

## Hello neighbors!

Since the last Parkland Village update in June, we have held two events: a picnic on June 23 at Ridgecrest Park and a potluck/fundraiser on July 27 in the backyard of two of our Board members, John and Bernice. The picnic was a very pleasant event in the shaded part of the park, and it was the first event at which we welcomed residents of the Southeast Heights neighborhood. The possibility of rain threatened to force the July potluck indoors, but luckily the rain held off for the entirety of the event. Two "villagers" sang songs -- their own, one recited a brief but exciting poem, and yet another (me) played music for two recorders and viola da gamba with two friends.

Between the picnic and the potluck/fundraiser, we raised about \$500, and our City Councilor, Pat Davis, was at the fundraiser in part to announce that Parkland Village was to be the recipient of the first in a series of \$500 mini-grants from the City of Albuquerque, which are intended to provide seed money to local community organizations. Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton also attended the potluck, and Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez (who attended the June picnic with her



husband, Victor) would have been there had it not coincided with her son's wedding. Parkland Village has now raised about half a year's worth of operating expenses, and we hope to have a full year's worth of expenses prior to our launch of volunteer services (by some time next year), through which we intend to enable residents to "age in place" in their homes.

We have also formed the Resource Evaluation and Coordination Committee (5 members) to identify existing resources that may overlap with the services we plan to provide, evaluate those resources, and finally coordinate our services with the other governmental and non-profit agencies that provide similar services.

In the next several months, we hope to choose a platform/software program that will include the makings of a website, a comprehensive database, an e-mail program that will interface with the database, a means of collecting dues and donations and of notifying members regarding dues, and much more. We did a 60-day free trial of Club Express but found it wanting in a number of respects. Next month we plan to do a 30-day free trial of Helpful Village, a platform that was developed exclusively for villages.



Our next event will be another picnic in Ridgecrest Park on Sunday, September 29, from 4:00 to 6:30. We hope to see many of you there.

*Rich*

Rich Weiner, President  
Parkland Village