

December Table of Contents

	Page
Meet Your Neighbors	2-3
Proposed I-19 Underpass, Trail	3-4
Volunteer Ops at Canoa Pond	5-6
Recycling Update	6-7
CHAT editorial guidelines	8
Miscellaneous	8

The Springs CHAT

Volume VI, Issue 12, December, 2018
951 W Via Rio Fuerte, Green Valley,
AZ 85614

Phone: 520 648-1699

<http://www.thespringshoa.org>

CHAT Editor: koltun3@gmail.com



Nancy Kelly Photo

“Glad this one left his skin behind,” noted Mark Koruga, left, and Don Kelly, holding the Snakeskin they found on Grounds Committee Patrol. The volunteer group meets twice a Week to care for The Springs.

December Events

December HOA Board	12/11
Holiday Potluck	12/20
January CHAT deadline	12/15

Mike Kearns to Lead Christmas Carols at Holiday Potluck

In what started fifteen years ago as a strolling serenade for residents, Mike Kearns and his guitar will lead carols at the December 20 potluck.

He could recall the anniversary easily because it was 15 years ago, after he and his wife, Bobbie, moved into their home on Heroe, where they still live.

“Bill Perry led us and we stopped at every house,” he said.

This year, Mike will headline at festivities in the Anza room.



SISTERS AND COUSINS

Meet Your Neighbor. by Sally Bryan

Our Springs Community is blessed to have three “related” women in our midst. Jo Beiler and Linda Ruge are sisters and Cathy Roberts is their first cousin.

All three were born in the same southern Illinois hospital just across the Mississippi River from their Missouri homes.

Jo Beiler was the first to move to The Springs in 2014, with her husband, Hal and their 10-year-old beagle, Maggie. Jo says that Maggie is the “best dog we’ve ever had!” Jo and Hal hail from Illinois, where their two children and five grandchildren also live.

Games are favorite hobbies for Jo, including Mexican Train, Mah Johngg, Canasta and Hand & Foot. Before playing games, these three gals, and their guys, share meals most evenings. One of Hal’s favorite pastimes is reading.

Linda Ruge was next to move to The Springs. She found her house “virtually” as her sister, Jo, walked her through it with her phone and showed her FaceTime videos. Linda saw her house for the first time after the closing and moved here in 2018. It was a big change for her as she had lived in the same house in Illinois for 40 years. Fortunately, Linda has found The Springs to be welcoming and says she has great neighbors.

Her two children and three grandchildren live in Missouri and Illinois. Linda is also looking forward to the arrival of her first great grandchild in the spring of 2019. She is a member of the Amigas social group, crochets and also enjoys playing games and family dinners.

Jo and Cathy both compliment Linda on her delicious and creative cooking skills. They say she is brave in trying new recipes and never disappoints.

They also say that Linda is the “GLUE” that holds their family together. The cousins had largely lost touch with one another after high school due to family moves and the preoccupations of working & raising families. While they occasionally saw one another at family funerals, Linda heard that Cathy and Don were wintering in Surprise, Arizona. Cathy and Don love all things baseball and enjoy the spring training camp of the Texas Rangers baseball team. The sisters and cousin arranged a meeting in Tucson and have picked up their relationship “like it was yesterday, rather than a span of close to 40 years.”

Cathy and her husband, Don, were the last to purchase a home in The Springs. They are from Durant, Oklahoma, and bought their home in April of 2017. Cathy decided she wanted to live close to her cousins so that “I can get to your houses with my walker when I am older. You’re my family and very important to me.”

Since retiring as a nurse, Cathy has been involved with Animal Rescue Alliance, in a rural area of her state with an abundance of stray dogs. She strives to save the dogs from euthanasia and provides vaccinations, veterinary care, adoption and transportation to areas of the country in need of adoptable pets. Cathy and her husband share their home with their dog, Chuy.

Don is a golfer and Cathy is an accomplished seamstress, creating costumes for her granddaughter’s figure skating competitions. She begins with formal dresses she sources at yard sales, salvaging the sequins and lace and creating one-of-a-kind creations. When the costumes are outgrown by her granddaughter, they are in great demand by younger skaters, because of their uniqueness.

These three are now looking to find a home in The Springs for their younger sister/cousin, Rachel, who will be retiring within the next few years.

The trio love the “thrill of the hunt” and can often be found at weekly estate and household sales looking for that perfect addition to their home decor.

They also share a community and volunteer spirit. Linda is a Springs block captain. All three of them helped the Grounds Committee with buffel grass removal. They all attended the recent HOA Board meeting and are open to opportunities to add value to their Springs community. Be sure to get to know these vibrant ladies when you’re out and about! --**SALLY BRYAN**

Proposed Walking/Bike trail Along the Edge of The Springs

Would you be interested in a trail connecting The Springs to the west side of I-19?

Pima County is proposing to build a multi-use trail under I-19. This would be for NON-motorized traffic, and would follow the wash near our entrance. They would build a paved ramp through the underpass, and continue the trail turning south through the side wash behind houses along Calle Viva adjacent to the Frontage Road. It would continue south to connect with the TEP road to the sub-station enabling trail users to connect with the Anza Trail. On the west side of the highway, the trail would connect

with trails in the new county park being developed on the site of the closed Canoa Hills golf course.

The project would require an easement from The Springs to allow usage of the trail through these washes. The county will provide a sight screen with plantings between the trail and the houses on Calle Viva to block views of the trail from our homes, install a fence the length of the path to prevent trespass, and maintain landscaping and clean-up.

Does this idea interest you? Advantages would be easy access to the west side of I-19 without using your car, and easy access to a county park with miles of walking/biking trails. The Springs, at the southern limit on the east side, is isolated. We need to drive miles out of our way to access GVR activities and friends on the west side of the highway that could be within easy and healthy walking/biking distance. The trail would of course also benefit Green Valley as a whole, bringing communities closer, enabling a friendly atmosphere and an attractive and healthy activity in our town. All of which makes our homes more attractive come sale time.

Please take a minute to respond to Patsy Sills at Patricia.sills1@cox.net 1-(520) 207-8233 or Ted Boyett at tboy@stanfordalumni.org 1-(401) 649-0991 with your thoughts about this project, either positive or with your concerns. We need to know if there is enough interest to cooperate with the county to make this happen.--**TED BOYETT**

News of Our Gorgeous New Canoa Pond Neighbor--Volunteers Needed, Picnic, Anybody?

- 1) Entry gates are now open 7 AM-4 PM Monday through Sunday for access to Canoa Pond and the Anza Trail.
- 2) Volunteer application forms will be available from the new ranch manager at the lake/pond. His name is Matt Smoger! You can print my phone number and/or email for interested parties to contact me: Valerie Samoy, email: valerie.samoy@pima.gov. Phone:520-724-5220.
- 3) We have one large ramada and three smaller ramadas with picnic benches and tables located around the perimeter of Canoa Lake.[Editor's note: I'll still call it a pond. It's seven or eight feet deep at the deepest and a third of a mile around. Wonderful for duck-watching!] These ramadas can be reserved and the cost is \$25 for the day. Online registration coming soon; meanwhile you can make ramada reservations. by calling 520-724-5220.
- 4) Stargazing with Whipple Observatory and the Sonora Astronomical Society begins 1x/month on Fridays: December 14, January 11, February 8, March 15, and April 12.
- 5) In December and for the holidays, we're going to have a Rocking/Mechanical Horse exhibit at Canoa! For a \$10 donation, guests can view this special exhibit and take a self-guided tour of the ranch.--**VALERIE SAMOY**

Of Mosquitos and Injured Bobcats and Poop Bags

Here in The Springs mosquitoes are not usually too bothersome. This fall, they were out in full force. That prompted me to look at the Pima County website "Fight the Bite" https://webcms.pima.gov/health/preventive_health/disease_control/mosquitoes.

Mosquitos can infect people and animals with diseases. Here are ways they give to protect yourself:

Keep mosquitos off your body. Wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothing. If you are not wearing long-sleeved pants and shirts, use insect repellent on exposed skin.

Keep mosquitoes out of your yard. Walk through your yard and check for areas that collect water. Standing water is the ideal place for mosquitos to breed, so change outdoor pet water daily and replace with fresh water and make sure things like plant containers, tires, or other items are not collecting water.

Keep mosquitoes out of your house. If you want the fresh air in the evening, feel free to open your windows, but check your window screens for holes and repair immediately. Do not leave doors open if you do not have a screen door to act as a mosquito barrier.

Other good tips: Use mosquito repellents that contain DEET, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets.—**NANCY KELLY**

Over on Camino del Heroe last month, I had an injured bobcat that came on my patio around 6:30 A.M. It's his left front paw and he looked like he was having a hard time jumping over our wall. I didn't get a good picture as I ran to get my husband. I have called the fish and game dept. and left a full message of my name, address and description of the bobcat's injury. I feel so bad as I'm wondering if is the same one that came and sat on our wall this time last year and paid no attention to us. I just want to let people know about him. Not sure how to get that out to everyone especially if he could harm anyone or pets because of his injury. If anyone sees him the number to call is 1-520-628-5376.

Thank you and let me know if I should do anything else.—**KAREN KANGAS**

Is It My Dog?

Every dog owner worries about that when the subject of dog poop comes up, and some may take comfort in that the fact that occasional animal waste comes from non-domestic animals such as coyotes. After all, as another dog owner told me, they like to have a clean place to defecate also. Our lovely Nature Trail sometimes gets more than its share. But, just to be sure that sidewalk mess hasn't come from your beloved pet, it's useful to carry a poop bag whenever you take him or her out, and use the bag to carry droppings back to your garbage. The bags are very inexpensive. In the winter, they actually serve as hand warmers of an early morning. Best of all, using the bags ensures that your neighbors won't need to pick up after up after your pooch.—**J.KOLTUN, B. BRIGGS**

RECYCLING UPDATE By Rick Fillion

According to an article that appeared in a recent *Arizona Daily Star*, the global market for recycled materials is shrinking, while costs to collect, sort, and process the materials are increasing. The article was a warning that residents could face new measures by the end of the year.

Tucsonians may soon pay more money for fewer pickups as the global market for plastics and paper implodes, due to new restrictions on imports in China and other countries. With contamination of recycled products increasing, costs rising, and recycling revenues falling, Tucson officials say they soon plan to provide the City Council with several options. Residents could face new measures by the end of the year, city officials say.

Possible measures include: 1) fewer pickups—a reduction in curbside pickups of recyclable plastic tubs, bottles, paper, and glass from four times a month to twice monthly; 2) higher rates—recycling fees for families could rise from a current range of 15 to 45 cents per household monthly to up to 75 cents per month; 3) escalating enforcement—people leaving too many contaminants in their recycling bins could have their bin pulled; and 4) public education to get people to put fewer contaminants in the blue recycling bins.

The global recycling bottleneck's root cause is people putting greater amounts of non-recyclable materials into their bins. Contamination today accounts for about 22 percent of the materials that Tucson residents leave in their blue recycling bins each week. That's up from 16 percent seven years ago. While it's been hard for authorities to pinpoint why the recyclables are so contaminated, one oft-cited factor is what many experts call "aspirational" recycling. That's when people dump plastics into the bins that they believe should be recycled, regardless of whether a city program accepts them. "People aren't trying to contaminate on purpose," added Tucson-owned recycling center general manager Jake Anderson. "They want to recycle. They want to do the right thing. [But] it's very difficult to educate the public."

"It's just either convenience, laziness, or trying to get rid of material at any expense," said Carlos De La Torre, the city environmental services manager. "There's no other thing we can think of outside of that. Also we have placed two barrels at home, one of for recyclable materials, the other for garbage. If [folks] run out of room in one and try to stretch the limits of that is recyclable, [they] end up putting things in the bin that shouldn't be there."

On July 1, Sierra Vista stopped taking paper or paperboard materials as recyclables. It cut its weekly recycling pickups to twice monthly, and increased trash collection fees by 15 percent. On June 1, Flagstaff went a lot further, halting recycling of plastics except for jugs, bottles, and jars. Plastic trays, takeout containers, cups, and produce containers can no longer be recycled at that city's recycling facility. City officials and center operators agree on why the contamination headaches are driving up costs and slashing revenues. To remove contaminants, Republic must improve the technology of the equipment it uses to sort materials, which costs money. It also must hire more people to sort materials.

Waste Management, which runs its own recycling plant in Surprise near Phoenix, said it has slowed its operations there to hand-pick more contaminants from its sorting

lines. Its workers spend extra time “quality checking” finished bales to remove any contaminants.

Tucson’s recycling program finished fiscal year 2017-18 slightly in the red. The Environmental Services Department projects the program will run an estimated \$500,000 deficit in fiscal 2019-19. That’s a big comedown from the net \$1-\$2 million that the program reported annually during the first three years of this decade. The Springs HOA Board is forming an ad hoc committee to 1) discuss the garbage and recycling issues in the coming year and 2) how best to educate our HOA members so we aren’t “part of the problem.” Once the Board has some clarity about how services might be changed, then the collection schedule will again be discussed to see what is appropriate for our HOA. Stay tuned!—RICK FILLION

THE SPRINGS AT SANTA RITA H.O.A. BOARD ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

We have 4 board openings this year. Board terms are 2 years commencing at the conclusion of business at the annual meeting on January, 19, 2019. Persons desiring to serve on the board will have until December 15, 2018 (as previously announced and posted) to submit their nomination profile information to the board Vice President.

As of this writing on December 1, 2018, these are the persons who have expressed a desire to serve on the board for a term of two years:

1. Rebecca Keenan, current board President
2. Roger Olson, current board Treasurer
3. James Owen, current chairman of the Grounds Committee
4. Cindy Deckinger, currently not on the board. Following is background information submitted by Mrs. Deckinger: Born and raised in Kansas. Graduated from the University of Kansas, 1977. Married Gary in November 1977 and moved to Southern California for 32 years. One son who still lives in Southern California and loves it! Taught middle school language arts, ESL and social studies in private and public schools for 28 years. While teaching I took on a variety of education related jobs. I worked with CSUB to develop graduate level education classes for public school teachers, represented teachers at School Site Council, helped develop ESL after school programs, helped organize and teach district wide staff development.

Reasons for running for a position on the HOA board are varied. For one I would like to learn more about The Springs as a community, and to volunteer to help in any way I am able, serving on the board seems a good place to start.

If you are interested in serving, nomination forms must be submitted by December 15, 2018. The nomination form can be found on our website (www.thespringshoa.org – Notices). If there are more nominations that offices to be filled, voting will take place at the January 26, 2019, annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Brent Gordy, Vice President

Editorial Policy

In order to meet our community's needs, both deadlines and light editing are needed. Our HOA CHAT is limited to 4 mb/kb per issue. We ask that articles, except for occasionals with multiple contributors, be limited to 250 words. Photos need to be formatted as Jpegs. Deadlines, approximately mid-month preceding the following month's issue, will be printed on the front page. Your generous cooperation with these few rules, is much appreciated.

THE EDITOR