



The Springs Chat

A Newsletter for the residents of the Springs at Santa Rita



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The Springs Chat is your newsletter. The committee wants to take an approach that facilitates and encourages communication with, from and between the residents of the community. Communication and sharing information can contribute to the vitality and the culture of our community. The Springs Chat is your newsletter-- 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, Lisa Pope, Joe Misinski, Juanita Kauffman, Jeannie McGaughey, Sandie Stone.

REC CENTER UPDATE

With our neighborhood rec center closed for 11 weeks, here are of some of the repairs done by GVR.

Blackout drapes were installed in the Anza room where we have our potlucks. This should help when AV presentations are made during daylight hours.

Much of the upper decking has been refinished. Cracks were filled, and the top recoated with a speckled finish that, I understand, has a fiberglass base. As of this date, the portion near the camera club and over the bridge has not been completed, and I don't think it will be. I cannot explain this omission at this time.

The pool has been the focus of the work. A new canopy was erected to cover the pumps, heaters and chemical storage areas. A concrete slab was poured there as well. This is supposed to help preserve the equipment from the intense sunlight, and keep the chemicals from breaking down prematurely. It also provides a shaded area for the workers, but it will shade a portion of the pool in the winter. Also, the pool was drained and the tiling and plaster removed. The base was rebuilt entirely and re-plastered. The deck was cleaned and recoated, the ladders recoated as well. All of this includes the spa. The

locker rooms and outside showers have been re-tiled, the plumbing replaced, and new countertops adorn the sink areas. The inside showers have been re-tiled as well, and I hear that the women's locker room will include an additional shower area.

Throughout the center, new LED lighting has been installed, which is much brighter and significantly more energy efficient. HVAC units have been repaired and or replaced. I have heard, but not seen, that flooring has been replaced in some of the art studios. And I have heard that leaks in the camera club area have been repaired. A section of the exterior stucco outside the front entrance has also been repaired. (article and pictures by Ron Sills)



Drilling out plaster base



New lap lanes



New canopy to cover pumps

Monsoons are Here



pictures by Ernie Cox, Jr

As a "snow bird", visiting Green Valley during the monsoon season last summer, the thing that surprised me most was the green vegetation in the neighborhood—especially the nature park. Green instead of brown. It's amazing what a little water in the desert produces. --Eileen Owen

Electrical Enlightenment!

(Barbara Wolf)

I have lived here since September of 1999 and just learned something new about maintaining our homes. I had an outlet in the bathroom that needed to be replaced. It had blown and never tripped the breaker.

When Roberto Villegas was replacing the outlet and the breaker he asked when I had last had the electrical box maintained. I had no idea what he was talking about. His explanation made sense. In the hot desert, dust and debris

can interfere with function. Since our electrical boxes are outside they are exposed to high heat in the summer and colder temperatures in the winter. The temperature change causes expansion and contraction of the wires and connectors to our breakers. Our systems should be serviced every 8-10 years.

Who knew!

Proper maintenance can increase amperage lowering electrical bills.

A SAD LOSS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

It is with great sadness that we report our Spring's resident and long time volunteer Jay Kauffman, age 67, passed away June 17, 2013. Jay and Juanita had been married for 45 years. They spent most of the year in Green Valley and the remainder in MN. They enjoyed the best of both areas. Our condolences to Juanita and family. Memorials - American Lung Association or Alzheimer's Association

CHANGING MEETING DATES FOR 2014

Regular monthly meetings will be on the **2nd Monday** of each month, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fiesta Room with the exception of the January 2014 meeting. It will still be on the second Monday but will be in the Anza Room from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Potlucks will be on the **3rd Thursday** of each month in the Anza Room from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. with the exception of the January potluck. It will be on the 4th Thursday in the Anza Room from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Meet N Greet will be on the **1st Tuesday** of each month – with no exceptions!

The Annual Meeting will be on the 3rd Saturday of January (1/18/14) in the Anza Room from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. We reserved the entire evening in case the Board chooses to have some sort of social following the meeting. This could also take the place of the January potluck should be Board decide to do so.

The annual Christmas Caroling party will be on the 3rd Saturday in December (12/20/14) from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Fiesta Room.

Should the Board decide to do so, this could be canceled and incorporate the caroling with the December potluck as we have sometimes done in the past.

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

(May 11, 2013)

Full board member reports can be found on the Springs HOA website.

- TEP has replaced the trees that died around their station. The trees are being watered by TEP.
- TEP should be finished by May 31st with the boring and use on the easement they had on the southwest corner of the HOA property. The easement committee still has two easements requests they are working on.
- The road project is finished except for the punch list items. There will be rumble strips placed near the exit gate to slow traffic through the exit from the Springs.
- The landscape committee reported on a project it has for rock installation project west of Nardos.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(July, 2013)

The Arizona Legislature passed a few new laws affecting HOA's. Fortunately, as Carolyn Goldschmidt indicated, the only bill which impacts HOA's is a portion of SB 1454 dealing with rentals, but it should not be a detriment to The Springs since it appears we are already in compliance. For your review, the bills are posted on our website under Governing Documents.

It has been brought to our attention that homeowners and/or renters are abusing the privileges we were granted by Torres Blancas Golf Course. An agreement was reached with owner/manager Bob McMahon several years ago. You will find his letter to us on the website under Notices. We ask that you please respect those rules and ask your renters to do the same.

Our good friend and Board member Paul Dittmer has been out of commission for the last few months. He had quite a serious operation to remove a tumor, but the good news is that he has a form of lymphoma which is very treatable with chemo therapy. In the meantime, the board appointed Joe Misinski as assistant treasurer until Paul can resume his duties. We wish Paul a full and speedy recovery. And Joe, thank for helping us out.

It has been a very quiet summer here in The Springs. There's been no need to call special

sessions of the Board. I think I can speak for all of the Board members when I say that the summer break has been greatly appreciated. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 14th 9:30 in the Fiesta Room. See you then!

LISTINGS IN THE GV COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

For new residents or those who are not currently listed, the GVC puts out the *Community Directory for Green Valley*. In the front of the directory is a lavender colored card for directory listing application or you may go to www.gvccc.org under GV community directory find the application. Deadline submittal this year is October 21st. It is a helpful directory for the Green Valley area and it is interesting to see the names of others who are from your home town.

Where Did Everyone Go?

During the winter, when you go to Safeway, your lucky to find a parking place, the swimming pools are crowded and noisy, and there are 3 people signed up ahead of you to use the treadmill.

But during the summer, we are rewarded for our ability to tolerate or endure the heat. The restaurants have no waiting for a table of your choice. The roads and parking lots are not as chaotic and the general pace of life is just a little more peaceful.

But we do miss you, and look forward to welcoming you back to your winter home.

Just a Gentle Reminder--AND THIS MEANS YOU!

Pets on the Loose. Several homeowners are unleashing their pets on the walking path or in the nature park area. The HOA CC&Rs clearly state that pets must be leashed AT ALL TIMES when away from their residence in the Springs. This is also required by Pima County Ordinance. Please ensure that your pets are leashed and, if you are renting your property, make sure that your tenants are aware of this policy.

The safety of homeowners as well as their pets is of utmost concern to the HOA. There is an off-leash fenced area located at the south end of the nature path where pets may roam around freely.

And Cars are Not Free to Roam Either. The issue of On-Street Parking came to the attention of the HOA Board at its May meeting. A few key points to remember, the CC&R's restrict on-street parking of vehicles. ***Vehicles should be parked in garages or driveways, not on the streets.*** As a last resort visitors and service vehicles may park on the street for a limited time, if the driveway is occupied. All-day parking and overnight parking on the street is prohibited with the exception of overnight guests, when the driveway and garage are occupied.

Also as a safety issue, under no circumstances should vehicles be parked on the street opposite each other. This parking pattern makes it next to impossible for large emergency vehicles to get down the street. It is also difficult for neighbors to exit their driveway, and remember some of our drivers just have problems driving when there is nothing in the roadways.

The complete parking and pet policies are in the Springs Handbook
http://thespringshoa.org/pdf/handbook/Handbook%20Revised_120925_1.pdf

WHAT'S GOING ON IN GV??

(Joe Misinski)

Marvin Gaye musically asked "What's Going On?" For those who are away from Green Valley for the summer, or don't venture out in the heat, here are a few of the interesting things that are happening.

DON'T GET THE MUNCHIES. The area's first approved marijuana dispensary is set to open on Duval Mine Rd near the Animal League. They can be located in areas zoned for business (like the tract of land between the Springs and the Hospital). If anyone gets the post therapy cravings for some sweets or if you want that Oreo cookie Blizzard or vanilla cone, you're out of luck. The Dairy Queen on Beta Street has closed. Along with it, the Texaco station and convenience store. This is the second gas station (Texaco on Esperanza) owned by the same company to close in GV. The same company owns the Chevron station on Continental, which is also in bankruptcy. This will not help lower gas prices. GV gas prices can be as much as 40 cents higher than Tucson. There is a chance that the Dairy Queen may reopen soon.

NEW OPERATOR FOR HOSPITAL. Site preparation for the new hospital continues at a slow pace. The latest new revised opening date is before the monsoon of 2015. There is still no one to manage the hospital. The project developers say that interested parties, some from out of state, are lining up to operate the hospital....but no takers yet! There are several national for-profit companies that could look for a presence in AZ – Tenet Healthcare, Health Management Associates, and HCA Holdings. Don't expect a Mayo or Cleveland Clinic to be here.....*STAY HEALTHY!*

ONE LESS PLACE TO PLAY AROUND. The San Ignacio South golf course is closing until the fall. The new owners are doing major turf renovations to the course. *The North course is closed until further notice.* If you had a lifetime membership, our deepest sympathy for your loss...of membership that is. Because of the course closing and loss of revenue, Green Valley Water District is adding a \$2.75 per month surcharge to its customers. It's costly, to conserve water.

I-10 BYPASS. Pima county officials are studying a potential proposal to develop a highway bypassing Tucson and connecting to proposed I-11 that would go to Las Vegas. The road would connect I-10 in Vail to I-19 just north of Sahaurita Rd and then run northwest. This could mean additional truck traffic on I-19.

PICKLEBALL NOT THE ONLY NEW GVR

COURT ACTION. The GVR fee lawsuit is in Pima County Superior Court. This one-time fee for new owners generates over a million dollars per year. If GVR loses the suit, it could result in significant dues increase and/or cuts in facilities and services. A decision is expected by August.

GVR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FIRED. Lanny Sloan's two-year stint as GVR's executive Director was abruptly ended. GVR Board President Linda Sparks would not discuss the firing. So much for a transparent organization. Lanny refused a severance package, preferring not to be silenced by terms of the package. He criticized the Board for wasteful spending. He stated he might run for the Board. Wonder if he can get by the screening process?

GVC'S TAX RIDDLE. Green Valley Council's controversial leader Stan Riddle is seeking to explore initiating a new local tax to address community needs such as repairing deteriorating roads. His tax plan would still not pay for streets in the Springs.

STREETS UPDATE

(Joe Barton)

The next streets maintenance activity will be the application of a seal coat material on all 500,000 sq. ft. of asphalt paving in late September or early October. Residents will recall that last December there were numerous areas of our streets where failed pavement was cut out, the base material stabilized and the area patched. That work was followed by the application of crack seal material to all cracks in the roadway and, for the first time, between the pavement and the concrete curbing. In April, several streets having multiple areas of base failure (110,000 sq. ft.) underwent asphalt removal, base stabilization/compaction and repaving. This fresh paving needs to cure in the desert heat before the seal coat is applied. That activity will take place over a four day period and will require detailed planning and a high degree of coordination between the contractor, the HOA and springs residents to minimize the inconvenience.

2013 HOME SALES

(since last newsletter)

3801 Camino Del Golfista

Tom & Diane Sawyer, N. Conway, NH

981 Via Del Placio

Bruce & Dana Arlt, No. Mankato, MN

3796 Paseo de los Nardos

Mark Zika, St. Cloud, MN

3801 S. Avenida De Encino

Kathleen Szeto, Renton, WA

3778 Camino Del Golfista

Phil Johnson, Neskowin, OR

3707 S. Paseo Del Los Nardos

Trustee Sale

3717 S. Camino Comica

Judith Roszel, Sierra Vista, AZ

3753 S. Avenida De Los Solmos

Barton & Jolene Miller, Billings, MT

870 W. Calle De La Pelotita

Elke Little & Michael Tanner, Springfield, OR

3824 S. Camino Comica (rental)

Steven & Roseanne Johansson, Green Valley, AZ

987 W. Blue Fox Road

Barbara Crane, Willow, AK

GROUND'S AT WORK

The Grounds volunteers have been busy this summer, completing two major projects. The work on these projects was led by Vic Bignall. Park 16 (between Nardos & the Frontage Road) received considerable attention and revitalization, to address some erosion concerns. The work was completed just in time for the first monsoon storms.

The other project was the extension of the wall in Park 3 (behind Blue Fox). Besides adding to the overall appearance of the Springs, the wall may help suppress noise and visual pollution, from future development from the south. Thanks to all the many volunteers who participated in these projects

PET PROFILE - WILDLIFE EDITION

(Lisa Pope)

Many of our four legged residents have gone to their summer homes to enjoy the fun game of Frisbee, romps on the lawn, and dips in the lake. The full-time residents are taking it easy and can only be seen around the community in the very early morning hours or after sundown. The absence of activity has piqued the curiosity of their "wilder" cousins. From the cool (temperature wise) vantage point of my kitchen table, I have observed several "visitors" over the past weeks.

We are all familiar with the adorable sight of a family of Quail running up and down our backyard wall, usually with Mama tending to the young ones and Papa being on the look out for bad guys. However, recently I have been watching a single Dad and his two children. For several days in a row, they have visited to have a nutritious meal at the bird feeder next door. Dad appears to be very adept at being both the nurturer and the protector.

Our second visitor was a Bobcat that walked right up to our patio door! He didn't stay very long before jumping over the wall. We have had several Bobcats in our yard over the years, which is always a thrill and one of the unique pleasures of living in the desert.

We also had the rare opportunity to share a late afternoon meal with a Cooper Hawk. It was potluck and he brought an unidentified bird as his meal. He stayed in our yard for a good 15 minutes enjoying his catch while we watched. I can only hope that Mama Quail has been on vacation and did not run into Mr. Bob or Cooper!

NOT SO WILD

(Ron & Pat Sills)

My name is Redbird and I am 11 years old. If things go right, I can live to be more than 40!

I love to eat, especially people food. There is nothing better than a piece of cheese omelet or chunks of red or green pepper, or a piece of apple. Give me a chicken leg you think you've finished and I'll reduce it to a small lump of pulverized bone. Ice cream makes a great dessert as long as it's not chocolate.

I like to play with toys and my house is my gym. I climb up electric wires and get on the couch to play with any piece of cloth left there. I play with bells, dominoes, and those balls made of dried paper, which I will quickly reduce to a pile of shards.

I can talk, can you fly? I will greet you with "Hi" and tell you that I am a good bird and a pretty bird. And my fave is to turn my head upside down and shout out "180"....and if you are especially nice, I can say "I like you."



Please send pictures, and a bio, of your wild or not so wild pets to the newsletter and we will include them in a future edition starting in the fall. (www.springschat@gmail.com)

SPOTLIGHT ON TALENT

As a part of the Springs newsletter we would like to have section where people can tell us about their hobby/art.

If you are a painter, potter, wood worker, photographer, seamstress, quilter, jeweler, astronomer, geologist, hiker, or any other talent we would like you to put together a couple of photos of your work and a short piece about the work that you do and share in the newsletter.

You can be a beginner or an expert in your field and we would love to hear from you.

E-mail your info to the Springschat@aol.com.

Blow your own horn and we will listen and admire your works.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

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If you are a resident of The Springs and have a property you want to rent or sell, or a household item you want to sell, or a service you provide such as house sitting, pet sitting, window washing, carpet cleaning, or an item you are looking for, etc, you may place an ad. Ads are limited to 25 words or less with no pictures. You **must** live in The Springs to place an ad. Email your ad with your name, address, and phone number to: Springschat@gmail.com