

THE VILLAGE OF TIJERAS NEWSLETTER

"With pride in our past, and faith in our future."

Website: www.tijerasnm.org

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

Jake Bruton

The Village of Tijeras will not host Early Voting at Village Hall for the 2020 Primary because of concerns for the health and safety of village residents during COVID-19. Therefore, myself and the Village Council are encouraging all Tijeras residents to request an absentee ballot for the 2020 Primary.

Request an absentee ballot at the the N.M. Secretary of State's website, and select "Voting and Elections," then, select "Voter Information," then "Request an Absentee Ballot." The deadline for absentee ballot requests is Thursday, May 28. Absentee ballots must be returned to the county clerk no later than 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2.

Village Hall will remain open for election day, June 2, though strict social distancing guidelines will be followed to ensure the safety for voters, election officials, and Village Hall staff.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as the Village of Tijeras remains closed to the public until further notice as mandated by the Governor's Public Health Order.



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WELL NO. 3, PROMOTING DROUGHT RESILIENCY AND WATER SECURITY

Councilor Maxine Wilson, Mayor Pro Tempore

As you may already know, the capacity of the Village's Well No. 1 has been declining for several years. When there is a high demand for water in the Village and during emergency response, our current water system becomes incredibly stressed and we have reached moments of near exhaustion in the past. It is crucial that the Village of Tijeras has the capability to respond to emergencies such as wild fires; our area has increased risk as demonstrated most recently by the 2016 Dog Head Fire.

That is why it is important, now more than ever, to work on the drilling and construction of Well No. 3. This project is of high priority for the Village of Tijeras, as it reduces the risk of an exhausted water system and increases emergency preparedness. Additionally, the construction of a new well allows the Village to be in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and state requirements.

The second phase of this project began in January, construction is expected to start on Monday, May 18. The engineers have identified that in order to prevent the well from collapsing, it must be drilled 24/7. There are expected to be minimal impacts to the surrounding environment, if at all. We ask you to bear with us through this process, as it is critical to the success of the Village's water system and allows for the Village to provide water for generations that come.

Meet the Public Health Pup,
Gunner! Gunner is demonstrating
how to use personal protective
equipment when out in public and
providing much needed emotional
support to the essential staff at
Village Hall.



GREETINGS FROM THE NEW DEPUTY CLERK

Deputy Clerk Hallie Brown

Hello Residents of the Village of Tijeras! As of April 20, I was approved by the Village Council to be hired as the new Deputy Clerk. First, let me briefly introduce myself. I am a resident of the East Mountains, a graduate of East Mountain High School and The University of New Mexico, and a recently returned Peace Corps Volunteer. I am eager and excited to come into this role and wanted to provide some information on what I have been working on since I was hired.

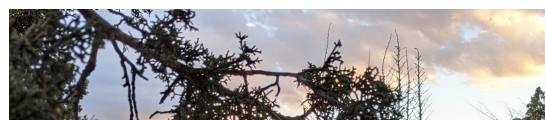
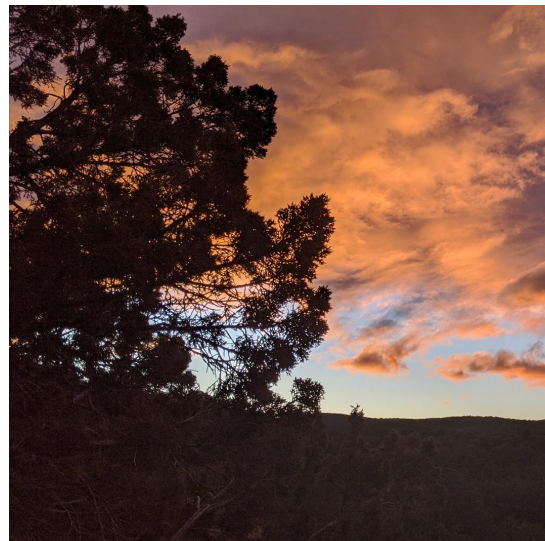
I have taken on a project begun by Clerk Wismer to redevelop the website, making it a more user friendly resource for the residents of Tijeras. We are hoping to launch that website in May, with the ability to pay your water utility bill online.

I am eager to reopen the Motor Vehicle Department, but as the COVID-19 Public Health Order mandates, the MVD is closed until further notice. We will provide information as soon as it becomes available in regards to reopening, as well as information on social distancing measures for the MVD specifically.

Please feel free to email me or give me a call with any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to getting to know you all through my work for the Village.

Water Billing Update:

We will resume billing for water. March and April bills will be combined. The software has been retooled to provide a more accurate bill and picture of water usage. Due to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency the Village Hall is closed to walk in payments. Please pay by mail or call in with credit card payments. If you are Auto Pay please call and let us know if you want your total charged to your card. 505-281-1220
Stay Home and Stay Safe!



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