

**Mesilla Town Hall**  
 2231 Avenida de Mesilla \* P.O. Box 10, Mesilla, NM 88046  
 Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 6 p.m. (closed Fridays)  
 Phone (575) 524-3262; Fax (575) 541-6327  
 www.mesilla-nm.org

**Community Calendar**

**Community Events**

Walk and Roll to School Day  
 Weds. April 7

Border Book Festival

Fri., April 9 (Community Center) 5:30-10 pm  
 Sat., April 10 (Community Center) 9 am-6 pm  
 Sat., April 10 - concert (Plaza) 6-9 pm  
 Sun., April 11 (Community Center) 9 am-5 pm  
 For more information, contact (575) 523-3988  
 or [bbf@borderbookfestival.com](mailto:bbf@borderbookfestival.com)

British Car Show

Sat., April 24  
 (Plaza) 9 am-1 pm  
 For more information, contact (575) 526-7807

Mesilla Valley Onion Festival

(Off of Calle de Mercado)  
 Sat., April 24 (8 am-6 pm)  
 Sun., April 25 (11 am-6 pm)  
 For more information, contact (575) 528-7727

**Mesilla Mercado**

(Art, Crafts & Seasonal Produce Market)  
 Fridays 11 am to 4 pm  
 Sundays 12 to 4 pm

**Adult Pilates Classes (Community Center)**

Mondays 4:30-5:30 pm  
 Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 pm  
 Wednesdays 12-1 pm  
 No Pilates class Monday, April 5

**Children's Dance Class (Community Center)**

Tuesdays 3-4 pm  
 Thursdays 3-4 pm

**Town Meetings**

Tue. April 6 Planning & Zoning meeting  
 (Town Hall Board Room) 6 pm  
 Mon. April 12 Board of Trustees meeting  
 (Town Hall Board Room) 6 pm  
 Mon. April 19 Planning & Zoning meeting  
 (Town Hall Board Room) 6 pm  
 Mon. April 26 Board of Trustees meeting  
 (Town Hall Board Room) 6 pm

**Town Holiday Observance Day**

Spring Day Monday, April 5

**NORA L. BARRAZA AND LINDA L. FLORES JOIN  
 TOWN OF MESILLA BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

On Tuesday, March 2, Nora L. Barraza was elected Town of Mesilla Mayor, and Linda L. Flores was elected Town of Mesilla Trustee.

A fourth-generation Mesillera, Nora L. Barraza served as a Town of Mesilla trustee from 1999 to 2004 and from 2006 to the present, with two of those years as mayor pro tem. Barraza's experience includes serving in various capacities with the following: South Central Regional Transit District Board of Directors, South Central Council of Governments, New Mexico Municipal League, Blue Ribbon School Bond Committee, Municipal Officials Leadership Institute Certification, Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Mesilla Planning, Zoning and Historical Appropriateness Commission. She also has 25 years of budget experience with the Las Cruces Public Schools.

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Barraza was born in Mesilla and raised by her parents, Nick Lucero and Magdalena Gamboa Lucero. After attending school in Mesilla and Las Cruces, she married Paul Barraza, to whom she has been married for 35 years. They have two children – Paula and Richard – and two grandsons – Nikolus and Josziah. She is also a lifetime member of the Basilica of San Albino.

Linda L. Flores is a veteran of the United States Army. She received both her undergraduate and law degree from the University of New Mexico. She has worked as a Public Defender for the State of New Mexico and as a Staff Attorney for New Mexico Legal Aid. Flores is married, and she is a mother of two. This is her first elected office.

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## NEWS FROM THE MESILLA FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Burn With Care

The Mesilla Fire Department would like to remind everyone that open burning in the Town of Mesilla requires a burn permit. These permits are available at the Public Safety Building or the Town Hall. Open burning is not only regulated by Mesilla Town Code, it is also regulated by New Mexico state statutes.

The following checklist should help one determine if you should burn. If you answer "NO" to ANY of the following questions, the burn you are planning is not permitted by law:

1. Will you be burning more than 10 acres or more than 1,000 cubic feet of piled material per day? **Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**
  - To calculate the total cubic feet for each pile you plan to burn:  
Length x Width x Height = volume in cubic feet
  - If you are planning to burn more than 10 acres or 1,000 cubic feet of material, your burn also falls under the NM Smoke Management Program. Contact the Air Quality Bureau at 1-800-224-7009
2. Is the burn area at least 300 feet from neighbors, dwellings, workplaces, or places where people congregate? **Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**
3. Has the material to be burned had time to dry? **Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**
  - Weeds and tall grasses that have been cut and dried will burn more easily and produce less smoke.
  - Trees and branches over 6 inches in diameter take 90 days to dry.
  - Trees and branches 2 to 6 inches in diameter take 45 days to dry.
  - Brush, vines, bushes, prunings and small branches take 15 days to dry.
  - Leaves, field crops and weeds need 7 dry days.

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4. Do the piles and acreage to be burned contain only vegetative materials?

Are they free of paper, plastic, trash and hazardous materials? **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_  
**No** \_\_\_\_\_

- Trash burning is not allowed.

5. If you plan to burn more than one acre or 1000 cubic feet of material in a day, have you provided prior notice of the burn date and location to neighbors within 1/4 mile of the burn area? **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

6. Will you be starting the burn at least 1 hour after sunrise, and extinguishing the burn at least 1 hour before sunset? **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

- Burning in the morning when the winds are calm and the relative humidity tends to be higher will help with a safer burn.

7. Will you be attending the burn AT ALL TIMES, until it is FULLY EXTINGUISHED? **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

8. Have you verified that no Red Flag Warning has been issued? **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

- Go to <http://www.srh.noaa.gov>, scroll down to the map, and click on "El Paso" or call Central Dispatch at 575-526-0795.
- Burning on Red Flag days is prohibited.

9. Have you verified that there are no temporary burn bans in place by either the County or the State? **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_



## CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA SCHEDULED FOR MAY 1-2

The Town of Mesilla is hosting its annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2 on the plaza. The event runs from noon-to-10 p.m. Saturday and from noon-to-7 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission charge.

Cinco de Mayo, the Fifth of May, commemorates the victory of Mexican soldiers over the French army at The Battle of Puebla in 1862. Although the Mexican army was eventually defeated, The Battle of Puebla was a victorious and proud moment in history for the Mexicans, as the smaller, poorly-armed soldiers defeated the larger, well-equipped French army.



Robert Yee Photo

About 30 vendor booths will line the plaza offering a variety of products including art, crafts, games, drinks and food. There will also be a greased pole climb, sponsored by the Steinborn GMAC Real Estate Mesilla Office, and piñatas for kids. Emily Guerra will serve as the master of ceremonies. Following is the entertainment schedule:

### Saturday, May 1

- 12 p.m. Welcome by Mayor Nora Barraza
- 12-2 p.m. Ballet Folklorico Tierra del Encanto and Mariachi Sueños de Mexico
- 2-2:30 p.m. Mariachi Espuelas de Plata
- 2:30-3 p.m. Mariachi Espuelas de Cobre and Las Perlititas del Pueblo
- 3-4 p.m. Las Aguilas Reales and Ballet Folklorico Amanecer
- 4:15-5 p.m. Lucilene de Geus and Paco Antonio Flamenco Dance Groups
- 5-6 p.m. Greased pole climb sponsored by Steinborn GMAC Real Estate Mesilla Office; Piñatas
- 6-9:30 p.m. Sobredosis del Sabor Band

### Sunday, May 2

- 12 p.m. Welcome by Mayor Nora Barraza  
National Anthem by Linda Goff
- 12-2 p.m. Ballet Folklorico Tierra del Encanto and Mariachi Azcatitlan
- 2-3 p.m. Ballet Folklorico Quetzatcoatl La Academia Dolores Huerta and Los Monarcaz and Acordiones de Oro
- 3-4 p.m. Greased pole climb sponsored by Steinborn GMAC Real Estate Mesilla Office; Piñatas
- 4-7 p.m. Milagro Band

Posters and advertisements for the fiesta will feature artwork by Mesilla Elementary School fifth-grade student Dante Lopez. Lopez's artwork was chosen as part of For the Love of Art Month in the Las Cruces/Mesilla area in February.

Alcohol, smoking and pets are not allowed on the plaza. Attendees may bring folding chairs for their convenience. For more information, contact Kristie Medina at (575) 524-3262 ext. 116 or kmedina\_tom@comcast.net.

**MARK WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 ON YOUR CALENDAR AS MESILLA ELEMENTARY'S  
NEXT WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY, SPONSORED BY THE TOWN OF  
MESILLA'S SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Join the Bike Train or Walking School Bus on Wednesday, April 7, and collect a rain drop as your reward token. Bring your chain if you have one. The Walking School Bus leaves promptly at 7:35 a.m. from the park across the street from Los Mariachis Restaurant. The Bike Train also leaves at 7:35 a.m. from the Town Plaza.



The Walking School Bus invites all walkers, roller skaters, skate boarders and bicyclers with training wheels and their parents to join in. If a child is just learning how to use training wheels or roller skates, please have an adult come along to help.

Bike Train riders will ride as a group with an adult at the front and another at the back. All riders must be experienced, WEAR HELMETS and be sure their bikes are in good working order. Parents are encouraged to ride with kindergarten through third grade children. For more information, contact Trina Witter at 526-7783 or Susan Krueger at 524-3262 ext. 113.

**Town of Mesilla Staff, Board of Trustees and  
Planning & Zoning Commission**

Administration

(Phone 524-3262)  
**Nora L. Barraza** (ext. 106)  
*Mayor*  
**Juan A. Fuentes** (ext. 105)  
*Town Clerk/Treasurer*  
**Nick Eckert** (ext. 104)  
*Community Development  
 Director*  
**Gina Gentile** (ext. 109)  
*Planner/Building Inspector*  
**Linda Goff** (ext. 114)  
*Deputy Treasurer*  
**Rosanne Herrera** (ext. 115)  
*Accounts Payable Clerk*  
**Susan Krueger** (ext. 113)  
*Deputy Town Clerk*  
**Gloria Maya** (ext. 100)  
*Utility Clerk/Receptionist*  
**Kristie Medina** (ext. 116)  
*Special Events Coordinator*  
**Adrian Carabajal** (ext. 109)  
*Codes/Fleet Maintenance/  
 Animal Control*

Public Works Department

(Phone 524-3262)  
**Debbie Lujan** (ext. 103)  
*Public Works Director*  
**Sean Lucero**  
*Foreman*  
  
*Public Works Staff:*  
**Felipe Barron**  
**Norma Noriega**  
**Abel Robles**  
  
Marshal's Department  
 (Phone 526-4138)  
**Marcel Jojola**  
*Marshal*  
**Heriberto Flores**  
*Lieutenant*  
**Joseph Serna**  
*Deputy Marshal*  
**Jeff Gray**  
*Lieutenant*  
**Enrique Salas**  
*Deputy Marshal*  
**Gabriel Fresquez**  
*Deputy Marshal*

Fire Department

(Phone 523-1311)  
**Kevin Hoban**  
*Fire Chief*  
**Harry Evans**  
*Assistant Chief*  
**Edward Vasquez**  
*Lieutenant, A Shift*  
**Paul Ford**  
*Lieutenant, EMS Div.*  
**Ricardo Muñoz**  
*Lieutenant, C Shift*  
  
*Firefighters:*  
**James Herrera**  
**James Padilla**  
**Brian Abraham**  
**Johnny Cruz**  
  
*Fire Cadets:*  
**Charlie Alvaranga**  
**Gabriel Gil**  
**Michael Graham**  
**Edward Padilla**  
**Aaron Hernandez**  
**Gerardo Martinez**  
**Ricardo Sanchez**

Board of Trustees

**Nora L. Barraza**  
*Mayor*  
**Carlos Arzabal**  
*Mayor Pro Tem*  
**Sam Bernal**  
*Trustee*  
**Jesus Caro, Jr.**  
*Trustee*  
**Linda Flores**  
*Trustee*

Planning, Zoning &

Historical  
Appropriateness  
Commission  
**Dax Contreras**  
**Gayle Lewis**  
**John Nelson**  
**David Rocktraw**  
**John Sullivan**

