

District 6 Safety Meeting in February Produces Positive Connections

Safety was the focus at the February roundtable discussion in District 6, that brought together residents of at least five different neighborhoods. The meeting, held Thursday, Feb. 9 at Wilson Middle School, garnered over 50 attendees, who met with city representatives from Albuquerque Police Department (APD), Neighborhood Watch, the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC), Transit, and City Councilor Pat Davis. Topics ranged from how to create a neighborhood watch to multimodal safety for pedestrians, bus riders and cyclists, home safety, business safety, and liquor sales and public safety.



The meeting organizers, Melinda Frame and Ann Beyke, residents of the Parkland Hills neighborhood, shared insights about the roundtable. "Safety is a personal issue, as well as a law enforcement issue," said Melinda after the meeting. "I think everyone who attended the meeting realizes that we, too, can take part in making our neighborhoods and our homes safer."

District 6 plans another roundtable discussion later in the year. If you are interested in having a similarly focused meeting, contact the ONC at 505-768-3334 or e-mail: onc@cabq.gov.

Parks and Recreation Department Celebrates World Health Day



In honor of World Health Day on April 7, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted an organized walk and exercise event at Tiguex Park for citizens across the city. Residents participated in the lunch-hour event, walking, running, playing sports and using exercise equipment. Did you know that stopping at a park for just 30 minutes a day can help you stay active and healthy? In parks across Albuquerque, there are prescription trails which have specific miles to walk for increased health, and various exercise equipment. Even if you can only spend a few minutes walking or exercising in a city park, it's a low-impact and easy way to get in some exercise, no matter where you are.

For more information on prescription trails and walking tips, visit:
www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/parks/prescription-trails/walking-tips



What Is A Neighborhood Watch?

A neighborhood watch program (NWP) creates the opportunity for neighbors to collaboratively work with the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) to prevent crime in their neighborhoods. A connected community is safer because neighbors know who should be in their neighborhood, watch out for each other, and communicate with APD and their neighbors when they see something suspicious.

NWPs are organized around blocks of approximately 10-15 homes. The block captain organizes the neighborhood watch and serves as a communication facilitator, but a NWP works best if each neighbor acknowledges responsibility to secure property and work together. Participants prevent crime by serving as additional eyes on the street, being educated on crime prevention tactics, and building tight-knit communities.

Recently, an NWP in the NE part of Albuquerque was able to connect someone to their stolen goods after a recent break-in elsewhere, when a fellow neighbor reported finding two bags of possessions near their home. This only happened because the neighbors reported what happened so their block captain could connect the two seemingly isolated events.

Contact Steve Sink at ssink@cabq.gov for more information on starting an NWP. Contact the Office of Neighborhood Coordination at: onc@cabq.gov for more information on neighborhood groups.

Tree Planted at UNM Tight Grove Area

A historical grove of trees on the University of New Mexico (UNM) campus had a recent addition to its plantings. An evergreen tree was planted in the Tight Grove area on Monday, April 10 by City and UNM leadership as part of the ongoing Albuquerque Rapid Transit (ART) project. The Tight Grove, named after UNM's third president, William G. Tight, who planted the 30 evergreen trees still there today, is located near Central and University. That corner is expected to be one the most heavily used ART stations when the project is completed in late 2017.

The University and Cornell ART stations will give UNM students, faculty and staff another way of getting to and from campus, and easier access for students and visitors to visit New Mexico's flagship university. For information on ART construction, and how to support local businesses along the construction corridor, visit: brtabq.com



YOU'RE INVITED!

WHAT: Albuquerque Block Captains Association Spring Conference

WHEN: Saturday, May 6, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

WHERE: Roger A. Hoisington Memorial Police Training Academy, 5412 2nd St. NW.

Free, open to interested neighborhood residents, and an excellent opportunity for block captains to share information with other block captains and neighborhood residents, and talk about organizing events and activities on your block.

NM Senior Olympics Coming to Albuquerque



The City of Albuquerque will host the 2017 New Mexico Senior Olympics State Summer Games from July 19-23, in advance of hosting the National Senior Games in 2019.

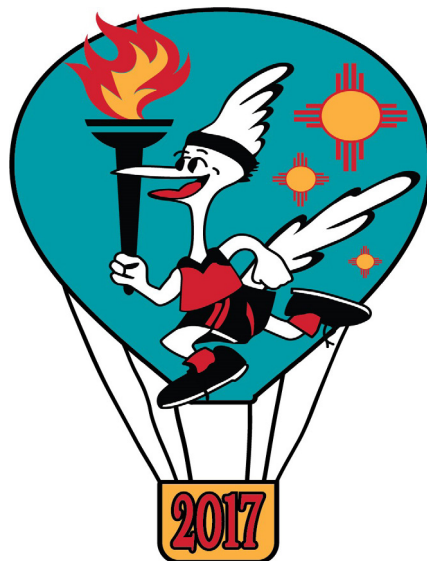
The New Mexico Senior Olympics Summer Games feature over 100 events in 27 diverse sports categories, including basketball, softball, and volleyball. With over 130 communities and 28 Local Game Sites across New Mexico, it is clear our state is leading the charge for encouraging healthy lifestyles in adults 50 years and older.

The registration booklet for the 2017 State Summer Games is packed with great information for athletes and spectators and can be found at: <http://nmseiorolympics.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Final-Book-2.27.17.pdf>.

New Mexico Senior Olympics is dedicated to providing adults with opportunities for a healthy and active lifestyle, with its strong mission promoting physical fitness for seniors statewide.

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer for the upcoming Summer Games in July, visit: <http://nmseiorolympics.org/volunteers/>

For information about the Senior Affairs Department, visit: cabq.gov/seniors; or call (505) 764-6400; or e-mail: seniorinformation@cabq.gov



WaterSmart Workshops Teach About Maximizing Water Use

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA) is offering free WaterSmart Workshops through October on a variety of topics related to water use, xeriscaping, planting trees and gardening, drip irrigation systems, and how to best maximize water use in the summer and throughout the year.

Eligible ABCWUA customers can earn a \$20 credit on their water bill for each workshop attended over a 5-year period.

The workshops are free, and limited to 50 people each. Each workshop takes place at the Desert Oasis Teaching Gardens, Albuquerque Academy Campus, 6400 Wyoming NE, and runs from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

The next class takes place on Saturday, May 6 and covers Urban Gardening Growing Techniques, with six additional workshops on this topic running through the end of July, as well as other topics.

For a complete schedule of all ABCWUA workshops, visit: www.abcwua.org/watersmart.aspx

City Hearings & Meetings

- ◆ City Council
 - Meets first and third Monday each month, 5 p.m.
 - Agendas at cabq.gov/council
- ◆ Community Policing Councils
 - Meeting days and times vary
 - Agendas at cabq.gov/police/community-policing-council
- ◆ Development Review Board
 - Meets weekly on Wednesdays, 9 a.m.
 - Agendas at cabq.gov/planning
- ◆ Environmental Planning Commission
 - Meets second Thursday of each month, 8:30 a.m.
 - Agendas/staff reports at cabq.gov/planning
- ◆ Landmarks and Urban Conservation Commission
 - Meets second Wednesday of each month, 3 p.m.
 - Agendas/staff reports at cabq.gov/planning
- ◆ Zoning Board of Appeals
 - Meets fourth Tuesday of each month, 9 a.m.
 - Agendas/staff reports at cabq.gov/planning
- ◆ Zoning Hearing Examiner
 - Meets third Tuesday of each month, 9 a.m.
 - Agendas/notices of decisions at cabq.gov/planning

Coalition Meetings

- ◆ District 4 Coalition
 - Meets third Wednesday each month, 7 p.m.
- ◆ District 6 Coalition
 - Meets quarterly, days vary, 7 p.m.
- ◆ District 7 Coalition
 - Meets first Wednesday each month, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ District 8 Coalition
 - Meets bimonthly, days vary, 7 p.m.
- ◆ East Gateway Coalition
 - Meets quarterly, days vary, 6:30 p.m.

Spring Green Waste Collection Coming to Your Neighborhood



Got green waste from spring cleaning your yard? Solid Waste will pick up green waste on your regular trash day during the weeks of May 1 - 5, and May 8 - 12.

Leaves, branches, grass, and brush must be in tightly secured trash bags, and cannot weigh over 40 lbs each. Branches must be cut to 4-foot lengths and securely bundled. Any green items for pickup must be placed at your curb by 7:00 a.m. on your regular trash day.

The following items will not be picked up by Solid Waste:

- Dirt and construction debris
- Gravel and construction materials
- Tree stumps

For more information, visit:
cabq.gov/solidwaste

- ◆ North Valley Coalition
 - Meets quarterly, days vary, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Southwest Alliance of Neighborhoods
 - Meets first Tuesday of each month, 6 p.m.
- ◆ South Valley Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
 - Meets second Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Westside Coalition
 - Meets first Wednesday each month, 7 p.m.



Free Fun for Toddlers at Balloon Museum



Expanding upon the popularity of its Stories in the Sky preschool program, the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum launched Music in the Sky, a free activity geared toward infants and toddlers.

Music in the Sky, held twice each Wednesday, features movement, music and art for children up to three years of age and their adult companions, and are led by teacher and musician Terrie Galacia.

Galacia has been a music and movement instructor for over 15 years. She has led family music classes, group music instruction and private lessons.

Along with being a certified Music Together instructor, Galacia is passionate about providing a musically rich environment that allows people of any age and ability to experience, make, learn and enjoy music.

To see upcoming Music in the Sky events, as well as a complete listing of events at the Balloon Museum, visit: www.cabq.gov/balloon.

Property Crime Reporting Technicians Are Newest Addition to APD

Albuquerque Police Department's latest hires are not regular police officers. The 16 newly hired Property Crime Reporting Technicians (PCRT) came into APD as part of the City's property crime reduction pilot program that came about after Mayor Richard Berry's crime reduction plan was announced last October. The plan called for hiring a specialized unit of civilian technicians to alleviate the workload on sworn police officers called to respond to property crime calls.

The hiring of these PCRTs means that they will be able to more quickly respond to citizens who have experienced property theft, and allow officers to respond to more urgent calls in the community. The PCRTs complete on-the-job training and start official duties in mid-May.

City Councilors Pat Davis, Brad Winter and Ken Sanchez joined Mayor Berry and Chief Administrative Officer Rob Perry, and Chief Gorden Eden of APD, to introduce the new hires at a press conference Wednesday, April 5 at the Police Training Academy.



Pictured at left: Lt. Fernando Aragon, PCRT Jerry Ortiz, Chief Gorden E. Eden, City Councilor Pat Davis, and Maj. Jessica Tyler

ABC-Z Update for May 2017

The city is well into the process of replacing its 1970s Zoning Code with updated standards for a 21st century, southwestern city in a new Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO). Part of this process includes converting the 700+ zones that the City struggles to enforce and administer correctly with a set of just 20 codes.

Do you know what your zoning is? Do you know what it's proposed to be under the new IDO? Visit the Zoning Conversion map to find out:
<https://abc-zone.com/ido-zoning-conversion-map>

The project team thanks all those who have been involved to date and encourages others to get engaged now. It's not too late to be part of this once-in-a-generation reworking of zoning in Albuquerque! Staff offers "Office Hours" Monday and Friday afternoons for individuals and small groups, or we can come to your meeting to give your group an update about this project. Contact abcto@cabq.gov or call Carol Toffaleti at (505) 924-3345 to make a request.

The EPC will hold a 4th hearing on the IDO on Thursday, May 4, and vote on a recommendation to Council on whether to adopt, with a tentative 5th hearing scheduled for Monday, May 15. Both hearings will take place at 8:30 a.m., at Plaza del Sol, 600 2nd St. NW, Basement Hearing Room. No more public testimony or written comments will be considered by the EPC, but you are still encouraged to send written comments, which will be added to the project case file and forwarded to the City Council for consideration at the next stage in the review/approval process. Send written comments to: abcto@cabq.gov or to Crystal Ortega, Clerk of the Council, cortega@cabq.gov, or mail to: Crystal Ortega, P.O. Box 1293, Albuquerque, NM, 87103.

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City Leadership

Mayor

Richard J. Berry

City Council

Ken Sanchez, District 1

Isaac Benton, District 2

Klarissa J. Peña, District 3

Brad Winter, District 4

Dan Lewis, District 5

Pat Davis, District 6

Diane G. Gibson, District 7

Trudy E. Jones, District 8

Don Harris, District 9

Chief Administrative Officer

Robert J. Perry

Chief Operations Officer

Michael J. Riordan, P.E.

Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination.

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Article Submissions/Editor:

If you are a recognized association officer and wish to submit an article, email the editor. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject any article submission.

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Find Us Online:

www.cabq.gov/neighborhoods