



# Hi, Five



The newsletter of Association Five for all our Friendly Valley neighbors

Volume X Number 20

Monday, October 21, 2019

**Meet your neighbors** – Bob Vennard was born in Glendale, Calif., but spent most of his early life in La Cañada. Sue Brown was born in Phoenix, Arizona. She moved to Southern California at age 2, and ended up in La Cañada in 1965. Both attended La Cañada High School, but Bob was a year ahead of Sue, so they did not know each other there. They were introduced by mutual friends shortly after Sue graduated. By the time they married, six years later, Sue had already made a name for herself in the art world, so she kept her maiden name. They have two daughters. Aimee lives in Valencia with her husband Josh and has given them a grandson Theo. Mary lives in Long Beach and attends CSLB. Bob worked for Caltrans for 40 years. He retired in 2012, having achieved the position of maintenance manager for Northern L.A. County, with a crew of 140. Since retiring he has served twice on the board for a local non-profit. Sue has taught art classes at Pasadena City College for 35 years and counting. Her classes include interior design, two-dimensional design, and sketching and perspective. They lived for 24 years in a two-story home in Canyon Country before moving to FV on Circle Knoll Court and are “happy to be living here.” They attended the recent Assn 5 picnic and several Memorial Day parades and craft fairs. Bob’s hobby is football cards. His collection includes many L.A. Rams greats. He rues the day when he sold a Tom Brady card for a mere \$2500, before winning four Superbowls. Sue’s hobby is babysitting two-year-old Theo, as well as her art. Their home is decorated with two of her mixed-media collages. Bob and Sue share their home with two old-timers: a spaniel mix named Copper and a Pomchi named Chloe.



Byron Harrison was elected to a one-year term. Ruth Gauthier - president, office, security  
Gabe Bibby - v pres, street lights, CC  
Lydia Smith - secretary, treasurer  
Michael Fennick - bldg maint, pool & spa  
Byron Harrison - golf courses, streets, sidewalks

**Bingo canceled** – Chuck Zahler, who ran the Bingo operation, passed away on October 7. Resumption of Bingo is being hampered by a new requirement for a very expensive bond.

**The Friendly Valley tram** – The Rec Board has decided to totally eliminate the tram service. The vehicle that we own has a number of problems that make it unsafe and unreliable and that would be too costly to repair. That will be a serious inconvenience to some residents, but there are alternatives. The following two articles are reprinted from the March 4, 2019, issue of *Hi Five*.

**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 buses 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](http://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

**Daylight Saving Time** – ...ends Nov.3 at 2am.

**Rec Board elections** –Two-year terms were voted for Michael Fennick and Ruth Gauthier.

**The office can use some help** – At this time every year, the FV office faces the added burden of creating and mailing election materials for all 14 associations. If you are in a position to help, let the office know about it. You could find yourself stuffing envelopes and thus helping to cut down on overtime.

**Escrows** – Seven escrows closed in September, each one including a buy-in fee of \$3000. That means \$21,000 was added to the Rec Assn's Reserve Fund. There have been 62 for the year so far. You do the math.

**Holiday Decorations** – Once again assn 9 is sponsoring a contest among associations and individuals. Make your plans and let Keith Pierce (661-803-3363) know you are in the running.

**New yoga class** – The Rec Board has approved a new class called "Gentle Yoga". Watch for it in the *Villager*. For more information, contact Trudy Williams, 818-687-1938, or Rosemarie Sanchez-Fraser, 661-251-1271.

**Are you oxygen-dependent?** – Do you use an oxygen tank or any other medical device that would put you in serious jeopardy if the power goes out? Then you should register with our Security Office. In case of a power outage, someone will come to see if there is any way to help. Be aware, though, that FV has no backup power supply. You should consider that for yourself.

**No smoking** – We now have a new rule. Smoking is banned in all recreational areas. That's both indoors and outdoors in areas under the jurisdiction of the Rec Association.

**Hi Five needs help** – I can't report what I can't hear. Can you take notes at the Rec Board meetings to augment my poor auditory faculties? I already have help for the CC meetings.

**Slips, trips, and falls** – Take care when you are out walking. Bumps and irregularities in the pavement are inevitable and can be treacherous.

It would appear that we have reached the limits of what it is possible to achieve with computer technology, although one should be careful with such statements, as they tend to sound pretty silly in five years. – John Von Neumann (1903-1957), computer pioneer

Water puddles can be slippery, and it won't be long before they are ice puddles. Be your own best advocate for safety.

**Email subscribers** – ...also get *Hi Five Alerts*, which are news items sent by email that can't wait for the next regular issue. The most recent example was the cancelation and rescheduling of the Five Board meeting.

**Assn 5 budget** – At the rescheduled meeting, there was a spirited debate among the directors over the budget for 2020. You'll be able to see the entire budget when it is published next month. For now, the important thing is that the increase in our dues was held down to \$13.00 per month.

**Assn 5 elections** – Another candidate, Elizabeth McGowan, got in just before the deadline. There are now three candidates running for three positions. [It is still important to turn in your ballot.](#) We must have a quorum for the election to be valid.

**CC&R changes** – Also on the Assn 5 ballot are two changes to the CC&Rs. There can be no debate about the one to add proper wording about Senior Citizen Housing. That one [must pass](#) for our association to be in compliance with California law. The other one deals with how our money can be invested. Kathy Simpson pointed out that the new wording removes all safeguards and leaves open the possibility that a future Board could choose to invest in riskier markets such as stocks or commodities. That surely was not the intention of the proposed change. It's too late to change the wording. If your ballot has already been submitted it's too late to change your vote. The Board agreed to [hold another vote-by-mail election](#) in the next few months with added safeguards in the wording. Stay tuned!

**Thanks** – to Kathy Buckley for keeping *Hi Five* in black ink, and to Bob Vennard and Sue Brown for switching to *Hi Five* by email.

**Next issue of Hi Five** – November 4, 2019.