



The Chronicle

A Quarterly Publication of the
**Four Hills Village
 Association**

WWW.FHVA.ORG

Established 1970

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President's Message *by Steve Brügge*

Thoughts on Turning Sixty

I'll turn sixty later this year. I don't expect this to vex me too much, but I must confess that when my daughter turned twenty-one some years ago, that bothered me for the entire year. She'll soon be thirty, and I do expect this to cause additional consternation on my part.

It's interesting that Four Hills Village and I are roughly the same age. In the mid to late 1950s, Harry T. Driver and Marshall Wylie purchased what was then the Speakman Ranch with visions of a golf course and many homes. By 1959, there were a handful of homes built in what to this day is called the First Installment, which is roughly the land immediately east and west of the entrance to Four Hills Village.

While my house is listed on city documents as having been built in 1960, it's clear from the daughter of the architect and dates on now-removed lighting that the house was finished in 1961. So I like to say that the house and I are the same age.

Houses, like people, need regular maintenance. I seem to visit the dentist and doctor far more often than I did a couple of decades ago. The house, too, seems to get frequent visits from the plumber and flooring companies. I sometimes think that half of the vehicles I see coming up Four Hills Road are service trucks en route to repair some part of an aging home.

While there are a number of new builds in Four Hills Village, most of the houses date from the 1960s and the 1970s. My beagle takes me on a daily walk around the First Installment. I estimate that about 65 percent of the sixty houses I pass have changed owners in the fifteen years I've lived here. Some have even changed hands two or three times.

Four Hills Village is an aging neighborhood with many new residents. I'm delighted to hear the wee voices of the children of a couple of my immediate neighbors. The appeal is easy to see: large lots, custom houses, easy city access, abundant nature, and quiet edge-of-city living. Since 1970, the Four Hills Village Association has been here to look out for this wonderful neighborhood.

Aging has its issues, but I'm convinced that sixty is a great age for people and houses!

Vice President's Report *by Ellen Lipman*

One ABQ Cleanup in Four Hills Village took place the morning of Saturday, April 24, 2021. Many of your FHVA Board members (including me) and a few friends assembled at the Four Hills Park on that cool, sunny morning, ready to work donning heavy footwear and gloves with clippers and rakes in hand.

After about two and a half hours and many filled garbage bags, the park looked good, so we moved to clean up the Kirtland AFB fence line. Joining us there was Mayor Tim Keller with words of encouragement, thanks, and a few photo ops. We are hoping next year to have even more neighbors help out! It's lots of fun and it feels great helping to beautify our neighborhood.



**Advertise
Here**

The Chronicle is the newsletter publication of the Four Hills Village Association. It is published quarterly (March, June, September and December) and mailed to members. A link to the PDF document is distributed by email to members who have opted to go paperless. The public may view *The Chronicle* online at FHVA.org

Advertising in *The Chronicle*:

- ◆ Full page ad: \$200 per issue
- ◆ Half page ad: \$100 per issue
- ◆ Half page, back page: \$150 per issue
- ◆ Quarter page: \$50

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Contact the Publications Director for those dates.

Mail checks to : Four Hills Village Association
PO Box 50505
Albuquerque, NM 87181-0505

Advertising rates for the **Members Only Directory**, issued once a year, are double those of *The Chronicle*.

Treasurer's Report by Linda Martinez

01/01/2021 Beginning Balance

Checking	\$ 7,774.01	
Savings	<u>23,321.05</u>	
Total		\$ 31,095.06

Year to Date Income

Membership Dues	\$4,921.47	
Advertising Income	696.80	
Interest Earned MM	<u>2.24</u>	
Total		\$ 5,620.51

Year to Date Expenses

Prizes for Contest	164.85	
Insurance	950.00	
Newsletter	391.94	
Reminder Letter	181.12	
Supplies	67.47	
Bank Fees	12.00	
Zoom Purchase for Meetings	<u>161.70</u>	
Total		\$ 1,929.08

January 2021 – thru May 2021 Income less Expenses **\$ 3,691.43**

05/31-2021 Balance

Checking	\$ 11,463.20	
Savings	<u>23,323.29</u>	
Net Income		\$ 34,786.49



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Education and Youth Affairs Update *by Ian Esquibel*



Our Education and Youth Committee meets on the third Thursday of every month from 6 - 7 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact Ian Esquibel (ianesquibel@gmail.com) to receive a calendar invite. We invite you to join us to share your ideas about how our neighborhood can better support our young people.

Membership Report *by Marilou Cochran*

NEIGHBORLY- implies a disposition to live on good terms with others and to be helpful on principle.

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

FHVA
Welcomes Our
Good Neighbors
Old and New!

Driving into Four Hills in the spring is especially beautiful. I love the newly finished gabion along Four Hills Road, the new sign, the homes that are being renovated and spruced up and the trees and foliage that are coming to life. I never get tired of the scenery and views here. It's no wonder it is such a desirable location to live.

Four Hills Village Association (FHVA) is growing, slowly but surely, and we are thankful for that. There is strength in numbers when it comes to voices being heard by city, county, and state governments.

If there is something you feel strongly about, FHVA can be a starting place to speak out. Please encourage your neighbors who have not joined to do so. Consider becoming involved with the Board of Directors, either by running for a position, serving on a special committee or participating in an event – for example the annual. shred event, National Night Out, yard sale, or Christmas light contest.

One of the benefits of membership is getting to know your neighbors and possibly making new friends. At \$25.00 a year, membership in FHVA is a bargain in this day and age.

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Snippets of History of Four Hills Village by Ann Harris Davidson

Sidewalks?!

Why, we wonder, do sidewalks start and stop randomly in Four Hills Village. Some homes and even an occasional full block (such as the north-south block of Sagebrush Trail SE) have sidewalks, while many of the streets (such as Stagecoach Road SE west of the “Y” entrance intersection) are completely devoid of sidewalks. The short answer is that at least one of the principal developers of Four Hills Village actively campaigned against having sidewalks in the development, for not seeing the need for them! (It was a very different era, one when, for example, jogging outdoors for fitness was not commonly done.)



William D. Brannin, the principal founder of what is now the Canyon Club, exclaimed (according to a report in the Albuquerque Tribune newspaper on April 30, 1959) that Four Hills Village “*is too sprawling and rolling for walks*” and that he didn’t think that “*anybody is going to walk around there.*”

At its conception, from 1954 but with the land purchases largely made in 1957 and 1958, the Four Hills Village development was planned as a “luxury bracket estate” on land that was well outside the bounds of City of Albuquerque. Evidently, the City coveted annexing such a high-end development and the developers must have seen some value to being incorporated into the City, as the developers’ “1st Installment” (which is the part of Four Hills Village that is primarily to the north of the golf course) was incorporated into the City on May 2, 1958. Then, the golf course and a large part of central and north-east Four Hills Village (the “2nd Installment”) were incorporated into the City in mid-1959. This second annexation was a front page headline (“*Land Annexation To Highlight City Planners Meeting*”) in the Albuquerque Journal of Sunday, May 3, 1959*, which reported that “*two sections of the Four Hills residential development and Four Hills golf course, with a total acreage of 335 acres*” were up for annexation consideration at the Monday, May 4, 1959 meeting of Albuquerque’s City Planning Commission (with this incorporation officially completed by June 23, 1959).

Once incorporated into the City of Albuquerque, all of the City’s ordinances and regulations became applicable. Even in the late 1950s, sidewalks were required in the City (and, in any event, the City has usage of the first few feet of any property) because the Albuquerque Tribune also reported that, at a meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 1959, City Commissioners agreed “*that the exclusive Southeast addition will not have to put in sidewalks for the time being.*” (“For the time being” seems to have lasted for decades!) However, “*Developer Bill Brannin...was told he should submit, meanwhile, a proposal for Planning Commission consideration.*” So, Brannin needed a City Planning Commission exemption in order for Four Hills Village to avoid having to install sidewalks.

Subsequently, as houses were built through the 1960s, it is probable that the installation, or not, of sidewalks became a matter of the personal philosophy of the builders or the prospective homebuyers. Today, without a consistent web of sidewalks, even the in-fill homes that have been built in Four Hills Village in the 21st century have not included sidewalks. This is not to say that sidewalks could not now be installed, though all recognize the major cost of such potential retrofitting.

Speaking of the past, here's some early FHV advertising from the August 6, 1958 issue of the Albuquerque Tribune!

THE SOUTHWEST'S *Finest*

Secluded three-quarter acre sites in Albuquerque's **only** exclusive residential sub-division . . . Four Hills Village. A superb new community enchantingly set 'round the new Four Hills Country Club. Every site overlooking the vast Rio Grande Valley.

Estate size frontages from 125' to 300' — on terrain ideal for rambling, spacious homes. Architectural control committee. Secluded, yet just ¾ mile from new Embudo Freeway. Supervision of automobile speeds in area.

It is preferable that lots be shown by appointment. However, don't hesitate to visit Four Hills Village today.

Four Hills Village

Exclusive Agent: Bill Brannin Agency — Realtor
Office — 5115 Copper Ave. NE AM 8-8811 AM 8-8844

Particular appreciation and gratitude are due to Brigid Conklin, our FHVA Publications Director, who conducted the archival research to uncover the relevant Albuquerque Tribune and Albuquerque Journal newspaper articles.

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings

The FHVA Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. These meetings are open to all members and are now held online on Zoom.

You don't even have to leave home to attend!

Please contact Steve Brugge at spbrugge@gmail.com if you wish to join in.

Parks and Open Space Update *by Lisa (Rusty) Goetz*

Rock'n with Rusty



Now that warm weather is here, many of us are out walking about Four Hills Village (FHV) admiring the colors of the newly emergent flowers. Look alongside these beautiful blooms and you can see colors of another sort. Many of the homes in FHV were built with stone facia decoration of unusually colored rocks. Also, many folks have placed rocks with interesting colors in their gardens. Here is a summary of the mineralogy of some of the more uniquely colored rocks and a stab at possible quarry locations for these stones. Please take the mineral and rock summaries listed below with a grain of salt (another mineral), as I have not crossed into anyone's yard to examine closely the rocks or collect samples for analysis.

Rocks are a little like chocolate chip cookies. "Rocks" (the finished cookie) are made up of "minerals" which are the ingredients. The "host rock" is often made up of a mixture of very fine crystalline minerals that sometimes intergrow with each other and, at other times, may become cemented together by yet other minerals (like the ingredients in cookie dough). Sometimes certain individual minerals will grow to larger sizes and can be seen by the naked eye (like chocolate chips) or they will form layers that fill up fractures within the host rock (like Oreo cookie filling). These layers are frequently weak zones within the rock. When they are quarried, the host rocks will break along these zones leaving

the mineralized layer exposed (like icing on a cookie). Just like cookies, almost all rocks need to be "baked" by nature. Unlike cookies, the formation of a rock may also take lots of pressure which is usually produced by deep burial in the earth.

Chrysocolla

Some homes in FHV have walls made up rocks coated with a mineral that is a powdery-looking blue-green. Most probably these rocks contain "chrysocolla" which is a very common minor ore of copper. Chemically, it is a trash basket mixture of elements including copper, phosphates, silica, and a whole bunch of other minerals tossed in, in various amounts. It has wide range of hardness and copper content. It ranges in color from dark blue green to bright turquoise blue to very pale blue green. In general, chrysocolla has a chalky texture and forms fracture coatings or veins, within a darker host rock.

There are numerous places where these rocks could have been quarried. The closest is probably in the Cerrillos Hills, northeast of the Sandia Mountains, where it would have been associated with the volcanic rocks that contain the turquoise and the local copper/gold deposits. Another area known to have produced chrysocolla is in the Kelly Mining District on the west side of the Magdalena Mountains, west of Socorro. However, that district has been closed for more than 50 years. The most prolific source for chrysocolla would be in and about the giant open pit copper mines in the Silver City area of southwestern New Mexico or those in southeastern Arizona. It could also have been imported from the copper districts in northwestern Mexico.



Parks and Open Space Update cont'd by Lisa (Rusty) Goetz

Turquoise

Turquoise is defined as an opaque, soft blue-to-green mineral that is actually a hydrated phosphate of copper and aluminum, with the chemical formula $\text{CuAl}_6(\text{PO}_4)_4(\text{OH})_8 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$. New Mexicans know it is a gem with historic and religious value. As far as I know, only the residents of FHV are decorated with turquoise, but here are a couple of fun facts about our local turquoise mine in the Cerrillos Hills.



Starting around 600 B.C.E., the Cerrillos turquoise deposits were worked and widely traded by the local Pueblo tribes. Cerrillos turquoise has now been identified by chemical "fingerprinting" in both Aztec and Mayan ceremonial objects. Surprisingly, the local turquoise was deemed to be of little value by the European settlers. However, a turquoise jewelry fashion craze in the 1880's drove up the price and mining at Cerrillos then became economic. When turquoise prices rose to a peak in the mid 1880's, Tiffany & Co. contracted for all the turquoise the America Turquoise Company could mine from their Cerrillos claims. Between the mid 1880's and 1900, Tiffany & Co. supposedly sold over \$2 million dollars' worth of Cerrillos turquoise jewelry and had such success with the Cerrillos turquoise jewelry that they patented its color as "Tiffany Blue" and ever since have used it on their signature boxes. The mine is now largely worked out but some local artisans continue to mine turquoise using hand tools.

Green Phyllite Schists

Another green/blue green facia stone used in FHV is a "phyllite" or "phyllite schist". It is a low-grade metamorphic rock formed when shaley sandstones are buried and placed under geologically moderate heat and pressure. The original minerals are reformed (metamorphosed) into new minerals. Within the rock, these new minerals tend to line up in sheets which form very fine layers called "foliation". Most often phyllite or phyllite schist will break (fracture) along these zones. The green color comes from the color of tiny crystals of the minerals "chlorite" and "epidote". Typically, phyllite and phyllite schist have a silvery-shiny look that is due to two other minerals, "mica" and "sericite", which are very reflective and are also aligned within the foliation zones. The rock, phyllite, is made up of mineral crystals that are too small to be seen with the naked eye. The mineral crystals in phyllite schists are much larger than in phyllite and can be seen as individual crystals without any magnification.



In New Mexico, these phyllites and green phyllite schists are usually associated with Precambrian age granites (greater than 600 million years old). They can be found in the mountains up and down the Rio Grande Rift System (today's Rio Grande valley) wherever the ancient granites are layered next to the metamorphosed former sandstone beds. I suspect the rocks used in FHV were taken from very small quarries located on private lands that may no longer be in business. The most likely areas to quarry this building stone would have been in the Manzano and Los Pinos Mountains. Possibly some of the stone could have come from the Tijeras area.

Parks and Open Space Update cont'd by Lisa (Rusty) Goetz

Greenstone

Many homes here have a dull or matte green-gray to dark green rock with rough edges in their gardens. This is probably a type of rock called "greenstone". Most of the time the minerals making up this rock are too small to be seen with the naked eye. These minerals include: "quartz", "feldspars", "epidote", "actinolite", "hornblende", "chlorite", "biotite mica", "calcite", and derivatives of eroded volcanic rock and phyllites. The greenstone in our area is thought to have been formed from metamorphosed basalts (an iron-rich volcanic rock type), possibly interlayered with both rhyolites (a quartz rich-volcanic rock type) and sandy shales. These original rocks were both erupted and laid down underwater in rift valleys that formed beneath an ocean during Middle Phanerozoic time, more than 1.7 billion years ago. These rocks were later buried very deeply (producing geologically very high pressure but only moderate temperature) and were later uplifted and crushed when the Tijeras Fault Zone was activated more than a billion years ago.



Massive outcrops of "Tijeras Greenstone" can be found on the south side of Tijeras Canyon and southeast of Carnuel. It usually forms dark green-grey cliffs and slopes where it outcrops. Another greenstone occurrence, known as the "Hell Canyon Formation", can be found in a layer that is about 5,000 feet thick in and about the Hell Canyon area of the central Manzano Mountains.

Milky Quartz

Many of us have seen the almost pure white, glassy-looking boulders and cobbles both in gardens and along the Open Space trails. This is a variety of the very common mineral, "quartz". The opaque white form is called "milky quartz". Quartz is nature's answer to glass. It has basically the same chemical formula as clear glass (SiO_2) but differs in that it is a crystalline substance. Like glass, if you chip quartz, it will form conchoidal fractures that are very similar to fractures seen on broken glass. Milky quartz is the same as pure quartz (sometimes called "rock crystal") which is colorless and transparent. The difference between them is that during the formation of milky quartz, tiny inclusions, similar to bubbles, of liquid SiO_2 , or gas and/or water, are trapped within the quartz mass. These inclusions diffuse light and give milky quartz its wonderful glowing white color.



The milky quartz boulders we have in our yards were probably broken out of the quartz veins that crisscross the Sandia and Manzano Mountains. These veins are younger than the granite, which is about 1.2-billion years old, and can be on the order of over a half-mile long and tens of feet in width. Typically, quartz fills in preexisting fractures or faults. The old-time prospector searched for these quartz veins because the same fluids that emplaced the quartz often carried gold, silver, iron, and other precious metals in small quantities. These precious metals could be deposited in mostly pure bands within the quartz or as finely disseminated, nearly invisible inclusions within the quartz. When the miners found an economic deposit of this thick vein quartz with metals, they called them "reefs".





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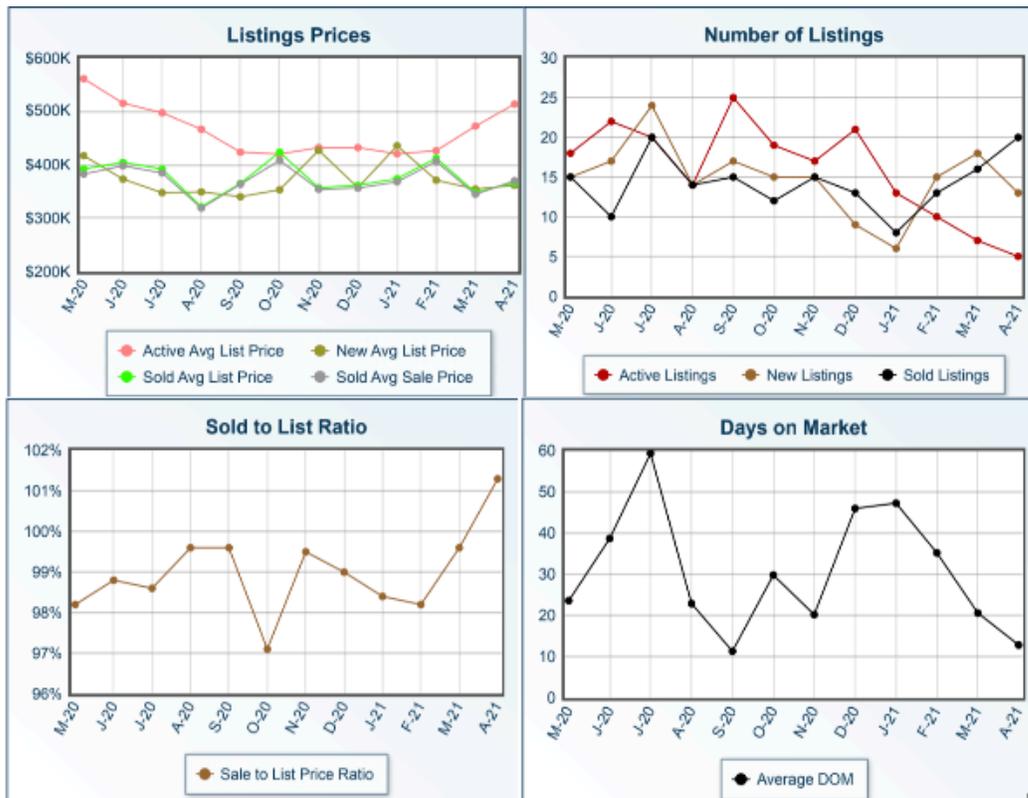
Real Estate Update *by Jan DeMay*

Hello neighbors! What a time be a Four Hills Village homeowner! Prices are going up, and inventory is still very low. Homes that are on the market are moving fast! The average for number of days on the market has gone down 87% from April of 2020. As of April 2021, the average was only 12 days!

Prices all across Four Hills Village are steadily climbing as well. Our average price per sq/ft has risen to \$154 a sq/ft, nearly \$10 higher than our February report which was at \$144 per sq/ft. The median list price has also risen 17% and average sale price has risen 12% compared to April of 2020. Overall, we are seeing very positive numbers and have high hopes for the future of Four Hills. Please contact with any questions, or for any other information you may need.



Summary Statistics Four Hills Village			
Year to Date	April 2021	April 2020	% Chg
Absorption Rate	0.38	2.50	-84.80
Average List Price	\$513,960	\$503,920	1.99
Median List Price	\$525,000	\$450,000	16.67
Average Sale Price	\$370,045	\$328,988	12.48
Median Sale Price	\$346,750	\$329,9500	5.09
Average CDOM	12	93	-87.10
Median CDOM	2	3	-33.33



Security Update *by Paul Sedillo*

The “Speeding Has a Name” campaign has kicked off in Albuquerque. The campaign was created in memory of Erika Chavez who was killed in a car accident in September, 2020. At the campaign launch on April 30, APD Chief Harold Medina stated that “we cannot continue to allow drivers in Albuquerque to travel so dangerously on our roadways.” APD, city council, and the mayor’s office have come together to ensure this problem is addressed and mitigated. If you would like a “Speeding Has a Name” yard sign or bumper sticker, they will be available at all APD substations or city councilors’ offices.

Traffic is also being observed in Four Hills Village. You may have noticed a few cameras and other monitoring devices throughout the neighborhood. The city will host a meeting to go over their data and to hear from the community. They anticipate that the meeting will be sometime in late June, but have not yet announced a date. Please review the upcoming Four Hills Village Association website for updates on scheduling. Four Hills is busy with walkers, bikers, wildlife, and children, and as the weather warms up, pedestrians are definitely out in full force. Please be mindful of your speed as you drive through the neighborhood to ensure our streets are safe.

Finally, please be aware that 242-COPS and 911 dispatch has announced that they are severely understaffed. They are trying to hire as quickly as they can to meet the demand. In the meantime, there will most likely be hold times when calling 242-COPS since 911 calls must take priority. Please do not hesitate to call 911 for emergency situations.



APD RESPONSES IN FOUR HILLS VILLAGE

Five months ending May 28, 2021

Incident Type	# of Incidences
Vehicle Break-in	4
Assault	2
Residential Burglary	4
Disturbing the Peace	29
Motor Vehicle Theft	5
Theft/Larceny/Fraud/Embezzlement	10
Vandalism	6

Neighborhood News

Report from Four Hills Neighbors- A Women's Organization

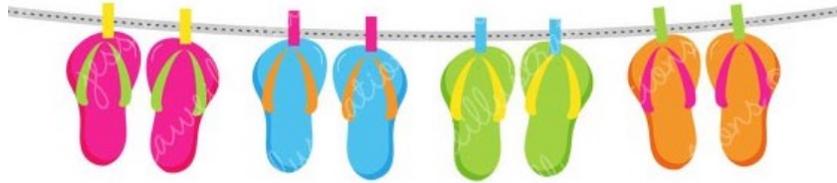
Our fiscal year for 2021-2022 began June 1 and our current officers are:

• Eileen Mahn	President
• Bonnie Nolan-Blackledge	1st Vice-President (Senior Area Hostess)
• Morrell Eggert	2nd Vice-President (Activities)
• Karen Berry	Secretary
• Kaye Martin	Treasurer

Four Hills Neighbors (FHN) is a women's organization that is open to any woman who is a resident of Four Hills Village. It began in 1976 and has been operating continuously ever since. The idea was to promote friendship among all women residing in Four Hills Village. We offer 19 activity groups to choose from and hope to begin our quarterly luncheons again this fall.

Membership is free the first year for new members and \$20.00 for returning members. We publish a membership directory in August and send out quarterly newsletters to all members. If you would like to join, contact Mary Roehrig (fhnmembers@gmail.com) to get a membership form. We would love to welcome you.

Eileen Mahn, FHN President



National Night Out is back and will take place on Tuesday, August 3!



National Night Out (NNO) is an excellent opportunity for you and your neighbors to socialize, renew acquaintances, welcome new neighbors, and join fellow citizens in our community's fight against crime.

Our NNO collaborator is Four Hills Neighbors.

ABQ National Night Out is sponsored by the Albuquerque Police Department, the Crime Prevention Unit, and the Office of Neighborhood Coordination.

For details on when and where your Four Hills gathering will take place, check the FHVA.org website or look for notices on Nextdoor.

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION?

Did You Know?

The difference between a homeowners association (HOA) and a neighborhood association has confounded Four Hills Village (FHV) residents for decades. Here is why.

From its inception in 1970 until it was re-named in late 2017, the Four Hills Village Association (FHVA) was titled the Four Hills Village Homeowner's Association (FHVHA). It was thought to be a true HOA. But it never has been, is not now, and never will be an HOA. The FHVA is a neighborhood association as specified by city and county ordinances. It is your official communication channel with the city and county governments.

Before real estate developers divide a tract of land into residential lots, they often create a "covenants, conditions and restrictions" document (CC&R). It becomes a permanent attachment to the deed and is binding on all future owners. This legal document specifies building and use requirements and other items that may serve to protect property value. It also specifies whether an HOA will be created and, if so, details the responsibilities of the HOA and homeowners.

To enforce compliance with CC&Rs during development, the developer will likely name a committee to approve building plans. This committee disappears when the developer leaves. Any HOA stipulated in the CC&Rs would succeed the developer's committee, and it would be controlled by homeowners. If an HOA is not created in the CC&Rs, it would be difficult or impossible to create one later as that would require the consent of every property owner.

Buyers agree to abide by the terms of the CC&Rs at closing, whether or not there is an HOA. If there is an HOA, membership is compulsory. Dues may amount to several hundred dollars a month. An HOA often has strict rules and can legally force members to comply. In contrast to an HOA, a neighborhood association is a voluntary organization created to represent residents and property owners. After petitioning local governments for recognition, it then becomes the official contact point for those governments. It has no legal right to enforce CC&Rs; it can only advise. FHVA is the only "recognized neighborhood association permitted in Four Hills Village.

There are, however, two true HOAs within the boundaries of FHV. They are Villa Serena and Village Gardens. Homeowner's dues at the Villa Serena condominium community are just over \$300 per month according to a friend who lives there and who is also a long-time member of FHVA. These dues cover insurance and the maintenance of building exteriors (except roofs) and grounds. Village Gardens is adjacent to Villa Serena outside the wall but is not associated with Villa Serena except in proximity. It is a community of 30 townhouses, which is a different type of ownership from the condominiums. The townhouse owners at Village Gardens pay \$95 per month for grounds and driveway maintenance. Owners and residents in both Villa Serena and Village Gardens are encouraged to become members of the FHVA.

Jim Church, FHV resident.

*We welcome our new board member,
Secretary Angela Harris!*

...And Now a Few Words from our Elected Officials...

A Report from Meredith Dixon, Representative for New Mexico House District 20

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the New Mexico Legislature shifts to interim committees for the next few months, I look forward to spending time talking to constituents, working with stakeholders, and crafting legislation. I will continue to work on priorities such as reducing crime, improving child well-being, and diversifying our economy.

For the interim, I have been appointed to the following committees: Legislative Finance, Economic Development and Policy, Military and Veterans Affairs, and New Mexico Finance Authority. In addition, I have been appointed to the Energy Council, a regional association of legislators and industry leaders.

I am especially excited to serve as a designee for the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) which is where the legislature can exercise its oversight of spending, evaluate agency performance, track revenue projections and more.

Beyond interim committees, I am pleased to participate in a range of community meetings that provide me with additional insight into the various needs of our community, such as the Kirtland Sustainability Committee and the Sandia Science and Tech Park Community Advisory Council. I have also enjoyed the opportunity to visit Manzano High School, NM School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and Albuquerque School of Excellence. I enjoy visiting businesses and organizations in our district, to hear and see firsthand, so please let me know if you would like for me to visit.

During the 2021 regular session, the legislature passed legislation to increase transparency on the capital outlay process. Now, information about all capital outlay funding made by each legislator will be available. You can view the list of what I funded on my website at www.meredithfornewmexico.com.

I used three main criteria to determine which projects to fund. First, every project was vetted by a team of constituent volunteers. Second, I assessed the goal and impact of the project in terms of constituent needs, the greater good, and my legislative priorities. Finally, I considered if the funds would make a project request "fully funded" either solely with my funds or through coordination with other legislators.

Finally, my office is available to assist constituents with a variety of issues. For instance, if you have concerns about unemployment, recovering lost rent, or overdue utility payments, I can connect you to available resources. As always, please let me know how I can be of service to you. My email is meredith.dixon@nmlegis.gov and my cell phone is 505-401-8339.

Very respectfully,

Meredith



...And Now a Few Words from our Elected Officials...

A Report from Charlene Pyskoty Bernalillo County Commissioner, District 5

Dear Neighbors,

By the time you read this, we will have elected a new congressional representative in a special election. Bernalillo County is proud of the accessible, accurate, and transparent elections that we hold. County Clerk Linda Stover is always happy to chat with voters, give a tour of the voting machine warehouse, or get you trained as a voter registrar.

Meanwhile, the Bernalillo County Commission, along with the county manager and finance division, have been busy combing through federal guidance on how to use the nearly \$66 million dollars we received from the federal government's American Rescue Plan Act. This first installment of funding (we will receive an equal amount next year) will go to improve infrastructure such as water, sewer, and broadband projects. We are looking at the details of the plan to see what other areas we may support, such as mental health.

Speaking of mental health, in April, I had the honor to meet our First Lady, Dr. Jill Biden. I asked her what she, as an educator, could do to help us get more mental health specialists into the workforce pipeline. She invited me to work with her office on developing a strategy to recruit and retain mental health professionals. I met, via Zoom, with policy directors from both her office as well as that of President Biden. We will be looking at ways that Bernalillo County and the State of New Mexico can take the lead in creating prototype programs to increase the mental health workforce.

Speaking of jobs, Bernalillo County is hiring! You can find job listings on our website. We are especially in need of behavioral health workers to staff our programs that are designed to reduce crime, like our community engagement and mobile crisis teams.

If you have encountered economic hardship, please know that rental assistance is available in both Albuquerque and unincorporated Bernalillo County. Check our economic development webpage for up-to-date information on programs for which you may qualify.

As we look forward to getting back to a more normal lifestyle after more than a year under Covid restrictions, please be considerate of others who may continue to wear masks for personal health reasons

Have fun, be safe, and stay cool this summer!

Sincerely,

Charlene Pyskoty
Chair, Bernalillo County Commissioner, District 5
District5@bernco.gov



...And Now a Few Words from our Elected Officials...

A Report from Don Harris, City Councilor District 9

Councilor Harris extends his warm wishes to all of those in Four Hills and would love to update you on the progress since spring:

Lee Engineering, city traffic engineers, and council staff met to go over the Four Hills Village Traffic Study that will primarily focus on Stagecoach Rd and Wagon Train Dr along with additional connected streets. You will see traffic counting tubes and some cameras on stop signs as the contractors will take two weeks to collect data. The first neighborhood meeting with the city is expected to happen within the third week of June.

The Four Hills Road Slope Stabilization project was completed at the end of April and you will see the new landscaping on the east side of the road, starting at Winterwood Way. This will help to guide water drainage from the area and prevent erosion to the street. Please be aware that the area was seeded with native plants, so over the course of the next two years, you will witness plants growing over the rocks. The intention is that it will look more like the surrounding areas in time.

City council approved a resolution sponsored by Councilor Harris to accept the findings of the Juan Tabo Connectivity Study. The study concluded that the “No-Build” option was most desired, and gave several alternative solutions to help mitigate traffic on Juan Tabo Blvd, Southern Blvd, and Eubank Blvd. To find the entire study, go to <https://cabq.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9282819&GUID=817A0E49-451B-47B9-A195-7B142F76A3B9>

In May of this year, Councilor Harris, with other officials, recognized the completion of the Tramway and Indian School Landscape Improvements. This project has been an ongoing request and in the works for over ten years, and was brought to pass thanks to funding from Councilor Harris and state representatives, including former State Representative Abbas Akhil. You can read more about the project here: <https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/news/landscaping-improvements-complete-along-section-of-tramway-blvd>

Finally, the city was able to finalize a purchase on the farthest east parcel of property for the Tijeras Arroyo BioZone. The site is approximately 8 acres large and contains archeological findings for the east gateway of Albuquerque. Working with Open Space, the Canon de Carnue Land Grant, the NMSU Archeological Field School, and the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office, the site will be studied and protected. The hope is this will become the first stop on the Tijeras Arroyo trail with many plans to bring in educational aspects and visitation spaces for the public to enjoy.

Happy summer and please reach out to the councilor’s policy analyst, Laura Rummler at 505-252-5098 or lrummler@cabq.gov with any questions or concerns.



Keep Four Hills Village Beautiful

Let's hope for some rainfall this summer!
Here is ABCWUA's summer watering recommendations!

SUMMER WATERING RECOMMENDATIONS
(JUNE - AUGUST) FOR GREATER ALBUQUERQUE AREA

Plant Type	How Often?	How Deep?
 TREES	 2 TIMES PER WEEK	24" INCHES
 SHRUBS	 1-2 TIMES PER WEEK	18" INCHES
 FLOWERING PLANTS	 2-3 TIMES PER WEEK	12" INCHES
 DESERT ACCENTS	 1-2 TIMES PER MONTH	12" INCHES
 GROUNDCOVER	 1-3 TIMES PER WEEK	12" INCHES
 GRASS: TURF (COOL SEASON)	 3-5 TIMES PER WEEK	4" INCHES
 GRASS: TURF (WARM SEASON)	 2-3 TIMES PER WEEK	4" INCHES
 GRASS: ORNAMENTAL	 1-2 TIMES PER WEEK	12" INCHES
 VINES	 1-3 TIMES PER WEEK	12" INCHES

=MONTHLY =WEEKLY



Make your own hummingbird nectar!

According to the National Audubon Society the best and least expensive nectar for your feeder is a 1:4 solution of refined white sugar to tap water. Bring the solution to a boil, then let it cool before filling the feeder. You can make a larger batch and refrigerate the extra solution, just remember to bring it up to room temperature before you re-fill the feeder.

Only use refined white sugar.
Do not add food coloring. to the solution.

In hot weather empty and clean the feeder twice a week. In cooler weather, once a week will do.

Four Hills Village Association
P.O. Box 50505
Albuquerque, NM 87181-0505

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