

PARK PLAZAS NEWS

From the President

Around the Neighborhood ----

Welcome to spring! Beautiful blooms and lots of sneezes and itchy eyes!

Unfortunately, we have had an unseasonably dry and warm winter. While we don't know what our summer will look like, we do know that, like in past years, we will be on a city mandated outdoor watering schedule and that we need to continue reducing our fire risks. The [October Park Plazas News](#) focused on managing fire risks and I encourage you to review the article. As you are doing your spring cleaning, take time to look around your Lot and see what measures you need to take to "firescape" your home.

Landscaping/sustainability continues to be our number one priority. Our spring calendar includes cleaning up and sprucing up the three entrances to Park Plazas. We are continuing to trim and remove shrubs and trees that are diseased, dead, or growing into each other. This year we will not mow the outer common areas until after grasses seed, but we will keep cul-de-sac areas trimmed. We recently purchased a commercial wood chipper and will be mulching our tree and shrub cuttings and using them to protect and enrich the soil throughout the community. We also continue to "fine tune" some practices such as tree and shrub trimming.

On March 25, the Association held its annual meeting that was attended by 70+ residents. Three board positions were open, and, through acclamation, the three elected board members include first time member Marcus DiFilippo and two members returning for second terms, Susan Swoboda and Laurie Glaze. We welcome Marcus to the board and extend appreciation to all three residents for volunteering their time and expertise. We also want to acknowledge and thank Connie Crow for her years of service. She led our work to develop the 5 year strategic plan and we thank her for bringing her expertise and years of experience to what became about an 18 month endeavor. And many thanks to everyone who attended and participated in valuable and respectful conversation!



For the past four months, Park Plazas News has featured comprehensive articles on how the Association financially functions. The final article detailed the 2026 operational and reserve budgets and how funds are allocated to cover predictable, recurring expenses as well as major repairs and replacements. In the coming months, the board will study the finances needed to maintain community property values, cover rising operational costs, and ensure long-term financial stability - expenses driven by inflation, the need to replenish reserve funds for necessary major repairs and upgrades, and higher labor costs.

Threatening Dogs: Not often, but there have been occasions when dogs have either attacked or have approached an individual in a threatening manner. It is important for victims/witnesses of such incidents to immediately contact the City of Santa Fe Animal Services (Animal Control) and document all actions

as to what transpired. We asked that you forward documentation to the Park Plazas office and the Association will do as much as it can. However, as you are aware, its powers are limited. Animal Control is the body of authority that must take action including removal of the animal. Although the Association has the power to expel a dog constituting a nuisance, it will not do so until the City of Santa Fe has done so through their own administrative processes.

Thank you for all that you do to make Park Plazas such a special community and enjoy this beautiful time of the year!

See you on the trails!

Laurie Glaze,
President, PPCSA
president@parkplazas.org

Annual Meeting Notes

The annual meeting was held on March 25, 2026. Items from the meeting included:

- Election by acclamation of three members
- Presentations – Landscape/Sustainability, Community Engagement, Recruitment of Community Manager
- Questions and Answers

Next monthly board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 22, 2026**, at 6:30 pm at PPCSA office in Rodeo Plaza Shopping Center.

All residents are welcome to attend.

From the Manager

Landscape

- Tierra Bonita is working on zone 4 this week. Though demands of an early spring have reduced the time allocated to winter cleanup projects, we're keeping that work on our radar.
- As mentioned in the President's letter, fire remediation and related tree and bush trimming is a high priority. Having a commercial grade chipper will allow us to address fire remediation efforts more efficiently and also to create our own mulch.
- A landscape restoration plan is being developed for an area in need. This will include cleanup of pine needles from the ground and garage roofs, tree and bush trimming and installation of xeriscape and hardscape elements.

Tree Spraying

- Spraying for scale and pine tip months has started and will take 3 to 4 days to complete.

Irrigation

- Tierra Bonita is bringing our irrigation system back online after the winter. There were a few breaks that needed repair and the system will be fully operational as soon as they're finished.
- Resident and Board Member Gene Harrell is spearheading a project to inventory all the tree wells and bubblers. During this process, he will shut down bubblers that are providing water to an empty well.

He'll also identify tree wells where the drip line needs to be expanded and that need mulch.

- Please contact the manager's office if you happen to spot bubblers or trees that need attention.

Dog Park

- After seeing how well the recently installed barrier is working to help contain the gravel along the fence line, our crew installed a similar barrier along the north west corner.

Crime

- Nothing new to report

Sales & Walk-ins

- There are 3 properties listed for sale and 3 pending. Walk-in totals - 102.



Hello Park Plazas! We hope you have been out and enjoying the beautiful spring weather! We have a few exciting community events coming up. The first is an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4 at 11 am at the playground (Children's Playground area - Fresa cul-de-sac on Plaza Rojo)! Please bring your kids or grandchildren with a basket or bag.

The second event is a community wide garage sale on Saturday, May 16th from 8am to 3pm. We will put out signs and announce the event in the weeks prior. You will be responsible for setting up your own

table or garage for the sales event. This is a great opportunity to set up a sale with some of your neighbors. If you would like to participate, please notify me, Cassara Higgins (cassarahiggins@gmail.com or 563-920-4519), with your name and your plaza. We plan to mark participating plazas with balloons.



Some reminders of ongoing community activities. Saturday Morning Pickleball is back in swing! Please join the Team Reach to confirm time and numbers. Once you download Team Reach, Enter Group Code PPP-2025 to join the community.

If you have other events you would like to see in the community corner, please send them my way at cassarahiggins@gmail.com.

Hide Bins, Boost Curb Appeal

Trash bins left in plain view can detract from your home's curb appeal. Keeping trash bins tidy and hidden enhances the beauty and cleanliness of your entrance. This approach not only masks unpleasant sights and smells but also maintains a welcoming atmosphere.



MONTHLY MORNING WALKS WITH GENE!

Join Gene Harrell (gharrellrio@gmail.com) for lively, one-hour strolls along our urban pinon-juniper forest trails to celebrate the native trees, birds, grasses, ever-changing wildflowers, mammals, and insects that share these lands.

ALL AGES WELCOME!

- **WHEN** - 7:00 am third Saturday, April through September (April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, Aug 15, Sept 19).
- **WHERE** - Meet at the PLAYGROUND (Fresa cul-de-sac off Plaza Rojo)
- **BRING** - Sun hat, WATER, binoculars, sunscreen, camera, something to share....and your sense of awe and wonder



The Park Plazas Dumpster

The community dumpster at our HOA is a valuable shared resource designed to help residents manage excess household waste that cannot fit into the standard weekly trash and yard waste bins. When used properly, it offers a convenient way to dispose of items such as yard trimmings, broken-down cardboard boxes, and similar materials.



Proper use of the dumpster is essential to keep it safe, accessible, and cost-effective for everyone. However, some residents have disposed of prohibited items, including used automotive oil, old paint cans, broken furniture, and leftover construction debris. These materials are not allowed because they require special handling through the City of Santa Fe's Trash and Recycling Department and may pose environmental or safety risks.

Access to the dumpster area is controlled. Residents must register and provide a \$50 key deposit to obtain entry. This helps ensure that only authorized users have access.

When prohibited items are left in the dumpster, the HOA must arrange and pay for proper disposal. This creates unnecessary costs that impact the entire community. By following the guidelines and disposing of waste responsibly, residents help keep the area

clean and ensure the dumpster remains a beneficial resource for all.

RESIDENTIAL TRASH DAY!

Saturday, April 18 is Residential Trash Day in Santa Fe and Park Plazas will support this clean-up effort. Tierra Bonita will be on the property to pick up items left in front of homes.

Accepted items include refuse, building materials, rubbish, cuttings, yard waste, and discarded items such as pots, bricks, old wood, etc. Items they **WILL NOT** pick up include furniture, paint cans, automotive oil, electronics, and tires. Items must be in front of the house no later than 8:00am as Tierra Bonita will pass through each cul-de-sac one time and then proceed to take everything to the recycling and transfer station.

April Dates

- Apr 2nd - National Burrito Day
- Apr 6th - National Pajama Day
- Apr 11th - National Grilled Cheese Day
- Apr 20th - National Death Doula Day
- Apr 23rd - National English Muffin Day
- Apr 27th - Gummi Bear 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, April 22nd
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.

www.parkplazas.org

SANTA FE EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS GARDEN FAIR

If you love gardening, this annual show is a must! Follow the link below and get details for the May 9 event. If you have tools, furniture, etc. that you would like to donate, contact Sarah at sarahshea@gmail.com 505.577.9018 for specifics.

Link: <https://www.sfemg.org/garden-fair>

Community Garden - it's Time!

Whether you are a returning or new gardener, contact [Wayne Darnell](#) as soon as possible to secure one of the 5 remaining plots. All the others are spoken for.

The garden bed fee is \$25 per season, plus a one-time, refundable \$25 key deposit. All participants must read, sign, and agree to comply with the garden rules and regulations, which will be provided upon joining.

PARK PLAZAS

COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

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