



Hi, Five



The newsletter of Association Five for all our Friendly Valley neighbors

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Monday, February 3, 2020

Meet your neighbors – Following a previous marriage for both of them, Gail Tarrant and Jeff Lavoy have been together for 24 years. They moved into their present home on Oak Plain Dr. just three months ago, after 24 years in Sylmar, where they survived four fires. Gail was born in Van Nuys, grew up in Sunland, and is a Californian through and through. She worked for a while as a nurse and a preschool teacher before entering vocational school to learn administrative subjects. Jeff was born and raised in Aurora, IL, but came to California in 1991. He has always worked as a warehouseman, starting at Miles Laboratories in Illinois. On coming to California, he found a job with Detroit Industrial Tools in Van Nuys, where Gail was doing administrative work in the office. Gail was there for 37 years until retiring. Jeff is still working there full-time and plans to retire in ten years or so. Gail's interests and hobbies include home decorating, gardening, floral arrangements and baking. Here in FV she intends to look into the gym, ceramics room, yoga class, and lawn bowls. Jeff's interests include bowling and golf. Here in FV he plans to check out the golf course and possibly lawn bowls with Gail. Gail has one daughter from her 20-year marriage, now living in Calabasas. Jeff has a son and daughter from his prior 12-year marriage. They are both now living in Florida.



Meet more neighbors – Bill and Trudy Kelley have been married for 63 years. Bill spent his first 14 years in his birth city, Detroit, MI, and the next four in Missouri, where his parents bought a farm. Then in 1951 he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served a year in Korea. After Korea, he had the opportunity to become part of the USMC crew guarding the U.S. Embassy in Oslo, Norway. Trudy's real



given name is Turid. She was born on an island in a river in Norway, about 50 miles from Oslo. The two met on a blind date at a party in 1955 and were married on Trudy's birthday the next year. On leaving the Marine Corp, Bill took a job with a plumbing parts distributor to mobile homes. After 10 years, the oil price spike put many of his customers out of business. Bill managed to find other employment along the same lines, and became West Coast Sales Manager for an east coast plumbing supply company. His work took him all over. He has visited every one of the fifty states. He earned the status of Million Mile Traveler. Trudy got some of those benefits and has been to every state except Wisconsin and Mississippi. She also has been able to travel back to Norway multiple times. Much of their travel has been in their motor home, including crossing the Arctic Circle in Alaska. They also crossed that line in Norway in a Volkswagen. Bill and Trudy raised two sons, one a competitive swimmer in college. More traveling was involved to attend numerous swim meets. They have three granddaughters and one great granddaughter, now 5 months old. The couple lived in nearby Sierra Hills for 34 years and moved to Washington State on Bill's retirement in 2000. Then in December of 2013 they chose their current home on Oak Plain Drive. Here in FV Trudy is involved with Helping Hearts and Hands. The two take daily walks in the neighborhood.

Longest-married couple in FV – Bill and Trudy are among the longest-married couples in our community. *Hi Five* would like to hear of and report on any couple here with a longer marriage. If you have a candidate let us know by phone or email.

No voting in FV auditorium – The county pamphlet "Vote Center Locations" lists all the places where you may go to vote for the March 3rd election. But none is as convenient as the FV auditorium used to be. Maybe now is the time to switch to voting by mail. It's not too late to submit an application, if you hurry. You may do it online at www.LAVote.net. The same website has a printable application you can give to a friend who doesn't have a computer.

Card Room upgrades – New flooring is being laid in the Card Rooms. The job will be completed next Saturday. On Wednesday, the lighting in those rooms will be upgraded to LEDs. Here's Director Michael Fennick measuring and laying out the new vinyl floor pieces in the Women's Card Room. Work will be completed next Saturday.



Major project – You know, the one we voted on last June. It's sleeping, but not dead. The city and solar/electrical are in a back-and-forth game to make sure of compliance. Here are the solar panels that were delivered four weeks ago. They are behind the auditorium just waiting for the city's approval to be installed.



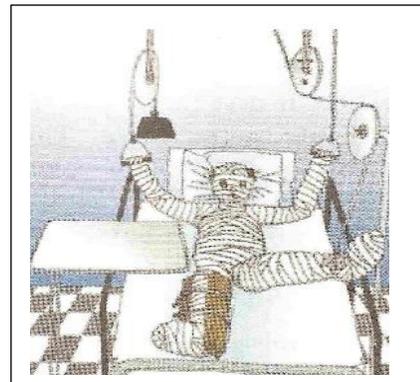
Fridays with the Professors – This is an informal group that meets during the school term on Friday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in the Friendly Valley Church. The professors all come from College of the Canyons. Often entertaining and always educational, the topic may be from the speaker's area of academic expertise, such as science, history, politics, or theater. It may be a hobby, such as a weapons collection or playing the bagpipes; or it could be an account of an excursion to Europe or climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. The Spring 2020 term will kick off on Feb 21 with the topic "The Oboe: History and Performance". The schedule is still being filled, but other topics that have been lined up are "Older Adult Education", "Education on the Inside (of prison)", "The Life and Death of Madame du Barry", "Field Trips: Experience California's Gold", and "How to Sleep Better".

Helping Hearts and Hands – This is a group of twelve to twenty-five women who meet in the Friendly Valley Church from 1:00 to 3:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. The women who crochet and knit make hats, scarves, afghans, and other items. The women who sew make wheelchair and walker totes, novelty pillows, blankets, and quilts on their sewing machines at home. Most of these items are donated to the Prayer Angels for the Military, Help the Children, nursing homes and the homeless. If you're not crafty, you can still join and help out by stuffing pillows, for example. Everyone gets to participate in the socializing over coffee and dessert. The group also participates in the FV Swap Meet/Craft Fair selling their homemade crafts, and good-as-new items. The proceeds are given in cash donations to the Prayer Angels to help with the cost of shipping these items to the veterans. Cash donations are also made to the Food Pantry, Hope Church on Sierra Highway and other organizations. Eleanor Guides and Marcia Cedrun co-chair the group

I can't report what I can't hear – Everyone is praising the new microphones in the auditorium. Everyone, that is, except me. Much of the spoken word in that large room comes through my ears and reaches my brain as a series of blurs. If someone with better ears could take notes, I could write better reports. Thanks to some Rec Board directors who do provide me with their own notes.

Thanks – to Malcolm Meltzer for switching to *Hi Five* by email.

You think seatbelts are uncomfortable?



Next issue of *Hi Five* – February 17, 2020.

Jordan's Law

Whatever it is that you want to do, there's always something else that has to be done first.

Hi Five is an unofficial publication by Frank Jordan. Contact him at HiFive@socal.rr.com or 661-251-5765. Use this e-mail for *Hi Five* business only. Please do not include this address in any forwarding or mass mailing list. *Hi Five* is available to anyone in Friendly Valley who has email.