



General Neighborhood Meeting

Thursday May 17, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Dennis Chavez Elementary School Cafeteria

Refreshments with Meet and Greet starting at 6:30 pm (San Francisco entrance)

- **President's Corner**
- **Our May Program:**
- **Solar Energy – is it for you? –**
- **Peter Veres – Remax Elite – Overview of the market and making your home saleable**
- **National Night Out**

President's Corner – May 2011

Spring is here and we finally got some much needed snow and rain in the first week of April. Let's hope there is more to come to replenish the aquifer and avoid water restrictions. Please do your part by following the Water Authority guidelines.

Our January General Meeting was to honor our volunteers. The faithful few turned up but it was sad to reflect on the apathy of so many who rely on the willingness of the same few that give their time so selflessly each month.

We need new Board of Directors members and volunteers for our Safety Watch Patrol. Please contact us if you are willing to step up and help us keep the rest of us safe.

Last August we had a very successful National Night Out against crime and we are starting to plan this year's event. We are hoping that those who were Hosts last year will be willing to do the same this year – but we can always use more host homes so please see the article in this Newsletter to see if you can help.

As some of you may remember, I was serving on the City's Zoning Board of Appeals but have relinquished this so that I can be a member (since March this year) on the Environmental Planning Commission for Council District 4.

This means there is a vacancy on the Zoning Board on Appeals. If you or someone you know has an interest in zoning please get in touch with me. The Board meets once a month on the 4th Tuesday.

We are so fortunate in Heritage hills that our crime rate is so low compared to the rest of the city we had 11 crimes within our boundary in the first 3 months of this year. Much of this success is due to your vigilance in reporting suspicious activity and the presence of our Safety Patrol. Keep up the good work! Remember, if it looks out of place it probably is!

Cont. on Page 2

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

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We Deliver!



Solar Panels in Heritage Hills

President's Corner May 2012– cont.

Now that the warmer weather is fast approaching, many of us tend to crack the garage door to let out heat. Please make a habit of checking that it is shut before you go to bed each night. This is our number one call when we are out on Safety Patrol. The door into the house is often unlocked and provides an easy entry to thieves – a home invasion is one of the most dangerous situations you can encounter. Don't become a victim.

Finally, since we are on the subject of the warmer weather, the Farmers Market will be open on May at the Albuquerque Academy – entrance off Wyoming. See our article in this Newsletter for more details.

I hope you all have a safe and happy summer and I want to see YOU at the May General Meeting.

Peter D. Nicholls
President, Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association

Residential Solar Power comes to HHNA Homes

If you have been looking up at your roof or your neighbors looking for wind damaged tiles, you may be thinking about a roof replacement, but have you also thought about a solar power system up there?

One of my neighbors did just that and is selling his excess electrical power back to the PNM grid. This not only helps PNM meet their solar power generation requirements, but as the cost of electricity rises, the amount that my neighbor is paid back with each check he receives also rises..

So I would like to thank another neighbor for the idea of inviting a

Residential Solar Power- Cont.

residential solar company to one of our meetings. This type of guest speaker is in keeping with general meeting presenters who offer useful information to homeowners in the Heritage Hills neighborhood, and our May general meeting agenda will therefore have a presentation by a local top residential solar power company, Consolidated Solar Technologies, CST.

CST is located just off I-25 and Paseo del Norte. Consolidated Solar Technologies, LLC was formed to emphasize and facilitate professional design, engineering, and installation of residential, commercial, and utility-scale photovoltaic solar systems in New Mexico.

Not only have they installed systems in Heritage Hills, they also participated in the 5 acre \$5 million dollar one megawatt DC photovoltaic solar array at the Albuquerque Academy. If you have not walked over in that area, it is quite impressive. The Academy is currently realizing a savings of over \$120,000 per year.

A report from the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory finds that installing a residential solar energy system increases a home's value by an average of \$17,000. And as suggested by my conversations with my neighbor and with CST, solar power residential generation should be an interesting subject for our meeting.

Whether you're just interested, or considering shopping for a renewable energy system, CST will bring information to help us learn all we need to know about how solar technology works, how it can benefit our homes and how to we may choose the best system for our needs.

Robert Preissler
Vice President, Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association

Housing Market is starting to Show Signs of Recovery –

We are finally starting to see signs of recovery in the housing market on both a national and local level.

With a median price of \$171,881, prices in the 53 cities surveyed by the RE/MAX National Housing Report rose by 1.1% over February 2011. Home sales were even higher, up 8.7% from one year ago. With a positive sales trend of 8 straight months above the previous year, it's looking like 2012 will witness a very strong home-selling season. As a result of reduced foreclosure activity, inventory continued a downward trend for the 20th straight month, 22.4% lower than the housing inventory in February 2011. Consumer sentiment appears to be rising, and record low mortgage rates coupled with favorable home prices are attracting homebuyers and investors who don't want to miss a historic opportunity.

In the Greater Albuquerque Area Market we are starting to see similar trends. The median sales price in the Albuquerque Area is at \$159,000. Pending sales for single family detached homes are up 13% from the previous year and home sales are up 4.5% from the previous year. We also have a 17% increase in sales from February 2012. The top selling price range was \$200,000-\$249,999 which is great especially for the Heritage Hills Area.

Another key indicator towards sign of recovery is that the supply and demand ratio continues to decrease. We are still seeing a large number of short sales but foreclosure properties are down.

Things are also starting to look positive in Heritage Hills. In 2011 there was only one short sale and no foreclosure homes as reported on SWMLS. A total of 20 homes sold with an average price per square foot of \$119.00 and several homes that sold in the \$130-\$139.00 per square foot range.

We continue to see sellers moving up into larger and newer homes and also some sellers looking to downsize. Now is the perfect time to take advantage of low prices and low interest rates. We have many people buying into equity with some of the bargains that are available throughout our market. Investors are also on the move purchasing properties as the demand for rental properties is on the rise. Real Estate continues to still be one of the best long term investments to help build wealth. If you have any questions or need help regarding real estate please feel to give me a call at 505-362-2005, email:pete@nmelite.com

Dear Neighbor,

Albuquerque Northeast Farmers and Artisans Market is back this year!

If you have visited our neighborhood's market, you'll know that they host almost 40 vendors every week selling fresh, local produce, delicious artisanal foods, and unique hand crafts.

The market will open this year on May 22nd at 3pm, will be open every Tuesday evening through October 30th to shop the market. In addition to offering delicious fresh fruits and veggies, the year's market will also host a number of special events. You can anticipate a youth music showcase highlighting young musicians from the Academy. Local chefs will demonstrate ways to prepare the produce offered at the market in fast and delicious ways and get to know your local farmers.

Look forward to this year's market season and the all the opportunities for collaboration it presents. The Northeast Farmers and Artisans Market invites you to come visit us, to spread the word, and build community in our neighborhood around fresh food and healthy eating.

For more information on the Albuquerque Northeast Farmers and Artisans Market, or if you are interested in being a volunteers to help with the Friends of the Market program, our Zero Waste program, and with general market operations contact: Sarah Wentzel-Fisher, Manager @ (505) 369-6549 / www.abqnemarket.org / On FB @ abqnemarket

Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association

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Hugh Killin, Membership, 821-5060
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Carl Davidson, Zoning, 823-9237
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National Night Out 2012!

Last year's National Night Out (NNO) was a great success for the Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association (HHNA) community. HHNA coordinated efforts with the national NNO organization, Target Stores, the City of Albuquerque, the Albuquerque Police Department, local businesses and many neighbors who opened their homes, garages and yards to their neighbors during National Night Out.

Some of you already know that NNO is a yearly opportunity to spread the message of "neighbors becoming more familiar with their fellow neighbors." This is a big reason HHNA has been coordinating NNO events for years. The idea of neighbor watching out for neighbor has been an ongoing endeavor for HHNA and particularly for those who generously volunteer their time and effort to look out for the entire neighborhood.

Sometimes we find ourselves busy or too exhausted to consider making the extra effort, but NNO is a good reason to say "yes, I want to take this opportunity to get to know my neighbors a little bit better." This year we will again need help with organizing this year's event. There will be help needed with promotions, organizing hosts, collecting business contributions and various planning to help HHNA continue this important annual event.

HHNA is strictly a volunteer membership, board and neighborhood patrol group. Even those with limited time should consider giving a little bit of volunteer time during the National Night Out. This once-a-year event goes a long way to making our neighborhood a safer and friendlier place to live. Every effort is welcomed and appreciated.

Our HHNA is closely knit neighborhood of about 1,000 homes and we are fortunate to have a very low crime rate. Many HHNA residents have lived here since their homes were built 30 years ago and many newer residents have found our area to be friendly, close to the excellent schools and convenient to the Paseo del Norte commercial corridor. We have many established residents who know their neighbors and some residents who just need an opportunity like National Night Out.

If you are a long time supporter of your neighborhood association and National Night Out, we are grateful for continued support and involvement. If you are interested in being involved this year, please consider giving us a bit of your time with this year's National Night Out by looking for the NNO sign-up sheet at the general meeting. You may also contact me or any of our board members.

Sincerely,
Robert Preissler
Vice-President, Heritage Hills Neighborhood Association

rjpreissler@yahoo.com
or at home: 505-856-7394

Check Out Our Facebook Page!
The page is listed as: Heritage Hills, NM



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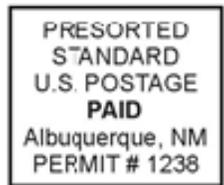
Stuart Boggess
Owner, Chief caretaker




Workday walk, play, feed & care
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all pets ... misc. errands
505-797-1314

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References proudly provided!

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