



# Hi, Five



The newsletter of Association Five for all our Friendly Valley neighbors

Volume XI Number 6

Monday, March 16, 2020

**Meet your neighbor** – Betty Rose was born in Burbank, grew up in Glendale, and has lived all her life in Southern California. She met her husband, Bill, on a blind date. They had 55 years together before he passed away in 2003. During that time, they traveled extensively in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico in their motorhome, played golf here in FV, and went on two trips with Princess Cruises. The couple moved to FV in 1976, when Assn 7 was just opening, so Betty has lived here for 43 years. Can anyone top that? Bill worked for Glendale Federal Savings while Betty spent 25 years at the Jet Propulsion Lab as administrative assistant to the Assistant Lab Director. Bill, Betty, and her boss all retired on the same day in 1986. After Bill passed away, another couple with whom they were long-time friends also suffered a loss. In time, Betty and the widower, Jim, became domestic partners. They traveled all over the world for 12 years until Jim passed away last year. Betty still golfs. She also served for a while on the Rec Board, as did Bill. She has two daughters. One lives in Washington State. The other, with her husband, is buying a home on Avenue of the Oaks. As a footnote, Betty Rose was one of the first FV residents I (Frank) met on moving here in 2004. We were both early morning walkers. After encountering and passing each other for several days, she stopped me and said, "I'm Betty Rose. What's your name?" She made me feel welcome.



**Rock-Then-Roll Cookie Social** – Last month 24 citations were issued for failure to stop at a STOP sign. That's \$600 for our Operating Fund. Let's work on making FV a safer place to live. We don't *really* want to build our treasury by fining motorists for nearly running someone down. Jeanne Sawyer, our office receptionist, was the latest near-victim. Come have a cookie while

you look out the window and see all the cars that don't stop. Sponsored by the Community Council, March 24, 10:00am in the auditorium.

**City Council declares emergency** – All city facilities will be closed to the public until at least March 28. Non-essential city services will be suspended or reduced during that period. Go to [www.santaclaritaemergency.com](http://www.santaclaritaemergency.com) for details.

**Phishing by telephone** – It happens every so often. If the Social Security Dept. or the IRS calls you with a threat or request for information, just hang up. Those agencies will not contact you by telephone. It's someone else trying to steal your identity.

**Leash-length limit** – (Say that real fast). The limit is six feet. Security is cracking down with citations. There will be *no* warning for first offense.

**Community Council "election"** – Since there were no candidates, there was no election. Stewart Lewis was re-appointed to a one-year term as vice chair.

**Inspector of Elections** – Kathy Simpson has retired from this important post. A new volunteer is needed to run our annual elections. If you want the job make yourself known to Keith Pierce, the CC chair.

**HVAC/Solar project** – Every *Hi Five* since Nov 4 has said we're waiting on the City to grant the permits so work can begin. That's still the case, but there's a new wrinkle. The declared emergency will affect the granting of permits by the Building and Safety Dept. Exactly what this means to us is yet to be determined. Some "jump-the-gun" tasks that were planned have been thwarted by the recent and continuing rain.

**When someone dies** - Dave Swartz researched this subject on the Internet and called the L.A. County Coroner's Office for additional info. Then he put together a document detailing what to do when someone dies. Dave put the document on the Friendly Valley Facebook page, so you can print it from there. If you aren't a Facebook user, send a request by email to *Hi Five*. If you don't have email, call us and ask for a paper copy.

**Water Conservation** – Lyza Polanco needed a project to achieve her Gold Award, which is the



highest honor a Girl Scout can receive. Her gardening parents had instilled in her the admirable concept of water conservation, so she thought of creating a rock garden with drought-tolerant plants. But then where could she situate it that would be meaningful? A few years ago, she gave a piano recital at the Friendly Valley Community Church. She remembered thinking, at the time, that FV was like a hidden treasure in Santa Clarita. What better place for her conservation project to be on display! She got permission from our Rec Board and help from her family and some local businesses. She also earned money from her own cookie sales and then planned the whole thing. The result is now in the area between our swimming pool and the dressing rooms, under a trio of white birches. Take some time to check it out. Lyza has been a Girl Scout for nine years and will receive recognition for her high achievement in June.



**Cleaning up** – In light of Coronavirus concerns, the Rec Board has ordered our janitorial service to ramp-up its cleaning operation. Special attention is to be given to the gym.

**Bingo** – Rules for conducting Bingo games here in FV have been created and have been reviewed by the Rec Board. Several prospective Bingo Managers are awaiting interviews and approval by the County authorities. The optimism expressed in the last *Hi Five* issue may have been premature. We now learn that Bingo winnings must be paid by check. That means a

checking account must exist, game income must be deposited, and checks must be written and distributed. Will the account be free? How many more hurdles will pop up before Bingo can come to pass?

**Robert Giamarrino resigned** – Robert and his wife will be leaving FV. The Five Board is looking to appoint a new Director who will take on the responsibility for maintenance.

**Attention, clubs & groups** – If you want your organization mentioned in *Hi Five*, just send us an email with all the facts. Better yet, write an article saying just what you want said. We reserve the right to edit for publication.

**Assn 5 picnic** – Hang on to the date of June 27. **Household Hazardous Waste Roundup** – It's April 4<sup>th</sup>. If you want someone to take your waste, call Frank (661-251-5765) by Thurs, 4/2.

**Street light conversion** – We're gradually changing all of our street lamps to solar. These lamps collect sunlight during the day and use it to power LEDs at night. The batteries are pretty good. After two days of cloud cover, the light I checked on was still shining at 6am. But what will it be like after ten days of clouds?

**Identifying dog poop by DNA** – A proposal to find out who is not cleaning up after their pets was floated at the Rec Board. It's feasible and has actually been done in at least one other community. It's expensive to set up and perhaps a nightmare to maintain, but ongoing costs can be covered by fines. No action was taken.

**Filming and The Movies** - Filming in Santa Clarita began shortly after the turn of the 20th century with a variety of Western actors filming and living in Santa Clarita, including William S. Hart, Tom Mix, Harry Carey, John Wayne, and Gene Autry. Hart's home in Newhall is now a year-round museum operated by Los Angeles County, while Autry's ranch remains one of the most filmed Western movie ranches in the industry.

**Thanks** – An anonymous donor is keeping the presses rolling.

**Next issue of *Hi Five*** – April 6, 2020.

#### Wise or Otherwise

“Don't knock the weather; nine-tenths of the people couldn't start a conversation if it didn't change once in a while.” – Kin Hubbard (1868-1930)

“Forecast for tonight: dark. Continued dark overnight, with widely scattered light by morning.” – George Carlin (1937-2008)

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