



Hi, Five



The newsletter of, by, and for the people of Friendly Valley, Association Five

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Monday, April 15, 2019

Meet your neighbor – Rosie Rogers was born in Pennsylvania, but she considers herself to be a Californian and a Valley Girl, having lived here since 1948. Prior to buying her current home on Circle Knoll, Rosie spent 55 years in Encino. When her husband died in 2015, she took two years to adjust to a new life. Then her long-time friend, Marvin Doyle, convinced her to come to FV. She ended up just three doors from Marvin and his wife, Billie Jean. For her vocation, Rosie spent 32 years as a stylist and manicurist in Westlake Village. As an avocation, her life-long interest has been gardening, but she also enjoys decorating her home. Since coming to FV, she has taken up golf. Marvin has modified her clubs to make them easier for her to handle. She enjoyed the recent production by the Little Theater and plans to join that group next year. Her one son, two grandkids and four great-grandchildren all live in Palmdale.



Community Council – The meeting on Apr 3 was a veritable olio of topics. The significant ones are treated in separate articles below. My thanks to Lydia Smith for passing on her written reports and to Shirley Gary who took notes on the entire meeting to fill in the gaps of my own hearing.

Snakes – This is the time of year when you will be seeing them as you take your walk and even in your own front or back yards. The only ones you have to worry about are the rattlesnakes. The rest of them are helpful in controlling the rat and mouse populations. Please don't kill our friends. Let Security know. They'll make the right decision. And keep your garage door closed. Last summer a rattler entered an open garage trying to escape the heat.

Electric vehicle charging – It hasn't been an issue up to now, but the day is coming when it will be. One consideration might be private vs. community chargers. An important question, especially in the absence of a garage is where

can a vehicle be parked during charging? A cable across a sidewalk is a tripping hazard. Because of differing facilities, a single solution may not work for all associations. On the other hand, Security would like to have uniform rules to enforce. If you have any ideas, put your thoughts in writing and submit to your own Board. They may have to start considering the matter sooner than we think.

Estate sales – Apparently FV's rules for estate sales are not adequate, or not clear. A committee has been formed to decide what items need to be discussed and what questions answered. The committee will report back to the CC in May. Hopefully this will lead to a set of rules defining what constitutes an estate sale and how one is to be conducted.

Noise rules in FV – How do our noise rules compare with that of the City of Santa Clarita? Are we uniform throughout all associations? This topic will be on the agenda for the CC in May.

Street parking – Some residents have become "possessive" of certain areas in front of their units. The "official" position is that no one "owns" any particular stretch of curb space. On the other hand, if someone has a legitimate special need, it would be a kindness to acknowledge that fact when possible.

Rat problem – Traps that use poisoned bait can have unintended consequences. If a crow or coyote eats the dead rat, that poison can claim a second victim. A CC delegate said they use the battery-operated traps because they are safe. On the other hand, yours truly found the battery trap ineffective and ended up dispatching four rats using the old-fashioned (but upgraded) spring-loaded mousetrap, baited with peanut butter. With any trap, be careful for your pets (and your neighbors' pets).

Repaving FV Parkway – Now that the weather would permit repaving, we face another setback. There is an undisclosed legal issue that has to be settled before the street can be resurfaced. The FV attorney is working on it.

Photoshoot – Our Auditorium Fund gets \$1,250 from the USO photoshoot last Wednesday.

Friendly Valley Directory – A new one is coming soon. What's new is an updated address and phone list and a new collection of advertisers who offer services that may be useful to you. When availability is announced in the *Villager*, you may pick up a set of replacement pages in the office. They will be three-hole punched for easy insertion into your Directory binder. You are encouraged to bring in your old pages at that time. The office will see to it that they are properly shredded, to help maintain our privacy. But bring in only the address listing and the advertisers. The other pages, such as FV Rules and association maps are not being replaced.

Advertising income – There are about 60 ads in the new Directory, and they brought in around \$17,000 to our treasury. That amount will more than cover the cost of printing.

The FV Tram – Our tram is currently out of service. There are a number of mechanical problems that make it either unsafe or unwise to use it. The Rec Board is considering options. Meanwhile, at the last Board meeting, a paper was made available describing and comparing other services that may meet your needs. *Hi Five* also published some of the same information in the March 4 issue. Because it is timely once again, we are presenting the two articles here once more.

Alternatives to driving – Santa Clarita Transit runs eleven scheduled bus routes throughout the SC Valley plus one route that will take you to North Hollywood. These busses run year-round except for Thanksgiving and Christmas days. All local routes are free to seniors (60 years and older). Trip planning and scheduling assistance are available by phone at 661-294-1287. Special help for seniors in dealing with bus transportation

issues is offered by the Transit Ambassador Program when you call 661-295-6300. Complete information about all services can be found at the website www.SantaClaritaTransit.com.

Dial-a-Ride – is another service offered by Santa Clarita Transit. This service is available to seniors (60 and over) and to certified handicapped individuals. You must register (and occasionally re-register). Once you've done so, call a day ahead to request your ride. The fee is \$2 per ride. You will be riding with other individuals, so the route and timing will not be optimized for your destination alone. To register (or to get more info) call 661-294-9327 between 6am and 6pm, Mon - Fri.

Access Services (AS) – AS is another transportation service, but it was not described in *Hi Five's* March 4 issue. Use of AS requires a certified disability, either physical or cognitive, and the rules are beyond our scope here. To determine your eligibility, call AS Customer Service number, 800-827-0829, or visit their website at <https://accessla.org>.

The new Game Room – What used to be the old Meeting Place is being converted into a Game Room. The walls and ceiling will be painted this week followed by a new carpet and some décor items. Then the current pool table will be moved in and leveled by a professional company. There will also be a bumper pool/card table and a dart board. Look for a photo of the finished product in the next *Hi Five*.

Bingo – Wednesdays at 1:30 is when the Bingo crowd congregates in the auditorium. Buy your game cards for a trivial amount and win cash prizes. To see how popular Bingo is see the photo below.

Next issue of *Hi Five* – May 6, 2019.

