

Sierra Vista Visions

September 18, 2026

Sierra Vista Visions is a publication of Sierra Vista Estates Neighborhood Association. This newsletter is published monthly. All material is the property of Sierra Vista Estates Neighborhood Association and may not be copied, printed, or distributed without the written permission of the association board of directors.

September Birthdays Remaining

9/21 Tom Brunt

9/24 Alivia Luckie

9/26 Jude Luckie

9/29 Jarred Torrs

9/29 Jan Montana

September Anniversaries Remaining

9/18 Amrit & Megan Arisimuno

9/21 Joseph Barnett & Emily DeArmon

October Birthdays

10/2 Santino Laight

10/5 Nikhi Morrison

10/6 Silas Luckie

10/26 Adam Frost

10/28 Caroline Aldrich

October Anniversaries

10/5 Pablo Laight & Jolie Picoriello Laight

10/6 Adam & Natalie Frost

10/13 Brian Hobbs & Christine Serway Hobbs

10/24 Joe and Shawna Rodman

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Neighborhood Communication Options

Emails between the two boards and all residents (See the last page for a list of all board contacts)

You used to get water related email from Rhonda's personal email account at gr8mtngirl, but she is now using the official svmdaadmin@svmda.com account. You used to get the newsletter from Karen Larison's personal email address, but now it comes from the official svena.nm@gmail.com. **Go into your email settings to allow water related emails from svmdaadmin@svmda.com and allow SVENA emails from svena.nm@gmail.com.**

We regularly send out email notices about upcoming SVENA and SVMDA meetings, social activities, and about upcoming wildfire mitigation meetings occurring at local community centers.

Contact numbers to call or email for water issues and social activities

The last page of each newsletter has this contact information all in one place in case you want to print out that page. It may change occasionally, so check it once in awhile.

Sierra Vista Neighborhood Chat

We have a neighborhood chat. We encourage you to please sign up for the chat if you haven't yet. It's the fastest way to let people know your dogs got out, a bear or mountain lion is in the neighborhood, or to give and get recommendations about trusted house cleaners or handymen, plumbers, etc. You can look at previous recommendations by category. Parents of small children sometimes use the chat to arrange play dates in Milly's Meadow. You can send and receive neighborhood chats via Sierra-Vista-Chat@groups.io by using email. See instructions below.

- To subscribe, email Sierra-Vista-Chat+subscribe@groups.io and follow the instructions that will be mailed to you. Once you are signed up you will automatically get chats from only our neighborhood in your email inbox.
 -
 - To unsubscribe, email Sierra-Vista-Chat+unsubscribe@groups.io
 -
- For support, send email to our neighbor who set up the chat, marcus.albonico@gmail.com

Check out our water board web site at svmda.com.

It has useful information about your bill, the construction project, links to software, and courtesy links to previous SVENA newsletters.

Bulletin Boards

The minutes of SVENA and SVMDA plus notices of activities are on the bulletin board in Milly's Meadow near the little library box. Additional information about SVMDA is on the bulletin board at the front of the SVMDA meeting room (near the water towers). There may also be notices of wildfire meetings at local community centers.

Milly's Meadow Gates

Each of the three gates will have notices posted about current neighborhood activities In the meadow.

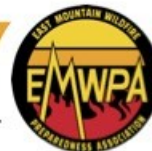
2026 remaining scheduled social activities

September	We will have pictures of the Annual Picnic in the next newsletter.
Sunday 9/20	Arts and Crafts Fair Canceled
	This year's Arts and Crafts fair is canceled because we only had two artists who wanted to exhibit their art. We hope to hold an arts and crafts fair next year.
October	
Saturday/Sunday 10/17 & 10/18	Neighborhood Yard Sale 8am -2 pm Please respond to the email from SVENA asking how many homes want to participate in the yard sale. We will have signs on N14 and signs or balloons for each home that wants them.
November	No neighborhood social events at this time.
December	
Saturday 12/19	Festival of Trees at Milly's Meadow 5 pm - 7 pm
	The SVENA board will provide hot chocolate and hot cider, and probably a Solo stove with firewood for warmth. This year we will have a neighborhood tree that everyone can hang ornaments and solar lights on if they don't want to decorate an entire tree. Anyone can still do a family tree if they want. Decorating starts the day after Thanksgiving.
Date TBD	Christmas Caroling
	Julie Hall will lead anyone who wants to sing. They will stop and sing outside the homes of people who have their porch or outside light on. More details to come.

EAST MOUNTAIN WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS ASSOCIATION

2026 Autumn Updates

Be Aware • Take Action to Prepare!



Not Like Any Other Autumn!!

Saturday, September 19, 2026 || 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Los Vecinos Community Center || 478 NM Hwy. 333; Tijeras

• • •

Welcome, introductions—Jerome Macdonald, EMWPA President

Bernalillo County Commissioner Eric Olivas

- ❖ Commissioner's updates
- ❖ Tijeras Transfer Station Voucher Program
- ❖ Evacuation routes
- ❖ Q&A's with residents

Autumn Weather Outlook—Kerry Jones, EMWPA Vice-President
(20 min.)

Susan Smith, Skyland-Raven Road Neighborhood (20 min.)

- ❖ Wildfire Prepared Home certification process
- ❖ David Canyon Firewise Community update

Ricky Reedy, Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District (20 min.)

- ❖ Forestry Program with homeowners

• • •

Donations accepted in person or via mail:
EMWPA; P.O. Box 2471; Tijeras, NM 87059

• • •

RSVP to attend.

Contact: EMWPA.2023@gmail.com

This program made possible thanks to these partners:



Be **READY!** Create and maintain defensible space; harden your home against flying embers.



Upcoming Topics

- Homeowner insurance
- Home Hazard Assessment
- Science of fire behavior

If you can't attend the meeting but have questions or ideas that you would like to share with us, please contact: EMWPA.2023@gmail.com

To our residents with disabilities:



Please contact us with any special accommodations you need so that we can make our programs more accessible for you.

East Mountain Celebration Sunday 9/27/2026 1pm to 4pm

We're excited to announce East Mountain Celebration will be returning to Los Vecinos Community Center on Sunday, Sept. 27 from 1-4 p.m.

Enjoy live music, local vendors, car show, and activities for all ages as we celebrate the spirit of the East Mountains. Bring your family, invite your friends, and make lasting memories at this cherished community event!

Complimentary event parking and shuttle service to and from Los Vecinos Community Center will be provided to the following locations:

- Roosevelt Middle School: 11799 NM-337, Tijeras, NM 87059
- Montoya Elementary School: 24 Public School Rd, Tijeras, NM 87059

We look forward to seeing you there!



Water Line Construction News

Surveying and construction staking for the new water lines has started. The survey crew will be traveling in white trucks displaying very small and inconspicuous AUI company markings below the windshield on the driver's side. Do not expect to see large, easily readable signs on the trucks. It is important that we protect the construction staking and do not disturb it to the best extent possible to avoid cost overruns in the project.

Around the week of September 21, 2026, the Contractor's Safety Department will document existing conditions in the work area through photographs and video. Homeowners who would like their home interior and/or exterior documented prior to construction are asked to contact SVMDA to be added to the scheduling spreadsheet, providing their name, address, phone number, and areas they would like documented. You can sign up directly on the scheduling spreadsheet via the link on the SVMDA website: <https://www.svmda.com>.

Construction is anticipated to begin the week of 9/28/2026 with potholing near 55 Sangre de Cristo Dr., proceeding uphill into the subdivision. Work will take place during daylight hours up to civil twilight. Installation of new waterlines in the road Rights of Way (ROW) will require removal of any improvements which may have been placed in the ROW, including rock walls, decorations, trees and shrubs which may have grown within the ROW and anything else that does not belong within the road corridor. The Contractor will do their best to restore the roadway and drainage to match previous existing conditions. If there are items in the ROW that residents do not want destroyed, please remove them now.

During working hours, residents should expect one-way traffic with flaggers and marked detours around areas where work concludes each day. Construction is anticipated to continue through October 2028.

Please do not ask questions of the construction workers from AUI, Inc. unless the Resident Project Representative is present to observe, witness and document. Please do not ask construction workers for personal favors such as moving rocks to your yard for landscaping or making improvements to your private driveways. Our funding for this project comes from state and federal funding sources and cannot and must not be used on private property or for any personal favors.

Griffin Stidham will be the Resident Project Representative for the project (cell phone at 505.500.044 or email griffin.stidham@soudermiller.com) under SMA (Souder, Miller & Associates), the engineering firm providing construction management and observation for the project. The Project Manager is Kari Edenfield (505.269.4043; Kari.Edenfield@SouderMiller.com).

This exciting and challenging project has been in various stages of funding, planning, design, and permitting for years. Big thanks go to the New Mexico Finance Authority and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for financing this project in part with federal funding through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and to the Water Trust Board Water Projects Fund for state funding.

We appreciate each and all of you for your patience and cooperation during this construction project.

Thank you.

Speeding, a Proposal, & Speed Bumps

Many of us don't want cameras installed around our neighborhood recording the date and time when every vehicle passes, so please help us stop speeders from driving above 15 mph. Also, whoever has these kids speeding on their motorbikes, please get them under control before something bad happens. I can only imagine that "traffic calming treatments" means speed bumps or similar annoyances for everybody. We got feedback from a resident that some speed bumps cause pain even at 5mph due to injuries sustained during military service. We all know that "your speed is" signs don't deter those people who prefer to drive faster than 15 mph, it only deters the ones who didn't notice they were speeding. See letter below from a resident. We need help from everyone to photograph the vehicles and license plates of incidents with speeders and vulnerable walkers, runners, and pets who are in danger from vehicles speeding in our neighborhood. Please bring your cell phone along on your walks.

"Dear SVENA,

Thank you for sending your recent letter to the community about the problem of speeders in our neighborhood. My wife, Sarah, and I share this concern. We regularly walk the 1/2 mile from our home to the neighborhood entrance and **always** have to get off the road quickly due to oncoming vehicles traveling at speeds significantly higher than the posted 15 mph. Recently, young kids on speeding motorbikes (some without helmets) have joined the fray, totally disregarding our verbal requests to slow down. None of the drivers has responded to consistent nonverbal signs (pushing our hands down emphatically to ask them to slow down). On the contrary, they often speed up. We regularly share the road with other walkers, runners, couples, families, and mothers pushing strollers. *All of us are at risk.* A few years ago Sarah fell when trying to avoid a speeding oncoming vehicle and broke a rib, the healing of which took several painful weeks.

We have done some research and learned that in 2024 Bernalillo County started a Speed Enforcement Program, for purposes of establishing traffic safety in neighborhoods. We have learned that neighborhoods such as ours can request program support. This might include speed cameras, radar-feedback signs that read "Your speed is...", traffic calming treatments, better signage, striping, electronic documentation of actual speeds in our neighborhood, pedestrian warning signs and possibly other solutions as well.

In order to request such support, however, several steps are recommended to establish that our concerns are not merely that speeders are an inconvenience - but rather, that there are vulnerable road users.

Recommended steps include:

- 1) Document date, time and location of speeding vehicles and an estimate as to the speed;
- 2) Document the vehicles in question, if possible
- 3) Document if others are on the road (e.g., walkers, runners, etc.);
- 4) Direction of travel
- 5) Near misses or particularly dangerous incidents
- 6) Take photographs of such situations

Such data should be collected and documented for a period of 2-4 weeks, ideally by a number of individuals.

Ideally, SVENA could obtain a written petition or letters from many of our 130 households requesting Bernalillo County Speed Enforcement Program support.

We hope to bring this concern and suggestions to the SVENA board meeting in November. Unfortunately, we will be out of town for the upcoming annual meeting. **However, if anyone receiving this letter feels motivated to join us in documenting speeding vehicles and their impact on others using our roadways in the interim, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.**

Thank you for your time and shared interest in this topic."

Jim Malone (jmalone59@gmail.com)

Sarah Malone (sarahmalone1949@gmail.com)

Tips for Selling at the October Garage Sale By: Kay Peterson

For many years, I've been selling on eBay. In 2018 after my husband died, I organized and sold his Western collectibles at 3 large estate sales. I was downsizing and had to clean out the large house, the bunkhouse, and the barn! I've learned along the journey some things that are useful in selling at an outdoor sale.

Tips: Begin today and start putting aside things you want to sell. The items must look presentable. Put a price sticker on each item. People will often look and walk away if the items are not priced. They may want to make an offer, but don't ask, especially if you are with another customer. Because the SVENA sale is before Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, consider selling holiday dishes, linens, wrapping paper, wreaths, blow-up outdoor displays, Christmas ornaments, and other decorations. Go to the bank a few days before the garage sale. Get \$30-50 in small bills. Be sure you keep your money in your pocket or a fanny pack. Don't put a moneybox on your table. Use tables to display items. People will look at items that are waist high. Items on the ground are overlooked. Items such as clothing, ornaments, and wreathes can be hung on racks, tree branches, fences, etc. After the garage sale: Talking Talons on North 14 is an easy way to dispose of items that didn't sell. We will alert them again this year that we were having a big sale and people might donate items that didn't sell. Many churches and Albuquerque charities will accept the items too.

Items that sell well

Appliances/Electronics Furniture

Baby Items Toys

Sports/Exercise Equipment Tools

Entertainment Items: Games, popular books, DVD's. Books can be bundled and sold for \$5.00 or more per bundle.

Costume Jewelry and Old Watches: Even if a watch doesn't work, a repair person may buy it for parts.

Bikes: Any Size

Designer Brands: Gently used clothing, shoes, bags.

Clothing: Children clothes sell well. Group children's clothes by size and gender.

Other clothing's sells, but not as well. You may want to offer a grocery bag to customers to fill for a set amount -- \$5.00, \$10.00, whatever.

Items That Don't Sell Well Glassware, China, pottery, dishes, sentimental objects. If you have something that is expensive, sell it online to a professional collector, but not at a garage sale.

Prices - Prices aren't easy to determine. The condition of your item plays a major role in the price. A new item with tags or in a box with its original papers will sell for more money than something that is used. Before last year's garage sale, I had some special items (Artist signed wind chime, fishing rods, old watches, antique tools) to sell. I looked each item up on eBay in the sold prices section. I looked for the highest price sale on my item and printed a copy of that sale. I placed that sheet of paper under my item when I offered it for sale. I priced my item lower than the eBay sold price. I made several hundred dollars on these items. If you want to try this selling technique, go to eBay and find a page that lists the item you want to sell. Scroll down this page and watch the left side until you come to a section that says "Sold." Select the "Sold" box and push the "Search" button at the top of this page. It will take you to items like yours that have recently sold. There will be a range of prices. I usually price my item a little lower than highest eBay sold price. The condition of your item will determine the price.

Best Days to Sell

After doing research online, I learned that if you do a 3-day sale you make about 20% of your sales on Friday, 70% on Saturday, and 10% on Sunday. However, last year some neighbors did very well on Sunday. Plan to sell both days if you have the time.



Milly's Meadow, (not a park)



Milly's Meadow is owned by the Sierra Vista Mutual Domestic Association (water board) and is not a public park. Only residents are welcomed. Because of insurance liabilities we do not install playground equipment or allow bouncy buildings at children's parties. Milly's Meadow had electricity at one time but the bill was prohibitive and we don't plan to have electricity in the future. Solar Christmas lights are used for the annual Festival of Trees.

How to Reserve Milly's Meadow for Family or Group Events

Neighbors can reserve Milly's Meadow for events such as weddings, birthday parties, graduation parties, reunions, etc. There is no charge. Whoever is holding the event becomes the responsible person and must put a sign on the gates and be there for the duration of the event and cleanup. To reserve an event please email svena.nm@gmail.com and put "Milly's Meadow Event" in the subject line. Give the date, time, and duration of your event, the type of event it is, which part of Milly's Meadow you would like to reserve, your name, address, and phone number, and approximately how many people you expect to attend. For more details see your SVENA Welcome Packet.

The other parts of Milly's Meadow remain open for the routine use of our neighbors during reserved events. Please be considerate and respect the reserved activity going on in one part of Milly's Meadow.

Scheduled SVENA events are advertised in advance in the neighborhood newsletter Sierra Vista Visions, which is emailed to all residents around the 15th of each month. Upcoming events are also posted on the bulletin board in the meadow and notifications are sent to your email. Previous editions of this newsletter have detailed help on how to make sure that you are not left out and actually get the email.

See a scheduled SVENA event happening you didn't know about?

If you are walking by Milly's Meadow, and see an event that you didn't know about, the signs on the gates will say SVENA if it is a SVENA event. In that case feel welcome to walk in on the spur of the moment and join the activity. If it is a personal event, there will also be signs on the gates but the signs will not say SVENA, and those events are usually by invitation only.

Dog Poop Bags

Please recycle your small plastic bags by putting them in the poop bag boxes near the gates in Milly's Meadow. The little bags from the vegetable aisle are just the right size and always in high demand. Nobody likes to find that the dog poop boxes are empty of plastic bags to use, so please contribute your extra bags for the neighborhood.

Milly's Meadow has a Little Library and a Bulletin Board

The minutes of SVENA and SVMMDA plus notices of activities are on the bulletin board in Milly's Meadow near the little library box. Everyone gets the agenda by email before the date of the meetings. There may also be notices of wildfire meetings at local community centers.

Milly's Meadow Landscaping

Landscaping services are provided by Louis Paulton of All4SeasonsLandscaping. You can contact him about hiring him to do landscaping for your own homes by emailing him at all4seasonslandscapeld@gmail.com.

Sorry folks, August weather not yet available. July 2026 Weather

Compiled by Martin Matlack

DATE	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	RAIN	RAIN RATE	HIGH WIND
7/1/2026	82.1	53.9	0		ND
7/2/2026	83	55.9	0		ND
7/3/2026	84.8	59.9	0		ND
7/4/2026	86.6	60.4	0		ND
7/5/2026	86.1	58	0		ND
7/6/2026	85.6	51	0		ND
7/7/2026	84.5	57.5	0.01		ND
7/8/2026	87.2	57.8	0.09	0.07	ND
7/9/2026	90.8	58.8	0		ND
7/10/2026	91.9	66.3	0		ND
7/11/2026	87	54.9	0		ND
7/12/2026	83.2	55.4	0		ND
7/13/2026	82.1	51.8	0		ND
7/14/2026	82.6	54.4	0.48	3.29	ND
7/15/2026	80.7	52.7	0.15	1.82	ND
7/16/2026	82.1	51.3	0.22	2.81	ND
7/17/2026	77.8	53.7	0.04	0.14	ND
7/18/2026	80.7	54.7	0.34	1.66	ND
7/19/2026	80.4	54.6	0.02	0.07	ND
7/20/2026	81.8	58.7	0		ND
7/21/2026	79.1	59.6	0		ND
7/22/2026	85.1	58.3	0		ND
7/23/2026	84.8	59	0.02	0.07	ND
7/24/2026	91.2	63.3	0		ND
7/25/2026	84.8	62.6	0		ND
7/26/2026	86.4	60.8	0		ND
7/27/2026	93.8	60.8	0		ND
7/28/2026	90.1	56.8	0.8	3.05	ND
7/29/2026	87	56.5	0		ND
7/30/2026	90.8	59.4	0		ND
7/31/2026	88.6	60.8	0		ND

HIGH 93.8 LOW 51 TOTAL 2.20

TOTAL RAIN YTD 6.38"

RAINFALL RATE IS INCHES/HR

Weather Links

Main web page: <https://www.weather.gov/abq/>

Fire weather page: <https://www.weather.gov/abq/forecasts-fireweather>

Red Flag Data page: <https://www.weather.gov/abq/forecasts-fireweather-dss>

Weather Planner page: <https://forecast.weather.gov/wxplanner.php?site=abq>





Kelly Aldrich can do machine embroidery from simple to elaborate, including digitizing. Consider embroidery for a company logo or personalized gift (baby blankets, shirts, and much more).

<http://kellyaldrichembroidery.shutterfly.com> (505) 286-0692



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Email: goatlady@firegoatranch.com

Water Related Contacts

SVMDA, Sierra Vista Mutual Domestic Association

Immediate questions about water line construction activities	Call Griffin Stidham from the engineering firm Souder, Miller Associates on his cell phone at <u>505.500.044</u> or email him at <u>griffin.stidham@soudermiller.com</u> . Please do not ask questions of the AUI, Inc construction workers.
SVMDA Administrative Assistant Rhonda Loewenstein 505-573-1797 or email her at svmdaadmin@svmna.com (This is her new email address. Please adjust your email's spam filter to allow it into your inbox. Also update it in your phone and email contact lists to be sure you get urgent updates). Contact Rhonda for administrative matters such as billing issues.	If you pay for water by check, send it to Rhonda at Sierra Vista Mutual Domestic Association PO Box 111 Cedar Crest, NM 87008 If you would like to sign up to get your bill via email at no charge , the sign-up information is on your post card bill. You can get your bill by email free using SOFTWater and still pay your bill free by check or your bank. Signing up to get the bill by email does not require you to pay by the SOFTWater software, which would cost you a fee. You can choose each month whether to pay <u>your water bill via Softpay</u> (for a fee, currently \$5.00) or pay the old way for free by check or through your bank. No matter how you choose to get or pay your bill you can download the free Eye on Water app to detect leaks and track water usage by the day/week/month. It works with the new water meters that were installed last year (blue covers).
Operator Mike Butler 505-228-6233	Contact Mike for distribution line leaks, water line breaks, and other emergencies, or if you need a key to get into your water meter and shut off water to your property. Note:
SVMDA President, Hickory Adams Hickory@waneidesigns.com	Contact Hickory for other questions about SVMDA

SVMDA Board

Email the SVMDA board at

Social Contacts

SVENA, Sierra Vista Estates Neighborhood Association

Email SVENA at <u>svena.nm@gmail.com</u> , The SVENA President handles neighborhood communication, including reserving Milly's Meadow, from this email address. Some specific committee contacts are listed below.
Wildfire Preparedness Committee call Ruben Montana at 714-402-5952.
Milly's Meadow message board. If you want to post flyers/notices on the message board in Milly's Meadow contact Jan Montana at 714-724-6991 or Ruben Montana at 714-402-5952
Newsletter email <u>svena.nm@gmail.com</u> with subject line "Newsletter."
Get quick help or help others use the Sierra Vista Estates Chat Join the neighborhood chat for quick, informal help—report lost pets, ask for recommendations for local businesses, or discuss shared concerns like pine bark beetles or whether the hairpin curve on Sangre de Cristo is passable with ice and snow. To subscribe, email <u>Sierra-Vista-Chat+subscribe@groups.io</u> and follow the instructions To unsubscribe, email <u>Sierra-Vista-Chat+unsubscribe@groups.io</u> For questions or support, contact our neighbor who set up the chat, <u>marcus.albonico@gmail.com</u>