

Our 22nd Year Serving Bel-Air - Sept 2016

More eyes on the Park!



Just recently, the Albuquerque Police Department installed a safety feature in the park that will help them look more closely at who is in the Park and how it is being used. As many of you know, park activities in recent months have posed some real challenges.

We ask that you continue to be vigilant about activity in our area and take individual responsibility to help keep us all safe and healthy. **It only happens with your involvement. So call 311 or 242-COPS or in an emergency, dial 911.**

Because a few neighbors were willing to make calls, we received a great response from Parks and Recreation Department and from APD, which we are grateful for. City Councilor Diane Gibson and her office have been very helpful as well.

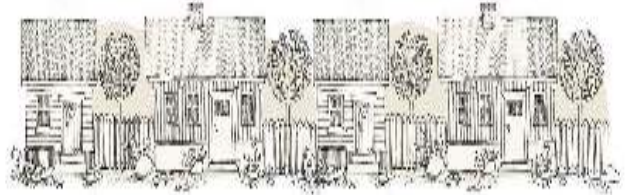
Whether the problem is on your block or in public areas such as our lovely park, you can help by doing something to solve the problem.

This is Your Copy of the

Bel-Air News

Published by the Bel-Air Neighborhood Assn
www.banaNM.org

Mark your calendars!



Last One for 2016
Bel-Air Clean-Up Day
Saturday, September 17th

**8 to 10 am Bel-Air Miramontes Park
CABQ Garbage truck will be available.**

**Take a look around your house and yard
and see what you want to get rid of.
Donate the good stuff and bring your trash and
yard debris to the Park on the 17th.**

NEW DATE for 2017
Annual BANA Park Party

Folks agreed overwhelmingly to change our annual neighborhood picnic to the 4th Saturday in September. July is simply too hot for many of us and we hope more neighbors will attend NEXT YEAR when fall weather is here. So----

Saturday, September 23rd, 2017
5 to 8 pm
Food will be served beginning at 6 pm

Lee Julian Memorial Pavilion
Bel-Air Miramontes Park

Please bring a side dish, dessert or burger accompaniments such as lettuce, tomato, or green chili ready to serve. BANA always provides drinks, burgers, hot dogs and buns.
Come meet your neighbors!

Family Fun Days

Every Sunday from 12-5 pm

Bachechi Open Space

9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Each month will focus on a different theme and each week will feature new activities for families that include an experiment for older explorers and a craft that will challenge your mind and your hands.

Come answer a challenge question to receive a prize! Bring your friends and join a game, or come each week and build your own nature experiences.

September's theme is **Furry Friends**. Seen any snuggly mammals moving around the Bosque? Learn all about the animals of the Middle Rio Grande by telling stories with puppets, building habitat models and searching for clues.

For questions about this program, call 314-0420.

Sandia Mountain Bear Fair

September 18, 1-4 pm

Anasazi Fields Winery

26 Camino de los Pueblitos, Placitas

Join the Sandia Mountain Bear Collaborative for this festive event in celebration of our state mammal, featuring music by Paul Thompson.

The celebration will be held at Anasazi Fields Winery who locally crafts unique and adventurous wines of New Mexico.

The event will start with panel discussion on living among bears and bear behavior with local experts at 1 p.m.

Afterwards, enjoy live music, kid's activities and information booths on wildlife at this family-friendly Bear Fair. No need to register for this event.

Villages of the Rio Grande:

Isleta Pueblo from the past to the 21st century

September 24, 10:30 am

Presented by Richard Garcia

at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House

6029 Isleta Blvd SW

Learn about the fascinating story of Isleta Pueblo and stay for traditional dances performed by dancers Laguna Pueblo and enjoy food from local food trucks.

Richard Garcia will present the blending of pueblo and non-pueblo tribes from early contact with Europeans through the present day, and the resulting influences on Isleta cultural identity and traditional values. Special focus will be on the 19th century Laguna migration **Call 314-0398 if you need assistance with registering for this event.**



NM Traditional Arts Demonstration

September 30 from 6-9 pm

Bachechi Open Space

9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Bernalillo County Open Space in partnership with the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies and Indigenous Life Ways is featuring guest artists who will demonstrate their crafts.

You can try your hand at some of these arts like flint knapping and yucca sandal making. Music, campfire, stories, hot chocolate and arts and crafts will all be part of this magical night. This is a great event to bring visitors who want to experience the rich culture of New Mexico. No need to register.

Planting Your Fall Garden

There is still time! You are not too late!



On average, our frost-free growing season starts Apr 16th and ends Oct 28th. That's about 195 days of growing time here in Albuquerque! Here's what you could plant by September 28th and still have a fall harvest: beets, carrots, chard, garlic, lettuce, mustard, onions, radishes, spinach and turnips.

With just a little shelter, spinach, kale and lettuce will often grow all winter, or at least survive until deep winter cold. If you have greens that got away, don't pull them, just let them flower and seed themselves back.

Raspberries thrive in our area when given plenty water. Raspberries like acidic soil which you can help provide with a thick layer of pine needles around the plants in fall. The pine needles will also help keep the raspberry roots from freezing.

Blackberries also grow great here, and enjoy being planted with clover and need plenty water. Mulch around the plants in fall to keep from freezing.

Garden perennials like rhubarb and asparagus also need a thick layer of mulch in fall to protect from winter freeze.



Gardening in our dry, depleted desert soil can be a lot of hard work. Composting can make things much easier by using valuable plant matter where it's needed, right in your yard rather than sending it to the landfill.

When leaves begin to dry up and drop from trees and other plants, collect all those free soil-building goodies for next year's garden. It's not necessary to buy a fancy composter, simply mash leaves into a large trash

bag, in a selected corner of your yard, or in a raised bed or cardboard box. Layer leaves and small sticks, then cover with a little soil, then wet it down. You don't want it soggy, just damp. Repeat layers. A mix of green and brown plant matter is best. Microbes from added soil will help brake down the organic matter faster. Every 2 or 3 weeks, stir it up a bit, and wet it down again. You might be surprised to see all the happy worms and sowbugs busy breaking down the organic matter in your compost! By spring, you'll have good compost ready to use in your garden.

When trimming bushes and trees and other plants, save all those nutritious bits, too. Brake or chop stems and sticks into small pieces, or use a shovel or chipper/shedder, then add it to your compost, or use it on pathways or to mulch plants.

There's good information about composting, plus extremely reasonably priced compost and mulch available at Soilutions, 9008 Bates Rd SE, 877-0220, or on the internet: soilutions.net



Trim Your Trees and Bushes in Late Winter

Consider trimming your trees and bushes in late winter instead of the fall. Your plants will not only slow down the cold winter winds that blow through your yard, but also provide shelter for birds. Some plant matter left around bushes and flowers during winter can help protect plant roots from freezing, and also provide shelter for birds and ground dwellers. Plant matter will brake down over winter to make rich soil for your plants next spring.

Care for Your Trees

Don't allow rock, dirt or lots of plant matter to build up around the bases of trees. It can cause the trunk to rot, and makes a dandy climate for harmful insects, or can even smother the tree. Deep water your trees and other perennials about once a month during winter.

Trees should be watered at the drip line, that's the area defined by the outermost circumference of a tree canopy where water drips from and onto the ground.

Some New Mexicans say you can use green chile in anything. Here is an unusual example-

Green Chile Pumpkin Pie

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup hatch green chile, roasted, seeded, peeled & chopped
- 2 cups pumpkin puree
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 pie crust
- Whipped cream
- Slivered almonds (if desired)

Directions:

To roast chile (if it's not already roasted), place them under broiler flame until skin becomes charred; rotate until all of the skin is blackened. Place chilies in a plastic bag to cool. Once cool, peel off skin and remove stem and seeds. Chop. This step can be done in advance.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a mixing bowl, blend chile, pumpkin, eggs, sugar, cream, spices and vanilla. Mix well and pour over pie crust. Bake for 35 minutes, or until pumpkin is firm.

Let cool for about 30 minutes. Top with a dollop of whipped cream and a pinch of roasted almond slivers if desired.

Christian Fellowship Church

NOTE: CFC has provided meeting space for BANA Board meetings and General Meetings in our neighborhood for nearly 20 years.

School of the Holy Spirit Sunday 9:30am-10:15am
 Celebration Service 10:30am-12:00pm
 Children's Church and Nursery available
 Vertical Impact Youth Group Friday Nights 7pm
 Life Groups available weekly
 Call church office or check website for times and locations. Events happening monthly, all are posted on our website

*Christian Fellowship Church
 3901 Claremont Ave. NE Albuquerque, NM 87110
 (505) 296-1040 church office*

The Bel-Air News is a publication by and for the residents of the Bel-Air Neighborhood Association. 2016-2017 BANA Board Members:

Amy Henne	Barb Johnson	Jeanene Witt
Hart Lewis	Chris Trujillo	
2 vacant seats		

Please contact your Board with your concerns and ideas for a better neighborhood:
bana_nm@yahoo.com or www.banaNM.org or
Bel-Air Neighborhood Association (BANA)
P.O. Box 36568, ABQ, NM 87176

Bel Air Neighborhood Association (BANA)

LAST CALL 2016 Annual Residential Membership

*BANA receives no outside funding and is totally supported through membership donations. All membership fees go to pay for the publication of the BEL AIR NEWS for the entire neighborhood and all BANA sponsored events. **Your membership matters.***

Please send in your membership today! \$10 Annual Membership Donation per household . Make your check or money order payable to: Bel Air Neighborhood Association. Your cancelled check or money order duplicate is your receipt. Mail To: BANA PO Box 36568, ABQ NM 87176

Name _____ E-Mail _____
 Address _____ Phone# _____

Members will receive neighborhood email updates between newsletters. Your email address will never be shared.

Thank you for your continued support!