

# La Entrada News

REPORTED BY THE THE RANCHO VIEJO LA ENTRADA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

La Entrada Newsletter, Issue 6, Dec-Jan 2020/21

December 1, 2020

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## La Entrada News

Lisa Marcato, Editor/Layout



## Forgoing the RV Holiday Party . . . We Endeavor to Support our Community

*by Audra Hansche, Tess Harris, and Sally Dillon*



Due to the pandemic, like everything else, our Holiday Party had to be cancelled. The Communication Committee decided to still go forward with our support of the Rancho Viejo Fire Station on Rancho Viejo Blvd and the Santa Fe Youth Shelter Street Outreach Program, both of which we have been supporting for many years at the holidays through the donation of cookies and goodies. This year we decided to do more.

October 26 was not the best day to be out and about due to the weather, but it was a perfect day to deliver donuts to our local firehouse. I got an enthusiastic welcome from the whole gang on duty, with extra points for

### Forgo Holiday Party and Support Community, Continued

having brought Whoos Donuts. They were glad to know how much we appreciate them, and they love being part of our community. There are more donuts in their future from us

The Street Outreach program was established in 1985. The Street Outreach Program Drop-In Center serves youth ages 21 and under who are experiencing homelessness with showers, hot meals, laundry facilities, computer and phone access, and a safe space to connect with support systems. They have had to adapt different strategies during the pandemic. But the needs continue. In talking with the Youth Shelter Street Outreach staff, we were able to obtain a list of things they needed, so the Communication Committee purchased 6 sleeping bags. A La Entrada resident and former committee member decided she wanted to help, too. She donated 6 Bivy Sacks, which are used on the outside of the sleeping bags to protect the program's clients from wind, rain, and snow. She also donated 120 emergency blankets and 56 pairs of hand warmers. These donations will help to keep the Shelter's clients warm and dry this winter.

In conjunction with the La Entrada Communication Committee, the Rancho Viejo Ladies Group also chose to support the Santa Fe Youth Shelter Street Outreach Program. We contacted the director and learned about specific needs. A collection drive ran through the month of November. Items donated include new socks, underwear, beanie hats, winter gloves, journals & pens, art supplies, snacks and new backpacks.

In addition to these items, Sally and Audra made Greeting Cards for Gift Cards. For a donation of \$2.00 per greeting card we will purchase and donate store gift cards to be handed out to youth during the month of December. Promoted within our Ladies Group – Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas cards were made available at a park outing and by special request. All donated items will be delivered to the Santa Fe Youth Shelter the second week of December.





# Little Free Library Update

by Tess Harris

Now is the perfect time to curl up with a good book. Why not swing by the Little Free Library at La Entrada Park to see what's new? Books have been changing on a regular basis, with new titles showing up every few days. There is also a notebook specifically for comments, if there is subject that you would like to see represented.

We have also added some interesting titles in the kid's section. There are lots of young adult and teen selections, with a real focus on racial and economic diversity. Such a cool neighborhood we have! We would like to remind everyone that Little Free Library is totally nonprofit. In fact, Little Free Library was named a top nonprofit in 2019 by the Great Nonprofits organization. A donation to [Little Free Library.org](https://www.littlefreelibrary.org) will help get books to underserved towns and neighborhoods. Please consider donating to give the gift of reading.



## OWL NEST IN VILLAGE PARK

(As Quoted by Van Liming)



Greetings to All,

To date I have received 23 donations totaling \$1,076. A big thanks to all who have contributed so far. After all expenses are paid I hope to write a check exceeding \$500 to the Santa Fe Raptor Center in the name of Rancho Viejo Raptor Friends.

The plaza cottonwood leaves have fallen and I am ready to install.

The Governor's Stay-At-Home order effective Monday might delay efforts to rent the necessary equipment to install the nest.

Hopefully I can schedule a rental by the end of this coming week. If renting equipment is not possible now, I'll wait until the beginning of December. I'll update you as soon as I know.

Please Stay Healthy!



# NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR Fund Drive

The 2020 Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) FUND drive has been successful beyond our wildest dreams! Thanks to your support this year we raised \$170,979 (equal to 854,895 pounds of food or enough to provide 712,412 meals) from 128 neighborhoods, senior living centers and businesses. This is far and away more money than we have raised in past years!

The Food Depot has distributions during these difficult times. For information, as to where and when, go to their website at:

<https://www.thefooddepot.org/blog/2020/03/17/tfd-food-distributions/>



## La Entrada Communication Committee Report December 2020

by Sally Dillon

Amid the Stay at Home order, the higher Covid case counts and deaths, and seeing the lines at the grocery store, the pandemic seems a long way from being over. It is especially important, right now, to stay safe. No mass gatherings are allowed, so our Annual La Entrada Holiday Party is a no go. We enjoyed it so much last year when the world was different. See the lead article in this newsletter to see what we are doing instead of the party to recognize first responders and to help young adults in need.

Speaking of the pandemic, The Communication Committee has decided to publish the La Entrada News quarterly for 2021 instead of every other month since we have no events. We will have a March, July, September, and December newsletter. We may go back to every other month after the pandemic is over. Without any events and because of the pandemic, there is less time-sensitive news to report. If we do have timely information to communicate, we will have Serenity email blast it out, and when applicable, post in the Message Centers and on the La Entrada website and Facebook pages. We always work to not over inundate residents with email blasts.

Lisa Marcato, our fantastic editor and newsletter creator, is stepping down after over 4 years of hard work and service to our community. We sincerely appreciate all her efforts on this very important aspect of our Communication Committee tasks. We wish her the very best with everything else she is doing!

Beginning with the March 2021 issue of the newsletter, Sarah Henderson will be taking over. As usual, we, as a committee, all work together to write articles and get everything into Dropbox, a cloud sharing program where we store all our newsletters and components. This gets us ready for the newsletter to be developed.

Former Firewise chair, Annie McGovern and I (new co-chair with Paul Dillon) have done and submitted the paperwork for Rancho Viejo to be re-certified as a Firewise Community. Next on tap is setting up a timeline for all the behind the scenes and day of event tasks. Hopefully we will be able to have the Annual Firewise Clean Up Day in May 2021!

Please note our Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive totals listed in this newsletter. Thanks to EVERYONE who contributed to this need to help our Santa Fe neighbors facing food insecurity during this especially difficult time. Whether you donated \$10 or \$1000, every dollar is important. One dollar equates to 4 meals and 5lbs. of food. Kudos to all who donated or will be donating during other times of the year!

The Food Depot is not taking food donations because those donations must be quarantined, but as a member of the Feeding America network, they are able to purchase truckloads of fresh food at very reasonable prices. They, in addition to their 140+ mobile food pantries throughout Northern New Mexico, have been doing food distributions either at the Santa Fe Place parking lot or in the parking lot between Feeding Santa Fe and the Food Depot Parking Lot, see <https://www.thefooddepot.org/blog/2020/03/17/tfd-food-distributions/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TheFoodDepot> for more information.

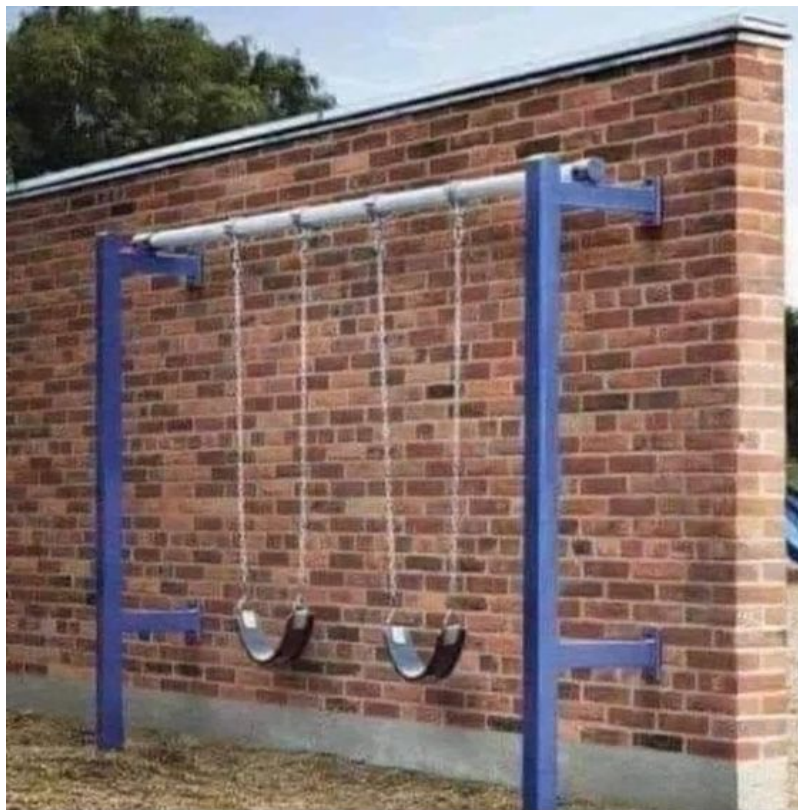
If you have an article you would like to be included in the newsletter, please send it **directly** to Sally Dillon [arttrek@prodigy.net](mailto:arttrek@prodigy.net) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of Feb., June, Aug., and Nov. It needs to be in Word or Pages and completely ready for publishing. “Completely ready for publishing” includes formatting, editing, captions, logos, and active web links, etc.

## Committee Reports, Continued

The photos and article, need to be attached separately in an email to Sally by the 15<sup>th</sup> at the very latest. The Communications Committee, who works as a team in assisting publication of the newsletter, will determine if there is room for the article depending upon space constraints and content. The editor and the committee reserve the right to edit and/or include submitted articles. If approved by the Communication Committee, the article will go in the next newsletter. If it is submitted after the deadline, it may be placed in the next following issue of La Entrada News unless it is not approved. The reason we have these deadlines is to align with our schedule for publishing. We have specific tasks to accomplish and events to plan (when the pandemic is over.) We are all volunteers. If a submission is late or not “completely ready for publishing” it throws off what we need to get done for publishing. Any questions about writing or submitting articles should be directed only to me (Sally) as the chairperson at [arttrek@prodigy.net](mailto:arttrek@prodigy.net).

if you have suggestions, ideas, or concerns for the Communication Committee to address or take on, **please send them in writing directly to Serenity Lucero** [Slucero@hoamco.com](mailto:Slucero@hoamco.com). She will send them to the HOA Board, who in turn, will send them to the Communication Committee, if applicable. This procedure streamlines the processes for the Communication Committee.

The La Entrada News is published around the beginning of the publishing month, and it is also posted on the La Entrada website at <http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/home.asp>. An email blast from HOAMCO is then sent out to residents with the website URL and directions to locate the newly published newsletter linked on the public page of the website. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Serenity, our HOAMCO Manager of our HOA at [Slucero@hoamco.com](mailto:Slucero@hoamco.com).



**IF 2020 WAS A SWING**





## Rancho Viejo Ladies Group

October & November 2020 Activities

by Audra Hansche – [Mauied85@AOL.com](mailto:Mauied85@AOL.com)

While the RV Ladies Group social activities have been on hold, we were still able to accomplish some wonderful things.

During the month of September, Jackie Neel & Elizabeth Lindell coordinated a supplies drive for **Portfolio Resident Services**. Here is the thanks from Cameron:

*I wanted to thank you and the rest of the **Rancho Viejo Ladies Group** for your time and energy this fall. This month I distributed around 96 bags each week of September to residents at all three properties including all of the food, toiletries and homecare items that your organization donated. I wish you all well in your continued efforts to assist the neighborhood and the greater community at large and I look forward to our continued partnership together. Have a great day and a great Autumn!*      Regards, **Cameron Yanoscik**

On Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> a few ladies met at the RV Village Park Plaza for another **Nurture & Nature** outdoor visit. I introduced the idea of a recipe booklet. Some asked about Fall & Thanksgiving cards. Masks and social distancing were respected.

Friday I sent out emails regarding our last service project for 2020. In conjunction with the La Entrada Communications Committee we are collecting supplies for the **Santa Fe Youth Shelter Street Outreach Program**. The RV Ladies Group will provide labeled boxes of socks, underwear, beanie hats, winter gloves, backpacks, adult color books & markers, journals & pens, emergency blankets and other miscellaneous toiletries. I am coordinating the collecting and will deliver with other members of La Entrada HOA on December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will deliver all the items along with treats and snacks for the youth.



The Book Club had their online Zoom meeting on Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sarah Henderson led the discussion for **House Made of Dawn** by N. Scott Momaday. Next up is **Circe** by Madeline Miller. The discussion leader will be Joyce Budai. Scheduled for Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Rancho Viejo Ladies Group, Continued



Sally and I made a few baskets full of **Fall & Thanksgiving cards** and had them available on Friday, 10/23. It was a very windy day, but we set up at the Village Park Plaza. Cards were available for \$2 each with the money earmarked for the Santa Fe Youth Shelter. With this money we will buy store gift cards for the shelter to pass out to clients through the December holiday.

We tried something a little new. A kind of meet up and **Tea Break with Mary Kaye**. She planned the date, October 27<sup>th</sup> and time. Set up the Zoom meeting room and a few of us had a very nice discussion. Another is planned for December 1<sup>st</sup>.

At the beginning of November, I offered to collect, organize and distribute **RV Ladies 2020 Recipes**. Anything that would fit on two pages. The deadline was November 16<sup>th</sup> so that I could finalize the project and send out as PDF that Friday. Some new delicious ideas for the approaching holidays.







# Neighborhood Watch

by RVNW Block Captains

## **Are YOU reading the ALERTS?**

As of November 14<sup>th</sup> and since the RVNW article in the last newsletter, there have been 3 ALERTS:

#1. October 22, which included this paragraph:

*"Please be alert of ANY vehicle that drives around slowly in our neighborhoods at night and especially if it's a truck with a loud muffler. If you see anything suspicious, please call the non-emergency number of the Sheriff's Dept 505-428-3720 so they can send a patrol car out right away. The more phone calls they get for this kind of activity, the better it helps them to keep our community safe."*

#2 & 3. Two separate Alerts emailed on November 11<sup>th</sup> summarized four different reported incidents about nighttime prowlers & daytime suspicious vehicles. Those alerts described the Sheriff's response to the reporting residents & important advice for all residents.

- They encouraged everyone to call each and every time they suspect that someone is prowling around their property and they will send a car out right away.
- They will step up law enforcement patrols in our area because of the reports.

It's also important to know that the Sheriff's Dept also has a Crime Unit that patrol neighborhoods in "unmarked" vehicles. There have been several incidents which they have been able to catch the bad guy or stop a crime in progress due to the element of surprise! So even though you might not see a Sheriff's car, that doesn't mean that they aren't out there helping us keep our community safe.

Alerts are sent to all parts of Rancho Viejo. If you want to be added to the RVNW distribution list, email your request to [CAROLATH@msn.com](mailto:CAROLATH@msn.com)

Carol Thompson, the Rancho Viejo Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinator, emails alerts based on reports from Rancho Viejo residents like you.

CHECK alerts to stay informed

Be Sure to Report Anything Suspicious:

FIRST to the SHERIFF at [\(505\) 428-3720](tel:5054283720)  
and THEN to Rancho Viejo Neighborhood Watch by emailing your observations to [CAROLATH@msn.com](mailto:CAROLATH@msn.com)

**##### OBSERVE & REPORT x2. #####**

With the delivery of packages increasing, be sure to regularly CHECK your cluster mailbox and your front door step.

P.S. Please help spread the word about RVNW to new neighbors in La Entrada. YOU can do this with safe social distancing by just telling folks they can easily find contact and basic RVNW information in item #8 of their "Welcome Letter." That letter is in the recent new owner packets and also at [http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/document\\_view.asp?id=175](http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/document_view.asp?id=175)

Recent emailed safety Alerts from RVNW are posted on the association's website under 'What's New/Announcements.'



## 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.

### December

2,  
16,  
and  
30



### January

13  
and  
27

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 **December**, recycle pick-ups will be on **December 2, 16 and 30**, and **January** pick-ups will be on **January 13 and 27**.

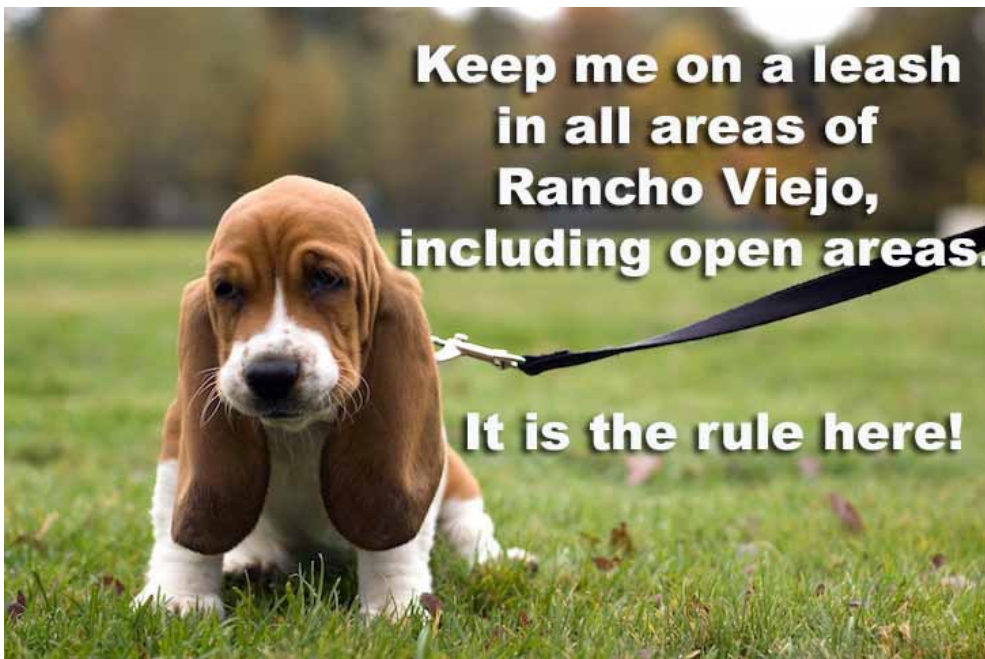
If you have any further questions, you can call MCT at 505-345-8651 or check out their website at [www.mctwaste.com](http://www.mctwaste.com).

# Please Pick Up After Your Pet!

It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you are liable to step in one such reminder. Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter.

When walking your dog in our community, remember that it should be leashed. Also, it is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. Take along a baggie with you or get one from the "doggie stations" to pick up waste and then dispose of it properly.

By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in our community. Thank you for your cooperation!



## La Entrada Calendar

Board Meeting, 6:00pm

**To Be Determined**

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: [carolath@msn.com](mailto:carolath@msn.com)

### See anything Suspicious?

Call County Sheriff's Office:  
428-3720.

If you wish to remain  
anonymous, call Crime  
Stoppers: 955-5050.

## Large Item Pickup

At this time there is no scheduled date for Large Item Pickup. If you have a large item, please call Serenity Lucero at 505-954-4479 to make arrangements for an item pick up. Please provide your address, telephone number and description of item(s).

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

Not Allowed: Most electronics,  
oil or household chemicals.



I finished wrapping the  
**Christmas presents** for this year!

