



Hi, Five



The newsletter of Association Five for all our Friendly Valley neighbors

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Monday, May 11, 2020

Meet your neighbors – Art and Linda Horton moved to FV in 2014 to gain the benefits of a senior community with a golf course. They moved into their present home on Green Terrace just three months ago.



Art was born in Buenos Aires. His British father worked for the Bank of London stationed in that city. As a young man, Art was hired by Braniff Airways, looking for a bilingual staff, working initially in Dallas, then San Francisco and L.A. He became a flight purser with Braniff and flew on DC7s and DC8s, assigned to the South American routes. He went on to build a career as a marketing executive until Braniff's demise in 1982. He then held senior marketing positions in the airline and air cargo businesses until retiring in 2013.

Linda was born and raised in Rochester, NY. Her first real job was as a stewardess with Pan Am, flying on one of the first B747s and on Pan Am's routes around the globe. She spent a total of 25 years in various sectors of the travel industry. During that time, she met Art while both were working in Los Angeles. They were married in 1982. In 1997, as their daughter, Carolyn, was entering junior high school, Linda made a mid-life career change to work for the William S. Hart Union High School District, first as secretary in the Special Ed Dept, then as Administrative Assistant in Classified Personnel. She retired in 2011, but still works for them part time.

In younger days, both Art and Linda were tennis players. Now Art enjoys golf and has served on the FV Men's Golf Club Board, while Linda is an avid Mah Jongg player, playing with friends here in FV as well as Valencia. Together in retirement, they are content with road trips, train travel, and short getaways. "Hopping on and off airplanes is not our thing anymore."

Their daughter, son-in-law and grandson live in Valencia. Art, by a previous marriage, has a daughter with family in Anaheim Hills, and a son, an active duty U.S. Army Colonel, stationed with his family in North Carolina. Linda's mother, 93, lives in the San Fernando Valley.

Memorial Day – May 25 is a day to honor our fallen warriors. How about including the current COVID-19 warriors as well?

Trash collection – Because Memorial Day is a holiday for Waste Management, our trash will be picked up a day later, May 28 instead of May 27.

Rec Board meeting – On May 11, the Board held its first-ever meeting by videoconferencing. All five directors were present, each in his or her own home, along with about a dozen FV homeowners. This time there was no Open Forum. The Board had promised to answer any questions submitted ahead of time, but apparently there were none. Personally, I found the acoustics better than in the auditorium. Contents of the meeting are presented in several articles below.

No report on Bingo – That's because the govt. office required to approve our Bingo application is considered non-essential for now.

Election Rules – In early April, the Board mailed to all homeowners the new election rules intended to comply with SB323. There being no comments or objections, the Board voted to accept the new rules. The major effect is on the timeline leading up to election day and on handling of election materials.

Inspector of Elections – We need a volunteer to handle our future elections. Without a volunteer, it will be necessary to hire an outsider at considerable expense. To volunteer, use the standard Request Form.

Golf is back – with new rules. No guests for now. Parties of four maximum. Use face masks and observe social distancing. Other new rules are posted on bulletin boards.

The Villager skipped a week – Construction work in the FV Office made it impossible to publish the *Villager* last week. You can expect the next one on May 28.

Fighting Coronavirus scams – New scams related to the Coronavirus situation are popping up by the dozens. The FTC has a website, www.consumer.ftc.gov, with loads of information on how to recognize and defend against these illegal schemes. Select "SCAMS" from the menu at the top of the web page and bone up on what you can do.

Thirteen escrows closed in April - Each closing normally adds \$3000 to the Rec Assn's Reserve Fund, which is used for major maintenance. In this case, the amount was added to the Operating Fund instead. In answer to a query by *Hi Five*, Board President Ruth Gauthier responded, "You are correct the escrow funds normally go into the reserves but because Bookkeeping was making transfers quite often we decided to place those funds in our Operating Account to build up the balance." The Reserve Fund now stands at \$1,613,000, while the Operating Account is at \$831,000.

HVAC project – When the roof over the Annex/Office building was opened up, it revealed a rats-nest of old duct work. Instead of being left there and worked around, those ducts will have to be removed, lengthening the time that building will be in turmoil and the Office staff disrupted. But it probably wouldn't have passed inspection as it was. That building will also get a new roof soon. Four new HVAC units for the auditorium have arrived and installation has begun.

Solar project – The auditorium roof has been resealed, completed two days early. Installation of solar components has begun, starting with inverters on the rear wall of the kitchen. The photo below shows the first solar panels already installed on the roof over the lounge and library.



Fridays with the Professors – This group of lifelong learners has held three video-conferences already, with more to come. In following weeks, the topics will be "Haitian Voodoo", "Field Trips: Experience California Gold", and "How to Sleep Better".

To "attend" any of these events, you must be on the group's email list so you can be sent the

instructions for joining each event. Send your request to FGJordan@socal.rr.com.

Senior shopping hours – The following local stores have established special senior-only shopping hours, offering less risk for the more vulnerable.

Albertson's	Tu & Th	7am – 9am
Costco	Tu & Th	8am – 9am
Ralph's	Daily	6am – 7:30am
Smart & Final	Daily	7:30am – 8am
Stater Bros	Daily	7am – 8am
Target	Wed	8am – 9am
Trader Joe's	Mon	9am – 10am
Vallarta	Daily	7am – 8am
Vons	Tu & Th	7am -9am
Walmart	Tu	6am – 7am
Whole Foods	Daily	7am – 8am

Your gate card is personal - It is a "no-no", and subject to a fine, to let someone else use it.

COVID-19 in FV – There has been only one confirmed case of a FV resident testing positive for COVID-19. That was several weeks ago, and the isolation period has long passed with no further ramifications.

Solar-powered streetlights – Three new solar-powered streetlights are being installed. Each is independent of the Edison grid and collects enough solar energy during the day to power the LED bulb all night. Eventually all of our streetlights will be converted.

Swimming Pool – According to Director Michael Fennick, our pool needs some serious work if we are to avoid being shut down by the City Inspector. Michael is entertaining contractor proposals to see what has to be done and at what cost. Reopening may depend on repair work as well as ending COVID-19 restrictions.

LA City vs LA County – What Eric Garcetti says does not apply to FV. The best source for COVID-19 information is the Santa Clarita website www.SantaClaritaEmergency.com. We do, however, belong to California, so the Santa Clarita website currently shows the Five-Stage Reopening Process planned for California.

Next issue of *Hi Five* – June 1, 2020.

On Democracy

"A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where 51% of the people may take away the rights of the other 49%."

Thomas Jefferson

"Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch." *Benjamin Franklin*

"Democracy never lasts long. It wastes, exhausts, and murders itself." *John Adams*

"Real liberty is neither found in despotism or the extremes of democracy, but in moderate governments"

Alexander Hamilton

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