

## President's Message *by Steve Brügge*

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"For Everything There is a Season..."

The Hebrew Bible reminds us that there is a season for everything. I'm pretty sure the author of Ecclesiastes was not thinking of being president of a neighborhood association when these words were written. They are, however, appropriate to my current place in life.

I served on the FHVA Board for three years as open space director, and this year marks my second year as president. Terms are for one year and the bylaws specify that one cannot serve more than three consecutive years in a given position. While I am eligible to run for a third term, I do not plan to run for the 2022 term.

The position of president is the only one that specifies an additional year of service after the term ends. Quite wisely, the president remains on the board as the immediate past president, which certainly assists the board and new president with a smooth transition. I know I was grateful that Jim Cochran was around to answer questions and provide direction.

Counting next year's obligation as Immediate past president, I'll have served for six years. While I plan to live in Four Hills Village for many, many more years, it's time for someone else to step up and lead this important organization, which had been in continuous existence since 1970. The association serves many purposes, but its core mission is to look out for the the well-being of Four Hills Village.

It is the go-to group for communication between both Bernalillo County and the City of Albuquerque. This last month, for example, as FHVA president I've received notifications from both the county and city of relevance to Four Hills Village.

One of these notifications was from the Bernalillo County Joint Air Quality Program because the Department of Energy (DOE) Sandia Field Office wants to replace a 125 kilowatt emergency generator for the Radioactive and Mixed Waste Management Unit. It seems to me that if the DOE wants to add multiple emergency generators, that would not be objectionable to the residents of Four Hills Village, but we appreciate the notification. This reinforces the value of this all-volunteer group as the point of contact—and that's an invaluable function.

For everything there is a season. A time to serve and a time to step aside. I trust that someone reading this will decide that it's the season to serve next year as president.



### **A Note from the Publications Director**

This edition of the *Chronicle* is being mailed to all households in Four Hills Village! We hope you will enjoy reading it. We have included the 2022 membership form in this issue as well as a survey regarding community concerns. Both are also available to complete online at FHVA.org. We encourage everyone to participate in the survey and hope that if you are currently not a member, you will be motivated to join the association. If you are a member we hope that you will continue your support and consider taking on a board position or participating in one of our committees.

## **Vice President's Report** *by Ellen Lipman*

It is time for us to begin the yearly election process for the Officers and Directors of the Four Hills Village Association Board. Being a member of the FHVA and a resident of Four Hills Village *in calendar year 2021* makes you eligible to run for a FHVA board position. As a resident of FHV, you are a valued member of our neighborhood, and of the City of Albuquerque as a whole. Your voice matters. Use your voice, your ideas, and your energy to be a leader in our neighborhood.

Whether you choose to run for a position or not, please keep on mind that in order to vote in the election you must be a member in 2021. Not a member? There is still time to join! Please contact FHVA membership director, Marilou Cochran at [mrcochran@comcast.net](mailto:mrcochran@comcast.net) about becoming a 2021 member.

The list of Officers and Director positions is noted on the left side of the cover page of the *Chronicle*. The deadline for receipt of submissions of nominations is November 30. Send a short biography (100 words or fewer) that highlights your interest and qualifications for your chosen Officer/Director position to Ellen Lipman, FHVA Vice President, at [elkaleyah@aol.com](mailto:elkaleyah@aol.com). Or for further information, call Ellen at 505-291-0815.

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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

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## Secretary's Report *by Jennifer Lopez*

Even though we frequently hear the phrase, "We are all in this together," our universe appears to be comprised of divisive and opposing forces: Pepsi or Coke, Chevy or Mercedes, he or she, verdant green garden or xeriscaping, dog or cat, drive or fly, vax or no vax, and the list is infinite. Our intellects and emotions constantly feel the pull of engaging and manipulative advertisements, competing news stories, and the appeal from life-long friends arguing their side. We are almost always forced to choose a side. But, there is one thing I know for sure in the middle of all this discordant pondering. Four Hills Village is the best neighborhood in the city!

Amongst the chaos of the day, Four Hills Village serves as our oasis, our refuge, our home. Our own personal alleyway to the Open Space of Tijeras Canyon is where our invisible shield of armor softens at the end of the day, where we reconnect with our families after the onslaught of our business travails, and where we speak and act as our true selves. The trappings of the day slip away. The purse is set on the foyer table, the briefcase is deposited in the home office. The shoes slide off our feet and a spouse and/or child slips into our arms.

Four Hills Village offers the best location in the city, the finest country club, and you just can't beat the organizations such as Four Hills Village Association and Four Hills Neighbors that both promote community service and neighborliness. It's almost impossible to live a life of isolation here. Do you need cookies, yard work completed, a book to share, child care, or a shoulder to lean on? You never have to look far in Four Hills to find a compassionate, generous soul.

But, even amongst our idyllic Eden of Albuquerque, the residents of Four Hills Village maintain different points of view among the topics of the day. Yes, everything from the choice of a soft drink, to politics, to vaccinations, masks, and quarantines has begun to divide us. How can we be one neighborhood when so many different opinions abound? It comes down to one word: respect! Respect each other for our contributions, for our intellect, for our opinions, even if they are different, and for our right to have those differences.

Humans possess such complex personalities. Often, we think it must be our way, or the highway! We always seem to be fighting for our territory, whether it be intellectual or geographical. But we can't all be King of the Hill. Trust me, I will be the first one to raise my hackles and argue that I am right! But sadly, I must admit, if I shunned everyone with whom I disagree, I would certainly be a hermit. We must learn to acknowledge that everyone has a right to an opinion even if it is not ours. Debate rather than argue. Calmly present your evidence for choosing Coke, Chevy, or no vax without belittling your neighbor. Set a time limit on discussing the contentious topic with your neighbor, then join them on the patio for a beverage and a bowl of chips and salsa!

Life is unpredictably short. Appreciate and learn from different points of view, rather than shun and isolate yourself from anything different than you. We don't have to agree, but in order to exist, we must coexist.

### **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](mailto:spbrugge@gmail.com) if you wish to join in.

## 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	5,161.61
Advertising Income	1,837.80
Interest Earned MM	<u>2.83</u>

**Total** **\$ 7,002.24**

**Year to Date Expenses**

Prizes for Contest	164.85
Insurance	950.00
Chronicle	847.39
Directory	802.02
Reminder Letter	181.12
Supplies	138.92
Bank Fees	12.00
Zoom Purchase for Meetings	<u>161.70</u>

**Total** **\$ 3,258.00**

**January 2021—thru August 2021 Income less Expenses** **\$ 3,744.24**

**08/31-2021 Balance**

Checking	\$ 11,515.42
Savings	<u>23,323.88</u>

**Net Income** **\$ 34,839.30**



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## Education and Youth Affairs Update *by Ian Esquibel*



We invite you to join our Education and Youth Affairs Committee! We meet by Zoom on the third Thursday of each month from 6 to 7pm.

Our committee supports neighborhood safety and ways for our families to connect. We are interested in the traffic study taking place and we want to ensure drivers slow down as families and children share our roads. We have scheduled a number of social events for families to meet up and get to know each other, however some may have to be postponed due to Covid.

To learn more go to our webpage [FHVA.org](http://FHVA.org) and click on the "Education and Youth" tab. Here you will find links to local education and childcare resources. Please sign up for Four Hills Family Fun! group on Nextdoor.

Contact FHVA Education and Youth Director Ian Esquibel at [ianesquibel@gmail.com](mailto:ianesquibel@gmail.com) for more information.

## Membership Report *by Marilou Cochran*

### **YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

Four Hills Village is a very special place, I don't just say that because I live here. It's not perfect, every place has drawbacks, but in my humble opinion, it is close. Each home and view unique, the wildlife that we see roaming about daily, the ability to take walks in the open space without leaving the neighborhood, our lovely park, Villa Serena and Village Gardens area, for those who prefer townhome living, the Canyon Club and its facilities,

shopping within walking distance or a 5 minute drive, accessibility to the highway and work or the airport, no homeowners association are some of the appeals for me. As homeowners here, you possibly have more reasons to love Four Hill Village.

The Four Hills Village Association is a way to connect and help make this neighborhood even better. Some of the benefits of being a member are the quarterly newsletter, annual neighborhood directory, holiday decoration/light contest, annual yard sale, shred event which was held this year on September 11, spring and fall clean up days (the most recent on September 25), and the annual meeting. The opportunities to become involved, make decisions to positively affect the neighborhood and city are open. In addition to serving in standard positions like president, secretary etc. there are several areas of interest in which serving as a board member or special committee member is possible. Please consider becoming a Four Hills Village Association member if you are not already and consider taking an active role in this neighborhood. At the very least, you will meet neighbors and those in public office and quite possibly make new friends. Dues are \$25.00 per year; you can't beat it!

A 2022 membership form is included in this issue. You also have the option to join and pay online! Go to [FHVA.org](http://FHVA.org) and click the membership tab. Please contact me at 505-294-0001 or by email at [mrcochran@comcast.net](mailto:mrcochran@comcast.net) if you wish to a 2021 member.

## Our Local Environment *by Ann Harris Davidson*

### The Significance of a Local City Park—La Luz de Amistad—Its Name and Sculpture

La Luz de Amistad (“The Light of Friendship”) Park, which is at the intersection of Tramway and Central Avenue, was fully redesigned in 2009-2010 to improve the eastern vehicular welcome to Albuquerque, both for those arriving via historic Route 66 and by Interstate 40.



So, why is the park called “The Light of Friendship”? And, particularly, why is its name so little known? A partial answer is that the sculpture at the park’s center was designed to have an eternal flame burning (“the light”), in some ways evocative of the Olympic torch that lights a cauldron to burn through an Olympic Games as a symbol of friendship.

According to the Smithsonian Museum website, Mr. and Mrs. A. Otto Miller commissioned artist Ted Egri of Taos to create this sculpture in 1968. In 1969, the sculpture was dedicated, as “The Hand of Friendship”, in this park, which thus was named “the Light of Friendship Park” because, originally, the hand of the sculpture held a “light of friendship”—an eternal flame; but eternal it was not, as its torch was extinguished due to cost concerns! The other metaphors embedded in the sculpture at the top of the 16-foot high pedestal are that the hand and its torch are encircled by symbols of atomic energy (in a nod to New Mexico’s atomic energy history) and of part of the Zia Pueblo’s sun sign that is used on the New Mexico flag.

The statue was considered important enough to have been moved, briefly, to the city’s central Civic Plaza. In 1991, to ensure its preservation, it was adopted by the city’s Public Art Department and was reinstalled in its original and current location. Then, prior to 2009 and the redesign of this park, this area was a run down, weedy, grassy knoll that was serving as a significant homeless encampment. In response to this situation, District 9 City Council Member Don Harris worked to have this park improved by having the city hire MRWM Landscape Architects to undertake its redesign. With the redesign completed, an April 27, 2010, KOAT-TV news report rather unfortunately referred to the park under the title of “Concrete Park Erected to Solve Homeless Problem”.

The introduction to this report is: *“The city’s new concrete park at La Luz De Amistad streetscape came about as a way to solve the area’s homeless problem.”* Good grief! – KOAT had emphasized “new concrete park”, without mention of the park’s actual name, the significance of the statue, or the fact that it is also landscaped with trees and gardens! Even recently, in an article on June 12, 2021, the Albuquerque Journal did not know the name of this park, calling it “Bicycle Park” in its article.

The problems of the name of this park, its origin, and the symbolism of its statue being little known have only increased in the decade since its renovation, for at least two reasons. Firstly, the La Luz de Amistad Park does NOT appear on the city’s list of park addresses on the city’s website, <https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/parks/city-parks>, nor does it appear on the city’s GIS map of its own parks, although the relatively new Four Hills Park does. While It appears as Bicycle Park on Google Maps on the city’s Parks & Recreation page, only Mapcarta has La Luz de Amistad Park clearly and correctly marked. Of additional interest is that David Flores, Deputy Director of city’s Parks & Recreation Department, advised me that



## Our Local Environment cont'd *by Ann Harris Davidson*



La Luz de Amistad Park is not one of the parks that is under their purview, rather, that it is under the control of the city’s Solid Waste Department. This would seem to be a poor excuse for excluding this park from maps of the city’s parks. Secondly, while the park used to have a large sign with the name “La Luz de Amistad Park” hanging near the sculpture, that sign has been missing for years. The sign with “Park Information” still hangs on the right hand side of this original pole, but the left hand side now has just two empty chains dangling, indicating the original support for the sign that showed the name of the park.

Sadly, while, more than a decade ago, the city undertook the extensive redesign of this park specifically to ameliorate the problem of the park being used as an encampment for homeless people, that problem, though improved, remains. Finally, though this La Luz de Amistad Park is not in Four Hills Village, the Four Hills Village Association will try to work with the City of Albuquerque to resurrect the value of this park, starting by having the park’s name sign reinstalled and having this park appear on the city’s maps of its parks.

Here is ABCWUA’s watering recommendation for fall. Let’s hope we get some cooperation from mother nature!



### FALL WATERING RECOMMENDATIONS (SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER) FOR GREATER ALBUQUERQUE AREA

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

=MONTHLY =WEEKLY



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

We meet them in the early mornings, often see them in the gloaming of the sunset, and frequently film them on our night trail cameras. These solitary, stealthy, and intelligent hunters have been residents of our rocky, juniper-studded neighborhood hills for thousands of years. The bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), also called “red lynx” or “wildcat”, is the most successful wild cat species in North America. It can be found in every county and in every biological habitat of New Mexico. Survivors of the ice ages, their range extends from northern Mexico to southern Canada.



Photo credit: Steve Brügg

The bobcat is the smallest of the North American wild cats, usually described as about twice the size of a domestic housecat (unless you are owned by a Maine Coon cat which is about the same size as a bobcat). Generally, a mature adult will weigh 12-40 pounds, although there have been reports of larger bobcats reaching weights of up to 60 pounds. On average, these stocky, muscular cats are 25-41 inches in length and stand about 21 inches tall. Their hind legs are a little longer than their front legs and their feet, with retractable claws, are small, typically, about 1.75 inches long and 1.875 inches wide. Their thick fur and relatively high shoulder height can make them look much larger than they actually are.

A bobcat's compact body is covered with a soft, dense coat of fur that ranges in color from light grey to reddish brown. Locally, our bobcats tend to sport reddish gold to light brown colors. Their coats are randomly barred and spotted with black or dark reddish-brown markings, particularly across the face and legs. The fur along the back is usually a darker shade while their spotted bellies and chins tend to be whitish. These 'cats get their common name from their very short or “bobbed” tails which are generally 3-7 inches in length. The tail is marked with several indistinct darker bands and tipped in black, but only on the top side. The bottom side of the tail is white. The bobcat's other distinctive physical characteristics are its long downward-curving cheek ruffs (almost like a Victorian age gentleman's sideburns) and their large upright and tufted triangular ears which are black on the outside with a white central spot. Bobcats have large, round, forward-facing eyes that are yellowish-brown in color and are well adapted for day or night sight hunting.



Photo credit: Steve Brügg

Bobcats are Olympic-quality sprinters, having been clocked at over 30 mph. They can easily climb trees to escape danger or rob nests. They swim well, enabling them to capture aquatic fare. They also can leap across surprisingly large distances, over 12 feet in a single bound. Bobcats will hunt day or night, but generally prefer dusk or dawn, when their favored prey, rabbits, are most active. They are opportunistic feeders and will prey on whatever is most abundant. Their style of hunting is more one of stealth than pursuit. A bobcat may wait by a game trail or in some other advantageous spot and then pounce, or make a short quick rush, to capture its dinner when it happens along. While they favor rabbits, their diet also includes rodents, birds, reptiles, and even on occasional insects. Small pets, including cats and dogs, have fallen prey to these aggressive hunters when their favored foods become scarce.

Surprisingly, these small, skilled hunters have been observed to be effective predators of white-tailed deer, an animal that can be more than 10 times their body weight. Although they typically will focus on fawns, bobcats will hunt adult deer. When hunting an adult deer, a bobcat will usually take a resting deer with a strangling neck bite that is very similar to that used by lions. Bobcats have also been observed to pounce from tree limb perches and kill unwary adult deer passing under them. In the case of successfully killing larger prey, bobcats will often cover or bury the uneaten remains for future meals. This activity is known as “caching” and is also practiced by our local mountain lions.

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



Photo credit: Ann Harris Davidson

A bobcat's established hunting range can vary from a square mile to several tens of square miles. The female's range is usually smaller than that of a male. A male bobcat's range will typically overlap that of several females and can partially overlap with another male's territory. Young females will often settle near or even within their mother's range, while young males disperse and may travel long distances to establish their own range in an unoccupied area. Unlike other wild cats, once their territory is established, bobcats rarely travel more than a few miles from their home dens. Locally, our bobcats prefer cliffs and rocky slopes with some cover vegetation. Bobcats are reasonably tolerant of human disturbance of their habitats and have adapted well to light urban development. On the eastern side of Albuquerque, it is common to encounter bobcats within residential areas, especially those that have been xeriscaped to match the surrounding wild environment. Because bobcats usually do not travel far from where they are born, they may live their entire lives in proximity to humans. They are often nonchalant around people and can unnerve folks who expect a wild animal to bolt and quickly run away.

The mating season for bobcats in New Mexico is from February to September. This is the only time male and female bobcats associate with each other. Courting rituals can be noisy affairs involving much screaming, hissing, and caterwauling. Male bobcats may mate with several females, but the females will usually mate with only one male. Once mated, the male parts company with his chosen partner of the moment. Observations suggest that only resident female bobcats with established territories can raise litters. Normally a female will give birth to a litter only once a year. Gestation is 50-70 days with up to seven, but most commonly two to four, "kittens" being born in a den hidden in a hollow log, under a rock ledge, or in a dense brush thicket.

When first born, the kittens have faint marks on their backs and sides and have dark streaks on their faces. These facial streaks will fade as they grow older while the body marking colors will deepen. Like all cats, bobcat kittens are born "blind" and will open their eyes after nine to ten days. They will nurse for about three to four months and, at five months of age, the mother will take them out to start hunting lessons. The kittens will stay with their mother until the next breeding season (8-10 months). Surviving kittenhood is a challenge. While adult bobcats have few natural enemies, humans and mountain lions being the primary killers of adults, kittens are often killed by owls, raptors, coyotes, and foxes. Cannibalism is also an issue. Wandering male bobcats are known to steal and kill kittens as prey. If they survive, female bobcats mature much faster than the males. A female is mature at one year while a male takes two years to mature. A wild bobcat may live 12-13 years but they have been known to live over 33 years in captivity.



Photo credit: Steve Brügge

Bobcats are protected furbearers in New Mexico. Here, there is an established season for hunting and trapping (from November 1 to March 15) and a special license is required. Outside of this season, if you have serious issues with a bobcat, you must check with the NM Department of Game and Fish before trapping, moving, or using lethal control on bobcats. If you sight a bobcat and it is not doing any significant damage to your property, do not call the NM Department of Game and Fish to have it removed. The official stance is that we have built our homes within the pre-existing bobcat territories, and that bobcats are beneficial apex hunters who help control the rodent population (think wood rats in your attic, and the potential spread of hantavirus and bubonic plague).

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



Photo credit: Steve Brügge

Today's population of bobcats is considered to be mostly stable, and in fact, is growing in some areas. It is present in all 48 coterminous US states. In lightly urbanized environments, such as the foothills of Albuquerque, the greatest threat to bobcats are the various rodent poisons people use around their homes. The use of rodenticides has been directly linked to very high mortality rates in bobcats (and other rodent hunting carnivores) either directly from the effects of the anticoagulants introduced by eating poisoned rats, mice, chipmunks and ground squirrels, or secondarily, from severe mite infestations occurring after these poisons have badly weakened the cat's immune system. In one study, made in California in 2012, bobcats catching and eating poisoned rodents resulted in 51% of the collared bobcats dying during the study (confirmed by liver autopsies). If you do have a rodent problem, please consider using alternative control measures such as rodent traps and vegetation management.

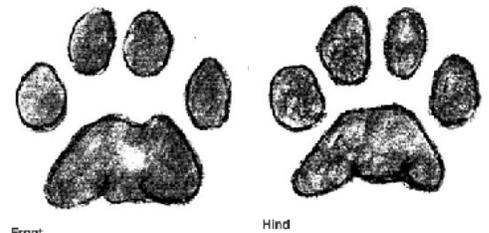
Bobcat attacks on humans, adults and children, are extremely rare. Most documented attack cases involved a bobcat defending itself, or its young, or the bobcat being sick (rabies). There have been no proven fatal attacks by bobcats on humans in the all of North America. They have protected us from overpopulation of rodents, the damage they do, and the diseases they carry. Our side of the bargain is to keep our pets and livestock out of the prey population. That means walking your dog on a leash in the Open Spaces so it doesn't run off into a bobcat-watched game trails, keeping an eye on your cat or dog when they are out in your fenced yard, keeping them inside at night, and keeping them quiet so they don't attract these apex hunter's attention, particularly in lean prey years (droughts). If you can't bring your pets inside at night, then keep them safe in well-built enclosures with sturdy roofs- remember the bobcat's ability to take down and kill much larger animals, 12-foot leaps, superb climbing skills, and 30+ mph sprints.

While they generally seek to stay out of our way when we hike our Open Space trails or walk the streets of our neighborhood in the early and late hours of the day, we must keep an eye out for our bobcats. Be careful not to come close to an occupied den, or to approach a protective mother teaching her kittens to hunt, or to corner any bobcat where it cannot easily flee. They have rightfully earned their name, "wildcat" and are a true symbol of the freedoms and responsibilities of the American West. 🐾



*Have you had a bobcat on your property?*

Check for tracks!



This is from New Mexico State University Publication CR 56:

"Bobcat tracks are fairly distinctive. A typical bobcat track is about 1 3/4 inches long by 1 7/8 inches wide. The track is more rounded than that of the coyote or dog and shows no claw marks. The ball pad of the bobcat is distinct from that of the coyote in that the front border is two-lobed. The principal difference between the front and hind tracks is the somewhat smaller ball pad of the hind foot. Tracks tend to be slightly longer than wide, though this is not always evident since it depends on the spread of the toes."



# Four Hills Village Association

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## 2022 MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Four Hills Village and to the Four Hills Village Association! The early goals of this neighborhood's association mirror today's goals of our membership 50 years later. We continue to build this community through maintaining the quality of life for residents, caring for the upkeep of the local environment, and supporting the interests of neighbors. We are so happy you're here! Please join us and add to our neighborhood's story.

Your membership helps to support this association which historically has protected Four Hills Village from situations that could negatively impact your neighborhood.

All residents of Four Hills Village (property owners and also renters) aged 18 years or older are eligible to be members of the Four Hills Village Association. Members must be individuals, not corporations.

Active, dues-paid membership is on a yearly basis, running for the calendar year from January 1 to December 31. Please pay your membership dues by December 31 for the following calendar year's membership. If you move to Four Hills Village during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (October through December) and join FHVA, your paid membership may extend for the following year (see Bylaws, Section IV).

The annual FHVA membership fee is \$25 per member. It is possible to have multiple memberships, each at \$25, from a single household address. Membership information is listed under ARTICLE IV – Membership, of the FHVA Bylaws. Paid FHVA membership confers (at a minimum) the following rights and privileges:

- Receipt of the quarterly newsletter, *The Chronicle*, by email or by mail.
- Receipt of the annual Membership Directory.
- Eligibility to participate in the FHVA Annual General Meeting which is held each January.
- Eligibility to be nominated (self or otherwise) to a FHVA board member position (officer or director) in the annual board elections (with the election held by mail-in vote towards the end of each calendar year, for members to serve in the following calendar year), as well as eligibility to vote for candidates for those FHVA board positions.
- Observational attendance at monthly FHVA board meetings, with the opportunity to speak, briefly, towards the start of a board meeting (given advance notice to the president).
- The opportunity to share your concerns and interests about our neighborhood with the FHVA. FHVA is the neighborhood's only association official recognized by the city and the county.

We look forward to meeting you soon!



# Four Hills Village Association

## 2022 Membership and Directory Information Form

Make \$25.00 check payable to FHVA and mail check with this form to:  
 FHVA  
 P.O. Box 50505  
 Albuquerque, NM 87181-0505

# O R

Join or renew and pay online at [FHVA.org](http://FHVA.org) Click the "Membership" tab and follow the instructions.

From 2022 onwards, each \$25 membership is for one adult only.

It is possible to have multiple memberships, each at \$25, from a single address.

Simply copy this form or download copies from the FHVA website or sign up and pay online.

Below, please provide your contact information exactly as you would like to appear in the "Members Only Directory". Each member can have one address and one phone number listed in the directory.

**I want to receive the *The Chronicle*: (choose one)**

in print in the mail

electronically by email

### Member Information

### Publish in Directory?

(Circle one)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_ +4 \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_ +4 \_\_\_\_\_

If your household has an adult who does not choose to join, would you share this person's name?

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No

### Do you want to make a difference in your community and meet your neighbors? Volunteer!

- Would you consider serving on the FHVA Board of Directors? Yes / No
- Would you consider assisting on the Board as needed (such as on a sub-committee)? Yes / No
- Would you consider volunteering for special events such as hosting a National Night Out location, or participating in the Great Annual Clean-up or Shred Day? Yes / No

# Real Estate Update *by Jan DeMay*

Hello friends and neighbors of Four Hills Village!

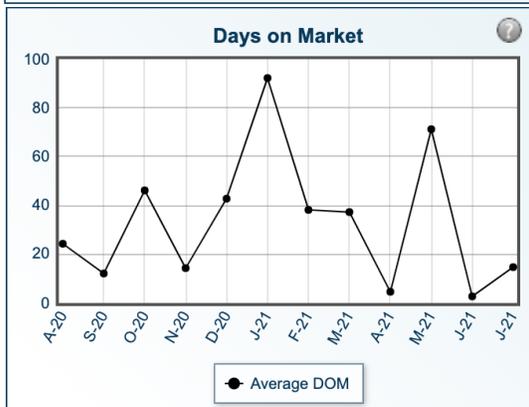
Our wonderful neighborhood's statistics are steadily increasing! The market is still moving very quickly and numbers are looking good.

Our average sales price in the neighborhood for July 2021 was \$462,950; that's an increase of more than \$52,000 in just one year! The homes are not only selling for higher prices but also in a much faster timeframe as well.

The average cumulative days on the market for July was just 14 days, compared to an average of 89 days in July of 2020. The average price per square foot has also hit a new high of \$159! Please contact us with any questions or for any other information you may need.



Summary Statistics Four Hills Village			
Year to Date	July 2021	July 2020	% Chg
Absorption Rate	1.33	2.67	-50.19
Average List Price	\$502,490	\$561,921	-10.58
Median List Price	\$492,500	\$462,500	6.49
Average Sale Price	\$458,483	\$440,179	4.16
Median Sale Price	\$462,950	\$410,500	12.78
Average CDOM	14	89	-84.27
Median CDOM	9	42	-78.57





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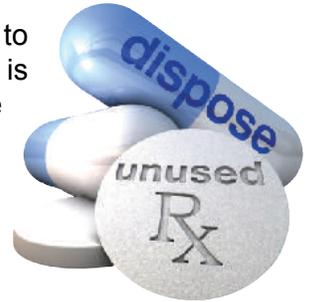
**505.484.2789 | [PositiveEnergySolar.com](http://PositiveEnergySolar.com)**

## Security Update *by Paul Sedillo*



APD has heard the call from the community to work towards a safer and more secure Central and Tramway corridor. Commander Collins and his officers are in the midst of a 60-day police operation. This operation includes additional officers, police cameras, mobile substation, and a review of the motel voucher program. I encourage all residents to be mindful of the additional police presence in the area and to show appreciation for their efforts towards tackling crime in this neighborhood.

On another note, did you know you can send expired or unwanted prescription pills to your local police command substation? The closest substation to Four Hills Village is the Foothills Area Command located on Lomas just West of Tramway and they are open Monday-Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. The drop off box is located inside the lobby.



**Only pills are accepted** - Doctor prescribed and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, herbal supplements, and pet medications.

Proper disposal protects children and pets from accidental poisonings as well as teenagers and adults from misusing and abusing medications.

Before dropping off, please remove all medications from their original containers (including pills in foil) and place them in a sealable bag.

### What's Not Accepted

- Liquids, injectables or syringes.
- Chemo or medical waste.
- Inhalers or other personal care items.
- Prescriptions on the Environmental Protection Agency's P or U List.

### APD RESPONSES IN FOUR HILLS VILLAGE

From May 29 to August 29, 2021

Incident Type	# of Incidences
Vehicle Break-in Theft	2
Assault	5
Residential Burglary	1
Disturbing the Peace	44
Motor Vehicle Theft	3
Theft/Larceny/Fraud/Embezzlement	11
Vandalism	1



Hello Neighbor!

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Allow me to introduce myself.

My Name is LYNDA HARTMAN, an experienced & trusted REALTOR® (9+ years) who feels fortunate to live and work in this beautiful community for over 8 years. I contribute to our community through membership in our local groups/boards and I look forward to meeting you, or seeing you again in FHVA or FHN meetings, on the trails, at the Canyon Club, or at other community gatherings.

Four Hills Village is a special place, and I love promoting our community to buyers. My former career (18 years) in environmental science at Los Alamos Labs coupled with my Staging/Decorating experience directly contribute to understanding best practices for marketing your home and our growing and changing client base of buyers/sellers.

Call to interview me for the job as your REALTOR® and let me tackle the complexities of your home sale transaction so you can have peace-of-mind throughout the process.

Whether you are looking to buy or sell a home or investment property, I am never too busy for you, or any of your referrals. Let's see what we can achieve together.

Call or text me anytime!



Lynda Hartman  
REALTOR® | Lic # 47431

505-850-8099

Email: [hartmanhomesnm@gmail.com](mailto:hartmanhomesnm@gmail.com)

KW Office #: 505-271-8200

**kw**  
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## ...And Now a Few Words from our Elected Officials...

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

Friends and Neighbors,

Fall is here, and that means that children are back in school and the weather is beginning to cool down. For those of you with children, the return to school likely has come with some mixed emotions. I think we are all grateful to have our students back in the classroom learning and socializing. But, for many in the community, there remains concern about the spread of COVID. The legislature continues to support measures to keep children safe and healthy and invest in programs that address “learning loss” or “unfinished learning” as well as social-emotional learning. I appreciate those who were able to attend my education town hall on August 17 or share feedback electronically or via postcard.

Speaking of town halls, I will be hosting a virtual town hall meeting on October 5, 2021, focused on *Economic Development and Diversification in New Mexico*.

I will be joined by special guests and experts:

- Rob Black, CEO of the NM Chamber of Commerce,
- Sarah Gutierrez, Deputy Division Director, Economic Development Division at Economic Development Department (NM EDD), and
- Axie Navas, Director of Outdoor Recreation Division Director at NM EDD.

Please join us for a discussion about steps that New Mexico can take to strengthen diversify our economy and create good, high-paying jobs. This event will be online using Zoom and registration is required. To register, simply scan the QR code with your phone camera and sign up.



Finally, I know that crime is an issue on many of our minds. I appreciate the hard work of our Foothills Area Command both in responding to crime and preventing crime through the efforts of their proactive response team. But I know that we need to do more. Since the session, I have been meeting with various stakeholders to identify concrete solutions to reduce crime in our metro area. I plan to introduce several bills as part of a package of legislation this upcoming session that works to increase the number of law enforcement, keep violent offenders off the street, and invests in successful intervention programs.

As always, I appreciate hearing from constituents directly. You are welcome to call or email me at any time. My cell phone number is (505) 401-8339 and my email is [meredith.dixon@nmlegis.gov](mailto:meredith.dixon@nmlegis.gov).

Very respectfully,

Meredith

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### **A Report from Charlene Pyskoty Bernalillo County Commissioner, District 5**

Dear Neighbors,

Hello and Happy Fall!

The days may still be hot, but the nights are cooling off. I think we have all enjoyed the rains this past summer, some quite heavy. Please stay out of the ditches and arroyos during the rainy weather. Bernalillo County first responders had the grim task of recovering several persons who had been washed away in the torrential flooding.

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

### **A Report from Charlene Pyskoty Bernalillo County Commissioner, District 5 cont'd**

Even here in Four Hills, the water damaged a concrete arroyo. I am grateful to my counterparts at the City of Albuquerque for working with us to repair the structure quickly.

We have elections coming up! Elections for Mayor, City Councilor, School Board Representative, and other positions will be held on November 2. Absentee ballots will begin to go out on October 5 to those who request them; in-person early voting will be October 16-30.

The Bernalillo County Commissioners appointed two new NM House representatives since my last newsletter report. Pamelya Herndon was selected for HD 28, just north of Four Hills and vacated when Melanie Stansbury was elected to Congress. Kay Bounkeua was appointed to HD 19, formerly held by Sheryl Williams Stapleton who resigned.

If you have any business to conduct with any of our County departments, you'll find it easy to do so at our new building at Alvarado Square. All of our customer service areas are now conveniently located in one building, with free parking just across the street at 5th & Silver. Come see us!

Best wishes to everyone who is going back to school. Let's slow down out there and keep our children safe. Let's also finish off this Covid pandemic by wearing masks in public and getting the vaccine, if you can. I enjoyed seeing so many of you for National Night Out, and I'm looking forward to seeing all of you soon!

Sincerely,  
Charlene Pyskoty  
Chair, Bernalillo County Commissioner, District 5

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### **A Report from Don Harris, City Councilor District 9**

Happy Fall to everyone in Four Hills Village. It's been a busy summer, even with no council meetings during the month of July.

By far the most impacting update for Four Hills is the continuing traffic improvement study that focuses on the entrance to the neighborhood, Wagon Train Drive, Stagecoach Road, and the encompassing network of streets connected. The councilor commissioned this study from his set-aside funds in order to cover an extensive area.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the first meeting, give suggestions and comments, and help the contractors, Lee Engineering, with ideas to find solutions for speeding in the neighborhood.

You can find the meeting information on the City's website: <https://www.cabq.gov/neighborhood-traffic-management-program> which includes the presentation and the survey. There will be follow up meetings that have not been announced yet.

Councilor Harris and the City's Open Space are continuing to preserve the Tijeras Arroyo Bio Zone, and most recently acquired the far east parcel, now known as the San Miguel site. The Singing Arrow archeological site has a new fence to protect the area, and the new Singing Arrow Community Center will feature artifacts from the site's original study that are being donated by the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology.

Speaking of the community center, if you take a peek on Wenonah Avenue, you'll notice the new Singing Arrow Community Center is nearly complete, and ahead of schedule. We're hoping to have a grand opening sometime in September. Updates soon.

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

### A Report from Don Harris, City Councilor District 9 cont'd

Councilor Harris and Councilor Bassan sponsored legislation to accept the Balloon Landing Task Force's recommendations, in R-21-160. Recommendations included improving parking fields for landing areas, acquiring larger properties for landing areas and recreational activities, and to continue to develop the "X Marks the Spot" program.

The City Council started the new fiscal year with meetings in August, but despite the hope of returning to in-person meetings, the council has decided to continue with online meetings for the safety of our citizens, due to COVID19. Councilor Harris is looking forward to being back in the chambers, but until then, please know you can sign up to speak online or watch on GovTV or Youtube. Find meeting schedules and agendas online at <https://cabq.legistar.com/>

*Earlier this year, City Councilor Harris announced his retirement.  
We thank him for his service.*

## Upcoming Events



**Thursday, September 30 6:00 pm**  
Meet the District 9 Candidates

The East Gateway Coalition of Associations, of the FHVA is a member, is holding a candidate forum for the open City Council District 9 election. As you may know, Don Harris, our current City Council District 9 representative, is not seeking re-election. There are 3 candidates for his District 9 seat: Rob Grilley, Renee Grout, and Byron Powdrell

The forum will be held by Zoom. Please check the FHVA website for the link to the forum or contact Steve Brugge. The forum will be recorded and posted on the FHVA website.

### **Coming Soon...**

Know of someone in FHV who goes well above and beyond being a good neighbor? Let us know. We are starting an FHVA Resident Recognition Award! We will have more details in the winter issue of the *Chronicle*.

**Stay up to date** with FHVA events by visiting our website, [FHVA.org](http://FHVA.org),

## FHVA Survey

*Dear Four Hills Village Residents,*

The primary mission of the Four Hills Village Association (FHVA) is to represent the needs of the village before city and county governments. The FHVA board members recognize that the makeup and needs of our neighborhood are changing and we wish to continue serving our neighborhood the best way we can. Please take a few minutes to fill out this short 10 question survey. It will help us make decisions regarding what is important to you. ***Input and participation of all residents of Four Hills Village is requested and very welcome.***

The link to take this survey electronically is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MY7PV7J> . The electronic survey is also available on the FHVA 's website (FHVA.org) and another link to the survey is located on the Four Hills Village page on Nextdoor. Or, if you prefer, you may complete this survey in written form, printed below. Cut it out of the *Chronicle*, and mail it to: Four Hills Village Association, PO Box 5050, Albuquerque, NM 87181-0505. Survey responses are due by end of day October 1, 2021.

1. I have lived in Four Hills Village:
  - a. for less than a year.
  - b. for between one year and five years.
  - c. for between six years and 10 years.
  - d. for more than 10 years.
2. I think that I am likely to remain in Four Hills Village:
  - a. for less than a year.
  - b. for between one year and five years.
  - c. for between six years and 10 years.
  - d. for more than the next 10 years.
3. I live:
  - a. alone.
  - b. with one other person.
  - c. with two or three other people.
  - d. with four or more people.
4. In what age group are you?
  - a. Under 40 years of age.
  - b. 41 to 55 years of age.
  - c. 56 to 70 years of age.
  - d. 71 years of age or older
5. Of the following items, which is your main concern about Four Hills Village?
  - a. Traffic.
  - b. Road repair and maintenance.
  - c. General safety.
  - d. Noise reduction.
  - e. Unkempt front yards
  - f. Other \_\_\_\_\_



## Neighborhood News

### **Report from Four Hills Neighbors- A Women's Organization**

Thanks to Ann Harris Davidson and Bonnie Nolan-Blackledge for organizing so many National Night Out locations within Four Hills! From what I have heard everyone had a great time getting to know their neighbors and the weather cooperated! As you may have gathered, Four Hills has been divided into 15 Areas by the Four Hills Neighbors organization. We would like to have an area hostess in each of these areas to meet and greet new residents as they move into our area.

Our social organization was founded in 1976 for women who live in Four Hills. We enjoy quarterly luncheons and we can choose among 19 different activity groups depending on our interests.

We just sent out our annual membership directory for 2021-22 but it is not too late to join! If you are new, your membership is free for the first year and then to renew, the fee is \$20.00. If you would like to join, contact Mary Roehrig, (505-332-9329) or email her at FHNmembers@gmail.com. She will gladly send you a membership form. If you enjoy meeting new people, you may want to volunteer to be an area hostess. Bonnie Nolan-Blackledge (505-228-9806) can give you the details on this.

Eileen Mahn, President FHN



### **Cleaning Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Ducts**

There are many ways to heat, cool and ventilate our homes. Collectively these are referred to as HVAC systems. One such system commonly used is forced air. Indoor air is gathered in ducts that direct it to a central heating or cooling device, and then through more ducts to return it. Many houses in FHV are more than 40 years old, and many have HVAC ducts under the slab. Caution is a key consideration before contracting to have those air ducts cleaned. It is possible, even probable, to damage them to the point where expensive repair work is required depending on the method used to clean them.

Forced air HVAC systems fall into two categories: updraft and downdraft. Return-air ducts for updraft units are normally located under the floor slab while air-supply ducts are in the ceiling. The opposite is true for downdraft units.

Various materials may have been used for ductwork when FHV homes were built. Galvanized (zinc coated) sheet-metal is the most common, but a cardboard-like fibrous material (trade name "Sonotube" for one) may be included in the system. Some builders poured concrete around the ducting to entomb it before pouring the floor slab, but some may not have done that making it possible to breach the duct wall with a cleaning tool and thus potentially allow soil and radon gas, a health hazard linked to lung cancer, to enter a non-entombed duct. Unfortunately, there is no way to know ahead of time.

Performing a video inspection of return-air ductwork, scoping, before doing any cleaning work is prudent. It may show that cleaning is unnecessary, thus avoiding that substantial cost. Or it may show ducts that may be damaged by cleaning. Or it may show existing damage that needs to be repaired. It is relatively inexpensive and takes little time to do (a minute or two per duct) so it is not disruptive. A digital video of the scoping should be provided as a permanent, tangible record of the inspection.

Jim Church, FHV resident

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

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We sold **OVER 25** of them! Some didn't even hit the market before selling!  
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all your selling and buying needs. We will be happy to provide a free  
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[Jan@AskJanRealEstate.com](mailto:Jan@AskJanRealEstate.com)

[AskJanRealEstate.com](http://AskJanRealEstate.com)

**Call Jan DeMay or James DeMay**

**The Four Hills Specialist**

**505.306-1710**

Office: 505.293.3700

[jamesdemay@gmail.com](mailto:jamesdemay@gmail.com)

[AskJanRealEstate.com](http://AskJanRealEstate.com)

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