



Bel-Air News

The Voice of the Bel-Air Neighborhood
Association, (BANA)
Serving the Bel-Air Neighborhood Since 1994
Spring, 2026

2026 Spring and Summer BANA Events

BANA Annual Board Meeting

April 18, 2026

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Bel-Air Miramontes Park Gazebo
3910 Phoenix Ave

*Special Guest Speakers Invited:

Senator Heather Berghmans, and APD

Also at the meeting:

*Discussion of Annual Park Party

*Election of BANA Board Members

All Bel-Air residents are encouraged and
welcome to attend!

Clean-Up Days, 2026

Bel-Air Miramontes Park
3910 Phoenix Ave

Sat., May 16, 2026, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Sat., July 18, 2026, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Sat., Sept 19, 2026, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

All Bel-Air Residents are welcome to bring
yard waste, trash and junk for disposal.
City provides a compactor garbage truck).

Volunteers are always needed to help clean
up alleys, pick up trash in the park, unload
trucks and trailers, and promote membership.

FROM BANA PRESIDENT, Barb Johnson

As I announced a year ago, I will not run for re-election to the Bel-Air Neighborhood Association Board. It's been a privilege to serve for these 30 or so years, and I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to our community in this role.

While I'm stepping down, I want to be very clear about something: being a good neighbor isn't passive. It requires showing up, contributing, and supporting the association that keeps this community functioning. Too often, the same few people carry the weight while others benefit without participating or paying dues. That has to change. If you care about your neighborhood, step up, get involved, and become a dues-paying member. This community only works when everyone takes responsibility, not just a handful of volunteers.

I'm proud of what we've accomplished together, and I'm confident that fresh energy and new perspectives will continue to move our neighborhood forward. This is a great moment for others to step up, get involved, and help shape the future of our community.

Our neighborhood is strongest when more voices are at the table. I encourage everyone to consider volunteering, attending meetings, and becoming dues-paying members. Your participation—big or small—truly makes a difference in what we can achieve as a community.

Thank you for your support, collaboration, and commitment. I look forward to staying involved as a neighbor and cheering on the next group of leaders.

--- Barb

Miramontes Park, with a DOG Park at the west end: 3910 Phoenix: Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Fenced. Shelter, picnic tables and benches. Paved walking trail. Playground. Grass and trees. Parking.
No water. Minimal lighting.

NEIGHBORHOOD contacts:

BANA's Social Media

We invite everyone to visit our website at BANANM.org. There you will find BANA events, past and present newsletters, neighborhood resources, volunteer opportunities, and a link to become a supporting BANA member.

Or see us on NextDoor and Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/belairneighbors>

Streetlight Outages

To report streetlight outages call 311.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Residents of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County may bring residential hazardous wastes to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC) at no charge: 2720 Girard NE, 87107
 Hours: Mon, We Fri, 8 AM - 2 PM,
 Sat 8 AM to 3 PM
 Phone: 505-884-2277

Continued...

Crime Tip Line Resources

There are several 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:

<https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/tips-online.html>.

You may connect your surveillance cameras to the Community:

Connect Camera Registry

at: <https://www.cabq.gov/police/albuquerque-community-connect-camera-registry-and-integration>. You may 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>

Statewide Election Dates

June 2, 2026: Primary

November 3, 2026: General election

For information about elections such as candidates, what's on the ballot, how to register to vote, how to request a mail-in ballot, or where to vote, go to <https://www.sos.nm.gov> (You can request to be on a permanent mail-in ballot list.)

Another website with voting information from all US states is: <https://ballotpedia.org>

Here's a few Yogi Berra quotes to mull around:

"Baseball is 90 percent mental. The other half is physical."

"We made too many wrong mistakes."

(About a St. Louis restaurant) "Nobody goes there anymore. It's too crowded."

"When you come to a fork in the road, take it."

"The future ain't what it used to be."

Bel-Air Neighborhood Public Schools

Bel-Air Elementary School

4725 Candelaria Rd NE, 87110 Phone: 888-4033

School hours: 8:40 a.m. to 4:10 p.m.

Pre-K hours: 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

McKinley Middle School

4500 Comanche Rd NE, 87110 Phone: 881-9390

School hours: 8:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Del Norte High School

5323 Montgomery Blvd NE, 87109 Phone: 883-7222

School hours: 8:20 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.

Vortex Theatre

2900 Carlisle Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM

505-247-8600

(Right here in our neighborhood!)

“The Vortex, Albuquerque's oldest continuously-running Black Box Theatre, has been a pioneering venue for classic,

contemporary, and cutting-edge theatre since 1976. The theatre continues to entertain audiences with some of the city's finest stage productions, from local and national premieres to new interpretations of classic works. The VORTEX is a 501(c)3 (non-profit) organization.”

--from their website

Bel-Air Legislators and City Council Information

NM US Senator Martin Heinrich

1st Congressional District

400 Gold Avenue SW, Ste. 1080

Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

Phone: (505) 346-6601

NM 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 House District: 25

Representative Cristina Parajon

Email: cristina.parajon@nmlegis.gov

NM Senate District: 15

Senator Heather Berghmans

Email: heather.berghmans@nmlegis.gov

City Councilor Tammy Fiebelkorn

District 7

tfeibelkorn@cabq.gov

Contact Policy Analyst Sean Foran:

Desk: 505-768-3189 |

Cell: 505-318-8958

Email: seanforan@cabq.gov

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 Annual Park Party.

Here are ways to be an active member and support BANA:

1. Visit **bananaNM.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.

Share some basic information with us so we can get to know you.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

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

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

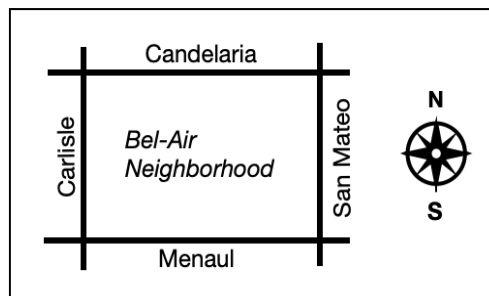
I'm interested in volunteering at: Neighborhood Clean-Ups Park Party Other

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

I would like to discuss additional volunteer opportunities, or learn more about BANA.
(Or, if you prefer to reach out to us, email: 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!



NeighborWoods Tree Planting, Then and Now

Maybe you were lucky enough to be a part of the NeighborWoods story from 18 months ago, or maybe you'd like to know how the 200 trees are doing. Here's a re-cap of how it happened, and recent photos of a few of the trees NeighborWoods planted in Bel-Air.

In September, 2024 our City Councilor, Tammy Fiebelkorn, awarded the Bel-Air Neighborhood a NeighborWoods tree planting grant. NeighborWoods is a program of *Tree New Mexico** and was supported in part by the Bel-Air Neighborhood Association (BANA). The grant added 200 new trees to the Bel-Air neighborhood tree canopy. One hundred free street trees were planted by NeighborWoods volunteers, and 100 free young give-away trees went to Bel-Air property owners to plant on their own.



All 200 tree adopters were given instructions on how to plant and care for their trees, and signed agreements committing to properly care for them. Treebates (Water Utility Authority credits) were available to all tree adopters.

If you adopted one of the NeighborWoods trees in September 2024, we would love to hear from you! Please share a photo of your tree and tell of your experience as a tree adoptee or adopter. Send it in an email to me, gaylemwise@gmail.com, and we will add to the next BANA newsletter and website. If, perhaps, you'd like folks to see your tree in person, proudly include your address.

**Tree New Mexico* is a local non-profit that organizes community tree planting events and provides tree education throughout Albuquerque and the rest of New Mexico.

(letter from a tree)

Greetings, Bel-Air Neighbors,

Life is full of surprises. Just when you think home is a big plastic pot, you're yanked out, your "circling roots" are cut, then PLOP! you're planted in a big hole in the ground full of wet soil. And, here I am eighteen months later. (See photo)

"Impressive" was the buzz word a few weeks ago, when I was covered in pink buds, that opened into white blossoms. Beautiful and full of surprises, and I am strong as I face the New Mexico winds head-on!

I'm planning to stick around awhile, so drop by and say hi. You can't miss me, I'm right out front, soaking up sunshine.

Happy trees to you!
Fruitless Crabapple Tree
@ 2737 Manzano St. NE



Two more happy trees planted by NeighborWoods in September 2024. These can be seen in the lovely yard on the NE corner of Sierra and Los Arboles.