

# Apache Plume

A Newsletter for the Community of High Desert, Albuquerque, New Mexico

November 2019

## High Desert Wildland Fire Prevention Working Group Presents Its Report & Work Plan to Board of Directors

*This article was reviewed and edited by Wildland Fire Expert Lt. Brian Fox, Albuquerque Fire Rescue, and by Camille Singaraju, Chairperson of the High Desert Wildland Fire Prevention Working Group (WFPWG)*

*By Dave Williams, Secretary, Board of Directors*

It is not a question of “if” but rather “when” and “how bad.” The photo at the right shows the consequence of a wildland urban interface fire on High Desert two fire seasons ago.

The fire season that just ended gave us another close call with a 56-acre wildland fire on June 11, 2019. The fire initiated from an unknown cause but likely was associated with human activity. It burned immediately adjacent to High Desert’s east boundary. Fortunately, a quick response by Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFR) and a favorable west wind kept the fire from burning High Desert homes and endangering residents. If the fire had started a couple

*(Continued on page 3)*



*A fast-moving grass fire fanned by winds burnt the exterior of this High Desert home along with nine others near Elena Gallegos Road and Pinon Canyon Place in May 2018.*

Photo courtesy of Lt. Brian Fox, AFR

## Volunteers Needed to Serve on Nominating Committee To Determine Slate for April 2020 Board of Directors Election

Plans are being made for the April 2020 High Desert Residential Owners Association Board of Directors election. Opportunities to serve the community are available for High Desert homeowners who are interested in participating in the election process either through serving on the Nominating Committee or applying for a Board of Directors position.

### **The Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee reviews all Board applicants’ Statements of Interest. It then schedules and conducts in-depth applicant interviews in February and March. The committee recommends a slate of nominees that will be presented to the Voting Members at their Annual Meeting on April 23, 2020.

At least four High Desert homeowners are needed for the Nominating Committee. Those interested in serving on the committee should complete the Statement of Interest (SOI) form online by going to the website at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net). Click on Volunteer Opportunities; click Statement of Interest if you wish to print and submit a written form or click Online Submission to complete and submit electronically. Whichever format is chosen, candidates for the Nominating Committee must submit a SOI by Sunday, January 19, 2020.

### **The Board of Directors**

Each member of the Board of Directors serves a two-year term,

### **Open Positions & Deadlines:**

- Four Volunteers Needed for Nominating Committee.
- Statement of Interest for Nominating Committee to be submitted by Sunday, January 19, 2020.
- Four Positions Opening on Board of Directors. April Election.
- Statement of Interest to run for Board position to be submitted by Friday, February 14, 2020

which are staggered with positions opening every year in April. Current directors whose terms will expire in April 2020 are David Bentley, Tom Murdock, Dr. Janet Brierley, and Robin Troy.

An applicant for a Board Director position must meet the following requirements:

- Must have lived in High Desert as a resident for at least six months prior to the election.
- Shall not have any hearings or appeals before the Board, the New Construction Committee, or Modification Committee, nor have any legal actions pending against the Association or Association officers.
- Shall not be more than 60 days delinquent in the payment of any assessment or other charge due the Association.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

# President's Summary

By Clay Wright, HDROA President



Clay Wright

Hello neighbor,

I want you to know your board is working hard to protect the high standard of living we all enjoy in High Desert. All the individuals associated with our landscaping company, security patrol and community management are united by a single goal: to make our community an enjoyable place to live. Your board is keenly focused on that goal. Every board member con-

tributes something every week to the community. For some of us it's several hours every day. We volunteer because we have a deep sense of commitment to our community. We have a vested interest in preserving our quality of life in High Desert.

Every person living in High Desert is part of the equation. I believe we all have a tremendous opportunity, if not a responsibility, to contribute to the serenity of our community. One simple step we can all take today is to exercise simple civility.

I have been doing some research on the subject. Christine Porath, PhD, has studied the issue for 18 years. She is a tenured professor at Georgetown's School of Business. While her work largely focuses on incivility in the workplace, her research has applicability in a community setting. A few key take-aways from her work is that incivility is rising, it is unfortunately contagious, and acidic behavior is inevitably met with similar vitriol. Of concern to all is that incivility costs

***"...the national trend toward incivility is creeping into our own community."***

organizations dearly.

I mention this because the national trend toward incivility is creeping into our own community. While the overwhelming majority of High Desert residents seem appreciative of the work so many are doing on their behalf, there are a combative few for whom contentment seems unobtainable.

Fortunately, there is a solution. The answer is respect. We all know what we think respect looks like, but that may be constrained by our myopic viewpoint as defined by our own individual experiences. The Council on Quality and Leadership suggests to foster respect one must set aside personal standards of conduct and open up to learning about the world from another's perspective. I believe this concept can be applied to our community in many areas.

Paying your assessments in full and on time shows your respect and commitment to everyone in High Desert. Driving the speed limit on our streets is another example. Stopping at every stop sign and at every cross walk to politely wait for a mother to usher her children across is another example. I believe picking up that small bit of trash you see along the curb, and certainly not littering yourself, shows respect for your community. Cleaning up after your dog makes the list.

Other examples of respect for our community require a bit more effort. Read the governing documents pertinent to your village. They were written by visionary folks who had our best interests in mind. Those documents clearly define what the Association can, and just as important, can't do. Those documents are easily accessible at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net). I would encourage everyone to think about how they expect to be treated when interacting with those in our Association and then set the example themselves.

Dr. Porath's research has shown that promoting civility by first adopting a commitment to fundamental respect will yield positive results. We will all benefit.

Respectfully,  
Clay Wright



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# Wildland Fire Prevention Working Group Presents Report

—Continued From Page 1

of hours later or the next morning, it likely would have been driven into High Desert by stiff east canyon winds which developed that night. The consequences could have been catastrophic for High Desert.

Local fire officials and other experts tell us such fires are more likely due to increased human activity, fuel accumulation and dry fuel conditions.

Recognizing the fire danger to High Desert, and with encouragement from the HDROA Board, a group of residents, led by Camille Singaraju, with technical assistance from AFR's Wildland Fire Division Lt. Brian Fox, and including Board Member, Dave Williams, formed the "Wildland Fire Prevention Working Group."

After several meetings, much research, and conducting neighborhood fire prevention surveys, the group presented its initial report and work plan to the HDROA Board of Directors at the Board's October 15, 2019 meeting.

The WFPWG's goals included:

- Educating and encouraging HD residents to reduce wildfire vulnerability on their property and to be properly prepared in event of wildfire.
- Reducing wildfire risks in common/open areas for which HDROA is responsible.
- Coordinating with and supporting those responsible for HD wildfire protection and surrounding areas for "lessons learned,"

## Volunteers Needed for Board of Directors

### Nominating Committee — Continued From Page 1

- Shall not have been removed as a Director by the Voting Members within the prior two years.

#### Time Commitment

The time commitment for a Board Director is significant and should be carefully considered by applicants. The Board meets formally once a month and occasionally conducts supplemental meetings.

In addition, there is frequent email and telephone discussion of issues between Board meetings.

Directors' volunteer time averages between 15-60 hours a month depending on the level of involvement with the Board's special projects, committee membership, and/or being an elected officer of the Board.

The Board elects its own officers annually, shortly after the Voting Members' April meeting.

#### Statement Of Interest Deadline is February 14, 2020

Homeowners who would like to apply for a Board of Directors position need to complete the Statement of Interest form found online by going to the website at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net).

Click on Volunteer Opportunities; click Statement of Interest if you wish to print and submit a written form or click Online Submission to complete and submit electronically.

Whichever format is chosen, any homeowner interested in running for the Board of Directors must submit an SOI by the February 14, 2020 deadline.



*This aerial view shows the fire damage from the May 2018 grass fire in High Desert. Approximately seven acres of property were burned.*

Photo courtesy of Lt. Brian Fox, AFR

to identify "best practices," and reducing fire risks from adjacent areas.

#### Fire Hydrant Mapping

One of the initial projects undertaken by the WFPWG was to map and catalogue the accessibility of every fire hydrant in High Desert. Approximately 70 percent were found to need brush cleared from around them, particularly in the Highlands and the Overlook neighborhoods. As a result, the WFPWG recommended that the High Desert landscape contractor, Leeco, be tasked to clear a three-foot circumference around each fire hydrant as specified by International Fire Code.

Additionally, it was recommended that Leeco clear brush this winter out to five feet along the public use side of the arroyo and Open Space walls to reduce the potential for fires to climb the walls into residential properties next year.

The WFPWG also is working with Board Member, Dr. Janet Brierley, who oversees High Desert communications, and with HOAMCO staff to establish a fire prevention tab on the HDROA website and link it with the AFR website. The link would provide our residents with easy access to AFR's Facebook page which will include updates during wildland fires.

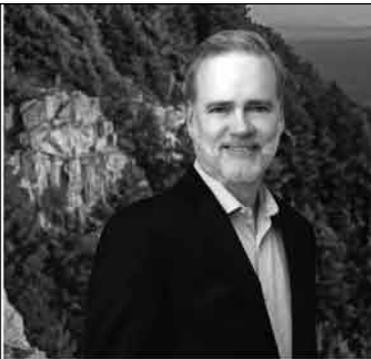
#### Landscaping Guidelines Revised

In 2018, HDROA revised landscaping guidelines for Premier and Estate homes to allow residents to reduce their vulnerability to wildfires.

Unfortunately, very few residents have implemented these measures and remain unnecessarily vulnerable to wildland fires and are a hazard to their neighbors.

Some of these measures would be advisable for all of us such as trimming tree limbs near ground level, keeping bushes and vines from climbing walls, not planting juniper, pinon or other pines (which are highly flammable) close to the house, and keeping native grasses and other vegetation trimmed.

Go to [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net), click on Documents/Governing Documents and scroll to Guidelines for specifics. Remember to check closely—under some circumstances changes in landscaping require advance approval. For questions or assistance with requests, please contact the HOAMCO office at: (505) 314-5862.



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**FOR SALE LISTINGS:**

Averages Sqft:3,279 \$/Sqft:228.19 DOM/CDOM:75/124 O-Price:\$751,954 L-Price:\$742,173  
Price High: \$1,350,000 Low: \$375,000 Median: \$650,000

**PENDING LISTINGS:**

Averages Sqft:3,063 \$/Sqft:212.34 DOM/CDOM:64/64 O-Price:\$1,580,607 L-Price:\$661,957  
Price High: \$1,390,000 Low: \$359,000 Median: \$592,250

**SOLD LISTINGS:**

Averages Sqft:2,813 \$/Sqft:217.20 DOM/CDOM:42/51 O-Price:\$7630,689 L-Price:\$616,387  
Price High: \$1,595,000 Low: \$275,000 Median: \$550,000



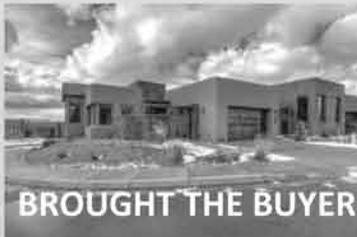
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- 3 bedroom, 1 level, 2,000+sq ft, city and/or mountain views, 1/2+ acre lot, up to \$550,000.
- 2 or 3 bedroom, 1,800-2200 sq ft, 1 level, smaller lot, up to \$400,000

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# High Desert Patrol Report: July-September 2019

Call Type:	July	August	Sept.	Call Type:	July	August	Sept.
<b>CRIMINAL/</b>				(Lost) Property	1	0	0
<b>CRITICAL EVENTS:</b>				Gate Issues	11	6	3
Assault/Fight	0	2	3	Street Lights/Maintenance	0	0	0
Breaking/Entering: Home	0	1	2	<b>OTHER:</b>			
Breaking/Entering: Vehicle	7	1	2	Animal Control Calls	0	0	0
Construction Site Burglary	0	0	0	Abandoned Vehicle Calls	0	0	0
Dwelling Fire	0	0	0	Snake Calls	0	1	0
Vehicle Fire	0	0	0	Vacation Home Checks	48	43	48
Grass/Wild Fires	0	0	0	Security Inspection	72	76	83
Medical Emergency	1	0	1				
Alarms	6	7	3				
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	9	24	9				
Vandalism	4	3	0				
<b>TRAFFIC EVENTS:</b>							
Vehicle Crash	0	0	0				
Parking Violations	4	2	3				
<b>PREVENTION &amp; NUISANCE:</b>							
Loud Music/Party Noise	6	4	8				
Salesperson/Solicitor	1	4	0				
Open Door/Window/Garage	24	34	3				
Notices Posted on Residences	0	0	0				
Pool Issues	0	0	0				
<b>QUALITY OF LIFE:</b>							
(Lost and Found:)							
(Lost) Children	0	0	0				
(Lost) Pets	0	1	0				

## Security Contact Numbers:

- In the event of a true emergency (a crime in progress or a life-threatening situation) call **911** immediately. Residents should then follow up immediately with a call to G4S Security Patrol at **(505) 485-5658**.
- For urgent, but non-emergency situations (a suspicious person or vehicle, an annoying salesperson, a loud party, an animal complaint, etc.), call the G4S Security Patrol at **(505) 485-5658**.
- For routine calls (such as notifying G4S of vacation dates, etc.) you should also call the Security Patrol at: **(505) 485-5658**, or go to [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net), click on *Community Safety* and scroll to the bottom of that page for links to the form.

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## High Desert Dermatology Welcomes Niki Manole Ninopoulos, PA-C

Niki Manole Ninopoulos was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of New Mexico with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Spanish and a minor in Biology. After graduating, Niki worked as a Research Scientist at the University of New Mexico's Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions while simultaneously shadowing and learning from a few of Albuquerque's great physicians. She was then given the opportunity to continue her medical education through the University of New Mexico Physician Assistant Program where she received her Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. She was also awarded the UNM PA program award of excellence.



**Niki Manole  
Ninopoulos, PA**

Niki's first encounter with Dr. Carey was many years ago. As a young woman, Niki struggled with acne and was a patient of Dr. Carey's. Her passion for dermatology grew after seeing what a profound difference he had on her life. She is honored to work alongside the great providers at High Desert Dermatology to deliver the same exceptional care she received as a patient.

When not at work, Niki enjoys spending time with her husband and young son. She is actively involved with the Greek community of Albuquerque and also enjoys baking and reading.

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## Update on Stucco Repair in High Desert



*Lynnette Rodriguez*

*By Lynnette Rodriguez,  
Community Association Manager*

I have been working with RCSI General Contractors for the last few months on the extensive stucco wall damage seen throughout High Desert. Unfortunately, with any stucco you can't really determine what is going on until you start to strip off the layers.

### Concrete-filled Walls

RCSI originally proposed removing the top of the stucco and filling in those stucco walls that have the most significant water intrusion with concrete. The concrete filling would work to protect the structure of the wall as well as decrease the ability of water to intrude into the stucco wall itself. When RCSI went to fill in the stucco walls they found that they were already filled with concrete.

### Strip Stucco, Rebuild and Seal

RCSI is now working to strip most of the layers of synthetic stucco found on the stucco walls that have the most deterioration. RCSI will rebuild the stucco, then add a protective sealant to both sides of the stucco wall. The sealant will need to be reapplied every few years, similar to how we seal-coat the roads in the gated villages.

### Are You Watering the Walls?

I would like to remind everyone to please check your back



*This stucco wall in High Desert has been damaged from excessive waterflow leaking into the inner wall.*

yards. Please ensure your irrigation is not directed at your walls. Make sure your plants, trees, bushes, etc. are not protruding onto the stucco walls.

Any element in your yard that may be causing water to build up by the wall will cause the wall to deteriorate at a much higher rate. The Association needs to ensure that the walls are preserved as best as possible. This takes your help! Please take the time to inspect your walls and

see if water is inadvertently spraying the walls. If so, immediately redirect the sprinklers and remember to look over your walls periodically throughout the year.

Should you have any questions in regards to this matter please do not hesitate to contact my office at 505-314-5862.

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## Voting Members Consider Changes to Bylaws at October Meeting: Issue Still Undecided— 75 Percent Representation Not Yet Met

State mandated changes to the High Desert bylaws and consideration of two additional items were not determined at the Special Meeting called by the Board of Directors Wednesday, October 30, 2019 because 75 percent of all homeowners as represented by Voting Members were not present, as required by the Bylaws.

### Longer Term Election Begins

While not enough Voting Members were on hand to complete the election, a simple majority of residents was represented, allowing the beginning of a longer term election. Voting Members heard the presentation of the proposed issues by Clay Wright, Board President. Discussion followed and ballots were passed out, marked secretly and collected by HOAMCO, High Desert's management company. The election will continue in the future with additional written consent forms obtained from Voting Members until 75 percent representation is obtained.

### Bringing High Desert Into Compliance With NM Law

The proposed Bylaws changes are to bring High Desert into compliance with recent changes to New Mexico law.

While HOAMCO and High Desert are presently complying with those new changes (including notification of meetings and open meetings) the wording in the Bylaws does not reflect this change.

Since the High Desert Bylaws cannot be changed without 75 percent of the members agreeing to the change, the current Bylaws remain out of compliance with state law, Clay told Voting Members.

To read the current wording and the proposed changes, go to



*Voting Members receive their ballots at the October meeting.*

the High Desert website at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net), click on the Governing Documents page and click on the bylaws and the red-lined version at the top.

### Two Additional Proposed Changes on Ballot

Two other proposed changes were on the ballot for Voting Members to consider.

One was a proposed change to Section 6.2 of the Bylaws allowing the Board of Directors to dispense with strict adherence with Robert's Rules of Order as needed. High Desert Bylaws require Robert's Rules to be followed at all Voting Member meetings and Board meetings. Generally, however, the Rules are relaxed somewhat in these meetings. Clay told Voting Members that a less strict practice has been in effect for years, allowing discussion of items in a free manner while generally following the outline of Robert's Rules.

"The reality is that most Associations do not spell out governance by Robert's Rules," said Lynn Krupnik, HDROA attorney.

*(Continued on page 9)*



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## Voting Members Consider Changes to Bylaws —Continued from page 8

Added Clay, “The Board does not intend to change how it operates. It just wishes to avoid unnecessary conflicts over the idiosyncrasies of Robert’s Rules.”

### Allow Board to Change Bylaws To Comply With Law

The second proposed change is to allow the Board of Directors (instead of Voting Members representing 75 percent of homeowners) to make changes to the bylaws solely for the purpose of bringing them into compliance with state law as needed.

Without this change, Clay told Voting Members, the Association will continue to be required to hold elections to change the bylaws whenever state law is changed.

“As tonight’s meeting illustrates,” he said, “the seventy five percent requirement is extremely difficult to meet. Given the fact the Legislature will make more changes in the future, we will be right back where we are today, taking many months to accept changes the state says we have to do anyway.”



*Lynn Krupnik, HDROA attorney, speaks to Voting Members about the proposed election.*

## September Voting Member Elections Leave Four Villages With Ties And Others With Unfilled Positions

Regular September High Desert elections to determine 10 village’s Voting Members left four villages in a tie and several without representation. Elections in Chaco Ridge, The Aerie, Canyons and Desert Mountain elections all resulted in tie votes. Elections are held in alternate years for High Desert villages.

Association practice is to ask the tied nominees to meet and decide for themselves who will represent their village. Representatives from The Aerie met and chose one Voting Member with another still to be determined. Desert Mountain chose its new Voting Members. However, Chaco Ridge and the Canyons remain without representation in the Voting Member group following the tie votes.

In other villages, Desert Highlands filled only one of two possible positions, Mountain Highlands still has two open positions of two available, and West Highlands has one opening of one position available. Trailhead, Trillium, Highlands and West Highlands held definitive elections.

Go to [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net) and click on Village News to see a list of Voting Members.

Homeowners interested in serving as a Voting Member at this time must be appointed by the Board since elections are over. Interested applicants should fill out a Statement of Interest on the website. Go to [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net), click on Volunteer Opportunities to the left, then click on Statement of Interest or Online Submission on the left menu. Fill out the form and submit it to HOAMCO.

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# Tramway Cleanup Volunteers for Adopt-A-Highway Clear2 Up Road Litter and Fill Thirty Bags With Trash

By Michele Leshner,  
Chair of Tramway Clean-up Project

On Saturday October 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. six High Desert residents joined me for our revived Adopt-A-Highway cleanup of mile markers 9 and 10 of Tramway Blvd. (east and west sides and the median).

We started at the Albertsons grocery store with half of the volunteers working south from Academy to the bridge at Bear Canyon and the other half working north to the bridge at Simms Park Rd.

Altogether, we accumulated 30 full bags of trash. The New Mexico Department of Transportation picked up our bags ahead of schedule and they were gone on Sunday!

I am also pleased to report that the NMDOT has put up our nice blue signs that recognize HDROA as the Adopt-A-Highway owners of miles 9 and 10.

To keep our adoption active, we are committed to holding a formal event twice per year. Our next event is planned for April 18, in conjunction with Clean Up Across America 2020.

Please join me in thanking the following volunteers for their efforts (see photo above, right).



Photo above: These Adopt-A-Highway volunteers from High Desert gathered 30 bags of trash along Tramway in October. Left to right: Carolyn Hudson (Overlook), Hal Hudson (Overlook), Sandy Jacoby (Overlook), Ralph Jacoby (Overlook), Jim DeBlois (Tierra del Oso) Scott Rogers (Highlands). Not shown: Michele Leshner.

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# High Desert Treasurer's Report: 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2019-20



By Tom Murdock  
Treasurer, Board of Directors

For the first quarter of the 2019 – 2020 fiscal year, the Master Association had an income of \$315,825.23, which was \$3,962.32 (1.25%) more than initially budgeted. Mandated transfer to reserves of \$15,637.50 resulted in a net income of \$300,187.73. Expenses totaled \$269,107.93 and were \$5,317.48 (1.98%) less than budgeted, resulting in an operating net income of \$40,359.60.

**Tom Murdock**  
resulting in an operating net income of \$40,359.60.

### Gated Villages

The Gated Villages had a combined income of \$73,504.57. Expenses of \$57,981.72 and reserve contributions of \$28,074.75 totaled \$86,056.47 which yields a combined gated village operating net loss of \$12,551.90.

### Reserve Accounts

The Association reserve accounts remain healthy and fully funded as mandated in the current reserve study. The Master Association had a balance of \$670,876.71 in its reserve checking and CD accounts. The Arroyo Reserve account balance was \$104,701.00. The gated villages had a combined reserve checking and CD balance of \$1,041,276.12.

### Other

As of 30 June 2019, the High Desert Residential Owners Association had cash assets of \$2,678,452.72.

Our outside auditor has completed the annual audit for fiscal year 2019 – 2019. The audit report stated that our financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of High Desert Residential Owners Association, Inc. as of June 30, 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

### Overdue Accounts

As of September 30, 2019, 108 owners had account receivable balances totaling \$98,272.39 which is a delinquency rate of 6.69%. Removing the amounts associated with pending litigation reduces the delinquency rate to 3.01%.

Of note is the fact that the top 11 delinquent owners (those owing \$1,000 or more) account for 86.3% of the total receivables.

### Well-Positioned

The Association continues to remain well-positioned to meet all of its financial requirements and obligations.

• See more Treasurer's Reports on page 13 •

### HDROA Reserve Account Balances as of 30 September 2019

	Reserves
Master	670,876.71
Arroyo	104,701.00
Canyons	191,091.45
Chaco Compound	51,398.36
Desert Mountain	225,167.18
Enclave	110,382.74
Legends	112,108.76
Trillium	249,142.56
Wilderness Canon	7,392.62
Wilderness Compound	94,592.45
	<b>1,816,853.83</b>

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**HDROA Income/Expense Report  
YTD as of 30 September, 2019**

<b>INCOME</b>	
HOMEOWNER ASSESSMENTS	\$ 292,140.00
COST SHARING - ALTEZZA	19,685.25
ASSESSMENT INTEREST	827.68
ASSESSMENT LATE FEES	(100.00)
LEGAL/COLLECTION FEES	(38.00)
GATE REMOTES	-
INTEREST INCOME	2,022.62
RECOVERY OF BAD DEBT	-
PENALTIES/FINES	2,250.00
OTHER INCOME	3,000.00
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>319,787.55</b>
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	15,637.50
<b>Total INCOME</b>	<b>304,150.05</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	12,980.18
BANK CHARGES	20.00
INSURANCE	3,812.76
LIEN/COLLECTION COSTS	653.82
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT	1,959.59
BOARD/VOTING MEMBER MEETINGS	106.69
OFFICE EXPENSE	2,281.18
POSTAGE	1,172.01
PRINTING	4,892.49
MAILINGS	796.00
BILLING STATEMENTS	2,135.36
RESERVE STUDY	-
<b>LANDSCAPE</b>	
LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE	58,738.59
LANDSCAPE REPLACEMENT	1,078.75
LANDSCAPE OTHER	12,621.91
ARROYO & POND MAINTENANCE	2,863.43
EROSION CONTROL	1,559.70
IRRIGATION REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	4,923.52
PET CLEANUP	6,035.62
TRAIL MAINTENANCE	371.08
LANDSCAPE PROJECTS - MASTER PLAN	-
<b>PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	
ACCOUNTING/TAX PREP FEES	-
CONSULTING	21,756.13
LEGAL FEES - COLLECTION/SMALL CLAIMS	10,140.25
LEGAL - GENERAL SERVICES	3,633.87
ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT	38,963.14
SECURITY SERVICES	36,122.01
SECURITY - APD	-
<b>TAXES/OTHER EXPENSES</b>	
ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS	689.51
COMMUNITY EVENTS	3,029.10
WELCOME COMMITTEE	373.47
WEBSITE	1,053.37
GATE & GUARDHOUSE MAINTENANCE	-
SIGN/ENTRY MAINTENANCE	177.95
WALL REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	-
SNOW REMOVAL	-
LOCKS & KEYS	-
SECURITY CAMERA SERVICE	242.72
MISCELLANEOUS	435.76
HDROA OFFICE	2,333.10
TAXES - CORPORATE	10.00
<b>UTILITIES</b>	
ELECTRICITY	693.88
TELEPHONE	255.00
WATER/SEWER	24,878.41
<b>Total EXPENSE</b>	<b>263,790.35</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 40,359.70</b>

# High Desert Treasurer's Reports



**HDROA Gated Villages Income/Expense Report  
YTD as of 30 September, 2019**

<b>Canyons</b>	
INCOME	\$ 7,419.56
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(2,637.25)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,110.63</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 671.68</b>
<b>Chaco Compound</b>	
INCOME	\$ 3,043.22
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(1,160.75)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,793.76</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 88.71</b>
<b>Desert Mountain</b>	
INCOME	\$ 28,131.01
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(10,341.75)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>27,606.94</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (9,817.68)</b>
<b>The Enclave</b>	
INCOME	\$ 7,339.10
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(3,654.00)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,911.55</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (226.45)</b>
<b>Trillium</b>	
INCOME	\$ 12,761.07
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(3,822.00)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>7,550.85</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 1,388.22</b>
<b>Wilderness Compound</b>	
INCOME	\$ 4,140.52
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(1,272.00)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,255.59</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (387.07)</b>
<b>The Legends</b>	
INCOME	\$ 8,940.92
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(3,822.00)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>5,524.29</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (405.37)</b>
<b>Wilderness Canon</b>	
INCOME	\$ 1,729.17
TRANSFER TO RESERVES	(1,365.00)
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,228.11</b>
<b>OPERATING NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (3,863.94)</b>
<b>Total Gated Villages Income</b>	<b>\$ 73,504.57</b>
<b>Total Transfer to Reserves</b>	<b>(28,074.75)</b>
<b>Total Gated Villages Expenses</b>	<b>57,981.72</b>
<b>Total Operating Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (12,551.90)</b>



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Leeco Services Fall Update**Don't Stop Watering Your Plants and Lawn Too Abruptly Until Ground Freezes in Mid-to Late December**

By *Jeremy Humphrey, Vice President,*  
*Leeco Grounds Management, Inc.*

*Note: Leeco is contracted with HDROA to provide landscaping services.*

**Fall watering:**

In New Mexico we live in an area that has four distinct seasons. Autumn is a time when temperatures begin to drop, the days become shorter, the growth of your grass begins to slow down, and the leaves begin to fall.

With less heat and sunshine to help speed up the evaporation process your lawn needs less to drink, but that doesn't mean that you should stop watering altogether or too abruptly. Your trees and shrubs will require watering well after your turf is dormant. In most cases you should be watering until the ground is frozen in mid to late December. With current drought conditions, supervised watering in January and February will be required in the absence of snowfall. Roots are still growing during the dormant period, and snowfall or augmented water help the overall growth and health of plants during the following spring process of leafing out.

As conditions can vary across the state, follow these general rules below on watering plants in fall weather.

- Continue to provide supplemental moisture as needed until the ground is frozen.
- If your area receives one inch or more of precipitation per week

you don't need to water.

- During times when the weather is warm and dry, continue to water a few times a week.

Making a few simple adjustments to your watering schedule each fall will keep your lawn, trees, and shrubs healthy for the winter months ahead.

**Leeco Projects Completed Over the Last Three Months:***Fire safety:*

- All fire hydrants have been cleared three feet in all directions for access.
- Grasses were trimmed in street park strips, keeping them lower for fire safety.

*General:*

- Normal weekly maintenance, cleaning and detailing.
- Grass edging in all streets and park strips
- Fall fertilization of turf
- Fall irrigation adjustments
- Path clearing in native walking paths

*Landscaping:*

- Sunset Ridge planting and seeding
- Spain Road tree installation
- Spain Road shrub installation
- Gabion basket installation in Highlands

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-Pat & Rob D., Los Alamos/Sandia Labs Scientists

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## Glossary of High Desert Language

By Janet Brierley, Board of Directors,  
and Chair of the Communications Committee

In this edition of the Apache Plume there is a call for homeowners to volunteer for various committees involved in the running of High Desert. Some of you may find this confusing, since we employ a company to oversee the day to day maintenance of the community. What follows is a brief description of the structure of our organization and an explanation of the various roles played by residents.

**HDROA:** Every homeowner in High Desert is a member of the High Desert Resident Owners Association (HDROA). We have the common goal of keeping the landscape and the properties in good condition so that it's pleasant to live here and the homes maintain their value. To that end, we all agreed to comply with the governing documents of the community when we purchased our properties.

**Management Company:** High Desert is a large development. There are over 1,600 homes with multiple contracts awarded to companies such as landscaping, security, road resurfacing, stucco repair and so on. Quarterly assessments have to be collected and bills paid. All this takes professional management and the company that currently performs these duties is HOAMCO. The property manager allocated to us is Lynnette Rodriguez and Joseph Anguiano is the executive coordinator. In addition, we have our own compliance officer who makes sure that we are all working within the governing documents.

**Voting Members:** Each village elects Voting Members to serve as their representatives for two-year terms. Each Voting Member represents up to 50 homes and they meet every quarter to discuss

issues in their neighborhoods. They are responsible for electing the Board of Directors and are the go-to people if you have questions about your village.

**Board of Directors:** This group of seven homeowners has the charge of ensuring the Governing Documents are upheld and also has fiscal responsibility for High Desert. They are selected by a volunteer Nominating Committee and elected by the Voting Members in April. Each Director serves a two-year term.

**Committees:** There are many groups of homeowners formed into committees that are vital to the smooth running of the community. Crucially important are the New Construction, Modifications, Landscape and Contracts Committees. The volunteers on these committees, being members of our association, have a vested interest in ensuring our standards are maintained and they commit countless hours of their free time to achieve that goal. The Welcome Committee works hard to make new residents feel part of the community and that goes a long way to giving a sense of joint responsibility for this beautiful area.

Everyone is a **Volunteer:** It is worth emphasizing that there are very few paid staff in the management structure of High Desert. Only the HOAMCO employees and the Chair of the New Construction Committee (a position requiring specialized knowledge) receive any remuneration. Everybody else gives their time freely because they believe passionately that High Desert must remain the very best place to live in Albuquerque.



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# Landscape Committee Activities Update: Autumn 2019



**Ray Berg**

*By Ray Berg, Landscape Committee Chair*

As the new Landscape Committee Chair, I am still getting my feet on the ground and getting my hands around the activities we are responsible for.

## **Coordinating With Wildland Fire Prevention Working Group**

For starters, we are working on coordinating landscape activities with the Wildland Fire Prevention Working Group (WFPWG) led by Camille Singaraju.

This group has the important responsibility of working with fire prevention authorities to identify practices that can help prevent the kinds of fires we have experienced the past few years.

Open range fires like those over the past two years can cause enormous damage to homes and other property. And fires such as median fires can cause significant damage to property and landscape in our community. So this is an important effort.

The Landscape Committee will identify recommendations for changes to the High Desert Guidelines that support the findings of the WFPWG for fire prevention and mitigation.

## **Working With Leeco**

Second, we are looking for better ways of collecting appropriate information to feed to our landscape contractor Leeco, Inc. This

needs to be at a level that the contractor can reasonably respond to in detail and responsibility. If it isn't, they will spend significant resources spinning their wheels or waiting for answers.

## **High Desert Master Plan**

Finally, we need to set up appropriate rules for working with agencies with which we have contracts. One of these is the landscape architects firm of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini with Ken Romig, who authored the Landscape Master Plan for High Desert. This plan is intended to guide the development, maintenance and refreshing of High Desert.

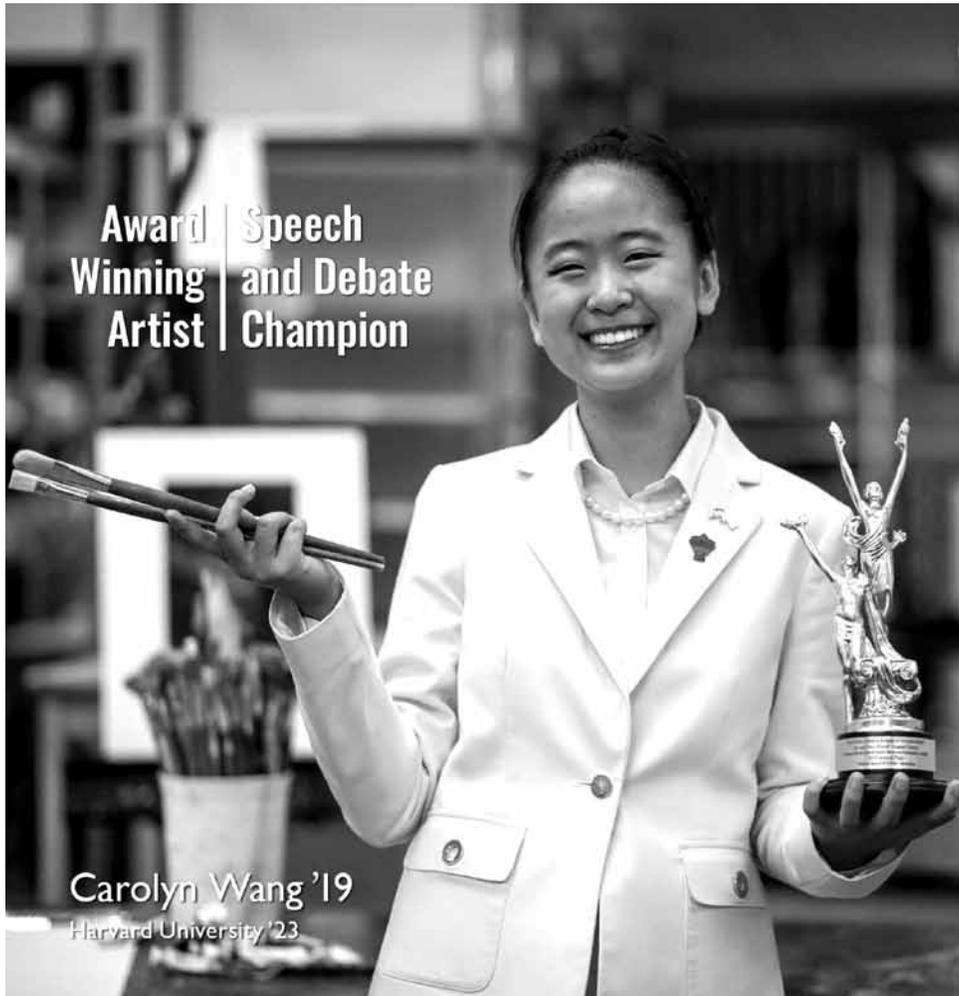
## **Maintaining the Arroyos**

A second agency we are working with is the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA). This is the agency that has authority over the dendritic arroyos (those skinny, meandering arroyos in the Highlands village) and ponds across the eastern parts of High Desert, and the dikes above our eastern boundaries.

By agreement, we have responsibility for some of the maintenance of these and this work is normally done by our landscape contractor. AMAFCA inspects the arroyos periodically with representatives of the HDROA and our landscape contractor.

Work on the arroyo maintenance takes place as needed, although there are often a lot of tasks immediately following the inspection.

So as you can see, there is a lot of work to do!



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# High Desert's September Party in the Park Draws Residents for Fun, Music and Food

Hundreds of High Desert residents turned out Saturday, September 21 for the 4th Annual Party in the Park event. Perfect fall temperatures and sunny weather highlighted the day as families gathered in High Desert Park for an afternoon of food, games and music. The Tijeras-based rock band The Pink Flamingos and Artrageous provided entertainment throughout the day as giant canvases of celebrities were painted to music on the spot for later sale at a silent auction.



Brenda Gossage

Brenda Gossage, High Desert homeowner, again chaired the event which was funded through High Desert Residential Homeowners Association and a \$4000 contribution from Northland Investment Corporation/Altezza Apartments located at High Desert. The contribution from Northland included \$1000 worth of free frozen yogurt servings from Menchie's, a food truck

parked at the event.

Event-goers also sampled food from The Supper Truck and Bel-hana Catering which provided Mediterranean fare. Owner Hany Elabassy initially sold a full plate of food for \$11, then cut his prices in half, finally contributing free plates to customers and giving all leftovers to charity.

While their parents listened—or danced—to the Pink Fla-



mingos, children had their faces painted by Party Up Face Painting, or petted animals at the petting zoo and played games provided by the company A Ton of Fun.

Albuquerque Fire Rescue was on hand with leaflets about fire prevention and safety along with a fire truck and brush truck for

*(Continued on page 19)*

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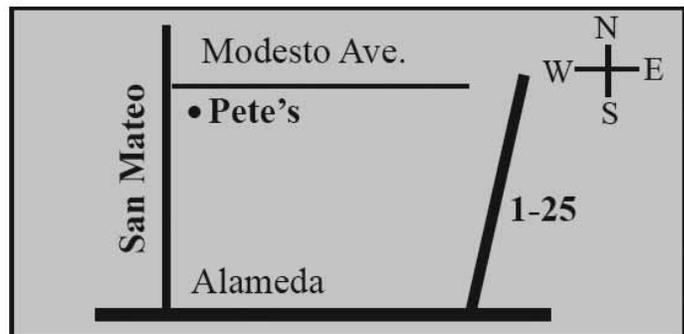
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# Party in the Park

—From Page 18



*Leeco crew member picks up trash.*

inspection. The Albuquerque Police Department was also there to support the event with officers, squad cars and a watercraft.

G4S, High Desert’s security vendor, provided (for free) an extra patrol officer.

Leeco, High Desert’s landscape vendor, donated a crew to empty trash cans in the park and clean up litter during and after the event (see photo at left).

The day had only two glitches, Brenda said. Despite a submission of the proper paperwork to the city months beforehand, she learned only the week before the event that electricity (necessary for the Pink Flamings) was no longer being provided to High Desert Park. Local City Councilor Trudy Jones stepped in quickly and remedied the situation, making sure power was provided and also paid for by her department’s funds.

Missing portable toilets were the second unforeseen incident. The contract with the rental company had been made and paid for, said Brenda, but no toilets arrived until the event was nearly over. Rather than pay full price for less than an hour of service, she did not allow them to be dropped off. She spoke to the president of the company who apologized for the mix-up and pledged to donate their services next time.

## “Very Pleased”

“Over all I’m very pleased with the way things went,” Brenda said. “Moving the Party In The Park to mid-day improved our weather chances and we had a good turnout.” She specifically thanked the Association and Northland for their financial support of the event. Northland Investment Corporation/Altezza Apartments increased their contribution this year significantly, she noted. “Northland’s great input demonstrates what an important partner they are in this community,” she said.



*A popular food venue at the Party in the Park was Bel-hana Catering which provided plates of Mediterranean fare.*



*High Desert residents dance to the music (above) while parents watch as children play games provided from the company A Ton of Fun (left).*

*\$1000 worth of free yogurt was dispensed by Menchie’s (photo, right) courtesy of Northland Investment Corporation/Altezza Apartments located at High Desert.*



*Members of Albuquerque Fire Rescue help a youngster try on a fireman’s coat at their booth as High Desert homeowner Judy Pierson (center) looks on.*

# Crime in Albuquerque

## Help! I Don't Know What to Do!



Dr. Janet Brierley

It's a shock to go out to your car in the morning and find that the window has been broken and a bag of tools stolen from the back seat. In the panic of the moment you wonder which way to turn. Should you call 911? What will the insurance company need? Is it worth even calling the police?

In such a situation the appropriate response is to report the crime to the police by calling 242-COPS and asking for "crime reporting."

This is important for two reasons. One is to obtain a case number for your insurance company and the other is to generate a police report that will become part of the data set for not only finding perpetrators but also determining allocation of police resources. You may also file a report online at [www.cabq.gov/police/file-a-police-report-online](http://www.cabq.gov/police/file-a-police-report-online) or go to the Foothills Command Substation to fill out the paperwork.

In another example, you are out shopping and your alarm monitoring company reports that the front door alarm is activated. You rush home to find the front door kicked in and G4S security patrol present. Should you call 911? What will the insurance company need? Is it even worth calling the police?

In this case you can be sure that the thieves are no longer present, so it is not necessary to call 911. However, it is essential that you report the crime for the reasons described above. If the crimi-

By Dr. Janet Brierley, Board Director & Crime Prevention Liaison

nals have left behind any evidence then it's important to mention that fact when you call 242-COPS.

In a final scenario, you come home from a shopping expedition to find the garage door is up and the connecting door into the house is swinging open. The burglar alarm starts sounding just as you get there. What should you do?

This is definitely the time to dial 911 because the perpetrator may still be in the house. It would be wise to stay out of the house until help arrives. The crime reporting will proceed directly from the police officers.



## Help is Close at Hand

High Desert is served by the Foothills Area Command of Albuquerque Police Department (APD) and the Police Substation is located on Lomas Boulevard, just west of Tramway. There are several useful services available at the station, which is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- The staff there is eager to help you; in particular Samantha Martinez, the Crime Prevention Specialist (tel. 505-332-5240) can arrange to visit your home to assess and advise you about personal security measures. She will also help you to establish a neighborhood watch on your street.
- You may go to the substation to report minor auto accidents and house break-ins. The staff will assist you in filling out the necessary forms.
- At the police station there is a box where you can safely deposit unwanted prescription drugs. The medicines should be taken out of the original containers and put in plastic bags. No sharps are accepted but if you call 311 the city will arrange appropriate disposal.
- There is an Internet exchange area. This is an area in the parking lot that is monitored by camera and is a safe location to meet a stranger to exchange goods that have been purchased online.

Being a victim of crime is a truly horrible experience but knowing that help is close by and having some action plans in mind may help you to cope with the situation in a calm and positive manner.

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## G4S Security Patrol Drives Each Street in High Desert —Every Single 24-Hour Day, All 365 Days Each Year

Think you get tired of driving the same route to work every day? The patrol officers for G4S security service in High Desert must drive every street in High Desert every single day and night, often backtracking and driving some streets more than once when they receive a specific call.

Calls from residents can range from a poisonous snake in the driveway to a kicked-in back door and burglary. High Desert homeowners who call G4S during the day will usually see Ivan Bencomo, Daytime Site Supervisor with High Desert and an employee with G4S for the past 5 years.

“Snakes and wild animal calls aren’t as common as they used to be in High Desert,” said James Gage, Operations Manager for G4S. “As the community has been built up, the wild animals have retreated.”

But not last week. Ivan got a call from a resident who spotted a large deer trapped behind a wall in the Canyons and seemingly unable to escape. But by the time Ivan arrived, the deer had managed to jump the fence and was long gone.

The most frequent calls concern suspicious vehicles and people that neighbors don’t recognize. Those calls almost always turn out to be expected visitors. Nonetheless, Ivan will respond to each call, inspecting the vehicle and knocking on the door to see if the homeowner vouches for the visitor. “Better to be safe than sorry,” said James.

Several times a year, thieves break the cluster mailbox locks at various sites in the community and steal the mail. Private mail-

boxes at the end of driveways are also vandalized, James said, with locks broken and mail stolen. “Ivan patrols the cluster boxes throughout the community every single day keeping an eye out for any unusual activity,” he added.

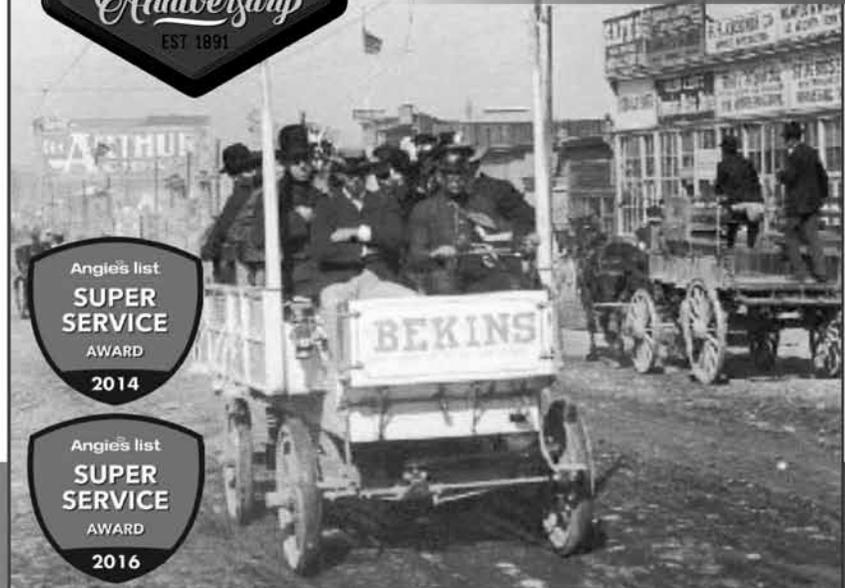
The best advice James can give residents is to check their own mailbox every day and not allow any build-up of mail. If homeowners go on vacation, they should stop their mail delivery until they return, either online at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) or by filling out a card in person at the local post office for High Desert located at 9719 Candelaria Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111.

Break-ins in High Desert are unusual but they do occur a handful of times each year, James said. “Most often burglars will kick in a back door and enter the house. An alarm is a great deterrent but you need to remember to set that alarm.” Another safety feature is replacing the short screws on the door’s edge that hold the doorknob. “Go to the hardware store and get four-inch wood screws and put those in,” said James. “A door with a regular set of screws can be kicked in by a 150-250 pound man with two or three good kicks. A door with the longer screws will call for ten times the force.”

Until gates were installed on the large drain pipes into Pinon Point drainage area, homeless campers prompted some calls to G4S. But the new gates stopped the intruders, although graffiti is still a concern within the pipes. “We just keep an eye on the area every day,” said James. “It’s what we do.”



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# National Night Out in High Desert A Success

Despite threatening skies, several High Desert neighborhoods held outdoor parties as part of National Night Out, an annual, nationwide community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

The Enclave (see photo below) celebrated National Night Out with about 35 people representing 25 of the homes in the village. "It was a fun evening," said Linda Carstens. "We took a picture of the original Enclave homeowners who were at the party." Those original homeowners are, from left to right: Deborah and Howard Tischler, Gene Szklarz, and Mary Stiles. Eric and Diana Kadlec left before the picture taking. An officer from Albuquerque Police Department was also on hand to discuss concerns and encourage community contact.



In Pinon Point, Nancy Manzanares, Voting Member, organized a block party that drew dozens of homeowners throughout the village.

The group (see photo above) set up at the Pinon Point village park and residents brought food and beverages. Nancy and her helpers purchased chips and a sheet cake with money provided from the Association for such events. "We had a great time and it never did end up raining on us," she said.



Photo by Linda Carstens, The Enclave

Photo by Nancy Manzanares.



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# New HOAMCO Compliance Officer Michael Mathues Is Former California Paramedic



**Michael Mathues  
Compliance Officer**

Holding a job as a Compliance Officer for a homeowner association is not considered an easy job. Officers must identify homeowners who are not following association rules, write notification letters, and all too often confront irate residents. They may find themselves in the middle of neighbor-to-neighbor quarrels or on the receiving end of angry phone calls. The turnover can be high and yet the job is a vital one for homeowner associations such as High Desert that operate within strict guidelines.

High Desert's newest Compliance Officer isn't overly concerned about the stress of his new job. Until recently, he worked as a paramedic on the streets of San Francisco. He often wore a bullet-proof vest and has been shot at multiple times and hit once in the shoulder. Who shoots a man that arrives in an ambulance ready to perform life saving services? "Usually the other bad guys who hurt him in the first place and don't want him saved," Mike said.

Mike is a California native who recently moved to New Mexico to be closer to relatives here. He worked as a paramedic for the past 10 years but chose to move into an office position here instead. "I

miss the job but not the stress," he said.

As Compliance Officer, Mike is responsible for identifying and responding to violations of the High Desert Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs).

Each week he drives around the community looking for obvious infractions such as trash cans stored in sight of the street, unkempt lawns, trash in the yard, or parking violations. "We had a utility trailer the other day filled with random items and the neighbors reported it," he said. "The rules prohibit that sort of thing but by the time I checked it the following day, the trailer had been moved." Had it not, Mike would have sent a courtesy letter notifying the homeowner that a rule was being violated and needed to be corrected within 14 days. That usually clears up the problem, he said. But not always. If the homeowner ignores the letter and the problem persists, another letter is sent and fines can be imposed. "The Board can decide to place liens on the property and initiate lawsuits," Mike said. "But we want to work with people. If they are on vacation or need extra time, we can often meet them halfway."

But no matter how prickly a homeowner may be about fixing a violation, Mike is convinced his new job will be much more restful than his last. "The bar is set pretty high," he said. "If I'm not wrestling people into the back of an ambulance, it's a pretty good day."



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*The High Desert Gardener*

# Is Fall the Best Time for Planting?

By Margo Murdock  
High Desert Resident



**Margo Murdock**

Is fall really the best time for planting? Those of you who grew up in the east or in areas where “April showers bring May flowers” probably think this statement is crazy. But for areas of the country that have mild winters and hot summers, fall really is the best time to plant, transplant, and divide. Here’s why:

- It’s cooler for newly installed plants so they are less stressed.
- With cooler temperatures in the fall, dividing plants like day-lilies is easier on plants and the gardener. Plants reestablish faster.
- Because it’s cooler, the new or transplanted plants need less water – note that’s less water, not NO water ...you still need to water them. Using mulch (organic top of soil covering) conserves even more moisture in the soil and helps moderate soil temperature for an even longer period of root growth.
- Insect and disease pressure is less. As the heat of summer drops and as leaves begin to fall there are fewer insects to chew new leaves or suck the chlorophyll from them. Chances of root rots are less because there’s less need to water heavily and it’s cooler. Fungi like warm and moist conditions.
- The soil is still warm and temperatures are moderate so there’s



*Tulip bulbs planted now yield wonderful spring color in High Desert gardens. Add bulbs within groundcovers or native grasses to hide dead foliage next year.*

less transplant shock. In the spring, new plants must adapt to cold soil, dry winds and early frosts, followed in mid-May by withering heat and sometimes hail in early June. The time between last frost and summer heat is short here – making it tougher for new plants to survive and requiring more of your attention.

- In the fall, nutrients generated by leaves can be redirected from growing new leaves to extending roots. Eighty percent of root growth occurs in late summer and fall. Root growth continues during late fall and winter until the ground is frozen.
- Plants take off the following spring because of better root growth and increased top growth. They also may flower better the first season. Plants planted in fall are also more drought tolerant and have less sun scorch as they’ve had more time to grow and become established than do plants planted in spring. Gallon-sized or larger plants hold up to early frosts better.
  - While most plants prefer fall planting, some of the more tender ones, or those that prefer heat and hate the cold, should be planted in the spring. These are primarily USDA zone 8 plants, marginal for us unless you find a good (hot) microclimate or planting site for them.

*(Continued on page 25)*

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## Is Fall the Best Time? — From Page 24

### Cool Crop Vegetables

If you're a vegetable grower fall (beginning in August) is the best time to plant seeds or starts for cool season crops like broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, lettuce, chard, spinach, kale, onions, radishes, and carrots. Row covers can be used to protect the leafy ones from frost.

### Pansies, Violas, Mums and Spring-blooming Bulbs

Fall is a great time to plant pansies, violas, chrysanthemums and spring blooming bulbs. Bulbs need the chill time before spring.

### The Downside and Upside

One downside of fall planting is that the selection of plants is less and some plants may be root-bound in their pots. On the other hand, for deciduous trees and shrubs with fall color, you get to see the color before planting and nurseries put plants on sale in the fall so you may get more plants for your money. Happy planting!



*Row covers can protect leafy cool season crops from frost. This photo of row covers was taken at the Howard Co. Conservancy Community Garden.  
Photo credit: Jon Traunfeld, UME*

## Albuquerque Green Waste Pickup Is December 2 through December 13

The City of Albuquerque's Solid Waste Management Department will pick up residential green waste at no additional charge. This year's Fall Green Waste Collection program begins on Monday, December 2 and will end on Friday, December 13.

Solid Waste customers should have their green waste at the curb by 7 a.m. on the day of their regular trash collection day. All green waste must be placed five feet from automated trash and recycle containers as well as any large items scheduled for pick up.

Each trash bag should not weigh more than 40 pounds. Customers that have branches must cut them to four-foot lengths and bundle them securely.

The following items will not be picked up: dirt, construction debris/materials, gravel or tree stumps.

## November 16th Studio Tour Photos Will be On High Desert Website

With the High Desert Studio Tour set for Saturday, Nov. 16 at the Apache Plume's presstime, all photos of the event will be posted online at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net). The Studio Tour is sponsored by the Welcome Committee as a way to introduce residents to their artist neighbors. This year's tour is the eleventh annual tour to be held in the community. Homeowner artists open their homes and studios to their neighbors interested in viewing their art. Purple balloons are posted at the homes and a map is available on the website.

# Happy Holidays

During this holiday season, we wish you all the best.



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# High Desert Committee & Project Contact Information

If you have a question about High Desert, who should you ask? The answer to many questions is easily found on the High Desert website at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net). A calendar of events, all our governing documents, easy access to the request form for modifications, and a great deal more is found on the site. When it comes to High Desert, the website is the place to start. For other questions:

- Owners should contact HOAMCO at (505) 314-5862 for any inquiry about High Desert development, questions about the CC&Rs, or concerns with the operation of the Association.

- See the names and telephone numbers on the opposite page for Board members, patrols, website and newsletter information.

- High Desert residents can contact their elected Voting Members for specific answers to questions concerning their villages. Village Voting Member contact information can be found online at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net). Click on "Contact Us" and select Voting Members from the left hand menu. Residents can also call the office at 505-314-5862 to learn their village representative. High Desert Committee chairperson contacts are below.

- **Crime Prevention Liaison:**

Dr. Janet Brierley: (505) 856-5390: [jkbrierley@comcast.net](mailto:jkbrierley@comcast.net)

- **Welcome Committee Co-Chairs:**

Amy & Bill Stein: (404) 987-5254: [alsypula@gmail.com](mailto:alsypula@gmail.com)

Robin Troy; 505-967-5119; [TRY\\_RBN@YAHOO.COM](mailto:TRY_RBN@YAHOO.COM)

- **Voting Member Chairperson**

Caroline Enos: (505) 797-7044: [dccenos@comcast.net](mailto:dccenos@comcast.net)

- **Gated Villages Committee:** Lucy Sinkular: (day) 883-3070, (evening) 703-638-4286; [lucy.sinkular@gmail.com](mailto:lucy.sinkular@gmail.com)

- **Park and Trail Cleanup Projects:**

Open Position: Contact [highdesertmanager@hoamco.com](mailto:highdesertmanager@hoamco.com)

- **Tramway Cleanup Project:**

Michelle Leshner: 505-844-2854: [mlesher222@comcast.net](mailto:mlesher222@comcast.net)

- **Landscape Advisory Committee Chair:**

Ray Berg: 505-366-8104: [rsberg01@comcast.net](mailto:rsberg01@comcast.net)

- **Communications Committee Chair:**

Dr. Janet Brierley: (505) 856-5390

[CommunicationsCommittee@HOAMCO.com](mailto:CommunicationsCommittee@HOAMCO.com)

## G4S Provides Vacation Watches For High Desert Homes

Are you leaving on vacation and would like G4S to keep an eye on your home? You can call the patrol service directly or fill out a form and send it to management.

Go to the High Desert website at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net). Click on "Notices & Reminders" and scroll to the article "Leaving on Vacation" and click the link for the Vacation Form. Fill out the form and fax, email or mail it to the HOAMCO address. An online submission form is available, too. Or, call G4S directly at (505) 485-5658.

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**Management**

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*(Note new office location)*  
PO Box 67590, Albuquerque, NM 87193-6590  
(505) 888-4479 Fax: (505) 888-4483  
After-hours emergency maintenance phone contact:  
(505) 508-9568
- **Community Association Manager:**  
**Lynnette Rodriguez:**  
High Desert Northeast Heights Office  
(505) 314-5862  
Fax: (928)-776-0050  
*highdesertmanager@hoamco.com*
- **High Desert Office (Northeast Heights):**  
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Building 1, Suite 100  
(505) 314-5862 Fax: (928)-776-0050
- **G4S:**  
Security Patrol: **505) 485-5658**  
(See page 5 for details on calls.)
- **High Desert Website & Apache Plume Newsletter:**  
*Website: www.highdesertliving.net*  
Rebecca Murphy: Editor, Website Administrator  
(505) 377-7227; *EEnews@outlook.com* or  
*CommunicationsCommittee@hoamco.com*

**Board & Committee Meetings**

- **Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 11, 2019/2020 at 4 p.m.**  
**Modifications Committee Meeting**  
Location: High Desert Office, 10555 Montgomery, NE
- **Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, 2019/2020 at 2 p.m.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Location: High Desert Office, 10555 Montgomery, NE
- **Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Voting Members Quarterly Meeting**  
Location: Hope Church, 4710 Juan Tabo. NE  
*(Note new location & time)*
- **Dec. 4, Jan. 15, Feb. 5, 2019/2020 at 1:00 p.m.**  
**Landscape Advisory Committee Meeting**  
Location: High Desert Office, 10555 Montgomery, NE

*Note: For a complete list of all events and meetings,  
see the website calendar at: [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net).*

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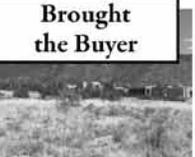
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