

VILLAGE in the Village

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Newsletter | October 2019

Message from the President

As we leave the cheerful summer behind, and the calendar year slowly moves towards its end, it's a great opportunity to look at the past months and summarize ViV's achievements!

The five year "birthday bash," celebrating our members and volunteers was a great success! We recognized the founders of this great organization, appreciating the effort, time and funds that they expended to "birth" us. And this extra special event (highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter) was made possible by the donations of many members (see below) and our newest sponsor, Casa Vieja. We enjoyed visiting with many of our sponsors who were on hand to celebrate the event. Mayor Roake also proclaimed September 8th as "Village in the Village Day" to commemorate the service that ViV provides to the community.

We recently welcomed Meg Chapman and Joseph Henderson to the ViV Board as our newest

Members-At-Large. Both bring a wealth of experience in working with people and the community, and we are lucky to have their knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm!

Those of us attending the Discovery Series, "Humor is No Laughing Matter...Or is it?" by Arnold Farley, left wearing our red noses feeling uplifted and informed.

And turning toward the future, be on the lookout elsewhere in this newsletter for information about our upcoming "Fabulous Finds!" fundraiser on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10. Start saving those rarely worn clothes and jewelry, unused art pieces, and

anything else you are ready to part with...you know your kids don't want it! Your treasure may be someone else's Christmas present! If you have any questions or would like to help organize and get first peek at the "fabulous finds," contact Vicki Dow.

Happy fall!!

Sandy Farley
ViV President



Mayor Roake presents Village in the Village Day Proclamation

THANK YOU to those who donated to our Matching Fund Challenge:

Barry Abel & Holly Barrett
Deborah and Lawrence Blank
Noëlle and Steve Brodeur
Melinda and David Davenport
Judy Deutsch

Vicki Dow
Sandy and Arnold Farley
Carol and Craig Levy
Ellen and Bill O'Connor
Paul Rodenhauser

Susan and Frank Steiner
Milton Strauss
Redge Estell & Cindy Taylor

ViV Celebrates Five Successful Years!

ViV's 5th Anniversary Party at Casa Vieja celebrated our milestone birthday in festive style. Our creative volunteer team designed a birthday party theme that inspired all of us to feel young at heart! Featuring delicious food prepared by Cooperage catering and the ambiance of historic Casa Vieja, which recently became a Silver level sponsor, the event drew nearly 80 guests—including members and their guests, sponsors, and the media.

Best of all, the event brought us all together to celebrate our dedicated volunteers and all our valued members and partners who keep ViV growing and thriving. Thanks for everyone who participated and attended!



Reminders From the Members & Volunteers Committee

ViV has a fabulous group of volunteers who serve almost every request that we receive. That's usually over 30 a month. In fact, we rarely have to say no to any service request. But occasionally, we just can't round up anyone. To avoid that, here are a few reminders:

- Schedule your appointments at a time that is convenient for our drivers. It's way easier to find someone willing to drive at 10:00 am than at 5:00 am. We know that sometimes you have no choice on timing, but sometimes we can't find an early bird so you may be on your own.
- Schedule your appointment during the day. Many of our volunteer drivers prefer to not drive at night.
- Don't schedule on weekends. Again, we can sometimes get our volunteers out on the weekends, but that's time for relaxation and family activities. It's just plain harder to get volunteers.
- Call us a week ahead to schedule services and two weeks if the service is for an especially early time or long drive. We know that sometimes unexpected things come up. That's okay, we'll try our best to help but it's easier for us if we have enough time to find a willing volunteer.

Our mission is to help seniors stay in their beloved Corrales homes for as long as possible while staying connected to the community. Many of our members join to support our mission through the highly rewarding act of volunteering. *So, keep the requests coming. We love to help!*

Focusing on ViV's Mission

ViV's mission is to help Corrales seniors live independently in our own homes for as long as possible and remain connected to our community.

But many of us already have or will face the challenge of how to maintain the homes and property we have here in Corrales. A large home and acre or more of property can become a challenge to senior independent living. Most of us know of someone who has had to leave our beloved Corrales just to find a home that was easier to maintain. We're not talking about apartments, assisted living or nursing care, just a smaller home on an easy to manage lot. Where do you find that in Corrales? They are few and far between.

ViV has been looking into the options our Corrales seniors might have to facilitate a longer stay in Corrales. We've spoken to many Corrales residents and to several Village council members. There is an ordinance in place that restricts the number of residences to 1 per acre. The one

suggested they would support a variance to the ordinance for "the right project." But what is the "right project"?

Everyone has a unique opinion but in general, that project should be senior friendly, not too big, not too small, independent living with low maintenance, and minimal impact to the Corrales way of life. It would be nice to have access to the pharmacy, eateries, doctors, and entertainment so having a small cluster of residences on a couple of acres in the commercial zone could be a plus. In addition, sewer hookup in the commercial zone is an advantage as is access to the up and coming pathways project.

ViV has identified an investor with what appears to be the right vision. This investor is a long term Corrales resident with the heart of our village in mind. The project involves an enclave of about 10 townhome units on a large corner lot in the commercial zone. These homes would be senior friendly with occupancy prioritized but not limited to Corrales seniors. If you are interested in learning more about this project or providing support or input, please contact one of the following ViV members:

Cindy Taylor: sagebrushct@outlook.com

Judy Salas: judyofcorrales@gmail.com

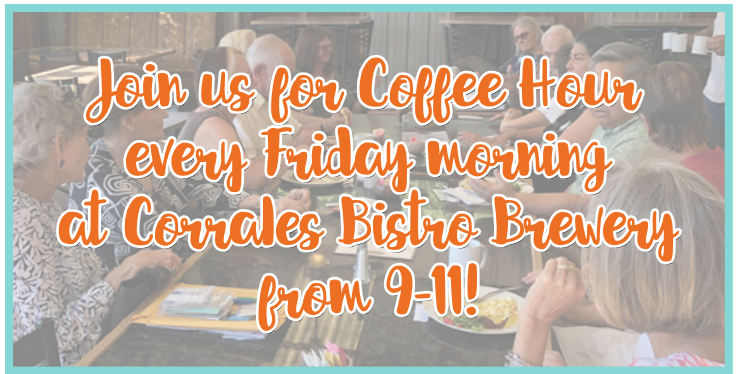
Frank Steiner: epsfrank@hotmail.com



Attention Volunteers: Save the Date!

Would you like to select your own services—before requests are sent out? Or learn how to customize and update your availability and vacation calendars so that you only receive appropriate requests? This session is for you!

This Volunteer Training session will be held on Thursday, November 7 at the Corrales Arts Center, at 1:30 pm. It will be a hands-on training session for volunteers who want to learn more about Club Express, or as it's now known "Run my Village." Stay tuned for more information, but please Save the Date!



Please Welcome Our New Members!

Betty Brenda

Patricia & Vernon Lattin

Nim Evatt

Do you have a special accomplishment you'd like to share with fellow ViV members? Is there a time when Village in the Village especially made a difference in your life? We'd love to hear about it! Send your story to corrales.viv@gmail.com to be featured in an upcoming newsletter!

We Need Your "Good Stuff"

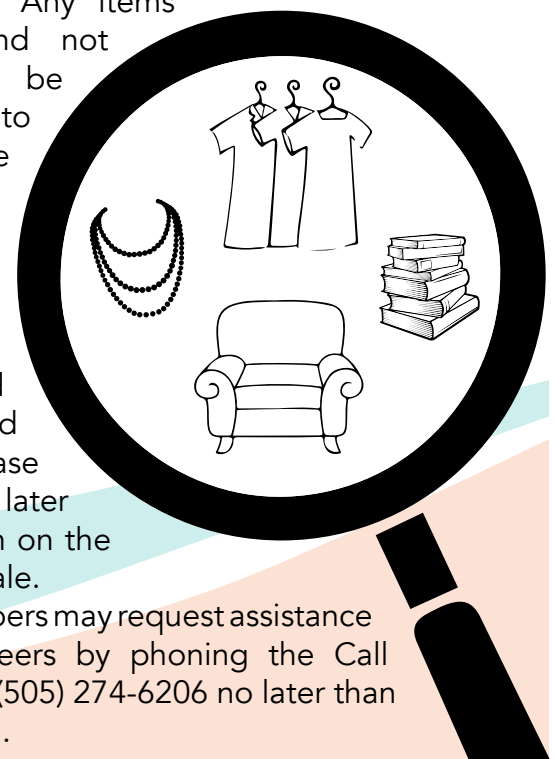
Village in the Village will host its first Fabulous Finds sale November 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Jones property in Corrales (behind the Post Office).

Between now and then, we need you to start digging in your garage, your basement (LOL, I know we don't have many basements here!), the back of that rarely-used closet and maybe even your "gift" closet. Find for us the things you no longer need or want and would be willing to gift to a cherished friend. We will take donations of:

- Jewelry
(clean and unbroken with all pieces)
- Clothing
(clean, no stains and on hangers, if appropriate)
- Small working appliances
(think blenders, coffee makers, etc.)
- Modern electronics
(tablets and smartphones, no desktop or laptop computers)
- Small furniture/furnishings
(lamps, end tables)
- Children's clothes and toys
(gently used, in good condition)
- Sports equipment
(no exercise machines)
- Artwork, Crafts, Baked goods

Clean and price your items before bringing. *Remember, if you would be embarrassed to gift it to a friend, it's not what we are after.* Donations will receive a receipt for tax purposes and can be delivered to the Jones property on Thursday, November 7 from 10am-12pm; Friday, November 8 from 3-5pm; and Saturday, November 9 from 9 to noon. Any items donated and not sold will be donated to one or more of the local charitable thrift stores. If you prefer to recover your unsold donated items, please arrive by no later than 4:30pm on the day of the sale.

Full Members may request assistance from volunteers by phoning the Call Manager at (505) 274-6206 no later than November 1.



FOCL Celebration Continues

The Friends of Corrales Library are commemorating the 40th anniversary of our wonderful library all year.



We are asking you to make a gift to purchase a new book (or other material) for the library. A special book plate will be attached, and a note in the online catalog will recognize your generosity. Gifts can also be made to honor or remember someone, or celebrate an event. A minimum of \$25 is requested for each gift, so that we can continue to grow and share our amazing library. You can give with cash or check in the Library or by mail. Or you can make an online gift. For more information as well as the donation form and online payment, go to <https://www.corraleslibrary.org/focl/40th-anniversary-gift/>. Donation forms are also available at the Library.

If you'd like to make a smaller gift, check out the "Book shelf" near the Quiet Reading Room in the Library. Select a slip (or more than one) and give it with your donation (cash or checks only) to the volunteers at the Library Desk.

FOCL is grateful to its generous supporters for 40 years at the Corrales Community Library. Here's to many more.

Do You Need Help With Home Repair?

CREW is a group of seniors with some basic home repair skills, and who want to share them. For the past 25 years, CREW (Community Renovation Empowering Women) has focused on building and renovating primarily for agencies serving women and children. They have taken on large projects, such as gutting and re-doing bathrooms for Peanut Butter & Jelly, creating a beautiful conference room for Enlace, and remodeling the Laguna battered women's shelter.

Now they need to take on smaller projects and have decided to focus on helping Seniors with their home maintenance and repair. CREW is a 501(c)(3) non-profit building group. You can learn more about their past projects by visiting their website: www.abqcrew.org. They'll assess what you need help with, then reach out to their network of volunteers to match their skills to your needs and schedule.

There is no charge for their time. They bring their own tools, and some basic supplies. The only expense to you is if materials are needed beyond what they provide.

For more information or to request a service, contact Denise Wheeler at deniserw@unm.edu or call (505) 343-9307.

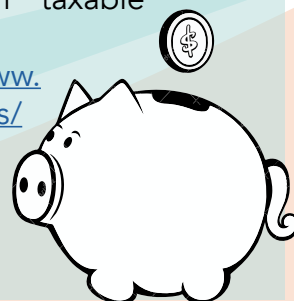
You Could Save Taxes By Donating to Village in the Village Directly From Your IRA

After we reach age 70 ½, those with IRAs are required to take an annual withdrawal, called a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). However, if you are in the fortunate position of not needing your distribution for living expenses, you can avoid income tax on your required withdrawal by donating your money directly to a qualifying charity, which must be a 501(c)(3) organization. These kinds of charitable contributions, called Qualified Charitable Distributions (or QCD's) can be made without itemizing your taxes. However, if you do itemize, you cannot additionally claim a charitable contribution tax deduction on a charitable distribution from your IRA. Funds must be transferred directly from your IRA to an eligible charity by the IRA trustee in order

to qualify for the tax break. If you withdraw the money from your IRA and later donate it, it won't qualify as a tax-free qualified charitable distribution. You have to make the distribution check payable to the charity directly, and forward to the charity immediately upon receipt.

Qualified charitable distributions must be made by December 31 each year in order to exclude that amount from taxable income.

For more info, see: <https://www.fidelity.com/building-savings/learn-about-iras/required-minimum-distributions/qcds>.



ViV Members Enjoyed A "Sweet" Tour

With comments like, "raspberry, tangy, smoky," you would think it was a wine tasting...but no, a group of ViV seniors had a "chocolate tasting" tour of the Eldora Craft Chocolate Factory! Led by owner Steve Prickett, the seniors wore hairnets and shoe covers to tour the production facility. The complete production process of going from "The Bean to the Chocolate Bar" was shown. Everyone then enjoyed tasting chocolates produced from beans



from around the world. Eldora is one of only three craft chocolate makers in New Mexico. In only its second year of production, Eldora won a Silver Award Winner at the 2019 International Chocolate Awards. The building on Edith was designed by Steve's wife, Andrea. From truffles to chocolate bars and great hot chocolate all are produced from organic natural free trade ingredients.



Arnold Farley reminded attendees of our most recent Discovery Series how important it is to laugh every single day!



ViV Board Members

Sandy Farley, *President* | Susan Dahle, *President-Elect* | Cindy Taylor, *Past President* | Vicki Dow, *Treasurer*
Carol Levy, *Secretary* | Lawrence Blank | Meg Chapman | Joseph Henderson | Judy Salas | Laura Smith

Sponsors & Partners:

