



HIDDEN MEADOWS NEWS

The Hometown Monthly Newspaper of Hidden Meadows and Rimrock, California



Members of the Hidden Meadows Foundation Board presenting Certificate of Appreciation to Pat Reilly for his efforts on the Median Beautification project. Front left: Jane Glassett, Wendy Smith-Rogers, Pat Reilly, Lisa Lonsdale, Kim Riha and Rob Enfield. (Not shown: Sarah Sealey.)

HM Community Foundation fundraising efforts a success so far

By WENDY SMITH-ROGERS / HM Community Foundation

Thanks to a very generous initial donation of \$5,000, the Foundation's 2018 Fundraising campaign is off to a terrific start. As of March 30, the community has contributed almost \$22,000 for the median beautification project as well as community events, scholarships, and Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

As soon as the goal of \$25,000 is achieved, the second half of the median project will be completed. That will include a few more plants, some mulch for complete coverage, and more rock to make the medians aesthetically pleasing. Assuming more than \$25,000 is raised, the Foundation Board will enhance the budget for the above-mentioned events as well as initiate smaller beautification projects such as the corner of Hidden Meadows Road and Mountain Meadow Road, the trimming of the five pine trees along Mountain Meadow Road between the condos and the golf course parking lot, and the northeast corner of Mountain Meadow Road and Meadow Glen Way East.

For clarification purposes, the Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization so donations are tax-

deductible. The ARO no longer exists so the ARO \$25 annual membership fee will never be collected again. For residents who live in one of the HOA communities, your annual dues do not include donations to the Foundation for the above-mentioned events and projects. The Foundation is a separate community organization. Please refer to the chart on page 13 for more information.

The county of San Diego owns the median property but does not provide funds for its maintenance. Many of you have made it clear that the entrance to Hidden Meadows was an eyesore and long overdue for improvement. Even though we don't own the land, we, as a community, can choose what happens to it.

Many thanks go to all the community members who have made a contribution to our efforts already. If you haven't done so, the donation envelopes are included in this edition of the *Hidden Meadows News*. We look forward to reaching our goal of \$25,000 with your support. Help us make our own little Camelot a place of beauty. We can't do it without you!



Classic American cars like this will be on display starting this Friday

Cruisin' Grand's founder talks about what's in store this year

By DAVID ROSS / Staff Writer

This will be the 19th year for Escondido Cruisin' Grand and founder and champion cat herder Steve Waldron couldn't be more excited about the event considered the largest celebration of American muscle car "cruisin'" culture in the United States. "It's the nineteenth year of Hot Rod bliss!" he exclaims with a sly understated grin.

Cruisin' Grand will return April 6, 5 p.m.–9 p.m. (although the streets are closed off by 4 p.m.) with the side streets blocked between Ivy and Orange, although the seven blocks of fun happen between Juniper and Maple.

The first night will be the "Gasser and Willys Night." Gassers are a type of car that became popular for drag racing back in the 1950's when hot-rodders learned how to mix fuels with high octane—including the potentially explosive nitro mixes.

The "gassers" had a lifted nose that transferred the weight to the rear of the car for increased traction. This hot rod originated and ruled on the dragstrips of the U.S. from the late 1950s until the early 1970s. Before Pro Stock, A/Gas cars were the fastest stock cars.

Another type of car from this era was the "Funny" cars—Comets with converted wheel bases. Funny cars are typified by tilt-up auto bodies.

The Willys, of course, are the Willys Americar made famous before and after World War II. The Willys company designed the Jeep that U.S. G.I.'s drove around every theater of war.

"Willys were the cheap business men's car in the 1940s. When soldiers returned from World War II they were able to afford them and build them up to be drag racers," says Waldron. "Willys designed the Jeep but couldn't mass produce it, so Ford produced it. Chrysler did the half-tracks. Willys couldn't survive as a company after World War II."

But they survive today in the minds and hearts of their fans who will come out to see them once more as the center of attention on opening night of Cruisin' Grand.

"We will be opening with eight hundred cars from the Del Mar Good Guys, who will be heading our way from Del Mar on Friday afternoon along Via De La Valle. "Early iron!" exclaims Waldron. "It's awesome!"

There will be three bands on opening night, at Maple, Kalmia and the Gazebo at Juniper and a DJ at Broadway. A hula-hoop contest will happen adjacent to the DJ around 6:30 p.m.

"Hop up night" will be April 27, when you will see the younger generation of car enthusiasts with an historical-looking hot rods built out of junk yard parts.

"It's a fascinating history of cars and how they have changed over the years," muses Waldron. That evolution of the Ford will be highlighted at the June 22 themed Friday. Visitors will see the evolution of the car from Model T's with kerosene headlamps to the Model A to the last Flathead Ford in 1953—with the cars making their appearance courtesy of three car clubs.

Another fun theme night will be the Packard & **CRUISIN** See Page 3



"You'd think it would get easier after nineteen years, but it doesn't seem to," says Steve Waldron relaxing in his Hi-End T's print shop a couple of weeks out from the frantic energy of the return of Cruisin' Grand—whose first night is April 6.

APRIL HIDDEN MEADOWS EVENTS

Sellers Faire
Saturday, April 14, 9am-12pm
Parking lot below Oaks Bar & Grill

Annual Art Show & Sale
Saturday, April 21, 10am-6pm
Sunday, April 22, 10am-3pm
Hidden Meadows Pavilion
28208 Meadow Glen Way West

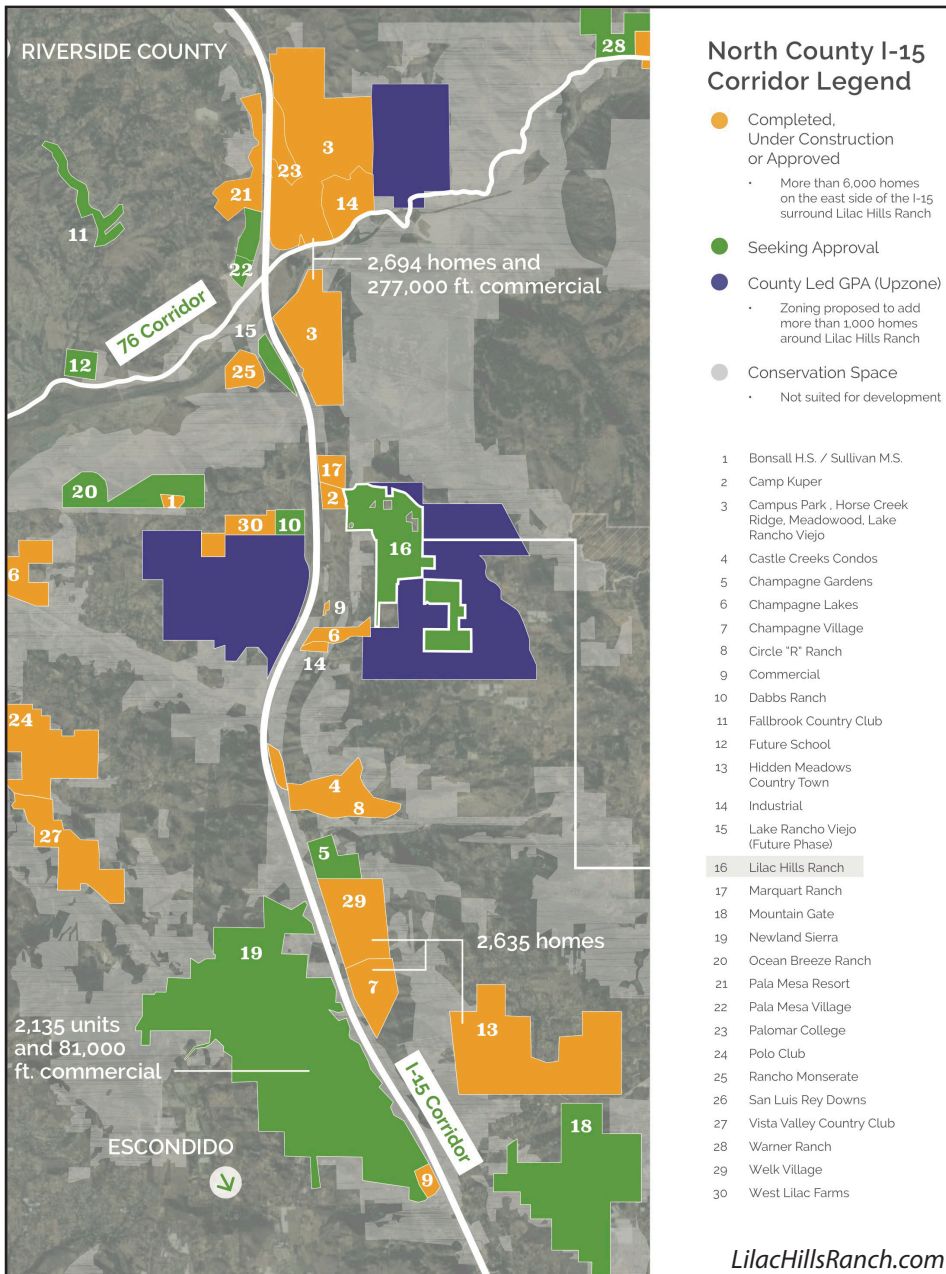
Art Show Reception
Saturday April 21, 4-6pm
Hidden Meadows Pavilion
28208 Meadow Glen Way West

HMCF Scholarship Applications Due
April 30
See article this issue for more info

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Map of housing developments along the I-15 that are either completed, under construction, approved or seeking approval.

~OP-ED

Proposed developments will dramatically increase traffic congestion along I-15

By WAYNE DAUBER / HM Community Sponsor Group

Hidden Meadows and other semi-rural communities in North County are expected to experience dramatic increases in traffic congestion if proposed new housing projects like Newland Sierra and Lilac Hills Ranch are approved by the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors.

As seen in the enclosed map, there are several housing developments along the I-15 that are either under construction, approved or seeking approval. Although the County's General Plan (approved in 2007) sought to reduce suburban sprawl in the rural and semi-rural areas of North County, developers of these projects are finding ways to subvert zoning restrictions by asking County Supervisors to approve "amendments" to the plan.

In the case of Newland Sierra, which would be located in the hills directly across the I-15 from Hidden Meadows and Champagne and Welk Villages, the developer is proposing to build 2,134 housing units on land that is currently zoned for 100 homes. The proposal for Lilac Hills Ranch calls for 1,746 houses and condos on 608 acres of farmland.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for Newland Sierra (released in June of 2017) reported that the project is expected to increase freeway traffic by 28,862 trips/day. The DEIR predicted that by project build out, the resultant traffic congestion would garner a Level of Service (LOS) rating of "F" for the 25 miles of freeway between

Escondido and Riverside County. The report also referred to the traffic issue as being an "un-mitigable" impact of the project.

The Newland Sierra traffic figures are just the tip of the iceberg. No one seems to know how many total cars will pouring out on the road if all of the proposed North County projects are built. Latham and Watkins, a law firm representing the Golden Door resort on Deer Springs Road, sent a letter to the County's Planning & Development Services department this February, expressing concern that:

"the County is moving forward with a large number of General Plan Amendments in the I-15 corridor without providing the public a clear understanding of the cumulative impacts on traffic, greenhouse gases ("GHS"), and vehicle miles traveled ("VMT") for all of these proposals."

The Latham and Watkins letter also stressed that understanding the full scope of the impact of these various developments is extremely important given that SANDAG does not plan for any transportation infrastructure improvements to the I-15 corridor north of Escondido until at least 2050, and that even then, funding for such improvements may be in jeopardy.

In addition to clogging an already congested freeway, the traffic generated by the proposed housing developments

TRAFFIC See Page 3



Welcome Committee members: From left, Susan Wolking, Kim Riha, Jane Glassett, Toni Wozmak, Wendy Smith-Rogers and Kathy Moore.

New to Hidden Meadows? Welcome!

By KIM RIHA / HM Community Foundation

If you are new to our wonderful community, you may have already had a visit from the Welcome Committee. If you have not, we hope to see you soon!

The Welcome Committee meets once a month on a Saturday morning and treks around Hidden Meadows greeting new homeowners. It is a quick visit to introduce ourselves and give you a "welcome bag," which provides information and resources to help you as you settle into this beautiful neighborhood. It often includes a few goodies and possibly some fruit from the area!

Members of the Welcome Committee members include: myself, Susan Wolking, Wendy Smith-Rogers, Toni Wozmak, Jane Glassett and Kathy Moore. We all live in the area and enjoy meeting new neighbors and hearing stories about you, your families and pets!

When we ring your doorbell, don't be worried if you are still surrounded by unpacked boxes and are dressed in sweats or your jammies. We don't mind! Hidden Meadows is a super friendly and down-to-earth neighborhood. We just want you to feel welcomed and invite you to become involved in your new community!

The Welcome Committee is sponsored by the Hidden Meadows Community Foundation. It was formed approximately two years ago. If you've moved here in the last few months and we missed you, please contact Kim Riha at kimriha819@gmail.com or 619.309.8966. We'll be sure to get you a welcome bag.

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TRAFFIC / From Page 2

would wreak havoc on the freeway interchanges and surface roads in our area. Hidden Meadows residents have already experienced complete standstills on Deer Spring Road, Mountain Meadow Road, Champagne Blvd. and Center City Parkway due to small brush fires along I-15. If we were to face a more aggressive, fast moving wildfire like the recent Lilac Fire, there is a high likelihood that many people would be unable to escape.

Recent articles in the *Union Tribune* have reported that despite intense community opposition, developments like Newland Sierra and Lilac Hills Ranch have a chance of securing approval from the County Board of Supervisors. See "Newland Decision Nears" in the March 18th issue and a February 21st article entitled "Lilac Hills project, rejected by voters, resurfaces with density unchanged."

The Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group (HMCSG), which represents the community on land planning issues, believes that the County should follow the guiding principles of its existing General Plan and build out urban areas near adequate transportation centers before adding further congestion, expense and safety risks to its North County Inland residents.

The HMCSG and numerous community members submitted letters of concern to the County during last year's public comment period on the DEIR for Newland Sierra. We encourage Hidden Meadows residents to continue to share their thoughts with current County Supervisors, as well as candidates for the Board. We will provide additional information about how you can make your voices known in future articles in the Hidden Meadow News.

CRUISIN' / From Page 1

Pierce Arrow night on June 1.

August 3 will be the British and German car night. "It was pretty successful last year," says Waldron. "We had some rare Porsches and a British MG police car!"

Perhaps the biggest and most emotional of the theme nights will be the fire truck night, which will be September 7 this year and will feature a steam powered fire engine from the 1800s.

"We're trying to find the reclaimed water so that we can spray the kids that night with the pumper," says Waldron. For that same night they are working to get one of the fire engines that was crushed during 9-11 in New York City. "We will also have a piece of the World Trade Center that will have a plaque with all of the names of firefighters who fell on that day."

The parade will also feature "Betsy," Escondido's first fire engine. It has a permanent home at the Escondido Fire & Police Headquarters, as well as one of Escondido's earliest "cruisers," a 1948 Harley Davidson police motorcycle.

"You'd think it would get easier after nineteen years, but it doesn't seem to," says Waldron. For a while he worried that the people at the heart of "Cruisin'" were going to die out. "The people into muscle cars and hot rods aren't getting any younger. We lose a few every year. A lot of these guys and gals grew up with this culture."

But he recently began to get encouragement. "We have young people who are starting to attend the old car shows. The problem is that cars are becoming so expensive, but you are starting to see kids looking at older Ford and Chevy pickup trucks."

Auto parts companies such as O'Reilly are starting to see young kids souping up their granddad's cars that have gathered dust in the garage for 30 years. "A couple of years ago I was getting nervous but I'm feeling better that the millennials are starting to do

it," says Waldron.

Recently he attended the Grand National Show in Pomona. "These guys had lines of kids going to get their autographs. I was thrilled to see that."

As for this year's event? "It's going to be huge!" he says. "It's going to be a blast. Our openings and our closings are blasts." He KNOWS that the locals are into it. "I was at my son's history project a couple of weeks ago and all the parents wanted to talk about was Cruisin' Grand!"

He is proud that people plan their vacations to attend. It's not unusual to see visitors from all over the world. One couple heard about Cruisin' Grand from old car aficionados in Australia. But it's just as likely they saw it on the Cruisin' Grand website (<https://cruisingrand.com>) which is now getting about 1,00,000 hits each year. Although it's hard to get exact figures for a free event where no one does body counts. "They eat in our restaurants and shop in our stores and get an Escondido experience," he says.

"We are the last real cruisin' event. We're twenty-six weeks and we come in with a huge opening and we end with Nitro Nite." Which is, in case you have missed it, a night of extremely loud NOISE.

As usual, Cruisin' Grand will get its share of coverage from television and national magazines. Almost every year the Discovery Channel sends out crews. "Last year we had the "Wheeler Dealers" from Velocity TV out here," recalls Waldron.

If you look on <https://cruisingrand.com> right now you won't see much. But in a few days, they will start posting the information for all 26 weeks. "We don't post it until it's 'in stone,'" says Waldron. "That way people can't come over and demand that we change something."

That kind of clever strategy must have evolved over time. So maybe things ARE getting a little easier for Steve Waldron and Cruisin' Grand after all.

Breaking barriers to escape poverty

MARIE WALDRON, 75th Assembly District



women seeking training or education to move from non-traditional fields of employment, displaced workers, the long-term unemployed, English-language learners, the economically disadvantaged, transitioning veterans, persons over 50 and many more.

Though the bill passed with overwhelming bi-partisan support and was chaptered into law, the program has remained unfunded in the State Budget. With the improving economy and state revenues beating proposed estimates by over \$2 billion for next year, now is the time to fund workforce programs. Since national data from 2015 shows a return on workforce investment of \$1.71 for every dollar invested, it will be money well spent.

Over 20% of California's population lives below the poverty level. By creating an expanding pool of skilled, well-paid workers, we'll move people up the workforce ladder and off public assistance, expand our economy, increase tax revenues and most importantly, get people out of poverty.

* * *

Minority Floor Leader Marie Waldron, R-Escondido, represents the 75th Assembly District in the California Legislature, which includes the communities of Bonsall, Escondido, Fallbrook, Hidden Meadows, Pala, Palomar Mountain, Pauma Valley, Rainbow, San Marcos, Temecula, Valley Center and Vista.

WE ACCEPT LETTERS & COLUMNS

Hidden Meadows News invites letters and columns on subjects of general local interest from our readers.

We try to limit letters to about 400 words and emphasize that short letters make the best read. Please, please, please no handwritten letters, or, if you must, please attempt to print legibly.

Please don't tell us why you are suing your neighbor and if you are mentioning someone by name, please observe rules of civility. We encourage reasoned, polite discourse and discourage name-calling. If you would be ashamed for your mother to read your letter, maybe you shouldn't submit it to us. That being said, we generally like lively letters on topics of the day and don't shy away from controversy.

No more than one letter per household per month. We don't print anonymous letters under any circumstances. If you want to be taken seriously as a letter writer, sign your name.

Articles and columns in regards to local issues, contact the Local Content Editor at LocalEditor@HiddenMeadows.news

email: Editor@HiddenMeadows.news

or mail it to:

Hidden Meadows News
P.O. Box 1529
Valley Center, CA 92082

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Social Groups

Noe Silva, *Chair*

Deadline for local article submission is the third Friday of the month.

**Send drafts to Susan Wolking:
LocalEditor@HiddenMeadows.news**

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Opinions expressed by Hidden Meadows Community Foundation, columnists and letter writers are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the newspaper. Accuracy of content submitted to HMN by HMCF is the responsibility of HMCF. HMN reserves the right to edit any content provided to the newspaper. Contact HMN with any questions.

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A Park in Hidden Meadows? Great Idea, But Not Easily Achieved

By WENDY SMITH-ROGERS / HM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

As many young families make their home in Hidden Meadows, the question about a park for children often arises in discussions at town hall meetings, at the golf course events, and anywhere two or more young families gather together. Len Coultas, Chairperson for Parks on our local Sponsor Group, has done considerable research over the years on the logistics required to create a park in our community. Len, a resident of Hidden Meadows for 16 years, has a file drawer full of information on this topic. He has reviewed over two dozen parcels as potential park land during his tenure on the Sponsor Group, none of which were feasible for a variety of reasons. As with most things, cost is the primary hurdle to be overcome, not only in acquiring the parcel, but also in paying for the annual maintenance required.

Most parks throughout the County fall under the maintenance responsibilities of a Park District. The northern end of Hidden Meadows is considered part of the Valley Center Park District. Hidden Meadows residents pay taxes to maintain that district's parks, which are at least 15 miles away and have probably never seen a Hidden Meadows resident. If there was a suitable parcel in the north end, the park could become part of that district, cutting our community costs for maintenance and liability insurance. The southern end of the Meadows is not in any existing park district, so if we wanted access to taxing authority, we would have to form our own park district, which involves elections, a

board of directors etc.

The Hidden Meadows Community Foundation does own a 13.2-acre parcel behind homes on Stonington Way, Glenmeade, Meadow Glen Way West, and Tricia Place. There has been discussion of turning this into a community park, but the terrain is rough, covered with trees, and not regularly maintained due to the cost. There really is not a suitable flat area for playground equipment. In addition, it was designated as open space when it was donated by the Welk Corporation, which means there cannot be any major improvements. Richard Esparza has been the unpaid caretaker and promoter from the start. He has been named the "keeper of the canyon" due to his ongoing diligence in keeping it safe and accessible to the public. If an Eagle Scout could clear the native trails in the Wilderness Park, it would be easier to hike through the land and might be enjoyed by more residents, but once again, it is not an appropriate site for a family playground.

The bottom line is even if we found a flat parcel suitable for a park, Hidden Meadows would need the manpower to create its own park district, and lots of money for the installation of ground coverage, play equipment, annual maintenance, and liability insurance. If one of you should win the lottery, this community would love to be a beneficiary! If you would like to become the point person for this effort please contact Len Coultas at lencoultas@gmail.com.

Deadline to apply for HMCF Scholarships is April 30

By SARAH SEALEY / HM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Hidden Meadows Community Foundation is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for its 2018 Scholarship Program. The deadline for all submissions is April 30, 2018.

These scholarships are intended as a one-time only award to assist students with education expenses associated with attending a 2- or 4-year college, or a trade school. To be considered, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Resident of Hidden Meadows
- Graduating from high school in 2018 or currently attending college/trade school
- Cumulative high school GPA of 3.5

The scholarships are funded through community contributions to the Foundation.

To apply for one of these scholarships, please email Sarah Sealey at sarah@bretandsarah.com for the application and full requirements.



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Art Show and Sale to be held in Hidden Meadows April 21-22

Art Show and Sale to be held in Hidden Meadows April 21-22

The Hidden Meadows Art Guild is pleased to announce that we will be holding our third annual Art Show and Sale on April 21 and 22.

This fun and festive event is a great opportunity to view exceptional art while supporting local artists. A wide variety of art forms will be on display: oil, watercolor, acrylics, pen, ink, colored pencil, silk screen, jewelry, pottery, stained glass, and more.

The show will take place at the Hidden Meadows Pavilion (28208 Meadow Glen Way West) on Saturday, 4/21, from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday, 4/22, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. A special wine and cheese reception with the artists will also be available during the show on Saturday from 4 - 6 p.m.

Why not join us for this art extravaganza and mingle with the artists, neighbors and others? Who knows, you might end up with a wonderful piece of art that you will treasure and enjoy for years to come!

Annual Hidden Meadows Garage Sale on May 12th:

A chance to purge or collect...or a bit of both?

By KATHY MOORE / RESIDENT

I have always found the purging of clutter in my life to provide such a sensation of freedom! I have never gotten into collectables, and the things I do have, I like organized and neat. I've learned over the years that the more you have, the more you need to clean! Ughh...who really enjoys cleaning. I suppose you could call me somewhat of a minimalist and the act of paring away excess "stuff" gives me a sense of peace and calm.

To others, however, the thought of purging property, personal items, and "memories" is excruciating and can seem like a mountain not worth climbing. My husband is that guy. I love him to the moon, but he likes to hold on to everything. For him, the memory is not token enough; he needs a physical memento of an event or experience.


It seems that many couples have this same "Oscar vs Felix" conflict. (Remember that old TV show?) One partner is seeking a tidy environment, while the other is fine with disorder & mayhem. Perhaps, describing the Oscar approach as disorder & mayhem is a bit unfair. My husband would call it sentimental and nostalgic! Needless to say, I still will always push my idea of letting things go as you bring new things into your life.

With that said, I want to get the word out about the upcoming Annual Hidden Meadows Garage Sale. It is an event

that could actually benefit both sides of the Oscar & Felix relationship. The Felix-like partner can purge the house of all the household items they think they can live without, and the Oscar-like partner can go out in search of new collectables or other "potentially useful" items. This rummaging concept is the perfect solution for a couple like my husband & me. We participated last year and if I can motivate him again this year, we will be on the purging side as well as the collecting side.

The community-wide Garage Sale is scheduled for May 12th from 8am-2pm. We we'd love to see as many homes as possible join in. The HomeSmart office will be collecting names and addresses & then distributing maps along with the addresses on the day of the event. Those who would like to participate can contact Jennifer Hill at (760) 484-4121 or JennHill68@gmail.com. Please provide a general idea of items you will have (e.g., furniture, children's toys, books, yard tools, etc.) Jennifer will then add your address & items to the list for distribution. The maps will be available by 7:30 a.m. on the 12th at both the 4-way stop and the HomeSmart office (10320 Meadow Glen Way East).

Rummage away Hidden Meadows neighbors! Whether you purge or collect, this is an event for all!



Michael Carlson, D.D.S.

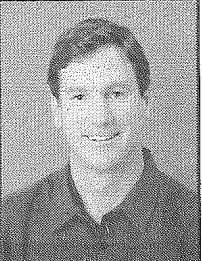
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Straight off the tee: Putting perfection

By **JOEY LATIMER** / RESIDENT

Putting is really important to me. I am an amateur, typically playing three or four times a month, and I am the first to admit that I miss a lot of greens in regulation. Because of that, when I do reach the green, I can hardly afford to take three or more putts to get the ball in. Although I will probably never hit a drive over three hundred yards, I have played rounds with long hitters who have putted worse than me. That showed me that if I worked diligently on putting fundamentals, I could compete with much longer hitters.

To improve my putting I am continually practicing at Boulder Oaks and on the small practice green in our Hidden Meadows backyard (a present from my wife!) Over many years I have found several simple practicing tools that have helped me lower my total putting strokes on the course significantly. I thought I'd share them with you and if you haven't tried them, then perhaps they could help you too.

Practice putting at a coin. I keep a bunch of coins in my back for markers and usually start by hitting at a quarter and then switch to a dime. Hit the coin as many times as you can while gradually increasing the distance. When you go back to putting into a regular golf hole it will seem massive in size.

Imagine a hole on the way to the hole. I've found that I make more putts if I determine what I think the putting line is in my head, imagine another hole part way to the real hole, then make my putt travel over the imaginary hole. When I practice on the putting green I place a dime where the imaginary whole would be, and then try hitting the ball right over the dime and then into the hole.

Practice with your eyes closed. Sometimes I notice that I lose my connection with the "feel" of the putter and my distance goes haywire. When this happens I practice lining up on a ball then closing my eyes when I strike it towards a coin, can, or hole. Pretty soon I find that I can hit it the correct distance by "feeling" the shot rather than looking at it. Then, when I open my eyes again, I have the feel back and use my eyes to fine tune the line of the putt.

Stop taking "gimmies". When playing amateur golf it is common for other golfers to say, "You can have that" on short putts. So, you make a sigh of relief, pick up your ball, and move on. The only problem with that is you can play an entire round of golf and never make a putt!

If your group is not being pressured from behind, it will improve your putting in the long run to putt out all short putts. You may miss a few along the way, but you will leave the course at the end of the round with a much greater sense of satisfaction, completion, and more confidence in your putting.

Read the green by doing a 360 around your putt. When my ball is on the green I have found that I can gather the most information about my putt by walking in a complete circle around my ball and the hole. This gives me a view of the green's break and grain from in front of, behind, and on both sides of the putting line. Getting into a routine of always doing this on long putts has reduced my number of three-putts considerably.

TEE See Page 12

Law Office of Diane Haisha-DeForest



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SERVING HMN READERS SINCE 2001

HIDDEN MEADOWS/RIMROCK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Regular Meetings/Activities

Every Week

TT	Yoga, 8 am	297-1207*
MWF	Fitness Workout, 9 am	749-6523*
W	Bridge Group, 10 am	751-0261*

April 2018

2	VCMWD Board Mtg., District Office, 2 pm	749-1600
3	Bookmobile, MLGC Pkg. Lot, 1:00-2:00 pm	643-5125
3	MHA Architectural Rev Com Mtg., 6:30 pm	749-7278*
8	MHA Board Mtg., 6 pm	749-7278*
11	Deer Springs FPD. Bd. Mtg., 2:00 pm	749-8001
11	HM Condos, HOA Meeting, 4:00 pm	407-7575*
13	Garden Club Meeting, 10:00 am	749-8723
16	HM Community Foundation, 7 pm	749-5652
16	VCMWD Board Mtg., District Office, 2 pm	749-1600
17	Bookmobile, MLGC Pkg. Lot, 1:00- 2:00 pm	643-5125
17	CERT Monthly Mtg., 6:30 pm	525-5170*
26	Ranch HOA Mtg., 4-6 pm	407-7575*
26	HM Sponsor Group Mtg., 7:00 pm	809-6898*

May 2018

7	VCMWD Board Mtg., District Office, 2 pm	749-1600
1	Bookmobile, MLGC Pkg. Lot, 1:00-2:00 pm	643-5125
1	MHA Architectural Rev Com Mtg, 6:30 pm	749-7278*
10	MHA Board Mtg, 6 pm	749-7278*
11	Garden Club Meeting, 10:00 am	749-8723
9	Deer Springs FPD. Bd. Mtg. 2:00 pm	749-8001
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15	CERT Monthly Mtg., 6:30 pm	525-5170*
24	Ranch HOA Mtg, 4-6 pm	407-7575*
24	HM Sponsor Group Mtg., 7:00 pm	809-6898*

* Held at Meadows Community Center. 28208 MGWW

Meadows HOA email: meadowhoa@att.net

Call Weekdays 9-12 pm 760-749-7278 to reserve Pavilion* The pool or park cannot be reserved.

Submitted by LeEtta Rudolph , Home Smart Realty West
www.leettasellsmart.com leettarudolph@gmail.com

Major Community Events in 2018

Hidden Meadows Orientation	Sat., January 27	Golf Course Club House
Annual Fundraising Campaign	March-May	
Sellers' Faire, 2nd Saturdays	March-Nov	Club house parking lot
Easter Egg Hunt	Sat., March 31	Pavilion
Artisan Guild Arts and Crafts Show and Sale	S/S, April 21/22	Pavilion
Community Garage Sale	Sat., May 12	Throughout HM
Scholarship Reception	Sun., June 10	Pavilion
Hidden Meadows Orientation	Sat., June 30	Pavilion
Fourth of July Parade/Picnic	Tues., July 4	Club house parking lot
Summer Family Movie Nights	July, August	Boulder Oaks Patio
Bunco 4 Boobs	Fri., October 19	Williams Barn, San Marcos
Trunk or Treat	Sat., October 27	Pavilion parking lot
Golf Tournament	Fri., November 9	Boulder Oaks Golf Club
Turkey Trot	Thurs., November 22	Club house parking lot
Toys for Tots	Sat., December 1	Pavilion
Progressive Dinner	Sun., December 9	Throughout HM
Christmas Caroling	Sun., December 16	Fire Station

Daley Ranch offers four hikes in April

All hikes begin at the Daley Ranch entrance on La Honda Drive unless otherwise noted. Bring water, sun hat, sunscreen, and proper hiking boots or treaded footwear. All trails include steep and/or slippery sections. Please do not leave valuables in your car. Steady rain cancels a hike. The hike schedule is also available at www.escondido.org and www.visitescondido.com. Please note that drinking water is not available in many areas on Daley Ranch so be sure to carry a sufficient supply.

Saturday, April 14, 7:00 a.m., “Discover Daley Ranch—5 to 7 miles”

Meet Naturalist William Sherrard for a slow to moderately paced hike on the trails of Daley Ranch. The planned hike is between five and seven miles in length and will last about 2.5 to 3 hours. Bring plenty of water as there isn't any water source on the trails. There are plenty of spots to turn back to the parking lot if you wish to shorten the hike.

Saturday, April 21, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, “Dixon Lake/Earth Day Clean Up Event”

Come celebrate the day before Earth Day and help us polish up our little patch of earth. We will be having a clean-up day and could use your help in picking up and properly disposing of Lake trash before the animals eat things they aren't supposed to consume. You will be provided with trash pickers, vests, and drinking water. Long sleeves, long trousers, closed-toe shoes, hat, and sunscreen are recommended. Minors must bring a guardian. Rain cancels.

HIKE See Page 8

Pala Mesa Resort serves up a beautiful event for the Sew & So Group

By **IDALIA REWAR**/RESIDENT

Pala Mesa Resort is nestled among hillsides and offers panoramic views of the lush green fairways of the resort's lovely golf course. What a wonderful setting for the March 6th gathering of the Sew and So Social Group from Hidden Meadows. The sun was shining and it was actually quite warm. Aaah, it sure felt good after so many days of cloudy cold days.

Having met at the Boulder Oaks Golf Course parking lot, we then split up and car pooled for the quick drive to our destination. As I entered the Aqua Terrace Restaurant dining area, I could hear the cluck cluck of the little hens all chatting away. It took a while for the hugs and kisses and catching up on each other's lives before we all calmed down and took our seats. Our “accountant” Lisa Lonsdale had everything in order including the count of who was showing up, how many chairs were needed, etc. It is a big deal when 22 people show up all at once wanting food.

Menus were presented with great choices for lunch. I chose a spinach salad which turned out to be quite delicious. As we ate and chatted, we discovered that birthday wishes were in order for two of the young ladies at our table. Little cupcakes full of ice cream and a candle were brought and we all sang “Happy Birthday.” Dee Sansom, who doesn't look a bit older than 60, was turning 87 and Cecilia Cruz, who

also looks quite young, was clocking in at a mere 90 years old. Mama Mia, to live that long and look that great! These women are beautiful, full of life and interesting.

Oh, oh, then the crucial time came to pay. Bedlam—no siree! Who's going to figure the check for each individual, taxes, tip, etc.? Leave it to miracle worker Lisa, who had her calculator out and was chugging away like a little machine on all “them thar' numbers.” She even bought small envelopes for everyone to put their money in. In a few minutes she had it everything taken care of.

Another few minutes for more kisses and hugs and everyone started to depart. However, a few of us hung around with Mary Friel who knows Pala Mesa really well. She volunteered to give us a tour of the surrounding area where weddings and parties are held. The main dining area is located under a large white tent with huge chandeliers and a 30 ft. waterfall. Mary said it's quite beautiful at night when it's all lit up. We ended up exploring much of the resort (quite a walk!), trekking up and down stairs and walkways thru flora and fauna, oohing and awing at the views and taking photos of the gorgeous surroundings.

All in all, it was a lovely day, mixed with happy ladies, small talk, delicious food and great ambiance.

SANDAG installs new signs on I-15 express lanes

SANDAG began installing new signs along the Interstate 15 (I-15) Express Lanes this week that will more clearly display who can use the Express Lanes, estimated travel times to upcoming freeway connectors, and real-time FasTrak toll rates.

A recent research effort determined that the existing signage on the I-15 Express Lanes can be difficult to read, and that posted information about toll rates and who can use the lanes isn't easily understood. With input from I-15 commuters that participated in focus groups and surveys, upgraded signs were designed to address these issues.

Signs will be installed in the northbound lanes first, beginning at the south end of the Express Lanes and moving north. Signs will be installed in the southbound lanes next, beginning at the north end of the Express Lanes and moving south. Signs near transit centers and leading to Direct Access Ramps will be installed last, with the entire project anticipated to take approximately 12 weeks to complete.

To minimize impacts to traffic, new signs will be installed at night, between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. During those work windows, drivers can expect lane closures in the Express Lanes and general-purpose lanes, in the area in which the new sign(s) are being installed on that particular night. Traffic impacts will be minimized as

SANDAG See Page 11



The Escondido Mounted Posse at a recent Coronado 4th of July parade. The posse has been the parade's color guard for many years.

Ever dream of riding with a posse?

Does the word ‘posse’ conjure up images of racing across the west chasing outlaws ... or going out into thick brush searching for clues to find the whereabouts of a lost hiker or beloved animal? That is the rich tradition of the Escondido Mounted Posse.

The posse is looking for riders to join them.

Founded in 1948, the posse was originally formed to assist the police department in emergencies, criminal apprehension or possible disasters. Additionally, it would participate in annual events throughout the county. With the outbreak of the Korean War, posse members augmented the police department as officers were called to military service.

By mid-1950, prospective volunteers were required to pass the rigorous demands of the San Diego Sheriff's Reserve Academy. This bi-weekly 6-month commitment trained recruits in all phases of law enforcement. Quarterly firearms training kept the members qualified and sharp. In addition to their enforcement duties, this group was also enlisted to enhance community relations by attending local parades, riding their mounts in full regalia displaying our nation's colors. These were the members of the Escondido Police Posse.

Today, Escondido's law enforcement is sufficiently ranked and no longer needs a volunteer police posse. The now-known Escondido Mounted Posse still serves a vital purpose representing the spirit of a time gone by, keeping America's vitality in the hearts of communities all over Southern California and Arizona.

The Escondido Mounted Posse is looking for a few good equestrians interested in doing something special with their equestrian partner that is intensely patriotic, fulfilling, exciting, while making a few new friends (become a member of a real posse!) along the way. Don't worry, since they don't perform police duties, you won't be required to train in the Sheriff's Academy! But they do learn some pretty cool parade moves!

If this sounds like something you and your partner would be interested in, visit the posse's website at <http://escondidomountedposse.com> and download their application on the contact page. Your horse will love you for it!

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What do the red flags mean?

By DEER SPRINGS FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Occasionally as you drive through Southern California, you will see a pair of red flags flying alongside a warning sign at the side of the road. What do these flags signify?

The red flags indicate that we are having, or soon will have, weather conditions that create a “critical risk” of a wildfire. The National Weather Service issues these warnings. These warnings result when forecasts indicate a combination of the following factors:

- Strong winds
- Low relative humidity
- Warm to hot temperatures

For Southern Californians, these critical fire weather conditions often occur when we are having “Santa Ana” winds (also known as “Santana” winds outside of southern California). Santa Ana winds occur when there is a high-pressure area over the deserts of California, Arizona, Nevada, and/or Utah. The winds result as dry air from the high-pressure area flow towards lower pressure areas. The temperatures become even higher as these hot dry winds descend into the lower elevations. The fire danger also increases as the humidity decreases.

The intent of these red flag warnings is to alert everyone of the potential danger and encourage them to exercise caution and to plan accordingly. The Deer Springs Fire Safe Council maintains these flags within the boundaries of the Deer Springs Fire Protection District, and flies them when the National Weather Service posts a warning. There are 14 flag locations throughout the District. These flags are mounted on permanent signs that state “Extreme Fire Danger Area.”



View of Hole #6 at Boulder Oaks Golf Club

News from Boulder Oaks Golf Club

By MIKE SKALA / Boulder Oaks

Let me start by expressing deep gratitude to the Hidden Meadows Community! We have been experiencing significant growth in business at both the golf course and the Oaks Bar and Grill restaurant. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Now, for a little update on what’s happening here at Boulder Oaks.

First, our website has recently been revamped. In addition to offering access to tee times and pricing, the website also provides information on our golf promotions, upcoming events and the Oaks Bar and Grill’s hours and specials. We encourage you to check us out at www.boulderoaksgolfclub.com.

Secondly, our PGA Golf Pros are now offering several great opportunities for individuals to learn and develop their golf skills:

- **Regular golf clinics** - Led by Ken Mizumaki, the clinics are held on Saturdays from 10-11am and Sundays from 11am-12pm and cost \$20/session.
- **Summer camps for youth aged 6-16** - This year we will be offering four separate sessions running June 11-14, June 25-28, July 9-12 and July 23-26. The camp hours are 9am-1pm and cost is \$125 per four-day session.
- **Get Ready Golf program** - In this new program designed for beginner and intermediate players (ages 9 to adult), our PGA Pros Mike Skala and Ken Mizumaki will be

teach you everything you need to play golf in just five lessons. Learn how to combine basic skills with fun, friends and fitness. The classes will run on five consecutive Fridays, starting on April 27 and ending May 25. Cost is \$125 for the program.

Next, we would like to announce that the Boulders Oaks Ambassador Foundation

Is accepting applications for Volunteer Starters, Rangers & Fundraisers. These positions involve working at the Golf Course one day a week and twice a year during fundraising events the Club holds to benefit local charities. In return, the volunteers will receive: 2 rounds of golf for every shift, 50% off a meal during or after your shift, special rates for guests and discounted golf merchandise. For more information, contact Mike Skala at (760) 749-1620 or BOGolfClub@gmail.com

Finally, we want you to be aware of what we are doing in the way of grounds upkeep. We are currently performing our bi-annual course maintenance, which includes aeration of all the greens. Aeration involves punching holes in the ground with a special piece of machinery, infusing the ground with air and water at the root level, filling the holes with a topdressing of sand, and deep watering the entire area. The actual coring of the greens is relatively quick, but it takes about a week for the greens to get somewhat back to normal. Golfers will still be able to play throughout the maintenance process.

BOULDER See Page 11

Save Our WATER



It Will Always be Important to “Live WaterSmart.”

Rain, Shine, Wet or Dry, it will always be important to use water resources efficiently and avoid wasteful practices such as:

- **Hosing Off Hard Surfaces;**
- **Washing Vehicles with a Hose Not Equipped with an Automatic Shut-off Valve;**
- **Using Non-recirculating Water in a Fountain or Water Feature;**
- **Over-irrigating Landscaping and Having Water Run Off Your Property;**
- **Irrigating During or Within 48-Hours After a Rain Storm;**

For Water Use Efficiency Tips, New Landscaping Ideas, or Information About Rebates and Incentives visit the links on right hand side of our Homepage at www.vcmwd.org; and as always,



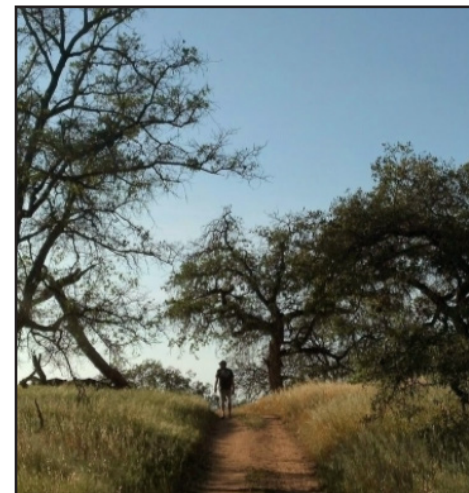
Thanks for Your Help and Cooperation!

Valley Center Municipal Water District

760-735-4500



Valerie Spearman and Nancy Ogrod accepting donations during Spring Food Drive.



HIKE / From Page 6

Sunday, April 22, 8:30 a.m., “Visiting and Resident Birds of Lake Wohlford”

Join Naturalist Sally Sanderson as she leads an easy-paced bird walk of about 3 miles, lasting two to three hours at Lake Wohlford. Participants will follow the southern and eastern shoreline from the parking lot on Oakvale Road. Bald Eagles and Ospreys might be seen among the resident birds and early summer visitors. Bring binoculars, hat, water, and wear layered clothing. Heavy rain cancels.

Meet at the Lake Wohlford/Oakvale trailhead at 8:30 a.m.

Lake Wohlford Trailhead—From Interstate 15, take the Valley Parkway exit in Escondido and go northeast about 5.5 miles. Turn right on Lake Wohlford Road and go 1.9 miles to Oakvale Road. Turn slightly right onto Oakvale and go about one mile and turn left into the fenced parking lot.

Saturday, April 28, 7:00 a.m., “Discover Daley Ranch—5 to 7 miles”

Meet Naturalist William Sherrard

HIKE See Page 9

Spring food drive was a great success

By NANCY OGROD / RESIDENT

Thank you, Hidden Meadows! Despite a rainy, cold start to the day, over 725 pounds of food was collected during the March food drive for Interfaith. Donations included the usual cereals, pastas, PB&J, canned vegetables, canned meats, and canned fruits. In addition, several people brought fresh fruit and bags of rice and beans.

Residents dropped off their goods at the Golf Course Clubhouse. Many

thanks to Valerie Spearman, Linda Kennedy, Nancy Blake, and Judy Dunn for volunteering their time to greet people and package up the donations.

Interfaith continues to serve an average of 200 hot meals a day and provides over 150 sack lunches to provide a second meal of the day for the homeless. This is in addition to the sacks of groceries for the families who request assistance. your donations will really help.

If you did not have the opportunity to give food in March, it is never too late to take food or a monetary donation by the Escondido Interfaith facility. They are located at 550 West Washington Avenue, at the corner of Washington Avenue and Quince Street.

Our next food drive will be in July or August. Thank you again for your generosity.



Marsha Rafter displaying one of her recent mosaic pieces.



Women’s Social group members admiring one of Mark Rafter’s metal and glass statues. From left: Sima Kashani, Pat Buntin, Mary Dragoo, Lynn Wheeler and Summer Sports.

Women’s Social Group: Good Vibrations in Hidden Meadows!

By ROSEMARY TULIS / RESIDENT

A neighbor recently remarked that the song “Good Vibrations” sums up the feeling of living in Hidden Meadows. That thought also captured the sentiment during the Women’s Social in March, which was hosted by Marsha Rafter.

Nestled at the end of a classic winding Meadows lane, Marsha’s house was filled with gals happily meeting for an evening of camaraderie. Within the group were clusters of friends, new and old, swapping local news, personal stories, gardening tips, reflections about life, mutual support, and more. The evening’s potluck dinner beckoned with an eclectic variety of treats....from home-made treasures to Costco temptations too plentiful for an ordinary family to consume alone.

As an added bonus this month, we also had a chance to see an amazing array of beautiful artwork created by Marsha and her husband Mark. Displayed in a

delightfully laid-back way throughout their home and garden were numerous examples of Marsha’s mosaic wonders, Mark’s one-of-a-kind metalwork designs, and charming pottery pieces by both of them.

Marsha is a full-time artist and teaches mosaic and ceramics workshops. (Check out her website: marsharafter.com.) Several women at the dinner, including myself, are proud graduates of classes she holds in the studio in her garage.

Mark is currently building his art business (markrafter.com) while still working in the high tech industry. He dropped in to our women’s gathering for a few minutes, and at our request, described how he had constructed one of his glass-infused metal sculptures. He explained that it came about through a process of trial and error. “Success is boring!” he said, adding that he just loves figuring out how to do the “un-doable.”

“Hmm,” I thought. “Un-doable was the feeling I had when I started my mosaic project in Marsha’s class last year.” Lulled by the mellow music in her studio and guided by Marsha’s patient instruction, however, I was able to bring a colorful garden butterfly into existence. It seems like the “good vibrations” one experiences at the Rafter home draws out the best in everyone.

Whether new to the area, or a long-time resident, all Hidden Meadows women are invited to join the Women’s Social group for our monthly night-outs. No joining fee, no obligations, no commitments, no pressure. Just another opportunity for good vibrations right here in Hidden Meadows. Try it! You’ll like it! To get on the invitation list, send your full name, email address, and telephone number to hm-wsg92026@gmail.com.

HIKE / From Page 8

for a slow to moderately paced hike on the trails of Daley Ranch. The planned hike is between five and seven miles in length and will last about 2.5 to 3 hours. Bring plenty of water as there isn't any water source on the trails. There are plenty of spots to turn back to the parking lot if you wish to shorten the hike.

Want to be a volunteer? If you are interested in volunteering as a Trail patrol, hike leader, trail maintenance or litter-abatement team member, stop by the Dixon Lake Ranger Station for information and an application—or call Sue at 760-839-4345.

Directions to Hike Locations

La Honda Trailhead—From Interstate 15, take the El Norte Parkway exit in Escondido. Go east four miles to La Honda Drive, turn left, drive one mile to Daley Ranch entrance and park in dirt lot on left.

Cougar Pass Trailhead—From Interstate 15, take the El Norte Parkway exit in Escondido east about a half mile to Broadway. Take Broadway north four miles to Cougar Pass (dirt road), turn right, and drive one mile. Park in the asphalt lot on left.

Caballo Trailhead—From Interstate 15, take the Valley Parkway exit in Escondido and go northeast about 5 miles. Turn left at Bevin into the Eureka Springs development. Follow the road toward the filtration plant entrance and turn right at the Escondido Humane Society sign (Volunteer Lane). Park in the dirt parking lot.

Lake Wohlford Trailhead—From Interstate 15, take the Valley Parkway exit in Escondido and go northeast about 5.5 miles. Turn right on Lake Wohlford Road and go 1.9 miles to Oakvale Road. Turn slightly right onto Oakvale and go about one mile. Turn left into the fenced parking lot.



What to plant under trees that have established roots? Succulents do well as they have shallow roots and can take some shade.

“Best practices” discussed at March meeting of the Garden Club

By **SUSAN WOLKING/ HM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Amateur gardeners can be some of the friendliest and most generous people you'll ever meet. That certainly is the case with the members of the Hidden Meadows Garden Club.

Twenty six of these friendly, generous people showed up at my house on March 9th for our monthly meeting. Everyone was delighted to welcome in two new members: Carol Atchely and her friend Pam McMaster, who lives in Tustin but regularly visits Hidden Meadows.

After greeting each other with hugs or pats on the back, everyone enthusiastically jumped right into focus of the day's discussion - the sharing of “best practices.” The topics ranged from most- and least-favorite plants to solutions for dealing with pests or difficult landscaping challenges. Lots of wonderful ideas were exchanged, and the consensus was that we should have sessions like that more often. As the attendees departed, many left

with succulent clippings offered up by other members. (Did I mention how generous this group is?)

The following are just a few of the suggestions shared by our gardening aficionados:

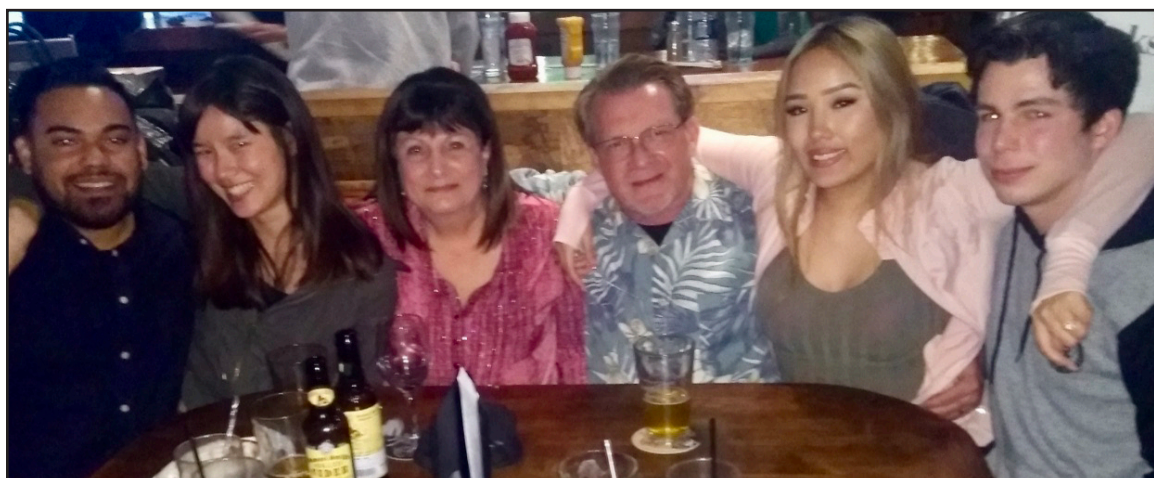
- Plant/tree favorites
 - Aloe (with the exception of Common Aloe)
 - Alstromeria
 - Bulbs like Freesia and African Iris
 - Dwarf Fig tree
 - Grevillea
 - Hesperaloe (Red Yucca)
 - Matilija Poppy
 - Mexican Magnolia
 - Palo Verde tree (Desert Museum variety which is spinless)
 - Penstemon
 - Succulents in general
- Problematic plants/trees
 - African Daisy
 - Agapanthus
 - Bamboo varieties that spread
 - Clivia



Find the Rose; win a prize!

We've hidden a rose (like the one here) somewhere in this issue of the paper. As soon as you find it, send an email to leetarudolph@gmail.com with subject line “Found the rose” and the page number where you found it. Valerie Targia was the winner of last month's contest. This month the 2nd person to find the rose will win.

- Date Palm
 - Ficus trees
 - Gazania
 - Juniper
 - Morea
 - “Mother of Thousand” Kalanchoe
 - Pampus Grass
 - Pepper Trees
 - Red Apple groundcover
 - Red Valeriana
 - Sycamore trees
 - Anything that attracts bunnies
- Favorite nurseries**
- Briggs
 - Crazy John's in Gopher Canyon
 - Evergreen
 - Myrtle Creek
 - Oasis and Waterwise for succulents
- The Hidden Meadows Garden Club meets monthly. The next gathering will be on April 13 and will be a tour of three lovely gardens here in Hidden Meadows. If you are interested in joining the club.



Beckel family enjoying birthday celebration at Karl Strauss Brewing Company in Carlsbad.

THE MOVABLE FEAST: Karl Strauss Brewing Company

By **DIANE AND MIKE BECKEL / RESIDENT**

Karl Strauss Brewing Company is enshrined in local history. In February of 1989, two college buddies opened the first craft brewery in San Diego – well before the term craft brewery had entered the popular lexicon.

Given its history, it was no surprise that the ambience in the Carlsbad Karl Strauss Brewing Company Restaurant is all about the brewery. Barrel stacks and exposed timbers abound, and the ambient noise level is best described as somewhere between moderate and exuberant, depending on the hour and one's proximity to the bar.

What was surprising, at least to us, was the quality and exotic nature of the dinner menu. Though not particularly extensive, the menu

offers spicy tofu curry and cioppino as well as the more-expected top sirloin and burgers. For those interested in more traditional casual dining, the menu offered starters such boneless wings, brewery fries and crispy calamari. Most interesting, was the Mac N Cheese Bar featuring multiple varieties of this brewery staple. Prices were moderate, with some entrees approaching \$30.


We had a reservation for six and were promptly seated in a roomy booth, comfortably distant from the bar. Our food order included the “El Jardin,” a grilled and loaded veggie black bean patty sandwich served with a baby iceberg wedge, toasted almonds and ranch dressing. Other selections from our party were the cioppino stew and the ginger crusted salmon served

STRAUSS See Page 12


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LAWRENCE WELK

HOME SMART

Boulder Oaks Women's Golf

By MARY JO MOORE / RESIDENT

Sweeps results

Feb 22: Criss Cross was the name of the game. We didn't finish the 18 holes. The rain wasn't that cold but it was agreed to call it a day after 10 holes. The first nine holes were scored and Jude Begell edged out Elissa Hamilton by one point 17 to 18.

Mar 1: Ace of the Month. Sandra Watkins was ace of the month with a net 67. Queen was Pauly Schoolcraft with a net 72.

Mar 8: Buddy Tournament Day 1. Donna Huhn and Mary Jo Moore are leading at this time with a net 56. Donna Williams and Pauly Schoolcraft are close behind Donna and Mar Jo with a 59. Dorothy Aleshire and Elissa Hamilton next with a 68 and Joan Cortez played without a partner and shot a fine 70. Suzie Hill will play next week as Joan's partner.

Mar 15: Buddy Tournament Day 2. Cancelled golf because of rain. Finnish Buddy Tournament on Mar 22.

This and that

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY

Pauly Schoolcraft was the Most Improved Player for the month of February. Pauly's starting handicap was 22.8 with a differential of 237.8 and her ending handicap was 22.3 with a differential of 233.0 for a factor of 1.015. Congratulations Pauly.

ACE OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH

Ace of the Month for March was Sandra Watkins with a net 67. Way to go Sandra.

Membership information

Membership information for Boulder Oaks Women's Golf Club is available by contacting Dorothy Aleshire at 760-749-5694 or emailing Dorothy at dorothyaleshire@gmail.com. The Boulder Oaks Women's Golf Club (formerly Meadow Lake Women's Golf club) invites all ladies who like golf to join our club. We play sweeps and tournaments. We welcome new and/or experienced golfers of every handicap. For golf on Thursdays, please contact Donna Williams at 760-751-1787 or email dcwmsretired@yahoo.com.



Escondido Fire takes part in NYC St. Patrick's Day parade

On March 18, 18 members of the Escondido Fire Department flew to New York in March to be in the Annual Saint Patrick's Day parade. The Escondido Fire Department has had members that have participated in this event every year since September 11, 2001 but this was the largest showing ever. The parade is held annually on March 17. At precisely 11 a.m. in honor of St. Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland—and of the Archdiocese of New York. The parade route goes up Fifth Avenue beginning at East 44th Street and ending at East 79th Street.

MY GREEN THUMB

Dealing with gophers and moles

By LISA LONSDALE / RESIDENT

As the days warm, now is a good time to plant new plants, transplants with roots, and succulent cuttings. The rain has soaked deep into the ground so digging is easy and the plants will have a moist environment to grow new roots. After planting, only a small amount of water should be added to them so they don't start out too wet.

The moist ground unfortunately also encourages digging activity from pests such as gophers and moles.

Gophers can be a huge problem for gardeners because they eat the roots of the plant. They live deep in the ground and use shallower tunnels to travel to and from their food-source, coming to the surface periodically to get rid of the dirt they remove from the tunnel; these are the mounds you see. Over the years, I have tried to get rid of gophers with toxic baits and repellants such as garlic, chewing gum, soap, cayenne pepper, etc. — all with little success.

My favorite tool for dealing with gophers is a simple trap "The Macabee," which is available at Grangettos and online for less than \$10 each. It has nasty spikes that when triggered by the gopher, catches them in their fatal grip. While there are several other gopher traps on the market, many are expensive and can be ineffective due to the challenge of properly locating them inside the tunnel system. I have used Macabee traps for over 25 years and have a 90% capture rate.

Once you learn how to properly place the Macabee trap, you too should find success. Before you start, tie 18 inches of twine to the rear of the trap and tie a spike onto the other end of the twine. This will keep the trapped gopher from the pulling your trap deep into the tunnel. Locate a new mound, poking downward until you locate the soft opening of the tunnel; open the tunnel with a small trowel. Don't use an already open tunnel; these are not in use. Set the trap following instructions on the package. (See enclosed photo of un-triggered and triggered trap.) Push the triggered trap as far into the tunnel as you can reach, carefully using a stick or a trowel. If you find a junction between two tunnels, place a trap in each direction. The last step is to push the stringed spike into the ground outside the tunnel.

A key to snagging your culprit is to leave the tunnel open after placing the trap. Gophers do not like air blowing through their system, so they will return, usually at night, to fill the hole with dirt. They push a small pile of



Macabee trap for gophers. Trap on the left has been tied with stake and set for action. Trap on left hasn't yet been triggered.

dirt ahead of them on their first trip, returning multiple times to complete the task. The first load is what usually springs the trap. Check the tunnel the next morning. If the tunnel is closed with dirt, the gopher did not get trapped. If it is still open, gently pull on the twine. Some resistance, usually means its caught. To release the gopher, hold the trap, gopher-side down and pull the center rods of the trap toward you; the spikes will retract and the gopher will fall to the ground. Push the dead gopher back into the tunnel, as deeply as possible, backfilling the tunnel with dirt. The rotting gopher will act as a repellent to other gophers. If the trap is un-triggered for 2 days, assume the gopher is no longer using that tunnel. Try again in the area of a fresh mound.

While moles don't cause as much damage as gophers, they still can be quite annoying. They don't eat the roots of the plants, but their digging can loosen the soil around smaller plants, exposing the roots to the air and can cause damage or death. The moles are hunting juicy grubs that live within 6 inches of the surface. They literally "swim" through the soil, causing meandering, humped trails through your yard. When you step on these trails, the ground sinks down with each step. There are many repellent products and trapping contraptions on the market. I have tried a few repellants with no success. The mole traps present a challenge is locating a tunnel because the dirt falls back into as the moles moves forward. Moles cover a lot of ground without backtracking through the same tunnel. If you put several of these de-

GOPHERS See Page 11

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Environmental groups sue County over carbon credits

With their sights painting bullseyes on the proposed monster developments Lilac Hills Ranch and Newland Sierra, several environmental organizations led by the Sierra Club Monday filed two lawsuits challenging San Diego County's most recently adopted Climate Action Plan.

According to the Sierra Club the CAP "again fails to set forth concrete, enforceable measures that adequately reduce the climate change impacts of development in the county. The lawsuit alleges that the Climate Action Plan relies too heavily on carbon credit programs located outside of the county, stating that San Diego officials will not be able to survey and enforce the authenticity of these credits and therefore does not actually achieve confirmable emissions reductions."

One case, filed by the Sierra Club, is another phase of a case brought back in 2012. The new case, which is joined by a number of environmental groups, involves a new cause of action that was not previously brought.

"The San Diego Board of Supervisors once again is failing the people they are charged to protect" said Sierra Club San Diego Conservation Chair George Courser. "Rather than calling for unenforceable actions that can easily be cast aside and ignored, the Board must adopt a legally adequate Climate Action Plan that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and protects the clean air and water and health of San Diegans."

Both the Newland Sierra and Lilac Hills Ranch projects rely heavily on carbon credits purchased outside of the county to achieve what they claim is "carbon neutrality."

San Diego's climate plan calls for reducing greenhouse-gas emissions to 77 percent below 2014 levels by 2050 but the Sierra Club and its allies object to the fact that it relies on offsetting emissions through carbon credits to get there. "Under this proposal, developers are allowed to maintain business as usual all while spending money to take credit for global carbon reductions that may be illusory and will not provide the air quality benefit to San Diegans that local offsets would provide," according to the Sierra.

"In 2011, the County promised to prepare a Climate Action Plan that reduces greenhouse gas emissions in the County, but it has renegeed on its promise," said Josh Chatten-Brown of Chatten-Brown & Carstens, the law firm that is representing the plaintiffs.

"Moreover, the County essentially allows unbridled development in far-flung areas provided that developers purchase carbon offsets from anywhere in the world. Such offsets may be completely illusory and would not benefit the residents of San Diego as offsets attained

through local projects would. The Sierra Club and other environmental groups filed this lawsuit to ensure the County fulfills its original promise."

The Sierra Club was joined by Center for Biological Diversity, Cleveland National Forest Foundation, Climate Action Campaign, Endangered Habitats League, Environmental Center of San Diego, and Preserve Wild Santee in the lawsuit filed by Chatten-Brown and Carstens.

The and the Sierra Club have been fighting in the courtroom for years over carbon credits. The Board of Supervisors was ordered by the court to redraft its Climate Action Plan. Under this plan developers are able to purchase carbon credits to offset air pollution and theoretically have "zero net impact" on air quality.

Under the County's plan developers can buy carbon credits from carbon registries that are located anywhere, although they are required to do as much mitigation onsite as possible. The two largest developments currently being processed, Lilac Hills Ranch and Newland Sierra, both rely on solar panels and electric charging stations to help mitigate the majority of carbon impacts created by car trips.

The Sierra Club is fighting this, arguing that all of the carbon credits should be located inside of San Diego County and benefit local residents.

Jon Rilling, project manager for Lilac Hills Ranch, told *The Hidden Meadows News*: The only thing this will do is prevent much needed housing to be built in San Diego, where working families need it the most. This type of litigation has zero environmental benefit and will actually cause more sprawl by forcing working families to move to places like Riverside. It's a fact that 60,000 Riverside County residents commute to jobs in San Diego County every day and this litigation will cause more greenhouse gas emissions because more families will now be commuting over 2 hours to their jobs in San Diego."

Rilling added, "Lilac Hills Ranch on the other hand is committed to carbon neutrality. The community would offset the majority of greenhouse gas emissions within the project by providing solar on every home and every commercial building, electric car chargers in every garage and even outside the community, planting 35,000 trees to remove carbon from the air and using less water use at full build-out than the site uses now (a fact that has been verified by the Municipal Water District). However, to be conservative, the project doesn't take credit for a lot of these features and so the project guarantees zero-net emissions by a combination of features, including carbon credits."

GOPHERS / From Page 11

vices in a line near the end of a tunnel, you might get lucky and catch one. Seeking an easier approach, I recently bought something called "Mole Killer" made by Tom Cat. The product looks like "gummy worms" which you place into the active tunnels. They are a toxic, so do not use them if you have dogs that dig and don't leave them out where a child might find them. I will give them a try and will report back later. Wish me luck.

If you would like some hands-on pointers on these pest control tactics, I'd be glad to demonstrate them for you. I can be reached at ldlonsdale4@gmail.com or (760)749-8723. Happy hunting!

BOULDER / From Page 11

Over the next few months, we will also be doing another round of maintenance to the two areas owned by the Golf Club outside the course itself. One is the plot that used to be part of the golf course (old holes 11 and 12). It sits west of Mountain Meadow Road and across from the from the pool and Pavilion on Meadow Glen Way. The other property is to the east of Mountain Meadow Road abutting the Club's parking lots. Please note that the Pine trees running along Mountain Meadow next to the condos are on County of San Diego property, not the golf course's.

Similar to the clean-up effort we did in the Fall, the project will involve mowing, weed abatement and some rototilling. A local resident has volunteered their tractor to help with parts of the project. We will also be working in conjunction with the City of Escondido on cutting back bushes. Our primary focus is to keep the areas trimmed to Cal State Fire Codes and to do things in a way that is environmentally safe and animal friendly.

We would like to remind the community that we still pursuing plans for creating a small senior housing development on our property to the west of Mountain Meadow Road. Getting permits approved by the city and county is a painstaking process, however, which typically takes between three to five years.

SANDAG / From Page 6

much as possible. Regular FasTrak toll rates will apply during sign installation work windows.

No changes will be made to rules regarding who can use the Express Lanes. Carpools, vanpools, transit services, permitted clean air vehicles, and motorcycles will still be able to use the lanes for free all day, every day, without a transponder. Solo drivers with FasTrak will still be able to pay a toll to use the Express Lanes, and the formula used to calculate the toll will remain the same.

The I-15 Express Lanes provide 20 miles of flexible travel between State Route 78 in Escondido and State Route 163 in San Diego. There are more than 16 access points where drivers have the flexibility to get in or out of the Express Lanes from the general-purpose lanes. There are also five Direct Access Ramps (DARs) that make it easy for transit vehicles, carpools, and other users to enter or exit the Express Lanes from local streets without merging across multiple freeway lanes.

For more information about who can use the I-15 Express Lanes, how to use the Express Lanes, and for answers to frequently asked questions, visit 511sd.com/ExpressLanes.

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Sellers Faire Returns...Finally

By **TANIA ORLOVA** / RESIDENT

Yes it has been quite a few months since our last Faire, November of 2017 to be exact. While our first one of 2018 was scheduled for March, we got rained out!

So our first Sellers Faire of 2018 is Saturday April 14. We always start with the ever popular Garage Sale theme. So please do bring your “stuff”, stuff you do not need, wonder why you bought it, can’t stand the clutter any more, down to the Sellers Faire and sell the dang stuff!

We are at the parking lot of the golf course across from the Deli. The time is 9 a.m. to 12 noon. However you should plan to arrive about 8 a.m. to pick your spot and unload the “stuff”. Everyone gets one parking slot and it is a lot of fun!

Back again this year is the ECO

recycling truck. Please do bring your unwanted or broken small electronics to the Faire and give to the guys in the truck. They will take computers, phones, toasters, electrics of any kind. If you have large electronics you can talk to them about the possibility of them picking up at your house.

Of course all vendors are welcome. Do you have jewelry to sell, or fashions, or plants, or baked goods? Bring it!

One more note, there is NO charge for being a vendor. Just bring your smile and have fun.

And the drawing for a free pizza is back. Thank you Deli for participating again and offering a free pizza to one lucky winner.

If you have questions, please do call me, Tania Orlova at 760 877-8777.

TEE / From Page 5

Practice with one ball. When out on the course we don’t use multiple balls on the putting green...only one. On the putting green, when I practice using one ball going from hole to hole putting out every shot, then I really get a sense of how many putting strokes I would take if I played on the course. Practicing with multiple balls doesn’t show me this.

Practice with many balls. To improve my short putting I set up a practice with twelve balls. I put them in groups of three around a hole at distances of around three feet, four feet, five feet, and six feet. I start by putting the three footers and move out. My ultimate goal is to hit in all twelve in a row.

When all else fails go to Plan B. If you feel frustrated with your putting then it may be time to try something new. Don’t be afraid to try out new putters and find one that feels awesome to you and switch. When you watch the pro’s you will notice that they all use a different grip. So, don’t be afraid to change yours. Remember that all the great players sometimes lose their confidence in putting and have to build it back up. Practicing these little putting mind games has helped me and I hope they do the same for you.

Palomar Health offers healthy cooking classes

Palomar Health is offering the following featured free and low cost health-related classes. The classes are as follows:

Food as Medicine Cooking Class

April Topic: Gastroenterology

Thursday, April 5 | 4 – 5 p.m.
Palomar Medical Center Escondido

Nutrition for GI Health

Wednesday, April 4 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Escondido Senior Center
Registration Required - Call
760.796.6020

Advances in Weight Loss and Metabolic Surgery

Tuesday, April 10 | 3 – 5 p.m.

Thursday, April 26 | 3 – 5 p.m.

Thursday, April 19 | 3 – 5 p.m.

(Spanish)

Palomar Medical Center Poway

Wednesday, April 18 | 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Palomar Medical Center

Downtown Escondido

Preparation for Childbirth*

(In a Weekend)

April 14 & 15

Saturday | 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Sunday | 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Pomerado Outpatient Pavilion

Preparation for Childbirth*

(3-Week Series)

Tuesdays, April 17 – May 1

6:30 – 9 p.m.

Pomerado Outpatient Pavilion

Balance Basics

Wednesday, April 18 | 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Pomerado Outpatient Pavilion

Childbirth Preparation in a Day*

Saturday, April 21 | 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Palomar Health San Marcos

Stress and Its Effect on the Mind, Body and Spirit

Wednesday, April 25 | 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Pomerado Outpatient Pavilion

Diabetes and Nutrition

Monday, April 30 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Palomar Health San Marcos

Monday, April 30 | 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Pomerado Outpatient Pavilion

* Class is offered for a fee. Call for details.

To register visit PalomarHealth.org/Classes or call 800-628-2880.

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† **Joan Lunden**, journalist, former host of *Good Morning America* and senior living advocate.

STRAUSS / From Page 9

with sautéed spinach and grilled vegetable. Everyone at our table agreed that the food was outstanding and plentiful.

We appreciated the no-pressure atmosphere, as some of our party arrived a bit late. Of particular note, our waiter was pleasant and attentive, willingly accommodating special food orders due to allergies and personal preferences. We were out celebrating a birthday with our two daughters and their boyfriends. Our waiter perfectly timed a surprise for the birthday boy — a double-scoop ice cream sundae topped with a candle. He even gladly took pictures of our group.

Karl Strauss offers a full bar, a decent wine list and an extensive menu of fine beers featuring 12 hand-crafted brews arranging from “The Sun Kolsch”, a light traditional malt to the “29th Anniversary” a Belgian style bear brewed with fruit juice and pink peppercorns. Free tasters and sample flights are available and recommended.

Karl Strauss Carlsbad is located at 5801 Armada Dr in a picturesque area close to the coast, hotels and Lego Land; parking is plentiful and well lit.

PUBLIC NOTICE

HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP (CSG) VACANCY NOTICE

This is to announce a vacancy has occurred on the Hidden Meadows Group, due to the resignation of Alan Rings, Seat #6. The BOARD OF SUPERVISORS makes this appointment.

Please refer to the Roster of Boards, Commissions and Committees on our web site at www.sandiegocounty.gov/cob/ for further information on the qualifications for this Board, Commission or Committee. In compliance with Board of Supervisors Policy 1-1, vacancies are filled in compliance with the Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group’s standing rules. The Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group may take action and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, who can then be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Those wishing to apply to become a member of the CSG are requested to inform the chair, Wayne Dauber, at 760-809-6898 or hmdaub@cox.net of their desire to serve. They are then invited to present themselves in person to the Group at the April 25th meeting at 7:00pm at the Hidden Meadows Community Center (AKA the Pavilion, 28208 Meadow Glen Way West, to make a statement to the group (up to 5 minutes) of their credentials and their desire to serve.

Applicants must reside in the CSG planning area to be eligible for election to The Group. Candidates must provide a completed application (www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/CommunityGroups.html), be at least 18 years of age, be registered to vote, and either resides or owns property within the Hidden Meadows CSG area other than their home (if any). The Standing Rules as they presently exist will be observed in these procedures.

cc: ___C Wayne Dauber, Chair, Hidden Meadows CSG, hmdaub@cox.net

Supervisor Bill Horn, bill.horn@sdcounty.ca.gov

Committee File/Stephanie Wells, Stephanie.Wells@sdcounty.ca.gov

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Copy Notice: Hidden Meadows News

Run Date: April 5, 2018



Volunteers filling gift bags that were donated to local charities last year.

Donations needed for gift bags going to local charities

By **NANCY OGDROD** / RESIDENT

It is time again to assemble the gift bags for Hidden Valley House and Interfaith's housing for families and seniors. Each bag will contain lotions, soaps, shampoos and other items to show the recipient how special she or he is to the residents of Hidden Meadows and Rimrock.

You may drop off your collected goodies (little soaps, little lotions, tooth brushes, toothpaste, etc.) at the Ograd residence, 28105 Mountain Meadow Road, ANY TIME after Sunday, April 15 2018. If no one is at home, please leave them on the front porch. The care products not used in the bags will be donated to Interfaith for their vari-

ous shelters. We anticipate assembling around 60 bags for Mother's Day and 30 for Father's Day, so supplies for both men and women are appreciated and needed.

And if you'd like to help assemble the gift bags, come to 28105 Mountain Meadow Road on the morning of Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 11:00 am. Bags, tissue and ribbon will be provided, as well as coffee, tea & goodies for the workers. It's a wonderful way to share time together and there's always room for more. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Ograd at 760-749-7023 or e-mail at n.ogrod@yahoo.com.

REFERENCED CHART FROM PAGE 1

Role of Hidden Meadows Community Foundation vs Home Owner Associations			
	Hidden Meadows Community Foundation	Meadows Home Association (MHA)	Other HOAs in Hidden Meadows
Geographic coverage	All of Hidden Meadows and Rimrock	560 homes in the "covenant" section of Hidden Meadows	Examples: -Hidden Meadows Ranch HOA (covers the Glens, Summit & HM condos) -Rimrock HOA (covers homes in Rimrock gated area)
Source of funding	Tax-deductible donations	Annual HOA dues and special assessments as needed	Annual HOA dues and special assessments as needed
Role of organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Raises money for specific community projects including: scholarships, median beautification, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and community events. * Coordinates various community activities including: Easter Egg Hunt, Community Garage Sale, July 4th parade & picnic, Summer Movie Nights, Trunk or Treat, Golf Tournament, Toys for Tots, Progressive Dinner, Christmas Caroling, monthly Sellers Faires, Artisan Guild, Social Group Committee, and Welcoming Committee * Facilitates submittal of articles to Hidden Meadows News * Oversees Hidden Meadows Wilderness Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Oversees & maintains: the Pavilion, pool, tennis courts, & 4 acres surrounding them. * Maintains 13 roads within the MHA covenant area * Enforces CC&Rs in the covenant area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Oversees & maintains open space (and some roads) within their specific neighborhoods * Enforces CC&Rs within their specific neighborhoods

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Product, facilities on upswing at Henry Avocado

This story is reprinted courtesy of The Produce News.

Turning the page from 2017 to 2018 has been an ascendant experience for Henry Avocado and its customers from coast-to-coast.

With the new year being ushered in by the spectacular demand for avocados during Super Bowl weekend, every metric for predicting a successful season has been positive for the California harvest, which got under way in late February at Henry's lead distribution center in Escondido.

The early start is an indicator of the anticipated increase in product from all California orchards, according to Phil Henry, who added that the season may also last longer into the summer.

In addition to being a grower-shipper, Henry is also active in farm management for other growers in the region and state and is in a position to confirm the industry's estimate that production will nearly double that of 2017.

Last year California production peaked at 200 million pounds, while early estimates for 2018 are for 370 million pounds. Always boosted by Mexican avocados, which help make Henry the year-round distributor it has been since 1990, Mexico's growers will export an additional 1.8 million pounds, ensuring Henry's clients have access to consistent volume and smooth flow throughout the spring and summer months. Last year Mexico shipped 1.7 million pounds to the U.S. market.

Adding to Henry's optimism regarding 2018 is its expansion of facilities, which began last fall when the company opened a distribution

center in Charlotte, NC. Currently Henry is building a new packing-house in an Escondido industrial center that will open in time for next year's production. It will be outfitted with the leading machinery for sizing and sorting and will feature cutting-edge cold storage with the most modern and energy-efficient refrigeration available.

Henry also noted the continued popularity of organics and that the company has additional groves in the United States and Mexico to meet the increased demand. Bagging, which is also on the upswing, is available at all seven distribution centers Henry has in four states.

Henry introduced organics in 2010 under its premium Bravocado label, which is used for conventional avocado packing as well. The company's CustomRipe program provides all its fresh avocados to the specific degree of ripeness its customers require.

Available since it pioneered the practice in 1983, Henry has added additional ripening rooms at its regional centers, giving it a total of 100. In addition to the two centers in Escondido, Henry has distribution centers and ripening rooms in Milpitas, CA, Phoenix, and San Antonio and Houston, TX, and the most recent addition in Charlotte, NC.

A one-page CustomRipe Ordering Guide, a marketing aid and fixture in the industry for well over a decade, is available from any of Henry's marketing and sales offices. It has helped inform almost a generation of avocado buyers by detailing the five separate and distinct stages of ripening that can be produced at Henry's distribution centers.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HIDDEN MEADOWS AND RIMROCK

REAL ESTATE NEWS

By LEETTA RUDOLPH / RESIDENT

Many of my clients and friends have been asking "What's happening in the real estate market here in Hidden Meadows?" In response, I thought I'd share some information I found in a Community Real Estate Market Report from Sandicorp, Inc.

Based on the data below and other reports I read, I would make the following observations: Inventory is still very low, price per square feet is going up, and days on the market is tending to be longer. With interest rates climbing up around 4.5%, the economy continuing to grow, home prices are rising, and the housing demand will continue to exceed supply.

Homes sales from Jan-March 2017

20 Number of homes sold
\$242.15 Average Price per square feet
Sold Price ranged from \$495,000-965,000
Days on the market ranged from 1-181 with the average 42 days.

Home sales from Jan 1, 2018 to March 19, 2018

13 Number of homes sold Jan 1-March 19 2018
\$280.16 average Price per square feet
Sold Price ranged from \$490,000-\$775,000
Days on the market ranged from 4-171 with the average of 62

Current listings as I write this article

40 Active listings on the Market
\$287.39 average Price per square feet
Listing price range from \$535,000-\$2,450,000

Annual sales data for 2017

93 Single Family Homes Sold
\$254.34 average Price per square feet
Sold price range from \$445,000-1,575,000
Days on Market ranged from 0-456 with average 53

Annual sales data for 2016

95 Single Family Homes Sold
\$235.70 average Price per square feet
Sold price range from \$415,000-\$1,290,000
Days on Market ranged from 1-264 with average 60

Remember these statistics only represent a small way of looking at the data. Value, worth and price; as well as lot size, upgrades, age of home, landscaping, amenities, views, solar to name just a few can also drive the price up or down. Lots of pricing factors to consider when selling a home or buying a home. If you would like more statistical information let me know.

LeEtta Rudolph, Local Realtor-Adviser, leettarudolph@gmail.com, www.leettasellsmart.com

Data from Sandicor, Inc as of 3/19/2018 and represents properties listed or sold by various brokers. Sandicor MLS and Home Smart Realty West do not guarantee and are not in any way responsible for its accuracy, and data maintained may not reflect all real estate activity in the market. If your property is currently listed, this is not meant as a solicitation.

Mark Your Calendars

ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY MAY 12 8:00am - 2:00pm
Please email JennHill68@gmail.com or call 760-484-4121
if you will be having a garage sale on May 12
so I can add you to the map and list of homes

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Local fireman put on a fabulous meal

By SUE SCIACCA / RESIDENT

Hidden Meadows is blessed to have a fire station located smack dab in the middle of our community. The men who man that station are a double blessing, regularly going above and beyond the call of duty to help the neighborhood.

We continue to be amazed at how willing they are to participate in our community activities. They love to bring out the fire engines during various events (4th of July, Toys for Tots, Trunk or Treat), much to the delight of kids of all ages. They loan us their barbecue for the 4th of July picnic and open their doors for Christmas Caroling.

On occasion, they have even helped with community fundraising efforts by donating a "Dinner with the Firemen" as an auction item or prize. Two recent events are examples of this incredible generosity.

Erin Amos's grandmother made the winning bid for a dinner at last year's Bunco for Boobs. She decided to gift her three great-grandsons with the prize. The special dinner took place over Presidents' weekend. The boys worked up their appetites playing soccer and basketball with a couple of firemen, as well as climbing on the firetruck and exploring the station. Fireman Todd Daley then manned the grill, producing a delicious barbecue meal. After dinner, as it began to get dark, the boys played hide and seek in the fire station parking lot until it was time to go home.

Five very fortunate individuals took part in a second fundraising dinner on February 22. Wendy Smith-Rogers,



Fireman Todd Daley lets Sue Sciacca sound the siren on the firetruck.

Denise Haase, Sue Sciacca, Toni Wozmak and Pat Buntin were treated to a scrumptious salmon dinner made by Fireman/chef extraordinaire Eric Norwood. Firemen Jake Myles and Todd Daley took all of the ladies on a tour of the firehouse, which would have made any obsessive compulsive's heart beat fonder from the spotless conditions of the facility. In the garage where the engines are parked, an amazing display of rattlesnake skins were neatly attached to a wall. Trapping snakes for local residents, we learned, is just one of the many jobs they perform for the community.

Many thanks to our local firemen — not only are they are our heroes, they are true gentlemen!



Firemen serving up a luscious dinner on February 22. From left: Jake Myles, Todd Daley and Eric Norwood.

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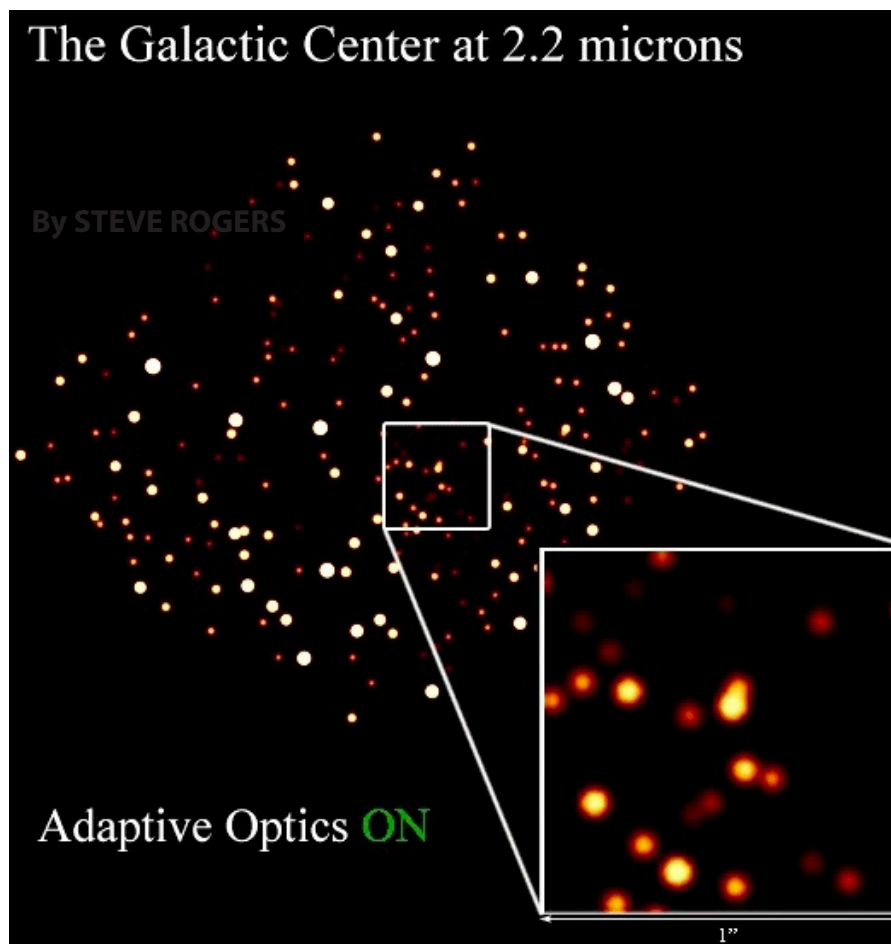
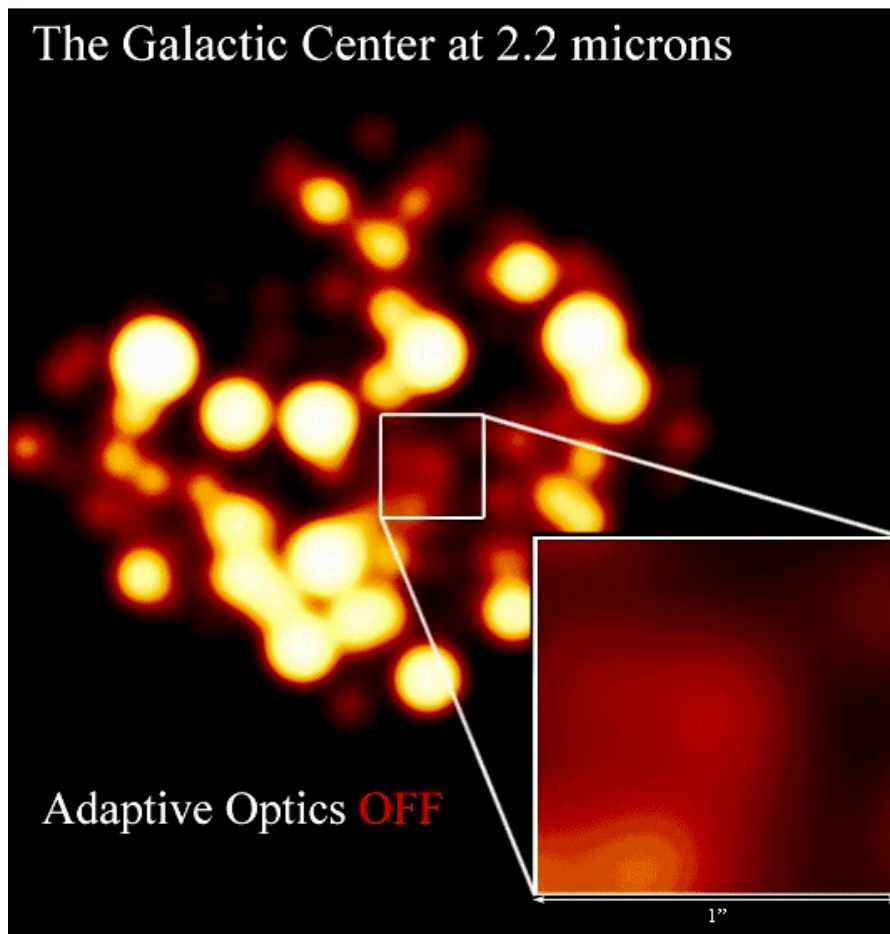
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Images showing how “adaptive optics” improves the resolution of earth-bound telescopes. The adaptive optics function is turned OFF in photo on left and ON in photo on right. Photos by UCLA Galactic Center.

ASTRONOMY CORNER

SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS OF TELESCOPE DEVELOPMENT

By STEVE ROGERS / RESIDENT

Every time I look through a modern amateur telescope, I am amazed by the discoveries that early astronomers were able to make using the very primitive telescopes available hundreds of years ago. Using instruments that no one would even bother to buy today, they discovered hundreds of basic facts about our solar system, our galaxy, and the universe beyond and led to the development of the telescopes we use today.

Although the basic principles of the telescope haven’t changed that much over the years, each of the components has been improved to achieve higher magnification and better focusing on distant objects. Starting with Galileo over 700 years ago, the first telescopes looked like nautical spyglasses with light passing through glass lenses at either end of a long tube to focus on the observer’s eye. Modern refracting telescopes use the same concept, but have the highest quality glass and instead of a single lens in the front, often have a system of up to three lenses to achieve better focus with much less distortion.

Eighty years after Galileo, Isaac Newton, the famous English physicist, invented the reflecting telescope, where light is reflected by a primary mirror at the bottom of the telescope back up to a secondary mirror near the front where it is reflected at a right angle into a focusing lens for the astronomer to see. Newton’s first telescope had a primary mirror made of polished tin and copper that was only 1.3 inches wide, but his basic design is still in use today with higher quality mirrors and modern lenses to achieve better focus and a clearer distortion-free image. A variation of this reflecting design is still used today at the Mount Palomar Observatory, although there is a 40-inch hole in the center of the 200-inch primary mirror where light can be directed back from the secondary mirror to a focusing lens that captures the image on digital sensors.

In 1947 when the Mount Palomar telescope was built, 200 inches was about the maximum size for primary mirrors due to the weight and limited strength of glass. Modern telescopes are now built with a series of light-weight hexagon mirrors calibrated to precisely reflect light back to the secondary mirror to achieve even higher levels of magnification and clarity. Even as these modern improvements have allowed the world’s largest telescope to be twice the size of Mount Palomar’s with a diameter of 409 inches, the performance of earth-bound telescopes is limited by atmospheric distortion which causes the stars to twinkle and makes focusing at maximum magnification very difficult. That is why the Hubble telescope in orbit 350 miles above the earth is able to outperform all but the largest telescopes on earth with a primary mirror that is only 94.5 inches wide.

Even as scientists overcome the limits of metallurgy and glass to build ever bigger telescopes, overcoming the turbulence in our atmosphere remains the biggest challenge for telescopes on earth. If you’ve ever noticed how objects on the horizon seem to shimmer on a hot day due to heat rising off the surface of the earth, you can appreciate all of the air currents affecting light photons as they travel through nearly 60 miles of the atmosphere before reaching the opening of the telescope. A recent development called “adaptive optics” allows modern telescopes to approach Hubble quality performance by rapidly changing focus to adjust for distortion in the atmosphere. Astronomers do this by shining a powerful laser up to the ionosphere causing sodium ions to form a green spot that twinkles just like a star. Since they know what the size and shape of this green spot should look like, computers can send commands to a flexible mirror inside the optics of the telescope that changes 1,000 times a second to focus the twinkling green spot back into a steady round circle and bring the background

stars into perfect focus as well. Using this technique, the resolution of earth-bound telescopes can be improved by a factor of ten as shown in these pictures from Sky and Telescope magazine.

The refinement of modern telescopes continues with the development of the Webb space telescope scheduled to be launched in 2019 to augment the 25-year-old Hubble telescope. The Webb telescope will have a 256-inch wide mirror system of hexagon mirrors that is so big, it will have to unfold itself like an erector set once in orbit. Imagine the discoveries that will be possible with a primary mirror that has six times the surface area as the Hubble telescope! We look forward to making that the subject of another Astronomy Corner Article as we get closer to the launch date next year.

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