LOS VERDES

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION:
A GO-TO FOR UPDATES AND INSIGHTS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

LVHOA is dedicated to cultivating a strong sense of community, actively preserving property values, promoting resident safety, and fostering meaningful connections among neighbors through shared involvement .

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD

Greetings Neighbors,

Happy Summer! We hope this message finds you healthy and happy. It's wonderful to see our neighborhood so lively - from evening walks to kids playing, our neighborhood is truly alive.

Thank you for taking such great pride in your homes; your spring plantings are now in full bloom and everyone's yards look fantastic.

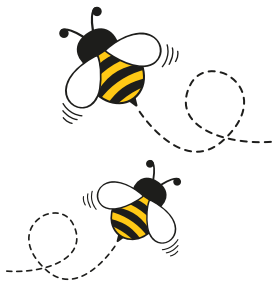
As we embrace the warmth of summer, we want to share details on some exciting things on the horizon, such our upcoming National Night Out and a special movie night in the cul-de-sac.

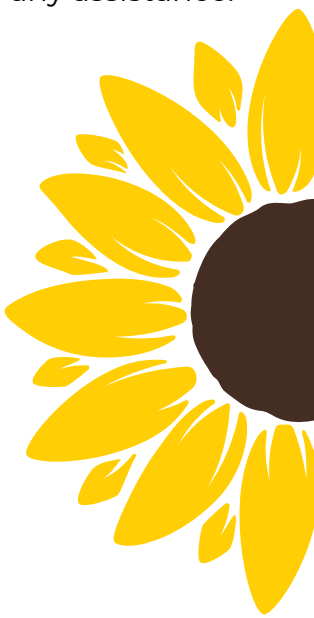
Inside this issue, you will also find essential summer safety tips, a special DIY recipe for natural mosquito repellent, and our featured quarterly recipe.

We wish you all a safe, relaxing, and fun-filled summer season with friends and family.

As always, please feel free to reach out to us if you have any concerns or need any assistance.

Sincerely,
Your LVHOA Board





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Adam Boussouf
Vice President - Stephanie Aragon
Treasurer - Lori Callison
Secretary - Susan Reuler

WE WANT TO STAY CONNECTED!
Email: lvhoaabq@gmail.com to:
Update your contact info,
submit an architectural request,
or share a recipe for an upcoming spotlight.

DIY MOSQUITO REPELLENT

Summer is officially here and mosquitos are ready to feast! Below is a recipe for a simple, highly effective DIY mosquito repellant spray using lemon balm.

What You Need:

1 C high-proof vodka/Isopropyl alcohol

1 C Distilled (or cooled, boiled water)

1 C lemon balm leaves w/ stems

15 - 20 drops of essential oils such as citronella, eucalyptus, basil, peppermint or lavender

The 3-Step Process

- Muddle: Place the fresh lemon balm leaves in a glass jar. Use a muddler or wooden spoon to firmly crush and bruise the leaves, releasing their natural, bug-repelling oils.
- Steep: Pour the vodka directly over the muddled herbs. Cap the jar tightly and place in a cool, dark place to steep for 1 to 2 weeks, shaking it vigorously every day.
- Strain & Mix: After 2 weeks, strain the herbs using a cheesecloth or a fine mesh strainer. Fill your spray bottle halfway with the infused vodka and fill the other half with water to dilute it.

Shake well before each use. Avoid eyes and mouth. Store in refrigerator or a cool dry place. Natural sprays evaporate quickly - reapply to skin and clothing often.

Why Vodka is the Perfect Base

Because water and oil don't mix, the alcohol binds your lemon balm oils and water together so they don't separate, while also helping the mixture dry quickly on your skin and preventing mold.

FEATURED RECIPE

Artisan Bread - *submitted by Matt Aragon*



"I bake this hearty, 4-ingredient rustic no-knead loaf on the regular—it's a staple at our table. For variations, I add chopped fresh herbs from our garden."

Ingredients

* 3 ¾ cups bread flour
* 2 ¼ teaspoons instant yeast
* 1 ¾ teaspoons kosher salt
* 1 ½ C warm water

In a large mixing bowl, add flour, yeast, and salt, stirring to combine with a wooden spoon. Stir in water until mixture is sticky. Cover and place in a warm area until doubled in size, 1 ½ to 2 hours.
Preheat oven to 450°F. Place a large Dutch oven with lid in the oven for 30 minutes.
Using lightly floured hands, pull up on dough and stretch it over the center toward the opposite side. Continuously turn the bowl and repeat folding and turning until the dough starts to hold its shape, about 8 to 10 rotations. Pinch seams at the center of the dough ball.
Turn the dough onto a lightly floured surface, seam side down. Shape into a round loaf. Transfer dough onto parchment paper, dust with flour and loosely cover with a clean kitchen towel for 10 mins.
Using a sharp knife, cut a slit about ¼-inch deep across the top of the dough. Place dough with the parchment paper into the preheated Dutch oven, throw 4 ice cubes underneath the parchment paper, then cover with lid.
Bake for 30 mins. Remove the lid then bake until golden brown about 17 mins more. Remove the bread from the Dutch oven using the parchment paper and place on a wire rack to cool for at least 20 mins. before slicing.

WE INVITE YOU TO SUBMIT A RECIPE!

Email your recipe to: lvhoaabq@gmail.com
Please include: recipe title, ingredients, and step-by-step directions. We can't wait to see the delicious dishes our community has to offer!

Happy Cooking!

A NOVEL IDEA!

Our Little Library is perfect for building a neighborhood reading community and some have inquired about the possibility of having a neighborhood BOOK CLUB for adults! What a great excuse for a grown-ups' night out! *To help us gauge interest, please email us* so we can pick a date/location for our first meeting! The plan would then be to meet once a month on a rotating basis at each other's homes. For the kickoff, everyone will bring a favorite book to help us select our first read, and future picks will be voted on or chosen by the monthly host.

**NOTE: This will be a completely neighbor-run club and will not be sponsored by the HOA.*
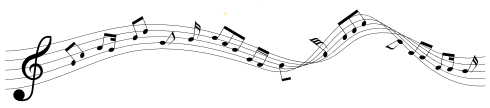
The Little Library has been restocked! Feel free to take a book or leave one to share, though it's not required. When donating, please skip outdated textbooks, manuals and travel guides, as well as any inappropriate, political, controversial, or explicit content.





Although we love seeing your pup enjoying their daily strolls, allowing them to leave "liquid souvenirs" on a neighbor's property is a quick way to **rust out** metal mailbox posts as well as **stain** and **corrode** exterior walls. Since stucco is a cement-based plaster, it experiences quick erosion and deterioration from the uric acids and salts in dog urine. So scoop the poop and curb your dog to help keep our neighborhood looking spotless and headache-free!

Why do bees hum?





They don't remember the lyrics!

Spring Block Captain Conference Summary

Below is a breakdown of topics discussed and actions you can take in your community.

CRIME STATS & POSITIVE TRENDS 2024-2025

- All crime categories are DOWN year-over-year
- Homicide clearance rate: 100%
- 43 additional officers added to field operations

ADDRESSING COMMUNITY ISSUES

The police department works with other resources to address community challenges. When you report:

- Police will assess whether it's a law enforcement or a community/social services issue.
- Data drives 90% of police department decisions; community input is the remaining 10% (trends will appear with more data/more reports!)

UNHOUSED COMMUNITY

- Police will enforce ordinances if unhoused individuals are violating city rules.
- When possible, police will refer individuals to Albuquerque Community Services.

AUTO THEFT & VEHICLE SECURITY

SE Albuquerque has the highest auto theft rate.

FIREARMS STOLEN FROM VEHICLES

- 7 firearms were stolen from vehicles in a week.
- Thieves are typically individuals already engaged in other criminal activity.

WHAT'S WORKING TO REDUCE THEFT

- Technology: Doorbell cameras, License Plate Readers (LPRs), and bait cars
- Bait cars are monitored closely and followed to safe locations if a thief is caught.
- Building community relationships with officers knowing your local area commander (AC) and providing information about suspicious vehicles, times, and patterns

HOW TO HELP

- Report suspicious activity to your local Area Commander.
- Provide details: vehicle descriptions, times of activity, people involved.
- Always lock your car and remove firearms, valuables, and other targets.

MOTORCYCLE RACING & STREET RACING

What Constitutes Racing

- 'Meet ups' alone are not classified as racing.
- Racing and street racing incidents begin when high-speed driving or their behaviors begin/occur - eg: spinning tires to/from destination.

ENFORCEMENT & PENALTIES

- Noise ordinance enforced from 10PM weekdays
- Citations are issued to both racers and spectators
- Spectators face up to a $500 fine
- 2025: 700 citations issued
- 2026: 1,750 citations issued (due to increased staffing)

HOTSPOT TIMES

Friday, Saturday, Sunday evenings/ nights

ENFORCEMENT TOOLS

- Undercover officers focus on bad driving violations and speeding
- License Plate Readers (LPRs) can identify vehicles even without visible plates
- Air support is often used for monitoring
- Social media keeps police aware of racing events
- Vehicles can be towed for no insurance or no license (but not for modifications alone)

HOW TO REPORT

Call in when you hear or see racing!
If safe, try to capture the license plate number.



Summer brings more activity to our streets. Please help keep our neighborhood safe by staying alert, reducing your speed, and taking an extra moment to check behind your vehicle when backing out.

Always expect the unexpected!

The term "speed limit" establishes a legal maximum, *not* a target. In residential areas, defensive driving often demands driving much slower than the actual speed limit, depending on the environment – e.g.: children or pets at play, vehicles parked along the street, or pedestrians...

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

NNO

2026

POLICE ★ COMMUNITY ★ PARTNERSHIPS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

LOS VERDES NEIGHBORHOOD

Cul-de-sac Between Sandhurst & Alta Mesa

ALL LOS VERDES HOMEOWNERS ARE WELCOME!

A CONNECTED COMMUNITY IS A SAFER COMMUNITY

Bring chairs/canopies if you have them and a side dish or dessert if you are able.



LOS VERDES HOA PRESENTS

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS!

JULY 18 - SUNSET

Cul-de-sac at Alta Mesa & Sandhurst

Free popcorn & treats!

July 18 - The Sandlot
August - Date TBA (dependent on July turnout)

Grab your lawn chairs and blankets, and enjoy the show!



This is a Free Event!