



Bel-Air News

The Voice of the Bel-Air Neighborhood Association, (BANA)
Serving the Bel-Air Neighborhood Since 1994

Summer/Fall 2022

Upcoming Events

Last Saturday Clean-Up Day of the Year

September 17th

8:00 am - 10:00 am
Miramontes/Bel-Air Park

City will have a garbage truck available to dispose of excess trash you may have around the house. We also need neighbor volunteers to help clean up the park and the alleys. Bring your gloves and truck, if you have one, and let's work together to keep our neighborhood clean and safe.

Neighborhood Meet and Greet-Ice Cream Social



October 1, 2022

4-5pm
Miramontes/Bel-Air Park

Come join us for an ice cream social and meet your neighbors.

Hello, Neighbors!

Another beautiful day here in our neighborhood of Bel-Air. Late summer is always such a wonderful time of year. Is there anyone who DOESN'T like the smell of green chile being roasted to perfection? It's such a great way to usher in the autumn season. Cooler days are ahead, but we can always count on the sunshine to keep us warm.

Now that things are starting to return to "normal", BANA is working to get the ball rolling on all the various things for the neighborhood. The trash collection days at the park are back on track. We've been talking with city officials about various upgrades for the park in the SW corner. Thus far, there has been some discussion of adding a dog park, a cycling park, some pickleball courts, and food truck accommodations. At this point, it's mostly brainstorming and figuring out what would be best for the neighborhood (and city at large). We are ALWAYS looking for input and suggestions from fellow neighbors, so we would love to hear from you. And that isn't only in regard to park upgrades but ANY issues or ideas for Bel-Air.

I love our neighborhood and have no plans to go anywhere. There's nowhere else in town I would rather live.

Our location is fantastic, so I hope we can work together to find ways to help Bel-Air thrive and improve.

Here's to hoping that you've been able to battle the weeds and mosquitoes that have come out in force this year. What a nuisance! While tackling weeds is never a fun job, it certainly offers some satisfaction when it's done. Over time, weeds that are left uncontrolled can damage sidewalks and driveways, and the city holds homeowners responsible for the condition of the sidewalks in front of their homes! As our neighborhood ages, preventing sidewalk and street damage from rampant weeds will be important. Thank you to all who help fight this never-ending battle. At the rates which weeds seem to grow, one would think we have the most fertile soil on earth.

As mentioned, BANA is always looking for more involvement from neighbors. Whether it's dropping stuff off on trash-truck days, joining BANA itself, becoming a board member, or just offering up some insight and input, we are grateful any time neighbors are willing to participate. Thank you for being a part of our great neighborhood!

Sincerely,

Seth Arseneau
BANA President



Park Update

Over time this column starts sounding very redundant. We continue to have a park plagued by transient activity including two homeless encampments there as this is being written. No one knows what impact the recent closing of Coronado Park will have on the rest of our city, but it probably doesn't bode well for Bel-Air Park, especially with the seeming lack of enforcement of park rules – no erecting structures, no overnight camping, keeping dogs on leashes, etc. It also appears that when the campers are run off many just keep returning.

We have to be equally persistent in our reporting of these issue if we ever expect to have our park back.

Police say our problem is, in large part, location, location, location. They have also cited the Savers store as a real draw. They currently have a huge open dumpster filled to the top with stuff that people like to extricate. To help curb this they have installed a remote video surveillance system to try to ward off dumpster divers and people leaving donations after hours. They are working to get their compactor up and running so they can eliminate the open dumpster. These efforts may help make this area a little less desirable.

HELP us by coming to the cleanup day on Saturday September 17, 2022, and join us in cleaning up the park and illegal dumps in our alleys. No truck needed just willing volunteers. It should be noted that the city finally replaced the trash bins near the pavilion that were removed prior to the pandemic! Victory – small, but a victory none-the-less.

Please also continue to report non-criminal issues – encampments, trash, graffiti to 311 and criminal issues such as drug use, overnight camping, fighting etc. to police via 505-242-2677 or use APD's app.



Home Repair and Energy Efficiency- NM Energy\$mart

New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) NM Energy\$mart weatherization assistance program provides energy-saving retrofits and home modifications at no charge to eligible homeowners and renters!

This program is part of the nationwide Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). This is a great way to save money and energy!

Who Qualifies?

Whether you own or rent, live in a single-family home or a mobile home, you can apply for weatherization services. If you rent, your landlord must consent to having the home weatherized and sign an agreement that gives you certain tenancy protections before weatherization services can be performed.

Priority and Ranking

Priority is given to persons over 60 years of age, persons with disabilities, families with children, and high energy using homes. If someone in your household receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), you are automatically income-eligible for program services using DOE funds. Other requirements may apply.

If no one in your home receives SSI or TANF, your household income must be at or below 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines in order to qualify. Income limits by family size are listed below.

Income Limits by Family Size (Updated February 2022)

Family Size	Household income
1	\$27,180
2	\$36,620
3	\$46,060
4	\$55,500
5	\$64,940
6	\$74,380
7	\$83,820
8	\$93,260

Add \$9,440 for each additional person over eight in a household.

Where do I apply?

Central New Mexico Housing Corporation
703 Osuna Road NE, Suite 2
Albuquerque, NM 87113
Phone: 505.345.4949
Toll Free: 855.345.4949
Fax: 505.344.4245
www.centralnmhousing.org

Where can I find more information?

Please visit this website for more details:
<https://housingnm.org/home-repair-and-energy-efficiency/energymart-weatherization-assistance/apply>

New Mexico Gas Company offers rebates to customers with a NMGC account!

What type of rebates you might ask? Here is a list, check them out today and save energy and money!

Insulation Improve comfort year-round while saving up to 20% on your heating and cooling bills. Get rebates up to \$500 when you add insulation to your home's attic or roof.

FREE High Efficiency Showerhead Use 40% less water, with all the same comfort and pressure. Get a high efficiency showerhead and water savings kit mailed to you at **no cost**.

ENERGY STAR® Smart Thermostat Save up to \$180 a year when you let a smart thermostat automate energy use around your schedule. Get a \$50 rebate when you upgrade.

Space Heating Keep your home cozy while you enjoy savings and safety with long-lasting equipment. Get rebates from \$200 to \$375 on a high efficiency gas furnace or boiler.

Water Heating Take control of one of your home's highest energy users. Get rebates from \$100 to \$300 on a high efficiency storage or tankless water heater.

For full details, visit: <https://nmgcgetrebates.com/>

Bel-Air-tifacts

Check out this article from the Albuquerque Journal written over 24 years ago. This goes to show you our work in the community is never done!

RESIDENTS UNITE IN ANNUAL CLEANUP

March 31, 1998 | Albuquerque Journal (NM)
Author/Byline: Juliet V. Casey Journal Staff Writer | Page: C2 |
Section: METROPOLITAN

Neighborhoods Profit In Anti-Litter Drive

Keeping neighborhoods clean is one sure way to fight crime and maintain property values, said Lee Julian, a member of the BEL-AIR Neighborhood Association.

That's why she and hundreds of Albuquerque residents are picking up litter from streets and alleys, painting over graffiti and pulling weeds this month during the 11th annual Glad Bag-a-thon program of Keep Albuquerque Beautiful. The cleanup is part of the nationwide Keep America Beautiful campaign.

"Last cleanup, we filled 22 roll-off Dumpsters and 11 compactor garbage trucks," Julian said. "It's just like going to a drive-in with people lined up to dump their trash."

Julian said the Northeast Heights neighborhood association became active four years ago when residents decided to take control of their declining neighborhood, which was becoming graffiti-ridden and overgrown with weeds.

"Our four-year effort has improved a lot of things," she said. "Our graffiti is gone, and a lot of the rental homes are taking better care of their property. It has unified our neighborhood."

Enlisting neighborhood businesses and the local government agencies in the cleanup helps ensure the waste will be disposed legally and safely, Julian said.

"We've worked with city zoning so that we choose one main site where people can take their trash, and the city comes to pick it up," she said.

Madeline Dunn, a spokeswoman for Keep Albuquerque Beautiful, said this year's cleanup starts April 13 with an Albuquerque Dukes baseball game. People who bring recyclables to the game will receive free admission.

City cleanups are important because they give neighborhoods a sense of pride in the community, she said.

Retrieved from: <https://www.elportalm.org/>
<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/>

FamilyPass

The Department of Cultural Affairs' FamilyPass, a partnership with local libraries throughout New Mexico, provides free admission (up to 6 people) to 15 state museums and historic sites.

Passes are available at Public Libraries throughout the state for checkout. Patrons may borrow the pass, which circulates like other library materials, for up to one week. The FamilyPass may be used at the following locations:

- 7 New Mexico Historic Sites, Statewide
- New Mexico History Museum/Palace of the Governors, Santa Fe
- New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe
- Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe
- Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe
- New Mexico Museum of Space History, Alamogordo
- New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, Albuquerque
- New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, Las Cruces
- National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque

For more information, please visit:
<https://www.newmexicoculture.org/libraries/familypass>



List of frequently used numbers you may call to help dispose of unwanted items or trash for reportage.

- For abandoned cars contact City Code Enforcement at **505-924-3850**.
- Large item pick-up, appliances, furniture, etc., call 311 or go to www.cabq.gov/solidwaste. Make your request Mon- Sat, 24 hours before your regular trash collection day.
- Household hazardous waste including paint, pesticides, cleaning solvents, batteries, etc. can be dropped off for free at Advanced Chemical Transport, 6133 Edith Blvd., **505-345-1650** or **505-998-4154**.
- For dead animals, call City Animal Welfare at 311.
- For yard waste, there's free curbside pick-up twice a year in the City of Albuquerque, once in spring and in fall. Look for dates of collection in your spring and fall billing.
- For electronic recycling contact Albuquerque Computer & Electronics Recycling Co., 3726 Hawkins St. NE, 505-216-6000 or New Mexico Computer Recycling, 5445 Edith Blvd NE, **505-440-6453**
- For batteries disposal any Lowe's Home Improvement Location or Radio Shack, 1625 Rio Bravo Blvd SW, **505-877-0110** (Cordless phone batteries, 12- & 14-volt rechargeable batteries, no car batteries)
- Recycle old working fridge or freezer and get \$50, contact PNM 1-877-838-1139 or schedule online at <https://www.pnm.com/fridge>

If you have further questions or would like more information please visit, <https://www.cabq.gov/solidwaste/trash-collection>

BANA Board Members:

- *Seth Arseneau (2019) President*
- *Barb Johnson (1994) Vice President/ Treasurer*
- *Jeanene Witt (2013) Secretary*
- *Hart Lewis (2015) Director*
- *Rosalie Nava (2017) Director*



If you or someone you know prefer a paper newsletter, email us at board@bananm.org to get one delivered.