

City Leadership

City Commission / City Manager

Susie Galea, Mayor at Large (575-518-9308)

Al Hernandez, District 5 (575-921-3632)

Jason Baldwin, District 1 (575-921-1093)

Nadia Sikes, District 2 (575-491-7910)

Robert Rentschler, Mayor Pro-Tem

District 3 (575-446-9140)

Jenny Turnbull, District 4 (575-434-5544)

Dr. George Straface, District 6 (303-356-1825)

James Stahle, City Manager (575-439-4203)

Commission Meetings

Commission Meetings are generally held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month (except in November and December). For full meeting schedule visit ci.alamogordo.nm.us

FIRESIDE CHATS with the City Manager are held on the second Monday of each month. The next one will be **January 12, 2015** at 5:30 PM in the Southwest Room of the Alamogordo Public Library. Stop by and hear Jim chat about ongoing projects and answer your burning questions!



Vol. 8, No 12

The City Profile is a publication of the City of Alamogordo and is provided as a service to City residents. Comments, suggestions and unsolicited materials by Alamogordo residents, including reports by community groups and articles that may contain opinion will be considered if sent to: mwade@ci.alamogordo.nm.us or **Megan Wade**, Senior Executive Assistant, City Manager's Office, 1376 E. 9th St. Alamogordo, NM 88310. We reserve the right to edit all submitted entries for length, clarity, style, spelling, and grammar. Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the City of Alamogordo.  This publication also available on the web.

December 2014

City of Alamogordo

CITY PROFILE

Message from the Mayor

Think outside the box, a common phrase, but is meant here to redirect the focus of giving and receiving tangible gifts.

Among the local holiday shopping, it's also time to "think outside the box" for Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukah, Festivus, or any other holiday you choose to celebrate.

I want to encourage everyone to be involved in our community activities and to be engaged through service. It is my personal opinion, that health is the greatest gift we can give ourselves, and our time is the greatest gift we can give to others.

As your Mayor, I am wishing you the best health, joy amongst friends and family, and blessings that come through serving others.

~Mayor Susie Galea



New Businesses

Increased Economic Development is a goal we all share and the City would like to recognize New Business in Alamogordo. The following businesses were issued a license in November

- Charlie's Mobile Car Wash
575-491-7639
- Colors by Carlos (Paint & Body)
575-491-5416
- Donna Jane Gavit, LMT (Massage Therapy)
915-637-6114
- Otero Tools
575-443-4300
- Pick-a-Spot (Auto Detail)
575-200-6974
- SWSG-Collectibles 4 U - internet
- Albertson's
806-791-0220
- VD Yardman (Landscaping)
575-430-4837

Winter Wonderland Dinner & Dance

When: Friday, January 30th
Time: Dinner at 5:00–6:00 p.m.,
Dance from 6:00–9:00 p.m.
Where: ASC Dining Room
Ticket Cost: \$15 / single, \$25 / couple
*** Entertainment by "Selmo"
*There is a limited number of tickets. Be sure to get yours before they are gone!

Menu:

- Chicken Cordon Bleu
- Fresh Asparagus
- Mashed Potatoes
- Bread / Garden Salad
- Cheesecake
- Coffee / Tea

AARP FOUNDATION TAX-AIDE

SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR 2015 TAX SEASON

Alamogordo, NM – AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, the nation's largest free, volunteer run tax preparation, and assistance service, is seeking volunteers to help Otero County taxpayers who are seeking assistance preparing and filing their 2014 tax returns.

Volunteers do not need to be an AARP member or retiree to participate. Tax-Aide is particularly in need of volunteers who are bilingual in English/Spanish but we will gladly appreciate the help of all who wish to volunteer.

Tax-Aide Volunteers receive free tax training in addition to reimbursement on a limited basis for qualified program-related expenses. They help taxpayers at the Willie Estrada Civic Center, learning new skills while giving back to their community. The Volunteer has flexibility to decide how many hours to volunteer per week.

For more information, and to join the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide team in Alamogordo, visit our Website at www.aarp.org/taxvolunteer. Tax-Aide is offered in conjunction with the IRS with all of our Tax-Aide Counselors being certified by them.



The City would like to extend its warmest wishes to you and your family. May you have a joyous Holiday Season and Happy New Year!

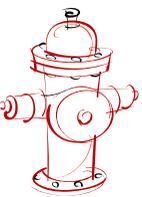


Did you know... Parking in your Neighborhood

Some of our city residents have Resident Parking Only or Handicapped Parking Only signs posted on the street by their houses. We



encourage you to respect these signs and not park your vehicle within 10' of either side of the signs. By parking in a restricted area you are impeding the right-of-way of the home owner. Also, don't forget those fire hydrants - you may not park within 10' of either side of a fire hydrant. The police will be called and you could face a possible ticket and fine for failing to observe these parking signs and hydrants.



On a related note, if you are fortunate enough to have a fire hydrant in front of your property, there are some things to remember. No one shall place or permit any obstacle that impedes access to any fire hydrant. All plantings, decorations, fences, or other objects that could hinder access to a fire hydrant shall be at least as far from the hydrant as required by the most recently adopted fire code.

Want daily updates on happenings around town? Scan the code and "Like" us on Facebook!



Community Calendar

DO YOU HAVE AN ITEM FOR THE CALENDAR?

Let us know if you have a nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Alamogordo Residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the January Newsletter is January 2, 2015. Remember some residents do not receive their Profile until the end of a month so in January we need your February or March events.

City Offices will be **closed** for the Christmas Holiday - Thursday December 25th.
And on New Years Day- Thursday, January 1



Southwest Disposal schedule for the Holidays:

Christmas Day: Thursday, December 25
Thursdays route will be picked up on Wednesday
Fridays route will be picked up on Friday

New Years Day: Thursday, January 1, 2015
Thursdays route will be picked up on Wednesday
Fridays route will be picked up on Friday

January 3, 2015—Zach Trak 1K, 2K, 5K, 10K & The Fastest Kid in Town 1K, 2K

Visit Race360.com to register and don't miss out on this wonderful event supporting Zia Therapy Center!

January 13, 2015—Commission Meeting 7pm
Commission Chambers inside City Hall

January 19, 2015—City Offices Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

January 27, 2015—Commission Meeting 7pm
Commission Chambers inside City Hall



January 28-30, 2015—Pee Wee Soccer Registration (Spring) Ages 3-12 \$36.00 (includes T-shirt) Alamogordo Family Recreation Center. Practice begins March 2

January 28, 2015- Swim Lesson Registration \$30.75. Classes held Monday & Wednesday evenings at the Family Recreation Center.

Curb Your Tree Recycling Event



The City of Alamogordo Community Services Department and Keep Alamogordo Beautiful are once again sponsoring the annual **Curb Your Tree** recycling event in January 2015. All participants are asked to place their live Christmas trees in plain sight at the curb in front of their residence by 7:00 am on January 3, 2015. Please remove all decorations. Discarded trees will be picked up and recycled by Keep Alamogordo Beautiful.

If you're not ready by January 3rd to dispose of your tree, there will be two tree drop-off sites available. One drop off point will be at the Civic Center located at 1st St. and the second will be at the Alamogordo Senior Center parking lot located at Indian Wells & Puerto Rico. You can drop off your trees at either of these two locations from January 5th, 2015 through January 18th, 2015.

Contact Jason Richards with the Keep Alamogordo Beautiful office at (575) 439-4250 with any questions you may have with regard to these programs. Thank you for your continued support of Keep Alamogordo Beautiful projects.

Gardening Tip

from Becky at Lowe's Grocery Store:

What a wonderful colorful season late fall is, especially when the evening light highlights all the changing leaves. Golden and brown of roses, the orange and reds of heavenly bamboo, vibrant red of Euonymus alatus, yellow willows, orange peaches, Chinese pistache, it's like a painter's palette.

Even though I think the carpet of leaves are beautiful scattered on the sidewalk and driveway, they still need to be swept up. If the leaves come from healthy and disease free plants, use them as compost and mulch. Mix in some cow manure with them, and top dress your perennials with the mixture, and water.

Speaking of watering, remember to water during the winter. I have a winter watering guide that will help explain how and when to water. The southwest requires a different method of watering than other regions, and to keep our plants flourishing, we need to adhere to it. Yes, I get tired of dragging garden hoses around, too. A good all season, flexible hose is mandatory—do not use light, brittle, stiff, kinky hoses. And drain them after using; I speak from experience.

As the winter season progresses, poinsettias are appearing in stores. To keep your poinsettias looking happy, they need special care. Check them frequently, watering them before the top soil dries out, and letting the water drain off. They can be fertilized every two or three weeks. Do not place them where they get cold drafts. Poinsettias require daytime temperatures of 60 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit, with a 60 degree night temperature. They like bright light, but do not leave them by a cold window. Poinsettias are perennial plants, and with care will last for years if proper care is given. The 2015 seeds should soon be available for the gardeners who prefer to start their own seedlings early. I will be ordering the Botanical Interest non-GMO seeds this week, and they should arrive within the next two weeks, unless Santa's letters slow up the mail.

Happy Holidays to all!