

Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner, District 1

Anna Hansen
Commissioner, District 2

Ed Moreno
Commissioner, District 5



Robert A. Anaya
Commissioner, District 3

Anna T. Hamilton
Commissioner, District 4

Katherine Miller
County Manager

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/19/18

TO: Board of County Commissioners

VIA: Katherine Miller, County Manager

FROM: Orlando A. Romero, Constituent Liaison, District 1

RE: A Proclamation Remembering and Honoring, Dr. Valerie Friedman McNown, "Dr. Val", Dr. Wilfred Friedman and Mrs. Ann Friedman

SUMMARY

BY THIS PROCLAMATION, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY, RECOGNIZES DR. VALERIE FRIEDMAN MCNOWN, DR. WILFRED FRIEDMAN AND MRS. ANN FRIEDMAN FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND GENEROSITY TO THEIR COMMUNITY FOR CREATING COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND FOR THEIR DEVOTION AND LOVE OF THEIR COMMUNITY.

BACKGROUND

DR. VALERIE FRIEDMAN MCNOWN, "DR. VAL" WAS THE FIRST MEMBER OF THE FRIEDMAN FAMILY TO MOVE TO NEW MEXICO FROM NEW YORK IN 1948. SHE WAS A PEDIATRICIAN ON LOAN FROM THE LOS ALAMOS MEDICAL CENTER FROM A CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OHIO. DR. VAL FELL IN LOVE WITH THE POJOAQUE VALLEY AND DECIDED TO MAKE IT HER HOME FOREVER. DR. VAL OPENED UP HER OWN PRACTICE, VISITS WERE ONLY \$2.00 - \$3.00 AND OFTEN, PATIENTS PAID THE FEE WITH VEGETABLES OR FRUIT. DR. VAL DELIVERED AND CARED FOR NEARLY 5,000 BABIES DURING HER PRACTICE. IN ADDITION, SHE DRASTICALLY REDUCED THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE IN RIO ARRIBA COUNTY.

DR. WILFRED FRIEDMAN (BROTHER) AND HIS WIFE, ANN FRIEDMAN MOVED TO POJOAQUE IN 1956 WITH THEIR THREE DAUGHTERS, TWO MORE TO FOLLOW. DR. FRIEDMAN WAS AN UROLOGIST AND WORKED IN LOS ALAMOS, ESPANOLA AND SANTA FE, FINALLY SETTING UP HIS PRIVATE PRACTICE IN SANTA FE. DR. FRIEDMAN WAS A VERY DEDICATED AND COMPASSIONATE PHYSICIAN, MAKING HOUSE CALLS IN AND AROUND NORTHERN NEW MEXICO, OFFERING FREE SERVICES TO THOSE IN NEED OR TRADED FOR WORK, DR. FRIEDMAN WAS VERY DEDICATED TO HIS COMMUNITY AND WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO LEND A HELPING HAND TO ANYONE IN NEED.

MRS. ANN FRIEDMAN LOVED THE POJOAQUE VALLEY AND WAS VERY ACTIVE ORGANIZING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING; THE FIRST GIRL SCOUT TROOP AS TROOP LEADER IN THE POJOAQUE VALLEY, THE FIRST SKI PROGRAM HELPING WITH TRANSPORTATION, EQUIPMENT AND SKI LESSONS FOR MANY YEARS. MRS. FRIEDMAN WAS ELECTED AS A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE POJOAQUE VALLEY SCHOOLS. SHE AND AS HER HUSBAND WAS, VERY DEDICATED TO THEIR COMMUNITY.

ACTION REQUESTED

Commissioner Henry P. Roybal respectfully requests the Board of County Commissioners support and approval of this Proclamation.



Santa Fe County Proclamation
The Board of County Commissioners
of Santa Fe County

A PROCLAMATION REMEMBERING AND HONORING
DR. VALERIE FRIEDMAN MCNOWN, "DR. VAL"
DR. WILFRED FRIEDMAN
MRS. ANN FRIEDMAN

FOR THEIR HEARTFELT ACTIVISM, SINCERE DEVOTION,
AND LOVE FOR THEIR COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Dr. Valerie Friedman McNown, MD, also known as Dr. Val, was born in Messina, New York in 1916. She was raised in the U.S. and Canada and graduated from Michigan State University in 1938. In 1945 Dr. Val graduated with an MD from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. After completing her pediatric residency at Children's Memorial Hospital in Montreal, Canada and Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, she worked as a contract physician with the U.S. Government in Los Alamos, NM, from 1948 to 1950; and

WHEREAS, in 1948, Dr. Val was the first member of the Friedman family to move to the New Mexico Pojoaque Valley as a pediatrician on loan to Los Alamos Medical Center from a Children's Hospital in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Val fell in love with the Pojoaque Valley and decided to make it her forever home. In 1955 she married Allen McNown, a well-known architect and they two children, Mark and Sari; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Val opened her own practice in a renovated tumbledown house on the main road in Nambe. Allen McNown moved his architecture business to the same building. Allen designed many buildings in the County, including the Pojoaque Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, when Dr. Val began private practice fees for visits were only \$2.00 to \$3.00 and often patients paid their fee in vegetables or fruit. Doctors being scarce, Dr. Val also found herself making house calls on cattle. Also during this time, she traveled and worked at state run health clinics in Pojoaque, Chimayo, Truchas, Tierra Amarilla, Taos and St. Vincent's Hospital in Santa Fe. She was later recruited by Dr. Sam Ziegler, who built Espanola's first hospital. Dr. Val joined Dr. Ziegler in establishing a pediatric care unit in the Espanola Hospital; and

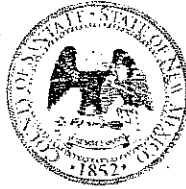
WHEREAS, Dr. Val delivered and cared for nearly 5,000 babies during her practice. She drastically reduced the infant mortality rate in Rio Arriba County. Her hard work, dedication, and love of the people of this region kept her going at a furious clip for nearly 40 years until she retired in 1987 due to her first bout with cancer; and

WHEREAS, in Dr. Val's words: "I am old fashioned enough to still think a tongue depressor, an otoscope, and a stethoscope can get you started, that coupled with knowledge, your innate good sense, your ability to ask questions and listen, and your caring attitude will get you the love and respect of all who come in contact with you. What else is there?" and

WHEREAS, Dr. Val was honored in October 1998 as a Santa Fe Living Treasure and as described as "A saint for the babies of Northern New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, following their retirement, Dr. Val and Allen McNown opened an antique shop in their Nambe home which kept them busy for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Val died on June 16, 2004. In her obituary, which she wrote herself to friends and family, she said: "I have had the most wonderful, happy, rewarding and fulfilled 87 years. Thank you for sharing them with me."



Dr. Wilfred Friedman

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilfred Friedman was born to Eugene and Juliet Friedman in 1919 in Messina, New York. After earning a degree in engineering, he returned to university to study medicine. Dr. Friedman earned his medical degree at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He met Ann Morris on a blind date and it was love at first sight. They married in 1953, just as he was graduating from medical school; and

WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Friedman moved to Pojoaque, NM, in 1956 with their three daughters. Two more daughters followed, completing the family; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilfred Friedman worked in Española, Los Alamos and Santa Fe as a urologist and eventually set up private practice in Santa Fe; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Friedman was a very dedicated and compassionate physician and made house calls in and around northern New Mexico and offered free services to those in need or traded for work; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Friedman learned nearly every trade there was (self-taught) and built their famous family home in Nambe "El Caracol". This house was a work of art and hard work. It had a unique architecture which was designed by architect Allen McNow. The family was involved in all aspects of its construction, including the making of the adobe bricks; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Friedman was extremely dedicated to his community and was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Friedman taught his five daughters "you can do anything you set your mind out to do". Getting an education was most important to Dr. Friedman. He and his wife supported their children not only in school, but learning to swim, ski, hike, care for animals and travel; and

WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Friedman hosted a Cabrito Community Party every summer, inviting many of those new to the valley to meet those who have lived in the valley for years. They both felt it very important to celebrate and create community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Friedman retired in 1985 and he and his wife Ann moved to Santa Fe in 1990. Dr. Friedman worked for a few years at the Gerald Peters Gallery in Santa Fe which was a complete joy for him learning and doing something different; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilfred Friedman passed away July 5, 1995 in Santa Fe.



Mrs. Ann Friedman

WHEREAS, Ann Helen Morris Friedman was born in Chantilly, France on May 4, 1926. She grew up in England with her parents and two sisters; and

WHEREAS, Ann H. Morris Friedman graduated with a degree in physiotherapy before she immigrated to Canada. It was there that she met and married Wilfred Friedman; and

WHEREAS, Ann Friedman and her husband Dr. Wilfred Friedman moved to Pojoaque in 1956 where they raised their five daughters, Caroline, Diane, Wendy, Julie and Michele; and

WHEREAS, Ann's motto in life was: "just do it"; and

WHEREAS, Ann and her husband Dr. Wilfred Friedman built the famous El Caracol family home which included adobe making and anything else that presented a challenge to her; and

WHEREAS, she planted and tended to a huge garden, managing the irrigation ditch and cooking delicious meals from her garden vegetables; and

WHEREAS, she and Mr. Friedman built a swimming pool in their backyard. They generously opened their home and pool to the community, gave lessons for many years and thereby fostered a community spirit. The swimming pool became a Pojoaque Valley resource and Mrs. Friedman taught lessons to both children and adults; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Friedman rode pack horses in the mountains in and around the Pojoaque Valley which she enjoyed very much. She taught her daughters to ride horses too; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Friedman organized the first Girl Scout Troop in the Pojoaque Valley and served as its troop leader encouraging other mothers in the community to learn and participate as well. The Friedman home was often filled with Girl Scout cookies from floor to ceiling; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Friedman organized the first Ski Program in the Pojoaque Valley helping with transportation, equipment and ski lessons; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Friedman was an elected School Board Member of the Pojoaque Valley Schools even after her children were out of school; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Friedman was very adventurous and felt it important to take her family on trips to many parts of the world. Having learned from their mother, her five daughters are also adventurous and world travelers; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Friedman retired in Santa Fe and was a member of the Santa Fe Rose Society which was one of her passions. She also loved to play golf and enjoyed her weekly yoga classes; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Friedman died peacefully on July 22, 2018 after what she described as a "splendid afternoon with family"; and

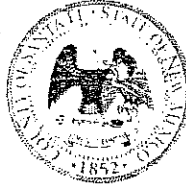
WHEREAS, on the day Mrs. Friedman died, when asked by her great granddaughter Tule "what is the secret of a long life?" Mrs. Friedman replied: "behave yourself, travel – because the world is such a big place, and remember that life changes"; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County is saddened by the passing of Dr. Valerie Friedman McNown, Dr. Wilfred Friedman and Mrs. Ann Friedman and hereby expresses its heartfelt condolences to their family, friends and colleagues.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County to recognize Dr. Valerie Friedman McNown, Dr. Wilfred Friedman, and Mrs. Ann Friedman for their dedication and generosity to their community, for creating community spirit and for their devotion and love of their community.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the first Saturday of every May be considered "Friedman/McNown Family Day" by picking up where they left off and continuing their tradition of a yearly party to celebrate and continue creating community with old and new.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED ON THIS 30th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018.



Anna Hansen
Chair
Commissioner, District 2

Anna T. Hamilton
Vice-Chair
Commissioner, District 4

Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner, District 1

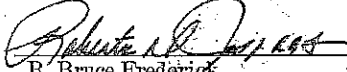
Robert A. Anaya
Commissioner, District 3

Edward H. Moreno
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

Approved as to form:

ATTESTATION:


R. Bruce Frederick
Santa Fe County Attorney

Geraldine Salazar
Santa Fe County Clerk



