

PARK PLAZAS NEWS

www.ParkPlazas.org

September, 2025

From the President

Around the Neighborhood---

As I work with our Board of Directors, Association staff, area businesses, and residents, I hear over and over how people value living in Park Plazas – the beauty and open spaces, the spirit of the residents, property maintenance, affordability, and the overall quality of life within the community. And I can attest to the fact that these folks are working every day to not only maintain these attributes but also to enhance the aesthetic appearance, protect property values, and sustain and strengthen our sense of community and engagement.

Earlier this year the board adopted a five year [strategic plan](#) that encompasses multiple areas. Committees were created and work has begun on some of these including sustainability and community engagement. Let's learn what these two committees are doing!

The Sustainability Committee, co-chaired by Steve Harvath and Gene Harrell, is exploring strategies to reduce water consumption, promote energy conservation and waste reduction, and adopt responsible landscape practices. Committee members are meeting with professionals to learn about quality standard conservation policies and practices for fire remediation, water use management, erosion control, and sustainable landscape care and maintenance practices. The board recently approved the installation of home fire-resistant fiber-cement fencing and guidelines are being developed ([see July PP News](#)).

The Community Engagement Committee, chaired by Cassara Higgins, is looking at ways to attain a

higher level of community involvement in order to promote the understanding of current and future issues facing our community through communication, events, community meetings, etc. The Committee hosted the July 4th Desserts in the Desert that brought together residents and their families for

an evening of visiting and watching fireworks. Currently, five residents have volunteered to serve as cul-de-sac captains - acting as resources for new residents as they learn

about Park Plazas. A pickleball group is meeting on Saturday mornings and the first Ladies Luncheon is set for September 22nd.

Both of these initiatives are 100% board driven. We recognize, though, that to achieve more effective and long-term solutions, we need strong collaboration among our residents that provides input to the board, incorporates interests, engagement, and skill sets. If you are interested in learning more about these initiatives, please feel free to contact me at laurieglaze@gmail.com.



COMMUNITY MEETING

The board and staff hosted a Park Plazas Community Meeting on August 14th. While attendance was small, the conversation and ideas brought forth were very valuable. THANK YOU to all who attended.

LADIES LUNCHEON

Join us on September 22nd for our first Park Plazas Ladies Luncheon to be held at The Montecito Santa Fe, 500 Rodeo Road, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. This will be a set price taco buffet bar (\$25.64/person that includes gratuity), and reservations must be received no later than September 16. Individual payments will be made at the event but please note that once you reserve a space, you will be responsible for payment even if you do not attend. Seating is limited. Please send your reservation to laurieglaze@gmail.com.

Laurie Glaze, President
Park Plazas Community Services Association
president@parkplazas.org

Board Notes

The board met on August 27, 2025. Items from the meeting included:

- Reports from various committees;
- Announced weekly door to door composting program with Reunity Resources;
- Discussed expanding options for exterior color palette;
- Discussed draft of updated RV Lot Rules and Regulations;
- Next board meeting will be held September 24, 2025 @ 6:30 pm at PPCSA office. All residents are welcome to attend.

Also Worth Noting

DO YOU NEED A PARKING VARIANCE: Please remember that vehicles should be parked in garages and if this is not possible, you need to seek a parking variance. You can find the policy and the application for a variance at <https://www.parkplazas.org/parking>.

LOCKING MAILBOXES: Locking mailboxes are not mandatory but if homeowners would like to replace their current boxes, they can complete an application at the PPCSA office and purchase an approved model. For no fee the Association will install them.

SAVE WATER SANTA FE: Seasonal water restrictions are now in effect. Between May – October, there is no outdoor watering between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm. Find more information at savewatersantafe.com.

REGISTERING FOR THE ONLINE PORTAL: If you're new to Park Plazas, there is an online portal available for owners. If you've not received the invitation to activate your account, call the Manager's Office at 505-471-8809 and ask Richard or Cathy to send you the activation link. Having access to the online portal allows you to set up automatic payment of your monthly assessments. If paying by check, it's free and if you choose to pay by credit card, there is charge that goes to a credit card processing center. Either way, you can pick the day of the month it processes. You can also add a payment method and manually make the payment when you want. You just log in when you want to pay and make payment.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Landscape:

- The office continues to meet with Tierra Bonita staff twice a week. Their crew chief is given a work order with the resident call-ins each Monday as well their weekly log to track their work. On Fridays we review with them their weekly log that shows where they worked and what they got accomplished. Their work is inspected by Tuesday of the following week. Results have been very good and they are learning our property's idiosyncrasies.
- The formulation of winter projects is underway and includes:
 - Removing undesirable trees or bushes (Siberian elms and Russian Olives) growing in the same space as Piñons, Junipers, and other desirable trees.
 - Chamisas will be significantly cut back for the winter.
 - Cul-de-sac sign areas will be inspected and vegetation that routinely blocks sightlines may be removed.

Yard Waste Pickup – 8/16/2025:

- Tierra Bonita had two trucks, two trailers and 4 staff to make the rounds and ended up filling both trailers with mostly yard waste and some small furniture items. They got started at about 8:30 and finished around 11:30.

Irrigation:

- Irrigation leaks near Flores, Papagayo and the west side of the Rodeo Road entrance were repaired.
- Creating a map of the irrigation system is still on the list.

Asphalt, Cement and Related Work

- The Colina drainage project was delayed due to additional work being added and the need for an updated proposal. As part of this project, Tierra Bonita will remove a tree that is struggling and brushing up against the stucco. The excess cement from the load needed for the Colina work will be used to replace a disintegrating side walk on Pinon cul-de-sac.
- The manager and AFJ inspected all the cul-de-sacs and identified work for 2026 and updated the life and remaining life (in years) of each asphalt element for use in updating our reserve study. The walking paths were not included in this assessment this time around.
- AFJ will provide a proposal to relocate a portion of the community garden walking path to the south, away from the Cisne walking path and its related runoff. This portion of the path routinely experiences severe damage from heavy rains. AFJ will also restore the old portion of the path and reinforce that area to fare better during rains.

Sales and Walk-ins

- Currently there are 7 properties for sale and 3 others under contract. Month-to-date walk-ins total 53.

Tierra Bonita recently finished the landscape and drainage restoration project on Piñon cul-de-sac. Goals included improving drainage from the multitude of canales and directing water flow towards the rock lined drainage channel.



DOOR-TO-DOOR COMPOSTING - A PARTNERSHIP WITH REUNITY RESOURCES

Park Plazas has the opportunity to enter into a partnership with [Reunity Resources](#) for home composting pick-up at a 25% reduced rate for the first twelve months. If we can sign up a minimum of 50 homes, Park Plazas' residents will pay \$30/month for weekly compost pick-up (the bi-weekly pick-up option does not apply to this offer). For anyone who is already enrolled in program, Reunity Resources has told us that the current \$39/month weekly pick-up program will be increasing in the fall to \$43/month. Your discount is automatically applied with a promotion code at signup.

How this Program Works:

- Complete the sign-up form at [Reunity Resources Doorstep Compost Program](#). The program launches once 50 homes are enrolled.
- Please let the Park Plazas office know when you enroll so that we will know when we hit the magic number of 50 homes – Cathy Kosak at OfficeManager@parkplazas.org or call (505) 471-8809.
- Reunity Resources will bring you a 4-gallon green bucket that includes a compostable liner.
- Fill your bucket with food scraps throughout the week. Reunity's commercial scale operation can handle all foods including meat, bones, dairy and citrus. [Click here for a full listing.](#)
- On Park Plazas' designated collection day (to be determined once we have 50 homes), leave your bucket outside your front door. Reunity will swap it for a clean one and compost the scraps.
- Once a year, you will receive a cubic foot bag of premium compost that you can pick up from the Reunity Resources' Soil Yard.
- Community Benefits
 - Diverts food waste from landfills.
 - Reduces methane emissions.
 - Improves soil health.
 - Strengthens local climate resiliency.



Hope you will join your neighbors in supporting a simple, climate-friendly solution!

Notice on Water & Sewer Billing

The City of Santa Fe made errors in our July 24 water/sewer bill. While water charges were correct, the City did not properly calculate meter fees and sewer charges, so our August 1 and September 1 Association billings used estimates for those items. Sewer charges are based on each lot's share of community water use from January–March, so your amount may change slightly. Because the City has not yet applied the new July rates, the exact sewer charge for our community is still unknown. We expect corrections in time for the October 1 billing.



Note to self: Due to the Labor Day holiday, our trash and recycling will be on Thursday, this week only.

The Back Page

Many thanks to the volunteer who so expertly refinished the Free Library!



Community Garden - at month 5

Harvest time is around the corner!



September Dates

- Sep 1st - National Cherry Popover Day
- Sep 4th - National Eat an Extra Dessert Day
- Sep 9th - International Sudoku Day
- Sep 14th - National Food is Medicine Day
- Sep 21st - National Chai Day
- Sep 27th - National No Excuses Day

Office Hours for the Manager's Office

Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday
from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
or by appointment. 505-471-8809

Calls and emails will be returned within 48 hours

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 24th
6:30 P.M.

~ Manager's Office ~
Community input invited
at the beginning and end of the meeting.

The Board packet is available for download
on the Monday before the meeting.

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PARK PLAZAS

COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

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BOARD of DIRECTORS

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