

The Springs **Chat** January 2017

A newsletter by and for the residents of The Springs at Santa Rita

The Springs at Santa Rita, 951 West Via Rio Fuerte, Green Valley, AZ 85614

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Editor's Note: As I look out over the Santa Rita Mountains my cup feels half empty. I am thinking about hurtling into the new year of 2017. Of course, all the things I did not get done in 2016 cast dark rain clouds over the peaks (did you notice them?) but to be fair, most of the "incompletes" were optional. Truly I plan to move forward,

think positive and celebrate what I did get done this past year. But, there is a nagging worry. Can I do it - stay positive? Well, of course I can. And, I can celebrate that I finally figured out how the computer gremlins were goofing up the format of the Chat, turning pictures upside down, moving page numbers, and messing with the classified ads. A new writing format, that is the ticket! Those gremlins can't get me any more - can they??? I think I will try a new format for my approach to 2017. And that my friends will be a work in progress.....

With sincere good wishes to all, for a peaceful new year filled with gentle challenges, some fun, and a few completed projects you can check off the list.

Your newly formatted editor, Rebecca Keenan.

JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Potluck: January 12, 5 pm, Anza Room (details Page 13)

Board Meetings: January 17th, 9 am, Fiesta Room (monthly meeting) and January 21, 3 pm, Anza Room (annual meeting)

Meet and Greet: January 7, 3-5 pm, Fiesta Deck (details Page 14)

Perry Park Picnics: January 29, 12:30 pm (details Page 14)



BOARD CANDIDATES FOR 2017/2018

By David Dethmers



With the new year come transitions in our leadership team for the coming year. As we mentioned in last month's CHAT, our President, Howard Bryan, and our Secretary, Ron Delvaux, will be leaving us after our annual meeting on January 21st. We will miss their contributions to our community through service on the board. It gives me pleasure to report that we have four candidates for the four board positions to be filled for the coming two years. Here's a little information about each of them:

JOHN GREEN is a relatively new resident of The Springs who lives with his wife, Cheryl, on Camino Comica. He actually learned about the positions available on the board from his neighbor, Ron Delvaux, our outgoing (in both senses of the word) board Secretary. John served in a management capacity for Waste Management for many years and was also president of his union for six years. He looks forward to serving on the board as a great way of getting involved in the community.

REBECCA KEENAN and her husband, Patrick, live on Calle de la Pelotita. She is a recently retired ICU trauma nurse (good experience for serving on a board) and also worked as a medical technologist in microbiology prior to having a family. While raising her kids, she served on the local school board for ten years. She has been a hospice volunteer, is a proud grandmother, and currently serves as CHAT editor. She says she is running because she can't golf all the time. Seriously, she believes The Springs is a great place to live. She is impressed with all of the energy that goes into keeping our HOA safe, friendly, good looking and financially stable, and wants to contribute to the health of the community.

ROGER OLSON, along with his wife Karen, has resided in The Springs since 1996. They are still, in part, snowbirds, summering in Washington State. They enjoy The Springs and feel it is one of the finest communities in Green Valley. Roger is a graduate of the University of Washington. His career began with eight years as a CPA with a regional accounting firm after which he served as Treasurer of a men's clothing and ski wear manufacturer for nine years. The balance of his working years was as Executive V.P. and Chief Financial Officer of a multinational technology, engineering and manufacturing company that supplies process equipment and services to the detergent and power generation industries worldwide, and another company that wholesales surfacing finishing equipment and supplies to companies along the West Coast. Roger has been the Treasurer of The Springs HOA for the last three years. We are delighted to have him continue in this role as a part of the Board of Directors.

JIM OWEN and his wife, Eileen, live on Wolf Run. Jim served on the HOA board for four years as Secretary and, more recently, as Chairman of the Grounds Committee. He greatly enjoys working with the many volunteers on his team and appreciates the role that they play in maintaining the integrity and beauty of our community. We're delighted that Jim is willing to continue to serve in this important role.

We look forward to our annual meeting on January 21st and particularly the opportunity to affirm and thank these individuals for their willingness to serve The Springs!

Reminder: The January 21st annual meeting starts at 3 pm in the ANZA ROOM. We encourage all homeowners to attend, listen, and participate in the volunteer activities. New faces are always welcome



A Couple Helpful Hints and Friendly Reminders



This is **coyote** poop on the left. **Mother Nature** cleans up after coyotes.

This is dog poop on the right. **You** clean up after **dogs**.



This is a sidewalk.



This is a trash can.



This is a driveway.

Please keep your **trash can** on your **driveway**, and clear of the sidewalk, so that people walking have an open path. This is especially appreciated by folks using a walker or cane. Thank you so much.

A prayer for aging, written by a 17th century nun.

A tonic for caregivers.



Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wing to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other's pains, but help me to endure them with patience.



I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.



Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint – some of them are so hard to live with – but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Amen.

Health and Wellness Tips

by Sally Bryan

Do you live alone? Would you (or your family) like to have someone check in with you by telephone every day, to make sure everything is going well for you? If so, the Sheriff's Auxiliary will make a daily telephone call, free of any charge. To sign up, call 520-351-6706. The program is called Telecare, and should you need their number later on, it is included on our HOA website under Services.



Health and Wellness Tips continued

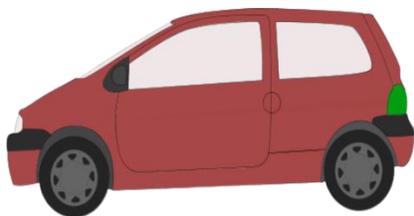


Green Valley Fire District Residential Lockbox is another helpful program that might be of use. These lockboxes are used only by GVFD firefighters, in case of emergency, to enter your home when seconds or minutes can make a difference! A key to your door is secured inside the lockbox and accessed via a special coded key carried on the fire apparatus. They cannot be opened by friends, neighbors or any other person. Contact GVFD at (520) 625-9438 if you have questions or to make arrangements for purchase and installation. Cost is just \$75 (\$50 for box, \$25 for installation). It is a small price for peace of mind.

Speaking of fires, another helpful service is Green Valley Fire District Smoke Alarm Battery Program. Let's face it, many of us are at the point in our lives where we shouldn't be climbing ladders. You can call the GVFD at (520) 625-9438 to make an appointment for the Fire Corps to come to your home and change all of the batteries in your home once a year. Cost is \$20 for 8 alarms or less. They will also replace smoke detectors for a fee of \$20 each.



Do you need transportation to medical appointments and no longer drive? Or perhaps your appointment is in Tucson, and you no longer drive in the city? Friends in Deed has volunteers who will drive you. Call them at (520) 625-4424 at least FIVE DAYS ahead of your appointment to schedule a ride.



Or do you want to go shopping? Friends in Deed has a schedule where they will take you from your home to WalMart & 99 Cent Store, Safeway & Food Bank, Park Place Mall, Tucson Mall and Trader Joe's. See the website www.fid-gv.org for their schedule or call them at (520) 625-4424 for more information.

There's MORE! Friends In Deed also loans out medical equipment, such as wheelchairs, canes, crutches, bath seats etc at no cost. They also have twice-weekly blood pressure screenings and a social gathering with refreshments on Friday mornings with guest speakers. For more information call (520) 625-1150 or stop by at 301 S Camino Casa Verde, just off of La Canada Drive. We are blessed to live in a retirement community with so many organizations looking out for our well-being.



SPANISH STREET NAMES Part two:

A Curious mind has been investigating the origins and meanings of street names here in The Springs. The first chapter can be found in the December 2016 Chat.

The winners this month are those of you living on Camino del Heroe, Avenida de Encino, and Via de Cristal.

El heroe is the masculine form of hero. You could also use the word protagonist, but that would really be hard. Camino de Protagonisto. Nope! Another definition for 'heroe' is a type of sandwich. The Spanish hero, *el bocadillo*, is a hefty structure with a mix of meats and veggies on long slices of thick bread.



Suffice it to say, all the folks living on **Camino del Heroe** are extremely brave, the guys all look like Zorro and the ladies dine at Subway.

Encino was fun. It is an area in the San Fernando Valley known for its coastal live oak trees (encinos). These large evergreen trees have hard, very heavy wood that is mostly used for fuel, and produce small acorns for wildlife. According to Wordnik, *Quereus agrifolia* is the scientific name. One much beloved oak tree grew for hundreds of years in southern CA until succumbing in 1998, due to lack of water and an abundance of LA air pollution. Originally there was the bosque de encino (oak forest), but urbanization has slowly reduced their numbers. An encino is also known as a gray oak.



Let's just say that the folks on **Avenida de Encino** are a little nutty, and they wish they were in southern California at the beach.



The last street gets a little touchy. Urban Dictionary informed me that 'cristal' is another word for MDMA (methylenedioxy-methamphetamine). However, more traditional uses of the word refer to a small coin, a lens, a glass pane, or crystals found in mining. My favorite definition is 'a crystal ball'. (I discovered Urban Dictionary while googling cristal. It is not for the faint of heart.)

In closing, residents on **Via de Cristal** probably wear glasses and like to wash windows while predicting the future. We all love clean windows.

(Stay tuned for next month's digging for street name treasures.)



New Home Purchases for end of 2016 (total of 33 homes sold)

3964 Calle Viva: Leo and Mary Hagerty from Spring Hill, FL.

3701 Camino Del Cefiro: Linda Larsen from Sun City, AZ.

3787 Paseo De Los Nardos: Harold Wolfe, Sr. from Olympia, WA.

Welcome, and enjoy the winter!



And now for something completely different!

The Springs Salute

by Sally Bryan

This is a new feature of The Springs CHAT. It is intended to provide an opportunity for you to briefly comment on any **POSITIVE** aspect of life here in The Springs. Perhaps you might mention helpful neighbors, some things you've enjoyed while living here or something that made you smile. Actually, anything positive about our community is welcome. Please send your contributions to Thespringschat@gmail.com.

Here are the first submissions:



“We really enjoy The Springs and return every winter to rent in The Springs for 4 months. The people are very friendly and I also like the proximity to the great pool for water aerobics.”

Darla Terry, Minnesota

“The nature trail/walking trail is such a great feature of The Springs. I appreciate how well it is maintained by our Board and Volunteers.”

Lynn Kreuzer, Springs homeowner

As always, the editor reserves the right to edit any submissions. This forum is not for comments/concerns that should be directed to our Springs HOA Board.

There's a whole lot of shaking going on.....by Patrick Keenan

For the past few mornings you may have been awakened by rumbling sounds coming from the pecan orchards across the Santa Cruz Wash. And as you look across the wash, you see a strange sight. One tree at a time, advancing toward you, the treetops shake and shimmy. As a rookie snowbird, you might ask “What’s going on?” Well, not to worry, it’s just the Green Valley Pecan Company (GVPC) harvesting their immense crop of pecan nuts.



First a word about the company itself: It is a branch of the Farmer’s Investment Company, and is a family-owned and operated business, run by Rich Walden. The Waldens are now into their 3rd generation of leadership at GVPC.

Facts of interest about the Green Valley Pecan Company:

- 1) GVPC is the largest producer of pecans in the USA.
- 2) Over 50% of the pecans they sell are to customers outside the States.
- 3) They have large pecan plantations here in Green Valley, and another in AZ near the NM border. They also own an orchard in GA.
- 4) They use water conservatively. About 1/3 of their water goes back to groundwater.
- 5) They are good neighbors in their community and recently donated land for the construction of a high school in Sahuarita.
- 6) Each November, GVPC helps sponsor the Sahuarita Pecan Festival, including the Nut Run (through the orchard), a pecan pie contest, and a pecan cracking contest.



So, back to the shaking trees @ 7 AM.

Pecans are, of course, a tree nut. The nut reaches maturity in December. The delicious golden, brown meat of the nut is well protected by Mother Nature. In the space between the halves of the nut is found the cotyledon which acts as a first line “packaging” of the nut within the shell.

Next is the hard shell itself which must be cracked to be opened. For most of the year the shell is, in turn, protected by a tough outer hull or husk. This husk gradually weakens, When it starts to open, it is a signal that harvest time is near. The pecan farmer can also tell by the “snap” of the pecan nut in his fingers, if the nut is mature or not.



The problem facing the pecan farmer is that he has an orchard full of 30 foot tall trees, with hundreds and hundreds of nuts growing from top to bottom. How does he pick them? The answer is the shaker. It is a very sturdy, low-slung machine with a 12 foot pair of “tongs” that gently grabs the trunk or main branch of the tree and gives it a good, hard shake. About 99% of the nuts fall to the ground where they will be swept up and taken to the processing factory. Interestingly, each of the shakers 3 tires has a wee broom in front of it so that no pecans will be crushed by tires. The “army” of about 50 shakers comes from California and works it way across the Southwest. Then they head back to California to work on their next crops – walnuts and almonds.



And since this all makes me hungry, I’m going to cook up a really easy, but tasty

candied pecan recipe.

1 Cup white sugar, 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1 teaspoon salt,
1 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional), 1 egg white, 1 Tablespoon
water, 1 pound pecan halves.

1. Preheat oven to 250 degrees F (120 degrees C).
2. Mix sugar, cinnamon, and salt together in a bowl.
3. Whisk egg white and water together in a separate bowl until frothy. Toss pecans in the egg white mixture. Mix sugar mixture into pecan mixture until pecans are evenly coated. Spread coated pecans onto a baking sheet.
4. Bake in the preheated oven, stirring every 15 minutes, until pecans are evenly browned, 1 hour.



Next month, more about pecans: nutrition, processing, historical facts.

Broccoli Cashew Salad – a different nut recipe

by Pat Strnad



One bunch of broccoli

½ Cup diced red onions

½ Cup raisins or dried cranberries

1 Cup roasted cashews

½ Cup poppy seed dressing (or more if you like)



Break washed broccoli into small florets. Add nuts, raisins and onions. Toss with dressing and enjoy!

Neighborhood Watch & Block Captains

Let's face it. We are all old and getting older. We need good neighbors who mostly mind their own business, but are in place to help and notify folks if something goes awry. The SAV (Sheriff's Auxiliary Volunteers) drive by is one level of watchfulness, but our "first responders" are the block captains in our Neighborhood Watch. Barb Coggins is the chairperson for Neighborhood Watch and each captain usually has a street (or long ones have two captains). She describes her 21 block captains as "watch dogs, helpers, advisors, welcoming hosts who are required to be observant to be sure that all is going well on their block". Some months are busy, others very quiet. The block captains are just present. Most live in The Springs year round, but that is not required. And Barb Coggins does a little job sharing if somebody travels or is ill. Barb Wolf uses her dog walking as a way to multi-task: exercise and check on the homes on her watch, and probably some others too.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The hospitality committee is wrapped into Neighborhood Watch. Thirty three homes were sold in The Springs in 2016, and new folks moving here get a helpful packet from their block captain that starts the process of settling in. Information about things like name badges, weed control, the website, the Chat, and a name to call for help allow our new neighbors get acclimated and feel welcome.

These captains have lots of knowledge to share. We all support our Springs community but the Neighborhood Watch goes one step farther and helps to knit our little informal neighborhoods together. Barb Coggins has a short wish list. She needs a block captain for **Los Solmos**. Can you help? It is nice if you live on the street, BUT NOT REQUIRED. Several captains monitor nearby streets as their watch area. Free training is provided – call Barb Coggins at 520-398-5201. Please consider helping. Most captains have done this for years, and it's always encouraging to have new faces involved.

**Thank you Barb Coggins and your
twenty one block captains:**

Avenida De Encino – Ricky Konshak

Blue Fox Road – Barb Barton

Calle De La Pelotita – Judith Bouzoun

Calle Rambles – Bill Perry & Ricky Konshak

Calle Viva – Delores Carl

Camino Del Cefiro – Mary Yager

Camino Comica – Hilda Trickey & Mary Yager

Camino Erranle – Marcia Harris

**Camino Del Golfista – Ernie & Debi Cox & Barb Wolf &
Ann Bignall**

Camino Del Heroe – Mike & Bobbie Kearns



Golden Lynx Road - Suzy Baker

Paseo De Los Nardos – Toni Wilson

Paseo Del Cuple – Mary Yager

Puma Peak Road – Mike & Bobbie Kearns

Via De Cristal – Jacke Marchetti

Via De La Fonda – Shani Murray

Via Del Placio - Delores Carl

Via Rio Fuerte - Ernie& Debi Cox

**Wolf Run Road – Tom Kramer & Sandie Stone
& Joyce McGlaston**

***** Avenida De Los Solmos – Barb Coggins &
Mary Yager share this street for now but this
is where we need a volunteer or two.**

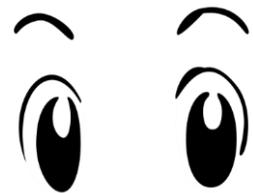
**Again, thank you! Your attention to our
community is priceless. And Mary Yager gets
the prize for covering the most streets!**



We all enjoyed the efforts of the Christmas decorating crew at the entrance as well as all the individual home lights that were put up. They helped make the season joyous and beautiful. Thanks!

Heads UP!!

Many of you have heard or read that the Canoa Ranch clubhouse and restaurant had a fire recently, and their services will be closed for the next six months. Have you enjoyed dining at the restaurant or stopping in for a drink or sandwich? Unfortunately, most of the people who regularly served you are now out of a job and the wages and tips they earned. Consider whether you might wish to reach out and contact those who have served you well in the past and lend a helping hand during this time of closure.





Interested in firewood? The HOA has some for the taking. It is green and needs to cure. It is stacked at the west end of Via De La Fonda by the maintenance building. If you take some wood, remember to stack it up off the ground, because rattlesnakes love to hide in wood piles that are on the ground.

Garbage News

At the last board meeting, the new contract with Republic Services was renewed. The rate is \$48.00 plus tax for three months (an average of 16 pickups). The vacation hold has been extended to allow up to 9 months of held services. If you have any questions, Mike Ford is our board member to contact at 970-685-1134.

Also of note, homes do not have to use the large containers supplied by Republic. People may buy their own cans, and they will be emptied. Thanks Mike for all your hard work!



The Scoops – all the social details you need to know how to survive the gatherings.

The Potlucks are held monthly. The list of “who brings what” rotates. For the January 12th potluck, A-F bring dessert, G-O bring salad, and P-Z bring main dish. You also need to bring your dinnerware and beverage. Some folks really get fancy, but only the basics are needed. If your shared dish has nuts or shellfish, a label is appreciated. Please wear a name tag, and if you choose, bring a donation to the Amado food bank (food items or \$\$). The gathering starts at 5 pm in the Anza Room, and eating usually begins at 5:30. Bill Perry is our fearless leader who decides who can be first in line for food and recognizes birthdays in the group. Renters and guests are very welcome!!! Move around and get acquainted to new folks.

FYI – the Amado Food Back totals for December 2016 were \$430 and 5 lbs. of food.

Totals for 2016 - \$2480 and 181 lbs. of food. WELL DONE everyone.



The Scoop continued

At any time, if you are interested in making a food bank donation (moving, leaving, feeling generous) you can call Bill Perry at 520-393-7402 and he will deliver your donation to Amado Food Bank. Thanks for your support.



The Meet 'n Greets are also monthly events and are held on the Fiesta Deck or in the Fiesta Room, depending on the weather. They run from 3-5pm, drop by any time. Wear your name tag and bring your own snack and beverage. Bring something to share if it works for you. Guests and renters are very welcome to join the group. This month it is Saturday January 7th. Come and share your smile.

Picnics in Perry Park are held January thru April and offer a different site to gather, ON GRASS. Social time begins at 12:30 pm, eating at 1 pm. Bring your lunch and a little something to share. There will be a grill if you would like to BBQ. This month the picnic is Jan 29th to avoid any football game conflicts. There are usually 24-30 people and it's a great way to meet your neighbors.



ARC NOTES



The ARC Committee requests that if you have received a letter regarding paint/repair/weed control, to please let the HOA know when the project has been completed. It is very easy – just drop a note in the mail box on the north side of the office by the entry to The Springs. Please put “ARC” on the subject line. Also, if you requested and received ARC approval for changes, please notify them when the work is complete. Thank you very much.

Classified Ads

House-sitting Service

Cindy and Gary Deckinger

3624 Paseo de Los Nardos

520-262-8622

mgghorse@yahoo.com

WE DO IT WELL!

*Skin Care Consultations and
Complimentary Makeovers*

*Sally Bryan, Independent Mary Kay
Beauty Consultant*

www.marykay.com/SallyBryan

716-397-8099

Household Services

I do quality interior painting, bathroom remodeling, and miscellaneous household services.

Contact Craig Trejo

955 W Via de La Fonda

**Pet Stroller for a
small dog**

**Like New \$75
(was \$149 new)**

BetteBriggs

**520-399-4500
bbriggs13@cox.net**

We have rented in The Springs for 3 years and need a new place for 2018. Want to rent for 3 mos Jan, Feb, Mar. Prefer WiFi, King Bed, DVR and nice view. Contact Scott MacMillan at flhri@shaw.ca or Bette Briggs at 520-399-4500

Home for Sale

3733 Camino Del Cefiro

**Lovely home 2 bed, 2 bath,
Close to rec center and
nature trail.**

Well cared for!!

520-399-2926

Classified Ads continued

Great southwestern home furnishings:

- *Micro fabric sofa, taupe \$75
- * Fireplace/heater, electric \$100
- * Kitchen drop leaf table w drawers, 2 benches, IKEA \$100
- * Kirby Sentra vacuum complete with attachments and shampooer \$200*
- *Queen bedroom set (mattress, box spring, headboard, 5 & 3 drawer dressers, all bedding incl.) \$500*

Call Maureen 520-444-6428

And that is all folks. People had a lot to say in this issue. Thanks for all your contributions to the Chat!

And if you note an error, please let us know at Thespringschat@gmail.com .