



General Neighborhood Meeting - Thursday, January 26, 2012 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Dennis Chavez Elementary School Cafeteria - Meet & Greet at 6:30 pm (San Francisco entrance)

District 4 Councilor – Brad Winter will be present to discuss the importance of neighborhood involvement in the local, community and Albuquerque area



Our Program will recognize your Neighborhood Association's volunteers and show our appreciation to those who give their time and expertise to make your neighborhood a better place to live. .Come and meet your neighbor volunteers during our SOCIAL HOUR— WE WILL BE HAVING HORS D'OEUVRES WITH DESSERT AND HOT CHOCOLATE --Bring a neighbor and maybe become a part of this great group of people!!

The Cure for the Post-Holiday Blues

I hope everyone in Heritage Hills had a great Holiday Season. So many of the houses were really great to see with all their Christmas lights on. We drove around the neighborhood on Christmas Day Night and what a sight it was. Congratulations to all who made such a great display.

Now with the coming of the New Year we face an especially tough few months before the weather really warms up and we start our outdoor activities. Those post-holiday Blues can set in; our New Year's resolutions start to fade and we can feel Blah!

Do you want to feel good about yourself this coming year? Well here is one way to achieve that easily and painlessly.

Consider VOLUNTEERING. Can you spare a couple of hours a month? Sure you can! Perhaps joining our Board of Directors would be an option. Do you have ideas that you have wished the Board would consider in helping our neighborhood stay as good as it is. Well step up and let us hear them.

Is safety on your mind? Do you know of a neighbor whose house has been broken into recently? Have you heard about other neighborhoods that are experiencing car windows being shot out by bee-bee guns? Can you spare a couple of hours a month to join our Safety Patrol? Join us – we will give you all the training you need. The more members of our Safety Patrol there are – the more patrols we can do and this is one of the best ways to keep crime at bay.

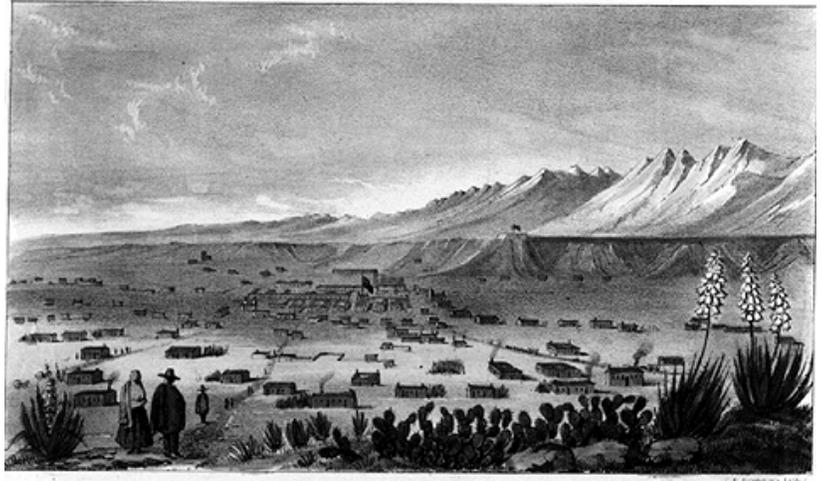
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News you can use to build a safer, friendlier neighborhood.

**Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association
Board of Directors**

Peter Nicholls, President 353-1996
Robert Preissler, Vice President, 856-7394
Mary Spicher, Treasurer, 856-1732
Douglas Boggess, Secretary, 797-1314
Hugh Killin, Membership, 821-5060
Lee Schwartzberg, Director 821-5160
Luke Anderson, Director, 823-4794

Carl Davidson, Zoning, 823-9237
Russ Spicher, Safety Patrol, 856-1732
Jane Pelz, Newsletter, 228-0033



Santa Fe, 1847

The Cure for the Post Holiday Blues-cont.

Wilshire is going to happen soon. The landscaping is great and the storm water drainage they have installed is going to be a huge safety benefit during our monsoon season.

Our cars are marked and we have a flashing yellow light on the roof and that sends a message to criminals that they are being watched out for and we will do all we can to protect our neighborhood.

Two hours per month is too much? Perhaps offering to be a host home for our National Night Out Against Crime in August would work for you. It helps to know your neighbors and lets the bad guys know we are happy to see them off and out of Heritage Hills.

Please understand it is the dedication year after year by the same small band of volunteers that keeps the Association alive. We cannot continue to rely on these same good folks to keep stepping up to the plate. It's up to all our members to do their part in keeping our activities going.

If you are not interested in working with the Neighborhood, there are many City Boards and Commissions that are always looking for volunteers. I am currently a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Yes the work involved can be tough sometimes with reading through lengthy cases – but it brings its own reward – the satisfaction of knowing that I and our other members are making a difference.

The Cure for the Post Holiday Blues-cont.

Won't you consider this as a way to feel good about yourself and make a difference to the neighborhood you live in or help out at the City level? We would love to have you join our select band of volunteers. Come to our January General Meeting, ask us questions and really consider what you can do to help others. Try it, you might find a whole new you. I know, I did.

Peter D. Nicholls
President, Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association.



William C. McDonald, New Mexico's first Statehood Governor (1912 to 1917), meets with the Mescalero Apache,

‘Hello Neighbors and Happy New Year!’

Some of you may be aware that 2012 will mark not only the 100th year of New Mexico Statehood but our Heritage Hills homes hitting 30 years old or if you are in the Ridgeway area, 10 years old.

The thought of home improvements such as replacing a swamp cooler, installing a new roof, the need to have that tree removed before the next big wind, or a kitchen makeover may not be the sort of thing that you will place at the top of your “to do” list in the New Year. But 2012 might be a good time to look around, consider the many good things about our neighborhood and think about how we can keep Heritage Hills the jewel that it is.

If you are a “facebook” member and have found the group “Remember in Albuquerque when...” you may have seen pictures of Albuquerque’s past, when our area was really open space. As the Heritage Hills area first began to see homes being built in the 80’s, this was the edge of Albuquerque with plenty of open space and dirt roads.

Many of these times and scenes have only been described to me by long time residents of Heritage Hills and Albuquerque. Our houses have since settled into the Northeast Heights as our area has seen growth all around



Hoffmantown, long before suburbia reached out beyond Menaul:

Hello Neighbors-cont.

.Real Estate agents have described Heritage Hills as “an area with suburban ambience and moderately priced homes of both southwestern and traditional styles”. When my family and I were looking for a new home, our list of “must haves” included: top schools, close proximity to everything, affordable, safe and near a park.

We drove through this area for its amenities and immediately noticed that the neighborhood had many desirable qualities making it an attractive place to buy a home. It had the schools, the Paseo del Norte corridor, well kept homes, the Heritage Hills Park and we only later came to know the neighborhood association’s role in keeping the area safe.

As we drove through this area, we noticed that many residents took care and pride in their homes. We are in a prime location with many homes in the surrounding area are newer, larger and many times more costly than our modest homes. The popular Albuquerque Academy 3.2 mile perimeter walk, Freedom Park and the new Domingo Baca Community Center are only minutes away. For my family, we found the requirements we searched for and we knew Heritage Hills was the place to settle for the next chapter in our family story.

We have lived here for over 4 years and have come to appreciate the long time residents who decorate their homes for Halloween and Christmas, and we admire the few homes who line the entries with luminarias on Christmas Eve. As we walk the neighborhood streets, we see that our homes have mature gardens and trees that make our back yards our own paradise.

Sure, we have our challenges with an older home, but we still feel it is a solid bargain for those seeking ownership. For us, it beats the “cross-over-the river deals” of the west side and maintains our investment for the reasons discussed earlier. Over the years, we have seen a few neighbors come and go. We have seen new landscaping and other improvements such as one neighbor gutting their interior and modernizing it for the next generation. These signs of investment are good signs that our neighborhood will continue to stand strong for future generations.

This New Year is an opportunity to look around and consider what we can do to continue to keep Heritage Hills a great place to live for our new and long term residents.

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Hello Neighbors-cont.

In the past General Membership meetings, we have had speakers on gardening, home security, zoning and other topics of interest for our homes and maintenance. At this month's General meeting, we hope to take the opportunity to share our successes and ideas that help us take care of our homes, neighbors and environment. We can look out to our neighbors to see if they need help or if they may have a ladder or other tool that they need or might be able to share. We would like to hear about what is important to you and what kinds of guest speakers we can have for further meetings.

If you have any issues that you would like to voice, please come and share your concerns with us. HHNA prevails for these reasons, to continue to keep Heritage Hills and our surrounding areas a great neighborhood to live in. "Neighbors helping neighbors" is our mission. We get together to talk to one and another, meet with community leaders, share information and see how we help each other.

As a community organization, we are simply your neighbors meeting for a couple of hours a month. We review regular activities, discuss issues that impact our neighborhood and see how we can help make a difference. It is a volunteer organization and I feel that the effort is well worth the return. If you have any stories or pictures which you would like to share, please let me know at the meeting, send me an email at rjpreissler@yahoo.com, or post on the Heritage Hills "facebook" page –

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=149430844581>

Robert Preissler
Vice President, Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association

Crime Reports

What's going on in our neighborhood? The Albuquerque Police Department is providing criminal activity to a website that can be viewed at www.crimereports.com. You can set up automatic e-mail notifications of recent incidents for the past week, two weeks, or month. You can also sort criminal incidents in our neighborhood by type and time and date of occurrence.

Our neighborhood patrol is utilizing these data to adjust patrol times to target specific times when there are more reported incidents. If you review the crime date there are peaks early in the morning - probably reports of incidents that occurred the previous night and another peak in the late afternoon - probably incidents occurring while the residents are at work.

We will be increasing day time patrols to target the "day time" problem area. As always we can use help in this endeavor. While some residents are reluctant or unable to work with us at night, day time patrols offer an opportunity for more residents to assist in combating crime in our neighborhood.



**Navajo Codetalkers (from New Mexico and Arizona),
World War II**

I HAVE JUST BEEN BURGLARIZED!

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

Notify the police department.

If there is any indication the offenders are still present or you are unsure call 911. However, most times when a burglary is discovered the "bad guys" are long gone so use non-emergency 242-COPS to report the crime.

DON'T BECOME A POTENTIAL IDENTITY THEFT VICTIM!

Your chances of being a victim of White Collar Crimes may be significantly increased. Consider the following steps that can reduce the chances you may be re-victimized.

Cancel any credit/debit cards, and have them reissued, with new PIN numbers.

Even if the cards have not been taken - think cancel. Thieves may be able to compromise your accounts by having access to any information, personal or credit, they may have discovered during the burglary.

Notify your financial institution and alert them of what has occurred.

The offender may find your check book, bank statement, or old checks that provide them with your account number and the bank routing number. With this information they can manufacture checks to draft your account.

Your financial institution may be able to monitor your account for fraudulent activity or, probably better, they can close out your account and open a new account for you.

Put a "FRAUD ALERT" on your credit file.

EQUIFAX 800-525-6285

EXPERIAN 888-397-3742

TRANS UNION 800-680-7289

And Contact your insurance company.

Russ Spicher
Safety Patrol, Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association

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