

# OPEN SPACE

## newsletter



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

Volume 20, Issue 1, January - March 2019

## Open Space Welcomes Superintendent Colleen McRoberts!

Open Space is pleased to announce the selection of Colleen Langan-McRoberts as the Superintendent and newest addition to the Division!



*Superintendent Colleen Langan-McRoberts*

During the past 18 years, Colleen McRoberts has served communities throughout the country and world through conservation education and natural resource management for not-for-profit and government agencies. Her passion is community development and connecting people of all ages and backgrounds to nature.

Colleen received a Bachelor of Science from the Department of Education at the University

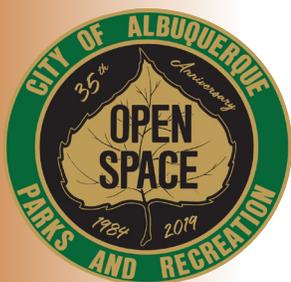
of New Mexico in 1999 and a Master's degree in Environmental Education through UNM's Master's International Program. She served as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer for three years in the Republic of Philippines. Following the Peace Corps, Colleen worked as a research assistant for the World Wildlife Fund and then as the Growing Native Program Director at Potomac Conservancy in the Washington, D.C. area.

Most recently, Ms. McRoberts served as the Open Space Coordinator for Bernalillo County for more than 10 years. During her tenure, she developed an award winning Open Space Program from the ground up through community and partnership support. She launched the first Master Naturalist program in New Mexico, developed annual public events and programs, managed outreach opportunities for youth, oversaw natural resource projects, and created interpretive materials. She also served as a spokeswoman for Open Space, helping to secure a 15-year mill levy.

Since her teen years, she has been hiking and mountain biking at Open Space properties, where she finds profound solace, joy, and wonderment.

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[www.cabq.gov/openspace](http://www.cabq.gov/openspace)

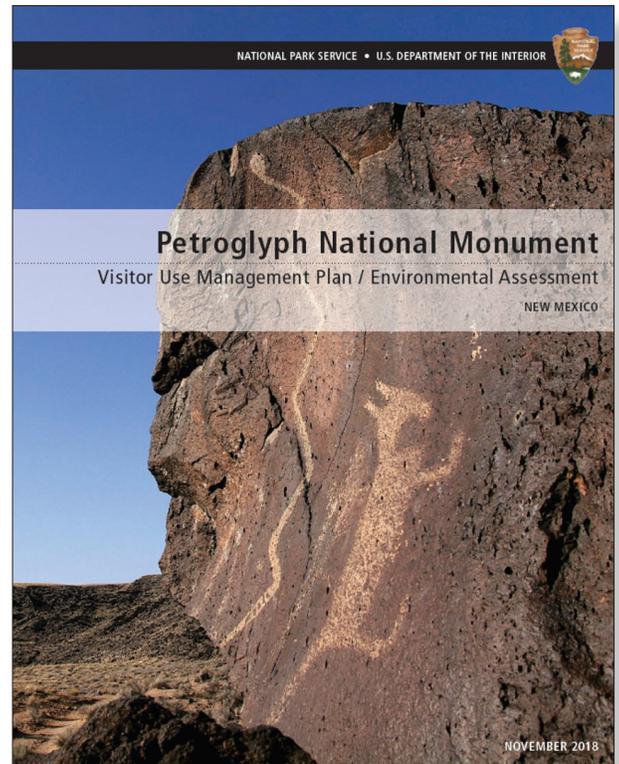
Follow the Open Space Visitor Center online!



## Petroglyph National Monument Visitor Use Management Plan Nears Completion

The National Park Service is approaching the end of the nearly three-year process of developing a Visitor Use Management Plan for Petroglyph National Monument. Intended to guide future land management and mitigate the effects of public use of the monument, the plan looks at strategies to formalize a sustainable trail system, determine appropriate primary and secondary access points, provide quality visitor experiences, and monitor visitor impacts in the long-term. This comes at a critical time when development is anticipated on all sides of the monument, which will cause public use to multiply and put stress on existing cultural and natural resources. This plan considers several alternatives for managing that use.

In addition to data collection, professional technical consultation, and ground-truthing current conditions all over the monument, the Park Service also discussed



*Petroglyph National Monument's draft Visitor Use Management Plan and Environmental Assessment is available at [nps.gov/petr](https://nps.gov/petr)*

integrating traditional cultural values and uses with representatives of the affiliated tribes in government-to-government consultation meetings, one-on-one meetings and site visits. They also conducted public meetings and solicited online comments from members of the public. The Park Service expects to release the Decision Document, which will take all of these factors into account when determining which alternative to adopt, in January.

The Open Space Division, as co-owners and co-managers of the monument, have been pleased to collaborate with monument staff throughout the process and look forward to cultivating our partnership through future projects.



*Petroglyph concentration at Petroglyph National Monument*

## El Duende's New Year Resolutions

El Duende took a Thanksgiving vacation to visit some friends who are elves and who work the night shift for a shoemaker. As usual El Duende ate too much and didn't get enough exercise, and Thanksgiving is just the start of the holidays and the feasting! El Duende loves the holiday festivities and all the holiday treats that come with them, especially Mrs. Duende's pfeffernussen.

Unfortunately, it's easy for El Duende to put on a few extra pounds this time of year and he knows it's always hard to get back into a healthy routine when the holidays are over. This year he made some resolutions to help him get motivated, and he wanted to share them with you:

- *Hike and bike more in Open Space*
- *Participate in more volunteer projects, especially the Spring Cleanups*
- *Pick up other people's trash*
- *Get involved in the Open Space Alliance*
- *Attend neighborhood association meetings*
- *Take a creative writing class*
- *Treat self to a spa day and get a pedicure*

While not *all* of El Duende's resolutions may fit your style, Open Space is a great place for anyone to visit and get quality exercise. Hiking and mountain biking are great cardio workouts. If you haven't gone hiking or biking for awhile, start off slow with short trips and then gradually increase your distance and elevation gain.

Fortunately, living in Albuquerque means you don't have to go very far from home to find an Open Space area to explore. There are almost 30,000 acres to choose from, and chances are you won't have to drive more than 15 minutes to get to an Open Space near you. Consider some of El Duende's suggestions and have a happy and healthy 2019!



## Open Space Turns 35 in 2019!

That's right! The Open Space Division, formed in 1984, celebrates its 35th anniversary in 2019.

Stay tuned for various events throughout the year to celebrate the history, experiences, and, most importantly, the people who have made Open Space what it is today.

Be sure to check our website for the most up-to-date information: [cabq.gov/openspace/events](http://cabq.gov/openspace/events)

See you on the trail!

## Featured Events at the Visitor Center

*The Open Space Visitor Center is free and open to the public Tuesday-Sunday, 9am-5pm.*



### Composting with Worms

*Saturday, January 12, 2019, 9:00pm-12:30pm*

**\$15**

This workshop is suitable for beginners and veterans. The science, art, materials, methods, set-ups, and benefits of home composting with worms will be presented through lecture and hands-on demonstrations. Ample time will be allowed for discussion, questions, and problem-solving.

**Space is limited. For more information send email to [register@nmcomposters.org](mailto:register@nmcomposters.org)**

### "Cosmic," the art of Harriette Tsosie and Elle MacLaren: Opening Reception at the Gallery

*Saturday, January 12th, 2019, 2:00pm-4:00pm*

**Free!**

Two award-winning artists present an exhibition of work about the cosmos, utilizing the Open Space Visitor Center as a unique location for astronomical observations.

The show will run through March 31st.

Sales of art benefit the Open Space Alliance.



*Artwork by Tsosie and MacLaren*



### Circling Hands Qigong

*Saturday, January 20, 2019, 2:15pm-3:15pm*

**\$5 suggested donation**

Circling Hands is a qigong set where you stand in place doing a circle both with the hands and the body. The movements are designed to move fluids and Qi in the body which can help with the effects of aging and energizes the body.

Instructor: Marcy Pincus. Class fee is a suggested \$5.00 donation. A portion benefits the Open Space Alliance.

**Space is limited. To register, call 505-897-8831 or email to [register@nmcomposters.org](mailto:register@nmcomposters.org)**

*See [www.cabq.gov/openspace](http://www.cabq.gov/openspace) for a full list of activities and other opportunities to enjoy your Open Space!*



## **Auspicious Cranes: the Crane in Asian Art and Myth**

*Saturday, January 19, 2019, 2:00pm-3:00pm*

*Free!*

Now that the Sandhill Cranes have settled in for their winter sojourn in our fields, the Visitor Center offers a contemplative appreciation of these fascinating birds.

Long-time Open Space volunteer and retired professor specializing in Asian culture, Joelle Collier, Ph.D., will discuss the symbolic importance of the crane in the Far East. As a professor of film and theatre for 25 years, Joelle specialized in Chinese-language cinema. She served as Vice-Chair of the international Asian Cinema Studies Society from 2000-2010 and has published essays in film journals and anthologies. Since retirement, she has been an active Open Space volunteer.

**Space is limited. Please call 897-8831 to register.**

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## **Composting in Tumbler Bins**

*Saturday, January 26, 2019, 1:30pm-4:00pm*

*Free!*

The class will cover the basics of home composting in the desert, and include the science, art, materials, methods, choices and benefits of home composting, with particular emphasis on successful use of tumbling bin containers. Prior to the class, participants will benefit from reading *Tips for Using Composting Tumbler Bins in the Desert*.

Instructor: John Zarola.



**Space is limited. To register, call 505-897-8831 or email to [register@nmcomposters.org](mailto:register@nmcomposters.org).**



## **Yoga with a View**

*Sundays at 9:00am*

Begin Sundays with an invigorating yoga session!

Your first class is \$5, subsequent classes are \$15, and if you buy in bulk, they're even less. Class fees include a donation to the Open Space Alliance.

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**About the Open Space Visitor Center:** *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 Blvd. NW between Montañño Rd. and Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd. The Center is open Tuesday through Sunday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM and closed Mondays. Call 897-8831 for more information or visit [www.cabq.gov/openspace](http://www.cabq.gov/openspace).*

## STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Matthew Peterson, 2018 Employee of the Year!

Matthew Peterson is the Open Space Division's 2018 Employee of the Year! Matthew is the Open Space Forester and manages the *bosque* maintenance crew, so he spends much of his time there doing restoration work, managing and coordinating the Bosque Youth Corps, and collaborating with Albuquerque Fire Rescue to reduce fuel loads.

In addition to his work in the *bosque*, some of Matthew's projects in 2018 included serving on the Endangered Species Collaborative; representing Open Space at the Tribal and Pueblo government consultation for Petroglyph National Monument's Visitor Use Management Plan; implementing a native species restoration project for hedge rows at Candelaria Nature Preserve; and managing a drainage improvement project to protect an important archeological site.

Thank you for your hard work, Matthew!



### Welcome, Miguel Serrano!

Miguel Serrano is the newest employee of the Open Space Division, although those who frequent the Open Space Shooting Range on the West Side already know him well. Miguel twice worked as a temporary employee at the Shooting Range for a total of three and a half years before becoming a permanent Rangemaster in September.

As a Rangemaster, Miguel enjoys educating customers on technical issues, sharing knowledge and tips so they can learn to perform those tasks themselves.

He also enjoys working at the Shooting Range because he gets to be out in nature; located on the West Mesa, just west of Petroglyph National Monument, they experience unusual weather, beautiful views of the mountains, volcanoes, grasslands, and sunsets.

The Shooting Range provides a service that Miguel wants to promote: an affordable, legal option for practicing shooting on the West Mesa. He recommends visiting the range mid-April through early June for nice weather and smaller crowds, especially for those interested in one-on-one instruction. Miguel himself is a certified archery instructor and hopes to become certified in pistol and rifle instruction.

Congratulations on your new position, Miguel!





*Above: Open Space Assistant Superintendent Jim Sattler recently received two awards: Albuquerque City Council's Accomplishment award for the 1st Quarter of 2019 in recognition of the completion of the Golden trail system, and the New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors 2017 Partner of the Year. Congratulations, Jim!*



*Above right: Artimus Mowrer and Enrique Chavez, Equipment Operators, recently built a press conference podium for Mayor Keller using Rio Grande Cottonwood, Russian Olive, Salt Cedar, Siberian Elm, Osage Orange, and Ash, harvested during bosque restoration and fuel reduction projects.*

## **Artimus Mowrer and Jacqueline Rice Graduate from Public Service University's Pre-Management Course!**



*Artimus Mowrer, second from left*



*Jacque Rice, left*

## Congratulations and Thank You to Brandon Gibson!

Congratulations to Brandon Gibson, Acting Open Space Superintendent for nearly two years, on his promotion to Associate Director of the Parks and Recreation Department! Brandon was with the Department for over 15 years when he joined the Open Space family in late 2016. Since then, he has tackled both challenges and opportunities with enthusiasm and determination.



*Clean-up day in official uniform*

During that time, Brandon has also developed a passion for all things Open Space; he's been known to spend late nights and weekends researching local archaeology, hiking and exploring different Open Space properties, studying bird identification, raising a pulaski on volunteer days, and bringing his sons along to cultivate their curiosity and stewardship of our natural and cultural resources.

Although Brandon is no longer the Superintendent, he will not be a stranger to Open Space in his new role as Parks and Recreation Associate Director. Congratulations on your promotion, and thanks for your tireless work for Open Space!



*Learning the tricks of the paleontology trade*



*Placitas  
Photo by Brandon Gibson*



*With our pal Smokey Bear*

# A View With Room

Open Space:



*Deer at home in Open Space*

*Photos by Jonathan Donovan, bottom photo from a game camera in Open Space*



*Below: CW Ayon performs at a Full Moon Concert at the Open Space Visitor Center*

*Photo by Kent Swanson*



*Above: Dionne Epps (Volunteer Coordinator) and Kent Swanson (Visitor Center Manager) at the the 2018 Volunteer Appreciation Banquet*

Have a photo of Open Space you'd like to share with the community? E-mail Tricia at [tkeffer@cabq.gov](mailto:tkeffer@cabq.gov).

# El Duende Onion

## A Rock Bar Story

Open Space trail crew members received letters of advisement due to a safety infraction which resulted in a crew member’s tongue being stuck to a cold rock bar. The trail crew was assigned to move a small boulder that had rolled onto a trail at Las Cebollas Canyon Open Space, when at some point crew member Scott “Flick” Flickman was triple-dog dared to lick the rock bar by fellow crew member Rob Schwartz as crew member Ralph Billingsley looked on. Flickman’s tongue became stuck to the cold rock bar and the crew then had to hike two miles out of the canyon carefully carrying the rock bar with Flickman attached to it. In addition to the safety infraction, Schwartz was also cited for not following protocol by skipping the double-dog dare and going straight to the triple-dog dare.



*Local guest contributor to your most reliable source of fake Open Space news*

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## Park Visitor Hit With Candy Cane, Elf Detained!

An Elf by the name of Harvey the Elf was briefly detained for knocking park visitor Jack Frost unconscious with a large candy cane. Open Space Investigator Hercule Pirouette responded to the scene. After conducting a brief investigation and interviewing several witnesses, Harvey was released with no charges filed against him. According to Pirouette, the incident was caused by Jack Frost nipping at Harvey’s nose. “This was clearly a case of elf defense,” explained Pirouette.

## Employee Injured During Team Building Exercise!

Park Attendant Anton Littlefield sustained a back injury during a team building exercise while he was doing the Chicken Dance. “I was feeling fine when I was quacking and flapping, but when I sank to wiggle my tail something popped and I couldn’t stand up,” said Littlefield as he described the nature of his injury. Chief Safety Inspector Parker Pino was called to the scene and, after a lengthy investigation, determined that all employees must attend a four hour safety training about the hazards of folk dancing. Pino also questioned, “Why is it called the Chicken Dance when it involves quacking like a duck?”

# Let's Build Some Trail Together!

Spring will be here before we know it, and we're looking forward to our annual volunteer projects. Our April cleanups are a great time to get involved in trail building, trail maintenance, and revegetation projects. Of course each project will feature the weird trash prize for the strangest, oddest or weirdest piece of trash found. Come out and join the fun! This is a great opportunity to meet Open Space staff and other volunteers and learn about trail maintenance.



**March 30** – Rt. 66 Open Space Cleanup

**April 6** – Copper Cleanup

April 13 – Indian School Cleanup

April 20 – Menaul Cleanup

April 27 – Piedra Lisa Open Space Cleanup

**May 18** – National River Cleanup Day

**June 1** – National Trails Day at the Elena Gallegos

*Little known fact: El Duende spent some time in England in the 60s and wrote a song with Keith Richards and Mick Jagger called Let's Build Some Trail Together. Keith and and Mick later changed some of the words around and had a hit that many will recognize. (Ed Sullivan always liked El Duende's version better.) Mick later changed some of the words around and had a hit that many will recognize. (Ed Sullivan always liked El Duende's version better.)*

## 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](mailto:president@openspacealliance.org).

**To join**, visit [openspacealliance.org](http://openspacealliance.org), or 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: \_\_\_\_\_

- ( ) NEW MEMBER    ( ) \$15 STUDENT (18 & UNDER)    ( ) \$30 FAMILY    ( ) \$250 SUSTAINING
- ( ) RENEWAL    ( ) \$15 SENIOR    ( ) \$50 FRIEND OF OSA    ( ) \$500 BUSINESS
- ( ) TRAILS DAY    ( ) \$20 INDIVIDUAL    ( ) \$150 NEIGHBORHOOD    ( ) \$1000 LIFE MEMBER

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## Open Space Division

P.O. Box 1293

Albuquerque, NM 87103



OR CURRENT RESIDENT

# Open Space News

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*Ken Mitchell, Parks & Rec. Dep. Dir.*

*Brandon Gibson, Parks & Rec. Assoc. Dir.*

*Colleen Langan-McRoberts, Supt.*

*James Lewis, Assistant Superintendent*

*Jim Sattler, Assistant Superintendent*

*Cesar Arredondo, Park Attendant*

*Kyle Bally, Education Coordinator*

*Frank Carrillo, Rangemaster*

*Enrique Chavez, Equipment Operator*

*George Darling, Rangemaster*

*Jonathan Donovan, Park Attendant*

*Stan Duran, Construction Worker*

*Dionne Epps, Volunteer Coordinator*

*Mike Felten, Shooting Range Manager*

*Ray Gomez, General Maintenance*

*Aaron Gonzalez, Equipment Operator*

*Benito Gonzalez, Heavy Equipment Oper.*

*Cindo Griego, Heavy Equipment Operator*

*Tricia Keffer, Associate Planner*

*John Keiljaa, Parks Program Specialist*

*Willie Keilikuli, Rangemaster*

*Jacob Maestas, Park Attendant*

*Catherine Montoya, Sr. Office Assistant*

*Artimus Mowrer, Equipment Operator*

*Tom Moya, Heavy Equipment Operator*

*Bill Pentler, Visitor Services Supervisor*

*Matthew Peterson, Forestry Supervisor*

*Jacque Rice, Stockkeeper*

*Robert Rodgers, Rangemaster*

*Richard Rodriguez, Facility Manager*

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*Reid Schmidbauer, Coordinator*

*Kim Selving, Administrative Assistant*

*Miguel Serrano, Rangemaster*

*Kent Swanson, Visitor Center Manager*

*Nathan Todd, Associate Planner*

*Steve Glass, Open Space Alliance Pres.*

## HOURS OF OPERATION

### OPEN SPACE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

3615 Los Picaros Rd. SE

8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Monday through Friday

(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

per car\*

### BOCA NEGRA CANYON

### PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT

8:30 am to 4:30 pm, all week

\$1.00 weekdays / \$2.00 weekends

per car\*

### OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER

6500 Coors Blvd. NW

(505) 897-8831

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Tuesday - Sunday

## TO REPORT VIOLATIONS

242-COPS

### \*ANNUAL PARKING PASS

Valid for one year from purchase at Elena Gallegos and Boca Negra \$30.00