



Hi, Five



The newsletter of Association Five for all our Friendly Valley neighbors

Volume X Number 12

Monday, June 17, 2019

Meet your neighbors

– Joe and Harriet Merjan were both born in the Bronx, NY, not far apart, and both moved with their families to the Los Angeles area at an early age. They attended separate high schools, Joe at Washington and Harriet at Fairfax. They finally met when a mutual friend introduced them. They set up an encounter playing tennis. They obviously hit it off well as they were married in 1968 and will celebrate Anniversary 51 in just 13 days. Joe has been in sales all his life while Harriet was a stay-at-home mom, raising their son and daughter. She then became an elementary school teacher. Three years later, together they formed their own family electronics business. That endeavor lasted until they retired 25 years later. They admit to being sports enthusiasts and fans. They love their Dodgers. They also love traveling and have been to many foreign countries. For 43 years they lived in a two-story, five-bedroom house in Valencia. They became familiar with FV when Melisse Benson, Assn 6A, invited them here to play golf. When the time came to downsize, FV was the obvious choice. Even before moving in, they started getting involved in FV activities. They are in golf, bridge, exercise, pickleball, and lawn bowls. For added measure, they even have a ping-pong table in their house. They have five granddaughters and recently added a grandson-in-law.



Assn 5 picnic – It's this Saturday, June 22, starting at noon, in the BBQ area near the pool. Call Liz Talbot (661-367-6527) or Agnes Chaney (661-360-5506) **by tomorrow** to indicate your attendance and to tell what you want to bring for potluck. The Board has budgeted \$350 to provide fried chicken and water. If you want something else to drink, bring your own beverage. There will be games and prizes. Bring a white elephant and some cash to buy raffle tickets. Let's all have some fun.

Tiki Tiki Luau – A good time was had by all. Or at least it appeared so. A week ago, an estimated 400 (wild guess) residents gathered at



the BBQ Picnic area for an afternoon of food, fun, friendship, and entertainment. Two photos, below, cannot do justice to the 50-foot-long



spread (another guess) of entrees, salads, and sides and another 20 feet of desserts. If you weren't there, you missed a real feast. The high point of the afternoon was the dunk tank. The dunkees were members of the Security staff and the Rec Board. The first to be dunked was Al Sirko, Chief of Security. The first to dunk him was Al himself. While trying to get into position, the seating platform gave way and Al went in the tank. The first to hit the target with a softball was Bob Trulik, causing Al to go in again. But the champion dunker was Director Michael Fennick, who dunked fellow Director Gabe Bibby 3 (or was it 4) times. The highlight of the evening, provided by Ellie Lacey, was a performance in the auditorium by Tupua Productions, a professional dance troupe, that provided 45 minutes of authentic Polynesian music, dances and costumes. Some of the audience were given an opportunity to participate and try their hands (or



feet) in the dancing. That's Ellie Lacey giving it a try. Unfortunately, the early announcements of the luau did not mention this show, so many attendees left for home before the performance began. In the aftermath of this event, which was the biggest party the Rec Board had ever sponsored, some mistakes were admitted (too few plates at the dessert table, e.g.), but they vowed to plan more such events in the future.

Roofing, HVAC, and Solar Project – Only 598 owners, 39% of FV, chose to vote in the Rec Assn’s election last Monday, but it was enough to meet the quorum requirement (439). Board President, Ruth Gauthier, announced that the measure passed by a “nearly unanimous” majority. As a reminder, what the voters approved was a project to replace, modernize, and add roofing, HVAC, and a solar energy system for the major buildings of the Recreational Association’s property, at a cost not to exceed \$790,000. That could be difficult to achieve, as the current estimate for the project is somewhat over \$1,000,000. It will take some negotiating and maybe some downsizing to meet that goal. But at least the Rec Board, and Michael Fennick in particular, has the approval to go ahead and try to accomplish this major, and much needed, undertaking.

Repaving of Friendly Valley Parkway - It’s still scheduled to begin on July 15. More information and reminders will be in our next two issues.

New office space – The FV Office needed a space to collect all of its file cabinets. Space was made available by moving the pool table into the new Game Room. The old Pool Room is now connected to the office and filled with file cabinets, and there is an area set up for scanning of old files. Ironically, the scanning could mean that there won’t be a need for so many file cabinets in the future. Never fear; there will always be more data coming.

Speaking of the new Game Room – It’s fully functional now. The room is available daily from 7am to 10pm. If it’s not open, ask Security (just a few doors away) to open it for you. According to a sign on the door, the hours from 7pm to 10pm are designated as Exclusive Game Nights. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday are for billiards. Tuesday it’s darts. Friday it’s darts and bumper pool. All other times are Open Game Play.

New rules for estate sales – Admittedly there have been ambiguities and confusion about how to conduct estate sales in FV. The Community Council has just approved a new set of rules that provide clarity to the situation. If you are planning on staying here forever, let you

executor or trustee know that the rules are available in the office. If you’re planning on moving out of FV, come pick up the rules yourself.

What about our gate cards? – The CC also has a committee considering rules about issuing gate cards. Is it one per individual, or one per vehicle? Other aspects are being considered. Nothing has been decided yet. Will there be changes? Come to the CC meeting on July 3 and find out for yourself.

Open Forum in Community Council? – CC Chair Keith Pierce has said that the way to get Open Forum reinstated is to amend the CC Bylaws. Dave Swartz, president of the Board of Assn 5, says he intends to make a motion to that effect at the next CC meeting. If the motion gets “yes” votes from a majority of delegates present, then Open Forum can be on future CC agendas starting on August 7.

Assn 5 Board of Directors – From left to right:



Vern Rosenquist, Director of Maintenance; Diane Boylan, Secretary; Dave Swartz, President; Judy Robb, Treasurer; Manny Alfaro, Director of Gardening.

Surprised by the water outage? –The SC Water Dept. performed maintenance on their system on Friday, June 14, affecting Assns 1, 2, 5, 6, 6A, and 6BC. The *Villager* distribution schedule allowed some residents to get a one-day warning and some no warning at all. But our email subscribers got a *Hi Five Alert* in time to be prepared. That’s another reason why you might consider switching your *Hi Five* subscription from paper to email. Just send a note, including your address, to HiFive@socal.rr.com. Actually, it turned out to be a non-event for some of us. My water was never turned off.

Thanks – to Louise Schultz and Marge Soper for switching to email.

Next issue of *Hi Five* – July 1, 2019.

Wise or Otherwise

Beware of little expenses. A small leak will sink a great ship – Benjamin Franklin
You can't expect to hit the jackpot if you don't put a few nickels in the machine. – Flip Wilson