



TIMBERLAKE TIMES

Timberlake Ranch Landowners Association

Summer 2023

“President’s Ponderings” will return in the Fall. In the meantime, the summer’s off to a great start with ongoing volunteer activities, an Open House at the fire station, Stitchers and Crafters classes on Thursdays, and the Mystic Bluffs Fly-in on the horizon.

This Saturday, June 24

“In the Ditch” Timberlake road cleanup

2023’s first big Volunteer Event starts at 9:00 Saturday morning, to clear the bar ditches of trash which has been accumulating since last summer. Last June, we had 30-40 volunteers, covering the 11 miles to Hwy 53 and the 38 miles of side roads.

There are two options:

1. Meet at 9 am (Fire Station/Mailboxes) to hand pick an assigned road.
2. Decide to do a couple of sideroads near you at your leisure.

The Fire Department will place their vehicles to alert incoming and outgoing traffic of our presence on the main road. Trash bags and water will be provided! Long sleeves, pants, hats, and gloves are recommended, the biters are out in full force.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 2

Ice Cream Social

2 – 4 pm, Ranch House

Station 55 Open House

2 – 4 pm

Timberlake Fire Station 55

Saturday, July 15

July Board Meeting

10 am, Ranch House

Saturday, Aug 19

Mystic Bluffs Fly-In

August 19, more details coming soon

Monday, Sept 4

Labor Day BBQ & Silent Auction

4:30 – 7 pm, Ranch House

Ongoing at the Ranch House:

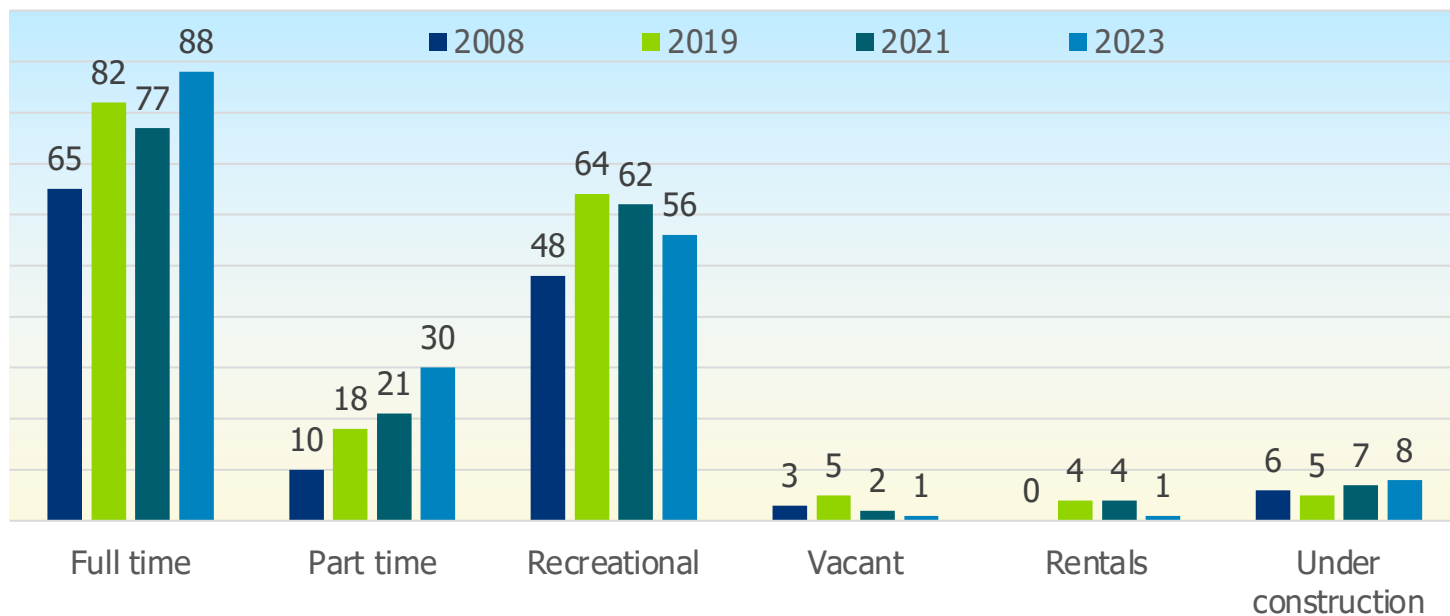
Book Room: Tuesdays, 1-4 pm

Timberlake by the Numbers

As of May 2023, Timberlake landowners (574) reside in 30 states and two foreign countries (England and Switzerland.)

The top three states landowners come from are **New Mexico (52%) Arizona (33%) CA (8%).**

	2007 – 2008	2019	2020-2021	2022-2023
Full Time	65	82	77	88
Part Time	10	18	21	30
Recreational	48	64	62	56
Vacant	3	5	2	1
Rentals		4	4	1
Under Construction	6	5	7	8
TOTAL	126	173	175	184



ROSIE Alert

The Rosie Alert was established as an alert system for Timberlake residents. Receive emails with information about safety situations, road conditions, and missing, injured, or found pets and livestock. to sign up, contact Rosie Alerts by email [here](#).

The Timberlake Trail is Open for Hiking!

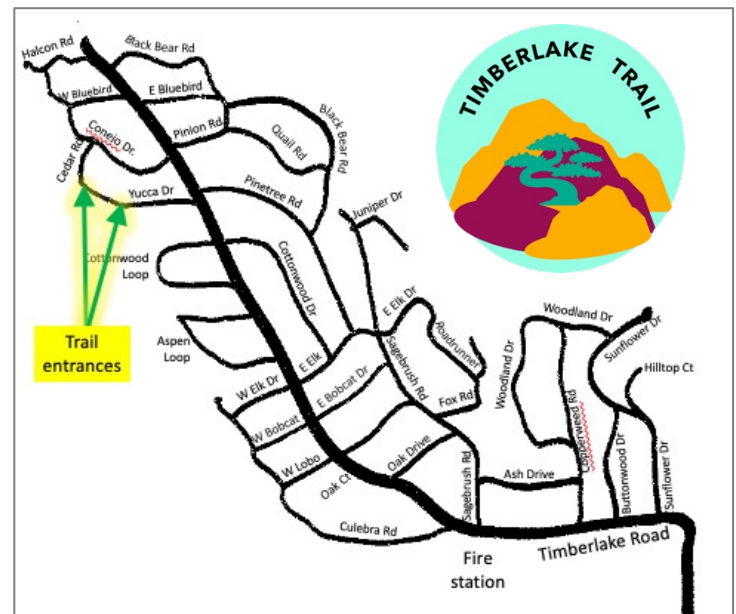
Greg Brookes, Timberlake resident

The grand opening of the new *Timberlake Trail* was held over the Memorial Day weekend, amid great fanfare. Many people took a break from the barbecue and went out for an easy hike. Community interest in the project has been exceptional.

To get there, take Timberlake Road to Yucca Drive, and head west toward the bluffs. There is parking on the wide shoulder at the corner of Cedar/Yucca. There is also trail head parking area at the other end (where Cedar Road turns).

Trail Project Planning

Overall, the trail is envisioned to be 4 miles through the Commons forest along the base of the cliffs. The initial ½ mile segment at Cedar Road is now complete and open for hiking. There is also a short side trail to a scenic viewpoint, which is well worth the time to see. Our volunteer Trail Crew is actively working to extend the trail south to Culebra, and north to Halcon over the next few years.



Since the trail is totally within the HOA Commons, it is exclusively for the use of landowners and their guests. The trail is privately owned and maintained and does not connect outside Timberlake. Horses and hikers are welcome; however, ATV's and bicycles are not permitted. As you walk on the trail, you will appreciate its gentle grades and smooth walking surface. The level of difficulty is "easy", and it is intended to appeal to the wide range of people in Timberlake.



Construction of the trail follows tried-and-true techniques which you will find on established trails in any public park or forest. The criteria chosen for our trail is based on that used for the Pacific Crest Trail, which is widely regarded as the gold standard for horse and hiking trails and is shaped for drainage and built on undisturbed soil, making it durable and easy to maintain.

As Timberlake landowners, we are fortunate to have our very own private forest (aka The Commons). Hidden away you'll find ancient alligator juniper trees, spectacular rock formations, waterfalls, hoodoos, slot canyons, and seemingly endless views of our scenic valley. It is rugged terrain, but the trail makes it accessible so you can see it for yourself. So, what are you waiting for? Lace up those boots and get out there!

Volunteer Trail Crew

The trail offers many benefits to the community. First of all, it allows us easy access to our Commons so we can explore our pristine forest. It also promotes conservation by confining much of our impact to the immediate trail corridor (rather than creating many minor paths all around). It serves as a fire break and provides emergency access. Ultimately, the trail is an asset to be appreciated long into the future by all our active landowners.

This is an HOA-powered project, and we need volunteers! If you would like to help, there is a job for everyone whatever your interests or abilities may be. It's not just pruning, digging, and moving rocks (but that's the fun part). We need hiking guides, scouts, a woodworker, photographer, camp cook, and more. Come spend an afternoon in the forest with your neighbors and help us build the trail.



A big **THANK YOU** to the Timberlake Volunteers, who used some of their petty cash and bought a "pro hoe" for the trail building crew. The crew is thrilled and can't wait to get out there and dig!

Timberlake Volunteer Fire Department: Station 55

Station 55 Open House

Sunday, July 2, 2-4 pm



Come meet your neighbors and the volunteer crew!

- Fire Safety
- First Aid
- Hydration awareness
- Apparatus & equipment demos
- Code Red information
- Fire permit and burn ban info

Ropes Rescue, PHI, and porta-tank training



! PLEASE NOTE

When calling 9-1-1,
remember to tell the
dispatcher you need

STATION 55

Otherwise, first responders
could be dispatched all the
way from Grants.

THE BRUSH PILE IS OPEN!

BRUSH ONLY PLEASE. Place stumps to the west of the main pile so to be burned separately. No tree trunks, no construction materials, and no trash. The brush pile is safe and FREE, and you don't need a burn permit.

Hydration Awareness – It's Critical to Your Health.

July is Hydration Awareness month, but up here where the air is dry and the sun is hot, hydration is critical year-round. The Timberlake Volunteer Fire Department regularly responds to calls from residents suffering from dehydration, it sneaks up on you. **Stay hydrated and stay healthy.**

Symptoms of Dehydration

Infant or young child:

- Dry mouth & tongue
- No tears when crying
- No wet diapers for 3hrs
- Sunken eyes, cheeks
- Sunken soft spot on top of the skull
- Listless or irritable

Adult:

- Extreme thirst
- Urination less frequent
- Urine dark-coloured
- Fatigue
- Dizziness
- Confusion
- Headache



TIPS TO STAY HYDRATED

Drink water before you feel thirsty – If you feel thirsty you are already dehydrated. Don't wait to feel thirsty. Grab a cup and start drinking. When it comes to staying hydrated in the heat, make it part of your regular routine so that it feels natural to you.

Check the color of your urine – Your urine should be a pale yellow color. Dark yellow urine lets you know that you are dehydrated. Also, not going to the bathroom often enough is another signal that you are not taking in enough fluids.

Drink water before, during, and after exercise – A good way of replenishing fluids is by replacing them as soon as you're losing them.

Avoid alcohol – Alcohol is extremely dehydrating as it is a diuretic. It will prompt you to urinate more often than necessary, releasing the fluids that are keeping you hydrated.

Avoid Energy Drinks – Energy drinks contain high amounts of caffeine that can dehydrate you fast. Energy drinks also cause the heart to pump faster, which can increase the likelihood of heatstroke.

A Fed Bear is a Dead Bear

Life in a Wildland-Urban Interface Zone

Johanna Cooper, Timberlake Resident

Timberlake is considered a **Wildland–Urban Interface (WUI)** zone, which is a zone of transition between wilderness (unoccupied land) and land developed by human activity – an area where a built environment meets or intermingles with a natural environment. And while the WUI designation is most often used when talking about fire danger, it also applies to our community, considering our resident wildlife, the habitat fragmentation and the decline of biodiversity we have created by the impact of our presence. We (and our dogs and ATVs) disturb many of the routines and sources of food for the creatures that live nearby.

Among our wildlife neighbors, we are fortunate to have bear that live in the Zuni Mountains. In past years, they have created problems for the Timberlake community and the consequence of that has been the likely death of a number of trapped bears. With all the moisture we received in the area this past winter, hopefully there will be plenty to eat for the animals in the mountains and no need for them to come looking for their food in our neighborhoods. But if they do show up, **please DO NOT feed them**—intentionally or unintentionally. While you might find it charming to see a bear feeding on your property, **A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR. Most relocated bears have been shown to be dead within weeks of being moved**, either killed by other bears or by vehicles while attempting to return home, which they commonly do. Most good bear habitat is already occupied by other bears, and relocated bears are at a huge disadvantage in not knowing locations of food and water.

Ask yourself: is a good picture, or story, or a bit of laziness about taking down a feeder, worth knowing that you may have caused or contributed to the death of such a wondrous animal?

DON'T FEED THE BEARS.

- Minimize food/garbage odors and availability.
- Store all garbage in a sturdy building or place in a bear-resistant trash receptacle.
- Do not leave pet food out. Hang bird feeders out of reach of bears or bring them inside each night.
- Keep barbecue grills grease-free. Store with livestock/pet feed inside a sturdy building.
- Quickly remove ripe fruit from trees and the ground below.
- Compost piles may attract bears. Do not put meat, fish or other pungent scraps in your compost pile. Add lime to reduce odors and accelerate decomposition.
- An electric fence is an effective way to protect orchards, gardens, compost piles, and beehives. Follow appropriate safety precautions.



Bear activity may intensify in spring when bears are hungry and emerging from their dens, and in the fall when bears are bulking up for hibernation, and during drought periods due to the scarcity of natural foods.

Please be a responsible neighbor to local wildlife.

Timberlake Stitches and Crafters

Our beautiful raffle quilt this year is called **Quilt of Many Colors**. The quilt is Queen Plus, 94" x 102".

Tickets will be available at all the TRLA summer events \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.

The drawing will be held at the annual landowners barbecue & silent auction, you don't need to be present to win.

Please e-mail [Barb Stevens](mailto:Barb.Stevens@trla.com) if you would like to purchase tickets and won't be at the ice cream social, fly in, or the barbecue.



2023 calendar of instructed classes

June 29

Iris Folding Class

Ranch House craft room
Bring scissors and tape

Aug 10

Paper Mache

19 W. Elk Drive

Jul 6

Sew Something Thursday

Ranch House craft room
Quilt block of the month
(learn accuracy in cutting, seam allowances, piecing, and pressing)

Aug 24

Star Paper Folding (origami)

Ranch House craft room

Sep 7

Wine Bottle Craft

Linda Pedersen's house

Jul 13

Punch Tin Luminaries

Ranch House craft room

Oct 26

End of Year Potluck

Ranch House craft room

All classes begin at 10:00 am. Anyone interested in being added to our e-mail list to get information regarding classes and other scheduled Thursdays, please email Barb Stevens sestevens1@gmail.com.

Makers of Timberlake

Wade Aubuchon, singer and composer

Interview by Rachel Schali

Q. What brought you to Timberlake?

A. We lived outside of Albuquerque when my wife and I retired from the police department we knew we were going to downsize and looked for a place to retire. We wanted to be in the mountains, the trees and rural, a lot of places were expensive. We saw a property on the internet that looked beautiful, we started driving out here, as soon as you go through the canyon and start looking around, it's pretty amazing. We ended up getting a place looking out over the lake. Julie [Farrell] had asked us to be on the Fire Dept. and we kept on saying no, but it just so happens that the Med Flight landing zone is in front of our house. We're sitting on the porch one day and we see the fire department come up, training. I'm watching all this and getting a strong pull. We went and checked it out, and started volunteering.

Q. Do you write songs?

A. I do write songs I feel funny saying that because I'm so new to this. Growing up I always sang I was always immersed in music and loved listening to it and singing with it. In high school I was always in all the sports. I would always sing in the vehicle. We were 45 minutes from school driving. I had all that time driving and I would sing constantly. I always loved it. I ended up going to college got my Associates, came out here and got hired on at the police department. Nothing happened with me singing except I always sang in the car. It was shortly after that that I came up here and was getting hired with Albuquerque PD that one of my friends was getting married. I went and they had a band, playing for the dance. They convinced me to sing a song with them, I'd never really done that, but it was amongst friends.

Chuck Cusimano, a talented musician who had a band, had a ranch there. He had moved to Texas to pursue music. He approached me and said, *You need to pursue this*. I said, *That's really nice, but I don't know anything about this*. This was '88, '89—things are starting to happen in Nashville. *You need to go to Nashville and just try*. He said, *I write songs*. He gave me a notebook with a bunch of originals. *Take these songs see what happens*. I was just getting hired with Albuquerque police and didn't think I could walk away from that do do something I've never done. I appreciated it, it was very generous. So, I took his songs and I had them for awhile. I didn't think I was ready. He said, *Just think about it. Do you know where the Caravan East is?* It's a huge country bar. I said, *Yeah, it's in one of my districts. There's a band there I know they play live you should go talk to them*. He gave me the band leaders name—*Go tell him I sent you and see if you can sing a couple songs with them*. All this is going through my mind, *I don't know if I can do this*. I'm talking to a couple partners I work with they said *you can sing you should go do this we're going to go with you and you're going to do this*. I was saying I don't know, we're spending hours and hours in a car, and you're working graveyard and you're listening to the radio, and you just sing so people would be able to hear. They convinced me. On a Friday night, we go with guys from the squad, and the bar was packed. I'm thinking, *what am I doing?* We're sitting listening to the band, it's very good; the band had a break.

I go up and talk to the band. I said, *This is gonna sound kind of weird, but Chuck Cusimano is a friend of mine, and he said come talk to you and maybe I could sing a song with you*. He said, *Chuck, I haven't seen him for a long time, he's a good guy, so you want to sing a song*. I said, *Yeah, he said I should*. He said, *Well, have you done this before?* I said no. He said, *Oh ok but Chuck sent you?* I said, *Yeah, he said to talk to you*. He said, *Ok I trust Chuck*. He asked, *Do you know a song?* I said, *Do you know Silver Wings by Merle Haggard?* He says, *Yeah, actually we know that. We can probably pull that off. I'll let you come up when we're out of break you can sing Silver Wings, and we'll see what happens. You haven't done this before?* I say no. He says, *Do you want me to cue you when you should sing?* I can't believe I said this. I said, *Well will it sound like the record?* He kind of chuckled and he said, *We'll get pretty close, but I mean, it's Merle Haggard*. I think I'll know timing wise—when to start singing.

Makers of Timberlake, continued

Wade Aubuchon, singer and composer

They start playing and I go up there and the place was packed we start going and I sing *Silver Wings* and people clap and it was cool and then he asked, *Do you want to do another song?* I said, *Sure, do you know Amarillo by Morning?*” He said we could do that. We did, and that was it, that was the most I ever did with a band. I was thinking, *I’m so new at this*, again the self-confidence thing. *Yeah, people clap, but they’re being nice, I’m not the caliber to make it.* The self doubt and fear of failure was there too. *Do I give up the security of this to pursue something I never even thought about doing?* I continued to sing all the time in the car, just all the time.

Coming out here and getting involved with the fire department, I got to know Billy Sanders, who plays rhythm guitar really well. He would get together with Mike Landers, George Dobbs, Bob [Schafer] would come out, and Wayne Ramm. They would get little groups together and do jam sessions. They had no formal band at this point. We were talking, trying to get to know each other, and he said he played guitar and I said I’d love to hear him sometime. He said, *Do you play anything?* and I said *No, but I sing.*

It’s kind of funny, when you tell somebody you can sing, they’re like, *Oh okay, sure.* I told my wife Melinda I could sing and she was like, *hmm okay*, so I sang *Silver Wings* to her. With Billy, we were listening to the radio and *The Dance* came on, a Garth Brooks song, so I started to sing along. He said, *You need to come over to my house.* So we came over and started playing and figured out how to play *The Dance* almost right away. His wife Sherry was there, and he said, *Sherry listen to this.* He said, *Sing this, he can sing.* He said, *We’re trying to get together a band, you need to come with us.* I said, *I’ve never done this, Billy.* He said, *What better place to start?* I said, *Alright.*

At that point it was George Dobbs, he plays harmonica, Billy Sanders on rhythm guitar, Bob Shafer on bass, and Anthony Lovato was the drummer. Wayne Ramm would come in every now and then with the lead guitar, before that Mike Landers would come in with the lead. Nita, Chri, who has an amazing voice, and Barb Duncan would sing backup. We started jamming, we were just having a good time at that point. One thing led to another and we decided to get together and learn some songs, try and do a little concert. Wayne Ramm has Rammstock every year, so we did a performance there last year and had a really good time.

We started to gear up to do a performance around Christmastime at the Old School Gallery. Ed Tsunoda was living at Ancient Way at the cabins and is a keyboard player. He heard us practicing at the gallery and came over and said, *You guys need a keyboard player?* and ended up joining for that performance. We had so many people in the band. Then COVID hit again, and Out of the Woods dissolved. It became Thunder Ridge, which it is now, because it was people living close by. There was a fireman working with us, Stan Carlson, who also played bass, he came in and started playing. That’s our group now, with Wayne, Stan Carlson, Anthony, Billy and myself and George Dobbs.

It was amazing for me to start finding my own voice. When you’re singing in the car with someone, you match what they do or it sounds weird, it was good training. I would sing whoever I was listening to; if I was listening to Crystal Gayle, I would do that. It really helped me. Being with the band opened up a whole other world I hadn’t experienced. Finding my own voice and being able to put my own touch on a song—it changes with the moment, depending on how we’re doing the song. There’s different kinds of emotions that come out every time you sing. Finding my own voice with the band was very freeing and helped me discover a lot I had that I didn’t know I had in me, creative-wise.

Because I didn’t play an instrument, I would get melodies in my head. I didn’t know how to convert that. What do you do with that? The band was together about a year, and we started talking about how we need some original stuff. We wanted to do videos and we didn’t know about the copyright infringement with cover songs, we needed some of our own stuff. I thought, *I can write something, I’ll give it a shot* cause when the guys are practicing it’s very easy for me to make up lyrics on the fly and ad lib. I thought, ***I think I can do this.***

Makers of Timberlake (continued)

Wade Aubuchon, singer and composer

We practice at Anthony's little cabin. It made me think about a guy I used to work with, when I retired, he had a little barn and on Friday nights he'd say come on down to the barn—the bar 'n'. The bar 'n' always stuck with me. When Anthony said we should write something I thought, *let's go home and think about this, that's going to be a cool song*. That was one of the first songs I wrote, *The Bar N*. It was about living in the country, how city folks would go crazy not having a place to unwind. *Have a good look around that barn over there is where we go around to get unwound, come Friday night it's the Bar N. You wake up the next morning and it's back to the barn again*. It was just kind of a play on that.

That opened me up to the idea that I could write songs. I had a lot of ideas but didn't know how to play an instrument and didn't know how to translate my ideas for the guys. Talking to Bob Schaefer and Wayne Ramm, and everybody in the band, has been amazing. Bob lent me a keyboard and gave me a quick rundown on three basic chords. I'll play and eventually find the chord that corresponds to what's in my head. I got to where I could show them the chords and sing it to them and they would say okay; they were phenomenal about putting the notes together. I was going crazy because I wanted to write more and more. I had an old guitar I got out and started playing, and figured out a few chords, so from that it's progressed to writing some songs and it's been a lot of fun.

I came across an Albuquerque song writer's co-op, one of the organizers is a professor of songwriting in the music department at UNM. You can present a song for help or critique. I had just learned guitar well enough to do my song; I was like, *what am I doing here?* but my song was very well received, they said it was radio-ready, whatever that means. It really helped boost my confidence. So, I thought, *we need a songwriter's co-op out here*. That's what came to fruition at the Old School Gallery on Tuesdays at one o'clock—a songwriter's workshop. It also covers the technical part of setting up the sound board, audio, and lights. Huge credit to Wayne and Bob getting that going. We're organizing the music setup for the gallery because they're short-handed.

For me, Timberlake has been a blessing because it's such a talented community that's very giving, it really got me started. There's a time and place for everything. When I was twenty-one, it wasn't the right time. I want to write songs right now. I want to do a recording. Moving here has reenforced that this is what I should be doing, and this is where I need to be.



Wayne Ramm, George Dobbs, Anthony Lovato, Wade Aubuchon, Stan Carlson, Bill Sanders.

Thunder Ridge will have a three-set concert at the Old School Gallery, outdoor stage, June 24th from 7-10 as part of the 25th anniversary celebration for the Old School Gallery.

2023 TRLA BOARD MEMBERS

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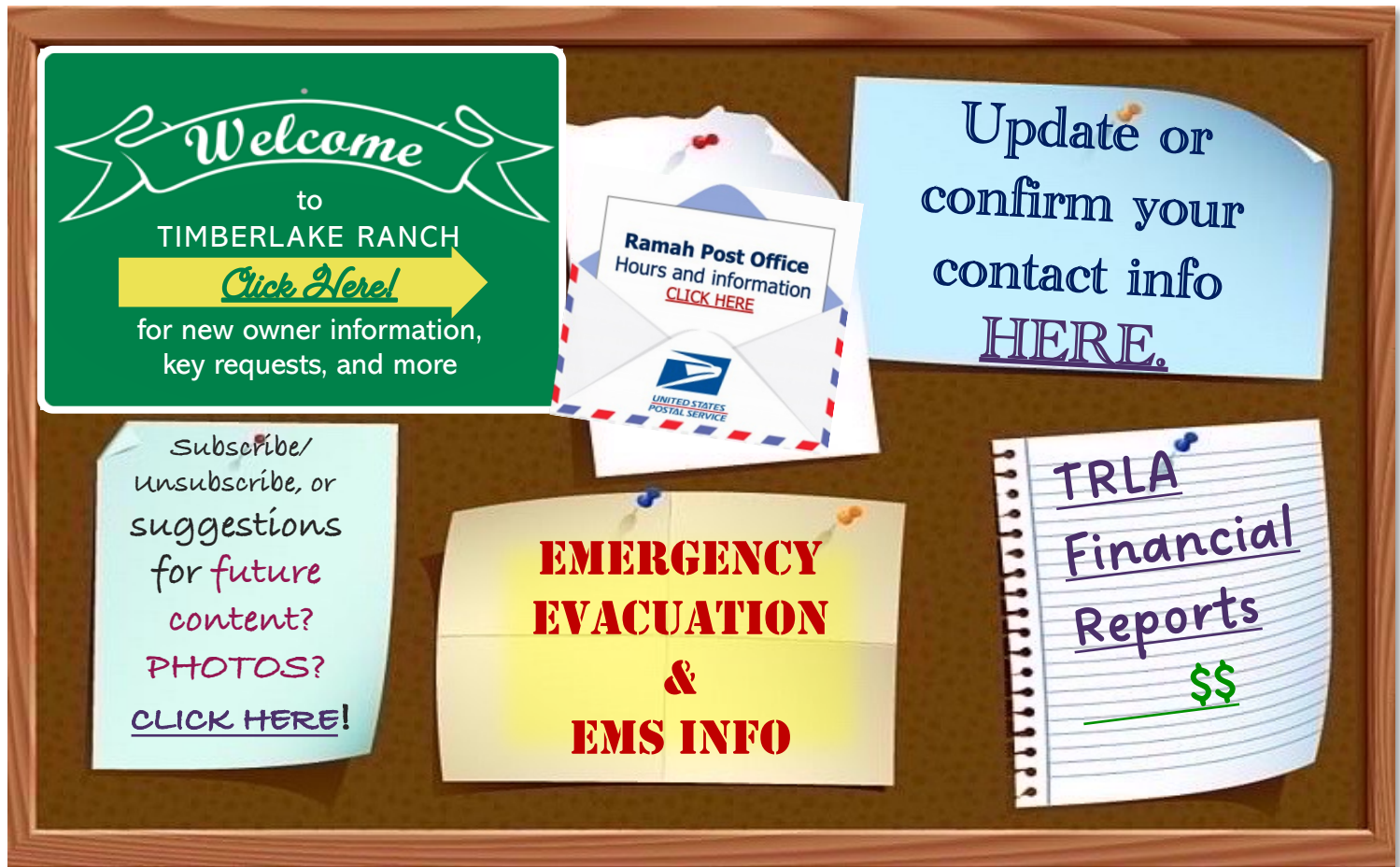
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BULLETIN BOARD



Don't forget...

Correct mailing address is critical for property taxes!

After three years of nonpayment of property taxes, the NM Delinquent Property Tax Bureau takes possession of the property and auctions are scheduled by county. **There is no recourse for the landowner.**

Both McKinley County and Cibola County auctions have resumed after a long hiatus due to COVID. To view the list of properties scheduled for auction, use this link:
<https://www.tax.newmexico.gov/businesses/property-tax-overview/delinquent-property-tax-auctions>

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