop off and pick up traffic from June 20 – July 26. The program will run Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 2:00pm during those dates. Please drive slowly during these times and watch for students.