

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 **February 9, 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. 9, No 1

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.



January 2015

City of Alamogordo

CITY PROFILE

Message from the Mayor

2014 was a busy year and 2015 will be even busier. Having now sold the bonds for both the First and Florida realignment project and the Family Fun Center, the City is looking forward to making more headway on these two major undertakings. We encourage the citizens to make themselves available at upcoming public meetings regarding these projects and any others that may arise in 2015. Public input is invaluable and that is why we hold town halls and public forums.

Fireside Chats are another useful venue if you are looking to ask questions or learn of the City's current happenings.

As a Commission we work to serve you and I encourage you to get involved, ask questions and learn what your City is doing for you. Wishing you each a happy and prosperous new year!

~Mayor Susie Galea

New Businesses

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

- American West Gold Merchants
575-551-4550
- Asian Garden
210-518-8025
- Buckhorn Cabins Custom Builder
575-442-1974
- Conquer Your Fitness
541-840-4441
- David Gonzalez Lawn Service
575-415-3249
- Gilbert's Lawncare & Landscaping
575-415-6839
- Preslar's Dirtwork
575-434-2421
- Vic's Quality Processing
575-491-2742
- Wireless Connection
915-533-7676
- WP Broadcasting
575-437-1505
- 3D Precision
505-563-0113
- Reliable Home Services Health Instructor
575-430-1000

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



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.

SENIOR OLYMPICS



Registration for the Local Senior Olympic competition starts in February. Competition to be held in late March. Competitors must be 50 by Dec 31, 2015. Athlete must compete locally to participate in the State games in Roswell June 3-6, 2015. For further information contact Jean Duncan, Local Senior Olympic Coordinator at the Alamo Senior Center 575-439-4150.

Did you know... Getting Fit in the New Year

Many people make a resolution to get fit or lead healthier lifestyles in the New Year. Well, the City offers services to help!

The Family Recreation Center is an obvious center for getting fit. The weight room is open six (6) days a week and so is the gym! Once refurbishments are complete, the pool will be open for public swim Monday-Thursday 4:00pm-6:30pm, Friday 4:00-5:30 and Saturday 1:00pm-5:30pm. Lap swim is available Monday-Friday 6:00am-8:00am & 11:00am-1:00pm. There are also Aquacize and Aqua Zumba Classes available!

Punch passes, monthly and annual memberships are available. Simply stop by the Recreation Center at 1100 Oregon Avenue or visit our website for more information.

The Alamo Senior Center offers a variety of Fitness Classes and Programs as well, including Tai Chi, Yoga, Line Dancing and Zumba! For more information, contact the Fitness Coordinator at 439-4274.

And what about our beautiful, award winning Golf Course? Eighteen holes could be just what you need to get out and get moving! Desert Lake Golf Course is a public facility that features four sets of tees to cater to all levels of play. Special discounts are available to seniors age 60 and older as well as juniors. For more information call 437-0290.

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.

Children's Programs at the Alamogordo Public Library have resumed after their winter break.

Preschool Story Times are at 10:30AM Mondays and Wednesdays (choose the day that works best for you), and **Lunch and Lapsit** - a time for babies and their caregivers - is Thursdays at 11:30. Call 439-4157 for more information about either program!

Pee Wee Soccer—Spring 2015

Ages 3-8 Fee \$36.00 (includes T-shirt)
Registration: January 28-30 at 9:00am
Practice Begins: March 2, 2015
First Game: March 14, 2015



The Alamo Senior Center will be hosting its annual Valentine's Dinner of Friday, February 13, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm. There is a \$5.00 suggested donation for seniors. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the Alamo Senior Center at 439-4150.



The Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent Programs are having their annual **Valentine's Day Bake Sale** on February 13, 2015 from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. at the Alamo Senior Center located at 2201 Puerto Rico Avenue and White Sands Mall. For more information please contact the office at 439-4154.

Keeping Alleys Clean Too

The holidays are over and this year Alamogordo had some amazing outdoor displays and front yards were the talk of the town. Now the lights are down and the tree is out of the house and its time to turn to the alley and make that the focus of attention.

The city has been receiving calls and emails about the condition of the alleyways and here are a few tips for clarification on a resident's responsibility for maintenance of their property.

A property owner is responsible to maintain the weeds and any accumulation of trash from the property line to the center of the alley adjacent to their property. This includes animal feces improperly dumped over the back fence.

The large black dumpsters in the alley are provided for

the residents in the area to utilize, they are not specifically assigned to given residents. Residents can use any alley trash container in the area.

Trash left outside the dumpster, even beside it, will not be collected. If the container you wish to use is full, do not place items outside the dumpster, just move to the next one and deposit your trash inside that container. If you happen to have a large amount of trash, please split it up between several containers as to not overload the nearest one. Be considerate of your neighbors who may have mobility issues and need to use the nearest to their home.

If you have questions, concerns or would like to learn more please contact Code Enforcement at 43WEEDS or codeenforcement@ci.alamogordo.nm.us, we are happy to assist.

Gardening Tip

from Becky at Lowe's Grocery Store:

Once again we start a new year. Now is the time to start trimming dormant trees. When you do trim, trim only what is necessary for the health of your trees. Remove crossing branches, dead or diseased branches, and ones that may protrude into walkways or create a safety problem. Do not top your trees or remove more than a third of the branches. And while your trees are dormant, dormant oils can be used to help suppress pesky insects.

Dormant roses, bare root and potted, can also be planted in January. Hold off pruning established roses until the end of January, but by Valentine's Day. Too early pruning forces the roses to start putting out new growth which can be harmed by our unpredictable hard frosts. Start fertilizing established roses about the first of April; too early fertilizing also pushes tender, frost susceptible growth.

Winter watering is very important for the well-being of plants. All established plants should have been deep watered every three weeks through mid-November and through the end of January. When the buds start swelling, usually be the first of February, watering will need to be increased. Fertilizing trees and shrubs should be done according to species, and the instructions of the chosen fertilizer.

Start preparing your garden or raised beds, working well-rotted compost or manure into the soil, and adding fertilizer as necessary. Keep them moist, giving the nutrients a chance to be diffused throughout the beds. Plan and map out your garden, and try to rotate your crops if you are planting in the same area. Make sure the plants will get enough sunlight, and protection from wind.

I hope everyone has a great gardening year.