

CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES New Mexico



Volume 3 Number 4

Rio Communities City Hall
360 Rio Communities Blvd.
P.O. Box 565
Rio Communities NM 87002
505 861-6803
Hours: Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
email:
admin@riocommunities.net
info@riocommunities.net
website -- riocommunities.net

October 2020

**GRAND
OPENING**
*Saturday,
Oct. 17, 2020
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

Oasis Plaza
480 Rio
Communities Blvd.
Rio Communities,
Grand Opening
Oasis Nail Spa and Boutique

Oasis Laundromat
Professional Styling
Sportsman Barber Shop
And a Grand Re-Opening
for the Oasis Cafe.
*Hot dogs, soda and water
available for small donation.*
Stay tuned, there may
even be a car show.
For more information:
Denise Self 505 480-3695

No 2021 Business License Fee

In an effort to help Rio Communities businesses recover from any effects from public health orders and other things during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rio Communities City Council has voted to eliminate the 2021 business license fee that is charged every year.

Businesses should fill out the usual form and turn it into City Hall.

Be sure to support local businesses. Part of the Gross Receipts Tax you pay when shopping at businesses in Rio Communities goes to the City of Rio Communities to keep the municipality thriving.

Rio Communities Health Fair Cancelled

The Fall 2020 Rio Communities Health Fair has been canceled due to the public health order issued by Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham for the State of New Mexico. A flu shot clinic may be held this Fall. The Health Fair Planning Committee hopes to put together an event in Spring 2021.

Remember to wash your hands, use social distancing, wear a mask, and stay healthy and safe as we cope with the COVID-19 epidemic.

Sina Medical Urgent Care Now Open

Sina Medical Urgent Care Medical Care is now open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 386 Rio Communities Blvd. south of Rio Communities City Hall.

Sina offers same day appointments, video visits, house calls, or you can just walk in. Staff can assist with Primary Care services that include:

- Minor physical injuries including suturing
- Lab and X-Ray services
- Mobile Ultra Sound and Doppler
- STD testing
- Depression & PTSD management
- Medical Marijuana Cards
- Allergy Management
- Discounted Botox and Filler
- Skin Care / Injections / Laser
- Macro Needling
- School and Sports Physicals
- Pain management
- Weight Management
- Weight Management

Life Coaching is available covering various topic

All insurances are accepted including Medicare and Medicaid.

Sina is available at 505 899-5570, website sinamedicalcenter.com.

Universal Waste Service Garbage Pickup Holidays

Holidays for Universal Waste Systems Inc., the company picking up garbage in Rio Communities are:

Labor Day Monday, September 7, 2020

Thanksgiving Day Thursday, November 26, 2020

Christmas Friday, December 25, 2020

New Year's Day Friday, January 1, 2021

Memorial Day Monday, May 31, 2021

Independence Day Sunday, July 4, 2021

Residential and commercial routes will be delayed by one day from the day of the holiday through the end of the week. For example, Monday routes will be serviced Tuesday. There will be no service delays when the holiday falls on the weekend. If a holiday falls on Friday then service is Monday.

Trash containers should be out by 7 a.m.

Remaining Clean Up Dates

The remaining dates when a dumpster will be at the City Hall, 360 Rio Communities Blvd., are these Saturdays: October 17, and November 21, 2020. No dumpster in December.

ICIP Can Improve Life in Rio Communities

The Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for Fiscal Years 2022-2026 for the City of Rio Communities includes parks, pavement reconstruction, public safety equipment, and upgrades to city hall.

The ICIP lists projects that improve life in the City if those projects are built. This list must be reviewed every year, so the City is ready if project funding becomes available.

The ICIP list is sent to the state legislature which can provide funding.

The first item on the city's list is public safety equipment with a cost of \$2,066,488 split over four years. This includes various fire department equipment and design/construction of multiple helipad / heliport locations for emergency service transport.

The second priority is designing, renovating, furnishing, and equipping the city hall multipurpose complex for a total of \$1.7 million.

The third Rio Communities priority is \$1,125,000 for pavement reconstruction of roads and resurfacing collector roads. The fourth item on the list is \$640,000 for roadway beautification on a 1.6 mile stretch of road on NM Hwy 47 from NM Hwy 309 south to Nancy Lopez.

Number five on the ICIP list is \$860,000 for a parks and open space assessment plan for the City. Sixth on the list is \$1,050,00 for roadways, trails, paths, and sidewalks throughout the City.

Next is the purchase of 911 radio equipment for the Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center. The \$6 million cost would be shared by the City of Rio Communities, Village of Los Lunas, City of Belen, Village of Bosque Farms, Town of Peralta and Valencia County.

Last on the list is \$1 million for a storm water and drainage infrastructure project.

Funds Available to Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

Funding is available to small businesses in Valencia County which have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information visit co.valencia.nm.us, call 505 866-2097 or email joshua.zuni@co.valencia.nm.us.

Rio Communities Economic

Development Commission Report

The City of Rio Communities Economic Development Commission has a new website: www.riocommunitiesedc.net highlighting the Endless Views Endless Opportunities of the City.

EDC Commissioner Lodi Silva is currently featuring businesses in social media, mostly on Facebook and Twitter.

The commission plans to contact all businesses in early 2021 to see if there is a way EDC can support them, or if they would like more visibility for their business through the EDC social media. If businesses hold a Grand Opening, their business can be mentioned in this newsletter.

Anyone can view the EDC meetings on the 2nd and fourth Wednesday of each month at 10 am by going to: www.facebook.com/riocommunities.

The EDC is looking for new members, if interested, contact Kuan Tikkun at ktikkun@riocommunities.net.

Check out Facebook for the Economic Development Commission. Like the EDC and receive updates for community events.

Support Rio Communities Businesses

Governing Body

Mayor Mark Gwinn

505 861-6803

mgwinn@riocommunities.net

Councilor Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr

Mayor Pro Tem

505 864-6908

pgutjahr@riocommunities.net

Councilor William (Bill) Brown

505 864-0718

bbrown@riocommunities.net

Councilor Joshua Ramsell

505 861-6803

jramsell@riocommunities.net

Councilor Jim Winters

505 861-6803

jwinters@riocommunities.net

Municipal Judge Holly Noelle Chavez

505 861-6804

hnhchavez@riocommunities.net

Municipal Officers

Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair

Finance Officer/Treasurer

Stephanie Finch

City Offices — 505 861-6803

Learn More About RGE Fire Department, Code Enforcement

The Rio Grande Estates Fire Department (RGEFD) is an integral part of the City of Rio Communities. Each issue of the Rio Communities News will carry a column about the Fire Department.

The RGE Fire Department has a new Volunteer Fire Chief. Andrew Tabet, the former Assistant Chief (EMT-Basic & Fire 1), was appointed head of the department June 11, 2020, by the Rio Communities City Council.

Marianne Rittner-Holmes, a retired Lieutenant/EMT-Intermediate, has returned as Captain to help the station administratively. Local volunteers are working hard to increase their skills and certifications to better serve the community.

RGEFD is hosting its second EMT-Basic class. The first class resulted in six people becoming licensed. This second class includes seven current members. Their completion date is December 2020.

Please wish them well in their studies!

RGEFD recently took possession of two brand new Brush Trucks used for wildland fires, which are common during the fire season. Thank you to our state lawmakers, State Fire Marshal's office, and City of Rio Communities councilors for the financial and moral support which made this possible.

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Code Enforcer Gordon Reeves helps make the City of Rio Communities a safe place to live and work. The work of the Code Enforcer covers a wide variety of tasks in the community. Each issue of the Rio Communities News will carry a column about code enforcement

The first column talks about what is enforced.

Unlicensed Vehicles – Any motor vehicle that is required to be licensed which (1) does not have a license plate or (2) has an expired license plate, is considered an unlicensed vehicle. All such vehicles must have a valid license plate unless parked in a garage. Such vehicle left on the street or anywhere else than the owner's property will be tagged to be towed.

Inoperable Vehicles – Any motor vehicle that is not (1) capable of operating in accordance with State of New Mexico Law or (2) capable of moving under its own power is considered an inoperative vehicle. All such vehicles must be operable unless they are parked in a garage. Such vehicles left on the street or anywhere else than the owner's property will be tagged to be towed

Overgrown Lots – A lot or yard is considered overgrown when weeds or rank vegetation are allowed to grow to a height of 20 inches at this time, or briars and trailing vines exceed ten feet in length. This ordinance applies to any lot or parcel of land in a developed residential area or commercial area within the city limits of Rio Communities.

Extensions are granted on a case-by-case basis. Non-compliance results in a citation being issued, requiring a

Collecting Trash in Rio Communities

The roll out for Universal Waste System of NM (UWSNM) to collect trash in Rio Communities continues to proceed smoothly, points out Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Gutjahr.

The City Council approved a contract with UWSNM in February 2020 to collect all trash in the municipality. UWSNM will have an office in Rio Communities starting this fall at 2308 NM Hwy 304.

Here's some interesting facts about UWSNM collecting trash in Rio Communities. The numbers are as of Sept. 4, 2020.

Franchise Fees Collected – 2nd Quarter 2020

Total: \$4,232.61 Residential: \$3,740.31

Commercial: \$277.92 Roll Off: \$ 214.38

Active Sites Residential: 1,974 Commercial: 42

Vacant Sites – 40 accounts with VACANT status

Applied Discounts

Total: 447 – 23% of active residential accounts

Senior Citizen (10%) –374 Low Income 1 (15%) –6

Low Income 2 (10%) – 4 Veterans (10%) – 63

Recycling

94 recycling subscriptions

2 public recycling containers at City Hall

Additional Carts

238 households utilizing additional cart services

Bulky Item Collections

Total 121– April: 26 May: 3 June: 1 July: 25 Aug: 18

Work Orders – courtesy collections, bulky item removal, cart delivery / removal, site check, go backs

April: 43 May: 121 June: 90 July: 81 Aug: 63

Driver Notes – cart not outs

April: 256 May: 293 June: 755 July: 139 Aug: 268

Community Clean Ups – Monthly since April

E-Waste Event

August 29, 2020 at the Conejo Collection Center

Green Waste Event –Scheduled for October.

Vallejos Appointed Judge Pro Tem

Rio Communities resident Michael Vallejos has been sworn in as Municipal Judge Pro Tem on the recommendation of Municipal Judge Noelle Chavez. Chavez was appointed Municipal Judge after the previous municipal judge, Heather Benavidez, was sworn in as a magistrate judge in Valencia County.

Vallejos' appointment as judge pro tem was approved by the City Council 4-0. Vallejos told the council he is ready to serve and is excited to train.

court appearance. In addition, vehicles in violation may be towed, and lots may be cleared, and owners issued a criminal summons.

You can view, print, and download the complete text of all city ordinances at www.riocommunities.net.

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New Mexico
NEWS

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Welcome to the
City of
Rio Communities
New Mexico
NEWS

A digest of what is going on in the City
of Rio Communities.

Inside this Edition

No Business License Fee

Learn about RGE Fire Dept.,
Code Enforcement

Collecting Trash in RC

And Much More in This Issue

**Meetings of the City of Rio
Communities Council,
Economic Development
Commission, and Planning and
Zoning Commission may be
viewed on Facebook at
the time of the meeting.**

City Hall / COVID-19 Update

City hall is open to the public 8:30
a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through
Thursday.

Visitors must wear masks and so-
cial distancing is in place.

All City meetings follow COV-
ID-19 guidelines and are broadcast
through Rio Communities Face-
book page.

Local businesses are following the
Governor's plan/requirements.

Rio Communities City Council

holds workshops at 3 p.m. and business
meetings at 6 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday
Economic Development Commission
meets 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesday

Planning and Zoning Commission

meets 6:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Thursday
Meetings are held virtually. Check the
City website riocommunities.net for
access.

City of Rio Communities Municipal Court

held 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Friday

Nov. 3 Is Election Day

The General Election will be held Tuesday, Nov.
3. If you have not voted early or absentee before
that day then you can cast your ballot at any poll-
ing place in Valencia County on that day.



GRAND OPENING

Saturday October 17 - 10 am to 2 p.m.

Oasis Plaza

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Rio Communities

