



# Hi, Five



The newsletter of, by, and for the people of Friendly Valley, Association Five

Volume X Number 5

Monday, March 4, 2019

**Error of the Month** – Both issues of *Hi Five* in the second month of this year contained the same error. Let me know if you caught it. Hint: it's a “monthly” error.

**Daylight Saving Time** – It begins next Sunday. Set your old-fashioned clocks ahead one hour.

**Meet the Director** – Doris Sipotz is the director of the FV Little Theater. She and the cast & crew are hard at work on the next production, entitled “A Good Time Musical Extravaganza”, to be presented on the 1<sup>st</sup> two weekends of April. Born and



raised in Los Angeles, Doris never strayed far from her origins. She met her husband in 1954. They raised two sons, the elder sadly succumbing to cancer at age 37. Doris' interest in dance began at age 3. As an adult, specializing in tap, she taught dance for 20 years at professional studios in Simi Valley and Santa Clarita, including Art Linkletter's children's dance studio, Northridge after-school program, and the Alex Plaschert studio. On retiring, Doris took on a second career as a real estate agent, becoming the top producer in her firm and winning trips to Jamaica, Monte Carlo, Hong Kong and Cancun. She became owner of Mountain Oak Realty in Green Valley. Doris' past hobbies have included water skiing, line dancing, boating, and dirt biking. Her husband's illness led them to relocate in FV in 2007 to be near their remaining son, her sister and husband, and a grandson who is also in musical theater. She lost her husband five years ago. Doris has directed and choreographed all but two of the last twelve Little Theater productions.

**Women's Golf Club** – Are you looking to get in a little exercise? Want to meet some really nice people? Want to have fun? Then you need to check out the best club in the whole of FV – The Women's Golf Club. We have it all.

**Getting exercise**

**Outdoors,**

**Laughing at our game while having**

**Fun !**

To become a golfing member, you must know the general rules and etiquette of the game. Play 10 games with a member (we even allow you to golf with a Men's Club member) to establish a handicap. You will then be eligible to play in our weekly Thursday tournaments and the monthly men's and women's tournaments. Don't play golf? You can still be a part of our club. Social members, as they are called, can participate in the camaraderie, games, and yummy goodies at our meetings. You may also volunteer to become involved in serving in other ways. We have many activities that include all social and golfing members: hotdog days, picnics, end-of-year dinner/dance, and fundraisers to support our club. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month, except July and December. At these meetings, at 12:30 in the Annex, we enjoy dessert, fellowship, and games, and we hear about the coming events. Join us – \$20 a year for golfing members; \$10 a year for social members. Call Sharlene Wicks, 661-252-0959 to learn how to get started.

*Dee Pope, President, FV Women's Golf Club*  
**Friendly Valley then** – *Reprinted from 1/5/09.* It was not known as Friendly Valley Country Club in 1945. It was a cow pasture. The view down Friendly Valley Parkway was a barbed-wire gate into a cattle corral, behind which were large oak trees and a muddy cow-tracked dribble of water known as Homby Creek. The creek was fed by three springs seeping from Fairway Circle, the FV Methodist Church, and the golf course (fairways 4 & 5). The only residents at that time were an enormous Brahma bull and several cows that summered here until the water dried and the rodeos began. The bull was anti-social and was known to chase motorcycles and pedestrians! Friendly Valley was an inviting green valley studded with big oak trees that provided shade for picnics, hikers, trap shooters, and movie making. Bill Hart, Tom Mix, and Gene Autry worked here. Bob Hope reportedly owned land here and allowed a wildcat oil well to be drilled near Long Oak Dr. and Ave. of the Oaks. FV has always

been an interesting place. I see Yesterday every day. I like it. I live here.

*Written for Hi Five by the late Marty Forinash*

**Pickleball** – Last Tuesday evening, as they do every Tuesday, a bunch of residents gathered in the auditorium to work off some energy playing pickleball. A moveable wall divided the room into two parts. In each part, the floor was marked off by strips of tape about the size and shape of a badminton court, with a net about two feet high across the court. The game can be played either by two or four players. This evening, both games were played with two on a side. Eight could play at one time, while the others watched, cheered, or just chatted with each other as they waited their turns. Each player used a wooden paddle, somewhat larger than a ping-pong paddle. The plastic ball that they hit back and forth across the net looked like a whiffle ball, about the size of a tennis ball with holes. From casual observation, the rules seemed to be similar to those of tennis. I observed two games where it appeared that a more proficient player was paired with one less so. Most of the rallies involved the ball going over the net and being returned only a half-dozen times, but one exciting rally lasted for 14 hits. In all, it seemed that everyone involved was having an enjoyable evening while getting a modest amount of moderate exercise. The game was invented in 1965 by three dads whose kids were bored with their usual summer activities. They cobbled together makeshift equipment and rules from other games. One of the wives said it reminded her of a pickle boat crew, where oarsmen were chosen from the leftovers of other boats. Thus, the name was born. At least that's one version.

**“Age Well – Drive Smart”** – That's the title of a class presented by a representative of the California Highway Patrol last Tuesday at the FV Church. Despite the short notice, over eighty residents signed up and attended the two-hour session, perhaps in hopes of learning how to forestall the loss of driving privileges. The fact is that the DMV will not take away your license because of your age. It is up to you and your friends and kin to decide when it is time to give up. But before giving up entirely, there is much you can do to delay that dreaded event. Recognize that there are problems that come, not only with getting older, but with the

increased number of medicines that we have to take. Not everyone gets these problems to the same degree, but to some extent most of us will experience some of them. Vision may fade, hearing may diminish, reaction and response time increase. It is important to assess your own skills as time goes by. Are you having more “close calls” than you used to have? Were you surprised by the car that just passed you, or did you know that it was coming? And if you can't trust yourself, get a good friend to offer to critique. What can you do if you find yourself facing these problems? Before giving up completely, you might try giving up in pieces. For instance, reduce or eliminate driving at night, or on the freeways, or during rush-hour, or in bad weather.

**Alternatives to driving** – Santa Clarita Transit runs eleven scheduled bus routes throughout the SC Valley plus one route that will take you to North Hollywood. These busses run year-round except for Thanksgiving and Christmas days. All local routes are free to seniors (60 years and older). Trip planning and scheduling assistance are available by phone at 661-294-1287. Special help for seniors in dealing with bus transportation issues is offered by the Transit Ambassador Program when you call 661-295-6300. Complete information about all services can be found at the website [www.SantaClaritaTransit.com](http://www.SantaClaritaTransit.com).

**Dial-a-Ride** – is another service offered by Santa Clarita Transit. This service is available to seniors (60 and over) and to certified handicapped individuals. You must register (and occasionally re-register). Once you've done so, call a day ahead to request your ride. The fee is \$2 per ride. You will be riding with other individuals, so the route and timing will not be optimized for your destination alone. To register (or to get more info) call 661-294-9327 between 6am and 6pm, Mon - Fri.

**Passing notes** – Jesse Henderson of Fairway Circle passed away last Tuesday morning. He is survived by his wife Sandra and son Don. *Hi Five* also learned, belatedly, that Dorothy Snyder of Avenue of the Oaks passed away about a month ago.

**Thanks** – to Peg Willey for keeping *Hi Five* in the black.

**Next issue of *Hi Five*** – March 18, 2019.

**Wise or Otherwise**

People will accept your ideas much more readily if you tell them Benjamin Franklin said it first. – David H. Comins

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