Jemez Valley Pulls Together in Support of Evacuees, Firefighters of Cajete Fire

JEMEZ SPRINGS, NM—Businesses in and around Jemez Springs, New Mexico are pulling together to help displaced homeowners who were evacuated yesterday because of the Cajete Fire in the Jemez Ranger District of the Santa Fe National Forest.

"Our hearts go out to our neighbors in the La Cueva area whose lives have been disrupted because of the Cajete fire," said Mayor Bob Wilson. "We are grateful to the more than 130 fire personnel who are dedicating time and resources to eliminating this fire. Jemez Springs is pulling together to help in any way we can."

Along with the Jemez Mountain Baptist Church in La Cueva, who continues to provide shelter for evacuees, Jemez Springs retreat center, Bodhi Manda Zen Center, is also offering accommodations at *no cost* to evacuees and fire personnel. Donations are encouraged. Contact the Center for more information at 575-829-3854.

Laughing Lizard Inn and Cañon del Rio Retreat and Spa are offering government rates for all firefighters and evacuees.

The Village owned Jemez Springs Bath House is offering complimentary use of their showers for all evacuees and firefighters. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Likewise, Jemez Springs restaurants – Los Ojos Restaurant and Saloon, Highway 4 Cafe and Stage Stop – are all offering 25 percent discounts to evacuees and firefighters. Visit jemezsprings.org for individual hours of operation.

On June 16, more than four dozen four legged family members were rescued from the homes of evacuees, by no kill non profit organization, Jemez Valley Animal Amigos. Contact 888-828-JVAA (5822) for more information.

At this time, Jemez Springs businesses are still open per normal business hours.

Thank you to the Jemez Mountain Baptist Church in La Cueva for housing evacuees and for firefighters who continue to work tirelessly to extinguish the Cajete fire.

According to officials, the Cajete has charred 700 acres since Thursday, June 15 and is zero percent contained. The fire displaced residents from the communities of Ruby Holt Plat, Los Griegos and Sierra de Los Pinos.

For updates on the Cajete Fire, visit <u>www.nmfireinfo.com</u> or visit Facebook/Village of Jemez Springs for local information or <u>www.jemezsprings.org</u>.