

THE SPRINGS CHAT~FEBRUARY 2020

A newsletter by and for the residents

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Photo by Marina Carey-Harsha

Reminders!

Our **community bulletin boards** are for Board approved information only and are full of recent communication to the community. Please do not add your own without going through our office manager. Thank you.

Keep your speed at the posted **20 mph** as you go through our community. The entrance gate is a busy area, as is the GVR complex. Safety first, please! Letters are being sent to the local GVR clubs to ask that those members obey our speed limit when they enter our community. Thank you!

The biannual ARC inspection is being moved to **March 9, 2020** so feedback can be given to non-compliant residents while they are still here. Go pull those weeds!

The Emergency Call System is now in place. This is only for community wide emergencies and will be rarely used, hopefully never. Please be sure your information is up to date so the short call message will be sent to the right number. Emergency calls will go to all residents, no matter what the time of year. We want you all to stay informed of incidents impacting The Springs. Thank you!

CALENDAR & EVENTS & INFO

- Garage Sale
- Annual Meeting
- Inspection Time
- Light Bulb Update
- New Volunteers
- Margot Heuman

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

COMMUNITY CALL SYSTEM

The Springs has recently set up a community calling system. The purpose of this system is to send out a phone call to every address that has a phone number in our data base. If you have 2 numbers listed with us it will only go out to what we consider to be the primary number at that residence. It will not go out to renters, so landlords should notify their renters about the call.

This system will only be used in the event of an emergency or an important need to know situation where it is urgent we get a message out as soon as possible to all our residents. Because of the important nature of the call it will also go out to those with unlisted numbers in our database. Your phone number will not be given out to anyone else by the company we are using for this service. The service cannot and will not be used for commercial, donation, religious, or any other type of use. The call will be from our office manager or one of the HOA board members. This system was discussed at the last two HOA board meetings and was approved by the board at its January meeting.

The call will come from (844) 358-1565. This is not a Springs listed number. If you do not answer the call it will go to your voice mail if set up or your answering machine if you have one. The call will go out to either land line phones or cell phones. You can replay the message on your phone or if you call back the above number the message will be replayed. You cannot reply to the call and speak to anyone as it is an announcement type call only. Some residents may have calls like this “blocked” from their phones and will either need to change their phone settings or add the phone number as a contact so the call does, in fact, come through either to be answered or to their voice mail.

An example of when we might use such a system would be, for example, if Farmer’s Water notified us, they will turn off our water supply at a certain time and give us an approximate time it will be turned back on. As we would deem such an event very important, we would place a call out as soon as we possibly could regarding this.

This system, while we expect to be rarely used, should be effective in helping us all, by improving our safety and security. If there are any questions about the system please feel free to contact us via email at hoa@thespringshoa.org or leave a message at our office phone 520-648-1699.

Respectfully,
Brent Gordy, V.P., The Springs at Santa Rita H.O.A.

CALENDER

January 26th, February 23rd, March 29th, April 26 - Picnic In Perry Park- 12:30 pm

February 29th - Annual Community-Wide Garage Sale

March 7th - Volunteer Appreciation Event - 5:00 pm - Anza Room

2nd Tuesday of each month - Monthly Meeting - 9:00 am - Fiesta Room

2nd Friday in January, February, March, April; Happy Hour - Fiesta Deck - 3:00 pm

3rd Thursday of each month - Potluck - 5:00 pm - Anza Room

Hope to see you - All residents and guests are welcome!

Update from the Light Bulb Committee

Our homes were all equipped with sensors attached to the bottoms of our electric boxes to enable our address lights to turn on at night and off during the day. These sensors wear out, but you do not need to replace them. We now are using Dusk to Dawn bulbs which have sensors in them allowing them to light at night and turn off during the day. If you find that your light is on during daylight hours, probably your sensor is worn out, and the problem will be solved the next time the bulb burns out. Your neighbor will replace it on his/her regular rounds with a Dusk to Dawn bulb.

A new problem has surfaced which you may need to be aware of. The worn out sensor can get stuck in the OFF position, so that a new bulb will not light at all. In this case the sensor needs to be removed and wires need to be re-attached. You as a homeowner are responsible for correcting this problem if it occurs. You will receive a notice from the association if your fixture will not light a new bulb. The notice will include the name and contact information of one of our neighbors who can troubleshoot and correct the above problem if that is the issue. Vic Bignall will perform this service for a reasonable fee.

Together We are Enhancing Quality of Life in The Springs.

Thanks to the generous donations by community members, more benches will be available around our community. Nancy Kelly has volunteered to organize donations for purchase of more benches. These are special!! Yes, you can sit on them to rest, but you will probably spend more time looking at the artistic tile work done by Judy Bierman. Judy donates her time and tools to create them and usually several benches are completed each year. Truly works of love and beauty, they delight children and adults alike.

Guests to The Springs are awed by their number and beauty on a “bench art walk” (30 so far). Thanks to all who donated, and of course, it is never too late to do so, as this is an ongoing project for bench locations throughout The Springs. Look for new photos as the benches are unveiled. **Thank you Judy!**

2020 HOME SALES

<u>Address</u>	<u>Sold To</u>	<u>Home Town</u>
3733 S. Camino Comica	Curtis & Patricia Thompson	New London, MN

Annual Meeting ~~ Great Turnout!

A well-attended annual meeting was held on January 25, 2020. We had 86 homes represented and 117 folks present. A quorum was present so the Board proceeded with the business agenda. Annual reports were presented to the community and outgoing Board member Lee Blahnik was recognized for his service. An excellent presentation by the Green Valley Fire Chief provided a good look at the HeartSafe program goals and how the Fire Department utilizes the local support for best practices in cardiac emergencies. Of course, cake and coffee were served and there were sign-up sheets to volunteer with various committees. Thanks to all who participate and don't hesitate to volunteer where there is a need.

From the President

This president's thoughts might be few and far between, but I always enjoy writing to our community. I do get a little preachy, but since the last president of the HOA was a pastor, I'm doing it!

Spring is nearly here for the southwest, and just like up north, when spring is announced the weather immediately gets colder and then warms up. I am kind of excited because there isn't much mud, slush and rain like in Minnesota, just flowers and twitterpated birds.

I have a gripe, and it is not about The Springs. More like about protecting The Springs. The other day, when getting ready to turn onto the frontage road by the gatehouse, I encountered a couple cars plus a group of bikers who were interacting right in the path of vehicles coming into The Springs. Not much room there, so I felt compelled to stop, roll down my window, and ask them to move on to a safer place. Not a good response, actually they ignored me. So I got a little louder, and was still just stared at - you know, the "grumpy old lady" attitude of wonderment by spandex clad guys and the girls in the cars. Now I was offended. I explained that it was dangerous and actually pointed to go on, not stay. I was informed that 'they knew what they were doing'. Boy was I insulted, but they did slowly start to move as I kept pointing. My car was holding up exiting traffic so I moved on with a little steam coming out of my ears.



Why oh why do folks assume they have more rights, better knowledge, the privilege of doing as they please with such entitlement, than others?



This is not my message though. I want to remind you to stay the course, be willing to speak up, be patient (I am not) and be firm and calm. Make yourself heard. If not this time, then the next. You can do it. I am going to try.

And while you are at it, please nicely ask drivers of vehicles to park on the asphalt. It is good practice and save the HOA money.

Enjoy spring as it lurches along. It's worth the wait.

Rebecca Keenan
President of The Springs HOA

Congratulations!

The Heart Safe Neighborhood Chain of Survival program is up and running. The Green Valley News recently published a fine article about the history and intent of the group in the Sunday edition of Feb 3, 2020. Please read it.

<https://issuu.com/wickcommunications/docs/health-news-02-2020/1?e=1225821/75812612>



It's not too late to sign up to be on the community list for garage sales and it's free. **Deadline is February 20th.** It will be a leap year sale on **Saturday, February 29.** Contact Juanita Kauffman with questions.

New Volunteers!

Paula and Bob Worth have kindly agreed to host Happy Hour for The Springs. The dates can be found on our website - the second Friday of each month. The next one is on February 14 from 3-5 pm on the Fiesta Deck, so come and join the TGVD folks (thank goodness it's Valentine's Day). We could all use a little love. And a big Thank You to Maureen Kosnik, our retiring host.

Dave and Gloria Dewing are now hosting Picnic at Perry Park for The Springs. Dates and information can also be found on our website. The next one is on February 23. Come at 12:30 to admire the green grass and chat. Eating starts at 1pm. See you there! And heartfelt thanks to the Crosby's for their years of hosting.

Bob Muldoon will be the new representative to Green Valley Council (GVC) for The Springs. Retiring representative **Tom Kramer** deserves a round of applause. (He continues to be a member of the Finance Committee.) The Green Valley Council advocates in Pima County for our unincorporated community in many ways, provides education and support for HOAs, and works to problem solve on issues important to the community. Next month the CHAT will have an article with more details about GVC.

Welcome to **Mark Koruga**, the newest member of The Springs HOA Board. He will be chairing the Infrastructure Committee (Streets, Buildings, Utilities). Mark is widely known for his ability to get things done and his friendly nature. Retiring Board member Lee Blahnik will remain on that committee to support Mark and The Springs residents. Thank you, Lee for all your excellent work and good communication during your term.

Welcome back to **Ted Boyett and Brent Gordy** who continue to serve on the HOA Board. While they are not new volunteers, we all appreciate your ongoing service to our community for another two-year term.

Spring time is near. With recent colder temperatures the creatures of the desert are cold, hungry and probably not in a good mood.

So please be careful when you and your pets are on a hike, walk, bikeride, golfing or just in your yards.

Margot Heuman by Pat Keenen

May 2019, The Chat ran an article that told the life story of Margot Heuman, a resident of The Springs. Margot is a survivor of the Holocaust. She was a prisoner in some of the most notorious of Nazi death camps, including Auschwitz, Bergen-Belsen, and Neuengamme in Hamburg. When we did the article last May, we learned that Margot would be attending a 3-day conference in Hamburg, Germany, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Neuengamme concentration camp. Following up on the May article, this is a description of her trip to Hamburg.

“The reader is referred to the May 2019 Chat for additional information re Margot’s story.”

Today:

Margot Heuman is a spry, vivacious 90-year old woman with a beautiful smile. She loves living in The Springs. She enjoys her book club, having friends over for dinner, and going to operas. In other words, she seems a typical, pleasant lady that you might meet as she walks Fiona, her white Scottie, on the 13th hole.

Last year the City of Hamburg invited Margot to come to the conference in July 2019, as an official guest. They paid all expenses for Margot and her son, Dan. They also provided a private, full-time guide for her trip. Dan’s wife and Margot’s two grandchildren, Charlotte and Jake, were also able to join her.



Margot sitting in the middle during the ceremony in Hamburg, Germany.

Background:

The Memorial is built on the site of a WW II concentration camp. It is a large space, about 150 acres. More than just a bricks and mortar museum, it also functions as an educational institution. Its mission is to keep alive the memory of the Holocaust. In recent years this mission has become even more relevant and important. As time passes and memories fade, young generations need to learn about the Holocaust. There are even some extremists who deny the Holocaust ever happened.

As at a typical historical museum, the public can visit the site and see restored buildings. There are audio/visual programs describing the horrible conditions of the prisoners. Initially the camp held German political prisoners. Later, the inmates included Jews, Gypsies, and homosexuals. They came from dozens of countries. The work was hard – making bricks, clearing rubble, and building canals. The food was pitiful. The SS guards were brutal. By the end of the war, forty-three thousand prisoners died at Neuengamme from starvation, disease, exposure, and guard brutality.

The Memorial serves as a center where scholars do research on the Holocaust. In addition to having memorial conferences, Neuengamme holds academic meetings for WWII historians. It also has a large library and record-keeping center. After 75 years people are still searching for relatives and loved ones.

The Trip

Margot and Dan flew to Hamburg 2 days before the conference started. This gave her time to get over jet lag. (She had no health issues during the trip.). With remembrance ceremonies, meetings, and discussion sessions with high school students, the agenda was a full one.

The survivors were able to meet and compare memories. They came from many countries including Poland, Germany, France, South Africa, Israel, and Russia. Margot enjoyed meeting a lady from Moscow. They compared notes on politicians. (And she says with a smile “I was the only survivor not in a wheelchair”). She found that, after 60 years of being dormant, her German language skills served her well. In fact, since the trip she has noticed herself thinking in German.

The conversations stirred up sad memories of the past, but Margot found “I had no hatred toward the German people. I actually felt like I was returning to my homeland.”

She found the Q and A sessions with high school students were more stimulating than the ceremonies. One student asked her, “As young people, do we have any choice but to follow our political leaders?”. Margot responded that in turbulent times, such as today, “We must become informed, and then we must make up our own minds.”

One of the most enjoyable times came when the conference was over, and about 30 of Margot’s friends and relatives got together for a dinner in her honor. She really felt she had returned home. Her grandson Jake told her “Grandma, I’ll never forget this trip.”



Being the month of love and caring, Margot shows us all how to be a great human.