

La Entrada News

REPORTED BY THE LA ENTRADA AT RANCHO VIEJO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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La Entrada News

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HOA Update by Barbara Bradley

Greetings everyone. Just some updates for the La Entrada community about changes in the neighborhood:



Street Sealing: As most of you know, the street sealing project that was started in October 2022 was not completed at that time due to early cold weather. This project was resumed and completed in June 2023. If there are some spots where a touch up is needed please let Serenity Lucero, our community manager, know.

TreeDoctor911 Visit: Two of our very observant residents brought it to our attention that some of the trees in the north and south parks as well as some trees lining Puerta Solita and Cerro Escondido appeared very unwell. We commissioned TreeDoctor911 to do an assessment and it turned out that most of the cottonwoods and the Bradford pear trees on Puerta Solita are infected with a type of fungus called "Slime Flux." We were already aware of other trees in the area with mistletoe invasion as well as a problem with caterpillar webs in some of the cottonwood trees. Proscap removed the caterpillars last fall but they seem to have returned and will need to be removed again. Gene Anderson from TreeDoctor911 injected medication into the trees with fungus in July and we are watching to see how they respond. So far some of the cottonwoods still have wounds but there is less oozing from the wounds. The pear trees still look pretty sad. We will see how they look in October to determine any further treatment. The fungus infection is the result of the trees being weakened by drought and some irrigation issues. Also during this time period we had a visit from The Gopher Guys to address a serious gopher problem in the Sunset Park area.



Walkway Planting: The developer has begun laying irrigation lines and installing plants along the walkway between the Sunset Park at Cerro Escondido and the greenbelt access point on Via Orilla Dorado. The plan is to put in trees and native plants and finish with a gravel surface rather than grass.

Note that new housing has started west of Caminito de las Rositas. Three houses are being framed and foundation work has started on two in the next group of houses. The plan is to build in groups of three houses at a time to keep even with labor and supply availability.



Dumpster Arrival: The semi annual dumpster for large item disposal is scheduled for October 5-16. Location of the dumpster likely to be the same as before at the corner of Caminito de las Rositas and Via Orilla Dorado.

Reminders:

- All dogs must be walked on leash in the La Entrada community. If you are walking your dog off leash in the greenbelt areas, please remember to leash your furry one when you return to the community. We have many more families with young children on foot, tricycles and strollers using the sidewalks, as well as adults with mobility challenges using walkers and canes. A sudden encounter with an unfamiliar dog could be very problematic. And please read the separate article on coyotes.
- If you plan to make changes to the exterior of your home, including a change of front door color, remember to get approval before you begin work.
- Remember that parking on landscape, front or rear yards, and over public sidewalks is not permitted.
- The issue of smaller RVs parking at owner's homes is still being studied. Until there is a recommended course of action, these vehicles will not be cited when parked in driveways or on the street unless the vehicle obstructs a public sidewalk.

Thanks and be well. Barbara

Little Free Library by Tess Harris

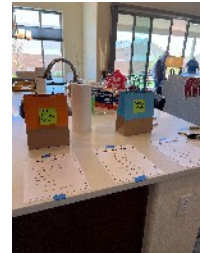
Our Little Free Library is now three years old! When I first thought about installing it, we were in the midst of the pandemic and I was unsure about it. Would people like it? Would I get book donations? It has been a big success. Books come and go on a regular basis and the feedback has always been positive. The kid's side has been a struggle, so I have decided to replace the kid's books with an adult non-fiction section. I plan on donating our current stock of kid's books to a struggling Little Free Library on Jaguar Drive. I am hopeful that another book lover will be interested in starting a new Little Free Library in another location, perhaps focusing on kid's books.



Community Events by Pamela Villars



On Saturday, August 5th, La Entrada hosted a summer barbecue and park naming event at the sales office. Close to 60 people showed up for burgers, hot dogs, coleslaw, and potato salad, and to choose the names for two community parks. The winning park names are Mountain Vista Park (for the park which will be constructed off of Caminito de las Rositas) submitted by Liliane Vaught, and Sunset Park (the park bordered by Calle Ancla, Camino Cerro Escondido, and Camino Puerta Solita) submitted



by Chris Alspach. The winning submitters each received a \$50 gift certificate to a local restaurant.



We have two upcoming events: the Raptor Center at IAIA on Saturday, Sept 9th (details below) and a family friendly holiday gathering on Saturday, December 2nd. Mark your calendars.

Raptor Event by Sarah Henderson

Please join us on **September 9 from 3:30 to 5:00 at IAIA's Lower Hogan** for our annual Santa Fe Raptor Center event. For those who have not had a chance to attend in the past, the center is a non-profit specializing in the rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned and/or wounded raptors, including eagles, owls, falcons, hawks, etc. The volunteers will present a program with their educational birds and answer questions (Ask how Turkey Vultures defend themselves. It's way cool and disgusting). We hope to see you there!

Neighbor to Neighbor FUND Drive 2023 by Sally Dillon

If you haven't donated to the city and county-wide Neighbor to Neighbor FUND Drive to help provide food for people in our community with food insecurity, NOW IS A GREAT TIME! See below for ways to contribute.

Since 2012, our community of La Entrada at Rancho Viejo has participated in the Neighbor to Neighbor FOOD Drive. During the Pandemic, the need for food became more severe, as many people who never needed this kind of help were suddenly without income. During that time, the organizers of the Neighbor to Neighbor FOOD Drive worked with The Food Depot staff to come up with a way to stretch support for the many people in need. The FOOD Drive switched to the FUND Drive because, with that money, The Food Depot has the power to buy food through the Feeding America network, buy from local farmers, and from other connections. This enables them to provide more food to those with food insecurity.

Our community has given generously over the years. In 2021, La Entrada at Rancho Viejo won the competition for the most donations in our size community throughout Santa Fe and the county. Last year we came in second with around \$3500. Let's aim for first place again this year with \$4000 or more! Here is how you can contribute:

1. At our Message Centers at the Mailboxes, open your smart phone's camera and aim it to the QR code on the large poster. The linked website will come up and you can donate directly with your credit or debit card. Be sure to indicate your community – La Entrada at Rancho Viejo, so we are credited with your donation. It is in the pull-down menu just above the CREDIT button.
2. Go to <https://thefooddepot.org/n2n/> Click on DONATE on the right side of the page, after you select your donation amount on the Neighbor to Neighbor page, select La Entrada at Rancho Viejo from the pull-down menu just above the CREDIT button.
3. Write a check to Neighbor to Neighbor or N2N and mail it to The Food Depot or drop it off at The Food Depot 1222A Siler Rd, Santa Fe, NM 87507. Please write N2N – La Entrada at Rancho Viejo in the Memo.

In La Entrada at Rancho Viejo, we are trying to win in our category. There is an anonymous donor match of \$1,500. Please donate today or by Sept 23rd at the latest! Thank you for helping feed needy families in our communities!

**Rancho Viejo Ladies Group and
Rancho Viejo Supper Soirees**
By Audra Hansche

Our ladies group started the summer with a Book Club meeting on June 8th . The book was *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult & Jennifer Finney Boylan. Many thanks to Liliane for hosting 14 ladies at her home. We split into two groups for more serious discussion and then finished the event by coming back together to compare notes.

The following week we had a wonderful lunch at Jinja Bar & Bistro. Our party of 12 was seated at two tables. I had my favorite Chinese Chicken Salad. I think the ladies really enjoyed the setting and visiting with each other.

The Supper Soiree for June was at Bourbon Grill on Old Las Vegas Hwy. Our group of 11 had a really good time. Some of us tried the Fried Avocados, a very interesting appetizer. My husband and I shared a delicious meal plus dessert. Some attendees also enjoyed selections from the beer and wine menu.

Just before my birthday, I asked the ladies to join me for a picnic at the park. We met at the Village Plaza Park at our usual place under the shade structure on Firerock Place. We sat at the new picnic tables easily since there were about 13 of us. Molly brought a key lime pie to share and I brought a devil's food cake that had whipped icing and cherries. So delicious!

Monday, July 10 began our "Christmas in July" service project for Youth Shelters & Family Services – Street Outreach Program. Their immediate need was for undergarments. I sent all the specifics to the group who has been so generous with past projects.

Our lunch for July was on Thursday the 20th . It was a party on the patio at Pantry Dos. Our group of 11 had three new members. It's always fun getting to know new neighbors or some that just found out about our ladies group. We welcome them into the fold.

Santa Fe Bite on St. Michael's was the place for our July Supper Soiree. My first count was 21 attendees, but a few couldn't make it that evening. We had 17 at two tables. Great conversations at both. I enjoyed a light meal so I could have a slice of chocolate cream pie. When you visit, have a look at their desserts first so you can plan accordingly.

On Monday, July 31st, I delivered our service project collection to the Street Outreach shelter/office. Haley met me at the door and we carried in a stack of boxes, plus a few extras. They were so appreciative. I have emailed the group with the final inventory of our gifts. Big love for sure!

The reading selection for August Book Club was *The School of Essential Ingredients* by Erica Bauermeister. Many thanks to Leslie for hosting our gathering of 12 on Thursday, August 10th . You cannot read or discuss a book about food and cooking without getting hungry. These meetings are always so enjoyable. Next up is *Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. The meeting will be in October.

Our next gathering was a picnic on Thursday, August 17th . We met at our usual place: under the shade structure at the Village Park Plaza. 11 ladies fit nicely at the tables and benches there. No one needed to bring their chairs. We had a couple of guests that shared some local news and information.

My choice for August Supper Soiree was Jinja Bar & Bistro. It's one of my favorites. Originally the seating count was 20. Sadly a few could not make it. Our group of 16 fit cozily into three tables. Some of our attendees were very happy to see each other. Hopefully they did a lot of catching up. I shared a Chinese Chicken Salad with my husband. Such a huge portion. We decided against dessert even though there were some very yummy offerings. Maybe at our next visit.

I will schedule only two more suppers, September and October. I'm pretty sure there will be other gatherings with friend and neighbors during the holidays. If you are interested in joining us, for some really fun times, please email me at mauied85@AOL.com

History of Rancho Viejo by Pamela Villars



Have you moved here and wondered how to learn more about Rancho Viejo? Thanks to neighbor Jim Meehan, who lives in the Village, we've got history. In his blog, *An Informal History of Rancho Viejo*, Jim takes his readers from the 1500s to present day. Rancho Viejo, as we know it now, began in 1981, with land purchased by several owners, including Warren Thompson. In a 2011 interview, when asked about his vision, Thompson stated that "Rancho Viejo is an outstanding property. We want to see it grow while maintaining the tradition of community that fulfills the desires of current and future residents." His son, Cass, is carrying on the family tradition.

Within its 11,000 acres, Rancho Viejo contains three HOAs: The Village at Rancho Viejo, Windmill Ridge, and La Entrada, all carved from wide swaths of ranch land. La Entrada launched in 2008, offering 18 different floor plans and affordable housing. Our Rancho Viejo community is known for its beauty and safety, and there are waiting lists for newly built housing.

While the housing and landscapes the Rancho Viejo Limited Partners have provided are a welcome gift to Santa Fe residents, RVLTP has also supported the community by donating land to the Santa Fe Community College, the Santa Maria de la Paz Catholic Church, the Santa Nino Regional Catholic School, the Institute of American Indian Arts, the Amy Beihl Community School, and the County Fire Station.

For more information on geology, the land's first residents, and how the HOAs came to be, visit Jim's blog. <http://infhistrv.blogspot.com>



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Stronger Together, Safety In Numbers

By Rancho Viejo Watch Volunteers



UPDATE ON RANCHO VIEJO NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH'S FUTURE

In June, in response to an invitation to all of Rancho Viejo, several residents met to discuss ways to revive the Rancho Viejo Neighborhood Watch. This service group was active before COVID and prior to the untimely passing of Carol Thompson, who was its leader for many years.

Several useful ideas were discussed during and after the June meetings, which included a community forum with the Sheriff's office. We need people power—your interest and support for the Watch—to keep up safety and awareness in our community. Our group, like many other service groups, is facing a crossroads during the global endemic threat level and other major challenges. The future shape and form of our Watch Program in Rancho Viejo is to be determined. Any interest, questions or comments are appreciated and can be emailed to: rvnw.ourwatch@gmail.com.

There have been many local Watch volunteers who have helped keep Rancho Viejo safe and are owed a debt of gratitude for the talent and energy they gave to the community. Their positive impact will continue. For example, our Watch paid for "No Solicitation" warnings to solicitors and then installed those first street signs and delivered window clings to residents.

The key impact of those dozens of RV volunteers was and is the practice of good safety habits: be alert, watch out for your neighbor, and speak up. Being "eyes and ears" for suspicious activity and then reporting concerns ASAP to the Sheriff through Dispatch. This is a best practice that many residents agree on and a way to help protect us all now and into the future. Is that number handy on your phone? (505) 428-3720 for Sheriff/Dispatch.

Incident Reports

- Solicitors from at least three companies have been knocking on doors. We are a "No Solicitation" community as posted.
- Even with a quiet summer in La Entrada from an incident point of view, it's still important to be alert and report any suspicious behavior ASAP to the Law Enforcement:

For issues in our neighborhoods here in the county and also in the City of Santa Fe, call (505) 428-3720, the Regional Emergency Communications Center (RECC). They receive all police, sheriff, fire, medical and animal control, Emergency 911 calls and non-emergency calls for the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County and dispatch the appropriate agency as needed.

Be Aware. Be Prepared

Coyotes have been noticed in the area, so be extra careful outside.

Keep cats, small dogs and kids indoors unless adults are outside with them and aware. Coyotes can easily jump a 50-inch fence and carry off prey into the green belt. And they are very fast.

It's extra important to keep your dog on leash. Be alert in the neighborhood as well as in open space.

Since coyotes may carry many of the same diseases as dogs, and harbor both external parasites (fleas, ticks) and intestinal parasites as well as heartworms, all dogs should be fully vaccinated per their veterinarian's recommendations, be on broad spectrum flea and tick control with intestinal parasite coverage, and heartworm prevention. Never approach an animal that seems sick or injured.



Fall Safety Tips

- Back to School - Be alert and watch out for our youngest commuters, at crosswalks, etc.
- More patrols for Rancho Viejo Boulevard during the second detour for the NE/SE extension? Hank Hughes, Commissioner for our County District 5, said he'd ask the Sheriff for extra patrols. That was part of the "Hour with Hank" on August 1.

FYI: Your County District 5 Listening Sessions are most months from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. To request notice and WebEx Meeting Access, contact Constituent Services Liaison, Gabriel Bustos, at 505-986-6202 or email Commissioner Hughes at hhughes@santafecountynm.gov.

LOCAL CONTACTS

Santa Fe County Sheriff (Dispatch).....Non-emergency: 505-428-3720

Report suspicious activity ASAP including full street address to pinpoint the incident.

If you wish to remain anonymous, call Crime Stoppers..... www.SantaFeCrimeStoppers.com or 505-955-5050

Use this contact to submit anonymous tips about a crime that's under investigation.

NOTE: RVNW e-mail alerts are currently SUSPENDED.

PET CARE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

If you and your family are in the hospital after an accident, how would anyone know you have pets that need care?

1. Arrange for a trusted friend/neighbor to care for your pet if you can't.
2. Give them a key to your home and show them where the pet food is kept.
3. Fill out the box below, cut it out and tape it to the back of your ID.



PRINT CLEARLY

My name is _____

I live at _____

I have pets at home. If I am injured or ill and can't care for my pets, please call _____ at _____.

and they will care for them.

Thank you.

Then fill out the information below and tape it to your refrigerator:

Please take care of my pets.

Number of pets: ___ cat ___ dog ___ bird ___ fish ___ other _____

Names of my pets: _____

My veterinarian is: _____

Pet food is kept in: _____

Each pet gets fed (when): _____

How much food does each pet get: _____

Pet health issues: Medications _____

Allergies _____

Where your pet hides if scared: _____

Other important things to know about your pet: _____

