

Message from the *Mayor*

Spring is in full swing and if you're like me, it's time for going outdoors and of course your favorite allergy medication. This is truly a beautiful time of year; the weather starts off one way and ends in a totally different direction. Exciting, I guess....



Mayor Lynn Crawford

I was able to spend several days in our nation's capital on Village and New Mexico Municipal League business, if you haven't gone you should. The historical visuals are stunning, the streets were hustling and clean. People were friendly, and the food was good. The purpose of the trip was to meet with our congressional representatives. I must say they were well prepared for our meetings. Discussions on much needed funding for projects in the near and distant future, issues of mental illness and how to continue our work for water security were all had. Housing was a major topic of concern, and I am happy to say that there seems to be progress in accessing federal money for smaller communities. I am talking about not only money for municipalities, but also possibilities with private individuals and companies. As you might expect there were a lot of topics that weren't discussed due to our limited time with them.

Our Village continues to thrive. GRT revenues from January 2024 were up over \$200k from January 2023, and that says a lot for our businesses. This reflects hospitality, lodging, retail and of course, construction. Our Village revenues are from GRT, grants, and a small part of property tax. Tracking them lets us know that we need our businesses to be successful. To be clear, we are mindful of the traffic, lines in restaurants, and in grocery stores. It is a fine line to walk. The Village is focusing on how to best use our public resources concentrating on "use and not overuse".

We are excited about securing some amazing future events, starting this summer with a free concert series at Wingfield Park called Under a Mountain Sky. We also signed the XTERRA Off-Road Triathlon event starting in 2025, and several additional movie shoots that as they say are "Coming Soon".

Milling, overlay, and striping will begin on Sudderth this month with the plan that it be concluded in 21 days in plenty of time for Memorial Day. So, as my friend Les King would say: "Take a deep seat and a faraway look." I think he meant "Relax. It'll be better when it's over, and we need it".

The Pine Cliff Phase 1 has concluded, and I can't say enough about the neighbors and their patience. The Country Club area is now out for bid and soon the folks there will have some relief from water breaks and the inconvenience that entails. And new plumbing is always nice.

The Innsbrook project is well underway, and we hope to have the majority completed by racing season. That's right - it is getting done. With the weather warming you will see road and general construction everywhere, and we are fortunate to have funding and the staff to manage it all. Our contractors are amazing, we have the best in the state working right here for us.

If you are wondering what is happening at 603 Mechem, it's our new housing development. This property was secured several years ago, through many public meetings and the blessing of our Housing Advisory Board. We will have 10 two- and three-bedroom homes ready by the end of the summer. These will be high quality modular homes with metal roofs, granite counter tops, eight-foot ceilings and textured drywall with stainless appliances. The water shed and water run-off plans have all been approved.

For more information on any of the Village projects please check out our website, visit our Facebook and Twitter pages, and listen to *Mondays with the Mayor* every Monday from 8:00 – 10:00 AM on 1490 AM – The Mountain.

Until next time, live by a saying I saw on a t-shirt recently...Dude, be nice!

Mayor Lynn Crawford

VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETINGS

»» Recent Actions

At the Regular Meeting of the Village Council on March 12, 2024, action was taken on the following items:

- » **Adoption of Sierra Blanca Regional Airport Certification Manual and Airport Emergency Plan.**
- » **Proclamation: March 10-16, 2024, as “AmeriCorps Week.”**
- » **Adoption of Resolutions 2024-10, 2024-11 and Resolution 2024-12, Resolutions Authorizing Participation in the Transportation Project Fund Program** Administered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation for Various Road Projects within the Village of Ruidoso.
- » **Award of Professional Service Agreements with Cobb Fendley & Associates, Inc., Souder, Miller & Associates, and WaterWorks Engineers, LLC** for On-Call Professional Engineering Services for Water and Sewer System Improvements.
- » **Approval of Task Order for Meander Drive Culvert** with DuBois & King, Inc.

Ruidoso Village Council Members

- » Rifle Salas - *Mayor Pro Tem*
- » Susan Lutterman
- » Joe Eby
- » Gary Jackson
- » Darren Hooker

VILLAGE CLERK

»» March 5th Election Results

Congratulations to Village Councilors Joe Eby, Susan Lutterman, Rifle Salas and Municipal Judge Frank Potter on their successful re-election campaigns! Lutterman, Salas, and Potter will be serving 4-year terms, and Eby will serve a 2-year term.

Councilor Greg Cory was elected to one of the three Village Council seats that will serve a 4-year term. Councilor Cory will be attending the New Mexico Municipal League MOLI and Newly Elected Officials Training that will take place in Santa Fe. The training provides newly elected officials with information on the forms of municipal government along with statutory roles and responsibilities.



Rifle Salas



Susan Lutterman



Joe Eby



Judge Frank Potter



Greg Cory

Find out everything you need on the go!

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DiscoverRuidoso.com

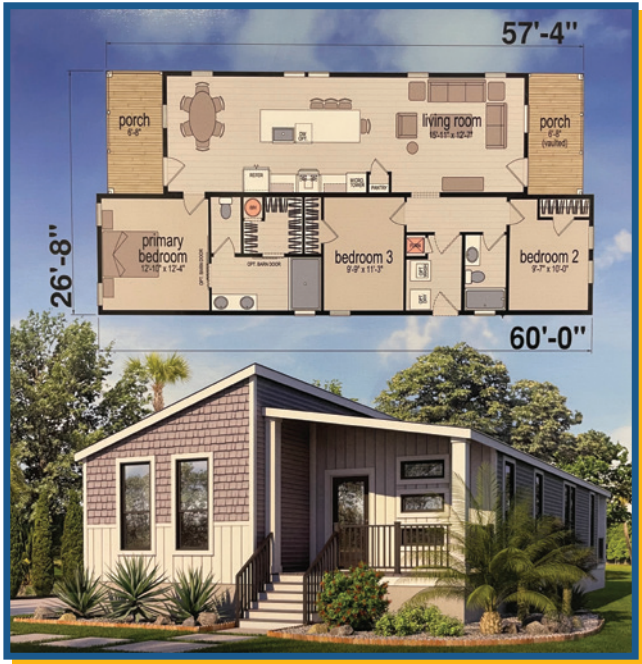
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

»» 603 Mechem Update

The Village began the newest workforce housing project at 603 Mechem which focuses on fostering a community-oriented atmosphere through a neighborhood design featuring 10 new homes. These homes, encompassing both 2-bedroom and 3-bedroom layouts, are modular but echo the appeal of stick-built residences. With exterior siding, porches, and decorative fronts, they offer all the comforts of home.

Upcoming Developments:

- 1. Electric and Gas Lines:** To ensure a reliable and efficient energy supply, the Village is working closely with utility providers to install modern electric and gas lines. Meeting the demands of the new modular homes, these lines will also enhance the overall energy infrastructure for the entire community.
- 2. Internet Connectivity:** Recognizing the significance of a robust internet connection in today's digital age, the Village is partnering with leading internet service providers to deliver high-speed and reliable connectivity to 603 Mechem Drive. This advancement will empower residents with seamless online experiences, supporting remote work, education, and entertainment needs.
- 3. Sewer and Water Lines:** For a healthy and sustainable living environment, the project includes the installation of modern sewer and water lines. This upgrade addresses the needs of the expanded housing units and aligns with environmentally conscious practices, contributing to the overall efficiency of sewage and water systems.



Over the next few months, residents will observe significant activity on the site, including the removal of trees, grading of the area, construction of retaining walls, and the transportation and delivery of homes. Your patience and understanding is appreciated during this period of transformation.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

»» Upcoming Movie: *The Lost Bus*

There are exciting updates to share on the progress of the recruitment of sports and entertainment opportunities for this community.

First and foremost, the Village has secured the successful finalization of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the XTERRA Triathlon scheduled for August 2025. This achievement stands as a true testament to the dedication and collaborative efforts of everyone that has been involved in this project.

Ruidoso is also in the final stages of decision-making for the prestigious IRONMAN triathlon. Regional Director Judy Stowers visited the Village from March 13-15 to tour the proposed racecourse and to explore the community.

Simultaneously, the partnership with *The Lost Bus* movie team continues to thrive. Keep your eyes peeled as they will be filming in Ruidoso April 1-15. The recent extras casting events drew over 1,050 participants, and the Village's collaboration with ENMU-Ruidoso on the Film Industry Jobs Forum hosted by renowned movie producer Daniel Cummings was met with enthusiastic participation. These initiatives are helping to grow the film industry in our region.



The Lost Bus is set to feature Matthew McConaughey, director Paul Greengrass, and producers Jamie Lee Curtis, and Jason Blum.
Photo: *Deadline*

The Village is committed to enhancing Ruidoso's standing in both the sports and entertainment realms. The potential positive impact on our community's economic and cultural landscape is undeniable.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

»» Fire Weather Warnings and Red Flag Days



A Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning is issued when the combination of dry fuels and weather conditions creates an environment of extreme fire danger. These alerts are crafted for land and fire managers to emphasize the heightened risk.

Fire weather involves assessing meteorological factors such as relative humidity, wind speed and direction, mixing heights, and soil moisture to gauge whether conditions favor fire growth and smoke dispersion.

A Red Flag Warning indicates that warm temperatures, very low humidity, and stronger winds are expected to combine, leading to an increased risk of fire danger.

To prevent wildfires:

- » Refrain from discarding cigarettes or matches from a moving vehicle, as they can ignite dry grass on the roadside.
- » Ensure proper extinguishing of outdoor fires by drowning them with ample water and stirring to guarantee everything is cool to the touch.
- » Submerge charcoal in water until cold, avoiding the disposal of live charcoal on the ground.
- » Never leave a fire unattended, as sparks or embers can blow into leaves or grass, sparking a fire that spreads rapidly.

On Red Flag Days, the Ruidoso Fire Department displays red flags to alert the community of the heightened danger. For any inquiries, please call 575-257-3473. Stay vigilant and help ensure everyone's safety!

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

»» Ready, Set, Go Notice

A wildfire has started nearby. Do you know the evacuation levels?

The Village of Ruidoso follows a 3-level evacuation notification system for wildfires, each structured around the readiness need and threat level. Knowing the current levels and what they mean can help you make the best decision to stay safe! **If you feel unsafe, DON'T wait to evacuate!**



Ready

Level 1 - Be Ready to Evacuate.

Prepare to evacuate:

- Stay informed and aware of the danger in the area by signing up for the Call Me Ruidoso Emergency Alert System (CallMeRuidoso.com).
- Check for updates through VOR social media, website, and 1490 AM – The Mountain.
- Have your emergency plan and go-kit ready with health, safety, and identification supplies.
- Act early if you are older or have children, disabilities, or limited access to transportation.
- Consider moving pets and livestock early.
- Plan possible evacuation routes. Use NMRoads.com or call 511 for road closure information.
- Plan for emergency shelter. If you can do so safely, check with your neighbors, and share information.

Set

Level 2 - Be Set to Evacuate.

Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice:

- There is significant danger in the area. Stay informed and be alert. Continue to check for updates through VOR social media, website, and 1490 AM – The Mountain.
- When it is time to act, follow your emergency plan and grab your go-kit of supplies.
- If you have livestock, put your animal evacuation plan into action.
- Inform loved ones of your evacuation plans.
- Conditions can change rapidly. You do not need to wait for another evacuation notice. Leave if you feel unsafe!

Go!

Level 3 - Go NOW!

Evacuate immediately:

- There is extreme danger in the area. Leave without delay. Staying is unsafe and threatens the safety of you, your family, and emergency responders.
- Emergency responders may not be available to help if you choose to stay.
- Do not stop to gather your belongings or to protect your home.
- Follow your emergency plan and grab your go-kit.
- Leave as fast as safely possible. Drive carefully. Turn on your headlights. Follow traffic safety warnings and instructions from public safety officials. Once you are safe, check with friends and family.
- Do not return until public safety officials announce the area is safe.

WATER RESOURCES/PUBLIC WORKS

»» Sewer Line Interceptor Project

Phase III of the Sewer Line Interceptor Project was substantially completed on February 28, 2024, marking the end of a long journey that started with flooding due to Hurricane Dolly in 2008. Since then, the Village of Ruidoso has advocated for its residents to obtain funding to restore and mitigate damage to the sewer line in the Rio Ruidoso.

The Village of Ruidoso obtained \$32 million dollars from FEMA to complete the three phases of the project:

- » Phase I – Restoration completed in July 2022
- » Phase II – Lift Stations completed in March 2023
- » Phase III – Hazard Mitigation will be completed in May 2024

The main purpose of Phase III is to keep raw sewage out of the river through stream armoring of the sewer line and bank stabilization. The goals are to improve the fish habitat and improve the river ecosystem without changing the “look” of the river.

The final step of the project, restoration planting, will be completed in late April and early May 2024. Thank you to the residents affected by this project for your cooperation and patience. The Village continues to pursue grant funding opportunities to restore and improve the Rio Ruidoso.



Above & Beyond

Hi! I just wanted to share praise and gratitude for Charlie, who drives the grapple truck. A dumpster sits behind our house, so we often end up with a huge pile of pine needles (we don't have any pine trees), etc. that often didn't come from our yard, and the animals often scatter the pile. Charlie does a beautiful job of picking it up, raking the stray stuff to make sure he gets it all, and he's so pleasant to talk to. We appreciate him!

~ Kathy W.

Recycled Art Show

This is a great idea for our recycled material! The entry fee is free, and art must be 90% recycled materials.

Entries taken 4/8 - 4/12

Winners announced 4/12



Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.

RUIDOSO MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

»» National Honors Society Etiquette Dinner



Members of the Ruidoso High School National Honor Society met at Alto Lakes Country Club for a dinner etiquette lesson on February 21, 2024. Armed with advice from RHS teachers, a delicious four-course dinner was served to the students, offering them the opportunity to practice proper dining etiquette. The dinner was sponsored by the Lincoln County Medical Center, Ruidoso Ford Lincoln, A's Tree Service, Loverin Real Estate, No Bones About It, and Zia Natural Gas. It was a fun and memorable evening for everyone.



WE ARE HIRING!



The Village of Ruidoso is looking for qualified people to join our team! We currently have openings in several departments, and we offer opportunities for competitive salaries, excellent benefits, and NM Public Employees Retirement Association plans!

- **Earn more with the Village's pay-for-performance plan**
- **Progressive pay and step plans are available**
- **Continuing education courses and specialized training are available**
- **Excellent opportunities for advancement in all departments**

APPLY TODAY!

ENMU – RUIDOSO

»» New ENMU-Ruidoso Community College Board Member Sworn In

Colton Harrelson was appointed as a Community College Board Member at the ENMU-R board meeting on February 22. He received a Bachelor of Science in Business from NMSU and Secondary Teaching Certificates from ENMU in Math, Social Studies, Business, Science, and Agriculture. Harrelson is currently retired. With work experience including Farm Credit – Wichita District for ten years, he was a Secondary Teacher for 24 years, 16 of them in Ruidoso. In addition to teaching, he coached football, volleyball, basketball, and track and field.



Born and raised in New Mexico, he has been a resident of Ruidoso for 24 years. He enjoys fishing, hunting, camping, and all other outdoor activities. His family includes his wife of 44 years, Debbie, and two children, Jake and Andi.

Spring **EVENTS**

Check out our line-up of great events for spring!

Please visit DiscoverRuidoso.com for additional events and details.

APRIL 2:

- Ruidoso Writers Group, Ruidoso Library

APRIL 3:

- Daughters of the American Revolution, Ruidoso Library

APRIL 4:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive, Suite 1
- Contemporary Perspectives in Classic Cinema, ENMU-R

APRIL 5:

- Doso Dirtbags and Dave Millsap, Downshift Riverside

APRIL 6:

- Mike Super Magic, Spencer Theater
- Birds, Bees, and Butterflies Bash, Enchanted Vine
- Andy Hedges, Flying J Ranch
- Live Country Dance Music by Joe Mark Angelo, Win, Place and Show

APRIL 7:

- A New Film Series, ENMU-R

APRIL 11:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive, Suite 1

APRIL 12:

- Deadline for Recycled Art Show and Winners Announced, Ruidoso Library
- Captain Klas Album Release Party, Downshift Riverside
- Open Mic Night, ENMU-R

APRIL 13:

- 2024 Books and Writing Festival, ENMU-R
- Rotary Club Duck Race, Two Rivers Park
- Dave Martinez, Downshift Hidden Tap

APRIL 14:

- Bloom and Brew, Downshift Riverside

APRIL 16:

- Ruidoso Writers Group, Ruidoso Library

APRIL 17:

- Madeline and Jeff Anderson, Downshift Riverside
- Feed Your Brain, ENMU-R

APRIL 18:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive, Suite 1
- Contemporary Perspectives on Classic Cinema, ENMU-R

APRIL 19:

- Matthew McDaniel and Dave Millsap, Downshift Riverside

APRIL 20:

- Terry Lee Goffee Johnny Cash Tribute, Spencer Theater; Turkey Hunt Dance, No Scum Allowed Saloon
- Dwight Yokum, Inn of the Mountain Gods

APRIL 21:

- A New Film Series, ENMU-R
- The Great American Cleanup 2024, Wingfield Park

APRIL 23:

- Moonlight Hike, White Sands National Park
- Full Moon Sound Bath, Blue Lotus Day Spa & Yoga

APRIL 25:

- Coppelia, Spencer Theater
- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive, Suite 1

APRIL 27:

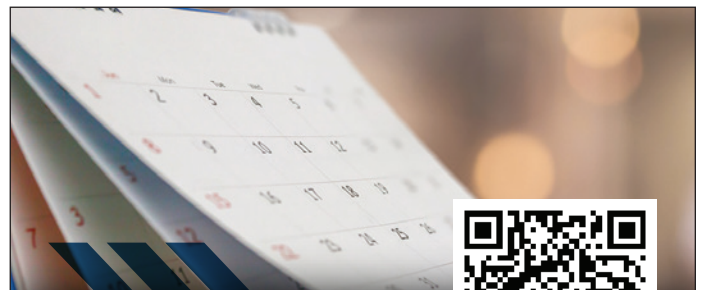
- Hello Darlin', Lost Hiker Brewing Company

APRIL 28:

- 2nd Annual Lincoln County Home Builder's Association Golf Scramble, The Links

APRIL 29:

- 5th Monday Community Dinner, ENMU-R



Submit Your Event

www.discoverruidoso.com/event-submission-form

EVENTS FOR *kids*

TUESDAYS:

- Baby and Me Storytime, 10:30 AM, Ruidoso Public Library

WEDNESDAYS:

- Preschool Storytime, 10:30 AM, Ruidoso Public Library

APRIL 10:

- Teen Program, 3 PM, Ruidoso Library

APRIL 18:

- Elementary School Program, 3:00 PM, Ruidoso Library

APRIL 27:

- Dia Celebration, Wingfield Park



The Ruidoso Public Library presents its 3rd Annual Dia-Children's Day/Book Day Celebration!
There will be free books, activities, entertainment, and local information about kids' summer activities and resources.
Stay tuned at ruidosolibrary.org

FOLLOW US!

April 21, 2024

Location: Wingfield Park
Registration time: 12:30 pm
Cleanup time: 1-4 pm

RuidosoParksAndRec.com

MAY 1:

- College and Job Fair, ENMU-R

MAY 2:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive Suite 1
- Contemporary Perspectives on Classic Cinema, ENMU-R

MAY 3-4:

- Smokey Bear Days: Celebrate Smokey's 80th Birthday, Smokey Bear Historical Park

MAY 4:

- Cuatro de Mayo Chili Cookoff, No Scum Allowed Saloon

MAY 9:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive Suite 1

MAY 11:

- Tapestry: Tribute to Carol King, Spencer Theater

MAY 16:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive Suite 1
- Contemporary Perspectives on Classic Cinema, ENMU-R

MAY 17-18:

- First Annual Lincoln Forest Renaissance Faire, Wingfield Park

MAY 18:

- The Yamas and Niyamas Workshop, Blue Lotus Day Spa & Yoga
- Mountain Top Rock, No Scum Allowed Saloon
- May 22:
- Moonlight Hike, White Sands National Park

MAY 23:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive Suite 1
- Full Moon Sound Bath, Blue Lotus Day Spa & Yoga

MAY 24:

- Opening Weekend, Ruidoso Downs Race Track

MAY 30:

- Veterans Coffee and Company, 615 Sudderth Drive Suite 1
- Contemporary Perspectives on Classic Cinema, ENMU-R

- Airport 575-336-8111**
- Convention Center 575-258-5445**
- Judicial 575-257-9055**
- Library 575-258-3704**
- Parks & Recreation 575-257-5030**
- Police 575-258-7365**
- Fire 575-257-3473**
- Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant (RWWTP) 575-378-8417**
- Senior Center 575-257-4565**
- Solid Waste 575-257-1502**
- Street Works 575-257-6023**
- Water Distribution and Sewer Collections 575-257-2386**
- Water Production 575-257-5525**
- Water Rights/Watershed (RJU) 575-258-6913**

**VILLAGE HALL:
 575-258-4343**

- Capital Projects & Purchasing
- Executive
- Finance
- Forestry
- Human Resources
- Planning and Zoning
- Utility Billing



www.Ruidoso-NM.gov



LINCOLN COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

»» Guest Column by Todd Oberheu, Hospital Chief Executive

Over the last five years, Lincoln County Medical Center (LCMC) has grown in many areas. In addition to opening our new hospital, we have added a variety of medical specialists to better serve our community. During this time, LCMC has added specialists in orthopedic, Dr. Damon Sacoman and Dr. Richard Purcell, who offer total joint replacements for knees, hips, and shoulders. LCMC was fortunate to expand cardiology services by bringing Dr. Harold Sunderman here full-time. In addition, we recently added telemedicine services for palliative care, endocrinology, and psychiatry. We continue to look at options for expanding our telemedicine offerings, with plans to add pulmonology and sleep medicine soon.



While we are thrilled to offer our community these new services and providers, we are now straining the capacity of our outpatient clinic. I am excited to announce that LCMC is in the design phase of a new Women’s Healthcare clinic. Once construction is complete, Dr. Keri Rath and Dr. Patricia Combs will relocate their practice to this new location. Drs. Rath and Combs offer comprehensive women’s healthcare, including obstetrics and gynecology. This new clinic will be on the hospital campus in the Rehabilitation Services building, across the street from Lincoln County EMS. We hope to begin construction in July 2024.

With this new clinic, our current physician office building will have more space for new providers, as well as additional exam rooms for our current providers. LCMC will continue to look for opportunities to bring you more access to healthcare right here in your community.

RUIDOSO MIDTOWN ASSOCIATION

»» From the Desk of Stephanie Garcia, Executive Director

Days are longer, nights are getting warmer, and we are ready to welcome the summer crowd. As business owners prepare to accommodate everyone for the summer, RMA is happy to announce that we will partner with ENMU on a Hospitality and Business series. This project intends to prepare owners and employees for the large summer crowds. We expect this series to begin in April or May and will continue each year with classes popping up before every busy season.

The Village is buzzing with the upcoming movie *The Lost Bus*. Filming is taking place this month throughout town with Midtown very involved in filming, providing extras, and accommodating the film crew. We are thrilled that this is bringing people to our town, creating work for the locals, and promoting our community.



As work finishes up on the billboard at Country Club and Sudderth, we give one last shout-out to Pulse Electric for quickly getting power to our beautiful sign. We know that once it is up and running, it will provide a great opportunity for people to be aware of Midtown and Village events and news. We know that with the sign, new restrooms, and the improvements to the Country Club lot, more people will make their way down the entire length of Midtown, seeing all the businesses have to offer.




The RMA continues to pursue grants and opportunities to ensure our district stays safe and fun for all residents and visitors. I have been working with NMDOT to ensure a walking-friendly district for pedestrians and motorists. We hope to make the blind corner by the new restrooms safer for families to cross.

As we move towards longer days and summer nights, our board continues its dedication to maintaining a beautiful district that attracts locals and tourists alike. We welcome any input you have - please email me directly at ruidosomidtownassociation@gmail.com, or call or text me at 575-937-4727.

We are excited to announce the Run Ruidoso Series in 2024.



RED, WHITE, AND RUN 5K COLOR FUN RUN	RUIDOSO GRINDSTONE TRAIL RUNS	
Saturday, July 6th	Saturday, August 24th	
RUIDOSO MARATHON AND HALF MARATHON	5K RUIDOSO TURKEY TROT	RUIDOSO PARKS & RECREATION LIVING IN NATURE'S PLAYGROUND DiscoverRuidoso.com
Saturday, July 20th	Saturday, November 30th	



Lincoln Forest Renaissance Faire

MAY 17-18, 2024

Wingfield Park

Friday 4pm-9pm

Saturday 10am-9pm



TICKETS:

Online - Single day \$25/ Weekend \$35

At the Gate - Single day \$35/ Weekend \$45
(\$5 discount if you're in costume)

Kids 17 years and younger are FREE with a ticketed adult

Additional children \$10 a day



For more info visit:

www.LincolnForestRenFaire.com