



# LA ENTRADA COMMUNITY NEWS

Reported by the La Entrada at Rancho Viejo Community Association  
Third Quarter, September 2025

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## La Entrada Community News

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## COMING UP THIS YEAR

**Large Dumpster Days .....September 12-22**

**Raptor Event.....September 13**

**Holiday Party .....December 6**

*HOA-Sponsored Events*

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**The winning photo of the 2025 La Entrada Sunset Photo Contest  
submitted by Mason Kovac.**

## HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION NEWS

**T**hanks to the Communications Committee and all Volunteers: A big, and long overdue, thank you to the individuals who make up the Communications Committee because they are the energy and vision behind our annual community events. As La Entrada grows more folks come to the Fiesta, the summer barbecue and the holiday gathering each year and these gatherings are opportunities for owners to meet one another and begin connecting as we build our community.

**Also, thank you to Valerie Alarid** who is coordinating the Firewise efforts. I know she went door-to-door to reach some residents and explain the importance of regular maintenance of homes and yards to prevent wildfire issues.

• **July 31, 2025 Board Meeting Highlights:**

The HOA Board, HOAMCO manager Serenity Lucero and a group of dedicated homeowners participated in the quarterly board meeting via ZOOM on 7/31/25. I know it is frustrating for some who feel they should have voting rights for board meeting actions but none-the-less they invest time in attending these meetings and sharing their thoughts. To recap some of the discussion and/or provide some updates: Proscap has been weeding and pruning the RVB center median and the curb areas of Calle Agua Clara in the last few weeks. Proscap also refreshed the mulch in the play areas of Sunset Park and the developer contributed mulch to the plant beds. The county's Arroyo Hondo bike path is progressing and some of you have noticed pink flag markers in the greenbelt north of Via Orilla Dorado as the road crews work their way east from an area near the Fire Station. HOAMCO is working with Proscap to replace some dead trees on Via Sagrada and near Calle Agua Clara. The developer continues to work on installing irrigation lines in the new Mountain Vista Park. La Entrada currently has 312 houses developed out of a planned 1200.



*Progress is being made on the new Mountain Vista Park*

• **House and Yard Maintenance and Renovations:**

The warmer summer and fall months always brings forth a flurry of maintenance and renovation projects. As a result of some DRC applications that folks have made, and work done by people without getting approved DRC applications, here are suggestions and reminders.

Unless you are repainting your house the exact colors on it at the time of purchase you need an approved DRC. This applies to the stucco paint as well as trim, front door and garage door. The sales office has approved paint palettes for the current models (five options for each style) being built which show paint colors on one side and list the names and manufacturer of the paint on the back side. If your house was built before 2013 you will need to provide information of the original paint color. Good news: most of the paints can be found at Dunn and Edwards and La Entrada people can get a discount on the cost of paint. I will have more information soon and post it on the La Entrada Facebook page.

• **HOAMCO's Code Enforcement** officer has been notifying people who have weedy yards and/or overgrown plants. Please note that there has been some confusion about whether owners are required to maintain the curb planting areas. Proscap does periodically weed, prune and spray curb strips but only after the developer has installed irrigation, plants and ground cover. If you have a newer house

it is possible that the curb area in front of your house has not yet been done and thus Proscap is not doing maintenance on those areas. Please remember we are all responsible for fire prevention and one neighbor's house having flammable plant materials or debris in the yard is a risk to the whole community in the event that fire occurs.

You may want to check your air conditioner compressor for

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## SUMMERTIME IS FUN TIME FOR RV LADIES

**RV** Ladies met Wednesday, June 11th at the fire station community room for a summer luau. There were 15 attending. After our usual potluck lunch, we enjoyed competitive games with prizes for the winners. Good times and much laughter. July 16th brought 14 together at Museum Hill Café. We had a nice lunch on the patio.

Our recent service project was Christmas in July benefitting Santa Fe Youth Shelter Street Outreach Program. I collected donations, organized, and delivered seven boxes: hygiene items, snack foods, canned foods plus three camping tents. Big thanks to all who donated to this project. We had a special event in August. We met at the home of Carmen Tucker for our luncheon and had a special guest, Mary Hallahan, who gave an excellent presentation for the Santa Fe Wine & Chile Fiesta. Please see the feature article on page four of this newsletter.

Our RV Ladies Book Club met at the RV Fire Station in June to discuss *The Ten Thousand Doors of January* by Alix E. Harrow. This book has been described as a fantastical journey of self-discovery. I enjoyed it very much as it included historical fiction and magical realism. Just a fun read!

On Thursday, August 21st the book club met at the Santa Fe Plaza in the morning for a special outing. Our book was the novel: *The Wind Leaves No Shadow* by Ruth Laughlin. I personally nominated this book as it traces the story of a local historical figure Doña

Tules Barceló. Our group of nine enjoyed a walking tour and discussion about this remarkable woman. Our talk comprised many of the events in her life and her presence in Santa Fe including her funeral and burial at La Parroquia which was later surrounded by The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis. We paid respects at the cathedral and ended our outing with lunch at La Plazuela in La Fonda.

Next up in October is the book *James* by Percival Everett and our last book is *Whiskey Tender* by Deborah Jackson Taffa. We will be nominating and voting on our 2026 Reading List sometime in the fall.

If you would like to join us at our bi-monthly discussions, please email Diane Gorgy at [rvladiesbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:rvladiesbookclub@gmail.com).

Rancho Viejo Supper Soirées this summer included one of our favorite Latin cafés, La Plancha on Zafarano in June. We had 15 attending. Next was close to home at Pantry Dos with 22 attending. We rounded out the summer at Sagche's Coffee House on St. Michaels, on Tuesday, August 22nd with a reservation of 15.

All are invited and welcome: neighbors in all parts of Rancho Viejo, friends in Santa Fe, couples and singles. We are always looking for substitute hosts. If you are able to coordinate one month of the year, I will manage communication and nametags.

To receive announcements about RV Ladies Group events or for RV Gents to be included for suppers, please email Audra at [Mauied85@AOL.com](mailto:Mauied85@AOL.com).



Ladies at the summer luau, June 11, 2025



## MARY HALLORAN SHARED NEWS ABOUT THE WINE AND CHILE FESTIVAL COMING IN SEPTEMBER

**D**id someone say Fiesta? And it is a party with wine and chiles? What's not to like about that?

On Wednesday, August 13th, the Rancho Viejo Ladies Group got a special opportunity to hear from Mary Hallahan, Executive Director of the Santa Fe Wine and Chile Fiesta, who is also one of our neighbors.

Mary educated the group on the history of the Fiesta, which has been held annually in Santa Fe since 1991, the Fiesta's mission and events, and its impact on the Santa Fe economy. We learned that the Fiesta works to highlight Santa Fe as a preeminent culinary destination by educating people about Santa Fe's restaurants and wines, and that it supports food education of local children by local chefs. Earlier this year, for example, the Fiesta donated \$30,000 to Cooking with Kids, Inc., a local

organization that works to help children and families make healthy food choices. Over 4,000 people are anticipated to attend this year's Fiesta, where the offerings of over 90 world-class wineries and 70 renowned local restaurants will be sampled and enjoyed in a variety of venues.

The 11 ladies who attended the presentation all received a lovely gift bag that was compiled by Mary, which generously included a pair of Wine and Chile Fiesta-branded socks, a historical poster of the Fiesta, and an always useful waiter's corkscrew and wine opener.

This year, the Wine and Chile Fiesta runs from September 24th through the 28th. For more information about the event and to purchase tickets to it, visit [santafewineandchile.org](http://santafewineandchile.org).



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mud and debris in the compressor screens. The wetter spring and high winds can cause screens to clog which can cause your a/c to draw too much electricity and shut down. If anyone needs a reliable electrician I have contact information for the electrician who does the installation work on our houses. Redline Mechanical who installs the HVAC systems also does maintenance work. Also, be aware of the warranty expiration date if you think you have a failing system.

### Reminders:

- Basketball hoops or other sports equipment may not be placed on streets or alleys.
- Horses and unleashed dogs may not be on the street areas even as temporary guests of a homeowner.
- Trash bins cannot be visible from the street on non-trash collection days.

## LA ENTRADA NEIGHBORS ENJOYED THE ANNUAL BBQ

**A**ugust 2nd was a perfect day for a barbecue. Warm and clear with a nice breeze. The promise of some good food and an opportunity to catch up with neighbors really packed the sales office on Calle Ancla. Seventy-five people enjoyed the typical barbecue spread: grilled burgers and hot dogs, Cole slaw, potato salad and chips. Chris Alspach and I manned the grill, and somehow managed to keep up. The rest of the Communication Committee circulated around, keeping condiments stocked and welcoming friends and neighbors. For dessert there was a delicious chocolate cake from Chocolate Maven. It went really fast!

Our sunset photo contest was a tight race this year. Mason Kovac's stunning shot won first place. Well done, Mason!

The festivities wrapped up promptly at 3:00. I am sure everyone had a great time. I'd like to thank Chris, Erica, Brad, and anyone else who stayed to help with the clean up. Also, a thank you to our developer for the use of the beautiful sales office.





## WHAT ARE THEY BUILDING BY THE FIRE STATION?

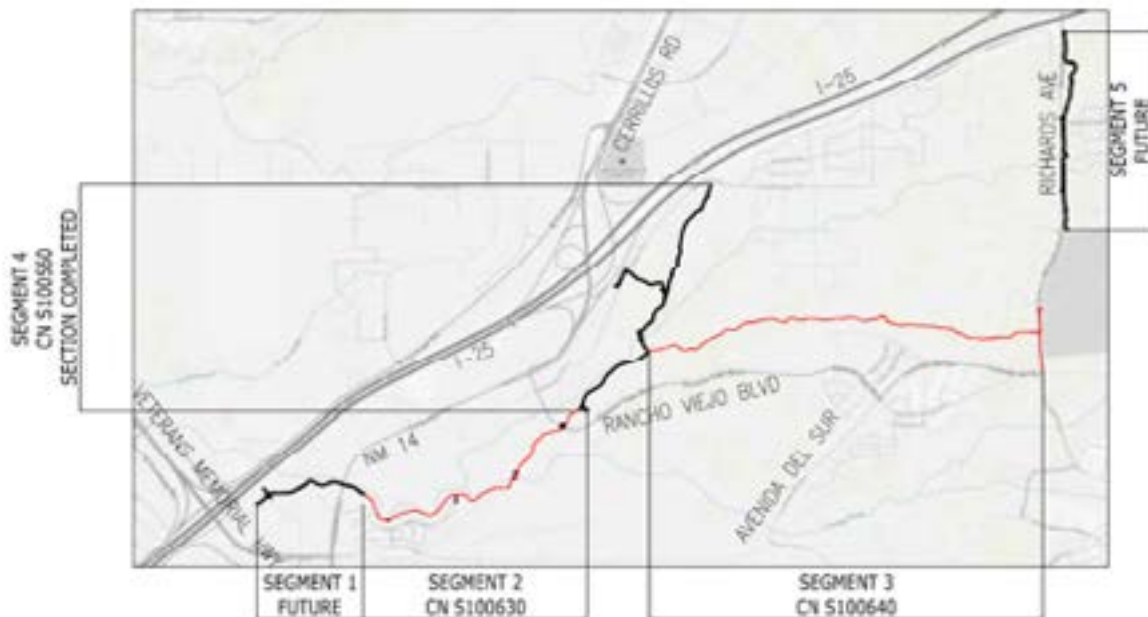
**T**he recent appearance of machinery and signs on Rancho Viejo Blvd. has prompted much speculation and rumor. Here's the answer: It's the next phase of the Arroyo Hondo Trail, a regional multi-use and recreational trail that provides key connectivity between the NM Rail Runner Station at NM 599, the Santa Fe Community College, and the I-25/Cerrillos Road Interchange.

According to the County, the Arroyo Hondo Trail is designated as a District Trail in the Community College District Plan, where it is described as a corridor that connects neighborhoods, commercial centers, and open space. Additionally, the trail is included in the Santa Fe County Open Space, Trails and Parks Strategic Master Plan. This inclusion underscores the trail's importance in advancing regional connectivity and promoting recreational opportunities within the County.

The Arroyo Hondo Trail Segments 2 and 3 include:

- Construction of a 1.2-mile-long concrete multi-use trail, including a pedestrian bridge, beginning at the existing Rancho Viejo Fire Station trailhead and proceeding west to the Turquoise Trail Sports Park along NM 14.
- Construction of an additional 1.6-mile-long concrete multi-use trail extending from the existing trail intersection northeast of Rancho Viejo Fire Station to Richards Avenue, with additional spurs to Avenida Del Sur and Velocity Road roundabouts.

Once complete, hikers and bicyclists will enjoy greater access to our County neighborhoods and open space.



**Mark Your Calendars**  
• **September 13** •

The HOA-sponsored annual benefit for the Santa Fe Raptor Center will be in September this year. As in years past this event will be at the Institute of American Indian Arts lower hogan. Look for more information including the time of the event to be sent to Rancho Viejo residents at a later date.

## Out-to-Brunch Outings *by Freddie Quagliana*

Every second Friday of the month the Rancho Viejo brunch outings are in full swing. In giving back to The City Different, we meet at a number of family-owned dining establishments once a month at 11:00 a.m. This has helped foster a sense of community not only amongst brunch-goers but also in the city's hospitality industry. It's also a chance to catch up with the latest events in friends' and neighbors' lives and to dish on various topics of interest.

Plus, it's always a great way to enjoy some good old New Mexican cuisine. Whether you're a faithful attendee or have yet to join our klatch, or if there's always been a brunch at perhaps a standard favorite restaurant of yours or a place you've been meaning to try, come join us!



**Contact Freddie at [fquag63@gmail.com](mailto:fquag63@gmail.com)  
if you'd like to be added to the email list.**

## Little Free Library *by Tess Harris*

In 2020, at the worst of the pandemic, so many things were closed including the public library. I had heard of Little Free Library and their global nonprofit organization so I decided it would be perfect for our community. Our HOA board was very supportive and registering it was quickly done also. Designing something attractive and weather resistant was a challenge. My husband, Kirk Delaplaine, put his

skills to the test and built our little library totally from scratch. Next, some eye-catching artwork supplied by Sally Dillon. Sally painted a very charming southwest motif that really suits our neighborhood. Our Little Free Library was installed in La Entrada park on August 8, 2020, and has been a success ever since. Please stop by and borrow a book or leave a book you'd like to pass on.



Take a  
Book!



Share a  
Book!

## **GUIDELINES TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

**W**ould you like to write an article for the newsletter? What about concerns or suggestions for the Communication Committee? See below for the guidelines for submissions.

If you have suggestions, ideas, or concerns for the Communication Committee, please send them by email to Serenity Lucero, [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com). She is the contact person for repairs, DRC approvals, traffic, pet issues, complaints, and suggestions for improvement.

If you would like to submit an article for the La Entrada newsletter, please send it directly to Serenity Lucero, our HOA Manager at [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com).

Please submit the article in the body of an email, ready for publishing, including proofreading, editing, captions, logos, and active web links. If you have a photo with your article, please submit it separately. Attach both the article and photo to an email to Serenity by the 15th of the month prior to the publication month at the very latest.

If approved by the Communication Committee, you will be notified and the article will go in the next newsletter. If it is submitted after the deadline, it may

be placed in the next issue of La Entrada Community News. Any questions about writing or submitting articles should be directed only to Serenity at [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com).

Newsletter publication: La Entrada Community News is usually published around the beginning of the publishing month. It will be announced in an email from Serenity and posted on the La Entrada website at <http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/home.asp>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Serenity, our HOAMCO Manager of our HOA at [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com).

### **Deadlines for Submitting Articles for La Entrada Community News**

- **By Feb. 15th for the March newsletter**
- **By May 15th for the June newsletter**
- **By August 15th for the September newsletter**
- **By November 15th for the December newsletter**

## **STAY CONNECTED**

Has someone new moved onto your block? Have you just arrived? Here are a few resources that will help you or your neighbors stay up to date with La Entrada alerts and activities.

**1.** Our HOA has its own website: <https://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/home.asp>. You can find local resources, announcements, and past newsletters here. You can also sign up to receive website and community alerts by contacting Serenity Lucero, our HOA manager, at [SLucero@HOAMCO.com](mailto:SLucero@HOAMCO.com) or 505-924-5978 x2415.

**2.** Stay in the loop with safety and emergency alerts by using Alert Santa Fe at <https://www.smart911.com/smart911/registration/registrationLanding.action>. Alerts include notifications about wildfires and smoke, traffic and road closures, and severe weather. Alerts may also include water advisories, road closures, power outages, evacuations, and lock down situations, etc.

**3.** Finally, if you are on Facebook, you can request to join our private HOA group where members post about their recent outings. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/laentradarv/>