



Hi, Five



The newsletter of Association Five for all our Friendly Valley neighbors

Volume X Number 19

Monday, October 7, 2019

Meet your neighbor – Bill Spears was born in Monterey, CA, raised in Granada Hills, and spent most of his life in the Greater Los Angeles area, except for a time in the Navy Seabees. After earning a bachelor's degree in computer science at L.A. Valley College, he joined Sprint for 14 years. For the last 12 years, he has worked for Princess Cruises as a network engineer, providing communication links between ships, resorts, and corporate offices. He says he has been all over the world and has been on 150 cruises. Most were business trips, but about 10% were strictly pleasure, visiting Mexico, Brazil, Caribbean, Italy, and many other places. Alaska was his favorite. A real estate agent suggested Friendly Valley when an earlier deal fell through and he needed a fast move. He got a 15-day escrow when Jim Frank wanted to sell his home on Oak Plain in a hurry. Bill has been into racing since he was six years old, starting with minibikes. In 1969 he took up motorcycles and added automobiles ten years later. But he is ready to give up motorcycles in favor of his new interest, which is his remote-controlled quarter-scale car. He ran his first race on 9/20 and won two races on the next two days. Most weekends you'll find him in San Bernardino involved in this exciting competition, where collisions can still result in damage to the vehicle, but not to bones.. Bill's ex-wife, son, daughter, and four grandchildren all live nearby in Valencia.



Correction – Some added information came in after the last *Hi Five* went to press. Contrary to what we previously reported, the coming solar power system will not include carports in the auditorium parking lot. While there were some objections to the carport idea, the primary reason for not building them was to get the price of the project below the authorized amount. An equivalent number of solar panels will be placed on a portion of the roof over the office, so no solar power will be lost by the new design.

Assn 5 elections – The nominations are closed. The two candidates are Judy Robb, incumbent, and Robert (Bob) Giammarino, a newcomer. Since there are three open positions, there is no doubt that these two will be elected on November 12. Dave Swartz and Manny Alfaro will stay on for another year. The four of them will have the job of seeking and selecting a fifth person to fill out the Board. If you would like to serve, make your desires and qualifications known to any one of them.

“STOP” means stop! – Failing to stop at stop signs has become a big issue. In each of the last three CC meetings, there have been reports of near misses and pedestrians scurrying to get out of the way. Citations are being issued, and the fine is \$25 for a first offense. If a visitor commits the offense, the fine goes to the resident who invited him/her. FV Rules and Regulations state, “The traffic rules and regulations applicable on public roads or streets in the State of California shall apply on all of the streets and roads of FV.” So watch out, you speeders, non-stoppers, and hand-held cell phone users!

Small blue barrel redux – A concerned resident requested a reprint of the following article from the *Hi Five* of August 19. She also supplied the FV Request Form attached to this issue (for Assn 5) in hopes that it would inspire some residents to actually request the switch. Our thanks to her.

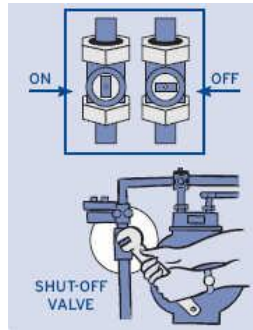
Blue barrels: small v. large – About half of all residents in Assn 5 use the small (35 gallon) blue barrel for trash. Collectively, they are saving the association about \$200 per month. You could add to that savings if you currently have one of the larger sizes (64 or 96 gallons) and are consistently putting it out for collection less than half full. Simply turn in a Request Form saying that you want to switch to the small blue barrel.

Clean or change your air filter – It should be done every six months, or at least yearly, to keep your furnace & air conditioner safe and efficient. If you don't know how, you should ask a neighbor, friend, or handyman to show you where it is and how to do the job.

In an emergency – Do you know how to turn off your water, gas, or electricity? It could save dollars, or even your life, to have such a skill. Consider water. A burst or leaking pipe in your walls or ceiling can result in water damage to furnishings or the growth of mold inside the walls. The first thing to know is where the valve is. In Assn 5, it's at the front of the structure near the dividing line between the two units.



The valve handle on the left is “open” or on; the one on the right is “closed” or off. It may be too difficult to turn without a wrench. You should practice once so you'll know whether you need a wrench nearby. Gas is another matter. If you smell gas, you can try turning off the single appliance that seems to be leaking. But if that cannot be done quickly, you'll have to go outside to the meter. The shut-off control will have to be turned from “on” to “off” as shown. You will definitely need a wrench. You do not have the option of practicing. If you ever have to turn off the gas this way, you must call the Gas Company to come and turn it back on and restart all of your gas appliances. Electricity is probably the easiest and maybe also the least likely to have an emergency. But do you know where your circuit box is? It's in the garage here in Assn 5, but has it been obscured by boxes, shelves, cabinets, or appliances? If so, you'd be wise to remedy that situation. Now open the box and flip off the switch for the problem circuit. What? You don't know which switch controls which circuit? Well, join the club! Just turn them all off. If you have a more modern circuit box, there may be an obvious single master switch that you can flip. Now it's time to drag out the candles (DANGER) or flashlights or LED



lanterns, or what-have-you. For any of the above problems, you're at the point of fixing the problem or calling your favorite handyman, licensed plumber, or electrician. Good luck!

Fridays with the Professors – Every Friday at 1pm during the school term, a group gathers in the FV church to meet with an instructor from College of the Canyons, who presents a topic of his/her choosing and leads a discussion. The fall term is underway and will continue through Dec 13. Everyone is welcome. Here are some of the topics that will be covered. **Oct 11:** “Estate Planning – A Part of Life”.. **Oct 18:** “Pompeii, a Visit to This Ancient City”. **Oct 25:** “The Music and History of the Highland Bagpipe”. **Nov 1:** “From Savage to Citizen: American Indians in the 19th Century”.

“The Big Project” - HVAC and roofing contracts have been signed. We're waiting for building permits from the city. Solar is still in the works.

51.3 – The CC voted to recommend adding 51.3 compliance wording to each association's Rules and Regulations instead of CC&Rs.

Thanks – to Joyce Jakeman, Kathy Buckley, and Clyde & BettySue Wilson for switching their *Hi Five* subscriptions to email. Thanks to Liz Talbot who is retiring after nine months of delivering *Hi Five*. Thanks to Gina Leonard who is becoming a new distributor for *Hi Five*.



Next issue of *Hi Five* – October 21, 2019.

Sense or Nonsense

Bigamy is the only crime in which two rites make a wrong.