



Hi, Five



The newsletter of Association Five for all our Friendly Valley neighbors

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Monday, September 16, 2019

Meet your neighbor – Kathy Buckley was born and raised in Seattle, WA. She spent most of her life in the Pacific Northwest, where she raised two sons. Her employment history includes a variety of jobs in the travel industry, marketing and customer service for a high-tech firm, and multifamily property management, finally retiring from the financial services industry as a fully licensed Securities Associate. She earned her college degree, a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Portland, 27 years after most of her peers graduated. One of her sons remains in Portland with his wife and their 15-year-old son. The other moved to Agua Dulce, prompting Kathy to also move there in 2011, but the next year she bought a condo on the 5th green in FV Assn 4. When the Agua Dulce son and his wife gave her two more grandsons, just 16 months apart, she decided she wanted a larger place, so she bought her current unit on Long Oak Dr. Kathy enjoys gardening and reading and is a frequent visitor to the FV library. Other FV activities she participates in are City of Hope, water aerobics, the newly formed beginning t'ai chi class, and attending the Community Council, Rec Board and Assn 5 meetings. But most important to her is volunteering for the SCV Education Foundation, especially the *Read with Me* program. For six years she has helped children in grades 1 through 4 with reading. This year she is working with kindergarteners, which she says are “precious”. She would be glad to talk to anyone who might be interested about how to get involved in this activity.



Assn 5 Budget Meeting – Ten homeowners showed up to witness the development of a budget for 2020. The process began with a list of all income and expense categories along with the actual income or outgo through the first seven months of this year. Those amounts were projected to the end of this year by dividing by seven and multiplying by 12. Then each category was examined to see if there were any

known anticipated events that would affect that projection, either up or down. The result was a preliminary budget. But there are still some unknowns that could affect the final product. We won't know our share of administrative and security expenses until the Rec Board comes up with their budget. Then too there is some guesswork involved. How many fires will there be in FV next year? Our association pays 27% of the deductible amount on each occurrence, no matter where the fire occurs. So, in the end, we do not yet have a final budget, but the process has begun. Those ten owners who attended the meeting got to observe the process and see the Board in action. Maybe you would like to make a contribution next year. Well, there's an election coming up, so you could get a chance.

Community Council – The meeting on Sept 4 was a busy one, with a number of changes decided on. But take this report with a grain of salt. The delegates had written documents to refer to that the observers did not have access to. And some of the rule changes have to be agreed to by the Rec Assn before they go into effect. Here is my take on the events. An amendment was made to the Bylaws that formalizes and declares that there will be an Open Forum at each CC meeting during which attendees can speak on any topic that is pertinent to all of FV. Pool and spa hours will be extended to 11pm. Pool hours for children will be 11am to 3pm on Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, and from 11am to 7pm on Wed, Sat, Sun, and holidays. Showering before using the pool is still required, but it may be done at home, and thorough cleansing with soap, including your private parts, is encouraged. Use of sunblock or sunscreen is allowed, but not oily lotions. Diapers are allowed on both youth and elderly, but only the snug kind that do not allow leakage. Personal floatation devices are allowed, but not items like inflatable rafts. An owner's gate card may be used by another driver in the owner's car so long as the owner is in the car too. All Rec areas will be designated “No Smoking”.

Bingo cards donated – Ellie Lacy donated new Bingo cards, so the \$400 authorized by the Rec Board will not have to be spent. Thanks, Ellie.

Traffic/pedestrian safety – At the CC meeting, the Chair announced that his wife was nearly hit by a car whose driver did not obey a stop sign. That should be a reminder for the rest of us drivers to obey stop signs and speed limits. For pedestrians, be extra careful at corners. Try this parody of the Carpenter’s Proverb: “Look twice; step off the curb once,” and don’t assume that a car will stop for you. It isn’t much comfort to know that the law was on your side as you’re being carried away in the ambulance.

Lawn Bowls Open House – The Lawn Bowls



Club proudly showed off its newly renovated clubhouse with a potluck event a week ago. The club was formed in 1966. The origin of all the facilities is unclear, but they now belong to the Rec Assn. The renovation included replacing the leaking roof, repairing resultant damage, repainting and re-flooring. The room was set up with six tables that exactly accommodated the two dozen attendees. Most were members, but at least two were newcomers who expressed an interest in joining. Fivers who were present included Don & Rosemarie Regis and George & Irma Patton. The room comes with a kitchen sink and a refrigerator and is available for scheduling by any FV group, subject to the needs of the club.

Rec Board election – It will happen on Oct.14. We met the candidates on Sept 9. Gabe Bibby and Lydia Smith will continue on the Board for another year. Incumbents Michael Fennick and Ruth Gauthier are seeking another term. Gary Simpson is retiring, but says he will remain available as a volunteer. Two newcomers seeking positions on the Board are Byron Harrison and Manoutchehr Vossough.

Assn 5 elections – Get your nomination form in, either for yourself or a willing neighbor. “Meet the Candidates” happens on Oct 8, and the election on Nov 12. There will be three positions to fill.

Diane Boylan and Vern Rosenquist are retiring. Judy Robb’s term expires, though she may run again. Many Alfaro and Dave Swartz will serve for another year.

Mock elections – L.A. County is introducing a new, high-tech voting system. It will be ready for the presidential primaries next March. There will be 1000 Vote Centers throughout the county open for 11 straight days for in-person voting. Alas, the FV auditorium will not be one of them. The voting machines will be touch-screen but will produce a paper ballot. You will be able to see the system in action and actually try your hand at voting next Saturday or Sunday, when the county holds a mock election. The nearest Vote Center will be in the cafeteria at College of the Canyons, 26455 Rockwell Canyon Rd. It’s in the Student Center, which is the building just west of the Performing Arts Center. It’s open from 10am to 4pm each of those two days.

It’s finally happening – By the time you read this, the contracts will have been signed. The recreation buildings will be getting improved roofs and new HVACs. The auditorium roof will get solar panels, and the parking lot will get carports to provide both shade and space for generating more solar energy. The HVACs will be more effective and more efficient than what we have now, and our electric bill is expected to go down by over \$2000 per month on average. Of course, there is a cost for all of this. But it now appears to be about \$424,000 less than what was expected back on June 10. How this reduction, which is \$14,000 under the imposed spending limit, came about is explained in detail in a 2-page paper prepared by the Rec Board. You can find this paper and read it online at www.FriendlyValleyCountryClubWebsite.com > CONTACT > Associations > Rec Association > highlights_of_september_rec_board_meeting. Or you can get a hard copy in the FV office underneath the *Villager* cubbyholes to the right of the front desk.

Thanks – to Michael & Rosemarie Boyle, Diane Matalas, and Bob Edwards for switching to *Hi Five* by email, saving paper and toner. How about joining them to help me even more.

Next issue of *Hi Five* – October 7, 2019.

“Any good thing I can do, or any kindness I can show any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it. For I shall not pass this way again.” – Etienne de Grellet (1773-1855)