

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO CUB SCOUT PACK 114 FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN DISTRIBUTING THIS ISSUE OF THE WINDOWS NEWSLETTER!



# the WINDOWS

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Winter

WINTER 2009

ISSUE 4

VOLUME 8



## Christmas Parade



Now's your time to shine in the Ventana Ranch Christmas Parade! This year's parade will take place

on Saturday, December 5th from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Loop Road. As in the past, the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts are all ready to headline the event.

Want to showcase the special achievement of your group or know someone who is deserving of being in the spotlight? What better way to celebrate than to participate in the parade?! If you're interested in marching, contact the VRNA at [VRNA1@aol.com](mailto:VRNA1@aol.com). We are also looking for safety volunteers.

## Parade of Lights Contest

Think you've got the best Christmas lights display in all of Ventana Ranch? Then be sure to participate in the Parade of Lights contest. Awards will be given for first, second, and third place displays.

A "Kids Choice" award will also be handed out and the "Griswald" will be bestowed on the best over the top home. Judging will be held December 14-16th. E-mail [VRNA1@aol.com](mailto:VRNA1@aol.com) if you would like to volunteer as a judge.

WE'RE NOT THE HOA

**REMINDER:** Ventana Ranch Neighborhood Association (VRNA) does not receive your quarterly dues. They go to the homeowners association, which enforces covenants and maintains common areas. We are your neighborhood advocates. Membership is voluntary and open to all VR & VR West residents (renters & homeowners) and businesses.

## Tamale Dinner & Cookie Swap

Newly elected City Councilor Dan Lewis will be the special guest at the Winter VRNA general meeting and tamale dinner/cookie swap on Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at Ventana Ranch Elementary School. FREE tamales for all in attendance! Please RSVP at our website [www.ventanaranch.org](http://www.ventanaranch.org) by November 30th.

To participate in the cookie swap, bring two dozen of your favorite cookies to the event. In exchange, you'll get to take home several batches of cookies. For the kids, the YMCA will be on hand to help decorate sugar cookies. Please E-mail [VRNA1@aol.com](mailto:VRNA1@aol.com) to volunteer to help with this event.



## Sponsors Needed

VRNA is looking for sponsors for our Tamale Dinner, Christmas Parade and Lights Contest.

Please e-mail [VRNA1@aol.com](mailto:VRNA1@aol.com) if you would be interested in sponsoring an event.

### Upcoming Events

Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tamale Dinner/Cookie Swap/General Mtg	6:30 - 8:00PM	VRES
Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Loop Road Christmas Parade	3:00 - 4:00PM	Terrazas Park
Dec. 14-16 <sup>th</sup>	Parade of Lights Contest		
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Gen Mtg/St Patrick's Day Party	6:30PM	VRES
April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Terrazas Park Spring Fiesta	10:00 - Noon	Terrazas Park

**Education Update**

**APS Plans \$616.7 Million February 10<sup>th</sup> Bond Election No Tax Hike**

Here's what's at stake for Ventana Ranch:  
**VRES Play Field \$429,060**  
**JMMS Track & Field \$898,328**  
**Cibola Shop Dust Removal \$60,728**  
**Westside Sports Complex \$38,275,053**

**Sports Complex Site Up in Air**

The proposed stadium site near Paseo Del Volcan and I-40 is in jeopardy as of press time. SunCal, which owns the property, has had its hands tied by its New York investors and has not been able to sell the property to APS. Finance has become a major obstacle for moving projects forward across the country. APS has yet to identify an alternate site.

**Group Pushes New District**

A group of parents, grandparents and community members has formed "Partnerships Advancing Student Success" – PASS, to provide information on a proposed westside school district. Their website is [www.ABOPASS.org](http://www.ABOPASS.org) and includes a Frequently Asked Questions panel. Area elected officials and community members petitioned the Secretary of Education in January to form the new district.

**Roads Update**

**Unser Bill Kept Alive & On Track**

Current City Councilor Ken Sanchez, who represents the lower half of the Westside and used to represent Ventana Ranch as County Commissioner, has kept the Unser appropriation bill alive at the request of incoming City Councilor Dan Lewis. Lewis will be sworn in on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Outgoing City Councilor Michael Cadigan failed to appear at the council meeting that the bill was to be voted on and the bill was deferred until December, where it would have died without continuing sponsorship. This would have resulted in 2-3 month delay of the road project.

Unser's completion will provide major traffic relief for Ventana Ranch, as North-South through traffic on Universe will be diverted to Unser.

**Cub Scout News**

Pack 114 would like to say a big thank you for the community's support in popcorn sales.



**Huntington**  
LEARNING CENTER

Petroglyph Plaza  
897-9100  
[huntingtonlearning.com](http://huntingtonlearning.com)



**VENTANA RANCH**

SELF STORAGE  
897-7020  
6500 Paradise Blvd  
Gate Hours 7-7

**5 Step Forward To Serve On Board**

Five volunteers have answered our call for service on the VRNA Board of Directors and were elected at the annual meeting. They are:

- Bill Riley** - 20 year APD veteran who has lived in Albuquerque for nearly 40 years and 4 years in VR.
- Mercedes Marquesa** - A Realtor who has lived in Albuquerque for 13 years and 2 years in VRW.
- Robert Quintana** - An insurance agent who is a native Albuquerquean with school age children.
- Andrew Johnson** - An Attorney who is another native Albuquerquean.
- Deanna Fresquez** - A HR Director for State Government who is a Native New Mexican and resided in VR for nearly 3 years.

**VRNA Board of Directors**

- Jones, Jay (Pres & Web Master) - [jay.jones@ventanaranch.org](mailto:jay.jones@ventanaranch.org)
- Horton, Laura (VP, City Liason) - [laura.horton@ventanaranch.org](mailto:laura.horton@ventanaranch.org)
- Riley, Bill (Treasurer, Public Safety Dir) - [bill.riley@ventanaranch.org](mailto:bill.riley@ventanaranch.org)
- Quintana, Robert (Secretary, Membership Dir) - [robert.quintana@ventanaranch.org](mailto:robert.quintana@ventanaranch.org)
- Fresquez, Deanna T. - [deanna.fresquez@ventanaranch.org](mailto:deanna.fresquez@ventanaranch.org)
- Johnson, Andrew - [andrew.johnson@ventanaranch.org](mailto:andrew.johnson@ventanaranch.org)
- Keith, Patti (Scout Liaison) - [patti.keith@ventanaranch.org](mailto:patti.keith@ventanaranch.org)
- Marquesa-Montalvo, Mercedes - [mercedes.marquesa@ventanaranch.org](mailto:mercedes.marquesa@ventanaranch.org)
- Patton, Kevin (Land Use Dir) - [kevin.patton@ventanaranch.org](mailto:kevin.patton@ventanaranch.org)
- Alt Blanchard, Connie - [connie.blanchard@ventanaranch.org](mailto:connie.blanchard@ventanaranch.org)
- Alt Nix, Zoy'E - [zoye.nix@ventanaranch.org](mailto:zoye.nix@ventanaranch.org)
- Alt Nyberg, Bruce - [bruce.nyberg@ventanaranch.org](mailto:bruce.nyberg@ventanaranch.org)
- Alt Santos, Elva - [elva.santos@ventanaranch.org](mailto:elva.santos@ventanaranch.org)
- Alt Trujillo, Greg - [greg.trujillo@ventanaranch.org](mailto:greg.trujillo@ventanaranch.org)

Visit the VRNA website for Board Member information!

**Crime Report**

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 9 Breaking & Entering | 2 Vehicle Theft      |
| 1 Theft from Vehicle  | 3 Property Vandalism |
| 38 Disorder           | 15 Theft             |
| 11 Assault            |                      |
- Traffic Accidents:  
 Irving/Universe 2 Inj, 1 Non Inj  
 Paseo/Universe 1 Inj, 5 non inj  
 Rainbow/Ventana Village 1 inj, 2 non inj



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6321 Riverside Pl Nw  
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Gymnastics Academy  
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[gforcegymnastics.net](http://gforcegymnastics.net)



**YBASKETBALL**

**JR. THUNDERBIRDS**

Get in the Game!  
899-8417

YMCA of Central New Mexico

**Editorial**

This October brought new officers to the VRNA board. Among the positions changing hands, as you may have heard, was the position of President.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our former President Laura Horton immensely for all of her diligence and hard work to make the Ventana Ranch community, the Westside, and Albuquerque as a whole a better place to live. Under her leadership, the Ventana Ranch community has seen many additional amenities that were not here when many of us purchased our homes. Ms. Horton has served as President of the VRNA since its inception in 2001/02.

At that time only a fraction of the homes were built, the land that now constitutes VR West was completely bare (except for tumble weeds of course). There were no retail establishments in the immediate area. You had to go to the convenience store at Paradise and Lyon, to get some food. The only road to the area was a 2 lane Paradise and a 2 lane Irving. The closest school was Sierra Vista.

Fast forward 8 years and we now have a drug store, a 24 hour gas station, self storage, a coffee shop, pizza, subs, Mexican food, insurance agents, dry cleaners, fast food, auto parts, a gym, a discount store and Chinese food. As for roads; while they are still not adequate, there is quite a difference, we have a Paseo del Norte connection, Universe down to the connection with Unser, a nearly completed 4 lane Paradise to the county line, and Irving all the way to VR West. As for schools, we now have an elementary school within the boundaries of Ventana Ranch, as well as a brand new high school just to our south, and three new elementary schools, and two new middle schools in the immediate area.

Many, I would even say most, of that progress would not have happened were it not for the tireless work of Laura Horton. She was in the trenches fighting for Paseo, especially, down at city council, other hearings and more. She also fought hard to get the new high school as well as make sure a majority of the Ventana Ranch community were in its boundaries.

We have much to celebrate, but I believe we have more to work on. We need to get the Ventana Square shopping center filled, we need a grocery store located at the corner of Paseo and Universe, we need less crowded schools, a Westside YMCA at the NW education corridor, expansion of Paseo to 4 lanes, extension of Unser from the top of the escarpment to Paradise, a fully built Ventana Ranch Regional Park, more recreation fields, and more.

So with all of this in mind I take on the huge challenge of taking over those leadership duties from Ms. Horton as the new VRNA President. With the help of the VRNA Board and with Laura Horton as my Vice President and city liaison, we will try to accomplish all that we can within the Ventana Ranch community, as well as make progress on the city issues that affect us all.

-Jay Jones  
VRNA President

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
You can make a difference!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Subdivision \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**All info is kept confidential**

Resident Dues are \$15 per year

Business Dues are \$125 per year

You may join online at [www.ventanaranch.org](http://www.ventanaranch.org)

Please make checks payable to VRNA

7224 Cascada Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114

505-898-8103 [VRNA1@aol.com](mailto:VRNA1@aol.com)



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# 25

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

## 25 reasons to love lovelace westside hospital

- 1 The only hospital on Albuquerque's Westside
- 2 Voted *Modern Healthcare's* "Best Place to Work"
- 3 Our leadership is guided by core values & commitment to service
- 4 Sophisticated, yet compassionate, patient care
- 5 **Our technology is amazing – Rio Rancho & Albuquerque Westside's first 64-slice CT Scanner, digital mammography, two new digital X-Ray rooms & new MRI capability**
- 6 Building support systems for patients & families
- 7 Dedicated to a healthy environment
- 8 We realize the art of caring for patients is caring for their families too
- 9 Our nurses have received the prestigious Nursing in Excellence Awards
- 10 We believe that long-term goals are accomplished by taking a series of small steps
- 11 We believe that only smiles should be contagious
- 12 **We're mapping out the future of healthcare on Rio Rancho & Albuquerque's Westside**
- 13 Great green chile chicken soup & *all other food!*
- 14 Joint Commission Accredited & in the top 4% in Patient Satisfaction
- 15 Great at building relationships in Rio Rancho & Albuquerque's Westside communities
- 16 Empowering Families
- 17 Empowering Employees
- 18 Volunteerism has always been part of our tradition
- 19 Our future starts with a building block of support – *yours!*
- 20 A committed Board of Directors
- 21 We're pretty cool
- 22 Medical pavilion with a multitude of outstanding medical specialties & services
- 23 More than 50 medical specialists
- 24 We accept most insurance plans
- 25 **You make it all possible!**

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your own reasons to love  
Lovelace Westside Hospital



**Lovelace**  
Westside Hospital

Golf Course & Ellison