

LOS OLIVOS-RIKER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION LORNEIGHBORHOOD.COM



NEW PRESIDENT ELECT MESSAGE

BY: MONICA CARRASCO

My name is Monica Carrasco, I have lived in Los Olivos/Riker Neighborhood for 19 years and feel grateful to live here. I also feel very fortunate to have been voted in as president of LORNA for the new incoming year and look forward to maintaining a safe, clean and enjoyable neighborhood. During this time, I would like for all of us to reflect on how Covid-19 has changed our lives. We can easily recognize the negative impact, but what about the positive things that happened during shelter in place? Perhaps it has allowed us to be grateful to be home, slow down a bit, cook more or walk more often. Even in the darkest moments of Covid-19, we can find some rays of light, perhaps like me, to be grateful for those things we still have, like a safe and clean neighborhood to be able to look out and admire the mountains, fields, trees and flowers. Another ray of light for which I am so grateful for is Ursula B. and her team who go around picking up litter, wow who gets that in their neighborhood?

I was so impressed with her team, that I joined them and have begun picking up litter while walking our family dog Cosita. With this in mind, I would like to invite all residents to join us by picking up litter, no experience necessary! Another invite I have in mind is to encourage all of us to get out and walk more, maybe start with walking a few houses down, add extra minutes to your routine, ride bikes or walk to the store. We have 3 grocery stores close by. Lets make Lorna a great place to live. I also challenged myself not only to walk more, but ride my bike too. It feels great to ride past all the beautiful homes and beautiful lawns. We are so blessed.

Lets start the next chapter of LORNA working together: Pick up litter, sweep sidewalks, walk more, bike and slow down driving in or out. Be creative and think of ideas to make our neighborhood awesome and send them our way! If we all join in, we can enjoy a great neighborhood, which brings on a good quality of life! Lets celebrate our neighborhood! I look forward to keeping in touch and welcome any communication at monicarrasco@comcast.net.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- New President Elect Message
- LORNA Tree Update
- Water Wise Tips
- Controlling Litter & Debris in Salinas
- Downtown Salinas Glows
- Los Olivos Drive Traffic Calming
- Downtown Books
- Lost & Found Pets
- Kitten Season
- New Restaurant Reviews



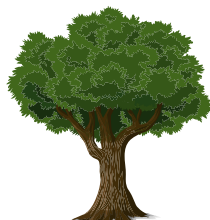
LORNAS ❤️ TREE UPDATE

BY: DANA BARNEBEY

Every year our neighborhood gets prettier and more charming with new trees being planted. They add a sense of tranquility and increase our property values too! **PROPER CARE IS IMPORTANT** to ensure the trees are healthy and their roots grow deep. This care is required for the young trees recently planted (and those planted in the last few years):

- **WATER** 2xs a week, low flow from a hose for 20 minutes
- **REMOVE** all grass and weeds around the base of the trunk - this ensures the tree gets the water it needs vs the grass and weeds

Trees add so much beauty to our neighborhood and I appreciate ya'll taking good care of them.



WATER WISE TIPS

BY: DANA BARNEBEY

CALIFORNIA CONTINUES TO BE IN DROUGHT - Here are some easy ways to conserve precious and expensive **WATER** in your garden:

Water Lawns Morning or Evening, **NOT** in the middle of the day when it's hottest and most of the water evaporates and also tends to burn the grass.

MOW YOUR LAWN HIGH

How you mow has a huge impact on how thirsty your lawn is. Mowing turf high encourages roots to sink deep, which means the lawn won't need watering as often. A sharp mower blade cuts grass cleanly, which reduces water loss per grass blade.

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WATER POTS IN THE AFTERNOON

Water plants at the right time of day: in-ground plantings in the morning and containers in the afternoon. Research has shown that watering container gardens late in the day leads to healthier plants.



REPLACE OR REDUCE LAWN

Replace part of a water-guzzling lawn with outdoor living and dining rooms. Modern building materials make it possible to design a deck that fits into the tightest spaces.

ADD MULCH

Cover bare soil with mulch to help slow water evaporation. A mulch layer that's 2 to 3 inches deep helps retain soil moisture and reduce weed sprouting.



CONSIDER PERMEABLE PAVERS

Choose water-permeable building materials for hardscape surfaces including driveways, walks and patios. Permeable pavers allow water to percolate through the surface, which reduces rainwater runoff.

MAKE YOUR OWN COMPOST

Compost is one of the best additives to soil because it helps to retain water in sandy soils and improve drainage in clay soils. Making compost is easy, and adding compost to soil fosters a healthy soil-food web.



SELECT LOW WATER USE PLANTS

Swap water guzzling plants for low water use beauties. Many drought tolerant plants feature leaves that are silver, spiny or succulent (thick) in nature. You can find a wide variety of lovely low water use plants for our area at a local nursery.





CONTROLLING LITTER & DEBRIS IN SALINAS

BY: STEVE MCSHANE

With COVID-19 and a growing homeless population in Salinas, litter and debris have become a major issue. It is with great gratitude that our neighborhood has had the help of several volunteers to help pitch in and lead efforts to clean litter and dumping. Hot spots include behind the apartments on Stephanie Drive and along the fields of Luther Way. Not to mention Kipling St.

Special recognition goes to efforts organized by Ursula, Cheri, Diane and others. The Farm Bureau, Republic Services and the City of Salinas have been incredibly helpful. It is important that issues get reported right away. The Salinas Connect App is the best way to report issues. You can also report issues on the City website at www.cityofsalinas.org. The rest of Salinas is not immune to litter and in January of this year, Mayor Kimbley Craig commissioned a special Litter and Debris Task Force that includes City Councilmembers Osornio, Gonzales and McShane. We will continue to work hard to make sure Salinas gets cleaned up and stays that way.

DOWNTOWN SALINAS GLOWS

BY: STEVE MCSHANE

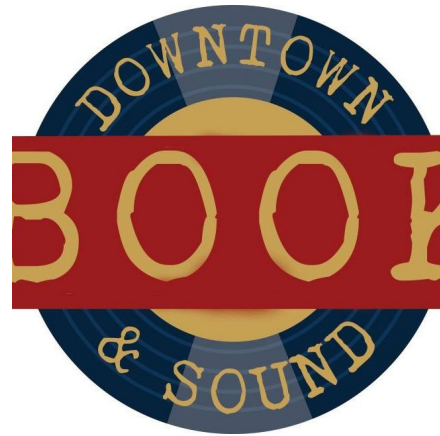
It is with great excitement that major improvements to Downtown Salinas were dedicated May 20th. More than \$10 million was spent on safety, infrastructure and beautification. City Council first prioritized downtown for upgrades in 2014 and ever since additional investment has followed. Special incentives and ordinances has also been put in place to prioritize housing, redevelopment and historic preservation. Cal Water and PG&E made improvements to underground utilities as well. Special *super high speed* internet was added as part of a regional project linking South Salinas to East Salinas. The capstone to all of the improvements was the "Salinas" archway funded by the Rotary Club of Salinas. The club fundraised for more than seven years to add the iconic archway. The hope is that the investment pays off for safe and beautiful place to live, work and play. For additional information, please visit <https://www.cityofsalinas.org/main-street-master-plan>.



LOS OLIVOS DRIVE TRAFFIC CALMING

BY: STEVE MCSHANE

Efforts to add traffic calming to our neighborhood have not been given up on. A request for study was made in 2017 under the leadership of Kevin Low. Kipling, Riker, Coleridge and Los Olivos were included in the study and Los Olivos Drive qualified. Traffic calming can include speed humps, signage, curbing and more. While the project is on a priority list, lack of funding has not made construction possible. Efforts on the part of LORNA leadership have helped to get funding in place for the City's 2021-2022 year. We're hopeful. People are driving faster and more distracted than ever. Please remind those in your circles of friends and family to stay focused on the road and slow down.



DOWNTOWN BOOKS

BY: DANA BARNEBEY

Salinas has a book store!!!! Pretty exciting considering they're very hard to find these days. Parking is easy at the rear of the store and they sell new and used books.

DOWNTOWN BOOKS AND SOUND in Old Town Salinas
213 Main Street - 831-477-6700





LOST & FOUND PETS

BY: GLENYS RODEBACK

Our neighborhood has seen a few stray dogs/cats and I wanted to write a quick reminder on what to do if you see a stray pet. First, secure the pet to ensure it will remain safe and then report it with a photo to our LORNA Facebook page and contact Hitchcock Road Animal Services via text or phone call.

If you have lost your pet, please text 831LOST to 56525

If you have found a lost pet, text 831Found to 56525

(After you send the text for either a lost or found pet, you will receive next step instructions)

Hitchcock Road Animal Services is located at
160 Hitchcock Road, Salinas, CA 93908
Phone Number: (831) 769-8850
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 8-5pm

In most cases, we can reunite owners and their pets quickly if the pet is microchipped and is wearing a collar with tag. Please make sure they always have your current contact information.

To keep pets secure check gates and fences periodically and leash your dog when on walks in the neighborhood. Pets that are loose run the risk of serious injury.



Kitten Season & Feral Cats

BY: GLENYS RODEBACK

There have been a few feral populations in our neighborhood this last year. It is super important that neighbors work together to trap and spay or neuter early on.
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Recently, neighbors off Dickens worked together to trap at least (9) cats/kittens in order to get them fixed and adopted. (Thank you Samantha, Ashley and Meredith) Together we can make a difference.

If you find newborn stray kittens, first let them stay where they are, as mom may be nearby and still caring for them. If they are more mobile or injured, please call Hitchcock Road Animal Services at 831-769-8850 for additional direction. Here are more resources:

SPAYING OR NEUTERING A FERAL CAT

- Big Fix: www.bigfixmc.org
- SPCA for Monterey County: www.spcamc.org
- SNIP Bus: www.snipbus.org
- Community Cat Allies: www.communitycatallies.org
- Spay California Now: www.spaycalifornianow.org
- Hitchcock Road Feral Cat S/N Pilot Program

I love being a resource for animals. Feel free to message me on Facebook or email me at glenysrodeback@aol.com

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

BY: GLENYS RODEBACK

The T&A Café located in historic Spreckels, CA is the new home of Kleinfeldt Family BBQ! After 30 years of running the T&A Cafe, Don & Cheryl Ferch decided to retire resulting in a vacancy at the T&A Café on the beautiful property of Tanimura & Antle produce company.

Heather and Justin Kleinfeldt, owners of Kleinfeldt Family BBQ Catering were approached about this incredible opportunity and they happily accepted.

Kleinfeldt Family BBQ Catering began in 2016 as a family owned and operated catering company out of Salinas, CA. They, alongside their friend and partner Steven Slater, started their catering business with a small custom BBQ trailer and quickly grew making a name for themselves.

Heather and Justin hope to bring a fun, family-friendly BBQ joint to Monterey County with the T&A Cafe. Come try their delicious new menu with tri tip sandwiches, burgers, salads and so much more! Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Open Monday through Friday from 8am-7pm and Saturday from 8am-4pm. Indoor and outdoor seating available with beautiful views of the mountains and produce fields.



Show your newsletter for 10% off your order. one per family, valid for one visit & cannot be combined with any other offer.



TIME TO RENEW

See application on next page.



Annual Membership Drive

Donations are collected each June

It is hard to believe our Association is already into our eleventh year! Thanks to our efforts, we consistently rank among the safest neighborhoods to live in Salinas based on crime reporting statistics. We have simply been incredibly successful at connecting neighbors to lend a hand when one of us is in need. We are 100% volunteer run and our activities are not possible without your support. That's why you're receiving this:

Please consider sending your annual voluntary contribution to your local neighborhood association.

Some successes:

- Video system installation for support of Salinas Police.
- Citizens Police Academy and CERT (Emergency) training of our neighborhood leadership
- Annual Neighborhood Clean-ups & Waste Collection
- Seminars on personal safety
- Quarterly newsletters facilitating events
- Annual Holiday and Neighborhood "Pizza Party" Event
- "Welcome Wagon" gifts for new neighbors
- Annual Neighborhood Celebration with awards for neighbors, businesses & public safety

Please take the time to consider a donation to LORNA by completing the form below and mailing it to: LORNA c/o Villa Serra 1320 Padre Dr. Salinas CA 93901. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact our President Monica Carrasco at monicarrasco@comcast.net.

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LORNA MEMBERSHIP & DONATION FORM

Household Membership \$10 (minimum) \$25 \$50 Other:

Business Membership \$50 (minimum) \$75 \$100 Other:

Business / Member(s) Name(s):

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip**

Code: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to get more involved in LORNA? Please select below:

- Baking for events Host coffee / event Join the Board
- Volunteer at event Help with newsletter Other: