



The Springs Chat



A Newsletter for and by the residents of the Springs at Santa Rita

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The Springs Chat is your newsletter. Communication and sharing information can contribute to the vitality and the culture of our community. The Springs Chat is for you and by you. The Newsletter Committee invites your contributions - information you would like to share with the community. The committee also wants your ideas and suggestions- just email them to: springschat@gmail.com or contact a member of the newsletter committee: Eileen Owen, Juanita Kauffman, Jeannie McGaughey, Sandie Stone, Pat Strnad.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 2 Meet'n Greet, Fiesta Deck 3-5

Dec 8 Board Meeting, Fiesta Rm, 9:30

Dec 18 Potluck & Christmas Caroling
Anza Rm, 5:00

December Potluck Program

The program for the December potluck will be a Christmas caroling sing-a-long led by our own multi-talented Mike Kearns.

November Potluck

It was a fun evening. Food was delicious and plentiful. A CPR program was presented by Katie Sayre, a representative of the Green Valley Fire District Training Division. She demonstrated the core skills needed to perform CPR with a kit from the American Heart Assoc. She used the Mini Anne CPR training manikin.

After the meal there was "Chinese Auction" to benefit the food bank. Lots of prizes were lined up on the tables.

Chinese Auction raises \$400.00 for the Amado Food Bank!

(Bill Perry)

Thanks to the efforts of **Marge Burt & Deby Cox** and several others, the auction was a great success!

Thanks to everyone who brought items for the auction and to those who purchased tickets.

THANKS also to those of you who gave checks to the Amado Food Bank this month which totaled \$490.00 That means that the Spring's gave a total of \$890.00 to the Amado Food Bank for the month of November. We also gave one pound of food in November. The staff at the Amado Food Bank wants all of you to know that The Springs donations are greatly appreciated!



Raffle items on display



Big prize winners, Bob & Joann Lehman

Saturday Bike Rides

Interested in a bike ride? Bill Perry will be leading Saturday morning bike rides. They will be 15 to 20 miles at an easy pace on paved roads. For more information, call Bill Perry at 393-7401 or email at wperry42@cox.net

Board Notes
(November 10, 2014)

We had a larger attendance at the board meeting due to the discussion of the trees on HOA property west of the properties on Viva and Nardos. It was nice to have more people involved.

There are three positions open for the board. Contact Howard Bryan at 716-499-9838 or any Board member with your nomination by November 29th.

The 2015 budget has been passed. The 2015 dues will remain at \$485.

Please consult the HOA website at www.thespringshoa.org for the complete minutes and officer's reports.

Please plan on attending the next board meeting on December 8th at 9:30.

CPR Kits Available

Green Valley Fire District Training Division left us two CPR kits from the American Heart Association. The kits are in the Springs office. Residents need to email hoa@thespringshoa.org to make arrangements to pick one up and sign out for it. Please don't keep the kit longer than one week so others can borrow it, too. The kit is called *Family and Friends CPR Anytime* and it includes: a Mini Anne learning manikin, CPR practice DVR, and directions on how to use it.

The GVFD Training Center offers CPR and First Aid classes. There is a fee. To register for classes and get a class schedule, call 520-625-9438.

Cuisine Scene

As some of you may know, the *Cow Palace* closed in October. It has reopened with new owners, Gavin and Lynn, who previously managed *Grill on the Green* at Canoa Ranch. Hours have changed. Breakfast is served on week-ends only. Lunch and dinner are served every day.

Jeff and Kathy, the previous *Cow Palace* managers, now operate the *Abrego Grill at Torres Blancas*

New Site for Cell Tower

Verizon Wireless has found a less conspicuous location for its proposed cell tower in Green Valley.

Recently there was a sparsely attended public hearing on the issue. The original plan was to add a 55 foot tower as part of a TEP utility pole near Continental Road and La Canada Dr. Because of earlier public protests to that site claiming the tower would obstruct views of the Santa Rita Mountains, a new location, the West Center parking lot was chosen. It is more or less final.

The West Center location will require an 80 foot tower, which will be disguised as a palm tree.

Tom Drzazgowski, deputy chief zoning inspector for the county, said both the original proposed site and the West Center would require Type I conditional use permits, discretionary permits subject to a public hearing in front of the county.

The approved process for the new site is expected to start after the beginning of the new year. The tower is expected to be up and operational in the latter half of 2015.

Happy 80th Birthday, Joann Lehman

Rose tree made by daughter, Linda, of 80 roses for Joann's 80th birthday.



Arizona Residents

For residents of Arizona there are two websites to put you into contact with legislators and pending legislation. Please view www.Azvoices.gov This is a statewide civic engagement platform where you can rate pending legislation and discuss issues that impacts Arizona. All viewpoints are welcome as long as comments are respectful.

www.Azleg.gov is a tool to track pending legislation. A good way to see what bills will impact home owner associations.

Favorite recipes from the Nov Potluck

Pumpkin Dessert (Bonnie Roundtree)

1 can pumpkin (15 oz.)
1 can evaporated milk (12 oz)
3 eggs
1 c sugar
4 t. pumpkin pie spice
¾ c butter (melted)
1 box cake mix (yellow or white)
1 ½ c. walnuts, chopped

Mix first 5 ingredients and put in greased 9 x 13 pan
Sprinkle with dry cake mix
Drizzle with melted butter
Top with walnuts
Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour

Chicken Enchilada Casserole (Pam Koruga)

2 large cans green chili enchilada sauce
4 chicken breasts
2 (8oz) pkg. shredded Mexican blend cheese
8 flour tortillas

Put the two cans of green chili enchilada sauce and chicken breasts in slow cooker. Cook on slow for 8 hours

Remove chicken from cooker and shred. Then add 1 cup of enchilada sauce from the cooker and 1 pkg of cheese. Mix together.

Put mixture into each of the 8 tortillas and roll up. Put enchiladas seam side down in 9 x 13 greased baking pan.

Pour rest of green enchilada sauce from cooker over tortillas and the other package of cheese.

Bake 350 for 30 minutes.

Thank you Bonnie and Pam for sharing your recipes with us.

Golfers Wanted

Are you a golfer interested in playing golf with other couples here in the Springs? I would like to put together a list of couples who are interested in playing 9 holes of golf then out to dinner at a local pub or restaurant after the round. We could do this once or twice a month. If interested, please contact me with your name, phone number, and email address. Jim & Eileen Owen 925-457-6964
jimeileenowen@aol.com

Do you have a bucket list?

"Every man dies – Not every man really lives." ~ William Ross

If you don't live your days by personal goals and plans, chances are you spend most of your time caught up in a flurry of day-to-day activities. Ever feel your days are passing you by without any tangible output to speak of? What did you accomplish in the past 3 months? What are your upcoming goals for the next 3 months? Look at the things you did and the things you're planning to do next – Do they mean anything to you if you are to die today? Having a bucket list reminds you of what's really important so you can act on them.

I hear people who say they have completed another bucket list item. What happens when the list is completed? Do you get to keep on adding to it as you go?

Do you have a bucket list? Want to share some of the items on it and what you did to complete the item? Did you go sky-diving, deep sea fishing, finding lost relatives or just have a day completely to do as you want. If our HOA had a list what would be on it?

Position Open, No Experience Required

Openings available on the newsletter committee.

Just like Lois Lane and Clark Kent, you, too, can be part of a newspaper staff. If you would like to add your name to our committee, send an email to: springschat@gmail.com. Job description entails writing articles that you think would be of interest to your Springs neighbors and friends. You do not need to be a "full time" resident or have a super hero disguise.

Not interested in being on a committee you say? You can still submit articles for the Chat. If you see something interesting, take a picture (if possible) and write up a paragraph or two and send it to: springschat@gmail.com.

Gila Monster on Nature Trail

(by Bill Perry)

On Oct. 25, I was walking on our nature path at about 5:30 PM, when a Gila monster came out of the grass and started walking down the path towards me. I was able to watch it for several minutes before a couple came along and then after a couple of more minutes, the Gila walked into the grasses next to the path.



Here is some information about the Gila monster.

At a length of up to two feet (0.6 meters) and a maximum weight exceeding five pounds (2.3 kilograms), the venomous Gila monster (pronounced HEE-luh) is the largest lizard native to the United States.

Easily identified by their black bodies marked with dramatic patterns of pink, orange, or yellow, Gilas are found in the Mojave, Sonoran, and Chihuahuan deserts of the southwestern

U.S. and northwestern Mexico. They take their name from Arizona's Gila River basin, where they were first discovered.

The Gila monster is one of only a handful of venomous lizards in the world. Others include the similar-looking Mexican beaded lizards, as well as iguanas and monitor lizards. Its venom is a fairly mild neurotoxin. And though a Gila bite is extremely painful, none has resulted in a reported human death. Unlike snakes, which inject venom, Gilas latch onto victims and chew to allow neurotoxins to move through grooves in their teeth and into the open wound.

Gilas are lethargic creatures that feed primarily on eggs raided from nests and newborn mammals. They may spend more than 95 percent of their lives in underground burrows, emerging only to feed and occasionally to bask in the desert sun. They can store fat in their oversized tails and are able to go months between meals.

Gila populations are shrinking due primarily to human encroachment, and they are considered a threatened species.

HOME SALES

(since the last newsletter)

3700 S Paseo De Los Nardos – Lou Forcum, Murrietta, CA

3765 S. Avenida De Encino – Ingrid Coutu, San Antonio, TX

804 W Puma Peak Road – Paul Garcia & Margaret Horm, Green Valley, AZ

3781 S Camino Comica – Tim & Cindy Taff, St George, UT

3983 S. Golden Lynx Rd – Lynn & Darlene Kreuzer, Blacklick, OH

3937 S Camino Del Golfista – Wayne & Mary Greve, Clear Lake, MN

3707 S. Paseo De Los Nardos – Sherry Hoffman-Blum, Green Valley, AZ

3832 S. Camino Comica – Bonnie Delvaux, Green Valley, AZ

Resident of the Month



Bernie and Diane Serek have always been close. They just didn't know it for many years. They both grew up in Chicago. Bernie finished school, served in the Army Medical Corp in Germany and returned to Chicago to work in the insurance industry. While riding a bus to work he met Diane. They both worked for the same company. Later they realized they had grown up living only a mile apart from each other. Bernie accepted a managerial promotion and relocated to the Columbus Ohio area. Bernie, Diane, Kathleen and Christine became Buckeyes.

In 1992 Bernie took early retirement but soon went into consulting for the next four years. After his final retirement Bernie kept busy by volunteering at church; he served as president of two HOA's and was Past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus. They also traveled a lot to Europe, Central and South America and all over the United States. Diane told of how Bernie's love of golf showed when they rented a car in Arizona and put over 5,000 miles on the rental while trying different golf courses. They kept coming back to Green Valley and in 2000 they rented a home in the Springs and four months later bought a home here.

They were snowbirds until 2012 when their home in Ohio sold. Bernie and the girls packed the belongings in boxes and sent everything to AZ. Diane was already here trying to find room for the boxes. Bernie has been a Springs volunteer, serving 5 years on the Board, and the ARC and Streets committees. He has also volunteered at his church, the Elks, and currently at the Casa Community Service serving lunches on Fridays. He still attends some games in Ohio.

Bernie's sports love is the Ohio State Buckeyes football team. He still attends some games in Ohio, and when that is not possible they cheer for the team in front of the television.

This summer Bernie completed one of his bucket list items. He and his daughters along with Mary Yeager and her daughter took a 7 day Alaskan cruise and 7 day driving trip in Alaska the first two weeks of August. The salmon fishing and the sites were incredible.

After retiring from the insurance industry Diane has kept very busy. She loves refinishing furniture, knitting, crocheting, sewing, alterations, crafting, ceramics, making dolls and quilting. This summer while Bernie and the girls went to Alaska, Diane did her bucket list item which was discovering what was in those boxes shipped from Ohio. She devoted her time to finding what projects were left undone in the boxes. She finished a lot of started projects like quilts.

Diane has devoted a lot of time and talent to teaching and monitoring at the GVR computer club. While back in Ohio, in July of 2000 she and three others started offering classes at the senior center in Westerville Ohio and by 2001 they had already served over 1000 students which, was a great accomplishment considering in July 2000, she was running around the center with one computer on a food cart looking for space to teach students. By 2001 they had worked up to a dedicated space and 6 computers and all by donations! Diane says it is a great joy to find people who are eager to learn about computers and want to keep up with technology. Currently Diane teaches Windows 8 Questions and Answers on Wednesdays at 8:15 and at 9:45 Questions and Answers on XP, Windows 7 etc.

Diane has also served as a volunteer at the American Legion serving lunches and on various projects here in the Springs. She is an election counter for our annual meeting, a stuffer and mailer when needed and numerous other mini projects that come up.

Since Kathleen and Christine live relatively close, Diane and Bernie also serve as great pet sitters for their daughter's furry four legged pets and also for animals of friends who need a place to stay.

The Springs has been enhanced by Diane and Bernie's choice to make their home here.