



Rec Board meetings to resume – Same time: 10:00am on the second Monday of each month. But not the same place. You can attend the next meeting on May 11 in the safety of your own home via computer, tablet, or smart phone. See the recent *Villager* for details about joining the meeting. You can even use an old-fashioned ‘dumb’ phone, but you’ll pay a long-distance fee, because the 786 area code is for Miami, FL. You will not be allowed to speak at this meeting, so if you have a question for the Rec Board, you must submit it in advance. Use the online Request Form or call the office and leave a recorded message. *Hi Five* will send an Alert to our email subscribers when we see the agenda posted on May 7.

How about the Assn 5 Board? – Will it follow suit? So far, no word. We’ll keep you posted via email Alerts.

A pandemic birthday party – [Judy Robb alerted me to this story, which appeared in the *Signal* on April 28.] How do you throw a party when social distancing is the order of the day? Mary Colletta of Assn 5 figured it out. To surprise her husband, Bob, on his 88th birthday, Mary pretended to order hamburgers that would be ready at 6:00 on Saturday evening. When they arrived at the parking area in Golden Valley Plaza, there were a number of cars waiting for them all decorated with balloons that Mary had bought and distributed to family and neighbors. Bob was indeed surprised.

HVAC/Solar Project – [Michael Fennick supplied this information.] The seal-coating of the auditorium roof has begun. It is expected to take two weeks. After that, installing the 338 solar panels can begin. The new A/C components that go inside the office building will be installed beginning May 4. The Office will be closed for at least that week, maybe longer. If you have urgent business, leave a phone message. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Unemployed self-employed – [Shirley Gary alerted me to this topic, which may be good news for someone you know.] Do you know someone who is normally self-employed but currently

unemployed due to COVID-19? Help is on the way. There’s a new program known as Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). This program will be giving money to self-employed workers and independent contractors who would normally not be eligible for unemployment insurance.

You have to have quit your job as a direct result of COVID-19; or your place of employment is closed as a direct result of COVID-19; or you were scheduled to start a job that is now unavailable as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. To learn more, go online and search for “Pandemic Unemployment Assistance”.

Rain gutters – [Wally Jones provided this article.] Wally is the new maintenance director in Assn 5. He noticed during the recent rains that his own gutters overflowed due to not having the proper downward fall towards the downspout. If you noticed anything similar with the gutters on your home, let Wally know, either by the online Request Form or by emailing him directly at JonesWallace40@aol.com. He will have them all looked at collectively and corrected by the original installer.

Senior Center lunches – [Shirley Gary alerted me to this topic.] Another change since we reported in the last *Hi Five*. The lunches are still happening every Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday, but they are not being handed out the door of the FV Church. Call the Senior Center, 661-259-9444, a day ahead. You can actually sign up for either three days a week or five. The delivery person will ring your bell and place the lunch on your porch. If you don’t come in a reasonable time, the lunch will be taken away. If you have a mobility problem, mention that when you call. Also ask how you can send a voluntary donation. The suggested amount is \$3 per meal.

City services – All non-essential City services have been suspended and all City facilities are closed to the public until May 15, in compliance with Los Angeles County’s “Safer at Home” order. See www.SantaClaritaEmergency.com to learn what’s considered essential. Will the date be extended? We’ll soon see.

Fridays with the Professors – This group of lifelong learners has found a way to continue indulging in eclectic subjects, thanks to the volunteer professors from College of the Canyons. The group held its first-ever video-conference last Friday, when Professor Kari Meyers presented "College Education to End Mass Incarceration: A Sociological View". She highlighted her own work of teaching college classes to prison inmates, generating many questions and interactions with the conference attendees.

This Friday, May 8, Professor Mike Harutunian will speak on "Hyperreality in Art and Literature". Hyperreality, literally 'better than real', is seen in places like Disneyland that replicate an America that never existed. He will describe how the concept has shown itself in the works of authors and artists as diverse as Kurt Vonnegut and Andy Warhol.

In following weeks, the topics will be "The Life and Death of Madame du Barry", "Haitian Voodoo", "Field Trips: Experience California Gold", and "How to Sleep Better".

To "attend" any of these events, you must be on the groups email list so you can be sent the instructions for joining each event. Send your request to FGJordan@socal.rr.com.

An Ode to English Plural {Author unknown}

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You'll find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hices.

If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pair be a beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why wouldn't the plural of booth become beeth?

Then one may be that, and two would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, never cose.
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.

The masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!

Let's face it - English is a crazy language.
There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger;
Neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
English muffins weren't invented in England .
We take English for granted, but if we explore its paradoxes,
We find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square,
A guinea pig isn't from Guinea nor is it a pig.

Why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing,
Grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?
Isn't it crazy that you can make amends but not one amend.

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and
Get rid of all but one of them, what is it called?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?

If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.

Why is it that we recite at a play and play at a recital?

We ship by truck but send cargo by ship...
We have noses that run and feet that smell.
We park in a driveway and drive in a parkway.
And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same,
While a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language

In which your house can burn up as it burns down,

In which you fill in a form by filling it out, and
In which an alarm goes off by going on.

Thanks – to Dorothy Lightner for switching from paper to email. And a special thanks to Joyce Hall.

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What a good thing Adam had. When he said a good thing he knew nobody had said it before. – Mark Twain

Hi Five is an unofficial publication by Frank Jordan. Contact him at HiFive@socal.rr.com or 661-251-5765.
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