



Bel-Air News

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

Fall 2024

FROM BANA PRESIDENT

BANA Membership

The number of registered and supporting Bel-Air Neighborhood Association (BANA) members has declined significantly since the pandemic. Moreover, the City has eliminated the dues requirement to be a voting member of any Albuquerque neighborhood association. At our currently low-level of support, BANA is destined to run out of money. We implore you to become an active, registered, and supporting BANA member by completing and mailing the form enclosed in this newsletter, or go to bananm.org to join. Please choose to make a voluntary contribution (\$10 per year, per household suggested, but any amount is welcomed). Your money will help ensure positive Bel-Air neighborhood activities continue, including Clean-up Days and the Annual Park Party.

Construction Projects Impact Bel-Air

There are many changes happening in and around Bel-Air: demolition and new construction of the old American

Furniture building site, and major reconstruction on I-25 at the Comanche and Montgomery interchanges. These projects will impact traffic in our area for the next few years. Be safe! Allow additional travel time and plan alternative routes. To learn more about the I-25 project, and to sign up for updates, visit: <https://www.i25improved.com>.

Traffic on Phoenix

In June 2024, at BANA's request, the City performed a traffic study on Phoenix Street between Carlisle and Morningside. In a 48-hour period there were 800 vehicles on that stretch; 15% of the vehicles traveling in the study area exceeded 5 miles per hour over the speed limit. One vehicle was traveling twice the limit – 50 MPH!. Based on volume and speed this area qualifies for traffic calming measures, although what and when depends on budget and other project completions. In the meantime, LET'S SLOW DOWN, BEL-AIR!!

--Barb

BEL-AIR NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES:

Check-Out BANA's Social Media

We invite everyone to check out our website at BANANM.org where you will find BANA events, past and present newsletters, neighborhood resources, volunteer opportunities, and a link to become a supporting BANA member. BANA also has a presence on NextDoor and Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/belairneighbors>

(Bel-Air Notes, Continued)

Streetlight Outages

To report streetlight outages call 311.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Residents of the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County may bring residential hazardous wastes to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC) at no charge. As of Dec. 1, 2023, the HHWCC service is operated under contract by Safety-Kleen.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC)

2720 Girard NE, 87107

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Phone: 505-884-2277

Crime Tip Line Resources

There are numerous public safety resources available to our community. If you have concerns about drug-related issues in your neighborhood, submit an online tip through the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) website at: <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/tips-online.html>. You can connect your surveillance cameras to the Community Connect Camera Registry at: <https://www.cabq.gov/police/albuquerque-community-connect-camera-registry-and-integration>. You can also request information from Crime Prevention Specialist staff at each Area Command by visiting: <https://www.cabq.gov/police/crime-prevention-safety/crime-prevention-personnel>

Exercise Your Right To Vote!

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024. For comprehensive registration and voting information go to the County Clerk's website: <https://www.sos.nm.gov>

UP-COMING EVENTS

All Up-Comings Events are made possible by BANA. Please support us, and take an active part!

Last Clean-Up Day for 2024

Saturday, September 21, 2024

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Bel-Air Miramontes Park (on Phoenix, between Carlisle and Morningside)

City will have a garbage truck available for Bel-Air residents to dispose of excess trash, yard debris, and the like. The City will not take hazardous materials or construction debris. To dispose of hazardous material properly visit:

<https://www.cabq.gov/solidwaste/household-hazardous-waste>.

*Be a volunteer on Clean-Up days! Bring your gloves, and a truck if you have one, and let's work together to clean our park and alleys. Let's make our neighborhood a more attractive and safer place to live.

Annual Park Party

Sunday September 22, 2024

4:00 – 6:00 PM

Bel-Air Miramontes Park (on Phoenix, between Carlisle and Morningside)

All Bel-Air Residents are welcome to come join the party! BANA will provide free sandwiches, drinks and cake. Sidewalk chalk and lawn games will be available for play, or bring your own games to share! Come hang out with neighbors and make

Up-coming Events, Continued

some new friends. Local firefighters and elected officials have been invited.

ALSO...

The Soggy Doggy Trolley is Coming!

The Soggy Doggy Trolley, mobile dog grooming, will be set up at Bel-Air Miramontes Park during the Park Party. Bring your pooch for a wonderful grooming experience! **For prices and more information:**

<https://soggydoggy.petwash.com>

(From their website) *"We are a local woman-owned business serving Albuquerque and the surrounding area. We are dedicated to providing the highest quality products and premiere experience. Our company was born out of love for animals, especially dogs, and we are dedicated to helping pets and their humans live healthier and happy lives."*



NeighborWood Tree Planting and Give-Away (sponsored by Tree New Mexico)

Saturday, September 28, 2024

11:00 AM until 100 trees are given away!
Bel-Air Miramontes Park on Phoenix

The Bel-Air Neighborhood was chosen for the ABQ tree planting grant by City Councilor Fiebelkorn. Through this grant, a total of 200 trees will be added to our neighborhood! 100 trees have already been granted and will be planted in September.

On Saturday, September 28th, beginning around 11:00 AM at Bel-Air Miramontes Park, an additional 100 trees will be given away to Bel-Air homeowners on a first come basis. Trees will be in 3-5 gallon pots. Instructions on planting and care will be provided. Homeowners must sign an official agreement with the city, committing to care for and water their trees. Tree New Mexico is looking for neighborhood volunteers to help with this project.

What Makes A Good Neighbor?

By Cheryle

Since this is a neighborhood newsletter for our neighborhood organization it seems fitting to consider "What makes a good neighbor?" I asked neighbors, family and friends for their opinions. The number-one response was "someone willing to lend a helping hand". Surprisingly, the second most frequent answer was "someone who smiles, waves or says hello". Wow! How simple! A kind acknowledgement, just a smile or a wave, to fellow travelers on life's journey is important and does make a difference! It's simple and doesn't cost a dime, only a moment of your time. So, lets crack a smile and raise a hand to greet our neighbors in Bel-Air!

Recipe for Green Chile Stew with Tomatillos

INGREDIENTS:

1/2 cup all-purpose flour	1 (7 ounce) can diced green chiles, drained, or 1 cup fresh roasted green chiles
1 teaspoon salt	2 fresh jalapeno peppers, seeded and chopped
1 tablespoon ground black pepper	2 teaspoons dried marjoram
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin	1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
1 (3 pound) boneless pork shoulder roast, trimmed of excess fat, and cut into 1-inch cubes	1 cup water
2 tablespoons olive oil, or more if needed	1 pinch salt, or to taste (optional)
1 large onion, chopped	2 tablespoons sour cream, divided
3 cloves garlic, minced	6 sprigs cilantro
2 cups chopped fresh tomatillos	

DIRECTIONS:

1. Stir together the flour, salt, pepper, and cumin in a large bowl. Place the cubed pork into the mixture, and stir well to coat the meat with the seasonings.
2. Heat the olive oil in a large, heavy pan or Dutch oven over medium-high heat until the oil shimmers. Working in batches if necessary, place the meat into the hot pan in a single layer. Pan-fry the pork until brown on all sides, about 15 minutes. Remove the pork to a bowl, and cover to keep warm.
3. Cook and stir the onion in the hot pan over medium heat, adding more olive oil if necessary, until the onion is translucent and beginning to brown, about 7 minutes. Return the meat to the pan and stir in the garlic, tomatillos, chiles, marjoram, chopped cilantro, and water. Check seasoning and add 1 pinch of salt to taste, if needed. Cover and simmer over low heat, stirring occasionally, until the meat is tender, about 1 hour. Skim excess fat off the stew before serving in bowls, garnished with a dollop of sour cream and a cilantro sprig on each bowl.

Food for Thought

*Chile peppers are a fruit, and ripen. Green chiles are considered not ripe, and red chiles are considered to be ripe. Green and red chiles come from the same plant.

*One raw, average-sized, red chile pepper contains about 65 mg of vitamin C, nearly 100 percent of the Recommended Daily Allowance.

*Contrary to popular belief, there is no evidence that chile peppers cause ulcers or digestive problems.

*Chile (in reference to food – not the country) refers to the green and red type chile peppers grown in New Mexico, and the dishes made with them, such as green chile stew. Chili refers to Texas style chili, typically made with beans, ground meat, spices, and chile powder.

*Senator Pete Dominici, had the c-h-i-l-e spelling entered into the 1983 Congressional Record as the official spelling for the New Mexico chile pepper.

(Food for Thought Continued...)

*Botanically speaking, chiles are actually berries because they are formed from a single ovary of a flower, and have several seeds. Surprisingly, chiles, tomatoes, cucumbers and avacados are all examples of true berries, while strawberries and blackberries are not!

*Capsicum plants (chiles) originated in modern-day Peru and Bolivia, and have been a part of human diets since about 7,500 BC. They are one of the oldest cultivated crops in the Americas, and have been traced to east-central Mexico some 6,000 years ago.

Bel-Air Legislatures and City Council Contact Information:

NM US Senator

Senator Martin Heinrich
400 Gold Avenue SW, Ste. 1080
Albuquerque, N.M. 87102
Phone: (505) 346-6601

NM US Senator

Senator Ben Ray Lujan
498 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-6621

US Congressional District 1

Representative Melanie Stansbury
Abq. District Office: 300 Central Ave SW,
Suite 1300 East Albuquerque, NM 87102
Phone: (505) 346-6781

NM Senate District: 15

Senator Daniel A. Ivey-Soto
Office Phone: (505) 881-4475
Email: daniel.ivey-soto@nmlegis.gov

NM House District: 25

Cristina Parajon
PO Box 36746 Albuquerque, NM 87176
Cristina.parajon@nmlegis.gov

Albuquerque City District 7

Councilor Tammy Fiebelkorn
tfiebelkorn@cabq.gov
Contact Policy Analyst Amanda Aragon
amanda@cabq.gov
(505) 768-3189

Some Acorn-y Riddles for You

Why did the tree decide to start taking art classes? *She wanted to branch out.*

Why do trees hate going to school in the fall? *Because they're easily stumped.*

What do lumberjacks shout at the start of fall? *Sep-timberrrrrr!*

What is it called when a tree takes some time off? *Paid leaf.*

How do trees get on the Internet? *They just log on.*

How did the tree get a new job? *She had the right qua-leaf-ications.*

What did the leaf say to the other leaf? *I'm falling for you.*

What happens when winter arrives? *Autumn leaves*

How do leaves get from place to place? *Autumn-mobiles.*

Who lives in the scary Hundred Acre Wood? *Winnie the Boo.*

Why did the tree giggle? *It heard acorn-y joke.*

Please join us in becoming an active BANA member!

Everyone who lives or works in Bel-Air is automatically a member of BANA (Bel-Air Neighborhood Association). BANA has a board of five dedicated volunteers who work with other volunteers to keep our neighborhood clean, safe, and connected. We need your support in recruiting new volunteers, and covering costs. Donations are our only means of paying for expenses which include: informational signs, postage, post office box fees, website maintenance, supplies, food and drinks for neighborhood events, including the Park Party.

Here are ways you can become an active member and support BANA:

1. Visit **bananm.org** to make a donation by debit / credit card. Any amount is welcome, \$10, \$15, \$25, whatever feels right.
Or, mail your donation to: BANA, PO Box 36568, Albuquerque, NM 87176
2. Volunteer at one or all of our events. (*fill out the Volunteer section below.)
3. Attend BANA meetings. Look for signs in the neighborhood announcing date, time & place.
4. In order to get to know you, and keep you informed of events in our neighborhood, please share some basic information with us.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

****I'm also interested in being an Active Bel-Air Neighborhood Association (BANA) Volunteer!***

I'm interested in serving on BANA's Board.

I'm interested in volunteering at: Neighborhood Clean-Ups Park Party I have another idea!

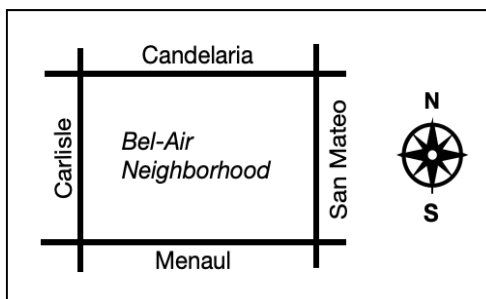
Best way(s) to contact me: Email Phone (Stated above)

I would like to discuss some additional volunteer opportunities, or learn more about BANA.

Or, you prefer to reach out to us about volunteer opportunities, Email us at board@bananm.org

Thank you, from the BANA Board!

Your personal information, including email address will be kept solely for BANA's records, and never shared with anyone. PROMISE!



Trees of New Mexico Word Search

Forward, backward, up, down, or diagonal. Two word names have * between words.

P	L	W	O	L	L	I	W	*	T	R	E	S	E	D	T	R	E
O	I	*	O	N	E	S	E	E	D	*	J	U	N	I	P	E	R
N	L	S	A	L	L	O	H	C	*	E	E	R	T	J	A	D	D
D	C	O	T	T	O	N	W	O	O	D	S	N	*	W	L	*	D
E	O	B	L	A	C	K	*	L	O	C	U	S	T	H	O	E	O
R		T	B	R	E	D	L	E	*	X	O	B	O	I	*	L	G
O	J	B	*	E	O	H	T	H	R	I	*	W	A	T	B	D	W
S	*	E	C	H	O	K	E	C	H	E	R	R	Y	E	L	E	O
A	T	D	H	S	*	K	R	S	T	I	I	S	R	J	A	R	O
*	E	M	L	E	*	N	A	I	R	E	B	I	S	F	N	B	D
P	S	I	L	V	E	R	*	S	P	R	U	C	E	I	C	E	*
I	M	X	S	E	B	H	C	R	I	B	*	D	E	R	O	R	A
N	E	P	S	A	*	G	N	I	K	A	U	Q	Y	E	L	R	X
E	V	I	L	O	*	N	A	I	S	*	U	R	S	A	H	Y	N
G	A	M	B	E	L	*	O	A	K	*	B	A	Y	W	*	W	O
I	R	A	D	E	C	*	O	C	I	X	E	M	*	W	E	N	I

PISTACHE
 CHOKECHERRY
 BLACK LOCUST
 PONDEROSA PINE
 DESERT WILLOW
 QUAKING ASPEN
 SIBERIAN ELM
 PINYON PINE
 TREE CHOLLA
 NEW MEXICO CEDAR
 ONESEED JUNIPER

WHITE FIR
 SILVER SPRUCE
 RED ELDERBERRY
 RED BIRCH
 PALO BLANCO
 DOGWOOD
 RUSSIAN OLIVE
 GAMBEL OAK
 COTTONWOOD
 BOX ELDER