



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

JULY 2018



# NEWS



## TECHNOLOGY PAIRS SENIORS AND TEENS

We've all been there. A new smartphone, some new apps, a new e-mail address, or a new computer we're trying to figure out, and if we can't, we call our kid and have them help us. The current generation of high school and middle school students have grown up with technology in a way no previous generations ever have. And bringing their knowledge and expertise to the table to help senior citizens learn to use technology is the basis for Trish Lopez's innovative program, [Teeniors](#).

**"We give teens a chance to show their natural patience and compassion, and we give seniors the opportunity to connect in a way many of them never have."**

- TRISH LOPEZ

event three years ago. "My son sat down with her and, slowly and calmly, showed her how to take photos, text, adjust privacy settings and much more. It planted the idea for pairing teens with seniors to give both groups a chance to interact and appreciate each other's knowledge."

Teeniors connects tech-savvy youth with seniors who want to use technology to enhance their lives. The teens provide one-on-one tutoring and coaching for any type of cell or smart phone, SmartTVs, laptop

or desktop computer, printers, navigating the

"My own mother had trouble figuring out her smartphone," said Lopez, pictured above third from right, who developed Teeniors as part of a start-up

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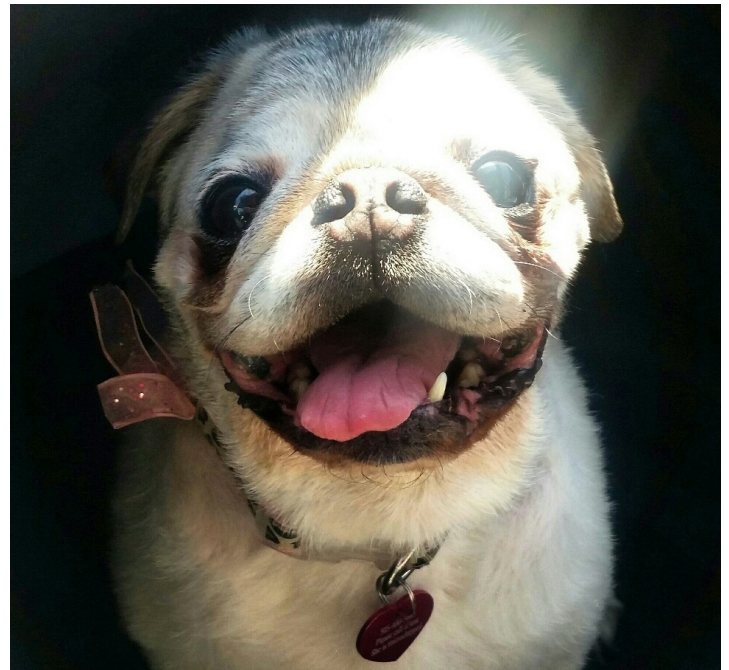
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# SENIORS PARTNER WITH TEENS

Internet, various types of software, and how to install and use apps on a smartphone. The partnering also gives both groups a chance to learn from one another in a more personalized way.

With cyber identity theft and Internet scams becoming more frequent, this training for seniors is essential, and Teeniors has partnered with the City of Albuquerque Senior Affairs Department to provide free classes at senior centers throughout Albuquerque.

“it makes me so happy to see our youth connecting with our seniors in such a positive way,” said Lopez. “They are both integral members of our community and working together helps all of them.”

If you're interested in growing the partnership between youth and seniors, check out [www.teeniors.com](http://www.teeniors.com) or join the One Albuquerque Challenge at: [www.cabq.gov/service](http://www.cabq.gov/service) •



## What is a neighborhood association?

And why they matter.

A neighborhood association is a group of residents, property owners, businesses, and non-profits who come together to form a community, and to advocate for and organize activities within a specific geographical area that shares a common identity.

### What Does a Neighborhood Association Do?

A neighborhood association comes together to build relationships, exchange information, discuss concerns, prioritize needs in the area, identify solutions, and work toward a common goal for the good of their community. Each association can positively impact the life of each person within the boundaries of the neighborhood for the better.

### Why Should I Join?

Joining a neighborhood association not only amplifies your voice, but helps create a community with a shared vision and goal. When neighbors come together, it shows that the neighborhood is united and ready to make an impact on their community.

### Neighborhood Associations & Community Policing

Some services that APD provides to neighborhoods interested in community policing include:

- Block Captain Training
- Crime Prevention Specialists
- Neighborhood Patrols
- Neighborhood Watch Programs

### What Is The Office of Neighborhood Coordination?

The Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC) helps create and promote healthy and vibrant neighborhoods, and supports residents as they more actively and constructively engage with their community. We assist neighborhoods in utilizing existing resources and maintaining meaningful involvement with local communities and government.



NOTES FROM THE CITY

# National Night Out Tuesday, August 7

## **A connected community is a safer community!**

Tuesday, August 7 is National Night Out! This annual community event is an excellent opportunity for you and your neighbors to socialize, renew acquaintances, welcome new neighbors, and join your fellow citizens in Albuquerque's fight against crime.

We encourage everyone to participate this year! Why not host

a block party on your street with other neighbors, have a cookout and invite folks, or if someone else is having an event at a park or community center, join forces with them. After all, the more the merrier!

In 2017, over 100 neighborhoods participated and we hope many more do this year. To list your event with the City for visits by elected officials, law enforcement officers, fire and rescue personnel, and other city representatives, use

the ONC's online form to register your event. Web link is below.

And don't forget to share your pictures on Facebook and Instagram by using hashtags #abqneighborhoods, #APD, and #nno!

To register for National Night Out, download a customizable flyer for your event, or get ideas for what you and your neighbors can do, visit:

[www.cabq.gov/nno](http://www.cabq.gov/nno) •

# Rancho Sereno

## Creating Community in the Northwest Area

A serene neighborhood in far Northwest Albuquerque, the Rancho Sereno neighborhood echoes its name in its calm homes and residents, parks, and walking trails.

“Our neighborhood association works very hard to make sure our neighborhood is both safe and beautiful,” said association treasurer Debra Cox. Cox, who has served as president of the association and taken on many activities within



the neighborhood, has been involved with the Rancho Sereno Neighborhood Association since the late 1990s and she’s still going strong.

“Our association serves around 500 homes, although only about 10-12 percent of them are actually association members,” said Cox. “That’s a challenge we continue to face - getting more people involved in keeping the neighborhood safe and beautiful.”

Outreach within the neighborhood is paramount for success in communicating about projects that could affect the neighborhood, and the association board is proud to not only have actively brought positive change to the area, but also expanded outreach to younger residents of Rancho Sereno.

“Bhrett Bouloy is an Eagle Scout from the neighborhood who got a group of his fellow Eagle Scouts and some neighborhood residents together to complete an erosion control project at the Piedras Marcadas Park,” said Cox. “The

boys worked so hard to improve the grade of the walking trail there, and the native plants they added have made the area even more beautiful. It’s so wonderful to see the youth in our community interacting so positively with the larger neighborhood.”

Like any neighborhood association, getting more people involved is the biggest challenge, but Rancho Sereno has a committed core of neighbors who actively work with the association board to report crime, pull weeds, and generally address community issues.

“I’m grateful to the people who participate in the association and am always working to recruit more members,” said Cox. “This neighborhood belongs to all residents, even those who don’t always participate, but if we can get more people involved, it will benefit everyone in our community.”

To learn more about Rancho Sereno, visit: [www.abqrsna.com](http://www.abqrsna.com) ●



# PET SAFETY IN THE SUMMER HEAT

Pets feel the heat as much as we do, so protect them this summer!

Albuquerque Animal Welfare wants to remind pet owners to be extra careful with pets during hot temperature months.

Never leave your pets in a parked car. On a warm day, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels.

Shade and water are musts. Anytime your pet is outside, make sure he or she has protection from heat and sun. A dog house alone does not provide relief from heat. Make certain your pet has plenty of fresh, cool water.

On very hot days, limit exercise to early morning or evening hours. And don't forget that hot asphalt can burn your pet's paws.

Heat stroke can be fatal for pets as well as people, so learn to recognize the signs. Heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid heartbeat and excessive thirst are among the signs of this dangerous condition.

Visit [www.cabq.gov/pets](http://www.cabq.gov/pets) to learn more about summer pet safety! ●



In just 10 minutes, your car can go from 70 degrees to 90 degrees. Never leave a pet in a closed vehicle!

Having over 300 days of sunshine each year is one of the major reasons people love Albuquerque. But the weather also allows us to go outside and take advantage of all the activity we can! NE Heights resident Alberto Solis shared why he loves our city so much.



# WHAT MAKES ALBUQUERQUE GREAT?



“For me, it’s the combination of the weather, the Sandia Mountains and all the trails throughout the city,” said Solis.

“My kids and I can go hiking, running, and biking throughout the city, into the foothills, and up to Sandia Crest, pretty much year-round. Where else can you experience all of that beautiful nature and weather in one place, and get in a good workout?”

## TRAILS AND

## MOUNTAINS

Albuquerque has over 400 miles of multi-use trails throughout the city, stretching from the Foothills to the Rio Grande. People walk, bicycle, ride horses, rollerblade, and run on these trails on a daily basis, making them one of our city’s most valuable assets. ●



Each month, the  
ONC answers a  
question asked by  
one of our residents  
or neighborhood  
associations.



# QUESTION OF THE MONTH

## Question:

A group home is being planned in my neighborhood. How are group homes zoned within neighborhoods? What can I do if I have concerns?

## Answer:

Zoning distinguishes between homes for people protected under the Federal Housing Act that guards against discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status from homes for other types of people. The Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) refers to the former as “Community Residential Facilities” and the latter as “Group Homes.” Both types of homes are designed to provide assistance to people at varying levels of need.

You can find out which zones allow each type of home in the IDO Allowable Use Table 4-2-1. Community Residential Facilities are allowed in more zones because of protections in the Federal Housing Act. Only small Community Residential Facilities are allowed in R-A and R-1 zone districts. The use-specific standards for these homes requires that they be at least 1,500 feet apart, and no more than 30 total can be in each Council District. Any group home must also be licensed by the State of New Mexico and comply with local and state laws.

Neighborhood Associations receive notice of applications for all Site Plans by email. For Site Plans that require a public meeting or hearing, property owners within 100 feet receive mailed notice, and Neighborhood Associations will be offered a Neighborhood Meeting. For questions and concerns, call (505) 924-3850. ●



# ONC LIBRARY OFFERS NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES

Running a neighborhood association can be hard work! The Office of Neighborhood Coordination has some great reading resources to help when you need ideas.



Did you know that the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC) offers a free lending library with titles specifically geared toward helping neighborhoods?

Among the titles available for neighborhoods to check out are:

- How To Make Meetings Work
- For the Love of Cities
- Building Communities from the Inside Out
- The Complete Idiot's Guide to Robert's Rules of Order

- Facilitator's Guide to Participatory Decision-Making
- How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action
- Robert's Rules of Order in Brief
- Pocket Neighborhoods

To check out one of these books, contact the ONC at 768-3334 or by e-mail at: [onc@cabq.gov](mailto:onc@cabq.gov). You can either come to the ONC office to pick it up, or we can coordinate delivery to you. Don't forget to bring it back when you're done, so other neighborhoods can use it too! •





# POLICE AND COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

COMMUNITY POLICING IS  
AT THE HEART OF  
NEIGHBORHOODS AND  
AREA COMMANDS

When you ask the staff at the Northeast Area Command what their top priority is after protecting the public, you would hear the term “community outreach” from everyone.

“Reaching out to our community is the key element to us being successful,” said Area Commander Joseph Burke. “When we work closely with students, parents, senior citizens, everyone in our area, it enhances community policing because everyone is invested.”

A significant aspect of community policing is having officers who actively go into the community and address issues presented by stakeholders in the Area Command. Whether it is individual residents, schools, apartment complexes, neighborhood associations or business coalitions, the officers work closely to help address problems and empower these people and groups to also take part in community policing.

“Prevention and education are essential tools in community policing and engaging with the public, followed by enforcement, which necessarily is the last aspect of what we do to keep our community safe,” said Commander Burke. “What we are working toward is showing our neighborhoods that we are a resource for them, and that there are other resources they can utilize to take an active role in their personal safety, and the safety of their homes, businesses and schools.”

Among the many types of outreach the NE Area Command does on a regular basis is the popular “Coffee with a Cop,” which in addition to being held at businesses, is also held at area high schools. A recent one at La Cueva High School garnered much interest and feedback from students, teachers and faculty, and allowed officers to offer ideas and suggestions for increased school campus safety.

We really encourage our youth to interact with us as much as possible,” said Commander Burke. “This is an excellent way for them to both share their perspective and maybe gain a better understanding of our side, too.”

To learn more about the Northeast Area Command, connect with a Crime Prevention Specialist, or schedule a visit with the officers, visit: [www.cabq.gov/police/area-commands/northeast-area-command](http://www.cabq.gov/police/area-commands/northeast-area-command) •



Coffee with a Cop at La Cueva High School

# FREE ZONING Conversions

Long Range Staff in the Planning Department should have forms available soon for property owners to opt in to the process for zoning conversions during the one-year window following the adoption of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO). You can find forms and learn more about the process at:

[www.abc-zone.com/post-ido-voluntary-zone-conversion-process](http://www.abc-zone.com/post-ido-voluntary-zone-conversion-process) •



## What Makes Albuquerque GREAT?

Let us know what makes Albuquerque great by e-mailing: [onc@cabq.gov](mailto:onc@cabq.gov) and we'll feature your answer in an upcoming newsletter!



# CITY LEADERSHIP

## Mayor

Timothy M. Keller

## City Council

Ken Sanchez, District 1

Isaac Benton, District 2

Klarissa J. Peña, District 3

Brad Winter, District 4

Cynthia D. Borrego, District 5

Pat Davis, District 6

Diane G. Gibson, District 7

Trudy E. Jones, District 8

Don Harris, District 9

## Chief Administrative Officer

Sarita Nair

## Director of Council Services

Jon K. Zaman

# HOWDY NEIGHBOR!

## Want to get involved?

If you want to learn more about neighborhood associations, or find out what resources we can bring to your neighborhood, contact us! Our vision is to have an engaged, connected city based on trust with safe, diverse communities that have a voice and feel empowered to address their concerns in a meaningful way.

**Neighborhood News** is published monthly by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC).

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Creating Community Together



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