

# La Entrada News

REPORTED BY THE LA ENTRADA AT RANCHO VIEJO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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## Holiday Activities for Our Local Fire Station and the Youth Shelter

**By Sally Dillon**

Just because La Entrada did not have a community Holiday Party, that didn't



mean the Communication Committee didn't spread some holiday cheer. Cookies from Chocolate Maven were happily received from us at our local fire station. Coordinating with the Rancho Viejo Ladies Group we dropped off two carloads of wonderful items.

We returned another time with 3 laundry baskets of pre-bagged wrapped candy and

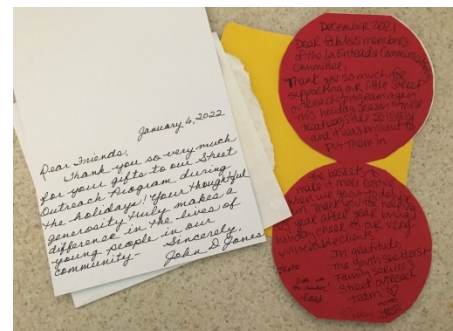
cookies. The staff at the Youth Shelter Street Outreach program drive around Santa Fe looking for potential clients living on the street who could benefit from their program. These goodie bags serve as a great icebreaker in connecting to youth in need. We did find out that cereal was something they also needed, so during that visit, the Communication Committee also provided 96 individual single serving boxes of cereal. The Youth Shelter had moved from a home on St. Francis to an office park on Pacheco, just north of the Coe Center.

During that second visit, we were joined by a long-time La Entrada resident, who back in 2010, served as the Communication Committee chair and was instrumental in developing our partnership with the Youth Shelter Street Outreach program by first bringing them turkeys for holiday meals. As we toured the building and the space used by the STAR Program, another need became apparent. The Star Program is focused on rapid rehousing of unaccompanied youth from ages 18-24 and their dependents are offered up to 24 months of rental assistance and case management with the goal of maintaining permanent housing at discharge. In the Star portion of the building, there were stacks of dishes and kitchenware on the floor. They needed some shelving unit to store these items.

The former committee chair purchased one shelving unit and the Communication Committee recently and unanimously voted to support the purchase of a shelving unit even though it was purchased in December, when we were not meeting. These shelving units provided them to start the new year with places to store all the dishes and kitchen ware.

There are a variety of individuals right here in La Entrada, who provide support to the Youth Shelter Street Outreach Program on a regular basis and as a

Communication Committee, we are proud to have partnered with them for the last eleven years and look forward to continuing our partnership in the future.



# Firewise, the New Normal

By Sally and Paul Dillon



In early February, all residents received a PDF created from a PowerPoint presentation that focused on Firewise. The date for the National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day is Sat May 7, 2022. We will have event but we are not sure yet whether it will be all of Rancho Viejo or just La Entrada. We should know very soon and we will let you know. In the meantime, mark your calendars for May 7th.

The focus is two-fold – one, removing fuels from urban interfaces beyond and near the wall and open spaces, common areas, open lots and two, working on your yard, clear the **5-foot Hazard Ignition Zone** around your home by removing fuels and reimagining your landscape plan.

The second focus is important because we now know that wildfires are no longer just in the forest. The Boulder County, Colorado grassland fire is of particular concern because we have exceptional drought and we have the fuels. While we would have to have the 100+mph winds, this fire is certainly a wake-up call to what we need to do differently.

In previous years, Firewise USA, in their publications stated that residents should limit what vegetation that is in the 5-foot Hazard ignition Zone around their homes. This year the publications state eliminating vegetation in the 5-foot Hazard Ignition Zone around their homes. We are not asking you to rip everything out of your yard, but we are asking you to really look at your landscaping and ask yourself “do I have too many fuels in my yard that put my property and my neighbor’s property at wildfire risk?” If the answer is yes, please seriously think about removing those excess fuels to make La Entrada as safe as we can.

Last summer, the Rancho Viejo South community had residents who had their homeowner’s insurance cancelled because of their “close proximity to the National Forest.” Their Firewise documented yard work may have helped to reinstate that insurance. Your insurance may be positively impacted by your documented wildfire mitigations and is certainly something you may choose to check on with your insurance provider.

Coming soon, you will receive more specific information regarding the event. You will also receive a Volunteer Hourly Worksheet and some other Firewise publications. You can keep track of the hours spent in your yard working on eliminating fuels and reducing wildfire risks. We will request those forms for documentation of our community work towards recertification as a Firewise community. You can always pick up tumbleweeds, etc. as it will always help with wildfire mitigation. You can make copies of the completed form for yourself, just in case you need it.

Finally, we are purchasing a Firewise Community sign that will be installed near the park at Via Punto Nuevo and Rancho Viejo Blvd.

## La Entrada Communication Committee Report

By Sally Dillon, Committee Chair



Change is tough, and 2022 has brought some changes I wasn't prepared for, but keep on keeping on is what is needed on many levels. With a heavy heart, I am sad to report that Audra Hansche, head of the Rancho Viejo Ladies Group, and liaison to the Communication Committee, has resigned from the Communication Committee. I enjoyed working with her over the last five years with all we were able to accomplish together. I speak for the entire committee in saying that we are sad she has resigned. We often had collaborative RV Ladies Group/Communication Committee partnered projects, especially relating to supporting non-profits here in Santa Fe. Her organizational expertise really helped us to finally come up with a more user-friendly Welcome Packet for new residents. The fine-tuning of events, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event in the park, with her researching materials we needed, doing cost comparisons, and her attention to details have been such an asset. One example is even having a doggie water station and little biscuits available after a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pet Parade. These are only a very few examples of her work and the work ethic she brought to our committee. She has been a great sounding board for problem solving and for strategies we implemented. I sincerely thank her and I am forever grateful for the time she has served on the Committee and for her friendship. If you see her around, please, also thank her for her work for the La Entrada Communication Committee. I, for one, will miss working on committee work with her! Thank you, Audra!

Other changes include, ongoing blood pressure issues I am having, that are not in control yet, the challenge of actually, getting a timely doctor appointment, and just being really sick of the pandemic and the impact on our lives. Just today, at The Food Depot, a couple of the guys who work in the warehouse and I, who works at the front desk, were venting about having to wear masks for hours and hours and how hard the N95 and KN95 are to deal with, for example, to breathe. Then, a few hours later, ta da, the state mask mandate is gone. Too bad I just stocked up on medical grade disposable masks, which is our other option. Where do we go from here? Will we get yet another variant? More adaptations and change.

Another change occurred at the end of 2021. It was the wildfire, a grassland fire in Boulder County, Colorado. This means that no longer are wildfires just in the forest. It is a huge wake-up call for all of us who live in this drought stricken area of the West. As we move forward with our Firewise event with the National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on May 7, 2022, we all need to look at the landscaping in our own yards to see if we have the safest option possible for us and our neighbors. More information about Firewise in this newsletter.

Stay safe and stay well.

## Rancho Viejo Ladies Group

December 2021 – January & February 2022

By Audra Hansche – Mauied85@AOL.com



Happy New Year!!

The Ladies had an awesome Holiday Party on Friday, December 3rd. Festive snowflakes in turquoise and red, uplifting friendship messages and reminders to mingle and make new friends, were splashed around the conference room. After a little business and lunch, we sang the 12 Days of Christmas - New Mexico style. Then we played our annual gift exchange game. Lots of stealing, fortunately with lots of laughter, was in good order. I think everyone left in a happy mood and ready to start the holiday season.

Our last Book Club meeting was on Zoom, Thursday, December 9th. The discussion of *The Last Bus to Wisdom* by Ivan Doig was lead by Jackie Neel. Two 45 minute sessions was the right amount of time. The new RV Book Club Reading List 2022 was sent to the group on November 23rd, please contact me to receive a copy.

Our first ladies outing for 2022 was a tour at the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture (MIAC). Our own Sally Dillon lead the tour of 9 group members. I could not join the tour because my dachshund had a back injury and needed to be kept still and quiet at home. As soon as I could, I met the group for the second part of the outing. Twelve ladies met at Museum Hill Café for lunch. The tour group walked over and a few more joined in the fun.

As planned our first service project of the new year was a donation to Interfaith Community Shelter – Pete's Place. I contacted Sue Carr for a list of most needed items. Donations were dropped off at my house, counted and organized into labeled boxes. This project ran from January 24th through February 7th. Tess & Kirk graciously agreed to deliver 15 boxes, 1 bag and a cash donation on Wednesday, February 9th for our Loads of Love project.

Continuing with our love theme, twenty-six ladies met for a Hearts & Hugs Potluck Luncheon, at our neighborhood conference room on Wednesday, 2/16. Our special guests, Haley and Scarlett came from Santa Fe Youth Shelter Street Outreach Program. After some tasty food, the young women lead a very informative presentation and discussion. We learned there are many programs in place to help our city's homeless youth. The Street Outreach Center is a safe space for youth who need a bit of TLC. The drop-in center provides hot meals, showers, computer and phone access to connect with support systems and the staff are friendly.

RV Ladies activities planned for March include lunch downtown at Lone Spur Café and a spring service project for Portfolio Resident Services.

I look forward to all the great times ahead and the wonderful things we can accomplish when we work together.

Peace & Hugs



Did you get some cool new stuff for Christmas? Are you wondering where to put your new things? The obvious answer is to clear out some things to create room for your new things.

Saturday, May 7 at 8 am  
Location: La Entrada Park, Via Punto Nuevo @ Via Sagrada  
Contact person: Tess Harris

Thanks, Tess  
[tessipoo527@gmail.com](mailto:tessipoo527@gmail.com)

**YES:**

**NO:**

**Clothing**

**Shoes**

**Computers or related devices**



## SAVE YOUR STUFF FOR OUR SPRING SALE



## Little Free Library

By Tess Harris



I know it's not summer, but your Little Free Library is up and running 24/7. Don't forget to stop by La Entrada Park to visit. Take a book, leave a book is our motto. You never know what you will find, maybe a book you didn't even know existed! There are lots of for children, also.

## Looking for Residents to Serve on the Communication Committee

By Sally Dillon, Committee Chair

We are looking for some residents to serve on the La Entrada Communication Committee. Tasks include quarterly meetings, event planning and participation (when applicable), writing of one or more articles for each Quarterly newsletter, help with support of our non-profit partners (such as the Youth Shelter, Raptor Center, etc.) activities/events. Meetings are usually on a Monday at 4:30pm in the conference room over by the Plaza Park. Since it is a large table we have been meeting in person recently, sometimes with masks on. They run about 1 hour to 1 ½ hours. Much more information about this topic will be in the March Newsletter. If you are interested, please send a note to Serenity with your contact information.

Also. The Volunteer Application is located on the La Entrada at Rancho Viejo website at [http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/document\\_category.asp?cat\\_id=26&name=Committee+Volunteer+Application](http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/document_category.asp?cat_id=26&name=Committee+Volunteer+Application)  
Recourses>Documents>Community Volunteer Application and click on download

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### Communication Committee Procedures:

1. **What to send to Serenity** - 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), not to individual Communication Committee members.** We do not deal with repairs, DRC approvals, traffic, pets, etc. Things of this nature still go to Serenity, and are not related to the Communication Committee work.
2. **Newsletter articles** - 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 Feb. 15th for the March newsletter,**
  - **By May 15<sup>th</sup> for the June newsletter,**
  - **By Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> for the Sept newsletter**
  - **By Nov 15<sup>th</sup> for the Dec newsletter.**
  - It needs to be in preferably Word or Pages and completely ready for publishing. “Completely ready for publishing” includes formatting, editing, captions, logos, and active web links, etc. The photos and article, need to be attached separately in an email to Sally by the 15<sup>th</sup> at the very latest.
  - 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.
  - Any questions about writing or submitting articles should be directed only to Sally at [arttrek@prodigy.net](mailto:arttrek@prodigy.net) .
3. **Newsletter publication** - When the La Entrada News is published, generally 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)**



## Sidewalks that Need Attention

By

Cass Thompson



If you know of a sidewalk area that has cracked/broken pieces, raised up, etc. please take a picture and send it along with the street location to Serenity Lucero, our HOA Manager at [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com) by April 1, 2022.

## Shovel Your Sidewalk!

By La Entrada Communication Committee



During the last several snow storms, there have been many sidewalks that have not been shoveled. This is a safety hazard and as a courtesy to your fellow residents, please clear your sidewalks. According to the La Entrada Regulations – Homeowner Handbook, located on our community website, <http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/> , Resources>Association Board>La Entrada Homeowner Handbook 2017 on page 27 H.

**“Snow and Ice removal**

*1 Each Owner or Occupant is responsible for the removal of snow and ice from the sidewalks on or adjacent to his/her lot.”*

Let’s work to keep La Entrada safe from falls and injuries.



## Recycling Reminders

Paper, clean plastics and cardboard can be mixed together in your recycling bin. However, No **GLASS** should ever be put into the recycle bin.

*If you wish to recycle glass, you can do so at the SF County Recycling locations=*

Lucia Lane Recycling Center: 4003 Lucia Ln @ Airport Rd. – City of Santa Fe Environmental Services: 1142 Siler Rd. – Santa Fe Solid Waste Management: 2600 Buckman Rd.



March							April							May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

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 garbage cart and recycle cart need to be placed at least 3 feet apart.**

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)

### Large Item Pickup Service Has Been Suspended





## **FAQs\* for La Entrada**

**\*Frequently Asked Questions**

**Question:** I am thinking of repainting of the exterior my house. Is there anything that I need to know before I start painting?

**Answer:** It is wise of you to ask before going out and buying several gallons of paint and slapping it on your house!

The La Entrada Homeowner Handbook (a copy of which can be found on the La Entrada website) contains several provisions pertaining to repainting and possible exterior color choices of your house, all of which can be found on Pages 11 and 12 thereof.

In summary, if you are repainting your house using the same color scheme as what currently exists for your house, approval by the La Entrada Design Review Committee ("DRC") is not required. But if you wish to change your existing house paint color, including any changes to the color of your door, you must first seek approval from the DRC for your proposed changes by submitting your proposal to the DRC prior to commencing any painting. Note that there is an already approved palette of paint colors for the stucco, trim, and doors of various series and models of houses within the neighborhood that you can choose from, and you can contact Serenity Lucero at HOAMCO ([SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com)) for more information on the approved colors.

Additionally, please be aware that if you are constructing any new buildings or structures on your property, you must submit plans, specifications, and samples of the exterior color scheme for such building or structure to the DRC prior to commencing any construction.

**Question:** Winter was not kind to my plants and now my yard could really use a refresh. After visiting a few nurseries in town, I have lots of ideas for my yard, but can I just buy anything and plant it wherever I want?

**Answer:** Landscaping is a great way to express one's personal preferences on their property, but—as a consequence of living in La Entrada—there are a few limits on what you can plant and showcase.

Before buying any new plants, you should familiarize yourself with the provisions of Article K on Page 15 of the La Entrada Homeowner Handbook (a copy of which can be found on the La Entrada website) and, in particular, the Approved Plant List found in Appendix 1 thereto.

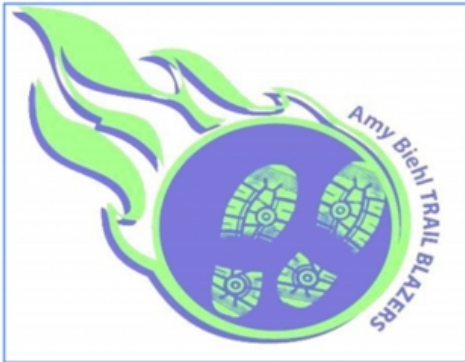
Of particular note, please be aware of the following provisions: First, any landscape installation(s), modifications, improvements, or additions are to be submitted to the Design Review Committee ("DRC") prior to installation; and Second, DRC approval is not required, however, for replacement of dead plant material so long as the replacement plant is the same type of plant and is planted in the same location.

In regards to the first noted provision, though, the La Entrada HOA Board recently agreed that the La Entrada Community Manager can provide *pro forma* approval of landscaping DRC requests that only contain plants on the approved plant list (with formal approval from the DRC to follow at a later date), thereby allowing residents to take advantage of impulse buys, plant sales, or the like of plants that are (i) on the approved plant list; and (ii) to be planted in the locations allowed as stated in the approved plant list.

As a general rule, just about any plant that is for sale at a professional nursery in the Santa Fe area and that is stated to be able to survive the region's climate is likely on the approved plant list, but you should still cross-check any potential plant purchase against the approved plant list prior to purchasing it. And even despite the *pro forma* approval process noted in the previous paragraph, you should still submit a DRC landscaping request.

# AMY BIEHL TRAILBLAZERS

## Supporting our Community School!



The students, families, staff and teachers at Amy Biehl Community School would like to send a heartfelt **THANK YOU!** to the La Entrada at Rancho Viejo Communication Committee and our community developer, Estancia Homes at Rancho Viejo for their generous contributions to Amy Biehl Community School's Trailblazer Walk-a-Thon.

The combined donations, totaling an amazing \$650, will help promote a healthy lifestyle for our student community while supporting staff stipends, supplies, special projects, school trips, student scholarships for activities and much more!

The Walk-a-Thon will take place on Friday, March 4 and donations to support the fundraiser will be accepted through March 8, 2022 at 11:59 PM. If you'd like to make a contribution, contact Staci Stevens ([stacisteveens@hotmail.com](mailto:stacisteveens@hotmail.com)) to arrange pick up of check or online payment options. Checks can be made out to: Amy Biehl PTC.