



Music Legend Al Hurricane, Sr. Honored



Sunday, May 7 was a celebration of the life and music of the legendary Al Hurricane, Sr, widely considered the Godfather of New Mexico music, and the renaming of Civic Plaza in his honor.

Mr. Hurricane was honored with a tribute concert featuring notable New Mexico artists Al Hurricane, Jr., Tiny Morrie, Baby Gaby, Jerry Dean, Darren Cordova, and others. The highlight was when City Councilors Klarissa Peña, Isaac Benton, Dan Lewis and Ken Sanchez joined County Commissioners Steven Michael Quezada and Debbie O'Malley in dedicating and renaming Civic Plaza as the "Al Hurricane Pavilion at Civic Plaza." An estimated 15,000 New Mexicans attended to enjoy the New Mexico music and pay homage to Mr. Hurricane and his musical legacy.

Mr. Hurricane, who was born Alberto Nelson Sanchez, was nicknamed "Hurricane" as a child because he would barrel through the house, knocking things down and causing a hurricane of destruction in his wake; and the name stuck. Throughout his distinguished, 60+ year career, he played and performed with Chuck Berry, Marvin Gave, Chubby Checker, and Fats Domino, to name just a few.

On Monday, May 1, the City Council voted unanimously to pass the resolution officially changing Civic Plaza's name. The concert was held a few days later.

Laurelwood N.A. Celebrates 30 Years!

Just last month, the Laurelwood Neighborhood Association (NA) celebrated a milestone birthday when it turned 30 years old. A community celebration on Saturday, April 29 was attended by nearly 70 neighborhood residents and association members, and was hosted by City Councilor Ken Sanchez, himself an original member of the neighborhood from years ago.

Past NA presidents and members were also in attendance, giving a historical perspective on the evolution of the neighborhood itself.

Candy Patterson, President of the Laurelwood NA, shared her pleasure about having the event and being part of the neighborhood.

“Our neighborhood is a wonderful place to live, not just because of the current residents, but also because of the people who have stepped up over the years to serve on the board,” she said. “It is because of their efforts and caring about Laurelwood that we are here and going strong after 30 years.”



Program Aims to Decrease Stray Cat Population

Due to a program called Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) within the Animal Welfare Department, the City has seen a 45% drop in kittens 6 months and younger at city animal shelters over the past five years.

The program picks up stray cats, neuters or spays them, and then returns them to their previous locations. In this manner, the cats cannot have kittens and add to the existing population.

With the drop in strays from this program, the city has also seen a significant decrease in cat overcrowding, as well as a drop in sickness and euthanasia, due to overcrowding.

The TNR program is fortunate to have significant private donations to help funding, as well as over two dozen veterinarians citywide who have donated their time to help with the spay and neuter procedures. With these generous donations, the program fast becoming a great success.

If your neighborhood would like information on contributing to the program, contact Street Cat Hub at (505) 247-9357.

Bosque Fire Prevention Tips

Wildfire season extends from March through the end of November, and with the season already in full swing starting with a six-acre fire in the Bosque earlier in 2017, it's important to be aware and responsible in helping prevent wildfires.



Wild fires are caused by lightning, sparks from falling rocks, volcanic activity, and primarily, human activity. Each year, people are forced to evacuate and risk losing their homes and possessions because of wild fires.

In all Open Space Areas, Stage I Fire Restrictions are in place throughout the year. These restrictions include:

- No Smoking
- No Fireworks
- No Open Fires (e.g. campfires, BBQs)
- No Camping

OUTDOOR FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- Construct roofs and exterior structures of dwellings with non-combustible or fire resistant materials such as fire resistant roofing materials, tile, slate, sheet iron, aluminum, brick, or stone
- Treat wood siding and paneling with fire retardant chemicals
- Clear a perimeter of defensible space around homes. Clear combustible vegetation in a 100 foot radius from any structure
- Use non-flammable landscaping materials within 5 ft of the house
- Clean dead leaves and needles from your roof and gutters
- Cover chimneys and stovepipes with non-flammable mesh
- Stack woodpiles 100 feet from all structures

INDOOR FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- Install smoke alarms, both upstairs and downstairs if applicable, and keep the batteries fresh.
- Keep a charged fire extinguisher in the kitchen and garage
- Have an evacuation plan and practice it once a month

For more information on summer fire safety, visit: <https://www.cabq.gov/fire/safety-information>

Funding Approved for ART Project

On Friday, May 5, President Donald Trump signed the \$1.07 trillion dollar appropriations bill that included \$50 million in Small Starts funding for the Albuquerque Rapid Transit (ART) project. This federal funding also paves the way to have the remaining \$19 million in federal funding to be included in the Fiscal Year 2018 budget.

The ART project is expected to be complete in November 2017. Residents are encouraged to support Central Avenue businesses during construction by eating and shopping at these businesses. For more information, visit: www.brtabq.com/Events



Tree Planting Project Comes to Wells Park Neighborhood

The residents of the Wells Park Neighborhood did some tree planting in their area recently as part of a "Neighborwoods" pilot project. The program, a pilot partnership between the City of Albuquerque and Tree New Mexico, helps neighborhoods build an urban forest with funding, educational resources and training, and consulting professionals to help decide which types of trees are best.

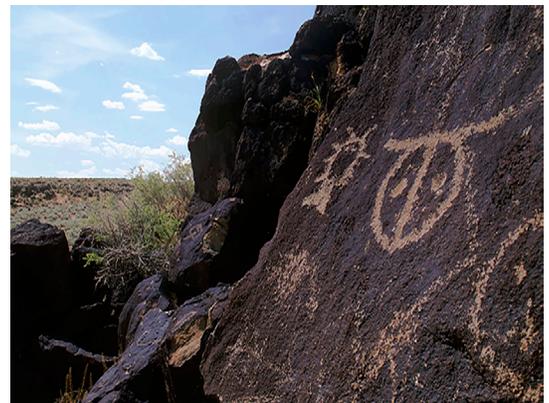
Wells Park had over 100 trees planted in late April as part of this project. The neighborhood residents were joined by City Councilor Isaac Benton, Suzanne Probart of Tree New Mexico, and members of American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), who assisted with the planting efforts.

The Neighborwoods Program is available to any neighborhood in Albuquerque. For information on how to get your neighborhood planted with beautiful trees, contact Suzanne Probart of Tree New Mexico at (505) 203-5761 or e-mail: tnm@treenm.com



ABQWestside.com Offers Resources for West Side Residents

The website at: www.abqwestside.com has become a recent addition to information and resources for residents of Albuquerque's West Side. The website offers information on safety, traffic, land use, neighborhood resources, meeting dates and times, and a host of other useful communications and missives. To submit information for the site, visit: www.abqwestside.com/About



Park Honors Fallen APD Officer



South Los Altos Neighborhood Association President Eileen Jessen talks about the special legacy of Officer Webster at the newly opened Children's Park



From left: City Councilor Pat Davis (D6), Mayor Richard Berry, South Los Altos Neighborhood Association President Eileen Jessen, State Representative Mimi Steward, and former City Councilor Rey Garduño.



Local schoolchildren await the opening of the play structure.

The South Los Altos Neighborhood Association welcomed City Councilor Pat Davis, Mayor Richard Berry, APD Chief Gorden Eden, the family of fallen police officer Daniel Webster, as well as neighborhood schools and many others, to officially open the Daniel Webster Children's Park, located near Wyoming and Copper.

This special facility was built to honor Officer Webster's legacy and dedication to the South Los Altos Neighborhood, while providing an inclusive experience for children of any ability level.

The play structure features elements with differing degrees of risk and skill. Wheelchair ramps throughout allow children to go all the way up to the top of the play structure, with other features such as special textures and musical elements for children with sensory issues. The playground also features six slides, spinning elements, numerous climbing features, ample shade and a tiny tot area, featuring a track, ideal for learning to ride a bike.

Officer Webster was a 20-year Army Ranger who served eight years as an APD officer. He was shot and killed in the line of duty on October 21, 2015, when he pulled over a convicted felon accused of auto theft.

"He was a true hero to our community," said Eileen Jessen, President of the South Los Altos Neighborhood Association. "His legacy will be preserved forever and we are proud to honor him in this way."

PLEASE NOTE: starting in July, the City Meetings and Coalition Meetings sections will no longer appear in the monthly Neighborhood News, as they are regularly promoted in the Weekly E-News. If you would like to be added to the list to receive the Weekly E-News, e-mail: vanessabaca@cabq.gov

City Meetings

City Council
1st and 3rd Monday of each month, 5:00 p.m.
Agenda at: cabq.gov/council

Community Policing Council
Monthly, times and locations vary
Agendas at:
cabq.gov/police/community-policing-council

Development Review Board
Environmental Planning Commission
Landmarks & Urban Conservation Commission
Zoning Board of Appeals
Zoning Hearing Examiner
Monthly, times vary
Agendas at: cabq.gov/planning

Coalition Meetings

District 4 Coalition
Every 3rd Wednesday, monthly. 6:30 p.m.

District 6 Coalition
Quarterly, days vary, 7:00 p.m.

District 7 Coalition
First Wednesday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

District 8 Coalition
Bimonthly, days vary, 7:00 p.m.

East Gateway Coalition
Quarterly, days vary, 6:30 p.m.



Summertime in Old Town

Summer in Albuquerque means sunshine, farmer's markets, and live music each weekend in Old Town!

The Summertime in Old Town music series offers live concerts every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday through the end of August at the gazebo.

Each weekend features a variety of musical acts, each of which highlight the variety of genres that make up the live music scene here in Albuquerque.

For a complete listing of all Cultural Services concerts, festivals, and events, visit:
www.cabq.gov/culturalservices

North Valley Coalition
Quarterly, days vary, 6:30 p.m.

Southwest Alliance of Neighborhoods
1st Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m.

South Valley Coalition of Neighborhood Associations
2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Westside Coalition
1st Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.



Neighborhood Collaboration Results in Expanded Community Center



When Gina Dennis, Patty Wilson, Chris Sanchez, Isabel Cabrera, Erin Engelbrecht, Paula Welch and Chris Fairchild of the Clayton Heights and Victory Hills neighborhoods, along with a few others, came across some designs dated 1988 for the Loma Linda Community Center, inspiration struck like lightning.

“We thought, why not use these designs as a basis to add onto the community center and make it truly available for people of all ages, seniors to school-age kids,” said Dennis, the Clayton Heights Neighborhood Association’s Vice-President. “The Loma Linda center serves such a large and diverse population, including the city’s Therapeutic Recreation Program for kids who have physical mobility issues, and we wanted to create a space that would include them in fun and fitness activities.”

Residents from Clayton Heights and Victory Hills, along with Maggie Silva of the City of Albuquerque’s Therapeutic Recreation Program, Association banded together to find out how to make the small space at

Loma Linda into an expanded gym and fitness center by contacting City Councilor Pat Davis, County Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins, Doug Chaplin of Family and Community Services, and other city and county staff.

Working together, they were able to get \$3 million in Capital Implementation Plan funds and set-aside money from District 6, to cover the gym renovations.

“What we are proudest of doing is creating a true model for neighborhoods working together,” said Dennis. “Once we have the first round of funds distributed, the design activity can start and then the construction process begins. Our dream will be on its way to becoming reality.”

This collaboration is a great example that neighborhood teamwork really does work.

THE RENDERING OF LOMA LINDA IS COURTESY OF XAVIER OBANDO.

ABC-Z Update for June

On May 15, the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) approved a recommendation of approval to the City Council of the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO).

The IDO would replace the City's 1970s zoning code and the City's 60+ Sector Development Plans. The EPC held five hearings about the IDO and the proposed conversion of approximately 700 zones to a set of 20. Thanks to everyone who provided written comments and came to testify.



IMPROVING PLACE FROM PLANNING TO ZONING

The project team will now produce a redline draft of the IDO and updated zoning conversion map based on the EPC's recommended changes. The project team will aim to transmit to Council the full public record on the IDO, including comments and testimony from you and other stakeholders, by June to be introduced and heard by the Land Use Planning, and Zoning Committee (LUPZ) in August 2017.

There will be more opportunity for verbal testimony at that time. Please keep an eye on the project webpage at: www.abc-zone.com for news and meeting dates and times. You can also send written comments to Crystal Ortega, Clerk of the Council, at: cortega@cabq.gov.

City Leadership

Mayor

Richard J. Berry

City Council

Ken Sanchez, District 1

Isaac Benton, District 2

Klarissa J. Peña, District 3

Brad Winter, District 4

Dan Lewis, District 5

Pat Davis, District 6

Diane G. Gibson, District 7

Trudy E. Jones, District 8

Don Harris, District 9

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If you are a recognized association officer and wish to submit an article, email the editor. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject any article submission.

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Find Us Online:

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