

OPEN SPACE newsletter



Mayor Richard J. Berry

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Open Space Division and the Open Space Alliance

Volume 16, Issue 4, October - December 2015

A Farewell to Jodi Hedderig

After nearly two decades with the City of Albuquerque, Open Space Visitor Center (OSVC) Manager and former Volunteer Coordinator Jodi Hedderig is moving on. Jodi started her career with the City in September of 1997. She made countless contributions to the Division including developing the Visitor Center into a premier facility for interpreting and promoting the natural and cultural resources that the Division protects. Jodi's achievements at the OSVC include initiating and hosting events such as the Pollinator Awareness Day, Return of the Cranes, and the Urban Farm and Harvest Festival. She also started the Division's beekeeping program, which has educated future beekeepers throughout Albuquerque. She coordinated many improvements to the facility such as creating bosque access, the Traditions and Pollinator gardens, the development and management of the agricultural fields and the Food Forest project.



Coworker Jim Sattler recently commented, "When I think about Jodi's career I can't help thinking about her contribution to the volunteer program. Jodi was instrumental in shaping the Trail Watch Volunteer (TWV) program into what it has become today. She also played an important role in creating the 'Adopt-an-Open Space' program with sponsorship from Red Bull. As part of an adopter's first project we would install their sign and then have a toast with a couple of warm cans of Red Bull. Jodi had an important part in creating our annual volunteer events like the April Spring Cleanups in the Foothills. Another major accomplishment was picking up the lead for organizing National Trails Day. Jodi enthusiastically jumped in and set the standard for our Trails Day celebration. I can't help thinking that if it wasn't for Jodi's dedication to the Open Space volunteer program we wouldn't be staying so busy between April and June. We now look forward to having Jodi as a volunteer." Coworker Kim Selving added, "The pairing of 'Jodi Hedderig' and 'volunteers' has been an interwoven concept for over 15 years. Her transition from the trails to the Open Space Visitor Center brought new challenges, but her commitment to volunteers remained – assuming both the responsibilities of building the operation of a cultural resource facility from infancy as well as tracking the contributions of the boots on the ground. The volunteer presence at the Visitor Center grew from zero when she arrived to a team of over 60 very active and engaged volunteers. Jodi's consistent and unflinching dedication to those who contribute to Open Space is our backbone."

Jodi recently wrote a message to her friends and family at Open Space, "Thank you for making my parting so remarkable. I have received the most thoughtful cards, kindest and encouraging words, extraordinary gifts, and heartfelt hugs. You made me feel as special as Open Space is to me - and that level of special is immeasurable. Thank you for being mentors, laughing with me, sharing with me, and allowing me to contribute to a program that, for me, makes Albuquerque unique, beautiful and worth working hard for."

The Open Space community gives collective thanks to Jodi for her dedication to the Division and to the wonderful lands Open Space preserves. You will be missed!

Erik Zsemlye, the Mapping Duende, Heads to Middle Earth



Erik demonstrates the importance of first aid

Erik Zsemlye and his family will be leaving us for greener, sheep-covered pastures (New Zealand) this fall. Erik started his career with the Open Space Division as a Park Attendant back on September 22, 2001. Among other accomplishments, Erik created the Division's wonderful trail maps of the Bosque and Foothills available at the OSVC and bike shops throughout the City. He also spent countless hours doing chainsaw work and trail improvements throughout Open Space. Erik became well-known among local conspiracy theorists and Open Space X-filers as the 'Alien of the Golden Open Space,' when he was spotted carrying the Google Trekker Backpack, which provides citizens with on-line 3-D virtual tours of Open Space trails. Known for his generous spirit, professionalism, increasing number of tattoos and evolving haircuts and facial hair, Erik will be missed by all.

The Duende's Fall Onion

Great Pumpkin Expected to Visit Las Cebollas Fields: Third grader, Linus Van Pelt has applied for a special use permit to stay at the Las Cebollas Fields Open Space after closing time on Halloween night. Van Pelt claims that the Great Pumpkin will be visiting the Open Space managed fields this Halloween. "Every Halloween the Great Pumpkin visits the most sincere pumpkin patch he can find and rises from the pumpkin patch to give candy to all the girls and boys waiting there for him and I know that Open Space has the most sincere pumpkin patch!", said an excited Van Pelt.

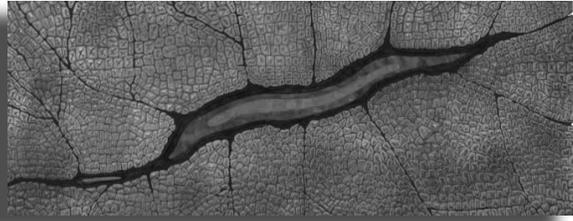


Summer Series is great, even better than Wicked: The Summer Series ended with a huge turnout for Magnesia the Magnificent, who did a display of magic and hypnosis. The crowd was literally spell bound. Educational intern, Bob Gooseman was quoted as saying, "Magnesia the Magnificent is great, I gave him all my money, you should give him yours too. He was even better than Wicked. I want to see him again and again and again."

2015 Cebollas Fields Maze Design Announced: Farmers at Las Cebollas Fields announced they will be teaming up with the University of New Mexico Hospital's Cancer Awareness Program for the 2015 Las Cebollas Fields Corn Maze. The theme of the maze will be colon health. Visitors exploring the maze will learn about colon health as they wander through a maze shaped like the digestive system. "We're happy to be involved in this project and to be able to help UNMH extend the scope of their reach into our fields" said John Barleycorn, an associate of the Associate Planner who oversees the Open Space agricultural properties.

Rabbititis Reported in the Foothills: A rare illness which is spread through consumption of contaminated carrots has been infecting rabbits in the Sandia Foothills. The Open Space Division reminds people not to feed wild animals. The illness known as rabbititis can be passed on to humans who are in close proximity to infected rabbits. Symptoms include a coat on the tongue, spots before the eyes and an urge to watch Bugs Bunny cartoons. Dr. Kill-patient of the Illness Control Center of Kansas (ICCK), where the illness was first diagnosed, urges people who think they've come into contact with infected rabbits to use liberal doses of hare tonic.

PARCH



An art exhibit inviting the public to engage in a visual conversation about water in Albuquerque's Open Space Lands.

WHERE: Open Space Visitor Center | 6500 Coors Blvd NW at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd. between Montañó and Paseo del Norte

WHEN: *Exhibit on display October 3rd – December 27th, 2015*

PARCH is a group exhibition exploring the nature of Water in the desert. Water has a transformational quality, carving the political and physical landscapes of our world. It supports and takes life, and at any given time can be abundant or exceedingly scarce. It flows, vaporizes, and freezes, falls from the sky and bubbles up from the earth. It is revered, coveted and feared.

In PARCH, six local artists express their relationship with water in the desert, using a variety of techniques, ranging from fiber to acrylics to ceramics. Their creations embody the mission of the Open Space Gallery, "inspiring an exchange of ideas, solutions and interpretations ... and deepening understanding, appreciation and stewardship for Albuquerque's unique natural and human community."

Selected artists include: Jane Gordon, Betty Busby, Joshua Willis, Julie Wagner, Kristen Thatcher, and Rachel Harris-Huffman.

The Open Space Visitor Center is an interpretive hub for the Open Space program, lands, and resources. Visitors enjoy educational exhibits, art displays, wildlife fields, a Traditions garden, Bosque trails, and a variety of talks, workshops, demonstrations and entertainment. The Open Space Visitor Center is located at 6500 Coors Boulevard, between Montañó Road and Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows Road. Look for the Flyway art installation.

Detail from Faultline by artist Betty Busby



21st Annual Dia del Rio Event

“The Rio Grande is one of the most vital natural resources in New Mexico from which we all benefit,” says Mayor Richard J. Berry. “During this year’s Día del Río event, citizens will be able to participate first hand in the restoration of the Rio Grande and contribute to its continued recovery.” Join the Open Space Division, the Open Space Alliance, REI and other local organizations for a variety of conservation projects that nurture and protect the *bosque* and river, including trail work, re-vegetation, and trash clean up. There will be activities appropriate for all ages.

WHEN: October 17th, 2015, 08:30 AM - 01:00 PM

WHERE: The Shining River Access to the Rio Grande Valley State Park south Paseo del Norte Bridge.

Directions: The Shining River Access is located on Rio Grande Blvd. just south of the Paseo del Norte Bridge, north of El Pueblo Rd. NW, 87114.

BRING: Gloves, sun protection, plenty of water, and a sack lunch. Free snacks will be provided during morning sign in.

REGISTER: Registration is required. Register online with REI at www.rei.com/albuquerque or by calling 247-1191. The first 80 people to pre-register will receive a free t-shirt the day of the event, courtesy of REI!

Other Ways to Help on Dia del Rio:

Do you live near the bosque or do you have a favorite area near the river? Organize your own clean up the day of the event. Open Space will provide trash bags and haul off the collected trash.

Call 452-5216 or email kswanson@cabq.gov to sign up your group for your own clean-up or to find out more ways to volunteer for conservation projects with the Division.

FALL EVENTS AT THE OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER (OSVC)

New Mexico's Rio Grande: Fate of a 21st Century River presentation with John Fleck

Saturday, October 31st 10:00 am
Our river under stress



Mis for Muertos

Sunday, Oct. 25th 2 pm

Learn to make fun finned and feathered altar offerings



People & Place:

Sunday, Oct. 18th 9 am & 1 pm

Tour our exciting and evolving outdoor projects, including Food Forest ABQ!, Traditions Garden, Paseo Habitat Restoration Site and other endeavors in and around the Open Space Visitor Center grounds.

Full Moon Concert

Saturday, October 24th
5 - 7 pm

Last Call

Pull on a sweater, and put some swing into your evening.
free



6500 Coors Blvd NW Albuquerque, NM 87120

between Montañito and Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd.

Tuesday - Sunday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm 897-8831

Open Space Visitor Center on facebook @ABQOpenSpace on twitter

www.cabq.gov/openspace



THE CORN MAZE IS BACK!

Get Into Open Space With Bosque Pole Planting

~by Bill Pentler

Pole Planting is a regular part of our reclamation and maintenance of the bosque but what exactly *is* Pole Planting? “Poles” are long straight branches from cottonwood and black willow trees that we can harvest or recycle from downed trees or cut from existing ones. The poles are planted into the ground and then grow into new trees. Pole plantings make great service learning projects for school classes and groups.

This gets everyone outside, teaches an appreciation for some of our amazing natural resources, and promotes a bond with the land that we hope will be carried on through future generations.



To get more information about these projects and to schedule a date, please contact Bill Pentler, 452-5222 or email wpentler@cabq.gov. Pole planting season begins in January and lasts through March. These are popular events and dates fill up quickly with only a set number of trees planted per area so call now.

Trail Watch and Adopt an Open Space training

When: October 10th, 2015, 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Where: Open Space Visitor Center
6500 Coors Rd. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120



Registration is required and space is limited! Call Jolynn Maestas at 452-5207 or email jmaestas@cabq.gov for information. Join the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division volunteer team and support a community-based commitment to promote conservation and appreciation for the integrity of our local public lands.

Trail Watch Volunteers are the eyes and ears of Open Space. Volunteers report conditions and problems on trails, educate the public on extraordinary natural and cultural resources, direct visitors to practice good land and trail use ethics, and lend a hand on conservation projects such as trail building. Adopt-an-Open Space volunteers, in addition to Trail Watch responsibilities, maintain trails or areas through hands-on conservation projects.

Get involved in the Open Space Alliance *today* and contribute to the future of YOUR Open Space!

Your generous contribution to the Open Space Alliance supports OSA's mission of enhancing our quality of life through: heightening public awareness of Open Space lands; building and strengthening partnerships with groups who share Open Space values; promoting conservation, acquisition, and stewardship of Open Space lands; strengthening volunteerism and community outreach programs; and providing financial support.

For information about our current activities, contact Steve Glass, OSA Board President, at: president@openspacealliance.org.

To join, please fill out the information and return the form with your check or money order.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 STUDENT (18 & UNDER) / SENIOR | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 SUSTAINING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 INDIVIDUAL | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 CORPORATE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRAILS DAY | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 FAMILY | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 LIFE MEMBER |

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Open Space Alliance, P.O. Box 91265, Albuquerque, NM 87199

Open Space News

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(505) 452-5200

ELENA GALLEGOS PICNIC AREA

Winter: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Summer: 7:00 am to 9:00 pm
all week
\$1.00 weekdays / \$2.00 weekends
(505)857-8334

PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT BOCA NEGRA CANYON

8:00 am to 5:00 pm, all week
\$1.00 weekdays / \$2.00 weekends
(505) 897-8814

OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER

6500 Coors Blvd. NW
(505)897-8831
9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Tuesday - Sunday

TO REPORT VIOLATIONS

8:00 am to 6:00 pm, all week
(505) 452-5206 (voice/relay)
OR
242-COPS

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Open Space Alliance

P.O. Box 91265
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