

## THE SPRINGS CHAT ~MAY 2019~

A newsletter by and for the residents

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### CALENDAR & EVENTS & INFO

- Margot's story
- Snowbird Info
- Entrance Roof
- Recycling
- Board Notes
- Birds and the Bees

The Springs CHAT is your newsletter.

Communication and sharing information can contribute to the vitality and the culture of our community.

The CHAT invites your contributions - information you would like to share with the community.

The editor also wants your ideas and suggestions, so just email them to [editor.thesprings@gmail.com](mailto:editor.thesprings@gmail.com)

The Chat will continue throughout the summer to keep folks informed of activities, projects, articles, and events.

For those leaving the Springs for the summer, enjoy the time with family and friends.

Will see you again soon.



Another beautiful  
bench by

**Pat Lindemann**

One that truly  
captures the hearts  
of pet owners.

Thank you for your  
talent and sharing it  
with us.

### **From The Springs' Board President, Rebecca Keenan**

My desk is a mess, but the yard is cleaned up. The windows need washing but the pre-emergent is on. Priorities abound and who is to say what is most important? Well, me???

As President of the Board, I am often reminded that our priority is to maintain a healthy, well-managed community for all our homeowners. The Board members have been over the top in making that happen and the Volunteers who help them are priceless. At times I receive requests from individuals to make a decision to benefit them in their personal circumstances. And often, I have had to say no, sorry but it's not in the best interest of the community. Then when I take the time to explain, it is often an accepted decision. Other Board members do this as well and the ARC committee has really excelled in solving problems with a short discussion versus a citation. Being good communicators is the best way to have a healthy community.

As the summer approaches, there will be some work plans that may impact your travel in The Springs. We will try to alert all homeowners as to when solar panels will be placed at the GVR lots and where road repairs are to be done. Please think of your neighbors when these announcements are made to be sure they know, and see if they need any help on garbage day or with mail or parking. The temporary work schedule will not last too long, but your kindness will be remembered for a long time. Have a good summer. Rebecca Keenan

[thespringshoa@gmail.com](mailto:thespringshoa@gmail.com)

## **Springs' Entrance Roof Repair**



Woodward Construction of Green Valley recently completed work on the roof over The Springs' main entrance. Old joist hangers on the north and south peaks were removed and replaced with custom, heavy-duty hangers to provide extra stability to the roof structure. Weather-damaged trim boards along the north and south peaks were removed, replaced and painted. On the southwest corner of the canopy, damaged and uneven clay tiles were replaced or reset. The original clay tiles on the 30-year-old roof are exhibiting signs of significant weather-damage, many with cracks. A major overhaul of the roof to include new clay tile and underlayment will need to be considered.

### **CALL TO ACTION IN THE SPRINGS!!!**

The disasters Love Canal near Niagara Falls; Times Beach near St. Louis; the wandering barges from New York City looking for an east coast state to accept the mountains of trash, ultimately to be simply bulldozed into the Atlantic; the Cuyahoga River actually catching fire in Cleveland; and now the Texas-sized raft of plastic trash floating in the Pacific. These were the awakenings for our people to embrace the 3 R's ---- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

While we do not see a crisis facing us now, in Green Valley, we think it wise to take steps now to avoid one. Most of us are already endeavoring to be effective recyclers. But recent events have transpired to create the need for us to review how and what we recycle, and just what we relegate to trash. At the same time, we've all heard about the lengthy drought and dangerously low levels of our water supply from Lake Mead.

Our HOA has created a recycling committee to try and help our residents to be effective recyclers. Our trash handler, Republic Services, is working with us to try and head off large

problems in the very near future. Republic has been able to realize some cash flow from our recycled materials, but the market for these products has shrunk considerably over the past few years. Recently, China, the major market for these products, has announced it will no longer accept these products. Republic is now, or soon will be, actually losing money by accepting our recyclables. Our HOA has a contract with Republic that expires in December. The rate structure and possibly the degree of recycling service will most likely change, and not in the direction homeowners want.

We want to be able to continue to recycle and using landfills is also becoming more expensive as well. Mother Earth isn't making any more land for us to use, and no one wants a landfill near their homes. So we can't afford to "throw in the towel" so to speak. We need to be precise and consistent with our recycling effort to make the best of this situation.

In the next installment, we will begin to outline steps to meet this challenge.

**January- May 2019 HOME SALES**

<b><u>Address</u></b>	<b><u>Sold To</u></b>	<b><u>Home Town</u></b>
804 W. Puma Peak Rd	Greg & Pam Fox	Gig Harbor, WA
1022 W. Blue Fox Rd	BDB Capital LLC	Tucson, AZ
3869 S. Camino del Golfista	Royce & Debra Jacob	Ridgefield, WA
3742 S. Avenida de los Solmos	Eugene & Eva Maurer	Reno, NV
3841 S. Camino del Golfista	Pamela Pine & Frederick Abernethy	Glenwood Springs, CO
3840 S. Camino del Golfista	James Mason	McKinney, TX
3795 S. Avenida de los Solmos	Luis & Celia Rodriguez	Tucson, AZ
3641 S. Paseo de los Nardos	Larry & Bonita Fuglestein	Richville, MN
800 W. Calle de la Pelotita	Norman & Sharon Brockmeier	Wheaton, IL
3917 S. Calle Viva	Frank & Darla Terry	Breezy Point, MN
3881 S. Camino del Golfista	John & Marcia Chess	Pine City, MN



## Margot Heuman's Story

Her name is Margot Heuman. Perhaps you've seen her walking Fionna, her little dog, around The Springs. She's a petite, sprightly lady with a bright smile. Not an unusual sight you might think. But she is an unusual person. Margot has survived the Holocaust, including the Nazi death camps of Auschwitz and Bergan-Belsen.

She was born to Jewish parents in Hellenthal, a small town in Germany near the Belgian border. Her baby sister, Lore, was 3 years younger than herself. Her father eked out a living running a small shop. Hellenthal was an idyllic mountain village with lots of snow. Margot was athletic and by age 5 had already become a good skier.

In 1933, the German economy was in shambles. Hyperinflation was rampant – to the tune of one million percent. Margot's father had to move his family to Beilefeld, in northern Germany, where he worked at a department store. Hitler and his newly-emerging Nazi party blamed the Jews for the country's economic failure. With the Nazis gaining power, Jews began to seek refuge, fleeing the country. Margot's father tried but was unable to afford exit visas for his family.



On the night of November 9, 1938, the persecution of Jews suddenly took a turn for the worse. In coordinated attacks, Nazis struck out against Jewish communities across the country. Shop windows were smashed and looted. Jews were beaten and forced to wear yellow "Star of David" patches. For the first time, large numbers of Jewish males were being deported to Hitler's new concentration camps. History remembers this night of terror as the Kristallnacht (night of shattered glass).

Even as a ten-year-old, Margot noticed her world was changing. She was not allowed to swim with or visit non-Jewish friends. She had to wear the Star of David patch. She couldn't continue at her regular school. At times she envied the Nazi youth groups with crisp, black uniforms. Then some of her Jewish friends were deported to forced labor camps. Because her father was a WWI army veteran, the Heumans were one of the last families to be uprooted. In 1943 they were sent to a ghetto in Terazin, in Czechoslovakia. The Nazis also sent other groups into camps, including Gypsies, homosexuals, the handicapped or anyone who spoke out against the regime.

At Terazin she and her family worked with Czech farmers. Margot describes the time there as being "not unhappy." There were quite a few good Jewish musicians in Terazin. Margot went to an opera (*La Boheme* by Puccini) and developed a life-long love for

opera. She also met Edith (“Dita”) Naumann, a young girl who became Margot’s best friend, and whose fate was inextricably linked with Margot’s. So, things were at least on an even keel for the Heumans when disaster struck. Margot’s father was caught by the Nazis and charged with the crime of stealing food for his family. They were loaded onto crowded railway cattle cars for a 3-day journey. They were given a chamber pot but no food or water. Their destination: Auschwitz, one of the most dreaded concentration camps.

At Auschwitz, she again crossed paths with her friend, Dita Naumann. Dita had voluntarily gone there to accompany her elderly grandmother. The grandmother was promptly killed in the gas chamber. Dita was then sent to a forced labor camp in Hamburg.

Margot had been at Auschwitz for 6 weeks when a guard told her to get on yet another train. She was told to take off her clothes, shower, and to get dressed. This was terrifying for her. What would be coming out of the shower head? Would it be water or Zyklon B, the notorious poison gas? Fortunately, this time it was water. At Auschwitz it was more often the Zyklon B. Margot was told her family would not be coming this time. Her father gave her a traditional Hebrew blessing of farewell. Tears streamed down his cheeks. She never saw either of her parents or baby sister again.

Being young and relatively fit, Margot was sent to the north German town of Hamburg to another labor camp. Dita was also sent there. Hamburg, an industrial city and major port, had been heavily damaged by Allied bombing. Her prison group was ordered to clean up debris. A surreal scene occurred as wave after wave of Allied planes dropped their heavy bombs nearer and nearer to the prisoners. Instead of running to a bomb shelter, they jumped and cheered as each bomb fell, bringing the end of the Nazi regime a bit closer.

Margot and Dita lived along with 300 other women in an old warehouse converted to a prison. As the British troops closed in on Hamburg, food became even more scarce. Interestingly, at this point, some of the rank-and-file Germans tried to help. As the women marched along their daily route to work, they noticed a large bowl of hot porridge was conveniently placed outside a certain gate every morning. If detected, this would have been a serious crime. Another floor of the old warehouse/prison housed Italian POWs. They had the great advantage of being able to receive packages from home via the Red Cross. The Italians had rigged up a communication and delivery system, using wires, to smuggle food to the hungry women. A generous German guard usually found some extra lunch for Margot.

A few months later, in midwinter cold, Margot and Dita were forced to march, barefoot and with only light clothes to Bergan-Belsen. This was the worst prison camp Margot experienced. Skeletal bodies were stacked high. In fact, it was her job to haul the dead bodies out to stack each morning. There were no resources for burying or incinerating the bodies, but the killing never stopped. The stench was terrible. At about this time, Margot came down with typhoid fever. Then, in April 1944, the British troops arrived and liberated the prisoners.

The war had taken a terrible toll on the Heuman family. Of the 27 people (including first cousins), all but Margot had been killed by the Nazis. And her problems were still not over.

Weakened by typhoid and starvation, she crawled to a British aid station. She weighed 58 pounds! The people at the aid station told her to leave as they “did not treat Germans.” So, she crawled to the next aid station, told them she was Czech and received treatment. She slowly recovered with the help of the Swedish Red Cross. Margot moved to Sweden in 1945. A very kind Swedish lady, Marta Dandenell, took Margot under her wing and helped her to recover, both mentally and physically. Margot needed food, rest, clean sheets, friendship, and time.

In 1948 Margot came to the USA, and got a job in New York City, working in a successful ad agency. Volkswagen’s “Think Small” was one of her accounts. She married a co-worker named Charles. They had two children, Jill and Dan, as well as 5 grandchildren. Margot maintained her connection with Dita Nauman, and in 1956, was the Maid of Honor at Dita’s wedding.

Margot retired in 1988, remaining in New York City for a time, and then moved to Sanibel Island, FL., but always felt “I could never get warm.” So, like many snowbirds, she tried Green Valley, and finally got warm.

Margot loves music. She attends every opera and play she can find in Green Valley or Tucson. This year will mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WWII. The city of Hamburg asked Margot to come to Germany. She will help them remember. Margot will attend ceremonies (which she does not look forward to) and will address teenagers in high schools (which she does).

On a personal note, despite the loss of her whole family, Margot seems very much at peace and cares about our world. Her advice: “Parents should raise their children and teach them not to hate.”



**Now, she and Fionna walk the fairways, in peace.**

**Holocaust Remembrance Day**  
which coincides with the Liberation  
of Auschwitz in 1945.

If we observed a minute of silence  
to remember each of the victims, we  
would be silent for over eleven  
years.

## **A couple of items on the Board agenda deserve mention.**

1. Speed and driving with care. The speed limit is 20 mph folks. Slower speed will give you time to respond to others, whether other cars, bikes, dogs, and walkers or runners. Please be cautious when driving in The Springs and stop for those STOP signs. Thank you!
2. There is a new sign to remind folks of the monthly meetings. The Gordys' made it for us and it will be placed near the front gate a few days prior to the meeting. Thank you!
3. Did you know that there was a fifty percent drop in ARC violations this past year? Director Ted Boyett and compliance officer Stephanie Walters are to be commended for being attentive to issues, and problem solving with good verbal communication prior to citations for some situations. Thank you!
4. You all know the snakes are out. Please use care when walking off a path or exercising your pet. Thank you!
5. We had a bee hive removed from the bell tower recently. It was an unusual place for bees. They are more likely to take up residence in a wall or crack closer to the ground. Watch your property for unusual bee activity at a certain structural location and repair all structures with cracks and holes in a timely way. Thank you!
6. Empty, clean and dry. Your recycling needs all three. If you aren't sure it can be recycled, toss it in the garbage. Thank you!
- 7.

## **Birds and the Bees...information of our flighty friends**

One of the warm weather birds that will show up in your garden is Lucy's Warbler. At 4.25 inches, the tiny, plain Lucy's Warbler is the smallest North American Warbler.



One of the few dull-colored members of its family, the Lucy's Warbler is tastefully dressed grey above, creamy white below, and accented with a bit of deep red on the crown and rump.



Small, pale, and plain, this bird is unimpressive in appearance, but it is notable as the only warbler that nests in the hot deserts of the Southwest. Lucy's Warblers return to the desert early in spring, and pairs can be found foraging in brush for insects along the washes even before the mesquites have leafed out. Unlike most warblers, they raise their young in cavities, placing their nests inside old woodpecker holes or under loose slabs of bark.

It's also known as the "desert" or "mesquite" warbler, accurate nicknames for a species that nests almost entirely in the Sonoran Desert. The bird's common name commemorates Lucy Hunter Baird, daughter of ornithologist Spencer Fullerton Baird, who was prominent in the second half of the 19th century as a Secretary at the Smithsonian.

Lucy's Warblers migrate to and from their breeding grounds earlier than other birds, which is thought to be a strategy for avoiding the most extreme seasonal temperatures. Although this species is adapted to a hot climate, it is still vulnerable to the extreme heat, drought, and rainfall increasingly associated with climate change.

Because loss of native habitat affects many birds, Tucson Audubon is studying Lucy's nest boxes since it is specific to the southwest and the species is known to have dense populations in areas where the habitat is just right. Riparian groves of mature mesquite are "just right". Audubon has had some success with their early studies, placing boxes in mesquite trees, and now provides plans for Lucy's Warbler nest boxes, some of which appear below. If you walk the Anza Trail near Tubac, you may have seen groupings of nest boxes similar to the photo below to see which box(es) the Lucy's Warbler prefers.



Watch for small groups of warblers skittering around in trees and on the ground hunting for insects. I like to think they eat mosquitos! But they also eat beetles, caterpillars and leaf hoppers. (Photos courtesy of Tucson Audubon)