

Hello Neighbors!

Since our last newsletter in February, thanks to UNM researchers Andrew West and Judith White and a UNM grant they obtained for Parkland Village, we were able to do a direct-mail survey to every home in the service area (San Mateo to Carlisle, Zuni/Garfield to Gibson). The survey included a flyer with information about Parkland Village and the national Village movement. See below for information about the survey responses we received.

As a result of the survey, we have added more than 80 names to our e-mail list, increasing the number of people on the list to more than 300. (Many respondents were already on our mailing list.) Thanks to all of you

who responded to the survey and especially to those of you who are new to our mailing list. The information you provided will be invaluable to our increasing efforts toward the actual provision of volunteer services to help residents age in place in their homes. That, along with strengthening a sense of community in Parkland Hills and Southeast Heights neighborhoods, is the primary mission of our non-profit organization.

If you haven't responded to the survey and no longer have the physical survey that we mailed to you, you can still do so on our website, which you can find at www.parklandvillageabq.org. On the home page, there is a link to the survey, and you can complete it online.

Stay safe and healthy,

Rich

Rich Weiner
President
Parkland Village



Survey Responses

We received approximately 160 responses, not counting those from people who did not provide their names or contact information. Of those responses, 130 people expressed a willingness to provide volunteer services sometime in the next five years. Almost 100 of those people expressed interest in learning how they can volunteer. For those 100 of you, we will be contacting you in the next few weeks to fine tune what kinds of volunteering you would like to do and in what time frame. We will then arrange trainings for volunteers.

We also asked people who would be interested in helping with the organization of Parkland Village, and 30 people responded in the affirmative. Some of the 30 have already been involved with the organization. The rest of those people we are already in the process of contacting so that we can plug them into the organization as soon as possible. In fact, we have already added four new members to our all-important Volunteer Coordination Committee.

Fifty people indicated an interest in learning how to receive volunteer services, and about 30 of them listed services they think they may need in the next five years. We are currently in the process of contacting those 30 people to see who may need services now or soon.



Limited Services During the Pandemic

As mentioned in our February newsletter, we are planning to begin providing limited, safe services until the pandemic conditions feel sufficiently safe for everyone concerned. When that happens, we will begin providing the full array of services that we have been aiming to

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provide ever since we began organizing this effort several years ago. The services we will offer very soon will be:

- friendly calls (not in-person visits yet) to help people feel less isolated
- yard work, and
- deliveries of food from food banks.

We will not require formal memberships or membership dues for people to receive any of these three services during the pandemic.

Once we decide to “launch” the full array of services, hopefully later this year, we will have formal memberships for anyone wanting services. For volunteers and other supporters of Parkland Village, membership will be optional. Our Board will decide on membership criteria and a dues structure for members. Whatever dues structure we decide on, we will not turn away anyone who cannot afford the dues.



We'd Love to Have More Volunteers to HELP US Organize

If you did not respond to the survey or did not indicate an interest in helping us organize but are now interested, be sure to contact us at info@parklandvillageabq.org and let us know. Some of the areas where we need help are:

- Website development and maintenance
 - Bookkeeping/accounting
 - Planning events/programs
 - Outreach
 - Fundraising (especially if you have expertise in this area!)
 - Recruitment
 - Resource evaluation and coordination (researching the work of other agencies and meeting with them – by Zoom during the pandemic – to create cooperative arrangements)
 - Other – you might have ideas of your own or a special set of skills that might be helpful to us during the organizing phase and after we begin the full array of services
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REMINDER Parkland Village's Second Annual 2021 PHOTO CONTEST

Calling all photographers!

The Parkland Village 2021 Photo Contest is underway. And it costs you nothing to enter!

The theme this year is ***Walls, Gates, and Doors of Parkland Village.***

Grab anything that can take a picture and get out there in our service area. That means your photos need to be taken within the area defined by San Mateo, Gibson, Carlisle, and Garfield/Zuni.

We are looking for images from all seasons for use in our 2022 calendars and blank notecard sets. We need square or horizontal images of high quality, 300dpi@12 inches on the long side. Click on the website at the bottom of this page to see Guidelines for this contest.

We hope photographers who love our neighborhood will enter as often as they have high-level photographs

that fit the theme. We also hope to have a diversity of seasons represented.

Our contest will be open until July 31, so there is time to gather archived photos and take new ones.

Photographs that do not match our theme will not be passed on to the jurors. Members of our Board or the Fundraising Committee cannot submit, but anyone else in Albuquerque is free to send images.

Online Village Events

Since the last newsletter in February, Parkland Village has sponsored three



Zoom forums. Our March 11 forum was about music. Three musicians did solo performances, Sheila Fox (clarinet, keyboard and vocals), Jacques Dorier (guitar, Irish Bouzouki and vocals), and me (recorder). Jacques taught Sheila and me to use Zoom's "original sound" rather than their default processed sound, and

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https://parkland.helpfulvillage.com/editable_pages/10031-photography-contest

that enabled people to hear the music much more clearly. We also had breakout groups where people got to discuss with several of their neighbors the importance of music in their lives.

Our April 8 Zoom forum featured Dr. Joseph Sanchez, the director of **AARP New Mexico**, and Shanna Lapsley, AARP New Mexico's Community Outreach Director. They gave an overview of AARP's programs and how they address the needs of our increasing population of seniors. During breakout groups, participants shared the concerns they have as



they (continue to) get older and how Parkland Village could address those concerns. Joseph and Shanna then gave an update regarding AARP's legislative advocacy and the recently concluded session of the New Mexico Legislature.

The Zoom forum we had on May 6 featured Mikaela Renz-Whitmore and Rebecca Bolen of the City of

Albuquerque Planning Department, Agnes Vallejos, Director of the Social Services Division of the **City Senior Affairs Department**, and Terra Reed, Community Coordinator with the



Senior Affairs Department. For the past several months, the Planning Department has been conducting a Community Planning Assessment to determine the needs of the neighborhoods that could be addressed by the Department as well as other City agencies.

In April, Mikaela and Rebecca met with the **Parkland Hills and Southeast Heights neighborhood associations**. Parkland Village decided to have its own get-together with these City officials so that we could give our perspective on the needs of seniors and people with disabilities. After presentations by the City officials, we had breakout groups based on one of three topics:

- City services for seniors;
- transportation and
- infrastructure; and housing.

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We will continue to have Zoom forums, at least until we can return to having picnics and other events in the parks. **Our next forum is tentatively planned for Thursday, August 5, from 5:30 to 7.** That forum will feature a presentation from Nusenda Credit Union on **how to prevent scams.**

Also, **at some point in the next two months,** the New Mexico Villages Network (a network of all the villages in New Mexico) will be sponsoring a **presentation on the recently enacted law, the Elizabeth Whitefield End-of-Life Options Act,** by one of the advocates for that legislation.

The Network had its start last September with the purpose of the various New Mexico villages sharing their experiences and supporting one another. Representatives of the villages meet quarterly. However, the discussion on the End-of-Life Options Act will be open to members and participants of all the villages (subject to a limit of 100 people). We will let you know once we have a firm date for that presentation and discussion.

Nusenda Credit Union sponsors Parkland Village

We are deeply honored that the Nusenda Credit Union has recently granted Parkland Village a sponsorship. They are acknowledging our Aging In Place program as a service to our community.

Nusenda is also offering Parkland Village a way of tapping into their expertise in financial literacy. This opens up wonderful possibilities for one or more learning opportunities for the entire Parkland Village family of volunteers, mailing list members, and those requesting services. We are expecting to host a Parkland Village forum on scams and financial fraud.



Of course, we hope to learn more about assuring financial security as well. We are planning this forum now and it will take place in mid-to-late summer.

Our heartfelt thanks to Nusenda Credit Union for this sponsorship.

Online Exercise and Yoga Classes

The Villages of Santa Fe, in collaboration with AARP, has been sponsoring free, online classes in exercises and gentle yoga. Subject to their 100-person limitation, any of you are welcome to register for, and join, these classes.

Balance and Beyond with Maria Francis, Tuesday and Thursday at 2:00 PM

Gentle Yoga with Judith Rhodes, Wednesday and Friday at 10:00 AM

NEW! Stretch and Strength, Monday and Thursday at 10:30 AM

Create an account and register for 2021 classes at

<https://villages.punchpass.com>

Or call Ann Church at 505-501-8187.

