



LA ENTRADA COMMUNITY NEWS

Reported by the La Entrada at Rancho Viejo Community Association
Fourth Quarter, December 1, 2023

La Entrada HOA Manager

Serenity Lucero
505-924-5978 x2415
SLucero@hoamco.com
2019 Galisteo St., Suite M-1
Santa Fe, NM 87505

La Entrada

Board President

Cass Thompson
505-473-7700
cass@ranchoviejo.com

Vice President

Peter Kempf
Dir Sales & Marketing
505-473-7700
peter@ranchoviejo.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Barbara Bradley
blbradley@mft@gmail.com

La Entrada Community News

Diane Darby
Editor/Graphic Designer

INSIDE

HOA Update	2
Emergency Preparedness....	3
Rancho Viejo Ladies Group & Supper Soirée	4
Neighborhood Watch.....	5
Raptor Event.....	6
Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive.....	7
Be a Friend to Wildlife	10



You are invited!

LA ENTRADA ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 2

2:00 - 5:00 pm

At the Rancho Viejo Sales Office
26 Calle Ancla

Enjoy refreshments and live music
while celebrating the season
with your neighbors!

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Want to Save \$25? Or more?

The HOA Handbook is a great read as to what rules apply to renovations, landscaping and living in La Entrada. It's a really good idea to review it before doing projects or engaging in practices that may cause you to receive a fine for failing to get approval and/or moving forward without an approval. When a violation occurs, HOAMCO will send an initial letter requesting corrective action. Failure to do so will then cause a \$25 fine. Continued failure to correct the problem will cause subsequent fines that double in amount up to \$200. I'm going to give a few examples based on problems the HOA Board has seen in the last 3-6 months:

- La Entrada does not permit AirBnB, VRBO or other types of short-term rentals of less than 180 days. If you are listing your residence on these or other rental sites, you will get a violation notice.
- Unapproved landscape materials, including plastic plants or flowers, are not permitted on properties in public view. Similarly unplanted dirt or weed-covered areas are not permitted.
- Extending fences or walls and painting of walls and front doors of houses require compliance with the specified color palettes and approval from the HOA.
- Parking on landscaped areas other than driveways or the street is not permitted.

Community Improvements

The developer completed the walkway between Camino Cerro Escondido and Via Orilla Dorado and both sides of Caminita Rositas between Calle Ancla and Via Orilla Dorado with plants and rock ground cover. Given many people's unhappiness with grass plantings in the walkway between Rancho Viejo Blvd. and Calle Ancla, the decision was made to use rock material at a greater cost.

A review of the trees that were treated earlier this year by TreeDoctor911 for slime flux, a fungus infection, and more recently by Proscap for mistletoe and web caterpillar infestations seems to show good

results. The slime flux wounds on the 28 trees that were treated have stopped weeping and the wood is healing. However, there are two pear trees on Puerta Solita that may not survive due to the amount of damage seen when treated in June, but this won't be known until next spring.

Coyote Alert: Access to the undeveloped green belt area north of Via Orilla Dorado is a wonderful benefit for those who like to walk or cycle there but be aware that there is a family of coyotes that has been living just west of the retention pond area (near Avenida Corre Caminos and Via Orilla Dorado). There have been regular sightings of two adults and two pups traveling through the area, especially early in the morning. As more housing is developed on the north side of Via Orilla Dorado, it means these coyotes may have more direct access into those backyards, so please be careful with small dogs and cats in the yards. I have seen coyote scat on the walkways adjacent to the greenbelt access points.

Disaster Preparation/ Neighborhood Watch:

Those who attended the Emergency Preparedness presentation at the Fire Station in October and who also participate in Neighborhood Watch have been talking about stepping up the community's ability to be ready for emergency situations as well as to keep La Entrada a low-crime community. Some communities have Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTS) and the closest one to La Entrada is at Santa Fe Community College. It is limited to college staff. We could have a CERT in Rancho Viejo under supervision of the county fire department, but it would take a lot of volunteers who have regular weekly time to spare or we can look at something less formal on our own. Some of the other Rancho Viejo HOAs have formed a liaison with the Santa Fe Sheriff's Department to consider crime prevention activities and to create regular contact with deputies who cover our area. This may be something to cover in more detail at the annual meeting in February. BTW: the 2024 annual meeting will be an in-person gathering.

Please find some peace and restoration during the winter months.

Emergency Preparedness Meeting

by Tess Harris

On October 5th, the Santa Fe County Fire Department and Emergency Management held an informational meeting for Rancho Viejo. About 50 people attended the meeting which was conducted by the Director of Emergency Management, Assistant Chief Martin Vigil. Our county commissioner, Hank Hughes, was also in attendance. Assistant Chief Vigil started the meeting by stressing the importance of signing up for Alert Santa Fe, our city and county emergency notification system. Due to the erratic nature of wildfires, there is no evacuation plan that can be used in every situation. Our best protection is to be informed. Sign up for the alerts, keep an eye on the weather, and tune into channel KOB for weather updates. I thought I knew what to do in the event of a wildfire but I learned so much more.

- Make an evacuation kit such as water, first aid kit, and medications.
- Put important phone numbers on a physical card.
- Plan on a definite meeting place for family and friends. Communications will likely be down for awhile.
- Have enough pet carriers for all your pets and practice their evacuation.
- Make a list of your most important belongings so you can pack your vehicle quickly.
- Turn on your porch light.
- Check on your neighbors if possible. If you feel unsafe, leave!

I felt better after attending the meeting. Our fire department is experienced and capable. I now feel more informed and confident.

Security Tips

shared by a neighborhood watcher in Rancho Viejo

1. Be cautious in what you share online.
 - a. Don't share compromising information. Don't advertise that you are going on vacation or to the hospital for a long stay. Do not update social media with vacation posts until you are home.
 - b. Never use "out of office replies" on your personal email accounts. Anyone could send you an email to easily find out that you are out of town—and how long you'll be absent.
 - c. Turn off geo-tagging on your cellphone camera. If you post an item for sale on Craigslist, eBay, or a similar site, a savvy burglar with a free geo-tag reader will know the exact location of that boat or car or piece of jewelry you're selling and may come to get it.
2. Lock your cars and all your doors—even when you are at home. Make a habit of locking every window and door in your home plus cars, garage doors and storm doors. Don't warm up a car unattended in the driveway. Don't leave any valuables in your car if it is not securely garaged.
3. Leave a few lights on inside your home, and maybe a radio or TV if you are gone for a while. Motion-activated outside lights will also deter burglars. Security cameras are fine to have but it is best if burglars avoid your house in the first place.
4. Keep your valuables hidden. Bikes, tools, jewelry, electronics, wrapped gifts, etc. might be seen by passersby or visitors, who later return to steal.

2024
*Best Wishes for a
Safe & Happy New Year!*

Rancho Viejo Ladies Group & Supper Soirées

Autumn Greetings!! Grateful for All Things, Big and Small

By Audra Hansche

On Friday, October 13th I hosted a meeting at my house to talk about lunches and events for 2024. We discussed having a potluck luncheon at the Rancho Viejo Fire Station Community Room. This is now planned for February, date TBA. I am hoping for a great success.

The Book Club met at Linda A's home on October 19th. We discussed *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. This story is set during Dust Bowl era Texas, and focuses on Elsa Martinelli and her daughter as they try to survive the complete destruction of life as they knew it.

There are no Supper Soirées in November or December. The last one of 2023 was Thursday, October 26th. Our group filled up the patio at Pantry Dos. We had 29 neighbors at three tables. Due to work schedule changes, my husband and I are planning to host four suppers in 2024.

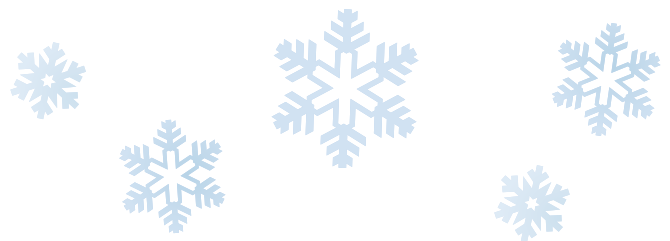
We are looking for volunteers to host the months we cannot. I will schedule January, May, August and October. I believe February and March already have substitutes. I will do communications the same as always and take seating counts.

The Rancho Viejo Ladies lunch for November was a huge success as we had 19 at Santa Fe Bite on St. Michael's. I noticed many of the ladies decided to take advantage of the awesome desserts they offer. Chocolate Raspberry Mousse Torte seemed to be a popular choice.

Our annual Holiday Party is set for Friday, December 1st. We are fortunate to have the Lutheran Church of the Servant for our party space this year. I'm sure the luncheon and gift exchange game will help to end our year on a high note.

I am currently working on our 2024 RVLG Book Club Reading List. December's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 14. We will be discussing *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Gamus.

If you are interested in joining our fun, please email me at Mauied85@AOL.com.



Total Solar Eclipse



Photos courtesy of Tess Harris

Did You See It?

On Saturday October 14, Rancho Viejo was the perfect spot to view the annular solar eclipse. Dozens of people showed up at Rancho Viejo Community Park to see this phenomenon, using the recommended glasses. At height of the eclipse shadows appeared as crescents or circles.



Neighborhood Connections: Growing Stronger Together

Knowing some of your neighbors in the community is a great way to nurture a network so you can have support and give support, especially when unexpected situations arise. For example, it can be helpful, even comforting, knowing that your neighbors are watching your house while you are away on vacation or because of a family or medical emergency. Who might help you if you contacted them for a favor?

So how about making a holiday resolution to establish and maintain neighborhood connections? Commit to meeting at least one new person in the neighborhood a month. Or, if that is too ambitious, how about meeting one new person in the neighborhood each quarter? Or, if you are especially shy and introverted, how about trying to meet just one new person a year?

A good way to meet new neighbors is by attending any of the HOA-sponsored events throughout the year. Establishing, nurturing, and maintaining connections and relationships with your neighbors strengthens our community for all of us. It enhances individual and neighborhood safety, promotes individual and neighborhood resilience, and encourages individual and neighborhood growth. And it can help to ward off any loneliness and promote overall well-being.

So consider getting out and meeting your neighbors and expanding your existing neighborhood social network. Make a positive difference in someone's life. Welcome a new arrival. Help make your neighborhood a place where there are no strangers, but only neighbors.



Neighborhood Watch Update

What's happening with our Neighborhood Watch? Well, that's up to you.

As always, if you SEE something, SAY something. Report vandalism and all suspicious behavior ASAP to the County Sheriff at 505-428-3720. Reporting any problems that you observe to the Sheriff helps law enforcement serve and protect our community.

And call 911 whenever life or property are in IMMEDIATE DANGER.

Due to volunteer shortages, the Rancho Viejo Neighborhood Watch e-mail alerts are still suspended. Any future watch articles will not cover specific incidents, but will share tips to help you build preparedness and manage your safety risks.

Remember that crime could still occur anywhere any time, e.g. porch thefts, car break-ins, even if you don't hear about any specific reports..

A few ways to stay informed of criminal activity are through maintaining strong neighborhood social contacts, reading the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office [Sheriff's Hotsheets](#) online, checking on postings on the Nextdoor app, or reading the *Santa Fe New Mexican* newspaper.

Anyone interested in taking on the task of restarting local email alerts about suspicious behavior can reach out to rvnw.ourwatch@gmail.com to find out more about this important neighborhood communication or to express interest.

Any interest, questions or comments are appreciated. Please email them to rvnw.ourwatch@gmail.com for consideration. That includes any safety anecdotes or other write-ups you'd like to offer for a future Rancho Viejo Neighborhood Watch article.

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, contact 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.

Stronger Together, Safety In Numbers



The HOA-sponsored annual benefit for the Santa Fe Raptor Center was held on September 9th at the Institute of American Indian Arts lower hogan.

About 35 Rancho Viejo residents were introduced to three feathered ambassadors: a Great Horned Owl, a Burrowing Owl, and a Peregrine Falcon. The Center has provided care for injured birds with a focus on raptors since 2004. Those that cannot be rehabilitated act as educators for the public. Lori Paras, Executive Director, and volunteer Mario walked these educator birds through the crowd as they shared fascinating facts about each one.

Before and after the bird viewing, the audience snacked on cookies and picked up Raptor Center

newsletters. The Center accepted donations from the crowd while Audra Hansche informed them that she was donating \$320 from her Greeting Card Grab Bags, a fundraising effort hugely supported by the Rancho Viejo Ladies Group. She also reminded the crowd that she donates all the proceeds from her cards at Garcia Street Books to the Raptor Center.

If seeing wild and magnificent creatures appeals to you, remember to check your Rancho Viejo correspondence in late August next year for this annual event.



Photos courtesy of Pamela Villars and Diane Darby

Take note:

If you find an injured bird or one you might think is orphaned, please give the Raptor Center a call at 505-699-0455 or a wildlife facility in your area. In the meantime, please put the bird in a dark, warm, dry box. This is the best thing you can do for the bird and is the first treatment for shock.

Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive



What is Neighbor to Neighbor?

Neighbor to Neighbor is the **largest annual fundraiser for The Food Depot**. During this friendly competition, neighborhoods, businesses, and community groups compete to raise the most money for hunger relief in Northern New Mexico. Started 12 years ago as a food drive, this volunteer-led event raised over \$397,000 in 2023!

The Neighbor to Neighbor competition will return during summer 2024. Join us once again to make a difference as part of the Neighbor to Neighbor fund drive. Your group's time and efforts will provide essential funds to The Food Depot as they work to bring healthy food to Northern New Mexicans. Within The Food Depot's nine-county service area, approximately 40,00 people, including 12,000 children, do not have consistent access to healthy food. Just 1\$ raised during Neighbor to Neighbor can provide up to 4 meals through The Food Depot's programs.

In La Entrada, our donations totaled \$2435, which will provide almost 10,000 meals for our neighbors in Santa Fe and beyond who are impacted with food insecurity. We thank all those in La Entrada who contributed to the 2023 Neighbor to Neighbor FUND Drive!

See The Food Depot website at <https://thefooddepot.org/> for volunteer and donation opportunities. Also see The Food Depot's Facebook page for current happenings <https://www.facebook.com/TheFoodDepot>.

Thank You!



Neighbor to Neighbor raised

\$397,420
for The Food Depot
this summer!



Congratulations to the winning teams

First Place Neighborhoods

Level One: BH Road Neighbors
Level Two: Wilderness Gate
Level Three: Sierra del Norte
Level Four: Quail Run
Level Five: Tesuque
Level Six: Las Campanas

Second Place Neighborhoods

Level One: 800 East
Level Two: Los Lomas
Level Three: Monte Sereno
Level Four: La Entrada at Rancho Viejo
Level Five: Aidea
Level Six: Eldorado

First Place Businesses

Level 1: TOKO Santa Fe
Level 2: Café Pasqual's
Level 3: Pak Mail

Second Place Businesses

Level 1: Santa Fe by Design
Level 2: Dashing Delivery
Level 3: TechSource, Inc

Community Groups

Winner: BookLovers
Second Place: Singular Joy

Senior Living

Winner: Montecito
Second Place: El Castillo

*Thank you to all participants!
Together, we provided 1.6 million meals for
Northern New Mexicans.*

800 East	Calores Del Sol	Los Saleros	Santa Fe Bridge Club
Alequia Del Barranco de Jacinto	COMPA Industries	Los Cerros Colorados	Santa Fe by Design
Agua Fria Village Association	Dashing Delivery	Los Miradores	Santa Fe Community College
Aidea	Don Diego RA	Los Suenos Trail Communities	Santa Fe Estates
Arroyo Home	Don Gaspar RA	Monte Sereno	Santa Fe Horse Shelter
Arroyo Chamisa	El Castillo	Montecito	Santa Fe Opera
Arroyo Honda	Eldorado	Nambe Bodlands	SENA
Arroyo Tanager	Estancia Primera	Nambe Book Club	Sewing Center of Santa Fe
Baco-Sierra Vista	Friends of The Food Depot	Navajo Ada	Shop on the Corner
Belicia Estates	Glassi Periodontics	Nicole Place	Sierra del Norte
Bellas Artes	GMS Old World Plaster & Stucco	Opis	Singular Joy
Best Book Club	Hillside	Old County Rd 10 Neighbors	Seniors on Bikes
BH Road Neighbors	Historic St. Catherine's	Old Las Vegas Plaza	Society Responsible Women
Bookies	Kachina Ridge	Oshara Village	Sol y Lomas
BookLovers	La Cienega	Pak Mail	Tessera
Brough Cul du Sac	La Entrada	Palace Avenue	Tesuque
Camino Cruz Blanca	La Moderna	Park Plaza	The Whole Package
Candlelight	La Morisosa	Placitas de Santa Fe	Tierra Contenta
Canjon Gate	La Mesilla (Road 399)	Plaza Benita	Tierra de Oro HOA
Casa Alegre	La Paz	Pueblo Alegre	TOKO
Casa Linda	La Tierra	Pueblo del Sol	United Church of Santa Fe
Casa Solana	LANA	Quail Run	Valle del Sol
Cerros Colorados	Las Americas Owner Services	Rancho Viejo	VENA
Cielo Lumbre	Las Barrancas	Rio Vista	Wild Birds Unlimited
Cielo Vista	Las Campanas	Ritual	Wilderness Gate
Calinas Verde	Las Lomas	San Mateo	Zosah



SANTA FE + NEW MEXICAN

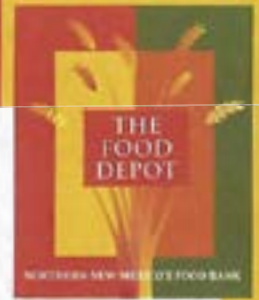


SANTA FE BY DESIGN

Thank you to our 2023 sponsors: Santa Fe New Mexican, Bell Rock Consulting LLC, Café Pasqual's, Santa Fe by Design, TechSource, Inc.

Learn how you can join the food security movement at
thefooddepot.org.

12th Annual Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive



CONGRATULATIONS

LEVEL 4 – 2ND PLACE

La Entrada

IN APPRECIATION FOR CONTRIBUTING

\$2,435

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE
NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR FUND DRIVE
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023



Sherry Hooper, Executive Director
The Food Depot



Mary Ferguson, Coordinator
Neighbor to Neighbor Fund Drive

**La Entrada
Annual
Holiday Party**

December 2

2:00 - 5:00 pm

**At the Rancho Viejo Sales Office
26 Calle Ancla**



COMING UP IN 2024

- May "Meet Your Neighbors" Social
- July Summer Picnic
- September.....Raptor Event
- December Holiday Party





Be a friend to **WILDLIFE**



We can safeguard our homes and yards from mice, rats, gophers, and other rodents without the use of hazardous poisons. There are much safer and more effective ways to keep rodents out.

Rodents have many natural predators, from owls and hawks to coyotes and snakes. Our native predators are the most effective long-term solution for keeping rodent populations in check. A single owl can catch more than 1400 mice a year! Rodents are an important food source for other wildlife, and they also benefit plants by dispersing seeds.

Using rodenticides to kill rodents can backfire: poisons will slowly kill off rodents' natural predators, which leads to an increase in the rodent population. Poisoning individual rodents will also cause a spike in the food supply, resulting in quicker breeding among surviving and new rodents.

Rodenticides Can Poison Children, Pets, and Wildlife

- Rodenticides are poisons that kill rats, mice, and gophers. But they can also kill much larger species, including dogs and cats.
- Rodenticides, or “rat poisons,” are hazardous to anyone who swallows them, especially children.
- Products sold as rodenticides, such as bait stations, pellets, bars, or packs, contain highly toxic ingredients that lack antidotes or medical treatments. Watch for an official warning label on the product:
“ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS - This product is extremely toxic to fish, birds, and other wildlife. Wildlife feeding on treated bait may be killed. Dogs, cats, and other predatory and scavenging mammals and birds might be poisoned if they feed upon animals that have eaten this bait.”
- These toxic products cause a slow, painful death for animals who have been exposed.
- A poisoned rodent is a toxic time bomb. Rodents

don't die inside the bait stations but suffer while wandering around in our yards and neighborhoods. As they get weaker and sicker, they become easy prey for their natural predators: owls, hawks, eagles, foxes, and coyotes. Cats and dogs will also have an easier time catching them. When predators or scavengers eat a poisoned rodent, they too will get sick and may eventually die.

The top five reasons to avoid rodenticides:

1. Children are at risk of accidental poisoning.
2. Cats or dogs may die or become severely ill from eating poisoned rodents.
3. Wildlife may die from eating poisoned rodents.
4. Rodents may die in an inaccessible location in your house; the smell of a dead animal will persist for weeks to months.
5. Poisons don't address the problem: that rodents have access to areas they shouldn't have.

ACTION TIPS

Be a friend to wildlife: Here's how to avoid poisons.

TIP #1

Make your yard less attractive to rodents

- Keep trash bins tightly closed and remove any refuse from your yard.
- Remove fallen fruit and spilled birdseed.
- Use rodent-proof, above-ground bird feeders.
- Elevate your bird bath above ground level.
- Don't feed dogs or cats outdoors.
- Pick up dog waste

TIP #2

Prevent rodent access to your house

- Seal any cracks and crevices leading into your home. Mice can enter through dime-sized holes. Check around piping and wire entries.
- Use weatherstripping on windows and doors and replace when it ages.
- Keep kitchen counter surfaces, floors, and cabinets free of crumbs and store dry food and pet food in glass containers.
- If you hire a professional to rodent-proof your home, ask whether they are trained in integrated pest management (a holistic approach that starts with the least hazardous method).

TIP #3

Create a habitat for natural predators of rodents

- Plant trees in your yard to make it attractive to birds, including ravens and raptors, that eat rodents.
- Install a barn owl nesting box to naturally control rodents. An owl family can eat upwards of 3000 rodents per year.
- Before you try to attract predators, all use of poison (including by your neighbors) must have stopped at least 3 months before.

TIP #4

Be cautious about using non-poisonous products

- Live trapping (cage traps) and relocation may be complicated; animals may not survive if released far from their capture area. Don't release an animal on someone else's property.
- Never use glue or sticky traps, which are indiscriminate and cause a cruel death for any animals caught in them (including birds).
- Check out commercial birth control products for rats and mice, which can be dispersed in feed stations, such as ContraPest®.

NEED HELP?

Neighborhood safety: If you care about wildlife or if you have pets, find out whether your neighbors use rodenticides and let them know about safer solutions.

Free hazardous waste drop-off: bring any poisons and toxins you find on your property to Albuquerque's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center at 6137 Edith NE or call the Household Hazardous Waste Hotline at 505-349-5220.

Health concerns? If you suspect that someone may have swallowed a rodenticide, call the Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222. In an emergency, call 911.

For more information on coexisting with our Albuquerque wildlife, visit cabq.gov/coexistwithwildlife