

Fun with words – Oh, the perils of trying to use the English language properly. In the last issue of *Hi Five*, I wrote of a dog walker who *flaunted* the rules about picking up the dog’s droppings. An erudite reader gently took me to task, saying I should have said *flouted* instead. Being more than a bit embarrassed, I went to my usual authority, DICTIONARY.COM to see what I should have known. There I learned that *flaunt* means to show off or display ostentatiously, while *flout* means to ignore or treat with disdain. But wait! A second meaning of *flaunt* is to ignore or treat with disdain. I felt somewhat vindicated. But wait again! It goes on to say that many scholars flout the use of *flaunt* to mean *flout*. So I guess the best I can do is flaunt my own proper use of substandard English.

Ageless Strength and Fitness – Because the first session was very popular and very crowded, there will be a repeat session of the class taught by Diane Ghilardi, Certified Personal Trainer, Corrective Exercise Specialist, and Functional Aging Specialist. You got the notice in the last *Villager*. The class will be in the Fireside Room at 6:30 on Wed., April 3, but the deadline for your reservation is today. Come see what you can do to improve your functionality and quality of life

Mary Stepheny’s visit – Twenty FV residents gathered in the Annex last Sunday to welcome the visiting Mary Stepheny, a former resident of Assn 4. They were enjoying a good meal and a lot of conversation when these pictures were taken. Mary is in the top-left photo below.

The Little Theater production – Time is near. FV’s own production company will be putting on “A Good Time Musical Extravaganza”, April 6-7 (2 PM), April 12 (7 PM) and April 13-14 (2 PM.) No reservations necessary. \$5 at the door. It’s all music, all for fun, with new and talented singers, three group dance numbers including hula, and lip-syncing to a wide range of fabulous eras in music. Thirty numbers, 33 performers, in a rapid-pace variety show style. Here are some names from behind the scenes. Dayna Marks is the producer; the director and choreographer are Doris Sipotz, assisted by Erica de Poor (formerly Assn 5); stage manager is Sherri Loughran; costume designer is Renate Rulof (Assn 5); sound engineer is Jeff Morrow, who also pre-recorded piano music for use in the show. Hats off to Ginny Boisvert, the prop manager, who is the oldest member (90+) of the cast/crew. A *Hi Five* reporter dropped in on a rehearsal and took the pictures shown here.



Meet your neighbor – Alan Ecker moved into his home on Long Oak in April of 2018. He was born in Burbank and spent all of his life in Southern California – the Los Angeles area in particular, except for his college years. He majored in biology at Revelle College, part of U. C. San Diego in La



Jolla. After receiving his degree, he spent the next part of his life teaching. At Woodrow Wilson Junior High, he taught general science, “rocket science”, and oceanography. For rocket science, his students built model rockets and actually launched them from the grounds around the Rose Bowl. He says he would love to get some youngsters involved in rocketry again, but hasn’t found any place around here where it would be legal to launch them. His oceanography classes visited the L.A. County boats in Long Beach for practical demonstrations from professionals. He also took his class to San Diego for several years and showed them behind the scenes at Sea World. Moving on to Crescenta Valley High School, he taught biology and chemistry for 16 more years. Alan lists his hobby as computers. In fact, you can call him (661-347-9470) if you have a problem. He would like to help. In the past he did SCUBA diving when he visited his condo in Hawaii. For a future hobby, he wants to get involved in the FV Ceramics Club.

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courses in 35 departments from MIT. No registration is required. You can’t get a degree this way, but you can get a lot of knowledge.

Fridays with the Professors – The next two sessions, in the FV Church at 1:00pm, are “Brain Gym for Seniors” on April 5 and “Civic and Community Engagement: A Changing Paradigm for Community Colleges” on April 12.

A little bit of history – At the Assn 5 board meeting, John Palladino gave us a lesson on the history of our association. We could not do justice to it all here, but a few points stood out. Assn 5 was started in 1970, and John and his late wife were among the first to move in. They paid \$30,000 for their house and the FV dues were \$50 per month. When roofs were replaced in 1992, there was an assessment of \$3 - \$4 thousand dollars per unit. 1997 was when the brown cedar fences were put up. An insurance settlement in 2002 awarded Assn 5 \$5.5 million. Some of that money paid for replacing driveways and cul-de-sacs in 2004 and windows in 2006. *Reprinted from March 2, 2009*



Directors are people too – Remember that directors are entitled to a personal life. They should be called only for emergencies that are the association’s responsibility. For non-emergencies, use the Friendly Valley Request Form, obtained from the office. You can also make use of the Request Form that is online at www.FriendlyValleyCountryClubWebsite.com

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More fun with words

Sesquipedalianism – Literally, the use of words that are a foot-and-a-half long. Coined by Horace (65BC-8BC) as he admonished poets to avoid them.

Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis – A disease found among coal miners. Ostensibly invented in 1935 for the purpose of being the longest word.

Antidisestablishmentarianism – A “real” word meaning being against the dismantling of the Anglican Church as the state church.

Floccinaucinihilipilification – The Latin roots of this word mean something of little value. In other words, it describes itself.

Incomprehensibilities – Things that are impossible to understand. The longest word in “common usage”.

Uncopyrightables – The longest word yet uncovered that has no letter used twice.

Squirrelled – The longest word pronounced in one syllable. I used to think it was *scratched*.

Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane – The longest word that has been banned by the government. (O.K., it’s **DDT**)

Abstentious – Not indulging in excesses. It contains all five vowels in order once only.

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious – Made up to express approval or delight. It’s actually in major dictionaries today.

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